Students confront class assumptions

Julie France and Phoebe Carter
Collegian Staff

Sitting in the hot, August sun four years ago, listening to Dean of Admissions Jennifer Delahunty’s annual welcome to the incoming first years, Tyann Smith ’14 listened to the accomplishments of her new classmates: one had traveled around the world by boat, another had a recommendation letter written by a senator, while a third had chosen to live on a food-stamp diet for a week to experience the lives of those from lower-income families. As he wraps up his first year as the College’s president, Decatur — described by his colleagues as a “great visionary” and “an inspired leader” — has expressed pride in his numerous achievements and eagerness to start working on the future.

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Middle Path Voices digitizes students’ personal narratives

HENRI GENDREAU ASSOCIATE MANAGING EDITOR

While multimedia the hot new thing in journalism today, the trend has mostly emerged in the Kenyon bubble. Until now, that is. Middle Path Voices, the brainchild of Wafuni Testhome ’16, is a platform for students to share personal stories through videos. The purpose is to create a platform where people could tell their stories and it would belong to them at each point of the story,” Testhome said. “You get sick of going to Dessert and Discussions and being like, ‘I’m poor.’ I’m a woman, ‘Listen to me.’ You feel like you’re using your life as a way to sort of get people to understand the world. I didn’t want to do that with this.”

The first two videos, released last Wednesday on Middle Path Voices’ YouTube channel, feature Sierra DeLeon ’14 and Tim Jurney ’15. Two more videos featuring Jae June Le and Denton El Joundi ’16 will be released in the coming days.

While lauding the Project for Open Voices (POV) for its narrative model, Testhome said the publication can be restrictive in some ways. I felt like the drawback was that they just became nameless stories,” Testhome said, especially when many commentator could derive anonymous essays. But with the videos, “You’d be accountable to a face,” she said.

The first two videos combined garnered more than 800 views as of Tuesday evening, with some traffic presumably driven by a Thrill article about them. In DeLeon’s video, she talks about how when people would “uptight” around race, it would make it a more pronounced part of her identity. “There are those people who think that whenever you mention the word ‘black’ it’s like, ‘You’re being racist!’ That’s inappropriate!’ and I’ll be like, ‘Well, what if it’s just true?’” she said.

“I just want to be me on this campus,” she adds. “I wish that people weren’t afraid to get to know me on that level and I wish that people didn’t impose identity upon me.” Jurney, who talked about his past experiences with eating disorders in a Middle Path Voices video, said that when he came out as gay in high school a reaction that was “exceedingly common was, ‘Oh, you have an eating disorder.’” He talks about how when people would “tiptoe” around his identity. “There are those people who think that on that level and I wish that people weren’t afraid to get to know me as gay.”

The unscripted video narratives have the potential to offer a raw look into students’ personal lives. Jurney said those interested in sharing a story should “remember that it’s not an outlet for people who’ve had it hard,” “It’s an outlet for anyone and everyone to share any narrative that they want,” he said.

Jurney, who will be officing next campus semester, hopes that with Jurney’s help, Middle Path Voices can gather narratives and releases more videos in the spring, describing this semester’s release as “the first episode of the test pilot.”

DeLeon said Middle Path Voices “taught me that I do have a story that I take for granted everyday and everyone has a story they take for granted everyday.” By sticking yourself out there, you’re telling other people that it’s OK for them to stick themselves out there too.”

DPhis get semester suspension

Continued from Page 1

Student Rights and Responsibilities Samantha Hughes and Associate Dean of Students Chris Kennerly — both of whom declined to comment for this article — worked with the fraternity on the matter. During his suspension Hank Toutain also declined to comment, due to the ongoing nature of the case; Heuck and Hardin said the DPhis have filed an appeal of the suspension that is currently under consideration.

“I think [the suspension] may be harsh, though I’m not qualified to make such decisions.”

— Henry Heuck ’15

CORRECTIONS

In the article “How accessible is Middle Path” (Apr. 24, 2014) the Collegian misquoted President Sean Decatur. The correct quote is, “I think that folks increasingly understand that to have the symbol of our school fundamentally rooted in accessibleness and discrimination against people who have mobility changes is problematic.” The Collegian regrets the error.

In the article “Zarka stands before a new frontier” (Apr. 24, 2014), the Collegian mistakenly reported that Maria Zarka ’16 had won the one-meter diving event at the 2014 Division III Swimming & Diving championships. Zarka, in fact, placed first in the three-meter diving event. The Collegian regrets the error.
What was serious time-burner for students and project, “Sacks said. “That became a major was doing a mini-honors under the old system, he said, students would then present and defend those papers in front of the sociology faculty.

Last fall, under the new system, majors submitted sociological questions to the faculty, who discussed them in front of students during two forums. In January, students submitted and then prepared responses to four new questions, categorized as “Methods,” “Theory,” “Culture and Society” and “Institutions.” On April 13, each student presented a response to one of the topics and answered faculty members’ questions.

Professor of Sociology Howard Sacks, chair of the department, listed several reasons for the new process under the old system, he said, students were “developing independent topics [for papers] that weren’t being done within the context of courses.”

“What resulted was almost an elaborate system in which every single major was doing a mini-honors project,” Sacks said. “That became a serious time-burner for students and faculty alike, because you didn’t have the context of the course in order to do it.”

In addition, because the number of sociology majors has doubled in recent years and now hovers around 20, a single senior seminar course preparing students to write research papers is no longer practical. Splitting the capstone seminar into several sections, Sacks said, would “take opportunities away to teach other courses.”

“The sociology department held a dinner meeting with majors on Tuesday, April 29 to gather feedback on the new process. Prior to the meeting, Sacks told the Collegian, “I think everyone is generally satisfied with this new comp,” but added, “I’ll know that a lot more clearly after we have dinner.”

Several sociology majors expressed disappointment with both the new senior exercise and the way the faculty communicated their expectations to students.

“The professors didn’t really know what to expect, we didn’t know what to expect [and] it was very much our class being the guinea pigs for it,” Hannah Beckerman ’14 said. “I think a lot of majors felt a lot of anxiety all year about this change.”

Becca Guttentag ’14 also said that she felt like a guinea pig. After she missed one of the mandatory faculty forums in the fall, she had to write a 15-page paper and lost the ability to prepare them to write a research paper. “I really do wish I would have had the chance to do my own independent research,” Guttentag said, “because, really, that’s why I chose the sociology major.”

Beckerman said that she had been looking forward to writing a paper “that was a culmination of everything [she] had learned in sociology.”

To preserve that aspect of the old system, the department has expanded the number of advanced seminars classes it offers, and the main requirement in each of those seminars is a substantial independent research paper.

“The majors this year understand that we were all creating something,” Sacks said. “The majors next year will be inheriting something that existed beforehand.”

Sacks said that the department attempted to “accommodate those [situations] as they came up in a way that we thought was fair and reasonable to everybody.”

“The was a degree to which we were trying to respond to things that we hadn’t fully anticipated,” he said.

Beckerman and Guttentag were also disappointed that the senior exercise no longer involved an extensive research paper. “I really do wish I would have had the chance to do my own independent research,” Guttentag said, “because, really, that’s why I chose the sociology major.”

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Board discusses two major campus plans

HANNAH STEIGMEYER | NEWS EDITOR

The Board of Trustees’ annual spring meeting took place last weekend with two major plans up for consideration: the Master Plan and the 2020 Plan.

According to President Sean Decatur, the Master Plan is "sort of the full menu of possibilities of what could happen with campus." He added that it was a chance to "layout the full picture for discussion and feedback.” Board Chairman Barry Schwartz’ 70 said the unveiling and preliminary discussion of the Plan was "very interesting and very ambitious and good to have as we face the future.”

Renovating the first-year residence halls is among the planned projects. “Housing is certainly an item covered by the Master Plan and it is constantly on our agenda,” Schwartz said. Decatur predicted that “October will be a time for the Board to really look at things.” When the Health Center and Hillel construction is completed in the fall, it will be the first time no major construction will be going on on campus in approximately 10 years.

Decatur doesn’t see any urgency to start building again, saying, “I think it’s actually not a bad thing for us to take a pause and figure out what the next move is.” He noted that he and the Board are taking careful and deliberate steps on the building front, but claimed some renovations would be in progress by 2020.

Student voices were also heard at the meeting. “[The Board] really likes student input and they’ve listened to what students want,” Student Council President Kevin Pan’15 said. At their presentation to the Trustees, Student Council focused on the problem of classes that require extra fees, and in the future they would like to discuss the expense and experience of traveling abroad.

According to Schwartz, the updates on the 2020 Plan “reflect some immediate thinking by President Decatur,” and the Board’s principal questions “focused on implementation.”

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worked with his Chief of Staff Susan Morse to draft his 20/20 plan, using feedback from alumn
i and parents to shape his plan for Kenyon’s future.

"He knew that when he came in he wanted to listen to the community," Morse said. "He
wanted to know what people thought about where Kenyon should be, where Kenyon should
be in 2020 — where are we going?"

The plan includes new first-year housing, increased upperclassman housing, an updated
library and even an underground parking ga
rage, to name a few.

Though understandably ambitious, Morse be
lieves that, for the most part, it’s feasible. "I
don’t know that we’ll get everything finished
by 2020 - I’s dotted and T’s - crossed but I do

Kenyon’s summer science program to include
Internship Stipend Fund, and an expansion of
its third century," she said.

"I think we’ll get a lot of it, to propel Kenyon into
by 2020 — I’s dotted and T’s - crossed but I do
don’t know that we’ll get everything finished"

Keeping finances in mind, Decatur hopes to
work to make campus more accessible to fami
lies from different economic backgrounds.

This past January, he travelled to Washing
ton, D.C. to attend a White House summit on
increasing college affordability for low-income
students, where he pledged to take steps to pro
vide them the same opportunities as their more
affluent peers.

Decatur also hopes to bring campus groups
together in a more collaborative setting. "I
think there are so many fascinating, strong
things happening across campus, if we could
actually get them all moving in the same direc
tion — that there’s real power there for advanc
ing the institution," he said.

Decatur’s home life will become more stable
this summer when the rest of his family, includ
ing his wife Renee, children Owen and Sabine,
and two dogs, Skittles and Roo, will move from
Oberlin into Cromwell Cottage, though Sabine
will be leaving for Yale University to start her
first year of college in the fall.

As for his daughter’s decision to attend Yale,
Decatur explained, "I think that, as soon as it
was clear that I was coming here, going to a col
lege where your dad is president and your par
ents are living in the middle of campus was not
so attractive."

Though they have yet to formally welcome
them for life after Kenyon?" Decatur said.

The idea for the internship program, which
will assist students seeking unpaid internships
though the Kenyon Career Development Of
fice, was inspired by an evening forum Decatur
held with students.

Students in the evening forum also alerted
Decatur to an overwhelming problem on cam
pus stress.

"People are feeling pulled in a lot of differ
ten directions," he said. For example, "There’s
tons of cool stuff that happens during Com
mon Hour, but there’s so much cool stuff that
no one is really doing anything in common be
cause there are a hundred different activities."

Decatur has been able to implement these
starter programs despite working with a much
smaller endowment than similar schools.

Kenyon’s endowment is roughly $184 mil
lion, while Oberlin College — where Decatur
will be leaving for Yale University to start her
first year of college in the fall.

"I think that people were able to meet him
and see that he’s bringing a new energy to the
College," Delahunty said. "I think that has been
really positive."

Dean of Admissions Jennifer Delahunty be
lieves that the next generation of Kenyon stu
dents has Decatur to partly thank for this year’s
huge jump in applicants.

"I think that that’s been a really positive.
"To Decatur, Kenyon "feels like a really great
fit — it feels like a community I would like to
remain [in] and to be a part of to make...a bet
ter place." Only time will tell how Decatur will
influence Kenyon in the next 10 months, 44
weeks, 305 days or 7,320 hours, but he isn’t go
ing anywhere any time soon."

After his first year on the Hill, President Sean Decatur reflects on his experiences at Kenyon and plans for the future.

Continued from Page 1
Students recount experiences with economic divide

Even here in the Kenyon bubble, signs of class divisions are prominent and affect student’s daily lives.

Continued from Page 1

Eric Chu ’17 said that, although he is "really happy" here, he frequently feels "othered." He referenced the culture at Kenyon, such as the way people show one another they care. "They’ll say, 'Happy birthday! Here, let me buy you something!'" Chu said.

But economic inequality has bigger implications for him. Earlier this year, Chu talked to a student who said that, no matter what he did in college, his father had a job with an annual salary of $120,000 lined up for him. "He said it so nonchalantly," Chu said. "He was just like, 'It doesn't really matter if I graduate or not,' and when he said that I felt like, 'Wow, I don't have that.' I feel like I'm the hope of my family and I have this weight that I kind of live with every day where it's like if I mess up, I'm not just messing up for me.”

For some students for whom having a job has never been a priority, it can be difficult to step into the shoes of their classmates who have to take whatever job they can get. Jurney recalled a classmate asking him during his first year what his summer plans were. "I told him I was going to work at a fast food restaurant over the summer," Jurney said. "And he said, 'Oh, why?' and I kind of paused, 'I have to have a job.' And he said, 'Why?' and it became clear that he really didn’t get that people had to work.”

For Jurney, the economic gap was evident in his summer plans, but things such as fashion trends can obscure the divide on campus. Thanks to pop stars Macklemore and Ryan Lewis, shopping at thrift stores is all the rage. As Sarah Hobbs ’15 put it, "It’s cool because, just based on clothes and stuff, the style at Kenyon is so thrift store/vintage and I definitely can’t tell [someone's wealth] when it’s something like that.”

However, when it comes to students with cars, single rooms and apartments, the divide is hard to ignore. "They may not be super wealthy," Hobbs said, "but they have enough to afford a single or a car.”

While the economic gap has its roots in larger institutional problems such as the College’s limited financial aid budget, inequalities often play out in small social misunderstandings. Nathan Durham ’17 recalls Parents’ Weekend as a moment when his family’s finances came into contrast with those of the majority of his classmates because his parents could not afford to visit for what he called a “staple of Kenyon culture.” One night, a fellow student came back from dinner with her parents and began complaining about their being there. "There was nothing I wanted more in the world than for my parents to be there right when that happened," Durham said. "I was so mad … because they just didn’t get it. They don’t get how lucky you are that your parents paid that much money to come see you for those two days.”

What struck Durham was that so many students at Kenyon took their parents’ visits for granted. "I think it’s just because they thought it was so normal,” he said, further explaining what upset him. "I think a start to making things better is for kids here to realize that if your parents can afford to [visit for Parents’ Weekend], if your parents can afford to spend $60,000 a year for you to go here and not struggle with that … you live a luxurious life and you are very lucky.”

Durham recognized that ignoring people’s socioeconomic classes will not solve anything. He proposed instead that “we should be working together to make every student comfortable in their space.”

"I can’t promise for everybody,” Durham said, “but I can promise for me and for most of the poor kids here, that we’re not going to judge you or otherize you for being rich. … Recognize your position and do something to make people who are not in your position feel like they are just as worthy of being here.”
A Kokosing Farewell

With graduation approaching, seniors reflect on their four years on the Hill and look forward to the future.

Come May 17, the Class of 2014 will be joining the ranks of Kenyon’s alumni. After four years, the students will be leaving Gambier behind. Many have spent the last several months anxious about their futures and many still are, but plenty more have found a good place to start. With plans that include Fulbright-funded trips, further education and volunteer work, the Class of 2014 is ready to graduate.

Nate Lotze ’14 will be working in a two-year fellowship program with the advocacy group Environment America. “I’ll be in Columbus with Environment Ohio leading advocacy campaigns focused on a variety of issues like renewable energy, fracking and conservation,” Lotze said.

Molly Goolman ’14, who has always loved education and athletics, will take her learning to the next level at the Saint James School in Hagerstown, Maryland. There, she will be a history teacher, as well as a softball and field hockey coach.

All the way across the Atlantic Ocean, Lara DelPiano ’14 will be teaching English at a high school in Brescia, Italy next year after receiving a fellowship through Dickinson College.

Back on the home front, Maggie Boelter ’14 will be working on wait staff and housekeeping on a dude ranch in Wyoming. “I’m really excited,” she said. “I’ve never been out west before, so it’s something different and I’ll get to explore and hike and ride horses and do things I’ve never done before.”

In honor of the seniors’ years of energy and leadership, the Collegian has compiled some highlights from their time here. Good luck, Class of 2014!

Seniors Sound Off

What is your favorite Kenyon memory?

“The class Postmodernism with [Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and Humanities] Kate Elkins ... went so far as to influence the things I say and do, not just what I think.”
David Vance ’14

“My housemate and friend Catherine Lloyd ’14 and I founded the varsity streaking team this semester and we were streaking with many other people through NCAs and South campus and it was wonderful.”
Katie Blake ’14

“Going to the caves when it’s sunny, nice, and spring.”
Julia Papale ’14

“It was the day before Monday of finals week. I was working on a paper for [Professor Emerita of Political Science] Pam Jensen. And I was there with Michael [Hayes ’14] and about five other people. We stayed up all night working on our papers and we talked about love and God and Kenyon and family.”
Leslie Martin ’14

“Latex paint party at the Horn, when I had to cut off all my hair because I got paint in it.”
Darci Marcum ’14

Top to bottom: Margaret Tilson ’14, Lizzie Thomson-Green ’14, McKeeley Shemid ’14 and Rebecca Ogas ’14 pose at Alt Prom; Lizzi Whittlesey ’14 and Lily Rosenthal ’14 support the golf team; Stephanie Ludman ’14, Pete Heck ’14, Molly Goolman ’14 and Jake Thom ’14 gather on a Friday during their first year.

Quick Compliments

“Matthew Christopher ’17 has the best style. No one else could rock the fish shirt.” - John Lyons ’17

“Thanks Elizabeth Abrash ’17 for cheering me up with a video of a guy who starts crying when he finds out that he’s going to be a grandfather.” - Kyla McLaughlin ’17

“Erin Delaney ’16 is the light of my life. She sounds just like Hello Kitty.” - Taylor Cornelius ’16

Features

EDITOR: VICTORIA UNGVARSKY

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A Kokosing Farewell

With graduation approaching, seniors reflect on their four years on the Hill and look forward to the future.

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Back on the home front, Maggie Boelter ’14 will be working on wait staff and housekeeping on a dude ranch in Wyoming. “I’m really excited,” she said. “I’ve never been out west before, so it’s something different and I’ll get to explore and hike and ride horses and do things I’ve never done before.”

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“My housemate and friend Catherine Lloyd ’14 and I founded the varsity streaking team this semester and we were streaking with many other people through NCAs and South campus and it was wonderful.”
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“Going to the caves when it’s sunny, nice, and spring.”
Julia Papale ’14

“It was the day before Monday of finals week. I was working on a paper for [Professor Emerita of Political Science] Pam Jensen. And I was there with Michael [Hayes ’14] and about five other people. We stayed up all night working on our papers and we talked about love and God and Kenyon and family.”
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“Latex paint party at the Horn, when I had to cut off all my hair because I got paint in it.”
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Top to bottom: Margaret Tilson ’14, Lizzie Thomson-Green ’14, McKeeley Shemid ’14 and Rebecca Ogas ’14 pose at Alt Prom; Lizzi Whittlesey ’14 and Lily Rosenthal ’14 support the golf team; Stephanie Ludman ’14, Pete Heck ’14, Molly Goolman ’14 and Jake Thom ’14 gather on a Friday during their first year.

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Quick Compliments
Motown to meet mudras in Spring Dance Concert

Students and professors come together to showcase diverse works.

ARTS EDITOR
INDIA AMOS

The “Flarp Ensemble” took to the stage in Brandi Recital Hall yesterday evening when some of Kenyon College’s flutists and harpists performed with the Ensemble Concert, in which they’ll showcase their hard-earned talents.

“The Spring Dance Concert is a combination of faculty, student and guest artists’ work, so there is a whole range of pieces in there,” Professor of Dance Julie Brodie said. The concert, which features work by Pankti Dalal ’17, Sandro Aravena Perez ’14, Nicki Krezeminski ’14, Colin McArthur ’15 and Elizabeth Furman ’15, will consist of choreography created and performed by the students. Each student is responsible for creating his/her own work, the audience can expect to see dances that range from traditional Indian to Motown, all the way to pointe, a dance performed on the tips of the shoes.

“I think just the range of pieces that are going to be in there, they are all very different, very unique,” Brodie said. The student-choreographed pieces will come together as a type of anthology and will compliment one another, though no two share the same aesthetic.

In addition to the student works, Brodie said she and her colleagues, Assistant Professor of Dance Kora Radella and Visiting Instructor of Dance Olivier Tarpaga, will also be showcasing their work at the concert. There is also a senior dance, Brodie said, which was choreographed by Pamela Newell, who choreographed Being Susan Stanton and Ulterior on my soul has no legs.

“She is a professional choreographer who came in and did an intensive residency for 10 days and set this piece with the senior students, Brodie explained.

“Intensive” seems to be a common theme running through the entire production and performance of the Spring Dance Concert. “We start working the second week of classes,” Brodie said. We hold auditions and then we just hit the ground running.”

The dedication these students and faculty members have for their craft is commendable, and Brodie described the logistics that went into deciding which dancers would perform and which routines they would do.

“We have auditions at the beginning of the semester, so anybody who is taking a technique class is eligible to audition for the concert and then the choreographers can select the students they want to work with,” she said. “Part of that is based on schedule and part of it is based on what they’re looking for in terms of their particular needs as choreographers.”

Brodie hinted at what can be expected at the performance. “Most are in the modern idiom,” she explained, “but within modern dance, there are many different ways of expressing yourself.” Since the performers themselves prove to be unique, it comes as no surprise that the concert will feature a wide array of techniques and style.

There will be three opportunities to see the concert: tonight, Friday and Saturday from 8:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the Bolton Theater. It is open to students, faculty and community members.

Flutists and harpists impress in joint “Flarp” concert

ARTS EDITOR
INDIA AMOS

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“We should combine the two,” Jenny David ’16, Conor Dugan ’15 and Jeremy Peck ’14 strum their harps. “We have to combine the two,” said Mcbride.

While the majority of the pieces the Flarl Ensemble performed featured both harps and flutes, there were a handful of pieces handled solely by the harps. In addition to Peck and McBride, the concert also featured Conner Dugan ’15 and Jenny David ’16, who are both harpists, and Emily Bulik-Sullivan ’15 and Emma Brown ’17, who are flutists.

A team of student dancers from high school and the community, Peck said. “And a lot of the time we don’t have a lot of harpists, or we don’t have that many harps here… so we sometimes have as many as three members of the community playing with us.”

The Ensemble performed a wide array of songs that ranged from traditional Celtic and Spanish music to a song from the Disney movie Tarzan. “There’s all kinds of stuff,” Mcbride said. And her comment was no exaggeration. The concert demonstrated range in stylistic choice, as well as in the flutists’ and harpists’ playing ability. Peck also noted the creativity that went into choosing the music for this concert. “I really love harp ensemble because there isn’t really a lot of music arranged for harp ensemble because nobody is really writing, like, ‘for six harps,’ so we usually just get music from the piano or something and divide it up and improvise do chords and just make stuff up as we go,” he said.

“So it’s a lot of our own creativity. So it’s kind of cool.”

These musicians put in many hours of hard work, according to McBride, but it is not without its perks. “It’s a small group of people, and we’re all pretty close,” she said. “We’re all just so goofy together and it’s kind of a bummer because (rehearsals is) an hour and 40 minutes long, and rehearsals are on Friday. So we go to class all day and then to rehearsals. But we just have so much fun with it. It’s great.”

The Flarp Ensemble gave a performance that allowed the talents of its musicians and their instruments to complement each other, and together they proved that string and woodwind can coexist in perfect harmony.
Jump in the (contra) line!

ANNA DUNLAVEY
ARTS EDITOR

Students and community members danced the night away last Saturday to a form of dance called “contra.” Hosted by the Rural Life Center, the contra dance was a place for veteran dancers to show their skills and for new dancers to learn about the history and practice of these types of dances.

Contra dancing originated in France in the mid-1600s and as it evolved spread to England and then to the U.S. These dances are now performed mostly in New England, but have recently become popular in Ohio as well. Recently, contra dances have been held across the state, from Columbus to Oberlin.

Contra dances are performed in a line, and although each dancer has a partner, there is a “free exchange,” in the words of community organizer Brian Miller. “As you go up and down the line, you and your partner dance with other couples and often the figures that you dance are within a four-member set,” he said. A caller tells the dancers when and where to line up and what dances are to be performed.

A dance can range from a simple, two-person “do-i-do” to more complicated figures that bring in elements from dances like the waltz. These are performed multiple times over the course of the song. The dances can be done at different speeds according to the music, which is usually provided by a live band.

“The band gives you a very definite beat,” Miller said. “Every figure is in tempo with the beat of the band.” Contra music tends to resemble folk or bluegrass, and features instruments such as fiddles, accordions and banjos.

A contra dancing community formed in Mount Vernon about six years ago, but had difficulty finding a space to rent. After a successful dance last semester, sponsored by the Kenyon College Ballroom Dance Team, community members contacted the Rural Life Center to participate in the project, which is how Regan Fink ’14 and Margaret Tilson ’14 became involved. Tilson, who was introduced to contra dancing before Kenyon, said, “I don’t think a lot of students either know what it is or have a lot of experience with it” and hoped bringing the dance to Kenyon would introduce more people to it.

Fink and Tilson were happy with the turnout, which they thought was evenly split between students and faculty. Although both of them will graduate in May, they hope that the new tradition of contra dancing at Kenyon will continue after they leave. “This is just the beginning,” Fink said. “If we can continue contra dancing, more and more people will attend and learn about what contra dancing is.”

When I do art I always think about what I want to see and what’s fun and silly and interesting?”

Regan Fink ’14

T-shirt design: The “Jurney” from sketchbook to sweater

ECANA SPIVACK
STAFF WRITER

Students need not be art majors or permanent residents of Horvitz Hall to be artists. T-shirt design is prevalent on campus, with many clubs and organizations, such as ECO/PEAS, Kenyon College Outdoors Club (KCCO), Relay for Life and the women’s ultimate frisbee team often calling for students to design their T-shirts.

Tim Jurney ’15, a Spanish area studies major, makes art in his spare time and has designed many different T-shirts at Kenyon for various organizations, most recently the Peer Counselors and the 5K run KCCCO sponsored. Jurney is not an art major, but T-shirt designing shirts is just one of his creative outlets. He has created about 10 designs for various Kenyon T-shirts, and has been designing since high school.

“In high school I just wasn’t taking any art classes, but I was doodling a lot,” he said. “If people know that you doodle and they’re also in charge of an organization they’re going to ask you to do stuff.”

The Kenyon College Outdoors Club recently used this design by Jurney. “When I do art, I always think about what I want to say and how I want my art to make people feel,” he said. “When you’re designing a T-shirt you’re like, ‘What do they want to see and what’s fun and silly and interesting?’ There are perks to sticking to the quirky side, however. “Trying to insert as much of yourself into something that’s your own art style and T-shirt design.

“When I do art I always think about what I want to see and what’s fun and silly and interesting?”

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Equality starts here

At Kenyon, the socioeconomic divide is something that most acknowledge, yet it continues to elude attention. The dialogue that has taken place on campus has illuminated the genuine impressiveness of inequality some feel. But it has also revealed a divide caused by how the institution draws on equally baseless assumptions of a person’s economic status.

No matter our class background, it is imperative that we recognize we are equal at Kenyon students. While socioeconomic inequality will remain for the foreseeable future, Kenyon must continue taking steps to ensure that these differences do not translate to inequality in the eyes of the College. We are off to a good start with the introduction of fair housing prices in the North Campus Apartments and aid for unpaid internships.

But other inequalities still remain in the College’s infrastructure: art and science classes with additional costs are often inaccessible to low-income students, and going to Mount Vernon for any class will be inconvenient for those without their own transportation. We look forward to the College addressing these issues — but the true burden of effort toward community, in spite of inequality, lies squarely upon the students of Kenyon.
Ladies send off seniors with a win

REED DICKERSON
STAFF WRITER

Women’s lacrosse ended their season on a high note last Saturday with a staggering 17-5 win against DePauw University, despite two game-opening goals from their opponent.

“I think we needed to shake off some nerves in the first half of the game,” Head Coach Meredith Benson said in an email. “We had a couple of chances to score goals in the first five minutes, but we missed them and nerves struck. I called a timeout and told them it was time to go and start to play the game we planned and I give the players all the credit. They checked into the game plan and got a great win to end on.”

The Ladies then collected a string of nine uninterrupted goals. Aumen Burr ’16 scored both of the opening goals, followed by seniors, co-captain Kate Lang ’14, co-captain Alex Bair ’14 and Amy Morgan ’14. Allie McLane ’17, Abby Coleman ’17 and Co-Captain Susie Gurzenda ’14 continued the streak by each scoring one goal, bringing the score to 7-2. Bair scored again while the team was man-up, and McLane put another away with three minutes left in the half, bringing the game to 9-2 at halftime.

DePauw struck first in the second half, but the Ladies kept their momentum with goals by Burr and Morgan. DePauw scored again but the Ladies offered a rebuttal of two goals by Morgan and Gurzenda, assisted by Kelley Russell ’16. DePauw scored an additional goal, but the Ladies pulled further ahead with another continuous scoring streak of four goals by Lang, Bair, Morgan and Lara McMahon ’14. “McMahon in particular had a great read on the ball and came up with a bunch of ground balls and draw controls for us,” Gurzenda wrote in an email.

Kenyon out-shot DePauw, taking 27 shots on goal to DePauw’s 16. DEFensively, Meredith Benson ’15 made 11 saves to DePauw’s 10, and Kenyon had 14 turnovers, the Ladies forced 19 from DePauw.

“We really wanted to slow them down in the middle of the field,” Gurzenda wrote. “They have a couple of really quick players and we needed to slow them down to force them to make a decision with the ball and hopefully get them to make a mistake. Their center is also good at placing the ball where she wants it to go off of the draw, so we positioned ourselves well around the center circle to get the ball and be able to run it into our attacking end and put in the back of the net.”

The Ladies finished their season with a record of 9-6 (3-5 in North Coast Athletic Conference games). The team’s eight-season streak of helping the women’s lacrosse program achieve a 38-20 record in the past four years.

“The senior class has worked incredibly hard for three to four years,” Gurzenda wrote. “I think they have been an outstanding group of athletes and great Kenyon community members. I have had the privilege of coaching them and they are a wonderful group of women to work with.”

Susie Gurzenda ’14 scored two goals against DePauw.

REED DICKERSON
STAFF WRITER

Kenyon baseball’s woes continued this past weekend as the Lords dropped three games to Hiram College. With Saturday’s win, Head Coach Matt Barnett earned his 300th win as the Lords’ skipper and Co-Captain Nate Lotze ’14 amassed nine hits over the weekend to bring him to 194 in his career, a Kenyon record.

Down 2-1 to Hiram in the front-end game on Saturday, Kenyon dropped the opener of a doubleheader and earned a 3-2 win over the seconds. Kenyon scored in both the third and sixth innings, with five RBIs, broke the scoreless tie in the fourth inning with a two-run single to give Kenyon the lead.

The Lords wouldn’t look back again, cruising to a 14-1 rout of Hiram. Tim Krahn ’15 had a strong outing for the Lords, giving up just one run and fanning six batters in the complete-game win.

“In [Krahn] threw a great game and he basically shut them down,” Lotze said. “I think that allowed us to breathe a little easier and then our offense got going.”

In the front-end game of Sunday’s doubleheader, Kenyon held a 3-0 lead until the fifth inning, thanks to a Lotze solo homer and two singles from Lotze and Dunn. Hiram erased Kenyon’s lead after tagging starting pitcher Spencer Barnes ’16 for four runs in the fifth.

Barring with two outs in the top of the seventh and Tyler Rokkan ’17 on first, Lotze hit a game-tying double to keep the Lords’ hopes alive, but Hiram answered with a walk-off single in the bottom of the inning for a 5-4 victory.

Down 6-3 to Hiram in the seventh, Lotze singled for his 193rd career hit, surpassing the all-time hits record of Matt Marcinczyk ’06. Lotze holds four Kenyon’s career records for RBIs (130), hits (194), chances (955) and putouts (855). Kenyon rallied to tie the game with three runs in the ninth, only to once again score again in the bottom of the inning for the walk-off victory.

The Lords will conclude their season next weekend with three games at Wittenberg University.

Susie Gurzenda ’14 scored two goals against DePauw.

REED DICKERSON
STAFF WRITER

Women’s Ultimate Frisbee

The Kenyon women’s ultimate frisbee team — nicknamed Ramson — fell just short of earning a Nationals bid at their regional tournament this weekend. They finished third, after a 15-8 loss to the College at Wooster, but only the top two teams advanced.

“After our loss, I think the girls really stepped up for Regionals,” Sarah Miller ’15 said. “We were the best of what I’ve ever seen it played, and people really demonstrated their courage [by] diving into the end zones and not being afraid to get dirty.”

The team embodied a new persona of toughness this season, a trait which trickled down from the senior leadership in the team. Ramson will be graduating a strong class of seniors, including Co-Captain Emma Peasee ’14, who led the team and led Ramson’s offensive approach.

“We will definitely miss (the seniors) enthusiasm and leadership, but we only hope to make them proud and come on strong next year,” Miller said.

— Esteban Bachelot

Men’s Ultimate Frisbee

Down by four with 10 minutes to go at Regionals in Bethlehem, Pa., Kenyon men’s ultimate frisbee (SERF) faced a possible season-ending loss. But they battled back, with a 14-13 victory over opponent Ohio Wesleyan University (OWU) allowed SERF to rally. Corey Barber-Bockelman ’14 tossed the disc to Co-Captain Max Dugan ’14 for the winning goal.

“Everybody was literally crying, and so happy,” Dugan said. “The main thing I felt was relief, because we hadn’t lost to them, and extreme happiness that we had pulled it together. The win sends SERF to Division III Nationals on May 17 and 18 in Winterville, Ohio.

“This is the final act I’ll have as a member of SERF that’s going to be really competitive and serious,” Dugan said. “To be able to win with the team that I love … as a group, in a really hard fought game, that’s just momentous and wonderful and such a gift.”

For personnel recons, the SERF will not place as much importance on Nationals. Graduation conflicts with the tournament and seniors comprise most of the team’s starters.

“We’re going to try to win games and we’re going to try to do as well as we can, but we have no outcome goals whatsoever,” Dugan said.

— Esteban Bachelot

Golf

Heading into the first of two weekends of the North Coast Athletic Conference Championships, Golf Head Coach Grant Wallace stressed consistency to his players, and they responded. The Lords shot 320 and 318 on the weekend for an overall score of 638. Their efforts were good enough for sixth place, three strokes behind DePauw University and five behind Denison University.

The Championships will end this weekend in Crawfordsville, Ind., where both weekends’ worth of scores will be combined to determine the champion.

“There is a lot of room for improvement, but we’re in the mix, a couple of shots here and there, puts us in there,” Wallace said.

Alex Bickle ’15 and Jake Feit ’16 led the Lords’ scorecards, shooting 157 and 160, Jordan Harlacher ’16, Zander Nethercutt ’16 and Mason McCoo ’17 were not far behind with scores of 161, 162 and 163.

Wallace typically recommends confidence to his players, and he lacked none when discussing the team. “Our guys are ready,” he said. “We can make up the difference and finish top five.”

— John Bug
The Collegian

Softball’s end-of-year efforts not enough for playoffs

RICHARD PEER STAFF WRITER

The Kenyon softball team needed to sweep their final two doubleheader
tournaments of the season to qualify for the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) playoffs, but they fell just one game shy.

The Ladies topped Allegheny College by a score of 6-2 on Sunday, but the previous day they were defeated by DePauw.

The team has a record of 22-14-1 (7-9 NCAC) and is fifth in conference play. It was a tale of two halves for the Ladies, who won 12-2 on Saturday and lost 10-12 on Sunday.

The team understands that there is much to build upon, as the Ladies return all but one starter next season.

"The season was [a] disappointment as far as our record goes," Goold said. "We had too much raw talent to finish with the record that we finished with. But, there aren’t a lot of changes for Kenyon softball in the next year. So, I think we can learn from this season. There are nothing but good things coming for this group of girls and this Kenyon softball program."

NCACs next up

ALEX PIJANOWSKI SPORTS EDITOR

Kenyon tennis teams concluded their respective North Coast Athletic Conference championship tournaments last weekend, with different results — the men placed first, the women fourth.

The Lords blanked Ohio Wesleyan University (OWU) at home on Friday, April 25, and triumphed Allegheny College by a 6-1 count the following morning. They then traveled to Granville, Ohio to appear in the conference championship against DePauw University in one of the most thrilling matches of the year.

In the DePauw match, the Lords lost all three doubles matches, falling into a hole before singles play began. However, Wade Heerboth 15 showed why he plays No. 1 singles by defeating DePauw’s Sam Miles 6-3, 6-3.

The Gators were unable to claim Kenyon’s first win of the season, as DePauw’s Sam Miles defeated Granville’s Ohio to appear in the next morning. They then traveled to Gambier, they traveled to Granville to play DePauw.

After losing that match 5-0, the Lords defeated DePauw 5-1 score on Friday, April 25, and swept the rest of their way to a NCAC title.

"I think a big part of Saturday was increased energy and intensity that we hadn’t seen altogether all season," Goold said. "People were excited. We often let the little things get us down, but we don’t let the exciting things get us up. And, on Saturday, we really used the exciting things as motivation."

Game two was especially dramatic. After a three-run burst in the fourth inning, Allegheny took a 3-2 lead on host Kenyon. The Ladies tied it up soon after, but the Gators went back the top in the top of the seventh inning by stealing home. Just when it looked like Kenyon would choke in another conference game, a walk earned by Sam Geier ’16 led the frame brought first baseman Chelsea Delaney ’15 to the batter’s box. The junior proceeded to crush a pitch deep beyond the knoc, and the Ladies walked-off against the Gators, 5-4. Delaney was mobbed at home plate, and the team was still in the playoff hunt.

Sunday’s series in Granville, Ohio was just as eventful. Denison jumped out to a 3-1 lead after four innings in game one and held that advantage until the top of the seventh. Down two runs with two outs, one runner on base and with the postseason at stake, left fielder Jane Ghublikian ’16 launched a ball to deep left field, tying the game at three and forcing an extra two innings. Unfortunately, in the ninth inning, the Ladies failed to score the go-ahead run, stranding two baserunners. In the bottom of the ninth inning, the Big Red managed a walk-off RBI single, winning 4-3. In just a moment, Kenyon’s postseason hopes were dashed.

After that, the Ladies had to re-focus on game two, which would be their season finale. "By that point, we knew we had nothing to lose, so it’s all or nothing having a little more than our teammates and in your school," Goold said.

If pride was the motivation, then it was particularly effective. Kenyon concluded its 2014 campaign with a 7-1 demolition of Denison, keyed by a five-run explosion in the second inning that chased the Big Red’s starting pitcher from the game. The Ladies amassed 13 hits and three walks, and all but one player in the Kenyon line-up registered a hit. Meanwhile, pitcher Sybie Thomas ’17 was impressive in her final start, allowing only four hits without an earned run.

Though it was not the way the team had hoped to finish the season, it was at least a victory.

Kenyon finished with a record of 22-16 (7-9 NCAC) and in sixth place in conference play. It was a tale of two halves for the Ladies, who won 12-4 on Saturday and lost 10-12 on Sunday.

The team understands that there is much to build upon, as the Ladies return all but one starter next season.

"The season was [a] disappointment as far as our record goes," Goold said. "We had too much raw talent to finish with the record that we finished with. But, there aren’t a lot of changes for Kenyon softball in the next year. So, I think we can learn from this season. There are nothing but good things coming for this group of girls and this Kenyon softball program."