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THE TOWER

THE INDEPENDENT VOICE OF KEAN UNIVERSITY

Mass class cancellations cause widespread chaos

By Alexandria Addesso & Sonia Aquije

Kean students and adjunct professors alike had an unwelcomed surprise at the beginning of the Spring 2013 semester with course cancellations.

Hundreds of courses were cancelled and only some were reinstated. Most, but not all, students were not aware that their classes were cancelled until they received an email from the Office of Registrar. Some were able to overload into already full classes, but many could not.

"You want to know about the pain of how I lost my chemistry class?" said Christian Salvatierra, a sophomore biology major. "The humiliation of not even getting an e-mail of cancellation, it was very stressful and annoying."

The mass class cancellations also affected adjunct-professors who make up most of Kean University's teaching staff.

"What students do not know is that 300 plus adjunct faculty who had been assigned last year and committed themselves to teach more than six credits this spring semester, were sent emails by their chairs telling them that no adjunct faculty may teach above six credits," said Kathleen Henderson the president of the Kean University Adjunct Faculty Federation. "These 300 plus adjuncts, many of whom were the best of Kean's Adjunct faculty, some being awarded the title 'distinguished professors', had to turn back any courses they were assigned above the six credit limit. This forced adjuncts to head to unemployment offices around the state for an imposed reduction in workload. At the same time needs of students for graduation, financial considerations and other factors. I know of no university that does not cancel or add classes due to fluctuations in enrollment," said

From: <regme@kean.edu> Date: Thu, Jan 17, 2013 at 3:18 PM Subject: Course Section Is Cancelled

Dear ,

The following course(s) you have registered for the Spring 2013 term have been cancelled:

Section: FA*2100*01 COLOR THEORY

If you would like to register for another section or course the system availability chart is available via KeanWISE.

If you should have any questions or concerns please contact your Academic Advisor or the Dean of your major at the contact numbers below:

This email was sent as a notification-only, the above email address cannot accept response emails. As a reminder please contact the Dean of your major or Academic Advisor for more information.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

The Office of the Registrar

advertisements in the Star Ledger began the great desperate hunt for adjuncts to fill our third courses. We were told there would be no exceptions."

Jeffrey Toney, the Vice President of Academic Affairs, attributed the mass cancellations to low student enrollment.

"Two weeks prior to each semester courses are added and cancelled based on the number of students enrolled in each section of each course and the Toney. "Our analysis determined that far too many sections offered were posting low enrollments of 4 or 5 students, requiring a consolidation of sections offered—not a cancellation of the course offerings. We are confident the scheduling was handled prudently and to the benefit of our key customers—our students."

In an e-mail sent on January 17th to all Kean Federation of Teachers Bargaining Unit members from KFT President James A. Castiglione, informs of course cancellations and urged program coordinators, chairpersons, and faculty that have not been notified by their dean to urgently do so. Students are upset about these abrupt course cancellations because they came without warning.

"Well, I almost lost housing as well as really important business classes I've been trying to take," said Rahul Chitale, a sophomore business major. "Then they are taken away from me just like that."

While other students like Sydney Farrell, a freshman Biology major, was left confused and annoyed.

"I signed up for cellular biology class and when I tried registering for another section Keanwise kept saying there's nothing listed for the course at all," said Farrell. "Yet I see other people who are taking the class I needed; it bugs me. I didn't have any holds on my account or anything."

Unlike other students affected by the cancellations, senior communications/journalism major Celleste Valeanu was notified two weeks before the beginning of the semester that one of her two cancelled classes was cancelled, instead of a day before the semester began, like most students.

"My first class was a personal fitness class," said Valeanu. "It wasn't so bad because they gave me a two week notice."

Unfortunately, Valeanu wasn't as lucky continued on page 4

Is your right to Freedom of Speech safe at Kean?

By Keanu Austin

Joseph Aziz, a student at Montclair State University, received national attention recently after being punished for violating the university's code of conduct by posting a demeaning comment about a fellow schoolmate online and then chatting about them and the incident in private. Aziz, along with others, believed his punishment to be a violation of his freedom of speech.

It all started when Aziz left a comment on the page for a YouTube video, claiming a female schoolmate's legs that were visible in the video looked like "a pair of bleached hams." A complaint later reached the university's administrators, who consequently prohibited Aziz from making any sort of contact with the female or speaking about her online.

Aziz later violated what was outlined in his No-Contact Order by joking about the incident and mentioning the female in a Facebook group that he believed to be private. This violation led to his punishment—a one-semester suspension.

Montclair State's code of conduct shares similarities to many other codes and policies upheld by other universities in New Jersey, including Kean. Does that mean a student at Kean can be punished for similar conduct?

According to Kean University's Vice President of Student Affairs Janice Murray-Laury and Matthew Caruso of the

Public Relations department, the answer is yes.

Just as with the student at Montclair State, if a student at Kean is accused of harassment, they can be hit with a No-Contact Order that prohibits them from making contact with the person who feels they are being targeted. Violation of this order may result in punishments listed in Kean's code of conduct, which includes expulsion if the situation calls for it.

However, while action can be taken against an accused stu-

regardless of the action taking place off campus, the conduct can still be addressed if it is deemed to affect a substantial university interest.

She defined such interests as "a detriment to the educational interests of the University; a violation of local, state, or federal law; indication that a student presents danger to him/herself or others; and significantly breaching peace and causing social order."

Murray-Laury also referred to a part of Kean's code of con-

once they receive a report, the director or designee reviews the circumstances surrounding the event in question to determine if there are sufficient grounds to believe that a violation of the Student Code of Conduct occurred.

Should it be determined that a conduct violation has occurred, the student will be charged with a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Murray-Laury also mentioned that when discussing incidents of this nature, it is important

"...while action can be taken against an accused student who talks to their target, an accused student simply talking about their target in private may be a different matter..."

dent who talks to their target, an accused student simply talking about their target in private may be a different matter, unlike the Montclair State case before Aziz's punishment was overturned.

"We would encourage a student not to post about another student and have an educational conversation with him or her about why he or she should not do so, but we would not be able to prevent a student from posting information," stated Murray-Laury.

Murray-Laury also said that

duct, which states what steps will be taken if a student's conduct is deemed so "severe or pervasive and objectively offensive that it substantially disrupts or interferes with the orderly operation of the University or the rights of any student or other member of the university community."

Those who decide if conduct is severe, pervasive or objectively offensive are the people of the university's Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct.

According to Murray-Laury,

to focus on the definitions of things like bullying and harassment that are found in the code.

In the case of the student from Montclair State in which his punishment was overturned, university officials tried to justify its decision by claiming their student code of conduct complies with New Jersey's anti-bullying law. However, it was found that what Montclair State University considered to be bullying in this case, the state of New Jersey did not.

Flu cases up, but not an epidemic

By Xirena Wormley

As flu season hits residents throughout the state, Kean University students are reporting an increasing number of people infected here on

After spending four days in bed, resting and taking doses of cold medicine, Evelyn Reyes, an undecided freshman, thinks that the Influenza virus, commonly known as the flu, is raging out of control in dorms. She said she had gotten the flu from her two roommates.

According to Reyes her whole floor has been affected by the flu. Reyes said the flu is an inevitable fact of winter. She also says that everyone she knows is coughing and sneezing.

"Even trying to stay away from other sick people is somewhat pointless," said Reyes. "Everyone on campus is sick."

While not everyone is sick with the flu the activity level of Influenza for the past few weeks has been categorized as high and widespread, according to the New Jersey State Health Department. Last year, the flu was only listed as moderate and regional.

According to the Health Services Office it is hard to estimate the number of people who have gotten the flu on campus, but theyhave treated students for flu-like symptoms.

However, since the CDC recommends that people who



Receiving protection against the flu.

have the flu stay home it's hard to tell. It is not clear whether Kean is facing a flu outbreak.

Audrey Lopez, a sophomore math major, is skeptical about whether the number of people affected by the flu this year has reached epic proportions.

"I don't think this year is any worse than last year," Lopez said. Although she does hear a lot of people sniffling not that big of a deal."

we'll be fine," Lopez said. "It's

For many students who are looking to avoid getting the flu virus that is spreading around, the question on their mind is what are the appropriate precautionary measures?

There are several things students can do to stay healthy, ac-

healthy. Cuesta avoids touching bathroom door handles, and he is suspicious of people who want to shake his hand. In addition, Cuesta mentioned that he continuously washes his hands. "There are hand sanitizer things all over campus," Cuesta said."I've been using them every time I pass one."

"The activity level of Influenza in for the past few weeks has been categorized as high and widespread."

cording to the Health Services Office. There are the typical recommendations of washing hands frequently and getting the flu shot, but some Students can also use their own holistic methods to fight off the flu.

Sophomore Christopher Cuesta hopes to beat the flu bug by getting the Influenza vaccine. Cuesta has not received the shot yet but said that he has every intention of getting it.

"I know the flu shot works," Cuesta said. "People who say they won't get it are just scared... Some people need to be reassured that it's going to work."

Until he manages to get the flu shot, Cuesta has a few rituals he uses in order to stay tizer and washes their hands

Besides getting the flu shot there are other way to ward off germs and stay healthy. Yoyce Geronimo, a freshman psychology major, uses natural remedies from her Dominican

"Every day I take a spoonful of honey so I won't get the flu," Geronimo said. Though this method isn't one hundred percent effective, she believes it works just as well as conventional medicine. There have been times when she has gotten the flu and Geronimo said she has a natural cure for that as well. She usually drinks a liquid made of onions, herbs

Wenzhou University, home to Kean's first program in China



Kean celebrated groundbreaking for Wenzhou-Kean in March.

By Andrea Parr

While Kean University is building a campus in Wenzhou University, a new study abroad pilot program was launched for students to study in China. In the Fall 2012 semester Kean University's Center for International Studies (CIS) and Asian Studies department paired with Wenzhou University.

The initial 11 study abroad students departed for an orientation in Shanghai in Sept and returned in late Dec. The students stayed in Shanghai for a week before their departure to Wenzhou University. From Shanghai it is a six-hour bus ride to Wenzhou.

"The cities are big not only in population, but sheer size," said Stephen Ferst, director of CIS. "It can feel as if there is only city."

The coach ride offers a unique chance for students to see life in China outside of the cities.

"You drive along and you can see the farmers working their land," said Ferst. "They are tilling that land entirely by hand."

At Wenzhou University, a comprehensive university, the Kean students are required to take classes in Mandarin language. Students are also offered a choice of classes in Chinese history, culture, and arts. Some students were considering continuing at Wenzhou in the spring, when two students will study at Wenzhou University.

Two students from the fall semester kept a blog (cjwzku. blog.com) where they wrote and shared photos of their time in Wenzhou. They posted about excursions, the initial week in Shanghai and life at the university.

After the completion of Wenzhou-Kean students looking to study abroad will attend classes there instead of Wenzhou University. The program will offer a unique take on studying abroad. The classes will be taught in the standard American format, but Kean students will be attending classes alongside Chinese students.

"Wenzhou-Kean will have

cost the student pays for their flight. Dorming at Kean for an upper classman in the same style of dorm that will be at Wenzhou-Kean is \$4,191.

For the initial semester a grant was given from Kean University to pay for the student's flights. However, students paid for flights independently for the spring semester.

Wenzhou is a pre-fecture

'Wenzhou-Kean will have an American style, but with local flair, it will be similar to going to school here, but you're in China."

an American style, but with local flair," said Ferst. "It will be similar to going to school here, but you're in China."

In addition students will be able to dorm with a Chinese roommate in a double room. Currently, students are staying in an international dormitory. The traditional style of dormitory for a Chinese university can be six to seven students in one small room. Wenzhou-Kean will offer the same style of dormitory that students are used to at the Union campus. With Wenzhou-Kean CIS is aiming to keep the total cost of the program around \$7,400 for a semester, including the

partnerships with.

Kean students are inspired after tour of CNBC Studio

and sneezing she attributes

those symptoms to the com-

"I think a lot of people like

to make this bigger than it re-

ally is," she said. According to

Lopez the attendance numbers

in her class do not suggest that

many students are at home

"If everyone uses hand sani-

mon cold.

with the flu.

By Sara Paczkowski

For Kean alumnus Steve Fastook, executive vice president of technical and commercial operations at CNBC, "yes" was always the answer.

On Dec. 5, the students from Kean University's Advanced Journalism class had the opportunity to visit the CNBC headquarters and meet with Fastook. Students were afforded the chance to see the walk the main floor headquar-

lowed him to get his foot in the door. Today, Fastook serves as chairman of the board of the Kean Foundation, which raises funds for university scholarships and projects.

not hurt Fastook's extensive achievements, he did feel that

Kean's first TV studio...At destined for a career in television."

and even meet some of the news anchors.

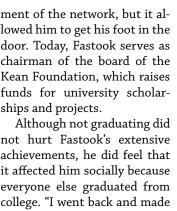
While attending Kean in the 1980s, Fastook turned a classroom into Kean's first TV studio where he produced news shows. At that point, he knew he was destined for a career in television.

"I remember the studio in Hutchinson that I made with power tools and saws," Fastook recalled.

Fastook received an honorary degree from Kean in 2006 because, ironically, he never finished college. A job offer from ABC led him to leave school before he finished. The job was to fix colored TV's in the basebeen leading CNBC for 25 years. His experience ranges from working on the Macy's Thanksgiving Day productions, to responsibility for numerous popular shows such as "Saturday Night Live" and "The Rosie O'Donnell Show." That is why Fastook always said "yes." From his personal experiences, he was always rewarded for his efforts.

With all of the success on his side, Fastook never belittled the importance of integrity, ethics and most importantly,

"Work hard and stay humble," said Fastook. "If you do the right thing, the company



it affected him socially because everyone else graduated from college. "I went back and made myself learn everything that I

Now with more than nine

ters, browse around TV sets Emmy awards, Fastook has "He turned a classroom into that point, he knew he was

> will do the right thing for you." He also advised students that being nice and working well with people are important traits, but he mostly stressed the ability to communicate in both written and oral communications.

Writing well was a key theme during the visit. Both Chuck Schaffer, executive producer of CNBC's "American Greed" and Brian Shackman, CNBC's sports reporter, told students during the trip that writing well is among the most impor-

tant skills in television. "Learn to write, in the name of God," urged Schaffer,

Kean University's Avdvanced Journalism class at CNBC headquarters. laughing.

RST IN BUSINESS WORLDWIDE.

He highlighted the importance of self-motivation and the ability to collaborate with others. Schaffer also explained the importance of multi-tasking, especially when used to assemble various components to create a finished product.

Shackman also stressed the importance of writing, noting that the skill is lacking in many potential candidates in the field. He said that having the ability to write could be the skill that separates you from the pack.

He advised students learn to write with style while keeping some depth in terms of content. But he also said personality counts in television.

"Let your personality shine," said Shackman. "Because if people see that certain twinkle in your eye, they will like you." The CNBC workers left impressions on the students who

visited and displayed to them what hard work looked like. "It comes down to the ability to get things done," said Fastook. "Work hard, get

things done, but don't forget

about creating and maintaining

relationships."

Although seeing a Broadway

This year, Kean decided to



Kean University's poster for the production of "Hairspray."

city, Kean is bringing "Hairspray" to the students.

"I selected "Hairspray" for several reasons," said Logue. "First, I was inspired by the abundance of talented students at Kean, whose abilities matched with what would be needed to tell the story of "Hairspray." Second, in the De-

present a theatre season that is balanced; blending productions that might be exciting and new with productions that have already garnered commercial

"The show takes place in June 1962," explains Michele Mos-

success and name recognition."

a great deal of research and learned how to do several American social dances that the Shim Sham."

say, the choreographer "I did

the choreographer,"

of racism was a huge problem. "The protagonist in "Hairspray,"

level city located in the southern province of Zhejiang with a population over 9 million. In China a pre-fecture city is between a province and county in size. The city is located along the coastline and experiences subtropical climate with short

mild winters. However, the summers are not only long. but also hot and humid. The city is a known as a popular tourist location and for its prosperous economy. Union County tops an eight-city list on the government website of "friendship cities" the city has

Mrs. Eileen Ruf bids farewell to university after 42 years!

By Kean Austin

Eileen Ruf started working as a secretary at then called Kean College in early March of 1970, a time which she described as very different from the Kean University of today.

retary in the Department of Communication, and also the advertising manager of The Tower, a position she added to her duties in 2009.

statement when Ruf said she

Ruf retired from her job as sec-

es in the faculty and made countless memories, many of which she said are linked to the students. "I've always liked working

It is by no means an under-

with students," she said, going on to mention that one of her worries about retiring was

"I know that on my last day, I'm going to need a lot of tissues."

It was a lot wilder back then," she said. But this was something she didn't mind. Having just left a job because she didn't like its corporate atmosphere, Ruf appreciated the atmosphere that a college cam-

pus offered. On Dec. 21, after 42 years working at Kean University,

when she joined the college, she met her husband, Mitch, at Kean, and raised two children, Maggie and Matthew, while working here. In 2011, she watched as her son graduated

In her time at the university, Ruf has seen plenty of chang-

becoming an "old fogey" in the "older" community that she and her husband will be moving to in Manchester, New Jersey.

On the topic of her worries, Ruf also said that while she's looking forward to another chapter in her life, she found moving on to be scary and a



Eileen Ruf, (center), with Dr. Wenli Yuan (left) and Dr. Scott McHugh (right)

"I know that on my last day, I'm going to need a lot of tissue," she said shortly before retiring.

about her retirement, she ex-

When asked for her thoughts

pressed a hopeful yet anxious feeling about what she has ahead of her, and a fondness for the university and students she'll be leaving behind.

The Broadway sensation, *Hairspray*, comes to Kean

By Jasmine Leach

"Hairspray" is a musical about acceptance of race, of sexuality, of physical proportion and beauty, of educational achievement," said the Kean University Director of Hairspray, Holly Logue.

On Feb. 22, 2013 "Hairspray "will make it's big Debut at Kean University. York City has a reputation for having outstanding Broadway shows. Some of the Broadway performances are either re-created from films, or transformed from film into a play format. These particular plays include: "The Lion King", "The Phantom of the Opera", "Chicago" and now "Hairspray".

play in New York City is like second nature to some, the downside is that viewers spend a lot of money to enjoy the performance. Viewers can spend as much as \$100 to \$400 on tickets alone.

do something special and kickoff the New Year in the proper fashion. Instead of going to the partment of Theatre we try to

"Hairspray" is a musical.

were popular between 1957 and early 1962. These included: The Mess Around, The Snake Hip Boogie or Snake Hip, The Madison, The Trankey Doo and

The "Hairspray" cast includes a lot of members that have individual jobs. "There are thirty two students in the cast," said Mossay."Some of the titles on the production team are: stage manager, assistant stage manager, dramaturge, assistant to the director and assistant to

This performance of "Hairspray" also has a twist to the original one. "This production will not be like the others," said Logue. "For it is my job as a director to share the story as I see it, not re-create the Broadway production." The performance of the students as described by Logue is enlightening, entertaining and exhilarating.

During the 1960's, the issue

Tracy Turnblad, moves her world forward with her overthe-top energy and love for people of all shapes, sizes and colors," Logue explains. Every successful, mesmer-

izing, breathing play has a moral. The people that produce the show want their audience members to remember a key message. "I want the audience to remember the realities of the 60s, appreciate the progress that has been made, and think about why it is important that we continue to move forward," said Logue. "I would love for them to have a wonderful time in the theatre, enjoying the music, the dancing, the comedy, but not forget what is at the core of "Hairspray."" "Hairspray." will be held in

Wilkins Theatre from Feb. 22 through March 2. Tickets for the general public are \$15. For seniors, faculty, staff and alumni tickets sales are \$12. Students can purchase their tickets for \$10. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit http://www.keanstage. com/seasontickets/theatre.asp.

KEAN UNIVERSITY TO ELECT ALTERNATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE KEAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Union, NJ – On Tuesday, April 2, from 9 a.m., until 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 3, 2013, all matriculated Kean University students (full-time or part-time, graduate or undergraduate) will vote to elect the new student representative to the Kean University Board of Trustees for the 2013-2015 academic years. The election will take place online through Cougar Link at http://cougarlink.kean.edu.

Additional information regarding the student trustee position, as well as the election application, is available online at http://www.kean. edu/KU/Student-Trustees.

February 7, 2013 THE **TOWER** 5 4 THE **TOWER** February 7, 2013

Kean Alumnus reaching new heights with swim suit collection



By Dominique Vinas

feminine beauty.

and lace.

Out with the old and in with

the bold. This spring, it is all

about unleashing your natural

The simple look is back, but

Kean girls are looking any-

thing but simple with the top

two spring trends being sheer

"I love that lace is back for

the spring, it's an essential in

my fashion wardrobe," said

Bright vibrant colors were

in for the fall, now however

we are seeing a lot of black and

white combinations being put

together, even with an accent

color to accessorize the outfit.

"As far as black and white

fashion, I love the black slim

legging pants, with a black shirt

and white scarf," said Amanda.

ing a huge comeback as well,

with accessories being simple

and minimal, due to the outfits

speaking for themselves. Fash-

ion trends include more expo-

sure of the midriff, with just a

little skin showing. Similarly

appealing are shirts with a lot

of detail such as fringed edges,

"Since the retro look is back,

I find that American Apparel

is the go-to fashion heaven,

tons of sheer, lace bodysuits

snake skin, stripes and dots.

Retro-themed pieces are mak-

such as a scarf or necklace.

Amanda Villalta, a Junior.

By Iman-Jazelle Bond

On the first day of class, Valerie Blanchard tells her students to make a bucket list. Blanchard realizes a lot of people are more motivated to do things with their lives when they have a bucket list.

Part of Blanchard's bucket list is expanding her bikini line, Paradise Bikini, and having it sold worldwide. Along with having her own bikini line, Blanchard is an alumna and adjunct professor at Kean University, as well as an elementary school special education teacher.

"I've always been the type of person that multi tasks," said Blanchard.

She likes to stay busy. She balances her busy life using time management and the drive to reach her goals. Blanchard always had what she calls "an entrepreneurial spirit." When she was going for

Be your Beautiful

her Ph.D. in higher education, she needed to take one elective. So, she took an entrepreneur in business course in the Bachelor of Medicine program at Seton

She finished the communica-Hall University. tions program at Kean and Dr. "When you're going to start

"When you're going to start a business, you have to start a business that you're passionate about."

a business, you have to start a business that you're passionate about." said Blanchard. That was the key. Blanchard wondered what she was passionate about. It intrigued her and she finished the graduate certificate program for entrepreneurship.

Ever since she was a little girl, she would sketch dresses and make catalogues, but all of her previous education had been in education and teaching. She never went to fashion school, even though she had a passion for clothing. She had never given a thought that fashion is what she should pursue as a business venture.

For a few years, Blanchard would pull apart her and her friends swimsuits and embellish them. She received so many compliments on the bathing suits she beautified. One day she realized: "Oh my gosh! Maybe this is my business. Maybe I should pursue this."

Her first design was done at a beach house in Belmar, New Jersey. She would go to Atlantic City for rhinestones and different ideas for embellishing

Initially, she wasn't very confident. She wanted to make her

New Year, New Look, New Kean

Lynch gave her the opportunity to become an adjunct professor, which she has been doing

creations beautiful but was un-

sure how to do certain things.

But, she was persistent and

continued to try and improve

for eight years. After discovering her passion, Blanchard created her own website and Facebook page. From there, her pictures began floating around the

An event planning company needed a swimsuit designer to showcase bathing suits for a company. It was at the Hudson terrace in New York City and they asked her to do a fashion show. Blanchard made believe that

she had done them before and that she knew what she was talking about. They provided her with models. The person who was to coordinate the catwalk hadn't shown up, so she was forced to do everything herself. She had help from a few of her friends.

This fashion show lead her to do many others. She started doing shows in New York and in New Jersey. One opportunity continued to lead to the next.

In Blanchard's line of swimsuits, every swimsuit has some sort of sparkle to it. When she

classic, feminine look. Sneaker

wedges are hot on the market

and have been sold out in nu-

merous stores due to both ce-

lebrity and model obsession

Hair has changed a lot from

last season as well, although

some hair trends are lingering

on into the spring. Fall was all

about the "hombre" look, but

stylists have tweaked it slightly

and now we have the "reverse

hombre". This means a lighter

color on top, fading into a dark-

Also, the high bun is being

brought to the next level as

many celebrities are now doing

what is called the "sock bun".

This is an oversized donut

shaped bun that sits on top of

your head and screams sophis-

tication. Buns are just popular

in general and come in all dif-

ferent shapes and sizes, but the

high ballerina buns, top knots

and sock buns are the three

most fashionable hair trends

er color on the bottom.

"Since the retro look is

Apparel is the go to

fashion heaven."

back, I find that American

among young girls.

first started doing swimsuits, they were very "blinged out". She added rhinestones and crystal embellishments.

Blanchard's swim suits are intended for women to wear on a regular basis, like at the bach, or a pool party. They are not just meant to be used as costumes or specialty items. The fabric she uses is satin-spandex, which has a shimmer to it. If she uses a fabric that doesn't have any sparkle, she makes sure to add it. She wants all of

her swim suits to shine. One of Blanchard's favorite creations is from the 2012 collection. It is a teal sequined bathing suit that looks amazing and flattering on anyone. Overall, the reaction has been positive.

Blanchard recently did the gift bags at the 2012 Emmy's and has been invited to do the gift bags at the 2013 Academy Awards. She's also made suits for Miss Dominican Republic, Miss Ecuador, Miss USA, Miss New Jersey and Miss Teen

Alexandra Vino, from the show "How to Make It in America" on HBO, was the first celebrity that Blanchard saw wearing one of her swim suit creations.

Constantly revising her bucket list, Blanchard is starting to expand the swimwear collection. She has started a children's swim wear line and she's in the middle of designing a men's collection.

You can find Blanchard's collection, Paradise Bikinis, at Posh Boutique, The Deen Boutique in Trump Towers, Moxi Chick in Nutley, and online on her website, www.paradisebi-

Makeup remains very natu-

ral, just as in the fall, bronze

styles are ancient history and

it's all about being comfort-

who are pale they now have no

worries because pale is attrac-

tive this season. Although for

the most part the makeup is

simple, lipstick is very essen-

tial and is the finishing touch

that brings the whole ensemble

together. Whether it's a clas-

sic nude lipstick, or a dark red

wine, this spring, lipstick is a

girl's best friend. Just like the

hair, hombre nails are a big hit as well, along with the rounded

shape and elegant rhinestone

"The rounded and pointed

nail trend is definitely sweep-

ing through the fashion world

right now," said Alanna Foxx,

a senior and beauty specialist/

entrepreneur. "It's a break from

the traditional square shape, or

French manicure nails, and I

think it's here to stay for many

more seasons hereafter."

caviar detailed nails.

What pick-up line will you use on Valentine's day?

By Michelle A. Bingham

February is near and for every girl it only means one thing... Valentine's Day! This love-filled holiday comes once a year, sweeping every hopeless romantic off of their feet. From teddy bears, to chocolates and romantic dates in the city, we all yearn for little cupid to shoot us with his arrow.

How could you blame us? From the start of cinema, we've been drilled with the idea of

our "Keanites" which Valentine's Day lines thev'd love to be whisked away with.

"I'd love it if a guy wrote me a poem," said sophomore tennis athlete Zenzy Liggins. Though she is happily involved with her boyfriend of one year, there's always room for creating new, exciting moments.

Don't fret gentlemen; there are still plenty of available valentines-to-be. For some, there is no need for fancy poems or

"I'd love it if a guy wrote me a poem."

love. We've seen that it has no end through movies like "The Titanic" and it lasts even through old age and life's illnesses like in "The Notebook." We all deserve a little bit of ro-

This year at Kean University, love is in the air. A couple holding hands or an eager single looking for their mate; no matter who you are, your valentine awaits! Let your heart open up to the wonderful words of love.

What are these words, you ask? "Be Mine!" "Hugs and Kisses!" And the best line of them all: "I Love You". This year, what do you expect to hear? I went out and asked a few of

According to Brittany Heyward, a third year Kean resident, a simple "Will you be my Valentine?" will suffice, along with a dozen beautiful roses. Sometimes, short and sweet goes a

Let's face it. Whether you're single or taken, a hopeless romantic or a realist, Valentine's Day is a time when we all dream a little harder for that special someone. Let's make it a wonderful, love-filled extravaganza by using those Valentine lines on someone amazing. Take a chance on that girl from across the hall and walk up to that guy in class. Who knows, maybe this will be your year for love.



Advice: Spice it up for Valentine's day!

By Dasia Brown

You've probably read a couple of articles about how to spice up your relationship or just spice it up for V-Day but, hold on, is this really something I

Well, it sure is. Spicing it up for that special someone is not just something old married couples do when there on the verge of a divorce, it's something that all women in particular can do to make that special someone in your life feel your wild side once and a while.

You may say, I would be so embarrassed to walk in to an exotic store but, the truth is no one there is paying you any attention. Their all there for the same reason, so there's no need to feel judged or embarrassed. After hearing a conversation with a friend about how she was having issues with her longtime boyfriend in regards to him getting bored with her the idea of exotic sex toys and playing dress up was thrown in the air.

Why not? Listen there's this old philosophy that goes either you take care of your man or another woman will. Men are by instincts sexually driven. If



'Listen there's this old philosophy that goes either you take care of your man or another woman will."

they see that their woman is putting her best effort to do something a little kinky every once in a while maybe they will not have much to complain about. Not saying that sex toys and dressing up in sexy lingerie will

solve all relationships problems

but, it sure will make it harder to leave and make it easy to say yes to little extra wants. For this Valentine's Day la-

with a couple of your girlfriends and buy something lace black or red and of course see -through. Surprise him by bringing home things that you both can play with such as vibrators or even whips. It doesn't hurt to try something new every once in a while. Also true incorporat,ing soft music and extra sweets for your sweet on V-Day such as chocolate covered strawberries, whipped cream, chocolate syrup, or even ice. Spicing it up is for all wom-

dies try going to a lingerie store

en. Linger come sin all sizes so this is not something that only skinny women are privilege to; every woman can feel sexy if she just lets that side of herself show.

All in all always remember that the best sex is safe sex so if you do decide to spice it up for Valentine's Day make sure you have everything needed including protection.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything that you would like advice about please send an email to thetower@kean.edu. You'll be advised the best way with truth, remember that it's strictly anonymous!

Valentine's Day Statistics Data \$13.19 Billion Average annual Valentine's Day spending 180 Million Number of Valentine's Day cards exchanged annually 196 Million Average number of roses produced for Valentine's Day Percent of Valentine's Day cards bought by women 85% 73% Percent of flowers bought by men 14% Percent of women who send themselves flowers on Valentine's Day \$116.21 Amount the average consumer spends on Valentine's Day Percent of consumers who celebrate Valentine's Day 61.8 % Percent of women who would end their relationship if they didn't get something for Valentines day. 53 % Average number of children conceived on Valentine's day 11,000

Source: Retail Advertising and Marketing Association, Valentine's Day Consumer Intentions and Actions Survey

CANCELLED (Continued from page 1)

with her fine arts class that was cancelled. She didn't know her class was cancelled until the first day she went to class and no one

was there. "I asked the secretary and she told me it was cancelled and I was livid," said Valeanu,

"I feel like no one was to blame

accents of red for the finishing touch.

and accessories that are perfect

for the spring," said Gihann

Another trend that is be-

ing seen across campus is the

fashion obsession of crosses.

Elshiekh, a sophomore.

but no one knew anything. It the classes cancelled. Addition-

ally, many classes were cancelled Castiglione, in a Jan. 10 by mistake including possibly email, characterized the deci- all courses offered in China, sions as "managerial incompe- as well as a large number of tence." He said courses that run classes with large enrollments infrequently, but that students at Kean@Ocean.

Nayadira, sophmore, in all black, rocking a sheer top and cotton leggings, with

Crosses are a very big hit with

them being worn on clothing,

accessories such as rings and

bracelets and are even being

Even sneakers now have a

put on nails for design.

need to graduate were among The KFT estimated that some 400 courses were cancelled and it's unclear how many were r

for this season.

"We asked for the number of sections cancelled, the number of students affected, the justifications for the cancellations and the plan to resolve the cascade of problems," the email said. "...We have not as yet re-

6 THE **TOWER** February 7, 2013

the oscars By Emily Dell'Olio

And The Nominees Are...



"The movie really puts you in the perspective of the time period. You get a good grasp of what the culture was like."

The spring award season will come to an end on February 24 with the 85th annual Academy Awards. Oscars will be presented for 21 categories including, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Costume Design, Best Director and many more.

The most prestigious award by far is Best Picture. The winner will be known by everyone to be the finest movie that was released in 2012.

The nominees for this award are "Armour", "Life of Pi", "Argo", "Lincoln", "Beasts of the Southern Wild", "Silver Linings Playbook", "Django Unchained", "Les Misérables" and "Zero Dark Thirty". Predicted most likely to win by the media are "Lincoln", "Argo" and "Zero Dark Thirty", with chances being given for both "Silver Linings Playbook" and "Life of Pi".

There have only been three times in 85 years that a best picture won without its director being nominated. In this case, Ben Affleck for "Argo" and Kathryn Bigelow for "Zero Dark Thirty" were not nominated in this category. Quentin Tarantino has been similarly snubbed in the Best Director category for his western, "Django Unchained." This leaves "Lincoln" ahead in the Best Picture race. Daniel Day-Lewis, who portrayed the lead role in "Lincoln", has already won Best Actor for Critic's

Choice Award, Golden Globes and Screen Actors Guild. Director Steven Spielberg is also an Academy favorite, which weighs in "Lincoln's" favor for winning the award.

However, "Argo" has already won the Critic's Choice Award, the Golden Globes, the Screen Actors Guild and the Producers Guild Award for Best Picture. Is this the year that "Argo" will beat the odds?

Kevin Galazin, a senior, saw two of the perspective Best Picture nominees, "Lincoln" and "Django Unchained."

"It was appealing to a different audience," Galazin said about "Lincoln." "It was really slow and not exciting. Lincoln's character was well-portrayed and I thought he did a good job. Overall, it was not my type of movie. I would not choose it to win the award."

Galazin was much more pleased with the outcome of "Django Unchained."

"Jamie Foxx was excellent and surprised me with his role", he said. "It was historically accurate and there was a strong cast. Tarantino is very talented. The movie really puts you in the perspective of the time period. You get a good grasp of what the culture was like. I would definitely say this movie deserves Best Picture of the year."

Only time will tell which one of these nine acclaimed films will win Best Picture at the Academy Awards. On February 24 the votes will be in and the winner will be announced.

Nintendo's WiiU: Designed to Impress



The Wii U is the latest home gaming console from Nintendo. After the success of their previous console, the Wii, the company has created an even more impressive system with significantly greater power than the Wii and is the first from Nintendo to support HD and 1080p input.

While the motion control of the Wii has been phased out in favor of more traditional gaming controls, a large touch screen has been added to the controller, giving the Wii U Game Pad the functionality of both a tablet and a traditional gaming controller. The screen is used not only as a touchpad, but as a secondary screen for most games where game play can be viewed, allowing the television to be used freely.

You can even program the pad to control your television, eliminating the need to juggle the pad and the remote while you switch input, change volume, or power the televi-

Just like the 3DS, the Wii U has an eShop where you can download games without ever having to leave home.

Though there is not a Virtual Console option yet, as featured on the Wii, it has been confirmed that

players can make surprisingly artistic pictures. These posts can even be made

while playing games such as "New Super Mario Brothers U"., The comments can appear before or after

application being used, with both

comments and a drawing pad where

player and some single--player portions of games. One of the best-selling games on the Wii U currently is "the New Super Mario Brother. U," which is the latest in the successful

"New Super Mario Brother" Series. The game starts off with Bowser and his Koopalings invading Princess Peach's castle and flinging Mario, Luigi and two Toads across the kingdom. The group must make their way through a variety of "Super Mario World"-inspired levels to reclaim the castle from Bowser. The game is simple enough for even the most casual gamers, but can be challenging enough to give even veteran players a hard time. With coin challenges, extra play modes and multiplayer, the "New Super Mario Brothers game" can provide hours of thrilling fun.

The darker of the Wii U launch titles has been "ZombiiU." In this game zombies are rampaging through England and you have to survive the onslaught and find out the answer to what caused all this.

One thing that separates this game from many others of its subgenre is the functionality of the Wii U game pad, which can be used to scan items, locate living people or creatures, and provide quick access to inventory. One of the most interesting features is the death system.

"After the success of their previous console, the Wii, Nintendo has created an even more impressive system."

many classic games are being prepared for download.

One of the most unique features of the Wii U is called Miiverse. Miiverse serves as a message board with sub-boards for each game or application being played by people around the world. In Miiverse, players can comment on the game or

you enter a level or when you die, possibly showing tips and warnings other players have left behind

For those worried that all the money spent on Wii controllers, discs, or virtual console games will be wasted, the Wii U is backward compatible with all Wii games. TThe controllers can be used for multi-

When your character dies, they die for good

If you're looking for a game that really flexes all of the Wii U's technological muscles, this is the game to get. As for the console itself, it appears Nintendo has once again outdone themselves in the best way possible.

MUSIC By Darian Maduruh **Essential Beatle Albums**

I'll admit: I believe that the Beatles are truly the greatest musical act that ever walked the face of the earth. For over a decade, the John, Paul, George and Ringo provided some of the most memorable songs and albums of the 20th century. The Fab Four helped shaped modern music and pop culture through their willingness to experiment musically, their trendsetting styles of clothing, and their offbeat, charismatic personalities.

However, there must be a generation of music listeners who doesn't really know why The Beatles are so revered. It's to the point where, earlier this year, a trending twitter topic was "Who is Paul McCartney?" (A sad day indeed.)

For people who need a primer on the Liverpool rock band, here are some essential Beatles albums:

"A Hard Day's Night" (1964): When the Beatles arrived in America in 1964, the kick-started the British Invasion and excited teenage girls everywhere. This album was released in the heart of what was called "Beatlemania," and is the best example of their early rock 'n' roll style. Make no mistake, the Beatles started out as a boy band, but unlike a One Direction album, you can listen to "A Hard Day's Night" and not kick yourself for doing so. From the



trippy guitars. "She's Leaving Home" uses strings and a haunting vocal by Paul McCartney (with John Lennon co-singing on the chorus) to paint a tragic portrait of a teen runaway. And I can't mention this album without mentioning its last and best track:

"There must be a generation of music listeners who don't really know why The Beatles are so revered"

manic and upbeat title track to its last, the more somber "I'll Be Back," "A Hard Day's Night" is Pop Beatles at its finest.

"Rubber Soul/Revolver": Technically, these are two separate albums, but for me, they feel connected in the same way the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy was connected. Here, you see a leap in the experimentation of the Beatles' style of writing. Beginning with "Rubber Soul," they start dealing with more complicated themes. They no longer talk about holding hands; they talk about onenight stands ("Norwegian Wood"), people going nowhere (The appropriately titled "Nowhere Man"), and the nostalgia of days and people gone by ("In My Life"). "Revolver," while dealing with themes of loneliness ("Eleanor Rigby") sonically takes things further, heading towards the psychedelic sound of ...

"Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" (1967): For some, this is the greatest album of all time. By the late '60's, rock 'n' roll was stretching beyond its blues and R&B origins, and the Beatles led the way with this 13-track album. The title track is an energetic opener, one that instantly leads into "With a Little Help from My Friends," a bouncy and optimistic tune perfectly fitting Ringo Starr, the singer on the track. "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" is like "Alice in Wonderland," from the imaginative lyrics to the "A Day in the Life," a collaboration between Lennon and McCartney, is not just one of the best Beatles songs, but one of the best

"Abbey Road" (1969): On the verge of breaking up, The Beatles made their last album. Starting off with the Smooth "Come Together," "Abbey Road" is where guitarist George Harrison basically steals the show. "Something" and "Here Comes the Sun" are basically the two best tracks on the album, and I'm sure many of you are familiar with the latter song. Still, while Harrison put out the best tracks, the other three have memorable moments of their own. "I Want You (She's So Heavy)" has Lennon putting out a powerful and memorable vocal performance, complete with a hypnotic melody of guitar riffs and moog synthesizers. Ringo once again puts out a bright, kid-friendly song with "Octopus Garden," and Paul has a great vocal performance of his own with "Oh Darling." The last eight songs on the album provide the infamous "Abbey Road Medley," an epic conclusion to a great album and a legendary band.

P.S: "Past Masters" is also recommended, as it's a compilation album featuring some of the Beatles' most famous songs ("She Loves You," "Hey Jude").

Charming, yet lacking structure marks a tribute to a great director



Gus Van Saint. Now, first-time director Sacha Gervasi revisits the making of this masterpiece in an entertaining bio entitled, "Hitchcock." In 1959, fresh from the success of his latest film, "North by Northwest," director Alfred Hitchcock (Anthony Hopkins) is finding it difficult to determine a new project for Paramount Studios. While his wife, Alma (Helen Mirren) and the rest of Hollywood believe he should make another lighthearted thriller, Hitchcock is more interested in the Robert Bloch novel, "Psycho." Finding Paramount unwilling to finance his film, Hitchcock funds the production himself and hires several seasoned actors and his previous

Movie buffs and critics around the world have often cited Alfred Hitchcock and his 51 years of work as that of a true Master of Suspense. His mov-

ies have been regarded as landmarks due to their style, direction or in some

cases, the narratives themselves with one of his most famous films being "Psvcho." A horror thriller identified closely with its culturally famed shower

scene remains a classic, unblemished by three sequels and a 1998 remake by

Acting-wise, the cast-members are all excellent, demonstrating their talents without much difficulty. As Hitchcock, Anthony Hopkins portrays the role in an eccentric manner that demonstrates a director fighting for his newest creation against the Hollywood machine.

find, Vera Miles (Jessica Biel). As production begins under a cover of secrecy,

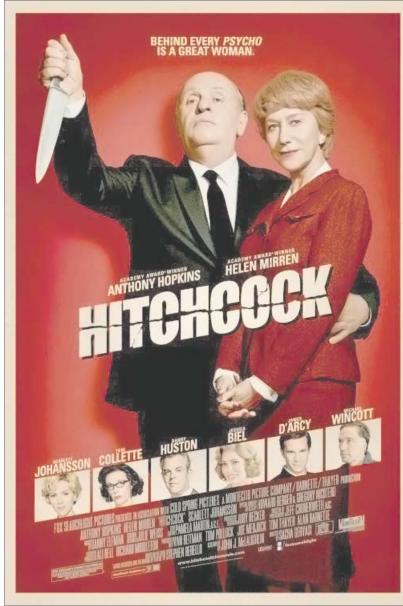
Hitchcock will find this project to be more work than anticipated.

Helen Mirren is charming as Hitchcock's wife, Alma, who is the logical side of her husband's creative ability, attempting to navigate their lives. Scarlett Johansson and Jessica Biel are both successful as Janet Leigh and Vera Miles, each representing a different kind of character, with Leigh proving to be more open, in contrast to close-mindedness of Miles. As Anthony Perkins, James D' Arcy is entertaining, appearing as shy and nervous as Perkins appears in Hitchcock's own film.

An pervious journalist, screenwriter and director of the award-winning documentary, "Anvil! The Story of Anvil," Sacha Gervasi makes a successful leap into mainstream cinema with this feature. His direction and camerawork are both well-composed, largely capturing the ideals of a period piece locale, and generally well-shot with a warm color palette.

On a similar note, credit must be given to musical composer Danny Elfman, whose score largely gives the narrative a seemingly light-hearted feel in contrast to the onscreen visuals. Unfortunately, the film's main source of difficulty emerges in the screenplay by John McLaughlin, one of the writers for 2010's "Black Swan." While McLaughlin does develop the onscreen characters without much trouble, he fails to develop a consistent tone as to the narrative's direction once production on "Psycho" begins. He contrasts the difficulties between Hitchcock and actress Vera Miles, based in part on fact, yet becomes stunted with the marital troubles between Alfred and his wife. This takes away from the scenes depicting the production of the film, and eventually loses sight as to the main focus, which can either be the making of "Psycho" or Hitchcock's relationships with women.

Overall, "Hitchcock" proves to be a light-hearted, yet enjoyable look into



one of cinema's most admired and respected filmmakers. While the narrative structure does suffer under the weight of its lack of focus, this movie succeeds from the entertaining and engaging performances of its cast and the talent of a promising director.

Final Rating: 7/10.

Something is rotten in the state of Denmark

It's not the video games that caused the kid to go shoot up his school, it's not the gays who are threatening the sanctity of marriage, and it's defiantly not liberals who are warring against

It's you America, pointing your red and blue fingers at whatever scapegoat you can see and our nation's ridiculous moral compass.

It is the way the news media covers the Beyonce's lip sync like she betrayed the nation while hundreds are slaughtered by an oppressive regime in Syria. It is the way we let the war in the Middle East continue for longer than anyone thought it would and went to war in the first place. And it's the way we destroy a man's career for being a human being and having an affair but we allow secret assassination with drones and Jason Bourne types to be ordered by that

Nobody wants to take your guns away they want to make the country safer, and yes when you own a weapon that could blow off my head from 300 yards away everyone is allowed and should be part of the discussion.

Not a soul alive besides the Grinch wants to destroy Christmas so when they call it a tree lighting ceremony instead of a Christmas tree lighting ceremony the Atheist saboteurs are not at work

And if a woman who loves another woman wants to get married she is not a villain who is trying to overthrow the sacred institution of marriage, she might just be trying to raise a family.

We don't have discussions in this country we have arguments. We have ridiculous displays on the floor of congress in which our "leaders" who are fighting for our liberties refuse aid to hurricane victims to get back at political opponents who didn't invite them to their sleepover (actually let me correct that) their yacht club cookout last Friday.

In this new era of social media al-

most every aspect of a person's life is

shared with everyone, but isn't there a

point when we should take a step back

and think that maybe we share too much

On my Facebook newsfeed I am over-

whelmed with information on the hap-

pening's of my friends lives. Gone are

the days when a post on Facebook was

saved for an important personal update.

Statuses now range from what the per-

son is doing, eating, or thinking to their

emotional state. Every inane detail of

a friend's daily life is delivered to their

300 friends, whether we want to read it

information?

By Andrea Parr

How quickly do we point the finger the second something goes wrong? It's like a trait that politicians who love P90X and university presidents are born with "they messed up my resume not little ole me."

Father Edwin Leahy O.S.B., headmaster of Saint Benedict's Prep in Newark, famously tells his students, "When you point your finger at someone, there are

'We don't have discussions in this country, we have arguments."

four more pointing right back at you." Maybe it is time to start taking personal responsibility for our actions that are within our control. Looking for someone else to blame does not solve anyone's problems, it only makes it seem like we solved our own problems.

Instead of blaming the teacher for a child's failing grade, maybe the parents should ask if there was anything they could have done to help the child. Instead of blaming the professor for our failing grade, we should ask ourselves if we did the best we could have done and if not why didn't we do our best?

In the real world, there is no extra credit to fix our failures, there is only blame. And that blame will always fall on you. When did it become okay to never have personal responsibility?

There needs to be a war on stupidity, war on the news anchors that are not fired after blatantly lying on TV, war against pro gun groups who don't want a rational discussion about gun control, or possibly a war against the core problem in this country ignorance and prejudice.

counts as a fail. Writing that breaking up

with your girlfriend was the "worst Sep-

tember 11th ever" will earn you the title

Remember that one status or photo

could now be available to hundreds of

thousands of people that you might or

might not meet. Just imagine if a poten-

tial or current employer sees it, would

As over sharing becomes more com-

monplace online it can be seen trickling

into interactions outside of the Internet.

The amount of information people are

willing to disclose has increased greatly.

I now usually get detailed responses to

the question "How are you?" Once an-

of Facebook Fail, at the very least.

your status put you at risk?

THE TOWER

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"60 percent of teens and adults feel that too much information is shared online."

Letting Facebook

know too much

According to the results of a poll commissioned by Intel Corporation and reported by CNBC earlier this year, around 60 percent of teens and adults feel that too much information is shared online. The survey polled 8,874 adults and teens in eight countries. Ninety percent of those surveyed expressed a wish that people would think about what they share.

I have sat through the lecture regarding not sharing photos of partying or illegal behavior several times now. That is no longer the limit in potentially damaging personal information shared through social media. Of course you do not want an employer to see a photo of you drinking or partying, but what about that dramatic status about your boyfriend? Every detail and opinion should not be shared, not just because it can be annoying to friends, but the effect it could have on life outside of

A good sign that you have far crossed the boundary of what is appropriate is if your post appears elsewhere, such. On popular websites such as reddit and tumblr, users will upload screen captures of what are known as "Facebook Fails." And all is fair game, even poor grammar get the entire life story or health state of someone I am not close enough to actually want or need that information.

Chronicle of Higher Education wrote on experiences with students sharing details that would not have been in the past due to embarrassment.

"And they do it bluntly," said Wizenmarizing life in 140 characters."

The problem is not limited to just college students though. The other group that has gained attention for sharing too much is parents. Blair Koenig started the blog STFU, Parents in 2009 after Facebook friends started posting every detail of their children's lives. The blog focuses on the over sharing of parents on social media sites. It is now submission-based with thousands of readers sending in screenshots of Facebook photos and statuses under a variety of categories. One favorite post features a mother who created a Facebook account for her baby girl and holds fake conversations with herself through the daugh-

The solution could be simple if people would take the time to think past the

swered with a "fine" or "good" I now will

Stephen Wizenburg in writing for the

burg, "now that they are used to sum-

OPINION PIECES AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Tower welcomes guest columns and letters to the editor from any source. Such material should be submitted to thetower@kean.edu or left at *The Tower*'s offices. To verify sources of written material, submissions must include the writer's name and contact information. Students should include their class (sophomore, graduate, etc.) and major, Faculty and staff should include campus title or position. On request, names may be withheld from publication if *The Tower* staff determines there is a legitimate reason to do so, but no anonymous letters will be accepted for publication. The Tower reserves the right to edit, and refuse publication of any submission

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Got a tip? Email us at The Tower@Kean.Edu

moment. Asking yourself if the post is something you would want to know or read from someone else could be the first step. Much like the phrase "think before you speak," you should think

Get educated about AIDS



In 2006, the number of AIDS related deaths and new HIV infections fell for the first time since the epidemic began 25 years before. However, despite 26 years of research, activism, and education, the HIV/Aids pandemic continues to affect the lives of millions worldwide. The joint United Nations program on HIV/AIDS, estimates that AIDS has killed more than 25 million people between 1981 and 2007, and as of 2007, an estimated 33.2 million people worldwide live with HIV, making it one of the most destructive epidemics in recorded history.

Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS shows that:

- HIV/AIDS is a global pandemic
- As of 2010 approximately 34 million people have HIV worldwide. Of these, approximately 16.8 million are women and 3.4 million and younger then 15 years old
- There were about 1.8 million deaths from AIDS in 2010, down from 3.1 million in 2001
- Sub-Sahara Africa is the region most affected. In 2010 an estimated 68% (22.9 million) of all HIV cases and 60% of all deaths (1.2 million) occurred in this region. This means that about 5% of the adult population is infected and women compose nearly 60% of cases
- In 2008 approximately 1.2 million people in the U.S. had HIV, and 20% did not realize that they were infected
- HIV/AIDS prevalence in the Middle East and North Africa is around 0.2% with between 230,000 and 1.4 million people infected
- African American are the racial/ethnic group most affected by HIV
- In 2009, African Americans comprised 14% of the US population, but accounted for 44% of all new HIV infections

affected by HIV than any other group in

Gay and bisexual men are more severely

- From 2006-2009, HIV infections among young black/African American gay and bisexual men increased 48%
- Women represented 24% of all diagnoses of HIV infection among US according to 2009 HIV surveillance data. 57% occurred in blacks, 21% in whites and 16% in Hispanics/Latinas
- The number of persons aged 50 years and older living with HIV/AIDS has been increasing in recent years. This increase is partly due to highly active antiretroviral therapy, which made it possible for so many HIV infected persons to live longer
- Transgender communities in the US are among the groups at the highest risk for **HIV** infection

HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus. The virus compromises the body's ability to handle disease and causes AIDS.

AIDS stands for acquired deficiency syndrome. It is related to HIV, but they are not the same. A person has AIDS only in the final stages of HIV, after the immune system becomes unable to defend itself against foreign invad ers like bacteria, other viruses and fungi.

The world first became aware of Aids in the early 1980s. While researchers aren't sure exactly when and how HIV developed the most likely theories posit that HIV-1, the most common strain of the virus, was transmitted to humans from chimpanzees sometime in the mid-20th century.

In 1985, the first blood test for HIV was approved and in 1986, the first AZT, a failed cancer drug, was tested as an HIV treatment for the first time. The trial was successful that researchers stopped the study, not wanting to withhold medication from the placebo group. AZT was the only AIDS treatment much of the 1990's.

In 1996 doctors started to describe combinations of medications, including new protease

inhibitors, to control HIV. These "Cocktails" were a treatment breakthrough, and professionals have focused on expanding access to the medication in that treatment. The expansion has largely required funding for national programs to provide medicine to those who couldn't otherwise afford it.

As researchers continue to develop better treatments and more efficient tests, medical professionals, politicians and activists work toward universal access to condoms, testing and treatment that save lives.

In 2010, the White House released a national HIV/AIDS strategy that includes three primary goals: to reduce the number who become infected with HIV; increase access to care and improve health outcomes for people living with HIV; and reduce HIV-related health disparities

The CDC and its partners are passing a high impact prevention approach to advance the goals of the national HIV/AIDS strategy and maximize the effectiveness of current HIV prevention methods. In 2010, CDC announced a second three - year expander HIV testing program.

The CDC has increased the availability of effective behavioral interventions for populations at increased risk for HIV including women living with HIV infection or AIDS and those who are at risk for infection. The CDC recommends HIV screening for adults and adolescents including pregnant women, and reducing barriers to HIV testing

On November 7, 1991 Ervin "Magic" John son, one of the greatest basketball stars in history announced that he was retiring from the Los Angeles Lakers at age 32 because he had contracted the HIV virus. 21 years later Johnson is not only alive but healthy and vibrant. He is a successful businessman and a frequent on—air personality on ESPN. While his story does not suggest that HIV and AIDS have been cured it certainly stands as testimony that the disease is not the "death sentence" that it was perceived to be two decades ago.

The most important preventative measure is education. It is only by learning about HIV and how it is transmitted that people can take responsibility of their own protection and better guard their health and minimize the impact of living with the virus.

Why this liberal student might vote for Chris Christie

If you would have asked me on October 28th, 2012 what I thought of from New Jersey. Governor Chris Christie, I probably would have told you something that can't be printed in this paper because it would be unprofessional and possibly profanity laced. But if you then would have asked me to put my words in a professional manner, I would tell you that I can't stand him and I have no idea how he got elected in our state of New Jersey. I don't like the way he handles himself during press conferences and I definitely do not agree with his views on education.

But if you were to ask me what I thought of Chris Christie after Hurricane Sandy came and went, I would tell you to re-elect this man immediately and I'm not the only person from New Jersey to feel this way. According to a recent Quinnipiac University poll, Chris Christie's approval rating has jumped up to 72%. Just two weeks before Sandy, his approval rating was at 56%.

So why the sudden change of heart for Christie, a man who I questioned if he should even be in office just a month ago?

man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and conveniences, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy". Christie handled himself and the state of New Jersey better than any-

all evacuations were in place. Christie put all of the politics aside and made it seem as if he was talking directly to each and every one of us. You could tell that he really cared

about the state and he looked and acted like someone who actually was

one could. He was quick to declare a state of emergency and made sure

Seeing him hug crying people on television, people who had lost everything, you could tell those hugs meant a lot to them. People wanted to know that someone was listening to them and that someone was trying to help and Christie showed that.

It was at this time of crisis when I appreciated Christie's brashness. Questioning why a reporter would ask him how the storm will affect the Presidential Election or calling out Atlantic City mayor Lorenzo Langford for not making all the residents of the city evacuate.

The ultimate lasting image of Chris Christie during the storm for me, will be him touring New Jersey with President Barack Obama. Both men were able to put their political affiliations to aside and concentrate on the real problem, helping New Jersey. Just two months before Hurricane Sandy hit, Christie was a key player at the Republican National Convention, trying to get Obama out of office but to see him working side by side with the president is something that I'm sure many Ameri-

As Martin Luther King Jr. famously said, "The ultimate measure of a We saw Chris Christie in a different light during this tragedy. I saw someone who actually cared about his state, someone who shared the same memories of the Jersey Shore that I have. We saw a man who promised to rebuild the state and it looks like he will.

> So come November, when it is time for re-election, I might be in the voting booth casting my vote for Chris Christie. That is, unless Cory Booker decides to run for governor but that's for another time.

Rocky start for Kean men's basketball team



"The new season had many fans and students hoping for a bounce-back period for the Cougar squad."

By Raymond Gurbiwicz

Missed opportunities and a few bad bounces would be a good way to summarize the beginning of the season for the Kean University men's basketball team.

So far the 2012-2013 season has not been kind to the Cougar team, starting the period with five straight losses, three of those coming within the recent conference play. To make matters worse, the five defeats were by an average of only nine

The games the Cougars have lost have been pretty well-played for the most part. Some blame could be placed due to turnovers, however. The Cougars averaged 13.6 turnovers per game during the five-

game span, a number that if lowered, certainly would have helped bring the team to their first victory.

Also for the Cougars, their shooting percentage was just .396 from the floor, while they were also shooting a rough .306 percent from beyond the threepoint line.

All the disappointment in these games comes after a tough conclusion to last season. After a 2011-2012 year with a 7-20 record, the new season had many fans and students hoping for a bounce-back period for the Cougar squad.

As many predicted before the season's start, junior Michael Burton has been the hot-hand for the Cougars' offense. Burton averaged a respectable 16.4 points per game through the first five games.

The good news is that the Cougars' defense isn't giving up an enormous number of points per game. With the team giving up an average of 64.4 points to opposing offenses, it isn't an insurmountable task for the team to pick up a few victories in the near future.

It will be interesting to see in the upcoming weeks if the Cougars can build off their closegame losses and try to bounce back to get their season once

Women's basketball team off to a slow start

By Thomas Antonelle

Despite coming away with a win in a two-game series at the Hampton Inn Tip-Off, the Cougars have not yet found the recipe for victory.

Sitting at 1-4 this season with a losing streak of three games, the team will have to dig deeper to find their key to success. There is opportunity in all aspects of the team's play where they are 0-1 at home, 0-2 away and at .200 on the season.

There is, however, some good news for the Cougars, which is that they are only five games into a 24-game season, with plenty of time to reconfigure. Being that this is senior

Kyanne Sager's final season the team will hope to send her off

on a winning season. Sophomore Anna Rose Pierre was named the Kean Athlete of the Week for her stellar play,

rebounds per game. In the team's only win of the season, freshman Jatirah Diggs averaging 17 points and 8.0 hit a huge three-pointer just

team on the road for the next four games. If they can survive December, then the team should roll through January, as they play six out of 10 games on their home court.

Despite subsequent losses

'There is opportunity in all aspects of the team's play."

Pierre is leading the team,

averaging 19.2 points and 8.8

rebounds per game in two contests last week. In their matchup against Ramapo College, she tallied 14 points with nine rebounds and in the team's opening game against the College of New Jersey; recorded a gamehigh 20 points, including seven swer, as she tries to carry her

before halftime to put the Cougars in a good position. Kyanne Sager put up 10 points and five rebounds, while sophomore Shanice Jones had six points, She will have to look for an an-

at New Jersey City University, University of Scranton and William Paterson University, the team remains ever committed to reversing their situation

Should college athletes get paid?



By Dan Canova

Before every college football season begins; one topic continues to be addressed: Should college athletes be paid to play?

Yearly, sportswriters all across the country continue to express their opinions on this topic, yet the NCAA has not addressed the situation. Every year, the NCAA is investigating something new, due to college athletes' getting "special treatments" at

Student-athletes should be entitled a salary from the NCAA each semester. Perhaps the organization believes athletes shouldn't be paid because making it professionally is their reward, where they would eventually be making high salaries in question. Yet college students work just as hard, maybe even harder than professionals.

"I think it would be nice to get a little money for all the hard work we put in, but honestly I believe all college athletes do it for the love of the game," said Steve Vahalla, a Senior Communications major and member of Kean's volleyball team.

College athletes deserve a small salary with the reasonable amount being \$100 per week. That's enough money to get these athletes through a semester, especially if they come from a struggling family.

The weekly pay is enough money for athletes to put toward car maintenance, if they have cars on campus. Or if they are of age, they can go out with friends on the team and get a few drinks. If one is smart enough, they could even save some of the money so they have something to start with when finishing college, especially if they know they are not making it to the professional level.

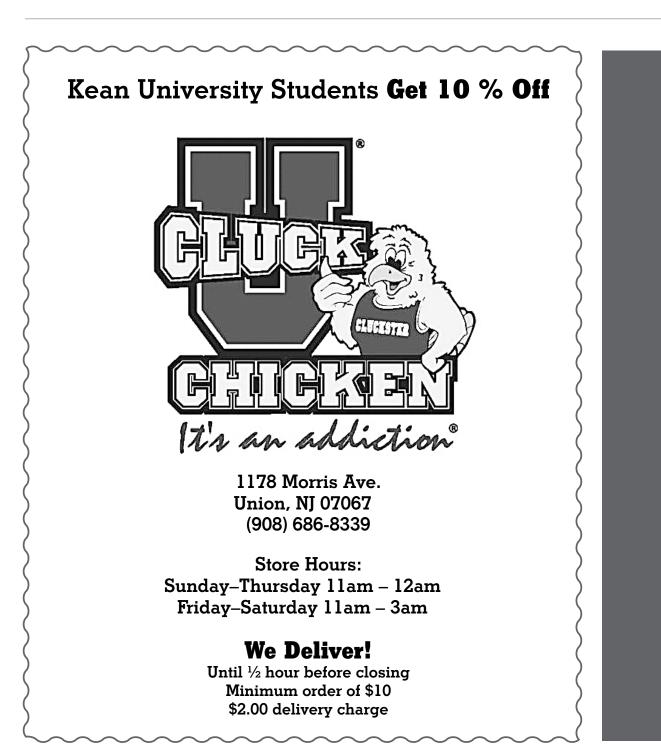
If your solution is for college athletes to get a job, here's my response. They do not have the time to work on or off campus. They are concentrating solely on performing in the classroom and on the field or court.

In the 2005-2006 collective bargaining agreement, the NBA had to make adjustments in their rules. Pre-2005, high school players were eligible to go pro without going to college at all. As a result of the agreement, high school basketball players had to attend college for a minimum of one year before entering the NBA Draft. The NCAA initiated the rule due to a growing trend of high school players going straight to the pros, which was viewed as a problem. They were concerned because there were a handful of players who became unsuccessful at the NBA level. If they went to college first, they would have had time to develop as a player and an individual

on and off the court. The reason they went straight to the NBA is simply because of money. They were afraid of playing for free in college, and if they got seriously injured, their dreams of making it professionally would be damaged. If they went pro and got injured, at least they had the financial stability college players did not have. On the other hand, the National Football League requires you to be three years removed from high school to be eligible for the NFL Draft. A simple salary at the college level will eliminate players' leaving early in college basketball, and it similarly protects players who may suffer serious injuries. There are many players in every sport who suffer career-ending injuries in college and are unable to reach their true potential as an athlete, both professionally and financially. Ask yourself, is it really worth it playing for free?

"I think it would be nice to get a little money for all the hard work we put in, but honestly I believe all college athletes do it for the love of the game."

The NCAA needs to take care of their athletes on the field. To this organization, I ask you to take into consideration the health risks these young 18- and 19-year-old athletes face on an everyday basis. They take beatings on the field during games, in practice, and mentally in the classroom. These student-athletes are taken advantage of, and it's not right. Student-athletes produce millions of dollars annually for universities in America. They are incapable of working on or off campus because they are putting their work into studies and their performances in sports for the universities and a salary of \$100 a week is fair. Give back to the students who have given to





S P S P S S

Sports Schedule

February

02/12: Men's Volleyball vs.
New Jersey City University
02/13: Women's Basketball @.

Rutgers-Newark

02/13: Men's Basketball @ R

utgers-Newark

02/17: Men's Volleyball vs
The Sage Colleges

02/17: Men's Volleyball vs.
Purchase College

02/19: Men's Volleyball @
Mount St. Vincent's
02/22: Baseball vs. Mount St.

Vincent's 02/23: Baseball vs.

The College of Brockport

02/23: Men's Volleyball vs. Nazareth
College (@ New York, NY)

02/23: Men's Volleyball vs. Vassar College (@ New York, NY)

02/23: Men's Lacrosse @ Adrian College

02/24: Men's Volleyball vs. Stevens (@ New York, NY)

02/24: Men's Volleyball vs.
Baruch College (@ New

York, NY)

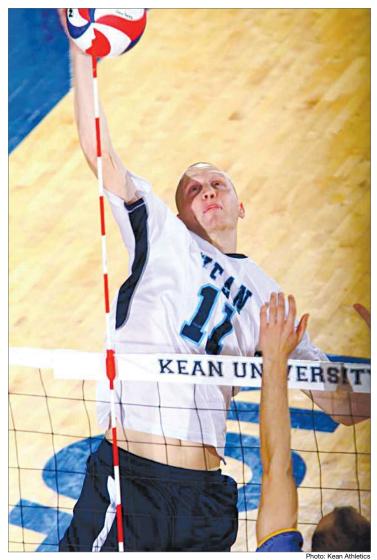
02/26: Baseball vs. Moravian

02/27: Women's Lacrosse vs.

02/27: Women's Lacrosse vs.
Lycoming
02/27: Men's Volleyball @
The Sage Colleges

02/27: Men's Lacrosse vs.Vassar College02/28: Baseball vs. DeSales

Vahalla looks to lead volleyball team to glory



Stephen Vahalla at the net.

By Mike Jago

Since the program's inception in 2011, the men's volleyball team has been one of the more successful teams on campus. In their 2012 season, the team finished with an impressive 25-11 record, along with an NCAA tournament berth. The players will be looking to build on that success in the 2013 campaign, and one player in particular looks to leave his mark.

Stephen Vahalla, a six-footsix senior from Bloomfield, was one of the team's most valuable players last season. His personal achievements include Skyline Conference Player of the Week and second-team All-American. Vahalla had a great 2012 season for the Cougars, but he expects this year to be even better.

"Personally, I am aiming for first team All-American," he said. "I know it's going to take a lot of hard work and determination, but I know I can do it."

While he is known for his oncourt capabilities, he was also noted for his abilities in the classroom. Vahalla was selected as an Academic All-American, something he would like to duplicate once more.

"I would like to make the

Academic All-American team again, it was great to see that my grades were being noticed too," he said.

With the loss of two graduated seniors, Vahalla now steps into the role of leader and mentor for the other players on the team. With individual accomplishment comes greater responsibility, and Vahalla is ready to take on the role of leader full force.

"It feels great to know my other teammates look up to me," he said. "I always do my halla will step into the mentor role for the incoming freshmen that he says are ready to help the team succeed.

"I try my best in helping the newer players and getting them to the level I know they can be at," he said. "Coach Perkins told me that in order for the younger players and my other teammates to get better, I need to step up in every practice and scrimmage."

It's been a great career for the young athlete, who has received national attention for

"Vahalla had a great 2012 season for the Cougars, but he expects this year to be even better."

best in trying to encourage everyone whenever they need it."

The Cougars face a tough task this season, and they will have no time to waste, as they face the 2012 National Champion, Springfield College. Springfield finished the 2012 season with a 32-5 record, and Vahalla knows that to be the best, you need to beat the best.

"We have a tough schedule this year, but I know it's going to make us a stronger team in the end," he said. "When the NCAA tournament rolls around, I want every team wishing they didn't have to play us."

Vahalla is a centerpiece for a Kean squad expected to do great things in the coming season. The pressure is great, but he is ready to exemplify what a student-athlete is.

He knows that none of his goals will be possible without the help of his teammates, and the team can only go far if they are able to work together. Va-

his level of play. His All-American bids and Player of the Week nominations have helped put the Cougars in the national spotlight. While he is enjoying his time at Kean to the fullest, he thought about what he wants to do after his last game in a Cougar uniform.

"I was invited to play in an all-star game in Brazil this summer, and Coach Perkins has mentioned about leagues in Puerto Rico and Europe," he said. "If I don't continue my volleyball career after graduation, I plan to work for one of the major television networks like CBS, ABC or NBC."

The Cougars begin the season against a tough Rutgers-Newark squad, and the road only gets tougher. The team goals of a national rank, an NCAA tournament bid and winning the conference will only come if they work together, and Vahalla and his squad couldn't be more excited.

Super Bowl ticket prices expensive as always

By Mak Ojutiku

Super Bowl weekend ended a few days ago, but the game is still fresh in the minds of the millions of people around the world who watched it. The media, as always, spent a good amount of time reflecting on what happened during the game, which plays were most important, which players stepped up their game and many more related items.

There is an issue, however, that isn't being given a lot of attention, an issue that doesn't have anything to do with the game itself, but with the fans that devoted their time and money to it. The issue being referred to are the tickets themselves and how incredibly expensive they are. Of all the pro sporting events in the U.S., the Super Bowl has the costliest tickets and package deals currently.

According to StubHub.com, the average Super Bowl ticket went for a whopping \$3,195.14. Even the cheapest ticket, which was \$1,776, was out of reach for even some of the most diehard NFL fans. That cost would have gotten you a seat in the uppermost reaches of the Super Dome, commonly referred to as "the nosebleeds".

On top of the seating prices, you also have to factor in the traveling and lodging costs many people often endure.

When talking to the average football fan, it becomes clear that ticket costs are a major hindrance to anyone who wants

Something has to pay for that \$50,000 trophy!

Illustration: Brigit Bauma

to watch the big game live. Senior and Iota Phi Theta frat member Kyle Howell is among those fans.

"The tickets are too expensive," said Howell. "People

would rather watch it on TV

because of the price."

The exorbitant prices of Super Bowl tickets are going to become considerably more apparent to people in our area within the coming year. Next year, the Super Bowl will be played at the Meadowlands in East Rutherford, which is only a 20-minute drive from the Kean campus. Even now, before the 2013-2014 NFL season has even begun, there are various individuals in our area who are lamenting the fact that they can't afford tickets to the big game. Howell is one of them.

"I would love to go," said Howell. "But the most I'd pay is \$700."

It's safe to say that a good number of people in the New York/New Jersey area will share the same sentiments as Howell, next year. There may be a silver lining for fans, though as resale ticket prices went down roughly 12 percent from last year's Super Bowl and 2011's ticket prices were 10 percent lower than Super Bowl LXV's. Fans looking to go to next year's Super Bowl shouldn't be too optimistic about ticket prices, though it's hard to call it a definite trend, especially when you consider that prices are three times as much they were a decade ago.

They also need to remember that next year's Super Bowl, being in the New York Metro area, could very well have an unprecedented demand s urrounding it. High prominence almost always result in higher prices.

Hopefully, though, the tickets will be at an affordable rate in the coming year.