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Seniors last home swim
Seven Lord swimmers have their last Gambier meet
• Sports, p. 9

The Kenyon Collegian
Gambier, Ohio

Village Council discusses tax increase

BY BRYAN STOKES II AND BRIAN NEENAN

"The fact is this has to be done," said Gambier Mayor Kirk Emnett in reference to the emergency measure proposed by the village council to increase water rates at the Feb. 2 meeting.

The measure proposed a seventy percent increase in the combined water and sewer rates for the village, an increase of 25% for water and 15% for sewers. This increase will raise the price of water from six dollars to $7.50 for every thousand gallons of water.

The measure was up for its second reading on Monday. The first reading, which took place in January, was for a ten percent increase in the water rate and a five percent increase for sewers. Village Clerk-Treasurer Mary Surnsell announced that the previously proposed increase would be insufficient to cover expenses in the water budget, making a larger increase necessary.

Doug Givens, Managing Director of Philander Chase Corporation, proposed this "stealth" increase in water rates. "I think that the residents of Gambier elected you all to take care of the Village's finances in a reasonable way," he said. "A 25% increase in a stealthy way, I think, is not fulfilling your responsibility to the citizens of this community."

In response, the Council voted to call a special meeting on Feb. 16 at 7:00 p.m. to hear the Village's comments on the measure. Council Member Lto Forman was the only dissentor. Emnett was opposed to delaying the measure any further.

"If our rates are producing more income than we need in a year or two, we can reduce them, but for the coming year we need the income generated by a 37.5% overall increase in rates, even if we are able to decrease our leaks by 30 percent," said Emnett.

The Village has been subsidizing water rates since 1999, when Mount Vernon began to increase the water rates. According to Surnsell, the Council subsidized the water fund by $59,000 in the 2003 fiscal year. In 1999 through 2001, Mount Vernon increased the water rates by 8 percent per year.

Since then, the rate has increased by a steady 3 percent per year. Besides a 5 percent increase of the rate in 2001, the Village has not raised water rates to keep up with Mt. Vernon. Loans to the water fund cost $268,000 from 2001 to 2003.

There is already a $75,000 loan planned for the water fund in the 2004 budget. The water fund is also $34,000 in debt from the 2003 fiscal year. The budget for 2004 is $247,613.52 less than the projected 2004 budget.

Council member Andrea Ransburg said, "Our budget is so narrowed down that we have, almost literally, no capital expenditures, and we're crossing our fingers nothing breaks this year."

Samuel said, "Basically what we took out were capital expenses. We won't buy anything this year, anything new."

The General Fund, the source of the village's general operating funds, is being rapidly drained. In 2002 the fund stood at $273,993.21, in 2003 it dropped to $171,068.06. At the beginning of the 2004 fiscal year it stands at $92,207.28. After the initial seventy percent increase, the rates will probably continue to increase to keep up with Mt. Vernon's increases.

Ransburg commented, "I see WATER, page three.

Senate considers co-ed housing

BY AKILAH AMPANDI
Staff Reporter

Co-ed housing was the main topic of discussion in this past Senate meeting as members take a fresh look at Kenyon housing.

Byron Brown, Chair of Housing and Grounds told the Senate that the issue had been discussed in her committee in the three years since she has been a member and this year there would be steps taken to explore the issue. Dean of Residential Life "George Barbour and I talked to other schools to see how their co-ed housing worked," said Brown.

"Some of the schools say it is not any different from same-sex housing, and students work out their problems themselves." Brown later detailed the proposed process, which would involve a separate application for the select group of students who choose this option.

Some of the reasons for possibly implementing this change would be to create a more true-to-life living situation for some students who would like the opportunity, and to relieve some of the pressure from the housing crunch by potentially retaining some of the people who live off-campus illegally. Vice President of Student life Jen Judson also said that long-term relationships, which can put a strain on roommate relations, could also benefit from the proposed policy.

Student Council President Tom Sussman outlined the proposed test for co-ed apartments. "This two-year test involves only four apartments with no co-ed bedroom," he said. "The bedrooms will be single sex."

Some senators questioned the desire among the student body for mixed housing, and Sussman said the purpose of the discussion was to shed light on the issue.

see SENATE, page two

Rush numbers up since last year

BY KELLY SMALLWOOD
Staff Reporter

After a three-year slump, Greek life at Kenyon seems to be gaining popularity. Involvement in fraternities and sororities has undergone a significant increase this year, with rush and bid numbers higher than they have been in 12 years.

In 1999, nearly half of all freshman males pledged a fraternity, while only about three per cent of women pledged a sorority. Between the years 2000 and 2003, the percentage of men involved in fraternities plunged to 27 percent -- a seventeen percent decrease in fraternity affiliation.

While fraternity involvement was steadily decreasing, with some ups and downs in between, sorority involvement was steadily on the rise. As of last year, approximately ten percent of Kenyon women involved were of sorority of some sort -- a seven percent increase over a period of four years.

To explain the dip in Greek numbers last year and the year before, Director of Student Activities Joseph Maurer said, "Last year we did see a dip in participation. Part of that reduction is numbers was due to the graduation class of the previous year -- almost half of the men in that class had pledged a fraternity in their first year. With their graduating, and a lower consistent pledge class in the subsequent years, the overall numbers dropped."

This year, however, rush and bid numbers are up again, and pledge numbers may follow suit, possibly giving Kenyon Greek organization their largest pledge classes in several years.

Maurer attributes the increase to the Greek community's steady recruitment efforts. "I think that this big part of this year's increase has to do with the proactive approach of the Greek community in general," he said, and Greek Council specifically.

"The groups have done a great job this year of letting the student body know of the opportunities available to participate in Greek life," Maurer continued, "and it has paid off with a greater number of students responding."

This may mean that fraternity/SALE BUSH, page two
CONTINUED from Page One
Among the other concerns were possible negative responses from alumni, parents and other members of the Kenyon community, as well as the potential for change to the fabric of Kenyon life. Visiting Instructor of Political Science Devi Stauffer worried about the social dynamic among students and the possible effects of living too closely.

"I think you should think about the effect this will have on the romantic and erotic tone of the College," he said. "It seems that the sense of separateness, the living apart and barriers, heightens romance and the erotic tone of a place in a way that excessive familiarity and contact does away with. I think things would flatten out."

Junior class representative Bryan Stokes II proposed a survey of the campus concerning the issue, in case there is less interest than is perceived by the governing bodies.

According to Brown, there will be no co-ed housing available in the lottery this year, but the issue will be further discussed among the various committees.

Among other business, two new members have been added to the Senate: Faculty Representative Read Baldwin, who is an Assistant Professor of Art, and Eric Racovitch, who is the Greek Council representative. Baldwin replaces Rosemary Marusak, who left the Senate last semester because of scheduling conflicts. Senate will reconvene on Feb. 12.

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VILLAGE RECORD

January 28 - February 3, 2001

Jan. 29, 12:43 a.m. - Intoxicated/underage student outside Acland Apartment. College Township Emergency Squad contacted.

Jan. 29, 2:01 a.m. - Intoxicated undergraduate student at Norton Hall. College Physician was contacted.

Jan. 29, 1:22 p.m. - Theft of item from Duff Street Apartments.

Jan. 29, 10:21 p.m. - Medical call regarding ill student at McBride Residence. College Township Emergency Squad contacted.

Jan. 30, 7:39 p.m. - Fire alarm at Watson Hall due to food being cooked.

Jan. 30, 11:11 p.m. - Unauthorized gathering/underage consumption at Caples Residence.

Jan. 30, 11:16 p.m. - Underage possession between Mather and McBride Residences.

Jan. 30, 11:51 p.m. - Fire alarm at Lewis Hall/pool station activated. No smoke or fire found.

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NEWS

Thursday, February 5, 2004

Rush: Greek numbers up

CONTINUED from Page One

Ties and sororities were rushing harder, or it may be that many freshmen, and some sophomores, have been more intrigued by the idea of brother or sisterhood. Lauren Zemmer '07 said, "Rushing seemed like a good way to meet a bunch of new people... I have heard so many negative and disappointing stereotypes that made me initially question the practicality of having sororities on a small campus. What I found was that the stereotypes were almost entirely inaccurate - the girls are about as varied as you (can) get, are involved in a whole slew of activities here, and turned out to be some of the nicest people I've met. They, interestingly enough, weren't spiteful of those who condemned their organization, while those on the outside were pretty clear about their (un)founded opinions.

Bob Proctor '07 said, "I decided to bid because the fraternity I was hanging out with seemed like the type of people I'd like to make permanent friends with. Also, I liked the idea that I'd be a part of something that would go on longer than my four years at Kenyon."

Some students did not rush, and say they had no interest in Greek life. One freshman said, "I didn't rush or bid because I have no motivation to (rush). I don't even know why I'd want to rush or bid. I simply have no clue as to what the advantages of joining them are."

When asked what the appeal of Greek life on campus would be, if any, another freshman said, "I think the appeal on campus definitely depends upon the person. In my case, I wanted nothing to do with frats, but after I went to some activities and got to know the guys I realized they were real cool and that joining was something that I needed to consider."

According to Maurer, the sudden increase in Greek affiliation probably will not bring about big changes in student life. "More than any campus I've been on," he says, "Kenyon students define themselves in a variety of ways, certainly not just by their affiliation to (or independence from) Greek organizations. The student life on this campus has always been defined by the diversity of interest of the student body, and I can't see that changing at any point in the future."

Students see, however, raising a number of questions, based on this year's increased Greek involvement. Some ask if admissions will change its observation that Greek life is "non-predominant" at Kenyon. Others question whether sophomores will be allowed to live in division housing again and, if so, whether these students would be discriminated against because of their involvement in a fraternity or sorority.
Nugent at Phling? It's possible, says president

BY TAYRN MYERS
Senior Production Editor

President S. Georgia Nugent is making connections with students of the campus. In the fact that no one showed up to the first open hour he had this semester, five students showed up to her office hours in the afternoon. Some of these students stopped by to discuss projects and organizations, others just came to introduce themselves and chat with Kenyon’s new president.

Nugent is also considering connecting with students in a very different way this weekend. When asked whether she would attend the annual Greek Life Chili Bowl, she responded, “It depends on how late I stay up, I’ll probably try and at least pop in.”

In a way that Nugent has working with students is in the area of Greek Life. “I met with the Greek Life committee,” she explained, “and I’ll do that again now that they have new officers. I feel that I’m ag- gressive about Greek Life. I want to be open to what people feel is important to them and to understand what they’re doing and work with them and consult in any way I can. Since, contrary to rumor, I have not been going around to parties, I haven’t actually experienced Greek Life. I know that has also been work- ing extensively with other groups on campus, particularly through the sexual misconduct policies, none of the task forces she set up last semester. One of her primary concerns continues to be the sexual misconduct issue. The task force under Emmett explained, ‘There was a very good meeting last week—a meeting that was held with the two consultants who are working with us. They explained the process they were going through...’ I think that went very well. We had it in Higley and there were 100 people there.’

One of the other task forces she appointed was the art task force, which has only met a few times thus far. The members of this group, said Nugent, "are in the information-gathering process to indicate the specific changes that we need in the future in the areas that other colleagues’ policies are in this issue and it is seeking the advice of experts such as muse- um curators.

Not all the task forces are off and running quite yet, however. Said Nugent, “We have actually postponed the time period for the [diversity task force].’ We’re just going to have to wait next semester.’ She explained that one of the reasons this task force has been delayed is that many of the people they want on the force—

In addition, the Office of Admissions is currently doing some research on diversity that would be helpful to the task force, so this semester will be a time for them to compile some of that information.

A final area of interest for Nugent is the potential water tax increase in the Village (see ar- ticle, p. 1). ‘It’s a big problem for the Village to have to deal with.’

We initially made an offer [to the Village] that we would pay for 35-50,000 gallons per day, and keeping it up with Mount Vernon.”

The council also discussed ways to deal with waste water treatment and sluage disposal. According to Emmett’s mayor’s report, “We deter- mined that there was actually a sluage problem to be dry

Student Council continues sexual misconduct talks

BY IAN KERR DALTON
Staff Reporter

“Sexual assault is not the absence of verbal consent,” said Patrick Gilligan Director of Counseling Services, “It’s the violation of someone’s will.”

Gilligan, Director of Counseling Services at Kenyon, spoke to the Student Council last week during the previous meeting. Student Council invited leader of students organizations to come share their opinions on Kenyon’s sexual misconduct policy, which is under review by campus Senate this year, in accordance with the regulations set forth in the Student Handbook. This week, Gilligan alone spoke to the Council, in place of the sexual misconduct policy. For 45 minutes, Gilligan spoke to students and answered questions from Council members.

Prefacing his comments, Gilligan said, “I offer these not as any sort of prescriptive advice, just stuff I’d like you to think about as we go through this process.”

In recent weeks, criticisms of Kenyon’s sexual misconduct policy have been limited, too, according to Gilligan. Representa- tion and campus education.

In contrast, Gilligan’s first topic of discussion was the definition of sexual assault itself. According to the Student Handbook, “Sexual assault occurs when a student engages in sexual relations with another student without that person’s verbal consent.”

Gilligan suggested that the current wording does not adequately stress that sexual assault is not the absence of verbal consent but is simply the absence of consent.

However, Gilligan af- firmed that consent is “best ex- pressed” through verbal con- sent. Of the verbal consent requirement, he said, “I like that it’s a really high standard.”

It’s high expectations, and I think that’s good... I think that we should recognize the challenge here.

Gilligan explained that people typically will use ver- bal consent as an indicator that they intend to use the other be- haviors to indicate yes.” To help change that behavior, he suggested, “We can continue our effort to make it really clear that verbal consent is the re- quirement... We have to cre- ate some opportunities to build awareness and skills, because this [verbal consent] isn’t just something that happen easily in sexual relations.”

Gilligan also addressed the issue of time regarding sexual misconduct cases. There is no statute of limita- tions for sexual misconduct cases under the current policy, and “a student can bring a charge against another student as long as both are currently enrolled in the college,” according to the Student Hand- book.

Gilligan said, “we should have a discussion about whether or not you should have a statute of limitations. For example, a student could bring a case in his or her senior year about an incident that took place more than three years earlier.”

Such cases can begin to stretch practical boundaries of how well people can recall events and motivations.

As for the adjudication of sexual misconduct cases, Gilligan said, “we have to find ways to humanize this pro- cess.” He therefore proposed the use of some kind of “vic- tim impact statement” and a corresponding “mitigating statement” from the defendant. With a written statement, he said, the victim could both explain the im- pact his or her life and rec- ommend a possible sanction in the case of a conviction.

“Most what we don’t want is a policy used on a technicality,” added Gilligan.

He said that cases can often be very com- plicated, especially when nei- ther party gives verbal con- sent. Offences should be handled on a case-by-case basis. “What makes things difficult here are the people are reluctant to ex-

A similar system is used in Urbana, and Wilsonville, said Fred Higley, Assistant to the Village Administrator Jim Lente who toured earlier this year.

Currently sluage is disposed of in liquid form by Bird’s Hydro, at a cost of $12,000 per year, according to a memo submitted by Emmett to the Streets and Utilities committee.

Students are not off and running quite yet, however. Said Nugent, “We have actually postponed the time period for the [diversity task force].’ We’re just going to have to wait next semester.’ She explained that one of the reasons this task force has been delayed is that many of the people they want on the force—members of the Board of Trusts-ees, etc.—are unavailable this semester for one reason or another.

In addition, the Office of Admissions is currently doing some research on diversity that would be helpful to the task force, so this semester will be a time for them to compile some of that information.

A final area of interest for Nugent is the potential water tax increase in the Village (see article, p. 1). ‘It’s a big problem for the Village to have to deal with.’

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Desaparecidos’ debut features white-hot punk rock

BY DAN ALPER
Music Critic

In spring 2002, from the indie rock hbo of Omaha, Neb., came another barn-storming opus to the masses: the debut from Desaparecidos, Read Music/Speak Spanish. Set to an angry, ferocious blast of white-hot punk rock, Read Music was a bold and vital manifesto against the corporate machine that was quickly wrapping its tentacles around smaller louts such as Omaha. Although the project gained its initial fame because of rising star Conor Oberst—frontman of Bright Eyes—and his poignant, articulate observations, few realized that another indie rock hero lay hidden beneath the fold.

However, rock fans did not have to wait long before realizing that Desaparecidos guitarist Denver Dalley was a budding indie rock hero. In the fall of 2003, Dalley released a five-song teaser EP from his own band, Statistics, handling all the instruments himself. Awash in swirling synths and gorgeous melodies, the EP proved to fans that Dalley’s Statistics was a band with the potential to go places.

Now, Dalley is ready to let the world hear him truly unleash himself, with Leave Your Name. The opening song, “Sing A Song,” articulates Dalley’s creations at their best. A slow synth progressively builds throughout the first verse before rising to the triumphant chaotic chorus, in which Dalley croons: “Sing A Song! / As long as those have melodies that won’t be forgotten easily / And sing a song!”

The song is a good introduction to the light, happy, melodic vibe that permeates most of Leave Your Name.

“Hours Seemed Like Days” is a breezy recollection of youthful days, when everything appeared simpler and more fun. Through distorted lyrics, Dalley declares, “CDs skip and vinyls back / MP3s and not-8-tracks, and cassettes have been erased. / It used to be that hours seemed like days / Let’s go back in time.”

The mellow “The Grass Is Green” is a somber reflection on the life of a touring rocker, who wishes to be home while on tour yet, desires to get back on the road.

Fans of Desaparecidos may be surprised to find the man who crafted Leave Your Name is the same man behind the bludgeoning guitars of Read Music/Speak Spanish. Where Desaparecidos trade in anger, Statistics trade in hazy reflection.

Whereas Read Music/Speak Spanish left out of the listener the throat and bring them out of their indifference, Leave Your Name lulls you into reflective contemplation and relaxation. While Read Music sounds like an angry street-corner protest, Name sounds like more like an afternoon spent in the backyard reminiscing and thinking over a few cold ones.

However, do not misinterpret the swirling synth and melodies as boring, for there are quiet and a few interesting sounds and sonic experiments on Leave Your Name, for those willing to invest the time in discovering them.

At the very least, Leave Your Name proves that the Omaha indie rock well has not run dry, and that Denver Dalley is an incredibly versatile musician, who should be watched as he progresses over the next few years.

Desaparecidos offers their first album, Read Music/Speak Spanish.

Jenkins’ Monster forces us to redefine great performances

BY JESSE KATZ
Film Critic

Charlize Theron’s lead role as executed serial killer Aileen Wuornos in Patty Jenkins’ Monster forces us to redefine “great performances.” Theron’s portrayal of Aileen, a highway prostitute executed for seven murders in the 1980s is so unlike the actress’ actual persona that one is unable to detect Theron in her character’s body, voice, eyes or walk.

Praise alone is not sufficient to recognize Theron’s performance in Monster. Even the character’s smile is alien to the classically beautiful South African star, making this not only one of the most transforming performances in the history of movies, but one of the most humble. Simply donning bad hair and gaining 30 pounds; does not change an actress. Theron changed herself to better portray Wuornos.

While Theron’s performance is impressive, the movie as a whole falls short of perfection, with a story lacking the emotional range of its leading lady.

We only see brief snapshots of Wuornos growing up in Texas, coping with social alienation by offering up her body to the curiosity of boys, and later to the money of men.

It’s a vicious cycle that brings us to the present day, when Wuornos unknowingly wanders broke and depressed into Tallahassee, but traffic on Selby, played by Christina Ricci. Although Selby is immediately attracted to Wuornos, she resists until Selby overcomes her with genuine respect and affection. They run away together.

Wuornos swears off prostitution, but when money runs out, they decide she should go back to the only income they can find. Wuornos quickly finds herself victim to an abusive, john and things go away from there.

Jenkins seems to understand well the highs and—more importantly—lows that would make Wuornos’ story most compelling, though she often neglects the inroads that connect them. For example, Wuornos’ first killing is portrayed as self-defense. Her second, on the other hand, enters into the realm of murder without exploring why she made the leap.

Also, Selby’s story is most moving when it is just about her—her family’s religious abhorrence of her sexuality, her inability to find love without judgment. But when her story becomes Wuornos’ story, we lose our grasp on Selby’s motives, as Jenkins again makes a competent leap in subtlety. To see just what is lacking in Selby’s construction, one might go to Chloe Sevigny’s character Lana in Boys Don’t Cry, a more successful depiction of unlikely love succumbing to violent outside pressure. While both Selby and Lana deny themselves the unpleasant truth behind their lover’s existence, the knowledge is accordingly theirs on some level.

But whereas Sevigny realized this complexity with heart-breaking subtlety, Ricci stumbles upon it to lesser effect.

One could make a strong case that if we had never seen Charlize Theron before this film, her performance wouldn’t be as great a feat. It does take the first third of the film to get over the fact that this is the same woman who starred in The Devil’s Advocate and Reindeer Games.

However, Jenkins’ performance in and of itself is as consistently brilliant as her transformation into it. The actress had to confront the irony that, despite all the “morose” things about her, here was a woman making a living off of others’ desire for her. And her own desire, to be in love and protect that love, was what made her the kind of ‘monster’ society had to destroy.

Jenkins’ greatest achievement as director comes from letting this distinction stand out. Walking home from a legitimate job interview that went badly, Wuornos gets picked up by a cop who knew her as a prostitute.

It’s a devastating moment when she must sexually accommodate the officer to avoid jail, a cycle that holds Wuornos hostage until the better end.

Jenkins’ Monster forces us to redefine our great performances.
Artist Arturo Arango discusses Latin American films

BY TED HORNICK  Staff Writer

Kenyon's Visiting Minority Artist Program kicks off this month boasting Cuban writer Arturo Arango. Arango has written a variety of novels, including The Book of Reality.

Arango's first presentation, last Monday's screening of the 1966 Cuban film The Death of a Bureaucrat, had a welcoming atmosphere. Arango, with the help of Visiting Assistant Professor of Spanish Kate Hodek, introduced the film and its director, the Cuban cinematic legend Tomás Gutiérrez Alea. Alea studied film in Rome and went on to become Cuba's best-known director. His movies, drawn on a number of influences, ranging from the surreality of Luis Buñuel to the silliness of Laurel and Hardy.

A prevailing theme in Alea's films is death. The films often play with representations of death, and even mock them. For example, The Death of a Bureaucrat is about a web of red tape, which engulfs a man trying to exhume his reburied uncle. The main character is involved in bizarre scenarios, such as a farcical fight in a cemetery and a riot he causes when a group of people fear he is going to kill himself. Alea's last movie, Guantanamera (1995), was made while the filmmaker was dying of cancer. With the film, he "took on death ... making fun of it," said Arango.

Arango said the movie did not directly influence his writing. However, he still incorpo-

rated elements of the film into his cinematic collaboration with Alea's disciple, filmmaker Juan Carlos Tabío. This film, The Waiting List, will be the finale of Arango's visit.

Arango also discussed the Cuban Institute of Film and how it financed 90% of the movies released in Cuba from 1959 until the 1980s. Arango also explained the importance of showing last night's film, Memories of Underdevelopment. It is an countless Top 100 film lists as not only what Arango calls the "most important Cuban film," but also one of the most important films from the Third World.

In a personal interview, Arango explained the juxtaposition between novel writing and movie writing. When writing novels, reality is created "with words ... events or feelings are described with words." One doesn't "create to make a story, but so a director can see what you want." Arango said he prefers writing novels and short stories, however. Even if the novel cannot be published, "it exists as a novel."

He said that films have to be submitted to producers, "who always want something for it." Their suggestions can be good, for the story, Arango said, but this is seldom the case. When asked if he had advice for writing students, Arango replied that one must "read a lot," be patient, and "be diligent."

KFS offers Pirates of the Caribbean to get Kenyon in the mood for Phling

Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl (2003) Friday, 6 p.m.

Highley Auditorium

Most summer films fall into one of the following categories: the family film, the romantic-comedy date movie, the disaster film, the pre-pubescent funny or the big, dumb action movie. In most cases, films that drop into one of these categories rarely transcend the problems with each genre. However, every summer one or two films rise above this stereotypical mélange—looking over recent summers, Finding Nemo and Spiderman come to mind. Encompassing everything a good "summer movie" should, Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl (hereafter Y'Arr) combines exhilarating action sequences, entertaining and fanciful characters and a witty screenplay into a film that is nothing but pure entertainment.

Captain Jack Sparrow—a consistently snarled Johnny Depp—finds himself without the vessel he would need to track down the legendary ghost ship, the Black Pearl. While Sparrow has a scrape with the law and a duel with young blacksmith Will Turner—a bowless Orlando Bloom—the Pearl invades the port town, and pirates kidnap the governor's daughter, Elizabeth Swann (the unreasonably beautiful Keira Knightley). The Pearl's captain Barbossa (the off-ridiculous Geoffrey Rush), makes clear his plans to end the curse of the Black Pearl. Sparrow and Turner sail quickly behind them, set on saving the day, capturing the Pearl, and saving the governor's daughter.

Emerging director Gore Verbinski is no stranger when it comes to entertainment. After playing in punk outfits, such as the Little Kings and The Daredevils, Verbinski worked in advertising, where he created the famous Budweiser frogs. His directing breakthrough came in 2001 when he directed The Ring, the American remake of the Japanese horror film Ringu. Here, Verbinski proved his ability to bring a blockbuster film to suspenseful and terrifying climax around a tight, complete jump scare. Thankfully, he did not change his style when directing Y'Arr. Verbinski certainly knows how to wrap action and drama together to make these blockbusters all the more potent and enjoyable.

The technically superior and visually stunning Y'Arr has fared excellently in this awards season, winning several guild awards and earning five Oscar nominations, including one for Depp's lead performance. Y'Arr's technical superiority is matched by its witty, intelligent, and humorous screenplay, which is carried out brilliantly by its motley crew. One critics' circle named Y'Arr its favorite "guilty pleasure" of 2003. Don't be fooled, there is nothing guilty about enjoying Y'Arr, easily one of the funnest summer blockbusters released in recent memory.

Tired? Bored?
Want some excitement in your life?
THEY WRITE FOR A&E & ADD SOME SPICE TO YOUR LIFE

e-mail lewinj to start!

If You Go...

Arango's Presentations

Friday, February 6

La udamia cerna: "The Last Supper" (1976)

Monday, February 9

Hasta cierto punto: "Up to a Certain Point" (1983)

Wednesday, February 11

Fresa y chocolate: "Strawberries and Chocolate" (1993)

Friday, February 13

Lista de espera: "The Waiting List" (2000)

He went on to say that as you mature as an artist, there are influences that you "like," but that remain with you. He cited novelists from the Latin American literary boom of the 1960s and '70s, such as Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Julio Cortazar, and Alejo Carpentier.

A&E BRIEF

Kenyon's Taylor Concert Series to present Ensemble Chaconne

On Tuesday at 8 p.m., the Kenyon College Taylor Concert Series will present Ensemble Chaconne in Brandt Recital Hall. The concert, entitled "A Musical Portrait: Thomas Gainsborough and His Circle," features the music of leading composers of the 18th century who were acquainted with the painter and music connoisseur Thomas Gainsborough, who adored their music, painted portraits of the renowned composers. Some of these composers include Johann Christian Bach, Carl Friedrich Abel, Felice Giardini, Johann Christian Fischer and Rudolf Staube.

This concert was originally performed at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts in September 2003 as a supplement to an exhibit on Gainsborough's works. The music concert is performed with historical instruments, such as the English guitar, which is played by Olga Chris Heiniken. The other members of this group are Peter H. Bloom, who plays the baroque flute, and Carol Lewis, who plays the viola da gamba. The concert is free.

KFS will show Pirates of the Caribbean to kick off Phling weekend.

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If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to ask! I'm here to help.
Nation’s first black governor to speak at Kenyon
Fighting Jim Crow constraints while growing up, Wilder eventually achieved Virginia’s highest office

BY LAUREN GREENE
Staff Writer

This coming Monday, Kenyon College will host former Virginia Governor Doug-

las Wilder, the first African-

American governor in U.S. his-
tory. Speaking at the Hill Thea-
er at 7 p.m., Wilder will be
drawing from his accom-
plished and, at times, difficult

life.

Growing up in “gentle poverty,” Wilder worked mul-
tiple jobs since the age of 13
to help fund his college educa-
tion. At that time, Virginia was
in the middle of the Jim Crow
south, and racism was a pow-

erful force among some of
its population.

Combating both economic

and social obstacles, Wilder
managed to attend Virginia
University. Upon gradu-

ation, he entered the U.S.

Army, serving on the battle-

fields of Korea. While on the

front lines, Wilder fought for
reforms for other African-

American soldiers. Through
his efforts, promotions were
made more readily available to

minority servicemen.

After leaving Korea with a
Bronze Star for his heroism on
Pork Chop Hill, Wilder re-
ceived his law degree from
Howard University in Wash-

ington, D.C.

Wilder’s first political office
was as a Virginia state senator.
This was also a landmark for Af-

rican-American participation in
government, as they had not

served on the Virginia Senate

since Reconstruction.

Wilder’s visit is sponsored by
the Black Student Union, an
organization headed by James
Lewis ’04. “The reason that the
Black Student Union decided
to bring Governor Wilder to cam-
pus as its Black History Month
speaker is because of the fact
that he reflects the struggle and

triumph of black Americans,”
says Lewis. “We went to a his-

torically black law school, which
also produced Thurgood

Marshall, a Supreme Court jus-
tice. He actually had to leave
Virginia to go to law school, be-

cause Virginia did not allow
blacks to go to law school at

state.

“His is also very relevant
right now, because he was in-

volved in a drive to see that
the mayor of Richmond, Va., would
be popularly elected,” continues
Lewis. “We’re really excited to
hear him talk about his experi-

ences.”

“We are extremely pleased
by the resounding donations
[to fund Wilder’s visit],” says
BSU Secretary Bryan Stokes II.

“This is a testament to the ex-
tremely supportive nature of the
Kenyon community in promot-
ing diverse and educational op-
opportunities to the campus.”

AROUND THE COUNTY

Good food at good prices
served up at High Restaurant

BY ARIEL LUDWIG
AND LISA SENHART
Collegian Staff

There is a neon red sign that
hangs in the window of the High
Restaurant, flickering the phrase
“Good Food” in neat cursive let-
tering. It tells no lie. We hit the
High Restaurant, open 24 hours
day Thursday through Satur-
day, just in time for the tail end of
the lunch rush.

The first thing we notice
when opening the glass doors is
the smell of home cooking and
another sign that says, “We Have
The Right to Deny Service to
Anyone—Management.”

Luckily, they don’t deny us!

The Valentine’s Day décor is so
overwhelming that it somehow
manages to melt into the back-
ground, the red foil heart-shaped
balloons and the pink talking
stuffed animals miraculously be-

come something to be talked over

and around. I think that under

normal circumstances the crimson
flowers and the plastic heart boxes
would be vicious reminders of
love’s foibles, but here they be-
come a parade of themselves, a
relief of the loves, likes and minute
beauties of the everyday. The neon
pinks somehow comb the year-
round Pepsi decorum, fighting
for their space in this comfortable
wood-paneled restaurant. It is an
experience that feels so real that I
keep double-checking that I am
awake.

The two cowboys at the bar
push their hats back so that they
can better watch their food steam-
ing on the iron grill. While the eld-

erly lady in the corner re-reads the
specials sign boasting of baby
back ribs, we sip our coffee and
tea trying to take it all in. Many of
the booths are filled with parties
enjoying their lunch breaks, talking
about family and work. Our wait-

ess is prompt and has the type of

honesty that speaks to the casual

nature of the overworked. She
bustles from one table to the next.

She tells us that, unfortunately,
the pies available this afternoon
are not homemade, so we change
our plans. We go for a bacon

cheeseburger and a black bean

burger with milkshakes instead.

The food is great. Although
by the end we have to pace our-

selves to get the last of the thick
milkshakes down, we have found
the perfect reprieve from the din-

ing hall.

In addition to this, it is all

very, very affordable. Our

burgers are under three dollars,
as are the milkshakes—and
while we can not speak for the
vanilla, both the strawberry and
chocolate were highly rewarding

guilty pleasures. Not to mention
that, as a compulsive eavesdrop-
ner—I’m not going to deny it—

the change in conversation

around us is refreshing.

Have a story?

Know someone a little bit different?

You may have a feature story!

E-mail nugenic@kenyon.edu

BY ELIZABETH MOORE

Random

MOMENTS

Where is the treasure buried:

“Gand 115.”

—Andy Fuchs ’07

“In the basement of Ascension.”

—Emily Hankey ’07

“We don’t know; but we do know
that the Noge is a hypochoan.

—Kristin Hansen

and Sarah Brieschke ’07

“We don’t know, but we do know
that the Noge is a hypochoan.

—Kristin Hansen

and Sarah Brieschke ’07

“The three giant steps from the tree, one
hop from the rock and under the gi-

ant X.”

—Kristin Hansen

and Sarah Brieschke ’07
Poet Mary Szybist has been nominated for the 2003 National Book Critics Circle Award for her first volume of poetry, *Granted*, published by W.W. Norton.

"I'm shamefully unproductive," she says. "I take more time to write. I'm frequently writing lines and ideas, but it usually takes many, many drafts and a long time of pouring to come up with a poem." Frequently, her poems take several years to complete. "I try to put time aside for writing. I wish I could say I write during such-and-such hours, but I can't say that," she says. "Often I do best in long stretches, so often it's weekend spaces that I set aside, where I have more space to give to the poem."

Szybist says she wrote a "lot of bad poetry" during high school, and she's convinced that there is a particular turning point at which poets go from writing bad poetry to writing good poetry. "I still think most of what I write is bad," she says. "It's just that I've gotten better by identifying what's workable and what's not, and a lot better at revising and using techniques to improve raw material that might not be good but..." Szybist brightens when asked about her inspirations for writing. "My main inspiration comes from other poems," she says. "John Donne is somebody that I look to for his use of meditation and of drama, his use of personas and just the staggering terms of wit in his poetry—I love all of that. Elizabeth Bishop is somebody I love partly for her ability to make me feel like there's a view of the world pressing in on her, and Wallace Stevens is someone I love for the opposite reason, to say the least. But there's his imagination to press back against the actual. I like both of those movements; I like the tension of the, and I think I look to both of those sorts of things to work with in my own poetry."

Szybist is also guided by other forms of art, "Visual art is something that is very inspiring to me, and I am a huge fan of contemporary painting. I have a poem before a poem," she says. "Sometimes I'll go to novels. I try to draw images from as wide a source as possible."

While she offers encouragement to students who aspire to become writers or poets, Szybist says it is not life's easiest path. "In terms of publishing, I'm convinced of a lot of it has to do with luck," she says. "I feel very fortunate. It's a difficult career choice, because so much of it just depends on luck."

In Szybist's opinion, the best way to prepare for a writing career is simple: and "I think that's the standard advice, because it's the best advice," says Szybist. "The more you read—and not just read widely, but deeply—the more conscious you have of your disposal for making the kinds of choices that poets make."

Although Kenyon students will not be taught by Szybist after this year, expect her writings to continue impressing audiences for years to come.

"I do want to do other kinds of writing, I think," she says. "I have a hopelessly bad story-teller. I'd like to do some more with essay writing and perhaps some criticism, not necessarily with a heavy theoretical framework; "I think I'm often dealing with different kinds of faith, usually the speaker's questioning of faith or attempts to place a faith in something. Not necessarily God, but not excluding the concept of God, either."

Szybist adds, "I think my speakers engage in some sort of struggle, and it's often a struggle having to do with some sort of loss, perhaps, or attempting a kind of communication, attempting to make their minds visible to themselves in some way. It's a real hard question for me; I worry that as soon as I start articulating what I write about, it'll sort of kill me as a writer." She laughs. "I'm being a little dramatic.

Considering that *Granted* is running for a national award, it is clear that Szybist has not yet been killed as a writer. For her, however, the writing process is often slow and fraught with difficulties. "I'm a sensitive person, the more I'm writing and the more I'm thinking about it, the more I'm noticing how much I'm missing," she says. "I'm noticing how much I'm losing control and the more I'm missing what's actually happening in the moment."

"I do think that there are times when I am looking at what's happening in the moment and I'm noticing how much I'm missing, how much I'm losing control and how much I'm losing," she says. "I'm noticing how much I'm missing what's actually happening in the moment."

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Phriday Phling
Friday, 9:30 p.m.
Gund Commons Lounge
Phling, a karaoke event in the Gund Ballroom. Judges will be standing by to kick the lowest performer off the stage by snapping a giant, Phling, an unusual high-spirited answer to the doodlemons of February. All students can look forward to a memorable two days of music—dancing, games and activities. For 2004, Phling's theme is Pirates, in part, to celebrate the release of the movie, *Pirates of the Caribbean*. Kicking off the weekend on Friday night is the annual Phling.
Pbling offers rare opportunity; respect it

Phling's Febhury Pbling is a much-anticipated event each year on Gambler Hill. It's a chance for the entire student body to get together and forget our cares for a weekend. Phling can be the most enjoyable weekend of the year.

Or it can be the worst.

Case in point: last year's Phling. The Philing Committee went above and beyond the call of duty to come up with a theme that many would enjoy—Moultn Rouge. The decorations were breathtaking, and the committee put careful thought into each aspect of the event.

Since the movie is filled with exhilarating song-and-dance sequences, the Kenyon College Ballroom Dance Club performed in the gym, and when the judge, Judy Currant, took its break. The first set, early in the evening, was well received by those in attendance. The second set, however, occurred much later in the evening. More people were crowded into the Great Hall, and those who were intoxicated or perhaps just too caught up in the revelry spurred a minor riot by invading the dance floor during the performance. Pushing and shoving occurred on both sides, and a brawl might have broken out if members of the Philing Committee and friends of the Ballroom Club had not formed a human chain during the performance.

This is not the Kenyon with which we are familiar, or Phling as we know it. After the Phling is over, despite the hard work of the Philing Committee and the dedication of countless other volunteers, the dance was a near disaster. One can only hope that this year will be better.

Everyone knows that alcohol is a big part of Phling weekend for many students. It is a celebratory drink being used for a celebratory event. Similarly, Phling is a time when it's okay to act kooky and wild.

However, both of these only work to a certain extent. When some abuse Phling night with excessive wildness and irresponsible use of alcohol until other students are in danger or must endure undue distraction, aggression, and fun. Instead, it becomes embarrassing and frightening. Kenyon students speak often about respect for others in the world—at times such as this, they must show such respect to others here at Kenyon.

Another set of consequences, the Inaugural Ball showed that the Kenyon community can come together and have fun without starting a drunken brawl. That same attitude ought to carry over to Phling, making it an enjoyable experience for everyone involved. Phling is a great opportunity to escape gray February skies and have fun with friends. Let's not waste the opportunity or squander the gift, but—in the true spirit of this year's theme—lay claim to this treasure with a roaring "Y'ay!"

REACHING THE COLLEGIAN
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OPINIONS

Thursday, February 5, 2004

Psssst... Wanna run for president?

Announce your candidacy here!

Send a column to bergena@kenyon.edu
Weeds win streak comes to a halt against Allegheny
Loss prompts coach to issue apology to the community; lack of effort, enthusiasm, execution--to blame

BY JAY HELMER
Managing Editor

Last week, the Kenyon Lords Basketball Team competed in two games, both against conference opponents. The games brought dramatically different results.

Heading into their matchup with Wabash last Wednesday, the Lords were riding high on a three-game win streak. They were playing the best basketball of their season, and perhaps the best basketball seen from the Lords in a number of years. As they took the floor against the Fighting Scots, the Lords hoped to win their fourth consecutive contest, and to keep their best start and longest winning streak in six years.

The Lords did not sprint out of the starting gate in this one, and fell quickly behind by as many as 10 points early in the half. Kenyon outshot Wabash (47.6 percent to 34.4 percent), but seven of the Terriers’ 11 field goals were shot from behind the arc, making up the point difference.

In the second half, the Lords came charging back, outscoring Hiram 41:30 in the period en route to a 69-63 win. Four Lords scored in double figures, led by sophomore guard Matt Formato, whose 25 points led all scorers. Formato increased his scoring average, which at 17.9 per game ranks fourth in the NCAC. He also ranks second in assists with 3.8 per game.

Senior guard Alex Neuman had a solid game, scoring 14 points to go along with two assists. Senior center Derrick Herman also contributed in a good performance, scoring 10 points and grabbing one field goal, as he was 8-9 from the foul line. Herman also snagged a game-high 15 rebounds.

Midway through the first half, the Lords had cut the Allegheny lead to three and looked poised for a charge, when Coach Mike Craig was called a technical foul. Allegheny then seized the momentum, opening up a 14-0 run in half-court play. The Lords battled but could not get within 10, as the Gators triumphed 75-61. Neuman, Formato and sophomore forward Tyler Rehn carried the scoring load for the Lords. Neuman led the way with 17 points and five rebounds. Formato aced 14 and grabbed 11 boards, while Rehn added 13 points. The game broke the Lords’ winning streak and prompted Crcin to send an e-mail to the Kenyon community, saying, “On behalf of the basketball 10:28. I’d like to apologize to all those who came to support us today for our lack of effort and enthusiasm. We sincerely appreciate your efforts to come spend a Saturday afternoon cheering us on.

The Lords now stand at 7-12 overall and 4-6 in the NCAC. They are currently in a three-game losing streak for fifth place in the conference, with Allegheny and Earlham. It is a tie for first with Wabash. The Gators are 9-6 against Wooster. However, Wooster ranked second in the conference, and beat the Lords 90-63. They next play at home on Saturday, when they host Oberlin at 3 p.m.

Fieldless Lords Track takes ninth at Wabash Relays

BY LIAM HAGGERTY
Sports Editor

Someone once said, “You can’t win unless you throw your hat in the ring.” The words proved all too true for the Lords Indoor Track Team this past weekend, as they competed at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Ind., for the 2004 North Coast Athletic Conference Relays. Participating in only eight of the 12 events, the Lords could only muster 14 team points, placing them ninth in a field of six NCAC schools.

Host Wabash took the team championship, as they topped the rest of the competition with a score of 112.03 team points. Finishing in a close second was the squad from Denison University, as the Big Red topped 77, edging out Ohio Wesleyan University, which put together a score of 71 team points to settle for third place.

Of the four events in which the Lords fielded a team, three of them were field events: the shot put, the high jump and the pole vault relay. In addition to those, the Lords did not enter a team in the 55-meter hurdles relay. It was simply a matter of not having enough members to field a full relay team in each of these events. And in a meet comprised of competitors in 12 team events, the Lords had no real ability to compete for the meet title, matched against other schools that were able to enter teams in every event.

Of the events in which the Lords did compete, the distance events were the team events where the team really excelled.

Kenton Swimming outflanks Scots in conference matchup

BY TAMAR CHALKER
Sports Editor

The Kenyon College Women’s Swimming and Diving team finished out its dual meet schedule last Friday, taking on the College of Wooster Fighting Scots at the Earnst Center Pool. The Ladies swam their way to another victory, beating the Fighting Scots 118-80. The win gave the Ladies a dual meet record of 6-5 for the season.

In the NCAC, the Ladies took advantage of the situation and used the meet to let some swimmers try events in which they have not competed or participated. There were still some great performances turned in by Kenyon’s swimming Senior Beth Gallaway, who set the 100-yard backstroke, in which she holds the pool record, and watched as freshman talent Jessica Conner, swam her way to first place, second seconds ahead of fellow freshman Carly Baird, who earned third place.

Kentyon’s strong relay teams also continued their success as freshmen Rebecca Kong and Kate Sturman, sophomores Marissa Steams and junior Melyn Chan edged out the Scots by just 14 seconds in the 200-yard medley relay, with a time of 1:54.03. The team of Baird, sophomores Mandy Cole and Jessica Vanderpool, and junior Quiana placed a close third, swimming the relay in 1:54.37.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, a team of Conners, sophomores Danielle Korman and Christina Stratton and junior Sam McCarthy placed second, swimming it in 1:45.97. McCarthy would also place first in the 200-yard breaststroke, beating Wooster’s Amy Clark by over .08 seconds.

While the younger Ladies were displaying their talent through much of the meet, the upperclassmen made sure to show why Kenyon College swimming is such a legacy. Galway, senior Emmerie Dengler and senior Hillary Strong placed first, second and third respectively in the 100-yard backstroke, finishing within about three seconds of each other. Senior Chasney Arnold added a third place in the 100-yard freestyle in 10:46.32 and earning him a third-place finish individually.

“Ryan ran a real gutsy 5k and came away with a strong third-place finish,” said junior captain Tyler Miller. “That’s all we can ask of our distance runners.”

Combined with Steinbeck’s third-place finish and an 11-place finish added by Newman with a time of 16:47.14, the Lords earned a fourth-place team finish in the 5,000-meter relay.

Although severely lacking in the field department—as sophomore Sam Nigh said, “We’ve got the track, but not the field”—the Lords still competed in seven field events last weekend. The Lords placed seventh in the triple jump, fifth in the long jump, eighth in the triple jump relay, ninth in the triple jump, and ninth in the discus.

The Ladies also placed fifth in the long jump relay, as senior Marc Marie’s jump of 18’10” led the way for Kenyon.

“The most important part of this meet was that everyone went out and worked hard,” said Coach Robert Thorne. “It was a hard struggle to have to deal with the weather and very little fractions, but everyone is trying to maintain positive outlooks, and do as best they can given the circumstances.”

“We just have to do a better job of working on our workouts and maintain a positive attitude,” added Thorne.

Rain or shine or snow or ice, the Lords will be out training. This Saturday, they head up to the Denison University Big Red Invitational. The meet begins at 11:45 A.M.
Lords honor seniors with victory over Wooster
Win marks last home meet for seven players; team sets sights on upcoming match against Princeton

BY JON PRATT
Staff Reporter

On Friday, the Kenyon Men’s Swimming Team extended its record to 7-3 by defeating the College of Wooster 121-93. It was the last time that Kenyon’s seven seniors would swim at home.

“I felt a sense of accomplishment as I stood there with my fellow seniors, realizing that all of us have worked incredibly hard throughout our four years and contributed to the success of our team,” senior Anthony Stone, said.

Team captain Marc Courtney-Brooks is a 17-time NCAA champion and holds the NCAA record in the 2,500-yard freestyle. David Gold is a three-year NCAA qualifier in the 500-yard and 1,600-yard freestyle. Peter Kravitz is a five-time NCAA qualifier in the 200-yard medley and the 200-yard breaststroke. Team captain Fernando Rodriguez is a three-time NCAA qualifier in the backstroke while Trey Smith is an NCAA qualifier in the 100-yard individual medley.

The Lords still had a match to win against NCAC rival Wooster. Kenyon drew first blood, winning the first three events. After that, the Lords never looked back, taking seven out of the 13 events.

Junior Christopher Lohr finished first in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22.37 seconds. Two events later, he jumped back in and won the 100-yard freestyle in 50.17 seconds.

Freshman Dewey Foley won the 100-yard breaststroke (55.78). Courtney-Brooks, junior Paul Kaminsky, junior Tom Ashby and sophomore Jimmy Berger combined to win the 200-yard medley relay (1:38.61). Freshman Mail Jacobson was the fastest swimmer in the 200-yard freestyle, with a time of 1:48.63, and junior Russell Hunt finished first in 100-yard breaststroke (1:40.51). Junior Elliott Rocknsholt finished first in the 200-yard butterfly (1:56.61).

While the victory on Friday commemorated the Kenyon seniors at their last home meet, everyone on the team recognizes that the season is far from over. On Feb. 6, the team travels to Princeton, “a team that is said to be one of the top 25 D-I teams in the country,” according to Ashby.

Stone spoke of the Princeton meet as a chance for Kenyon swimmers to find out what needs strengthening before going into the NCAC championship.

Ohio State running back may enter NFL draft
federal judge rules

BY LARRY NUJEIMSTER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Suspended Ohio State running back Maurice Clarett was ruled eligible for the NFL draft Thursday by a federal judge who concluded that the league's rule violates antitrust laws.

U.S. District Judge Shira A. Scheindlin ordered the NFL to let Clarett enter April's draft.

Clarett played just one season at Ohio State, leading the Buckeyes to the 2002 national championship. He was barred from playing in the 2003 season for accepting improper benefits from a family friend and then lying about it to investigators.

Clarett sued the NFL last summer to challenge the league rule that a player must be out of high school three years for draft eligibility. Thursday's ruling, if not successfully appealed, could allow teenage football stars to take advantage of the market and business opportunities available to young athletes in other sports.

The league had argued that Clarett should not be eligible because his rule resulted from a collective bargaining agreement with the players and is immune from antitrust scrutiny. The NFL also argued that its rule is reasonable and that Clarett cannot bring such a lawsuit.

"While, ordinarily, the best offense is a good defense, none of these defenses hold the line," the judge wrote in a 70-page ruling.

She said Clarett could bring the lawsuit because he was fighting a policy that excludes all players in his position from telling their services to the only viable buyer—the NFL.

"The NFL has not justified Clarett's exclusion by demonstrating that the rule enhances competition. Indeed, Clarett has alleged the very type of injury—a complete bar to entry into the market for these services—that the antitrust laws are designed to prevent," she said.

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**Worst to worse, Ladies fall to Rival Denison**

*After losing to Wittenberg 59-36, the worst defeat of the season, Big Red beats Kenyon on home court*

**BY JAMES ROSENBRUM**

Senior Staff Reporter

Turning the corner into the home stretch of the season, the next three weeks of play would be pivotal for the success of the 2003-'04 Kenyon Ladies Basketball Team. Sitting fifth in the NCAC, they have a record of 15-1-5 overall after entering the first week's games against Wittenberg and archival Denison, the Ladies had a strong chance to move up in the standings and host a home playoff game. Unfortunately, the Ladies ran into troubles against Wittenberg and suffered their worst defeat of the season, 69-36. Things looked better against a fourth-ranked squad, and the loss of the back and forth game was fun for players and fans. However, one too many times dovers cost the Ladies, as the Big Red escaped 58-52.

First on the list of games was the game with Wooster on Wednesday night at Wittenberg where the at the time was 8-0 in the NCAC and 13-3 over-all. The Big Red lost to the Wabash, where the sophomore Emily Zeahn '06 and point guard Megan Shesaby '06 gave the Ladies a five point advantage.

The Tigers had other ideas, and roared right back to take the lead for good in the following minutes. Reserve guard Emilie Schmid '05 earned a three-pointer to give Wittenberg a 15-13, which would be the closest the Ladies would come the rest of the night. The Tigers proved why they are the best team in the NCAC by hitting several timely shots, out-rebounding the Ladies 39-33 and forcing several bad passes.

After going into halftime down 13, the Ladies came out in the second half and never re-tied. The 28 turnovers committed by the Ladies was the second highest total since they committed 31 versus Mount Vernon Nazarene University on Dec. 29. Poor problems for Zeahn and an injury that hobbled forward Allison Leber '05 did not help, as the front line was badly depleted. Wittenberg took full advantage.

When all was said and done, Wittenberg sent the Ladies home with a 69-36 loss, the worst of the season. Zeahn was one bright spot for the Ladies, with 12 points and nine rebounds, but missing yet another double-double.

Stinging from this bad loss, the Ladies returned home Thursday night to host archival Denison in a rematch for the bragging rights. Earlier in the year, the Big Red took a 64-55 win from the Ladies down in Granville, and Kenyon was eager for some revenge.

In the first five minutes of the game, things did not look so promising, as the Big Red rode out to an early 12-4 lead, prompting Head Coach Suzanne Helfant to call an early timeout. After the timeout, the Ladies shooting woes continued, as Kenyon started out just two for their first 10 from the field and went almost five minutes without a basket.

When guard Amy Tharter '07 hit a shot in the lane with 11:49 to play, she was the first Lady other than Leber to score in the game. On the other side, the Big Red stormed out of the gate and five of their first seven shots, enroute to a double digit lead, 18-8.

However, the defense tightened up, as Denison managed a mere four points for the rest of the half and were held to nine total field goals. This enabled the Ladies to claw back into the game and make the score a more respectable 22-17 at halftime.

Out of the gate in the second half, the shoot out began as the Ladies stunned the Big Red with an 8-0 run in the first two minutes. After a runner in the lane by Shesaby tied the score at 22, the Big Red called a time-out from the right wing to give Kenyon its first lead at 25-22. The Lady-Bees then out-rebounded the Big Red back on the strength of post players Ann Staubach '04 and Emma Woodward '05. After a pair of free throws by the aforementioned players, Denison had deadlocked the game at 40 with eight minutes to go. A three-pointer from Shesaby gave Kenyon the lead once again, though it would be shortened. The Big Red stormed back and paced by great shooting and free throws, hung with the Ladies. Down the stretch, both teams traded scores and Tomrich Arena was rocking in the offensive show continued. In the end, Staubach and company were too much, as her clutch baskets pushed Denison just out of reach, and were victorious 58-52.

Four of Denison's starting five were in double figures led by Staubach with a game-high 22 points. The Ladies had strong output from Zeahn (18 points, 7 rebounds), Hallbacki (11 points, 3-4 point land), and Leber (10 points, 8 rebounds), and were right with Denison. In the end, foul problems and 23 turnovers sealed the Ladies fate.

The pair of losses dropped the Ladies to 7-11 (4-7 NCAC) as they fell to sixth in the conference behind Earlham. The Ladies cannot rest on their laurels as they continue this key stretch with a roadtrip to Oberlin on Friday, Saturday. The Yeowomen will be looking for revenge, as they were blown out in Gambier earlier this season. Game time is 7:30 p.m. The Ladies then return to Tomrich Arena on Wednesday to host the Fighting Scots of Wooster at 6:00 p.m. The Ladies grounded out a seven point victory over the Scots in Wooster earlier this season, and Wooster will be looking for some payback in Gambier.

**Ladies finish seventh in NCAC Relays at Wabash**

**BY RYAN WEINSTOCK**

Staff Writer

The Kenyon Ladies Indoor Track Team traveled all the way to Wabash College this weekend to compete in the North Coast Athletic Conference Relays.

The team placed 7th with a score of 37 points, despite several athletes missing in various field events. The Ladies still managed to bear rivals Hiram and Wabash, who accumulated a score of 283 and 24 points respectively.

Ohio Wesleyan University won the meet with a total of 86 points. They have yet to out-distance Denison (84 points).

The team-oriented meet is comprised of events that tally all competitors' places in one event to determine who is awarded a coveted top 3 finish.

"As usual the competition was definitely strong," said Head Coach Emily Zeahn.

That didn't stop the dynamic duo of sophomore Kat Cameron and first year Pheebe Stone from combining to finish first in the pole vault relay.

"I want to give credit in the pole vault to Pheebe. If she had not come out and jumped a foot and half a better than last week, matching her P.R. then we wouldn't have won," said a modest Cameron of her teammate's breakout performance.

Cameron placed first individually clearing a height of '90" while Stone vaulted to a personal record of '86", good enough for fourth finish. The tandem was part of the Kenyon Ladies only first place title of the day. Also they easily surpassed second place Earlham, totaling 176-0 compared to the Queen's 178-0.

The distance medley relay squad, consisting of junior Julia Ploonski, junior Mave Corisch, sophomores Lillie Torgersen, and sophomore Lauren Rand, took fourth overall with a commendable time of 13:43.

"I think a lot of people surprised themselves at Wabash. Lauren ran a solid mile in the DMR [distance medley relay]... Something like a 5:35, much better than she was expecting," said Torgersen.

Junior Jen Quinby continues to improve the competition this indoor season, as she, along with sophomore standout Christiana McNamara, finished third collectively in the 5000 meter relay. McNamara ran an exceptional time of 19:08, fairly quite well in her 5K debut. McNamara placed fifth individually, right behind a pack of four for Denison. Though exhausted from the grueling event, Quinby couldn't help but smile after the race. She finished with another personal best of 20:09.

"Anybody who can run 25 laps and not lose it is my hero," said Ploonski, who competed in the DMR as well.

Coach Gomez had nothing but high praise for the team's early season outing. "I thought the women put together a very nice performance. Considering the training has been almost non-existent, the women did well overall.

When asked what the Ladies need to improve on as the season progresses, Gomez reinforced that the basics are most important. "The women need to continue to work hard as they have been and keep a very positive attitude." With the lack of an indoor or outdoor facility to train on, maintaining an optimistic attitude will be the key to success.

Other notable performances include Emily Roth's ninth place finish in the 55 meter hurdles, clocking a time of 10.31 seconds. In addition, the Ladies 4x800 meter relay (Ploonski, Torgersen, Rand, and Wilkins) put together a fifth place showing, officially crossing the line in 10:58. The event was won by Denison University, who set a new meet record of 9:50.

Wittenberg University's sprint medley team also turned in a solid effort that resulted in a NCAA provisional qualifying time of 4:22.57.

For the Kenyon Ladies, that journey will culminate at the NCAC Championships. It's all happening on March 5-6 at Denison University. Not until then will the team face all conference opponents on the same track.

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DECISION 2004: Battle for the White House

Kerry in the catbird seat, say Kenyon voters

Democratic candidates’ ability to beat Bush considered a crucial factor among potential voters

BY WILLOW BELDEN
News Editor

Howard Dean, Wesley Clark, and John Edwards, three Democratic candidates, said Kleiner, says, is too much of an outsider — "a Jimmy Carter-like phenomenon" that the American public probably won’t go for. About Clark, Kleiner said, "it’s not even clear that he is really a Democrat," and his past record could easily become problematic for him. While Kleiner said that Edwards potentially has a Southern Democratic politician advantage; he has only been in the Senate for one term and has not have a long political career.

John Ziegler '05 said that Edwards’ popularity in the South should not be discounted. "His appeal among southerners is strong," Ziegler said. "He appeals to those who are alienated from the poor economy under the Bush administration. ... He also has a very positive campaign and is very strong, in live debates, due to his experience in the courtroom.

Assistant Professor of Political Science Devlin Stauffer agreed with Kleiner that Edwards probably does not have much chance, and might indeed be the best candidate to defeat Bush in the general election.

"Edwards is more personally winning," says. "He’s got an energy and a charm that can offset Bush’s natural good relations with people, [whereas] Kerry would seem like just another dry, flat, overly educated Democrat north-east liberal. Edwards has a Clinton-like touch with audiences that Kerry definitely doesn’t have. If I were a political science student, I would rather have charisma and youth on my side than all those years in the Senate."

Moreover, Stauffer says, "the appeal for Kerry was mostly driven by a flight from Dean. If people decided that they were entirely crazy about Kerry and are shopping around elsewhere, Edwards is probably the obvious place to turn."

Professor of Political Science Kirk Ermnt, Professor of Political Science is not so sure. He says Edwards momentum does not have enough support to [win the nomination], and that Dean is the more viable candidate. "Dean is not dead," Ermnt said. "He would be more articulate and would generate more enthusiasm among Democrats, and maybe even among some independents, than Kerry would. They think Kerry is dull, stiff and doesn’t have very interesting ideas. ... If [Dean] can discipline himself more, he may be a stronger candidate in the campaign — if he doesn’t make mistakes."

Being a candidate able to get elected seems to be especially important to voters this year’s primaries. Caroline Cowan '04, co-president of the Kenyon Democratic Students, said that, "Democrats are more concerned about nominating a candidate who can defeat George Bush than they are about the nuances between individual candidates."

Kleiner agreed, pointing out that "the electorate is unusually divided, there’s a much more intense. A whole lot of people on the Democratic side simply want to get the president out of office."

Chris Wager '05, co-president of the Kenyon Democrats, said he thinks all the top candidates "would be very well-equipped to challenge Bush. All the mainstream candidates have similar stands on the issues, and feel that the eventual nominee’s positions will stand in stark contrast with the policies and administration that George Bush has laid out these past few years."

Wager argues that the decisive factor in this primary will "come down to who you like. ... Apart from stances on issues, on which all the candidates are largely identical, people will look at the personal traits of the candidates. In Dean, people see conviction, in Kerry, people see eloquence; and in Edwards, people see charisma.

NEWS ANALYSIS

‘Invisible primary’ overtake?

Despite the pundits and the media, voters have their say in 2004

BY JOHN M. ELLIOTT
Faculty Advisor

The "Invisible Primary" is a name commonly applied to that long period in the Iowa and New Hampshire caucuses during which candidates start their campaigns for president. The conventional wisdom in political science and political journalism emphasizes the vital importance of this stage for fund raising, organizing, building messages and image-making.

In this stage, journalists exercise great power because the standards for who and what is newsworthy are so vague; journalists decide who is doing well and who is doing poorly, journalists set the standards for judging success and failure.

2003 provided a great show with an unusually powerful invisible primary. The press enthusiastically covered the emergence of new entry into the large field of Democratic candidates. Early in the year, the press clearly proclaimed John Kerry is the front-runner. He had the best credentials and that record as a Vietnam War veteran, along with a solidly liberal voting record in the Senate, and his ample financial resources added to his credentials as the front-runner.

It is important to watch the emergence of Howard Dean. Month by month, Dean received more and more coverage. Dean drew enthusiastic crowds. Tons of money poured into the Dean campaign, notably over the Internet.

Meanwhile, the Kerry campaign stagnated and then went into a tailspin, so the news agenda as, in the press, dominated major coverage of a campaign shake-up — sure evidence of a candidacy in disarray. By the fall of 2003, Dean was getting goured, and the media and democrats didn’t decide whether the biggest story was the rise of Dean’s candidacy or Kerry’s.

By December, the biggest question in the news was: who would most likely emerge as Dean’s real challenger: Gephardt, Edwards, or General Wesley Clark. And then came Iowa.

During the invisible primary, there are a few concrete manifestations of a genuine campaign. Candidates hire, — and sometimes fire, — professional campaign people and seek to build volunteer organizations. They are required by law to report their fund raising. They travel and make speeches and draw large and enthusiastic crowds or small, unenthusiastic audiences. They issue statements and announce endorsements.

But most of what occurs is invisible or ambiguous. How good an organization do they have? What kind of reputation are they establishing? How well known are they becoming? How many voters are making voting commitments?

About a week before the Iowa caucuses, polls of likely caucus attendees began to show a surprising turn of events. The horse race among journalists who had descended on the heartland proclaimed, based on extensive interviewing of Iowa voters that Dean and Gephardt had the best organizations in the state and that such organizations would determine the outcome.

The polls, however, began to show Dean and Gephardt slipping, or even in some cases, out of the top three in Kerry gaining. Many journalists reported larger and more enthusiastic crowds for the underdogs, but they still stick with the conventional wisdom that the real race was between Dean and Gephardt. By caucus day at least one showed and restrained journalist suggested that the results in Iowa would test the thesis that organizational strength best predicts momentum. Momentum won.

Gephardt was gone, and Dean was wounded, Edwards moved up into the first tier of candidates, and Kerry was rehabilitated. And then came New Hampshire.

However, Kerry in New Hampshire, along with the decline of Dean, was a stunning development on top of the Iowa surprise. What happened? Two or three weeks after Dean plunged from the status of probable favorite to that of a rival, he is now on the losing end of the place. Kerry went from a hopeless former front-runner unlikely to last another two months to the conventional wisdom said that after his expected defeats in Iowa and New Hampshire, the contest moved west and south where he would do even worse to become the new prohibitive favorite.

The Feb. 3 primaries, confirmed Kerry’s standing on top of Dean’s decline, the survival of Clark and Edwards as a weak chal-

enge to Sanchez’s candidacy, and Kerry gaining. Many journalists reported larger and more enthusiastic crowds for the underdogs, but they stick with the conventional wisdom that the real race was between Dean and Gephardt. By caucus day at least one showed and restrained journalist suggested that the results in Iowa would test the thesis that organizational strength best predicts momentum. Momentum won.

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Kerry’s decline, Dean’s brilliantly innovative internet campaign and his $340 million in the bank— all gone. All that supposed media power during the invisible primary, deciding who wins where—not very powerful after all.

Whatever you think about Dean, Kerry, Gephardt, Edwards, et al., there’s something important and democratic about the fact that ultimately it was voters—average citizens—who finally determined the shape of the race. It is a good lesson to see tangible reality, counting votes, overpower media judgments. It is important to recognize that the journalists meekly allowed Democratic voters to lead, and the media followed.

But, of course, there is another twist to the analysis here.

Did the role of the mainstream and the New Hampshire of the Democratic voters of New Hampshire correspond to the actions of the Democrats of Iowa, and to media coverage of the caucuses. The voters of New Hampshire seem to have rejected the old-school conventional wisdom of the thesis that saw John Kerry as the most electable Democrat, and New Hampshire seemed to ratify that judgment.

The most common interpretation of the Feb. 3 primaries is that Democrats across the country responded to the outcomes in Iowa and New Hampshire and confirmed that judgment that Democrats this year, are looking for a winner and that a clear plurality of them see Kerry as that potential winner.

Kerry seems to be winning because he’s winning and because he looks like winner. Perhaps it is the result of a strong campaign about media power here. Genuine voters are determining the outcome, but these voters are surely following the news and reacting to the outcomes elsewhere and to the dominant interpretation of their outcomes. Media power seems to be manifested in a victory for momentum.

John Elliott is a Professor of Political Science at Kenyon College.