

THE TARTAN



Volume 101, Issue 15

Carnegie Mellon's Student Newspaper Since 1906

February 5, 2007

Solving the \$60 billion problem

Carnegie Mellon research leads to creation of new software company



Zhiquan Yeo/Photo Staff



Justin Brown/Photo Editor



Justin Brown/Photo Editor



Justin Brown/Photo Editor

The engineers of Sure Logic, pictured from left to right: Bill Scherlis, CMU professor of computer science and director of the Institute for Software Research; Scott Schmidt, CEO; Alex De Marco, Java field engineer; and Ethan Urie, software engineer. [Not pictured: Edwin Chan, senior architect]

by **Andrew E. Peters**
Personnel Manager

Thirteen years after Lycos was created at Carnegie Mellon, a brand new spin-off hopes to revolutionize the budding software assurance industry. Sure Logic, a software company founded late last year, is using research from Carnegie Mellon's Fluid Project, a software assurance research

program in SCS, to develop software that kills the hardest-to-find bugs in the most critical systems.

Software assurance is a lucrative field, considering that every year bugs in computer software cause \$60 billion in damages worldwide, according to Bill Scherlis, professor of computer science and director of Carnegie Mellon's Institute for Software Research.

The Research

Sure Logic's software tools are based on research regarding software reliability and assurance conducted by Scherlis. Jonathan Aldrich, Scherlis' colleague and fellow professor in the School of Computer Science, has also made several large contributions.

Scherlis, recruited by Allen Newell to the Defense Advanced

Research Projects Agency (DARPA) in 1986, came back to Carnegie Mellon in 1993 to work on dependability as part of the Fluid Project.

"My research is focused on how to write software about which you can make promises," Scherlis said. "Software is everywhere, it's an amazing kind of a construction material if you can

See LOGIC, page A3

CMU gets low grade in sustainability study

by **Sabrina Porter**
Junior Staffwriter

When the subject is sustainability, Carnegie Mellon does not quite make the dean's list. The university received a C+ in a study conducted by the Sustainable Endowments Institute, which rated universities based on campus sustainability policy and endowment shareholder practices.

The study, released January 24, graded over 100 colleges and universities on 26 main factors from green-building initiatives to endowment investment policies with a letter grade from A to F. Among the schools surveyed, four received an overall grade of A, 22 received Bs, 54 Cs, and 20 Ds.

Carnegie Mellon's individual report card had three As, a B, a C, and two Fs, clearly indicating points both strong and weak. The As were received in administration, climate change and energy, and green building; the B was given for food and recycling. Meanwhile, a C was given for investment priorities and the Fs for endowment transparency and shareholder engagement. The disparity shows a clear divide between Carnegie Mellon's endowment policies and campus efforts.

"I don't really see how we could be given such a low score," said H&SS first-year JoAnna Hartzmark, "since I feel like our campus has always been so dedicated to green initiatives."

Although Carnegie Mellon's overall grade was a C+, its high marks in campus sustainability policy placed it among the few schools to receive an average of an A- or better in that category.

"I think that we should be very proud that Carnegie Mellon

is listed as one of the 26 campus sustainability leaders," said Barb Kviz, head of Carnegie Mellon's Green Practices Committee. "The categories that we received high marks on reflect how we operate and strive to improve green practices on campus."

The Green Practices Committee consists of faculty, staff, and students from all areas of study. The committee is divided into subcommittees that meet once a month to discuss current and future environmental initiatives on campus.

In addition, both students and administrators have undertaken a variety of initiatives in order to achieve sustainability on campus.

Sustainable Engineering, a partnership between Carnegie Mellon, the University of Texas at Austin, and Arizona State University, is dedicated to helping faculty members update their courses to account for rapidly changing conditions in the environment and the economy that are transforming the practice of engineering.

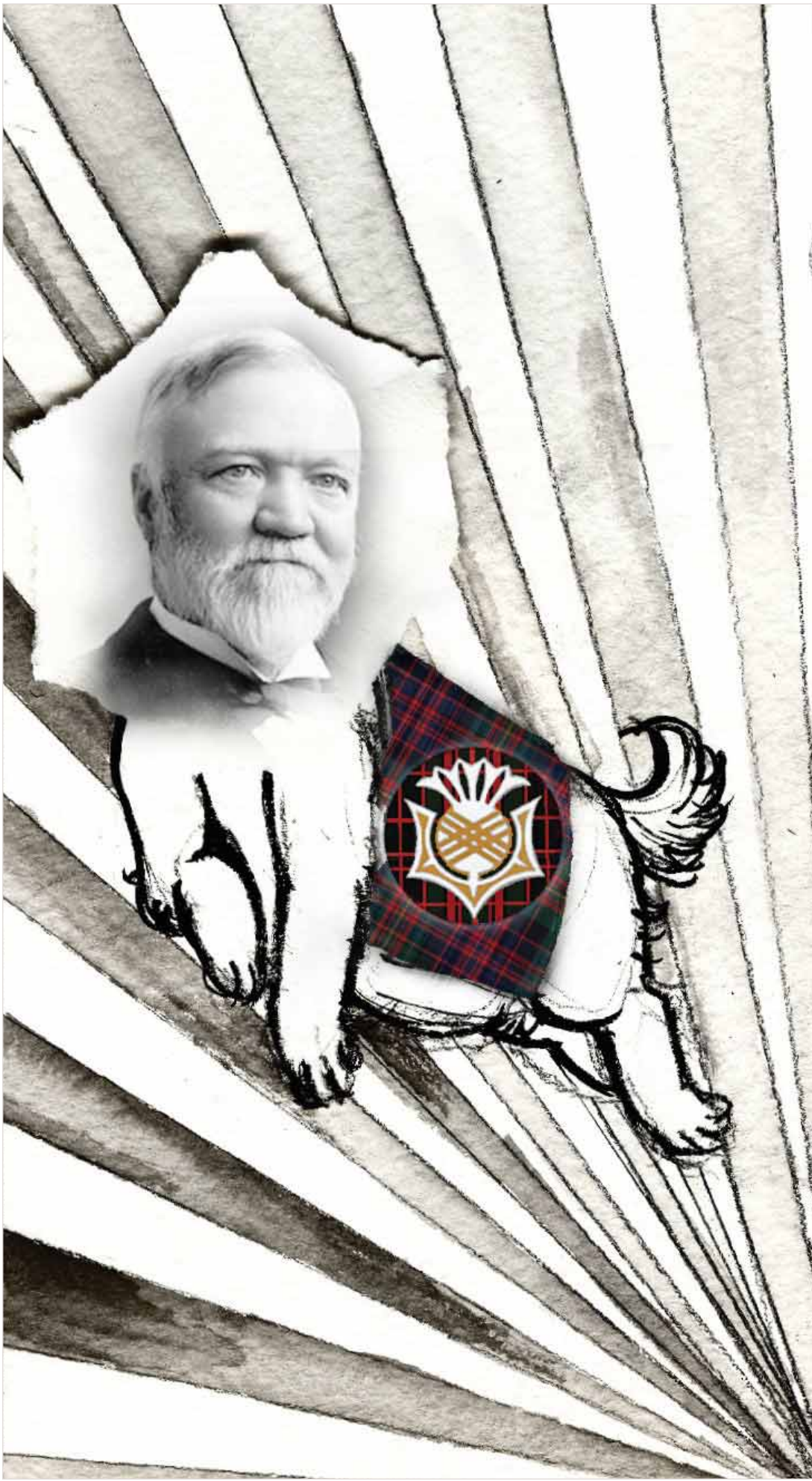
Currently, university data shows that there are about 600 students on the Carnegie Mellon campus enrolled in environment-related classes.

Sustainable Earth is a student organization that assists in the creation and development of on-campus initiatives. Currently, it is leading Recyclemania, a campus-wide program to step up recycling efforts. According to a Carnegie Mellon study last year, 40 percent of our garbage could have been recycled, yet was not.

"I feel like I've never really noticed all the things we do for the environment," said CFA first-year Alyssa Fogel. "We are all so busy that sometimes we forget."

See GREEN, page A3

Making it official: Mascot debate ensues



Jenn Kennedy/Art Staff

by **Shawn Fakhari**
Staffwriter

To the audience at the mascot town hall meeting held in McCormy Auditorium last Monday, one thing was certain — Carnegie Mellon needs an official mascot.

The meeting was hosted by the Mascot Task Force, a group of students and staff members who plan to propose an official mascot and mascot graphic for the university. Specifically, the group was soliciting opinions to decide whether to legitimize the university's current, unofficial mascot, the Scottie dog, or to create a new mascot altogether. Suggestions included a highlander, a lumberjack, "the Tartan Tigahs," "the Carnegie Mellon Crocs," "Terry the Tartan," and, paying homage to Carnegie Mellon's founders, "Andy."

Another proposal suggests having one official mascot as well as several other icons that would be representative of the community, such as a highlander or a bagpipe.

Nathan Frank, a first-year economics major and member of the task force, began the meeting with a PowerPoint presentation outlining the group's goals. The group clarified that it was not planning to change the name "Tartans," but to establish a visual representation of an official mascot. In addition, the group answered questions via the PowerPoint ranging from the basic "What could the Carnegie Mellon mascot be?" to the weightier "Are gender, race, and Scottish tradition important?" and "What would a costume and design represent?"

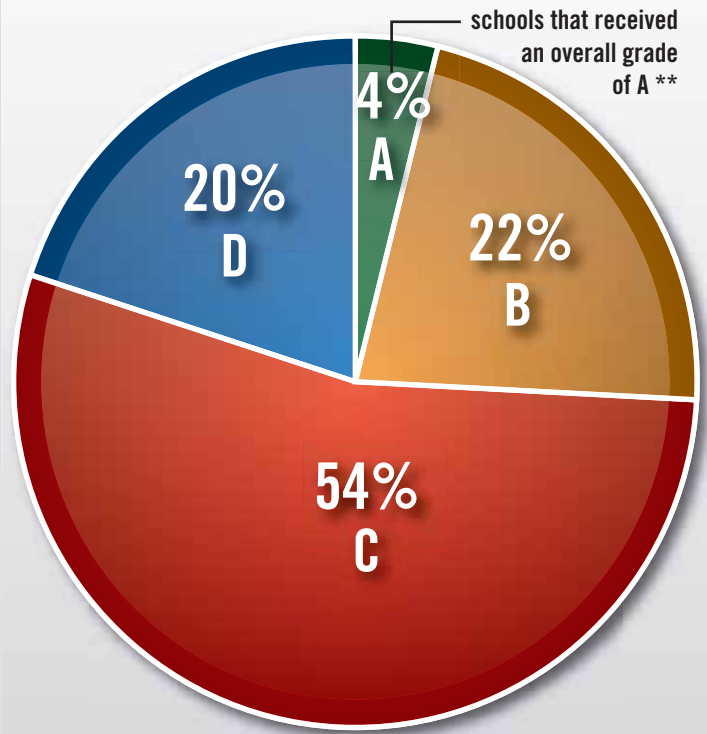
"All other icons adopted by the school have been by students," said Jennifer Church, dean of Student Affairs.

The group stressed the importance of student involvement during the town hall meeting. The meeting's leaders asked the audience to rate aspects they would deem suitable for an official mascot; for instance, "fierce vs. not so fierce" and "realistic vs. cartoon/caricature," in an attempt to gauge the kind of visual representation that would meet students' approval.

Several students weighed in

See MASCOT, page A3

The Sustainability Grading Curve*



Highest overall scores

Harvard University
Dartmouth College
Stanford University
Williams College

Lowest overall scores

Trinity University (TX)
Yeshiva University
University of Tulsa
Princeton Theological Seminary

* Based on a sample of 100 leading colleges and universities chosen by the Sustainable Endowments Institute.

** Grades reflect the overall cumulative sustainability score given based on an evaluation of campus greening practices and endowment policies.

Joseph Wang/Art Staff

Weather



TUESDAY
Hi: 15
Lo: 8



WEDNESDAY
Hi: 20
Lo: 13



THURSDAY
Hi: 26
Lo: 18



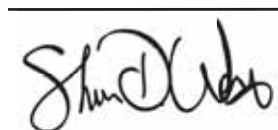
FRIDAY
Hi: 29
Lo: 18



SATURDAY
Hi: 26
Lo: 11

Executive Privilege

One mascot for one student body



Shawn Wertz

My grandparents, like so many other Carnegie Mellon parents and grandparents, have the telltale sticker affixed to their back window that says “Carnegie Mellon.” Theirs, in particular, also has the image of a Scottie dog next to the name of the university.

The terrier’s image has become popular in other aspects of my home life. My grandmother purchased a statue of a Scottie dog shortly after my acceptance. It greets visitors at the front door during all four seasons. And while she is still unaware that the dog isn’t an official mascot of the university, its symbolism is still as powerful as ever. For my family, it’s a reminder that I’m at school striving for bigger and better things. It’s a symbol of the pride my family has in me, and the pride I have in my school.

Despite appearances, the Scottie dog is not an official mascot, a fact brought to the forefront of campus attention with the recent meetings of the Mascot Task Force to discuss the possibility of selecting an “official” mascot. As of now, we’re known as the Tartans, which leads me to assume that our only actual “mascot” now is a piece of tartan plaid.

We Carnegie Mellon students seem to be at a juncture when it comes to choosing an official mascot. The task could prove more complicated than originally thought. While I have my own feelings about what a mascot should represent to me, each student has his or her own preferences, because everyone has a different experience.

A mascot is supposed to unite the entire campus during large gatherings, times when we can put the books down for a few seconds and cheer for our peers.

And with the recent meetings of the Mascot Task Force last Monday and Wednesday to discuss the possibility of finally choosing an “official” mascot, having a singular, unifying mascot may be closer now than ever before.

While some of the mascot possibilities seem absurd to me, I have close friends who would love to be known as the Carnegie Mellon Loch Ness Monsters or the “Tartan Tigahs.” Though I’ve made it obvious what my tastes are with regard to Carnegie Mellon’s mascot, I feel that regardless of which mascot is actually chosen, it’s important that the mascot be the most representative of Carnegie Mellon’s campus as a whole.

But that is easier said than done. If there is one thing I have learned from my time here, it’s that Carnegie Mellon is extremely diverse. It is hard to imagine that any one mascot could accurately portray the variety of individuals on campus.

The editorial board experienced these diverse preferences firsthand, as we struggled to write an editorial that would represent all the members of the Tartan. We had a rather difficult time cementing any particular viewpoint, and even the one we did manage to share was not unanimous. And if you read the editorial, you will see that one of us wishes our mascot was the Loch Ness Monster.

Perhaps the only issue I have with selecting an “official” mascot is that we lose a tiny piece of Carnegie Mellonhood that made us different from the other universities. We were just plaid.

And that is why, even against my personal preferences, I realize that perhaps being the Tartan plaid is a perfect fit. With all of its colors, tartan plaid already represents the diverse mixture of people on campus. Without that mixture, without our own unique, plaid-like human network, it just wouldn’t be the same.

Here’s to Carnegie Mellon being forever plaid.

Shawn Wertz, publisher of *The Tartan*, welcomes all responsible questions and comments, which may be sent to publisher@thetartan.org.

Crime & Incident

Theft at 9:44 p.m.
January 28, 2007 at 7:53 p.m.

A cell phone and wallet were stolen from a student’s apartment in Fairfax. The student had left the door unlocked and fallen asleep when the items were stolen. The items have not been recovered.

Noise Complaint January 29, 2007 at 3:12 a.m.

Police received a noise complaint regarding students in Donner House. The caller reported that the students had stacked pizza boxes in front of a door and were repeatedly knocking on the door. University Police arrived on the scene but could not identify the actors.

Theft January 29, 2007 at 8:47 a.m.

A car boot was removed from a car in the Morewood Gardens parking lot. The actor put the boot in his car and drove away with it. The boot has since been recovered.

Fire Alarm January 29, 2007 at 10:15 a.m.

The fire alarm was activated in Delta Upsilon. A student set off the alarm while cooking and hadn’t started the vent. Police reported no smoke, no fire, and no damage.

Suspicious Activity January 29, 2007

Police received a report of marijuana use by students in Donner House. The actors could not be identified. The case is still under investigation by University Police.

Fire Alarm January 30, 2007 at 10:54 a.m.

Police reported a water main break in the mechanical room on the lower level of Doherty Hall. The building’s sprinkler system was activated, setting off the alarm. The water main was repaired and the alarm was reset.

Theft January 30, 2007 at 9:24 p.m.

A student had her wallet stolen from Hunt Library while studying on the third floor. The wallet was in a side pocket of her backpack. The backpack was with her at all times. The student went to purchase food from the Maggie Murph Café when she noticed that the wallet was missing.

Fire Alarm January 30, 2007 at 11:32 p.m.

The fire alarm was activated at the Beta Theta Pi house on the fraternity quad. The Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire was dispatched and reported no smoke and no fire. It is unknown how the alarm was activated. The alarm was reset.

Compiled by
Claire Morgenstern



Justin Brown/Photo Editor

Musicians entertain at Black Caucus Reception

A combo of jazz performance minors performed during the fourth-annual Black Caucus Reception, held Friday 4–6 p.m. in Rangos Hall. The event served as an opportunity for students to meet and network with other students, faculty, staff, alumni, and Pittsburgh community leaders. The event kicked off Black History Month.

Statistically Speaking

While Carnegie Mellon has yet to declare an official mascot, the Scottie dog has a long history of cheering on the Tartans. Here are some numbers that explain how things came to be the way they are today:

First documented use of Scottie dog image on the Carnegie Mellon campus:	1940
First time a student donned the Scottie dog costume:	1957
First commissioned use of Carnegie Mellon tartan plaid:	1967
Number of colleges and universities with the most common mascot, the eagle:	74
Number of other colleges and universities with a Scottish terrier as a mascot:	1 (Agnes Scott College)

Sources: Carnegie Mellon Mascot Task Force, www.agnesscott.edu, www.smargon.net/nicknames, www.usatoday.com/sports, www.scottishtartans.org/facts

Compiled by
Shawn Fakhari

Corrections & Clarifications

If you would like to submit a correction or clarification, please e-mail The Tartan at news@thetartan.org or editor@thetartan.org with your inquiry, as well as the date of the issue and the name of the article. We will print the correction or clarification in the next print issue and publish it online.

The actress in the *Alcina* photo on the right-hand side of the page in last week’s Pillbox issue was incorrectly identified as Eve Miedel, who played Morgana. The actress was actually Christine Lyons, who played Alcina.

Biologist and filmmaker to lecture this week

by Elisabeth Madden
Junior Staffwriter

Lectures will run the gamut this week as Carnegie Mellon and the University of Pittsburgh welcome guest lecturers in science, history, and the arts. Dr. John Myers will speak about endocrine disruption research this afternoon. Tuesday brings filmmaker Sadie Benning as well as Soviet historian Marko Dumancic. On Thursday, James E. Clingman will share his knowledge of African-American entrepreneurship.

Title: “A Revolution In Environmental Health Sciences: New Opportunities to Prevent Genetic Diseases”

The Basics: Dr. John Peterson

Myers, founder and CEO of Environmental Health Services and author of *Our Stolen Future*, will speak about new research concerning environmental factors that may be the cause of certain genetic diseases, with emphasis on fetal origins of adult disease and transgenerational impacts on disease. He will also explain the potential effects of the research on current exposure standards, which he believes are too weak to protect public health.

The lecture is the first in an environmental lecture series titled “Endocrine Disruption: Extending Rachel Carson’s Legacy,” in which noted experts will speak about endocrine disruption and its causes.

The lecture is sponsored by the University Lecture Series

and the Distinguished Lecture Series in Environmental Science.

When: Today at 5:00 p.m.
Where: Adamson Wing, BH 136A

Title: School of Art Lecture Series: Sadie Benning

The Basics: The School of Art presents Sadie Benning, who will discuss her work as a filmmaker. Benning’s videos have been exhibited in museums around the country, including the Museum of Modern Art and the Walker Arts Center. A filmmaker since age 15, Benning is also a photographer and a co-founder of music group Le Tigre. Her first full-scale museum exhibition is currently on display at the Wexner Center for Arts.

When: Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.
Where: McConomy Auditorium

Title: “A Recipe for Destroying a Civilization: How On-Screen Masculinity Reshaped the Stalinist Social Order”

The Basics: Marko Dumancic will share his assessment of on-screen masculinity in the post-Stalin period in the Soviet Union. He is completing a dissertation titled “Thawing Soviet Masculinity: The Contested Masculine Archetype in Soviet Mass Culture, 1956–1968” at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The lecture is sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh’s Center for Russian and East European Studies.

When: Tuesday at noon
Where: Posvar Hall 4217, University of Pittsburgh

Title: “The History of Black Entrepreneurship”

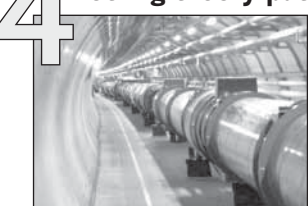
The Basics: James E. Clingman will share his perspective on the history of African-Americans’ participation in the U.S. business world. Clingman is one of the foremost promoters of economic freedom for African-Americans, having written five books and a nationally syndicated newspaper column on the topic.

The lecture will be presented by the Tepper Black Business Association.

When: Thursday at 5:30 p.m.
Where: Rachel Mellon Walton Auditorium, Tepper School of Business

Science & Technology

4 String theory put to the test



Also:
Improved DNA detection method
How Things Work: Telescopes

Forum

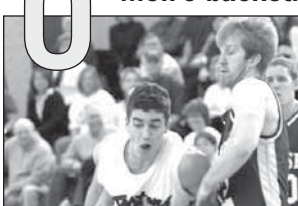
7 Obama and the name game



Also:
American apathy
Remembering Molly Ivins

Sports

10 Men’s basketball takes Case



Also:
Track competes at West Virginia
Athlete Profile: Leah Feola

Pillbox

10 Pittsburgh Courier images



Also:
Deep Sea IMAX
Galactic concert review

Company to release new software

LOGIC, from A1

think of [it] as something that you build stuff out of — it's like steel, bricks."

According to Scherlis, dependability is key in many different fields. Software programs keep pacemakers working correctly, fly planes, drive cars, operate rockets, govern banking systems, and have countless other responsibilities.

Even the average cell phone, an essential communication tool to many, contains three to five million lines of code. In all of this, there is enormous room for error.

"The rate of errors per thousand lines of code is a rough measure," Scherlis said. "The problem is that it takes just one little error to really do you in."

Unreliable software has been responsible for NASA's two failed Mars missions and the Northeast blackout of summer 2003.

Scherlis blames some of the problems in important software programs on the tension between computer scientists' ambition and the level of technological ability that currently exists worldwide.

"As we got more ambitious about what we wanted to do with software, our ambition exceeds our ability to produce reliably, and so there's this tension of goals and means," Scherlis said.

Scherlis and his team took their completed research to several companies. Among them was Lockheed Martin, which was extremely enthusiastic about Carnegie Mellon's software assurance tools.

The demand and enthusiasm for the Fluid team's tools established that it was time for the researchers to market their technologies as commercial products.

The Company

In 2006, Sure Logic received investments from Innovation Works, the state of Pennsylvania's seed fund group that fosters economic development in southwestern Pennsylvania, and

the venture capital firm Saturn Capital. In addition, Carnegie Mellon has an equity stake in Sure Logic.

Sure Logic was founded in September 2006 under the leadership of CEO Steve Schmitt, a 1996 graduate of the Heinz School in public policy and information technology.

Before coming to Sure Logic, Schmitt was the CIO of Pittsburgh and the CEO of FORE Systems, a successful Carnegie Mellon telecommunications spin-off sold to Marconi.

Schmitt is particularly enthusiastic about the software assurance industry's potential effect on southwestern Pennsylvania's economic development.

"This is not about the company or the technology," Schmitt said. "I believe strongly that the research that's being done at CMU in the area of software assurance can really create an industry here in southwestern Pennsylvania."

Schmitt hopes that the team's research will put Pittsburgh on the map in the new but thriving industry of software assurance.

"The work that's being done at the Institute for Software Research has the ability to create an international presence for software assurance," Schmitt said.

A "brain drain," or exodus of qualified graduates, is a big fear in southwestern Pennsylvania, but Schmitt is proud of the fact that nine of the 10 people hired at Sure Logic hold degrees from Carnegie Mellon, eight of whom have either a master's degree or a Ph.D. from the university.

However, despite the company's prominent position in the industry, Sure Logic still has to compete for top computer science grads with technology giant Google, according to Edwin Chan, Sure Logic's senior architect.

In addition, because the company is only a start-up, a job at Sure Logic poses a significantly higher risk than an entry-level position at Google.

However, it's a risk that Sure Logic software engineer and

Carnegie Mellon graduate Ethan Urie was willing to take.

"It's a very small company at the moment, so you wear a lot of hats," Urie said, "but it's nice having such an impact on the company vision and where we're going."

The Products

Sure Logic's tools analyze only Java code, but the company plans to expand its software to include C, C++, and C# analysis tools.

According to Urie, Sure Logic's tools find the most deeply entrenched bugs that aren't detected by testing and inspection. Instead of just eyeballing thousands of lines of code and executing it in a number of different situations, Sure Logic works by directly analyzing the code.

"We analyze the software in a non-running state. We look at code as-is," Urie said. "That allows us to find flaws that are very difficult to find using traditional static analysis."

Chan agreed that the difference between Sure Logic's product and those of other companies is significant.

"Most other companies take your code, put it in a black box, and turn the crank," Chan said. He explained that Sure Logic's tools require programmers to be much more involved in the process of analysis and policy implementation.

"If you have a policy, [our product] helps you write code that is consistent with that policy," Chan said.

The list of companies that want Sure Logic's technology reads like a who's who of the Fortune 500, including IBM, ebay, Oracle, and Sun Microsystems. Those who have had the chance to use the technology are enthusiastic about its potential.

"I can't think of any of our Java code I wouldn't want to run this tool on," said Andrew Winkler, senior architect at Lockheed Martin, at the International Conference on Software Maintenance held in September 2006.



Justin Brown/Photo Editor

Sure Logic's new product will help companies create high-dependability software programs by analyzing each line of a program's coding. The company's office is pictured above.

Campus green practices need work

GREEN, from A1

"To get one student to recycle a soda bottle instead of throwing it away is a triumph in itself," said Emmeline Altschul, president of Sustainable Earth and a senior chemistry major. "The university itself is more sustainable than its students."

Dining Services has made an effort to include healthier and more organic food on its menus. Additionally, it is trying to integrate more local foods from both suppliers and producers in the vicinity.

For the past several years, green building initiatives have been prominent among the university's initiatives.

Campus officials have introduced solar panels in campus buildings on Craig Street, and a green roof filled with vegetation on Hamerschlag Hall. The Intelligent Workplace, located on top of Margaret Morrison Carnegie Hall, serves as a laboratory used to research environmental sustainability.

All new buildings on campus are now required to have LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. New House was the first building to be LEED-certified, starting the trend in 2001, and the upcoming Gates Building will face the same requirements.

A LEED certification measures

building sustainability in five areas — sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality. The certifications come in four levels — certified, silver, gold, and platinum. Currently, Carnegie Mellon requires a minimum level of silver.

Finding alternative sources of energy has been a consistent undertaking for students and researchers at the university. According to university data, approximately 15 percent of the university's energy is produced by alternative electrical energy. That figure is expected to rise to 20 percent by the end of this year. Currently, university President Jared Cohon is considering a petition brought to him by campus environmental organizations like Sustainable Earth that would require 51 percent of the university's energy be produced by alternative sources by next year.

Carnegie Mellon is a founding Green Power Partner and recipient of the Clean Cities Award. The university also received the Green Power Leadership Award in 2001 for securing what was the largest single retail purchase of wind energy in the nation.

However, although Carnegie Mellon remains at the forefront of sustainability efforts on campus, the university's endowment

shareholder practices with respect to the environment lag far behind.

The study showed a clear trend between a school's endowment policies and its overall ranking on the survey's list.

The study estimated Carnegie Mellon's endowment to be \$940 million as of the 2005-2006 academic year. The four colleges and universities that received the highest overall grades in the study — Harvard University, Dartmouth University, Stanford University, and Williams College — boast endowments that far exceed Carnegie Mellon's, ranging from \$1.5 billion at Williams to \$28.9 billion at Harvard. Due to their large endowments, these schools have more money to put toward sustainability without skimping in other areas. Right now, Carnegie Mellon simply does not have the funds to compete with these institutions.

"It seems as if alumni simply do not donate here like they do at other schools," Altschul said. "Maybe the obligation just isn't there for them."

The reason for the lack of alumni donations and a smaller endowment overall is unclear. However, despite green initiatives, since Carnegie Mellon's endowment is so much smaller than other schools, the university may not move up in the sustainability rankings soon.

Campus News in Brief

Shabbat 1000

The smell of traditional Jewish foods will fill Carnegie Mellon's Wiegand Gymnasium in the University Center on Friday as students, faculty, and other members of the Pittsburgh community gather for Shabbat 1000, an annual campus event held to celebrate the traditional Jewish day of rest. The program will provide a filling three-course meal for, organizers hope, 1000 participants. Attendees will be served traditional Shabbat foods such as gefilte fish, a variety of kugels, challah rolls, salads, desserts, and several vegetarian options.

"The atmosphere will be one of celebration, joy, and unity," said Chani Weinstein, Pittsburgh's Shabbat 1000 administrator. Several student groups from Carnegie Mellon, including Alpha Epsilon Pi, Zeta Beta Tau, Israel on Campus, and Tartans for Israel, have joined other groups in the Pittsburgh area to help in the planning, promotion, and implementation of the event.

Shabbat 1000 is a national event started 12 years ago by Rivka Slonim, co-director of the Chabad House at the State University of New York at Binghamton. Cornell University, Harvard University, Pennsylvania State University, and the University of Texas are just a few of the

universities that have brought the Shabbat 1000 tradition to their own campuses.

"This unique campus event offers students an opportunity to meet and connect with others and to share in the traditional celebration of Shabbat — something special beyond their weekly routine," Weinstein said. "The actual event is very inspiring to see so many students celebrating Shabbat and eating a delicious meal all together."

Pittsburgh's Shabbat 1000 is coordinated by Chabad House on Campus and the Hillel Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh. This year's event is dedicated to the memory of the late mayor of Pittsburgh, Bob O'Connor.

Dinner is free and open to everyone, Jewish and non-Jewish alike.

Today is the last day for students to sign up on the event's website, www.shabbat1000.net. Participants can either sign up to host a table of 10 people, or sign up as an individual to be placed at a table of 10 by the event's organizers.

Shabbat 1000 will take place Friday, February 9 at 5 p.m. in the Wiegand Gymnasium.

Compiled by
Veronica Milliner

University to choose official mascot

MASCOT, from A1

on the issues. Frank defined a mascot as something collegiate, respectable, and representative of athletics and academics. Colin Sternhell, a junior economics major, described a mascot as

good, fun, enthusiastic, and supportive of its teams. Andrea Hamilton, student body vice president and a senior in art and ethics, history, and public

policy, wanted a mascot that would attract fans and as well as younger children.

What members of the audience didn't know was that the Scottish terrier or Scottie dog that is seen on apparel in the Carnegie Mellon bookstore is a clip art design that is not licensed and does not represent an official icon of Carnegie Mellon, such as the official wordmark or official seal.

"The old Scottie dog clip art has been grandfathered in," said Jay Marano, the university's licensing coordinator and a member of the task force.

The task force held its first meeting last semester and has held four or five meetings to date.

Since 2005, several changes in CMU athletics have brought the issue of an official mascot to light.

Over the course of the year, the group has discussed the background and history of mascots, the history of Carnegie Mellon icons, and the steps necessary to propose an official mascot that would best represent the interests of the Carnegie Mellon community. The task force has also sought the views of alumni.

The task force is co-chaired by Church and Susan Bassett, Carn-

egie Mellon's athletic director.

Since 2005, there have been several changes in Carnegie Mellon's Athletics Department that have brought the issue of an official mascot to light, according to the task force. First, Bassett was named athletics director and has

been working toward increased athletic recognition. In addition, student athletes have been pushing for an icon that could represent Carnegie Mellon athletics,

and the administration is open to supporting a formal proposal.

The task force will continue to hold meetings throughout the year to involve students, administrators, faculty, and staff in various capacities to create a mascot that would best represent the campus community.

The task force welcomes all suggestions and can be reached via e-mail at carnegie-mascot@cmu.edu.

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American Heart Association

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Carnegie Mellon theorist creates test for string theory

by **Jun Xian Leong**
Junior Staffwriter

String theory has long been a subject of heated debate in particle physics because of its mostly unconfirmable predictions, which lead many experts to question its legitimacy. Now, in a controversial paper jointly published by researchers throughout the United States, scientists claim to have developed a test that may falsify the postulates of string theory and thereby change our perceptions of the universe.

The paper, titled “Falsifying Models of New Physics via WW Scattering” and published in *Physical Review Letters* on January 22, was co-authored by Jacques Distler from the University of Texas at Austin, Benjamin Grinstein from the University of California, San Diego, and Rafael A. Porto and Ira Rothstein, a graduate student and physics professor at Carnegie Mellon, respectively.

“Every theory like string theory is based on certain mathematical assumptions, and then what you can do is see what the consequences are of these assumptions,” Rothstein said.

The greatest quandary in physics today is how different the laws of physics are between massive and subatomic scales. General relativity, which describes the interactions of large masses and gravity, has long been at odds with quantum mechanics, which describes physical interactions at the atomic and subatomic level. The theories differ wildly in their interpretation of reality, yet each of them is the most accurate representation of the world at their respective scales.

Gravitational laws, for instance, dictate that an orbiting mass must continually lose energy and eventually spiral into the center of orbit. Electrons orbiting around the nucleus, however, have a quantified minimum orbital that appears to violate all laws of energy conservation.

String theory is the most successful of various quantum field theories that have

See THEORY, page A5

Scientists improve DNA detection with nanotags

by **David Cassel**
Junior Staffwriter

Researchers in the chemistry department, alongside colleagues in the Molecular and Biosensor and Imaging Center (MBIC), have just made the process of viewing and identifying DNA much easier.

MBIC conducted research to improve the process by which scientists identify and distinguish different strands of DNA.

Associate professor of chemistry Bruce Armitage, alongside colleagues from MBIC, recently published an online paper entitled “Fluorescent DNA Nanotags: Supramolecular Fluorescent Labels Based on Intercalating Dye Arrays Assembled on Nanostructured DNA Templates” in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*.

The MBIC, recently named the National Center for Networks and Pathways by the National Institutes of Health, is a center utilized by both Carnegie Mellon and University of Pittsburgh researchers, in addition to a

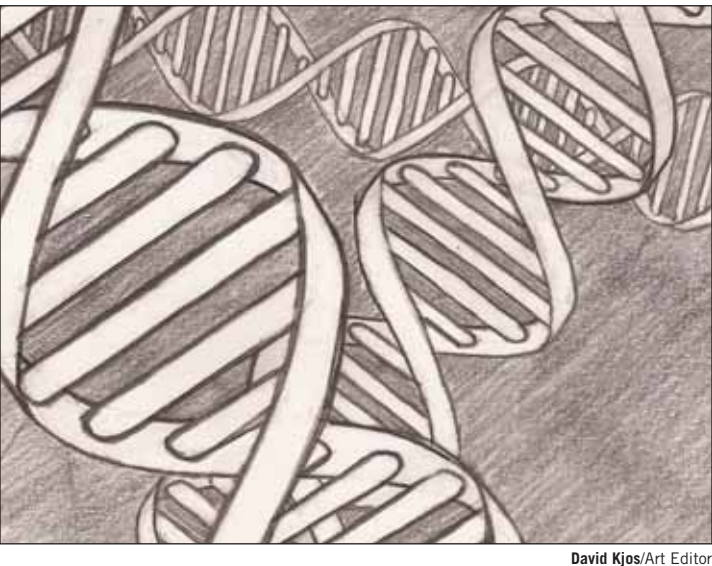
number of other universities. The MBIC has a history of researching and developing fluorescent detection methods by combining fluorescent probes, or areas of cells that produce color, with computerized microscopy.

Armitage’s recent paper outlines a method for improving the process of fluorescent dyeing, which consists of binding fluorescent dye molecules to DNA. Color and concentration variations allow for further levels of strand distinction.

According to Alan Waggoner of MBIC, “The idea is to hook very bright fluorescent tags to things like DNA and proteins so that they can detect it.” Scientists have used fluorescent detection methods in the past to uncover the human genome sequence, monitor AIDS, and diagnose cancer.

A Carnegie Mellon press release published on January 26 stated that this new nanotagging technique is an innovative advancement in detecting rare cancers within biopsy tissue samples.

See DNA, page A5



David Kjos/Art Editor



Jim Kubicek/Photo Staff

Backyard Invasion at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History features paintings and digital prints of plants.

New exhibit focuses on invasive plants

by **Sarah Mogin**
Pillbox Editor

It’s hard to imagine life in North America without the influences of Europe and Asia. The Beatles, lasagna, lo mein — there’s a lot to be grateful for.

But Europe and Asia have also brought thousands of species of invasive plants to North America. Some European and Asian plants were brought to North America for aesthetic or medicinal purposes, while others made it to the country after their seeds clung to the clothes and suitcases of travelers. While these plants are often beautiful and easy to maintain, they are also the most likely to pose major threats to the ecosystem.

Backyard Invasion, a new exhibit at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, features images of invasive and endangered Pennsylvania plants. The display — both informative and elegant — is a combination of drawings, paintings, etchings, and giclées (digital prints).

The illustrators obtained much of their information from the extensive library of records on Pennsylvania plants. “If a plant is misfiled, it might be lost for a hundred years,” explained Bonnie Isaac, collection manager for the museum’s herbarium.

Non-native plants — also known as “exotic” plants — can be classified as “invasive” when they exhibit rapid and aggressive growth. According to the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association, Pennsylvania has approximately 3400 species of plants, 1300 of which are exotic.

Though some invasive plants are native to North America, the vast majority come from other continents, primarily Europe and Asia. When they take over a garden, park, or planting area, invasive plants endanger the surrounding ecosystem.

The invasive plants are likely to encroach upon regions previously occupied by native plants, many of which are rare, if not at risk for extinction. By the year 2000, an estimated five percent of plants native to Pennsylvania had been depleted. That same year, about one-fourth of those remaining were categorized as endangered.

Invasive plants flourish where other plants are likely to dwindle: on bare soil or disturbed ground. Exotic plants are known to thrive off the nitrogen in chemical fertilizer, so it is recommended that people fertilize their gardens with organic substances, such as compost and mulch.

One example of an attractive — yet harmful — invasive plant is purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). “[The loosestrife] is starting to grow and take over

See PLANTS, page A5

How Things Work: Telescopes

Michael M. Whiston

Sometimes, the most distant objects are the most interesting to study. Telescopes allow scientists to discover and analyze star clusters, planets, and galaxies beyond what the naked eye can see.

A telescope magnifies an image by collecting incoming light and bringing it into focus using a mirror or lens. The telescope’s eyepiece then spreads this light across the viewer’s retina, thus enlarging the image.

There are two types of telescopes: refractor telescopes and reflector telescopes. Refractor telescopes use a lens to bring light into focus, and reflector telescopes use mirrors.

Reflector telescopes are powerful enough to magnify deep-sky objects such as galaxies and nebulae. Refractor telescopes, on the other hand, can only be used to study stars and planets.

Some of the world’s larger telescopes are equipped with computerized instruments that enhance the viewer’s ability to analyze the structure of space objects.

The South Africa Large Telescope (SALT), built in 2005, is equipped with an optical corrector assembly that helps detect objects in distant space. SALT is the largest optical telescope in the southern hemisphere. Carnegie Mellon University is one of many institutions that funded its construction.

Carnegie Mellon physics professor Richard Griffiths said, “Basically, we build bigger and bigger telescopes all the time because we want to see fainter and fainter things.”

Griffiths said that SALT is currently under commission but in the process of being tested. Once it is in use, its primary purpose will be to take photos of objects in space and analyze light emitted by these objects using spectroscopy.

To take photos of objects in space, the telescope is equipped with the SALTICAM, a camera that also measures the intensity and absorption of light.

“This telescope does, in fact, have the capability to measure polarization,” Griffiths said.

SALT contains a number of subsystems as well. In particular, the telescope structure is capable of positioning and reporting the direction of the telescope direction within five arc-seconds, or 5/3600 of a degree.

The primary mirror of the telescope further focuses light collected from the surrounding environment. The mirror, comprised of 91 smaller, interchangeable mirrors that are hexagonally shaped, can be tilted forward and backward using special controls.

Astronomers in Australia use a similarly designed microscope called the Anglo-Australian telescope. The telescope allows astronomers to view the center of the Milky Way galaxy and a collection of smaller galaxies called the Magellanic Clouds.

The telescope, 3.9 meters in diameter, uses charge coupled devices (CCDs), which convert light into digital signals to produce images of distant objects. These images are then stored onto a computer.

The Anglo-Australian telescope is equipped with spectrographs, or instruments that divide incoming light into spectrums of color. Scientists study these spectra to learn about the chemical composition and temperature of distant objects.

Scientists also use infrared devices to detect objects that do not emit visible light, such as objects that are very cold or hidden by dust clouds. Different telescopes detect different frequencies of electromagnetic radiation. A radio telescope, for instance, detects radio signals.

The Arecibo radio telescope, which is part of the National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico, is equipped with a radio mirror 1000 feet in diameter and 167 feet deep. This giant dish, coupled with a series of antennas and radio receivers, enables the telescope to detect weak radio signals emitted by galaxies millions of years ago.

The Arecibo observatory is also home to a number of different research projects, including atmospheric science and radar astronomy.

In fact, researchers recently used the Arecibo telescope, managed by Cornell University, to detect radio emissions from the Crab Nebula pulsar, which is a star that emits radio waves. According to a Cornell press release, the Crab Nebula pulsar is smaller than a soccer ball. Yet, this pulsar emits extremely strong radio waves in short time intervals — about four-tenths of a nanosecond.

This type of radio emission has never been seen before, and researchers suspect that it may be due to a third magnetic pole that is separate from the usual north and south poles.

As writer Timothy Ferris stated in his book *The Big Shebang*, “We live in a changing universe, and few things are changing faster than our conception of it.”



Courtesy of www.arm.ac.uk/SALT/

The South African Large Telescope will be used to study the light emitted by space objects.

SciTechBriefs

Nanomachines on the horizon

Researchers at the University of Edinburgh have developed a tiny motor that may revolutionize microscopic machines. Such a device is dubbed a nanomachine, which is a machine composed only of single-molecule parts.

Nanomachines are typically mechanical switches or detectors between one and five nanometers across. Natural processes, such as photosynthesis and muscle contraction, utilize the nanomachine concept.

The newly created nanomachines trap particles in motion and are powered only by light. The researchers have already demonstrated their nanomachine, which is based upon the concept of organic processes, by moving a drop of water uphill via molecular force.

Source: CNN

Palm oil may harm environment

Palm oil was touted as the fuel of the future by political and environmental groups just a couple of years ago. After recent scientific studies at palm plantations in Southeast Asia, however, environmental problems with the palm oil initiative began surfacing.

Due to an increased demand for palm oil in Europe, many Southeast Asian rainforests have been cleared, and many farmers over-fertilize their harvests. In addition, many palm plantations are established on cleared peatland, which released enormous amounts of carbon into the atmosphere.

To clean up the situation, the Netherlands is leading an exploration into the environmental efficacy and soundness of various biofuels for future research and commercial use.

Source: *The New York Times*

Flies without sense of smell live longer

Maintaining a reasonable diet has always been a way to increase health and lifetime. Now, recent studies reveal that flies may actually live longer if they do not smell their food.

Flies use their sense of smell and food consumption levels to determine how nutritionally rich their environment is, and they then distribute their energy resources accordingly. Thus, if smelling of food is inhibited, the fly detects an artificial deficiency of nutrients and would direct more energy to vital functions and reproduction. This process, in turn, results in a longer lifespan.

To test this theory, scientists gave two groups of flies, one with functioning smell receptors and one with blocked smell receptors, the same diet. They found that the latter group lived 40 to 50 percent longer than their normal counterparts.

Source: *Nature*

Hubble telescope loses use of camera

According to NASA, the Hubble Space Telescope’s main camera shut down recently due to electrical failure. Engineers estimate that only a third of the camera’s full capabilities will be restored immediately.

Many scientists mourned the loss of Hubble’s main camera as a research tool, as it produced the clearest images of the universe to date. Hubble is due to be replaced by the James Webb Space Telescope in the near future after several more servicing missions.

Source: BBC News

Researchers tag DNA with fluorescent dye

DNA, from A4

ples. Moreover, monitoring DNA activity of mutant and healthy cells is important for determining the effectiveness of cancer treatments in individual patient cases. The population and activity of cancerous and healthy cells within a tissue can help doctors determine whether recurrence is likely and further treatment is needed.

“For example, two different populations of cells, one healthy and the other cancerous, could be distinguished based on labeling them with different color fluorescent nanotags,” Armitage said in the press release.

Graduate student Andrea Benvin, who is part of Armitage’s research group, stated in the press release, “Our DNA nanotags offer unprecedented densities of fluorescent dyes and, thus, the potential for extremely bright fluorescent labels.... We’ve put it all into a very small pack-

age, which will allow us to detect molecules with great sensitivity without interfering with the biological processes we are trying to understand.”

The structure of a fluorescent molecule is based on the design of phycobiliproteins, proteins found in certain types of photosynthetic algae. According to the press release, the proteins contain multiple fluorescent pigments that absorb light energy and transfer it to chlorophyll before photosynthetic processes utilize the absorbed energy. The fluorescent DNA nanotags developed by the MBIC team imitate this light-harvesting process to create very luminescent, fluorescent labels.

According to Armitage, “light-harvesting” tags allow for further differentiation between different DNA strands. These light-harvesting dyes are excited by a certain wavelength of light and transfer energy to other “light-emitting” tags on the nanotag’s surface.

The interaction between tags and absorbed light causes the light-emitting and light-harvesting tags to fluoresce at different colors, accounting for the additional capacity to differentiate between strands.

The fluorescent molecules are inserted in between DNA bases, which are stacked on top of one another. Other dyeing methods usually have a single fluorescent marker for every strand of DNA, so this new method far exceeds previous levels of brightness. For example, if a strand of DNA consists of 30 bases, 15 markers can be attached to the molecule as opposed to one. This can create a level of fluorescence 15 times as bright as normal.

According to Armitage’s publication, these assemblies of fluorescent molecules are advantageously simple. In particular, researchers used base pairing to assemble the DNA nanostructure, and the fluorescent molecules were then added to the solution

to form non-covalent bonds with the DNA.

In the press release, Armitage stated, “The primary advantages of our system are the simplicity of its design combined with the ease with which the fluorescence brightness and color can be tuned.”

According to Waggoner, this process also makes detection more sensitive so that the markers can contribute less volume to the structure. Furthermore, Waggoner said, “Since you can use many different kinds of dyes ... you could perhaps get multiple reagents of different color so that you could detect several different things at once.”

Although this development marks an important advance in the field of DNA fluorescent marking, Armitage stated in the press release, “We really feel that this is the tip of the iceberg and that nanotags 100 times brighter than existing labels can be developed in any color.”

Invasive plants may harm other garden plants

MUSEUM, from A4

our native species,” said Cynthia Morton, associate curator and head of botany for the museum, and a professor of biology at both the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon.

According to a report by the Plant Conservation Alliance, purple loosestrife first made it to North America in the 19th century, when it was desired for medicinal and decorative purposes. Traced back to both Europe and Asia, loosestrife is still sought after for its looks, though it has been made illegal in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois in an attempt to protect native plants.

Another more common example of an invasive plant is ivy. “This is one all people can recognize,” Morton said. “It grows everywhere.”

English ivy (*Hedera helix*) has the ability to grow quickly and densely. When attached to a tree, the ivy will spread to cover increasing portions of its host, which will eventually die from lack of sunlight. Ivy can also cause dam-

age to brick walls or other structures, as its tiny roots deteriorate the surface.

Able to adapt quickly to new environments and produce seeds in short cycles, invasive plants can be extremely hard to eliminate. Any removal effort is certain to cost money as well as time.

When the problem becomes sufficiently large, however, it is no longer practical to pull out invasive weeds by hand. At this point, it becomes the job of a professional to handle the situation, either through mechanical removal (digging or cutting) or chemical removal (herbicide). Frequently, one must uproot invasive plants for years in a row before they stop growing back. Still, Morton insists, it’s worth the effort.

Though many invasive plants made it to North America through accidental means, sometimes people go right out and buy them. Wal-Mart, K-Mart, and many local garden shops sell invasive plants to customers who probably don’t know any better, Morton explained.

“If you can’t control it, don’t plant it,” she

said. “It takes work.” The primary goal of *Backyard Invasion* is to educate visitors on the differences between invasive and endangered plants, and why it matters to protect the latter.

One endangered plant depicted in *Backyard Invasion* is the Maryland meadow beauty (*Rhexia mariana*). “There’s only two *rhexias* in Pennsylvania,” Morton said; one is endangered, and the other close.

What’s important is to replace invasive plants with native ones. If the ground remains bare, invasive plants are more likely to return. To choose a native plant that is sure to flourish, the Landscape and Nursery Association recommends observing which species are present in neighboring areas.

For gardeners only interested in plants with “exotic” features, another option exists: cultivars. Cultivars are native plants developed for specific qualities, taking into account aesthetics, size, blooming-period, and the presence of thorns.

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New test may reject string theory



Courtesy of lhc-machine-outreach.web.cern.ch/lhc-machine-outreach/photogallery/sector81-june05/SECTOR_81/

The Large Hadron Collider, scheduled to begin operation later this year, consists of a long circular tunnel.

THEORY, from A4

attempted to reconcile these two interpretations of physical interaction. String theory postulates that the fundamental form of matter is not particle-shaped, but rather, string-shaped.

The vibration of these strings in multiple dimensions determines their excitation mode, which is the type of elementary particle they represent, such as bosons, pions, and fermions. Supersymmetry in string theory then relates the particles that transmit forces to the particles that make up matter.

Distler said that string theory is an “effective field theory” that describes physics in terms of degrees of freedom on a particular energy scale. The experiment outlined in the paper attempts to determine the nature of the ultraviolet completion of string theory, which is how string theory should behave in high-energy situations.

“If the values lie outside some range, it tells you something very profound about physics at the high-energy scales, namely that what we’re seeing is not of the expected sort, like string theory,” Distler said.

The paper outlines a method of using the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) to detect the creation of a light Higgs boson during the scat-

tering of W-bosons, from which the boundaries outlined by string theory can be tested. W-bosons, first detected at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in 1983, are elementary particles that control the weak nuclear force. Higgs bosons are theoretical particles that govern the difference between massive particles, such as bosons and protons, and massless particles such as photons.

The LHC, which will be the largest particle accelerator in the world when it begins operation in Switzerland later this year, is hoped by many to be the first particle accelerator capable of detecting and analyzing Higgs bosons.

This paper is the first attempt to develop an experiment that may disprove string theory. Researchers are mostly expecting to see the bounds set by string theory satisfied by this experiment.

Distler said that a successful outcome in the experiment, however, should not be seen as anything more than a weak support for string theory. The results of the experiment can effectively rule out certain quantum field theories but not serve as verification.

Rothstein said, “I highly doubt that the bounds would be

violated.... It seems highly unlikely.” At the same time, Rothstein thinks that it is important to test string theory. “Everyone always comes down on string theory because we never know if it is right,” he said, “but one thing that you might know is whether it is wrong.”

In the case that the results do falsify string theory, there is no shortage of viable alternatives. Loop quantum gravity, for example, is an alternate quantum field theory that breaks Lorentz invariance, one of the core assumptions of string theory. Other more esoteric theories may come to the forefront as well.

According to Distler, however, we should not expect to see results from the experiment for a few more years. However, researchers are very excited about the prospects of this experiment, regardless of the outcome. “If we don’t find the Higgs, a violation of our bounds will turn out to have a strong impact on our thinking, not just in high energy physics, and that would be just great,” Porto stated.

“I don’t expect to see the bounds violated either, but if they are, well, that’s how physics progresses,” Distler said.

nada, zip, zilch

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FromTheEditorialBoard



Michelle Lee/Art Staff

Peduto looks out for student rights

Do you live off campus? Take a moment and step out on the sidewalk. How many houses on your street would you call “total disaster areas”? If you live on Beeler Street or in the residential areas of Oakland, chances are that number is pretty high.

It would not be a stretch to say that for many students at Carnegie Mellon, Beeler Street’s reputation precedes it. City Councilman Bill Peduto is aware of it too, and he’s proposing reformed housing inspection legislation that would make it much harder for student housing landlords to ignore deteriorating conditions on their properties.

The proposal would codify mandatory inspections of student-zoned property (e.g., the houses in Oakland and on Beeler that are rented to students). If the properties don’t pass the inspection,

the owner will not be permitted to charge rent for someone to live there. The measures would not necessarily change the criteria by which a property could fail inspection; instead, they are intended to make it easier for the city to actually enforce the current inspection laws.

Landlords aren’t happy, of course — especially because the city may also gain the ability to get warrants to inspect a house based on neighbor complaints. Several local landlords are already intending to fight the legislation (according to an article in the January 26 issue of the *Post-Gazette*), and it seems likely that others will follow suit.

While on the surface these new measures from Peduto seem to be a great boon to students — new enforcement of a higher standard of living can’t be

bad, right? — there are some issues that might complicate things. The biggest of these is that landlords might start cracking down on their tenants and requiring a higher level of upkeep of rented property, therefore shifting the onus of preparing for these inspections onto students. Another possibility is that landlords may just opt to increase rent to make up for the cost of keeping a closer eye on their property. As many students living off campus already know, rent in these areas is already bordering on absurdly high.

Peduto has made a habit of being concerned with students’ rights, and this legislation seems like a great idea with a few possible pitfalls. Now might be a good time to start making sure your house is up to snuff, and making your landlord do something about it if it isn’t.

Fear the fabric

Despite the Scottie dog that may be stitched on your school sweatshirt and the furry, larger-than-life version of the canine that makes appearances at sporting events, Carnegie Mellon has no official mascot. Students and staff taking issue with our lack of a unifying symbol formed the Mascot Task Force and have been trying to create an official mascot for our university. In developing potential candidates, the task force is taking into consideration factors such as the characteristics that the mascot should embody and whether or not it should embrace our Scottish tradition.

Instead, we would like to advocate maintaining our strong Carnegie Mellon tradition of being non-traditional. Since when has attending Carnegie Mellon ever been akin to the typical college

experience? Our classes are calibrated in “units” instead of the more typical “credits.” Our computer science majors take a class in which they are supposed to learn to socialize. Our most widely attended sporting event is not the Homecoming game, but crack-of-dawn buggy races in which we all gather to watch really small people get shoved into strange vehicles and pushed up and down hills. And we are represented by tartan plaid instead of having an official mascot.

Most students embrace our uniqueness. We have a strange pride in the things that make our university different and, at times, ridiculous. We brag about it to our friends at other schools: *Your* university’s stadium may have a seating capacity upwards of 50,000, but we have a roboceptionist and get to whirl around

on carnival rides every spring. Loving the things that make us nerdy is a part of Carnegie Mellon culture.

Being without a mascot is just another way that Carnegie Mellon retains its pleasant distinctiveness. We certainly don’t want to end up with a boring, generic mascot like an eagle or a bear, nor do we want to be a mascot tragedy like the Wichita State University Shockers, represented by an anthropomorphic shock of wheat affectionately called WuShock. We prefer being the Carnegie Mellon Tartans. We are epitomized by our choice to be represented by a Scottish plaid. Fear the fabric.

Editorial Dissent:

We should be the Loch Ness Monsters.

Publicly funded research is public domain

As taxpayers, we have grown accustomed to blindly following the rules — chipping in every year without giving a second thought about where that money is going, who it’s going to, or what it’s being used for. At the same time, we expect to have access to those things that we know lie within the bounds of the public domain — if a road’s been repaved, we expect to be able to drive on it. If a new park has been built, we expect to be able to walk through it. However, taxpayers will probably never know how the government’s share of their hard-earned paychecks will be allocated; most likely, it’s because the government presumes they don’t care.

Every year, taxpayers of every education level and economic status unknowingly contribute to the \$55 billion that the federal government spends annually to fund research, the results of which are only published in scholarly journals, according to the American Library Association (ALA). Because accessing these journals requires a paid subscription, the journals are most likely viewed by a small subgroup of the academic elite, who have both the interest and the money to read what are effectively the fruits of the *public’s* labor.

Fortunately, Senator John Cornyn (R-Texas) and Senator Joseph Lieberman (I-Conn.) understood the injustice of

the system and introduced a bill last year that would require federal agencies that spend more than \$100 million a year on external research to make articles based on that research as available to the public as roads or parks, via the Internet.

The bill, called the Federal Research Public Access Act, would be particularly advantageous to students, who are often interested in research but unwilling to spend money on a scientific journal.

If the research is shared, its effects will reach and eventually improve the lives of a much wider audience than it would if it continued to be limited to such a narrow demographic.

SayWhat?

The apathetic American left

Casey Taylor

I walked down to the CVS in Squirrel Hill for a pack of condoms the other day, sex-crazed and with a dry throat, and had a brief moment of dread and fear when the entrance was blocked by a group of middle-aged Christians holding dead-fetus banners. “They never had a choice,” the captions read, and at the bottom an image of Christ on the cross stared back at me. There was something oddly poetic about this group of mostly overweight women prancing around and shouting to no one in particular. What especially struck me was the lack of bystanders gathered to hear their message. A stack of pamphlets sat on a table outside of the entrance untouched. Nobody cared.

I got to thinking: When was the last time a protest made any noise? When was the last time a group of political activists did anything but make the top story of the evening news only to never be mentioned again? Americans have become the generation of the New Dumb: ignorant to the issues and without a care in the world. Where were you when the country stopped caring?

I’m not just singling out the middle-aged Jesus-freak crowd as ineffective. Actually, in today’s America they’re fighting for the group that’s constantly winning: the religious right. The liberal movement as a whole has completely lost its voice in modern America. There are no groups left in this country that command respect from the public as a whole, voicing their opinions loudly and refusing to back down for their

gay marriage rally by booking a local Unitarian Church minister to give his thoughts on the state of our country. Until these issues start to gain some true star power, some of the Martin Luther King-esque eloquence that so marked the civil rights movement of the 1960s, it is unfair to expect the average American to give a damn about them.

Perhaps you disagree. Perhaps you think that I’m selling Americans short and that the average American, even with all the celebrity gossip worship, reality television programming, and fast food consumption, still has time to learn all angles of an issue. Maybe you believe that the average American still has the ability to understand the complex nature of political issues facing this country, and that no excuse should be made for those citizens who ignore the problems facing their country; that these particular Americans should find inspiration in the issues themselves, as opposed to the leaders of each respective movement inspiring them to get off the couch and make full use of their voice as members of a democracy.

But can we really blame these people for needing a spectacle to draw their attention to the political sphere? Maybe this country has been spoiled with great leadership in the past. Maybe we had a few scattered decades of great leaders who could inspire a nation, and these few leaders should be the exception instead of the rule.

Regardless of what you believe regarding those points, you can’t argue with the fact that every high-school-age student in America is in a history

Where’s the Malcom X of gay marriage? When is immigration going to find the leadership of a Cesar Chavez?

cause. It is the age of diplomacy instead of the age of action as it had once been in this country. Nobody wants to have a clear-cut message anymore. An excellent example is the left’s lack of a clear stance on abortion. Liberals are completely afraid of stepping on people’s toes or being offensive and are subsequently losing some part of their demographic. The fact is, Americans don’t care about anything political anymore and — get this — it’s not their fault. Since the American Dream is to pass blame on somebody else, I’m going to give America the proverbial freebie on this one.

We have reached an age in this country in which no respectable public figures from the left are stepping up for the causes they believe are right. Sure, groups of people get together every now and then, marching through the streets until police officers arrive and break the scene up, but what liberal political group in this country has a leader you can look at and directly associate with an issue? This isn’t the ’60s and ’70s anymore, which is completely evident by the lack of memorable political figures outside of the official political arena. Where’s the Malcolm X of gay marriage? When is immigration going to find the leadership of a Cesar Chavez? Are any of the Iraq protest groups ever going to find a leader that rivals Abbie Hoffman?

You’re probably beginning to understand what I’m getting at. I don’t blame Americans for lacking interest in American issues because, quite frankly, none of the issues have attracted any interesting figureheads yet. You can’t attract thousands of supporters to a

classroom learning about Malcolm X, Bobby Seale, and Che Guevara and then heading home to watch the news and wonder why figures like that don’t exist in modern-day society. And before kids get a chance to truly ponder this fact, they sit down in front of the television and get exposed to today’s leaders: Ryan Seacrest, TomKat, and, of course, Brad and Angelina. Yes sir, nothing like dulling the senses and living the American Dream to its fullest.

The true frustration comes from the average American’s inability to spot the lack of political direction. It seems as though after we began to right the (political) ship in the ’60s and ’70s, our good faith overtook our better judgment. We now live under the assumption that decisions made by our political leaders must, under any circumstance, be what are ultimately best for our nation’s future. Even if we disagree, as a whole we figure that voicing our opinion can make no major difference.

Without the leadership of a few inspirational figures outside of the Congressional political arena, American liberals are doomed to wallow in their own self-pity for another few decades. On the other hand, there’s always the possibility that one of these figures will break through in the near future, rallying Americans for or against any or all of the hot-button issues facing our disenfranchised nation. Have no fear, ladies and gentlemen, for when that day arrives and that leader takes center stage, you’ll recognize it. But you might not care.

Casey Taylor (caseyt@) is a sophomore creative writing major.

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The Tartan is a student newspaper at Carnegie Mellon University, funded in part by the student activities fee. It is a weekly publication by students during the fall and spring semesters, printed by Valley News Dispatch, Inc. **The Tartan** is not an official publication of Carnegie Mellon University. The first issue is free; subsequent issues cost \$0.50 at the discretion of **The Tartan**. Subscriptions are available on a per semester basis.

The **Editorials** appearing at the beginning of the opinion section are the official opinion of **The Tartan** Editorial Board. **Columns, Editorial Cartoons, and Reviews** are the opinions of their individual creators. **The Tartan** Editorial Staff reserves the right to withhold from publication any copy it deems unfit.

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Library of Congress ISSN: 0890-3107

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Barack Obama by any other name should smell just as sweet



Louisa Kinoshi

In 2000, when I initially moved back to the United States after living in Nigeria, everyone knew me as Bukola. During school registration I was given the option of choosing which name to go by, and I chose Bukola, my middle name, because it is the name I had been referred to by family and friends all my life. I was very proud of my name because Olubukola means “God has added to my wealth” in Yoruba. Bukola is as popular in Yoruba towns as Ashley or Emily is in the United States. Bukola, however, did not run smoothly off the tongues of my high school classmates. They called me everything from “Buquisha” to “Coca Cola.”

The naming process in the Yoruba culture is extensive. My deceased grandfather meditated on the name Olubukola for eight days before I was officially given my name at a huge naming ceremony. Because my name was so carefully chosen, I was upset that Olubukola had become subject to the insulting mispronunciation of my ignorant American friends. In college, I succumbed. I started

going by Louisa, my first name, not because I felt insecure about my middle name, but because I wanted to protect the name Bukola.

It turns out that I’m not the only one who has run into problems with my name and identity. In a speech on November 9, 2006, Barack Obama spoke about the insecurities with his identity that he felt as a child. Because he came from such a humble background — his father was a goat farmer — he never thought that he would be able to become the household name that he is today.

“Who would have ever thought the son of a woman from Kansas and father from Kenya with a name like Barack Obama would become a United States Senator?” Obama said in his speech.

Obama is now exploring the possibility of competing for the Democratic candidacy for President. Unfortunately for Obama, his last name has been mistaken for and mispronounced as “Osama,” and his middle name is Hussein. These names conjure up obvious images of Osama bin Laden and Saddam Hussein. The question remains whether possible negative associations with Senator Obama’s name will dramatically affect his potential run

for the Presidential office.

The idea that one’s name is directly linked to success is a myth. In the book *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything*, Stephen D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner claim that the name of a child does not affect the future success of that child. The evidence in the book from California data showed that on average, a person with a distinctively black name like Imani or DeShawn does not have a worse life outcome than a woman named Molly or Jake. Instead, people’s economic circumstances or the education level of their parents are far better predictors of future success.

In *Freakonomics*, Levitt and Dubner tell the story of Robert Lane, a black father who named one of his sons Winner and the other Loser. Ironically, Loser went to prep school, graduated from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania, and joined the New York Police Department where he eventually made sergeant. Winner Lane, on the other hand, has a criminal record with nearly three dozen arrests for burglary and domestic violence, among other charges. These anecdotes invalidate the myth that one’s name greatly influences that person’s chances for success.

According to the Social



Elizabeth Liu/Art Staff

Security Administration, in 2005, the most popular baby girl name was Emily and the most popular boy name was Jacob. These babies should not expect to be more successful than individuals named Bernethea or Burritt. As for Barack Obama, I don’t think his name will be a huge issue during the 2008 elections. With issues like our failure in Iraq, the continued growth of terrorism, gay rights, and the after-effects of Hurricane Katrina, I hope that

United States citizens will be willing to look past something as trivial as a name and look more into the personality, leadership characteristics, and diplomacy skills of our next leader.

Louisa Kinoshi (lok@) is a professional writing and international relations major. She will have trouble choosing between Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama in 2008, so she sincerely hopes they become running mates.

Molly Ivins’ voice left quite a mark



Marshall Roy

We would-be raconteurs, straight shooters, and cutters of the crap are mourning our sass-mouthed queen this week, our rabble-rouser-in-residence. Syndicated columnist and gleeful turd in the political punch bowl Molly Ivins succumbed to breast cancer last Wednesday at the age of 62. She once joked that her writing was energized by “truly impressive amounts of beer.” In that vein, the next time I crack open a cold one, I’ll raise it to her.

If you’re not familiar with Molly’s work, here’s what you need to know: She was feisty, she was a Texan, and she was chicken soup for the liberal soul. She hit the telling-it-like-it-is tone (which many writers aim for or are wrongly credited with) on the bull’s eye. She made her readers think, laugh, and then think some more.

She once said that government (or, as she was fond of writing in her Texas vernacular, *guvment*) was the best form of free entertainment. She loved exposing all that was hypocritical and absurd in our nation’s leaders — which is to say, she had her work cut out for her in the 21st century.

She even had the stones to regularly refer to President Bush as “Shrub,” and her unofficial slogan was “raise hell.”

But if you want to talk about it in fancy words, what Molly had was a near-perfect *ethos*, which is the most mysterious and, I think, most important aspect of rhetoric. If you imagine a piece of persuasive writing as a little window into a writer’s sensibilities, the *ethos* is what you’d see if you peered inside. It’s what Stephen

Colbert so brilliantly skewers in blowhards like Bill O’Reilly.

Molly’s healthy disrespect for authority grew out of her relationship with her hard-line father. Her inability to suffer fools grew out of reporting on the Texas Legislature early in her career.

As a journalist, it was Molly’s job to be direct, accessible, and concise. But she went one step further, employing a conversational tone that was at times humorous, but always straightforward and persuasive. Her prose style was unique because it refused to align itself with what most readers expected from political criticism or commentary. And while unconventional, Molly’s *ethos* was breathtakingly appropriate. Her refusal to speak the formalized language of politics made her criticism not only memorable, but incisive as well. It created, and then worked in, its own context.

In her April 27, 2006 column,

flick is absurd — but that’s the point. Ivins’ unique delivery embodied her mission to knock government off its pedestal and into the hands of the common people where she believed it belonged. She could have written, “It is pointless for the government to reclassify documents once they have been declassified, because people have already seen them and know what they contain.” That’s clear and direct, too, but it lacks Ivins’ snarky irreverence. It’s not nearly as memorable.

All right, I admit it: Part of the reason I love Molly Ivins’ writing so much is that I agree with her. I’m sure a reader of a different political persuasion would loathe in her what I love — he or she would find Ivins’ sarcasm snotty and obnoxious, her down-home tone condescending and disingenuous. But golly — I’ve yet to find a conservative writer with so fine an *ethos*, with a sense of self so accurate and so

She was feisty, she was a Texan, and she was chicken soup for the liberal soul.

she defended the privacy of late reporter Jack Anderson when the Bush administration wanted to seize the files he’d kept during his decades as a journalist. The column also criticized the administration’s extreme secrecy. As Ivins settled into her argument, her distinctive voice began to surface: “Those who saw government documents between declassification and reclassification are just going to have to forget what they saw. That, or some Man in Black will be sent around to zap your memory with a little thingamajig.”

Comparing government practices to a fluffy science fiction

unshakable. Maybe I can’t see the forest through the trees (“forest” signifying my crippling bias and “trees” my unabashed liberalism). Go figure.

In any case, do yourself a favor: Look her up and read a column or two. Whatever your political inclinations, you’ll love getting to know her. And when you’re finished, I bet you’ll like her, or at least respect her, even if, on the off-chance that you’re a humorless Rebiblican, you disagree with her.

Marshall Roy (mroy@) was 2006 Forum editor of The Tartan. He welcomes responses.

Crocs are for the birds



Jessica Thurston

I’d like to design a shoe. The shoe would be comfortable and relatively versatile — I want to be able to wear it in more than one place and to do more than one thing. Besides being functional, the shoe would be at least remotely attractive. Even if it’s best for a specific activity, the shoe wouldn’t look like a fish out of water in everyday life.

Now, what shoe are you picturing? What do these descriptions conjure up in the mind? Is it, say, the opposite of Crocs?

Crocs are chunky, rubbery, gaudy shoes. The best-selling version has massive, sweat-releasing holes. And with colors such as fuchsia, lime, and “orange (coral)” (which are actually *not* the same colors), these plastic platforms have no problem rivaling the most blinding colors rarely found in nature.

First of all, using an abbreviated version of the name of a monstrous, murderous reptile does nothing but beg for doom. I would personally like to keep my feet firmly attached to my legs, rather than to lure crocodiles searching for their little brothers or sisters to come snipping at my ankles, thank you very much. Secondly, the most popular Croc is called the “beach.” Apparently not capitalizing a proper noun and referring to a warm, outdoorsy location makes a product seem *really* cool.

A handful of other Crocs shoes are called “cayman,” “nile,” “islander,” “aspen,” and “athens.” Again with the lack of proper capitalization. And, according to Crocs, Aspen (as in that place people go skiing) is

best represented in a shoe by a supple rubber material just like that of the “beach” minus the gaping holes. This way, snow has no way of touching your precious toes. But, um, your exposed heel protected only by a thin strap of plastic might get a little frostbitten out there on the slopes. Apparently the Nile River is also best traversed in sweat-inducing plastic material with a cutout for the toes.

According to the Crocs website, the shoes were created for boating and the outdoors. This seems reasonably plausible. While such colors as purple and bright yellow may not be totally appropriate for the laid-back nautical lifestyle, the general ideas of a supported foot base and holes from which water can escape are generally good ones. Also, rubber won’t become saturated or stained like a regular canvas shoe, which is a plus for gardening or boating.

But what about for walking around campus? Unless you crawl to class on your hands and knees picking weeds from around the shrubbery, or take a sailboat across Forbes Avenue, plastic shoes with massive holes in them do not seem entirely ideal for the Pittsburgh environment. In fact, if you’re not planning on going boating or doing some intense gardening, wearing shoes with huge holes around your toes (what Crocs calls a “ventilated toe box” — *hot*) is almost embarrassing. The holes are just an attempt to keep you from slipping around in your own disgusting foot sweat. You know, from being crammed inside a clunky, glorified rubber glove.

Jessica Thurston (jthursto@) is a member of the Facebook group Abolish Crocs.

Presidential Perspectives

Feedback on mixed-gender housing needed



Karl Sjogren & Andrea Hamilton

In college, we meet a lot of cool new people: friends from floors, classes, clubs, and social gatherings. These people end up being the cornerstone of our college experience — the people we want to spend time with, share experiences with, and, more often than not, live with. So why shouldn’t we be able to live with our friends even if we aren’t the same gender?

Currently, Housing’s room assignment process requires that pairing be made by gender. It doesn’t matter how well you get along with a friend, you can’t share a space with someone of the opposite gender. We think it’s time to change this.

Last semester we crafted a proposal to implement a pilot study to test whether or not students would be interested in mixed-gender apartment living. The pilot study calls for a one- to two-year period to study market demand, administrative needs, and residents’ concerns. The pilot study was designed to focus on the Small Oakland Houses (SOH) and would allow mixed-gender cohabitation.

So how would this work? While it’s certainly not a simple change, it would still closely resemble the current room draw process. During room draw you would indicate a roommate assignment preference: male, female, or no preference. Your room would be filled accordingly. If Housing is unable to place someone according to your preferences, the room would default to Housing’s current same-gender standard. In other words, if our student community does not want to take advantage of the new housing option, then housing options revert back to the status quo.

Because the pilot study would focus on self-contained, apartment-style living, Housing would be able to test the viability of mixed-gender housing without impacting students who aren’t interested in a mixed-gender environment. All students would be able to try mixed-gender living except incoming first-years.

We’ve observed that our peer institutions (like NYU, for example) have mixed-gender apartments, and we’ve introduced the idea to Student Senate, Student Dormitory Council, and relevant staff members. But we need student input! Is this something you want? The only way to get Housing to move forward is to give them a better sense of students’ demands.

If you have any comments, positive or negative, please e-mail sbp@andrew.cmu.edu ASAP. All student comments will be collected and referred to Housing. We can do this, but we need your support.

Pittsburgh has frozen over. So we asked,

What's the best way to keep warm outside?



Maria Mauro
First-Year
Biology and Political Science

“Drink hot chocolate.”



Jon-Michael Reese
Sophomore
Music Theater

“[It’s] all about the layers.”



Ryan Handerhan
First-Year
Information Systems

“Wrap myself up like a marshmallow with gimongous marshmallow jackets.”



Drew Gidwani
Sophomore
Computer Science

“I like long, silk underwear.”



Tim Ruff
First-Year
Music

“Long walks on the beach, chocolate, and cuddling.”

A PERSON’S OPINION

Compiled by Max Jordan, Su Chu, and Deren Guler

Phi Beta Kappa members of the university community extend their congratulations to the following students, who were initiated into Upsilon of Pennsylvania, Carnegie Mellon's chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa Society on Tuesday, December 5, 2006.

- Jonathan S. Bingham
- Christopher J. Casinghino
- Yusheng Chang
- Marciela M. DeGrace
- Alison M. Decker
- Henry David DeYoung
- Tamara L. Friedlander
- Alexander L. Grubb
- Lydia Jing Ping Lam
- Michael A. Lentine
- Brian S. Mathias
- Katherine S. McKinney
- Brendan R. Meeder
- Wendy L. Niedelman
- Satyan M. Pai
- Guillaume A. Pignol
- Clara Reyes
- Jared Andrew Rinehimer

- Stephanie L. Rosenthal
- George Schaeffer
- Catherine Marie Scudera
- Staci A. Steinberger
- Stefanie A. Sydlik
- Michael Szczerban
- Claire M. Tomesch
- Elizabeth A. Wilttrout



February

Look for half price sweet treats on Valentine's Day at the Underground, including the Killer Cookie, Ultimate Brownie & other Ice Cream Treats!
Open til 11pm everyday!



Get a free Flavor Shot with any Coffee or Espresso drink in February at Skibo Cafe!
Open til 2am everyday

Andy's is now open 9am - 4pm on Cash Out Sundays!
2/11 & 2/25 this month



Meet the Tartan Cookie's best friend, the
Tartan Waffle

Available only at Schatz All You Care to Eat Breakfast, Dinner & Brunch

Congratulations!

The School of Computer Science wishes to publicly acknowledge the outstanding academic achievement of the following students who have been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2006 semester.

Abbott, Laura	Freshman
Abrahams, Jessica	Junior
Ahmad, Arbob	Junior
Ajoux, Philippe	Freshman
Alfeo, Nicola	Sophomore
Andersen, Melitta	Senior
Ang, Eugene	Senior
Arnold, Robert	Sophomore
Avramovic, Igor	Junior
Bae, Young Sub	Sophomore
Banner, Matthew	Junior
Bare, Keith	Junior
Barnat, Alfred	Freshman
Barndollar, Eric	Sophomore
Bauman, John	Sophomore
Blocki, Jeremiah	Sophomore
Brotzman, Michael	Senior
Casinghino, Christopher	Senior
Cheamanunkul, Sunsern	Senior
Chu, Andrew	Freshman
Chung, Paul	Freshman
Coltin, Brian	Freshman
Costello, Frank	Freshman
Dabholkar, Apurva	Sophomore
Daniele, Aaron	Freshman
Davis, Jackson	Freshman
Delmar, Gregory	Sophomore
Deyoung, Henry	Senior
Doersch, Carl	Freshman
Doolittle, Michelle	Sophomore
Douglass-Riley, Matthew	Junior
Dunn, Jeffrey	Sophomore
Durni, Owen	Freshman
Duterte, Daniel	Sophomore
Eisenberg, Daniel	Freshman
Fok, Wing Yu	Senior

Friedman, Max	Freshman
Garlan, Matthew	Junior
Gershenson, Joseph	Sophomore
Grafton, Jeffrey	Junior
Grubb, Alexander	Senior
Hacker, Severin	Junior
Haines, William	Senior
Heckman, Nicholas	Junior
Hiruncharoenvate, Chaya	Freshman
Ho, Yan Yin	Junior
Hoke, Evan	Junior
Hong, Seunghwan	Sophomore
Hottelier, Thibaud	Junior
Hsu, Calvin	Sophomore
Huff, James	Sophomore
Jeong, Youngjoo	Sophomore
Jesper, Lawrence	Freshman
Jin, Jing	Junior
Jun, Dong Bae	Freshman
Kakkar, Sidharth	Senior
Kaplan, Sam	Junior
Katona, Andrew	Senior
Kedia, Mihir	Senior
Kilgallin, Jonathan	Freshman
Kjos, David	Sophomore
Klionsky, David	Freshman
Kramer, Danielle	Sophomore
Laohaphan, Chanin	Freshman
Lazar, Anthony	Sophomore
Lentine, Michael	Senior
Levine, Mark	Sophomore
Liemhetcharat, Somchaya	Senior
Lim, Eujern	Senior
Lin, Kevin	Sophomore
Liu, Karen	Freshman
Long, Jonathan	Freshman

Low, Yucheng	Sophomore
Lundin, Alan	Sophomore
Luxenberg, Jared	Junior
Maas, Andrew	Sophomore
Maitin-Shepard, Jeremy	Junior
Mak, Mun Thye	Freshman
Mallepula, Sindhuja	Sophomore
Marinelli III, Eugene	Sophomore
Maurer, Benjamin	Sophomore
Millett, Danielle	Sophomore
Morrill, Matthew	Freshman
Moskowitz, Gabriella	Freshman
Nam, Yoon Ji	Sophomore
Ng, Si Yang	Senior
Ngiam, Jiquan	Sophomore
Oliva, Junier	Freshman
Ouyang, Zoe	Senior
Pan, Xinghao	Sophomore
Patil, Sarvajit	Senior
Pencoske, Daniel	Junior
Perkins, Daniel	Junior
Pitsch, Madeleine	Sophomore
Pong, Peter	Sophomore
Powell, James	Sophomore
Prakash, Vijay	Sophomore
Prochnow, Robert	Freshman
Quisel, Thomas	Senior
Ridmann, William	Senior
Rosenthal, Stephanie	Senior
Ruhland, Charles	Sophomore
Schafer, Daniel	Freshman
Schwelm, Eric	Freshman
Shan, Yang	Freshman
Shen, Paul	Freshman
Sherman, Jonah	Junior
Silverstein, Alexander	Freshman

Song, Shiwei	Sophomore
Stade, Evan	Senior
Storey, Lisa	Sophomore
Strommen, Alexander	Freshman
Sung, Austin	Sophomore
Tan, Jiaqi	Sophomore
Tan, Keetee Lawrence	Freshman
Telgarsky, Matus	Senior
Theera-Ampornpunt	Sophomore
Thiruvengadam, Nikhil	Freshman
Thomas, Lee	Sophomore
Tsang, Chiu Yee	Senior
Uesugi, Shusaku	Freshman
Uppal, Sahil	Sophomore
Vangpat, Alan	Junior
Wang, Samuel	Junior
Wang, Tianyuan	Freshman
Weitzman, David	Senior
Weston, Kimberly	Junior
Williamson, Matthew	Junior
Wismer, Timothy	Sophomore
Wolf, Benjamin	Freshman
Won, Charles	Sophomore
Won, Dae Gun	Freshman
Wright, Matthew	Senior
Yamany, Tarek	Senior
Yamauchi, Owen	Sophomore
Yeager, Andrew	Freshman
Yeo, Zhiquan	Freshman
Yousuf, Sana	Senior
Yurovsky, Daniel	Senior
Zhu, Timothy	Sophomore

SPORTS COMMENTARY

The flight of the Phoenix: Destination Dallas

Doug Fricker

Haven't been following the National Basketball Association (NBA) this season? I don't blame you. The first three quarters of an NBA game matter about as much as what the second man on the moon said. Throwing all this aside, two NBA teams, the Phoenix Suns and the Dallas Mavericks, are winning at such an incredible rate that they're getting a column written about them.

Dallas and Phoenix became just the third pair of teams in NBA history to enter February with an .800 winning percentage. Dallas at 39–9 and Phoenix at 37–10 are pulverizing their opponents with little or no sign of letting up, and try this on for size, the Mavericks lost their first four games of the season while Phoenix lost four of their first five! Dallas is 25–2 since December 11. Phoenix is 34–4 since November 18.

Dallas has separate win streaks of 12 games and 13 games this season. That's nothing, say the Suns, who have separate win streaks of 15 and 17 games on their résumé this season.

The Phoenix Suns are such a powerful offensive team, the only teams that have been able to find success against them are Dallas and Utah. The Suns lead the league with an average of 111 points per game. With Steve Nash at point guard averaging 11.9 assists per game (he's leading the league; Utah's Deron Williams is way back in second, averaging nine) the Suns have that certain flair in their offense that can be mesmerizing to watch. Along with Nash, forwards Shawn Marion and Amare Stoudamire pour in the points and make the offense click. Add Leandro Barbosa, Raja Bell, and Boris Diaw (que sera sera et c'est la vie; he's French) into the equation and you have six players who average double figures.

The Suns are giving up defense in the process of having the best offense and they're okay with that. They're 22nd in the NBA in points per game given up, whereas the Mavericks are second. The Mavericks are also eighth in the league in points per game showing they're as balanced as a tight-rope walker. They've also got depth, playing 10 players a night compared to seven for the Suns.

Forward Dirk Nowitzki leads the team in scoring and is their lone All-Star. Josh Howard is a budding superstar while guards Jason Terry and Devin Harris are a solid backcourt combination. Jerry Stackhouse provides a scoring punch off the bench. Dallas' depth and Phoenix's lack thereof will loom large in the second half of the season, with the Suns running the risk of running out of gas when it matters most, around playoff time.

As Dallas and Phoenix keep racking up wins, making their opponents look like blindfolded kids trying to hit a piñata, the stage is being set up for the playoffs.

With the Eastern Conference lacking the firepower found in the Western Conference, forget about the NBA Finals. Phoenix is 10–0 on the road and 19–1 overall against Eastern Conference teams.

It's hard to fathom a team from the East winning four of seven after seeing a stat like that. The real series to watch will be the Western Conference Finals, when the two best teams in the NBA battle it out just to determine who makes it to the NBA Finals.

Women's basketball falls on the road

WOMEN, from A10

ing 17 points to the Tartans' 14 and ending the game. The Spartans hit 46.4 percent of their shots as Carnegie Mellon made just 37 percent. Case players Maria Jackson and Ashley Horton were instrumental in the Spartan win, scoring 26 and 14 points, respectively.

Two days later on Sunday, the Emory Eagles (8–12, 2–7) saw success on their home court, defeating Carnegie Mellon by 22 points.

The Tartans came out strong, beginning the game with a 6–0 run. The lead switched hands throughout the first half, but

the Tartans headed into the second half trailing by one (27–26). First-year guard Paige Williamson led the Tartans' offense with 11 points in the first half.

Carnegie Mellon scored nine points at the beginning of the third quarter, putting them ahead before Emory took the lead for good with 15 minutes left in the game.

The Eagles hit 47.3 percent of their shots while Carnegie Mellon made a meager 31.3 percent. "We just couldn't hit anything, it seemed," senior guard Nora Darcher said. "There just isn't anything you can do when you don't hit your shots. It was frustrating, but we kept trying."

Williamson led the Tartans' scoring with 14 points. Senior point guard Ashley Mazziotta was next with eight points and five rebounds.

"We tried a new defense and it worked really well, but we just couldn't convert on the offensive end," Darcher said. "Once we start hitting out shots, we will be fine. We just need to keep working on that."

The Tartans (8–12, 2–7) continue their road trip this week, traveling to Boston and New York City to play Brandeis University and New York University in two UAA matchups. The team lost to both NYU and Brandeis over winter break.

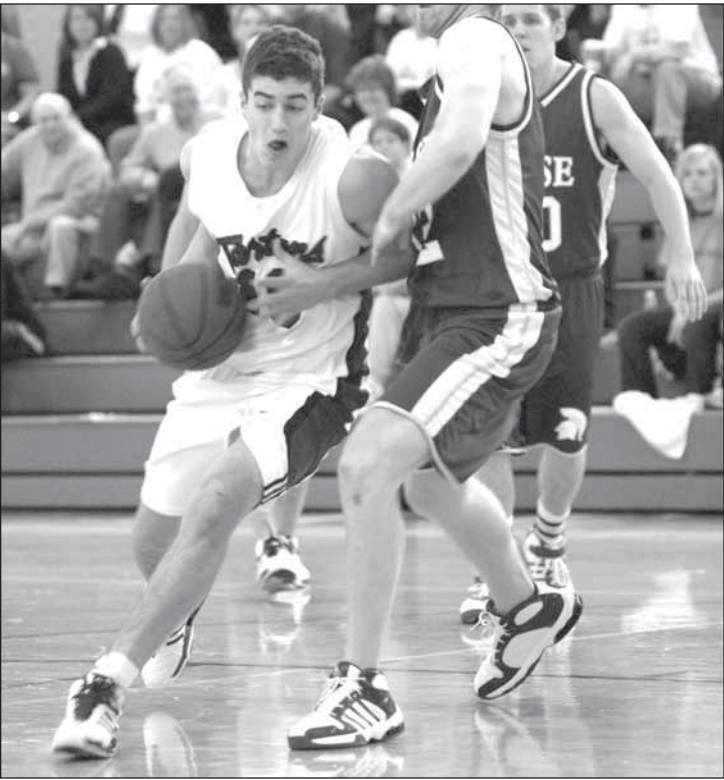
Men's basketball wins one, loses one

MEN, from A10

held on for the 11-point victory.

Emory shot 52 percent for the game compared to the Tartans' 40 percent. Kozak led the way for Carnegie Mellon with 18 points as five players scored in double figures. Anderson and O'Rourke each scored 14 points, senior guard Brad Matta chipped in 11, and sophomore center Rob Pearson had 10 points and eight rebounds. Sophomore forward Ryan Einwag led the team with 11 rebounds in the loss.

"[Emory] got an early lead on us and I know I've said it before, but you just can't fall behind on the road in the UAA," Matta said. "We were down 17 at one point and we got it down to nine. Then, they just hit shots the same way we did against Case, only at that point we were down nine instead of up by nine."



File Photo

The men's basketball team is 5–4 in the UAA with five UAA games left.

IM
NEWS

Administration

Director: Mike Mastroianni, x8-2214 or *mma8@*
Assistant Director: Mike Grzywinski, x8-2214 or *immike@*
Secretary: Amy Kiryk, x8-2053 or *kiryk@*
Student Co-Presidents: Bill Ross, *wross1@*, or Jon Kline, *jlkline@*
Women's President: Ashley Mazziotta, *amazziot@*

Important Dates

Monday, February 5 — Team badminton starts in Skibo Gym.

Thursday, February 8 — Rosters due for individual table tennis and call pool by 4:30 p.m. in the IM Office.

Thursday, February 15 — Rosters due for indoor soccer.

Thursday, February 22 — Three-on-three basketball rosters due.

Sports in Season

Floor Hockey — Games are being played in the arena room in Skibo Gym. Schedules are available in the IM Office.

Basketball — Games are now being played at the UC. Games are played Monday through Thursday nights and Sunday afternoons. Schedules are available in the IM Office.

Team Badminton — Games start tonight. Games are played Monday through Thursday nights in Skibo Gym on Court 'A' (stage end). Schedules are available at the IM Office.

All Sports Update (through all fall semester sports)

Men

1. PiKA 2341
2. ACF 1250
3. AC Mellon, What's Football, MRU 750 (tie)

Women

1. Hoopers 1050
2. East Siders and Thensome 500
3. SPIRIT 450

E-mail entries — All e-mail rosters are due 24 hours prior to stated due dates.

H&SS DEAN'S LIST FALL 2006

The faculty and staff of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences congratulate the following students for their outstanding academic performances during the Fall 2006 semester.

Seniors
Shreya Aggarwal* (SHS)
Lacey Anderson*
Katharine Andreassen
Nicole Barley
Jaisen Bell
Gerrit Betz
Ashley Birt
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File Photo

Carnegie Mellon men’s basketball tangled with Case and Emory this past weekend, defeating the Spartans 70–68 but falling to the Eagles 94–83.

Men’s basketball team battles Case and Emory

by **Doug Fricker**
Staffwriter

The Carnegie Mellon men’s basketball team split a pair of road University Athletic Asso-

ciation games this past weekend against Case Western Reserve University and Emory University. The Tartans edged Case 70–68 on Friday night before falling 94–83 to Emory Sunday afternoon.

On Friday, the host Spartans



File Photo

held a two-point advantage with 37 seconds left before sophomore guard Corey O’Rourke tied the game on a layup with 30 seconds remaining. A Case free throw gave the Spartans a 68–67 lead before junior guard Geoff Kozak hit the game-winning three-pointer with only 9.7 seconds left to give the Tartans the 70–68 win. A last-second shot by Case was off the mark, giving Kozak his second game-winner in the past three games.

Case Western built a quick 11–2 lead to start the game, but the Tartans answered with a 21–12 run of their own to tie the game at 23 at the 8:22 mark, thanks to a tip-in by first-year forward Dan Sawl. The Tartans then took their first lead of the game on a driving layup by O’Rourke and headed into halftime leading 32–27.

A 19–7 run to begin the second half from Case saw the Tartans down 46–39, but Carnegie Mellon again had an answer, scoring eight straight points to retake the lead with 13 minutes to play. From this point forward, neither team led by more than three points.

O’Rourke led the Tartans with 15 points and sophomore forward Dan Martin (starting for the first time) added a career-high 12 points. First-year guard Jack Anderson hit a pair of three-pointers en route to 10 points and a team-high seven rebounds.

Carnegie Mellon shot 40 percent from the field, but a disappointing 42 percent from the free-throw line, making 13 of 31 attempts. Fortunately, Case Western was equally bad, making just 18 of 40 attempts from the charity stripe.

“This game was back and forth,” senior guard Brad Matta said. “Case made their runs at the beginning of both halves, but we overcame adversity and we made plays when we needed to. Geoff hit the huge game-winning three, we pulled down a rebound when we needed a rebound, and made a shot when we needed a basket. When it came down to the wire, we were ready to make plays. We have guys on this team who have been in these situations before.”

The Tartans never held the lead against Emory on Sunday, with the Eagles using a 29–10 run to create a resounding 36–16 lead with 7:35 remaining in the first half. Carnegie Mellon trailed 53–36 at halftime with field goal shooting telling the story. Emory shot 55 percent from the floor, whereas the Tartans came into the locker room shooting 33 percent. The Tartans made things interesting in the second half, going on a 13–2 run to narrow the gap to 64–56 with 10:42 remaining after Anderson connected on a layup. The Tartans would get no closer, however, as the Eagles

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Track and field teams travel to West Virginia

by **Sam Kim**
Staffwriter

Last Saturday, the Carnegie Mellon track and field teams traveled to West Virginia to compete at the State Farm Shell games. The men’s team had three individual first-place finishes while the women’s team performed solidly as well. Some of the competition included Division I schools such as West Virginia University and Division II schools such as Indiana University of Pennsylvania and West Virginia Wesleyan College.

On the men’s side, sophomore Brian Harvey broke a school record by finishing first in the one mile with a time of 4:18.05. Senior Geoff Misek (4:32.47) and sophomore Mike Haley (4:38.23) finished fifth and seventh, respectively.

“Breaking the record is definitely a nice indicator of my current fitness level and helps build my confidence for the rest of the season,” Harvey said.

Sophomore sprinter Carlton Reeves also had a terrific day, finishing first in the 400-meter dash with a time of 53.07. Senior Russel Verbosky finished sixth with a time of 23.55 in the 200-

meter dash.

In the 500-meter run, first-year Chris Bogie led the team with a fourth-place finish with a time of 1:09.74. Junior Kiley Williams (1:09.91) and senior Jeff Polack (1:14.55) finished right behind Bogie in fifth and seventh place, respectively.

Senior Davey Quinn finished second in the 800-meter dash with a time of 1:58.63. First-year Dan Burrows (2:03.73) and senior Kevin Pruzinsky (2:05.69) finished sixth and eighth, respectively.

In the 1000-meter run, junior Drew Miller (2:37.99) and sophomore Raphael Bertrand (2:44.51) led the team with second- and fourth-place finishes. Sophomores Breck Fresen (9:05.12) and Andrew Frederickson (9:13.16) came in seventh and tenth in the 3000-meter run, respectively.

Senior Nicholas Bannister finished the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.53. Sophomore Craig Hahn followed to finish fifth with a time of 9.21.

In the high jump, sophomore Colin Marks finished fifth with a 1.78-meter jump and senior Eric Tang placed eighth with a jump of 1.65 meters. Tang also finished third in the long jump (6.74 me-

ters) and third in the triple jump (13.14 meters). Sophomore Joel Palko (12.68 meters) and first-year Eric Couphos (12.54 meters) grabbed fourth- and sixth-place finishes, respectively.

“I’m fairly satisfied with my performance in the long and triple jump although I could have done a little better,” Tang said. “I kneed myself in the face and got a pretty bad nose bleed during high jump. That was very unfortunate.”

First-year Chris Bridgeman vaulted 3.80 meters to finish sixth. First-year James Hulley threw for 13.19 meters in the shotput for sixth place while junior Mike Reggie threw for 14.84 meters in the weight throw for sixth place as well. The men’s 4x400-meter relay ‘A’ team finished third behind the West Virginia relay teams with a time of 3:32.56.

For the women’s team, sophomore Ashley Bakelmun had a strong race finishing fifth in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:30.55. Senior Jerri Castillo (2:34.25) and first-year Danielle Sedlack followed with eight- and ninth-place finishes, respectively.

In the 1000-meter run, first-year Anna Lenhart finished

fourth with a time of 3:24.52.

Four Carnegie Mellon 400-meter runners finished in the top ten; first-year Diane Mattingly finished third with a time of 1:03.47, and junior Shauna Ormon (1:30.54), senior Jackie Andreozzi (1:04.77), and junior Kelly Mingle (1:06.78) finished fourth, sixth, and ninth, respectively.

Like the men’s team, the women’s 4x400 meter relay ‘A’ team finished in third place behind the West Virginia teams. “I’m excited for our 4x400 in the upcoming UAA meet because I feel we have four really strong 400 runners,” Andreozzi said.

Sophomore Jessica Meng placed seventh in the long jump, triple jump, and high jump. She jumped 4.63 meters in the long jump, 10.21 meters in the triple jump, and 1.53 meters in the high jump.

“We’re starting to come together,” head coach Dario Donatelli said. “The next two meets, the competition will get much better. It’ll get us ready for UAA, which is what we’re trying to accomplish.”

The track and field teams will take to the road once again on Saturday to compete at Bucknell University.



File Photo

Case Western Reserve University and Emory University overpowered the women’s basketball team this weekend.

Women’s basketball team loses to UAA foes

by **Erin Gagnon**
Sports Editor

After defeating Case Western Reserve University and Emory University two weeks ago at home, Carnegie Mellon’s women’s basketball team traveled to play these University Athletic Association (UAA) foes on their home courts last weekend. The Tartans came up short, losing to Case 76–59 and Emory 77–55.

On Friday in Cleveland, the Tartans were unable to maintain their two-game winning streak as Case (9–10, 1–7) defeated Carnegie Mellon.

Junior guard Leah Feola opened the game with a layup in the second minute of play, but it was the last time the Tartans would hold a point advantage throughout the game. Feola scored 20 points during the

game, a personal season-high.

The Spartans gained momentum early, building a 15-point lead within the first 16 minutes of the game.

Sophomore guard Stacie Aleski tried to rally the Tartans — scoring seven points during a 10–3 run — to end the first half trailing by eight points (33–25). Aleski had 17 points throughout the game.

Carnegie Mellon continued its comeback in the second half when a three-pointer by sophomore guard Colleen Light pulled the Tartans to within one point of Case (39–38) with 15 minutes left on the clock. But Case responded with a 20–7 surge to bring the score to 59–45 with just seven minutes left to play.

Case never looked back, scor-

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ATHLETE PROFILE: Leah Feola



File Photo

Full Name:
Leah Feola
Age:
20
Hometown:
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Major/College:
Policy & Management/
H&SS

by **Christina Collura**
Staffwriter

So far, the Carnegie Mellon women’s basketball team has had a mixed season. Within the last two weeks, the team has won two of four University Ath-

letic Association (UAA) games, with at-home wins against Emory University and Case Western Reserve University. During this streak, junior guard Leah Feola had some of her top career performances. She was also named the Eastern College Athletic Conference co-player of the week. This week, the Tartan sat down with Feola to talk about her success on the court.

Tartan: When did you start playing basketball?

Feola: Well, I’ve always been athletic and really liked sports, so I started playing in third grade, basically because it was the only sport available.

T: Did you plan on playing even when you got to college?

F: Definitely. I also played volleyball in high school, but I really wanted to play basketball. It was actually part of my decision when I was choosing schools.

T: So the team was part of your decision to come to Carnegie Mellon?

F: I definitely wanted to play

basketball, and my older brother was also an athlete at Carnegie Mellon, and he really liked it. I didn’t come on a recruiting trip or anything, but I really like the idea of getting to be on a competitive team and going to one of the top academic schools in the country.

T: Any accomplishments you are particularly proud of?

F: Winning the two UAA games [this year] is a big accomplishment. UAA play is really competitive, and they’re hard teams to beat, so winning two of three is exciting.

Also, I have had three double-double games, which is double-digit points and rebounds, so that’s something I’m kind of proud of.

T: How do you manage to balance your time with basketball and your academic course load?

F: Planning a schedule and staying on top of things is really key. It can be a little bit of a challenge sometimes, but really, if I keep track of everything and don’t fall behind in work and

reading, it isn’t too bad.

T: Do you have any place in particular that you’ve gotten to travel to for basketball that’s a favorite?

F: It’s so nice that we get to travel so much. Playing alone is amazing, and then that extra experience of getting to travel to so many cities every year is incredible. Chicago is probably my favorite, but Boston and St. Louis are really nice, too. Plus, next year, we’re planning to go to a tournament right before Christmas in Cancun! So that should be a great trip; and then, it’s not for basketball, but I’m going to Ireland for spring break, so I’m really excited about that.

T: What are your favorite things to do to relax when you have the extra time?

F: Well, hanging out with my friends, sleeping, just watching TV, things like that that everyone does, and shopping. I love shopping, especially jewelry, that’s really my weakness. I definitely raided the Tri-Delta jewelry sale last week; I loved that.

pillbox

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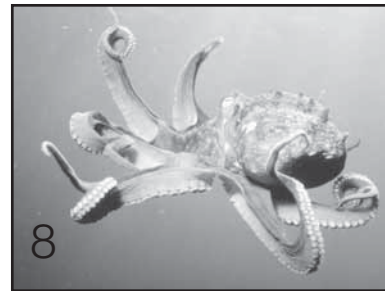
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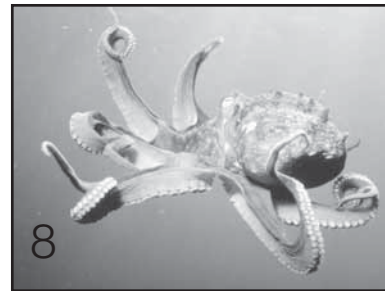
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Who needs vocals? Last Wednesday at Mr. Small's, Galactic proved that even a band without a lead singer can put on an exciting show.



Courtesy of www.bighassle.com

Dionysians do it better

At Mr. Small's, Galactic goes Greek

It's pretty amazing that the Greeks could coin a term thousands of years ago that so aptly describes an exciting show like Galactic's. Performing last Wednesday at Mr. Small's Theatre, the band demonstrated what we might call Dionysian revelry.

Though we share dance as a common link to our ancient friends, one advantage we do have over the Greeks is electricity. We carry on their traditions of song, dance, and communal drinking, but they could not have even dreamed of their lyre becoming an electric guitar or their flute transforming into a baritone saxophone. Furthermore, because we have electricity, we can synchronize our lights with the rhythms of the songs, and we have total control over the shapes and colors they produce. Instead of dancing around the fire and singing together, we cheer before the electric glow of the performers onstage.

Before Galactic took the stage, opening performer Papa Mali advised the crowd in song to "Drink a little beer/ drink a little wine/ Smoke a little kind/ Gotta keep you happy."

Papa Mali's lines apply directly to the show, the venue, the audience, and possibly even the performers themselves. Mr. Small's Theatre is a place where the beer flows like wine and smoke fills the air. Not surprising, the show was restricted to

those 21 and older. You have to be of age to get in, but once you're in, it's revelry at its finest.

Besides the strong liquors, the music also proved a factor for intoxication. Galactic is a powerful group, and its members play together with precision. Each instrument adds a new level of intensity to the final product, and when they add the saxophone, the melody is driven by the ensemble. Center stage Ben Ellman sings through his horns.

The leader of a rock and roll band must either play the guitar or sing or do both, right? Well, not if the band is Galactic. There are a number of reasons why this band defies most conventional rock and roll wisdom.

First of all, the band's singer, Theryl DeClouet, left two years ago. Galactic has since continued as an instrumental quintet. None of the band members — not keyboardist Rich Vogel, drummer Stanton Moore, or bassist Robert Mercurio — sing in this band. Guitarist Jeff Raines also doesn't sing, and he stands to the side when he plays. Ellman doesn't sing or play guitar, but rather plays saxophones and harmonicas.

All of this shouldn't seem too strange. After all, a lot of bands have been led by instrument players. John Coltrane had a few bands of his own. Playing the trumpet, Miles Davis also

led a few. Herbie Hancock, Thelonius Monk, and Count Basie are some of the greatest bandleaders in history, and they all played the piano. Herbie Mann even led some while playing the flute.

When faced with New Orleans jazz-inspired funk rock, uncontrolled convulsions are inevitable. One young lady at the show was dancing so wildly that she kept hitting people in the face as they walked by; it seemed to be a typical reaction to the music.

Dionysian revelry such as Wednesday night's has a few obvious benefits for society. Besides reconnecting those present with the natural forces of the Earth, it may also lead to procreation of the species. Hot chick bassist Cass Ferguson, who plays with Papa Mali, demonstrated this effect when she joined Galactic onstage — pounding out hardcore bass lines and gyrating sexily. She captivated the audience, and may have indirectly encouraged the use of the free condoms that were distributed.

Patrick Pettibon | Staffwriter

Carnegie Hall hosts Artemis Quartet

Schoenberg vindicated, Brahms rediscovered

Last Monday night at Carnegie Hall, the young Berlin-based Artemis Quartet performed Brahms’ “String Quartet No. 3” and Schoenberg’s “Quartet in d minor.” The Artemis Quartet gave Brahms’ third quartet an opportunity to step out of the shadow of the composer’s earlier two quartets and shine. The Artemis Quartet’s luminous, intelligent, and expressive performance vindicated the Schoenberg work, “Quartet in d minor,” which early audiences had scorned, as a masterpiece that is both complex and emotional.

Brahms’ third and final quartet is often overshadowed by his earlier, more serious quartets. The third quartet is a lighter work. Eckart Runge, the cellist of the Artemis Quartet, described the quartet as having “a spring-like quality that [the collection of] other Brahms [quartets] doesn’t have.”

The third and fourth movements of Brahms’ quartet are fine examples of counterpoint, the interplay and equality of the four independent instruments, which is a major element of quartet writing. The different instruments trade the melody, giving it a different character, an emotional inflection, and a sense of journey. The Artemis Quartet excelled in characterizing Brahms’ melodies, which were by turns wistful, joyful, serious, and light-hearted. The Artemis Quartet’s performance of the quartet amounted to masterful story-telling in music.

During a pre-concert discussion, Artemis Quartet violist Volker Jacobsen addressed the risks of programming the music of Schoenberg. “As you know,” he said, “Schoenberg is still a dangerous name.” Though Jacobsen admitted that audiences are usually a little smaller when the Artemis Quartet plays Schoenberg, the group’s searing and virtuosic performance of his first quartet more than justified its selection.

Schoenberg’s “String Quartet in d minor” had a disastrous premier in 1907. In 1937, Schoenberg wrote that he “was primarily regarded as the Satan of modernistic music” after its debut. However, the Artemis Quartet’s performance showed the quartet to be a terse, concentrated work that is very complex but full of roiling, powerful emotion.

Schoenberg composed the first string quartet when he was still writing music in the vein of Richard Wagner, known for his grandiose operas; among them, *Tristan and Isolde*. This was before Schoenberg adopted the 12-tone system and abandoned tonality altogether. In choosing to program Brahms and Schoenberg in the same concert, the Artemis Quartet hoped to bridge the gap between the romanticism of Brahms and the late-romanticism of Schoenberg and demonstrate that the two composers had a lot in common. In fact, Schoenberg idolized Brahms.

Schoenberg’s quartet, however, is so chromatic and the counterpoint so dense that it stretches tonality to the breaking point, creating music that is very tense and complex. The ending of the piece (which is around 45 minutes in duration) is magical: The music finally cadences, or feels like it comes to a resting point or conclusion. The leading tone and the resolution occur about as high as can be played on a violin. The piece ends strongly tonal with peaceful, consonant chords.

The Artemis Quartet succeeded in bringing out the powerful emotion and romantic harmonies in Schoenberg’s quartet. The Artemis quartet also brought out Schoenberg’s incredible string writing. The harmonic notes (very high-pitched notes produced by gently putting the finger on a string rather than pressing down) had a tone that was ethereal.

After the Schoenberg piece finished, and a moment of stunned silence had elapsed, the people in the audience broke out in massive applause and rose to their feet: They had loved the performance — and the piece, which perhaps delighted the members of the Artemis Quartet the most. Schoenberg, met with confusion and disdain by audiences at the premiere of the quartet in 1907, now received the appreciation that he deserved — it just came 100 years later.

With Schoenberg’s music, particularly the atonal pieces that follow his first quartet, performers and listeners alike must work to get at the strong emotion in the work, tonal or not. For this concert, the Artemis Quartet did the bulk of the work, leaving the audience to enjoy the music. Perhaps audiences will realize that, with a bit of effort, they can find the feeling present in even the most challenging modern music.

Matthew E. Campbell | Copy Manager



Paperhouse

On Bloodyminded’s ‘Cost’

Bloodyminded is a Chicago music collective often associated with “noise” music. With roughly a dozen high-quality releases under its belt since 1996, Bloodyminded has many recordings worthy of columns in “Paperhouse.” However, since I am writing this article, I will focus on my personal favorite song by Bloodyminded.

The song is titled “Cost,” and it can be found on Bloodyminded’s debut release *Trophy*. The song has a simple structure, as do many songs by Bloodyminded. A grating, digital-sounding drone rings throughout the two minutes and 13 seconds; it acts as a sort of backdrop for a shouted poem, which begins a few seconds into the song. Vocalist Mark Solotroff delivers his lyrics with incredible conviction. The lyrics establish a sort of second-person monologue in which the singer seems to be yelling at another person. However, as one delves into the lyrical framework, it becomes quite clear that Solotroff is proposing a situation that is distinctly not of this plane of reality.

Solotroff begins by demanding an unnamed person to get into a car. The person (apparently some sort of prostitute) assumedly obeys, and the rest of the song proceeds as a sort of one-sided conversation. At one point, Solotroff yells, “Here’s the turnoff / Too bad you’ll be TURNED OFF / First by my idea of fun / And then, FOR GOOD.” Solotroff concludes by yelling “GET OUT. GET OUT!” He then repeats the lyrical content in its entirety with added stress.

When one listens to the song there is nothing else. The rest of the universe recedes and only “Cost” remains. It recognizes and engages the listener with the use of a spoken language, yet then immediately proposes an impossible human existence. I predict that if the entire world’s population was forced to listen to this song at sufficient volume for three full days and nights, it would cause all nations to collapse. All conflicts would cease and all men and women would no longer have need for shelter or technology of any sort. Even within the context of all recorded sound, the song stands in a class of its own. With the recording of the *Trophy* album, and especially “Cost,” Bloodyminded has achieved an extremely unique and informative form of human expression — one that all humans and perhaps even certain animals can benefit from experiencing.

John Eastridge | Special to the Tartan

top 10 on WRCT 88.3 FM

most played albums of the last week

- 1 Thrift Store Cowboys — *Lay Low While Crawling or Creeping*
- 2 Junior Wells — *Live at Theresa’s*
- 3 Various Artists — *Kompakt Total 7*
- 4 Tortoise — *A Lazarus Taxon*
- 5 Sloan — *Never Hear the End of It*
- 6 Joanna Newsom — *Ys*
- 7 Jimmy Edgar — *Color Strip*
- 8 The Decemberists — *The Crane Wife*
- 9 Tom Waits — *Orphans: Brawlers, Bawlers & Bastards*
- 10 Various Artists — *Sacred Symbols of Mu*



Jim Kubicek | Photo Staff



Jim Kubicek | Photo Staff

Cynthia Morton, curator of botany at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, demonstrates the distinctions between invasive and endangered plants. The scientific illustrations serve as a useful tool for exposing visitors to a variety of specimens.

Where art meets science

Carnegie Museum of Natural History offers educational illustrations

The Carnegie Museum of Natural History is packed with wonders: fossilized mammoths on the first floor, carefully preserved dioramas of African animals on the second, and exquisitely detailed *watercolors* on the third. Why is a watercolor exhibit hobnobbing with fossils instead of the Monets and Cézannes next door? The exhibit, *Backyard Invasion*, showcases work of the New York chapter of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators (GNSI), whose illustrations portray invasive and endangered plant species of Pennsylvania. The field of science illustration is one of the few realms where science and art come together.

On display until July 1, the exhibit includes around 20 plates in various media, including watercolor, colored pencil, and silverpoint (a method of drawing with a stick of silver which looks like graphite but is so much cooler) depicting native Pennsylvania plants and the invasive exotics from Europe and Asia that are wiping them out. Cynthia Morton, curator of botany at the museum and biology professor at Carnegie Mellon, remarked on a painting of an innocent-looking rose. “This is the bad guy,” she warned, pointing out the fringed bracts (hairy growths) at the base of the plants’ stalks that distinguish the rose from its victims. This kind of attention to detail is one of the hallmarks of a skilled science illustrator.

Science illustrators depict the natural world in painstaking detail. “We are technicians, NOT artists,” GNSI member Joan Lee stated in an e-mail. “We like to make things beautiful, but accuracy is paramount, and beauty, if achieved at all, is a by-product of scientific illustration.” Science illustrators may love art, but their first responsibility is to science.

One of the exhibit’s contributing artists, Mark Klingler, works as a science illustrator with the museum’s vertebrate

paleontology department. Klingler, who began volunteering at the museum when he was a student in Carnegie Mellon’s graphic design program, explained that a science illustrator plays a dual role. “As an artist, you’re trying to do homage to your specimen,” he said, “but when your project is complete, it has a life of its own.” Klingler sees art as a way of “preserving a piece of history”; unlike photographs, art “conveys a concept — the speed of a peregrine or the delicacy of a butterfly.” The science illustrator’s job, Klingler said, is to “accurately depict or interpret the natural world for future generations.” Science illustrators’ work is the only image we have of extinct species such as dinosaurs and passenger pigeons, and soon — if invasive plants have their way — it may be all we will have left of many of Pennsylvania’s native species.

As an illustrator in the museum’s paleontology department, Klingler produces reconstructions of ancient animals millions of years old. His illustrations have been featured on stamps, posters, and the cover of *Science* magazine. Starting with fragments of fossilized skeletons, he reconstructs the critters’ muscles, skin, and fur (or scales), basing his reconstructions of these unknown features on living descendants. In an office crammed with fossils, models, reference books, drawings, feathers, and scientific journals, he flipped through a file on a new project, a reconstruction of an ornithopod (a herbivorous dinosaur once common in North America). The folder was crammed with sketches of fossils covered with notes in red ink, photographs of crocodiles and birds, and preliminary drawings. These kinds of projects give visitors a mental concept of animals they will never see, Klingler said, “giving a face to an idea.” Although he uses a computer to render certain effects, Klingler prefers the freedom of a paintbrush and pencil. He knows an illustration has succeeded when

viewers react as if his animals were alive: when, for example, children beg their parents to get them a *hadrocodium wui* — a 195 million-year-old, paperclip-sized mouse — for a pet.

Klingler has always been interested in science and has been raising moths and butterflies since he was a child; his eyes lit up as he described a rare ghost moth he is rearing in a potato. He was lucky enough to find a way to combine his love of science with his love of art at the museum. Although full-time jobs as a science illustrator are rare, Klingler encourages anyone interested in science and art to look into science illustration.

The Phipps Conservatory offers classes in botanical illustration; other local resources include the Pittsburgh Society of Illustrators (pittsburghillustrators.org), the Allegheny Highlands chapter of the American Society of Botanical Artists (<http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/ASBA/>) and the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, located on the fifth floor of Hunt Library. GNSI’s Joan Lee was encouraging, too — science illustration, she wrote, “can be learned by just about anyone with the motivation to do it.”

Selena Beckman-Harned | Junior Staffwriter

For the scientific side of the Backyard Invasion exhibit, see Sarah Mogin’s article in SciTech.

Kôgyo prints tell stories at the Frick

New exhibit depicts actors of Japanese Noh theater

Tsukioka Kôgyo was, by profession, an artist. You will see his work hanging on the walls of the Frick Art Museum, just like Hubert Robert and Matteo di Giovanni. But deep in his work lay traces of both a historian and a theater critic. Kôgyo's feature exhibit, *The Prints of Tsukioka Kôgyo*, is an in-depth exploration of a Japanese art form called Noh theater, which has been an integral part of the country's culture since the 14th century.

Upon the centralization of power in Japan in the late 19th century, the structure of the government was beginning to take a formal shape. But this wasn't the only aspect of Japanese culture that was shifting; also evolving was the general way of life. "Things were changing quickly," said Sarah Hall, curator to the exhibit. But with this growth, there was also "a movement to preserve Japanese history and culture." Both Noh theater and Kôgyo's work were part of this preservation and restoration.

The Noh theater was a "collection of old tales influenced by both Shinto and Buddhist philosophies," said Hall. The plot lines were neither intricate nor fantastical, but had an infectious — in Hall's words — "simplicity and discipline" in style. And even though the plays progressed slowly by nature, Hall says that Noh theater had exciting musical components; chorus chants, flutes, and drums all crept into the experience.

Although Kôgyo had no part in writing the stories himself, a visit to the Kôgyo exhibit is far from a field trip for an art history class. For one thing, Kôgyo's woodblock images of Japanese figures are lively in action, rich in color, and engaging in composition.

Almost all of the images in the exhibit are images of Noh theater actors dressed as warriors and motherly figures or masked as dragons and lions. "The visual effects are astonishing," Hall said. In "Shakkyô," two actors masked

as lions dance through a field of flowers against a plush red backdrop. "Hajitomi" shows a pale actress inside a lattice shutter with a pine tree swaying in the background.

The visuals of Kôgyo's work undoubtedly pull the viewer in, but it is the fabulous stories behind the art that hold your interest. (After all, a museum-goer can only take so many works by the same artist in a single style, be it Kôgyo or Warhol.) In "Kamawa," the heroine wears a headdress with three candles and a kimono in an attempt to turn into an evil demon and take revenge against her unfaithful husband. Although "Senju" is a simple portrait of a peaceful-looking girl, the story is more involved — and tragic. A boy and girl meet, play music together, and become friends. After pledging never to forget his wonderful day, the boy is sentenced to execution because he is a prisoner of war.

Through works like these, Kôgyo taps into the psychological undercurrents of daily life. In "Dôjôji," two prints sit side by side; one is of a woman calmly entering a dojo (a training facility) to visit her husband, who has cheated on her. The background is a simple white, her dress quaint and her white mask basic. The other print is impossibly macabre, with a black background and the same woman dressed as a demon seeking revenge on her husband.

And just when the breadth of characters, stories, and ideas begins to overwhelm, the museum gives the exhibit an extra kick with the addition of a woodblock in the center of one of the rooms. The centerpiece shows a woodblock as a work in progress, and explains in full detail Kôgyo's process of making a finished product. Kôgyo's work was difficult, requiring meticulous attention.

He would begin by drawing a study in ink for his print. Then, he would carve the image onto a woodblock, leaving behind only the parts of the picture which were going to be black. For

whatever parts he wanted to be colored, he would next need to carve out new blocks, color them to his liking, and align them perfectly with the print. It is only when you see this process that you appreciate the sheer quantity of high-quality works that Kôgyo produced.

Though the Frick is a ways from campus (and hard to reach by bus), Kôgyo's woodblocks justify the trip. His work is not only engaging and informative — it is also an eye-opening glimpse of a part of Japanese history that is, as Hall pointed out, "older than Shakespeare."

Matt Siffert | Assistant Pillbox Editor

Also at the Frick

For those looking to check out the exhibit during the week, there is a concert at the Frick Art Museum on Tuesday, February 13 at 7:30 p.m. The concert, titled "Song of the Bamboo Pine," features koto player Masayo Ishigure. The koto is a soothing traditional Japanese stringed instrument. Also playing are James Nyoaraku Schlefer on shakuhachi (a Japanese bamboo flute), and another koto player, Charles Wei-Ting Tang. The elegant theater at the Frick is a choice location for live music, especially when it runs parallel to a visiting exhibit. Next Tuesday's concert should do well to complement Tsukioka Kôgyo's images of Japan and Noh theater.



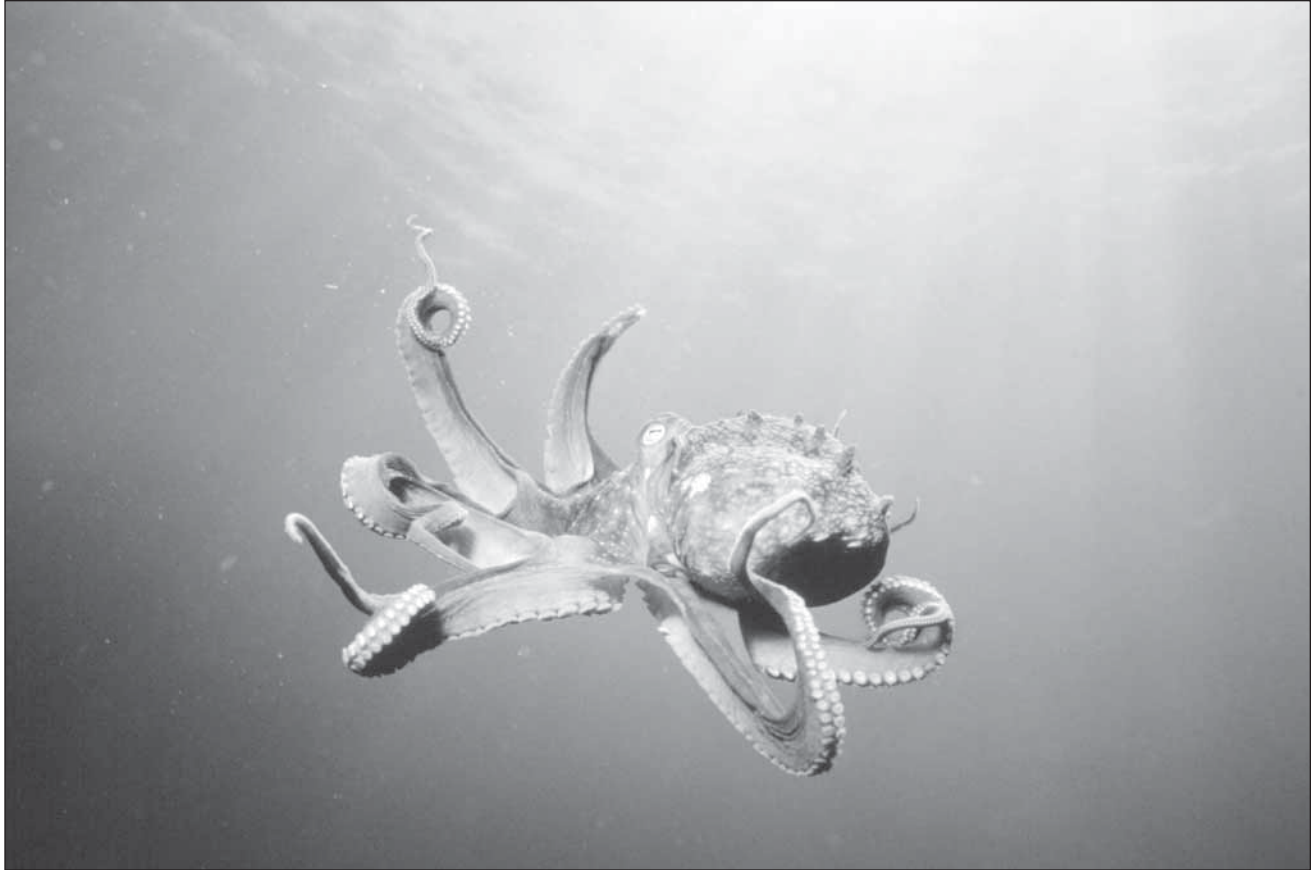
Courtesy of the Frick Art Museum



Courtesy of the Frick Art Museum

Kôgyo's prints, inspired by the stories of Japanese Noh theater, involved extraordinary effort; for each color, the artist had to carve a distinct woodblock.

The giant Pacific octopus can alter both its color and texture to blend in with the environment.



Courtesy of www.imax.com/deepsea

Deep blue sea, great big screen

Science center's IMAX hosts underwater documentary

Since the 2004 release of Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11*, it is no longer uncommon to find documentaries gracing the screens of your local cineplex instead of moldering away on forgotten library shelves. Films like *Fahrenheit 9/11* and *March of the Penguins* not only made it to movie theaters, but were largely successful. But the best way to watch any documentary is still on the biggest screen of all: the IMAX screen.

Deep Sea is the newest IMAX film playing at the Carnegie Science Center's Rangos Omnimax Theater. Following another recent trend in documentary-making, *Deep Sea* is narrated by two highly recognizable names: Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet. The movie explores the deepest parts of the ocean to find unique undersea creatures living in their natural habitat.

Deep Sea's ocean inhabitants are not your average hammerhead sharks or humpback whales. Instead, the movie follows some lesser known, yet incredibly impressive, ocean animals. Directed by Howard Hall and produced by Toni Myers and Michele Hall, the film is interesting from start to finish.

"Our goal is really to take you on a magical journey underwater to places that most of us have never been," Myers stated in a press release. "Even with a large number of people who do scuba dive, lots of them have never met these characters or seen how they interact with other animals." One of *Deep Sea's* uncommon creatures is the wolf-eel, which has "a face only a mother could love," according to Winslet's narration. Chomping on urchins with quivering jowls, the wolf-eel looks something like a grumpy old man

with a speckled white face. Viewers also meet the giant Pacific octopus, which has tentacles that can stretch up to 20 feet across and can change its color *and* texture to match its surroundings.

Deep Sea examines the interrelatedness of underwater life, with a focus on the predatory and symbiotic relationships between creatures. A gigantic fried egg jellyfish, named for its curious resemblance to the breakfast food, preys on smaller jellyfish by trapping them in its far-reaching tentacles. The 10-inch mantis shrimp defends itself against the octopus, its natural predator, by raising itself on its hind legs and hitting the octopus with claws as fast as a .22-caliber bullet. Green sea turtles and reef fish, however, share a much more peaceful and charming relationship. Algae accumulations on the sea turtles' shells can slow them down, so the turtles visit reefs where fish flock to eat the algae: a "healthy vegetarian feast," according to Depp's narration.

The movie is visually stunning, thanks to its director, Howard Hall, who is a celebrated underwater cinematographer. In Myers' words, *Deep Sea* is "a vivid illustration of the astonishing array of the diversity of life." Wielding 1200-pound cameras, divers went to incredible lengths to find the captivating footage. The film is rife with alluring seascapes of gently swaying tube anemones (that look very much like palm trees) and multicolored coral reefs. In one of *Deep Sea's* most aesthetically astounding moments, the audience sees a frenzy of electrically colorful squids attacking anything and everything — including other squids and, at one point, the camera itself. Changing color several times a second, the squids make for a dazzling light show against the background of the very dark ocean water.

"The filmmakers have put a number of spins on [the movie]," said Frank Mancuso, Carnegie Science Center presenter and production assistant. *Deep Sea* does have a bit of an agenda: to demonstrate to viewers that the ocean is a delicate habitat subject to disruption by humans. "We're taking more from the ocean than it can give," Depp narrates, citing alarming statistics about the number of big fish that are disappearing from the ocean due to shark-killing and over-fishing. However, the didactic tone is only a small part of the movie, which focuses more broadly on the diversity of underwater life.

The Rangos Omnimax Theater screen is an impressive four stories tall. Both the size of the screen and the theater's 64 speakers make watching *Deep Sea* at the Rangos Omnimax an incredible experience. The underwater creatures are magnified on the screen and allow the audience to see even the most minute details of the deep-sea setting and inhabitants. The theater is certainly appropriate for capturing the vastness of ocean life.

Deep Sea is playing at the Carnegie Science Center until May and is supplemented with a program called UnderSea Alive!, which educates visitors about animal adaptations. Tickets for *Deep Sea* cost \$8 and can be purchased at the Carnegie Science Center, online at www.CarnegieScienceCenter.org, or by calling 412.237.3400. Getting to the Carnegie Science Center by bus takes about 40 minutes and requires taking the 500 inbound and transferring to the 16A outbound.

Kelly Cahill | Forum Editor

Student performers are ‘Alive and Dancing!’

Expect to stand and clap for an upcoming show based on Alvin Ailey’s ‘Revelations’

St. Petersburg, 1970. Alvin Ailey’s performance of his own choreography earned him a standing ovation lasting over 20 minutes. On Sunday, “Alive and Dancing!” — a Carnegie Mellon dance production featuring Ailey’s piece “Revelations” — is sure to evoke a similar response.

“Revelations” is a piece of choreography created by Ailey in 1961. The dance reflects Ailey’s childhood experiences growing up as an African-American in Texas and Los Angeles, as well as the African-American struggle from the time of slavery to the civil rights movement. The production, which has been performed all over the world, is said to stir such emotions in its audience that the performance often ends with its viewers standing and cheering, even in countries where this form of appreciation is not the custom, as noted in an article from *austin360.com*.

This kind of emotional reaction is what inspired senior music theater major Antwayn Hopper to adapt Ailey’s choreography and create “Alive and Dancing!”

“In eighth grade I went to an Alvin Ailey camp in Kansas City, where I first saw ‘Revelations,’ ” Hopper said. “I was in awe. When I heard those spirituals and then saw the words and actions come to life before my eyes with his simple, but

very sourceful choreography, I knew I had to somehow pay tribute to him for what he did for me that night.” Hopper and codirector Kara Lindsay, also a senior music theater major, have been running rehearsals with the production’s 23 dancers since October. Although most of the performers are from the School of Drama, the performance includes one student from H&SS and Crystal Williams, a junior in the School of Music, who will be singing a spiritual.

Traditionally, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and his company consisted entirely of African-American dancers, but today both “Revelations” and Ailey’s dance school feature performers of all races. “It is no longer black and white anymore,” Hopper said. “[The dance] is so beautiful and has so much emotion; everyone is accepted.”

“The original choreography was specifically about Ailey’s black roots,” Lindsay said, “[but ‘Revelations’ is a ballet] that everyone and anyone can relate to; its about what we’re all going through. It’s about humanity.”

“Revelations” consists of several different chapters, the first being the time of pilgrims and slaves, when the dancers perform in brown and tan costumes. In the next segment, titled “Take Me to the Water,” the dancers wear white,

which symbolizes baptism. The movements are fluid and aerobic. The final segment is a period of living and joy, after the dancers’ souls have been cleansed. The performers wear vibrant colors and dance in a high-energy, athletic style. Hopper emphasized that what separates Ailey’s work from that of other choreographers is his ability to tell a story entirely through dance. “We’re actors,” he said. “That’s why this ballet is really perfect for actors to perform. There is a story to tell in every movement.”

“Alive and Dancing!” will open with introductions by Elizabeth Bradley, the head of the School of Drama, and Jennifer Church, the dean of Student Affairs. The two performances, at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., will take place in Rangos Ballroom 1 and 2 in the University Center. Tickets are \$5 for students.

Laura Thorén | Staffwriter



dollarmovie

Michelle Bova | Contributing Editor

The Rock

Wednesday, February 7
10 12:30

Nick Cage: I’ll try my best.
Sean Connery: Try your best? Losers always try their best. Winners go home and f&%k the prom queen.

If you like saucy Sean Connery in fast-paced action flicks, then this movie is for you. If you like crazy and implausible plotlines, then this movie is for you. If you’d prefer *not* to go home and f&%k the prom queen, maybe you should skip it. The plot: Sean Connery and Nicolas Cage have to break *into* Alcatraz when a bunch of ex-Marines who are hella disgruntled kidnap a tour group that was visiting the prison and threaten to unleash toxic terrorist gas on L.A.

Ondskan

Thursday, February 8
8 10 12

You might know this movie better by the title *Evil*. Sounds cheerful. Sounds... Swedish! In Sweden, a boy transfers to a fancy prep school and finds out that all the upperclassmen enforce strict obedience upon the younger students and turn to violence when crossed. Hey... that was *my* high school too! So one thing leads to another, and eventually the Swedish boy fights the system and uses his wit and superior swimming ability to become the hero of all the little kids, also earning him a spot among other Swedish legends, like Gunther.

Borat

Friday, February 9
8 10 12

Sigh. *Borat* is supposedly rip-roaringly hilarious and one of the finer comedies of the year. Sacha Baron Cohen plays a man from Kazakhstan who goes to America to make fun of people. Or let them make fun of themselves. An hour and a half of watching other people make fools of themselves as they converse with a man who’s there on false pretenses, what a gas. You’ll probably feel smarter by the end of this film. From what I’ve heard you’ll also kind of feel sad for your country. But you’ll laugh.

Fearless

Saturday, February 10
8 10 12

There’s a man. And a sword. And his martial arts badassery. The man is Jet Li. The film is *Fearless*. If you think you need to know about the plot, think again. It’s probably great anyway, so don’t sweat it. Apparently, *Fearless* is based on a true story — but honestly, listen up: Huo (Jet Li) had a dad who didn’t want him to fight, but Huo became famous for it anyway. Then, after Huo kills a man in a fight, his family is slain in retaliation. Our hero is down and out until a sweet group of ladies offers him kindness. (I bet there’s one in particular who wants to bone him. Who’s with me?) Finally, Huo is picked to battle in a tournament against representatives of different styles of fighting from all around the world. I wonder who wins.

The OH in Ohio

Sunday, February 11
8 10 12

The movie may be about orgasms but this is no *Pirates*. The rather cliched idea of a woman who cannot achieve an orgasm with the man she loves serves as the premise for this film. I can’t see this getting much better when the frustrated man in her life begins to have an affair with an 18-year-old. As the film progresses, she finds solace in vibrators and Danny DeVito. Supposedly there’s very little actual sex in this film — and yet a lot of overwrought ideas. I mean, it might be fun. Or you could stay home and masturbate.

The New Pittsburgh Courier: a history in images

City-County Building hosts a century of African-American history

by **Sarah Mogin** | Pillbox Editor

At one time or another, everyone has dreamed of discovering buried treasure. While searching through some old boxes in the back of *The New Pittsburgh Courier's* office in the South Side, curator Jim Brewer found what many would consider the historical equivalent of buried treasure: 750,000 photographs from the *Courier's* archives, depicting nearly a century's worth of African-American politics, personalities, and culture.

"It was — in a word — like a perpetual super-high," Brewer said. "Every photo has got a story, or multiple stories, to go with it." Right now, these stories are being told in the lobby of the City-County Building, host to over 80 images from the archives of both the *Courier* and the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh Courier *Images*, which had its opening reception last Thursday evening, will remain on display through the end of the month.

Brewer's discovery came in 1995, but even 12 years later, his findings continue to provide a seemingly endless supply of photographs. It's out of this wealth of options that Brewer, curator to the *Images* archives, must choose the content of exhibits such as this one, featuring fewer than 100 images out of the thousands and thousands available.

"There's a whole lot of choices," Brewer said. "We try to do a balance." It would be easy to hone in on a specific group of subjects: black athletes, politicians, or entertainers, for example. But the collection is more powerful when boasting a diverse selection of 20th-century faces, Brewer explained. The exhibit features photographs of major-leaguer Jackie Robinson, Supreme Court judge Thurgood Marshall, and actor James Earl Jones, among others.

For Rod Doss, editor and publisher of *The New Pittsburgh Courier*, his favorite photo is a close-up shot of singer Billie Holiday. "There's a lot to be said about what's happening here," explained Doss, appreciative of the *Courier's* roots. One of the original African-American newspapers, at its peak the *Courier* covered national and even global news — using Pittsburgh as an anchor, not a boundary. "There are about four or five [newspapers] older than us," Doss said. "We are perhaps the most prominent."

“Every photo has got a story, or multiple stories, to go with it.”

Jim Brewer

Though the *Courier* grew to be monumental, it had a humble start in 1907. The *Courier* began as a literary pamphlet produced by security guard Edwin Harleston, who used it to share his poetry and other writings. Originally called *The Pittsburgh Courier*, the endeavor expanded to include news articles by 1910, though in the beginning, at least half of the content was taken without credit from other publications. That same year, attorney Robert L. Vann took over as the *Courier's* primary editor.

In the early 20th century, black newspapers across the country were struggling to find a readership. According to

Robert L. Vann of The Pittsburgh Courier, a biography by Andrew Bunii, publications like the *Courier*, which came out on Saturdays, had trouble keeping up with the white newspapers' daily editions. African-American publications typically included news items concerning social and church events, but avoiding political issues. They were a voice, but not yet one that needed to be heard. As for potential readers, many African-Americans were either too proud or too humble to invest in the *Courier*. Some felt themselves above the black press, which was always struggling to find enough money and content to print. Moreover, many blacks were illiterate. Others couldn't afford to spend money on a luxury such as the newspaper.

To attract a greater audience, *The Pittsburgh Courier* took a risk; it bragged. The editors stretched the truth to make the publication seem more popular than it was. According to Bunii's biography of Vann, the *Courier* added a masthead claiming a weekly readership of 10,000 African-Americans, which might have been true — that is, counting roughly 75 percent of that number as readers borrowing editions that others had bought. Additionally, after mailing copies of the paper to friends in other states, staff members were so bold as to pronounce the *Courier* a national publication.

It wasn't too long until the *Courier* no longer needed to exaggerate its successes; the newspaper gained momentum as Vann brought important issues into the publication. Primarily, the *Courier* condemned the housing situation in the Hill District. The Hill District was home to the majority of Pittsburgh's African-Americans, who had no plausible alternative to living in its worn-down houses, both unclean

and unsafe. The situation only worsened as the population of blacks in Pittsburgh continued to grow, rising by nearly 50 percent between 1910 and 1920, according to Bunii. Vann stressed the potential benefits of a building and loan association for African-Americans.

"A lot of things were going on back then," said Michele Jackson-Washington, deputy executive director of the Housing Authority. "[Vann] felt the need for African-Americans to have a newspaper that reflected them." Though the exhibit is entitled Pittsburgh Courier *Images*, many of its pictures also come from the Housing Authority, which has an archive of about 2000 photographs. "The majority of the photos are from the Hill District," Jackson-Washington explained. "There's a lot of vibrant history."

Still concerned with living conditions, Vann pushed content in the *Courier* that addressed the inaccessibility of medical care to African-Americans. Often sleeping in rooms with four or five inhabitants, blacks were the most likely to get sick, and yet the least likely to get help; at that time, hospitals rarely admitted black patients. Vann used the *Courier* as a platform to encourage the construction of an African-American hospital. Neither the building and loan association nor the hospital was ever constructed, but Vann's forthright ideas — and the conviction behind them — succeeded in catching the attention of blacks across the country.

"You're talking about a time when the mainstream media wasn't that interested in talking about black people," said Kevin Amos, a program coordinator for Citiparks. "At one time, it was distributed all over the world." At its peak, the *Courier* offered 21 editions in cities all over the country.

In 1940, *Courier* writer Ira Lewis stepped up as editor

following Vann's death. With Lewis in charge, the paper reached the height of its popularity. The *Courier* soon tackled what would become one of its most famous platforms: the "Double V" campaign. Starting in 1942, the "V" stood for victory, at home and overseas.

The "Double V" campaign demanded equality for the black soldiers fighting in World War II. The *Courier* printed pictures, letters, and articles; it even developed a custom insignia — two interlocking Vs — to help promote its cause. Probably the most powerful technique was the use of reporters abroad. "Significant coverage was given to black soldiers by way of foreign correspondents," Doss said. Both victories were finally attained in 1948, when President Truman signed an executive order banning the segregation of troops.

The paper became *The New Pittsburgh Courier* in 1965, when it was bought by John Sengstacke, who owned another historic black publication, *The Chicago Defender*. Prior to the name change, the paper's influence had been waning since Lewis' death in 1948. Now, Doss explained, the *Courier* is working to regain some ground. "We continue to go where our community is and seek out the news that fits them best," he said. "We have new challenges, obviously," Doss said, speaking of the Internet. Like all newspapers, the *Courier* is struggling to adjust to a more global readership. Last Thursday night, Doss and others were able to browse almost a century's worth of photography, representing the distinguished past of *The Pittsburgh Courier*.

Duane Ashley, the director of Citiparks, considered the opening of *Images* the beginning of another successful celebration of Black History Month. "This is an annual activity for the city of Pittsburgh," he said. Every year, the City-County Building hosts a new display in recognition of

African-American history. The tradition dates back to 1995, Ashley explained, and the theme varies annually. Past themes include African-American architecture, painting, and fiber art (textiles). "The dynamics of this city are unique," Ashley added, commenting on the increasingly diverse community of Pittsburgh.

"Photography is images," Brewer said. "And images penetrate and educate." Staring at the exhibit, it's hard to imagine so many of its photographs hidden undiscovered in a stack of cardboard boxes. The City-County Building's walls could not go bare; the *Courier's* legacy could not go unappreciated. Once a treasure is uncovered, it can't be reburied.

Located downtown on Grant Avenue between Forbes and Fifth, the Pittsburgh Courier *Images* exhibit at the City-County Building is an easy bus ride from campus.

Opposite: In the arms of one of his godmothers, Thurgood Marshall Jr. is christened in New York City outside of the Saint Philip Protestant Episcopal Church. **Below:** Rod Doss, the editor and publisher of the *Courier*, stands in front of the photography exhibit inside the City-County Building.



Courtesy of Citiparks



Deren Guler | Assistant Photo Editor

On stage: Bugs of biblical proportions

Two local venues host performances of mind-bending plays

Two new plays in Pittsburgh offer thought-provoking stories. *Bug*, which opened last Friday in Oakland, slices close to the heart and may not be for everyone. On the other hand, Thorton Wilder's *The Skin of Our Teeth* is truly timeless. Somehow, the same issues that are featured in a play written in 1942 apply to contemporary history: global warming, moral corruption, and the war on terror.

Bug

Bug — a dark comedy and sci-fi thriller — is not for the squeamish. Written by Tracy Letts (*Man from Nebraska*, *Killer Joe*) and directed by Shannon Cochran, the play is set to run through February 18, at the former site of the Upstage Nightclub (on Forbes Avenue).

The action takes place in the motel room of Agnes White (Lissa Brennan), a divorced and lonely cocktail waitress whose mannerisms, accent, and intellect scream white trash America. An equal opportunity substance abuser, Agnes is introduced by her lesbian biker friend RC (Miki Johnson) to Peter (Patrick Jordan), an attractive drifter but delusional schizophrenic who ends up spending the night on the floor. RC foreshadows, “Ted Bundy was good looking.”

Offstage at the beginning of Act II, Peter, still the nice guy, reenters the motel room with breakfast in hand, only to come across a crying and bleeding Agnes at the feet of Goss (David Cabot), Agnes's ex-con ex-husband who shows up, apparently in violation of his parole, to impose on Agnes and take her money.

Following the beating, Agnes and Peter reveal their pasts to each other, growing closer all the while. The emotional openness quickly degenerates into Peter's paranoid tales of abduction (maybe even by aliens from Ogo) and medical experimentation led by his army superiors and their government sponsors. A nod to the Gulf War Syndrome eventually turns into a conspiracy theorist's dream of mind-control devices.

The relationship turns to sex — ostensibly love. The following morning, Peter awakens cursing frantically after being bitten by a bug. Agnes abandons all reason and allows Peter to transform her motel room into an aphid's worst nightmare with bug-zappers and fly ribbons.

Bug plunges into insanity in the final act as Peter, covered by his own blood after trying to cut out an implanted sac of bug eggs and removing his teeth because he believes they are transmitters a la *Twelve Monkeys*, stabs Dr. Sweet (the psychiatrist from whom Peter is fleeing, played by Ken Bolden), and then proceeds to use circular logic to bring an already-manic Agnes to self-immolation as the pair proceeds to set the entire motel room on fire in an attempt to get rid of the bugs.

Bug is not escapist light fare, but a serious play that examines dysfunctional relationships and human weakness. “At the core it's a love story,” said Jordan, who played Peter. The connection between Agnes and Peter, well executed by Brennan and Jordan, is palpable to the audience. However, Peter's schizophrenia could use an added shot of realism in terms of body language. Cabot plays an abusive husband

excellently; his delivery of “I love you, I'll see you real soon,” which conveys the perfect mix of sincerity and threat, is especially convincing. Jordan, also the play's producer, had seen *Bug* when it appeared in New York. “I was laughing at parts and the woman next to me was appalled at me laughing.... [*Bug*] has a very different effect on the audience.”

The Skin of Our Teeth

Close by at the Pittsburgh Playhouse, another production is running until February 11. *The Skin of Our Teeth*, put on by the Conservatory Theatre Company of Point Park University, features a cast entirely made up of students. Earning himself a Pulitzer Prize, Thornton Wilder wrote the play in 1942, when the world was still embroiled in war. The complexity of the play cannot be understated. The themes discussed are cleverly interspersed through anachronisms, as the Bible meets the Ice Age, not to mention modern warfare. At the time it came out, *The Skin of Our Teeth* was an experimental work, during which its actors broke their characters to address the audience directly.

The Skin of Our Teeth features the Antrobus family, whose characters are based on the Biblical figures of Adam, Eve, Cain, and an absent (murdered) Abel. Mr. Antrobus (Erik Cheski) is the innovative inventor of the wheel, lever, and other historical inaccuracies, which pepper the play throughout its entirety. He vacillates between hope and despair during the course of events, which include three threats to the existence of human civilization: an ice age, a flood of biblical proportions (featuring Noah's Ark), and war. Mrs. Antrobus (Sarah Bordenet) serves as the foundation of the family and is almost a Stepford wife, strongly advocating pre-sexual revolution morals and proper family values. Filling the leading role is Sabina (Lindsay Schramm), who is actually two characters: in Acts I and III, a sassy maid of the Antrobus household in Excelsior (ever upwards), N.J., with a *Chicken Little* world outlook; and a pageant show seductress in Act II. Schramm's role is perhaps the most complicated, because she plays both the biblical snake and a member of the family.

“The play has a timeless quality,” said Joe Scarillo, the stage manager. The overall clearest message that one can take away from *The Skin of Our Teeth* is to keep a stiff upper lip when faced with the world's problems. Questions are raised regarding family relationships and child rearing as Henry (the Cain character played by Jeffrey A. Dudek) becomes increasingly estranged from his family, whose members resent his murder of his brother.

“Anyway, in 100 years it'll all be the same,” explains Sabina. Although this may be cynical, *The Skin of Our Teeth* ends with Sabina challenging the audience to write the story of humanity. The actors are condemned to reenact history, while hope for change is thrust upon the audience's shoulders.

Luke Krzyzanowski | Staffwriter

Bug, a dark comedy and sci-fi thriller, is now playing at the former site of the Upstage Nightclub.



Courtesy of Duane Rieder

Top five films of 2006

Experts weigh in on last year’s movie masterpieces

2006 may not have been the most memorable year in movie-making history, but hell, it was better than the dreck January 2007 has been serving us. Come on... *Epic Movie*? Seriously? In order to focus our minds (and feet) on happier times, we’re teaming up yet again — in the midst of awards season no less — to bring you the five most memorable flicks of 2006.

5. *John Tucker Must Die*

One hot guy, three pissed-off girls, and what’s-her-face from *American Dreams*. Why’s this on our 2006 Most Memorable List? Well, other than the blink-and-you’ll-miss-it, girl-on-girl makeout scene, any movie with the hot gardener from *Desperate Housewives* is worth a second look — or a jaw dropping stare. You know, if you’re into that sort of thing. However, if you’re into the emo art boys instead, you’d probably prefer the *other* Tucker, played by Penn Badgely.

4. *X-Men III: The Last Stand*

So being a superhero is hard work. But now there’s a cure. *X3* asks the long-standing question: Given the chance, would you change what makes you *you*? We walked out of the movie wondering about that. Sure, it’s based on a comic book, but that doesn’t mean this movie is just intended for teenage

boys. Although, if you *are* a teenage boy, you’ll love this movie for the shots of Rebecca Romijn-Stamos, a.k.a. Mystique, half-naked when she (spoiler!) loses her powers.

3. *Happy Feet*

Tap-dancing penguins? When we first heard about the movie, we thought it was an actual event. And by we, we mean Tima. Anyways, finding out it was a movie was slightly disappointing. But upon discovering that the penguins tap to the greatest hits of the ’80s and the ’90s, we fell in love. The feeling increased tenfold when Seymour broke out into Grand Master Flash’s “The Message.” Besides, who wouldn’t love a movie where *The Matrix*’s very own Agent Smith voices the hunchback patriarch of the penguin clan? *Happy Feet* ranks as one of the most interesting movies of the year. Honestly, we just want tap-dancing penguins.

2. *Snakes on a Plane*

We’ve been over this before. Ophidians invade an aircraft. Samuel L. is a badass. Kenan Thompson is also present, despite our wishes that he’d just stayed home with Kel. The sounds of Cobra Starship rocked your world. What else is there to say? I guess we’ll just have to be on tenterhooks

until a sequel emerges. In the meantime, we should start a pool predicting its title. We can’t lie: we’re strongly divided between *Goats on a Boat* and *Penguins on a ... Schmenguin?*

1. *Little Miss Sunshine*

A beauty pageant, a road trip in a yellow Volkswagen bus, and a dysfunctional family: Sounds like standard fare for the indie-film market. So how did this movie break out into the mainstream and bag three Oscar nominations? Perhaps it was Steve Carell’s oddly serious — yet darkly comedic — role as the gay, suicidal uncle/number one-or-two Proust scholar in the country. Maybe it was Paul Dano’s silent but mesmerizing performance as an angsty teenager or Alan Arkin’s role as the feisty, heroin-loving grandfather. Perhaps it was Little Miss Sunshine herself, Abigail Breslin, who hit the screens as the most lovable pageant-head since Sandra Bullock. Shut up. We know you love *Miss Congeniality* too. Regardless of which character tickled your fancy, the ensemble cast and brilliant script are reminders of why we remain enthralled by motion picture magic.

Pratima Neti | Staffwriter
Shweta Kumar | Staffwriter



Michael Menchaca | Art Staff

What’s in store for 2007?

Lucky for us, January’s dearth of lovable movies isn’t par for the 2007 course. After scouring the Internet, we’ve found that the upcoming year is flinging more than a few cinematic thrills our way. Our fan squeals cannot be suppressed. No lies.

One of the hallmarks of this year is sure to be the number of three-quels hitting theaters. We can look forward to *Spiderman 3* (keywords: revenge, black spidey suit), *Shrek 3* (more Puss in Boots!), *Ocean’s Thirteen* (eye candy that appeals to everyone), *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World’s End* (better be better than *Dead Man’s Chest*), and *Rush Hour 3* (ugh).

Speaking of the number tres: Expect 300, based on Frank Miller’s graphic novel of the infamous 480 BCE Battle of Thermopylae, 300 has an incredible trailer and has generated quite a bit of early buzz. Shweta will be happy as long as it’s more accurate than Troy.

Tima never understood *Beowulf* when she read it in high school, but the movie version will hopefully clear up a few things.

Even if it doesn’t, it’s bound to have some awesome action scenes, especially when the monster Grendel is attacked by Beowulf, our beloved hero. Also, Hrothgar’s a pretty kickass name.

If you’ve read *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, you have to be excited about this. It should be chock-full of amazing special effects, not to mention big-screen renditions of some of kiddie lit’s vilest villains and saddest offings.

Also on the horizon are standard Will Ferrell offerings (*Blades of Glory*), a Steve Carell comedy (*Bruce Almighty*’s sequel *Evan Almighty*), another superhero flick (*Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer*), *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Halo*, and *Transformers*. Whew!

What we’re trying to say is: Next semester, McConomy will rock our couch-potato-movie-watching-popcorn-eating-slurpee-guzzling, fuzzy toesocks.

The new *Kiss Alive! 1975–2000* boxed set brings back memories of three decades worth of killer concerts — as if you could have forgotten.



Courtesy of www.sfondideldesktop.com

Big Al’s Metal Shop

Kiss still *Alive* — seven years later

Just a few weeks ago, I was able to get my ears around what was supposed to be Kiss’ *Alive IV*. Recorded at British Columbia Place Stadium in Vancouver on December 31, 1999, this was to be the show to end all shows — as the world’s computers screens went blank and chaos enveloped us. What better way to enter that uncertainty than with Gene, Paul, Peter, and Ace? We bought the T-shirts, and all we needed afterwards as proof was hearing ourselves screaming on the aforementioned CD. Sadly, as with all projects, there is the risk that things get shelved, and perhaps ignored, as time passes. But for those of us there, it was a magical night that won’t be forgotten anytime soon.

Vancouver was a sleepy town, afraid of its own shadow ever since the Stanley Cup riots of ’94. Public festivals and events were canceled or just picked up and left due to the restrictions in keeping with this fear of mass violence and revelry. Pretty much the only fun we had during that decade was watching the World Cup together on Commercial Drive, but that’s another story. Making things worse, the radio stations were boring due to Canadian content regulations and our music scene struggled with venue closings. All this left us: the rock fans who couldn’t stand to hear another Sarah MacLachlan song on the “rock stations.” You can only deny someone their birthright for so long — and although we had to wait until the close of the century for a spectacle like Kiss’s millennium show, it also gave us hope that the coming years would be more fun. And we were right.

That night, I remember stumbling toward the cavernous dome with my good friend to the end, Sudeep Bala. The best shows, as I’ve written before, are the ones where the atmosphere outside the venue is as tense as the backup singers coughing up backstage. With an empty bottle of Jack,

we arrived in style to the white elephant that is B.C. Place. To this day, I don’t know how on earth we made it through those air-lock doors, and I especially don’t know how we convinced a couple of young ladies to get us on the floor, but we did. Most baffling, however, is how we were able to stand the 30 minutes or so of Nickleback, the opening act. Yes, I know that they are Canadian, but we have been apologizing for that for the last decade, so lay off.

Anyway, as the chants of “KISS KISS KISS” grew louder, the lights dimmed, and the video montage began. Reaching back to the early days, the footage showed the band’s first appearances on stage, a fresh, puppy-faced Paul Stanley, pointing into the camera much as he does now. With sense-rattling explosions, Kiss came out to “Psycho Circus,” and immediately afterwards launched into “Shout it out Loud” and “Deuce.” Anybody who I’ve had the pleasure of knowing can tell you that one beer and I’m out — imagine what flash pots, lasers, and loud firebombs did to a half a bottle of J.D.

Awesome, considering the classic Kiss lineup and I’m guessing at least 30,000 fellow Kiss Army members surrounding us. Just as cool was watching Ace handle ’80s Kiss amazingly, with “Lick it Up”, my favourite tune of that period, reborn in his hands. “I Love it Loud,” “Love Gun,” and the surprising (to me) “Black Diamond” all rocked, but then all good things must come to an end. As the final strains of “Rock and Roll All Nite” rang in my head the next two hours, all I could remember was the feeling of completion — that way you feel after knowing that something good just happened and that something even better may be on its way.

Listening to the album now, seven years after, I can maybe hear the strains of a band at the end of its reunion, or maybe

tired after years of touring. Maybe. Mostly, though, I hear the sound of something that I had the privilege of experiencing that I’ll cherish forever. Seven years later, Vancouver is a thriving metal and rock town. Shows that we had to hop on I-5 down to Seattle to catch now come up north, and we have not one but two metal radio shows on the air. Combine that with a metal-only record shop and the result is something that we could only imagine growing up. Venues have reopened and the city is becoming fun again — perhaps you can blame a little of that on Kiss. You too can hear this album, along with the other *Alive* albums as part of the new *Kiss Alive! 1975–2000* box set, which is now available.

Before I go, I’ve had a lot of fun these last five years in Pittsburgh writing for you — I have a feeling that also may come to a close as I look to finish my doctorate here. Wherever I go next, I’ll always take a piece of this town along with Metropol, Rock Jungle, the Rex Theater, the Palace in Greensburg, Starlake Pavillion, and the sorely missed Club Laga. Please keep the live scene here going — tons of shows are coming up like Mastodon/Priestess at the Rex on February 9 and Uneath on February 14. And while you’re at it, buy a T-shirt and feed the band!

Cheers,

Al

Al Cohen | Senior Pillbox Staff

I can't say I feel altogether comfortable with the fact that a doctor's work is referred to as "practicing."

That is to say, I'd rather a doctor who considers treatment as "for real."

It's pretty real as far as I'm concerned.

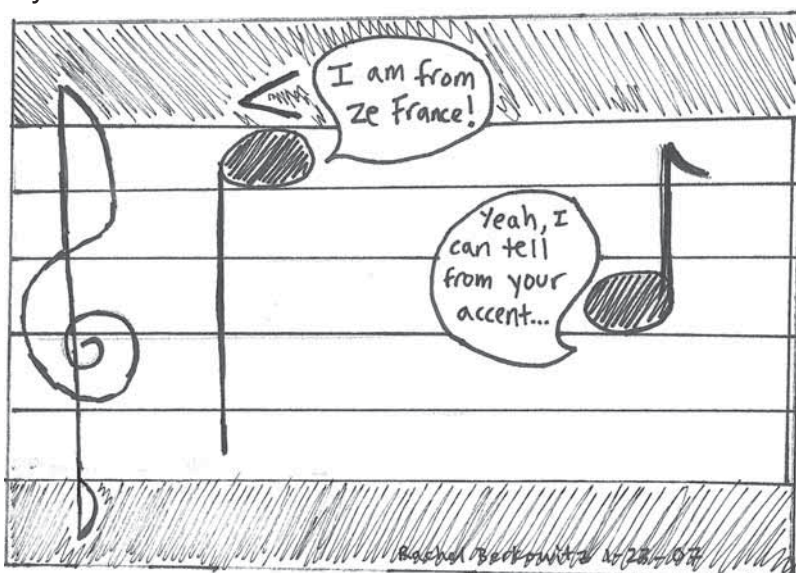


Jon Samuels '07

Sounds Good To Me

by Rachel Berkowitz

rberkowi@andrew



Interrobang

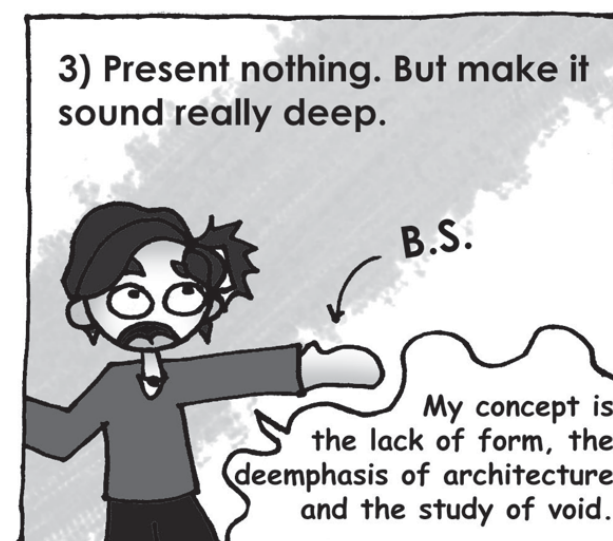
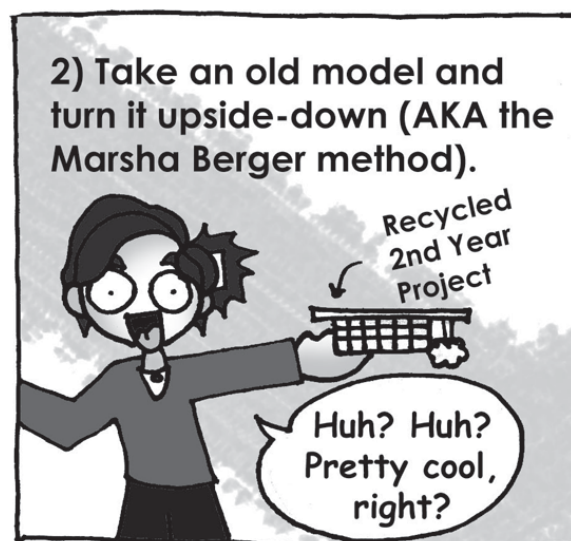
by Selena Beckman-Harned sbeckman@andrew



At Melon Bank

Untitled.dwg by Grace Whang

gwhang@andrew



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(for those who forgot there was a pin-up today)

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Horoscopes

aries
mar. 21–apr.19

So, it appears that this “winter” thing is in full force. Remember to stay warm by wearing layers, eating hot meals, and getting plenty of rest. Of course, you can always just stay in bed and miss all your classes, but that might be detrimental to that whole “education” thing you keep hearing about.

taurus
apr. 20–may 20

Things will probably start to get a bit stressful this week with the first round of tests and papers coming. Just try to think of singing bananas for a quick pick-me-up. Also, I probably shouldn’t say this, but I’m pretty sure the answer for #2 is 2307.2.

gemini
may 21–jun. 21

Let’s make a deal. You’ll get uplifting, positive, and just generally happy horoscopes for the rest of the semester if whenever you see a Tartan on the floor you’ll pick it up. It’s not only cleaning up campus, but it’s also a good way to stretch.

cancer
jun. 22–jul. 22

It’s getting harder to see what the stars are saying about you, seeing how it’s been grey for a month. In any case, I’m sure a combination of good and bad things will happen depending on how you look at it.

leo
jul. 23–aug. 22

Time to get excited! The highlight of the new month will happen early when you see a blimp! No seriously, it’s going to be so awesome!

virgo
aug. 23–sept.22

Let’s just get it out of the way early. Valentine’s Day is coming, and yes, you’re right in your assumption that no one is actually looking forward to it. Make your own holiday with that special someone by buying all the same sort of gifts on the 15th instead. Hurray markdowns!

libra
sept. 23–oct.22

It might seem early, but seniors can already smell graduation in the air. Unfortunately, right now it just reminds them of waiting to hear back from graduate schools and all those damn interviews. Happy times.

scorpio
oct. 23–nov. 21

First things first: relax. Take a good deep breath. There’s a good chance no one saw that. Just start walking away. Count to 10, and if you still feel nervous about it, just start laughing maniacally.

sagittarius
nov. 22–dec. 21

Aw! That bunny is so cute! Did you see it? It just ran by here! Oh man, keep your eye out for it because he is just soooooo cute! It’s okay if you miss all your classes today; your professor will totally understand. He might even come outside and join you!

capricorn
dec. 22–jan.19

If someone wearing a long jacket asks you about “the jade monkey,” just reply by saying that you haven’t seen it yet, but that walruses sure look funny. If no one asks you about it, then everything is falling into place.

aquarius
jan. 20–feb. 18

There’s a fine line between being committed to something and being committed to an insane asylum. This week you’ll achieve a better understanding of that statement.

pisces
feb. 19–mar. 20

Write down some lyrics, or maybe a poem, and keep working on that doodle in your notebook. This will be a good week to express yourself; just be careful about singing in the shower because shampoo is pretty nasty if swallowed.

Diego Bauzá | Comics Editor

Comics of the Past: December

December 4, 2000

December 3, 2001

December 9, 2002
11:45 by Ed Ryan

December 6, 2004

WTF! by Josh Atlas and Jon Bordsky

December 5, 2005

IMF Diary by Robert Kaminski

rkaminsk@andrew

16comics
pillbox 02.05.07

comics17
pillbox 02.05.07

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capricorn
dec. 22–jan.19

If someone wearing a long jacket asks you about “the jade monkey,” just reply by saying that you haven’t seen it yet, but that walruses sure look funny. If no one asks you about it, then everything is falling into place.

aquarius
jan. 20–feb. 18

There’s a fine line between being committed to something and being committed to an insane asylum. This week you’ll achieve a better understanding of that statement.

pisces
feb. 19–mar. 20

Write down some lyrics, or maybe a poem, and keep working on that doodle in your notebook. This will be a good week to express yourself; just be careful about singing in the shower because shampoo is pretty nasty if swallowed.

Diego Bauzá | Comics Editor

Comics of the Past: December

December 4, 2000

December 3, 2001

December 9, 2002
11:45 by Ed Ryan

December 6, 2004

WTF! by Josh Atlas and Jon Bordsky

December 5, 2005

IMF Diary by Robert Kaminski

rkaminsk@andrew

16comics
pillbox 02.05.07

comics17
pillbox 02.05.07

Sudoku

Difficulty: easy

6	2	3		9	5	8		
	1		3	2		9		
8		5						3
5		8			9			
				3		6		
		7	2	8	6			
	7	1		4			6	
3		9	6	7		1	4	
4	8					2		

Difficulty: hard

				8	1			
6							4	8
4	7		6			5		1
5	3	9						
7	6			4	8		3	
			2			7		
				9	7			3
	8						6	
1	4	7						

Play online, including a bonus puzzle, at
<http://www.thetartan.org/comics/sudoku>

Solutions to last issue’s puzzles

5	2	9	8	6	3	1	7	4
7	1	3	4	9	5	8	2	6
4	8	6	1	2	7	9	3	5
8	5	1	3	7	9	4	6	2
9	3	4	2	8	6	7	5	1
6	7	2	5	1	4	3	8	9
3	9	5	6	4	8	2	1	7
1	4	8	7	5	2	6	9	3
2	6	7	9	3	1	5	4	8

4	7	8	6	5	2	9	1	3
2	3	9	7	8	1	6	4	5
1	5	6	9	3	4	7	2	8
3	6	1	8	4	9	5	7	2
5	2	4	1	7	6	3	8	9
8	9	7	5	2	3	4	6	1
6	1	2	3	9	7	8	5	4
7	8	3	4	1	5	2	9	6
9	4	5	2	6	8	1	3	7

Mr. Science Fiction

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21						22			
			23						24					
25	26	27		28		29		30				31	32	33
34			35			36	37				38			
39					40						41			
42					43						44			
45				46				47	48			49		
			50						51		52			
	53	54				55	56	57				58	59	60
61					62						63			
64					65						66			
67					68						69			

by Christine Beaty

ACROSS

- 1. Discipline
- 5. Mr. Science Fiction himself
- 10. Rip
- 14. Mimicker
- 15. “No more shall ____” (2 wds.)
- 16. Go off on
- 17. One who excels
- 18. ____ Gay
- 19. Painting, sculpture, etc.
- 20. 1895 work by 5-Across
- 23. He’s honest
- 24. Small fox
- 25. Something at the Rx
- 28. Mexican Mrs.
- 30. Begley and Begley Jr.
- 31. Accomplished
- 34. Apologize for
- 36. 2003 Emmy Rossum flick
- 38. Window bit
- 39. 1897 work by 5-Across
- 42. Some Silver Queens, perhaps
- 43. Draw on glass
- 44. *The Lion King’s* Scar
- 45. School of ENG and HIS, for two
- 46. Song syllable
- 47. One of them is Grecian
- 49. Originally born
- 50. PS3 rival
- 51. One of a dozen
- 53. 1898 work by 5-Across
- 61. Pebbles’ pet
- 62. Present-day Mesopotamian (var.)
- 63. Architect Saarinen
- 64. Knows of (2 wds.)
- 65. Swiss mathematician
- 66. Hip to
- 67. Paddle game
- 68. Grab hold of (var.)
- 69. Fills (with “off”)

DOWN

- 1. Anti-satellite weapon
- 2. Poet Adrienne
- 3. General Robt.
- 4. Partner of the vena cava
- 5. Hockey player Jason
- 6. “____ from the Coast”
- 7. Clothmaker
- 8. See 46-Across
- 9. Exactly (with “in the middle”)
- 10. Genetic characteristic
- 11. Work for
- 12. Start the betting
- 13. Rds or Aves
- 21. Creator of Helmer and Krogstad
- 22. ____ *Dark Materials*
- 25. Woody Allen *Point*
- 26. It ain’t pathos
- 27. Active participants
- 29. *La Dolce Vita* Ekberg
- 30. Yale benefactor (and society namer)
- 31. Yankee “traitor” Johnny
- 32. Silly
- 33. Incapable of understanding
- 35. Diarist Anais
- 37. Building demolished for the Gates Center
- 38. Distribution word
- 40. Checks (and balances?)
- 41. Jargon
- 46. Brother of 28-Across, possibly
- 48. Run cables again
- 50. A bit off
- 52. Alexander or Catherine
- 53. Oenophile, in crasser terms
- 54. Author of not a few books?
- 55. Some confessions
- 56. Cap. of Nova Scotia
- 57. Gets by, just barely
- 58. *Requiem for a Dream’s* Jared
- 59. Let fall
- 60. Mops up
- 61. Chips accompaniment

MONDAY02.05.07

Dark Star Orchestra. Grateful Dead tribute band performs the band's original set list in all of its glory. Mr. Small's. 8 p.m. 412.821.4447.

PostSecret. Lecture by Frank Warren, the creator of the secret-sharing website. William Pitt Union Assembly Room, University of Pittsburgh. 8:30 p.m. 412.648.7900.

THURSDAY02.08.07

Forgotten Legacy of Minjung Art Movement. Lecture by research fellow Soyang Park discusses the movement in South Korea in the '80s and '90s. Giant Eagle Auditorium, Baker Hall A51. 4:30 p.m.

The Meeting. Play depicts a hypothetical meeting between Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X. Hopkins Auditorium, Point Park University. 6 p.m. (Play is preceded by reception.) 412.391.4100.

SUNDAY02.11.07

'Alive and Dancing!' Student tribute to Alvin Ailey's "Reflections." Check out the article on page B9! Rangos Hall, University Center. 2 and 5 p.m. \$5. Tickets available every day in Purnell. 412.268.2075.

The Fold. It's not Monday yet, enjoy it! Also: The Graduate, Sound the Alarm. Mr. Small's. 7 p.m. 412.821.4447.

TUESDAY02.06.07

Speak Your Mind: The Change. In the next installment in the Diversity Discussion and Dinner series, creative writing professor Terrance Hayes will lead a talk. McKenna/Peter/Wright, University Center. 5–6:30 p.m. 412.268.2075.

Drink & Draw. Hang out on the second floor of brillobox and let the atmosphere — and alcohol — inspire your art. Brillobox. 6 p.m. \$10. 412.621.4900.

FRIDAY02.09.07

Ron Jeremy: The Hardest (Working) Man In Showbiz. Speech and signing by a veteran of over almost 2000 adult films. Joseph-Beth Booksellers, South Side Works. 7 p.m. 412.381.3600.

Tennessee Whiskey. Did you get the Facebook invite? Student band performs original and covers. Kiva Han, Craig Street. 8–9 p.m.

MONDAY02.12.07

In Celebration of Gospel Music: From the Negro Spiritual to Contemporary Gospel. Performances by a Carnegie Mellon alumna and other Pittsburgh vocalists. Kresge Theater, CFA. 8 p.m.

Mark Pipas as the Sleaze. The "Sleaze" will sing any and all pop songs — don't encourage him. Club Café. 9:30 p.m. 412.431.4950.

WEDNESDAY02.07.07

Alternative Music Night. Come out and see With Blood Comes Cleansing. Mister Roboto Project. 7 p.m. \$9. 412.247.9639.

CMU Ensembles. Wind Ensemble and Contemporary Ensemble from the School of Music. Carnegie Music Hall. 8 p.m. 412.268.2383.

SATURDAY02.10.07

Fantastic Symphony. Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra performs Berlioz's "Symphonie Fantastique." Heinz Hall. 2 p.m, doors open at 1:30 p.m. 412.392.4872.

Ben Bagby. Songs from *Beowulf* — prepare yourself for the summer movie. Synod Hall, North Craig Street. 8 p.m. 412.361.2048.

ONGOING

Magic Worlds. Display of scroll paints by Petra Voegtle, a German artist. Box Heart Gallery, Liberty Avenue. Through March 3. 412.687.8858.

Stomp. Eight-member dance ensemble uses everything from Zippo lighters to garbage cans. Benedum Center. Through Sunday. 412.456.6666.

Classifieds

EXTREMELY LARGE 3-BR apt 1/2 block from CMU (Beeler St.), 8 room, 1 & 1/2 bath apt, 3 BR, 1 double size, 22x17 LR, DR, kitchen with dishwasher, small office, large gameroom in basement, 1 car garage + 1-off street parking space included in rent, free washer & dryer, summer subletting permitted, bus stop in front, \$1830 p/mo + g&e, available May 2007, 412.302.6827, 412.302.2074, 941.624.3533

moe. Borders Books & Music, Northway Mall, North Hills. Today, 8 p.m. 412.635.7661.

Jamband moe. will be rolling through the North Hills of Pittsburgh tonight. The band is playing a free show at Borders in support of its newest album, *The Conch*. Over the past five years or so, moe. has undergone a rapid transformation, writing songs that are more accessible to mainstream audiences. The group's melodies are catchier and less quirky than its older material.

Although some fans feel like moe. is trying to abandon the jamband scene into which it was pigeon-holed, moe.'s new album still has plenty of the feel-good vibes, lengthy guitar solos, and musical interplay that made the group so popular.

Speaking of popular, moe. has been playing to larger and larger audiences over its career, and just last month played a New Year's Eve gig at Radio City Music Hall. Given the constantly evolving direction of the band and the intimate setting of the Borders venue, Monday night's gig is a must-see.



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if you can dodge a wrench...



Jiaqi Tan | Photo Staff

...you can dodge a ball! Friday night, students gathered in Wiegand Gymnasium in the UC to duke it out the old-fashioned way. Here, Kat Fox, a senior majoring in electrical and computer engineering, prepares to serve up some rubber-ball madness.

MAKE YOUR MARK

A guide to walking away a winner from the EOC

Almost 150 big-name companies are setting up shop on Carnegie Mellon's campus...

Every year the Employment Opportunities Conference brings them here to hire tomorrow's hotshots. But they don't want just anyone, they want the best and brightest.

The EOC will be held this Thursday 1–6 p.m. in Wiegand Gym and Rangos Hall.

Look good on paper [PAGE C2]

Think you've practiced enough? Read our résumé review tips.

Stand apart from the crowd. Take a look inside our special EOC section as we give you tips and tricks to landing that perfect summer or post-graduation job.

In the hot seat [PAGE C4]

Our interview pointers will help land a job.

Will you be ready?

Dazzling duds [PAGE C7]

The way you dress could determine if you walk away with a job offer.



A quick **playbook** to the **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES CONFERENCE**

1) Perfect your résumé

Your résumé is a single piece of paper that represents you every step of the way — give it the attention it deserves.

The 15-second read

Your résumé is one of as many as 500 résumés that a recruiting team from a top firm is likely to get this week. Each résumé will get about 15 seconds of attention before it lands in the “yes” pile or the “no” pile, so make every word count.

Format for a quick scan

Creating a readable document will make it less painful for your recruiter if your résumé is number 198 for the day.

Break it up into sections: education, experience, activities, skills, and interests — use a line or two and show some personality. Your goal is to capture the short attention span of the recruiter. Using these categories will help you cast a broad net, so they’ll be most likely to identify with something on your résumé. Use indentation, spacing, bold text, and bullet points to organize

the information on your page. But be careful; don’t go overboard. If you have any doubt, ask your career counselor.

Begin to tell your story

Your résumé should begin to tell a story about who you are. We say “begin,” because you want to reveal enough to pique the reader’s interest but save enough of the interesting details for you to talk about later.

Leave zero errors

It’s that simple. Attention to detail is among the most common points in a job posting, so don’t submit a résumé that will disqualify you. Proofread twice. Get a friend to proofread. Get your career counselor to proofread.

Customize for the company

If you have a diverse set of interests, like many Carnegie Mellon students, you’ll probably be meeting with recruiters from a variety of companies.

Consider creating tailored résumés for various companies that highlight the most relevant aspects of your experience.

2) Make a gameplan

The career fair is *not* a time to learn about a company you’re interested in. When you step up to the plate, you should already know a lot.

Know the industry

Read up on the industry you’re interested in so you can speak intelligently about it.

Magazines, newspapers, and websites offer a wealth of information related to different industries.

You need to know the who-what-when-where of the industry you’re specifically interested in: Who’s important in the field; what do they do? What companies have what kinds of influences in the industry? When did the biggest shifts in materials, methods, and people take place? Where do crucial companies in the field do business?

If you know your field, you can chat it up with the bigwigs — then you’re already ahead.

Know the company

If you know the industry and the company, that’s even better. Use sites

like *hoovers.com* (free on campus) or *guidestar.org*, which offer background on companies and non-profits, respectively.

Make sure to check out the company’s website and find news about them. Also, seek out and talk to people who work or have worked for the company to get the inside perspective.

Know the position

Find out all you can about the position so you can make the most of the short time you’ll have with a recruiter.

Look into what the position is like throughout the industry, and more specifically within the company. How do they compare? What is the pay like?

Know yourself

Be ready to talk in detail about your experiences related to the job you are aiming for. What classes have prepared you for this position? What previous job experiences have you had related to the field? What did you accomplish there? Can you support your claims about your personality strengths?

3) Know what to expect

The EOC can be intimidating. Be ready.

Take a deep breath

The most important thing to remember is that this career fair is not a life-or-death situation.

In fact, the majority of people find jobs by means other than a career fair.

Especially if it’s your first time visiting a career fair, look at the event as a way to meet some interesting people and learn more about what sort of job you are interested in.

Know where to go

When you walk through the door, you’ll find yourself in a mess of people, some milling uncomfortably about and others confidently moving from booth to booth.

You should have a list of companies you want to visit and know where their booths are located — use the maps on page C8.

Avoid the long lines — wait until the queue dies down if you can. Wait patiently for a free recruiter, then step forward and speak up.

Prepare your introduction

In one smooth sentence, you should explain who you are and why are you talking to the recruiter to whom you’ve just introduced yourself.

Keep in mind that in these initial seconds, the recruiter will formulate his or her opinion of you. Most people fumble through their introductions, so if you practice, you will stand out. If you really want to nail it, practice aloud with friends — a little weird, but worth a job.

Make your work easily accessible

Portfolios are professional ways to present your work to potential employers, like writing and designs.

A well-assembled portfolio also includes personal blurbs about each work included.

In these blurbs, you can tell your potential employer any challenges you successfully overcame or skills you learned through creating a specific work in your portfolio.

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Location: Doherty Hall, Room 1112

**Learn more and sign up for interviews being held on
February 13 and 26 via TartanTrak.**

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How to play it during and after the EOC

4) Act like a professional

The easiest way to get recruiters to take you seriously and remember your name is by presenting yourself professionally. If you look sharp, act smart, and actively seek out opportunities, you'll leave a good impression and make a later interview that much easier.

Hold yourself with poise

Some communication experts assert that body language has the most significant effect on the impression you make when you meet someone. Stand tall, with equal weight on each foot. Avoid shifting

your weight excessively. Use your hands calmly and naturally as you talk, keeping them out of your pockets. You want to convey your confidence by standing and moving comfortably.

Make contact

Don't give recruiters a dead-fish handshake. Nothing spells bad first impression like a limp, floppy greeting. A handshake can tell recruiters volumes about you — how confident you are, how excited you are to be talking to them, and how well you might

blend with their corporate culture. A firm handshake and direct eye contact will go a long way toward helping your case.

Be positive

Don't spend time criticizing your previous employment, either. You will probably be asked about your past work experience, and you don't want to answer with a long tirade about how your former boss had the IQ of a jar of mayonnaise. It's better to concentrate on what you learned from the experience or how it helped refine your long-term employment goals.

5) Ask real questions

Ask targeted questions

Ask about specific positions inside the company — this will show recruiters that you're serious enough about the job to have already investigated what they have to offer.

Try to ask focused questions about what it's actually like to work for the company.

Some good starting points are what an average work week is like, what requirements prospective

employees should have, what the company's approach to diversity is, and what the overall company atmosphere is like.

Asking good questions will help in two ways: First of all, you will learn about the companies you're interested in working for, and you will also impress recruiters with your initiative to learn. The information will be invaluable in your interview.

Listen and take notes

Use good eye contact, nod, and clarify points you don't understand to show you're actively listening.

Don't forget to jot notes down, too. An excellent way to keep things simple and organized is to collect a business card from each recruiter you talk to and write notes about the company, the job, and the recruiter on the back. That way, you'll have a handy resource to look back on later — pre-cataloged and everything.

6) Follow up graciously

The best way to stay fresh in the minds of recruiters is by writing each of them a letter a few days after you talk to them.

The letter doesn't have to be very fancy, just a brief note reminding them who you are and where you met. Mention your

conversations to jog their memories. (Remember the notes you were taking?) Thank them, say you enjoyed the conversation, and ask to meet again. This way, you've put your foot in the metaphorical door; complete the transaction by saying you'll follow up by phone in a

few days. The phone call will give you a chance to solidify the meeting and make a second impression — and get a read on what the recruiters might think of you. Be confident and proactive in setting up the second meeting — it will probably be your best chance.

7) Always be networking

The career fairs are great, but around three-quarters of all jobs are won through networking. Your best bet is to start schmoozing early.

Get into the network

Career services organizes frequent networking events that involve both corporate recruiters and Carnegie Mellon alumni from all fields.

Attend every networking event you can; the ability to network comfortably and gracefully will make you stand out like nearly no other skill. Practice is the only way to learn. You'll find that even after you've gotten a job, networking is the most common way to score a promotion or another job.

Show up and dive in

Show up on time and

dressed sharply, on par with other guests. Feel free to have something to drink and some easy-to-eat food. Stack your cup on your plate and hold a napkin under the plate. This way your right hand is free for a firm shake.

Work the room

Have a plan for who you want to talk to and get to it. Use the general introduction you practiced for the career fair to introduce yourself to new people. Ask polite questions and share yourself. Keep good eye contact; refrain from "shopping" for other people to meet. Keep a time limit of five to 10 minutes, and politely leave with a pre-prepared exit line: "There's a friend I need to speak with. It was a pleasure to meet you."

Before you depart, trade business cards and, if you're interested, arrange a time on another day to continue the conversation.

Bring it forward

At the end of the night, review the business cards you've collected and note the topic of your conversation and some important details about the contact to help you start up the conversation next time.

These are called "tickler files" and are a hugely successful tool used by countless business professionals in all industries. Be sure to thank the host before you leave, so you'll be invited to the next gathering. To make an even better impression, send a formal thank-you note.



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Because this opportunity presents you with the exciting experience to work in various cities, you must be able to live and work in both the US and Canada. International students are welcome.

Sounds Interesting! How Do I Apply?

Come to our info session at Porter Hall on Feb 7, 2007 at 5:00-6:00PM. Drop by booth #35 at the EOC. You can apply online on TartanTrak or go to www.directyourenergy.com



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Please stop by our booth at the Employment Opportunities Conference on Thursday, February 8th from 1pm — 6pm at the University Center Gym and Rangos Ballroom.

The right attire could help you walk the walk after you talk the talk

Employers respond more positively to interviewees who dress up

Men should wear dark suits with light-colored shirts and neckties and matching shoes and belt. Also, remember to go easy on the cologne.

Women tend to make the best impression by wearing dark suit jackets with skirts or pants. Conservative is key, so also remember closed-toe shoes.



Open-toe is a no-no



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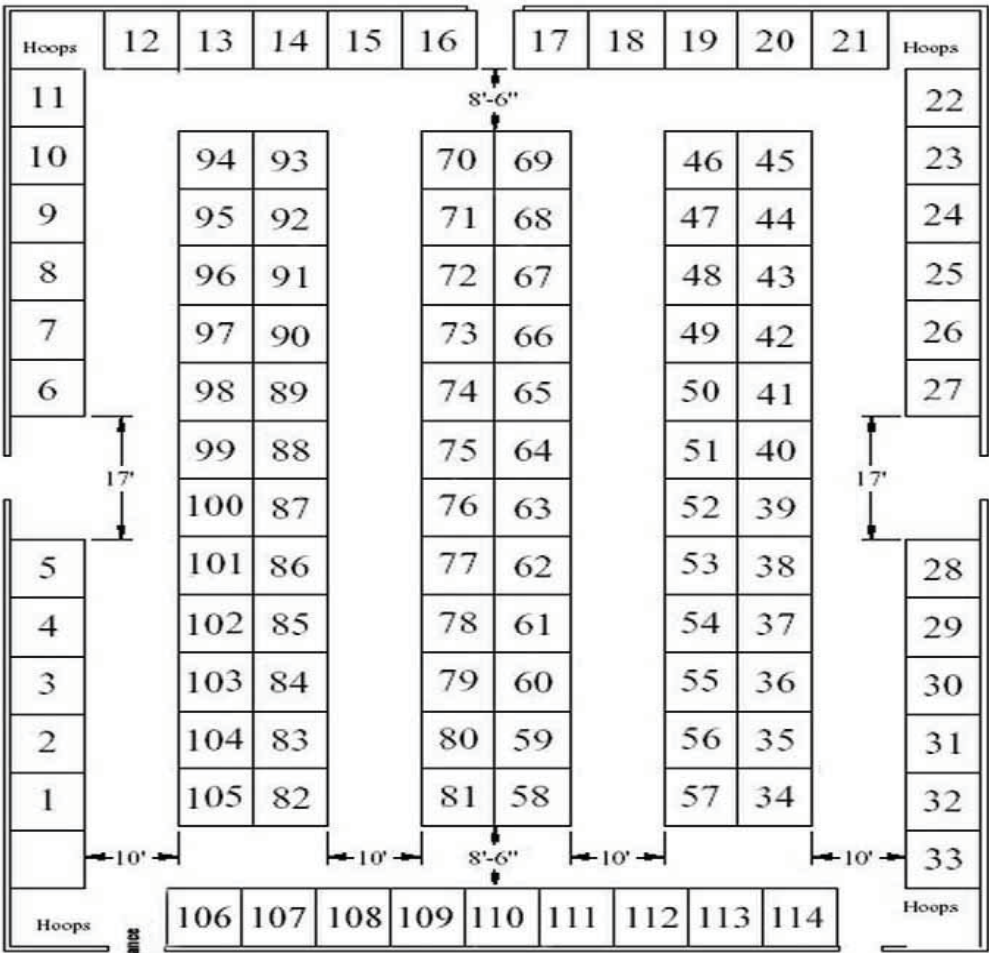
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Wiegand Gymnasium



Rangos Hall

