

THE TARTAN



Volume 101, Issue 17

Carnegie Mellon's Student Newspaper Since 1906

February 19, 2007

It's time for summer grants!

by Mona Maher
Junior Staffwriter

As students begin to make summer plans, one option is often largely ignored — research. Often discounted because it is expensive to conduct and not as lucrative as a job or internship, research can provide valuable experience in the lab, studio, field, or wherever a student's interests lead him or her. Below are some resources offered through Carnegie Mellon that enable students to both afford and experience the benefits of research.

SURG (Small Undergraduate Research Grant) program

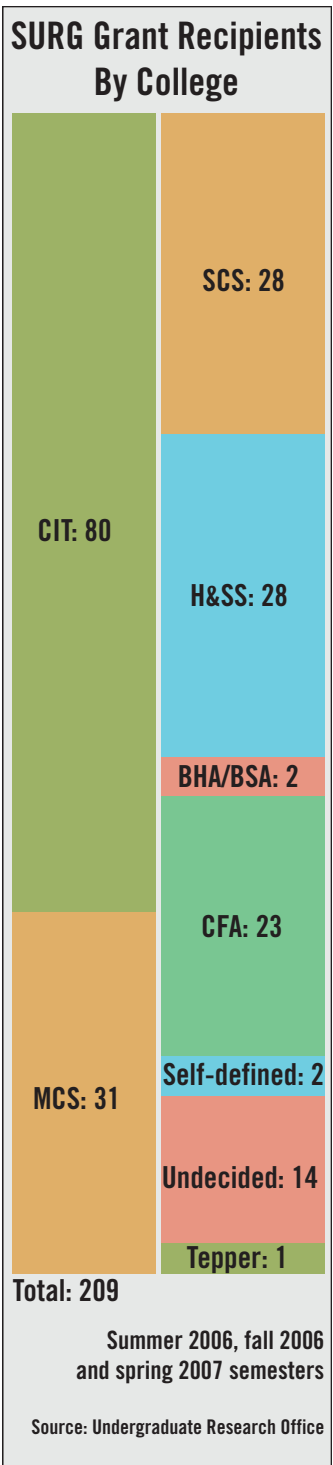
SURG grants provide funding for undergraduate students to conduct research during the fall, spring, and summer semesters.

“[SURG] is a way to build mentor relationships between students and faculty. It is also a way for students to begin testing out a career interest and really working to obtain hands-on experience,” said Stephanie Wallach, director of the Undergraduate Research Office (URO). “For some students, the process of researching and presenting their findings is pure fun.”

Students from any college can apply to perform research in any field, even if the subject is unrelated to their major.

“There is a general tendency for more applications to come from students interested in or studying the sciences and engineering,” said Jen Weidenhof, assistant to the director of

See GRANTS, page A4



Ha Jin Choi/Art Staff



Dave Kjos/Art Editor

Sleeping with the enemy? Co-ed housing bill awaits approval next week

by Sabrina Porter
Staffwriter

Although not a field of study in the Mellon College of Science, the science of co-ed dorm rooms could soon be a topic studied by the entire Carnegie Mellon community. A new proposal has suggested a university-wide mixed-gender housing pilot study that could go into effect as early as the spring 2007 room draw. The proposal would allow students to live with a member of the opposite sex in university housing.

The plan was proposed by the student government last December. To increase community awareness, Student

Body President Karl Sjogren, a senior SDS major, and Student Body Vice President Andrea Hamilton, a senior art and ethics, history, and public policy major, have presented the proposal to the Student Dormitory Council, Senate, and Housing and Student Life Office.

The proposal is awaiting approval by Tim Michael, assistant vice president for campus services. Michael's decision will determine whether or not the plan will proceed.

“We have received the proposal from the student body president for gender-neutral housing and are still studying it and our own benchmarking of other college and universities that offer such a housing option on their campuses,” he said.

“Since room draw is almost ready to begin, we need to make a decision next week on whether to pursue a pilot or wait another year and do further research.”

Sjogren and Hamilton have worked to inform the campus community about the proposal through presentations and by soliciting students' views in order to gauge their level of interest in the project.

“Currently, housing's room assignment process is dictated only by gender,” Sjogren and Hamilton stated on their website. “This prevents students who would like to live in a mixed-gender environment from living in campus housing.”

The proposal would allow

students of opposite genders to share both on-and off-campus residences, beginning with the Small Oakland Apartments, which include Shady Oak, London Terrace, Veronica, and Shirley, and expanding according to student demand. In addition to being able to request to live with or “pull in” someone of the of the opposite gender during room draw, current first-years, sophomores, and juniors could specify male, female, or no preference when entering into the process blind. Those who choose to respond with no preference might return next fall to a roommate of the opposite gender.

The plan will not apply to in-

See HOUSING, page A3

Student's family kidnapped

by Claire Morgenstern
News Editor

Ph.D. in rhetoric student Eric Hanbury teaches a section of Interpretation and Argument on conceptions of democracy. The class focuses not just on government practices but also on the way people perceive cultural norms — or, how they notice when those norms are interrupted.

“We get into a routine, and the routine becomes familiar,” Hanbury said. “We find faith in the familiar.”

Monday night, Hanbury's routine was disrupted when his wife, Maria, and their two children, aged three months and four years, were kidnapped and forced to withdraw money from an ATM.

Maria Hanbury was leaving the toy-lending library on Centre Avenue near S. Aiken Avenue in Shadyside around 6 p.m. when a man approached her from behind as she was buckling the couple's older child into his carseat. The man's face was concealed by a ski mask

See KIDNAPPING, page A3

Group designs T-shirts to benefit refugees

by Brian Moon
Junior Staffwriter

Last Saturday, the Mudge House library was louder than usual as students in Carnegie Mellon's chapter of FORGE silk-screened 100 T-shirts to benefit African refugees.

FORGE, which stands for “Facilitating Opportunities for Refugee Growth and Empowerment,” is a non-governmental organization dedicated to helping refugees all over the world. Founded in 2003 at Stanford University, Carnegie Mellon's branch was established last year by Kate Edgar, a sophomore industrial design major, and Jen Johnson, a sophomore anthropology and history major.

FORGE mainly focuses on providing educational programs within refugee camps, such as mentoring programs for orphans. The organization also works to promote human rights and provide recreational programs.

There are currently at least eight chapters of FORGE nationwide.

The silk-screening was the first big event that Carnegie Mellon's chapter planned and held independently from the larger chapter at the University of Pittsburgh, though students from both universities attended.

“The goal of this event is to raise awareness and provide funds to buy blankets and education material for refugees, mostly Congolese, in Africa that are currently staying in the camps of Zambia, including the Meheba refugee camp,” Edgar said. “The profits will be used to buy blankets and provide educational support for refugees in Zambia. We hope to raise more funds at the Baridi Night and buy blankets for 500 families.”

Baridi Night (Baridi means cold in Swahili) is a major fundraising event held by FORGE chapters in Pittsburgh, Boston, and Los Angeles.

Pittsburgh's Baridi Night will be held on April 13 at the University of Pittsburgh.

Africans living in refugee camps need blankets and educational material most urgently, according to surveys conducted in Zambian refugee camps. Although blankets were provided when families moved into the camps, they have since become worn out. FORGE's current mission is to provide new blankets and replace the worn ones.

Students who participated in Saturday's event created their own uniquely designed T-shirts with paint and four basic silk screens. After designing the T-shirts, students could purchase

See FORGE, page A3



Max Jordan/Photo Staff

Sophomore biology major Jeff Meek creates a shirt at FORGE's event.

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Meet the Staff

Since you're the one who reads The Tartan, we thought you might be interested in knowing a little bit about the people who make it. Here's some inside information about a few members of our editorial staff:

Liz Schwartz Managing Editor

Liz Schwartz is a sophomore in civil and environmental engineering. She is from Allentown, Pa., which is the third-largest city in Pennsylvania. She likes David Lynch movies, Interpol, and skiing. Her dislikes include: incompetence, discussion, and Intro to World History.

Sarah Mogin Pillbox Editor

Sarah Mogin is a sophomore in math and creative writing. She does not have "Whatever I can get" checked on Facebook. She spends most of her free time...hahaha, that's funny. She enjoys developing and employing her own eclectic vocabulary, whose words include: campy, lumpy, clumpy, and drr.

Michael Whiston SciTech Editor

Michael Whiston is a sophomore in philosophy and physics. He is from Kennebunkport, Maine, which is where George Bush (Senior) lives. He enjoys

playing the guitar and listening to musical artists Brian Shyu and Sam Tsai.

Kristen Lukiewski Dossier Design Editor

Kristen Lukiewski is a junior in BHA majoring in writing and design. She is also from Allentown, though her parents are from Scranton, which may seem familiar from NBC's *The Office*. Her eyes are like venus fly traps, and she has been known to order Diet Coke with grenadine. She's that girl that you saw walking with her scarf between her legs.

Matt Siffert Assistant Pillbox Editor

After suffering a paralyzing injury in a freak yak accident at his bar mitzvah, Matt Siffert never lets his disability get in his way. In addition to being on Tartan staff, Matt is an accomplished bocce player and shoelace designer. Matt is a sophomore in BHA majoring in music and psychology.

Compiled by
Claire Morgenstern

Corrections & Clarifications

In last week's news article "Look out Luke: Peduto puts in bid for mayor," a photograph was incorrectly attributed to Mike Murphy. The photographer was Jiaqi Tan.

In last week's Pillbox article "Faking it... the things we do for love," professor Brooke Feeney was misquoted as saying that "faking aspects of our personality upon first meeting someone we're interested in is probably wise." Feeney's actual response was "Based on the research evidence, I wouldn't say that 'misrepresentation' plays a large role in the formation and maintenance of real relationships." Research shows that many factors predict interpersonal attraction,

most of which cannot be "faked" or "misrepresented" in real-life interactions. Feeney stressed that although people often present their most desirable qualities during initial encounters, it is unlikely that a relationship would develop based on the misrepresented qualities, nor has misrepresenting oneself shown to benefit a relationship in any way.

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.

Weather



TUESDAY
Hi: 39
Lo: 31



WEDNESDAY
Hi: 37
Lo: 34



THURSDAY
Hi: 43
Lo: 26



FRIDAY
Hi: 43
Lo: 37



SATURDAY
Hi: 51
Lo: 45



Mingwei Tay/Photo Staff

The "Best" lecture

Students, faculty, and staff gathered in Erwin Steinberg Auditorium in Baker Hall Friday to hear Wallace D. Best, associate professor of African-American religious studies at Harvard Divinity School. Best spoke about the Great Migration of the 20th century, when African-Americans relocated from rural areas to cities. He also spoke about the changes in Chicago's African-American churches as a result of the shift that ultimately changed the culture of African-American religion.

Statistically Speaking

While Pittsburgh hit a record low temperature this past week, other winter records of the past still stand strong. Take a look at how this month's weather in Pittsburgh measures up to previous years:

Amount of snowfall this season:	24.1 inches
Amount of snowfall this February to date:	12.1 inches
Average amount of snowfall in February:	5.5 inches
Highest temperature in February on record:	76° F (2000)
Lowest temperature in February on record:	- 2° F (1995 and 2007)
Most snowfall in February on record:	25.3 inches (2003)
Number of days classes at Carnegie Mellon have been cancelled on account of snow in the past decade:	1 (2003)

Sources: www.weather.com, www.erh.noaa.gov, www.weather.gov

Compiled by
Claire Morgenstern

Campus News in Brief

Onorato establishes student program in government

A new graduate scholars program sponsored by Allegheny County will offer graduate students a one-year position in the county's Department of Human Services leading high-profile government-related projects, Allegheny County Chief Executive Dan Onorato announced on February 2. The program is another initiative that may lead to more students staying in Pittsburgh after graduation — at the end of the one-year term, qualified scholars may be offered permanent employment by the department.

The Department of Human Services is responsible for providing publicly funded human services to Allegheny County residents, including elder care, mental health, drug, and alcohol counseling, child protective services, emergency shelters, housing for the homeless, job training and placement, and services for the mentally retarded and developmentally disabled.

The program hopes to serve a similar purpose as Carnegie Mellon's Stephen M. Lauble Community Fellowship, which offers policy students at the Heinz School fellowships at local organizations. Both programs aim to foster an interest in serving the public and a commitment to the Allegheny County region.

Applicants must be scheduled to earn their graduate degrees by spring 2008. Applications will be available at www.county.allegheny.pa.us/dhs. Applications are due in November 2007.

Senator Logan elected PHEAA vice chairman

State Senator Sean Logan (D-Allegheny/Westmoreland) was elected vice chairman of the board of directors for the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) on Thursday. The organization provides financial aid for millions of students nationwide. One of the largest full-service financial aid organizations in the United States, PHEAA manages more than \$56.5 billion in total assets.

Logan has been a member of the PHEAA board for the past two years.

"I am honored by my election as vice chairman of the PHEAA board," Logan stated in a press release. "I will do all I can to optimize and provide additional aid for Pennsylvania students."

CMU establishes Katayanagi Prizes in computer science

Carnegie Mellon has established the annual Katayanagi Prizes in Computer Science and announced the first two recipients, according to a February 14 university press release.

Launched in cooperation with the Tokyo University of Technology (TUT) in Tokyo, Japan, the prizes were made possible by a donation from Koh Katayanagi, Japanese entrepreneur and founder of TUT.

The Katayanagi Prize for Research Excellence was awarded to David A. Patterson, the E. H. and M. E. Pardee chair of computer science at the University of California at Berkeley.

The Katayanagi Emerging Leadership Prize was awarded to Takeo Igarashi, associate professor in the Department of Computer Science in the Graduate School of Information Science and Technology at the University of Tokyo.

Patterson will deliver a lecture at Carnegie Mellon on March 20; Igarashi will speak on March 22.

Compiled by
Claire Morgenstern

Lectures in government and policy this week

by Elisabeth Madden Junior Staffwriter

Lectures this week will cover a range of approaches to government and policy issues. Tomorrow, Gerry Mackie will discuss democracy as a form of government. Wednesday afternoon, journalist Khaled Abu Toameh will demonstrate the need for a free press in the Middle East. At 6:30 the same evening, Tupper Thomas will describe New York City's innovative public education project. Lastly, at 7:30 p.m., Mumia Abu Jamal's lead lawyer, Robert R. Bryan, will discuss the constitutional issues at stake in the death-row inmate's last attempt at a new trial.

Title: "Democracy Defended"

The Basics: Gerry Mackie, associate professor of political science at the University of California: San Diego will discuss ongoing doubts about democratic governance. Mackie will refute the claim that democracy leads to chaos and cannot sustain itself by illustrating every potential instability within a democratic system and concluding that none are normatively troubling.

The lecture is part of the lecture series "Liberalisms," sponsored by the Humanities Center.
When: Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.
Where: Baker Hall 154R

Title: "Life as a Journalist in Israel and the Palestinian Authority"
The Basics: Independent Arab journalist Khaled Abu Toameh

will discuss the importance of a free press in the Middle East. After a 20-year career in journalism, Toameh has established a reputation as an honest and unbiased journalist. Toameh began his career at a Palestinian Liberation Organization newspaper and moved into the Israeli and then international press. Currently, Toameh works with the international media in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The lecture is co-sponsored by Tartans for Israel, Hasbara Fellowships, the Edward and Rose Berman Hillel Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon College Republicans, and the University Lecture Series.

When: Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.
Where: Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A

Subject: Tupper Thomas

The Basics: Tupper Thomas, president of the Prospect Park Alliance in Brooklyn, N.Y., will discuss the mission of the Brooklyn Academy for Science and the Environment (BASE), a public high school in New York City. BASE uses Prospect Park and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden to engage students in scientific research and teach them about the environment. The project is part of New York City's New Century High School Initiative, which seeks to convert underperforming high schools into groups of smaller "themed" schools.

The lecture is part of the University Lecture Series.

When: Wednesday at 6 p.m.
Where: Gregg Hall (Porter Hall 100)

Title: "On the Anniversary of the Assassination of Malcolm X: the Case for Mumia Abu Jamal"

The Basics: Award-winning Philadelphia journalist Mumia Abu Jamal has been on death row for the past 25 years for the murder of a Philadelphia policeman. Robert R. Bryan, lead lawyer for Jamal, will discuss recent developments in this famous case. In particular, Bryan will speak about the constitutional issues that will determine whether Jamal will get a new trial.

The lecture is sponsored by the Humanities Scholars Program.

When: Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A

Science & Technology

5 Software steers rover



Also:
How Things Work: Mentos and Coke
SciTech Briefs

Forum

6 Snow blows



Also:
America's fascination with torture
Tribute to the Good Doctor

Sports

10 Men's basketball drops two



Also:
Athlete Profile: Brad Matta
Women's basketball

Pillbox

8 Upload your emotions to MoodJam



Also:
Lunar Gala goes 'Vice Versa'
PLAYGROUND shows student work

University will decide on co-ed housing pilot

HOUSING, from A1

coming first-year students, who would still be assigned a roommate of the same sex.

Students stated that they would opt for the proposed choice if they wanted to live with a platonic friend between opposite genders; if they were gay, lesbian, or transgender students and felt more comfortable living with the opposite sex; or if they wanted to move in with a boyfriend or girlfriend.

“It would be a huge step for CMU if they offered co-ed housing,” said Ellen Parkhurst, GLBT intern for the Office of Student Development and a sophomore policy and management major. “It would possibly put our campus in the top 20 schools for GLBT students.”

According to *The Advocate*, Carnegie Mellon ranks in the top 100 best colleges and universities for GLBT students.

More than 20 colleges and universities across the nation already offer co-ed housing options. Students at Wesleyan College, Haverford College, and Swarthmore College can choose to room with a member of the opposite sex, according to a February 27, 2002 article in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

Wesleyan reported that less than one percent of its students have taken advantage of the co-ed alternative, and Swarthmore and Haverford cited similar percentages. However, despite the low numbers of participants, the colleges have continued to offer the option for the past several years.

Currently, Wesleyan allows groups of up to six people, regardless of gender, to be entered into its annual room selection process.

Haverford launched its program in 2000 and limits the option to upperclassmen. Students apply in groups of three by lottery and are placed in two-bedroom apartments with a shared kitchen, living room, and bathroom.

Swarthmore launched its co-

ed housing program at the request of the university's gay and lesbian population. The students claimed that they would feel more comfortable living with a person of the opposite gender, and viewed the campus housing policies as discriminatory to their interests.

All three colleges only place students in co-ed housing arrangements if they specifically request such an arrangement. No one is assigned co-ed housing against his or her wishes, the *Post-Gazette* stated.

Single-sex housing, once the norm on most campuses, now represents a small minority of housing options. Only two percent of Carnegie Mellon's dorms are all female and nine percent of dorms are all male, according to university data.

The single-sex dorm has been replaced by the co-ed dorm, which now represents about half of all campus housing. The remaining percentage of campus housing consists of sororities, fraternities, apartments, and specialty housing for disabled students.

Students behind the new proposal are aware of the changes the policy would bring to the campus community.

“[We need] clear communications announcing the pilot study to the campus community, regarding [residential] staff-training adjustments, and related to transgender students,” Sjogren and Hamilton stated on their website.

Although never officially proposed, co-ed housing is not a new consideration at Carnegie Mellon.

“The issue first came up approximately three to four years ago in a discussion with transsexual students,” Sjogren said. “This is the first time there has been a student push for the initiative.”

The final decision regarding whether to proceed with the pilot in time for room draw, which begins March 26, is expected from administrators within the next two weeks.



Jiaqi Tan/Senior Photo Staff

Students celebrate Chinese New Year

Singaporean students toss yusheng and shout “lo hei,” which means “reach higher” in Cantonese, in honor of the New Year last Tuesday.

Student's family kidnapped, robbed

KIDNAPPING, from A1

with two holes cut out for his eyes, and he was holding what appeared to be a gun. He got in the passenger seat and directed Maria toward Bloomfield, eventually commanding her to stop on the side of the road next to an ATM, forcing her to withdraw money. When she returned, the man said it wasn't enough and forced her to withdraw more until she had given him about \$500 in all. Eventually, the man asked Maria to pull over one more time, at which point he jumped out of the car.

Hanbury, who was at the couple's Morningside home when his family returned at about 8:15 p.m., described his initial reaction as one of disbelief.

“Obviously it didn't register,” he said. “As soon as I got the gist of what was going on, we called the police.”

Furthermore, the police took the couple's car to look for evidence, he said, leaving the couple stranded at home during the bulk of last week's snowstorms. Since

the police returned the car late last week, Hanbury said his wife had not yet gotten inside.

While Hanbury held office hours and taught classes on Thursday and Friday, he didn't attend his own classes for the remainder of last week after the incident occurred.

“School isn't the priority at this time,” he said.

However, the family has received an outpouring of support from friends, neighbors, and colleagues, many of whom supplied food and ran errands while their car was being held by police. They have also been contacted by several psychologists seeking to mitigate the effects of the trauma, especially on the couple's four-year-old.

“Faculty and staff have created a fund to help Eric and his family with some of the financial setback caused by this,” stated David Kaufer, professor and head of the English Department, via e-mail. “I [also] know his fellow graduates have supplied groceries and other support for the family.”

Hanbury was not sure how the

case would proceed.

“It's in the police's hands,” he said.

For now, Hanbury has been focused on making his students and colleagues more aware of the incident in hopes that they will take precautions to avoid a similar situation in the future.

“The probability that this could happen to you, your family, or someone you know is rather low,” he wrote in an e-mail to colleagues in the English Department. “I only write this in hopes that the probability can be lowered still further by being a little more watchful — of yourselves and others. Please, pay attention to your surroundings.”

His students were shocked when Hanbury recounted the incident in front of the class, but Hanbury did his best to supply them with a learning experience, not a horror story.

“If we were a little more aware that things aren't standard, people would pay more attention,” he said.

The Pittsburgh Bureau of Police was unavailable for comment.

Group donates to refugees

FORGE, from A1

their own or those of their friends. The price of a T-shirt was equivalent to buying one blanket for a family. Many students made more than one T-shirt and also donated money separately from buying a T-shirt.

The remaining T-shirts will be sold next week. The shirts will contain tags that have information on the refugee camps, Edgar said.

Students who participated in the event reacted positively to the experience.

“I wasn't aware of this issue before. I stopped by after seeing the posters that were put up around campus, but now I know a lot more,” said Poamrong Rith, a sophomore design major. “It is much more personalized than usual shirt-selling events. It gives you a chance to show creativity, and it is actually fun. There is a lot of dedication in each shirt and each one is special.”

The event, which was planned to last from 1 to 5 p.m., lasted longer than anticipated due to the time-consuming processes of designing and silk-screening. However, many non-FORGE participants worked overtime to design more shirts.

The members of FORGE hope that selling the shirts and organizing Baridi Night will raise awareness of refugees in Africa and all over the world.

“I believe [the silk-screening] gives more personal connection to the Zambian refugee issue while statistics and facts are often flat,” Edgar said. “Even if they do not buy any T-shirts, they help the good cause by participating in making T-shirts. They will actually be able to explain what these shirts mean and how it will help the refugees.”

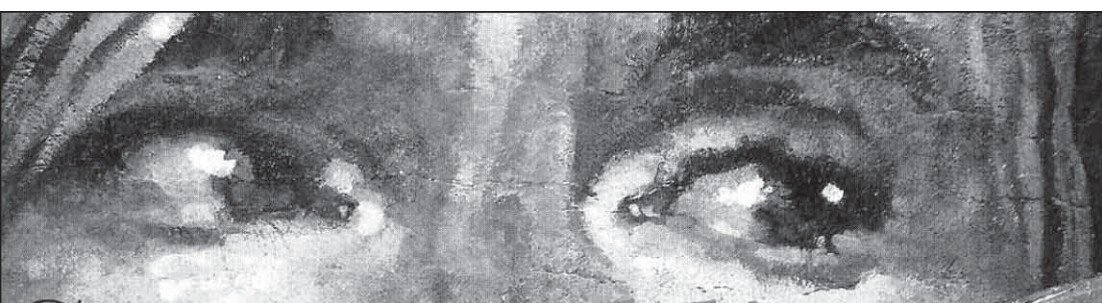
Editor's note: Jen Johnson is a member of The Tartan's Pillowbox staff.



NEWS MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND

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E-mail news@thetartan.org or stop by UC 314 to learn more.



Sprout public art is looking for you!

CALL FOR ARTISTS & COMMUNITIES

Sprout Public Art encourages dialogue on public art between the community and the artist, contributes to community and neighborhood development and raises awareness about the important role that local artists can have in shaping communities.

Application Deadline: Friday, March 23, 2007 at 5pm

Learn More About Community Murals

Information Sessions every Thursday through March 22, 2007, 12–1pm and again at 5:30–6:30pm at The Sprout Fund

www.publicart.sproutfund.org

4920 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA

412 325 0646

2007

February Dining Events

Schatz All You Care to Eat

Sunday 18 **Chinese New Year Brunch, 10:30a - 2p**

Tuesday 20 **Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras Party, 5p - 8p**

Wednesday 21 **Ash Wednesday Fish Dinner, 5p - 8p**

Wednesday 28 **Premium Entree Night, 5p - 8p**

Watch for new **Weekly Premium Entrees** at Bento Bowl, Sequoia Grill & a new weekly Hot Sub feature at the Carnegie Mellon Cafe' at Resnik House.

Don't forget to balance your diet with a good healthy workout right upstairs of the Cafe' at the **Resnik Fitness Mezzanine** and top it all off with a gaming session in our **Battle Pods** room!

Carnegie Mellon HOUSING AND DINING



'Tis the season for summer grants

GRANTS, from A1

the URO. However, Weidenhof stressed that applications from students of all interests are given equal weight.

At the end of the semester, each student shares his or her research at the Meeting of the Minds symposium.

Who's Eligible: All Carnegie Mellon undergraduate students enrolled in a degree-granting program in the semester for which the grant is received (including summer).

How Much: Grant recipients may receive up to \$500 for individual projects or up to \$1000 for group projects.

How to Apply: Applicants must find an advisor and have him or her write a letter of support. Each applicant must also submit a proposal and budget.

Deadline: March 21

SURF (Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship) program

The SURF program operates almost identically to the SURG program. The SURF program is only available for the summer semester.

Who's Eligible: Carnegie Mellon undergraduate students who are going to be enrolled in a degree-granting program in the fall semester after the fellowship.

How Much: Fellowship recipients each receive \$3000 to be dispensed to them by their advisors over the 10-week period in which the research is conducted.

How to Apply: Applicants must find an advisor and have him or her write a letter of support. Each applicant must also submit a proposal.

Deadline: March 21

H&SS Summer Opportunity Grants

H&SS grants allow students to pursue worthwhile but often unpaid internships. Students must find their own internships and housing, but can seek help from the Career Center, Tartan Trak, and other resources.

Students have the option of

taking an internship as a fall semester course for Carnegie Mellon credit.

Who's Eligible: Carnegie Mellon undergraduate students with the exception of graduating seniors. Current sophomores and juniors with primary majors in H&SS, BHA, and SHS who are pursuing positions in government or non-profit agencies will receive preference.

How Much: Grant recipients may receive up to \$2000.

How to Apply: Students must complete the common application for summer internships, which is available at www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/career/interngrants/application.

Deadline: March 21

Milton and Cynthia Friedman Internships in Washington, D.C.

The Friedman grants were created to encourage Carnegie Mellon students' participation in policy-related summer internships. Students must find their own internships and housing. Grant money can go toward housing, expenses, or serve as compensation for the internship itself.

Who's Eligible: Carnegie Mellon undergraduate and graduate students with the exception of graduating seniors.

How Much: Grant recipients may receive up to \$3000. Six to 10 grants are awarded per summer. Internships generally last about 10 weeks.

How to Apply: Students must complete the common application for summer internships, which is available at www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/career/interngrants/application.

Deadline: March 21

Thomas Johnson EPP Washington Fellowship

Offered through Carnegie Mellon's Department of Engineering and Public Policy, the fellowship will provide funds for EPP students to intern at EPP's Washington office addressing issues in public policy, science, and technology.

Who's Eligible: Carnegie Mellon undergraduate students majoring in engineering and public policy.

How Much: Recipients will receive \$1500 a month for up to three months.

How to Apply: Students must complete the common application for summer internships, which is available at www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/career/interngrants/application, and submit a one-page statement.

Deadline: March 21

Peter C. Dozzi Pittsburgh Internship Initiative

The Dozzi internship program was created to give students an incentive to stay in the Pittsburgh region over the summer. Dozzi grants are awarded to students who plan to complete internships in Pittsburgh. Students must find their own internships.

Who's Eligible: Carnegie Mellon undergraduate and graduate students who have applied for or been offered an internship in Pittsburgh. Students taking an unpaid or low-paying internship in the Pittsburgh area will receive preference.

How Much: Grant recipients will receive \$1000, to be dispensed in increments of \$500. Ten grants will be awarded per summer.

How to Apply: Students must complete an online application, available at www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/career/interngrants/dozzigrant. Students must also e-mail a copy of their résumé to mm@andrew.cmu.edu with "Dozzi application résumé" as the subject of the e-mail.

Deadline: May 4

Wallach believes that students in every college should take advantage of the research opportunities available to them.

"I hope that every student at Carnegie Mellon University participates in undertaking a research project," she said. "Most students who have done so report that it played a critical role in their career choice and overall experience as an undergraduate student."



Joshua Bordin/Photo Staff

Snowball fight, super sized

First-year MCS student Nabeel Jamal and sophomore civil and environmental engineering major Dave Figgins wield large sheets of snow during a snowball fight at Gesling Stadium last Thursday night.

Tuition to increase 4.1 percent

TUITION, from A1

costs the university an average of \$54,500 a year, according to the press release. University fundraising — including the capital campaign, the annual fund, and the endowment — covers the remaining charges.

"We've had to say no to some things that we think would benefit the university," Elliott said. "While our endowment is large, it's modest compared with our competitors."

Unrelated to tuition cost, room and board costs will also increase 4.1 percent, to \$5663 and \$3997, respectively.

"The majority of cost issues in housing and dining are inflationary this year," said Tim Michael, assistant vice president for Cam-

pus Services. "We are also trying to catch up with large utility increases that have outpaced inflation over the last three years."

In addition, Michael said, the increase will fund renovations and repairs to housing and dining facilities and compensate for the increased price of fruits and vegetables as a result of the winter impact on California and Florida growing markets.

"All fee increases each year are recommended with an eye toward both necessary expense increases and how those increases affect the total cost of attendance for students," Michael said. "Typically we constrain our requests to try to minimize the overall impact of the total increase year to year. So in trying to manage

the increase in total cost of attendance, I'm not surprised that some tuition increases and the housing/dining increase were similar in percentage."

In addition to the cost of general operations next year, the increase will fund the planned Tartans' Pavilion at Resnik (phase two of the Carnegie Mellon Café) and the potential enlargement and relocation of Entropy.

In combined tuition, room, and board costs, next fall's incoming first-year students will pay a total of \$46,610. In comparison, current first-year students paid \$43,458 overall for the 2006–2007 academic year, and current sophomores, juniors, and seniors paid \$42,329. Next year, students in these groups will pay \$45,240 and \$44,065, respectively.

Authors' Rights & Wrongs

Programs for Carnegie Mellon faculty and grad students

Join live webcasts or watch the videos @ www.library.cmu.edu

Mary Jo Dively
Jonathan Band
**Publish AND Perish?!
Protecting Your Copyrights
from Your Publisher**

Tuesday, February 20
4:30-6 pm
Posner Center

Wednesday, February 21
4:30-6 pm
5409 Wean Hall **New venue!**

Julia Blixrud
**Managing YOUR Rights:
Authors and Copyright**

Monday, March 19
4:30-6 pm
Adamson Wing, Baker Hall

General Counsel Dively and copyright attorney Jonathan Band conduct a workshop for authors and prospective authors. To advance in the academic world, we must publish scholarly works. But technological innovation increasingly creates conflicts between scholars and their publishers. Can a professor post his article on his website? Can he distribute copies of the article to his class? Can he use elements of his article in new research? This workshop explores the copyright issues that underlie these conflicts, and offer possible solutions.

New technologies have raised awareness of the importance of copyright and authors' options for rights retention. Do you want your work to be free to read on a personal or institutional website? Do you expect to reuse your work for another publication? Do you know how to negotiate your rights? The copyright landscape is changing as large-scale efforts like Creative Commons and Science Commons encourage authors to advocate for managing their copyright. SPARC's Blixrud is implementing a grassroots educational and advocacy program directed at scientists and scholars, librarians, and society publishers.

ROOM DRAW 07

Roommate Connections
February 21, 4:30pm - 6:30pm
Scotland Yard in the basement of the University Center

Oakland Community Open House
February 26, 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Community Housing Fair
February 27, 4:00pm - 6:00pm
Rangos 3 in the University Center
<http://www.housing.cmu.edu/roomdraw>



JPL uses Carnegie Mellon software on Mars rovers



Courtesy of NASA/JPL-Caltech

NASA's Mars rover Opportunity is exploring Victoria Crater on Mars in search of evidence of past water. It analyzes the wavelengths of light emitted from the crater's bedrock.

by **Michael M. Whiston**
Science & Technology Editor

NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in California tested navigational software created by Carnegie Mellon University on the Mars rover Opportunity about two weeks ago. This new software enables the rover to maneuver around obstacles in search of past water on Mars.

In the summer of 2003, scientists at JPL sent two rovers, Opportunity and Spirit, to Mars as part of the Mars Exploration Rover Mission (MERM). MERM is a project that aims to find evidence of past water by studying bits of rock and soil on Mars.

Opportunity and Spirit are semi-autonomous rovers that have been operating on Mars since arriving there in January 2004. Last month, scientists tested the new navigational software, called Field D-Star, on Opportunity.

Field D-Star is an upgraded version of the robot's original navigational software. It allows the robot to create maps of its terrain and thereby avoid obstacles in its path.

Professor of robotics Anthony Stentz helped develop Field D-Star. He said that the rover's original software only allowed it to function in two modes: directed driving or auto-drive.

In directed driving mode, the rover moves blindly in a certain direction up to 50 meters based on pictures taken by the rover.

"That is a relatively quick way to get around, but it requires that the path be safe," said Stentz.

In the auto-drive mode, the

rover moves short distances based on images taken by on-board cameras. If there were obstacles in the vehicle's path, it was told to maneuver around them.

"It's good for avoiding isolated obstacles ... a single rock or hole ... but it's not the best strategy for more complicated obstructions like dead ends," Stentz said.

If the vehicle drove into a dead end, Stentz said, it turned the other way. But, it then turned back toward its destination, thereby running into the dead end again.

Carnegie Mellon alumnus

and Spirit, enables the rovers to create virtual maps of their environment that determine their course.

"It always plans the best path to the object point ... from the rover's current location taking into account everything that the rover's seen so far," said Stentz.

Stentz said that scientists on Earth do not have constant contact with the robot, and Field D-Star thus allows the robot to maneuver out of difficult situations on its own.

When the robot reaches a dead end, for instance, it knows that it needs to turn around and drive

According to a December JPL press release, Opportunity has collected over 80,700 images of its territory since the beginning of its mission.

"They can see the true history of what happened in order" across millions of years, Maimone said.

If scientists find salt in the bedrock, they know that water used to be present. Maimone said that the rover has already found evidence of past water in two craters.

Within minutes of beginning the interview, Maimone received a message on his cell phone from

"This software has the potential to steer the robot out of very complicated, maze-like environments."
—Anthony Stentz, professor of robotics

and JPL mobility engineer Mark Maimone helped create the vehicles' original software. He said that the vehicles' software sometimes caused them to become stuck in a back-and-forth motion between rocks.

Maimone said that although Field D-Star uses the same output as his program, it improves the rovers' ability to navigate around obstacles. During its first test run, Field D-Star successfully maneuvered Opportunity around a keep-out zone on Mars.

"It takes the output of my system and is smarter about navigating through it," said Maimone.

Field D-Star, which was upgraded to both Opportunity

all the way out of the dead end.

"This software has the potential to steer the robot out of very complicated, maze-like environments," said Stentz.

Maimone said that Opportunity is currently exploring an 800-meter-wide crater called Victoria Crater. The vehicle analyzes the bedrock surfaces of the crater's cliffs and alcoves.

Bedrock contains layers of aged rock, providing researchers with a summary of the crater's past.

Opportunity uses a spectrometer to analyze the different parts of the bedrock. A spectrometer is a device that measures wavelengths of light to determine the bedrock's mineral and element composition.

the Mars rover Opportunity. Maimone said that when the rover changes positions, it sends a message to his cell phone that contains images of its current location.

Over the course of three years, Opportunity has traveled about 10 kilometers. Stentz said that Opportunity and Spirit move at a rate of one centimeter per second, and, "for long stretches, they stay in one place."

The rover's computer is slow due to cold temperatures. In fact, the rover's computer has one-hundredth the processing speed of a desktop computer.

Maimone said that field-testing was one of the most challenging parts of the project.

"The hard part was ... testing it on Earth because the rovers are built for Mars," said Maimone.

He said that the cameras, for instance, overheat at a temperature of 30°C, ceasing to function in California by mid to late morning.

Stentz said the team also faced the challenge of developing a program fast enough to construct terrain maps during the rover's operation.

"The biggest challenge was to really come up with a computationally efficient algorithm for solving this problem," said Stentz.

Maimone said that Opportunity's crew of engineers faces the present challenge of maintaining the rovers' three-year-old parts. In particular, Maimone said that the vehicles' parts are beginning to wear out, and Opportunity's front right wheel does not steer.

"We'll have to see how to best take advantage of it," said Maimone.

Nonetheless, the Mars rover Opportunity is already a record-setting vehicle. According to JPL's website, Opportunity is the first robot to travel 10 kilometers on Mars.

"It's been a stunning success for NASA," said Stentz. "I hope that this is a capability that NASA will decide is beneficial for any rover on Mars."

Stentz said that he foresees NASA investigating how to best utilize the new programming system for its present purpose, and hopefully, for future missions.

Maimone said, "Long-term, we're going to keep driving these things until we don't hear from them anymore."

How Things Work: Mentos in Diet Coke

Michelle Bova

Scientists have performed an experiment involving Mentos and Diet Coke that takes the legend out of "urban legend." The experiment was first performed for David Letterman by school teacher Lee Marek in 1999.

The experiment involves something that you can do with soda that will not rot your teeth, unless you decide to drink Diet Coke combined with Mentos candy. Unlike Pop Rocks and soda — which don't actually make your head explode if consumed together — combining Mentos with Diet Coke really does cause a chemical reaction.

The result of combining Mentos with Diet Coke, which has been showcased around the Web thanks to YouTube, is not the typical "fizz" that arises from opening a new bottle of soda. Drop a Mentos candy into a two-liter bottle of any diet soda, and the soda will erupt like a geyser that puts all sixth-grade vinegar and baking soda projects to shame.

More recently, the experiment has been made popular by the creators of the website *EepyBird.com*, which contains numerous videos of the Coke-Mentos explosions. In particular, EepyBird shows videos of synchronized Diet Coke geysers, domino fountains, and even bloopers.

The Mentos and Diet Coke experiment has also received national attention. It was featured on an episode of Discovery Channel's *Mythbusters* and on National Public Radio's nightly news show *All Things Considered*.

The science behind this experiment goes deeper than the surface.

Water molecules are strongly attracted to one another and will collect around a bubble of carbon dioxide that is found in the soda, forming a sort of coating.

For more carbon dioxide bubbles to form, or for existing ones to grow larger, they must break the surface tension of the water molecules.

The theory with Mentos is that the gum arabic in the candy breaks the surface tension of these molecules, making



Mike Murphy/Photo Staff

Combining Mentos and Diet Coke causes a reaction that involves carbon dioxide bubbles.

the carbon dioxide bubbles form faster.

While breaking the water molecules' surface tension contributes to the reaction,

the experiment really requires the use of another property found in Mentos.

The second property is the wealth of

tiny, irregular cracks and crevices that can be found all over a Mentos candy at a microscopic level, which are nucleation sites, or locations that are ripe for carbon dioxide bubbles to form. Drop a Mentos candy into the soda, and a large number of bubbles will form all over the candy at the nucleation sites. As the candy sinks, it passes through more soda and creates more bubbles. Collectively, these bubbles create foam and the pressure necessary to cause an eruption.

One might wonder why this experiment does not work with regular soda. According to EepyBird's scientists, dropping almost any object into any soda will create some fizzing, but usually less so than Mentos and Diet Coke.

In addition, Jamie Hyneman and Adam Savage, the hosts of *Mythbusters*, theorized that the sugar molecules in the soda, due to their size, prevent the fast formation of bubbles, and also that the sticky sugar can better contain carbon dioxide bubbles. Other sites have suggested that diet soda is favored because the cleanup is far less sticky than regular soda.

Mentos candies are convenient to use in the experiment because they are sizeable, and they sink. But anything with gum acacia should do the trick. Hyneman also said that table salt causes a similar eruption and actually works a little better than Mentos.

The ideal condition for achieving high-flying geysers is to get as many Mentos as possible into the diet soda at the same or nearly the same time. The scientists of EepyBird, for instance, drill a hole in each Mentos candy to make a string of Mentos that can be dropped into the soda. Of course, increasing the number of Mentos that are dropped will increase the spray.

Another way to increase the spray is by drilling a hole in the cap, holding the Mentos on a string, and then dropping them. The smaller hole creates a higher, more dramatic geyser.

Keep in mind, though, that it is probably wise to do this experiment outside if you want to stay dry.

SciTechBriefs

Chinese create new food in space

China's space program has embarked on a new mission: growing mutated potatoes in outer space. Chinese space potatoes, or Purple Orchid Threes, are different from normal crops because they have traveled on a space shuttle and have been mutated by capsule pressure, space radiation, and weightlessness.

Purple Orchid Threes are sweet and colored purple. They are furthermore considered to be healthier and more likely to prosper than normal crops. However, some experts say that such vegetables can be grown in laboratories.

Nonetheless, these potatoes are considered a delicacy by some restaurants in Shanghai.

Source: CNN

Hugging skeletons found at burial site

Archaeologists found a pair of prehistoric skeletons in Italy two weeks ago. Buried near the city of Verona, the main setting for Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet*, the two skeletons were found hugging one another.

The bones are more than 5000 years old and are from the late Neolithic period. According to archaeologist Elena Menotti, who led the archaeological dig, these skeletons are a remarkable discovery because a Neolithic burial of two skeletons hugging one another has never been found.

Arrowheads and a knife were also found near the burial site, and archeologists are investigating 30 other burial sites in the area. They hope to find other artifacts that could provide a better understanding of the burial.

Source: *MSNBC.com*

Iraqis use Google Earth to strategize

Iraqis are using the Internet to avoid enemy encounters and escape violent attacks. Via satellite, Google Earth provides pictures of Baghdad that allow people to obtain maps of their home region.

As tension escalates between Sunni villages and the Shia police, Sunnis can use these images to plan escape routes. Also, with this website accessible from cell phones, people can work out the most probable path of their enemies.

Sunnis are reading other websites for advice about how to remain safe. Such websites encourage Sunnis to change their identity and keep pictures of famous Shia individuals on their walls.

Source: BBC News

Video games try to improve happiness

Several video game companies are creating games that attempt to improve self-esteem and mental abilities.

Dimple Entertainment has developed a game called *DS Therapy*, to be released in May. *DS Therapy* helps gamers gauge their mental and emotional happiness by asking them a series of questions about their personal lives.

Also, *MindHabits Booster*, developed by a psychology professor at McGill University, helps people become more secure by encouraging gamers to choose a smiling person out of a collection of frowning individuals.

Sources: *MSNBC.com* and *Nintendo.com*

FromTheEditorialBoard



Michael Menchaca/Art Staff

Snow woes: Class continuation threatens safety

If you ever wondered what it would be like to slosh through the Dead Sea, you need only walk around Pittsburgh for a bit. The salt on the roads and sidewalks, a byproduct of the recent onslaught of winter weather, is turning pant legs everywhere into crunchy litmus tests.

Yes, salt is the staple of winter weather safety, and Carnegie Mellon apparently has plenty of it. Any campus tour guide will tell you that the last time Carnegie Mellon had to cancel classes — and the only time in the preceding 10 years — was when they ran out of salt in the 2002–2003 school year. How this marketing tactic works is puzzling: Isn't half the fun of winter the snow days you get? Carnegie Mellon's administration has a history of not canceling classes; legend has it that during the blizzard of 1993, the Governor of Pennsylvania called Carnegie Mellon's president and threatened to send the National Guard to ensure the school's closure.

This semester has certainly been a whirlwind of winter weather, with over a week of continuous snow, followed by a week of negative temperatures, followed by snow and ice, followed by more

negative temperatures. Despite the fact that the temperatures, with windchill, were enough to cause frostbite on the walk to Scaife, professors and students soldiered on. Classes continued.

That was fine, but this past week the snow and ice came, and Civil Emergencies were declared in the state of Pennsylvania. Walking around campus was brutal: Sidewalks were unplowed and turning to brown, slippery slush, and the entrances to almost all of the buildings were slush marshes that even the most agile puddle-dodger couldn't dodge. Every Pittsburgh public school was closed, including the University of Pittsburgh, and some stores around the area were closing early, too. Classes continued.

Then, Carnegie Mellon took action: The university cancelled the shuttle and escort services. An e-mail notification was sent to inform students that the services were being shut down for the night, and apparently we should have been glad that the school didn't want us to be put in the danger of fishtailing, spinning, and hydroplaning around Pittsburgh. But, classes continued.

Administration ignored a good portion of the safety issue — students walking to and from class from up Forbes, up Beeler, down Craig, across Fifth — by not cancelling classes. Students were still required to trek to uncanceled classes along busy roads, putting them in danger of getting hit by vehicles that clearly had no control. Night classes especially put students in dangerous positions by requiring them to brave walks to and from campus amid the worsening road conditions and subjecting them to possible assault and robbery.

Thanks to night classes pressing on, many students discovered how to perfectly steady themselves by grabbing onto the nearest stable object: a bench, a garbage can, a lamppost. It was easy to slip on sidewalks and roads, and even easier to fall onto the laptop hanging off our shoulders.

Carnegie Mellon, if you're going to cancel one service, make sure to cancel everything that the service affects — ensure our safety all the way. If it's not about our safety, at least remember that we'd enjoy a little snow break just like the rest of Pittsburgh did.

America's torture fascination

Alexandra Kilduff

Alexandra Kilduff

Since *24* started its sixth season in January, national buzz has descended upon the show's graphic and frequent portrayal of torture. Special Agent Jack Bauer sticks a knife in a guy's thigh. Special Agent Jack Bauer breaks some fingers. If Special Agent Jack Bauer has a rough day, then he might end up on the wrong end of the interrogation table; on a good day he gets to bite the villain to death.

Whether you criticize or condone the show's treatment of torture, know that *24* is not a trendsetter. On the small screen, *24* shares company with everything from *The Sopranos* (torture in New Jersey) to *Battlestar Galactica* (torture in space). John Hayes of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* wrote in January that no less than 13 movies currently showing in the Pittsburgh area featured scenes of torture. *Letters from Iwo Jima* may include scenes of torment as part of its unsparing portrayal of the realities of World War II; *The Hitcher*, where Sean Bean converts a semi's trailer and cab into a torture rack on wheels, cannot make the same claim. Even the perpetually lucky James Bond can't escape. *Casino Royale* finds him naked, tied to a chair, with his enemies taking out their aggression on James's privates.

What would happen if we changed James's British accent to an Iraqi one and put a sack over his head?

It's a question that lurks, sometimes just out of sight, every time such a scene comes on the air. In politically charged shows like *24*, the comparisons between fiction and reality may be overt, but even in horror movies like *Saw* (so successful that it's been made into a trilogy) and *Hostel*, it's difficult to completely escape the human truth of torture. Torture, unlike most fictional death, is slow and degrading and very much intentional. It's one human deliberately putting another through excruciating pain and indignity for his own ends. You can sit ringside for a ticket price of \$9.75.

In the past several years our national consciousness has been tuned into torture and we've become aware of our own role in committing such acts. The words "Abu Ghraib" have become synonymous with national shame. So why did the infamous prison's exposure correspond with a sudden upswing in the entertainment industry for meat hooks, pliers, and amputated appendages? How can we condemn and consume simultaneously?

In his January article "Films and TV up the ante on graphic torture scenes" for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, John Hayes suggested that our willingness to watch fictionalized torture is a willingness to acknowledge our violent tendencies. I suspect that the reasons

are more calculated. The more torture Americans watch in the media, the more they can rationalize and normalize it; the more they can normalize it, the less insidious it becomes when practiced in the real world. Jack Bauer, who often coerces his subjects in order to prevent imminent and catastrophic explosions, could then be seen as the norm rather than the outlier.

When torture happens in the real world, it is rarely to keep such immediate disaster at bay. It is used to intimidate and dehumanize the enemy. And when we pay money to watch movies like *Saw*, we participate in our own process of dehumanization. The victims of torture are no longer living, breathing people, but playthings. By thinking of them that way we make torture easier to swallow, and when we next see it on CNN or in *The New York Times*, we can distance ourselves from it a little bit more.

Sometimes it takes an encounter with a real victim to realize how inherently flawed our acceptance of torture is. During my first year of college, I had the privilege to attend a small meeting with a former political prisoner from Africa. He had been an English teacher on Africa's west coast before being arrested by his country's secret police. During his imprisonment (he never received a trial) he was repeatedly tortured, but, to his recollection, never interrogated. There was no purpose to the torture other than the process itself. He was finally released and fled the continent, making his way to Washington, D.C., where he joined a support group for survivors of torture.

His story was harrowing without being particularly detailed. When it came time for questions, one girl couldn't withstand her curiosity. "What kinds of torture did they put you through?" she asked.

After a moment, he calmly began to recount what the secret police had done to him. Calmly and categorically, like he was reading instructions out of a handbook, he discussed water torture, electrical shocks, rubber hoses, and tire irons. Listening to him recount his experiences was probably nowhere near as painful for us as it was for him, but it was stunning just the same. It sounded as though it could have been from a film, but here was the man, standing in front of us, still alive, with a face and a memory that was forever damaged by his captors.

Think about that the next time you head off to the movie theater for *Saw IV* or tune into *24*. While you're watching Jack Bauer threaten his way to saving the country, a man is still struggling to put his life and faith together years after being victimized. And while you sit rapt in the movie theater, someone in the world, someone with a face and a name and a life, is losing all of that to their torturers.

Alexandra Kilduff (akilduff@) is a senior majoring in ethics, history, and public policy. She welcomes all responsible replies.

LetterToTheEditor

An alum's vote for a Scottie dog mascot

Sounds as if the debate over choosing a mascot will be just as spirited as when the powers in Warner Hall dehyphenated the university's name a decade or so ago. Talk about your temper in a typeset.

Anyway, I love all the verbal gazorching (Does that tradition live?) over what animal/vegetable/mineral/robot is the right and proper symbol for our 107-year-old school. What better way to heat up a cold Pittsburgh winter?

Here's one old grad's vote for the Scottish terrier. I'll tell you why.

- The Scottie relates to the school's Scottish roots.
- Unlike the highlander/piper, it

cannot be confused with Edinboro University's fighting Scot.

- The Scottie is gender neutral.
- The Scottie has been unofficially used as a symbol by athletic programs since at least the 1920s.
- The Scottie can be drawn cartoony or fierce and be an effective mascot in either mood.
- CMU will sell far more merchandise bearing a Scottie than a man wearing a skirt. (Not that there's anything wrong with that.)

Anyway, I say – CHOOSE THE SCOTTIE!

Dan Skantar
Class of 1980

Relieve readme of its funding

It is outrageous that students at Carnegie Mellon are repeatedly subjected to the crassness that marks the pages of readme. Worse still is that we pay thousands of dollars for it, year after year. The Joint Funding Committee (JFC), the group of undergraduate and graduate students that allocates student funds each year, should think carefully about whether or not readme is a worthy steward of student funds.

readme was allocated \$9066 of student money this year. That's about one-and-a-half times what SPIRIT or the Women's Center each received, two-and-a-half times what Dancer's Symposium received, three times what SUMMIT or the *Oakland Review* each received, five times what ALLIES and cmuOUT each received, nine times what Amnesty International received... you get the idea. Out of 127 student organizations that received funding from JFC, readme took home more money than 103 of them. It doesn't make sense.

Over the past few years, readme has lost much of the quality humor it once had and now relies on tired stereotypes and vulgarity. The February 7–13 issue reached a new low. The issue leads with the article "Student Senate Debates Sodomy Ban." A prominent graphic lets the reader know that, more specifically, sodomy among gay men is the focus of

the piece. The focus on and prejudice against gay men is further confirmed by the callous point-counterpoint, which features in large type the words: "Stop being gay, Faggy Rogers." In this context, the lead article essentially compares a sexual practice of gay men to smoking cigarettes, a habit that is severely damaging to one's health and widely considered to be rather repugnant. The publication gives gay men cause to feel uneasy and unwelcome at Carnegie Mellon. The February 14 issue included yet another distasteful article mocking homosexual men. Such cold-heartedness is unacceptable.

Unfortunately, this is only one in a series of dramatically offensive articles and a continuum of tasteless trash — the New Hauschwitz article that made local news last semester is another obvious example. Over and over, the excuse has been that readme's staff has no nefarious intentions, that its members mean no harm — and that may be true. But that doesn't cut it. It is not enough for readme's staff to be personally comfortable with the publication's content. It is incumbent upon them to proactively avoid causing harm. The staff must be confident that content will not cause undue discomfort to others. Until the members of readme's staff accept this responsibility, they deserve no funding

from the student body.

Satire is one of the most powerful weapons in the arsenal of social critics. Properly crafted, satire serves to spur its audience to acknowledge, examine, and even change the wicked, hypocritical, and destructive ways of its society. But satire is also one of the hardest weapons to wield. Try as they may, past and current readme staffs have demonstrated that they cannot adequately navigate these treacherous waters. readme has failed time after time to deliver any real value to our community through its attempts at satire. Instead we are routinely subjected to the insensitive articles.

In the interest of full disclosure, in 2004 former editors of *The Tartan* failed to prevent a disastrously botched attempt at satire from causing harm to our community. Editors took responsibility, the organization stopped publishing for the rest of a school year, and we made sure it would never happen again. For years, readme has refused to do that. It's time for the JFC to do it for them.

AB can advertise its events in other, far more cost-effective ways. Students will be better off without being subjected to readme's demeaning material. And other, more worthy organizations will find themselves able to do more with new funding. The choice is clear.

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Carnegie Mellon's Student Newspaper Since 1906

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Letters to the Editor are the opinions of their authors. Letters from within the University community take precedence. Letters intended for publication must be signed and include the author's address and telephone number for verification; letters must not exceed 350 words. Authors' names may be withheld from publication upon request. **The Tartan** reserves the right to condense or reject any letter. Letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. on the Wednesday before publication by mail or to forum@thetartan.org.

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SayWhat? A writer speaks on the loss of an icon

Fear and loathing in Downingtown, Pa.: A long, weird trip

Casey Taylor

There's not much to do where I live in a small suburb of Downingtown, Pa. With the exception of the occasional car accident or teacher strike, nothing exciting ever happens. I spend most of my time in Downingtown drinking imported beer and firing shotguns off into my backyard late at night. Every now and then I hit something: a satellite dish, small animal, or housecat. But for the most part, the excitement comes from watching the beautiful blue and orange flame jump out of the barrel, contrasted against a dark, cloudless night. But a guy like me — a liberal living in one of the wealthiest counties in the country — needed something more. I needed something that the public education system could not provide me with. I needed an ally.

Enter Hunter S. Thompson. I first read *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* as a 16-year-old, depressed and still complaining about a lack of female partners because of my acne. The political world had suddenly opened its skies to me, and it was raining drops of Freak Power. Thompson had come into my life and there was little chance that he would ever leave it. Suddenly, I had a sly smirk on my face during history class. I knew more than the swine in charge did, and they didn't understand how. I knew America.

On February 20, 2005, I was a senior in high school, trudging along the hallways and counting the days until I was “free.” Soon I'd don the cheap blue and gold cap and gown and walk down the aisle at the 50-yard line of a sweaty football stadium in front of a sparse crowd of parents and grandparents. Soon I'd have freedom from the oppression and tyranny of first-period study hall.

That afternoon, I arrived home three sheets to the wind from whiskey and a deep analysis of Camus' *The Stranger*. The French

have a way of boggling my mind when it comes to literature. Something about existentialist thought, red wine, and tall metal towers frightens me. I flicked on the television and clicked past infomercials and soap operas about illegitimate children. I found my way to CNN and almost fainted in the middle of the living room.

HUNTER S. THOMPSON DEAD AT 67.

I didn't believe it was possible. I called my friend Greg on the telephone. “Are you watching this?” I shouted into the receiver.

He hadn't been, so I informed him that Thompson had shot himself. “You mean the guy who wrote about drugs?” he asked.

“Scum!” I shouted, and threw my phone across the floor. It snapped in half, the receiver landing somewhere behind the trash can. I have no tolerance for people who automatically associate Thompson with drug use. He was a man of excess, and that certainly involved multiple experiences with incredibly dangerous chemicals, but it was about so much more! Thompson wrote about politics and greed and the idea of Freak Power: The idea that someone like him or like us could ultimately have control in a world gone mad. It was the idea that if all the freaks would band together, there was nothing that they couldn't accomplish. It was about the Death of the American Dream, not something as petty and simple as cocaine and LSD.

I spent the rest of the afternoon in my room. I was pacing, chain-smoking, and doing push-ups. I was the portrait of Dick Cheney on speed, swearing incessantly and throwing lamps and clothing all around my room. How could it have happened? I wanted to romanticize the idea of America's last great outlaw taking his own life when he saw it necessary. This only filled me with dread, so I fell asleep in the chair at my desk.

There is something about the way Thompson's writing grabbed



Ha Jin Choi/Art Staff

my attention that is impossible to articulate in words. He had an incredibly sharp, biting sense of humor that came across so clearly with the language he used in his descriptions. Thompson could make light out of a situation as horrifying as a murderous drug rampage or driving while intoxicated on the California freeway. He had such a strange ability to remain lovable and admirable while writing about unspeakable acts that were often shunned by society. We envied Hunter because he embodied everything we wished we could be. He was the outlaw journalist.

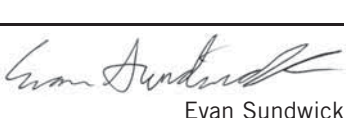
Today, February 19, 2007, one day away from the two-year anniversary of Hunter's death, I still try and rationalize his passing to myself. Many believe that

this was the right way for Hunter to leave. After all, he was the last outlaw this country knew and celebrated. He lived life faster than those around him and a quiet death would not have been appropriate for a man with his lifestyle and legacy. I catch myself wondering if there was anything left. I wonder whether or not he still had a few years of intelligent writing and social assessment in him, and I feel cheated by his early exit. But then I remember his understanding of the world around us and the keen observations he made that everyone else seemed to ignore. I remember his brilliance and the fact that he could see aspects of human nature so well while others were blind to them. I remember all of these things and I realize: He

knew better than anybody else (God, Bog, whoever) when it was his time to leave. He knew this just like he knew the political system better than any journalist, Senator, or Congressman. As British literary figure Samuel Johnson wrote, and Thompson quoted at the beginning of *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, “He who makes a beast of himself gets rid of the pain of being a man.” Well, Good Doctor, this beast is numb, and it's all thanks to you. Cheers, Dr. Hunter S. Thompson. The world will never know another who could match your genius.

Casey Taylor (caseyt@) is a sophomore creative writing major. He welcomes all responsible responses.

Nielsen Ratings fail to accurately represent Americans' preferences



Evan Sundwick

Until a little less than a month ago, you were completely and utterly insignificant in the eyes of one of the most powerful market research firms in the world. You — the college student, the future of America — had absolutely no say in a cause that is, in all likelihood, near and dear to your heart: television.

The Nielsen Ratings have been an established part of the TV industry for over four decades. The ratings, which are one of the only metrics determining which shows succeed and which fail, are computed in two ways. The first method is “ratings diaries,” which require people who have opted into the Nielsen program to record all of the TV they watch for a week. The other method the system uses is the set-top-box method: Participants have boxes installed on their televisions that

take note of who in the family is watching which shows. There are only about 25,000 Nielsen boxes in the country, and the viewing diaries are distributed to about two million people over the course of a year.

Hold on a second: Nielsen Media Research estimates there are about 110 million TV-equipped homes in the U.S. But Nielsen ratings only take into account 1.8 percent of Americans' TV preferences. Not even 2 percent of TV viewers have the power to dictate what shows get renewed and which get axed mid-season. Doesn't that seem unbalanced?

Anyone who has taken a statistics class knows that you can never sample the whole population; that's why it is called a sample. Any good research will have a random sampling of a population, which stands in for the larger population. Ideally, the research will demonstrate external validity: The results can be generalized to the larger population.

The problem, in Nielsen's case, is that the American population is anything but homogenous, especially with regard to TV viewing habits. When the Nielsen system was conceived in the 1960s, Americans watched television differently. There were only a few networks and television was more of a shared experience, with families gathering around the only TV in the house and probably watching the same shows as the family across the street. Random sampling of the population probably worked great back then; but the times, they are a-changin'.

With the advent of cable and the wider adoption of television sets, individual networks often have personalities and “target markets.” A random sampling can't necessarily hit all the niches, and it's not a binary choice. The people who watch *Battlestar Galactica* every Sunday night would not be watching *Desperate Housewives* otherwise.

Until January 29 of this year,

Nielsen families with students at college did not record the viewing habits of their children away from home. College students, of course, have far more free time than most other demographic groups, and Nielsen estimates they watch an average of 24 hours of television every week. Only now have they realized that those 24 hours actually matter.

The best example of how the Nielsen system doesn't work was the cancellation and renewal of *Family Guy*. Fox cancelled the show after three seasons of poor ratings, only to realize its mistake when DVDs of the show sold extraordinarily well. Oops.

Nielsen also recently decided to have viewer diaries include recorded content when applicable. If a Nielsen family didn't have time to watch *Lost* on Wednesday night, and instead watched it on TiVo over the weekend, *Lost* would no longer have a little gap in their ratings.

Still to be considered is online streaming. Many networks

allow their prime-time shows to be watched on the network's website via streaming videos and downloads. Apple's iTunes Store sells thousands of television shows every week, and even more television shows are downloaded over peer-to-peer networks like BitTorrent. These viewers are watching a show, but if they don't have a Nielsen box, their vote doesn't count.

Admittedly, Nielsen Media Research is working on solutions to these problems, but every day they don't figure it out is another day that your voice as a college TV viewer goes unrepresented. And you are the one who feels the hammer fall when your favorite show gets cancelled. Here's hoping the future holds some answers.

Evan Sundwick (esundwic@) is a professional writing and decision science major. He watches way too much TV, but he'll be damned if Nielsen's going to cancel another show he likes.

Presidential Perspectives

Orientation and government are campus unifiers



Karl Sjogren & Andrea Hamilton

Orientation

This August, my younger sister visited Carnegie Mellon during first-year Orientation. After experiencing Orientation counselor training, she thought Carnegie Mellon was one of the most exciting schools she'd ever visited. And since I'm originally from California — home of UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego, and UCLA — it was a pretty weighty statement on her part.

So what made my sister think we are the coolest school? The orientation counselor experience. As an OC, you're surrounded by some of the most exciting, creative, warm, adventurous, and enthusiastic people on campus. Orientation Counselor training acts like a matchmaker — getting students who all have similar vibes and interests in one place. It's pretty neat.

This week, we encourage you to try the OC experience for yourself. Orientation counselor applications are online at www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/first-year/orientation/counselor/. The application deadline is this Friday, February 23, 2007. You'll need to answer some basic questions about yourself, explain your interests, provide peer and professional references, and submit a digital photo. All applications should be mailed to Kaylie Thompson (khthomps@), who is the head orientation counselor in charge of staff selection and training.

Whether you want to work in a rambunctious first-year area or the more relaxed Oakland areas, there's an aspect of Orientation that appeals to everyone. So apply! Plus, you know you want to go through Playfair again.

Student government: Get involved!

We'd like to charge our readers with the goal of greater campus involvement. There are vacancies in Student Senate and it's up to you to fill them. Student Senators fund campus events, write campus policy, and improve student welfare. Better lighting in the Peace Garden and the printer in Donner are both the work of Student Senate. Senate can be a powerful place to get involved, and under the current chair, Joel Bergstein, it's a fun and efficient way to get involved. Senate is doing some great things right now and we encourage you to step up and give back to your campus.

If you have questions about Student Senate, e-mail Lauren Hudock (lhudock@), the chair of Senate's Communications Committee.

And of course, if you have any ideas, concerns, complaints, or visions of campus change, come talk to us! E-mail sbp@cmu.edu or sbvp@cmu.edu.

A PERSON'S OPINION

Compiled by Deren Guler and Elizabeth Schwartz

Valentine's Day is the holiday that everyone loves to hate, so we asked,

What holiday would you like to abolish?



Alborz Ghandehari
First-year
Drama

“Columbus Day, because he was a jerk to the Native Americans.”



Kami Hayden
Sophomore
SDS

“National Talk Like a Pirate Day, because I'm a ninja. I hate pirates.”



Caitlin Kimball
First-year
Acting

“Becky's birthday, because she's not allowed to have that much fun.”



Rohit Kabra
First-year
Business

“Pi Day. Mathematical constants don't deserve a day.”



Jeremy Wolf
First-year
Design

“Mole Day, because no one really celebrates it beyond the first year of chemistry.”

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Women’s basketball loses pair of games to ranked teams

by **Doug Fricker**
Staffwriter

The Carnegie Mellon women’s basketball team squared off against two ranked University Athletic Association (UAA) teams this past weekend. The Tartans fell to the 11th-ranked Washington (Mo.) University Bears 72–55 on Friday. They then took on the visiting 22nd-ranked University of Chicago Maroons on Sunday, coming up just short, 65–56, in Skibo Gymnasium on senior day.

Against Wash. U. on Friday, the Tartans (8–16 overall, 2–11 in the UAA) opened up a 14–9 lead with 13:44 remaining in the first half before the Bears reeled off 13 straight points to take an eight-point lead. Wash. U. increased its lead to 11 before the Tartans made the last basket of the half. Sophomore forward Jeanette Schilling stole the ball, brought it up the court, and passed it to junior forward Leah Feola who was able to lay the ball in, sending the Tartans into halftime trailing 33–24.

The Bears built on their lead in the second half going up by as many as 26 points before Carn-

egie Mellon ended the game on a 12–3 run highlighted by three-pointers from first-year Paige Williamson and Feola.

Feola led the Tartans with 16 points and seven rebounds. Sophomore guard Stacie Aleski added 11 points, seven rebounds, and four assists in the loss.

Carnegie Mellon shot 33 percent from the floor compared to the Bears’ 46 percent. The Tartans committed 21 turnovers while the Bears turned the ball over 16 times.

In the first half on Sunday against Chicago, senior guard Ashley Mazziotta got the Tartans on the board with a lay-up and Aleski added a three-pointer to increase their lead to 5–1. The two teams played even basketball until the Tartans went cold from the field. Two Aleski free throws put Carnegie Mellon up 28–24 with 7:39 remaining, but the Maroons proceeded to go on a 12–1 run to go into halftime leading 36–29. Aleski led the Tartans with 10 points in the half.

The Tartans hung with the Maroons for most of the second half despite being badly out-rebounded. However, they were never able to get over the hump and pull into the lead. A layup by

Feola at the 14:26 mark cut the deficit to three points at 42–39. Chicago answered with a pair of baskets and went on to increase its lead to 10. Carnegie Mellon trailed by only six at the 7:58 mark after a three-pointer by Williamson, but Chicago answered with a four-point play. The two teams played even basketball after that point, with the Maroons winning by nine.

“We played hard,” Aleski said. “We were really excited for this game, especially senior night and everything. Chicago’s a tough team and we thought we could take them. We hung in there, and were only down seven at halftime. It seems like every game there’s two or three possessions down the floor where we just aren’t able to finish and then the other team comes down and scores and we can never make up that gap.”

Aleski led the Tartans with 14 points and four assists. Mazziotta added a season-high 12 points and Feola contributed 10 points and a team-high six rebounds. The Maroons out-rebounded the Tartans 55–27 and shot 42 percent for the game while the Tartans finished the game shooting 33 percent.

“The seniors [Mazziotta and

Nora Darcher] are awesome,” Aleski said. “They’re wonderful leaders on and off the floor. They’ve always been there for us for anything that we’ve ever needed.”

The Tartans will finish up their

season on Saturday when they travel to play the University of Rochester.

“Our goal next Saturday is to keep playing with them and hopefully come out with a ‘W,’” Aleski said.



Jiaqi Tan/Senior Photo Staff

Sophomore forward Jeanette Schilling (#23) attempts to pass around two Wash. U. defenders during Friday’s game at home.

Track teams run in Ohio

TRACK, from A10

In the 3000-meter run, first-year Danielle Sedlack came in 19th with a time of 11:32.22.

In the one-mile run, sophomore Carolyn Clayton came in 15th with a time of 5:27.80. First-year Roxanne Viray finished 14th in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 52.62.

Both first-year Anna Lenhart and senior Heidi Crothaus vaulted 2.75 meters to finish 13th and 14th, respectively, in the pole vault.

Junior Adriane Soehner threw for 12.26 meters to earn a 19th-place finish in the weight throw. The women’s 4x400-meter team closed the day with an 11th-place finish in the relay with a time of 4:16.38.

“At last year’s UAAs, the women’s team placed seventh out of seven teams,” junior mid-distance runner Ashley Bakelmun said. “We have nowhere to go but up.”

The men’s and women’s track and field teams will have a week off before traveling to Brandeis University for the indoor UAA championships in two weeks.

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, jklkline@
Women’s President: Ashley Mazziotta, amazziot@

Important Dates

Monday, February 19 —

Individual table tennis and call pool starts.

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

Monday, February 26 — Floor hockey playoffs start.

Thursday, March 8 — Rosters due for softball and co-rec softball.

Sports in Season

Floor Hockey — The regular season ends this week. Playoffs will be posted at noon on Thursday. Playoffs will start on next Monday.

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 — Schedules are available at the IM Office. Games are played Monday through Thursday nights. Games take place in the main gym of Skibo Gym on Court A (stage end).

Individual Call Pool and Table Tennis — Schedules are available at the IM Office. Please play all matches as scheduled and report scores to the IM Office.

Basketball Poll

Majors

1. Beta Regulators

2. Lunch Bunch

3. Beta Something and HBB

Just Buckets-PiKA (tie)

Intermediate

1. Flossies B

2. Beta Freshmen

3. ACF

4. The Legion

Minors

1. Beta Flashy Rob

2. MRU Special Olympics

3. Brown Town

4. Qyntel Woods Fan Club

5. KSA OB’s

6. Ace and Role Players

7. Beta Le Brons

8. Flossies A

9. Ridic

10. PiKA A

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

Men’s basketball falls to Wash. U. and Chicago

MEN’S, from A10

hit back-to-back three-pointers later to bring their lead back up to 12, at 69–57 at the 5:59 mark. A layup by Anderson with 2:55 remaining cut the Maroons’ lead to 74–70. After a Chicago miss, the Tartans came down on the fast break only to have sophomore guard Corey O’Rourke pick up a charging foul. Chicago made a basket at the other end and connected on its free throws the rest of the way to seal the hard-earned victory.

Kozak scored a career-high 20 points on 9–13 shooting from the floor. Einwag also had 20 points to go with his team-high eight rebounds. Matta, playing in his final home game, added 15 points.

“It was senior day and we were able to get motivated for Brad,” Kozak said. “We ended the first half down eight, and we had some mental breakdowns, but we played some of our best basketball of the season in the second half. This is a good note as we go into the Rochester game next Saturday.”

The Tartans will wrap up their regular season on Saturday when they travel to play the University of Rochester.

“It’s always difficult to play at Rochester,” said Kozak, “but we hope to play as well as we did in the second half [against Chicago] and end the year over .500, that’d be great.”

February Dining Events

Schatz All You Care to Eat

Sunday 18 Chinese New Year Brunch, 10:30a - 2p

Tuesday 20 Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras Party, 5p - 8p

Wednesday 21 Ash Wednesday Fish Dinner, 5p - 8p

Wednesday 28 Premium Entree Night, 5p - 8p

Watch for new Weekly Premium Entrees at Bento Bowl, Sequoia Grill & a new weekly Hot Sub feature at the Carnegie Mellon Cafe’ at Resnik House.

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BOSTON UNIVERSITY

SUMMER TERM

Tartan men’s basketball drops two games to top UAA teams



Jiaqi Tan/Senior Photo Staff



Jiaqi Tan/Senior Photo Staff

Top: Sophomore forward Ryan Einwag (#10) drives through the hole during Friday night’s game against Wash. U. **Bottom:** First-year guard Jack Anderson (#22) makes a pass around a Wash. U. defender. Anderson had 13 points and six rebounds throughout the game.

by **Doug Fricker**
Staffwriter

The Carnegie Mellon men’s basketball team took on the top two teams in the University Athletic Association (UAA) over the weekend in the confines of Skibo Gymnasium, losing to the 11th-ranked Washington (Mo.) University Bears on Friday 94–73 and nearly pulling off an upset of the 14th-ranked University of Chicago Maroons on Sunday before falling 82–75. The losses move the Tartans to 12–11 overall and 5–8 in the UAA.

Against Wash. U. on Friday, an exciting first half saw the lead exchange hands eight times before the Bears scored the final eight points to lead 45–38 at the break. Junior guard Geoff Kozak got the Tartans on the board with a pair of early three-pointers, and first-year guard Jack Anderson followed suit with back-to-back treys, putting Carnegie Mellon up 16–12 at the 12:23 mark.

Wash. U. then retook the lead until senior guard Brad Matta knocked down a jumper in the lane at the 4:25 mark, putting the Tartans up 30–29. A layup by sophomore forward Terrence Bouldin-Johnson gave the Tartans the lead again at 38–37, but the Bears responded with an 8–0 run to go into half-time up by seven.

Wash. U. continued its lights-out shooting in the second half as the team methodically increased their advantage over the Tartans. Two free throws by sophomore forward Ryan Einwag cut the Bears’ lead to 47–42 with 18:19 remaining. Wash. U. then used a 16–5 run over the ensuing five minutes to lead by 16.

The Tartans cut the lead to 10 on an Einwag layup at the 9:49 mark, but Wash. U. answered with a three-point play on the

other end. The Bears extended their lead thanks to strong free throw shooting as they went on to win by 21.

Anderson came off the bench to lead the Tartans with 13 points and six rebounds. Kozak contributed 12 points and five assists, and Einwag added 11 points. Bouldin-Johnson chipped in nine points and five rebounds off the bench.

“Friday we had a huge crowd for White-Out Night,” Kozak said. “Friday night home games are always fun to play in, and the fans were great. In the first half we played even, up two, down two, and then in the last minute they go on a run. Things like that take the wind out of your sails. It’s hard to come back against the 11th-ranked team in the country, we came out a little sluggish in the second half and Wash. U. pulled away.”

During the first half on Sunday, both teams started out cold from the floor, but Einwag was able to create opportunities for himself, and his dribble penetration led to a layup giving the Tartans the lead at 9–8 with 14:54 remaining.

Chicago went on a small run before a three-pointer by Kozak cut the Maroons’ lead to 22–20.

Over the ensuing two minutes, Chicago used a 10–0 run to increase its lead to double digits.

With 3:03 remaining, the Tartans found themselves down by 14 before scoring the final six points of the first half to go into the break down 39–31.

The Maroons were in a position to blow the game wide open early in the second half, but the Tartans came storming back. A 13–2 run for Carnegie Mellon capped off by a free throw from Einwag narrowed the score to 52–50 with 12:24 left. Chicago

See MEN’S, page A9



Jiaqi Tan/Senior Photo Staff

Sophomore guard Corey O’Rourke (#21) goes up for a layup during Friday’s game.

Track and field teams compete at Kent State

by **Sam Kim**
Staffwriter

Last Saturday, the Carnegie Mellon track and field teams returned to action to compete at the Kent State Tune-Up. Both teams saw several individual bests, but the highlight of the meet was when senior Nicholas Bannister set a new school record in the men’s 55-meter hurdles with a time of 7.75. He placed sixth overall in the race.

Also for the men, first-year Chris Bogie took third place in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 40.20. Behind Bogie, senior Jeff Polack (41.46) and sophomore Craig Hahn (42.20) took 10th and 12th, respectively.

In the men’s distance events, sophomore Brian Harvey (8:28.42) nearly set a school record in the 3000-meter run, finishing third overall. Fellow sophomore Raphael Bertrand (2:43.37) also had a strong day, finishing

ninth in the 1000-meter run. In the 5000-meter run, sophomore Breck Fresen finished 12th with a time of 15:39.71. First-year Dario Donatelli (15:45.74) and sophomore Andrew Frederickson (15:48:03) finished 15th and 17th, respectively.

Junior Drew Miller (4:23.21) and senior Geoff Misek (4:23.35) finished 18th and 20th, respectively, in the one-mile run.

Senior Davey Quinn (1:55.34) placed third in the 800-meter run, while junior Kiley Williams (50.61) finished 14th in the 400-meter dash.

For the Tartan men, four jumpers finished the triple jump in the top 15. Senior Eric Tang (13.08 meters) led the team with an eighth-place finish. Sophomores Colin Marks (13.03 meters) and Joel Palko (12.83 meters) followed to finish ninth and 11th, respectively. First-year Eric Couphos came in 13th with a 12.73-meter jump.

In the long jump, Tang (6.13 meters) led the

team again with a 17th-place finish.

“My performance today was not too great,” Tang said. “I’m expecting to win UAAs. We came in second last year, and I feel like our team is a lot stronger this time around.”

Junior Michael Reggie threw for 14.53 meters in the weight throw to finish 19th. The men’s 4x400-meter relay team had a strong run and took fifth with a time of 3:24.04.

On the women’s side, junior Shauna Ormon (1:01.89) almost set a school record in the 400-meter dash, finishing 22nd overall. In the 600-meter run, first-year Diane Mattingly (1:46.04) took seventh place, while senior Amber Fuller (1:46.04) finished right behind Mattingly for ninth place.

“We’re all in good shape and we’ve been training all fall and winter for the [UAAs]. So hopefully we all perform our best and get the times,” said sprinter Jacki Andreozzi.

See TRACK, page A9

Swimmers prepare for nationals at Kenyon

by **Erin Gagnon**
Sports Editor

After competing at the University Athletic Association Championships last week, the Carnegie Mellon swimming and diving teams traveled to Kenyon College last weekend to compete at the Kenyon Swimming Invitational. At the Saturday afternoon meet, the Tartans faced Kenyon, Ohio Wesleyan University, DePauw University, Denison University, and Westminster College, among others.

In the men’s 200-yard freestyle relay, the Carnegie Mellon ‘A’ team, consisting of juniors Pat-

rick Snyder and Michael Bailey, first-year Jeff Dahlen, and senior Dave Krzeminski, took first place with a time of 1:24.33. The ‘B’ team, consisting of sophomores Ryan Piper, Brad Henderson, Krzeminski, and Snyder. The ‘B’ team consisted of LoPresti, Hofler, Altman-Kurosaki, and Winkler.

The Carnegie Mellon ‘B’ team of Hofler, Winkler, Tinari, and Coyle also took fourth in the men’s 400-yard freestyle relay.

First-year Andrew Weitz placed second in the 400-yard IM with a time of 4:08.40. Junior Andy Douglass took second in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:45.63 to round out the men’s scoring.

“All of the boys who had this as their championship meet swam amazingly.”

—Lauren Connell

rick Snyder and Michael Bailey, first-year Jeff Dahlen, and senior Dave Krzeminski, took first place with a time of 1:24.33. The ‘B’ team, consisting of sophomores Ryan Hofler, first-years Giacomo Tinari, Tony LoPresti, and Ryan Coyle, came in fourth (1:34.15).

Snyder added a first-place finish in the 50-yard freestyle (21.58), while Hofler took second in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:18.29). LoPresti added a third-place finish in the 200-yard backstroke, clocking in at 2:06.53. Dahlen took fourth place in the men’s 100-yard backstroke (54.45), while Coyle took fourth in the 100-yard freestyle (50.26) and first-year Gates Winkler placed fourth in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:51.64.

LoPresti, Hofler, and Tinari teamed up with first-year Jonas Altman-Kurosaki to place second in the 400-yard medley relay (3:51.97).

In the 200-yard medley re-

For the women, junior Anna Kochalko won the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 2:09.00. Her time was a personal record, a Carnegie Mellon record, and good enough for the NCAA ‘B’ cut. Fellow junior Lauren Connell took third in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 53.67.

“The Kenyon meet wasn’t as much of a team meet as it was for individuals who wanted to lower or make their NCAA cuts,” Connell said. “All of the boys who had this as their championship meet swam amazingly. It’s really tough to squeeze a three-day meet into one long six-hour session, and they handled it really well.”

The Tartans will head to nationals, which will be held at the University of Houston, in early March. The women will compete Thursday, March 8, through Saturday, March 10, while the men will race Thursday, March 15, through Saturday, March 17.

ATHLETE PROFILE: Brad Matta



Jiaqi Tan/Senior Photo Staff

Full Name:
Brad Matta
Age:
22
Hometown:
White Oak, Pa.
Major/College:
Policy and Management/
H&SS

by **Christina Collura**
Staffwriter

After six months of training and games, the men’s basketball team’s season is finally winding down. The team has had one of its better seasons, currently with a 12–11 record with one more game to play. Last week, The Tartan sat down with se-

nior guard and co-captain Brad Matta, to talk about the Tartans’ season, and where he’s headed after Carnegie Mellon.

Tartan: When did you start playing basketball and why?

Matta: I started playing in about second grade pretty much just because my mom went out and signed me up for a whole bunch of sports. I tried wrestling in like, third grade, and when I found out it was nothing like the WWF, I quit. It’s the only sport I’ve quit. I was so disappointed.

T: Was basketball part of your decision to come to Carnegie Mellon?

M: Yes. I wanted to play basketball no matter where I went, and when I lined up the schools I was looking at, Carnegie Mellon just stood out as the best.

T: Other than basketball, do you have any hobbies?

M: Well I love the HBO series *The Sopranos*, so I watch that a lot, and then I’m really interested in politics, on both the local and national levels.

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

M: I don’t really have a favorite place so much as favorite memories. Like over Christmas one year, we played Princeton and won, and we went out to eat at some restaurant after, and everyone there asked us who we played, and when we told them we beat Princeton, everyone started cheering for us, because apparently they all hate Princeton kids.

T: The season is almost over; have you particularly enjoyed the season? Do you have any goals for these last few games?

M: I’ve really enjoyed playing basketball the past few years in general; we’ve really accomplished a lot and it’s something I’m proud of. As for goals, not too much in particular; it hit me during the NYU game that my basketball career is almost over, so I really just want to make the most of these last few practices and games.

T: So is there anything surprising people wouldn’t really

know about you that you can let slip out?

M: I love listening to techno music to get pumped up, and I will sing pretty much any song made in the 1980s.

I pretty much have the worst voice at Carnegie Mellon. “Sweet Caroline” by Neil Diamond is probably my favorite song ever.

T: Do you have any opinion on what the school’s new mascot should be?

M: I would like to see it be a replica of Andrew Carnegie. Something like the University of Massachusetts’ Minute Men — just a giant foam head of Andrew Carnegie with a little body, running around.

T: Have you figured out any of your plans for after graduation yet?

M: Yes. After graduating, I want to go to law school; I just haven’t picked exactly which one yet.

Then I would like to litigate for about 20 years, and ideally, someday, I would love to run for State Senate.



pillbox

Color me [adjective]:
Upload your emotions to MoodJam.org

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02.19.07

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At last weekend's PLAYGROUND, students performed original works.
- 5 **Harlem jazz**
Last Friday night, The Shadow Lounge hosted a concert celebrating black history.
- 6 **Lunar Gala**
Fashion is awesome... and Vice Versa. Read about the show from a model's perspective.
- 7 **Mr. Engineer**
Duct tape + fluorine... sounds like the perfect equation for studliness.
- 10 **Poetry reading**
Visiting writer Susan B. A. Somers-Willett shared her work last Monday at Hunt Library.



...online only

Visit ***thetartan.org/pillbox*** for the following content, appearing online only.

CFA grad performs traditional gospel
by Annika Rosenvinge

Double Shot of drama
by Sarah Mogin

Tartan Q&A
compiled by Matt Siffert

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Feeling enthused? Depressed? Like a banana? Emotions are meant to be shared.

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How to be a supportive friend when you just don't want to be. Also: herpes.
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Jesus and Kurt Cobain: What could these two have in common?
- 7 **Dollar Movie**
An out-there version of *Eternal Sunshine* (if that's even possible). Also: *Deja Vu*.
- 11 **Comics**
What did one calendar say to the other calendar? Find out in this week's *Sounds Good to Me*.

Rare Sondheim musical hops into Pittsburgh

In *The Frogs*: ‘The time is the present. The place is ancient Greece.’

The Frogs opened in Yale University’s swimming pool in 1974, starring then-unknowns Meryl Streep and Sigourney Weaver, plus a raft of undergraduate swimmers in jockstraps and green mesh. The Pittsburgh premiere at Point Park University on Valentine’s Day was much drier, but only slightly less absurd.

Stephen Sondheim and Burt Shelove — the pair that created *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* — adapted *The Frogs* from Aristophanes’ play of the same name. Like *Forum*, *The Frogs* updates ancient material with a barrage of anachronistic jokes, brilliant numbers, and a touch of social commentary. Aristophanes’ play follows Dionysus, god of the theater, who, exhausted by war and frustrated with bad theater, decides to fetch Euripides back from Hades. The musical replaces Euripides with George Bernard Shaw and alters the plot to reflect frustrations with current political leaders.

Point Park’s version begins with Dionysus (Dale Spollett) and his slave Xanthias (Jordan Grubb) laying down rules for the audience in a portion called “Invocation and Instructions to the Audience,” which includes admonitions not to hum along, unwrap candies, fart, eat, cough, or leave early. Spollett, utterly convincing as the bon vivant Dionysus, explains, “The time is the present. The place is ancient Greece.”

While feeling a war-torn Athens, Dionysus and Xanthias note their leaders’ incompetence: “Words seem to fail our leaders — even simple words.” The audience howled in appreciation, and the two head off to see Herakles, who can help them find the way to hell. Lugging Dionysus’ extra togas and Shaw’s complete works, Xanthias complains about his lot in “I Love to Travel.” Grubb seems an unlikely ancient Greek — but a great comic sidekick and everyman character.

Donning a lionskin headdress, fur loincloth, and drawn-on six-pack, Herakles (Thomas Sullivan) dominates the stage. The hero decides that

Dionysus can’t survive in Hades unless he impersonates a more powerful god, so he gives Dionysus a quick lesson in striking fear into mortals’ hearts and lets him borrow his spare lionskin and club. Dionysus sets off for Hades with the reluctant Xanthias in tow.

The disguised Dionysus starts across the river Styx in a boat rowed by gatekeeper and pothead Charon (Kevin Doyle). Halfway to Hades, Dionysus is beset by a swarm of huge frogs, as bouncy as Tigger, but ten times creepier. The frogs represent the status quo — they want to prevent Dionysus from bringing back Shaw and changing history. But Dionysus escapes the frogs and steps onto the shores of Hades, shaken and covered in seaweed.

After a few misadventures and an encounter with Pluto (played flamboyantly but unimpressively by Adam Chisnall) the two Greeks find Shaw and are set to head back when Dionysus spots Shakespeare. Torn between the two geniuses, Dionysus decides to pit them against each other in the ultimate verbal battle. After the two playwrights face off, quoting the subjects of life, love, and death, Dionysus realizes that despite Shaw’s brilliance, the world will respond to Shakespeare’s idealistic poetry better than Shaw’s dark truths. Dionysus and Shakespeare head upwards, leaving Xanthias behind as collateral. The play ends with the somewhat sobering “Final Instructions,” begging the audience not to be apathetic like the frogs, to get out and change the world.

Point Park’s production was brilliantly performed, costumed, sung, and orchestrated. The play is alternately hilarious, serious, political, silly, and thought-provoking. It’s showing until next Sunday, so hurry — hop on over to the Pittsburgh Playhouse before it’s gone.

Selena Beckman-Harned | Junior Staffwriter

Herakles (left, Thomas Sullivan) helps Dionysus (right, Dale Spollett) find his way to hell. Hey, when you’re in search of George Bernard Shaw, the sky — or the center of the earth — is the limit.



Courtesy of Drew Yenchak, Lighthouse Photography

Everything you need to know

About break ups, and break outs

Dear Janet,

I have a friend who’s going through a breakup. But there is a problem. She seems really caught up in it and it’s a lot of what I talk about with her. How can I forcefully say that while I feel her pain, I don’t think she’s benefiting from dwelling on it? I don’t know how to say that without seeming to be saying “STFU” because truthfully I want to support her. She’s definitely the type of person who dwells on things rather than moving on to the next big deal.

—Thanks, Painful Aftermath of Love

Dear PAL,

That’s a tough tightrope to walk — you want to be supportive of your friend, but after a while you get so sick of hearing the same thing over and over that you just want to tell her to get a grip. In my experience, the best way to get out of a situation like this is to push your friend toward new experiences and moving on — toward concrete action. If she’s complaining about something that happened, help her figure out something to do or say. Also, always take a hard stance on self-pitying statements. If she ever pulls out the “I’ll be alone forever, nobody will ever love me again” card, point out to her both the absurd falseness of that statement and the fact that she’s a beautiful, strong woman who doesn’t need a stupid boy.

—Janet

Dear Janet,

I hooked up with a girl I just met at a party. We spent the night together and didn’t get much sleep, if you know what I mean. We were just so into each other that we didn’t use any protection. She looked clean, so I’m not worried about catching anything. My question, though, is how do I tell her that my herpes was starting to flare up?

—Itching to Know

Dear ITK,

Though I know your question is probably a joke, I’m going to answer it anyway because it’s a valid issue. Unfortunately, anytime you hook up with somebody you need to have that uncomfortable talk with them about sexual health and whether they’ve been tested recently. At some point after it gets hot and heavy, but before the clothes come off, you have to ask, and if you *do* have a sexual health issue (like you, ITK) you have to say something about it to your partner. If there is an STD in the mix, there are still safe ways to screw around without infecting your partner; you just have to make a little more effort to be safe. If you care about the person enough to sleep with them, you should care enough to talk to them about this, however uncomfortable or mood-altering it might be.

—Janet

Need advice? Send queries to advice@thetartan.org.

Did you know?

5

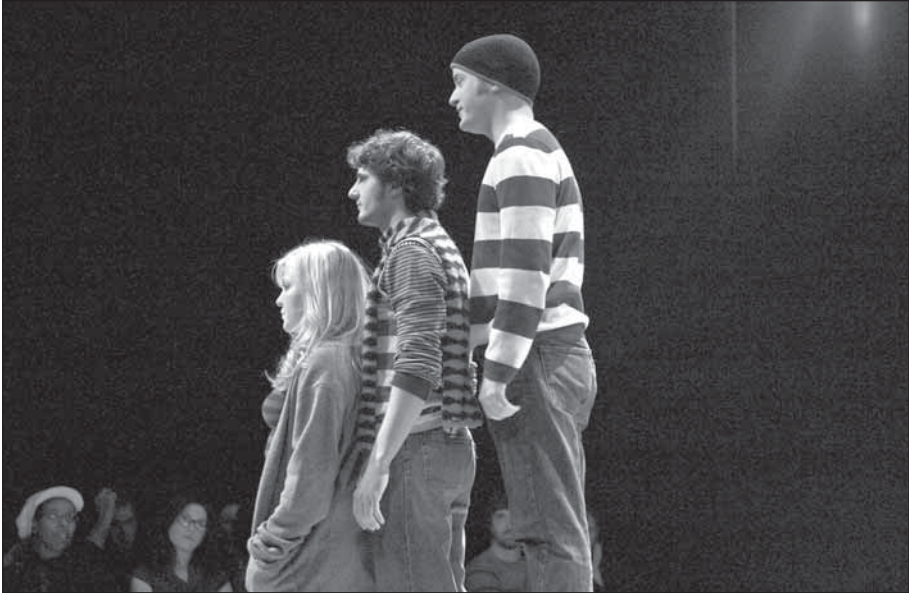
February 11, 2002

The H&SS job fair began with a significant change: barely anyone showed up. Wiegand Gym looked more like a ghost town than a recruiting event; empty booths were coupled with a surprisingly low number of H&SS job-seekers. Compared to the recent BOC, it’s hard to believe that so few students cared about their futures. Then again, it’s also strangely pleasing to know that there was a time when students weren’t internship lunatics.

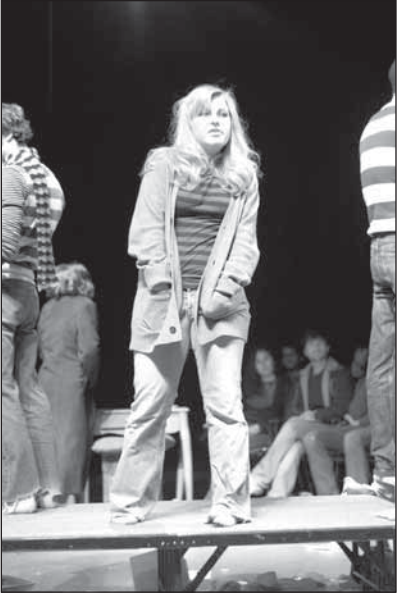
Want more? Check out www.thetartan.org/pillbox.

Jen Johnson | Staffwriter
Joe Klobusicky | Staffwriter

Last Friday, students perform *BoyGirlBoyGirl* as part of PLAYGROUND. **Left:** From left to right: School of Drama alumna Marissa Lesch, part of the female chorus; first-year drama student Nick Cutro, a member of the male chorus, and master’s student Chris Diamond, starring as Boy. The female and male choruses represented the influences of society. **Right:** Lesch.



Max Jordan | Photo Staff



Max Jordan | Photo Staff

Butterfly hunting and an imaginary abacus

PLAYGROUND showcases student-produced works

The School of Drama’s strictly structured program, although effective, affords little time for its students to create their own theatrical productions. It was in response to this need that Elizabeth Bradley, director of the School of Drama, worked with her staff to create PLAYGROUND four years ago.

“PLAYGROUND is an opportunity for students to create performance or participatory experiences,” said Bradley. “It is, in theory, something that allows students to deeply express their own interests and creativity. It is very personal and honest.”

PLAYGROUND is an annual event that takes place over the period of a week, during which students from the School of Drama may explore experimental ideas, create original works, and enlist the aid of others to create cooperative, interdisciplinary groups to work on various projects. The event is a major break from the curriculum.

PLAYGROUND pieces have a 45-minute time limit, and no faculty members may participate unless directly invited to do so by a student. No awards are given to the pieces, so that the week’s creative spirit is not undermined by competition. There is no budget; the students must create or personally produce all props, platforms, sets, ideas, and performances. Moreover, there is a time constraint: the production process may not begin until the week of PLAYGROUND.

“We wanted to demonstrate that we also fostered and valued impulses for innovation,” said Bradley. “[We wanted] to highlight the students’ interests and be experimental, allow them to take self-devised work and own it in a particular way.”

Life Out of Balance

Life Out of Balance was the product of Lydia Fine and Molly McCurdy, two first-year design majors in the drama program. It was a walk-through piece with dim, blue lighting, the play capturing the typical rush of daily life in the city. The buildup was singularly affecting, including frantic repetitions of numbers, calls for order placements, and appointments made and missed. Actors barked their lines and made sharp movements in staccato rhythm, accentuating the single-mindedness of their devotion to their capitalist-based jobs.

There were five separate stations in which various, heightened scenarios were given: about making appointments, feeling frantic about a missing order, and other related avenues of capitalist activity. Each station gave out papers with facts about waste such as, “North Americans throw away 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour.” The title of the piece matched the acting, but the acting did not have a very clear connection to the garbage facts. The point could have been better brought to light.

The Bride and the Butterfly Hunter

Translated from Hebrew to English from the original play by Nissim Aloni, the surrealistic *The Bride and the Butterfly Hunter* debuted by first-year directing major Gahl Pratt. Set in a garden (complete with classical background music), the play contained two characters: a once-a-week almost-butterfly hunter, and a bride whose groom seems to have gone AWOL. Watching the pair interact created a strange dynamic in which reality was distorted and the concepts of freedom, personal desires, and general discontent pulsed.

The best kinds of stories are those that contain the potential for multiple interpretations, and this was precisely of that kind. It was a piece in which resonating human yearning and social conventions filled in as the protagonist of the buried, extended metaphor of the play. *Bride* also seemed to have vague allusions to more political situations including the situation in Israel, but the abstraction was difficult to reconcile with reality.

Falling Into Place

Falling Into Place was a more musical piece, performed by a handful of first-year musical theater majors. The sung pieces were all written and accompanied by Sean Pallatroni, a first-year at the University of Hartford’s Hartt School of Music, and primarily addressed relationships and the struggle to figure out the metaphorical “next step” in life. Topics of indecision included murder, divorce, heartbreak, reconciliation, and wonderment at the nature of love. Though there were especially strong performances by Skye Scott and Sophia Feldman, with the exception of two or three songs, the music mostly consisted of variations of the same melody. Though the songs sounded similar, the sounds of the voices gave new

texture to the feelings evoked by the songs. The melding of these contrasting voices brought decisive closure during the finale through the use of a multi-part suspension (when only some vocalists shift chords).

A Heart Full of Milk or The Tale of the Captive Muse

The most absurdly entertaining play during PLAYGROUND was *A Heart Full of Milk or The Tale of the Captive Muse*, by Sam Trussell, a sophomore acting major in the School of Drama. Wickedly funny, the play was read from the script with a somewhat-improvised cast after the lead actor fell ill. The recasting and slight troubles with props (in which the audience was required to “use their imagination” for certain objects, like abacuses and raccoons) did little to detract from the play.

The naïveté of a 25-year-old child, the repressiveness of an overly doting, psychotic mother, and the mysterious Closet-Man combined forces to create an off-beat, hilarious, and wild production. The material was fresh and original, with funny lines regarding misconceptions about skin pigmentation (a satirical reflection of racism). “Pigmentation equals sin,” said Mother fondly to her son, Sylvester. There was rich imagery, which included dreams about moons and suns. The delivery was not free of faults but the actors handled the imperfections well; they either created the illusion that the mistakes were intended or used them to curry more favor from the audience.

Tickets to all PLAYGROUND pieces were free, and schools outside of the School of Drama are encouraged to view not only PLAYGROUND shows but also those put in production throughout the school year. Some PLAYGROUND pieces have traveled outside of Purnell and have been reproduced and performed in other places. *Life in Plastic*, a piece about women and their idealized roles throughout American history, was performed in New York City, while *The Salesman*, a salute to American silent films, was reproduced in Los Angeles. The question remains — what else will go, and where?

Su Chu | Junior Staffwriter

Harlem jazz hits Pittsburgh

Local musicians perform at the Shadow Lounge

The Shadow Lounge jived last Friday night with the jazz and R&B stylings of Carolyn Perteete and Eviction Notice, two local acts. Advertised as “a jazz extravaganza and cocktail party,” the event drew a crowd of well-dressed students from local colleges and music lovers from the community. It was hosted by the Black Business Association of the Carnegie Mellon Tepper School of Business in celebration of Black History Month.

Carolyn Perteete, a Pittsburgh singer/songwriter whose style of jazz is infused with R&B, provided a mellowing musical backdrop for the lounge ambience. Although her voice was too flat for pop music, Perteete seemed comfortable with the support of her rhythm section, featuring guitar, drums, and acoustic bass.

“She has more of a neo-soul jazz voice, but [her sound is] far from mainstream. It’s more of an alternative R&B,” observed Adam Wright, a senior business major who attended the show. “[Her style] has a lot more R&B sound, more contemporary and different, but still has a lot of the jazz aspects.”

As part of a music class, Wright had seen Perteete perform previously at the Afro-American Music Institute, which specializes in instrumental and vocal training in all styles of the African-American music tradition. “You want to fall in love with her every time you watch her sing,” Wright said.

Following Perteete was Eviction Notice, a group who draws strongly from hip-hop beats. Also native to Pittsburgh, Eviction Notice provided an eclectic mix of soul, R&B, hip-hop, and jazz with an occasional funk groove. In addition to playing some original compositions, Eviction Notice sampled songs from a number of different genres, interpreting each in a unique style. The transitions from one sample to another were smooth.

The Shadow Lounge, now in its sixth year of operation, exhibits an urban, cultural cool. Located in East Liberty, by Baum Boulevard and South Highland Avenue, the club may be a bit out of the way for most Carnegie Mellon students, though it’s worth the trip for its authentic lounge atmosphere. Warm-colored walls flow into darkly covered couches as the music reverberates around the room. The Shadow Lounge, however, is not a party venue. It boasts many cultural events, ranging from hip-hop and jazz performances to poetry jams.

Although the event was advertised as a celebration of the Harlem Renaissance, the contemporary jazz of Perteete and Eviction Notice is far removed from the 1920s-era performers. Still, the event was certainly relevant to black history. “Jazz music heralds the history of Harlem. Our bands performed classic jazz and new-age jazz mixed with hip-hop,” stated Sola M. Talabi, president of the Black Business Association, in an e-mail. “Music is an integral part of black culture, and hence we felt a need to integrate historical black music into our events for Black History Month.”

“The main idea behind the Harlem Renaissance was the flourishing of African-American culture,” Wright said. “The styles change but they retain their roots.”

Perteete and Eviction Notice prove that innovative jazz-inspired music has roots in the Pittsburgh music scene with a solid home at the Shadow Lounge. Their contemporary styles offer a euphonic blend of genres that should at least make the Harlem masters smile on the inside — even if they shout to turn off the ruckus.

Luke Krzyzanowski | Staffwriter

“The main idea behind the Harlem Renaissance was the flourishing of African-American culture.... The styles change but they retain their roots.”

Alex Wright



Paperhouse

On rock star deaths

I never thought that Jesus had much to do with rock and roll, but according to some, the Good Shepherd intervenes regularly to cut short the sinful lives of some of our best-known and best-loved musical celebrities. Dial-the-Truth Ministries has compiled a list of dead rock stars at www.av1611.org/rockdead.html. The site tracks some 300 rock-star deaths, attributing about half to high-risk behavior like drug use and the remainder to natural causes like heart attacks and leukemia.

The implication is that while some rock stars kill themselves with their lifestyles, many others are struck down by God. According to the site, rock stars live half as long as regular citizens. Preachers have long told us that listening to rock music is playing with fire; this study claims that performing it is stepping directly into the flames.

Even outside of art, early death plays a huge role in Western society. Christianity sticks in our memories in part because of its own early deaths: Jesus ascended into heaven at 33, a full 3.9 years sooner than the average Dial-the-Truth rock star. Sure, there was a vast increase in life expectancy over the millennia — but was it not Jesus’ own lifestyle and celebrity status that brought him before Pontius Pilate?

Of course, there are differences between rock stars and Jesus. I mean only to point out the cultural significance of the demise; how we take an early, unexpected death, and remember it. We try to ascribe the death to cause and effect, try to find reasons why someone died before he or she should have. But coping with an untimely death is different than using it to send a moral message. A person’s life ought to be more than a political or evangelical tool, and those who manipulate the lives of the departed demean both themselves and their faiths. If we were to reduce Jesus’ life to its end, all we would have is a warning against bucking the system, not the rich and diverse set of teachings conveyed through the rest of His life.

Those who believe that rock music is an inherently evil force do not understand that rock music is simply a mode of expression. Just as language can be used both to denounce the Holy Spirit and praise the Lord, electric guitars and robust bass lines can be used for good, evil, or neither. Both religion and music can celebrate what makes us human, albeit in different ways. Rock music at its best articulates what it means to be alive, and in its own way can help us extend beyond our raw animal selves into the world of the mind and spirit.

Michael Szczerban | Special to The Tartan

top 10 on WRCT 88.3 FM

most played albums of the last week

- 1 Squarepusher, *Hello Everything*
- 2 Beck, *The Information*
- 3 Yo La Tengo, *I Am Not Afraid of You and I Will Beat Your Ass*
- 4 Tortoise, *A Lazarus Taxon*
- 5 Various Artists, *Sacred Symbols of Mu*
- 6 Hot Chip, *The Warning*
- 7 Four Tet, *Remixes*
- 8 The Decemberists, *The Crane Wife*
- 9 Sufjan Stevens, *The Avalanche*
- 10 Quench, *Caipruss*

Lunar Gala goes ‘Vice Versa’

A model’s perspective

I was backstage with the models, eight hours before the show began. Lunar Gala girls and boys scurried around for outfit changes — it was the last practice before the distinctively diverse show. “I wanted to get involved in something creative,” said Alissa Micciulla, a sophomore self-defined major, while donning some lacy netted number.

Micciulla was among other laughing models, some frantically changing, others sitting and waiting for their scenes. They all agreed that the fashion show was a heavy commitment. Rachelle Emard, a junior in the Department of Social and Decision Sciences, concurred. “It’s been time consuming. But I think I learned a lot,” she said. She explained that the models’ comfort zones and confidence levels were pushed — but that it was a good thing. “It’s very fun still,” she insisted. Despite the complaints, she added, the models must like the show enough to stick with it.

Lunar Gala 2007 was themed “Vice Versa.” Each of the 13 designers interpreted the theme differently. Lunar Gala was created 11 years ago to commemorate the Chinese Lunar New Year through creative means; that is, fashion and entertainment. Since then, it has grown into one of the most celebrated events on campus, completely run by students. This year’s rendition praised the year of the golden pig, which brings good luck and prosperity.

Seven hours before the show, senior biological sciences major Justin Van Denend predicted that the audience would respond with “catcalls and erections.”

Emard put it more lightly, presuming the audience would appreciate being entertained by the different pieces: “It can appeal to a lot of different people,” she smiled.

Van Denend and Emard were on the right track. Thirty-eight models and 30 entertainers filled the stage at different times during the show. The entertainment fest included varying acts — in addition to the posing models, there were dance

performances and beat boxing extraordinaires, which closed to the night’s loudest applause. The second half of the performance, “Bus Ride,” featured the CMU breakers getting down alongside dancers in business suits. The audience roared with applause and laughter when senior computer science major Frank Denbow ripped his shirt off and tossed it off of the stage.

Lunar Gala is known for its blend of fashion and the bizarre, and this year was no exception. Hours before the show, the model’s changing rooms were lined with gigantic bows, Mardi Gras beads, and oddly shaped balloons. At showtime, some of the more unusual elements took form on the models, who added them to their styles.

One standout scene named *Deviant*, designed by H&SS first-year Sanyu Kyeyune, featured original designs with a funk edge. Another prominent display created by junior design majors Diana C. Hurd and Mary K. Katica, named *Woven*, offered fashion-forward wearable designs.

Other scenes featured girls clad in vibrant bikinis, potato sacks dressed up with ribbons, gas masks, and red and white space suits. Even name brand apparel from United Colors of Benetton, Lost Orchid, Sisley, and Torque Denim made appearances throughout the night.

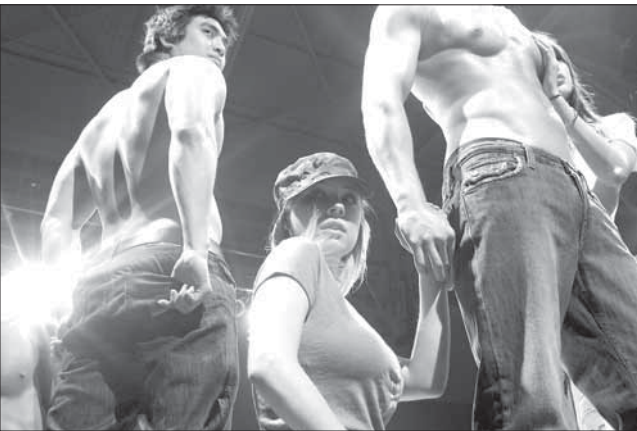
When asked to describe the Lunar Gala experience, Micciulla beamed — it gave her an excuse to buy new... lingerie. “It’s been a heavy commitment,” she added. Other models murmured incoherent protests, but still admitted an appreciation for the chance to meet new people.

Yet, the lengthy practices that the models endured seem to have been worth it. There were no spills or falls and the show was clean and solid. And, despite the long nights, every model gained something from the experience. “A lot of different people get together for [Lunar Gala].... It’s a bonding experience,” said Micciulla.

Emard cited working with designers and other models as her favorite part of the Lunar Gala preparation: “[The designers] have a vision and you are helping their vision come to fruition,” she said. As a model, Emard explained, she had the opportunity to watch designs develop from sketchy to tangible onstage pieces. “You see it all come together,” she said. Emard also credited the executive board for their hard work — “They push your confidence.”

And after the show? Spreading congratulations and good wishes, models and audience members mingled in the halls and outside of the Connan Room in the UC. “I’m so glad it’s over!” Micciulla screamed. With an array of models and friends, she attended the crowded after party to celebrate the end — and of course, the Chinese Lunar New Year.

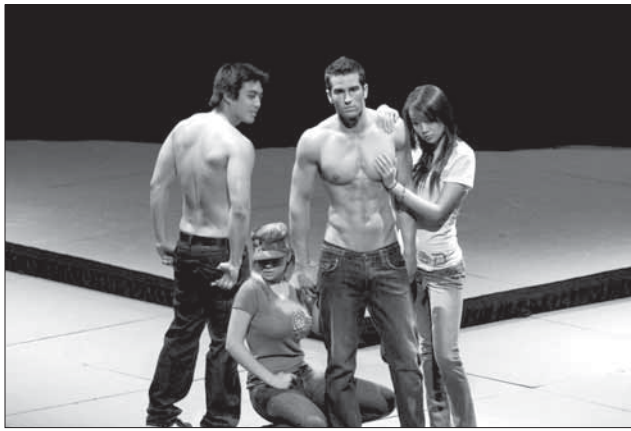
Rachael Clemmons | Staffwriter



Max Jordan | Photo Staff

Above and center: Senior MechE major Jordan Aquino, senior English major Nicole Barley, senior CEE Brenden Jones, and first-year business major Jing Xu pose for the crowd.

Far right: Junior SDS major Rachelle Emard gets into it.



Justin Brown | Photo Staff



Max Jordan | Photo Staff

More photos are available online at www.thetartan.org/pillbox.

ECE sweeps Mr. Engineer

E-week 2007 begins in a flash of duct tape

Get ready for closed systems, breadboards, and moments. No, you didn't stumble into a lab: next week is National Engineers Week, sponsored by the Society of Women Engineers (SWE). Upcoming campus activities range from this afternoon's paper airplane design competition in Kirr Commons to a game of Human Foosball Tuesday 2–4 p.m. in Skibo Gym.

And what better way to kick off E-week than a pageant? Enter Mr. Engineer. Mr. E is smart, talented, creative, and can mass balance his way out of anything. Representing the seven disciplines in CIT (and "undecided"), those competing went head-to-head last Friday in a contest of brains, brawn, and... more brains — contestants had to take the sines and cosines of unknown angles, for example. Chemical engineers went unrepresented, however, as no one accepted a nomination for Mr. ChemE. The panel of judges consisted of CIT students, faculty members, and administrators.

"SWE's engineering week committee discussed a few ideas to start the week's festivities," explained host Estee Barbuto, a junior ChemE and active SWE member. "We thought that Mr. Engineer would be a fun way to start [E-week] and that it would bring together various departments of engineering." Besides that, SWE had one other motivation: charity. The proceeds from Mr. Engineer will benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Before the first round of competition, Barbuto presented facts about breast cancer.

Mr. Engineer began with a talent competition. Mr. BME, Junior MechE/BME double major Vince Chiodo wowed the audience with his skills on the turntables. Mr. CivE,

sophomore Doug Facemyer, took on the persona of the Illusionist. Also quarterback for the Tartans, Facemyer mystified the crowd with his magic tricks — straight up *Arrested Development* style. An impressive candidate was Mr. EPP, junior MechE/EPP double major Scott Fortune. Fans were mesmerized as Fortune showed off his dance moves in a red duct tape Thriller-esque vest and matching shorts.

Taking place after a brief intermission, the second portion of the competition was Engineer Your Own Outfit Using Duct Tape. Already impressed with Fortune's duct-tape outfit, the audience was eager to see everyone else's creations. Mr. Mystery, undecided first-year Robert Wiegmann, made a three-piece suit that actually looked wearable. Slightly less businesslike was Mr. MSE, sophomore MSE/BME double major Magnus Gan, who later revealed that he had turned on the TV and made the first thing he saw — unfortunately, that happened to be a dominatrix outfit, whip included.

The last event was the question-and-answer portion. Chosen at random, the questions ranged from "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?" to "What exactly is engineering?" Mr. MechE, junior Brad Camburn, fielded the question, "Which element do you aspire to be and why?" Camburn explained that he would like to be fluorine, which has the highest electronegativity and can therefore "bond with everyone."

In the end, the first-ever Mr. Engineer was Mr. ECE, fifth-year Bowei Gai. "My true joy of this talent comes with sharing it with everyone and seeing the smiles on their faces," Bowei said during his talent showcase. Earlier, Gai entertained the

audience with his ability to predict free food anywhere on campus on a given date (within two weeks, of course), not to mention his unbelievable duct-tape Transformers suit. It wasn't Ms. America, but Mr. Engineer still helped to kick off E-week with style — even if it was made out of duct tape.

Shaleya Solomon | Layout Staff

Mr. Mystery, first-year Robert Wiegmann, made a three-piece suit out of duct tape at last Friday's Mr. Engineer competition. Do you think he could make me a wedding dress to match?



Olga Strachna | Photo Staff



Lee Reamsnyder | Staffwriter

NO MOVIE

Wednesday, February 21

No movie tonight. Sorry. Get some chores done. Have you dug your car out yet?

Joint Security Area

Thursday, February 22
8 10 12

In the Joint Security Area that is guarded, uh, jointly by the North and South Korean armies, a murder blamed on a South Korean soldier takes both countries to the brink of war. This suspenseful story is framed by flashbacks, making this like an episode of *Lost* (hopefully one from the first season). **GO:** Subtitles + international themes = you can call this movie "learning." **NO GO:** Subtitles + ...um, math is hard! Screw this.

The Science of Sleep

Friday, February 23
8 10 12

You know when your favorite band releases a timeless classic album? One of those life-changing albums whose every track perfectly captures your world view? And then their next album comes out, and it's excellent in many ways but can't quite capture the magic of that last album? That's how I feel about *The Science of Sleep*, Michel Gondry's follow-up to the incomparable *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*. Still great, but it's not the same. **GO:** Michel Gondry is consistently sweet; weren't those White Stripes music videos he did totally awesome? **NO GO:** There's no Jack White rendered in Legos, so, all right, it's not quite as awesome as those videos.

Deja Vu

Saturday, February 24
7:45 10 12:15

Denzel Washington is blessed with the "Will Smith Effect": no matter how ludicrous or insane the movie that surrounds him, he always manages to make it somewhat enjoyable through pure charisma. So, it's a good thing he's the star of this absurd *Back To The Future* meets *CSI* action romp. Denzel, while investigating a bombing, learns of a secret government surveillance program that can see four days into the past. From there, the movie just spirals away from believability. A good time if you're able to suspend your disbelief for 90 minutes. **GO:** You can tell your friends that you watched a car chase between two people in different times. **NO GO:** It's like *The Lake House*, only crazier.

Riding Alone for a Thousand Miles

Sunday, February 25
8 10 12

Zhang Yimou, the director of *Hero* and *House of Flying Daggers*, takes a break from wire fu and tries his hand at the illustrious genre that gave us *Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle*: the road trip movie! In this one, a father must travel across China to earn the respect of his estranged son. A touching story crafted by a master filmmaker that's well worth your time. **GO:** Don't believe me? I ran a Chinese review through Babelfish and got this: "This is I unable to wait for the halfway for mine commending in front of a terminal rare movie." Dunno about you, but I'm sold. **NO GO:** Nope, not topping that.

began with Open Diary. Xanga and LiveJournal showed up soon after. Then, the big ones: MySpace and Facebook.

Generation Y was the first age group to grow up with the Internet as an integral part of daily life, not to mention daily emotions. It was the first to log on to AOL Instant Messenger, the first to blog, and, if Ian Li and his team of programmers have gauged this generation correctly, Generation Y will have one more notch on its belt: It'll be the first generation to use computers to express emotions through color.

Welcome to *MoodJam.org*. Dubbed "Prettiest Gadget" by the Google Gadget Awards, My MoodJam gives users the chance to display their emotions through color. Once users register, they simply choose the color or colors that represent their moods at a given time, add one or more adjectives, and click "Post." Instantly, the screen displays a band of color(s) that expresses what the user is feeling. Users can also share their MoodJam pages by giving their friends and family their MoodJam usernames. Each username is linked to a webpage that can be accessed by anyone — registered or not.

A team of three Carnegie Mellon students, Karen Tang, Scott Davidoff, and Li, developed MoodJam at Carnegie Mellon's Human Computer Interaction Institute. The website has been growing in popularity since it won the Google award. Currently, it has 2500 registered users with about 200 posts daily.

"It's like making a mood painting."

Originally, the group members created the website so that they could become more aware of each other's moods in their small work environment. "The idea initially wasn't to use the Internet," said Li, a member of the team. "One of the ideas was to use a projection, like a display that everyone in the group could see. The idea was to come up with something quick and easy."

"We had one way of expressing it with faces. At one point, people could select random images that expressed emotion," added Scott Davidoff, another team member. "But the color one... there's just something that's beautiful about it. There are a lot of faces that you can put on the data, but the current one is the most usable one."

Looking at the site, there are some expected color combinations ("sleepy" with dark brown, etc.), though many are more interesting. For example, one user linked the phrase "angry, alone, and strong" with the intense colors of white, blood red, and black. That's not to say that the site is only used to express feelings easily diagnosed as either positive or negative. "Last week, the mood 'banana' was really popular," Davidoff said. "One of the things that I think we've noticed is the huge variety of things that qualify as a mood that you might not have thought people would say. 'Arm.' 'Boot.' They don't really fit in to any scientific definition of what moods mean." The words that people use are completely up to them; people can basically say whatever they feel, even if it's not an adjective; it's the color that makes it universal. "It [the color] really expresses something someone can experience."

Contrary to what some might expect, there aren't specific colors associated with any of the moods. "People put colors and some put a jumble of colors.... It seems to be pretty idiosyncratic what colors people associate with a particular mood," Li said. "Looking at it as a whole, it looks like a big jumble of colors, but the color is a good motivator for them to influence their moods." For instance, according to Li, a page full of dark, dreary colors over a day or a week can help a person realize that he or she is going through a depressed stage.

Although the MoodJam team believes that seeing a pattern of

feelings might lead to a change in behavior, others disagree. "In a broad way, disclosing information about patterns can be part of the process of changing behavior, but I don't think expressing a color palette on a website would be the sole inspiration," said Phillip Quinque, a visiting psychology professor.

Regardless of whether or not it is helpful to see patterns, the option is always available to users. The data is never deleted and there is no tool through which a "bad day" can be taken off the user's page. "Maybe, eventually, some people may not be comfortable with that," Li said, "but so far, it'll be stored forever."

Mental health professionals often encourage patients to keep track of their changes in mood. Doctors call this process journaling. "MoodJam is certainly a novel tool that a person could employ to self-monitor and look back, almost [as] if they're journaling," Quinque said. "In psychology, the use of journaling and the therapeutic letter has been used for years. [MoodJam] could be a fun way to look at a person's mood — through color."

According to the team, the enjoyability and ease of the site are what make it appealing. "I think part of the fun of doing it is just that we made a really nice, short way to express yourself," said Davidoff. "Doing that — in lots of psychology studies they've just shown that it makes you feel better." The team hasn't done studies yet on whether MoodJam accomplishes the same goal, given that the phrases used in MoodJam are much shorter than a journal entry; however Davidoff believes that it allows the same therapeutic relief as journaling. "We've made a way to express yourself without writing," he continued, "or just a very terse, set way to express yourself emotively. It's like making a mood painting."

"Looks like we're feeling grumpy in the lab today..."

Although sites like MoodJam, where users express their feelings through the Internet, are now considered commonplace, some worry about whether these sites encourage unhealthy relationships. "If an individual begins to believe that just expressing a color palette is [a] healthy substitute for human interaction, it becomes a 'danger,' so to speak," Quinque said. "There's no 'danger' with a human disclosing emotion with another human being. That's part of developing healthy relationships and managing one's emotions."

Still, many are in favor of online expression. According to the MoodJam team, the site actually encourages communication among friends. At a university where students monitor each

other's online activities almost as much as their own, the Internet is used as a tool for connecting friends, not strangers. Li said, "If you know someone is happy or grumpy, you have something to start a conversation with."

Aubrey Shick, a collaborator on the MoodJam project, agreed that the site is a positive social tool. "I'll have people IM me because my MoodJam is off. If anything, it's supporting additional conversation," she said. To this end, the team is planning on unveiling user groups within MoodJam so that groups of people can create pages together and easily access the pages of friends. The group scoffed at the suggestion that this idea could minimize conversation between friends. "If anything, it'll probably support [conversation]," Shick said. "Looks like we're feeling grumpy in the lab today — let's do something about it. Let's order donuts."

Even for friends who are not physically close, Shick believes that MoodJam can still help with maintaining a relationship. Citing a personal experience, Shick explained that she recently helped create a MoodJam page for a friend studying abroad. "She's in a foreign country, speaking a second language, and she has been really alienated," Shick said, "and [MoodJam] has made her feel like people are paying attention to her emotions and care about her."

"Only time will tell."

Facebook, MySpace, Xanga... MoodJam? There's no predicting whether or not MoodJam will make it to the bookmarks page of Generation Y. However, there are certain things to keep in mind when using any program for online journaling or blogging. According to Quinque, it's important not to worry too much about the emotions themselves; worry about why they're there. As he put it, "I don't think you can be too in touch with your emotions, but it is possible to ruminate over an emotion and stay stuck with the emotion rather than understanding the origins of it." One example, Quinque explained, is a phrase familiar to the Carnegie Mellon campus: "I'm tired." Saying "I'm tired" without paying attention to why will do nothing to remedy the exhaustion.

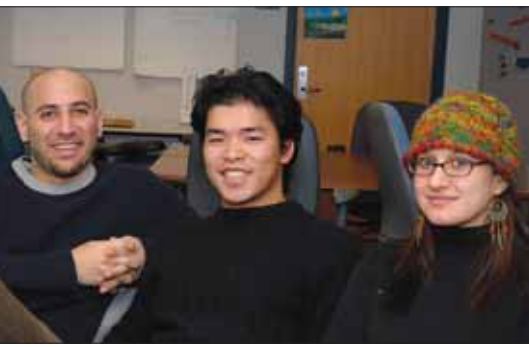
Moreover, websites like MoodJam may prove dangerous for younger users. Quinque explained that online expression can lead to a slippery slope for teenagers going through emotional crises before they've emotionally matured. "In the past two years, I've seen some issues and problems emerge, particularly with MySpace, that some adolescents are expressing some kind of self-destructive and unhealthy desires which then influence other people," Quinque said. "They become influenced by other peoples' websites with unsafe self-destructive behaviors such as sexual behavior and drug use." Unfortunately, these websites, which encourage negative behavior, are some of the most popular among developing teenagers.

Despite this, Quinque believes that there are some positive aspects to MoodJam and its peers. "I believe there's potential for [such websites] to be helpful and harmful," he said. "It's always a matter of degree; if a person can strike a healthy balance and employ them to get more introspective, they can be a healthy adjunct."

Still, a person can only rely on the Internet to a certain extent. According to Quinque, if the balance between the real world and the virtual world is lost, online emoting can become unhealthy. However, he continued, there's a limited amount of information available on the risks associated with online

expression. "Certainly, it opens the door to see what happens with people over the course of time. Even with MySpace, I've seen some positive things and some healthy things," Quinque said. "Only time will tell."

Color me [adjective]: Upload your emotions to MoodJam.org
[by Pratima Neti | Staffwriter
Michelle C. Lee | Art Staff]



Zhiquan Yeo | Photo Staff

Carnegie Mellon students Scott Davidoff, Ian Li, and Karen Tang created a recent Google-Gadget-Award-winning website at *MoodJam.org*.

Susan B.A. Somers-Willett performed her poetry last Monday afternoon at the Margaret Morrison Café in Hunt Library. Somers-Willett shared some of her older work, from her collection *Roam*, in addition to some newer poetry from *Quiver*.



Justin Brown | Photo Editor

Poetry: slammed and published

Susan B. A. Somers-Willett visits Hunt Library

On February 12, visiting faculty fellow and poet Susan B. A. Somers-Willett gave a reading of her original work at the Margaret Morrison Café. Somers-Willet, who has won numerous awards and literary accolades, teaches at the Center for the Arts in Society at Carnegie Mellon. She has taught at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and served as assistant director of the Graduate Creative Writing Program at the University of Texas at Austin.

English professor Jim Daniels provided a warm introduction for Somers-Willett at the reading. “Every time I talk to Susan, it seems like her career and her poetry are going somewhere new and exciting,” he said. Daniels is right; Somers-Willett’s work has been garnering praise and recognition from many quarters. *Poets and Writers* magazine featured Somers-Willett in its November/December issue, recognizing her as one of the finest debut poets of 2006. Somers-Willett also received the 2006 Emily Clark Balch Prize for Poetry, an annual award bestowed on one poet by the *Virginia Quarterly Review*. In 2005, Somers-Willett was awarded the Robert Frost Foundation Award in Poetry.

“I’ve realized that when I wrote these poems, they served as voices, to say things I couldn’t — but which I needed to have said,” Somers-Willet explained. Specifically, she was speaking of *Roam*, a collection of her poetry that was recently published as part of the Crab Orchard Award Series Open Competition, a contest sponsored by the *Crab Orchard Review*. Last Monday, Somers-Willett read selected works from *Roam*, in addition to sharing some of her new, unpublished work.

Describing herself as “a poet of the stage and the page,” Somers-Willett is a slam poet as well one who works in traditional print media. At the reading, Somers-Willett gave an entertaining and thought-provoking reading of her

performance piece, “Ophelia and the Technicolor G-String: An Urban Mythology.” Using her body and tone of voice to subtly convey emotions and nuances of the language, Somers-Willett moved the audience to laughter with lines such as:

*Oh Hamlet, if you could see me now
as I pump and swagger across that stage, cape dripping to
the floor,
me in three-inch heels and a technicolor G-string
you would not wish me in a convent.*

Somers-Willett has researched slam culture and poetics extensively. While at the University of Illinois, she completed a manuscript of criticism titled *The Cultural Politics of Slam Poetry: Race and the Rise of Popular Verse in America*. Somers-Willett is also a contributing editor for *RATTLE* magazine’s tribute issue, which will celebrate the 21st anniversary of the poetry slam, in 2007. While at Carnegie Mellon, Somers-Willett has been exploring related themes in slam poetry by researching the impact of public poetry projects on American culture.

Somers-Willett has also competed in three National Poetry Slams. The lush musicality of Somers-Willett’s language reflects her interest and admiration of the genre, and her lively and engaging delivery pay rich tribute to slam poetry’s vibrant performance tradition. “It is the music of language — the odd and perfect turn of phrase, the rhythm of it ringing in my head for days — that compels my writing,” stated Somers-Willett, as quoted on her website. Writing performance poetry is a dialogue between mediums, she explained. “I rarely find that my writing wants to stay on the page alone. It’s lonely there.”

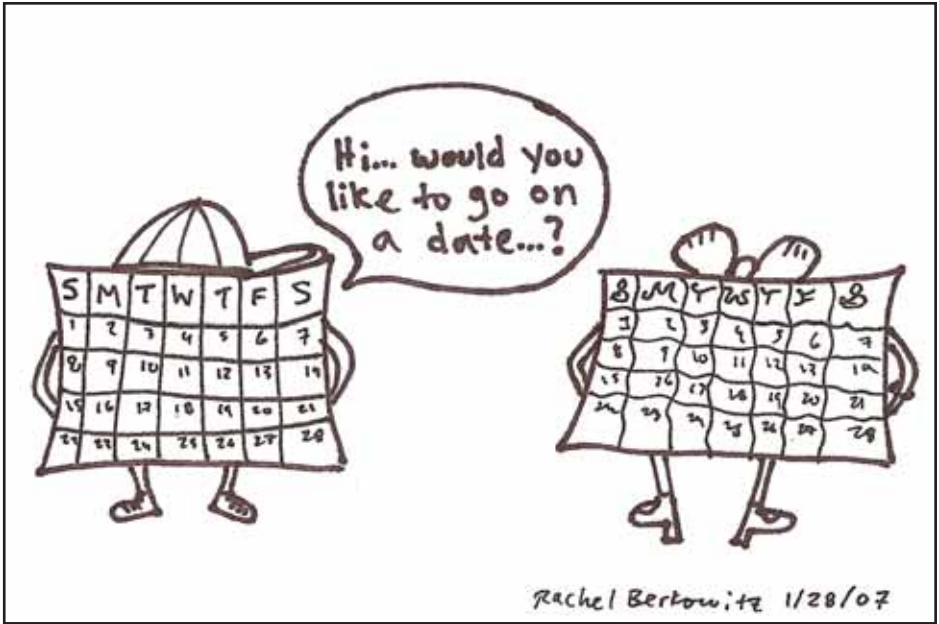
Many of the themes in *Roam* are on experiences that Somers-Willett had as a young person growing up in New

Orleans. Somers-Willett said at the reading that the theme of displacement figures largely in her work: the death of a parent when she was a young woman and her subsequent move away from the family home, both of which gave her a deep sense of displacement.

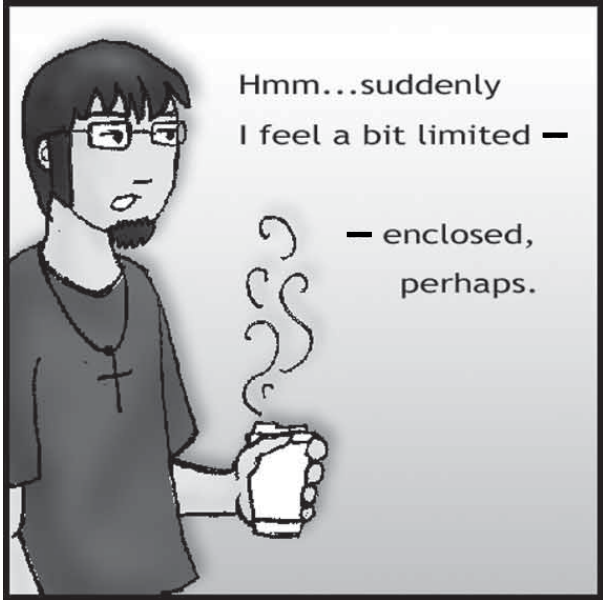
Somers-Willett’s newest poems, which will appear in her upcoming book, *Quiver*, have moved to different topics. As stated in a press release from last October, *Quiver*’s poems explore “the science, mathematics, and evolution of love and beauty.” At Hunt Library, Somers-Willett read some of these new poems, which examined the love between Marie and Pierre Curie and their work with radioactivity. The poems looked at the connections Marie desperately sought to make between radioactivity and the spirit world after Pierre’s death. Drawing on historic detail as well as her own gift with language, these poems give life to a past often consigned to dry history texts, and vivify scientific subjects that Carnegie Mellon students may find interesting, but are not often the focus of poetry.

Susan B. A. Somers-Willett is an artist whose versatility truly represents Carnegie Mellon’s cross-disciplinary aspirations. Her ability to blend genres and incorporate unconventional subject matter into her work is admirable; Somers-Willett is an example of someone who has taken her diverse personal and research interests and made them a successful profession. Look for *Quiver*, coming soon, to see this exciting poet’s new work.

Annika Rosenvinge | Junior Staffwriter



All Hail the Jon by Jon Samuels



IMF Diary by Robert Kaminski

Randoom by Diego Bauzá



Untitled.dwg by Grace Whang gwhang@andrew



Every time I go home for break, my mom can't believe how my eyes got so bad, back so sore, caffeine intake so high, and butt so flat and saggy.

What I can't believe is that I'm paying money to do things that people spend millions of dollars trying to undo.

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Horoscopes

aries

mar. 21–apr. 19

Look, I know that you come here looking for advice, and it's not in my nature to be mysterious. But I can't talk about it and can't tell you why.

taurus

apr. 20–may 20

Minivans may not seem that cool, but those double sliding doors sure are handy. Try them out next time people come looking for you.

gemini

may 21–jun. 21

You're missing the grand design here! If I don't go, I'm dead! Yeah. And it's a little hard to carry on a relationship when I'm stuffed with straw and formaldehyde.

cancer

jun. 22–jul. 22

Now would be a good time to go out and have a near-life experience. I would recommend seeing if you can do it without serious injury.

leo

jul. 23–aug. 22

All that work will finally pay off as you hit level 70. You could celebrate with your friends, but they stopped talking to you long ago.

virgo

aug. 23–sept. 22

Simple advice time. Don't use seven words when four will do. Don't shift your weight, look always at your mark but don't stare, be specific but not memorable, be funny but don't make him laugh. He's got to like you, then forget you the moment you've left his side. And for God's sake, whatever you do, don't, under any circumstances...

libra

sept. 23–oct. 22

Time to figure out your plans for spring break. Flying home is always an option, but then again, you can always just bust out the cross-country skis.

scorpio

oct. 23–nov. 21

No chance on making that telephone call. That's communication with the outside world. If all of these nuts could just make phone calls, they could spread insanity, oozing through telephone cables, oozing into the ears of all these poor sane people, infecting them. Be sure to check out the caller ID before you pick up.

sagittarius

nov. 22–dec. 21

Trust me, you don't want to know what's in the box. No matter how tempting it might be, just let it go.

capricorn

dec. 22–jan. 19

This is just a matter of etiquette: as you pass, do you give the ass or the crotch? Your choice, Jack.

aquarius

jan. 20–feb. 18

Sometimes you just want to close your eyes, and not see the places you've been. Acquiring a night-light is always an option.

pisces

feb. 19–mar. 20

So last week really sucked, but the good news is that this week will seem great by comparison! Thank you, relativity!

Sudoku

Difficulty: easy

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

Difficulty: hard

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

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

Solutions to last issue’s puzzles

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

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

Icing on the Cake

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. Morsels of advice
- 5. Eliminate suds, perhaps
- 10. First artificially created body fluid
- 14. Important pre-med class
- 15. Bikini, for one
- 16. Phoned
- 17. Home of Cali’s Bruins
- 18. Yahoo! CEO
- 19. Start the betting
- 20. Flick featuring Frozone
- 23. Charlton’s org.
- 24. Blair and Thatcher
- 25. Stafford loan administrator, often
- 28. Man with the sea or river?
- 30. Greek letter
- 31. Nursing (abbr.)
- 34. Precipitation that’s not quite ice
- 36. Against
- 38. God busy last week, especially
- 39. “Cool” 1939 Eugene O’Neill play
- 42. 1 + 1, briefly
- 43. System of Genesis
- 44. Wild West cohorts
- 45. Drops of golden sun?
- 46. Important HS exams
- 47. The Concorde was one
- 49. Measurement of bricks
- 50. *Bon ami*, in AIM-speak
- 51. Hawaiian delicacy
- 53. “Sharp” 2005 Disney flick
- 61. Castle’s first line of defense
- 62. Wherein Helen launches a thousand ships
- 63. “_____ as fast as I could...” (2 wds.)
- 64. Death notice (abbr.)
- 65. Competition for Motrin or Advil
- 66. Waffle type
- 67. Brazilian *futbol* star
- 68. Bouncing red dot, often
- 69. It goes to Bali and Morocco, for two

DOWN

- 1. Tight
- 2. Precipitation measurement
- 3. You can go beyond it
- 4. Red wine effect?
- 5. Imp
- 6. Go ‘round once
- 7. Iditarod terminus
- 8. Winter vehicle?
- 9. Like some orbits
- 10. Russian mountains
- 11. Letter for the Celts or Vikings?
- 12. Tolkien tree-creatures
- 13. *Ice* _____
- 21. Campus org.
- 22. Dutch grandmother
- 25. _____ *is Born*: Streisand flick (2 wds)
- 26. Keep away from
- 27. Gets the ground ready
- 29. Dench and Christie, for two
- 30. Sicilian volcanoes
- 31. Top of a hill
- 32. “You’re wrong!”
- 33. Pale (as in skin)
- 35. German article
- 37. Pester
- 38. Music genre featuring mascara, among other things
- 40. Extra distinguished
- 41. *The Jungle’s* Sinclair
- 46. Movie org.
- 48. Muffet frightener
- 50. *Rochelle*, *Rochelle* star, perhaps?
- 52. Pittsburgh’s weather, lately
- 53. “_____ or not _____” (2 wds)
- 54. See 34-Across
- 55. Jazz master Fitzgerald
- 56. Fruity summertime desserts
- 57. Sing praises about
- 58. *Cogito _____ sum*
- 59. 62-Across, for one
- 60. Hairnet (var.)
- 61. Broom’s second cousin?

MONDAY 02.19.07

Mighty Times: The Children's March. Documentary about the road to desegregation in Birmingham, Ala. Union Project, North Negley Avenue. 7 p.m. 412.363.4550.

State Radio. Political reggae-rock trio. Also: The New Amsterdams. Mr. Small's. 8 p.m. 412.821.4447.

TUESDAY 02.20.07

Station Square Mardi Gras 2007. Go bar- and restaurant-hopping and pick up some free beads. Station Square. 5 p.m. 412.261.2811.

Human Foosball. Part of Engineering Week. A fabulous part. Skibo Gym. 2-4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 02.21.07

Chicago Crime Writer's Night. Two up-and-coming crime authors: Sean Chercover and Marcus Sakey. Joseph-Beth Booksellers, South Side Works. 7 p.m. 412.381.3600.

Enuff Znuft. Pop-rock performance. Also: A Nervous Wreck. RPM's Rock Club. 21+. \$15. 9 p.m. 412.221.7808.

THURSDAY 02.22.07

Diehunn. All the way from California. 31st Street Pub, Penn Avenue. 10 p.m. 412.391.8334.

The Known World. This band mixes blues, hard rock, and British pop rock. Club Café, South 12th Street. 10:30 p.m. 412.432.4950.

FRIDAY 02.23.07

CMU Master Clash. Dance competition with free Red Bull, a cypher battle, and more! Wiegand Gym, UC. 6 p.m.-1 a.m.

Pay It Forward: An Annual Fundraiser. Performances, food, and drink! Money goes to up-and-coming local artists. Future Tenant, Liberty Avenue. 7:30 p.m.-12 a.m. Advance student tickets \$25. 412.394.3353.

SATURDAY 02.24.07

Harry Potter Withdrawal Book Club. Dumbledore is not dead. Joseph-Beth Booksellers, South Side Works. 2 p.m. 412.381.3600.

Incognito: A one-man play by Michael Fosberg. Presented by the School of Drama. Philip Chosky Theater, Purnell Center. 5 p.m.

SUNDAY 02.25.07

Sunday Night Jazz. This week: local artists The Jimmy Ponder Trio. Rhythm House Café, Bridgeville, Pa. 7 p.m.

Bill Deasy. Pittsburgh rock musician performs an acoustic show. Coffee House, Moon, Pa. 7:30 p.m. \$10. 412.423.9511.

MONDAY 02.26.07

Soul Food Sampler. Delicious celebration of Black History Month. Connan Room, UC. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Chinese Art from the University of Pittsburgh. Opening day of an exhibit featuring works in jade, scrolls, and paintings. Chatham College. Through March 22. 412.365.1106.

ONGOING

Frogs. You read the article on B3, now go see the play! Through February 25. Pittsburgh Playhouse. 412.621.4445.

2007 Master of Fine Arts Exhibition. Check out artwork by students up for MFAs. Regina Gouger Miller Gallery. Through May 4.

Bizarre Beasts: Past & Present. See what life on Earth was like millions of years ago - in case you missed it. Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Through June 3. 412.622.3131.

Chinese Art from the University of Pittsburgh. Featuring works in jade, scrolls, and paintings. Chatham College. Through March 22. 412.365.1106.



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double shot.



Joey Gannon | Photo Staff

Scotch 'n' Soda performed two one-act plays in last weekend's Double Shot show. One of the plays, *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea*, starred junior English major Julie Brown and first-year computer science major Matt Goldfarb. To read a full review of the show, check out the article online at www.thetartan.org/pillbox.