1-21-1988

Kenyon Collegian - January 21, 1988

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Recent Assault Proves Awareness of Safety Concerns

By Jenny Nelderhouse

During the early morning hours of Dec. 22, a Kenyon student was raped in her room on the new apartments. The armed and masked attacker entered the unlocked apartment, silenced the victim, and left her in the apartment. The student notified College authorities, who then notified the Knox County Sheriff's Department. The student was immediately questioned by members of the Student Affairs staff, including Dr. Tracy W. Schermer, college physician, Assistant Dean of Students, Cheryl Steele and College Counselor, Mary Moberg. After treatment at Knox Community Hospital, the student returned to her parents' home.

"Our immediate concern was care and support for the victim. Although an incident of this type has never occurred at Kenyon, there are established emergency guidelines for responding to a sexual assault or rape. These guidelines worked in this situation, even though they may be improved in some areas," President Philip H. Jordan, Jr., said.

No identification of the assailant has yet been made. The assault remains under investigation by the Sheriff's Department, with cooperation of the College, which has hired a private investigator to assist the Sheriff's Department in the investigation. The College has offered its complete cooperation with the police. The College hired a private investigator to ensure a proper and thorough investigation. This investigation will remain on campus until its efforts are deemed unnecessary," Jordan said.

"We are doing everything in our power to all the assailant. This case has top priority and we are using any new information and checking all leads that might help in solving this case," Knox County Sheriff Paul Rowe said.

Jordan stressed the importance of communication. "Communication is necessary in a situation like this. This is a public information issue. It is urgent to get information out to prevent rumors and ensure personal security," Jordan said.

As a result of this incident students are being strongly urged to follow several suggestions recommended by the Student Affairs Center to better protect themselves, 1) lock your door when you are out, asleep or alone; 2) close your curtains or blinds at night; 3) avoid walking or jogging alone at night. Stay in well lit areas and remain alert to what is going on around you items like walkman radios prevent this; 4) question people who look unfamiliar or are acting strangely. If you are unsure or uncomfortable, contact the Switchboard or a Security officer immediately; 5) If you are returning home alone late at night, call your roommate or a friend to let them know that you are on your way home and the route you are using; 6) if you will be returning to your residence after dark, leave a light on in the room or entrance; 7) make sure that your guests and friends are escorted at night. If you desire an escort, call Security (5109).

Other precautionary measures are being implemented. Jordan reported there are several things that are being done to insure greater safety of the student body. The lighting situation is being carefully reviewed and recommendations for improvement will be made. Also, the availability of means to communicate with Security from various areas is being improved.

Missentzis Arrest Prompts ARA Staff Changes

By Sonya Djug Odd and Paul Singer

Over winter vacation, Kenyon faced a significant change: the leave of absence of ARA's food service director, John Missentzis, Jr.

On Dec. 19, Missentzis was arrested in Mount Vernon on a charge of child endangering, which is a second degree felony.

As reported by the Mount Vernon News, Missentzis was arrested for soliciting a local child to pose for sexual photographs or to be involved with a pornographic video.

Missentzis posted $5000 bond at 10 percent on Dec. 21 and faced a preliminary hearing on Dec. 29. This hearing concluded there was enough evidence to send Missentzis to grand jury at a later date. He has requested the grand jury to take place in Columbus.

Food Service Director to Missentzis, is currently the acting Food Service Director. According to Akey, ARA's corporate office has been following the case closely. Presently, it is inconclusive as to what will happen between Missentzis and ARA.

As pressured by several persons, Missentzis will not be returning to his Kenyon position, regardless of being convicted or not. If Missentzis is not convicted, one person assumed he would establish himself at another location.

Dean of Student Affairs, Thomas I. Edwards, refused to comment on the status of Missentzis' case, however he suggested that the evidence found in the latter's residence was not as incriminating as the Mount Vernon News implied. Edwards cautioned the Collegian against "scandalizing" the issue. He added that "(Kenyon) only concern is the continuation of good management of the food service.

Turning to more general matters, Dean Edwards and security personnel addressed measures the College is taking to make our "lifestyle of convenience," as Edwards called it, more secure. Edwards stated his concern that we change our main priority from convenience to safety, and remember that larger and more urban schools faced long ago. Security offered many suggestions to make everyone more aware and cautious.

On the surface it may seem as if the changes such caution will require will detract from the sense of community so many of us value about Kenyon and Gambier. However, as Doctor Schermer pointed out and some students reiterated, we should draw on the closeness of our community to achieve these changes. Increasing our sensitivity to the needs of other students will help to create a realistically secure community.

During the open question and comment session, most of the statements concerned specific areas of danger, such as dorms and walkways. Several members of the community commented on the dynamics of rape. Ryn Edwards, a biology professor, and Charlie Howe, a Gambier resident, both suggested that ignorance about rape and acquaintance rape is pervasive in this community, and thus a reaction to the recent rape might be education. Pointing to the problem, Edwards suggested investigating the pornography read and watched by Kenyon students as a preventive measure against further sexual violence.

While no one mentioned respecting the privacy of the survivor of the rape, it is obviously a primary consideration to all directly involved with the case. Hopefully, the victim's privacy will be regarded by all members of the community as necessary to her recovery, and thus respected.

GOCA Sponsors March

On Saturday, January 23, the Black Student Union and Gambier Organization for Cultural Awareness will sponsor a march in honor of Martin Luther King's birthday, and to mark the 20th anniversary of the death of the celebrated civil rights leader.

The candlelight procession will begin at the end of Middle Path, and end, accompanying remarks by Professor Peter Rutledge, at Old Kenyon Dormitory. There probably will be other speakers, but their names were not available at press time. Participation of all members of the community is welcomed and encouraged.
Can Council be Streamlined?

Kenyon’s student government organizations, particularly Student Council, have for some time been under attack as incompetent, ineffective or unresponsive to the needs of the student body. Last semester’s problems with the new judicial board regulations, the week of the forum on diversity and the inability to shape any substantive legislative changes all lead to the conclusion that Council is not a particularly effective body.

There have been numerous reasons advanced to explain Council’s relative incompet- ence. Blame has been placed on the president of Student Council, on a hostile campus media, and on the limited role that Council is allowed to play in campus government. While there may be merit in each of these charges, there seems to be a far more simple cause: Student Council is simply too large and the lack of members, to be effective. Instead of an organization of concerned students representing the rest of the student body, we have an organization in which a few committed people are largely hampered by elected fillers. The burden created by uninformed representatives sitting on a too-large body has stifled Council, and turned what should be the voice of the collective student body into a bureaucracy that smoothers, rather than stimulates, student participation.

Council presently consists of a four-person executive committee, twenty-three upper class representatives elected by residence, two first-year men elected by the incoming class and two first-year women elected in the same manner. This creates a council of twenty-nine representatives which is simply too many for a campus of 1500 students. Currently, Caples, the New Apartments, Leonard and Old Kenyon have three representatives each with Hannah and McBrade upperclass wings having two. Many mem- bers of the community, including some on the executive committee have commented on the need for reducing the size of Council in order to streamline the body, and increase competition for seats.

We recommend that Council make a number of structural changes. We suggest that the upper class contingent be reduced to one representative from each geographic division. In addition, we recommend the elimination of one first-year seat and suggests that the election of representatives for first-year students be turned over to Freshman Coun- cil. We propose no changes in the executive committee. Finally, we recommend that two or three seats be created.

The reasons for these suggestions will be obvious to anyone who has ever worked with Council. By reducing the size of the currently unwieldy body, it will possible for Council to move more quickly on legislation. By decreasing the number of seats available, Council would increase the competition for the remaining positions. In this way, Coun- cil could reduce the number of uncontested elections held each year. Finally, by allow- ing Freshman Council to elect first-year representatives, Student Council would put an end the current system where new student vote for representatives without knowing any of the candidates or the duties of the people on Council.

If this plan were adopted, both the north and south ends would lose five seats, and the first-year students one. This would create a council with enough members to rep- resent each group now represented. At the same time, it would eliminate eight seats from council and create campus-wide elections for two others. This would create a smaller body, with a chance to overcome the stagnation created by a burdensome structure.

While the above suggestions are not perfect, they are meant merely as a starting point for discussion. It is imperative that Council find a way to get rid of uninterested people and keep the interested ones working. Failure to do so robs the student body of its most effective voice in campus government.

Written by members of the Collegian Editorial Board

Kenyon Collegian

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The Kenyon Collegian is published every Thursday while the College is in session, ex- cept during examination and vacation periods. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College. Yearly subscriptions are $22.00; checks should be made payable to The Kenyon Collegian. Our mailing address is Kenyon Col- legian, Student Affairs Center, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio 43022.

The Readers Write

The Kenyon Collegian encourages letters to the Editor. All submissions must be signed as typed, double spaced. The Editor reserves the right to edit all material while maintaining original intent of the submission.

Student Reflects on King Holiday

To the Editor:

January 18, 1988 was a very special day for Americans, especially Black Americans, women and other minorities. It was a day that the nation paid its respects to the memory of a major Civil Rights Leader: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. January 18, 1988 came and went at Kenyon; like many other national holidays, ML King Day passed on unnoticed. All across the country, blacks were celebrating the holiday in music, art, speeches, concerts, readings, TV editorials, excepting the inconvenience of a closed mailbox there was nothing different on ML King Day at Kenyon.

Veteran’s Day, Columbus Day and other holidays pass on this campus unrecognized, and, I guess that as a Kenyon Student, I should not be concerned that ML King Day was not important enough for the school to recognize. But as a Black American and a minority student I was hurt, and insulted; I felt totally isolated from the importance of this day. Only one professor during the course of the day even mentioned the holiday in class. To thank you, Kim McManus, the first day of the second semester was 18 days the first day of the second semester; the school was too busy to take notice, but I was not and could not be.

I sat just at the piano in the BSU with the Na- tional Negro Anthem (“Life Every Voice and Song”) by James Weldon Johnson, and J. Rosamond Johnson before me, and plunged my fingers into the familiar chords and thought about what this day meant to me and how I felt. I remembered my first Fourth of July in my new home congregation in Ports- mouth, VA. I remembered the tear in my father’s eyes and the tremor of emotions that surrounded me, as a hundred blacks rose to their feet singing our song with pride and pain. I remembered being confused about what was so special about this song that our pristine organist blast the congregation with booming bass and sonorous harmonic conflu- ences from the church organ, why the noble Presbyterian singing arms and rocked to the rhythm of this song hugging and kissing each other, their faces grinning with smiles, tears, and sweat. I remember the knowledge trium- phant looks exchanged among the crowd.

The heat didn’t matter, no one was fanning. I was thirteen, I had never sung this song before, I heard it once in a TV movie called Roll Of Thunder Hear My Cry, I had never lived in the south. I never was told to use a back of a bus to make room for the black folks, I never knew anyone who was lynched. My closest and most trusted friends were white. I was never barred from a school, bathroom, water fountain, neighborhood, or restaurant because of the color of my skin. My grandfather and great grandmother fell south after my great-grandfather shot a man who was looting him with the help of cowardly friends, because my great-grandmother was so light-skinned she thought she was white. I was born almost 100 years after my parent’s friends’ house was burned to the ground simply because in black family had the audacity to move into white Burlington, Iowa suburb in 1903. I am only fifteen years old when I say we must remember.

But I was raised on stories gleaned from history of oppression; it was ancient to me, I knew what it feels like to grow up the only black in almost every class I ever attended and to find out I wasn’t white to a close friend’s party because I was the wrong color. I know what it’s like to have eight year old bully call me a nigger and get a slap on the face and feel I didn’t know what a word means, I know what’s it’s like to do the READING HOLIDAY PAGE four.

Quote of the Week

LIFE IN AMERICA

"You've worked hard to make your lawn and garden beautiful, but the only things coming up are those dirt mounds that announce—you've got grasshoppers. You can't surrender to those rodents. But gas, guns and traps might hurt the kids or pets. And anyway, they'd only make you feel like a murderer.

Technology's solution is GoPhert -- this foot-long insect emits so much sound every 15 seconds, day and night, that it drives gophers and other burrowing rodents . . . so crazy, they're out of their holes—and your yard—forever. It's guaranteed. Try it, and if it doesn't work, you keep your conscience clear." --Ad in recent New Yorker magazine.
Sorority Foes Present Senate with Points of Opposition

Kenyon Collegian

PAGE THREE

Sorority foes present Senate with points of opposition

JAN. 21, 1988

The Senate has before itself what it may be a most crucial issue. Sorority is a campus concern, for they have the rival to, and most likely will, change the social and general life situation at Kenyon. The sorority proposal has become a hot issue because of a question of five women seeking to establish a sorority organization, but rather, an introduction of Kenyon life of a social organization (denoting a previous) which has the power to significantly affect the quality of life for women at Kenyon and even Kenyon as a whole.

It is important to note that a precedent is to be taken. The introduction of one sorority will most likely lead to the introduction of others. Signatures of over 250 individuals have been collected, indicating the community concern regarding this issue. The denouncing individuals proposed that "sororities would have a profound effect on the structure of life at Kenyon." The right of students to have input in the planning of their day to day life, which is at issue here, must not be overlooked in discussions of a group's right to organize. While a right to organize indeed exists, and necessarily so, such a right is not inalienable or unconditional when the organization at hand will most likely have dramatic, and possibly negative, effects on our community.

II. The degree of effect of sororities at Kenyon will be significant we believe due to the unique circumstances conditioning life at Kenyon. The isolation and social intensity of Kenyon life demands that we be particularly cautious about the forms of social organization which are introduced into our delicate community. The scope of a new organization's activities at Kenyon will far exceed the scope of a similar organization at another school. Our belief is that the introduction of sororities will lead to an overwhelmingly sur- lying Greek system which will, rather, than increase, social opportunities at Kenyon for both men and women.

III. Interpersonal relationships, between men and women at Kenyon, are unlikely to be enhanced by sororities. The present situation is our basis for this claim. Stereotyping according to fraternal associations, aggressive relationships between Greek organizations (enhanced by competition for pledges), unhealth and objectifying male/female interaction, and an excessive emphasis on alcohol are all problems currently present within our existing Greek community. Moreover, those outside of Greek life are labeled as such and stratified accordingly. We feel that the addition of sororities to this system will extend current problems, introduce others leading to a further fragmentation of a campus already struggling with such problems, and most importantly, when compounded the compounded and negative externalities are weighed, fail to provide a better social life at Kenyon for women in particular.

If the issue at hand is truly one of equality, we believe that an organization which promotes and achieves social integration should be pursued rather than one which, in fact, impedes the quest for that goal.

IV. National affiliation may also bring particular troubles to the Kenyon community. An affiliation of this sort has its own stan- dards and ideals external to Kenyon's unique social circumstances. It should be noted that these prescriptions are inflag- later words and, more importantly, their originating standards from the 16th century. Moreover, the ideals found in such charters are empty in that they express a degree of emotional com- mitment but are without any substantive content and are thus easily manipulable.

V. Exclusivity, a role of membership in a nationally affiliated sorority, will bring additional problems to the Kenyon community. Exclusive membership is likely to institutionalize already existing divisions among Kenyon women who have grown, in part, through associations with already existing Greek organizations. By not allowing all women to join, fragmentation will likely follow both internal and external to Greek life. Once quotas are set in place, the effects on women not accepted to a sorority, will be great. If social opportunities were lacking before the establishment of sororities, the ensnaring predicament will only be worse. The stigma of "rejection" is introduced and those women who have no interest in sororities will be unsuitably labeled.

VI. The need for social opportunities at Kenyon is certainly not being disputed. It is the form of social organization currently proposed which is our concern. It seems illogical and even unwise to us to introduce an organization parallel to fraternities when the Greek system is under increasing scrutiny and soon to be discussed in the Senate itself. It appears to us to be unwise to risk so much when other avenues are surely available. The probationary period is not only too brief but can be inappropriately "wise" to opt for other forms of social organization, which, without the divisive risks associated with exclusive memberships and national affiliation, can truly achieve the laudable goals of providing a communal and social voice for women at Kenyon, especially in light of the negative externalities which we feel will follow from the introduction of sororities to Kenyon life.
First Step Offers Information, Support, Confidentiality

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SPORTS

Men's Basketball

Date Ken On-Op: 19-8-75 Wonington
[10] 78-70 Capital
[29] 67-57 Mt. Vernon Navy
[1/2] 62-64 Wooster
[49] 79-67 CWRU
[13] 74-69 Denison
[16] 70-88 OWU
Next at Allegheny 1/22

Women's Basketball

[12] 52-66 John Carroll
[29] 48-63 Kio Grande
[30] 54-36 Calvin
[16] 58-55 Wooster
[7] 75-28 OWU
[12] 91-37 Denison
[14] 40-51 Wittenberg
[16] 54-69 OWU
Next Allegheny 1/22

Swimming

This Friday and Saturday, the Lady
Ladies host the Kenyon Invitational
Among the teams competing are:
from Alfred, Kene State, Denison
OWU, and Ohio State with
University of Rochester, and Alle
Belkenow, and Whalen center.

Three: let our
hearts, drunk with the wine of
we forget
try, shawled beneath: Thy hand
forever stand, true to our God, true to our
land.

James Weldon Johnson
-- J.R. Rosamund Johnson

Thank you for your time,

Joel Wesley Logan '89

FILMS

The Boat is Full, Directed by Markus Im
doof, Starring Tina Engel and Curt Bois.
In German and French with English subtitles.
100 minutes

The Boat is Full is a powerful human tale about
six World War II refugees: one Nazi
Seeger and five Jews (including a 5-year-old child).
They risk their lives to cross from Ger
many into neutral Switzerland, only to find that
the Swiss immigration policy poses the greatest threat of all.

In a desperate attempt to foil Swiss of
ficialdom, the band of six strangers forges a
property, hoping the child won't speak
us language different, from the Ger
man his "family" speaks. The Boat is Full is a
soothing indictment of Swiss neutrality as
well as an immensely moving account of the
human spirit to endure. -- Don McGuire
Summerlites. Directed by David Lein, Star-
ing Katherine Hepburn and Rosanno Brazzi,
1961.

Hepburn is clever and amusing as a spirited
American old maid who turns up in Venice
looking for her guide books and a romantic goal in
her eye. She makes a more than convincing
summer tourist, and her breathtakingly (in
veloping rightlobe into a leaf wildlife encounters and
farcical mishaps she runs into.

Women's Basketball continued from page two

cover in fourth grade that a bigheaded second
teacher moved me from reading three
grades above my level into an "average"
reading group without my parents' consent.
I know what it is to win a state-wide ar
tistic competition, and to have it announced
over the P.A. System in school during
home room. I know what it felt like to be congratulated
in the same breath to be asked
"What's the procedure for" couldn't possibly be talented enough to win
anything! I know bigotry and I know degra
dation.

The young people in elementary schools,
secondary schools and the colleges today are the
beginning of a new generation, and finally
the children of Martin Luther King's Dream.
But in this age of apparent equality and equal
opportunity, the old seeds of racism and anti
semitism are rising in a time when the coun
try has been flooded by single-ethnic
immigrants. Why are there skin Heads, why are the Ku Klux Klan and the
Neo Nazis gaining strength? Why is an old
black shoe with an ice-hard core
What is happening to our nation? The "Me Generation" is over forty years and largely
related to their property. "BUP-PIES"
behave the black Jane and Ward
Clawers of the late 20th C.
As a Black American I reflected on
the state of my race in this country on ML King Day. The "me generation" has bred a "plug
in generation"; we at a people, have been

Rape continued from page one

points on campus is being considered. A review of procedures for locking residence halls is underway. Another con
sideration is enlarging the Security staff and reviewing the scheduling of personnel, especially
when the campus is less populated.

"Everything is subject to review. These
crimes will not prevent crime, but they will
probably lessen the risks; there are no
nurtrances. However, Security is a problem
to all; it is the responsibility of all.
Persons in official positions can implement policies and procedures that
out," Dean of Students Thomas J. Edwards
died.

Jordan believes students will be diligent in
to the prescribing safety measures for
now, but fears they will begin to forget
while such things go by. "The success of the programs implemented depends on com
We are, not terrified
sports. Many of us are involved in a com
bination of such activities. In short, we are a
diverse group able to reliving diversified
problems.

One thing First Step emphasizes is con
fidentiality. When the phone rings, I don't
tell you my name and you remain silent.
You will not be pressured to divulge any
names, yet if you do, such information will not leave our
office.

So, do Steppers really know what they're
trying? Yes, we have gone through training and will
continue to train in weekly meetings. This
training involves role-playing in which
Steppers simulate phone conversations.
We have access to up-to-date information con
cerning AIDS, sexual harassment, rape,
suicide, stress, and the many other social
pressures particular to college students.

In addition to our work, we are working
to educate the non-student body. This
includes representatives on college policies
as well as materials directing students to
resources and services available in Knox County and the surrounding area. However, we
believe training is effective without will and deter
mination. Each and every Stepper wants to
help. Without such an attitude even we cannot take
the first step.

Let's face it, no one can pick up the
phone and talk with a stranger. If you feel
this way, think of this: you may know the
Stepper you are speaking with, and between
us, discussing a problem with someone we know.
If you are a person such, consider: the
Stepper may be a stranger, but you've never seen
him or her, you trust, therapeutic, clearing both the mind and
soul. Whether you need birth control
information, want to gripe about your relationship,
or just a shoulder to cry on, stem and
straighten things out, First Step will always be there. We'll listen to you. Our number is
5626 and we are open Sunday through
Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. and Saturday and Sunday 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Take that first step -- give us a call.

The tragic events of last semester have af
fected all members of our community.
Strong emotional reactions are valid in
response to such events. If you need assis
tance with your personal concerns, or if you simply need to vent your feelings: please consider using First Step as a resource.

as some of us achieve, the gap between
the "haves" and the "have nots" is increas
ing -- what a price of progress, when two
black Baptists churches, separated by only a
few blocks, exist simultaneously, when the
difference between the community is not
of ideology but of buying power. I read an
article in the Atlantic Monthly last year writ
t by a black man declaring that blackness is
dead because the black community has become
so fractured that it has ceased to exist. What
to bring back to the black hero Dr. King say about that
trust.

I close my letter with the words to the Negro National Anthem:

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, Those
who baste us thus bar us on the way; Thou
who hast bade by Thy light, us into the light, keep
us forever in the path we pray, Let our feet
be steadfast in the places, Our God where we met

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ndoof, Starring Tina Engel and Curt Bois.
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when a well-known New York de
s in a car accident the sole benefi
e is his estate the naive Deeds. Persis
tory lawyer to visit New York City,
ging favour with his Apple challenging shysters and
he is unapologetic about his down-home connec