Peeps O’Kenyon Seeks Readmission to Greek Council

BY IRENE WILBURN
Chief Copy Editor

Peeps O’Kenyon Presidents Lauren Pfundstein ’10 and Matthew Niederhuber ’10 presented the Peeps’ petition for reinstatement to Greek Council at the Council’s meeting on Monday, Nov. 9.

Last spring, the Peeps left Greek Council after a period of neglecting Greek Council meetings and not paying dues, according to Greek Council President Dal Burton ’10. The group requested reinstatement near the end of last year, but Greek Council voted not to readmit them.

Dean of Students Hank Tontain said in an e-mail that “there was a mutual parting of the ways last year between the Peeps and Greek Council.”

Interim Director of Student Activities Megan Webb said: “It also seems that the Peeps requested to rejoin Greek Council during a tumultuous time in the Greek community. ... I feel that Mr. Niederhuber and Miss Pfundstein now have a broader perspective of what it means to be part of Greek Council and are willing to truly participate in Greek Council and in the Greek community.”

Though the Peeps’ then-presidents voluntarily left the Council, President S. Georgia Nugent did not approve Greek Council’s decision not to readmit the Peeps, rendering it null. Consequently, the Peeps’ status is currently in a gray area between an inactive organization and a continuously-existing former Greek organization as defined by the Greek Council Constitution, Burton said.

Greek Council representatives are relaying the Peeps’ petition to their respective organizations this week and will vote on the matter on Monday, Nov. 16, according to Burton, who said he supports the Peeps’ readmission. If they are voted out, they will lose their division housing, which is an unprecedented event in Kenyon’s Greek history.

According to their petition, since the Peeps made the “difficult

Village Council Election Ends in a Tie between Spouses

BY MARIKA GARLAND
News Assistant

The Gambier Village Council election on Nov. 3 ended in a tie between husband and wife Lee and Andrea Cubie. Only one will be able to fill the fourth seat on the Village Council.

According to Mayor Kirk Emmert, this tie may be resolved when the Board of Elections counts the provisional ballots at the end of this week. If there is still a tie after counting these ballots, however, the Board of Elections will "put the two names in a hat and draw one of them out, and that will be done in front of the whole Board and in front of the Cubies" Emmert said. "I would imagine that within a week to ten days it would all be done."

A tie in a Village Council election has not occurred in Knox County recently, according to Emmert. "I suppose it happens somewhere, maybe here, but it's very unusual, and it's even more unusual that the people would be married," he said.

Professor of Biology John Slonczewski, an official poll worker, said that one reason for the tie was the low election turnout, which included what she estimated to be 30 Kenyon students. Because there were no state or national candidates on the ballot, fewer people voted than usual, she said. Those who did vote, however, represented a "cross section of the community" and were "the ones who understand the significance of the issues in the community," Slonczewski said.

According to Emmert, approximately 260 people voted in the Village Council election. He said he wished more people had participated. "It's important for the people who live here to vote because what goes on in the Village affects their lives," he said. "They should have a say in it."

Lee Cubie said laughter was his first reaction to the tie. "We've been joking about it," Andrea Cubie said. "It's not that big of a deal because whoever doesn't win will still attend meetings."

"I lost, well, she's an excellent candidate," Lee Cubie said.

Both Cubies said they were glad that enough candidates ran in the election to make it necessary to vote at all. "I think this was the first uncontested election," Andrea Cubie said. "I was glad to see more people involved."

"People think that Gambier is a small community and everybody is public spirited," Emmert said. "But I can tell you from experience when it comes to trying to get people to run for office or to serve on various things, it's not easy to do."

Emmert and the Cubies also said that Senior Assistant Director of Admission B. Noble Jones, who was elected to the Village Council, would be a good addition because he has not served before. "It's nice to have a person with new ideas coming in from the outside," Emmert said.

"I'm sure the people on the Council are all going to do fantastic work," Andrea Cubie said.

Emmert said he does not foresee any difference for the Village depending on which Cubie is elected. They both have served two previous terms on the Council and thus are "both familiar with what's going on in the Village," he said.

"We didn't vote the same way on every issue," Andrea Cubie said, "but we have similar interests."

According to Emmert, the main difference between the Cubies’ past involvement was that Lee Cubie was head of the Streets and Utilities Committee and Andrea Cubie was head of the Parks and Buildings Committee. He added, however, "On the Council, everybody deals with everything."

Both Cubies said they were unsure whether or not they would continue to run for office in the future. "Well see how it goes in the next four years," Lee Cubie said.

Ascension Celebrates 150 Years

ASCENSION HALL, which houses five of Kenyon’s academic departments, celebrates its 150th anniversary this year. In the 1850s, architect William Tinsley designed the building at the request of Kenyon’s trustees, who decided that, with only Old Kenyon, Rose Hall and the Church of the Holy Spirit, Kenyon’s campus needed more buildings. The Church of the Ascension in New York donated the building to Kenyon during a fundraising campaign in the 1850s. Tinsley, whose other works include Center Hall at Wabash College, the Tyler Davidson Fountain in Cincinnati and the Quarry Chapel in Gambier, began working on the project in 1855. With the placement of the keystone on the top of the tower, construction of Ascension ended on Nov. 13, 1858, and the building opened shortly thereafter. Over the years the building has undergone several renovations including in the 1920s, the removal of the science labs in the basement, which were deemed “unsafe,” partially due to the fact that the chemistry lab fame hoods vented directly into the offices above.

Celebration of the building’s sesquicentennial has included a large birthday cake that was available to students and faculty on Founder’s Day, an Ascension exhibit in the arches room designed by special collections librarian Ethan Henderson and a Common Hour lecture by College Historian and Keeper of Kenyoniana Tom Smith on the history of Ascension and its architect. Today, Thursday, Nov. 12, Liz Keeney, a member of the Board of Spiritual and Religious Life, will give a talk during Common Hour titled “God and Nature in Mid-19th Century America: 1859 as a Turning Point” to give a perspective on the scientific and religious atmosphere during the period of Ascension’s construction. Dudley Thomas, director of chemistry labs, designed a poster to commemorate the building’s anniversary, which has been placed throughout campus.

August Steigmeier

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decision to leave Greek Council," they have realized their "potential to do more good for both college and community, if seated on the Council," Pfundstein added that although "it fell apart for a while ... the Peeps are an all-inclusive social organization consisting of a balanced and continuous people, rich in Kenyon history," and that the new leadership is working to better organize the society, improve relations with the administration and get members involved in the community.

The Peeps have a "pretty strong history of community service" and have been involved in Petrie Hall dish pick-up, Homeless Awareness Week, storytelling at the Kenyon College Bookstore, Critical Mass (a bicycling event), Civil War reenactments and pumpkin carving at the BFC, as well as throwing parties, according to Pfundstein. "One of our proposed service projects is to volunteer at the "Senior Citizens in Mount Vernon," Niederhuber said. "We're on the up and up."

The Peeps presidents specified how they would act differently if reseated to Greek Council. Niederhuber said the Peeps want to work with Greek Council, not cause problems. Pfundstein said: "We'll work closer with them as a society. We'll be in attendance, an active voice. ... We'll do what we need to do." After meeting with representatives from both Greek Council and Peeps, Pfundstein said he felt there was "a willingness to engage in constructive conversations aimed at exploring ways to accommodate the interests and integrity of both organizations."

The Peeps also said that the Council would be stronger if they were reseated. Niederhuber noted that Greek organizations are "all governed with the same principles," and the Peeps' proposal states its goals as "diversifying the Council itself."

The Peeps have approximately 40 members, according to Pfundstein. Though as an organization the Peeps are not in existence, last year they met Greek Council's GPA and community service requirements and held several events in accordance with Greek Council regulations, Pfundstein said.

If allowed to rejoin Greek Council, the Peeps would be on probation for a semester, according to Burton. At the Council meeting Monday, several Council members raised concerns that after the current presidents graduate, the Peeps might revert back to their disorganized ways. Burton said Greek Council would approve them conditionally, setting guidelines that the Peeps would have to follow in order to remain on the Council. "If they go above and beyond, it might be worth it," Burton said. "This is an opportunity to consider."

Webb said, "This probationary period is an ideal situation ... so that there are understood standards by which the Peeps can be evaluated." Council members suggested that the Peeps draft a document that outlines their missions and sets standards for their organization, but Burton reiterated that Greek Council will set provisional standards for the Peeps if they are reinstated. "We need to be realistic. Writing a constitution is a big undertaking."

"I'd rather give them a chance and see if our fears will be realized; if they don't meet the requirements, the decision's made. But I'd love to give them room."

"If they go above and beyond, it might be worth it." -Dal Burton

Environmental Campus Organization (ECO) has challenged seniors on campus to participate in a two-week energy conservation competition, which began Monday, Nov. 9. The goal of the competition is to reduce the amount of electricity use from baseline readings taken last week. The dorms with the greatest reduction will receive a price, which will most likely be edible, according to ECO.

"Two weeks might not make a big difference in Kenyon's overall energy usage," said Hildy Joseph '13, a member of the ECO student competition committee. "But it's really about just generally being aware of electricity usage."

"Most Kenyon students don't connect turning on a light switch to the destruction of mountains and people's homes in Appalachia, which is one of the worst atrocities to the environment the world has ever seen, and Kenyon is connected because a lot of our electricity comes from coal power," said Abby Wardell '10, ECO student competition coordinator.

The competition is based solely on electricity usage, because the College does not have efficient ways of measuring the use of other sources of energy, like water utilities, according to ECO member at their recent meeting. "Kenyon is still in the process of coming up with a better way of measuring water usage, and now there's not really a good system," Wardell said.

Maintenance supplied ECO with the baseline energy usage numbers for each dorm and ECO will recalculate them to account for the number of residents living in each dorm. The reductions for each week will be displayed on a poster in Peirce Hall.

Kendra Lichtenberg '13 said the main goal is to get students "active in, and conscious about, their energy use." She said it is good to get competitive about energy usage because, "we're college students; we're young people; we're going to be the ones setting the example in the future, and I think we need to get off to the right start."

The competition encourages good habits for students," Leslie Laster '12 said. For this reason, ECO moved the competition to the fall. Normally, the event is part of Sustainability Week in the spring, but moving it to the fall will allow students time to establish good habits before the heavy use of energy before the winter season, according to Laster.

Jamie Andrews '12, a community advisor in Hanna Hall, said he is going to encourage his residents to turn off their lights when they leave a room and not to use lights during the day when there is plenty of sunshine. "It's a matter of energy accountability," he said. "You have to think before you flip the switch."

Old Kenyon Community Advisor Jill Patterson '12 added that motivating residents will be difficult. "There's a ton of people who live in Old Kenyon, so it's kind of hard to force everyone to make sure their lights are off." She said the "little things," such as turning off the lights in the bathroom and in the basement during the day, will be easier to enforce.

"If people want to, they can try this as a lifestyle experiment," Wardell said. One example of this is trying to cut back on excess energy use and live without luxuries. According to Wardell, a student can turn off a light with a neighbor if he does not have much in it. "If you only have one or two things in there, there is not much of a point in running it," she said.

"When you're being cognizant of how much energy you're using we can see how much we save, which I think is always a good thing," Patterson said. "I think it's really easy to forget about what the impact of that is."
I felt like I had the plague or some similarly fatal contagious disease — everyone felt bad for me, but no one really wanted to come near me.

Monday

It wasn’t until Monday morning, when I had barely slept the night before because of my congestion and wracking cough, that I decided to go to the Health Center. After weighing me and knowing I was sick, my whole body ached. My head was killing me and I felt like my throat had completely closed up. Thinking it was just a bad cold, I decided to rest it out, and headed back to my room after breakfast to relax and catch up on shows I had missed. It wasn’t until later that day, when I had to go into Mount Vernon to observe a Catholic mass for a sociology assignment, that I realized I was probably a lot sicker than I had thought. Throughout the service I shivered uncontrollably, and it took incredible effort to stand up without leaning on the back of the pew for support. I had a pounding headache that wouldn’t go away and a persistent dry cough that left my throat burning.

When I got back to my room, I discovered I had a fever of 101.4 and I could barely find the energy to get into bed. I had no appetite. All I could do was lie down and try not to cough, only to eventually fall into a restless sleep interrupted by coughing fits and cold sweats. Although I didn’t know it at the time, I had H1N1, commonly known as swine flu.

Tuesday

The next day, I slept until 11:30 a.m. and eventually made myself up. I had already had swine and didn’t feel well enough to return to class and my fever continued to rise. I texted my roommate and told her I had swine flu, that I would be moving to the Morgan Apartments immediately, and that I would not wish to repeat the experience. I still couldn’t help but laugh when I popped into the Health Center for more cough drops and saw students crowded into the waiting room because they had heard rumors about some leftover H1N1 vaccines.

Back on the ‘outside,’ I discovered that having swine flu earned me a weird, uniquely Kenyon form of street cred.

Wednesday

On Wednesday morning I woke up and felt almost completely normal. My temperature had been under 99 degrees for 24 hours, so I called the Health Center and they cleared me to leave. Safety came and picked up my stuff around 11:30 a.m., and I said goodbye to my temporary swine roommate and the football player.

I discovered that having swine flu earned me a weird, uniquely Kenyon form of street cred. Everyone wanted to hear about my time in the Morgan Apartments. Is it true that professors give you as much of an extension as you want? Is it true that the Health Center brings you presents and that you have your own bathroom? Despite my 15 minutes of fame, my return to the “real world” (or a beautiful liberal arts college in the middle of nowhere, at any rate) was still plagued by misery. Although I was able to return to class and my fever was down, I still had a cough that persisted for the rest of the week.

Thursday, November 12, 2009

The Kenyon Collegian

Features

Swine ’09: My Experience on the Inside

BY CHARLIE SCHNEIDER
Senior Writer

Saturday

I woke up one Saturday morning and knew I was sick. My whole body ached. My head was killing me and I felt like my throat had completely closed up. Thinking it was just a bad cold, I decided to rest it out, and headed back to my room after breakfast to relax and catch up on shows I had missed. It wasn’t until later that day, when I had to go into Mount Vernon to observe a Catholic mass for a sociology assignment, that I realized I was probably a lot sicker than I had thought. Throughout the service I shivered uncontrollably, and it took incredible effort to stand up without leaning on the back of the pew for support. I had a pounding headache that wouldn’t go away and a persistent dry cough that left my throat burning.

When I got back to my room, I discovered I had a fever of 101.4 and I could barely find the energy to get into bed. I had no appetite. All I could do was lie down and try not to cough, only to eventually fall into a restless sleep interrupted by coughing fits and cold sweats. Although I didn’t know it at the time, I had H1N1, commonly known as swine flu.

I felt like I had the plague or some similarly fatal contagious disease — everyone felt bad for me, but no one really wanted to come near me.

Campus Safety arrived to pick me up and take me to my dorm. The woman who picked me up instructed me to sit in the back and keep my mask on at all times — even when heading into my dorm. When I got inside, everyone was shocked to see “The Mask.” I asked one girl to help me move my stuff and I felt like my throat had touched someone coming into contact with me. My friend gave me a quick wave then immediately rushed inside, presumably to sanitize her room.

Before I knew it, Safety had dropped me off, I found myself completely alone in a four-room apartment — a surreal change from living in a double in a packed freshman hall. The living room was completely empty — not a single item of furniture except for a lone telephone on the floor. The only sound I could hear was someone coughing one apartment over. All and four rooms were empty except for naked beds and desks. After laboriously hugging my things upstairs, I decided to explore the kitchen and immediately discovered I was no longer the only person in the house. A sophomore football player, who also had swine flu, had now joined me. After scavenging the kitchen and finding lots of soup and Lean Cuisine meals, I forced myself to eat — I still had no appetite — and then headed to my room to watch shows on my laptop and to sleep. The apartment was freezing and after trying to fall asleep at 7:00 p.m., I eventually did at 9:30 p.m., shivering uncontrollably. In my swine flu-induced delirium, I had packed a towel, some socks and not much else. I had only one layer to keep me warm as I huddled under my sheets.

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An Evening with Erdrich

BY CHARLIE SCHNEIDER
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Nov. 7, the climax of the Kenyon Review Literary Festival, author Louise Erdrich brought many unknown readers to campus. Professors and their spouses showed up at Ross Hall to hear the writer speak, along with many Knox County residents. The audience in Rossie seemed like a sea of middle-aged fans of literature, with Kenyon students scattered throughout.

Given the turnout, it is hard to believe that this year’s Kenyon Review Literary Festival was only the third ever. The Festival was the culmination of the Big Read in Knox County, a month-and-a-half long initiative sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts meant to promote reading as a central activity in American lives and communities. According to Professor of English and Editor of the Kenyon Review David Lynn, until 2006 the Review hosted an annual dinner in New York City to give their Award for Literary Achievement, just as they do now in Gambier. Preciously recognized authors include Joyce Carol Oates, Kenyon graduate E.L. Doctorow, and Umberto Eco. Three years ago, it was decided that such a ceremony should take place closer to the Kenyon Review’s home institution.

“It always bothered me that [the dinner] had no connection to the college, but we just didn’t have the money to bring the person back here,” Lynn said. “So three years ago, we decided we finally did have the money...to create a weekend where it would just be a great surplus of literary events and excitement leading up to the major address. … It’s been wonderful. It was in this context that Louise Erdrich spoke this past Saturday. In introducing Erdrich before her lecture, David Lynn praised the “universality of her ambition” in exploring the “vexed, inevitable interpenetration” between Native American communities and the communities that surround them today. In an outside interview, Lynn talked about why he felt Erdrich deserved the Award for Literary Achievement this year.

“It’s a lifetime achievement to mark a courageous vision that’s been at the very highest level,” Lynn said. “I’ve known about Louise Erdrich for 20 years or more, and I do think of her as one of the great living American authors. People think only about her stories, about how moving and powerful they are, and it’s true. But more than that, her subject is not just the Native American world, but it’s how that world interpenetrates the surrounding world … so that all the old lines and demarcations break down.”

Those who attended Erdrich’s talk would surely agree, though the author herself was modest. She started her talk by saying, she was glad to be here, and glad that everyone could make it when they “could be wandering under the stars with [their] sweaters” instead. She read excerpts from her novels A Plague of Doves and Love Medicine, the headlining book for The Big Read. She used her soft voice effectively, and while reading sounded as if she were speaking in the voice of each character. Her prose was wonderfully styled with lively descriptions, like one about a character’s grandfather and “the murky struggle of his teeth.”

During the Q&A session after reading, Erdrich’s answers revealed her wisdom about writing, drawn from long experience. When she was asked about her writing process, she spoke with a sense of humor about “a lot of the time really getting nowhere … being a writer and not writing.” She highlighted something an art teacher said to her once: “leave the door open.” And when asked about finding her own voice, she said that it was “a mysterious process. … Other voices found me and I began to write down what I heard. … [Had] a privileged position of listening to others other people telling to me.”

Erdrich handled interruptions very well without breaking the rhythm of her storytelling. At one point, a bird flew from the top of the stage and set the crowd laughing, especially given that the story being read regarded a plague of birds. None of this bothered the author, who chuckled. Near the end of the second excerpt, this one from Love Medicine, she spoke a line that perhaps drives to the heart of the story being read: “that what she read that evening; a character spoke about someone “cherishing [life] because you know you won’t come by such a bargain again.”

The smell of dough and apples wafted through the windows of the Hoen-Saric House on Monday, Nov. 9, where the Russian Club was raising money for an orphanage in Ukraine. The smell came from pirozhki, a traditional Russian dish that the club is selling this week. Russian Club co-president Leah Missik ’10 spent her spring semester in St. Petersburg last year, where she visited an orphanage and began to think about how the club could raise money for the children living there. The club decided to work with a Ukrainian orphanage from which the family friend of Russian Club co-president Andrea Fullerton ’10 adopted a child. “We’re doing a lot of activities right now during International Week to do fundraising so we can send them stuff, for example, for Christmas,” Missik said. “It’s donation-based, so people just give whatever they feel like and then they can have some pirozhki.”

The dish is made from filling dough with either sweet or savory fillings and baking them. “It would be nice if we could make at least 200 dollars, but of course, as much as we can is even better,” Missik said. “It’s expensive to send packages to the Ukraine.”

SUSANNAH GREEN and SUSANNAH GRUER

Students: 38.5
Faculty: 40

Totals so far:

Thursday, November 12, 2009

Gambier Grillin’

Cooking for a Cause

What is the oldest baseball stadium in the US?

The former Brooklyn Dodgers stadium

Yankee Stadium

Fenway Park

What is the only sport that has been played on the moon?

Golf

Croquet

Golf

Golf

By Libby Panhorst

By Libby Panhorst
The Maids Tackles a Difficult Script

BY BOB DIORFF
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Those looking for an intense experience this weekend should attend the senior thesis production of Jean Genet’s _The Maids_. The 1948 play presented several challenges for the cast and crew, most of which stemmed from the text’s complexity. “Genet’s text is very dense, very heavy,” Will Cicorico ’10, the play’s director, said. “My directorial difficulty has really been in trying to figure out what’s going on dramatically ... and how to communicate that effectively.”

The drama in the work centers around a love triangle between two sisters, who work as maids, and the Madame who employs them. The sisters, Claire, played by Rania Manganaro ’10, and Solange, played by Catherine Seder ’10, begin the play plotting a way to kill Madame, who is played by Kate Kremer ’11. From these sinister beginnings, the play takes viewers on a whirlwind trip through “rape, murder, and religion,” Manganaro said.

The text’s density made the rehearsal process a constant learning experience. “While we were working on it, it felt as though we were in a literature course,” Manganaro said. “You are constantly breaking it down. While we were working on it, I felt like it was showing us who we are as individuals.”

Despite the text’s difficulty, “the play raises really some fascinating questions, perhaps uncomfortable questions about what intimacy is and how far are people willing to go for fame, intimacy, and so it is a mystery of sorts because you wonder why the end moment resolve itself,” Manganaro said. “We tried to find the comedy in the end moment of itself.”

“The sprawling American dream is also to alleviate racial tensions and show the military’s support for those with Latin American heritage. ‘The intent is not to be didactic,’ Dallas said, ‘but rather to engage people in thinking more broadly.’

“Gonzalez and Dallas were chosen by faculty member Claudia Esslinger and myself for their innovative and conceptually approach to cultural and political issues and discourse,” Visiting Assistant Professor Dan Younger, director of the gallery, said. The artists interviewed Ohio residents, including Kenyon students, earlier this semester to incorporate their stories into the show. The students discussed fears and hopes about such issues as the political situation and the so-called ‘kenyon bubble.’

In addition, framed maps of the American highway system and Ohio towns hang between the photographs. Each of these maps was shot in a town, circled in red, named after a foreign city. “They have that name because of some connection in history with some political conflict,” Gonzalez said.

“This aspect of the exhibit highlights Ohio’s connection to immigrants and military veterans, who arrived in or returned to this country and named Ohio towns after international cities. “The sprawling American dream is not only inside [America],” Gonzalez said of his intent in using these maps.

Gonzalez said his experience as an immigrant to this country has influenced his views and therefore his art. One photograph depicts an abandoned building covered with racist phrases; within the building is a photograph of the Quran. “When people say ‘God bless America,’ they forget that people in other countries have God, too,” Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez explained that he did not agree with the “idea of victimization” of the United States used by former President Bush as a foreign policy tool and that he feels happy about President Obama’s diplomatic tactics. “This is my country now,” Gonzalez said. “I was very sad when everyone in Latin America hated the USA. I think the only way to peace is respect.”

_Jpparalelos has exhibited their work at sites including the Toronto International Film and the Spaces gallery in Cleveland. They won an Individual Excellence Award from the Ohio Arts Council in 2007._

_The Ohio Art Gallery will display “Mental Landscapes” by Jpparalelos, a group composed of artists Juan Si Gonzalez and Paloma Dallas, until Dec. 19. They will discuss their work Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. in Olin Auditorium._

A small part of the Maids’ ‘Mental Landscapes’ currently on display in Ohio Art Gallery

**Thursday, November 12, 2009**
Rugby Needs Athletic Trainers

Students at Risk for Severe Injuries

BY PETER DUMBADE
Guest Columnist

The designs for the new North Campus apartments are aesthetically pleasing. Gund Partnership’s design for a cluster of New England-esque clapboard buildings is pleasing to the eye and won’t be seen as controversial. The true impact of the new plans, however, cannot be ascertained as of now. While we can be sure of the design now the success of the architecture — the built environment in which we inhabit — can only be assessed once the structures are built.

The new apartments will be sited where Bexley Apartments and New Apartments presently are. For as long as I have been here, these parts of campus have always been the “cool” place to live, as this is where the best parties are usually found. It is in this northeast region of campus that cans of Pabst Blue Ribbon are abundant, and students can dominate and sounds of bands you have never heard of reverberate off the paper-thin New Apartment walls. These are only a fraction of what makes this area of campus unique and fun.

On some accounts, this “coolness” can be attributed to the Bexley Apartments and New Apartments’ appeal. Most students probably don’t usually think of the New Apartments (and especially the Bexley Apartments) as having any architectural significance, the placement of each of the blocks helps to contribute to how we constitute our communal relationships. We can also see this in the rumored “riot-proof” hallways of the McBride and Murter Residence Halls, which were designed by the Chicago firm of Perkins + Will to help foster small communities within the relatively large dorms.

The reason for my aside here is to point out what it is that makes us appreciate our housing. Yes, the New Apartments are not the finest example of construction, but there is something that we love about them.

When the first students move into these new apartments (I propose that we call them the New New Apartments), the onus will be upon them to establish relationships within the space. While the floor plans (i.e. the coordinating of spaces with different needs) are in no way groundbreaking, the first tenants will have to establish the relationships on both the apartment and site levels. The other thing that will have to be accomplished is the institution of the “coolness” factor. While these buildings are traditional in appearance and in plan, the student body will have to approach them as a blank canvas, much in the same way as students did with the Bexley Apartments and the New Apartments. Through this means of appropriation, we can make the new structures our own and hopefully inherit the North Campus crown of coolness.

The student body will have approach [the new buildings] as a blank canvas.

The student body will have approach [the new buildings] as a blank canvas.

The annual Residence Hall Energy Competition has never been the most exciting period of the year. But this year, students have been saved, and a first-year dormitory goes gang-ho and is inspired to acts of energy saving, vigilantism, but many upperclassmen let the Competition pass by, using the opportunity to become temporarily more conscious of saving energy but thinking little about the Competition’s implications on sustainability. This apathy needs to change this year. The Competition is an opportunity for the student body to prove to the administration that sustainability is a priority. More than talking to administrators or seeing all its to fellow students, significantly reducing our dormitories’ energy usage will prove the value of the Competition.

The student body is at the heart of the Competition, that is to say, students that are serious about sustainability. That, in turn, will hopefully prompt the administration to make real, tangible changes that students cannot make alone. The administration has typically shown a lackluster interest in sustainability — as Kenyon’s environmental management grade this year demonstrated — but the majority of Kenyon students have not done enough to commit to real change, either.

It is important to keep in mind that simply turning off the lights or switching off the power strip when you leave your room will not prevent climate change. Personal habit adjustments are a great start, but they alone will never be effective enough. But we as students do have the ability to support sustainability for sustainability will engender change on the College’s administrative level, which should mean, amongst other things, reducing the College’s reliance on coal and improving water efficiency.

The College is already starting to show its increasing commitment to sustainability. Prompted by the student group People Endorsing Agricultural Sustainability (PEAS), the College and AVI have increased many local foods into the dining hall. We at the Collegian especially applaud the administration for its most recent sustainability-related action — appointing Superintendent of Building and Grounds Ed Neal as sustainability director (and creating the position in the first place). Neal is to be commended for hiring someone already intimately acquainted with the College’s electrical and water systems, will diminish the impact on the College’s resource usage. If we want Kenyon to survive as an institution, sustainability has to be what it takes to get the Kenyon student to take “more responsibility” is any indication. The administration both toers to get involved with the rugby team when liability issues arise and, as a result, know little about the club rugby teams or players’ experiences.

The issue of providing trainers for the rugby team faces the administration once every few years and every time, it is blown off. Once again, this is the case. Responsibility for rugby-related injuries lies on the shoulders of several people. As one of the captains of the women’s rugby team, I know that the administration partly lies with me, because captains are the ones who teach the rules and conduct of safe play. I am not a medical professional, however, and rugby is a rough sport in which people will inevitably get hurt. We are not qualified to diagnose the difference between a severe concussion and a fractured skull — give us somebody who can.

The rugby player was a member of the Oberlin Women’s Rugby Club and suffered a concussion during her way game. She did not attend practice during the next few days despite suffering from headaches, but only when her headaches became severe did she seek medical attention at the local hospital. It turned out she had been suffering from a fractured skull and likely would have suffered brain damage or death if brought in any later.

Students Save a Little, Kenyon Saves a Lot

The Kenyon Collegian is a space for students to express opinions through a letter to the editors. Columns and letters to the editors do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College. The views expressed in any submission. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College. The student body will have approach [the new buildings] as a blank canvas.

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Lords and Ladies Split Dual Meet Against Denison

Coming off a loss to The Ohio State University just a week earlier, the Lords and Ladies were back in the pool this past Saturday, Nov. 7, hosting North Coast Athletic Conference rival Denison University and looking to cement themselves as the frontrunners for the NCAC crown and the national championship. The Kenyon teams began by conceding valuable points accrued during the diving competition, but they remained poised. Looking to overcome this initial deficit, the Lords and Ladies placed first and third in both the men's and women's 200-yard medley relay. Not wanting to slow the momentum, they continued to chip away little by little at Denison's lead. In the end, the Lords pulled away from the Big Red to win the meet 145-92, claiming the top position in every race, but the Ladies lost 139-104.

Individually, the Lords had impressive showings from Collin Ohning '11 and Ian Stewart-Bates '13, both contributing members for three event wins, and Michael Mpitsos '11, Jimmy Chapman '13 and David Somers '12, who each claimed two event wins. While the Lords thrived, the Ladies were unable to make up the early deficit and finished the day 35 points shy of the Big Red's 139. Individually, the Ladies had standout performances from Lauren Brady '11, who won two events, Anna Connolly '13, who won the 200-yard individual medley and Dominique Chevalier '12, who won the 500-yard freestyle. "Overall, I think it was a good meet for us," Head Coach Jim Steen said. "We are coming off a lot of sickness due to the H1N1 flu and I think that both the men and women showed signs of improvement. The men obviously won the match, but the Ladies were really competitive even without two national caliber swimmers in Alisa Vereschagin ['12] and Tina Ertel ['10]." Vereschagin was suffering from an illness and Ertel has a broken hand.

When handling the high expectations placed on both of these teams, Steen said that building a winning program is a difficult process. "What most people don't realize is that every year is different and there is a lot of regrouping that has to happen even with the old faces," he said. "Each of these meets is a measuring stick of where we are versus where we want to be. If we meet our individual standards then we usually meet expectations." When asked about the process of recreating the teams year after year and continuing to meet expectations, Steen pointed to the overall work ethic and the individual leadership combining to make the team what it is. "Everyone cares about the team and that's what it comes down to," he said. "The work ethic is always great as each swimmer looks to become a master of their craft. Look at David Lazarus ['10]; he expects the best out of himself and, at the same time, wants what's best for the team. On the women's side, look at Tina Ertel who broke her hand on the first intersquad of the year but still has been to every practice, while rehabbing. These are the people that make achieving our goals easier."

Looking forward, the Lords and Ladies both have daunting schedules ahead of them, culminating in the National Collegiate Athletic Association championships in March, but there is still a story to be written before the teams reach that juncture. The Ladies will host Division I opponent Ohio University on Friday, Nov. 13. Then, on Saturday, Nov. 14, the Lords and Ladies will travel to Division I foe Miami University. These meets will give the Lords and Ladies a chance to prove to the nation that the Kenyon College winning swimming tradition is alive and well in the little village of Gambier, Ohio.
Kenyon Football Loses to Archrival Denison on Senior Day

**BY MARK MOTHERAL**

Sports Editor

Although last Saturday’s Senior Day showdown between the Kenyon Lords and the Denison Big Red football teams had no place for implications, pride and bragging rights were all still at stake for the longtime rivals. The Lords played inspired football throughout, but the Big Red ultimately lost their final game of the season 31-27.

In the first quarter, both teams struggled to score. Denison received the ball first, but could not find an offensive rhythm and punted after running just six plays for a measly 22 yards. Kenyon fared no better on the following possession, going four yards in three plays before giving the ball right back to the Big Red via a school-record-setting 74-yard punt by Matt Martin ’12. Denison experienced much greater success during its second possession, converting a third-and-11, booting the ball for seven minutes and 55 seconds, but still failed to score. The Big Red, however, put the Lords in a precarious position on its second possession. Denison’s Jake Shafer, pinned the Lords on their own one-yard line. Kenyon displayed offensive execution of the highest caliber, using a mix of run and pass plays to drive 99 yards in three minutes and 18 seconds and taking a 7-0 lead after a one-yard touchdown run by Kyle Toot ’10.

A blunder by the Lords’ kickoff unit gave the Big Red starting field position in Kenyon territory. Denison took advantage of Kenyon’s mistake and evened the score at 7-7 after a seven-yard touchdown run by running back Dan Crawford. Only 43 seconds later, thanks to an explosive 56-yard rushing touchdown by Toot, the Lords claimed the lead again. After recovering a fumble by Denison less than one minute later, the Lords seemed to be in complete control — but they gave the ball back to the Big Red three plays later by throwing an interception. Denison did not waste its second chance, scoring a touchdown in six plays to even the game at 14-14. The score would not stay that way for long. Kenyon’s offense took the lead yet again thanks to a 52-yard reception by Harry von Kamm ’10, leaving the score 21-14 at the half.

The second half of the game featured a Kenyon squad that struggled on both offense and defense. Kenyon had possession for less than four minutes of the third quarter and had trouble slowing down the drives of the Big Red, who used its rushing to break down the Lords’ front seven and consume large chunks of time. The fourth quarter was all too similar to the third, with the Lords unable to score on offense and unable to stop Denison’s rushing attack on defense. After giving up another touchdown and, later on, a field goal that sealed their fate, the Lords had one final highlight. In the last quarter, Mike Leskosky ’10 caught a touchdown pass just as time expired. “My last-second touchdown catch was bitter-sweet,” Leskosky said. “Obvi-ously I’d rather have a win against Denison over a touchdown catch, but I guess it’s the best way to go out and give the circumstances. My first collegiate catch was a touchdown towards the latter end of the Grinnell game my first year, so ending my career with a touchdown catch from the same quarterback is something I’ll definitely keep with me for the rest of my life.”

“We were not able to make the same plays offensive-ly,” Head Coach Ted Stanley said of the second half. “We had some dropped balls. … The protection had to be better, too. On defense, we couldn’t stop the run game. When you can’t stop the run game, you get beat.”

Two seniors, Leskosky and Toot, had very different reactions to the culmination of their football careers. “Losing my last football game was a pretty significant disappointment for me,” Leskosky said. “It’s frustrat-ing that the offense couldn’t produce towards the end of the game, especially because I felt really positive about the win going into half time. Post-game was really emotional, to be hon-est with you. I’ve been playing football for about 12 years and it’s been such a big part of my life. To realize I’ll never be able to put on my jersey and play with my teammates again hit me pretty hard.”

Toot, on the other hand, was not as impacted by the loss, at least for now. “Losing my last [game is] really tough, but I don’t feel any different than any other loss right now,” Toot said. “The reality that my playing career is over hasn’t fully hit me yet. I guess I don’t really know how to articulate exactly how I feel. Losing has never gotten any easier over the last four years; I think I’ve gotten better at knowing how to handle it, though. I can honestly say, too, that my performance doesn’t make any difference to me. I’ve always been fairly critical of myself af-ter any loss, but I’ve had to learn how to help my team win. After the game I tried my best to let the feeling of a loss go. I think it was a lot easier with my family and friends there.”

Stanley shared a few words about the 16 seniors on the team who are now finished with Kenyon football. “The year’s senior players improved our program,” Stanley said. “They were good leaders, and played the way we want Kenyon football players to play. I’m sorry that they didn’t experience more success on the field this year, but I guess it’s the best way to go out and give the circumstances.”

Toot and Toot may have been disappointed by the loss, but both of them have gained valuable life skills from playing football here, and they said they will hold fast to memories of their athletic careers for the rest of their lives. “Playing a sport in col-lege is tough,” Leskosky said. “I’ve definitely learned to dis-cipline myself when it comes to my school and social life because of the ridiculous time commit-ment. We have a ton of meet-ings, practices, games … lifting and so on. We can’t even go out on Wednesday nights during the season — now that’s a big com-miment. I’d say it’s worth every minute, though. … The bond that I’ve formed with my teammates because of football is on another level. I mean, what can be achieved in a purely social manner. Overall I would say it has been a positive and fun experience.”

Toot shares Leskosky’s senti-ments. “I’ve definitely gained a lot playing college football,” Toot said. “It teaches you a lot about yourself, and a lot about the guys you play with as well. I have relationships with all of my teammates and coaches over the past four years that I will definitely take with me into the future. I don’t want to end up in life. I also got to prove to myself that I could play at a pretty high level. … I can’t say that I’m disappointed by the wins and losses over the last four years, but I can say that it was worth everything that I put into it. And I know next year when fall comes around I’ll probably miss it even more than I do now.”

Kenyon Football Loses to Archival Denison on Senior Day

**BY NATE OLDACH**

Staff Writer

The Kenyon College Lords soccer team traveled to Denison University to play a semi-final match last Wednesday, Nov. 4. At stake was a berth to the finals of the North Coast Athletic Conference championship and a chance to win an automatic bid to the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III tournament. Every player on the men’s side realized the implications of the match and fought valiantly, but the Lords fell to the Big Red 1-0 and in doing so ended a promising season.

The Lords began the match with a thirst for victory but real-ized it would be a highly contested, physical battle throughout. Both defenses seemed up to the task, and as the game reached halftime, the score remained a stalemate 0-0. Following the half, both teams emerged with their minds set on one thing: scoring. The Lords, in particular, took this to heart as their offense dominated. Unfortu-nately, time and time again, Denison goalie had a way for long. Kenyon’s offense emerged with their minds set on winning its first year till now and just see how to articulate exactly how I feel. Losing has never gotten any