What Price a Dorm Room?

BY JILL JOHNSON

Game rooms. Flat screen TVs. Student-controlled heating and air conditioning. These are just some of the cool new features of the new dormitories opening here in Fall 2009.

But there’s a catch. They cost more—up to nearly $1,200 more per semester for an upperclassman apartment-style residence.

The freshman dorms will contain laundry rooms and study space. The upperclassman dorms will be a suite-style dorm.

Of the two new dorms one is for freshmen and the other for upperclassmen. The freshman dorms will contain laundry services, study rooms, and community kitchens on the first floor of the eight-floor building. The building will hold a capacity of 420 students and two resident advisors.

The freshman dorms will serve as an overlaying dorm for the remainder of the basketball season. The 15-piece band was led by Jerry Bryant, Kean University trumpet professor, and Dr. Tom Connors, the band’s director. The band, much like a cheering squad, plays during time outs and halftime.

Since the recent budget cut of the cheerleading team, Kean athletics now has the pep band to keep the crowd entertained. Currently, the pep band is scheduled to play at all of Kean’s home games for the remainder of the basketball season. Auditions for next season will most likely be held during fall semester in late October into the first of November.

According to Public relations Specialist Paul C. DiNero, the increased costs for the new residence halls reflects the addition of increased living space, state-of-the-art dining facilities, computer lab, screening room, recreation rooms and study space.

Of the two new dorms one is for freshman and the other for upperclassmen. The freshman dorms will contain laundry services, study rooms, and community kitchens on the first floor of the eight-floor building. The building will hold a capacity of 420 students and two resident advisors will be on each floor. The rooms will be 175 sq ft. and will be a suite-style dorm.

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Roughly a year ago Professor Bryant was approached about leading a pep band by Dr. Anthony Scelba, the only other trumpet professor at Kean and the head of the music department. All band members auditioned to become part of the pep band, which was open to all Kean students.

The band currently consists of 15 pieces played by Kean undergraduate studies, but has plans to expand to 30 pieces sometime in the future. Of the band’s players, the three flutists are played by Melissa N. Blinkoff, Lea Patterson and Suzanne Delonas, and the three trumpets are played by Christopher A. Aleixo, Cristhian Mora, and Jessica L. Clayton. Carolyn P. Mullay plays the clarinet; Robert E. DeMarco plays the saxophone; Michael Conway plays the trombone; Feggens M. Monbrun plays the electric bass; Liam Cavadini plays the drums and Robyn Koenigberg plays the bells.

Monbrun, the electric bass player, played in a pep band while in high school. He first learned of the pep band try-outs from a professor in the music department, then later from trumpet professor Jerry Bryant. Monbrun is also a music major and will pursue teaching music after graduating.

“All that matters is how well we play and how much we enjoy playing,” said Monbrun.

Watch out for Kean University’s pep band at all home games this basketball season in the Harwood arena because this years’ basketball season is a trial for the pep band.

Did someone get personal with you? Find out on page 5! ❤

INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER: What is your most memorable Valentine’s Day? BY KELLEY PENNISI

Deborah Locher
Junior, Marketing

“One time my boyfriend made a picnic on the beach for me.”

Sharon Smith
Sophomore, Visual Communications

“One time I dated a guy in high school who made a collage for me.”

Andrew Li
Sophomore, Visual Communications

“One time I wrote a poem for a girl I was dating.”

Stephan Cooper
Sophomore, Economics

“One time my girlfriend took me on a romantic vacation.”

Pep Band Cheers for Kean Basketball

BY LISA MARTINEZ

On January 24, 2009 at 1 p.m. Kean University’s pep squad made its debut at the Kean vs. Montclair ladies basketball game, the first athletic event at Kean with a band in 20 years. Kean is one of only two colleges in New Jersey to have a pep band, the other being Rutgers.

The 15-piece band was led by Jerry Bryant, Kean University trumpet professor, and Dr. Tom Connors, the band’s director. The band, much like a cheering squad, plays during time outs and halftime.

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Watch out for Kean University’s pep band at all home games this basketball season in the Harwood arena because this years’ basketball season is a trial for the pep band.
Kean Faculty and Students in Washington D.C. for the Obama Inaugural

BY JESSIE RIVERA

The History Department took part in the nation’s historic moment last month when four professors and some 70 students attended Barak Obama’s Presidential Inauguration. Kean University provided two buses for students. One bus was organized by the History Department, and the other by Student Organization.

“It was absolutely a once in a lifetime experience. We got so cold, but it was absolutely worth it, said Department of History Chair Sue Ellen Gronewold.

Assistant Professor of History Elizabeth Hyde said that the original idea to attend the Inaugural began with members of the History Society and History Department, but in the end it was organized by Professor Jonathan Mercantini and Student Organization in December and January.

“They had the generous support of President Farahli and the Issues ‘08 lecture series program, the trip was free of charge to students,” said Hyde.

Hyde and Mercantini along with History Department Chairwoman Sue Ellen Gronewold, Adjunct Professor Michael D’Angelo and the students arrived in Washington at about 4:15 a.m. on Jan. 20, the first day of school and the day of the inaugural. Upon arrival, they were sent to the National Mall and then to Constitutional Hall where both students and faculty watched the Inauguration in person and on the large Sony Jumbotron screens. Students also had the opportunity to visit some of the national monuments and museums, such as the Smithsonian Institute.

“Everyone was in such good spirits, said senior Kristina Gibson, one of the students who attended the event. “People were very friendly towards one another. The crowd was very diverse and people were very united.”

But there was one glitch. Gibson said the trip wasn’t well publicized among Kean students and most had no idea the trip was being organized. Asked about it, Dr. Gronewold said that “originally it was to be a Historical Society event and one bus, so we contacted all the Kean University Historical Society students and other History Dept people first; Student Activities did advertising through their networks for the second bus. Since it was winter break, it was hard to expand it. We also only had a few faculty members who could act as chaperones. Two buses were all we could handle, given all those constraints.”

What Price Dorms?

(Continued from page 1)

dormitory will be suite-style dorms with two rooms, one bathroom and living space. The building will house 408 students with 16 residence halls.

* Willis Hall, First Floor Lobby
* Townsend Hall, First Floor Lobby
* University Center, First Floor Lobby
* Harwood Arena, by the basketball courts
* Old East Hall and Old West Hall, First Floor Lobby
* Science Building, First Floor in hallway between Rooms 121
* Administration Building, First Floor Lobby
* Bruce Hall, First Floor Lobby
* Center for Academic Success, Lobby
* Communications Department Office, CAS 402
* ESL Office, Willis Hall 301

Meetings Mondays @ 3:30 p.m., CAS 413

GET PUBLISHED; JOIN THE TOWER
Community College Students Get More Credit

BY CHARLEY FALKENBURG

Whether it’s scrounging around enough money to pay tuition or worrying about term papers, college students are always something about stressing about something. But one fear they can forget is whether they transfer seamlessly from a New Jersey community college to Kean University.

New Jersey recently has passed a new law making it mandatory for all community college credits to transfer to all public four-year colleges in New Jersey such as Kean called the State-Wide Transfer Agreement, and coined as the Lampitt Bill. It states that an Associate’s Degree given by a public county community college must be fully transferable and count as the student’s first two years toward a Bachelor’s Degree at any New Jersey public college.

The reason for this change is that in the past, many transfer students were forced to retake courses that they had already received credit for in another college. This was redundant as well as expensive. Thanks to the Lampitt Bill, students will be able to save their money and further their education in a timely manner.

According to Dr. Stephen Kuhow, the law doesn’t have a major effect on Kean.

“Kean has always been a generous trans- fer institution,” Kuhow says. “How will community college classes and four year college classes match up in or- der for a seamless transfer to occur? The answer is that all New Jersey community colleges’ general education courses must be the same in each school. This will in- dicate that all the students who have achieved credit in those classes have re- ceived the same level of skills. A commit- tee with members from all of the 19 com- munity colleges was appointed to decide what courses should be considered general education courses. As a result every community college is revising its general edu- cation course list.

Although the Lampitt Bill may not completely alter Kean, it has resulted in a few changes. The College of Education is affected the most partly because the gen- eral education program is being changed. For one, there will be two different sets of general education requirements: one for a Bachelor Science degree, which will con- tain more electives, and one for Bachelor of Arts. As a result, there will be a com- pletely new guide sheet.

There are still a few reasons why the credits still might not transfer to Kean.

The law makes it possible for any passing grade in a class to transfer over to a four year college. This is mandatory unless it is a class in a major where a certain grade level is required in order to receive those credits. Also, the skill level of the class must match up to the skill level at Kean. Credits will also not transfer if a student chooses to change his or her major.

Kean also requires its students to take a mini- mum of 22 credits and at least half of their required credits in their major at Kean to get a Kean degree. Lastly, the law states that exactly half of the credits required for each major must be transferred. Before the Agreement, Kean used to accept up to 92 credits. For example, if a student’s major requires one hundred credits and he or she acquires 70 credits at a community college, Kean will only be allowed to accept 50. Before the law, Kean would have been able to accept all 70 credits.

The agreement does include several requirements. It will include curriculum standards as well as procedures and poli- cies for transfer issues, a student’s appeal process, annual review and agreement up- date, and data collection. Since this law is only aimed at public institutions, private colleges do not have to adhere to its rules. If a private college would like to be a part of the Agreement, it would be welcomed and approved.

The state legislature will see how each college is adjusting to the Lampitt Bill and will allocate the college grants accordingly.

Hopefully with the Lampitt Bill in ef- fect, the typical college student will be able to breathe a little easier. It may have some flaws but it is designed to be fair and simple. Although it has been in effect since Sept 1, students have yet to see the long term results. Regardless, it is a pos- itive step in lending a hand to students who want to continue their education. As everyone knows, a little help can go a long way.

Announcement:

Please join Dr. John Bauer, Professor Emeritus in English, at one of three special seminars entitled “Writing Essays for Scholarship Applications.” The workshops will be held on Tues- day, February 17; Monday, Monday, February 23; and Monday, March 2 in the Hennings Hall Auditorium (Room 113) dur- ing College Hour from 3:20-4:30 p.m. In addition to being a retired member of the Kean University Faculty, Dr. Bauer also serves on the Foundation Board as the Scholarship Chairman.

For more information, please contact Dave Farrokh, Director of Scholarship Services at (908) 737-3481 or e-mail.

Liberty Hall Presents “The American President”

As the 44th president of the United States entered office, the Associated Press and the Department of Communication put together a Presidential Inauguration exhibit at Liberty Hall Museum entitled, “The American President.”

The exhibit features 80 compelling photographs of American presidents taken from the AP photo archives, which contains more than 10 million images. The exhibit also displays American flags, Inaugural memorabilia, pins, tickets, and press tags from as far back as 1885.

The Associated Press, the world’s oldest and largest news agency, has accompanied American presidents everywhere since Zachary Taylor was in office in 1848. Websites, broadcast outlets, and newspapers take services from the AP, and view its photojournal- ism as having great importance and impact around the world.

The exhibit is on display until Feb. 20. Admission is free for Kean students and is 0.50 cents for others. The exhibit will be open from Wednesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday from 12-4 p.m.

Several events are being held to highlight the exhibit. On Feb. 10 at 12:30 p.m., Dr. Charley Falkenburg, Chairman of the Communication Department will give a presenta- tion on presidential campaign infomercials, starting with Ronald Reagan. The discus- sion will focus on news coverage of the 2008 presidential election in a new world of blogs, MySpace and YouTube.

Thanks to the Lampitt Bill, students will be able to save their money and further their education in a timely manner.

Professor: Tell Us About your new Classes

Attention Kean professors! The Tower wants to tell the campus community about new course offerings for Fall 2009. Please send the course name, department, and a brief description to thetower@kean.edu. The course will be published in a listing of new courses in the March 11 edition.
"I’m just one person," she said. "How can my work bring those questions to surface?" Who are we listening to? Is what they are telling us true? Can we change it?

Tatiana Kellner is one person whose art has been inciting critical thoughts about politics and human rights.

Growing up in communist Czechoslovakia, Tatiana Kellner is the daughter of two Holocaust survivors, and at a young age adapted dissent toward her political authorities.

"As the daughter of Holocaust survivors and growing up in communist Czechoslovakia, I learned to mistrust authority, and question official doctrines," said Kellner.

Kellner's work is not new to Kean. Her installation, Requiem for September 11, was hanging on display in Kean's CAS building until just recently. This collection comprised two rows of hanging banners, for which Kellner compiled hundreds of victim’s images from The New York Times, “Portraits of Grief,” and screen-printed these images onto long, trailing sheets of organza.

Kellner’s latest exhibit, Embarrassing Facts, uses responsive and distorted images of bodies and faces to direct our focus toward the corrupt and dishonest actions of political leaders. Kellner’s works comprise multiple mediums including text from leader’s speeches, legal documents, and sketched faces which focus on both victims and victimizers.

“My work makes you question everything," said Kellner. "It makes you want to turn away and look back. It makes you uneasy.”

One specific painting in this exhibit entitled, They Lied, uses text, paint, and separately sketched faces to represent the human suffering as the result of the lies and hidden agendas of political leaders.

“I start out with figures, cut them out, and reassemble them. Then I draw on the canvas and develop the text from things I read, phrases of what was happening in our time, and what our leaders are telling us.”

Another unique work in this exhibit, Re-consider, features a number of individual hand-made paper heads with sketched faces.

"I hand make the paper out of pliable, linen fibers," said Kellner. "It's about beheading from being at war. It's a bunch of talking heads, representing the heads of our leaders, leading us on the wrong path.”

Kellner’s exhibit, Embarrassing Facts, will be on display in the CAS art gallery until March 16. For more information on the CAS art gallery, visit www.kean.edu/~gallery. For more information on Tatiana Kellner, visit her website at www.tatanakellner.com.

“‘What can you do as an individual? Make people think about what we are being told. Is it true? Whose truth do we hear, and who decides?”

Benjamin Button Pleases Crowds

JILL JOHNSON

Brad Pitt grabs the attention of audienc-es everywhere with his most recent movie, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button. This unusual, twisted, yet mind-grabbing movie chronicles the story of Benjamin Button, a child born looking like a man in his eight-ies that ages backwards, appearing young-er each year. Set in New Orleans, director David Fincher begins Button’s story with Button’s birth. On November 11, 1918, just as the people of New Orleans cele-brated the victory of World War I. Shortly after giving birth to her son, Mrs. Button (Joeanna Sayley) passes away. Her hus-band, Thomas Button (Jason Flemyng), looks at his newborn child only to see wrinkled skin and arthritis—the appear-ance of that of an 85-year-old man. Angry at his wife’s passing and his child’s ugly appearance, Mr. Button leaves his child on a stranger’s doorstep—the doorstep of a stranger’s doorstep—the doorstep of a stranger’s doorstep. In New Orleans, director David Fincher begins Button’s story with Button’s birth. On November 11, 1918, just as the people of New Orleans celebrated the victory of World War I. Shortly after giving birth to her son, Mrs. Button (Joeanna Sayley) passes away. Her husband, Thomas Button (Jason Flemyng), looks at his newborn child only to see wrinkled skin and arthritis—the appearance of that of an 85-year-old man. Angry at his wife’s passing and his child’s ugly appearance, Mr. Button leaves his child on a stranger’s doorstep—the doorstep of a nursing home owned by Queenie (Taraji P. Henson) and Tizzy (Mabershalahatibhaz Ali). Queenie takes the baby into her arms and raises the baby as her own, naming him Benjamin. Although doctors believed Benjamin would not live long, Benjamin's life unfolds as he grows older and appears young, experiencing war, friendship, and the romance he shares with his long-time friend, Daisy. This mind-capturing movie will have audiences glued to their seats.

Spring 2009 Student Enrollment Rises

BY JILL JOHNSON

With registration now officially closed, student enrollment for the spring 2009 shows a slight increase compared to Spring 2008, according to university spokesman Stephen Hudik.

Student enrollment as of Feb. 2 was 13,567, an increase of 487 students from the same period a year ago. The numbers, as always, are watched closely, especially this semester because of the new class schedule and now a sudden drop in the economy that could affect student’s ability to pay tuition.

As of Jan. 14, 2009, student enrollment was 12,124 and within less than a month increased by 1,443 students. Yet, this increase is not as big compared to the Spring 2008 semester increase. On Jan. 14, 2008 the student enrollment stood at 10,033, but increased to 13,080 a week later, display-ing a 3,047 student enrollment increase.

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Valentine's Day, 2009

Valentine's Day on a Student Budget

BY LILLIE MORALES-TORRES

Times are hard and money is tight. But that doesn’t serve as an excuse to skip Valentine’s Day this year, especially if you want to remain on your beau’s list of favorite people. A student’s budget is a small one but there are still big ways to celebrate without going broke. And if you are lucky enough to have a special someone in your life, it is the one day you get to express your love for them. Here are some ideas to help save your low budget on Valentine’s Day.

**The power of a simple rose.** Dating back before the Victorian era, the gift of a rose was how a person expressed their feelings to another. Roses are timeless and they also show a romantic side of you. It’s also how you give the rose. You can be romantic by leaving the rose in your loved one’s car or on their windshield with a little note. Or on their pillow, at their desk, or in their drawer. The list goes on. If you have a little more to spend, get a dozen roses and make a game of it. Place a rose in different places you know your Valentine will find it along with little notes or clues to another surprise. But don’t forget, although the giving of twelve roses is considered one of the ultimate love signs, one rose surely will do the trick.

**YOU CAN BE ROMANTIC BY LEAVING THE ROSE IN YOUR LOVED ONE’S CAR OR ON THEIR WINDSHIELD WITH A LITTLE NOTE. OR ON THEIR PILLOW, AT THEIR DESK, OR IN THEIR DRAWER.**

**Love letters.** Another old way of sharing feelings is through writing. Whether it is through poetry or a simple letter describing how you feel about your Valentine, it will surely score some points in the romance department. Make sure to write it by hand; it’s more romantic. You can add more flair if you write it in calligraphy style. If you lack writing skills, you can always steal a poem from one of the greats like John Keats or Shakespeare. Even if you lack writing skills, you can still write a poem from one of the greats like John Keats or Mark Twain. Just be sure to give them credit for it. It may not be original but your Valentine will see that you spent time and did your research to find a poem that expresses the way you feel about him or her. For inspiration, try www.lovingyou.com or Forever Yours: Letters of Love.

**Coupons.** Not the kind you use at a supermarket, the kind your Valentine can use on themselves. A student’s budget is a small one but there are still big ways to celebrate without going broke. And if you are lucky enough to have a special someone in your life, it is the one day you get to express your love for them. Here’s how you can be creative. Make a sweet message out of rocks, construction paper or flowers. You can compliment it with the picture show playing in the background. There are countless ways to show you care on this special holiday. And even though money may be tight, it’s not how much you spend but what you do and how you do it. Your beloved will cherish that forever.

**Good Old Fashioned Chocolates.** Who doesn’t love a sweet treat? Even on a student’s budget, one can afford to give a box of chocolates. They can run from $1 to $40. The size doesn’t matter. Pair the chocolates up with a poem or love letter and you’re good to go.

**A Picture Show.** What better way to celebrate your love than through photos? Depending on how long you’ve been with your Valentine, a picture show can be a fun way to celebrate. Gather your best couple’s photos from when you first started dating until now. Put them together on a slideshow, Power Point presentation, or DVD. You can add your favorite song(s), captions and more. If you plan on a candlelit dinner at home, you can compliment it with the picture show playing in the background.

**Candlelight Dinner for Two.** Create your own candle light dinner. A bottle of wine, candles, soft music (make a playlist), pizza or even take-out. But do it with class. Make sure to toss the pizza box and place the pizza on a nice platter. Set the table. Use wine glasses. Maybe add a salad to your menu. Think restaurant style. After dinner, turn the music up a little and ask your Valentine to join you to a dance.

**A Broadway Play.** Students can enjoy a Broadway play for almost more than half the price off with Student Rush tickets. But you have to be prepared to hustle for this one. Here’s the catch. Tickets have to be bought as early as ten in the morning when the box office opens. Be sure to have your student ID on hand. You can purchase up to two tickets per ID. Deciding which play to see and calling the box office ahead of time is best. For more information, check out nytimes.com/broadway

**Bake.** They say the way to a man’s heart is through his stomach. So, think back to your easy bake oven days and start a bake fest! Make a heart out of cupcakes, says “I Love You” on a cake, or make heart-shaped cookies. You’ll certainly get on your Valentine’s sweet side.

**Display your Love.** A gesture that made the news a few years ago was the story of a man who took a can of red spray paint and wrote across the snow in his front lawn, “I Love You, the Love of my Life” to his wife. You may not have a front lawn full of snow but you can be creative. Make a sweet message out of rocks, construction paper or flowers. Write a message in lipstick; that’s always a classic.

**Happy Valentine’s Day!** See if someone sent you a personal message!

**SAM, you are very lucky to have me as your wife, love always Michelle.**

**TO: CARMINE I thank the Lord everyday because you are a part of my life FROM: NORMA**

**MIKE, another Valentine’s day together! Just want you to know I love you and good luck this season. LOVE, YOUR BIGGEST PAN**

**POLAR BEAR!!!!!! I love you so much and I’m so glad that we can make the best uh-oh greeds together!! LOVE you!**

**TO: KRUNAL, I love you FROM: PRIYANKA**

**Oli, Happy V-Day love you always, BeBe**

**CAROLyn, I love you and only you forever, —BART**

**OLI, Happy V-Day love you always, BeBe**

**MAC, Ketchup, and Honey Mustard: I love you guys!! We are the most fun people I know and my life would definitely not be the same without you! Love always, Cheese!**

**TO: LIANA, my lil love bug happy Valentine’s day XOXO love always, mami**

**TO: KRUNAL, I love you FROM: PRIYANKA**

**KERRY-Lynn, happy Valentine’s day baby. You are amazing. I hope all of your dreams and wishes come true. Love always and forever, John James**

**TO: GIANNA I love you with all my heart NOEL! You are my life because you are a part of my life. I thank the Lord everyday because you are a part of my life FROM: NORMA**

**POLAR BEAR!!!!!!! I love you so much and I'm so glad that we can make the best uh-oh greeds together!! LOVE you!**

**TO: KRUNAL, I love you FROM: PRIYANKA**

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Q & A

CAMPBELL

1. **Do you feel that there is more pressure on the team having been to the College World Series twice in a row?**

   There will always be pressure in every game we play because every team will have us already marked on their schedule before their season even starts. But we will be very prepared and used to every situation due to every little detail that the coaching staff puts us in day in and day out during practice.

2. **What makes the Kean Baseball Team unique?**

   The team is very unique due to the fact that there are no selfish players only concerned about themselves. Everyone works very hard and we all know that if we do not fulfill our certain roles, then we will not be successful in achieving our goals throughout the course of the year.

3. **What will you miss the most about playing for Kean?**

   I will miss all the jokes everyone makes inside the locker room or out on the field that keeps everyone loose at all times.

4. **What is your most memorable moment?**

   Getting two wins in one day in the freezing cold when I think my arm went numb by the end of the second game.

5. **What are your goals for your final year?**

   Walk away with every trophy possible.

MANGANIELLO

There is always going to be some kind of pressure on Kean Baseball. Teams come out to beat us. Our coaches put us in pressure situations all the time to prepare us to deal with big games, so even though the pressure is there, we have a way of handling it.

We are a close-knit bunch of guys on and off the field. We have a lot of fun, most of the time in the form of pranks. The young guys catch on real quick to our sense of humor as a team, we make fun of each other a lot.

I will miss seeing all of the guys on a daily basis at practice and games. Also the team trips are a great time. The thing I will miss the most is playing baseball at the level we play at.

I think being a part of the Kean baseball team that won our region, our conference, and the national championship is pretty memorable. Most importantly, I will miss all the good times throughout my four years here.

We want to win every game, the regular season title, the conference tournament, the region, and the national championship.

Our close knit family atmosphere filled with superstitions and great memories. Our close knit family atmosphere filled with everything together and that’s what makes the Kean Baseball team unique.

No, I think there was more pressure on the team having been to the College World Series twice in a row.

So to most of us, it’s just business as usual.

The thing that mostly helped us there trying for another national championship was the fans that were driving 18 hours just to see us play. The same thing we do every year, try to win a national championship. All the hard work and sacrifice the guys put in is what gets us over the world.

For sure. Our chemistry, our chemistry.

Hopefully, we can overcome the pressure. You are only fine.

Naturally, Yes. We’ve been fortunate to have very talented players over the past few years and it’s not every day you come across good talent and good team chemistry.

The young guys catch on real quick most of the time in the form of pranks. We are a close-knit bunch of guys on and off the field. We have a lot of fun, most of the time in the form of pranks. The young guys catch on real quick to our sense of humor as a team, we make fun of each other a lot.

I’ve played on many teams throughout my life but none compare to Kean. Our close knit family atmosphere filled with greatness, guys on and off the field.

I’ve been on a lot of teams throughout my years. Our close knit family atmosphere filled with great memories.

Our close knit family atmosphere filled with every little detail that the coaching staff puts us in day in and day out during practice.

We are a close-knit bunch of guys on and off the field. We have a lot of fun, most of the time in the form of pranks. The young guys catch on real quick to our sense of humor as a team, we make fun of each other a lot.

I have a way of handling it.

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### What makes you unique?

The team is unique because it’s more of a family atmosphere. We do everything together and that’s what makes us so successful throughout the years.

The young guys catch on real quick and off the field. We have a lot of fun, we are a close-knit bunch of guys on and off the field.

Our close knit family atmosphere filled with superstitions and great memories. I’ve played on many teams throughout my life but none compare to Kean.

### What will you miss the most about playing for Kean?

What I will miss the most is going back to the College World Series. Winning it all in 2007 was something I’ll never forget, but then last year, being back there trying for another national championship was unbelievable as well.

The most memorable moment for me was pitching the Regional Championship game in 2007 that led us to the programs first World Series. Of course, being a member of the 2007 National Championship team was also something that I will never forget.

### My goals for this year are to help continue with the team’s success and go back to the World Series for the third straight year. Baseball is something I hope to never stop playing. Being a senior is ending one chapter of my life but also the beginning of a new journey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aich</th>
<th>Rizzo</th>
<th>Murphy</th>
<th>Feneis</th>
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<td>What makes you unique is that some of the guys that come in as recruits could’ve went to larger, d1 schools but didn’t. They chose to play here over other colleges because they want to be a part of what Kean Baseball is all about and it’s that dedication to the team and the program that makes playing here so enjoyable.</td>
<td>No not at all because the team believes that we should be part of the World Series every year or at least be competing for the chance to go to the World Series. The only pressure that I feel the team has is learning everything the coaches want us to learn about the game. If we execute them, we will be fine.</td>
<td>No, I think there was more pressure last season after winning the World Series and trying to defend the title. There is always pressure because of our schedule and conference games. But after we finish this last month or so of practice, Neil prepares us for whatever the season may bring.</td>
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<td>Getting a save in the semi-final game of the College World Series on my 20th birthday and getting a cake smashed in my face as soon as I left the stadium.</td>
<td>Traveling to California and playing games out on the west coast.</td>
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**What are your goals for your final year?**

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- **Rizzo:** No, I think there was more pressure last season after winning the World Series and trying to defend the title. There is always pressure because of our schedule and conference games. But after we finish this last month or so of practice, Neil prepares us for whatever the season may bring.

- **Murphy:** Go out strong, and hopefully end up back in Wisconsin.

- **Feneis:** Naturally, Yes. We’ve been fortunate to have very talented players over the past few years and it’s not every day you come across good talent and good team chemistry. Hopefully, we can overcome the pressure. You are only as good as last game you played and as of right now, we’re starting from a clean slate.

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**What is your most memorable moment?**

- **Aich:** My most memorable moment would have to be the 2007 trip to the World Series. How we won regionals in extra innings really gave us the belief that we are a top team in the country. Then, how we had to head to Wisconsin to try to win a national championship. All we kept saying is just don’t go two and out and win one game and build from there. The thing that mostly helped us in the World Series was the fans that made the trip out. There were people driving 18 hours just to see us play. That was my most memorable moment as a cougar.

- **Rizzo:** The most memorable moment for me was pitching the Regional Championship game in 2007 that led us to the programs first World Series. Of course, being a member of the 2007 National Championship team was also something that I will never forget.

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**What will you miss the most about playing for Kean?**

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**What makes the Kean Baseball Team unique?**

- **Aich:** The team is unique because it’s more of a family atmosphere. We do everything together and that’s what makes us so successful throughout the years.

- **Rizzo:** The team is unique because it’s more of a family atmosphere. We do everything together and that’s what makes us so successful throughout the years.

- **Murphy:** Kean Baseball team is unique because of the tight bond we share amongst each other including the players and coaches. I’ve been on a lot of teams in general and never have I been this close with my teammates and coaches. It’s such a family atmosphere here at Kean. You know the guy next to you would do whatever it takes to help you out.

- **Feneis:** Our close knit family atmosphere filled with superstitions and great memories. I’ve played on many teams throughout my life but none compare to Kean.
EDITORIAL

CHOCOLATE IS THE GIFT THAT KEEPS GIVING

Valentine’s Day is here once again. Maybe couples will appreciate each other more than usual on this special day or singles will celebrate their independence from commitment with their own festivities. Either way, turns out there is one common treat in which we can all indulge. Chocolate.

As a sign of love or a cure for a broken heart, chocolate had been a friend to many. This time of year especially, many give chocolate as a sweet gift, but, what many don’t know is that chocolate offers more rewards than they actually realize.

Chocolate contains more than just cocoa beans and sugars. In fact, it has beneficial chemicals that can better your Valentine’s Day mood. Anandamide is a neurotransmitter that increases brain activity that allows you to have positive feelings. Also found in chocolate are opioids, which help reduce pain and even lift the spirits. Another chemical that can make your Valentine’s Day memorable is Theobromine. Theobromine has the potential of giving off a buzz, an uplifting that can also provide energy to make your night last longer.

Studies show that chocolate can have a significant impact on “lovers” because it contains aphrodisiacs that enhance romance. So, if you want to make someone happy this Valentine’s Day, or you just want to make yourself feel good, ditch the aspirin, the coffee, or the cigarettes and go ahead and have a piece of chocolate. Bon appérit!

Kelly Nemeth
Editor-in-Chief

ANGER MANAGEMENT

LIKE MOM ALWAYS SAID, PROFESSORS: JUST CONTACT US

BY KELLY NEMETH

Every student loves to hear those two special words, “Class canceled.” However, when that is not the case it can become not only a dangerous hassle, but an annoyance as well.

When there is snow falling and you do not have the luxury of living on campus, you need to drive. In some cases, you need to drive at least an hour to get to school on a normal day and when it is bad weather it could take even longer. Kean rarely closes school because apparently it feels blizzard conditions are not hazardous enough to cancel classes. Instead, we need to get in our cars—or in buses and trains—and face the ice, traffic, and road closures.

When you finally get to school, thankful to have made it, you face your next battle. We have to walk on icy paths to get to class. We cling onto our bags and slowly slide our way through campus. When we finally reach our class late, due to the slow drive and walk, you realize that there are only five other people in the classroom. A discussion about how ridiculous it is that we had to come to class is heard until we get Intercom. If your professor cancels, she says as she walks out of the room.

We have not come all this way just to have our professor cancel. Couldn’t he or she send an email to tell us this? The professor has decided it is too dangerous to drive all the way to Kean, yet makes us go all the way tp school just to turn around and go back? Now, you have the journey home to think about the pointless trip you just made. We ask our professors this: next time, please somehow let us know in advance. Or, maybe, Kean should actually close for once.
By Rachel Rothspulin

Once upon a time, princes rescued princesses from the evils that befell them, valiant soldiers went into war to bring back honor to the women they loved, and toads were royalty, waiting for their perfect mate to come along and kiss them back to their handsome and stately form.

Fast forward to today, when the closest thing we get to a knight in shining armor is a guy in New York City covered in metallic paint pretending to be the Statue of Liberty.

It is common place to hear the cliché ‘chivalry is dead’ thrown around. Can it be true that there is no one left who has a heart of decency? Chivalry is a term that stems from knighthood—the concept is based on the ideals of virtue, love and honor. A chivalrous mate is one who goes out of their way to make life easier for their lover—little things like opening the door or pulling out a chair to big things like protection and consideration for the feelings of the other.

But today, it seems like all we hear is accusations of misbehavior to exploit the attractiveness of the opposite sex. Relationships have been reduced to fleeting affairs, and even those that make it to the long term seem to be growing more and more inconsistent at best.

This shouldn’t be surprising when you take into account the fact that even in our every day lives, the world seems just plain rude. No one holds the door anymore; those who do find that people usually don’t say thank you. Asking a quick “How are you?” to the person serving you is often met with a snappy answer of “Fine,” or worse, nothing at all. Manners all over, it seems, are dead.

But maybe chivalry isn’t completely gone. Maybe it’s just hiding—coping out for our generation to get tired of living without it. Maybe when the time is right, chivalry will pop back out into the world and bring back the element that once wowed the people and now seems to only exist in bad chick flicks.

How do we get to it? I think it’s just a matter of holding the door for the person behind you, or saying thank you when they do it for you. If we make small gestures, we might find out the meaning of honor and all kinds of things that once made relationships—and just living in general—a lot more pleasant. It might go a long way.

Save chivalry; start using it.

When Going After a Dream Seems Like an Endless Journey

By Lauren Buttacavole

Maybe you don’t want to be a princess or an astronaut anymore, and pretending to fly around the house like superman would be a bit bizarre at this time, but what’s wrong with having a dream? Yes, it’s a good idea to drop the far-fetched, crazy ideas from long ago, but why are so many students today giving up on what they really want to do with their lives?

Many college students consult friends, families, professors or professionals to seek advice about courses or career paths, but too often they walk away confused or doubtful. Our university should be a place to find answers. So where are these answers found?

Behind Door Number One? Or is it Door Number Two or Three?

Sometimes just getting out there into the real world can be a difficult and exhausting adjustment.

Sometimes, the advice that students may receive is based upon other people’s beliefs, experiences, and their own career choices. This might not be the best advice for you, and it can be difficult for students to discover what to do or where to turn for help. To them, school just seems like an endless journey.

Other times, many people hold on to dreams for so long and just don’t see anything happening. These individuals have dreams inside, waiting to be achieved. They want to pursue their passion instead of the road to reality.

Richard Oathout, a sophomore majoring in English, with an emphasis in Writing, dreams of publishing a Fantasy/Science Fiction book he is writing. He said that he is confident about what he wants to do, but he is discouraged from finishing his book. “Sometimes I get grades that discourage me” said Oathout. “And a bad grade will keep me from trying as hard as I should.”

The endless doubts are like walking into a pit of despair. Hearing mixed messages from people, (seemingly) everyone soon turns your hopes into discouragement. You are not alone. If you truly believe something is meant for you, don’t give up on it. Instead, get more information.

Lauren Almonte said she changed her major four times. Her previous major was in Accounting but an accounting professor said the business industry is “evil,” which led her to change her major to Chemistry. She said she knows that she made the right decision.

“Going to college is very challenging,” said Almonte. “And not everyone can handle it.”

Almost thinks students need more career counseling to help figure it all out. Unfortunately there isn’t an Confession 101 class that features all the essential lessons such as finding a career path and overcoming a lack of confidence. However, I discovered options are available on campus to help you give you the confidence needed or a push to someday open a door to a future career.

Carolyn Galligan, career specialist at Kean’s Career Development and Advancement, says students may be doubtful about what they want to do, and sometimes they are living what their parents want and not fulfilling their own dreams. Many times, they don’t have the right amount of career information and that also can be frustrating.

Kean’s career counseling is provided to help students with resumes, interviews, and finding a career choice. She said career counseling holds workshops and sit-down conferences to help you become knowledgeable and give you the right amount of information. She said counselors sit down with students and help them know themselves and their values. They won’t tell you what you should do but instead help you decide for yourself.

“It’s first important to understand yourself,” Galligan explained.

This sounds like good advice. Students can also take a test to help find their interests if they are unsure about choosing a major, or even if they want to know whether they are in the right one now. Going to career fairs are also a good idea. Kean is having a career fair on April 23 in the CAS building that could be beneficial to students in preparing resumes and talking to people in various fields.

Sometimes just getting out there into the real world can be a difficult and exhausting adjustment. Career Development and Advancement, located in room 123 in the first floor in the CAS building, is there to help.

But for now, know that in life you never know what can happen—and it’s ok. Sometimes the best things in life happen when you’re not looking for them. Keep aiming at your dreams through fear, struggle, and anything else, and you will find that what you were searching for many times the best things in life happen when you’re not looking for them.

Of the 4 million babies projected to be born this year, almost 4.1 million babies will be born within the United States this year. Whatever the actual total, it’ll be eight more than it is estimated at $2.5 million.

With an estimated cost of $15 million, Kaiser Permanente paid a 46-member team to deliver the babies. These kind of therapeutic attempts, then we’ve left ethics and the actual total, it’ll be eight more than it is estimated at $2.5 million.

Mother of Six Didn’t Need Eight More

BY LAUREN BUTTACAVOLE

Some 4.1 million babies will be born in the United States this year. Whatever the actual total, it’ll be eight more than it should have been.

The birth of octuplets to single-mom Naunya Suleman last week has raised a ruckus, not the least of it from anguished medical researchers and public ethicists throughout the nation. So naturally there’s talk of legislation to prevent such kind of misery of fertility treatment.

But let’s hold off. Medical guidelines already in place should have stopped this travesty. One isolated case is no reason for legislators to veer into the quagmire of regulation when there are more urgent things to worry about.

A new law couldn’t make it any more clear that this multiple birth was unacceptable. Here’s what two leading experts in the field told reporters: “If she is fertile and was given infertility treatments, then we’re in malpractice,” said Arthur Kaplan, the University of Pennsylvania’s director of the Center for Bioethics.

“When we see something like this in the general fertility world, it gives us the heebie-jeebies,” said Michael Tucker, a researcher in infertility treatment. “If a medical practitioner had anything to do with it, there’s some degree of inappropriate medical therapy there.”

“Since the ‘multiple birth’—the medical term for three or more babies—are considered dangerous for both the babies and the mother. Infertility experts with a shred of ethical sense discourage anything more than twins because of the huge risks, not to mention the high costs to the mother and the hospital where such babies are born. Kaiser Permanent Bellflower Medical Center reportedly used a 46-member team to deliver the babies, and the cost of raising the octuplets is estimated at $2.5 million.

Of the 4 million babies projected to be born in the United States this year, only 7,000 will be higher-order multiple births—less than two-tenths of 1 percent. And 95 percent of those will be triplets. This shows that the current guidelines are effective.

To more firmly prohibit cases like Suleman’s, lawmakers would have to set a limit on the number of embryos a woman could have implanted. Italy and Germany have done this, deciding on three. But imagine the debate it would spark here, raising religious questions and giving new meaning to a woman’s right to choose.

Maybe anyone considering having triplets or more should have to spend a few weeks in a nursery trying to care for multiple babies with no help. That wouldn’t have stopped Suleman, who already had six children. But for practically anyone else, it would do the trick.

Lauren Buttacavole is a senior who is majoring in English.

LaMonte thinks students need more career counseling to help figure it all out. Unfortunately there isn’t a Confession 101 class that features all the essential lessons such as finding a career path and overcoming a lack of confidence. However, I discovered options are available on campus to help you give you the confidence needed or a push to someday open a door to a future career.

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Imagine the enchantment of a childhood tale, soaked in the warmth and comfort of a cup of tea. Now place it in the middle of the hustle and bustle of New York City, and you have Alice’s Tea Cup. The venue opened its doors in three separate parts of Manhattan. For brunch or just for an afternoon snack, Alice’s Tea Cup serves a variety of teas, pastries and cakes within its walls decorated with quotes and scenes from Lewis Carroll’s Alice in Wonderland.

Despite the busy streets outside the walls, Alice’s Tea Cup is one of the few escapes from the stresses of the world.
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services responsible for protecting and promoting the nation’s public health. The agency is organized into the following subdivisions each focused on a major area of regulatory responsibility:

- The Office of the Commissioner (OC)
- The Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)
- The Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)
- The Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN)
- The Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH)
- The Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM)
- The National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR)
- The Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA)

To help Americans avoid the health risks posed by food allergens, Congress passed the Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act of 2004. The law applies to all foods regulated by FDA, both domestic and imported, that were labeled on or after January 1, 2006. (FDA regulates all foods except meat, poultry, and certain egg products.) Now the labels must clearly identify the source of all ingredients that are—or are derived from—the eight most common food allergens. As a result, food labels will help allergic consumers to identify offending foods or ingredients so they can more easily avoid them. The Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition is the branch of the FDA which is responsible for ensuring the safety and accurate labeling of nearly all food products in the United States. While more than 160 foods can cause allergic reactions in people with food allergies, the law identifies the eight most common allergenic foods.

- 1. Milk
- 2. Eggs
- 3. Fish (e.g., bass, flounder, cod)
- 4. Crustacean shellfish (e.g., crab, lobster, shrimp)
- 5. Tree nuts (e.g., almonds, walnuts, pecans)
- 6. Peanuts
- 7. Wheat
- 8. Soybeans

These eight foods, and any ingredient that contains protein derived from one or more of them, are designated as “major food allergens” by the law. FDA has developed a comprehensive Food Protection Plan to address the changes in food sources, production, and consumption that we face in today’s world. Building upon and improving an already sound food safety protection capability, the new plan presents a robust strategy to protect the nation’s food supply from both unintentional contamination and deliberate attack. More than 11 million Americans including 3 million children are estimated to have food allergies, most commonly to milk, eggs, peanuts and soy. The prevalence among children has risen 18 percent in the past decade according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Although most food allergies cause relatively mild and minor symptoms, some food allergies can cause severe reactions, and may even be life-threatening.

As of January 17, 2009, the FDA has extended its warning about possible salmonella contamination of peanut butter. Salmonella is a type of bacteria. It is usually found in poultry, eggs, unprocessed milk and in meat and water. It may also be carried by pets like turtles and birds. The salmonella bacteria causes much of the food poisoning in the world each year. Salmonella is a general name for a group of about 2000 closely related bacteria that causes illness by reproducing in the digestive tract. In more serious cases, the bacteria may enter the lymph tracts, which carry water and protein to the blood, and the blood itself. The FDA announced it was working with the Justice Department to explore possible criminal charges against Peanut Corporation of America for shipping out products after it was known the facility was contaminated with salmonella and failing to comply with federally mandated manufacturing practices. At least 23 New Jersey residents have fallen ill as part of a nationwide salmonella outbreak linked to the peanut products. Some 529 people in 43 states have been affected by the outbreak. Eight people are believed to have died as a result of the infections.

Some congressmen have suggested giving the FDA more authority and power. President Obama promised a “complete review of FDA operations”. “I think that the FDA has not been able to catch some things as quickly as I expect them to”, President Obama said in an interview on the Today show. The President said Americans should be able to count on the government to keep them, including his daughters, safe when they eat peanut butter.

Dr. Josh Palgi, Professor, Physical Education, Recreation and Health Dept.

Kean Stays Tough Against NJAC Opponents

BY NICOLE VONGONTEST

Coming off two straight victories the Cougars looked to continue their recent success. Kean’s next opportunity came when they hosted the College of Staten Island on January 19. Kean came out in the first half shoot...
Kean University women’s basketball team remains undefeated in the New Jersey Athletic Conference after defeating William Paterson University, 81-74, on January 31. With the win, Kean improves to 17-3 overall and 9-0 in the NJAC.

The key to Kean’s victory was two long runs, a 17-2 run in the first half and a 13-3 run in the second half. The second-half run became much more important, for it crippled William Paterson’s comeback efforts and halted all of their momentum.

Junior forward Cardiss Jackman led the way for Kean, scoring a season-high 26 points, adding five rebounds and four assists. Sophomore forward Tiffany Patrick had a very solid game, scoring a double-double with 18 points and 12 rebounds, while shooting a very efficient seven for eight from the field and four for five from the free throw line.

Down 8-4 after four minutes into the game, Kean was jump-started with the free throw line. Kean held an 11-point lead at the half, 43-32.

The second of Kean’s long scoring runs helped spark this victory. Jackman caught fire after the three and scored 10 of the 17 points in the run.

Jackman could not be stopped in the first half, shooting 70 percent from the field and going a perfect four for four from the line. Kean held an 11-point lead at the half, 43-32.

A slow start to the second half let William Paterson right back into the game and it appeared that the game was slipping away from Kean. William Paterson outscored Kean 23-12 in the first eight minutes of the second half, tying the game at 55.

The second of Kean’s long scoring runs came at just the right time. Kean went on a 13-3 run, stealing all the momentum from William Paterson and taking back control of the game.

William Paterson, however, did not go away that easily, responding with a 14-4 run of their own, putting them ahead by the score of 72-71 with 2:37 left in the game.

After a missed shot by senior guard Ebony Jackson, junior Danielle Brown came up with the biggest offensive rebound of the game. This gave Jackson another chance; she was fouled while shooting and connected on both free throws to give Kean the lead.

After two huge misses from the free throw line by William Paterson, Tiffany Patrick buried a jumper to put Kean up by three.

While most teams crumble under the pressure of the last minutes of the game, the Cougars got stronger. Kean put the game away on the line, by going a perfect six for six, after going only four for ten throughout the half. The perfect six for six gave William Paterson no chance for a last-second comeback. Thus the game ended, 81-74. When the pressure is on, the Lady Cougars shine.