

Faculty, students discuss FCEs

SUJAYA BALACHANDRAN
 Junior Staffwriter

As the fall 2011 semester at Carnegie Mellon draws to a close, Faculty Course Evaluations (FCEs) are made available to students to evaluate courses and professors. Students’ responses will be reviewed by the university, which uses them to make decisions regarding course curricula and faculty promotion.

In an email, University Registrar John R. Papinchak explained the significance of FCEs and the importance of students’ feedback.

“Faculty Course Evaluations are a major source of teaching feedback to instructors,” he said. “An overwhelming majority of instructors read and seriously take to heart what students report on the evaluations. Your feedback can lead faculty to revise teaching methods, change textbooks, revise assignments and make other changes to help you learn.”

Papinchak also spoke about FCEs’ repercussions for Carnegie Mellon faculty. “Department heads and deans also review the course evaluations and use this information as one measure of teaching that contributes to decisions concerning faculty promotions.”

FCEs allow students to rate courses and professors in nine core areas, in which they assign a rating of one to five — one is the poorest rating, while five is the most superior rating.

On the Carnegie Mellon website for Faculty Course Evaluations, there is specific information regarding the FCE process, including a “Frequently Asked Questions” (FAQ) section. Among other things, the site addresses student privacy. The site assures students that FCE results are published anonymously once students complete the survey.

Faculty members, such as professors and advisers, also have a vested interest in the FCE process: tenure and promotion decisions are, in part, dependent upon students’ course ratings. Jared Day, adjunct professor and research associate in the department of history, voiced

See **FCES**, A3

CMU observes World AIDS Day



World AIDS Day is a day of observance for those afflicted with HIV or AIDS. The Pittsburgh community celebrated last Thursday night with a candlelight vigil on the corner of Morewood and Forbes Avenues, and proceeded to march down Forbes Avenue. Later that night, the community further celebrated with the 24th Annual World AIDS Day Memorial Service event. The memorial took place at the Heinz Memorial Chapel. Other events were held throughout the week, such as the Red Ribbon Gala and a press conference with Mayor Luke Ravenstahl. According to www.aids.gov, the World Health Organization established World AIDS Day in 1988, and it has been celebrated annually around the world ever since.

OM honors Gandhi with portrait in UC

JUSTIN MCGOWN
 Staffwriter

A portrait of Mahatma Gandhi alongside a commemorative plaque was installed in the Andy’s Eatery area of the University Center basement last Wednesday. A brief ceremony dedicating the portrait and plaque was held.

“An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind,” one of Gandhi’s most well-known sayings, is printed at the bottom of the portrait. Gandhi was the political and spiritual leader who helped lead a peaceful Indian revolt against British colonial rule.

Blue and yellow streamers were hung across the portrait before being cut by the president of Carnegie Mellon’s Indian spirituality organization OM, Archit Kumar, a junior double majoring in information systems and decision science. A small group gathered to watch the unveiling, while other students went about their business working or opening packages.

“After Gandhi Jayanti in October we worked with the dean of Student Affairs [and] with Marcia [Gerwig] and the

University Center crew to get a picture of Mahatma Gandhi up somewhere in the University Center,” Kumar said. “[It’s] a reminder of everything that Gandhi-jhi has done.”

The portrait can be found next to the Giving Wall in between the package pickup window and the FedEx and PNC Bank branches. The space has a television as well as tables and seating. Kumar said that the area was chosen because “[it] is really for the students, this entire area.... It’s a place where students have freedom of expression ... where they have full expression of themselves.”

As he gave a brief address to those gathered to watch the commemoration, Kumar emphasized a lesser-known Gandhi quote: “In a gentle way, you can shake the world.”

While the portrait is not on the same scale as a hunger strike or other forms of civil disobedience, Kumar expressed hope that the picture would serve both as a reminder of Gandhi’s work and as inspiration for others to emulate.

See **GANDHI**, A3



The OM spiritual group hung a plaque and portrait of Gandhi in the basement of the University Center last Wednesday.

Online Gaming Society socializes at Late Night



The Online Gaming Society (OGS) hosted a UC Late Night event last Saturday, where students were welcome to play a plethora of games.

MADELYN GLYMOUR
 Assistant News Editor

Carnegie Mellon’s Online Gaming Society (OGS) held a late night LAN party in the University Center on Saturday night. A dozen students gathered to play games like *Starcraft*, *League of Legends*, and *Super Smash Bros. Melee*; eat chips and soda; and hang out.

“It’s just kind of a way for people to meet, hang out, and make new friends,” said senior math major Mark Magsino, the president of OGS. Magsino said that, despite the name of the club, most of their events involve offline games.

Attendees of the event said that they go to OGS events to socialize, and not necessarily to play games.

“The people are really nice to talk to, which is the primary reason to go to events,” said Michael Chan, a junior biology major. “Most games that we play are for two people at most, so there’s no need to meet up.”

OGS Treasurer Kyle Magsino, a sophomore mechanical engineering major and brother of the group’s president, agreed. “For some games, like *Starcraft* and *League of Legends*, it’s a lot more fun when you have the people there

who you’re playing with. Like, you can laugh when you beat them.”

In addition to playing games, attendees watched online videos, caught up with friends, and traded advice on gameplay. According to the younger Magsino, OGS also raffled off several prizes, including two gaming keyboards and a copy of *The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim*.

The elder Magsino said OGS welcomes everyone to its events. “Our club is open to everyone, even if you’re just a casual gamer. Everything’s more fun with other people around.”

Cohon forum updates campus

BRENT HEARD
 Staffwriter

University President Jared Cohon held an open forum on Tuesday on Carnegie Mellon policies and actions.

He addressed the upcoming end of his term as president, the university’s response to the Pennsylvania State University incident, and other issues pertaining to the current state of the school.

Sponsored by Staff Council and held in Rangos 3, the forum had an audience of roughly 40 individuals, almost all of whom were faculty or staff members.

“Things are going very well for the university in every respect,” Cohon began optimistically in his opening statement, which contained details regarding his recent travels abroad as well as Carnegie Mellon’s recent official communication sent in response to the Penn State controversy.

Cohon is set to step down from his position as university president on June 30, 2013. He outlined the search process for a new president and how it will be conducted, but emphasized his continued active role in the university by joking, “I am not a lame duck, I am not a lame duck, I am not a lame duck.”

Cohon revealed that he plans to remain at the university after stepping down from his role as president, citing his continued involvement with the civil and environmental engineering and engineering and public policy departments along with his continued love of teaching.

Cohon also covered the recent official communication regarding the university’s “commitment to the health, safety and welfare of ... students, faculty, staff, alumni and guests,” sent out via email on Nov. 29.

Prompted by the recent events at Penn State, the message contained information and instructions for any member of the university community who witnesses an ethical violation.

As Cohon elaborated, the university has “a good, solid set of procedures which should cover any ethical, moral, or legal breach you can think of.” He also stated that individuals should not be constrained by the structure and processes in place, and that if a violation of ethics occurs, students should immediately report it to the police.

Coupled with this information, however, was an announcement both in the email and at the forum that a new committee headed by university Vice President and General Counsel Mary Jo Dively and Vice President for Campus Affairs Michael Murphy will be created to review Carnegie Mellon’s existing policies and draft new ones.

Cohon reminded the attendees that a hotline already exists for such mat-

See **COHON**, A3

Lecture Preview

Health Care Finance: Lunch & Learn Presentation with Professor Gaynor

Monday at noon
Hamburg Hall 1004

Carnegie Mellon health economist and founding Chairman of the New U.S. Health Care Cost Institute Dr. Martin Gaynor will be featured at this session of the Heinz Health Care Club. The Health Care Cost Institute aims to use its access to private health care insurers' spending data to interpret and predict the current and future status of health care in the United States.

Gaynor and the Heinz Health Care Club seek to uncover what factors lead to the increasing health care costs in the U.S., why there is variation in health care costs between private providers, and how the prices of insurance are set for people under the age of 65.

HCII Lecture: Elizabeth F. Churchill, "The Playground of the Internet: Where Social Science and Design are BFFs"

Monday at 4:30 p.m.
Rashid Auditorium, Hillman Center 4401

Elizabeth Churchill, the principal research scientist and manager of the Internet Experiences group at Yahoo! Research, will discuss her ongoing research and findings in human-computer interaction (HCI) and the challenges facing the field of HCI.

Churchill focuses on the ways in which people communicate and connect through technology and interactive media. She studies and designs technologies that

encourage community, communication, collaboration, coordination, and creativity. Additionally, Churchill has co-chaired several academic conferences. She has also many published professional papers and books covering her research in HCI and psychology.

The American Experience Distinguished Lecture Series: "Robert D. Reischauer, This Time Really Will be Different: Adapting to Fiscal Reality"

Tuesday at 4 p.m.
O'Hara Student Center, University of Pittsburgh

Economist Robert D. Reischauer, president of the Urban Institute and former director of the Congressional Budget Office, will be the featured speaker at this University of Pittsburgh lecture. Reischauer is a nationally known expert on the federal budget, Medicare, and Social Security.

Based out of Washington, D.C., the Urban Institute is a non-partisan economic think tank that has recently published on topics such as Medicare and Medicaid funding for the chronically ill, health care quality improvement initiatives, Social Security benefit reductions, flat tax proposals, and unemployment insurance.

Former Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh, also former attorney general of the United States and undersecretary general to the United Nations, will moderate audience discussion. This event is open to the public, but reservations are required.

Compiled by
SARAH ZAKRAJSEK

CAMPUS NEWS IN BRIEF

Gates, Hillman buildings awarded LEED certification

The Gates Hillman Complex was awarded gold-level LEED certification last Friday. Established by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), the LEED certification awards recognize buildings that incorporate a variety of sustainable strategies under strict standards for energy use, lighting, and water and material use.

"The Gates and Hillman centers' LEED certification demonstrates tremendous green building leadership," said Rick Fedrizzi, president and CEO of USGBC, in a university press release. "The urgency of USGBC's mission has challenged the industry to move faster and reach further than ever before, and the Gates and Hillman proj-

ect serves as a prime example with just how much we can accomplish."

The buildings include systems for collecting about half a million gallons of rainwater and snowmelt each year. Using this water to flush toilets, and installing low-flow lavatories and low-flush urinals, the designers and contractors were able to cut potable water usage in half.

The Gates Hillman Complex's construction doubled the amount of green space in the area around campus. All surface parking was replaced by a 150-space underground garage. The complex also features a winter garden. Landscaping was designed by Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Cambridge, Mass.

Building Virtual Worlds '11 chooses new show venue

The annual Building Virtual Worlds Show (BVW) will move off campus for the first time this year. It will be hosted at the Carnegie Music Hall in Homestead this Wednesday.

Admission is free and the doors at the hall, located at 510 East 10th Ave. in Munhall, will open at 3:15 p.m. with pre-show activities. The show will officially begin at 4 p.m.

BVW 2011 will give students in the Building Virtual Worlds class at the university's Entertainment Technology Center (ETC) the opportunity to showcase their latest ideas and projects in interactive digital technology.

The student teams, consisting of both technically and artistically minded members,

have created projects that use digital technology to tell stories, explore the interactive medium, and play games.

Mk Haley, associate executive producer of the ETC, is proud to be a part of the BVW show.

"BVW gives us a chance to show off the work of our talented students to an audience that will include entertainment industry executives," she said in a Carnegie Mellon press release. "It's always been hard to accommodate everybody who wants to see the show, but moving it to this large hall in Homestead will give the general public a great opportunity to join in the fun."

Compiled by
EMILY DOBLER

FEATURE PHOTO

Kiltie Band plays concert for holiday season



The Kiltie Band removed its usual kilts in favor of more standard attire for its holiday concert, held in the University Center last Thursday. Chairs filled Wean Commons to accommodate the large size of the band, as well as audience members. Some of the band's song selections included "The Festival of Channukah" and "Sleigh Ride."

Corrections & Clarifications

In the Campus News in Brief article "Students win 'Capture the Flag' security competition" (News, Nov. 21), the students' majors and years were incorrect. Tyler Nighswander is a junior double majoring in physics and computer science, Matt Dickoff is a senior in electrical and computer engineering, Andrew Wesie graduated with a computer science degree last year, Ricky Zhou is a senior in computer science, and Brian Pak is a graduate student in computer science.

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.



Campus Crime & Incident

Theft

Nov. 17, 2011

A female student reported to University Police officers that her Android cell phone was stolen from a shelf while she was working out in the weight room of the University Center. She did not see anyone in the area where the cell phone was being kept. The case is under investigation.

Amnesty

Nov. 20, 2011

Carnegie Mellon police and EMS were dispatched to Donner House for a student who had been at a party on Beeler Street. The student was highly intoxicated and had become ill. Alcohol amnesty was granted and no citations were issued.

Odor of Marijuana

Nov. 20, 2011

Officers responded to the Morewood Gardens dormitory for a report of an odor of marijuana. Upon arrival, officers found a small amount of marijuana and issued a citation for disorderly conduct.

Theft

Nov. 20, 2011

A student reported that his laptop was stolen from Morewood Gardens E Tower lounge. It had been left unattended for approximately 12 hours. The case is under investigation.

Warrant Service

Nov. 21, 2011

University Police was asked to assist a constable who had come to serve a warrant to, and potentially arrest, a student who had failed to respond to a citation and pay his parking fines. Officers assisted in locating the student, who was then given the opportunity to pay the \$243 in fines to avoid arrest. The fines were paid.

Rooftop Party

Nov. 21, 2011

At 8:45 p.m., Carnegie Mellon officers were alerted to people who were on the rooftop of the University Center. Officers located three students, who had found a way onto the roof and were smoking cigars for having completed their coursework after a series of "all nighters."

The students were escorted back inside and were issued verbal warnings. The students were also informed that their actions violated the University's community standards and that the case would be handled internally.

Theft

Nov. 23, 2011

University Police responded to Baker Hall for a theft report. A laptop was reported stolen while left in a lecture room overnight. The room is believed to have been locked following the lecture. This case is under investigation.

Criminal Mischief

Nov. 25, 2011

While on patrol, a Carnegie Mellon officer discovered that the entry gate arm to the East Campus Garage was damaged. A check of the garage's interior for a suspect vehicle proved negative. The garage was closed until repairs could be made.

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Students, faculty debate on value of course evaluations

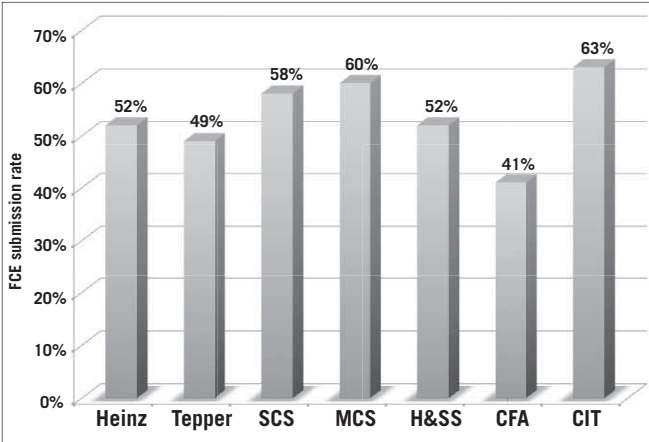
EVALUATIONS, from A1

support for the FCE surveys, but also expressed concern about their implementation. Day said in an email, “I think they are essential benchmarking tools in modern academics and at Carnegie Mellon, especially.”

He added, however, that “students are not required to fill them out. Thus, they are often magnets for the most disgruntled students in any given class. If I were going to reform one thing about the system, I would say students should be required to fill them out in order to get their grades at the end of the semester. At least then you have a full picture.”

According to past FCE results, the college with the highest rate of FCE return in spring 2011 was CIT, where 63 percent of possible FCEs were filled out. The college with the lowest rate of return was CFA, with 41 percent.

Joe Selinger, a junior chemical engineering major, agreed that FCEs can be misleading. “I don’t really think it’s a good measure, because professors’ quality can vary a lot. It would be good if [the evaluations] were unani-



Michael Kahn/Editor-in-Chief and Stacey Chin/Layout Manager
Students across Carnegie Mellon’s various colleges are highly encouraged to fill out the Faculty Course Evaluations every semester. This graphic displays the submission rates for the spring 2011 semester.

mously awful, but that’s it. Professors are just hard, so they get negative reviews because of that.” Selinger said that he rarely takes FCEs seriously unless he especially likes or dislikes a professor.

He also said that he is not convinced of the usefulness of FCEs. “I think there’s a fair amount of belief that they don’t really have much value, especially with older professors who, if you give them negative feedback, still don’t really change their habits,” Selinger said.

Others cited different

problems with FCEs. Danny Davis, a sophomore double majoring in linguistics and chemistry, believes that FCE surveys for new courses must be created sooner, and the results disseminated more quickly.

He said via an online questionnaire, “I find them very useful, but I find it kind of inconvenient that the results aren’t posted for such a long time. Half my classes are either new enough or have a new enough professor so that they don’t have any evaluations at all.”

OM unveils new plaque

GANDHI, from A1

Professor Kunal Ghosh, OM’s faculty adviser and assistant head for undergraduate affairs in the physics department, said that in addition to being proud of the permanent mark OM has left on the university, he hopes that students will take the portrait’s message to heart. “Retaliation is not the way,

that’s not how to change the world,” he said.

After the ceremony, however, few students seemed to notice the portrait and no one was interested in giving a comment on the installation. While not a controversial figure, only a small number of students had an opinion of the portrait, and even fewer had seen it.

Yet, for those involved

with the Indian community on campus, the portrait has become a source of pride. “It’s a really great gesture to have Gandhi-jhi’s portrait in the University Center,” said Anisha Vyas, a junior mechanical engineering major and president of MayurSASA, “especially where everybody walks by and remind everybody of what he did in some small way.”

Cohon discusses ending term, ethics committee

COHON, from A1

ters. Students can call (877) 700-7050 or go online to www.reportit.net to report any ethical issues.

The opening remarks also described Cohon’s trip to Asia, where he attended alumni events in Seoul, South Korea; Tokyo; and Beijing. Cohon recalled these events in a very favorable light, stating that attendance at these alumni events was twice as large as usual.

He also discussed Carnegie Mellon’s new partnership with Sun Yat-sen University, and Carnegie Mellon’s current financial situation. In the last fiscal year, the university turned a profit, and has a good outlook due to contributions such as the Dietrich gift, which Cohon estimated would produce significant sums of money for the univer-

sity in the foreseeable future.

Cohon also answered pre-submitted and impromptu questions from the audience.

The question prompting the greatest amount of discussion regarded the Morewood parking garage and its role in the master plan currently being considered by the city, specifically potential increases in parking costs and temporary parking relocation while the new underground parking structures are being constructed.

Vice President for Campus Affairs Michael Murphy responded that off-site parking with shuttles to campus would be a likely solution, but that other options are still being considered.

However, some attendees remained discontent with the transportation situation, with one audience member calling out, “If [Morewood] becomes

a \$100 lot, I’m screwed!”

Cohon addressed questions regarding public bus service on Forbes, travel approval, zero-waste events, the conclusion of department budget cuts, and future research funding from national and governmental organizations.

The final discussion of the event was about Carnegie Mellon’s satellite campuses, which are all reported to be doing well, although Australia may face some financial difficulties in the years to come. As Adam Rauf, the chair of Staff Council, put it, the forum was “a chance for Dr. Cohon to speak candidly with us.”

Cohon closed the event by thanking all the attendees for their questions and input, and ended by driving home a message: “All seems to be going well.”



File Photo by Tommy Hofman
President Jared Cohon discussed his various travels abroad, the end of his term, and a new committee to oversee the university’s ethics policies in his semesterly open forum.



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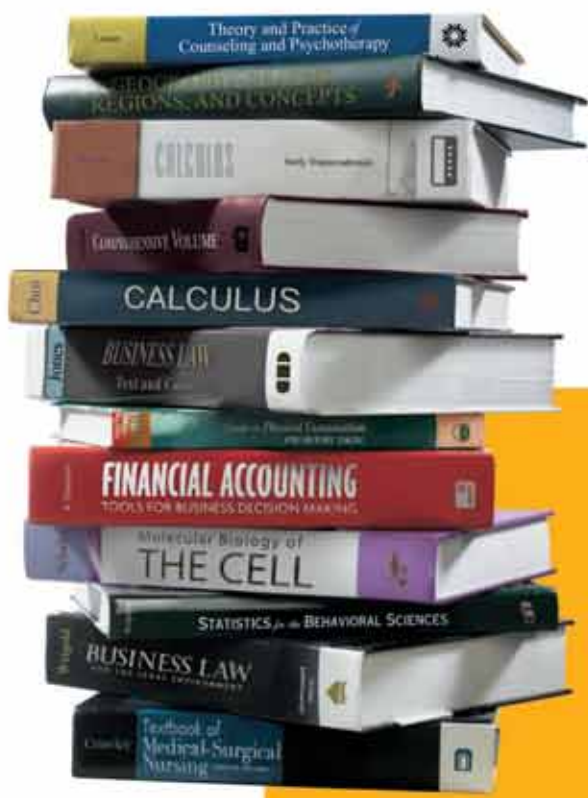
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Science & Technology

Robot helps reveal science behind snack choices

KECHUN MAO
Staffwriter

Snacking in the workplace is a common ritual, and many employees may be concerned with making the right choice when it comes to their waistlines and overall health. A group of Carnegie Mellon researchers are trying to determine the best way to encourage people to make healthier snack choices.

Researchers in the Human-Computer Interaction Institute recently developed a system that helps people make self-beneficial snacking decisions in the workplace based on theories of behavioral economics, which differs from traditional economics by assuming that people do not make the most rational decisions all the time. The research was recently published in *Proceedings of the 2011 Annual Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

“Obesity is a growing problem worldwide,” said Jodi Forlizzi, one of the study’s authors and a professor in the departments of design, human-computer interaction, and computer science. “In our university labs and office buildings, people work long hours, often substituting snacks for meals. Having the option to choose a healthy snack is a small step towards ameliorating these problems.”

In a study involving 61 participants, the researchers first examined participants’



Jodi Forlizzi, a professor in the departments of design, human-computer interaction, and computer science, poses with “Snackbot,” a snack delivering robot aimed at understanding how people choose between different snacks. Courtesy of Jodi Forlizzi

tendency to favor a “default option” in which a snack choice was made for them, and they could receive an alternative option only if they specifically asked. These results were compared to participants’ tendencies to rationally weigh pros and cons of a snack choice

if they were asked to plan ahead.

For two consecutive days, experimenters delivered apples or cookies to participants’ offices in the afternoon. On the first day, everyone was asked to choose between apples and cookies. One group, labeled

the “default group,” was told they would have apples the next day unless they specified they wanted cookies, and a “planning group” was asked to choose a snack they would like for the next day.

About half of the participants in the default and plan-

ning groups chose an apple on the first day, but this percentage increased on the second day as nearly two-thirds chose apples. More participants made the switch in the planning group than the default

See **SNACKS**, A6

Researchers assess risks posed by nanoparticles

MICHAEL SETZER
Staffwriter

Tiny particles, some 100,000 times smaller than the thickness of a sheet of paper, are playing an increasingly important role in our lives. Nanoparticles, as they’re called, can be found in eyeglasses, tires, and even sunscreen. Recently, Carnegie Mellon researchers have been discussing nanoparticles’ prevalence in the natural world and their potential to greatly alter the way we live.

As part of a larger consortium of faculty members from universities known as the Center for Environmental Implications of NanoTechnology (CEINT), professor Greg Lowry in the department of civil and environmental engineering recently teamed up with professor Elizabeth Casman in the department of engineering and public policy to discuss the prevalence of nanoparticles in nature and their implications in the environment. Their recent study, published last month, focuses on the prevalence, dynamic

qualities, and environmental effects of nanoparticles.

Nanoparticles are microscopic molecules that are the building blocks for many engineered products and are typically 100 nanometers in size, although some are even as small as one nanometer. Nanoparticles have been engineered by scientists for years, but their presence and effects in nature had remained a mystery.

Cue James Hutchison. Hutchison, of the University

of Oregon, experimented with the interaction between silver nanoparticles under a variety of conditions. He found that silver nanoparticles reacted differently under various environmental conditions, and arrived at the idea that nanoparticles are abundant in nature.

Casman explained, “When these silver nanoparticles were placed in water, there was a production of more nanoparticles. The results indicated the idea that nanoparticles are ubiquitous in the natural

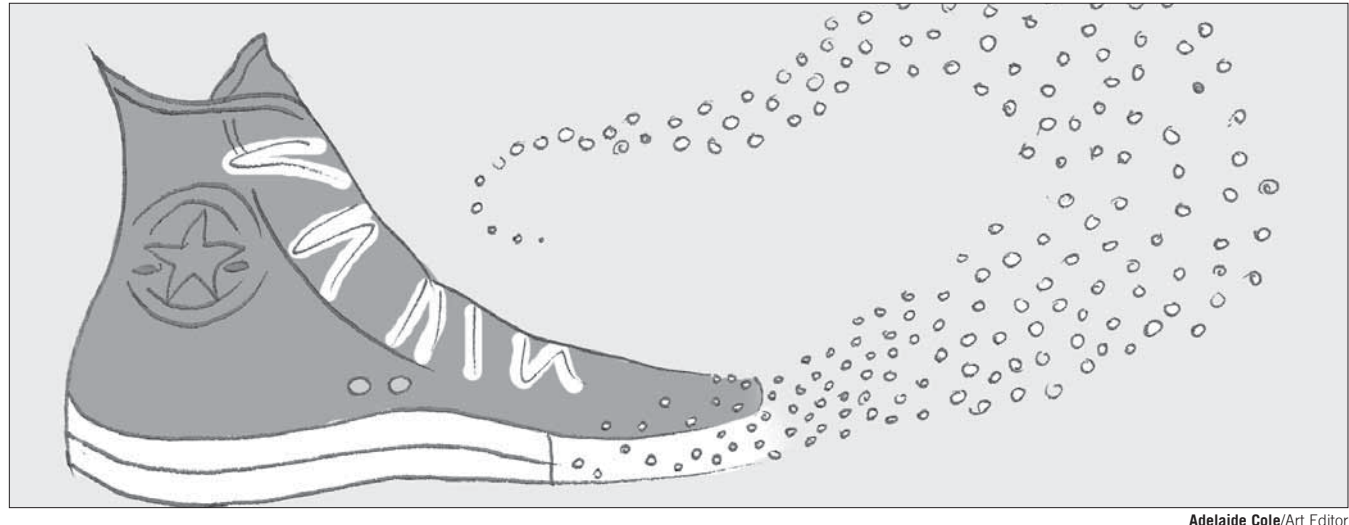
world.”

This information stirred some curiosity within CEINT. As Casman noted, “This revelation inspired us to discuss, ‘What do we know about how nanoparticles can be formed in nature?’” The researchers mapped out what they already knew, including the idea that many nanoparticles that are found in nature are nearly identical to those engineered, and that nanoparticles played significant roles in natural processes.

The dynamic nature of nanoparticles was also an important topic of discussion. When introduced to the environment, their incredibly high surface area relative to their volume makes them prime candidates for dynamic changes in nature. “We realized that nanoparticles out of the jar, when they interact ... they don’t stay that way,” Casman said.

The new influx of informa-

See **NANO**, A6



Adelaide Cole/Art Editor

SCITECH BRIEFS

Names proposed for newest elements

The International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) has proposed two names for heavy elements 114 and 116, the most recent two additions to the periodic table of elements. The two proposed names are flerovium (with atomic symbol Fl) and livermorium (with atomic symbol Lv) for elements 114 and 116, respectively. The names must go through a five-month public approval period before becoming official. In the past 250 years, new elements have been added to the periodic table about once every two and a half years, according to Carnegie Mellon professor of chemistry Paul Karol, who chairs the IUPAC committee that recognizes new elements.

Source: *The New York Times*

Texting is so easy, a lion can do it

The research company Ground Lab has developed new collars for tracking the locations of lions in Kenya. The collars can send the GPS locations of lions to a central server which processes these locations and texts local herders whenever a lion gets too close to their livestock. The collars incorporate a GPS receiver and a cellular modem capable of making calls, sending an SMS message, or even accessing a mobile data network. The process of tracking animals normally utilizes satellite linkage technology, but the company claims the cell phone route is less expensive. They have only been used on 10 lions so far, though plans to expand the program are in place.

Source: *Technology Review*, CNN

World’s heaviest insect found

Researcher and adventurer Mark Moffet claimed last week to have discovered the heaviest known specimen of the giant weta, the largest insect in the world, after a two-day search in the forests of Little Barrier Island, New Zealand. At 71 grams, the insect is heavier than three adult mice. Known as the wetapunga to the local Maori natives, the giant weta has been driven nearly to the brink of extinction by recently introduced rats and other mammals that feed on the insects, and can now only be spotted in the “little” islands of the country, like Little Barrier Island.

Source: *Popular Science*

Violent video games affect brain

Researchers from Indiana University have linked extended exposure to violent video games to changes in some brain regions associated with emotional control. The study observed less activation in the frontal regions of the brain in MRI scans of young men who played violent video games over the course of one week than in other participants who did not. “The affected brain regions are important for controlling emotion and aggressive behavior,” said Yang Wang of the IU department of radiology. Similar studies of this nature have been conducted before, but this is the first time scientists have found a direct correlation between playing violent video games and emotional controlling brain function.

Source: Science Daily

Mayans never said 2012 was ‘the end’

Experts on Mayan civilization are increasing their efforts to dispel the popular belief that the Mayans predicted that the end of the world would occur next year. A panel met at the archaeological site of Palenque in southern Mexico last week to emphasize that the so-called end day of Dec. 21, 2012 on the Mayan calendar is actually just the start of another long 5,125 year counting period (similar to the transition between Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for our 365-day counting period). “We have to be clear about this. There is no prophecy for 2012,” said Erik Velasquez, a Mayan etchings expert at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. “It’s a marketing fallacy.”

Source: Reuters, AP

Mars-bound rover to explore life

Curiosity, a car-sized rover developed by NASA, was propelled toward Mars by an unmanned rocket with a goal of analyzing the red planet. Launched just over a week ago, *Curiosity* is expected to touch down in August 2012, and its main mission will be to discover whether Mars currently has life or was ever capable of supporting it. The probe is equipped with 17 cameras and 10 different instruments that can analyze the Martian soil and identify elements in samples dug up by its drill-tipped arm. The rover, powered by a small nuclear generator, cost \$2.5 billion to make.

Source: Reuters

Compiled By
BENJAMIN MADUEME



photo by erat

Please send resume to: Adagio Health, Resume Box – 714-T, Attn: Gina, Town Place., Forbes & Stanwix, Suite 1000, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Equal Opportunity Employer

A cartoon illustration of a zebra with black and white stripes, standing and looking upwards. A speech bubble above its head contains the text "I THINK IT'S STRESS!!". The zebra is standing on a simple ground line with some small tufts of grass.

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Panera Bread’s racist, sexist practices warrant boycott



ANNA WALSH

Many of you have probably gone to a Panera Bread in Pittsburgh — and why not? It has plenty of delicious and relatively inexpensive options for food. If you pay attention to the girls waiting on you at the registers, though, you might notice some trends: first, they’re all girls between the ages of 16 and 24. Second, with rare exception, they’re all white.

Unfortunately, this isn’t some sort of odd coincidence. The Covelli franchise, which owns almost 30 Panera Bread locations in western Pennsylvania alone, only hires “pretty young girls” to work at the cash registers — or so says a recent lawsuit by Scott Donatelli, a former manager at a Panera location in Mt. Lebanon.

“First of all, when [Donatelli] hired an African-American employee, they said, ‘What is that?’ and, ‘if the owner comes around, make sure he’s in the back, because he’ll have a fit,’” Donatelli’s lawyer, Sam Cordes, told WTAE Pittsburgh. According to the lawsuit, the district manager repeatedly chastised Donatelli for letting an African-American man work on the registers, saying, “It’s what Sam [Covelli] wants, and what our

customers want. They would rather see pretty young girls.”

This isn’t the first time the Covelli franchise has been sued for its racist practices: Back in 2003, a former manager at the Panera Bread on Forbes Avenue sued the Covelli franchise, claiming that he had been repeatedly told not to assign African-Americans to work on the cash registers, and was eventually fired for refusing to comply.

As a former Panera employee (full disclosure: I quit a few weeks ago), I can attest to how true these policies are. I’ve seen an African-American coworker — an excellent employee who has worked at Panera Bread longer than any of the managers currently running the store — sent home when Mr. Covelli was coming to visit the store. I’ve had the assistant manager tell me that she can’t hire African-Americans.

This would be bad enough if it was just one store with these policies, or one manager. But layers and layers of management have either said nothing or have actively helped to enforce these prejudicial policies. These sorts of prejudices should never have been tolerated, let alone implemented in the first place. Not only that, but the district manager’s comment that customers “would rather see pretty young girls” is insulting to Panera’s patrons. Does the Covelli franchise really think so little of its customers

(or of its products) that it believes Panera Bread needs some sort of sex appeal in order to get business?

Luckily, we as the Carnegie Mellon community have a very simple way of showing that we will not tolerate this racism: Stop eating there. If you’re in Oakland and are craving a sandwich, head over to Eat Unique on Craig Street instead — it has similar kinds of food for about the same price. If you’re in Shadyside and need some comfort food, go to Boston Market. I know the Carnegie Mellon administration places plenty of catering orders at Panera Bread — start ordering your salads from somewhere else. The administration should also seriously reconsider its connections to the company; currently, Panera Bread is a corporate partner of Carnegie Mellon’s Athletic Department. Giving this kind of support to a company that continues to profess and act on racist and sexist ideals is unacceptable. Severing ties with the company would effectively send a message that we will not tolerate its practices.


We as a campus community have a very clear and easy opportunity to make a statement against these obvious racist and sexist practices. Please, take a stand and take your business elsewhere.

Anna Walsh (amwalsh@) is Pillbox editor for The Tartan.



Photo Illustration by Jonathan Carreon/Staff

Community should try to tone down content



JACKSON LANE

I was disappointed when NBC announced that *Community* will be going on an extended hiatus during the midseason. However, as much as I love *Community*, I can understand why NBC is having doubts about the show and why *Community* has thus far had a pretty low viewership.

Community is one of those shows that I enjoy more the second time I watch it. Episodes are too crazy for me to swallow in one viewing. It’s only when I re-watch the episode that I can appreciate all the humor and subtle character moments.

Community tends to put its funniest and most poignant scenes right in the middle of its most absurd scenarios, but these moments truly are gems when you reach them. Scenes like the anime sequence in last week’s “Foosball and Nocturnal Vigilantism” are not only hilarious but also surprisingly organic, and they show how the craziness furthers the story and character development.

I love the craziness for the sake of craziness, but I’m pretty sure that’s just me being weird. Most viewers just want humor and character moments from a sitcom, and while some craziness can add a little spice, it shouldn’t make the show too difficult to swallow in a single serving.

For the typical once-a-week sitcom viewer, episodes like “Masonic Myths and Ancient Peoples” might seem weird on the first viewing —

then next week, the show will have moved on to another crazy episode. There’s no chance for a second viewing, and the viewer might wonder whether watching *Community* is his most efficient use of this time slot.

Relative to *Community*, sitcoms like *Glee* or *Big Bang Theory* are predictable and clichéd, but that predictability has its charm. I can watch an episode of *Glee* and get into the music, laugh at the clever writing, and appreciate the emotional moments all in one sitting, because I’m not always worried that something crazy is going to happen.

The third season of *Community* is trying to tone down the absurdity while still keeping the humor and emotion. This is a step in the right direction, but the show still has a long way to go. For starters, the surreal second season has given *Community* a reputation for craziness that will be pretty hard to shake off. But even last week’s “Foosball and Nocturnal Vigilantism,” which held off on the wacky anime sequence until the very end, still required a second viewing for me to see how the entire episode had been building up to this sequence and then how the anime brought the episode to a satisfying and touching resolution.

Hopefully the show’s hiatus will serve as a short time out to learn how not to use parodies of Charlie Kauffman in “Masonic Myths and Ancient Peoples” to explore a character’s psyche. And hopefully, the hiatus will be just be that: a short time out.

Jackson Lane (jlane@) is a senior staffwriter for The Tartan.

More state power solves divisive issues



KYLE HENSON

With the recent failure of the Congressional “supercommittee” tasked with making progress toward solving our deficit problem, many Americans are getting frustrated with Congress’ seeming inability to do anything productive. Republicans won’t consider tax increases of any kind on any group, especially when taxes are already legislated to rise across the board in a year, and Democrats won’t consider structural reforms to entitlement programs like Social Security and Medicare. As our nation approaches an important crossroads where the two warring factions have very different visions about a future America, politicians are looking more and more toward the 2012 election to see which future Americans will choose.

I believe that this divisiveness could be solved by delegating more powers to the states, so that more geographically centered majorities who are national minorities can have the power to legislate for themselves without affecting or being affected by the will of people with exceptionally different sets of values.

According to *realclearpolitics.com*, 73.5 percent of Americans think that the country is “headed in the wrong direction.” Congressional approval ratings are even lower, with 81.7 percent of the U.S. disapproving of Congress.

Yet though the country seems to agree that something needs to change, polling results show that we are nearly evenly divided when it

comes to how that change is to take place. Nearly 50 percent of Americans are going to vote Democratic, and 50 percent will vote Republican. Though this may change as the election draws near and the GOP’s presidential candidate becomes clearer, returning federal powers to the states will result in a satisfactory compromise for both parties.

Right now, Democrats envision a country that offers lots of benefits to its citizens but totes high, redistributive taxes. On the other hand, Republicans want low, flatter taxes, but are willing to live without the governmental benefits. Right now, we’re trying to get the best of both worlds: lower taxes with high benefits. This leaves us with lots of deficit

as a whole. More and more states can adopt successful measures until they become de facto federal laws. Though not all federal powers would be delegated to the states, the electorate would be more satisfied with our government if states had significantly more control over policy.

Others suggest that this system would break down our government because the states and the people within them already depend on the federal government so much. I believe that if the shift were to take place gradually and incrementally, taxes could be phased out of the federal level and into the state level while services would do the same. As long as the process is gradual, people will become accustomed to the new

Instead of having the federal government force some unsatisfactory compromise on the entire electorate ... we can let local majorities who are national minorities make decisions for themselves.

spending, which is an unsustainable course of action. Yet these parties are fairly locally concentrated, with the North and West being largely Democratic and the South and Midwest being largely Republican.

Instead of having the federal government force some unsatisfactory compromise on the entire electorate, by removing some of its power, we can let local majorities who are national minorities make decisions for themselves.

This also allows states to compete in the sense that they can act as a marketplace for governing ideas without detriment to the country

system without much detriment.

Another counterargument is that this system would increase factions within the U.S., creating a more divisive and unproductive federal government. I disagree with this point because federal officials are already elected state-by-state. Taking power from the federal government wouldn’t change existing partisanship, but it would give a more diverse body of officials less divisive issues to worry about, and it would increase the government’s productivity.

Kyle Henson (kahenson@) is a staffwriter for The Tartan.

A PERSON’S OPINION

Compiled by Jessica Sochol

Issues surrounding Occupy Wall Street continue to create controversy. So we asked,

What is your stance on the Occupy movement?



David Keck
ECE
Junior

“I am in favor of the movement. I feel that it is bringing money from politics to the people, which has been a long time coming.”



Nicole Nacey
ChemE
Senior

“When a movement causes its supporters to hide their true feelings then I feel the movement is failing.”



Dustin Hellstern
CS
Junior

“I have no opinion.”



Rohan Kalra
Economics
Senior

“I love Wall Street. I think the movement is stupid.”



Phil Bailey
ECE
Sophomore

“They’ve made their point. Now, it’s not really helping the matter.”



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Roberto Barbero
Scott Carlson
Yuri Matsumoto
Melody Morris
Ranjani Paradise

STANFORD UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF BIOENGINEERING

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Amy Lam
Timothy Lee
Min-Sun Son
Jianbin Wang

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY DEPARTMENT OF BIOENGINEERING

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SPORTS COMMENTARY

Suh suspended for heinous behavior

NFL, from A12

player in jail. As if that wasn't enough for him, he proceeded to fly like a Jet and then stumbled to the ground in order to enact a "plane crash." Johnson was then penalized 15 yards, leading to an easy Jets touchdown the next drive, benefitting from great field position. To make matters worse, Johnson eventually dropped two wide-open touchdown passes when the Bills needed a touchdown to win the game.

Like Suh, Johnson's reaction after the game told us all we need to know. When asked about the dance, Johnson blew it off, saying he was disappointed that it cost the Bills the game but did not think the dance was in bad taste, and, at the time, he did

not apologize to Burress.

Although this is not the norm in the NFL, it's disappointing to see professional football players endangering other players (Suh) or mocking other players' misfortunes (Johnson). The worst part is that it is usually the same players getting fined or suspended. I know that the league will never be perfect, but it's guys like Suh who give the league an unwarranted "bad boy" image. Given that Suh is young and has already had many transgressions, the NFL should look into suspending him for much longer depending on what he does next. I'm not one for suspensions, but some just won't learn until you really punish them, and justifiably so, Suh has been suspended for the next two games.



Courtesy of Jeffery Beall on Flickr
Ndamukong Suh is suspended for the Detroit Lions' next two games.

Tartans excel in Total Performance Invite

JENNIFER ELKIN
Junior Staffwriter

The Carnegie Mellon swimming and diving team traveled to Kenyon, Ohio this past Thursday through Saturday to compete in the Total Performance Invitational. The Tartans were greeted by teams from the University of Pennsylvania, Kenyon College, Davidson College, Grove City College, Bowling Green State University, and the University of Findlay. Both Bowling Green and Findlay only presented women's teams for the competition.

After the first day of swimming, the men held their ground in fourth place with a score of 54. They picked up the intensity during the second day of competition, earning a total of 303 points and jumping up to third place. With strong closing efforts, they added 208 more points for a total of 511 points, putting them in fourth place at the end of day three. The solid finish topped Grove City College, which placed fifth with 319 points.

The men's team is showing signs of improvement, as the swimmers continue breaking individual career records. Among them are first-year Andrew Yee, who finished the 1,650-yard freestyle in fifth place with a career-best time of 16:10.96.

Junior Dan Glaser-Garbrick finished third in the 400-yard individual medley with a time of 4:00.74 and third in the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 1:51.06. In 2011, Glaser-Garbrick was an All-American and UAA Champion in the 200-yard butterfly and on the All-UAA Second Team for the 400-yard individual medley.

In the 200-yard breaststroke, sophomore Austin Bohn finished in third place in 2:05.68, cutting about 10 seconds off his personal record.



File Photo by Celia Ludwinski
Sophomore Austin Bohn placed third in the 200-yard breaststroke.

First-year Anton Razanav, senior Matt Stanton, Bohn, and Glaser-Garbrick swam the 400-yard medley relay in a record time of 3:27.55, finishing fifth. This beat the time of 3:35.83 set during a UAA meet on Oct. 29.

The women picked up 44 points after the first day of the invitational, putting them in fourth place to start off. After the second day of competition, the women scored a total of 197 points, putting them in fifth place. Their additional 135 points on day three proved not enough to overcome Grove City College, which finished with 369 points. The women finished with a total of 332 points, in sixth place overall.

Some swimmers reached career highs in relays. First-year Kelley Sheehan, sophomore Soleil Phan, sophomore Megan Garvey, and senior Victoria Adams swam into 10th place with a time of 7:45.51. Adams, Garvey, and Phan achieved an All-America honorable mention for this relay in 2011, as well as All-UAA Second Team honors.

The Tartans will follow up this performance on Jan. 21 in New Wilmington, Pa. They will be competing against Westminster College and SUNY Geneseo at 1 p.m.

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Sports

Sports wrap-up

Women’s Swimming and Diving

The Tartans finished sixth in the Total Performance Invitational

Men's Swimming and Diving

The Tartans finished fourth in the Total Performance Invitational

Men's Basketball

vs. Otterbein University	W 77–70
vs. Allegheny College	W 67–64
vs. Lebanon Valley College	L 58–78
vs. Catholic University	L 50–62

Women’s Basketball

vs. Baldwin-Wallace College	L 47–50
vs. Penn State Altoona	W 94–46

Men’s Soccer

Senior Nick Gianopoulos was named a Capitol One Academic All-American

Football

Junior cornerback Sam Thompson set a school record and finished second in all of Division III with seven interceptions on the season

SPORTS COMMENTARY

NBA lockout over

ADAM GRUBER
Sports Co-Editor

With an NBA “nuclear winter” looming over us and a real threat of the season being cancelled, a miracle saved everything. After almost five months of negotiations, the NBA owners and the National Basketball Players Association (NBPA) finally reached an agreement.

On Friday, Nov. 25, the communal NBA fan base let out a monstrous sigh of relief when reports were released that said the two sides had reached a handshake agreement. Barring a surprise in the official voting on the deal, the lockout is finally over. So while the NBA season was not officially salvaged, everybody read between the lines. We have an NBA season.

The 66-game season starts on Christmas Day, with five marquee matchups that include an NBA Finals rematch between the Miami Heat and Dallas Mavericks and a battle between the Los Angeles Lakers and Chicago Bulls.

So I think I speak for everyone when I say, “Hallelujah.” In less than a month, NBA games will resume and we can put this chaos behind us.

Fans should thank Major League Baseball for the resolution of this lockout. With the MLB agreeing on a new collective bargaining agreement (CBA) a year in advance of its expiration date, NBA Commissioner David Stern and the league would look particularly bad if the NBA were unable to salvage the season. The NFL resolving its lockout before the scheduled start of the season was probably influential on this deal being made as well.

The issues of revenue sharing, luxury tax, free agency, and different contract exceptions all caused rifts between the owners and NBPA. But none was more controversial than basketball related income (BRI). After months of deliberations, an agreement was finally made such that the players receive 51.15 percent of BRI for the first year, and 49–51 percent in the later seasons. As anyone would have predicted, the owners had the upper hand and subsequently won this battle with the players.

But I’m done with lockout and CBA discussion — let’s talk playing ball. I long for the first NBA breaking news story that isn’t about the

lockout. Let’s delve into free agency and potential blockbuster trades.

The biggest free agents in the 2011 class are Tyson Chandler, Jamal Crawford, Nene Hilario, David West, Marc Gasol, DeAndre Jordan, Greg Oden, and Tayshaun Prince. The only news in the early part of the 2011–12 off-season is regarding the starting center of the 2011 NBA champion Mavericks, Chandler. It was reported that he expected not to return to the championship squad next season.

It has been rumored that the Heat are interested in the perennially injured No. 1 pick, Oden. While a huge risk, Oden could be the piece to get Miami an NBA Title, having lacked size in their Finals run last season.

There is more talk, at this time, regarding potential blockbuster trades. There are two players who could make or break a team’s championship hopes for this upcoming season: Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard and New Orleans Hornets point guard Chris Paul, who have both often been discussed in trade talks.

Howard, the reigning two-time defensive player of the year, wants out of Orlando because he does not feel the organization is heading in a championship direction. The common opinion among experts is that Howard wants to go to Tinseltown to play with the Lakers. After seeing firsthand how great of an organization the Lakers were when they lost in the 2009 NBA Finals in five games to Kobe’s squad, it is tough to find flaws in his desires.

Paul has made it explicitly clear that he wants to be traded to the New York Knicks to team up with Amare Stoudemire and Carmelo Anthony. This would form another “Big Three,” similar to that of the Miami Heat, making New York a championship contender for the first time since the Patrick Ewing era.

Both Howard and Paul can do nothing but speculate and persuade, as their respective organizations won’t give them up for nothing, and it will take big players to get them traded.

In the midst of the storm of transaction rumors, I feel refreshed. The heavy burden of the lockout and the threat of losing the season have sailed, and the NBA can get back to its forte: playing ball.

CMU basketball brings new talent, focus



Tommy Hofman/Photo Editor

Gabrielle West leads all CMU first-years with 12.7 points per game.

KATHRYN KNOX
Junior Staffwriter

Last week, the Carnegie Mellon women’s basketball team dropped to 2–4 on the year after losing a close game to Baldwin-Wallace College on Wednesday. This non-conference matchup was the first of a four-game homestand leading up to the semester break.

In the contest, Carnegie Mellon jumped out to an early lead against the Yellow Jackets and maintained that advantage through the first half, taking a 25–23 lead into the break. The score remained close through the second half, as both teams struggled to find a rhythm on the offensive

end, and turnovers were contagious on both ends of the court. The Tartans’ defense allowed them to hold the Yellow Jackets to an impressive 50 points, but that was all Baldwin-Wallace needed to pick up the road win by a three-point margin.

The Tartans were led by junior forward Emily Peel, who scored a game-high 20 points. She currently leads the team in scoring and rebounding with 18.7 points and 9.7 rebounds per game.

Under the leadership of Peel and her fellow upperclassmen, the team is looking



Tommy Hofman/Photo Editor

First-year MacKenzie Boyd shoots 58.3 percent from three-point range.

to build up some momentum heading into conference action. Last year the Tartans struggled in conference play, but Peel said that this team is not the same as it was last year and has a new resolve to go with its new look.

“Our team has improved tremendously since last year,” she said. “We have seven returning players who have all experienced the tough competition we will face, and we have five very talented freshmen that add a lot to our team.”

Two of those first-years, guards Gabrielle West and MacKenzie Boyd, started making a difference early on in the season. Both players have proved to be potent offensive

threats, especially from behind the arc.

Combining the young talent with veteran experience, the Tartans hope to make a statement in the UAA that they are back, ready to compete, and determined to win. According to Peel, her teammates are ready to make that statement. “We are hard workers, dedicated, and will never give up,” she said.

The women’s basketball team finishes up its homestand this week with games against Oberlin College and Point Park University on Friday and Saturday.

Yesterday, the Tartans defeated Penn State Altoona, 94–46. Peel led the way with 32 points.

The ups and downs of Tartan basketball

ADAM GRUBER
Sports Co-Editor

After a three-game win streak, the Carnegie Mellon men’s basketball team has lost two straight. In the last four, the men have gone 2–2, playing two very contrasting modes of basketball.

In the two victories, senior John Duhring led the offense to at least 40 percent shooting from the field. The two losses saw the Tartans shoot sub-40 percent and Duhring average three points.

When Duhring was hot, his teammates also shot well. In the first of these four games, the Tartans picked up their success from the previous game against Penn State Behrend to win their second straight game at the expense of the Allegheny College Gators.

Duhring poured in 19 points, followed by sophomore Rashaun Riley’s 16 points, converting on a sizzling four of five attempts from three-point territory. Duhring hit two clutch free throws and dished out five assists as the orchestrator in this 67–64 victory.

On Saturday, Nov. 26, the Tartans hosted their annual DoubleTree Carnegie Mellon tournament. In the opening game against Otterbein Uni-

versity, the Tartans collectively put together their most impressive offensive performance of the season as all five starters scored in double figures. This led to a 77–70 victory.

Duhring led the squad with 14 points, sophomore Christian Manoli added 13, senior John Kromka had 12, sophomore Sean Brophy had 11, and Riley poured in 10 points. The squad shot 56 percent from the field.

In the championship of the DoubleTree tournament, the Lebanon Valley College Dutchmen blew out the Tartans, 78–58. Duhring struggled, scoring just four points. Kromka and Riley led the team in this bout with 18 and 15 points, respectively. But shooting just 38.5 percent from the field and allowing the Dutchmen to shoot 49.3 percent led to the Tartans’ undoing. Additionally, the Tartans were out-rebounded by 10, 48–38.

Wednesday, Nov. 30, was an even worse performance for the Tartans. Again, Duhring couldn’t find the hot hand he had in the games against Allegheny College and Otterbein University, and was only able to hit one field goal against Catholic University. Sophomore Asad Meghani had a good game



Tommy Hofman/Photo Editor

Sophomore Christian Manoli posts a 9.7 points per game mark this year.

off the bench with 11 points, and Manoli and Riley had 12 each. However, their 30.5 percent field goal percentage led to just 50 points on the night, and the Tartans lost by 12 to the Cardinals. The Tartans’ defense also gave up a minus

15-rebound differential and allowed the Cardinals to shoot 44 percent from the field.

On Tuesday, the Tartans will face the Bethany College Bison on the road. The Tartans did not play the Bison last season.

SPORTS COMMENTARY

A week of reprehensible actions in NFL

JEREMY KING
Staffwriter

In the final stretch of the NFL season, headlines are typically dominated by playoff and divisional races, with teams fighting for their right to play in the Super Bowl for the coveted Vince Lombardi Trophy. However, the Week 12 headlines were speared by a couple of players solidifying their reputations as “stupid.”

The Detroit Lions’ Ndamukong Suh, one of the best young defensive tackles in the game, shoved Packers guard Evan Dietrich-Smith’s helmet into the grass and subsequently stomped on his arm after a

play brought them both to the ground. Suh was then rightfully ejected from the Thanksgiving game. On Sunday, Buffalo Bills wide receiver Stevie Johnson mocked Jets wide receiver Plaxico Burress in his touchdown dance, pretending to shoot himself in the leg in the end zone. Both Suh and Johnson were fiscally penalized for their stupidity, and Suh has now been suspended for two games.

I’ll start off with Suh. He is considered one of the best players in the game and has been regarded highly ever since he was a top-five pick in the NFL draft. However, since he entered the league, he has

gained a reputation as one of the dirtiest players in the NFL. He has already been fined over \$100,000 multiple times, with this being his first suspension. Following his actions on Thanksgiving Day, Suh has started to hurt not only his wallet, but also the reputation and success of his team.

Funny thing is, Suh proved to all of us that he hadn’t learned a thing from being kicked out of the game. During his postgame press conference, Suh repeatedly claimed that he stomped down with his foot in order to “free himself from the situation,” implying that he actually meant no harm by his actions. This

is absurd. Suh clearly hasn’t learned anything, and his belated apology to the commissioner and his feeble attempt to defuse the situation later on Facebook are laughable.

Next up is Bills wide receiver Johnson, who thought it would be a great idea to make fun of Plaxico Burress’s gun-carrying mistake that occurred just a few years ago. Johnson, who is known for his elaborate touchdown celebrations even with today’s strict NFL celebration rules, went a step further by referencing something that put another player in jail. As if that wasn’t

See **NFL**, A11

pillbox
The Tartan's art & culture magazine

Mad Forest

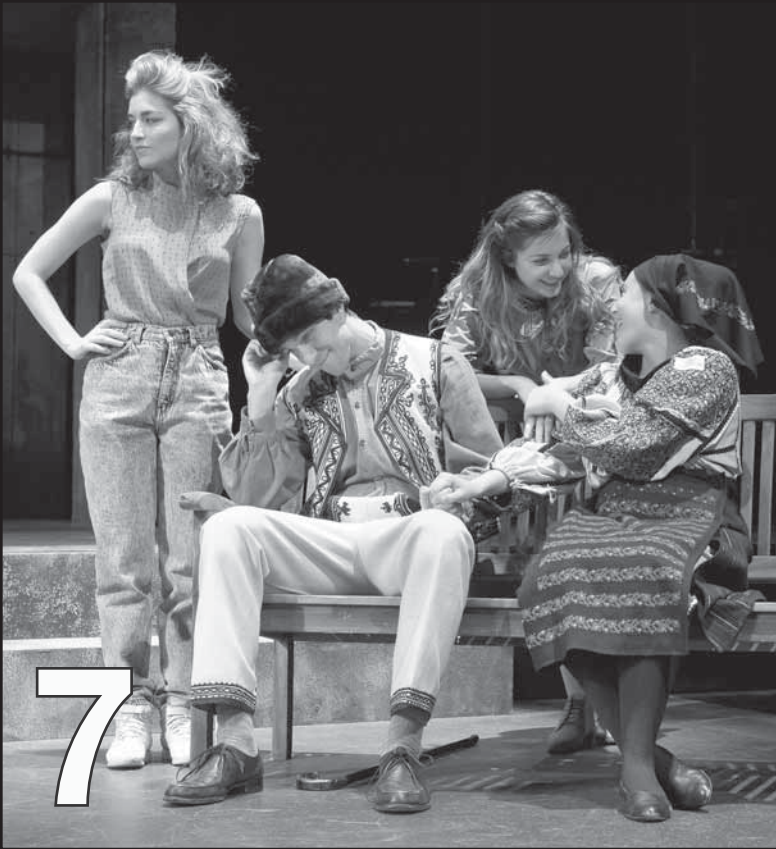


Teenie Harris

Exhibit immerses viewers in Pittsburgh
photographer's life work • B4

12.05.11 Volume 106, Issue 14

...this week only



3 Student reading

The final creative writing student reading of the semester had "Ugly Sweater" as its theme.

3 Advice

Everything you need to know about *The Wire* and Occupy Wall Street.

4 Teenie Harris

The Carnegie Museum of Art pays tribute to a Pittsburgh photographer in a new exhibit.

5 Support wall

An anonymous Carnegie Mellon project allows women to get advice via bathroom stall doors.

5 Dog Sees God

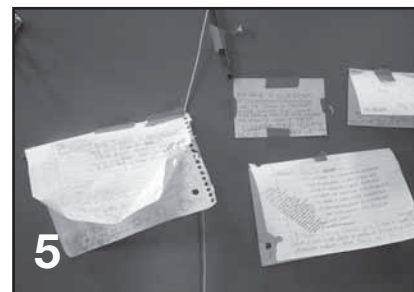
Scotch'n'Soda presents a dark play about the *Peanuts* characters as adolescents.

6 Oscars

Hollywood blockbusters and low-budget independent films contend for the nominations.

7 Mad Forest

The School of Drama's play transports the audience back to the Romanian Revolution.



...diversions

8 Comics

Find out what happens when Santa goes digital.

9 Puzzles

Challenge yourself with this week's Sudoku and Kakuro puzzles.

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See what the stars have in store for you during the coming weeks' classes and finals.

12 Calendar

Find out what's happening on campus and around Pittsburgh in the upcoming week.

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Reading series ends on high note

Student reading features humorous, introspective works

The final installment of the creative writing student reading series took place last Thursday in the Gladys Schmitt Creative Writing Center, featuring senior creative writing majors Madeleine Barnes, Samantha Frank, Yulin Kuang, Caroline Roper, and Jesse Leung.

The theme of the evening was “Ugly Sweater,” in honor of the upcoming holiday season. The venue was a little too small for the number of people in attendance, but instead of making it cramped and uncomfortable, it gave the space a cozy, coffee-house (unfortunately sans coffee) environment.

While each of the readers had a unique voice and had interesting work to read, Barnes and Kuang stole the show. Kuang, who is majoring in creative writing and minoring in film and media studies, read a personal essay she had written on going through life with an unusual name. Her essay was humorous and had a conversational feel to it; despite the fact that it was her first time reading at one of these events, she seemed very comfortable presenting her work.

Barnes, a BHA student in creative writing and art, closed the night, reading intimate poems about daily occurrences, feelings, and dreams. Her poems were deeply introspective and easy to connect with. “It’s kind of scary, but super fun,” Barnes said of reading her work for an audience.

After the five students had read, there was a raffle and an ugly sweater contest, keeping with the theme of the night. Many readers and attendees

stayed around afterward, chatting and commenting on the work that was presented. There seemed to be a strong sense of community among the creative writing majors, and that sense of community made the event a success.

Most of the attendees were other English majors; some were there to support friends, others to fulfill class requirements. Creative writing professor Jim Daniels also made an appearance at the event. “It’s a funny mix, which just makes it all the more fun,” said Kyle Rood, a fifth-year senior double major in architecture and creative writing who organized the event with senior creative writing major Caroline Kessler.

Those uninvolved in the planning of the event seemed to enjoy it just as much. “This is the first student reading I’ve been to, and I really enjoyed the different voices from the different writers,” said sophomore creative writing major Amanda Yuan.

On organizing the student reading events throughout the semester, Rood said, “It’s been a lot of fun. It’s really cool to introduce our students, since they’re also our friends, and listen to them share their work.” Barnes and senior creative writing majors Ines Pujos and Ila Foley will organize and run the series next semester.

Allison Cosby | Assistant Pillbox Editor

Editor’s note: Caroline Kessler is a staffwriter for The Tartan.



Jonathan Carreon | Staff

Senior creative writing major Samantha Frank read a poem and excerpts from three stories at the last creative writing student reading of the semester.

Advice for awkward people

About *The Wire* and protesting Wall Street

Dear Patrick,

I just got the complete series of *The Wire* and I really want to start watching it. But finals are coming up, and I know if I start watching I won’t stop until I finish every episode. Is there any way I can have my cake and eat it too?

**Thanks,
Barely Attentive but Diligently Learning,
Yet Shows Temptation.
Uncertainly Deciding:
Yes, I Need Guidance**

Dear BADLY STUDYING,

At least you have good taste in TV shows. If this were *Two and Half Men* we were talking about, I’d tell you to burn it and get back to studying. But with *The Wire* we have a real dilemma. On the one hand, you don’t want to flunk out of school. On the other, it’s a really good show. Watching what goes on in the Baltimore war on drugs is so much more riveting than calculus.

Now, there’s a very simple solution that may even help your studying. People tend to procrastinate because they lose a sense of the rewards for their work. Instead of doing this, use it as a reward. You can watch one episode after you’ve made a review sheet, and another after you’ve taken a practice test, but only if you scored above an 80.

**Or just have a marathon and get straight Cs,
Patrick Hoskins**

Dear Patrick,

I’ve been protesting the Wall Street industrial complex for years. But now these Occupy dudes come along and they’re all about how Wall Street is bad and banks need to go. Give me a break — they’re just doing it to pick up chicks. And now that everyone’s doing it, it’s harder for me to pick up chicks. How can I raise my street cred?

**Thanks,
Picking Up
Hipsters, Liberals,
Environmentalists, and
the Socially Engaged**

Dear PUH-LEASE,

I hear you, man. It used to be that you could just complain about how Congress was bought and paid for, and everyone would think you were insightful and knew about politics. Now they just give you a dumb look. It’s become a lot harder to seem like you care without doing any actual work.

There’s a simple fix, though, that will have hippie girls crawling all over you, with just an afternoon’s work. Go to one of those Occupy protests right before the police move in, and then make sure you get maced and/or beaten. If there’s anything girls like, it’s baton-sized bruises.

**Chicks dig rap sheets,
Patrick Hoskins**

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

Teenie Harris provides interactive experience

Exhibit at Carnegie Museum of Art immerses viewers in Pittsburgh photographer's life work

When you push open the glass doors of the Carnegie Museum of Art's latest exhibit, *Teenie Harris, Photographer: An American Story*, you're greeted by a floor-to-ceiling portrait of Harris and lilting jazz music from the 1930s. The multi-faceted exhibit is expansive enough to encompass Harris' rich life work.

Charles "Teenie" Harris (1908–1998) was born in Pittsburgh's Hill District. He photographed a wide variety of subjects in his studio and in the streets of Pittsburgh, amassing over 80,000 negatives in the course of his lifetime. Ten years ago, the Carnegie Museum of Art acquired nearly all 80,000 of those negatives and has been building and researching the archive ever since.

The result is a massively impressive, interactive exhibit featuring 987 of Harris' images on a variety of themes. An advisory committee of prominent scholars, educators, and opinion makers helped select the images.

One of the unifying and unique aspects of the gallery is the original seven-track score that plays throughout the exhibit. Composed by MCG Jazz specifically for the occasion, the music is synchronized with the slideshow presentation of the images in one part of the gallery. The music makes reference to Pittsburgh's evolving landscape from the 1930s to the 1970s, when Harris lived and worked.

The most arresting part of the exhibit may be the floor-to-ceiling projections of the 987 images, divided by

theme. The wall display smoothly rotates among images in groupings titled "Rise and Fall of Crawford Grill," "Urban Landscapes," "Gatherings," "Words and Signs," "At Home," "Crossroads," and "Style." These headings give the viewer a sense of the broad scope of Harris' work.

With ample benches provided, one can get lost in the projections, staring at the faces and scenes of Pittsburgh from decades ago. Harris was especially adept at capturing a wide variety of people, not just African Americans. The projections show former President Dwight Eisenhower; a smiling, nameless waitress; the famous African-American singer, Sarah Vaughn; and the Westinghouse High School boys' basketball team, all in one rotation.

The projected images are without caption, but the next room contains all 987 images in chronological order. Neatly arranged along the perimeter of the room, the photographs are in a more manageable five-by-seven-inch format. The museum provides free audio guides, a cell phone tour, and a directory, which lists the caption and history of every single photograph.

Additionally, more than 20 computers are lined up in the middle of this large gallery, allowing viewers to interactively access the images, videos, and other information from the online archive. Many of the images were taken for the *Pittsburgh Courier*, the nationally-circulated black newsweekly of the time.



"Eartha Kitt leaping though poster..." by Charles "Teenie" Harris, courtesy of the Carnegie Museum of Art

The final section of the gallery contains 12 images that Harris printed himself, some of which were selected by Carnegie Mellon's own Linda Benedict-Jones, an adjunct history professor; Charlee Brodsky, a design professor; and Joe W. Trotter, a history professor. The images are accompanied by a brief written explanation of why the image was selected and an exploration of the composition.

Overall, the exhibition is beautifully done. With multiple entry points, via the online archive or the digital projections, there's a chance for viewers of all ages and experience levels to access the material on more than one level. Harris' work offers the chance to go back in time, to examine the vibrant black community of Pittsburgh through Jim Crow laws and the civil rights era.

Caroline Kessler | Staffwriter

The exhibit is on display from now until April 7, 2012. The Carnegie Museum of Art offers free admission with a Carnegie Mellon student ID.

Above: Eartha Kitt was a singer and actress, best known for her recording of "Santa Baby."
Left: Teenie Harris photographed a wide variety of subjects, from presidents and celebrities to ordinary citizens.



"Girl reading comic book in newsstand" by Charles "Teenie" Harris, courtesy of the Heinz Family Fund and the Teenie Harris Archive © 2006 Carnegie Museum of Art



Dog Sees God reveals bittersweet transition

Play follows favorite *Peanuts* characters as teenagers, includes melodramatic details

“Grief ain’t good” is sloppily spray painted against a yellow background, a reference to the iconic black and yellow polo shirt Charlie Brown is so famously associated with. This cleverly-constructed set design and spray painted message set the tone for the play before the production of *Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead* began this past Saturday.

Dog Sees God was first presented by Sorrel Tomlinson in 2004 and was adapted at Carnegie Mellon by Scotch’n’ Soda Theatre this past weekend by first-year international relations and politics major Raz Golden in McConomy Auditorium. The story follows some of the beloved *Peanuts* characters as teenagers and the complicated lives that each of them has developed.

“There are lots of shows that try to take on the life of the teenager. We all know those shows, like the ones on ABC Family,” said Golden. “This show gives a view in the transition period that teenagers experience, pointing out that it is bittersweet. I tried to stay true to the story and script.” Regarding his directing debut at Carnegie Mellon with Scotch’n’ Soda, Golden said, “The process of directing was scary but worthwhile, especially as a freshman. But we are freshmen; we are not like little children. We have as much to say as anyone else on

campus.”

The play serves as an enormous juxtaposition with the image that the audiences have concerning the *Peanuts* characters. Most of those familiar with the cartoon and comic strip think of them as adorable, innocent, and lovable third graders. However, in this play, none of them is as adorable. None of them is as innocent (or innocent at all, really). And none of them is as lovable.

The ensemble held a strong dynamic throughout the production, as the actors seemed to work very well with one another. This was especially evident in one of the most memorable scenes where the muddled CB (first-year chemical engineering major Evan Starkweather) visits Van’s Sister (sophomore mechanical engineering major Christy St. John), who has been institutionalized for setting a red-headed girl’s hair on fire.

First-year computer science major David Allen said, “I thought the play was cool. I had seen the play before so I knew what to expect. It was still great to see how this production put it together.”

After the production St. John said, “I like being able to play around with my scene partners. I would put the

scene in a smaller venue, though. I want to be able to touch the audience if I wanted to.”

The publicity for this show seemed to be less widespread compared to Scotch’n’ Soda’s last production, *Urinetown*. For example, the Facebook event for this production was created Nov. 28 — only four days before the show’s opening performance — and had a little over 260 people attending and over 1,200 invited. *Urinetown*’s event group was created Oct. 19 when the show premiered on Oct. 27 and had over 450 people attending and over 2,100 invited.

Dog Sees God may have not have been as well-advertised as it could have been, but a talented group of students made the production enjoyable, although the play did feature many traumatic events. Ultimately, this raised the question of whether or not all the melodramatic details were really integral to the production. The production forced the audience to consider how these characters and their distressing stories are relevant to the world we live in.

Juan Acosta | Staffwriter

Women find support, give advice in bathroom stalls

“Share and Support” walls around campus provide space for anonymous questions, advice

Everyone finds inspiration at different times in different places, but inside a bathroom stall may not be the first place most would expect. Many Carnegie Mellon women may have noticed “Share and Support” walls in women’s bathrooms in Hunt Library, Margaret Morrison, Baker Hall, Porter Hall, or even off campus at Kiva Han. These walls were created anonymously as a project to observe how women interact and how they support each other.

The temporary walls are made up of small folded cards or slips of paper that say “Problem:” on the front, and “Solution:” on the inside. There were also little boxes on the bottom of some of the cards where women could place an ‘X’ if they found the solutions helpful.

The project has its own Tumblr page, shareandsupportwall.tumblr.com, where photos of all the cards with the problems and solutions have been posted by date and location. The website also has a graph representing the problems and solutions that were obtained; it showed that most of the problems posted had to do with stress or love, and most of the responses either gave encouragement or suggested a course of action.

There are mixed feelings among women at Carnegie Mellon about the walls. Jessika Louissaint, a junior double majoring in biology and policy and management, said, “The content was very interesting in that people get a chance to talk about their feelings but with some privacy. However, I feel that people may not take it seriously, or may judge people.”

Junior policy and management major Jenn Brown said, “I think it’s a cute idea. I feel like some people are rude in the responses, which is kind of disappointing. If I were to write a question, I would want a real response.” Both said they hadn’t written a problem, but Brown said she has written at least one response. She even crossed off some of the negative comments that she saw.

Other women agreed that the wall was a good idea, but that there were some responses that were not very edifying. Ruthie Neely, an employee at Kiva Han, said, “The idea was cool, but I don’t know why it was only for women. I didn’t understand why it was a gendered idea.”

All of the problems appeared to be genuine, and most have received multiple suggested solutions. A few

responses were either negative or disconcerting, but most were encouraging and sympathetic.

Zaneta Grant | Staffwriter



Nicole Hamilton | Comics Editor

Notecards with questions and responses are taped to the back of bathroom stall doors around campus.

Many top contenders for approaching Academy Awards

Hollywood blockbusters, independent films vie for spots in heated Best Picture nominations

Finally, after 10 months of anxiously waiting (nearly recovering from the debacle that was the Hathaway-Franco hosting gig), the 2012 Oscar season is here. Although the Academy Awards aren't until Feb. 26 of next year, the just-as-tense pre-awards nomination race is in full swing. Following is a bit of a cross-section of this year's best films in an effort to familiarize you with this year's slew of Oscar hopefuls and make a few predictions and parallels. These are mostly speculated from personal movie viewings as well as in response to pre-Oscar movie festival turn-outs and movie release reviews and grosses.

There are already forerunners in a few of the major categories: Viola Davis (*The Help*) and Meryl Streep (for the prescreened *The Iron Lady*) are probably leading the Best Actress nominations; Michael Fassbender (*Shame*) and George Clooney (*The Descendants*) are in a toss-up for the Best Actor win; and Martin Scorsese (*Hugo*) and Steven Spielberg (for the not-yet-released but already-popularized *War Horse*) are among the favorites for Best Director.

The heated Best Picture race has been under the spotlight since the academy changed the nomination pool from a strict 10 films to somewhere between five and 10 films earlier this year. Listed below are films that will likely be top contenders for the award, including films that have been released and films that have yet to be released but have already been lauded by eager movie critics:



Christa Hester | Forum Editor

The Descendants: This dramatic comedy, a story about a father re-examining his life after the accidental death of his wife, has earned critical appraisal for its warm tone and performances. Although the film itself is likely to be nominated, most critics doubt that it will persuade the likes of academy voters and come out victorious. Acclaimed performances by Clooney and newcomer Shailene Woodley (from ABC Family's tween sensation *The Secret Life of the American Teenager*) are more likely to take home the Oscars.

Hugo: This Martin Scorsese-directed magical film has already earned a wide array of critical acclaim, including the award for Best Film of 2011 by the National Board of Review. Perhaps the academy will reward this whimsical film despite its straying away from the traditional Best Picture precedent.

The Help: Based on Kathryn Stockett's bestselling novel, this film was widely acclaimed for its performances and screenplay following its August premiere. Although many critics were inspired by its warm message of friendship and sisterhood, some criticized the movie for not taking enough risks. Given that the majority of critics thought it was fantastic, however, it still has nomination potential.

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo: Directed by David Fincher (who also directed *The Social Network*), this film, set to release Dec. 21, has been heavily anticipated by critics and moviegoers for months now. Extended trailers and promotions have increased its popularity, and many are beginning to foresee an Oscar nomination for this edgy offering.

Midnight in Paris: One of the only comedies on the contenders list, this movie has garnered numerous high approval ratings for its performances and directing. It's said to be Woody Allen's best film in a while.

Moneyball: A long-standing hit with fans and critics after its late-September release, *Moneyball*, starring Brad Pitt (in what has been applauded as his best performance yet), is a true story with deep life morals. If Oscar voters understand the elevation of this movie from a normal sports classic, it has a solid chance to be among the nominees.

Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close: This movie is adapted from Jonathan Safran Foer's renowned novel about a boy coping with his father's death on 9/11. Although it does not arrive in theaters until Dec. 25, many critics have high hopes for the literary classic because of the book's success and the movie's extraordinary casting (Tom Hanks and Sandra Bullock, to name just two).

The academy usually nominates films from a wide

spectrum and hands the victory to either the Hollywood blockbuster or the low-budget, more independent film. *The Artist*, a movie centered on the Hollywood silent film era, attracted rave reviews after its late November release for its brilliant acting and evocation of the era. A larger budget film, *War Horse*, directed by Steven Spielberg, releases later this month and has been painted as an instant epic classic for its cinematography and plot (shown to be tried and true by its previous versions as a book and play). These two films have the highest probability to take home the golden statue based on what the academy tends to go for.

So who will win? Will it be one of these predictions or none of the above? Maybe it's time for the Harry Potter franchise to receive academy acknowledgment for its final film or for the ambivalently-reviewed Terrence Malick film *The Tree of Life* to obtain a nomination, even though it seemed to baffle many critics.

Daniel Cohanpour | Junior Staffwriter

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School of Drama tests boundaries of theater

Mad Forest blurs lines between fact and fiction, theater and film as it explores Romanian Revolution

A blood-lusting vampire, a rebellious son, and a bigoted father were among the characters that took the stage Friday night in the School of Drama's production of Caryl Churchill's *Mad Forest*. Set in the years surrounding the 1989 Romanian Revolution, the play explores life in Romania under the dictatorship of communist leader Nicolae Ceaucescu, the violent uprising that overthrew him, and the ensuing period of insecurity. Infused with documentary-like elements and magic realism, *Mad Forest* draws attention to human drama during a little-known revolution and tests boundaries between theater and film, fact and fiction.

The play follows the experiences of two families, the Vladus and the Antonescus. At the play's opening, both families experience hardships under Ceaucescu's regime. The Vladu family suffers public scrutiny as a result of the engagement of their daughter Lucia, played by senior drama student Ava DeLuca-Verley, to an American. Meanwhile, young Radu Antonescu (senior drama student Noah Plomgren) finds his own revolutionary sentiments growing despite his parents' influence, as well as his infatuation with Lucia's sister Florina (senior drama student Lilli Passero). Over the course of the play, these characters face difficulties not only leading up to the revolution, but also in its chaotic wake.

The set was minimal, with tall gray beams that evoked the cold industrialism that is typically associated with communist Eastern Europe. Despite the bareness of the set, however, the stage was brought to life by the vibrant and skilled actors. Even on opening night, the entire play ran without a visible hitch.

A lengthy series of mock television interviews was an unexpected but powerful conclusion to the first half of the play. Actors portrayed witnesses to the revolutionary violence, offering their testimonies in a televised setting.



Courtesy of Louis Stein

Playwright Caryl Churchill traveled to Romania months after the revolution ended to develop *Mad Forest*.

These interviews were pre-recorded and projected onto the set, rather than acted out on stage. This departure from on-stage acting blurred boundaries between theater and film; though on-stage actors occasionally supplemented the recorded interviews, there was very little live activity while the recordings played.

In addition to testing boundaries of theater and film, the interviews also crossed certain lines between fact and fiction. Though the interviewees on screen were actors, the setup evoked certain documentary-like elements, giving the audience a false sense of factuality. At the same time, however, the interviews were a powerful reminder that the events portrayed in the play, though told by fictional characters, were very violent realities to those who witnessed the revolution firsthand.

Another unexpected element of the play was the

presence of vampires, angels, ghosts, and other supernatural figures. Though this magical aspect added an interesting dimension to the play, these elements seemed somewhat out of place; it was difficult to see how the supernatural dimension helped to further develop or add to the play.

Despite some eccentric elements, *Mad Forest* is overall a fascinating experience, offering a look into the rarely discussed Romanian Revolution through compelling characters and techniques that deviate from mainstream theater production.

Rachel Cohen | Junior Staffwriter



photo: Richard Kelly

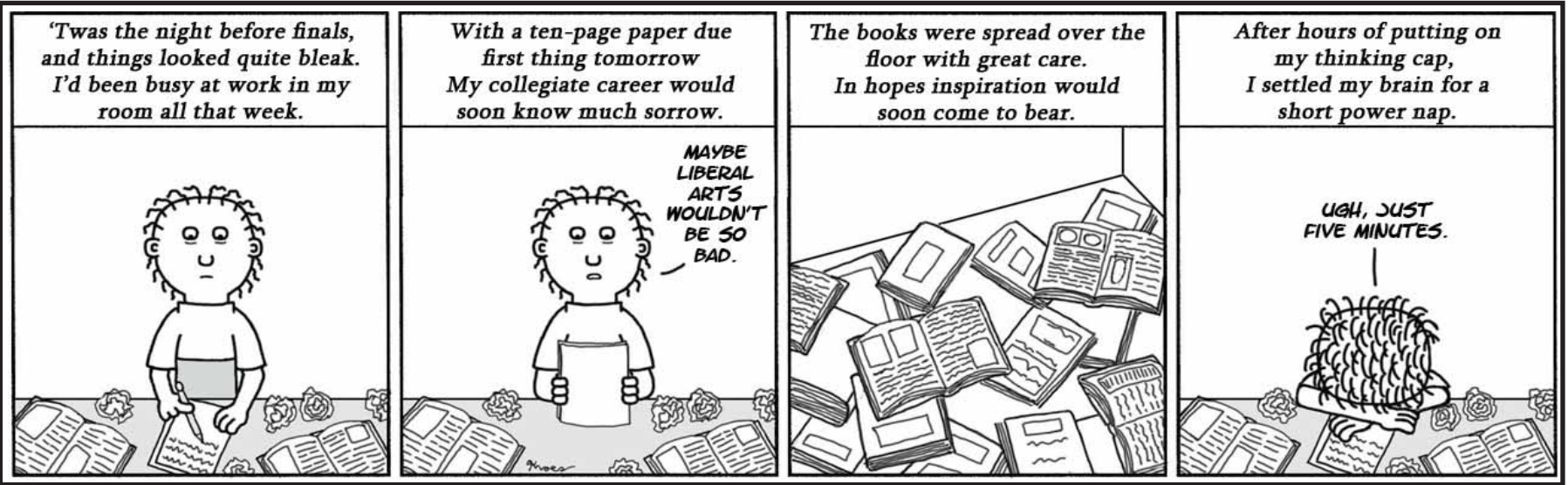
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Sudoku Puzzle: Very Hard Difficulty

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

Sudoku courtesy of www.opensky.ca/~jdhildeb/software/sudokugen/

Kakuro Puzzle: Hard Difficulty

8			10		12		22		27			
34									20			
10					14	7			5			
	19					19				20		
							22		26			
28			5									15
	21				13							
					14				10			
							12			12		

Killer Sudoku courtesy of www.krazydad.com/killersudoku

In addition to normal sudoku rules, the dotted lines indicate areas that also contain a non-repeating set of digits. These squares can be added together to produce the sums shown in the clues.

Solutions from Nov. 21, 2011

R	O	M	A	N	C	E		C	A	R	A	M	E	L
A	R	A	B	I	A	N		O	P	E	R	A	T	E
M	E	G	A	E	R	A		P	O	L	E	N	T	A
A	S	E			O	B	E		A	S	S	A	D	
			T	A	B	L	A		A	T	T	U		
A	L	O	H	A		E	C	O	L	E		E	N	S
S	U	P	E	R	B		H	A	T		S	T	A	N
I	C	E	B	E	R	G		R	A	P	T	U	R	E
A	R	N	E		U	N	I		R	E	A	D	E	R
N	E	H		H	I	P	P	O		C	R	E	S	T
		A	S	A	N		S	N	A	K	E			
R	A	N	T	S		E	A	S	T			E	S	
A	U	D	I	T	O	R		E	L	U	S	I	V	E
P	E	E	L	E	R	S		T	A	T	T	L	E	R
A	L	D	E	N	T	E		S	W	A	D	D	L	E

Crossword

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

Easy Difficulty

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

Medium Difficulty

Horoscopes

aries

march 21–april 19

You are lucky because this whole last-week-of-class and upcoming-finals fear doesn't phase you. Be a good person and share your secrets with others.

taurus

april 20–may 20

Now would be a really good time to start brown-nosing. Your grades are on the border, and it's time to push them over to the right side of the line.

gemini

may 21–june 21

Sleep is the enemy and must be fought with full force and will. You can succumb to it soon enough, but right now it is to be avoided at all costs.

cancer

june 22–july 22

Don't worry, the stars show that you will pass your finals.

leo

july 23–aug. 22

Try not to harm a Capricorn; it will only cause more delay in your schedule.

virgo

aug. 23–sept. 22

Be prepared to help your Gemini friends deal with the fact that they passed their finals with a B. They'll be a bit angry.

libra

sept. 23–oct. 22

Don't get so wrapped up in yourself this week; instead, do something nice for others. No one has too much good karma.

scorpio

oct. 23–nov. 21

Please make sure to read all the directions on your upcoming exams. You have been a little absent-minded, but that's to be expected with all the work you've been doing.

sagittarius

nov. 22–dec. 21

Do it with me: deep breath in, now exhale slowly, deep breath in, exhale slowly. Only one more week of Professor You-Know-Who. Only one more week of Professor You-Know-Who.

capricorn

dec. 22–jan. 19

You're on top of your game, Capricorn. You are so organized and prepared that you are counting the days until spring semester begins and have already read half the books for next semester's classes.

aquarius

jan. 20–feb. 18

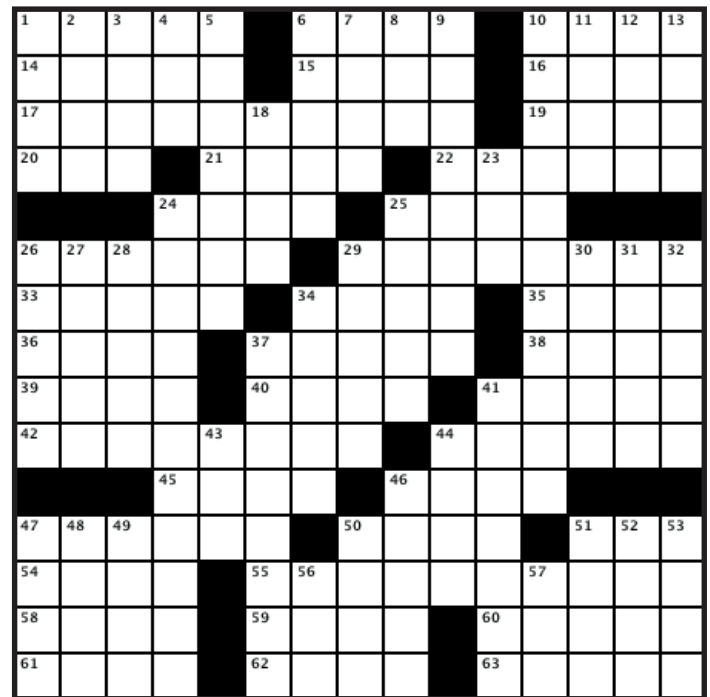
Take some time this week and toss your responsibilities aside. You have deadlines coming up and you may not have the notes from that one important lecture, but that's okay. Things will be okay.

pisces

feb. 19–march 20

Finals + holiday music + stress = snack time. Stock up on the good stuff and make yourself happy.

Nicole Hamilton | Comics Editor



MONDAY12.5.11

In The Raw: *The One That Got Away*. 937 Liberty Avenue Building. 7 p.m.

In The Raw is a play development laboratory run by Bricolage, a theater production company that works to create a more active theater experience for the audience. In The Raw gives playwrights the opportunity to present a reading of their new work; after the performance, the audience participates in an open discussion with the playwright about the play. *The One That Got Away*, a new play by Michael McGovern, tells the story of a cocktail party that gets more flirtatious and outrageous as the evening progresses.

TUESDAY12.6.11

Turtle Island Quartet. Carnegie Music Hall. 7:30 p.m.

This Grammy Award-winning quartet, which takes its name from a Native American creation myth, combines classical quartet arrangements with contemporary American music styles. Turtle Island Quartet won a Grammy for Best Classical Crossover Album in 2006 with *4+Four* and again in 2008 with *A Love Supreme: The Legacy of John Coltrane*. Last year, the quartet released *Have You Ever Been...?: The Music of Jimi Hendrix and David Balakrishnan*, which *allaboutjazz.com* described as “a great reminder of the influence that Hendrix still holds on contemporary music.”

WEDNESDAY12.7.11

2011 Building Virtual Worlds Show. Carnegie Library Music Hall, Munhall, Pa. 4 p.m.

The Entertainment Technology Center presents the work created in its Building Virtual Worlds class, in which students work in small interdisciplinary teams to create a series of short interactive experiences. Two trolleys will be available to shuttle Carnegie Mellon students to and from the show on a first-come, first-served basis. The trolleys, supplied by Molly's Trolleys, will load up in the UC

turnaround from 2:30 to 2:45 p.m. and will bring students back to campus immediately after the show ends.

THURSDAY12.8.11

Christmas Brasstacular. Carnegie Music Hall. 7:30 p.m.

The River City Brass Band will perform with local youth choirs in this iteration of its Christmas Brasstacular concert series. The band, which will perform eight different Christmas Brasstacular concerts in December at different locations in the Pittsburgh area, has been together for almost 30 years. It has been described by the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* as putting “the fun back into music.”

I Got Next. McConomy Auditorium. 8 p.m.

AB Films presents a free pre-screening of *I Got Next*, a documentary about the fighting video game scene. It first began as director Ian Cofino's senior project at Purchase College, but grew from a short documentary into a feature-length production. Cofino, who paid for the entire production of the film himself, traveled to tournaments up and down the East Coast to interview the best *Street Fighter* players in the country.

FRIDAY12.9.11

Holiday Concert. Rangos Hall, University Center. Noon.

The School of Music presents its annual holiday concert, featuring the Carnegie Mellon Philharmonic and choirs. The performance will include “Fantasia On Christmas Carols” by Ralph Vaughan Williams with baritone soloist Daniel Teadt, a voice faculty member at the School of Music, and an a cappella arrangement of the spiritual “The Story of the Twelve.” Due to popular demand, there will be a second performance at 8 p.m. at the Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland. While the performance in Rangos is free, the performance at the music hall is \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Carnegie Mellon students get one free ticket with their ID at the door.

SATURDAY12.10.11

Occupy Pittsburgh's International Human Rights Day. The Kingsley Association, 6435 Frankstown Ave. Noon.

Members of Occupy Pittsburgh will host an indoor rally, followed by a march through the area, in honor of International Human Rights Day. The day honors the anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was the first such global proclamation of human rights. Occupy Pittsburgh has been occupying Mellon Green downtown near the BNY Mellon building for nearly two months.

SUNDAY12.11.11

Beirut. Altar Bar. 8 p.m.

Beirut was originally the brainchild of Zach Condon, a New Mexico native who recorded most of the group's first album, *Gulag Orkestar*, in his bedroom. The album, which combines elements of indie folk and Eastern European music, was released in 2006 to overwhelmingly positive reviews: *The Guardian* described it as “a sublime mix of optimism and resignation.” Since then, Beirut has expanded to include more band members and has released four EPs and two more full-length albums.

MONDAY12.12.11

Strange Fruit: An Artist Talk With Darin Mickey. Spaces Corners. 7:30 p.m.

Darin Mickey, a photographer, musician, and faculty member at the International Center of Photography in New York City, will discuss his current exhibit at Spaces Corners titled *Strange Fruit*. Spaces Corners is a small bookshop, gallery, and project space dedicated to contemporary photography. It is located inside the Ice House Artist Studios in Lawrenceville.

ONGOING

The Nutcracker. Benedum Center for the Performing Arts. Through Dec. 23.

The Pittsburgh Ballet Theater presents a colorful, grand-scale production of this classic ballet by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. This production is set in Pittsburgh at the turn of the 20th century, with scenes that include a Heinz delivery truck and a view from Mt. Washington.

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late night.



Anna Walsh | Pillbox Editor

Stever House hosted its heavily promoted Late Night event, billed as “the largest dance party in CMU history,” last Friday. The dance party collected canned goods as admission and featured sophomore information systems major Steve McQuaid as one of the headlining DJs. The event was funded by Student Dormitory Council, Student Senate, Stever House, and Late Night.

