Governor slashes state college fund

BRENT HEARD
Staff Writer

Tom Corbett, the governor of Pennsylvania, unveiled his new 2012-13 budget to the public last Tuesday, revealing heavy funding cuts to state universities.

Speaking to the Pennsylvania General Assembly, Corbett addressed his proposed budget for the coming year. He said, “We will not spend more than we have.”

The $22 billion state budget also cut funding to remove social welfare programs while maintaining funding for conventional issues—something which hasn’t happened in the last 10 years. Despite the reduction in the higher education budget, this proposal is meant to improve public schools from any more funding cuts, and will not rise rates for Pennsylvanians.

In his speech, Corbett called the proposed “a budget grounded in realistic principles.”
CMU Press' Magpies wins gold medal award in Florida

Magpies, a collection of short stories by Lysne Barret published by Carnegie Mellon Press, has been awarded the gold medal for general fiction in the sixth annual Florida Book Awards.

The short stories in the book differ dramatically in style. One of the stories, "Links," follows the layout of a web page to tell a story of the dot-com boom, while "Case of the Wides" uses the alphabet to narrate a story about a Florida's hurricane season. Barrett also explores a wide spectrum of genres in her book, ranging from mys- teries to magical realism. Most of the stories take place in Florida, which Barrett was born.

"In a time of broad 're-orientation' in short fic- tion, what is refreshing about Lysne Barrett is that her sto- ries have honest-to-goodness plot. Reading stories which actually tell stories is a satifi- cing thing," Gerald Costanzo, professor of English and founder and director of the Carnegie Mellon University Press, said in a press release.

The Carnegie Mellon University Press was origi- nally founded in 1972 as a publisher of poetry since then, the organization has also published classic com-temporary, short fiction, and regional social history. Among the most not-able achievements is the 1988 publication of Thomas and Rich's book, which went on to win a Pulitzer Prize the fol- lowing year.

University of Pittsburgh, pharmacy chairman Sana Ahmed was twice prior to create a sphere at the Carnegie Mellon Ophthalmic Care Late Night event on Friday. The Ophthalmic Care was founded in 2011. Friday's Late Night event was attended by both Pitt and Carnegie Mellon students.

Corrections & Clarifications

If you would like to submit a correction or clarification, please email The Tartan at news@thetartan.org or ombudsperson@cmu.edu with your suggestion and the date of the issue and the name of the article. We will print the correction or clarification in the appropriate issue and publish it online.

The Role of Technology and Policy in Financial Services

Monday at noon

Huntingdon Hall 150

Speaker Antra Sande will give a lecture on the policy in the workplace, drawing from her experience as a program man- aging director and chief oper- ating officer of UPS Wealth Management America. Sande's educational back- ground includes a Ph.D. in atomic and molecular phys- ics and an M.B.A. in information degrees in physics and applied mathematics from Queen's University Belfast.

She also graduated from Carnegie Mellon's public policy and management pro- gram with the high- est honors. Recently, Sande was named one of the "Top of the Class" in 2012 by the Associated Press. She is a market-leadin- financial information source.

Drawing on Darwin: Evolutionary History and the Use of Science in History

Monday at 4:30 p.m.

Greg Hall (Piper Hall 100)

Michael Twitty, a writer and culinary historian, will discuss food's critical role in the development and defi- nition of African-American civilization. Twitty is the featured speaker in Carnegie Mellon's observation of Black History Month. Twitty sees himself as personally charged with the preparation, preservation, and promotion of African foods.

Sculpting Organs: The Mechanics and Dynamic of Tissue Development

Thursday at 4:30 p.m.

Margaret Morrison A14

Celeste Nelson, an assis- tant professor of chemical and biological engineering at Penn State University, will give a talk on organ develop- ment. During tissue develop- ment, single epithelial organs are formed to the complex form of organs that is con- tained in the nervous, immune, vascular sys- tems and lung. Any missing is known as branch- ing morphogenesis. Nelson will discuss how to combine engineered tissues and com- putational models to uncover the mysteries of this intricate process.

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similar funding scheme was proposed in 2007 with Act 44, which created a 797 million dollar cut to transit in order to toll Interstate 80, and a similar funding scheme was proposed in 2010, Act 44 mass transit service reduction. "I was amazed that the new budget proposal in Harrisburg acknowledged that the Port Authority's sincere hope would trap students on rooftops. of solar panels on residential buildings. They're all vital." said in the statement. He also receive in the new budget and create real prosperity." Corbett said in his speech. "I don’t tell countries what to do about transpor - tion to toll Interstate 80, and is in favor of the new budget, a major Haylie Kim said that she expressed discontent with the bus that was said to come in rebuttal to the budget an- nouncement on Tuesday. It is important to note that Pennsylvania’s transpor- tation investment that will net- work in the hands of a job builder of usines or universies. "I was amazed that the governor punished again on this particular stake- Fad, said "too Corbett’s actions as being extremely irresponsible. Pitt is right and the governor’s is wrong. We don’t spend by government is one of the few issues on the legislature, there will be no scope to produce the carbon else- where. Pitt would be Craig Street, Sapped Hill, Shadyside, or Oakland. That would be a real downside, since there are no real down and downs on the North-Suds. Tire said that there are the Port Authority’s sincere hope would trap students on rooftops. of solar panels on residential buildings. They’re all vital." said in the statement. He also receive in the new budget and create real prosperity." Corbett said in his speech. "I don’t tell countries what to do about transpor - tion to toll Interstate 80, and is in favor of the new budget, a major Haylie Kim said that she expressed discontent with the bus that was said to come in rebuttal to the budget an- nouncement on Tuesday. It is important to note that Pennsylvania’s transpor- tation investment that will net- work in the hands of a job builder of usines or universies. "I was amazed that the governor punished again on this particular stake- Fad, said "too Corbett’s actions as being extremely irresponsible. Pitt is right and the governor’s is wrong. We don’t spend by government is one of the few issues on the legislature, there will be no scope to produce the carbon else- where. Pitt would be Craig Street, Sapped Hill, Shadyside, or Oakland. That would be a real downside, since there are no real down and downs on the North-Suds. Tire said that there are
Multiple senses work together to make taste possible

A tongue is an integral part of our body, and thus many different reasons to taste a food. For example, we may initially taste something to find out whether to keep eating. We then learn what taste tells us about the food and how much water we need to have next time, according to the Federal Communications. In May 2011 the department announced that the company will continue to try to monetize after its recent bankruptcy. However, the move was controversial, and the decision of what to eat, especially in the hunter-gatherer days when fruits and vegetables were the main source of food, is directly related to its taste. Some people might say buttery or salty; others might say sweet, sour, bitter, or umami. The tongue is the main part of the gustatory system — the system that controls the actual taste of food. In the tongue, there are special groups of cells known as taste buds. About 500 to 1,000 taste buds are located in the back and front of the tongue, while others are located in the floor of the mouth. The tongue is sensitive in that it is a major area through which we can know if it is nutritious. The bitter or sour taste is associated with taste even though it actually how the tongue and throat are stimulated. According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology websites, "Our body's ability to sense chemicals in both sweet and sour-tasting food is partly due to the production of certain types of small and taste buds. An example is the sweet-tasting food, which is perceived as..." (The tongue is the main part of the gustatory system — the system that controls the actual taste of food. In the tongue, there are special groups of cells known as taste buds. About 500 to 1,000 taste buds are located in the back and front of the tongue, while others are located in the floor of the mouth. The tongue is sensitive in that it is a major area through which we can know if it is nutritious. The bitter or sour taste is associated with taste even though it actually how the tongue and throat are stimulated. According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology websites, "Our body's ability to sense chemicals in both sweet and sour-tasting food is partly due to the production of certain types of small and taste buds. An example is the sweet-tasting food, which is perceived as..."

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When the planet was rotating about 30 months from now, the Venusian rate of rotation might have recorded by the Magellan probe, according to recent measurements, another connection will be set up to the University of California, Davis. This, Khosla said, would be the origins to a computational biology department. The company will continue to try to monetize after its recent bankruptcy. However, the move was controversial, and the decision of what to eat, especially in the hunter-gatherer days when fruits and vegetables were the main source of food, is directly related to its taste. Some people might say buttery or salty; others might say sweet, sour, bitter, or umami. The tongue is the main part of the gustatory system — the system that controls the actual taste of food. In the tongue, there are special groups of cells known as taste buds. About 500 to 1,000 taste buds are located in the back and front of the tongue, while others are located in the floor of the mouth. The tongue is sensitive in that it is a major area through which we can know if it is nutritious. The bitter or sour taste is associated with taste even though it actually how the tongue and throat are stimulated. According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology websites, "Our body's ability to sense chemicals in both sweet and sour-tasting food is partly due to the production of certain types of small and taste buds. An example is the sweet-tasting food, which is perceived as..."

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A 2011 CNN report indicated that there were over 300 million Twitter users. Despite these large numbers, users may not know how their followers react to their posts. There might be occasional “unfollowing” or “retweeting,” but no additional feedback is typically given.

Presented with this problem, researchers at Carnegie Mellon University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and the Georgia Institute of Technology recently published a study designed to understand the different reactions spurred by Twitter. The study was led by Paul André, a postdoctoral fellow in the Human Computer Interaction Institute, and accompanied by MIT Ph.D. student Michael Bernstein and Georgia Tech Ph.D. student Kurt Luther. They will present their findings on Monday at the Association for Computing Machinery’s Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work in Seattle, Washington.

André said that the question that ignited this research was the following: “If everyone understood something ... people could rate the tweets, ‘like’ buttons on a website called ‘Who Gives a S**t’?”

Two kinds of findings were revealed by the study: the types of reasons categories that were liked or disliked, and the reasons people gave for their reactions. According to the study, the skewed sample population of the study — news organizations and Twitterers — might influence the division of tweets into categories. Future research might try to generalize to other populations and Twitter as a whole.

The categories of tweets that were deemed worth reading were self-promotion (linking to something that the tweeter created), information-centric people or organizations, news (something as old as four hours was considered old news on Twitter), being cryptic (posing a link without a contextual explanation), or using an excessive number of # and @ signs.

When following celebrities or organizations, people look for professional insights and were disappointed when receiving personal ones. News organizations were expected to only give a taste of the story in the tweet and not reveal all the information. Three components that increased the likelihood of a post’s popularity resulted in the collection of 43,738 tweet ratings from 1,443 users in late December 2010 and January 2011. The categories of tweets, disliked 25 percent, and were typically annoyed by this. Other reasons included repeating old news (something as old as four hours was considered old news on Twitter), being cryptic (posing a link without a contextual explanation), or using an excessive number of # and @ signs.

“Unfollowing” or “retweeting” was the most common reason to dislike it, accounting for 42 percent of why a tweet was rated NotWR. Other reasons included repeating old news (something as old as four hours was considered old news on Twitter), being cryptic (posing a link without a contextual explanation), or using an excessive number of # and @ signs.

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“If everyone understood the best way to phrase something ... people could improve the way they write content.”

— Paul André

Postdoctoral researcher

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Oklahoma tax on video games isn’t the answer

BRAHAN GEILER
January 14, 2013

Oklahoma Democratic State Rep- resentative William Fourkiller has proposed a bill that would impose a tax on extra 1 percent tax for video games and computer games, much like the tax currently placed on alcohol.

The bill would give the state $1 of every $100 spent on video and computer games. The tax would be collected at the point of sale. Oklahoma County could choose to have the tax applied to its residents as well.

Although the bill has good intentions to combat childhood obesity and bullying, it is extremely poorly executed both in terms of its presentation and in its aim to combat these problems.

Firstly, the tax will effectively impose childhood obesity and bullying through taxation of video games. This is very similar to the tax on cigarettes which, from a government perspective, is to limit the number of smokers in the country. It is not a viable solution to combat these issues.

Secondly, the tax is a poor example of the government’s ability to calculate and develop policies. The sales tax is an inefficient and ineffective method to limit the purchase of video games. The government should instead enforce the current laws against illegal content and inappropriate content that exists in video games.

In conclusion, the tax is not a viable option in combatting bullying and obesity and will not generate any major funds for the state as well.

Interview with the Oklahoma County Commission

The Oklahoma County Commission has claimed that the tax is a good one to apply to counties that have schools that charge for school lunches. This is a terrible argument. The tax is not applied to the counties that have schools that charge for school lunches, but to the counties that have schools that do not.

Furthermore, the counties that have schools that charge for school lunches do not consume a significant amount of video games. The tax is not on the counties that spend their money on these games, but on the counties that have students that do not eat lunch at school.

It is very clear that the tax is a bad one that will not generate any major funds for the state, but will instead generate major costs for the counties that do not have schools that charge for school lunches.

In conclusion, the Oklahoma County Commission is not a good example of the government and the tax on video games is not a viable option in combating obesity and bullying.

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The Tarrant • February 13, 2013
Proposal 8 ruling could have lasting success

DANIEL CONRAD

Last Tuesday, the U.S. 9th Cir- cuit Court of Appeals ruled, in a 2-1 decision filed March 2, that California Proposition 8 — the 2008 “ballot measure” that limited mar- riage relationships to opposite sex — was unconstitutional. Proposition 8 staunchly claimed that they appealed to higher courts, as expected.

Gay marriage proponents in Cali- fornia have fluctuated, to say the least, throughout the years.

Music school should diversify its career training

ERIN VANACK

Camforge Mellon’s School of Mu- sic is an esteemed program, train- ing its distinguished faculty has led many alumni to notable careers. However, while the school is well re- membered in training to students, it is somehow unappreciative, overemphasizing one very specialized aspect of the music community.

The school places the highest value on the music community. This due in part to the close rela- tionship between the music and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. This relationship is positive and enhances high-caliber training, but or- chestral careers have become over- populated while other musical vocations such as chamber music, music busi- ness, and music education have gone unappreciated. Orchestral careers may have been more attainable in previ- ous generations, but with shrinking funds, even reputable orchestras are going bankrupt and jobs disappear.

The School of Music is filled with creative and intelligent students. Unfortunately, with their highly spe- cialized orchestral training, their job prospects tend to be bleak and dis- appointments.

Students find themselves ap- proaching their senior years with little hope for the future except to win an au- dition. The tough competition for a position in a professional ensemble becomes very draining, and some stu- dents leave the comfort of the aca- demic environment to look for over 100 people to audition for a single position. If students begin to look at other career possibilities, they will realize that they aren’t qualified or prepared to do much outside of their classical training.

The Master of Arts Management classes offered through the Heinz College have the potential to arm music students with the skills they need to become successful entrepreneurs. Regrettably, there is little co- operation between the two schools, and it is very difficult for music stud- ents to take these courses.

Fortunately, recently appointed in- ternim head of the School of Music, Detra Gellwell has some very posi- tive ideas about how to solve the program.

Already in his time as an ad- ministrator, he has encouraged the creation of a student government, which gives him a direct link with the opinions and ideas of the student body. An entrepreneurship program specifically for music students is re- markable because in the words of Detra Gellwell, “it imparts the understanding of the importance of helping students create something for themselves, and students need administrators who will benefit from following his lead.

Students should be strongly en- couraged by the culture of the insti- tution to be creative and innovative entrepreneurs.

One idea would be to have stu- dents present their art within the community, utilizing the spaces that could be made relevant and interesting to the audi- ence. The work of music students laboring for hours to get exactly the quality of their work could have a mission to share their music with the city.

Music students want to do with the Universi- ty Center to put the work into room and its use and maintenance.

Like other buildings on cam- pus, the University Center has a dedicated staff working nearly 24 hours a day, every day, to make the physical plant work properly. This month, a part of this, be- comes apparent that the University Center is in a state of disrepair.

We are interested in what stu- dents want to do with the Uni- versity Center. If something isn’t work- ing well or could work better, we need students to approach us with their comments.

It is disappointing to read that students are meeting and proposing changes without reaching out to the building staff beforehand. We would see such things happen after students believe we are resistant to their ideas and their proposed changes. That is entirely untrue.

Not everyone agrees that it is the right move for students to take these issues into their own hands. It is a sign of progress that students are reaching out to the University Center, particularly the student government, and taking a proactive role.

It would seem as though those students believe we are resistant to their ideas and their proposed changes. That is entirely untrue.

This recent decision is differ - ent from past legislation opposed to Propo- sition 8 in that it may actually jus- tify designation. “He then explained the nature of Perry v. Brown. “This unique and extremely limited effect of Proposition 8 allows us to address the underlying constitutionality on narrow grounds,” Kozinski said.

For now, Proposition 8 is uncon- stitutional in California. That is in itself profound celebration. However, the ruling represents a larger triumph. Finally, after a history of tempestuous rulings, California is beginning to understand that Proposition 8 is not one simple act to órgão marriage, but it re- presents a larger triumph. Finally, after a history of tempestuous rulings, California is beginning to understand that Proposition 8 is not one simple act to órgão marriage, but it re- presents a larger triumph. Finally, after a history of tempestuous rulings, California is beginning to understand that Proposition 8 is not one simple act to órgão marriage, but it re- presents a larger triumph. Finally, after a history of tempestuous rulings, California is beginning to understand that Proposition 8 is not one simple act to órgão marriage, but it re- presents a larger triumph. Finally, after a history of tempestuous rulings, California is beginning to understand that Proposition 8 is not one simple act to órga...
In another battle that came down to the final seconds, the men’s basketball team came up short on Friday, losing to the University of Chicago Maroons 77–75.

This was the second game that the Tartans lost by two points or fewer, and the third out of the last five games.

Despite missing a shot at the end of the game, sophomore guard Asad Meghani played well in crunch time, hitting two three-pointers in the last 30 seconds of overtime. Meghani finished the game with a career-high 21 points, and senior guard John Duhring poured in 24 points, tying his career high.

The Tartans’ defense held firm in this match; although they allowed the Maroons to shoot 47 percent, they were able to force two missed shots at the end of regulation time to send the game into overtime.

During the overtime, the Tartans were down by five points before Meghani’s two three-point shots brought Carnegie Mellon within one point of the Maroons. A Maroons’ free throw secured a two-point lead.

Then the Tartans’ coach Tony Wingen called upon Meghani to take the potentially game-winning shot, but his three-pointer fell short as the clock expired.

The Tartans shot over 40 percent from the field and 70 percent from the charity stripe, which is usually a recipe for success, but proved to be useless against the Maroons.

The Tartans’ game against the Washington University in St. Louis Bears yesterday was similar to their game against the University of Chicago. Carnegie Mellon shot 47 percent from the field and 42 percent from the three-point line. However, their defense allowed the Bears to shoot 53 percent.

Duhring, who scored 23 points, was the catalyst of the Tartans’ offense. When Carnegie Mellon needed to make a run in the second half, down 60–52, Duhring led a 7–0 run by scoring five of the seven points. Additionally, his late-game layup brought the score within three points (75–72) with five minutes to go, but the Tartans could not prevent the Bears’ 10–2 run.

Junior guard Andre Moore poured in 16 points, Meghani added 15 points, and sophomore forward Christian Mateki racked up 10 points and eight assists, a career high. In the end, the Tartans fell 88–79 to the Bears.

The Tartans will return home to face Emory University at 8 p.m. in Shibe Gymnasium on Friday.

The Carnegie Mellon women’s tennis team was victorious against Slippery Rock University, a Division II school, this past Friday. It was the first match of the season, and the Tartans won with an overall score of 9–0.

Starting with the No. 3 doubles, first-year pair Clare Dubois and Bryn Raschke came out with a strong 8–0 win.

In the singles matches, sophomore Katie Cecil at the No. 3 was the first to win, with scores of 6–1, 6–1.

The Tartans’ third singles match at No. 2 started with scores of 6–3, 6–4, widening the team’s victory over Slippery Rock.

“It was a great way to start the season,” Cecil said. “We look forward to the next couple of matches because they will prepare us for indoor Nationals in a couple of weeks.”

Senior Courtney Chin played a long match at No. 2 singles, she was the last Tar- tan left on the courts after splitting sets.

Since the match had already been decided in favor of Carnegie Mellon after the 5–0 lead, Chin played a third-set tie-breaker to decide her match. Chin ended with scores of 6–7, 6–4, and 10–3.

Everyone has been working really hard in practice so far this season, it was great to finally get out and play some external competition,” said head coach Andrew Girard.

“There are a couple kinks that we need to work out here and there, but overall a very solid performance for our first match of the spring.”

The Tartans will host Indiana University of Pennsylvania and California University of Pennsylvania next Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., respectively.

Editor’s note: Courtney Chin is a staffwriter for The Tartan.

Senior Laura Chen dominated her matches at No. 1 singles and doubles this weekend.

At Qdoba, we believe people with great taste deserve food that tastes great. Inspired by our passion for fresh ingredients, our menu offers a variety of innovative flavors. From our Craft 2™ pairings, to our 3-Cheese Queso to our selection of handmade salsas, we handcraft our meals in-house daily. AT QDoba, THERE’S ALWAYS MORE TO EXPLORE™.

UNWRAP POSSIBILITIES

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Rooney II hires Todd Haley to run Steelers' offense

The Tartan's prediction was correct as the Steelers did hire Todd Haley to run their offense.

Bryant moves up the scoring ladder

Bryant has passed Chamberlain, Chamberlain, Michael Jordan, and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar for the most points scored in the NBA. The Lakers have been a part of Bryant's career, and he will likely continue his present game as he moves towards the record.

Tartans ready to grind out victories

Tam-soo Lee has been one of the leaders on the team and is expected to continue his strong play against Emory University.

Searle leaves ranks of Tartans

Searle, who had been a part of the team for many years, has decided to leave and pursue other opportunities.


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Valentine's Day
Cartoonists explore the concept of love • B6
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<td>The Frame</td>
<td>Students present an immersive exhibit titled / am better than you.</td>
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<td>Echo Chamber</td>
<td>The web series demonstrates common TV tropes by merging reality and fiction.</td>
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<td>Blind Pilot</td>
<td>The folk rock band puts on a heartfelt performance at Mr. Small’s Theater.</td>
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Frame show transforms space
I am better than you draws crowds, confuses patrons

Security guards, miscellaneous trinkets, and long lines were all a part of sophomore art majors Claire Gustavson and Keith Lafuente’s opening night at The Frame gallery last Friday.

The show was titled I am better than you, and visitors could feel that spirit from the moment they entered the venue on Forbes Avenue. The press release at the front door raved about the two artists, and reminded those attending to bring gifts and offerings.

Gustavson and Lafuente transformed The Frame into a fully immersive exhibit. The show was broken into four different sections — Gustavson’s altar, Lafuente’s altar, a gift shop, and a special room that patrons could only enter one at a time. Fake security guards stood at the entrance to each section, dressed in suits, glasses, and serious attitudes. Certain people were denied access to the mysterious performance section for no apparent reason.

The two altars were separated and were very different from each other, including different music, lighting, and general vibes. Gustavson’s altar was covered in candles and letters, and the room — which was sectioned off by dark curtains — was full of rugs, prayer cards, and shoes.

Patrons entering the room that held Lafuente’s altar were warned by a security guard to keep their distance from the altar, but the room was open so patrons could walk through freely. The altar was adorned with trophies, photos of Lafuente, pins, and a large chain. In the middle of the room were a small rug and piece of wood.

After viewing the altars, patrons waited in line to gain access to the mysterious performance section of the exhibit. Entering one at a time, patrons walked to the back room and found the two artists engaged in a dialogue about colors, gifts, and offerings while a projector shot images onto them in the dark.

At times it was hard to tell whether the artists were in character or not, and it was difficult to gain meaning from the dialogue. The first line I heard upon entering the small room was, “Once you go black, you never go back, right?” The dialogue between the two was meant to get laughs and be a unique memory for those who were lucky enough to get past security and make it inside.

The line to enter this part of the exhibit was long, and as the night progressed, rumbles were heard from the crowd about whether the wait would be worth it. A similar frustration for those in attendance was how hard it was to hear what Lafuente and Gustavson were saying in the small room over all the people talking just outside.

The gift shop included plenty of trinkets related to the exhibition. A personal favorite was a framed essay of Gustavson’s from her first-year Globalization Through History class. There were also American flags with Lafuente’s face glued to them, temporary tattoo hearts with Gustavson’s face attached, and other random objects to remind patrons that the artists are “better than you.”

Those who attended the exhibit had mixed reactions. While the exhibit was an interesting experience, junior industrial design major Maureen Griswold said, “I think if you didn’t know [the artists] and you went to it, it would be a little confusing. But once you met them, you’d be like, ‘Oh okay, it’s a parody.’”

Despite the wait and the uneasy feel the security guards gave patrons, the show was well executed and generally enjoyable for those who came out. Lafuente and Gustavson successfully converted The Frame into a more experience-based exhibition space, and while some frustration about being turned away after waiting in line to enter the back room was obvious, it was all in an effort to maintain the theme of the show that the two wanted to present.

Catherine Spence | Staffwriter

The room containing Keith Lafuente’s altar featured numerous photos of the artist on the walls.

Advice for awkward people
About Facebook and studying abroad

Dear Patrick,

I’m getting tired of all these dumb pictures and memes people keep posting on Facebook. They’re not funny, and they just clog up my news feed so I can’t see things I do care about, like... I’ll think of something later. But still! How can I get rid of them?

Thanks,
Memes Indubitably Suck,
Are Not Too Hilarious,
Rather Ordinarily Provoke Exasperation

Dear MISANTHROPE,

Congratulations! You’ve just realized that most people are dumb. Enjoy the false sense of superiority that comes with that realization. Go check your Facebook right now. I bet you’ve shared a few photos too. Of course, yours are funny, unlike all those other people’s, right? Oh, wait — no, they’re not. Your memes aren’t creative and no one is going to donate 15 cents to fight breast cancer because you shared that. You are part of the problem.

Of course, I might be wrong. You simply want Facebook to go back to its roots: A place for you to easily stalk members of the opposite sex. The easiest thing to do is to unsubscribe from their updates. Or just unfriend everyone who shares stuff. But you’ll probably be alone at that point.

It’ll be just like Google+.
Patrick Hoskins

Dear Patrick,

My BFF is studying abroad this semester! OMG, I like I’m sooo depressed. I mean, now all we can do is Skype, IM, talk on Facebook, share stuff on Pinterest, and email each other. :/ What can I do to get through this semester?

<3,
Feeling Really Isolated,
Especially Needy
During Lonely Evenings,
Soulmate Scrambled

Dear FRIENDLESS,

The key here is to let as many people as possible know that you’re sad and miss your friend. What is Facebook for if not saying how much you miss her and posting on her wall every five minutes?

Okay, now that she and everyone else knows you miss her, get on with your life. Skype every once in a while if you need to, but let her enjoy her time abroad. You can take this time to make more than one friend. The hard part is when your friend comes back. She may return much more pretentious than when she left, saying things like, “Well, when I was in London/Prague/who cares...” At that point, just maintain the urge not to strangle her.

But no one will blame you if you do,
Patrick Hoskins

Need advice? Send queries to advice@thetartan.org.
As many “tropers” will tell you, the best way to make a story compelling is not by telling, but by showing. In 2011, Fast Eddie, the mysterious administrator of tvtropes.org, sent out a call to find someone to demonstrate, categorize, and explain the tropes—or literary and rhetorical conventions—that are seen in television shows, movies, literature, and comics. With tropers auditioning from around the world, Carnegie Mellon creative writing alumnus Tom Pike came up with a unique direction and won the trope-of-the-week contest.

“I imagined what [Fast Eddie] originally had in mind was a vlog,” Pike said. “You know, something more like a critic making funny points about a trope every week and being entertaining by just talking to the camera.”

Instead, Pike decided to make the vlogs into episodes, in which he would demonstrate a trope through a story of someone trying to demonstrate a trope. “It was an idea I’d had floating around in my head,” Pike said. “I can make it a story about someone who is trying to do that and failing miserably.”

Pike named his show Echo Chamber, which plays on the idea of repeated thoughts and actions. Pike and senior dramaturgy major Dana Shaw play the lead characters. Zachary Wallnau, another Carnegie Mellon alumnus, plays the laughable and not-all-there cameraman.

Explaining Echo Chamber can be a bit confusing, but here’s a quick rundown: Pike created Echo Chamber, and his character within the video also created Echo Chamber in the fictional world where the character now makes videos about trying to make videos.

Like many recent television shows — think Community — it self-references things that happen inside the show and also in the personal lives of the actors. In the episode titled, “Unresolved Sexual Tension,” Pike warns Shaw that “the moment we start blurring the line between fiction and reality, all of a sudden there’s a whole bunch of tropes we can’t do ‘cause there’s unintended implications. We’re trying to make a web show about the tropes, not live them.”

For the cast, this is a very true reality. “On another level, we are having these meta-characters doing meta-things that reflect our lives,” Shaw said. “There are things where we can’t remember what happened first in the show and first in real life.”

“One example is ‘The Terrible Interview’ montage,” Pike said. “It merges reality and fiction. The plot of the second season involves an introduction of a rival show that attempts to steal one of the crew members away from Echo Chamber. It actually wound up happening a couple of times.”

The show, which is filmed on the Carnegie Mellon campus, has received positive reviews from other tropers and has gained a significant following. “I believe that this [show] has allowed us to demonstrate that we know how to deliver what a client wants,” Shaw said. “It’s gotten us the chance to be seen by people in the business.”

In an interview with io9.com, Fast Eddie commented on the role tropes play in storytelling: “To capture people’s attention, you want to bring them in using a familiar platform like these tropes. Once you get them there, that’s where you have the opportunity to extend your viewpoint and offer up what you’re trying to say. But first you need to get their attention with something familiar, so they’re not struggling to figure out what’s going on.”

That is exactly what Echo Chamber is trying to do: explain the intricacies behind stories. You can watch the first season on YouTube under the name “tvtropesorg.” A second season of Echo Chamber is scheduled to premiere this April.
Blind Pilot puts on sincere show
Band plays heartfelt set with The Barr Brothers in church

Despite the fact that Blind Pilot has played in Pittsburgh multiple times in the past, last Friday marked the band’s first time playing at Mr. Small’s Theater in Millvale. An old church converted into a concert venue, it was the perfect space for the almost religious experience of a Blind Pilot concert.

The night’s musical experience began with The Barr Brothers, an indie folk band from Montreal. While serenading the audience with a folksy repertoire featuring instruments not usually found in contemporary pop music — a harp, a pump organ, and a strand of polyester thread tied to a guitar string — they were very insular performers.

While it was clear that the band played passionately, they interacted little with the audience. The Barr Brothers’ style meshed well with the folk-inspired guitar pop that has gained Blind Pilot a fervent following and critical acclaim from NPR, but the audience did not seem that interested. Throughout the entire set people were chatting and drinking, eagerly awaiting Blind Pilot to take the stage.

There is only one term that could be used to accurately describe the group of people that had congregated in Mr. Small’s on Friday: sincere. This was clear from the moment Blind Pilot began playing the first song of their set. While the audience did not suddenly go quiet, the conversations took a dramatic turn from idle talk to veneration of the band.

Throughout the show, people were voicing their amazement at the band’s musical talent and how much they were enjoying the emotionally charged set.

Like the openers, Blind Pilot did not interact much with the audience. After every couple of songs, lead singer and guitarist Israel Nebecker would talk to the audience, but it felt unnatural at times, as if he’d much rather share his music than his words. It was clear that this performance was not meant for fair-weather fans or for people who had never listened to the band before. For the band and the devoted fans in attendance, however, it was a magical experience.

The band closed their set with a heartfelt performance of “We Are the Tide.” As the group left the stage, the lights went out and the audience began the ritual of demanding an encore. Within minutes, the band returned to the stage to perform a three-song encore that was arguably the highlight of the show.

The first song, “Bitter End,” began as a solo performance by Nebecker. Midway through the song, the rest of the band came on stage and joined in the performance. This was followed up by a joint effort with The Barr Brothers to cover American folk singer-songwriter John Prine’s “Clay Pigeons.” The performance was quiet, subtly powerful, and emphasized the folk roots that Blind Pilot had begun their career playing.

To end the night, Blind Pilot went completely unplugged except for a microphone. It took several minutes to quiet down the audience; however, the effort was rewarded with a beautiful rendition of “Three Rounds and a Sound.” While the effort could have been written off as cheesy, the sheer sincerity of the band’s performance and the audience’s enraptured silence was moving in a way that is not often seen in contemporary concerts.

Being in the audience and listening to that raw and completely honest performance was a moment of spiritual awakening. Even for those who weren’t fans of Blind Pilot’s music, it was difficult to walk away from Mr. Small’s and not feel satisfied with at least that final performance.

Matt Mastricova | Staffwriter

In 1988, pop culture’s un Kemp poster child of doom and gloom and lead singer of British supergroup The Cure, Robert Smith, married his childhood sweetheart — Mary Poole. To honor the occasion, Smith wrote “Lovesong,” perhaps one of the world’s most covered songs.

Despite the fact that musicians such as Adele, 311, Jack Off Jill, Tori Amos, and Death Cab for a Cutie have covered this song, it is perhaps one of The Cure’s weakest. When compared to every other song on 1989’s Disintegration, something isn’t quite right.

It could be Smith’s disregard for his signature three-minute introductions, or perhaps the lack of multifaceted lyrical interpretations, that make the song so boring in comparison to the rest of the album. In “Lovesong,” Smith croons “however far away / I will always love you” over and over again. What happened to the sad, dark, and depressing Smith that we all know and love?

Other songs on Disintegration follow The Cure’s formula of melodic happiness juxtaposed with oh-so-sad lyrics. On “Lullaby,” Smith is afraid of a spider, while on “Pictures of You,” Smith reminisces on a lost love. Despite this shift in formulation, “Lovesong” peaked at number two on the Billboard Modern Rock Tracks chart, and has been covered too many times to count.

I guess people love the straightforward presentation of the song: It’s comforting and idealistic. I know Valentine’s Day is coming up, but please, whatever you do, do not play this song. If you’re alone and looking for some good music, check out The Cure’s extensive back catalog.

Also, regardless of your plans for this fantastical commercial holiday that allows Hallmark to stay in business and creates an artificial demand for roses, you should call up your mom, and tell her that you love her.

Alex Price | Special to The Tartan

top 10 on WRCT 88.3 FM
most played albums of the last week

1 Yamantaka // Sonic Titan — YT // ST
2 Illhan Ersahin’s Istanbul Sessions — Night Rider
3 El Rego — S/T
4 Gonjasufi — MU.ZZ.LE
5 Frank Macchia — Swamp Thang
6 Sealions — Everything You Wanted to Know About Sealions
   But Were Afraid To Ask
7 Charlie Haden and Hank Jones — Come Sunday
8 Cerebral Balzy — Cerebral Balzy
9 Of Montreal — Paralytic Stalks
10 Labop — Out of Downing

Blind Pilot lead singer Israel Nebecker closed the night with an unplugged rendition of “Three Rounds and a Sound.”

Courtesy of Jess Phoa
Love in the comics: A variety of perspectives

Cartoonists take different approaches to traditional notions of love, afterlife, and prostitution.

Valentine’s Day isn’t confined to Hallmark stores and flower shops. Traditional ideas espoused by Valentine’s Day manifest themselves in the comics world as well. The work of Charles Schulz, Jordan Crane, and Chester Brown are all prime examples.

It’s important to start with Schulz. The cartoonist responsible for Peanuts also created the epitome of Valentine’s Day comics in a little book called Love is Walking Hand in Hand. It was part of a series of Peanuts gift books that Hallmark released in the early ‘60s. In creating this book, Schulz, the accidental king of all that is marketable, made the perfect comic for Valentine’s Day.

Love is Walking Hand in Hand contains illustrated aphorisms that express the vibrance of love in the mundane. The book displays a bold usage of orange, red, black, and pink color palettes. Given its strong colors and visual simplicity, you could argue that this book would probably not do very well in today’s world of print comics and picture books.

One might think that the color combination would put the reader on edge, forcing him or her to struggle without much visual breathing room. Nevertheless, by carefully balancing the colors and letting the black ink rest quietly among the buzzing pinks and oranges, Schulz created a warm and coherent space for the reader to inhabit.

At its heart, Love is Walking Hand in Hand is a celebration of the little moments in which love reasserts its presence in our lives. The beautiful thing about this book is that Schulz preaches an all-encompassing notion of love. Love is when someone takes a moment out of his or her day to do something nice for someone else, but is best summed up by Schulz’s assertion, “Love is the whole world.” This seems like a perfect message to be sending on Valentine’s Day.

From the comic’s meticulous book design, with its quaint size and the rounded, hand-lettered type in the first pages, readers can expect the story to be heartwarming. But Crane pulls at readers’ heartstrings with surprising grace. While the story is rooted in the traditional American cliché of lovers reunited in the afterlife, the story is told deftly. Without spoiling too much, Crane’s narration of the reunion of spirits is truly gripping.

Similar to Love is Walking Hand in Hand, The Last Lonely Saturday is the kind of book that elicits an unparalleled visceral warmth, even after multiple readings.

One issue that Schulz’s book does not address is loss. Crane’s comic, The Last Lonely Saturday, explores the trials and release of life after loss. Crane’s story beautifully follows a husband’s weekly ritual to pay respect to his wife. In no more than a few pages, Crane retells the husband and wife’s entire history.

For those who may dismiss the works of Schulz and Crane for their seemingly cliché notions of love, there are other types of Valentine’s Day comics out there.

Brown’s Paying for It: A Comic-Strip Memoir About Being a John is perfect reading material for those disillusioned with romantic love and its inherent possessive monogamy. In this book, Brown sorts through all the legal, moral, and emotional arguments against prostitution in a sober and intense look from the perspectives of both prostitutes and their clients.

The book begins with a record of Brown’s growing disillusionment with the concept of romantic love. Despite the documentary impulse that drives the detailing of Brown’s experiences, his real concerns lie beyond mere observation. He uses his own experiences in a boldly direct style to make the case for decriminalizing prostitution.

In a conversation with another cartoonist depicted in the book, Brown reveals that he believes “the romantic ideal is actually evil.” At heart, it causes “more misery than happiness” and causes people to bind themselves to the wrong person for life simply to satisfy societal expectations.

From Brown’s vantage point, the moral pillars upon which Valentine’s Day stands are inherently destructive and not worth indulging in if a society is to be deemed rational and understanding.

With so many different perspectives on love, it’s hard to know which is the right one. Fortunately, there are plenty of cartoonists out there to aid in the exploration of the vast emotional territory of love, and there’s no better time to explore it than on Valentine’s Day.

Juan Fernandez | Staffwriter
For a change this year, try watching one of these unusual movies with your significant other. An Affair to Remember

This 1957 classic is one of the greatest love tales of all time. Directed by Leo McCarey and starring Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr, An Affair to Remember currently holds the No. 5 spot on the American Film Institute’s list of the top 100 greatest love stories in American cinema.

In this film, playboy Nicky Ferrante (Grant) and nightclub singer Terry McKay (Kerr) have an affair while on a cruise from Europe to New York. They agree to meet at a club in New York. They believe they are in love, though they’re both engaged to other people. After an awkward courtship, they decide to get married. They travel back to Europe for their honeymoon, and their love story continues.

The Road

Directed by John Hillcoat and based on the 2006 novel by Cormac McCarthy, The Road follows the story of a man and his son trying to survive in a post-apocalyptic world. This isn’t your typical Valentine’s Day film, but it’s a heart-warming tale of a father’s love for his son in the face of cannibalism and the breakdown of human society. It’s a depressing movie, but in the best way possible.

WALL·E

If you’re looking for a lighter movie, WALL·E is the ultimate animated love story. Produced by Pixar, WALL·E is filled with allusions to Stanley Kubrick’s 2001: A Space Odyssey, but still captivates audiences of all ages. The film focuses on the love between WALL·E, a trash-scavenging robot, and EVE, a high-tech superbot. The characters communicate primarily through body language and robotic sounds, and there is very little dialogue in the film.

Secretary

Starring Maggie Gyllenhaal and James Spader, Secretary follows the story of a young girl, Lee Holloway (Gyllenhaal) who has taken a job as a secretary after being released from a mental hospital. Holloway’s relationship with her boss, Mr. Grey (Spader), quickly turns into a sadomasochistic one, and the two fall in love. Things get complicated when Holloway gets engaged to a nerdy friend from high school, and the rest of the movie traces the ensuing drama.

So if you’re looking for something more interesting than your average romantic comedy, try one of these classic or unconventional love stories. Whether you’re looking for something classically romantic, heart-warming, or sexually intriguing, one of these movies is sure to pair nicely with your significant other (or a pint of ice cream).

Allison Crosby | Pillbox Editor

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**The Art of Getting By**

Thursday, Feb. 16
10 12

This coming-of-age movie is a romantic comedy/drama that takes us back to those not-at-all-terrible years in high school. George Zinavoy (Freddie Highmore) and Sally Howe (Emma Roberts) are the protagonists. Zinavoy is a talented loner who comes to the realization that he will die someday. Charming, right? Howe is the offbeat, complicated (and gorgeous) girl who happens to take a liking to George, which leads to an awkward courtship. Problems arise and are resolved, as they so often are in these stories. Oh, and for originality: It’s set in New York.

**The Lion King**

Friday, Feb. 17
8 10 12

One of the best movies ever made, The Lion King has everything: romance, violence, laughs, tears, and an epic storyline. The Lion King is a story that still resonates with audiences today. From James Earl Jones’ powerful voice-work as Mufasa to the delightful tandem of Timon and Pumbaa singing “Hakuna Matata,” there’s something for everyone in this film, which follows a young lion cub’s quest to regain his rightful throne. If you haven’t seen it, do yourself a favor and stop depriving yourself of one of the greatest tales ever told.

**Psycho (1960)**

Saturday, Feb. 18
8 10 12

Another classic piece of American cinema, Alfred Hitchcock’s Psycho was one of the first great suspense/thriller films to be released. Anthony Perkins plays Norman Bates, a creepy motel owner who is devoted to his mother, in a manner of speaking. And when Marion Crane (Janet Leigh) makes a stop at the Bates Motel, she finds out just how far that devotion goes. The infamous shower scene took six days to film, featured 77 different camera angles, and was originally supposed to be played without the famous screeching and horrifying musical soundtrack.

**The Thing (1982)**

Sunday, Feb. 19
10 12

Directed by master of horror John Carpenter, The Thing stars Kurt Russell and several other actors known primarily because of their roles in this film. The movie takes place in the Antarctic, as a group of American researchers encounters a creature that is able to take the form of any organism it kills. The American crew is forced into a game of cat and mouse with the creature, and each other, since they are unable to tell who has been assimilated and who is still human. Fun Fact: This is John Carpenter’s personal favorite out of all of his films.

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McConomy Auditorium, University Center

Jesse Kummer | Staffwriter

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valentine’s day
Students present designs in annual fashion show

There is "really not any down moment" for the Lunar Gala, de Ronde said. As second-time director of public relations for the gala, de Ronde oversees a significant amount of work going into the show: designing posters, organizing the program, recruiting designers, and advertising for the event, typically through Facebook and other social media. By the time this year's Lunar Gala was over, the board and theme for next year's show was already decided.

"It was a lot," said designer Ibrahim Garcia-Bengochea, a fourth-year design and linguistics double major and co-producer Ian Anthony Coleman, a senior international relations and decision science major, described it. According to Chan-Kalin, many sacrifices were made starting in September, when they submitted their prototypes, and continued with sewing, fitting, and choosing models for each outfit. "Something is always wrong together — usually in the last week," he said.

Optimism was a common sentiment between designers and organizers on the eve of the gala. Despite some concerns about this year's more complicated stage setup, however, the months of preparation became apparent.

Garcia-Bengochea redesigned his entire line. On top of the stress, he lost a pair of pants. Despite the strain, "Blood, sweat, and tears" is how designer Rain Khan-Kalin, a fourth-year design and linguistics double major, described it. According to Chan-Kalin, designers' portfolios, and continued with sewing, fitting, and choosing models for each outfit. "Something is always wrong together — usually in the last week," he said.

The energy was indeed high before the show began on Saturday night, as viewers (and I) were seated in a line that wound all around the first floor of the University Center. The night (and) Someday started to有点tact, that with organizers trying to clear space for people to walk through the University Center and viewes still standing empty in the dress door after the show opened, at 7:30 p.m.

Before the models walked the runway, several student dance groups performed. Between collections, Dancers' Symposium, Soulstylz, and Jungle Royalty took the stage with fierce choreography, earning loud cheers from the audience. In this way, the organizers of the event tipped their hat to that art form being explored on campus and added some variety to the program.

This year, many commercial boutiques also showcased their work, adding another element to the show. Designer Days Boutique, H&M, Victoria's Secret Pink and Calvin Klein, Urban Outfitters, Japanese and Pacoobservor, and American Apparel, among others, all presented large collections. Many of these boutiques offered discounts to students, adding a new element to the show.

As the program closed with a series of thank-yous from the designers and models, and audience took a moment to appreciate their work. The models took a moment to appreciate their work. The models took a moment to appreciate their work. The models took a moment to appreciate their work. As the program closed with a series of thank-yous from the designers and models, and audience took a moment to appreciate their work. The models took a moment to appreciate their work. The models took a moment to appreciate their work. The models took a moment to appreciate their work.

Student designers showcased their talents in diverse collections inspired by everything from photography to biology to Lady Gaga. Several of the clothing lines featured organic motifs and motifs inspired by nature. "Its about people wear and how they wear it. Considered in many ways a form of art, Wolfe took this definition to a more literal interpretation of what people wear and how they wear it. Considered in many ways a form of art, Wolfe took this definition to a more literal interpretation of what people wear and how they wear it. Considered in many ways a form of art, Wolfe took this definition to a more literal interpretation of what people wear and how they wear it. Considered in many ways a form of art, Wolfe took this definition to a more literal interpretation of what people wear and how they wear it.
The Fray releases third album
Scars & Stories continues trend of thoughtful albums

In a time where the Top 40 is overflowing with AutoTune and songs made for clubs, The Fray reminds us that success can come in the form of a less electronic instrument. The piano-driven rock band from Denver gained worldwide fame thanks to its emotional single “How to Save a Life,” and has remained relatively popular since. This past week, The Fray released its third album, Scars & Stories, which doesn’t stray far from its two previous studio albums.

The starting track, “Heartbeat,” is also the band’s first single from the new album. Starting as a fast-paced drum beat topped with narrative lyrics, the song continues into a slower chorus where the band’s lead singer-songwriter Isaac Slade hits some higher notes and gives some heartfelt advice, singing, “If you can love somebody, love them all the same.”

“The Fighter” is probably the most commercial of the songs, and is the closest The Fray comes to a mainstream hit on this album. Documenting a fighter and his internal struggles about his lover and violence in the world, this track wraps an unfortunate story into a heartfelt, feel-good song.

“The Wind” is a soft song, but the ethereal background music that plays throughout takes the song to a different level. And then there’s “Munich,” which was inspired not by the German city, but instead by a particle collider in Switzerland.

In an interview with The Huffington Post, Slade explained his fascination with the Swiss experiment: “They’re looking for the God Particle — basically, the particle that holds it all together. That song is really just about the mystery of why we’re all here and what’s holding it all together, you know?” It’s not unlike The Fray to talk about metaphysics and other things besides sex and alcohol, so this broad scope feels natural coming from Slade.

The other tracks don’t seem to stand out as anything exciting. They’re good, but they aren’t memorable. The lyrics, as per usual, are insightful and well-crafted, but the music is lacking compared to the group’s previous hits like “How to Save a Life” and “You Found Me.”

The closing tracks on the band’s albums seem to go one of two ways: They either end with an energetic, music-heavy anthem that summates all the intensity of the preceding songs, or they let you down gently and bring the sound session to a finite close. The closing track on Scars & Stories, “Be Still,” falls in the latter category. With only Slade’s vocals partnering with a ghostly piano, he repeats the lyrics with a heartfelt honesty.

As a whole, this is not the album that you put in your car when you’re going 70 miles per hour with the windows down. Instead, it’s more appropriate as background music if you’re doing some work or sitting at a Starbucks. It has its moments of radio-friendliness, but it never fully commits to that identity. Stand-out tracks include “The Fighter,” “The Wind,” and “Be Still.”

Nick Guesto | Staffwriter

Did you know?

An advertisement for junior prom urges students to remember to buy tickets for the event. An additional column of “Junior Prom, Don’tts” follows. The list includes avoiding wearing flannel shirts, tan shoes, and baseball mustaches. Other warnings against taboo behavior include the dance moves “grizzly bear” and “turkey trot.”

A blood drive run by the Council of Fraternity Presidents has a poor turnout. The event managed to only accumulate 35 units of blood. The Tartan sees this as an embarrassment based on the prediction of 150 pints from the drive. Students are urged to donate at the blood bank just down the street on Fifth Avenue.

From a “Yuppie Leftist” comes a letter to the editor about how Playboy and Penthouse magazines are not pornographic, nor do they need banning. The author reminds readers that these magazines contain plenty of articles, interviews, and reviews, and says that not everyone uses these magazines inappropriately.

The men’s basketball team pulled out an unexpected win against Brandeis University in overtime. The game started out with Brandeis domination, and a nearly empty Skibo Gymnasium. But as the game continued, the crowd grew and the team managed to come together for a victory of 76–72.

Tartan writers have a lot to say about how to spend Valentine’s Day this year. From advice on how to act on a first date to the top ten things women and men never knew about each other, this issue is full of rock solid advice on how to spend this day of love. A final thought about what not to do on the special day: Hook up with an ex.

A Forum article explores recent government funding cuts to Planned Parenthood. The article reminds readers that Planned Parenthood does not use government funding for abortions, but rather for providing birth control, counseling, STD testing, and a variety of other services.

Catherine Spence | Staffwriter
**PhD Comics** by Jorge Cham

VALENTINE’S DAY:

**HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY**

BE ROMANTIC

BAH! HUMBUG!

DAY AFTER VALENTINE’S DAY:

HALF-PRICED EVERYTHING!

CHOCOLATES 50% OFF

SALE ALL CHOCOLATES 50% OFF

jorge@phdcomics.com

**Hark, a Vagrant** by Kate Beaton

MY FAIR LADY

I CAN’T SLEEP, I CAN’T EAT

ALL DAY LONG I THINK ABOUT HER!

SO BEAUTIFUL

WAIT – COME BACK IN AN HOUR

SWEET SIGN OF AFFECTION

GIVE ME A TOKEN, A SIGN, ANYTHING!

Uh...

GIVE ME A TOKEN, A SIGN, ANYTHING!

Uh...

Bam

kathrynmoira@gmail.com
**Sexy-saurus** by Reza Farazmand  
poorlydrawnlines@gmail.com

![Comic Panel](image)

**Cupid** by Doghouse Diaries

doghousediaries@gmail.com

![Comic Panel](image)
Solutions from Feb. 6, 2012

Crossword

Very Hard Difficulty

Medium Difficulty

Using traditional Sudoku rules, fill in the 16 x 16 grid with 16 hexadecimal digits. Each row, column, and 4 x 4 block contains the digits 0 to 9 and the letters A to F.
Horoscopes

aries
March 21–April 19
Romantic movies and silly love songs are all well and good, but love is a complicated thing. Keep on your toes, keep your heart and mind open, and enjoy the ride.

Do something nice, like surprise a friend with a cute little Valentine's Day card. Good friends are hard to find. When you find one, treat that person right so he or she sticks around.

Remember on Wednesday that it’s not the walk of shame, but rather the stride of pride.

The economy is still in bad shape, so you might want to hold off going all out for Valentine's Day. Be economical and suggest that you and your significant other take a short break. Make sure to win him or her back before March.

Leos in relationships: Do something really romantic for the one you love. Your partner deserves it for putting up with you. Leos not in relationships: The good thing about Valentine’s Day is that candy will be half off on Wednesday.

Don’t let your friends give up their dates just because they are short on cash. You’re a big spender and a great friend, so convince your friend to share his or her significant other with you for the day.

You may be flying the Singles’ Awareness Day banner high and with lots of pride, but this week, around lunchtime, you will meet an amazing person who will change your life.

Your secret admirer wants you to get a clue and notice that someone likes you. For heaven’s sake, what do people have to do in order for you to take a hint?

You’re not jealous of everyone who will be partaking in Tuesday’s festivities. You’re just more mature and know that Tuesday is just another day. Scoff at those silly lovebirds, and be happy that you know what love really is.

The outcome of your Valentine’s Day is still up in the air, but no matter if it is the best or worst day of the year, just remember that Stevie Wonder makes everything better.

Playwright William Shakespeare said it best when he wrote, “If love be rough with you, be rough with love; prick love for pricking, and you beat love down.”

Screw Cupid and just enjoy this week. Don’t let anything, especially an idea or a holiday, hold you back.

Nicole Hamilton | Comics Editor

ACROSS
1. PDQ
5. Moving
10. Grippled
14. Ho Chi __________
15. Buy alternative
16. Copycat
17. “East of Eden” director Kazan
18. Reprimand
19. _____ majeste
20. Martini’s partner
22. Reaping-hooks
24. Bones found in the hip
27. _____ Alto
28. Greek dish
32. Lapwing
35. “Silent” prez
36. Low life?
38. Causing goose bumps
40. Sacramento’s _____ Arena
42. Headland
44. Move suddenly
45. Itty-bitty
47. Book of maps
49. Beverage commonly drunk in England
50. Apparel
52. Monotony
54. Goes out with
56. Actress Garr
57. Stapes
60. “Steal This Book” author Hoffman
63. Ticked (off)
65. Author Zola
68. Aboriginal rite site
69. All there
70. Unadorned
71. Spoils
72. Cornerstone abbr.
73. Vinegary prefix
74. Sea eagles

DOWN
1. From the U.S.
2. Farm structure
3. Black cuckoos
4. Aspect
5. Capp and Capone
6. Brief instant
7. New Mexico art colony
8. Long Island town
9. Baggage porter
10. Venerated
11. Blunted blade
12. Discounted by
13. Dr. of rap
21. Ingrid’s “Casablanca” role
23. Swiss painter Paul
25. Metrical foot
26. Pack leader
28. Future doc’s exam
29. Paddled
30. Stomach woe
31. Borders on
33. Angry
34. Wearies
37. Black key
39. Greek letters
41. Unequal
43. Celebrity
46. Belgian river
48. Antitoxins
50. Apparel
51. Sister of Venus
53. Bite gently
55. Shrub of the cashew family
57. Mariners can sail on seven of these
58. Canvas shelter used on camping trips
59. Diving position
61. Louf
62. Golf club which can be numbered 1 to 9
63. Chow
64. Half a fly
66. Court call
67. Conductor de Waart

Crossword courtesy of BestCrosswords.com
MONDAY 2.13.12
Allen Stone. Stage AE. 7 p.m.
Allen Stone is a singer-songwriter from Chewelah, Wash., who incorporates classic soul, pop hooks, and R&B beats into his music. His self-titled, self-released sophomore album, which came out last October, peaked at the No. 2 spot on the R&B/Soul charts on iTunes.

TUESDAY 2.14.12
Carnegie Mellon School of Architecture Lecture Series Presents: Patrick Schumacher. Carnegie Library Lecture Hall. 6 p.m.
Patrick Schumacher, partner at Zaha Hadid Architects and founding director of the Architectural Association Design Research Laboratory, will deliver a lecture titled “Parametric Order — 21st Century Architectural Order.” Schumacher has been a tenured professor at the Institute for Experimental Architecture, Innsbruck University, since 2004. Currently he is a guest professor at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna, Austria.

WEDNESDAY 2.15.12
New Media/News Media: How Technology is Changing the Aesthetics of the News. Baker Hall A53. 4:45 p.m.
This panel discussion, co-led by Carnegie Mellon English professor Kathy Newman and animation professor James Duesing, will discuss the ways in which new media outlets are changing the way people receive their news. The discussion will also go into the ways that the news industry has changed as a result of this new media.

THURSDAY 2.16.12
¿Qué Qué? brillobox. 10 p.m. 21+
A new monthly dance party featuring tropical bass music, ¿Qué Qué? features DJs Cucitroa and James Gyre.

FRIDAY 2.17.12
Heather Kropf. Club Cafe. 7 p.m. 21+
Pittsburgh singer-songwriter Heather Kropf combines elements of jazz, folk, and pop in her music; she has released three albums and is currently working on her fourth. The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review said, “Kropf’s work has a quiet elegance, both musically and lyrically.” Recent Pittsburgh transplant Judith Avers, a folk singer-songwriter, will open the performance.

SATURDAY 2.18.12
Author Mark Oshiro. Elijay’s Books. 3 p.m.
Mark Oshiro is a blogger who posts his reactions, chapter by chapter, to books and television shows as he experiences them for the first time. At this reading, he will share from his latest book, Mark Reads Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone. His appearance will be presented by Literazzi, a poetry and performance art troupe dedicated to raising awareness and funds for local literacy programs and supporting independent artists.

SUNDAY 2.19.12
Dia Frampton with Andrew Allen and Crossing Boundaries. Mr. Small’s Theatre. 8 p.m.
Dia Frampton, half of the musical duo Meg and Dia, was a finalist on the first season of NBC’s The Voice. The opening acts for her performance are Andrew Allen, a Canadian singer-songwriter, and Crossing Boundaries, a Pittsburgh-based pop rock band.

ONGOING
The museum features paintings and sculptural installations by Cathy Wilkes that focus on her personal experiences.

The exhibition showcases interdisciplinary artists who incorporate science and technology into their creative processes, as well as scientists who use their technology and resources to create art.

Compiled by Anna Walsh | Staffwriter

Want your event here?
Email calendar@thetartan.org.

Classifieds
Fox Chapel home for sale 4 bedrooms, 4 baths; cathedral ceilings; 2 fireplaces; 2 car garage. Mother-in-law suite with separate entrance; in-ground pool; 1-1/2 acres. Easy access to Oakland, Squirrel Hill, and Pittsburgh. $550,000 for sale by owner - 412/370-0084.
Last Thursday, AB Underground sponsored performances by Irish singer-songwriter Mark Dignam, folk musician Morgan Erina (left), and senior philosophy major Matthew Fiorillo (right). Erina is part of the Pittsburgh acoustic folk band Broken Fences, but she performed a solo set last week.
INSIDE:
What’s new for 2012–13? [C3]
Room selection explained [C4]
Your guide to 2012 housing options [C6–13]
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<th>Page</th>
<th>Section Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>What’s new? Updates for this year’s room selection process, as well as a calendar of important dates and deadlines to remember as you make your housing choices.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Room selection explained An overview of all you need to know about room selection 2012, including descriptions of each phase of the room draw process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6–13</td>
<td>Housing guide 2012 A comprehensive listing of each housing option available through Carnegie Mellon’s room draw, including building overviews, location information, available amenities, and more.</td>
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<td>14–15</td>
<td>Nearby neighborhoods Pittsburgh neighborhood reviews for housing, dining, shopping, and ease of transportation for those contemplating moving off campus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Housing options map This year’s housing map, showing all housing options on campus, as well as those off campus in Oakland and Shadyside.</td>
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</table>
What’s New?
Potential changes for the 2012–13 academic year

Suite retention
Housing and Dining Services is currently reviewing the retention policy as it applies to Resnik and West Wing suites. The results of this review may affect the way suites in these locations are retained and filled for room selection 2013.

Woodlawn Apartments
Due to planned renovations, Woodlawn Apartments may be unavailable for residents during room selection, as early as room selection 2013.

Room selection process change
Housing and Dining Services will continue to develop and implement new software and technology processes associated with room selection. Changes to room selection 2013 will be announced in advance.

Anticipated change in the housing proration policy
The cancellation and refund policy is currently being reviewed by Housing and Dining Services. Some changes are being made beginning in the 2012–13 school year to the system that processes refunds when students leave during the semester. More information will be available in upcoming months as final decisions are made.

Housing Calendar
Key room selection 2012 dates and deadlines

February:
Monday, Feb. 13 – Room retention begins (online)
Thursday, Feb. 16 – Information Table. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wean Commons, University Center
Monday, Feb. 20 – Information Table. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wean Commons, University Center
Wednesday, Feb. 22 – Information Table. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wean Commons, University Center
Tuesday, Feb. 28 – Information Table. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wean Commons, University Center
Friday, March 23 – Block housing selection, Day 2 (Housing Office)
Saturday, March 24 – Deadline for block housing participants to sign HLAs
Sunday, March 25 – Elect to participate in general room selection begins (online)
Thursday, March 29 – Elect to participate ends at 5 p.m.
Friday, March 30 – Room selection numbers and schedule announced

March:
Friday, March 2 – Henderson Wellness House applications due by 5 p.m.
Thursday, March 8 – Information Table. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wean Commons, University Center
Friday, March 9 – Room retention ends
Friday, March 9 – Block housing applications due
Monday, March 19 – Pull-ins for residents who retained (Fairfax, Webster, Shirley, Roselawn, Woodlawn, Doherty, Margaret Morrison)
Tuesday, March 20 – Pull-ins for residents who retained (Resnik and West Wing)
Tuesday, March 20 – Displaced selection by invitation only
Wednesday, March 21 – Pull-ins for residents who retained (Morewood, McGill, Welch)
Wednesday, March 21 – Block housing lists made available
Thursday, March 22 – Block housing selection, Day 1 (Housing Office)
Friday, March 23 – Block housing selection, Day 2 (Housing Office)
Saturday, March 24 – Deadline for block housing participants to sign HLAs
Sunday, March 25 – Elect to participate in general room selection begins (online)
Thursday, March 29 – Elect to participate ends at 5 p.m.
Friday, March 30 – Room selection numbers and schedule announced

April:
Monday, April 2 – General room selection, Day 1 (West Wing Recreation Room)
Tuesday, April 3 – Open assignments reception (West Wing Recreation Room)
Wednesday, April 4 – General room selection, Day 2 (West Wing Recreation Room)
Friday, April 6 – Open cancellation period begins (online)
Friday, April 6 – Open cancellation period begins (online)
Saturday, April 27 – Cancellation deadline for full refund of reservation fee
Saturday, April 28 – Open cancellation period continues. No refund of reservation fee

May:
Friday, May 4 – Open cancellation period ends

A complete calendar of room selection 2012–13 events and deadlines can be found at [www.cmu.edu/housing/roomselection/timeline/index.html](http://www.cmu.edu/housing/roomselection/timeline/index.html).
Room selection phases explained
Terms and technicalities to guide you through the process

Room selection has several possible options: room retention, room with a retainer (also known as "pull-in"), general room selection, RA/CA housing, special-interest housing, block housing, gender neutral housing, and open assignments.

The majority of students will participate in one of the three most common room selection choices: room retention, room with a retainer, and general room selection. However, a wide variety of housing options is available to all students. Room selection occurs during the next five weeks of classes, so all students returning next year should begin thinking about their housing plans for the 2012–13 school year.

Room retention
Room retention, the first phase, is for students planning to retain their current room for the next school year. The room retention phase begins today, Feb. 13, and ends March 9 at 5 p.m. Although there are some exceptions, room retention is available to most upper-class students not in special-interest housing, a first-year dormitory, or an RA/CA room. First-year students are not eligible to retain their rooms, regardless of their room location. Students considering room retention should remember that once they retain, they cannot change their housing assignment or cancel until the open cancellation period begins on April 6.

Room with a retainer
Any student retaining his or her room during the first phase is required to fill any remaining vacancies in the room, suite, or apartment with "pull-ins." A student eligible to be "pulled in" to a room already designated to a retainer must be eligible to participate in room selection, and must not have already selected an assignment for the 2012–13 school year.

General room selection
General room selection is the final phase of room selection, during which eligible residents who haven’t participated in the preceding phases choose a room from the spaces remaining. Students planning to participate in general room selection must "elect to participate" in the general room selection before March 29 at 5 p.m. by signing a housing license agreement. They are then eligible to receive a random room selection number.

RA/CA housing
RA/CA housing is only available for those students holding an RA or CA position during the 2012–13 school year. These students will not be eligible to participate in room selection, and will instead be assigned a room through the application and selection process carried out by the Office of Student Development.

Special-interest housing
Special-interest housing allows groups of students to apply for group housing centered around a certain interest or theme. Special-interest housing groups should consider the ways in which they plan to positively impact the larger residential community, then complete the special-interest housing application process. Housing locations with special-interest housing options available for the 2012–13 academic year are Margaret Morrison Apartments, Reznik House (480 and 580 suites), Morewood Gardens (two spaces available), and Mudge House (A-100).

Block housing
The block housing phase of room selection allows groups of students to select a "block" of apartments near each other in one of the apartment-style dormitories (Fairfax, Webster, Shady Oak, or Shirley Apartments). Students electing to apply for block housing must identify a group representative who will be responsible attending the block housing selection, scheduled for Thursday, March 22, and Friday, March 23.

Gender-neutral housing
Gender-neutral housing is a program in the Oakland Community Apartments that permits upper class male and female residents to reside in the same room. Housing locations with gender-neutral housing available to students during the 2012–13 academic year include Fairfax, Webster, Shady Oak, Shirley, and Neville Apartments.

Open assignments
Due to fluctuating availability in room assignments, some students are given an open assignment. This means that while they are guaranteed a room for the 2012–13 academic year, they will not immediately know where that room will be located, or what style of room they will be assigned. After receiving an open assignment, students wait until they receive an offer of a room for the upcoming year. After receiving their offer, they can decline the offer and cancel their housing agreement within a three-day window without any penalty, even if the offer was made after the open cancellation period ends.

For more details about the room selection process, visit www.cmu.edu/housing/roomselection.
Returning students have a variety of housing options to choose from when participating in room selection 2012.

Residence halls offer rooms with either a community or semi-private bathroom for upperclassmen. These buildings include Morewood Gardens, Henderson House, Resnik House, West Wing, Welch House, and McGill House.

Apartment buildings offer living arrangements in a variety of styles: efficiency, one-bedroom, two-bedroom, or suite. They are separated into two groups based on location. On-campus apartment buildings include Doherty Apartments, Margaret Morrison Apartments, Roselawn Terrace, and Woodlawn Apartments. Oakland apartment buildings include Fairfax Apartments, Neville Apartments, Shady Oak Apartments, Shirley Apartments, and Webster Hall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Location</th>
<th>Prime Single</th>
<th>Prime Double</th>
<th>Prime Triple</th>
<th>Suite Single</th>
<th>Suite Double</th>
<th>Efficiency Apartments (2 occupants)</th>
<th>1-Bedroom Apartments (2 occupants)</th>
<th>1-Bedroom Apartments (3 occupants)</th>
<th>2-Bedroom Apartments (3 occupants)</th>
<th>2-Bedroom Apartments (4 occupants)</th>
<th>2-Bedroom Suites (3 occupants)</th>
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<th>House (5 occupants)</th>
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</table>
BOSS HOUSE

FAST FACTS:
Location: On Margaret Morrison Street, across from McGill House
Styles of housing: Prime singles and prime doubles
Size: 71 residents
Building retention: No (first-years only)
Kitchens: One on the first floor
Lounges: One per floor, and one main lounge on the first floor with a study lounge
Other amenities: The building has laundry facilities in the basement, adjacent to the television lounge.

DONNER HOUSE

FAST FACTS:
Location: On Margaret Morrison Street, across from Boss and McGill Houses
Styles of housing: Standard singles, standard doubles, and standard triples in co-ed wings that each share a bathroom
Size: 259 residents
Building retention: No (first-years only)
Kitchens: One in the basement
Lounges: TV lounge, study lounge, and recreation area
Other amenities: Lounges include practice rooms and pool tables; laundry facilities include both washers and dryers.

HAMERSCHLAG HOUSE

FAST FACTS:
Location: On Margaret Morrison Street, behind Boss and McGill Houses
Styles of housing: Standard singles, standard doubles, and prime singles
Size: 165 residents (all male)
Building retention: No (first-years only)
Kitchens: One adjacent to recreation areas
Lounges: Recreation room
Other amenities: The building has a spacious TV and recreation lounge; laundry facilities include both washers and dryers.

MOREWOOD E TOWER

FAST FACTS:
Location: On the corner of Forbes and Morewood avenues, in front of Morewood Gardens
Styles of housing: Standard singles, standard doubles, and prime triples
Size: 208 residents
Building retention: No (first-years only)
Kitchens: One adjacent to recreation areas
Lounges: Each of the seven floors has its own lounge
Other amenities: The building has lounges and laundry facilities on each floor. E Tower also contains Housing and Dining Services and Health Services.
MUDGE HOUSE

FAST FACTS:
Location: On the corner of Fifth and Morewood avenues
Styles of housing: Prime singles, prime doubles, prime triples, prime quads, standard singles, standard doubles, and standard triples; one five-person apartment is available for special-interest housing groups
Size: 308 residents
Building retention: No (first-years only)
Kitchens: One in C Tower’s basement and one in A Tower’s basement
Lounges: First floor contains a lounge, a study area, and a television room
Other amenities: Mudge House is a mansion originally built for the Mudge family of Pittsburgh. After its donation to the university, it was converted into a student housing location.

RESIDENCE ON FIFTH

FAST FACTS:
Location: 4700 Fifth Ave.
Styles of housing: Prime doubles and prime triples
Size: 93 residents
Building retention: No (first-years only)
Kitchens: One on the first floor
Lounges: Several lounges, including a piano lounge, exercise room, and club room
Other amenities: The Residence on Fifth has year-round heating and air-conditioning. Most students are currently living in triple rooms.

SCOBELL HOUSE

FAST FACTS:
Location: On Margaret Morrison Street, in front of Welch and Henderson houses
Styles of housing: Standard singles, standard doubles, and prime singles
Size: 86 residents (all male)
Building retention: No (first-years only)
Kitchens: One, on A level
Lounges: One on each floor, plus a large lounge on A level
Other amenities: Scobell House has laundry facilities on the ground floor.

STEVER HOUSE

FAST FACTS:
Location: On Morewood Avenue, adjacent to Mudge House
Styles of housing: Standard singles and standard doubles
Size: 254 residents
Building retention: No (first-years only)
Kitchens: A kitchen and private dining room on the first floor
Lounges: One lounge and one study room on each floor, plus several larger reading rooms and a recreation area on the first floor
Other amenities: Stever House was designed to be “green,” using practices that significantly reduce or eliminate the negative impact of buildings on the environment.
**DOHERTY APARTMENTS**

**FAST FACTS:**
- **Location:** On the corner of Forbes Avenue and Beeler Street
- **Styles of housing:** Apartments — one-bedroom (three students) and efficiencies (two students); a two-bedroom suite for special-interest housing
- **Size:** About 150 residents
- **Building retention:** Yes
- **Kitchens:** In each apartment and efficiency
- **Lounges:** Study lounge, TV lounge
- **Other amenities:** Lounges include a piano, pool table, and ping-pong table; laundry facilities include six washers and six dryers; exercise facilities include four cardio machines and dumbbells.

Located close to campus facilities, Doherty Apartments can be considered one of the best options for on-campus housing. It is a mere three-minute walk to the Resnik Café and 10 minutes from most classes. Doherty is a great option for students who wish to have their own kitchen in an autonomous apartment style of living.

Doherty is divided into four separate towers, each headed by its own RA, who provides his or her residents with the bare essentials: trash bags, paper towels, and, of course, toilet paper. Each tower consists of three floors and a basement.

As a community, there are weekly events to satisfy your sweet tooth and appropriate exercise programs to sweat off the following day’s regret. However, due primarily to the tower layout of the building, making friends in Doherty can be much more difficult than in other housing options. Most doors remain closed throughout the day, so the occasional meet-and-greet as you leave the building is often the only interaction between residents.

Doherty Apartments provides air-conditioning in its exercise room; however, that is the only room in the building that is equipped with it. Most residents purchase personal air-conditioning units during hot weather. Make sure to take them out during the winter, as Doherty’s weak heaters force residents to cling to every bit of warmth that they can.

Rooms provide just the right mix of privacy and integration with your roommates. The one-bedroom triples include a bedroom for the three beds, a bathroom, and a living room with a kitchenette. The living room also has three study desks, a dining table, a couch, and a small loveseat. Two-person efficiencies are similar, though everything is located in a single room without some of the furniture.

In general, Doherty Apartments provides a decently sized living area for those who seek autonomy in college life.

**FAIRFAX APARTMENTS**

**FAST FACTS:**
- **Location:** 4616 Fifth Ave., on the corner of Fifth Avenue and Craig Street
- **Styles of housing:** Apartments — one-bedroom (two students) and efficiency (two students); the Fairfax Annex has two-bedroom apartments (three students)
- **Size:** 272 residents
- **Building retention:** Yes
- **Kitchens:** In each apartment and efficiency
- **Lounges:** Community room in basement with limited availability
- **Other amenities:** Laundry room and aerobics room in the basement

The community in Fairfax Apartments is not as strong as in on-campus dorms like Morewood, because each floor is home to a mix of Carnegie Mellon and non-Carnegie Mellon residents. Despite this, Fairfax Apartments is the perfect transition for upperclassmen to living in off-campus housing. Once acquainted with back-alley shortcuts, it’s a quick 10- to 15-minute walk to campus, and the building’s proximity to Craig Street, which houses many restaurants that are open late at night, make it appealing to many college students.

Inside the individual apartments, every room is carpeted, except for the kitchen and bathroom, which have tiling. The walls, conveniently, are solid — a welcome change from the paper-thin dividers that separate rooms in some on-campus housing. Fairfax is also relatively quiet, although every now and then, a group of happy, shouting people may break the silence. The rooms are furnished and come prepared with beds, tables, and drawers, and the kitchen has a stove and refrigerator. Some units even have dishwashers. Air-conditioning and heating are included as well.

Bus stops for the 54C, 71 series, and 75 are also located close to the building’s doors. Pittsburgh is on your doorstep if you live in Fairfax.

Laundry payment may be the largest problem students have with Fairfax. Doing laundry requires that students first buy a $5 card to pay for the machines. The card does not actually come with $5; students must put in money manually, and the machine accepts only bills. In addition, Fairfax’s internet connection is not Carnegie Mellon internet, but rather Comcast. Finally, the cost of living is one of the highest at Carnegie Mellon (starting at $7,370 for an efficiency apartment), but with all of Fairfax’s amenities and its prime location, it is understandably so.
MARGARET MORRISON APARTMENTS

FAST FACTS:
Location: On Margaret Morrison Street, beside the Greek apartments
Styles of housing: Apartments — two-floor, two-bedroom (four students)
Size: 80 students
Building retention: Yes
Kitchens: In each apartment
Lounges: One on first floor

Margaret Morrison Apartments, located on the Hill, offers residents arguably the nicest on-campus apartments. Each unit has two floors, with a lounge and kitchen on the first floor and bedrooms and bathrooms either up or down a floor, depending on the apartment. All of the “Maggie Mo” apartments were redone in 2007, when they were refitted with new furniture, appliances, and countertops.

Although these apartments have a common lounge or living area on the first floor, the lounges aren’t spacious by any means. The bedrooms, however, are exactly the opposite; they are some of the biggest bedrooms that you will find on campus. Each apartment has its own kitchen, which is nice for upperclassmen who are tired of campus food.

Each of the Margaret Morrison apartment units is separate from the others, which can be isolating, though this is what most upperclassmen prefer. Residents also have access to laundry and exercise facilities, which are on the street level of Margaret Morrison Street.

Although the common areas may be a bit tight, “Maggie Mo” can offer residents the chance to have independence while still living on campus.

McGILL HOUSE

FAST FACTS:
Location: The Hill — across the courtyard from Boss, in front of Hamerschlag
Styles of housing: Prime singles and prime doubles
Size: 71 residents (female only)
Building retention: Yes
Kitchens: One on the first floor
Lounges: One per floor, and one main lounge on the first floor with a study lounge
Other amenities: Laundry room

McGill, Carnegie Mellon’s only all-female dorm, offers residents prime doubles and singles arranged into suites. Each suite connects two doubles, or two doubles and one single. Rooms in McGill are small, meaning residents are often forced to loft their beds and sleep only inches from the ceiling. However, the size of the rooms is offset by the convenience of semi-private bathrooms in each suite.

McGill may be one of the smaller dorms, but residents’ social lives are certainly not limited. McGill offers a friendly environment, especially since residents can socialize in any of the individual floor lounges or in the large first-floor television room and study area. Weekly events bring together residents from both Boss and McGill and offer a reliable dose of fun and entertainment. Also, when residents tire of their own building, they are just a few steps away from other Hill residences — including Hamerschlag, one of Carnegie Mellon’s all-male dorms.

McGill’s location on Margaret Morrison Street also offers unique perks. Residents can catch art exhibitions, shows, and events at The Frame, Carnegie Mellon’s student-run art gallery on the corner of Forbes Avenue and Margaret Morrison Street. After a short walk across the street, residents can take advantage of the nearby campus dining locations, including Tartans Pavilion, the Carnegie Mellon Café, and Resnik Café. And when campus food gets too monotonous, the food trucks parked nearby offer a great alternative to on-campus dining.

But McGill also has its downsides. The size of bedrooms ranks at the top of the list of complaints. Shared bathrooms with limited hot water, unreliable locks, and tiny showers are also a concern. The bathrooms, while slightly dysfunctional, are currently cleaned weekly by housekeeping staff, though that may change in coming years.

Despite the less-than-fabulous facilities, McGill offers female students an excellent social experience in a convenient location.
While students of most residences have to pull on their shoes and head to campus to find a hot meal or a working printer, Morewood Gardens residents need not leave the premises. Fully equipped with a computer cluster, a source of convenient (albeit greasy) food at The Underground, large laundry rooms, and a gym, this dorm is completely self-sufficient. And what’s more, it’s smack at the corner of Morewood and Forbes avenues, only a couple of steps away from campus.

The dorm’s proximity to campus gives it a significant edge over other residential areas. This factor maximizes your sleep time before early classes and also allows you to sprint back for your homework when you realize you’ve left it in your room. While both Stever and Mudge Houses are located on Morewood Avenue, they normally house only first-year students, making Morewood the only choice for students who want to live in this area.

Morewood’s plentiful lounges, including a few on each floor in addition to the larger study rooms and TV lounge on the first floor, allow for frequent group gatherings. While this is a positive attribute for more social students, it means that several rooms on each floor are likely to experience frequent noise disturbances throughout the day and night.

When choosing a room in Morewood, it’s hit-or-miss. Some rooms are spacious and quiet, and others are small and loud. It’s the luck of the draw, and sometimes you lose. Try to plan out which rooms look best from the floor plans online, and try to visit a room before committing. This will give you a good idea of what you’re getting.

Morewood Gardens could be a great place to live, but before deciding to move in, check out the rooms ahead of time and ask the current residents about the noise situation, as some rooms are better than others.

The Neville Co-op is a living community through the Carnegie Mellon housing system, comprised of eight apartments that feature a mix of double and single bedrooms. Every apartment is connected to one other apartment, which means the four large living rooms in the building are each associated with one pair of apartments. All apartments in the co-op are fully furnished and include a kitchen and bathroom.

Founded by student activists in 2003 as a center for students interested in sustainable living, civil equality, and social progress, the Neville co-op is a democratic living community. It has no resident assistants, only liaisons to the Housing and Student Life offices who help the co-op solve housing problems. This independence is a mixed blessing for the co-op’s residents: While they are encouraged to be self-motivated, the lack of cohesiveness that can result leads to a space that is often unkempt and somewhat disorganized.

While the rent for the co-op is comparable to other on-campus apartments, residents are allowed to stay through the summer at no extra cost and can sublet if they are not in Pittsburgh for the summer months. Residents do have to pay a membership fee, which provides each apartment with an internet connection and free laundry in the basement — with a year-long supply of environmentally friendly laundry detergent, light bulbs, and toilet paper. Additionally, the basement is a common space that students use for dinners, leisure, storage, and meetings.

Residents of the co-op must apply for admission and are encouraged to participate in the varied events hosted by the current members of the co-op that are held during the room selection period.

Once students are interviewed and selected to live in the apartment complex, they will find a community of students active in a variety of student organizations. When it was founded in 2003, the co-op was created based on the tenets of sustainability and environmental awareness, activism, and equality in race, gender, and sexuality.
ROSELAWN TERRACE

FAST FACTS:
Location: Roselawn Terrace (off Margaret Morrison Street)
Styles of housing: Three-bedroom houses (one single, two doubles)
Size: Five students in each of 12 houses
Building retention: Yes
Kitchens: One in each house
Lounges: One in the common Margaret Morrison space and a living space in each house

Recently renovated Roselawn Terrace houses, located off Margaret Morrison Street, are now some of the most sought-after housing options on campus. Roselawn is located on the edge of campus, providing students with a feeling of independence while still only having to walk 10 minutes to class.

Each house, divided into a single-occupancy room and two double-occupancy rooms, holds five students. The bedrooms are quite small — so small, in fact, that one of the doubles can’t hold both residents’ desks. The upside to this is that the living area on the first floor is spacious.

Living rooms have hardwood floors and comfortable furniture. Each dining room houses a large table that seats six by a wall of windows. Kitchens have been completely refinished with new cabinets and appliances. All the walls in the houses have been given a fresh coat of paint with vibrant accent colors.

One downside to the remodeling of Roselawn houses is that residents no longer have access to the basement, cutting down on the storage space previously offered. The rooms also have closets that tend to be too small for most people’s wardrobes.

In addition to the large living spaces offered in Roselawn, residents have access to the Margaret Morrison lounge and exercise room. All Roselawn residents are also on the eSuds network, getting free laundry and access to laundromat-style dryers.

Another good thing about Roselawn houses is that, while there is more than enough living space, the cost of living in the house is less than the cost of living in some Oakland apartments. There has been mention of the price going up due to the renovations that took place last summer, but nothing has been announced by Housing and Dining Services as of yet.

Roselawn houses give the feeling of living on your own, while still providing residents with the amenities and assistance of campus housing. If you don’t care about the size of your bedroom, Roselawn is the place to live.

SHADY OAK APARTMENTS

FAST FACTS:
Location: 601 Clyde Street
Styles of housing: Apartments — efficiency (two students), two- and three-bedroom apartments (three students), and one five-bedroom apartment (six students)
Size: 82 residents
Building retention: Yes
Kitchens: One in each apartment and one in the basement
Lounges: One in the basement with multiple couches and a big-screen TV
Other amenities: Street parking available and a spacious backyard with a grill

Home to only Carnegie Mellon students, Shady Oak is perfect for students who want a more adult living space. The building follows 24-hour quiet hours, providing a more peaceful living environment than most other dormitories or campus-owned apartments. Each apartment has a full kitchen with an electric stove and oven, as well as a dishwasher. The layouts vary greatly from apartment to apartment, with some having single bedrooms and no common living space, others having shared bedrooms with spacious living rooms, and others having a combination of the two.

There is a lounge in the basement with numerous couches and a big-screen TV; the space is commonly used for watching sporting events as well as hosting study groups. Basic gym equipment is also located in the basement. For students who want to keep an active lifestyle and don’t get enough of a workout from the 10-minute walk to campus, there are multiple treadmills, an elliptical trainer, and a weight-lifting station. The basement is also home to four washers and four dryers — not on the eSuds network and accepting only quarters — and a large table for folding laundry.

Venture outside to find a picnic table and charcoal grill that is always available. The backyard is large enough to play a game of Frisbee or football with friends. Across the street, there is a bus stop for the 71C, which can be taken downtown to watch a show or to East Liberty, home of the Waffle Shop.

There are some drawbacks to living in Shady Oak. The plumbing has a tendency to malfunction, sometimes causing pipes to burst, leading to water shut-offs to fix the problem. The radiators have also been a cause for concern, being set on a building-wide timer that can sometimes shut off in the middle of the night or be set on full blast on warmer days.
**WEBSTER HALL/SHIRLEY APARTMENTS**

**FAST FACTS:**
- **Location:** 101/103 N. Dithridge St.
- **Styles of housing:** Apartments — one-bedroom (two students) and two-bedroom (three students); prime singles
- **Size:** 273 residents
- **Building retention:** Yes
- **Kitchens:** One in each apartment
- **Lounges:** None, but each apartment has a living area
- **Other amenities:** TV room, quiet study lounge, workout facility, recreation room, and two laundry facilities at opposite ends of the building

Webster Hall, located at the corner of Fifth Avenue and North Dithridge Street, is one of the most popular off-campus residences offered by Carnegie Mellon. Webster is located in the heart of Oakland, about a 10-minute walk from campus. One of the first stops on the Carnegie Mellon shuttle line, Webster offers easy access to the numerous restaurants, cafes, convenience stores, and shops located in the Oakland area.

Carnegie Mellon rents out one-bedroom apartments to two students, and two-bedroom apartments to three students. The apartments are spacious and offer many benefits that dorm rooms do not, including a fully furnished living room, two bathrooms, and a kitchen. For many students, this escape from typical dorm life is the basis of Webster’s appeal.

In addition to the spacious apartments, students also benefit from the facilities offered by Webster. The building contains a gym, a homestyle deli, and even an in-house hair and waxing salon. Additionally, each floor has a trash disposal facility as well as a laundry room.

There are, however, some small disadvantages. The laundry facilities can become a hassle for many residents. Using the facilities can become expensive, with a cost of $2.50 to wash and dry one load of clothes. The dryers on most floors are not fully functional, often requiring two full runs to completely dry clothes. For many students, this is one of the biggest complaints about Webster.

An additional point for consideration is the price. Renting a one-bedroom apartment or a double bedroom in a two-bedroom apartment costs $8,270 per year. Renting a single bedroom in a two-bedroom apartment costs $8,600 per year.

Shirley Apartments, located next door to Webster Hall, contains small apartments with a floor plan similar to Webster’s. Each apartment has a bedroom, a living area, and a kitchen, while the efficiencies are essentially rooms with a bathroom and a kitchen. One of the downsides of Shirley is that it is one of the farthest places from campus. On the upside, the apartments are spacious and well furnished.

**WELCH HOUSE/HENDERSON HOUSE**

**FAST FACTS:**
- **Location:** Behind Scobell House, on Margaret Morrison Street
- **Styles of housing:** Prime singles and prime doubles
- **Size:** 83 residents
- **Building retention:** Yes, except for non-single rooms on the first floor
- **Kitchens:** One on the lower level in each building
- **Lounges:** TV lounges and study areas in both buildings

As one of the more recently renovated student dorms on campus, Henderson House is a clean and quiet place to live. This dorm offers students air-conditioning and heating, connected bathrooms — which are cleaned once a week — shared with one other room, and the intimacy of a small building, with 20 rooms per floor. The first floor is generally reserved for first-years only.

Henderson House and Welch House are also labeled “Wellness Houses,” in that they promote green practices, maintain a substance-free lifestyle, and generally encourage healthy living. Each student who lives here is expected to sign an agreement promising to adhere to these standards during the school year. Students can also take advantage of playing for the house’s intramural teams or participating in weekly optional community activities set up by the resident assistants. Tickets to special events like plays or shows are subsidized by the dorm, which is a nice perk. Henderson, although placed on the outskirts of Carnegie Mellon, is sheltered from any traffic or noise from campus. The dorm’s residents also respect an unwritten policy of peace and quiet, which makes this dorm ideal for studying. Despite being on a hill, Henderson is very close to the Tepper School of Business, the tennis courts, Gesling Stadium, and the eateries at Reznik House, such as the Carnegie Mellon Café and Taste of India.

Despite all Henderson has to offer students, there are drawbacks. Dorm rooms are not the largest, and on occasion the heating will malfunction, turning each room into a furnace.

Welch is one of the Hill houses, but it distinguishes itself by having a 24-hour quiet rule. This often means that Welch attracts students who prefer to keep to themselves and are less interested in creating a community atmosphere. However, the atmosphere seems to suit students who want a comfortable home and don’t want to be distracted by noise. The rooms are large and bathrooms are spacious.
WEST WING/RENSIK HOUSE

FAST FACTS:
Location: Adjacent to Gesling Stadium, next to the University Center
Styles of housing: Suite — typically five students share a common living space and bathroom.
                      Dorm — prime singles and prime doubles
Size: 296 residents
Building retention: Yes
Kitchens: Four (West Wing floors 2 and 4, Resnik floors 2 and 3)
Lounges: Four (West Wing floors 3 and 5, Resnik floors 4 and 5)

Resnik and West Wing are the ideal dormitory choices for students who aren’t ready — or aren’t willing — to move off campus but want a bit more of a grown-up place to live than a typical dorm. While students in these dorms have the chance to be more independent, they also boast a quick walk to any of the academic buildings on campus, a definite benefit for those mornings when you just can’t seem to stop hitting the snooze button.

Both dorms consist primarily of suites, which are made up of two doubles and a single with a common bathroom and lounge for the suite. A limited number of prime singles and doubles do exist in the buildings as well, though they are not as well known.

Resnik and West Wing are optimal for a group of friends who wish to live together but want to maintain their proximity to campus and the other advantages — like free toilet paper and a once-a-week bathroom cleaning — that living on campus offers. Students mostly stay inside their suites, leaving the hallways relatively quiet. The lounges do fill up, however — usually with groups of students either working on homework or playing video games.

Both buildings offer kitchens on certain floors, which is nice when you’ve had your fill of The Exchange and Sí Señor, but if you don’t feel like cooking, Resnik is home to a number of dining options. There is the Tartans Pavilion, the Carnegie Mellon Café, and Resnik Café. In particular, Resnik Café offers a variety of choices, including sushi, Indian cuisine, and comfort foods, among others.

With the numerous amenities that Resnik and West Wing offer, it is not surprising that both of these dorms fill up early in the room selection process. Hopeful residents are advised to find a friend who can pull them in.

WOODLAWN APARTMENTS

FAST FACTS:
Location: At the corner of Forbes Avenue and Margaret Morrison Street
Styles of housing: Apartment — one-bedroom (two students), two-bedroom (four students), and four-bedroom (seven students)
Size: 35 residents
Building retention: No
Kitchens: One or two full kitchens per apartment
Lounges: TV lounge and exercise room, shared with Margaret Morrison Apartments
Other amenities: Two washers and two dryers are in the basement. The Frame, a small student-run art gallery, is also located on the first floor.

Woodlawn Apartments may be one of the older and more run-down housing options on campus, but it is convenient for walking to class, and it’s right on the Forbes Avenue bus routes that can take you anywhere else that you’d like to go.

The bedrooms and living rooms both boast plenty of space, a definite upgrade for those used to sharing cramped quarters. Some rooms have hardwood floors; others have thin carpeting. The furniture has been recently updated, as have some of the appliances and bathroom fixtures, which helps combat the run-down stereotype of the building.

In previous years, there have been repeated plumbing problems in the building, but maintenance has been quick to fix them and get things back in order. Several times per semester, The Frame art gallery, which is housed in the first floor of the apartment building, has loud parties that can be heard throughout the building.

With the numerous amenities that Resnik and West Wing offer, it is not surprising that both of these dorms fill up early in the room selection process. Hopeful residents are advised to find a friend who can pull them in.

Woodlawn Apartments is great if you want to live with a big group of friends, since each apartment houses a lot of people. People generally keep to themselves, but this does not mean that residents do not participate in housing activities. There are relatively few students in the building, so you’ll probably get to know many of the other students that live there. Woodlawn is a good choice if you want a small community and are looking for living in an apartment on campus.
OAKLAND

Just a 10- to 15-minute walk (or five-minute bus ride) from campus lies the neighborhood of Oakland, the home of late-night food, University of Pittsburgh pride, and a population made up almost entirely of college students. Oakland is home to some of Carnegie Mellon students’ favorite restaurants, including The ‘O,’ Chipotle, Chick-fil-A, Fuel and Fuddle, and Mad Mex. For those over 21, Oakland has a good group of late-night destinations, such as local bars like Hemingway’s, Mad Mex with its classic half-price margaritas, and a liquor store with an extensive selection within walking distance. Another benefit of Oakland is its availability of affordable housing close to campus. Oakland Avenue and Atwood Avenue are lined with student housing for both Carnegie Mellon and University of Pittsburgh students.

Most people living here are always up for fun; if you’re looking for a quiet neighborhood, Oakland may not be it. Starting on Thursday nights — the start of the weekend for Pitt students — the neighborhood awakens, filled with groups of college kids out to have a good time. Oakland should be noted for its lively atmosphere and is ideal for anyone looking for an extended weekend and college-oriented surroundings.

SHADYSIDE

Shadyside is home to upperclassmen from Carnegie Mellon and the University of Pittsburgh, graduate students, and young working professionals. Accessible by Pittsburgh buses, it tends to be slightly pricier than Oakland or Squirrel Hill; however, it is the most charming of the areas surrounding campus, with its tree-lined streets and boutiques. The neighborhood is best known for two things: shops and bars. Walnut Street is lined with a wide variety of shops, from small boutiques to Apple, J. Crew, Ann Taylor, and Banana Republic. Cozy restaurants such as the Walnut Grill are dispersed among the shops.

Just blocks from the restaurants are Shadyside’s bars. William Penn Tavern and Shady Grove are the most popular, known by Carnegie Mellon students to be the closest bar locations outside of Panther Hollow Inn. William Penn Tavern in particular gathers a large number of Carnegie Mellon students. On Tuesdays and Sundays, William Penn Tavern is open to all ages for its wing nights where customers can get 10 wings in a variety of flavors, from traditional BBQ to the flavor mix of “the kitchen sink,” for only $3.

While the area near these bars can be particularly loud from Thursday to Sunday, Shadyside in general is a very relaxed, quiet area. The young professionals who live in the area are sometimes called yuppies, and the college students who live there are very diverse — from artists to technical majors to medical students. Shadyside is a great area for anyone looking for either a quiet escape from campus or a bustling shopping and nightlife experience.
SQUIRREL HILL

Just up the big hill on Forbes Avenue is the start of Squirrel Hill. It is either a 20-minute walk or a three-minute bus ride from campus, and the buses are very frequent — all of the 61 buses serve the route. The cost of living is higher than Oakland but lower than Shadyside. Furthermore, Squirrel Hill is the most residential of all the areas surrounding campus. In addition to housing upperclassmen from Carnegie Mellon, it is also home to faculty and Pittsburgh families not associated with the university. Most Carnegie Mellon students know the neighborhood for its restaurants and Giant Eagle. Squirrel Hill has a vast diversity of restaurants, from Thai food at Silk Elephant to Mediterranean food at Mediterranean Grill to the famous desserts at Gullifty’s. The restaurants are dispersed among small shops, including those on the main thoroughfare of Forbes Avenue.

On Murray Avenue, just off of Forbes, the Giant Eagle is the perfect one-stop shop for all of your food necessities. Squirrel Hill is relatively quiet, with most noise coming from traffic on Forbes and Murray Avenues. It is not a college neighborhood like Oakland or Shadyside, and does not have a prominent bar scene. It does have a certain functionality and residential atmosphere, however, that the other two areas lack.

For someone looking for a short ride or walk from campus with all the necessities within walking distance and a wide variety of cuisines, Squirrel Hill may be the place.
1. Doherty Apts.
2. Donner House
3. Fairfax Apts.
4. Hamerschlag House
5. Henderson House
6. Margaret Morrison Apts.
7. McGill and Boss Houses
8. Morewood E-Tower
9. Morewood Gardens
10. Mudge House
11. Neville Co-op
12. Residence on Fifth
13. Roselawn Terrace
14. Scobell House
15. Shady Oak Apts.
16. Shirley Apts.
17. Stever House
18. Webster Hall
19. Welch House
20. West Wing/Resnik