

# Scott Hall construction nears completion



Abhinav Gautam/Photo Editor

The Tartan had the unique opportunity of touring Scott Hall with senior project manager Maxim Dorosa. Scott Hall is on track to be completed in spring.

**BRIAN WALSH**  
*News Editor*

Students have probably noticed that the new frame of a building sprung out of the side of Wean Hall just beside Hamerschlag Hall last year. It is the new Sherman & Joyce Bowie Scott Hall, a building which is intended for use by the Biomedical Engineering Department, but also satisfies the needs of many other Carnegie Mellon students. Scott Hall was but a frame ly-

ing atop a few stilts just one year ago, but now it has blossomed.

The building nears its full completion, scheduled for the spring of 2016.

Senior project manager Maxim Dorosa gave The Tartan the opportunity to tour the nearly completed Scott hall two weeks ago. Workers were hard at work nearing the end of their shifts.

Trucks traveled in and out of the underpass of the building, booming loudly over Do-

rosa's voice as he provided us with the history of the construction. "The real discussions of building Scott Hall began about a decade ago," Dorosa said.

"The administration didn't know at first where they wanted to put the new facility," Dorosa said. The school considered several different options: the area by the power plant just across the railroad tracks, somewhere down by the hollow, or even locations off campus. They eventually decided

upon the current location.

Once the decision was made, the administration put out a contest for several architects to compete for the opportunity to design the new building. "They took the current design from the two architects," Dorosa said. "It properly incorporated the difficulties of building on stilts, while providing enough space for administration and students."

See **CONSTRUCTION**, A4

# Students eat with Just Harvest reps

**YISHAN WANG**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

On Thursday, a discussion regarding food insecurity was held in the Student Government Conference Room in the Jared L. Cohon Center (CC). The discussion invited Ann Sanders, the Volunteer Coordinator of Just Harvest, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing about broad-scale change to combat the injustices that lead to hunger. The discussion touched

get food. This is time that one could spend working and increasing one's income.

"We need to raise awareness about how food insecurity impacts Carnegie Mellon," James Crnkovich, a sophomore civil and environmental engineering major, said. He went on to say that Carnegie Mellon looked like an "isolated entity within Pittsburgh," and that the university should take steps to integrate itself with the community.

The meeting was organized by Partners Allied in

**"We need to raise awareness about how food insecurity impacts Carnegie Mellon"**

— *James Crnkovich*  
Sophomore civil and environmental engineering major

on problems of current policies to fight food insecurity. Sanders began by explaining what food security is: access to adequate nutrition in normal ways. Sanders said despite measures which move to fight food insecurity on state and federal levels, problems still persist.

Those who do not have access to the Internet have to go through about seventy pages of documentation to sign up for food assistance. Moreover, mistakes in application procedures can result in application failure, so applicants have to "know the rules ahead of time," Sanders said. Sanders also said sometimes resources are so scarce that it takes hours to

Civic Engagement (PACE), a student organization at Carnegie Mellon aimed at engaging students in civic duty and cultivating a commitment to the service of the community. PACE focuses on issues of public concern like philanthropy, direct service, civic discourse, activism, and social justice.

PACE runs a series of educational programs each year relating to a specific theme, and it chose to focus on food insecurity this year. PACE hopes to raise awareness around food insecurity on campus and involve the Carnegie Mellon community in the issue. Event organizer Mikaela Wolf-Sorokin said,

See **HARVEST**, A3

# Tepper Quad construction officially starts with ceremony



Left: David Tepper welcomes guests at groundbreaking ceremony.

**PATRICIA SILVERIO**  
*Staffwriter*

The Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Tepper Quad took place last Friday, signifying the university's aspiration to expand and grow, both physically and metaphorically. In attendance were numerous

Carnegie Mellon faculty members, students, and investors, as well as other members of the community.

This gathering celebrated the \$201 million project that constitutes the largest infrastructure expansion since the founding of the University in 1900. With this expansion,

the school intends to increase enrollment in the undergraduate business program by 40 percent and hopes to grow the master student population by 50 percent.

The Tepper Quad is not just a building, "it embodies the distinctive academic vision of Carnegie Mellon," remarked



Bottom Right: Tepper, President Suresh, and other distinguished guests break ground at long last.

President Subra Suresh in his opening speech.

This academic vision strives to bring together different disciplines in new and unique ways. The Quadrangle shares the same name as the Tepper School of Business, in honor of David A. Tepper, one of the University's greatest

living benefactors and greatest contributor to this project, with a donation of \$67 million. However, it is not being built just for the Tepper School of Business, but for the entire campus community.

In addition to housing the business school, the building will connect different parts

of the Carnegie Mellon campus. The Tepper Quad will be home to several activity and communal spaces such as a new university welcome center, the Swartz Center for Entrepreneurship, and new classrooms, dining facilities,

See **TEPPER**, A4

# Spark provides opportunities for CMU students



Carnegie Mellon students present their resumes to representatives of emerging companies and early start-up businesses at the Spark career event. The event took place in Rangos Ballroom on Thursday and companies ranging from Pittsburgh to NYC, San Francisco and Chicago all attended.

# Campus Crime & Incident Reports

## Underage Drinking and Disorderly Conduct

Oct. 24, 2015

University Police were summoned when two intoxicated students were seen stumbling down Margaret Morrison Street. Both students were cited for underage drinking, and one student was also cited for disorderly conduct after she refused to cooperate with police and medics.

## Underage Drinking and Carrying a False ID

University Police were

summoned to the Cut in response to complaints of an intoxicated male rolling down the grass hill near the tennis courts. Upon arrival, University Police identified the male as a University of Pittsburgh student. Medical aid was provided for the student, who was subsequently cited for underage drinking and carrying a false identification card.

## Underage Drinking

Oct. 25, 2015

University Police responded to Fairfax Apartments after an intoxicated male student was found in the stairwell. The

intoxicated Carnegie Mellon student was cited for underage drinking after medical aid was provided.

## Theft

Oct. 27, 2015

University Police were requested after a pallet jack and three wooden pallets were reported stolen from the Resnik loading dock. Video surveillance shows a white GMC truck backing into the dock and loading the items into the rear of the truck. This investigation is ongoing.

## Burglary

Oct. 30, 2015

University Police met with a University staff member who reported that four keys, which provide access to multiple rooms within Doherty Hall, were stolen from the building. This investigation is ongoing.

Compiled by

VALENE MEZMIN

## SPECIAL FROM CMU-QATAR

### NARJIS PREMEE

Special to the Tartan

Orientation at the CMU Qatar campus is the liveliest time of the year. It's the time when CMU Qatar restocks its supply of talented individuals and welcomes them to be part of the Tartan community.

A team of four Head Orientation Counselors (HOCs), five Orientation Leaders (OLs), and 20 Orientation Counselors (OCs) were recruited to welcome the newest members of our campus family.

Over a five month period, the HOCs worked hard to recruit the rest of the team, decide on an orientation theme, prepare a schedule, and manage the logistics of this week-long event.

The most significant part of orientation planning is deciding on the theme. Each year, the orientation's theme is based on concepts like superheroes or pirates, and our entire campus is decorated accordingly. This year, the inspiration came from Dr. Seuss' famous poem, and the HOCs chose the phrase, "Oh! The Places You'll Go!" and turned the campus into Carnegie International Airport. Activities over the five-day period were designed to incorporate these aspects of the theme. The orientation team members were dressed as pilots, aviation officers, and flight crew.

The idea was to encourage the newcomers to dream big and to make sure they know that their fellow Tartans are there to guide them through the process. Under the CMU Qatar roof, we are all Tartans, bound for the same four-year journey.

As orientation week approached, the team took part in four days of training to prepare to welcome the new Tartans and engage them in a week of fun-filled activities. The first day of the week centered on the history of Carnegie Mellon, along with team building activities and informational sessions. Excitement picked up on the second day as freshmen in their respective orientation clusters chose a team name, painted their team flags, and played dodge ball with other clusters.

On day three, also known as Academic Day, the freshmen met with professors in their departments and learned about the various academic resources available to them. On day four, students participated in more team building, went to a social with professors, and attended convocation for the Class of 2019. By the last day of orientation, these new Tartans were part of the CMU Qatar family. Each orientation cluster prepared short skits based on important values at CMU Qatar and ended the day with a final dinner together.

Orientation has always played an integral part of the freshman experience. It allows the orientation team to give back to the community by creating a smooth transition for the incoming Tartans. College is an important milestone in every individual's life, and having a wonderful family to spend some of the most important years of your life with makes this a very special experience. CMU Qatar is our home, and orientation gives us the chance to welcome people to it with open arms.

## WEATHER

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
72° / 44°	74° / 52°	72° / 56°
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
66° / 48°	54° / 38°	51° / 34°

Source: [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)

## Corrections & Clarifications

In the last issue, a pull quote in an article about Bob Moses's visit incorrectly attributed a quote to Bob Moses. This quote was in fact spoken by a Carnegie Mellon student at the event.

In the last issue, a headline regarding Henry Hillman's donation to the University stated that he had donated \$1.5 million. Hillman in fact donated \$11 million, and established a president's chair position with an endowment of \$1.5 million.



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

### China ends one child policy

**BELJING** — China ended the one child policy, which had been in place since 1980. All couples will now be allowed to have two children. Chinese leadership hopes to combat age and gender imbalances caused by the restriction.

Source: *Al Jazeera*



### Nepal elects first female president

**KATHMANDU** — Nepal elected Bidhya Devi Bhandari its first female president and second president ever on Wednesday. The role is mostly ceremonial. Promising to emphasize minority and women's rights in Nepal, Bhandari comes to power at a turbulent time after the new Nepalese constitution sparked violence last month.

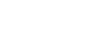
Source: *The Independent*



### UN court rules on island jurisdiction

**AMSTERDAM** — A Permanent Court of Arbitration under a UN Convention ruled that it has jurisdiction to rule on the territorial dispute between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea. China claims most of the South China Sea, but is opposed by several Asian nations. China promises to boycott the proceedings.

Source: *Reuters*



### Syrian summit seeks progress

**BEIRUT** — A summit on Friday regarding the conflict in Syria will include the U.S., Saudi Arabia, and Iran. The U.S. and Saudi Arabia are long time adversaries of Iran, in both the Syrian conflict and elsewhere, and this will be the first time they collaborate on the conflict. No Syrian representatives will be present.

Source: *Los Angeles Times*



### Austria builds anti-migrant fence

**BERLIN** — Austria plans to build a fence along its Southern border with Slovenia as the wave of migration across Europe continues. This will be the first such border control scheme within the free travel Schengen zone. This move drew a rebuke from Berlin and highlights the tension created by the influx of migrants, now up to 100,000 people, within the European Union.

Source: *The Telegraph*



### North Korea exports free labor

**TOKYO** — The number of forced laborers exported abroad by North Korea has grown, earning the regime billions. Most laborers are in Russia and China, but are found around the world. The U.N. claims many governments are ignoring the exploitation.

Source: *The Telegraph*

Compiled by  
**SINEAD FOLEY**



# Senate brings students to Fall Fest in Legacy Plaza



Yuan Bing/Staff Photographer

Student Senate organized the Fall Fest event in Legacy Plaza last Thursday. The event included festive treats and open dialogue from Student Senate representatives.

**DEBORAH CHU**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

This past Thursday night, Carnegie Mellon’s Undergraduate Student Senate hosted its first Fall Fest at the brightly lit, recently renovated, Legacy Plaza. The air was crisp and breezy, characteristic of the fall spirit the event aimed to celebrate.

Music resonated through the plaza as a few students wandered around tables and

were presented with offerings of free pumpkin and sugar cookies, popcorn, and stick-on tattoos, as well as free cider from Tazza D’Oro, a popular campus espresso shop. The atmosphere was nice and casual, meant to invite passing students to take a short break from their hectic workload to relax with free food and drinks.

In previous years, Senate would set up a table outside Doherty Hall in the fall and

would hand out free cookies and cider from Tazza D’Oro, amidst throngs of students on their way to and from classes. This year, Senate upgraded this tradition into an actual event, citing both the potential for the event itself as well as for Legacy Plaza. Despite the elegant look and central location of the plaza, it is still relatively new and there is usually not much going on there, in terms of campus events.

As for Fall Fest, student

life sets certain goals. Senate hopes that the future of the event may be to “partner with different organizations, have organizations come out and table with us too...and maybe something to look forward to in the fall, a really big main event in the fall, like a ‘fall-palooza,’ where we have people performing and things like that,” Campus Life Chair Kruti Koppolu said.


Fall Fest was organized by the Senate’s campus life

committee, which focuses on boosting school spirit; other areas of focus this year include mental health and a program for faculty-student lunches. In the winter, Senate plans to organize trips downtown to Pittsburgh’s Light-Up Night, as well as to create Carnegie Mellon’s own version of Light-Up Night on campus, by decorating trees on the Cut with Christmas lights.

The fall-themed event was initially scheduled to be

Wednesday night and was to feature a live performance from Rocki Boulis, a local Pittsburgh artist, but had to be moved to Thursday night due to rain.

The live performance was canceled since Boulis was unable to make it on Thursday. However, Fall Fest remained successful in what it aimed to do: provide a nice and relaxed fall atmosphere for students to drop by and enjoy delicious cider and cookies.



## Summer Employment at Carnegie Mellon: Teaching Assistant and Residential Counselor Jobs in the Pennsylvania Governor’s School for the Sciences

Undergraduate summer employment at Carnegie Mellon University is available with the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences (PGSS). The PGSS is a five-week summer school for extremely talented high school students from Pennsylvania. Teaching Assistant/Counselor appointments are available in the areas of biology, chemistry, computer science, physics and mathematics. Academic duties of the TA/Counselor include assisting with lecture and lab courses and mentoring team research projects. Counselor duties of the TA/Counselor include living in the same dormitory as the PGSS students, ensuring that students adhere to the PGSS disciplinary rules, providing tutorial help in the academic program, and arranging and conducting social activities.

Applicants should have finished their sophomore year by the start of the program. Preference will be given to applicants with strong academic records and strong social skills. Prior experience with PGSS or a similar summer program is preferred, but not required. Further information is available at the PGSS web site: <http://sciences.pa-gov-schools.org/>.

**Stipend for five-and-one-half week period:  
\$2,500 for new TA/Counselors, \$2,750 for returning TA/Counselors**

**Housing is included (in the PGSS dorm) as well as a food allowance.**

**TA/Counselor duties begin Wednesday, June 22, 2016, end Sunday, July 31, 2016.**

Applications are available from the PGSS Office in DH A301 or may be downloaded (pdf format) from the PGSS web site: <http://sciences.pa-gov-schools.org/>

Contact the PGSS Program Office at (412) 268-6669 or e-mail [pgss@cmu.edu](mailto:pgss@cmu.edu)

**Application Deadline: March 15, 2016**  
(Applications may be accepted after the deadline until all positions are filled.)

## Just Harvest teams with PACE

**HARVEST**, from A1

“We brought Just Harvest in to talk because they focus on eliminating food insecurity and hunger through advocacy and lobbying. They provide a broader perspective and highlight the underlying causes of food insecurity,” Wolf-Sorokin said.

Just Harvest is a non-profit organization that focuses on hunger and poverty in Allegheny County since its founding in 1986. Just Harvest believes hunger signals poverty caused by economic and political injustice. Just Harvest strives to change public policies to address hunger and poverty.

In 2012, the organization renewed its organizational mission, vision statement, and core values in an updated statement that emphasizes individual rights and responsibility in combating hunger. Just Harvest aims at guiding public opinion on the government’s effort in fighting against hunger and poverty on the community level. Just Harvest includes two organizations, A Center for Action Against Hunger, its lobbying arm supported mainly by membership dues and grassroots fundraising activities, and Just Harvest Education Fund, its community education and outreach arm supported

chiefly by grants, individual contributions, and grassroots fundraising activities.

Just Harvest depends on volunteers and interns to operate on a day-to-day basis. Sanders is the Volunteer Coordinator of Just Harvest, in-

**“We brought Just Harvest in to talk because they focus on eliminating food insecurity and hunger through advocacy”**

— *Mikaela Wolf-Sorokin*  
Event organizer

stalled in late 2011 after working for the organization for about four years. Sanders used to work in tax preparation and as a food stamp specialist. She acquired her Masters’ degrees in Social Work and International Development from the University of Pittsburgh in 2008. Sanders grew up receiving food stamps, so she is personally invested and devoted to ending hunger.

Food security is a systemic problem, Sanders said. Just

Harvest intends to change the political fundamentals that result in hunger and poverty because it believes that food banks, homeless shelters, and other private charities are stop-gaps that should be accompanied by effective efforts to eradicate hunger.

Despite being the wealthiest country in the world, the United States has millions of Americans who are below the poverty line and hungry. Most people in poverty have been cornered by health, age, family circumstance, cultural barriers, inadequate education, or low-wage skills, which deprives them of their political and social voice because they have to focus solely on surviving instead. These individuals are often forgotten by the public.

PACE is hosting future events regarding food insecurity. Stop Hunger Now is slated to be held on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Wiegand Gymnasium. A lunch discussion with Mim Seidel will be held in the CC Class of ’87 room from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. PACE also prepares for the Thanksgiving Basket Drive (an annual event), held on Nov. 16.

Just Harvest has an upcoming exhibition about poverty on Friday, Nov. 6, 2015 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 6022 Broad Street.

# Scott Hall construction on schedule to complete this spring

**CONSTRUCTION**, from A1

The current location provides a unique opportunity for the school. “This building will connect previously unconnected parts of the school. We have the intersection of Wean, Hamerschlag, and Roberts Hall,” Dorosa said. On the third floor, a common area with an open skylight will connect all these areas in a single intersection, the Rougi Atrium, also known as the Crossroads. Underneath the building, an underpass connects Hamerschlag and Wean’s south face to the Gates Hillman Complex via a walkway large enough to accommodate service vehicles. These connections exist as a testament to the building’s ability to fulfill a need for more space and greater cross-campus connectivity.

Right next to the Rougi

Atrium, engineering students will get access to an all-new state-of-the-art clean room facility. “The clean room that a lot of the engineers currently use is from way back in the ’70s,” Dorosa said. The construction crew contemplated where to put the clean room for a while, but chose the location just by the intersection because of its structural stability and wide-open space.

The process of building in the chosen area does not come without its difficulties, though. “An often-overlooked beauty of building construction is all the science that goes on behind the scenes,” Dorosa said.

Walking through the basement of the construction, The Tartan saw the computer regulating systems of the building, the new cooling and heating systems, and the foundations of the building up close. Cool-

ing fired up for the first time earlier that day, and the computers worked at a warm temperature of 32 degrees Celsius — about 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

diverse architecture. However, it cannot be argued that the views from Scott Hall are hard to beat on campus. The Cathedral of Learning sits on directly out of the building’s

“The clean room that a lot of the engineers currently use is from way back in the ’70s”

— Maxim Dorosa  
Senior Project Manager at Scott Hall

These undercover systems run through the entire building all the way to the top, where The Tartan had the unique opportunity of walking on the roof of the building. Looking in, Scott Hall maintains its own sort of aesthetic: a mark on Carnegie Mellon’s

west face, with a presence so large that a viewer could feel as if they were eating lunch on the lawn just beside The Porch restaurant.

On the fifth floor of the building, a large conference room provides a 180 degree view of the surrounding Oak-

land area. The conference room shows how Scott Hall fulfills its primary purpose: giving the administration of the Biomedical Engineering Department its own home base, and further expansion of its engineering programs.

Another thing that people looking at the construction would not grasp immediately is the impact of the railroad on the construction of the building. Reverberations of the passing railcars could be felt in certain parts of the building. Most of the impact of a passing train, though, is picked up and handled by building’s stilts.

In fact, the stresses that the stilts face is an area of interest for associate professor of civil and environmental engineering Mario Berges. Berges and his research team put sensors on the stilts to pick up the different stress variables. The building sees teams of workers

trafficking the area from 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily, and sometimes even later.

When asked what he finds most beautiful about Scott Hall, Dorosa said that he always finds the behind the scenes work the most intriguing and wonderful. “The students and faculty sit in the building, comfortable not just because of how pretty it is, but because of all the chemistry, and the engineering, and the facility work that goes into making the place comfortable,” Dorosa said.

The new Scott Hall certainly has an aesthetic beauty to it, and the vision of the architects will soon be realized as the finishing touches are put on the interior and inner workings of the new building. And just maybe, students will have a respect for the undercover work that went in to making the building what it is.

# Student Body President J.R. Marshall updates campus

Dear Campus Community,

It is truly hard to believe that the halfway mark on this semester has already come and gone. The leaves are falling, the wind is getting brisk and everyone seems to be entrenched in the busy discourse of classes and activities.

Perhaps it’s how busy we are. Our tendency for busi-

ness might explain why the time seems to pass so quickly at Carnegie Mellon. In these short eight weeks, our student government has executed an enormous body of work: Friday night lights, pizza and politics, a student governance town hall, a performance by Kai Roberts on mental health, a student faculty mixer, a student-parent luncheon, and so many other events and programming. These represent

our eagerness to engage you, the student body, in the governance process as much as we can.

More events and more chances to get involved are coming your way in the next eight weeks. Also, Jibby and I will be getting out onto campus on Fridays to table and meet with you to hear what you think about the job we’re doing. We might not meet all

13,000 members of our student body, but each voice and perspective is crucial for us to be successful.

Due to the incredible enthusiasm and service of every member of our cabinet, the governing bodies, and the student body at large, we have been able to be successful in carrying out the events and pursuing the goals we set out to accomplish last spring.

However, as we progress through the year, your participation, feedback and opinion will only become more important. I encourage you to participate in the future town halls we will host for the student body, reach out to Jibby and me at any time, and utilize your representatives in Senate and GSA as your advocates and friends.

We will continue to do our

best to bring the student government and all it has to offer to every member of our student community. Tell us how we’re doing, get involved in our projects, and let’s continue to pursue a better tomorrow for all of Carnegie Mellon. Together.

JR Marshall  
Student Body President

# Affiliates of UBA break ground on new site for Tepper Quad



Left: Student planners of the ceremony celebrate the groundbreaking at last.



Right: University President Subra Suresh addresses the crowd under the tent at the groundbreaking ceremony.

**TEPPER**, from A1

auditoriums, meeting spaces and a fitness center.

It will be connected to the Carnegie Museums and the University of Pittsburgh in an effort to work with the city and the county, extending the University’s impact beyond local grounds and to the global community.

Kera Bartlett, President of the Graduate Business Administration, believes the Tepper Quadrangle will establish the space and invite the people necessary to “enhance [our] education by shifting the mindset of being students accustomed to their own separate building on the corner of campus, to being at the center

of a crossroads, for incredible discoveries and interdisciplinary learning.” A Carnegie Mellon student at the event highlighted the cross-campus collaboration trend seen in graduate level campus groups, such as the Idea Marketplace, and interdisciplinary competitions, such as Hack-a-start-up, which will keep evolving thanks to the new building and the opportunities it provides.

David A. Tepper also spoke at the event about his vision for the building: a vision for education. The construction of the Tepper Quadrangle is Carnegie Mellon’s way of “not just talking the talk, but walking the walk.” The initiatives this new construction allows, like the Swartz Center for

Entrepreneurship, are meant to reach beyond university grounds and transform the region, with the support of other partners, like Google or Apple, that will build upon this investment. Tepper hopes that all departments of the

school can interact with each other and work with alumni to create and develop new ideas. He believes the proximity of two great schools, Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, will give Pittsburgh a unique possibil-

“[We will see] students accustomed to their own separate building on the corner of campus, to being at the center of a crossroads..”

— Kera Bartlett  
President of Graduate Business Administration

ity to create something very different in learning.

However, the construction of the building has raised some sustainability questions as students notice trees being torn down to make way for the construction. Measures are being taken in an effort to mitigate this and create a net positive impact. The Tepper Quadrangle complies with LEED Gold Certification standards, based off of five building performance standards, including sustainable site developments, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. The floors will be constructed with lighter materials in an effort to reduce the amount of effort

required to heat and cool the building over time. Additionally, the placement of hollow plastic balls, made from recycled materials, between two reinforcing steel layers within the concrete eliminates excess use of concrete and allows for longer structural spans, reducing the amount of beams and columns overall.

The Tepper Quadrangle will be built on a 4.5-acre space on the existing Morewood parking lot at the intersection of Morewood and Forbes Avenues.

The lead architects in the project are Moore Ruble Yudell Architects & Planners. The Tepper Quadrangle will officially open in 2018.



# Science & Technology

## NavCog app from CMU, IBM maps the world for the blind

**JULIA NAPOLITANO**  
*Assistant SciTech Editor*

Researchers from Carnegie Mellon University teamed up with IBM to create the first open platform for a smartphone app to assist the blind navigate their surroundings. The app, called NavCog, primarily works on the Carnegie Mellon campus. It uses existing smartphone sensors and Bluetooth beacons to inform the blind of their surroundings through ear buds or smartphone vibrations. “When in an unfamiliar place, people tend to use a walking navigation system on their device to compare the map location to the surrounding views,” NavCog’s website

explains. “However, visually impaired people cannot check the map or the surrounding scenery to bridge the gap between the ground truth and the rough GPS location. “NavCog aims for an improved high-accuracy walking navigation system that uses BLE beacons together with various kinds of sensors with a new localization algorithm for both indoors and outdoors.” NavCog is currently available online and will be downloadable on the App Store soon. IBM Bluemix has also made the cognitive assistant tools available through a cloud for developers. These tools include a navigation app, a map editing tool, and localization algorithms to

help the blind identify where they are and what direction they are facing. Chieko Asakawa, an IBM Fellow and distinguished service professor in Carnegie Mellon’s Robotics Institute, headed the project. “While visually impaired people like myself have become independent online, we are still challenged in the real world. To gain further independence and help improve the quality of life, ubiquitous connectivity across indoor and outdoor environments is necessary,” Asakawa said in a university press release. “I’m excited that this open platform will help accelerate the advancement of cognitive assistance research by giving

developers opportunities to build various accessibility applications and test non-traditional technologies such as ultrasonic and advanced inertial sensors to assist navigation.” NavCog is a product emerging from the research field of cognitive assistance, which utilizes smart machine technology to assist people in everyday life. Researchers from the Carnegie Mellon University Cognitive Assistance Laboratory collaborated with IBM Research to explore the use of localization technologies, sensors, and computer vision to identify objects and people to assist with people’s declining cognitive abilities. Although the app currently only works

on Carnegie Mellon’s campus, the researchers are optimistic, and hope to work with others to implement this technology in other locations. Martial Hebert, the director of the Robotics Institute, commented on NavCog, saying that “from localization information to understanding of objects, we have been creating technologies to make the real-world environment more accessible for everyone. With our long history of developing technologies for humans and robots that will complement humans’ missing abilities to sense the surrounding world, this open platform will help expand the horizon for global collaboration to open up the new real-world

accessibility era for the blind in the near future.” According to NavCog’s website, “NavCog aims to achieve a higher accuracy localization so that in the future, it will be able to provide a more precise description of surrounding Point of Interests and environmental information to the users based on their current location.” While this new technology represents a major step forward in assisting those who are visually impaired, the research team hopes to continue pushing the boundaries. In the future, they hope to develop versions of the app that can detect approaching individuals as well as their moods.

### PUGWASH

## Should sentences depend on statistics?

  
**THATCHER MONTGOMERY**  
*Staffwriter*

At last week’s Pugwash meeting, we discussed the use of statistics in the criminal justice system. Inspiration for the topic was drawn both from the science fiction movie *Minority Report*, in which crimes are predicted before they even happen and would-be criminals are jailed before they commit the act, and from reallife, as a proposed Pennsylvania law aims to determine probabilities of criminals reoffending and adjust prison sentences accordingly. One of the first things that came up in the discussion were the reasons for jailing people in the first place. First is the idea of retribution: If one person sees another doing something wrong, he would presumably want to punish the perpetrator and make him pay for it. Second is the idea of incarceration: by taking dangerous individuals out of society, society as a whole will be better off. Finally, there’s the idea of rehabilitation: taking people who made wrong choices and teaching them how to function in society so they can return as functioning, productive members to society. An initial thought was that the use of statistics would make the criminal system more objective. Instead of



Sarah Wan/Junior Artist

being at the whim of a human jury or judge, who may hold biases, or be having bad days and make poor judgements, sentencing would be done in the same manner for everyone, by the same algorithm. Wouldn’t it be more fair? However, some questions about statistics came up. How can we trust the current statistics that would be used to build the models to determine probabilities of re-offense? It would be easy to look at the current situation and say that certain races just commit more crimes than others, when there are really many more factors at play. The current system is biased, and so basing statistical models off the current system would just

carry those biases forward. Countering those concerns was the idea that if we know what the biases are, we can work to correct them and come up with a better system. However, even if the model itself isn’t biased, the police doing the legwork, looking for crime may be biased. That was one idea that resurfaced throughout the conversation. Couldn’t using statistics to determine who is more likely to commit a crime and then incarcerating him or her end in a downward spiral? Suppose the model says black men are more likely to commit crimes, and so therefore we round up all the “high risk” black men and imprison them. Wouldn’t this be something of

a self-fulfilling prophecy? Similarly, if we’re using statistics to root out the supposedly worst parts of society, wouldn’t it make sense to use the same model to determine who will be the least likely to commit crime and produce positive effects on society, and then prop those chosen ones up? Just by thinking about it, one can see how the self-fulfilling prophecy is something to be avoided. Also of concern was the idea that by handing off all the work to a statistical model, we would be rejecting the idea of free will. Although an individual may be at high risk of committing crimes, it is ultimately up to that individual whether or not he commits a crime. Instead of just throwing them in jail, wouldn’t it be better to encourage them to make better choices? This is the key question Pugwash was asking about the need for prisons. Is it merely to protect society? If it is, it would just be best to take people with a high probability of criminality and toss them in jail to protect innocent civilians. But if the idea behind jail is criminal rehabilitation, then the statistical models could be used for a better purpose. Instead of jailing high-risk individuals, resources could instead be used to help understand their situation and why they would commit a crime, and then help move them

See **PREDICTION**, A6

## New packaging developed at CMU for drug delivery

**JOSH BROWN**  
*Staffwriter*

Modern medicine can do some amazing things. From shocking hearts back into rhythm to eradicating disease altogether, medicine seems to be a field of ever-growing possibility. However, when considering diseases such as cancer, where the enemy is not a foreign invader but the body’s own tissues, effective treatments require a little more engineering, which is where targeted drug delivery comes into play. Targeted drug delivery is a very complicated process, especially in the case of cancer, where it is difficult to distinguish between mutated cells and healthy ones. Cells receive stimulation from the outside environment via receptor proteins located in their membranes. There are no cancer-cell-specific receptors, which in an ideal situation could be used to effectively treat cancer cells. This makes it difficult to specifically target cancer cells with medication and leave the healthy cells untouched. Many drugs tend to interfere with the parts of a cell crucial for division, which also means that they will target the cells that tend to divide more quickly — hair, skin, and bits of the digestive system. This is one reason why smart drug

delivery is being researched — to stop wrongfully killing healthy cells. There are still many large questions surrounding this treatment method, including how to get drug molecules into cells and how to differentiate between healthy and diseased cells. While some factors are not quite set in stone, researchers from Carnegie Mellon University, the Colorado School of Mines, Golden, and U.C. Davis have partnered to tackle a relatively more concrete project: engineering the structure of the “packages” within which drugs would be contained — liposomes. Liposomes are the structures that surround the drug and carry it through the body. Liposomes are made up of phospholipids, the same molecules that make up a cell’s membrane. They are an important factor in the viability of targeted drug delivery because they have to be structurally sound; if they are not, doctors run the risk of having them burst inside patients, spilling their destructive contents in the body and leading to internal damage. This project was a multi-scaled study, meaning that three different teams targeted the problem from three different microscope

See **PACKAGING**, A6

### SCITECH BRIEFS

#### Neurons involved in itch separate from those in pain

Researchers from the Salk Institute for Biological Studies discovered a neural pathway involving neuropeptide Y (NPY) neurons dedicated to transmitting non-chemically induced itches, defined as tingling sensations caused by a light touch. In collaboration with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, the researchers determined the function of neuropeptide Y (NPY) neurons by removing them from the spinal cord of mice and performed experiments in which they silenced the genes that expressed the NPY neurons. To their surprise, they found that the mice without NPY neurons were no more sensitive to chemically-induced itch, itch caused by a healing mosquito bite or wound on the skin, or pain, even through their sensitivity to light touch had increased. The study suggests that the spinal neurons involved in an itch differ from those that cause pain and chemical itch. In the future, these findings could help researchers modify neurons to treat patients who suffer from chronic itch.

Source: *ScienceDaily*



#### New class of DNA enzyme repair is discovered

A new class of DNA repair enzyme, called AlkD, has been discovered by researchers from Vanderbilt University of California, Davis, and Toyama Prefectural University. Found in soil-dwelling bacteria that cause a certain kind of food poisoning, AlkD binds to DNA that is damaged by environmental factors such as ultraviolet light. This binding causes conformational changes in the DNA that enable the removal of a damaged base, a building block of DNA, in order to make room for a new, undamaged base. AlkD was previously thought to belong to a class of enzymes known as DNA glycosylase which remove damaged DNA bases through a process known as base-excision repair. The new discoveries by these researchers broadens the scope of DNA repair mechanisms, and suggests that there could be many more mechanisms than previously thought. Information about these new mechanisms could potentially lead to new treatment options for a variety of diseases, including cancer.

Source: *ScienceDaily*



#### Dolphins suspected in whale attack off the coast of Skye

Last week, a severely injured, three-year-old pilot whale was euthanized after being found in Dunvegan, a small town on the Isle of Skye in Scotland. The whale had teeth marks on its body, flippers, and dorsal fin, wounds that are rarely found along the coasts of the United Kingdom. Marine officials suspect that bottlenose dolphins were the culprit of the injuries. The officials are not sure whether the injuries arose from the whale playing with or being attacked by the bottlenose dolphins. Scottish waters are home to the most northerly population of bottlenose dolphins in the world, and interactions between dolphins and whales are an integral part of their natural behavior. There has only been one previous incident of a dolphin attacking a whale in the United Kingdom. The incident serves as a reminder to those who come in contact with dolphins that while they are generally friendly, they do possess a potentially aggressive nature.

Source: *Discovery News*



#### New artificial skin feels texture and hears sound

The world’s first artificial fingerprints have been designed by researchers at Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology and Dong-A University, which are both located in South Korea. The scientists created electronic skin that incorporates fingerprint-like grooves on the surface to mimic real fingerprints. The artificial skin is made of layers of plastic and graphene material that are flexible and sensitive toward external stimuli. Through fluctuations in electric current the skin can detect subtle changes in temperature and pressure. Furthermore, it can detect noises even better than a microphone of a smartphone. The study was published in the journal *Science Advances*. The scientists hope to continue this research in order to find a way to relay signals from the electronic skin to the brain. They hope that the skin will ultimately serve as the basis for more comfortable and efficient prosthetics, wearable devices, and hearing aids.

Source: *Science Magazine*



#### Probes unveil three hidden blemishes on the moon

In a recent publication of the journal *Science Advances*, researchers presented evidence that reveals three previously unseen blemishes on the surface of the moon. Back in 2011, scientists at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched twin probes from the Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory (GRAIL). The GRAIL mission, which went on until 2012, gave the scientists a better understanding of the circular dents on the moon’s surface caused by impact craters. With the data collected from the gravitational pulls on the two spacecrafts, the scientists were able to find evidence for the existence of three basins named Asperitatis, Bartels-Voskresenskiy, and Copernicus-H. The size and distribution of these basins goes against the idea that four billion years ago space rocks hit the Earth and moon, which is a common suggestion for the eradication of early life on Earth.

Source: Science News



#### Facebook replaces Other inbox with message requests

Facebook has announced that in the next few days it will be making changes to its Messenger service by getting rid of the Other inbox, similar to a spam folder, in which users receive messages from people that they are not friends with on the site. The Other inbox, which many Facebook users either are not aware of or don’t check, will be replaced by a message request system in which a user receives these messages directly in their inbox and has to either accept or reject them. While the new request service will enable to users to message virtually anyone on the social network and ensure that their message is seen, there have been increased concerns about the decreased privacy associated with the service. Many organizations and page admins, however, are embracing the new format because it will likely increase the amount of users they are able to contact.

Source: BBC News



Compiled By  
**SHARON WU**



# Downloading Consciousness: a BrainHub panel discussion

**JOSH BROWN**  
*Asst. Copy Manager*

On Thursday afternoon, members of the Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition (CNBC) assembled to present a panel discussion regarding the relationship between computer science, neuroscience, and the connection between the brain’s circuitry and consciousness.

The panel was composed of Carnegie Mellon faculty from multiple departments. The panel, mediated by professor of biological sciences and interim director of BrainHub Alison Barth, included Carnegie Mellon faculty coming from the Departments of Computer Science, Neuroscience and Biological Sciences, and Philosophy. The attendees were Sandra Kuhlman, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences; Wayne Wu, an assistant professor and Associate Director of the CNBC; David Touretzky, research professor for the computer science department and the CNBC; and Anind Dey, a faculty member in the Department of Human Computer Interaction.

In the words of Dr. Barth, the central question the discussion revolved around was, “How close are we to being able to represent the human consciousness in computers?”

Kuhlman began the panel by speaking about the brain’s complexity. After listing some of the ways in which this complexity manifests, she noted her doubt toward the idea of neuroscientists fully understanding the brain within her lifetime, stating that she is more interested in “developing strategies for understanding the brain” than she is in pursuing a complete understanding.



Alison Barth (left), a professor of biological sciences at Carnegie Mellon, and Wayne Wu (right), an assistant professor and Associate Director of the Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition participated in a panel held by BrainHub.

Next, Wu discussed a paper which examined the idea of hearing a sound to understand consciousness; some brain activity was observed when the subject was introduced to sound but did not actively “hear” it, and brain activity was widespread when the subject heard the sound, or was conscious of it. In this way, Wu summarized that not all brain activity “gives rise to mentality,” which adds another difficulty to the already aggressive list.

Wu went on to discuss the idea of downloading consciousness, of mirroring the brain’s circuitry and attempting to replicated consciousness in a computer. He admitted that “there are already problems connecting the brain to

the mind, so there would be many more issues in connecting the brain to computational systems.” As it now stands, there is no clear sign for a biological basis for consciousness, no explanatory connection between intelligence and the circuitry of the brain.

Wu brought up the idea of Turing’s Test, in which a human (A), and a computer (B) are asked questions by an impartial party (C); based on the questions and their answers, C determines which one is human. If C has to guess, then this is considered proof of an artificial consciousness’s legitimacy. This idea was applied to constructions such as Watson, IBM’s artificial intelligence who beat actual human players at Jeopardy, SimSensei, a



Courtesy of Alison Barth and Wayne Wu

virtual therapist, and Chatbot programs which simulate conversation in text. The argument is that artificial intelligence is more than the ability to create a dialogue; some programs can do this by reiterating the question originally asked, or in Watson’s case, by answering correctly. These sorts of virtual consciousnesses are the closest we can currently come to a truly artificial intelligence, but they appear to be on the right track.

The conversation gradually shifted from the creation of artificial intelligence in computers to the possibility of transferring a human consciousness into a computer. The panelists focused on a case in which a doctor of neuroscience developed a brain tumor and elected

to preserve her brain so that in the future, there would be potential for her consciousness to be replicated in a computer so that she and her boyfriend could talk after she passed away. The panelists agreed that there are many issues with cryopreservation and this overall situation. There is the issue of natural cell death and the tissue death that comes from freezing, and since we do not currently have a concrete connection between the brain and the mind, it would be a long while before anything like this would even be plausible. Also, there is the fact that were they to reconstruct her brain, they would be reconstructing a haywire brain — a tumored brain — to consider.

Dey talked about work

being done by the University of Southern California, where researchers are attempting to preserve the consciousness of a Holocaust survivor. They recorded him with multiple cameras in order to produce a 3D hologram construction of his body. When he speaks, he mimics the normal physical patterns of human speech very well. The hologram is a repository of information, much like a human intelligence: One can ask him a question, and he will reply by combining many facts about himself and responding in a very human way. This seemed to be the most interesting push toward a real consciousness within a computer out of all of the examples.

The underlying thread beneath these two examples is that there is still no clear connection between the mind and the brain — between consciousness and circuitry. The most difficult task, the panel agreed, would be to recreate a specific consciousness and have it recognizable by a loved one.

As of now, it is far easier to replicate a simple emotion or a person you’ve never met before. Recreating a specific consciousness brings up the question: just because a program can think like a person, or has the same wiring and circuit activity, is that program then that person? Do they need access to that person’s memories to truly replicate that consciousness? Is a simple replication of the circuitry enough, or is there something more, something intangible about the individual that makes this concept of downloading consciousness unproductive? Right now, there are more questions than answers.

## Pugwash talks crime

**PREDICTION**, from A5

away from that situation and mindset. For example, criminals who performed crimes of necessity are entirely from poorer populations, and are at more risk of re-offending as well. But no matter how much they get thrown into jail, they’ll still re-offend because they need whatever they’re stealing to survive. So instead of jailing them, maybe they should be targeted with assistance. The statistical models could be used to find high-risk offenders and then work with them to remove the causes of crime. This would require more than just the introduction of statistics into sentencing, however. It would be an

entire shift in the mindset of the American criminal justice system. And while Pugwash mostly compared incarceration to rehabilitation in terms of benefit to society, many Americans still hold tight to the idea of retribution: jail is punishment for bad acts, and should be meted out because criminals deserve it, regardless of any existing alternative methods.

*Student Pugwash is a non-advocacy, educational organization that discusses the implications of science. This article is a summary of last week’s discussion on the use of statistics in the criminal justice system.*

### HOW THINGS WORK

## Hurricane Patricia’s rapid growth mystifies

**RAGHUNANDAN AVULA**  
*Staffwriter*

Recently, the citizens of Mexico unexpectedly found themselves in the direct path of Hurricane Patricia, which is being lauded as the most intense tropical cyclone even recorded in the Western Hemisphere. Meteorologists first acknowledged Patricia as a tropical depression, but it quickly grew from a tropic storm to a Category 5 hurricane within the span of 24 hours. Hurricanes can be amazingly powerful and destructive forces of nature, and they can grow at terrifying and unpredictable rates.

On Oct. 23, Patricia made

landfall and luckily was not nearly as destructive as initially expected. Still, its rapid growth has mystified meteorologists. Despite having a fundamental understanding of how hurricanes form, they cannot fully explain Patricia’s growth.

Hurricanes generally form over warm ocean waters near the equator because the warm, moist air rises upward from the surface. Simultaneously, the space left void by the rising air is filled with the surrounding cooler air. The warm moist air forms into clouds, generating a powerful machine-like system that continues to grow as the wind spins and the storm feeds on warm air.

Storms formed north of the equator spin counterclockwise while those that form south of the equator spin clockwise. The center of the hurricane, commonly known as the eye, forms as the storm system begins to pick up speed. A Category 5 hurricane like Patricia produces wind speeds up to and over 155 mph, though Patricia earned the title of the strongest Pacific wind system ever observed, with wind speeds of 200 mph. Meteorologists described Patricia’s development into a Category 5 hurricane as a result of a perfect environment for rapid intensification. During its formation, there was a consistent cycle of heat

exchange and a large drop in pressure, optimal conditions for hurricane formation. Wind shear, also known as a wind gradient, results from quickly changing speeds and direction of wind and usually acts as a brake to slow the growth of the hurricane. Unfortunately, wind shear was very weak during Patricia’s formation, and this largely contributed to its rapid growth. Luckily, the strength of the storm subsided, and damage was not as serious as initially expected. Still, Hurricane Patricia will continue to be regarded as a very interesting phenomenon and a dangerous natural disaster by meteorologists and citizens alike.

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## New packaging method for drug delivery discovered

**PACKAGING**, from A5

resolutions. The resolution determines the properties and science considered by the particular team — will they look at the liposome’s structure at a magnification which privileges chemistry (atomic/molecular levels), or will they take a coarser look and privilege physical properties?

The Carnegie Mellon researchers, led by Professor Markus Deserno of Carnegie Mellon’s Physics Department and Dr. Mingyang Hu, a PhD candidate in computational biophysics, focused on the structure at a coarse level.

This means that they looked at the problem from a physical perspective, applying the study of physics to their computational models and examinations.

They started out with a hub and spoke model, the same design as an old carriage wheel: the drug molecule in the center, polymeric tethers which would bind to the drug as the supportive spokes, and the phospholipids which would comprise the surrounding layer, or the wheel itself.

The team concerned themselves with the pragmatics of liposome creation, since one of the overarching goals of their research is to produce the liposomes for clinical use.

They focused on the liposome’s dispersity, or the uniformity of the system, and,

“I’m the guy at Amazon who packages things nicely so they don’t get broken.”

— Markus Deserno, professor of physics at Carnegie Mellon

according to Deserno, “how uniform does it have to be not to disperse, in order to work?”

The results were encouraging enough that production would not be prohibitively expensive, and the system will hold just fine in theory.

The team was also con-

cerned with the production process’ role in creating liposomes.

For simple liposomes without the structural design necessary for carrying drug molecules, Deserno said that “[their size] depends on the production process. But this isn’t the case with our structure. The size of the liposome is dictated by the physics. It’s the choice of design parameters, like how many polymers, how long they are, et cetera.”

This means that the theoretical structure is much more easily producible, good news for those who would actually construct them.

“I’m the guy at Amazon who packages things nicely so they don’t get broken,” said Deserno.

The researchers developed a theoretical, robust package for drug delivery.

Deserno maintained that while the findings were “pure theory and computational study,” the theories should be sound enough that when another lab attempts to produce the liposomes using these blueprints, it should work swimmingly.

# Forum

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD



Courtesy of Flickr user Quest Language Studies

## NYC’s new free SAT plan transcends class limitations

The Tartan Board recently published a commentary on a study from the University of Washington which revealed that in the 50 most populated American cities, less than one third of high school students take either the SAT or ACT. This indicates the disturbing influence that class and race have on access to education, and therefore a well-paying job, in America.

This week, however, New York City took an encouraging step toward bridging this gap. Beginning in spring 2017, city public schools will offer the SAT for free to high school juniors during the school day. Normally the test occurs on weekends in variable locations and costs \$54.50. Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña

announced the change on Monday to kick off College Application Week, a national program that encourages students to apply to college by offering them the chance to speak with admissions officers and receive free advice on application essays. Once the program is implemented, it will not be mandatory to take the exams, but giving students the opportunity to do so in a comfortable atmosphere at no cost will break down a barrier that stands in many students’ ways to higher education.

By making the test the default, participation will increase for students who would not otherwise choose to spend the money and the Saturday morning on it. But then, by already fulfilling a requirement for

many college applications, higher education may seem more realistic — especially for students who don’t expect to earn a degree. Some institutions offer scholarships based on performance, which could ease the financial burden even further.

This program is only expected to cost New York City an annual \$1.8 million per year, which is barely a penny in the grand scheme of the city’s budget of \$75 billion. We hope that other cities in America will follow New York’s lead and implement similar programs in their public schools. If they succeed, an encouraging next step would be to offer free or reduced-price SAT preparation classes to help students maximize their potential.

## Brutal police officers don’t belong in public schools

From pre-kindergarten onwards, many public school students see police officers almost every day. Whether it’s in Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), in an assembly, or just in the halls, police officers are a significant presence in school.

School police officers serve many purposes: They teach students about drug resistance, help prevent violence in schools, and often serve as friendly faces. Sometimes, however, school police officers are the ones causing violence in public schools — last week, a video surfaced online of a school police officer in Columbia, South Carolina flipping over a student’s desk and throwing her to the ground.

Although some claim the officer’s actions were justified — the student had refused to leave the classroom before the officer struck her — nothing short of a gun in the classroom justifies such violence against a high school student.

The officer, a white man, has garnered well-deserved condemnation from proponents of the Black Lives Matter movement for his violence against the black student, and has since been fired from his position at the school.

As police officers become commonplace in schools, they bring into the classroom tactics used to fight crime in the streets. School police officers are becoming figures of intimi-

dation, rather than the role models they’re intended to be.

With police officers stationed in schools, wayward students follow a pipeline straight from high school to prison, contributing to an overfilled, ineffective, and ultimately broken prison system. Although school police officers are supposed to be trained in defensive discipline, the video shows that such training is not always effective.

The cons of having police officers in our schools outweigh the pros. We must rethink a system that keeps high school students in line with brutality, and replace it with one based on more constructive disciplinary tactics.

## Criminal record not death sentence for employment

Earlier this week, New York passed “ban the box” legislation, which removes a checkbox on job applications requiring candidates to disclose their criminal background. This legislation plays a key role in equitable employment opportunities. By merely having applicants check a box on a form, employers are misunderstanding the nature of crime in a way that unfairly disadvantages people.

The first problem with simple check boxes is that many crimes are crimes of necessity. There is much context involved in crimes, many of which are related to socioeconomic status. If a person’s family is destitute and selling drugs is the only way for them to put food on the table, he or she should not be permanently out of a job.

Even though the person did break the law, they did so largely due to poverty. Putting them in a position that permanently excludes them from the economy is the exact opposite of a meaningful solution. It creates the cyclical poverty that condemns families to lives of hardship

for generations.

This problem is exacerbated by the rising income inequality in the American economy. After the 2008 financial crisis, the recovery has taken the form of an upward redistribution of wealth for a variety of reasons.

As wealth is concentrated within a small number of people, the money that people do have simply has less purchasing power because the wealthiest contingent of society has a much higher price at which they will buy goods.

Further, wages have stagnated for about 15 years. With higher prices and less money for the working poor, the economy is not producing the kinds of jobs that allow people to sufficiently provide for themselves. This means more people are in positions where crimes are not only realistic but, well, necessary.

The second problem with check boxes is that they rest on two assumptions, both of which are intuitively false. The first assumption is that arrests are representative of who is committing crimes. The

second assumption is that people who are convicted are always guilty and people who are not convicted of crimes are always innocent.

The binary nature of a checkbox requires these assumptions to be generally true. The racial and ethnic biases of law enforcement, trials, and sentencing are all well documented. This means that Black and Hispanic applicants will be more likely to actually have to check the box than a white person who has committed the same crimes.

This economic discrimination is unconstitutional but, more importantly, simply wrong. A job grants someone access to resources, and it allows someone to participate in the economy. That right should always be independent of immutable characteristics like race or bad luck like the struggling post-recession economy.

The Tartan applauds New York City for recognizing the issues with check boxes to indicate a criminal record on job applications and encourages other states to pursue similar measures in the future.

# Meat is not healthy, government subsidies force us to keep eating

SINEAD FOLEY  
Staffwriter

The World Health Organization (WHO) report released on Monday should give pause to everyone on campus with a dining plan. From Resnik to the Underground, red and processed meats are ubiquitous, and the recent WHO report ties these foods to an increased risk for several types of cancer. The report ties the daily consumption of at least 50 grams of processed meat to an 18 percent increased risk of colorectal cancer.

Campus is not the only place where such processed meat is in abundance and even excess. In 2012, the average American consumed 54 grams of processed meat per day, putting her at an elevated risk. This report highlights the need for change in how Americans think about and use meat, as well as how the government subsidizes the meat industry.

this country. Meat prices should be through the roof with the high demand, but farm subsidies help keep the cost down.

The United States Department of Agriculture spends around \$20 billion annually on agricultural subsidies. The vast majority of that money goes to corn and soy. These crops are integral to many people’s diets — us vegetarians are practically made of tofu — but most of the yield goes to meat. In 2014, 5.3 billion bushels of corn went to animal feed, compared to the 1.4 billion that went directly to humans. The government is practically picking up the tab for the meat industry.

In contrast, fruit and vegetable farmers get almost no support. Specialty crops, defined by the Department of Agriculture as “fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops,” are actually ineligible for both of the major subsidy programs. Without government support, produce is significantly more expensive to grow and therefore to buy. The farm subsidy system locks Americans into a strange parallel universe from most of the world by making meat is the cheaper alternative.

First, let’s break the report down: It’s written by the International Agency of Research into Cancer (IARC), the branch of the WHO that specializes in cancer research. The IARC classifies correlates for cancer into five groups: carcinogenic, probable carcinogenic, possible carcinogenic, unclassifiable, and probably not carcinogenic. To be classified as carcinogenic, a substance must be proven to cause cancer in human subjects, while a probable carcinogenic substance only requires strong support in animal test groups.

The report placed processed meat in the carcinogenic group and red meat in the probable carcinogenic group. It also announced the 18 percent increase in risk tied to processed meats and tied 34,000 cancer deaths per year to processed meat consumption. Most people know that hot dogs aren’t a health food, but the category of processed meat includes anything that has been salted, cured, fermented, or otherwise altered. This translates to sausages, bacon, jerky, lunch-meats, and more.

Americans eat almost three times more meat than the global average, and much of that is either red or processed. One of the reasons Americans eat so much more meat is that it’s amazingly cheap and plentiful in

The WHO report is just another voice in the chorus proclaiming the detrimental affects of high-meat diets. The American Cancer Society has long touted the benefits of limiting processed meat. Even the American government itself has admitted that it is important to eat a diet skewed away from meat, recommending a healthy meal that’s half fruit and veggies and one-fifth meat.

Yet even while paying lip service to the medical community, the government continues to economically promote excessive meat consumption. The WHO report should serve as a reminder that the farm subsidy program needs to be reevaluated if America wants a healthier population.

What does this all mean for us on campus? There’s an idea in American culture that a meal is not complete without a meat component, but the science is showing that that might not be the best idea. So next time you’re ordering pancakes at the Carnegie Mellon Café, maybe opt for the veggie sausage as a side — I promise it doesn’t bite.



Courtesy of Flickr user sab1014

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The Tartan is a student newspaper at Carnegie Mellon University, funded in part by the student activities fee. It is a weekly publication by students during the fall and spring semesters, printed by Trib Total Media. The Tartan is not an official publication of Carnegie Mellon University.

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

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# Rise Up October protests show world has apathy problem

**NECATI ALP MUYESSER**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

New Yorkers rarely seem interested in what’s going on. This makes locals fairly easy to pinpoint: they walk around with “I’ve seen it all” attitudes. Snobbish, yes, but also quite well founded. I personally know New Yorkers who would not give a second glance to a naked person walking down the street. New Yorkers are truly a hard-to-surprise breed. So I wasn’t utterly shocked when I witnessed a rather unremarkable case of civil unrest in Times Square last weekend: the Rise Up October protests.

I stopped to take a good look anyways. I don’t wish to belittle the Black Lives Matter movement, and quite to the contrary, I am sympathetic to the cause of fighting police brutality and mass incarceration. But I also don’t want to misrepresent the incident as something more than it actually was. The police contained it after a short-lived brawl and few media outlets ended up giving the protesters coverage.

I might not be a New Yorker, but I am an Istanbulite, a person who is equally if not more used to seeing crazy stuff happen right in front of their eyes. Two years ago, I happened to be in Taksim Square during the Turkish Gezi Park protests, a nationwide condemnation of the ruling party that sprang from plans to build a shopping mall in one of the few urban green-zones in Istanbul. Though the dynamics of the two movements are not identical, both include factors such as police brutality and the oppression of ethic minorities that have led to direct action by frustrated masses.

No matter how unique a social movement appears to be, I believe that the plea for social change all across the globe is centered around the same themes: liberty, human rights, and equality. As a proponent of the Gezi Park movement, I could relate to protesters in New York demanding equal treatment from law enforcement officials. Unfortunately, I could also relate when a peaceful gathering intended to protest police brutality ironically ended with more police brutality. When I sensed that tensions were growing, my journalist’s instincts took over, and I approached the protesters. I know that transparency means little these days, but I began to record anyways. I saw protesters getting kicked by cops as

they laid defenseless on the ground. I heard people shout that they would not commit suicide under police custody, bringing attention to suspicious deaths of detainees such as Sandra Bland. But by far the most tragic thing I witnessed was people taking selfies with such chaos in the background, grinning ear-to-ear.

My home country is as polarized as it gets. The massive support tha-

textisted for the Gezi Park was greeted with an equally sizable opposition. That pretty much sums up Turkish politics: We either stand together in solidarity or we fiercely dissent. But at least we usually care enough to dissent. When people are so indifferent to the issues of their fellow citizens that they treat their demands for justice as petty Snapchat stories, we’ve reach a whole new level of low.

This is not an American issue; the growth of apoliticism is global. People everywhere are losing their ability to empathize. As technology permeates culture more and more, personal communication suffers. When we fail to communicate, we withdraw into our little bubbles. As our bubbles shrink, so do our comfort zones. Instead of confronting deeply entrenched political issues such as

racial segregation and Islamophobia, we pretend that they do not exist.

Ignoring social movements that demand racial equality can be convenient and comforting. But indifference will make neither the movements nor the problems go away. History has shown this repeatedly. We need to engage. We need to pay Black Lives Matter the attention it deserves.



Brian Walsh/News Editor

# “Ferguson Effect” is myth, distraction from real movement

**SARAH BENDER**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

In a speech at the University of Chicago Law School, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director James Comey stated that he believes the “Ferguson Effect” is responsible for an increase in crime in cities across America.

According to the *New York Times*, the number of murders as of August has increased in many major cities. Milwaukee, for example, has seen a 76 percent increase, from 59 murders in 2014 to 104 in 2015. Murder rates have increased by 60 percent in St. Louis, 56 percent in Baltimore, and 22 percent in New Orleans.

In Comey’s opinion, one that is shared by several other law enforcement officials, this is at least partially due to the demands of Black Lives Matter protesters. He speculated that an increase in public scrutiny of police behavior after the fatal shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. has resulted in more hesitant policing.

According to Comey, police officers are increasingly reluctant to take action for fear of becoming the source for the newest hashtag or YouTube video condemning overzealous and downright unconstitutional police actions.

Other government officials, including White House Press Secretary

Josh Earnest, have countered that there is no evidence of a relationship between the protests and the current rise in crime. Numerous other causes have been suggested, from lowered gun prices to a rise in synthetic drugs to more people being released from prison.

True or not, Comey’s claim could just be his attempt to oversimplify a complicated issue and point fingers. But if the Ferguson Effect is, as *The Atlantic* proclaimed, nothing more than the “bigfoot of American criminal justice,” it is unsettling to see powerful people jumping to lay the blame for increased violence on social activists without any proof.

Combined with Comey’s use of

the phrase “all lives matter,” thought by many to undermine the Black Lives Matter movement, it seems evident that he intends to merely bully those speaking out and return to a state where people turn a blind eye to police injustice.

Even if there were any evidence to support the Ferguson Effect, that would mean that police officers find themselves unable to properly do their jobs when there is a risk they may be filmed and held accountable for their actions.

If there is truly a trend developing where police are taking a hands-off approach thanks to the increased presence of civilian vigilance and recording devices, that means they

feel that they can’t keep people safe without simultaneously disrespecting people’s civil rights. They know their misbehavior would not be supported under scrutiny, and yet they would rather do nothing than adjust their actions to comply with the law.

Black Lives Matter protesters are either viewed as a convenient scapegoat or an excuse to delay changing police behavior. Over a year after the shooting in Ferguson, it has again become clear that the issues brought to light that day have not disappeared. But if efforts to bring about reform are treated as almost criminal themselves, it may not be practical to expect things to change significantly anytime soon.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Letter to the Editor: Israel actions in Palestine justified, reasonable

For those of you unaware, there has been a recent outbreak of violence between Palestinians and Israelis over false accusations from Palestinian leadership. Namely, they have claimed that Muslims may not be the only ones allowed to pray at the Temple Mount in the future. In addition, the Oslo Accords, which set the ground for peace under former president Bill Clinton’s administration, were denounced by Mahmoud Abbas, the leader of the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank. Furthermore, on Palestinian television, Abbas welcomed the spilled blood of Palestinians in Jerusalem as the blood of martyrs. An op-ed

ago, two Palestinians armed with a gun and a knife attacked a bus full of innocent Israelis, killing one and injuring several others, and a mother and her children were badly burned in a firebomb attack last week. Despite this violence, Israel has practiced restraint in its response. There has been no incursion into the West Bank, no disruption of services or aid to the Gaza Strip or West Bank, no airstrikes, and no military action other than increased patrols in Jerusalem and other major cities. Yet there is still more terror, and more innocent blood spilled. Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank indeed live under terrible conditions. But the attacks

targeting terrorist leaders, to minimize collateral damage and prevent the loss of innocent lives. If you truly want to support the Palestinians in their plight, then you cannot support the organizations that hurt the people they supposedly protect. Support the search for peace; engage in a peaceful conversation rather than a shouting match. Let us come together and see each other as humans, without hate, without prejudice, with a single goal of living together peacefully. There is a passage in the Jerusalem Talmud: “Whoever destroys a soul, it is considered as if he destroyed an entire world. And whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he


“If you truly want to support the Palestinians in their plight, then you cannot support the organizations that hurt the people they supposedly protect. Support the search for peace; engage in a peaceful conversation rather than a shouting match.”

recently published by The Tartan, “America must not fund oppression of Palestine,” discusses the recent tensions and suggests that the terrorism being perpetrated is understandable given the plight of the Palestinian people. The author also argues Israel’s response has been grossly disproportionate. But what can Israel do when four children, all fewer than 10 years old, witness the murder of their parents, or a father is murdered, and his wife and two-year-old child are attacked? The only answer is to defend themselves as they have done for decades as the State of Israel, and for millennia as the Jewish People. Hamas, the internationally recognized terrorist group that controls the Gaza Strip, as well as Fatah, the political and militant party in charge of the West Bank, called for a “Day of Rage,” inciting Palestinians to attack innocent Jews on the street. Palestinians committed arson at Joseph’s Tomb and a bus depot in Ramat Gan, a neighborhood of Tel Aviv where I used to work. A couple weeks

that are being planned and carried out will only make their conditions worse; innocent Palestinians will be placed in further danger due to the actions of the terrorists that live and plot among them. The only solution is a peaceful one. When I lived and worked in Tel Aviv in the summer of 2014, Hamas launched hundreds of rockets and thousands of mortar shells toward major population areas and border towns of the Gaza Strip, including Tel Aviv. Israel invested in counter-terrorist measures such as the Iron Dome missile defense system and bomb shelters that made me feel safe enough to stay in a country under attack. Israel invests its money, time, and resources into protecting everyone that lives within its borders. Meanwhile, Hamas in the Gaza Strip and terrorist factions in the West Bank invest their money, time, and resources into attacking Israel while using United Nations schools, hospitals, and innocent civilians as shields. Israel will do everything it can, including aborting air strikes

saved an entire world.” As Jews, we value the life of every person. Even if a person has so much hate in their heart that they seek to kill us, their life still matters. Israel trains its security forces to wound, and not to kill unless absolutely necessary. Israel has shown great patience and restraint in dealing with constant threats of terrorism. It is a marvel that Israel is still willing to negotiate a peace agreement despite this. All we ask is that the other side is willing to come to the table where life is valued more than hate. I fear this may be in the very distant future, and until then, I shall mourn the needless loss of innocent Palestinians and Israelis thrown away in favor of hate. I will continue to pray that there may be a peaceful solution, that Israelis and Palestinians can live together without fear, without hate, without violence, and finally live in peace. Harrison Loomis Junior Mathematical Sciences

# Don’t see red, Youtube pay-wall benefits us all

  
XIYU WANG



Last week, YouTube launched its ad-free subscription service: YouTube Red. As with any change that rolls around, YouTube Red has had its critics. The majority of the criticism revolves around how, in the face of ad blocking, paying \$10 a month for YouTube is a waste of money. Furthermore, there have been concerns over the steps YouTube seems to be taking to make its creators pay, as evidenced by an 16,000 signature petition on *Change.org*, “Stop YouTube Red”. To the first point, YouTube Red may be of interest to people who want to support content creators or the platform itself. As popular YouTuber and multimillionaire Pewdiepie points out on his blog, ad blockers significantly cut into the ad revenues of creators; an estimated 40 percent of ad revenue may be lost due to ad blocking, which can significantly hurt smaller channels. There have been many creators on YouTube who have asked their viewers to turn off ad-blockers when viewing their content. Personally, I would rather tip a creator I supported through Patreon than turn on ads. In my experience, ads significantly increase the time a webpage takes to load, diminish the viewing experience, and sometimes even contain malicious code. An official ad-free solution that helps support content creators would be useful, but it is clear that YouTube Red cannot survive on the selling point of an ad-free viewing experience alone. For one thing, a large portion of YouTube’s user base is young and may not be as willing or able to pay a subscription fee. Compared to Netflix, for example, most of the content on YouTube seems to be geared toward an under-30 crowd — think Tyler Oakley versus *House of Cards*. Furthermore, the majority of videos on YouTube are amateur content

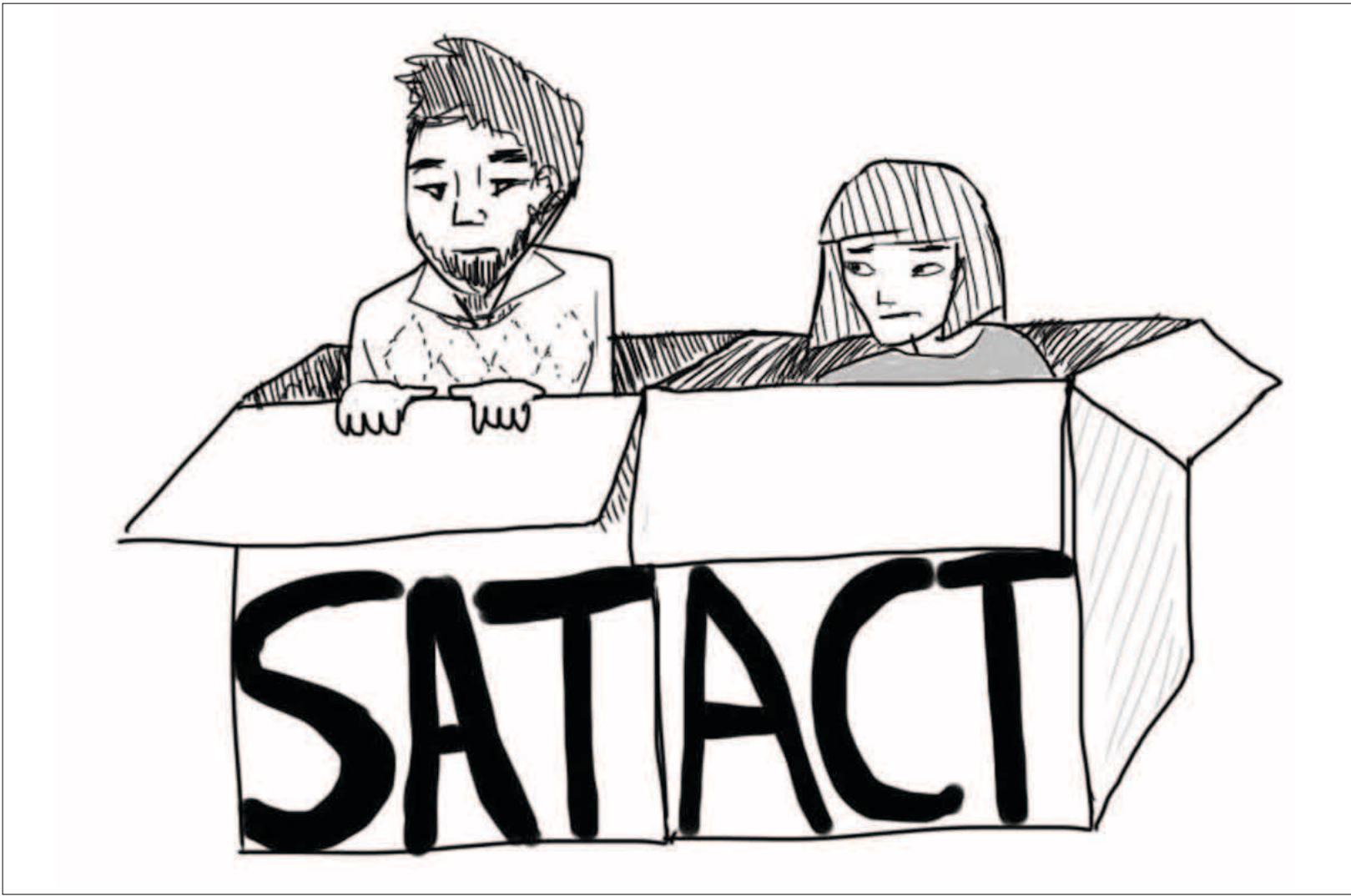
that most people would rather not see if they had to pay money for it. Red may be of the most use for people who use YouTube to listen to music, but this service is hardly any different from the existing Google Play Music subscription, which is now bundled with YouTube Red. To entice anyone into using YouTube Red, YouTube plans to rely on “premium” content: high-budget videos by some of its biggest stars available only to Red subscribers. It appears that YouTube is trying to change the direction of how it does business. Instead of a platform where people are able to post and discuss videos, YouTube may be trying to become a content distributor, able to hold leverage over the decisions of its creators and shift the balance of who rightfully owns content. Many are concerned about how YouTube handles its power over its partners and whether they will maintain the culture of open content. In launching YouTube Red, YouTube partners were given the option to either sign up for YouTube Red or let their videos be made private, which would make their videos inaccessible to the general public. While most partners had no qualms about the switch, YouTube got its way by essentially threatening them with censorship. Although it remains to be seen what direction the platform will head in, for now YouTube Red seems to be overall a net positive for creators and users. Hopefully, YouTube will continue to support the efforts of creators and improve the experience of users without sacrificing its traditional culture of open content.

*Xiyu Wang (@xiyuw) is a staffwriter for The Tartan.*

# Students aren’t standard, too many tests impair learning

SYDNEY ROSLIN  
Junior Staffwriter

Every year, public schools across the United States experience a drastic change from their day-to-day activities. Teachers hand out thick packets of multiple choice questions, students fill out an excess of bubble sheets, and parents get bombarded with emails reminding them to make sure that their children get lots of rest and make it to school on time. School administrators lose sleep over national and state performance level standards. Normal curricula are suspended, and attention is instead turned to state-mandated reading comprehension questions, basic math equations, and canned essay formats. Entire schools are turned upside down, and it is all thanks to standardized testing. Standardized testing has been a part of American education since the mid 1800s. However, its use in public schools skyrocketed when the No Child Left Behind Act (2002) introduced the first nationwide annual standardized testing requirement for children from grades 3–8. The Council of Great City Schools estimates that students in public schools take, on average, 112 standardized tests during their school careers, according to a report released last month. This translates to roughly eight tests per student every year from pre-kindergarden until 12th grade, many of which have been mandated by No Child Left Behind. This rampant use of standardized testing is meant to increase and hold schools accountable for student performance. However, National Assessment for Education Progress, a set of federally sponsored exams that is administered consistently across all 50 states, released its newest report last week, showing a decrease in the math scores of fourth and eighth-graders, the first decline since 1990. Increasing standardized testing, it appears, is not the key to improving the American education system. President Obama seems to agree. The Department of Education’s new Testing Action Plan promises to provide guidance and funding to help reduce testing. In an open letter



Maegha Singh/ Staff Artist

to America’s teachers and parents, Obama states his three basic principles that any test used in the classroom should meet: “First, our kids should only take tests that are worth taking — tests that are high quality, aimed at good instruction, and make sure everyone is on track. Second, tests shouldn’t occupy too much classroom time, or crowd out teaching and learning. And third, tests should be just one source of information. We should use classroom work, surveys, and other factors to give us an all-around look at how our students and schools are doing.” Under the Testing Action Plan, any test that doesn’t meet these standards will be eliminated. Furthermore, schools will only be allowed to spend a maximum of 2 percent of classroom time on standardized testing.

This critical view of standardized testing as a whole is a much-needed development in American education. Our schools’ reliance on standardized testing is extremely limiting, forcing teachers to halt the momentum of their classes, stifle their creativity, and teach in a manner that might not be the most effective for their students. Many times, teachers feel pressure from school administrations to “teach to the test” in an effort to raise school averages and thereby increase federal funding. Putting teachers in a box significantly lessens what students learn. A class taught with the goal of preparing for a standardized test is a class taught with no real-world context. There is little opportunity for students to be creative and take deeper meaning from their lessons

when everything can be summarized in a state-issued test. Teaching to a test is not teaching students how solve problems, it is not encouraging students to inquire further into the course material, and it is not teaching students how to internalize methods of learning effectively. Furthermore, the prevalence of standardized testing creates a serious disparity between students that are good at it and those that are not. Just like any other method of learning and any other method of assessment, standardized testing is not built for every student. When it is emphasized so much more than other methods of learning and assessment, it alienates the multitude of intelligent, motivated students who may not be as successful in the standardized testing model

as in other assessment models. On the other hand, students who are adept at the standardized testing model should not be taught to solely rely on those skills, as very little real-world problem solving involves a by-the-book multiple-choice test. President Obama is on the right path in his efforts to reduce standardized testing. That is not to say that the Testing Action Plan will solve all of our problems regarding standardized testing. Even 2 percent equates to approximately 23.4 hours of testing every year, and the three guidelines to what will make a standardized test acceptable are still very vague. But it is a step in the right direction and a step toward an education system that is more effective and accurate in both teaching and assessing all types of students.





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# Bills must match scheme and players

**ZEKE ROSENBERG**  
*Sports Editor*

The Buffalo Bills had lots of good feelings surrounding them this offseason. They had just finished one of the best defensive years by a team in recent memory, they hired Rex Ryan — considered by some the best defensive mind in football — to make that defense even better, and with wide receiver Sammy Watkins and running back LeSean McCoy, the team could be a force coming into this season.

After an opening-week win against a listless Colts team, that vision has not exactly panned out. With a horrendous loss to the Jaguars, the Bills now stand at 3–4 and don't look anything like the team they set out to be. So what went wrong?

The easiest answer is a tough schedule. The Bills have played two undefeated opponents to this point (the Patriots and Bengals) and are 3–2 against teams comprised of mortals. They even hung with both of those undefeated teams until late. That still does not look great when the Bills eked out a win against the hapless Titans and lost to the Giants in their only other matchup against a team over .500. The Bills should be doing much better against the bad teams they have faced if they think of themselves as a playoff contender.

The second easy place to look is injuries. Watkins, McCoy, quarterback Tyrod Taylor, and others have missed significant time over the opening couple months of the season. However, this explanation also seems insufficient. With the exception of defensive tackle Kyle Williams, the injuries have largely been to the offense, which has been honestly pretty good despite

the lack of experience at quarterback and the coach's defensive bent. While backup quarterback EJ Manuel basically single-handedly lost the game to the Jaguars, it seems this team's problems go a bit deeper than injuries.

The third obvious explanation is the Bills' penalties. Penalties hurt, but the Patriots and Seahawks are consistently among the league's most penalized teams, and they do plenty of winning. This, combined with the previous two, will certainly cause problems for a team, but it seems that the Bills have some more fundamental issues.

The root of this team's problems seems to come, more than anything, from a disconnect between personnel and scheme. Rex Ryan runs a 3–4 defense, putting three lineman and four linebackers near the line of scrimmage. He then runs a two-gap system where the defensive line's job is to contain the pocket.

There are some problems with the Bills running this defense. Defensive tackle Marcel Dareus is among the best players in football, but his arms are not quite long enough to contain both A-gaps (the spaces between the center and the guards). This allows the center or the guard to seal off one of those gaps, creating both running and throwing lanes.

Further, defensive end Mario Williams is athletic and is best at wreaking havoc in the backfield. He has faded into the background when containing his side, which is further hurting the Bills' defensive efforts.

The Bills have tried some interesting schematic changes in order to combat this. The first change came against the Bengals. The Bills would stack the line of scrimmage, showing blitz, and then bail

into coverage. This confused Bengals quarterback Andy Dalton a bit and kept the Bills in the game until the waning moments. The problem was, the gimmick wore off after a while and Dalton got better at figuring out which blitzes were real. Further, Williams and other players did not like dropping back in coverage, so the scheme was unsustainable with the players.

The second change came against the Jaguars. Ryan changed from a two-gap to a one-gap defense, empowering his defensive line to go all out after the quarterback and continuing his method of having the defense show pressure and occasionally bail. This tortured Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles, who spent most of the game being woefully ineffective. Despite the team losing that game, the defense actually worked quite well. Of the 34 points they gave up, two came on defensive touchdowns, and one came on an absolute prayer thrown from an off balance Bortles

that happened to fall into the flailing arms of Jaguars wide receiver Allen Hurns. The Bills lost multiple goal line possessions to a fumble and a (bogus) penalty, so really, they were the better football team. The problem was Manuel throwing the ball to the Jaguars when he wasn't just dropping it on the ground for them to return.

This change to a one-gap system could, if the offense gets back on track, help right the ship for the Bills. Ryan showed in his first two years with the Jets that he could squeeze an elite defense out of solid players, he should certainly make something out of decent players.

With McCoy and Watkins getting healthier and only one game separating the Bills from the sixth seed, this team will probably make the playoffs, but if the defensive schemes keep ignoring their players, even one of the league's best coaches with some of the league's best players will have trouble.



Courtesy of Keith Allen via Flickr Creative Commons  
Rex Ryan talks to a player as the Ravens defensive coordinator.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Football

The Carnegie Mellon football team traveled to Thiel for a game on Saturday. The Tartans dominated the Tomcats by a 73–19 margin. The fourth straight win for the Tartans brought their overall record to 5–3 and their Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) record to 5–2.

The second biggest scoring day in Tartan history was also a record setting day for several players. Sophomore running back Sam Benger broke the single-season rushing record for the Tartans. His 166 rushing yard performance brought him to a season total of 1,453 rushing yards, surpassing the previous record of 1,326 set by Travis Sivek in 2006. Junior defensive end Brian Khoury made 3.0 sacks against Thiel, bringing his season total to a school record, beating 13.5 sacks and besting the previous 11.0 mark held by Chris Balouris in 1989 and tied by Anima Nwankwo in 1998. Junior placekicker Gabe Renna converted all eight extra point attempts on the day, bringing his season total to 36, beating out Nate Greenstein's 32 extra point kicks in 2006.

The Tartans will next compete at home against the University of Chicago on Saturday, Nov. 7.

### Women's Soccer

The Carnegie Mellon women's soccer team suffered their first loss of the season against the Washington University in St. Louis Bears.

The game was a pure defensive battle from the moment the game started to the last whistle at the end of double overtime. Both offenses had opportunities, with the Tartans taking 13 shots and seven on goal compared to the Bears' 20 shots

and six on goal. Washington goalkeeper Lizzy Crist and junior goalkeeper Katie Liston each made a number of saves throughout the game; however, Liston's first goal allowed since Oct. 6 ended up being the determining factor in the 1–0 loss.

The team got back to winning on Sunday, riding a four-goal second half to a 4–1 victory.

The Tartans are now 14–1–1 overall and 5–1 in University Athletic Association (UAA) play. The Tartans will wrap up the regular season at Case Western on Saturday, Nov. 7.

### Men's Soccer

The Carnegie Mellon men's soccer team handily defeated Washington and St. Louis 3–1 on Friday.

After an evenly matched first half in which the Tartans fell behind 1–0, the offense took charge in the second half. First-year defender Greg Bellwoar headed in a free kick from junior midfielder Tristan Lockwood in the 54th minute. First-year midfielder Anthony Gulli got the lead for the Tartans off a pass from first-year midfielder Zack Masciopinto in the 71st minute. Senior forward William Webb sealed the victory for the Tartans in the 80th minute, taking in the rebound from a Masciopinto header attempt. First-year goalkeeper Alec Lam took over in goal for senior goalkeeper Eric Bykowsky late in the first half. Lam made six saves as the Tartans built up their lead.

On Sunday, the Tartans defeated the University of Chicago 1–0.

The Tartans will close out the season at Case Western on Saturday, Nov. 7.

*Compiled By*  
**IAN TANAYA**

An advertisement for Qdoba Mexican Eats. The top half shows two plates of food: one with rice, beans, and meat, and another with rice, beans, and meat topped with guacamole. The bottom half has a purple background with the text "BUY ONE ENTRÉE GET ONE FREE" in large yellow letters. Below this, it says "Purchase any entrée and receive a second entrée of equal or lesser value FREE." and "Visit www.qdoba.com for locations". The Qdoba logo is at the bottom right.

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# Fantasy Football: week eight



**SARAH GUTEKUNST**  
*Operations Manager*

Last week's match-up is still a little hard for me to talk about. I'm going to keep matters brief to minimize the pain. It was bad. I was on the losing side of a 101–72 match-up.

LeGarrette Blount rushed for negative three yards and earned zero points. The Jets D/ST allowed 30 points and almost 400 yards, raking in a whopping one point. And it gets worse.

Team Escamilla had Matt Stafford with 18 points, Marshawn Lynch with 18, Todd Gurley with 27, and the St. Louis D/ST with 21. These four players alone scored more than my entire team. But wait. There's more.

I had the Giants D/ST on my bench, because why would I start them? And then, they caught three interceptions, returned one for a touchdown, recovered a fumble, and returned a kickoff for a touchdown. All this for 16 points. Also on my bench, Nate Washington received for 127 yards and scored two touchdowns, amounting to 24 points. Had I started them both, I could have won 107–101. But I'm not bitter.

Going into this week, the projections had me defeating Team Sizzling Fajitas 87–75, but of course projections never hold. But just after Thursday Night Football, things are looking a little different. We both have Patriots running backs, which is kind of weird to me. Unfortunately, his Dion Lewis just saw more action

than my LeGarrette Blount.

I expect to lose the match-up at quarterback, too. Even though Russell Wilson and the Seahawks are pretty much universally expected to beat the Cowboys, it looks like Alex Smith and the Chiefs will come out on top of the Detroit Lions in their London match. Detroit is basically a total mess, they've had a lot of staffing changes recently. Plus Charcandrick West is pretty hot right now, and he and Smith have some good chemistry.

The past couple of weeks have been a little disappointing as a Le'Veon Bell owner. He scored eight against the Cardinals and 13 against the Chiefs, which is not what I expect from a number-one draft pick. This week, Pittsburgh faces the Cincinnati Bengals, who have been on a serious winning streak. I don't feel like I can count on him to live up to his 16 point projection, even though he has historically done pretty well against the Bengals. Still, he's matched up against Frank Gore of the Colts, who averages about nine points per game. Even though I'm reserving optimism for Bell, I think I have this match up.

At wide receiver I'm starting Decker and Washington. Unfortunately Pierre Garcon has a bye week, so I don't have any other options. Decker might not even start, which would be seriously crushing along with Washington's variable performance. In order to win this match up I need both players to actually play, and play their best. Fajitas is starting Michael Crabtree and Steve Smith Sr., who both have the potential to do some damage if they get the targets. I honestly have no idea how this match up will turn out because I still don't really know anything about football.

On tight end, I've been pretty happy with Ladarius Green. (Can I be honest that I still don't actually know what

a tight end does? Someone remind me to google it [editor's note: *once upon a time a tight end was a sixth offensive lineman who occasionally got out to receive short and intermediate passes. Now, a tight end is a sixth receiver who occasionally blocks.*] Antonio Gates returned from his suspension and then got a knee injury, so Green is still getting a good bit of targets. And when he does, he can really put up some points. Fajitas is starting Richard Rodgers, who has two first names, so he must be awful.

I actually did end up picking up Dexter McCluster, whose name sounds like something a rooster might choke out at 5 a.m., for my flex. This turned out to be an okay choice. He scored nine points in week six and six points in week seven, actually winning or tying both match ups. I think he'll do well against Seattle's Tyler Lockett, who's just inconsistent.

I'm giving the Jets one last chance to not screw everything up this week against the Raiders, who have actually been somewhat of a force to be reckoned with this season. But Fajitas has the Chiefs D/ST facing the Lions, and the Lions offense might totally choke under new leadership. I'm going to try to be hopeful in my Jets, but only time will tell.

And at kicker, I finally have McManus back. During his bye, my backup kicker Nick Folk did have a solid 13 point performance, but I'm still totally taken with my man Brandon. Sports editor Zeke Rosenberg tells me this is getting creepy, which doesn't matter to me. Match up irrelevant.

McManus is the only thing that matters.

Now that I'm 4–3, I'm not as confident in my team. I tried some random insulting trades and they haven't panned out, so I think my only hope at this point is to actually try and understand football.

# Sports

## Volleyball spikes again during come-from-behind victory

ALEX WOOD  
Staffwriter

The Carnegie Mellon Women’s volleyball team faced off against the Point Park Pioneers on Friday, coming off a big couple of wins last weekend at the Juniata Wid Guisler Invitational in an attempt to improve on their impressive 24–6 record.

Although the game was statistically set to go in Carnegie Mellon’s favor, it started off with an aggressive set of plays from Point Park as the Pioneers took control of the game with an early 3–0 lead in the first set, and the pressure was on Carnegie Mellon to keep up. The Tartans are a resilient squad, however, and they would not let Point Park run away with the set. The Tartans responded quickly with a few scores of their own, but could never manage to take the lead from the Pioneers in the first set. Each team applied pressure to the other but neither managed to come out ahead in the first section of the game. Toward the end of the first set, Carnegie Mellon began to reveal a distinct rhythm to their play style, but could never take the lead from the relentless Point Park squad. The teams seemed to be engaged in a constant power struggle, with the Tartans being out-sized by the Pioneers while simultaneously showing much

more team cohesion to make up for it. Each team made significant mistakes toward the end of the first set, disallowing Point Park from increasing their lead while Carnegie Mellon failed to close the gap. The early scores that Point Park had put on the board proved to be the deciding factor in the first set.

The Tartans refused to give up, and in the second set opened with a strong series of volleys that ended in Carnegie Mellon gaining a significant lead. This advantage was gained largely due to junior libero Molly Higgins, who set her team up with a playable ball time and time again, as she made miraculous digs consistently throughout the game to prove once again that she is the real backbone of her team’s success. But Point Park would not lay down despite Carnegie Mellon’s commanding lead. The Pioneers continued to fight valiantly in the face of impending defeat, but the resilient Tartan team did not allow the Pioneers to gain a lead at all during the set. The Tartans maintained their lead, although never running away with the game, and ended the second set victorious to tie the series 1–1.

The Tartans turned up the heat in the third set, spring boarding off of a Point Park yellow card to put the Carnegie Mellon squad up a

comfortable six points early in the set. The Pioneers responded with formidable defensive resistance from their large front line, but could not manage to collapse the lead the Tartans had gained as a result of their mistakes earlier in the set. The Tartans carried their early lead smoothly through the rest of the set and took the lead in the series 2–1.

The fourth period carried on much in the same way as the third, with the Tartans gaining an early lead, though not as large as the one in the third period, and maintaining that lead until the end of the period. The Pioneers could not use their larger frontline to overtake the Tartans due to the superior teamwork shown by the Carnegie Mellon squad. Carnegie Mellon perfectly exemplified their play style in this final period as they established a very clear rhythm of set, hit, score as soon as the ball made it to their side of the court. Higgins continued to be the anchor piece for this play style, managing to turn nearly every serve into a playable ball for her teammates. Point Park had no clear response to this established rhythm and began to crumble as a result of accumulated mistakes throughout the set. Carnegie Mellon showed great defensive play at the net toward the end of the final period, and while they did give up a few scores,



Kevin Zhang/Assistant Photo Editor

Junior middle blocker Jackie Gibbons jumps to spike the ball.

they did not give Point Park any source of hope of winning the game. The Pioneers must be commended for their perseverance, but ultimately the Tartans emerged victorious, closing out the final set and taking the series 3–1.

The Tartan women’s volleyball team will next look to face off against a yet undetermined opponent in the UAA championship, which will determine their place in the conference as well as place them in the NCAA national championship

tournament if they emerge victorious. No matter who their opponent is, the Tartans will look to apply the same pressure as they did in this game against Point Park in order to advance their position in the national standings.

## Swimming and Diving opens season with dominating win

JORDAN SAFER  
Staffwriter

Looking to start the season off with a bang, the Carnegie Mellon men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams began competition this Saturday on campus. Both teams profited from the occasion, using the quad meet and home opener to improve their records to 3–0. The victories were lopsided in the Tartan’s favor for both genders, with the men’s team overcoming their biggest challenge from Case Western Reserve, 188–109, and the women’s team crushing their closest opposition from Clarion University, 195–103.

The women gave early indication of a dominant performance by taking first and second in the 200-yard Medley Relay to open the meet. Junior butterfly and freestyle specialist Gillian Crews helped

put the women’s A team a step ahead with a great leg in the butterfly.

The men followed suit, buoyed by unmatched speed from sophomore breast stroke swimmer Matthew Chu and first-year breast stroke swimmer Winston Chu. Both overtook a Case Western swimmer on the breast stroke leg to give both the men’s A and B teams insurmountable leads.

Both teams appeared comfortable and confident throughout, both individually and as a group. With the Tartan swimmers in lanes 2 and 6, it was a common sight to see a Carnegie swimmer in lane 6 win their race, look up, and calmly glance over to lane 2 to confirm the presence of another Carnegie swimmer up near the front.

And when one of the swimmers on the deck accidentally dropped their lap counter into the pool for a few laps dur-

ing the women’s 500-yard Freestyle, it was a laughing matter, as the Tartans took the first two spots in the race regardless.

Even as the teams raced ahead on the scoreboard, the swimmers stayed involved in the meet through the end, cheering their teammates on from the sidelines up until the last lap. In a few tight contests, the swimmers on the sidelines got involved by chanting “Go, go, go” in time with breast-stroke bobs, and waving their hands to urge the Carnegie swimmers in the race to some tight wins.

First-year freestyle and butterfly specialist Mitchell Riek made a big impact in his first race in college, winning all 3 of his races. Riek helped build early momentum for the men’s team with a dominant 1000-yard Freestyle. In the race, Riek started strong, and kept a hard pace to lose the rest of

the field about 500 yards into the race. His time of 9:42.97 was over 13 seconds faster than the winning time for the race last year.

Riek followed up the effort with a comfortable win in 200-yard Butterfly, and a narrow, come-from-behind win in the 200-yard Individual Medley (IM). In the IM, Riek appeared to fight to stay near the leader through 150 yards before powering to the line and nabbing the win.

Reflecting on his races, Riek relished in the exciting finish of the 200 IM. “I haven’t swum the thousand before. That was my first time, so I didn’t really know what to expect from that. And two fly... I’ve done that a lot so there’s not much excitement, but I like doing the 2 IM. It’s kind of one of my off events, so it’s fun to swim.”

On the women’s side, sophomore IM and butter-

fly specialist Mary St. John contributed a few strong performances of her own to the Tartan onslaught, with wins in the 200-yard Butterfly and the 500-yard Freestyle races. St. John’s win in the butterfly was especially impressive given that she spent most of the race swimming in third, before taking the lead late to get the win.

In the diving portion of competition, both teams were challenged by Clarion University, who placed ahead of the Tartans in all four diving competitions. However, solid performances allowed the Carnegie men and women to earn points over the other teams, and pick up some against Clarion with the help of strong performances from divers like junior diver Machika Kaku. Kaku placed third in the 3-meter dive with a score of 206.95, only finishing behind divers from Clarion.

Both teams had a lot of

success due to a combination of good competition at the front and strong depth. Riek observed that the teams “had a lot of one twos,” pointing to the number of good swimmers picking up points for the team.

A lot of the excitement and energy going into the meet helped contribute to the success. As Riek put it, “Everyone’s excited. You’re high-fiving everyone. Everyone’s in a good mood. It’s a good environment and that creates good racing.”

Going forward, both the men’s and women’s teams will look to continue their success and build on this competition leading up to the University Athletic Association (UAA) Championships in March. Next week, the teams will try to add onto their undefeated records as they go to Grove City College to take on the home team and the University of Rochester.



Rae Lasko/staff photographer

Left: Junior Brad Jeanette positions himself in midair while diving. Top Right: Grad student Andie Azofeifa launches herself from the diving board. Bottom Right: Junior Mark Smith swims the breast stroke.



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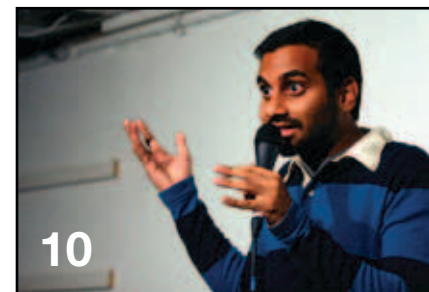
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# Gaylen Ross speaks to students

## Producer, writer, and director discusses storytelling in film

Gaylen Ross is an actress turned producer, writer, and director. Her transition was triggered by an epiphany during a beach scene: she noticed how much better it looked on the other side of the camera, how non-actors did not get splashed or covered in sand. She visited Carnegie Mellon University last Thursday to talk about storytelling through film. She began by speaking about how much movies have changed. How when she was younger, half the fun of a movie was watching it in the middle and having to guess what happened in the first half. Films have lost this essence, Ross said, and now they so clearly spell out the story for the viewer that it is almost impossible to guess or interpret any of it for yourself. As someone who does not think about movies much beyond the theater, I thought this was very interesting. Do I not think about movies long after I see them because of how clearly the plot is spelled out to me? Does the lack of outside thought required make me a passive movie watcher?

As I pondered this, Ross launched into how she chooses to layout the films she puts together. The first of her films that she spoke of was *Caris' Peace*. This was a film she made about her late friend Caris Corfman, an actress from the Yale School of Drama who starred in several movies before developing a brain tumor that caused her to lose her short term memory. Ross discussed how important it was to not make the focus of the story that she got back onstage after this, but *how* she got back on stage. Ross explained that she did this to keep the film from being a cliché story about someone overcoming obstacles to finally achieve something that she thought she could not do. By starting the documentary off by showing that Corfman does get back onstage, the viewers were allowed to focus more on her journey rather than wondering if it would all be in vain.

Many of the excerpts that Ross shared of her films showed how she always tries to find the most unconventional way to tell a story. The most interesting way she did this was in her film *Killing Kasztner: The Jew who Dealt with the Nazis*, a movie about the life and death of Rudolf Kastner, a Hungarian Jew that helped other Jews escape occupied Europe during the Holocaust. Ross spent years collecting information on the subject not to build a case for or against Kastner, but to provide a comprehensive story and let the viewers decide which side of history was correct. She chose to begin this film by allowing Kastner's assassin, Ze'ev Eckstein, to tell his side of the story first. This definitely made it harder as a

viewer because there were moments where Eckstein would do or say something funny, but it felt wrong to get attached to him the way you would to any other person who was sharing the intimate details of his life with you.

Ross talked about how smart he was to build this sense of trust and understanding with those watching him so that at the end of the film when he recants his story and says that he actually didn't shoot Kastner, you almost believe him. The film then goes on to the perspectives of Kastner's daughter and granddaughters, which admittedly were not as interesting as the perspective of the assassin. The way that Ross not only arranged this film to include his perspective and make the film more unbiased, but set it in the present tense instead of focusing on the past was refreshing. I felt that this helped to make the story more relatable and also show how the version of history that is perpetuated can influence the present.

Overall, I really enjoyed the perspective that Ross had to offer regarding how to enhance stories by telling them through film. There are so many different ways to put together the different puzzle pieces of a story to make it much more interesting. By starting with a question that either can or can't be answered, Ross challenges viewers to focus on things that usually would not be the focal point of a movie, such as the man behind the gun or how hard it is for a woman with no short term memory to remember why she is on stage in the first place. I cannot promise that I will be a more active movie watcher, but it would be nice if movies challenged me to be one a little more.

Jade Crockem | Staffwriter

## Advice for awkward people

About break ups that seem to destroy your insides

Dear Joshua,

**I'm having an existential crisis, and I don't know who to talk to, and this public forum seems to be the best place to air my dirty laundry. So I started seeing this guy, and he was kinda perfect and kinda cute, and his feet didn't smell bad, and just based on that, I thought he was marriage material. Anyway, we broke up last night because he said he just didn't feel anything anymore, so I pinched him really hard, but that just made him angry. Anyway, we're not together any more, and my world is crashing down, and it was right before our second weekaversary, and it's just so unexpected. I had our entire lives planned out for us, right up to the names of our four kids — Danny, Damian, Baptista and Carl — and our collection of antique cuckoo clocks. He just had the most perfect earlobes, man. And like, I even knew his middle name. If that's not intimate, I'm not sure what is. My question is what do I do to get over him? I've never had an actual relationship before, and this kind of shattered my hope of finding one.**

Signed,  
Romantic Ovaries Missing  
Connection with Ornerly  
Male

Dear ROMCOM,

I'm sorry that your relationship didn't work out. It's never a fun feeling.

My advice is that there are more fish in the sea, more people out there, all that jazz. This was not the only love you will ever have, and there will be other guys with whom to share your future and your antique cuckoo clocks. I know that's not helpful for the emotional situation you're in, but you should never let someone's lack of love toward you to affect your hope or your confidence. You seem like someone with big dreams and a big heart, and I'm sure other people will appreciate that. In regard to what you might be feeling, the best thing to do is just feel — just spend a night doing whatever helps you burn these emotions, whether that be spending a night alone, with people, doing nothing, or doing anything. Accept your emotions rather than fight them. It's all healthy expression. Then, once you're all felt out, redirect that love to yourself, that emotional intensity into your work, and charge forward with your life. I believe in you.

Sincerely,  
Joshua Brown,  
Adviser Extraordinaire

Need advice? Email  
your queries to [advice@thetartan.org](mailto:advice@thetartan.org)

# Dazzle your guests with one-pot wonders

## Excel as a hostess with these sneakily easy and scrumptious dinner party ideas

Let's be honest: no one likes doing the dishes.

Unfortunately, the reality of the looming adulthood that lies before each of us forces the matter when it comes time to cook a dinner that is anything beyond pita and hummus. Envisioning a satisfying home-cooked meal invariably comes with visions of a sink piled high with skillet, pots, and pans of all kinds, but it doesn't have to be that way. As the weather cools, turn to these three hearty recipes, all distinctly different yet sharing one shining quality: they are made with only one pot.

### One-Skillet Vegetable Fry

As with many of these recipes, the base of this recipe is the vegetables that you choose. Follow my lead or forge your own path — whatever combination you stumble upon will be satisfying and filling.

#### Ingredients:

1 medium onion, chopped  
1 zucchini, chopped  
1 yellow squash, chopped  
1 can of corn  
Cooked noodles  
Feta cheese  
Avocado  
1 egg per serving (optional)

#### Directions:

1. Sauté onion, zucchini, and squash in olive oil until cooked, about five minutes.
2. When cooked, add the noodles and the corn to the pan and let everything cook together for roughly five minutes.
3. Distribute the mixture into bowls.



4. Fry the eggs individually in the pan.
5. Assemble: mixture on bottom, egg on top of that, half of a sliced avocado, then feta cheese on top.

### One-Pan Mexican Meal

Filling, spicy, and everything you want at any given time of the day, this dish can be served up for breakfast after a late night out, an inspired lunch on an otherwise sad Monday, or a nice dinner to round out your day.

#### Ingredients:

1 can of black beans  
1 can of corn  
1 can of tomatoes  
1 tsp of garlic powder and cumin  
1 cup of quinoa  
1 cup of chicken broth  
Cheddar cheese  
1 egg per serving

#### Directions:

1. Put the first six ingredients in the pot and cover. Let it cook for 20 minutes.
2. Put the bean mixture in bowls and top with cheddar cheese. Set aside to melt.
3. Fry the eggs individually in the pot that you just used.
4. Serve the eggs on top of the melted cheese, then top with a little more cheese if you're feeling adventurous.



### Chili

Pick your poison with this one. Whether or not you decide to include the meat, this recipe will fill you up and fuel your journey to an easy clean-up in one go.

#### Ingredients:

1 small onion, chopped  
2 cloves of garlic, chopped  
1 pound of turkey or ground beef, if you're using meat  
1 can each of garbanzo beans, black beans, corn, and kidney beans  
1 can of tomato sauce  
1 can of diced tomatoes  
1 tsp each of chili powder, smoked paprika, salt, pepper, and cumin, then add to taste

#### Directions:

1. Sauté the onion and garlic in a few glugs of olive oil until the onion is translucent.
  2. Add the turkey or beef or tofu or nothing, if that's how you're swinging. Brown thoroughly.
  3. Add the beans and the tomatoes. Stir everything together and then add all of the spices.
  4. Add the tomato sauce and the water. Stir, then cover and let simmer for 30–45 minutes.
  5. Taste to make sure that it is well spiced, then serve with a dollop of sour cream and a hunk of bread.
- Pro tip: slap some plastic wrap on top of the pot, and you don't even need a leftover container.

Laura Scherb | Publisher



Laura Scherb | Publisher



# *The Voice* dumbs down its reality content

Popular and entertaining vocal competition show does not take advantage of illustrious coaches

*The Voice* — which is in all rights the successor of *American Idol* in the hearts and minds of Americans — is currently in the middle of a dramatic ninth season. The show follows contestants from their auditions through various stages of competition: the Battle Rounds, the Knockouts, and the Live Performances. Contestants are split into four teams when they audition, with each team being led by a coach. A variety of musical greats have been coaches, but the current season presents the coaching abilities of Adam Levine, Gwen Stefani, Pharrell Williams, and Blake Shelton.

Each of the performers talk about their enthusiasm and excitement about working with a coach, and what an amazing opportunity it is. During the course of the show, we see clips from the coaching sessions where the coach or guest coach — another musician who is called in for a round — offers criticism. These clips are often followed by produced segments where the coaches talk about an individual's strengths and weaknesses to camera. Even though *The Voice* is a phenomenon, it has been dumbed down for viewers in a way that's detrimental to the show and its value in America.

*The Voice* excels in many ways. The format, with various rounds, keeps viewers entertained. The variety is more fun to watch, and the Battle and Knockout rounds show really fascinating juxtaposition between two artists pitted against one another. I have not long been a faithful follower of *The Voice*, but I do have an appreciation for the talent and growth that the singers often exhibit. I never have the gumption to vote for performers once the show reaches the Live Performance round, but I still get irrationally angry when those I like are eliminated. I often skip through the dialogue parts, and when coaches are arguing to convince a particular performer of their superiority, I usually turn down the volume because I don't find it that exciting. So I totally recognize that I am not the most devoted of supporters, and that my criticisms come from a place of semi-enthusiasm.

That being said, one aspect that really attracts me about *The Voice* is the idea of mentorship and guidance. The four coaches are given time to work with each of their contestants, and that is an exciting moment to witness. As a musician, I like the idea of a coach helping the singers work through their songs, finding aspects of their voice that are stronger and giving them tips to help their performance. The show is all about giving new musicians opportunities to grow and learn and maybe break into the industry, so watching the coaches

share their knowledge should be a special and exciting experience for aspiring singers around the nation.

This is where I think the show gets too dumbed down. Even though America is not filled with people who want to be singers or who know the ins and outs of musical and vocal training, repetitive quotes from coaches about needing to "believe in what someone is singing" or "feeling emotional with the song," are unnecessary and don't teach audiences anything about the work musicians and coaches are doing to maximize an individual's performance. I'm not saying that coaches are lying or that emotional messages don't matter, but this sort of communication can be improved upon with strides in technical skill or performance practice. While it's possible that the coaches don't have any other useful pieces of advice, it is more likely that producers of the show choose not to air the moments in which more nitty-gritty work is being done.

This season has been notable to me because of a slight increase in the instances of actual technical advice and musical aids. Rihanna, a guest host on the Knockout Rounds last week, gave advice that actually related to moments in the song where an individual could improve. Even hearing Rihanna sing with the kind of changes she was looking for demonstrated, with clarity, the actual improvement she was asking for. I don't think that the show and coaching sessions have to be as serious as a masterclass, but I think the show could be incredibly useful for those around the nation who have not been able to receive vocal training. Having the opportunity to hear coaches sing, or act out with their bodies a certain choreographic step, not only gives audiences a glimpse as to the hard and detailed work it takes to succeed, but also humanizes the stars.

Oversimplifying the role of the coach in *The Voice* damages and detracts from what is inherently special and different about this reality show. While this season shows marked improvements in the technical advice that contestants receive, there is still space for the show to grow into a staple that both entertains and educates those who view it. It's nice to pretend that success comes from a fundamental emotional core, but there is a lot of work needed to communicate feelings in music. Reality TV is in general dumbed down to an excessively formulaic and repetitive form of entertainment, which makes the popular show *The Voice* an excellent choice for inciting change in the genre.

**Lula Beresford** | Pillbox Article



Courtesy of Flickr Creative Commons

From left: *The Voice* season nine coach and pop superstar Adam Levine, show host Carson Daly, and coaches and musical legends Gwen Stefani, Blake Shelton, and Pharrell Williams.

# *Paranormal Activity* delivers minimal thrills

The newest addition to the horror movie series leaves viewers with more questions than answers

It is hard to forget the original buzz generated back in 2009 by the wide release of the first installment of the *Paranormal Activity* series. It was released with advertisements that “guaranteed nightmares” and recommended that you “don’t see it alone.” The movie fared decently well among critics, and the series continued. However, ratings for the series have followed a negative trend and declined pretty steadily with each film.

The latest movie, film number six, was released on Oct. 23. *Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension* promised similar thrills as its predecessors, even adding, “For the first time you will see the activity.” Personally, though admittedly unsatisfied with the last five *Paranormal Activity* movies, finding them predictable and full of holes, I was still willing to give this installment a chance.

*The Ghost Dimension* was directed by Gregory Plotkin, who had not been previously involved in the *Paranormal Activity* series. Hoping that this change would vary the directing style of the film (after all, this is the sixth movie in the series), I was disappointed to see that the film’s basic style, which consists mainly of shaky, night-vision, POV camera footage, remained unchanged.

*The Ghost Dimension* opens on a young family that has recently moved into their new home. Parents Ryan and Emily Fleece (played by Chris J. Murray and Brit Shaw, respectively) are decorating the living room for Christmas with their young daughter Leila (Ivy George). We are quickly introduced to Ryan’s brother Mike, and family friend Skylar (played by Dan Gill and Olivia Taylor Dudley, respectively) who are planning to stay with the family over the winter holidays. Although the opening of the film seemed quite cookie cutter, and the whole “young family moves into a new home in a new town” thing had a strong resemblance to the opening of several other *Paranormal Activity* films, I was happy to see the film seemed to be moving a little faster than others in the series.

Fast-forward a little, and Ryan and Mike are outside decorating when Mike finds an old box of VHS tapes and a video camera. Here we are met with another classic scary movie cliché — “It was probably left over from the previous owners.” Naturally, they watch all the tapes and mess around with the video camera. Those who have seen previous installments of the *Paranormal Activity* series would recognize both the content on the films and the films themselves. The films have been passed around between several families, and they include recurring footage of characters that appeared previously in the series. The two young girls in the videos seem to be interacting with a paranormal being named Toby, who becomes an integral a part of *The Ghost Dimension*. The movie pace picks up a little as Leila starts acting strange. She tries to bury her mother’s rosary and burn

a bible in the fireplace. It wasn’t a huge shock to find out that Leila’s explanation for the strange doings was that Toby told her to. Given the title of the movie, *The Ghost Dimension*, one might think that we are finally making progress in the series and coming a little closer to figuring out what exactly is possessing everyone in the series, who exactly Toby is, and where exactly this dimension is. We’ve been in suspense since the original *Paranormal Activity*. We’ve seen family after family be affected by the same demonic being, Toby. Perhaps the idea behind such a mystery is to keep viewers coming back for the next film, but a six-movie-long mystery seems a tad bit excessive.

For about forty minutes, the movie consists of Ryan walking around his house with the video camera filming some strange black mist, presumably Toby, which seems to interact with Leila. There was a lengthy period of not-so-paranormal activity that could probably be explained by a draft in the kitchen or an open window in Leila’s room. The same cliché scary movie scenes ensue: The camera gets knocked over, pots and pans from the kitchen fall over, a loud bang is heard in the living room and a startled wife yells “What was that?!” The only real thrills up to this point happened when the mist would fly passed the camera, and that was really only due to that fact that *The Ghost Dimension* was in 3D.

The movie is nearly over at this point, and no real action has transpired. Convinced that Toby is going to take Leila away, the family sets up the camera in Leila’s room and consults a priest in the hopes that they may rid their daughter of the evil spirits. The family is gathered together in the living room with the priest. In a very sudden turn of events, the movie goes, quite literally, from a crawling pace to a full on sprint in terms of paranormal activity. The lights in the house go out, and the movie switches to a very familiar night vision, POV footage, because for some reason Ryan still feels the need to use the video camera. The room is in chaos. Toby somehow morphs into human form. There is a great deal of screaming. The footage is so shaky that it is unclear what happens to Skylar, Ryan, Mike, or the priest. They are there one moment and gone the next. Are they dead? Maybe. It’s odd that the characters all died at once, but there was hardly even time to be scared or upset at the loss of over half of the cast, as the movie was in full throttle at this point.

Emily chases a very possessed Leila up to her room, where she enters into a portal to what the viewer assumes is the ghost dimension. Are we finally going to see who Toby is? Are we finally going to be exposed to this strange world where all these tapes of lost footage are coming from? For those, including myself, who assumed *The Ghost Dimension* would finally answer these questions unfortunately waited in vain. We are left with even more unanswered questions as the film closes



Courtesy of soufiane lagrioui via Flickr Creative Commons

Paranormal Activity promises to finally reveal the truth behind the the ghost of Toby.

with Leila walking out of frame with Toby, whom we only ever get to see from the knees down.

What happens to Leila? What becomes of her family? Who is Toby? Will the tapes get passed on again? All in all, the movie was predictable and full of cliché scenarios. A scare here and there, but nothing dramatic. In true *Paranormal Activity* fashion, the film closes with the obvious set up for an additional installment. Am I excited? Not really. Will I see it in the hopes that they will finally, after seven films, reveal what the hell is going on? Probably.

**India Price** | Assistant Pillbox Editor



# La Scuola Degli Amanti wows audiences

Carnegie Mellon School of Music performs a brave blend of scores by Mozart and Da Ponte

*La Scuola Degli Amanti*, the Carnegie Mellon School Of Music's latest production, is best described by the literal translation of its name — “The School of Love and Infidelity.” *La Scuola* is built around three operas — *Così fan tutte*, *Don Giovanni*, *Le nozze di Figaro*. All three, collaborations between Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Lorenzo Da Ponte, are legendary works. Scored by Mozart at the height of his genius, all three are amongst the most brutally honest, dark, and hauntingly beautiful expressions of what it means to be in and out of love. *La Scuola* takes these classics and does something very brave, melding them into a single production set across multiple timelines.

In *La Scuola*, scenes from *Così fan tutte* are set in the modern era, from *Don Giovanni* are set in the roaring ‘20s, and from *Le nozze di Figaro* are in the original 18th century setting. As such, *La Scuola* has a very interesting narrative structure. Scenes from each timeline are interspersed with others, making for a heady contrast for the audience. Nevertheless there are unifying ideas to the entire production. As a whole, *La Scuola* explores the roles that men and women play in relationships; it makes the argument that certain themes — like love and fidelity — are timeless concepts. Successfully reinterpreting not one or two, but three

classics is a herculean task to say the least. Doing it over three different eras, and interspersing the scenes with each other is more difficult still. And though this brave structure makes for a revolutionary production in theory, some of it doesn't come off perfectly. Some of the scenes seem out of place. Some of the lines seem incredibly dated in a modern context. In *Così fan tutte*, for example, women are represented as weak-willed and superficial. Such depictions might have been the norm in 18th century Vienna; put in a modern setting, however, this misogyny seems incoherent. This, and other such instances make *La Scuola*'s themes seem far from timeless, and end up distracting from the productions underlying message.

Ideation aside, the execution of *La Scuola* is flawless. If you haven't seen many performances from the School of Music, prepare to be blown away. From the singing to the arrangements, Mozart is unbelievably layered and intricate, with abrupt key changes, and strange time signatures. The cast and orchestra make it all look downright easy. Not to mention, the set and costume design are downright spectacular. A simple and minimalist set successfully morphs from a small private chamber to a large party space to an enchanted snowy forest. The costumes are used to convey era and mood.

Modern day *Così fan tutte* has characters that dress in loud and garish contemporary attire. 1920s *Don Giovanni* has characters that represent the gentry of that era. 18th century *Nozze* has characters that represent 18th Century aristocracy.

Ultimately, *La Scuola* is a very well-staged piece — there isn't a wrong glance, flat note, or an off-time beat. The ideas that form its foundation are brave and forward-thinking. That said, most of *La Scuola*'s greatest flourishes are far too subtle and opaque to someone not well versed in 18th century Viennese Opera Buffa. If you happen to be an avid connoisseur of Mozart, you will be highly impressed by an interesting and flawlessly executed reinterpretation of his greatest work. If *La Scuola* happens to be your first or second opera, you'll probably walk out at the end more than just a little confused.

**Abhishek Tayal** | Junior Staffwriter

McConomy Auditorium, University Center

**Compiled by India Price** | Assistant Pillbox Editor

## Ant-Man

Friday, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.  
Sunday, Nov. 8 at 8 p.m.

Engineer Scott Lang (Paul Rudd) is arrested for stealing money from his company in the hopes of giving it back to wrongly charged customers. Finally out of jail, Lang is committed to living an honest life, but a criminal record keeps him from solidifying an honest job. Forced with no other options Lang takes a job breaking into a vault where he finds the Ant-Man suit, which shrinks him to the size of an ant and gives him unimaginable strength. Lang, trained by Dr. Hank Pym (Michael Douglas) must use this new found power of the Ant-Man suit to keep the shrinking technology in the right hands. Lang's mission to keep the powerful technology away from Darren Cross (Corey Stoll), the man responsible for Lang being kicked out of his company. Watch the adventure unfold as Lang must use his powers for good in an effort to keep the technology out of the hands of those who would use it for evil.

## Dope

Saturday, Nov. 7  
8:30 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Students Malcolm, Jib, and Diggy (Shameik Moore, Tony Revolori, and Kiersey Clemons), are traversing their final year of high school in a tough neighborhood in Inglewood, CA. Malcolm, a bit of a geek, is completely focused on his studies and is determined to rise up out of the rough neighborhood and attend Harvard. The trio shares a passion for 90's hip hop music and culture, and the concept of being dope. The three of them get invited to an underground Los Angeles party and are met with the chance to finally become dope. Trouble inevitably ensues as the group has an encounter with a drug dealer Dom (Rakim Mayers). After being tricked by Dom, the group is forced to leave the party and flee the scene. In this coming of age movie, follow the journey as Malcolm, Jib, and Diggy become faced with tough life decisions, wild chance encounters, and the search to ultimately becoming dope.

# Exciting future for movies releasing in 2016

From potential Oscar buzz for Leonardo Dicaprio to *Suicide Squad*, next year promises to deliver

## Leonardio DiCaprio comments on next film: *The Revenant*

Leonardo DiCaprio chooses roles much the same way a professional ball player chooses which pitches to swing at: it has to be perfect, and it has to present the best opportunity to score. Whether or not “score” means Oscar contention or a chance to work with a revered director, it is apparent that DiCaprio has a pretty good batting average. His new film, *The Revenant*, is set for a Dec. 25, 2015 release, and the film looks to be another cinematic masterpiece, much ado to two-time Academy Award winning cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezki (*Gravity*, *Birdman*). DiCaprio sat down with Yahoo! Movies to discuss the new film, and his comments make me anticipate *The Revenant* even more, which I did not think was possible. DiCaprio stated, “It’s going to be one of the most unique film-going experiences that audiences have seen in modern times...”

The film takes place in the frozen wilderness and the filmmaking team spent nine months in remote parts of Canada and Argentina, using only natural light to film. When asked about the harsh filming conditions, Leo responded, “The truth is that I knew what I was getting into. This was a film that had been floating around for quite some time, but nobody was crazy enough to really take this on, simply because of the logistics of where we needed to shoot and the amount of work and rehearsal that would have to be



Photo Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Leonardo DiCaprio sees *The Revenant* as an opportunity, despite difficult shooting conditions.

done to achieve Alejandro [and Lubezki’s] vision. They’re very specific about their shots and what they want to achieve, and that — compounded with the fact that we were in an all-natural environment, succumbing to whatever nature gave us — was something that became more of a profoundly intense chapter of our lives than we ever thought it was going to be.”

Nothing is certain in film, but I anticipate *The Revenant* to be in the Oscar conversation come the new year. All the right pieces are in place. All we can do is wait and see.

## Chris Rock to host the Oscars

Speaking of the Oscars, let’s talk about the upcoming 88th Academy Awards and how the show’s producers decided to bring back, after 11 years, one of the most celebrated comedians around. Comedian, actor, writer, producer, director, and documentarian Chris Rock will return as host for the Feb. 28 broadcast of the “Biggest Night In Hollywood.” Rock and the Academy butted heads in the decade since 2005, the last time he hosted, regarding the Academy’s “white-washing” the awards, but the tensions have since died down. Today, we can finally wise up and recognize that Chris Rock’s comedic style might be the perfect breath of fresh air for an Academy Award, which has taken a recent dip in the ratings since its height in 2014 under Ellen DeGeneres’ hosting. Chris Rock is hilarious, intelligent, adept, socially aware, dramatically talented, and charmingly snarky. He checks all the boxes for great hosting and brings that one-of-a-kind voice as a cherry on top.

## Jared Leto speaks out about his role as the Joker

The Joker may be the most famous villain in entertainment. Hannibal Lecter and Darth Vader are contenders, but when the Clown Prince of Crime enters the scene, no good can happen. There have been several accounts of Jared Leto never breaking character on the set of the upcoming *Suicide Squad*, but Leto himself has finally commented on what it was like to become the most feared villain in Gotham, “There was definitely a period of... detachment. I took a pretty deep dive. But this was a unique opportunity and I couldn’t imagine doing it another way. It was fun, playing those psychological games. But at the same time it was very painful, like giving birth out of my pr\*\*k hole.”

Director David Ayer also spoke about Leto’s Joker, and how this incarnation will differentiate itself from past Jokers we have seen on screen, “The Joker is the third rail of comic book movies. There’s a power

to that character, and by some freaking miracle, through the incredible things Jared has done and the photography and all the other millions of things that went into it, we’ve cooked up something transcendent. He’s scary.”

A scary Joker? So, all the past Jokers were not scary? Sure, the Joker in the comic books has done things no film has come close to, but is this when we get the frightening psychopathic rage that The Joker embodies? I’m already going to be first in line when *Suicide Squad* is released on Aug. 5, 2016, but if this Joker is the most rampant, psychotic, frightening Joker we’ve ever seen, I might just have to camp out at the ticket booth.

## Nicholas Hoult and Rooney Mara to star in *The Discovery*

Nicholas Hoult entered my radar as Beast in *X-Men: First Class*, but has only recently become a name to remember when he appeared as Nux in *Mad Max: Fury Road*. Rooney Mara’s talents are undeniable, especially for those who have seen her Academy Award nominated performance in *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*. It is now being reported that Hoult and Mara will be seen together in *The Discovery*. Directed by relative newcomer Charlie McDowell, the film is a romance set in a world one year after scientific proof of an afterlife has been discovered. Hoult plays the son of the man responsible for the discovery while Mara plays Hoult’s love interest, whose life is “tinged by a tragic past.”

The concept sounds very intriguing and fresh. Hollywood has been criticized recently for not producing much, if any, original material; only sequels and films based on comic books get released. Much the same as any casual pedestrian buying pizza, you buy a pizza you trust. Trying a new place is a bit frightening. New ideas and untested scripts are frightening to studios, especially when they may need to hand over tens of millions of dollars. I hold that same skepticism. On the other hand, I may not know McDowell’s directing abilities, but having Hoult and Mara involved tells me the acting caliber is far from untested. *The Discovery* is set to start production in Rhode Island in January 2016. No release date has been set, but anticipate waiting until 2017 to buy your tickets.

**Ryan LaBarbera** | Junior Staffwriter



# Scotch'n'Soda delivers electric performance

*Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* gives audiences the excitement and drama they hoped for

Weird, scary, and uproariously funny (especially at 11 p.m. on a Friday), Carnegie Mellon's Scotch'n'Soda performed *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* in the Jared L. Cohon University Center's McConomy Auditorium over Halloweekend.

The opening number sets just the right off-kilter tone for the evening. The ensemble sings about political populism wearing all the components of 19th century garb, assembled in a punk rock fashion: Corsets are donned over dresses, dresses are cropped and shirt sleeves are rolled up to the elbow. The band itself doesn't even play along with this 19th century front, wearing t-shirts and skinny jeans and rocking electric/acoustic guitar, bass, and keyboard. Modern cuss words and characters, including a spirited history nerd played by undeclared Dietrich College first year Anna Jamieson Beck as narrator, are sprinkled throughout the play, keeping the level of absurdity high throughout.

Beck is just one of many strong supporting roles, several of which are played by a few prominent ensemble cast members. The talent of the overall ensemble was evident in the numerous high-energy song and group dance numbers. Additionally, the ensemble was versatile, able to switch between multiple roles throughout. Whether it was the American punk rock groupies, the Indian tribe members, or the modern tourists, they brought the right tone to each.

After the opening number, the play begins with Jackson's childhood, though the actors, characters, and costumes hardly change with the exception of a few indicative props (e.g. slinky indicates childhood). Junior philosophy major Tim Brooks plays the controversial Andrew Jackson who, in this universe, wears tight leather pants and a white t-shirt. The costume hardly makes sense in this childhood scene, where both of Jackson's parents are killed suddenly by "Injuns." However, the following scene resolves the contradictory cues by finding Jackson in a bar, standing drunkenly on top of a table to tell his friends about the "valiant" battle that he lead against the Spaniards in Florida. The audience learns quickly that Jackson is a nontraditional hero.

Soon after, Jackson's future wife, Rachel — played by Rachel Griswold, an undeclared first year in Dietrich College — is introduced. However, even a love interest doesn't humanize Jackson for more than a few minutes as their relationship turns from cute to downright disgusting. To highlight and poke fun at the darkness of their relationship, the band begins to play sickeningly sweet and upbeat pop while the explicit scene continues in the background. Rachel is opposed to Jackson's status as a public figure,

causing tension in their relationship as he tries to usurp the power from the elitist group ruling over Washington, including figures like John Quincy Adams, Martin Van Buren, and John Calhoun, played by 5th year senior BSA major Alex Petti, undeclared Dietrich College first year Philip DeCicco, and undeclared Dietrich College first year Jordan Romah respectively. These characters are no less ridiculous than the ones before them. Their debut is choreographed to the musical stylings of Katy Perry, which is both hilarious and in perfect opposition to the stark individualism of the punk rock movement.

Jackson runs for the presidency twice, where he succeeds the second time after being beaten by John Quincy Adams in the first. The race features a spectacular musical battle between the two candidates as they communicate political ideologies via punk rock sentiments, complete with modern colloquialisms. When Jackson finally takes on his role as president, he finds himself disillusioned by the contradictory attitudes of the American people.



Courtesy of Dani Joseph

5th year BSA senior Alex Petti, as John Quincy Adams, joins junior philosophy major Tim Brooks, as Andrew Jackson, as they whine about their complicated lives.

They want land, but they don't want to drive out the native tribes. They need space, but don't want any bloodshed. While frustrating for Jackson, it was equally frustrating to the 11 p.m. audience, whom frequently jumped out of their seats to either cheer on or ridicule decisions that are made on stage.

Although mostly in jest, the play moves its audience in unexpected ways. Surprisingly, equal to the conflict between characters is the conflict that the audience feels with the characters. The appalling racism of Jackson and others feels archaic and callous. The audience, while laughing at the ridiculous and playful script, is also aware of the painful truth behind the words. The production leverages this poignancy on multiple occasions including the performances for "Ten Little Indians," a song inspired by the poem written by Septimus Winner in 1868, and an ending scene where the cast is positioned and frozen to visually portray the horrifying Trail of Tears. In these moments, there is no humor, the strange punk rock setting becomes unimportant, and all that we can focus on is the horror of this undeniable historical tragedy.

Ultimately, Scotch'n'Soda's *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* led to an evening of bloody merriment punctuated by moments of sincere drama. The energy was electric and the audience certainly got what they asked for as they spent an evening this Halloweekend immersed in a violent and satirical reality.

**Lindsey McClary** | Junior Staffwriter

# Master of None premieres this Friday

Netflix Original created by and starring Aziz Ansari examines love in 10 episode first season

Popular comedian Aziz Ansari will release ten episodes of his new television series, *Master of None*, to Netflix on Friday, Nov. 6. Ansari gained fame and popularity with his portrayal of Tom Haverford on Amy Poehler's comedy *Parks & Recreation*, in which Haverford navigated the politics of small government with loose morals and bizarre antics. Since then, Ansari has entertained his fans with various comedy specials, most notably *Intimate Moments for a Sensual Evening*, and has, most recently, charmed America with his book *Modern Romance*. But beside his achievements in the world of comedy as it pertains to appearances and specials, Ansari has claimed a place in the lives of twenty-somethings as a sort of love guru.

Ansari speaks a lot to what relationships mean in the current day and how the process of dating has changed since he himself was in college. Ansari, now 32, discusses dating in the modern era with self deprecation, confusion, and with the goal of illustrating the challenges and changes presented to those who are trying to find love.

In *Modern Romance*, Ansari introduces the term "emerging adulthood" to describe the period in a person's twenties in which they are exploring romantic options, while still developing as an individual. Ansari juxtaposes this period with the way the twenties were perceived back in the early to mid twentieth century, when marriage happened soon after high school and, more often than not, to an individual in the same neighborhood. Nowadays, people are bombarded with options with no clear life trajectory set up. Now, people often sift through a huge amount of people in their attempt to find their soulmate, instead of marrying a person they like for the opportunity and lifestyle it presents, and growing to love them more later.

While romantic comedies often portray a miracle ending to love, Ansari's take on relationships deals with figuring out when to stop looking, or how to communicate through the noise of having too many options. This is why *Master of None* is set to be such an interesting, sentimental, and surely hilarious examination of love. As a person more than a little obsessed with love, and also social psychology, Ansari's insights totally interest me and also scare me.

In the new trailer released last week, Ansari and a cast of characters, played by actors ranging from Noel Wells to Ansari's own parents, all participate in the humor surrounding Ansari's quest to figure out what he wants and then find it. The trailer includes a trip to a drugstore to buy some Plan B, discussions



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Aziz Ansari brings his sincerity, intelligence, and indisputably hilarious talent to *Master of None*, a television series premiering on Netflix this Friday, which he created, produces, directs, and stars in.

surrounding the difference in Instagram comments between genders, Ansari going to an audition where he is asked to demonstrate his talent with an Indian accent à la Ben Kingsley, and conversations about racism. One of the funniest parts of the trailer is Ansari's conversation with his father, who talks about the problem he had with the first woman he considered romantically who he found too tall.

At one point, a friend asks Ansari's character Dev to close his eyes and try to determine if he can see a future with a certain woman. Closing his eyes, Ansari answers "All I can see is black." This seems to demonstrate that the show will take some light comic material and then reflect more deeply on it.

I often put people into two camps: those who embrace modern technology as wildly improving their lives but refuse to acknowledge the complications that it presents, and those who reject modern technology completely and don't attempt to make it work for them. Ansari falls in the middle. He embraces the new technology that has made swiping through 50 potential matches in an hour possible, but is also quick to point out the way this is both great and terrible. His mission is to figure out how to make it less painstaking to use technology to find what you are looking for. Hopefully, with this awareness, those who find themselves in the "emerging adulthood" period can feel less lonely and understand the boat that they are in.

So far, *Master of None* has received overwhelmingly positive reviews from those who have seen the series ahead of its release. Both *deadline.com* and *Entertainment Weekly* have sung the show's praises.

For anyone who has not watched Ansari's ruminations on modern romance, I recommend watching some of his clips on Youtube. His stand up bits about explicit and uncalled for sexual text messages and his story about 50 Cent's first grapefruit experience are great places to start. As a warning, Ansari does not deliver answers to the people. He does not have a secret recipe for success in love. But his theories and his observations and his sheer comedic talent make watching anything he does totally worth it.

Hopefully, this Friday, everyone will gain a little bit of wisdom while laughing uproariously at this semi-autobiographical Netflix Original.

**Lula Beresford** | Pillbox Editor



KARMA is WEIRD



nrussell@andrew.cmu.edu

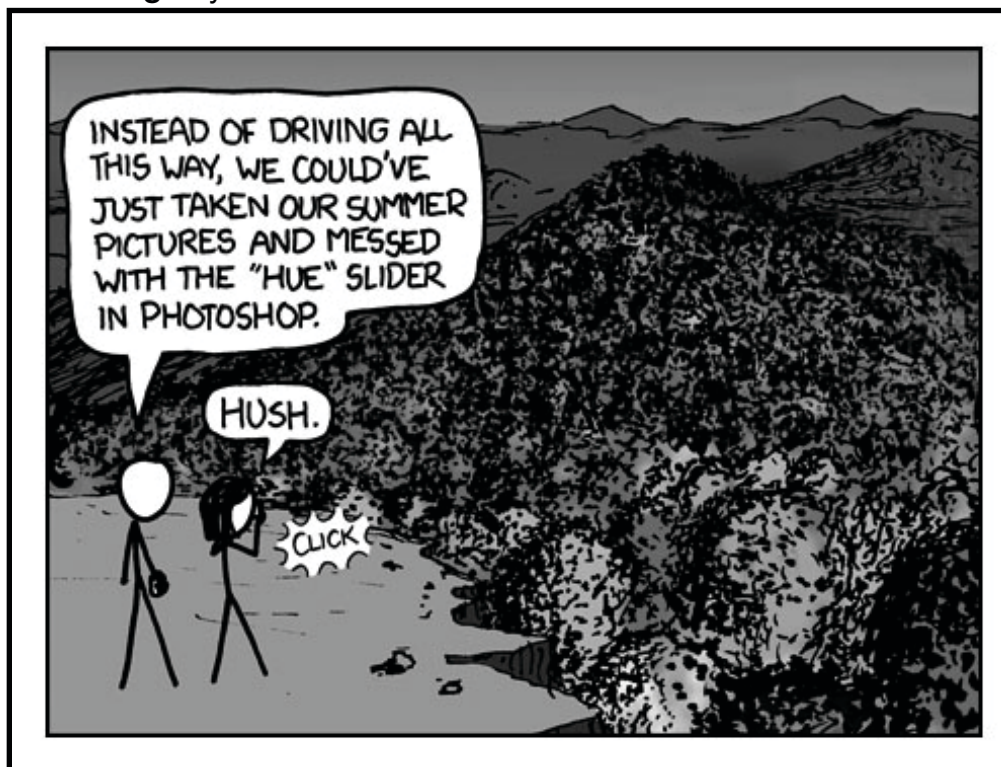
nehemiahrus.tumblr.com



email@exocomics.com

exocomics.com

Fall Foliage by xkcd



press@xkcd.com

xkcd.com

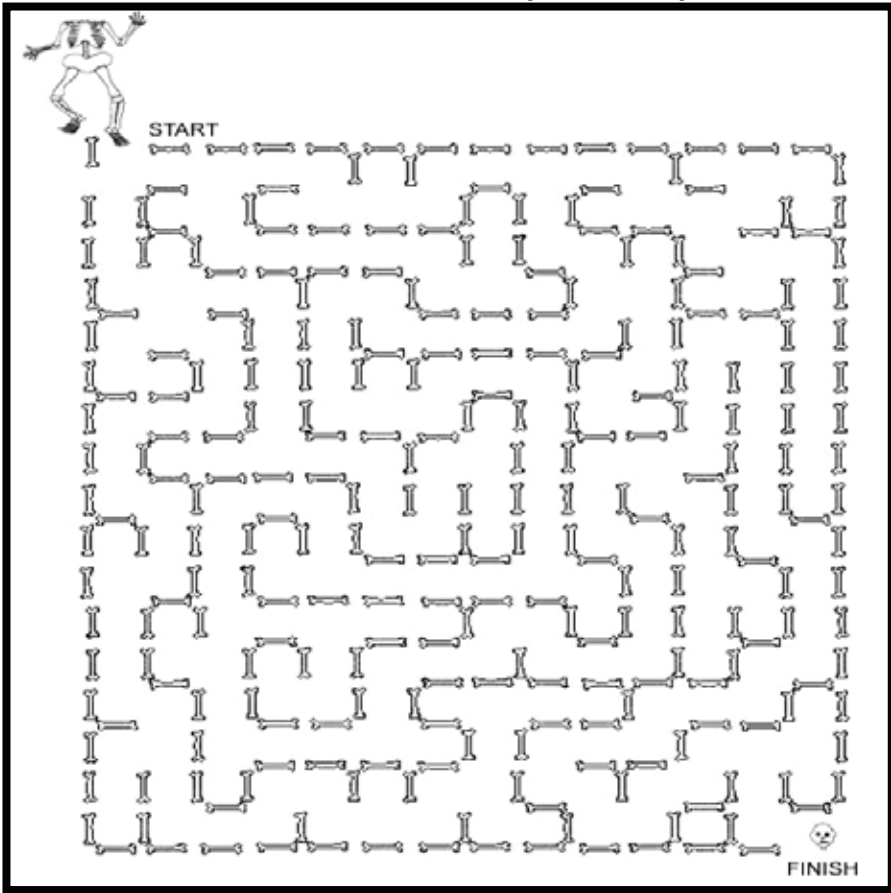
Sudoku Puzzle: Intermediate Difficulty

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

Sudoku courtesy of [www.krazydad.com](http://www.krazydad.com)

Fill all empty squares using numbers 1 to 9. No number may be used in the same row or column more than once.

Maze Puzzle: Easy Difficulty



Maze courtesy of [www.krazydad.com](http://www.krazydad.com)

Help the skeleton find his head! Solve the maze by starting at the top land finding your way to the bottom right.

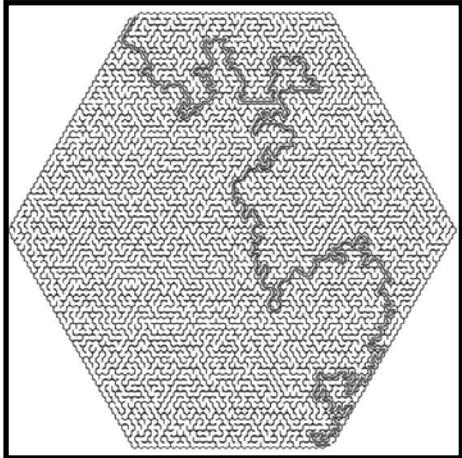
Solutions from Oct. 19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
S	A	N	E	R		M	A	T	A		A	G
A	D	A	G	E		U	S	E	S		C	U
B	A	S	I	C		M	A	R	S		H	I
E	R	A	S	E	S		P	R	E	S	I	D
						I	N	C		A	S	L
S	H	A	M	P	O	O				S	U	R
T	O	L	E	T		M	A	J	O	R		I
A	R	O	W			H	A	L	E	R		P
G	A	T				R	E	S	E	T		J
						K	I	A			T	S
						B	L	O	O	D	Y	A
						T	R	E	S	T	L	E
						O	A	T	H		E	A
						G	I	B	E		S	R
						O	N	E	R		S	S

Crossword

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

Sudoku



Maze

# Horoscopes

Did you wear the best costume for your sign?

## aries

march 21–april 19

Aries is the courageous warrior of the Zodiac. Dressing up as a superhero channeled your inner spirit.

## taurus

april 20–may 20

Known for their alluring and luxurious nature, Taurus just screams vampire! These creatures possess both the grace and sophistication of your sign.

## gemini

may 21–june 21

Gemini is the sign of the twins. Did you grab your best friend and partner up as Halloween twins?

## cancer

june 22–july 22

Your zodiac sign is all about nostalgia. Thinking back to your childhood brought back your love for cartoon characters.

## leo

july 23–aug. 22

Leo is the Zodiac superstar. No other sign pulled off a celebrity as well as you did.

## virgo

aug. 23–sept. 22

Studious Virgo can always play a great witty character like your favorite wizard or witch from Harry Potter.

## libra

sept. 23–oct. 22

Libra is the sign of partnering up, and Halloween should have been no exception! Your best friend, boyfriend, or girlfriend is always your partner in crime.

## scorpio

oct. 23–nov. 21

No other sign is as connected to the deep, dark, and mysterious. Dressing as a zombie or a scary creature captured your secretive, shadowy style.

## sagittarius

nov. 22–dec. 21

You are the biggest traveler of the Zodiac. Your pirate costume helped you nurture your adventurous spirit.

## capricorn

dec. 22–jan. 19

The sign of Capricorn rules the bones. Did you find a spooky skeleton suit?

## aquarius

jan. 20–feb. 18

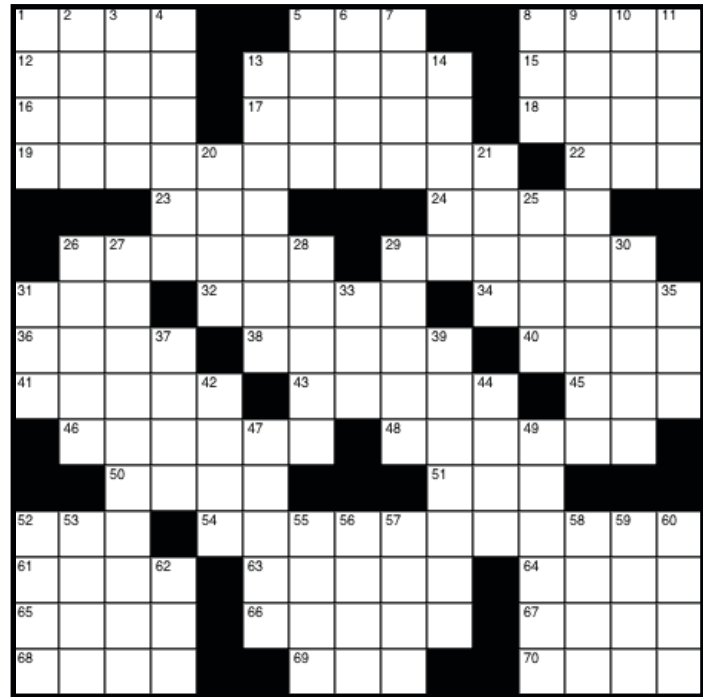
Aquarius is naturally connected to the cosmos, so your space energy made a top-notch alien or astronaut costume.

## pisces

feb. 19–march 20

From Alice in Wonderland to Cinderella to Rapunzel, fairy tale and storybook costumes are your go-to costume. But if fantasy wasn't your thing, you could have always honored your artistic side and dressed as your favorite artist.

Maryann Landlord | Comics Editor



Crossword courtesy of *BestCrosswords.com*

## ACROSS

1. Culture medium
5. Bar order
8. Writer Grey
12. Author \_\_\_\_ Stanley Gardner
13. Wild rose
15. Earth Day subj.
16. Nothing, in Nice
17. Mr. Moto portrayer
18. Prefix with distant
19. Generation of tumors
22. Take advantage of
23. Apr. addressee
24. American space agency
26. Quagmire
29. Characteristically French
31. Energy
32. \_\_\_\_ evil...
34. Skater Harding
36. Corrida cries
38. Fantasize
40. \_\_\_\_ -a-sketch
41. Razor sharpener
43. Collection of maps
45. Overhead trains
46. Adventurous expedition
48. Walk with long steps
50. Light ring
51. Nasser's org.
52. Figure skater Midori
54. Capable of being submersed
61. Lopsided victory
63. Flip out
64. Fortuneteller
65. Estimator's phrase
66. St. \_\_\_\_ fire
67. Steven Chu's cabinet dept.
68. Exigency
69. \_\_\_\_ Kapital
70. Complete collections

## DOWN

1. Aviation prefix
2. Broad smile
3. Actor Baldwin
4. Impressionist Pierre
5. Elvis \_\_\_\_ Presley
6. Italian bread?
7. Piercing places
8. Mark of Zorro
9. Familiar
10. Entre \_\_\_\_
11. Writer Wiesel
13. Sanctified
14. Queen of Spain
20. Mardi \_\_\_\_
21. Preservative
25. Gin flavorer
26. Thaws
27. Sydney has a famous one
28. Caravansary
29. Scores
30. Recurring series
31. Not neg.
33. Safety device
35. Sighs of relief
37. Couch
39. Ripens
42. Friends
44. Ladies of Sp.
47. Red cosmetic
49. Van Gogh masterpiece
52. Pressing need
53. Shredded
55. Not fearful
56. Baby's cry
57. Narrative poetry
58. Nota \_\_\_\_
59. Internet writing system that popularized "pwn3d" and "n00b"
60. Goes wrong
62. Director Brownin



Tuesday 11/03

### **Terrorism Inc.: The Financing of Terrorism, Insurgency and Irregular Warfare**

Baker Hall A53 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Political scientist Colin Clarke will discuss how terrorist and insurgents fund their activities, what they do with revenue, and how funding can be impeded. He will also discuss how law enforcement is constantly adapting to change as terrorists find more and more ways to evade them. This event is free and open to the public.

**Wednesday 11/04**

### **Town Hall with U.S. Senate Candidate John Fetterman**

Hamburg Hall 1000 12 – 1 p.m.

John Fetterman, three-time mayor of Braddock, PA and candidate for U.S. Senate, will be discussing his career in public service, his journey with political involvement, and his campaign for the U.S. Senate. Following the talk, he will host a Q&A for students. To attend this event, R.S.V.P. to [mhenley@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:mhenley@andrew.cmu.edu).

**Friday 11/06**

### **In Discussion: Chief Archivist Matt Wrbican with author and food historian Susan Rossi-Wilcox**

The Warhol Theater, The Andy Warhol Museum 7 p.m.  
Join Matt Wrbican and Susan Rossi-Wilcox for a discussion on the 1959 cookbook *Wild Raspberries* illustrated by Andy Warhol. The book parodies popular french recipes made even more whimsical by Warhol's illustrations. This event is free and open to the public.

### **Haunted Pittsburgh Ghost Tour**

Downtown Pittsburgh — The City-County Building 414 Grant St 7:00 p.m.

Take a tour of Pittsburgh and learn the history of the city from the ghost and ghouls that still haunt their old homes to this day. The tour runs from 90 minutes to two hours. Tickets are \$15 and only sold online.

**Saturday 11/07**

### **Stop Hunger Now meal-packaging event**

Wiegand Gym, Cohon University Center 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Partners Allied in Civic Engagement (PACE) will be hosting the inaugural Kraft Heinz Stop Hunger Now Campus Tour. Come help package 100,000 meals for undernourished people in developing countries. This event is free and open to the public. To register, go to <http://tinyurl.com/CMUStopHunger>.

**Ongoing**

### **The Mysterious Nature of Fungi**

**Hunt Library, 5th Floor. Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. – Noon and 1 – 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.**

From now until Dec. 17, The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation will have its fall exhibit on display. The exhibit displays a variety of fungi found all over the world, and aims to show just how mysterious each one can be. The exhibit is free of charge and open to the public.

### **Beyond the Obvious**

Robert Morris Media Arts Gallery  
Two Carnegie Mellon artists will be featured in an exhibit at the Robert Morris University Media Arts Gallery, beginning Oct. 1. Collaborative photography and poetry works by Carnegie Mellon Professor Jim Daniels and Charlee Brodsky will be showcased in this month-long

# Classifieds

## **Research Study**

The University of Pittsburgh Radiology Department is seeking women ages 18–25 who experienced sexual violence for research studies. The study involves questionnaires, interviews, and brain scanning. Subjects will be compensated up to \$700 upon completion. For details, call 412-586-9888 or visit [www.addictionstudies.pitt.edu](http://www.addictionstudies.pitt.edu).

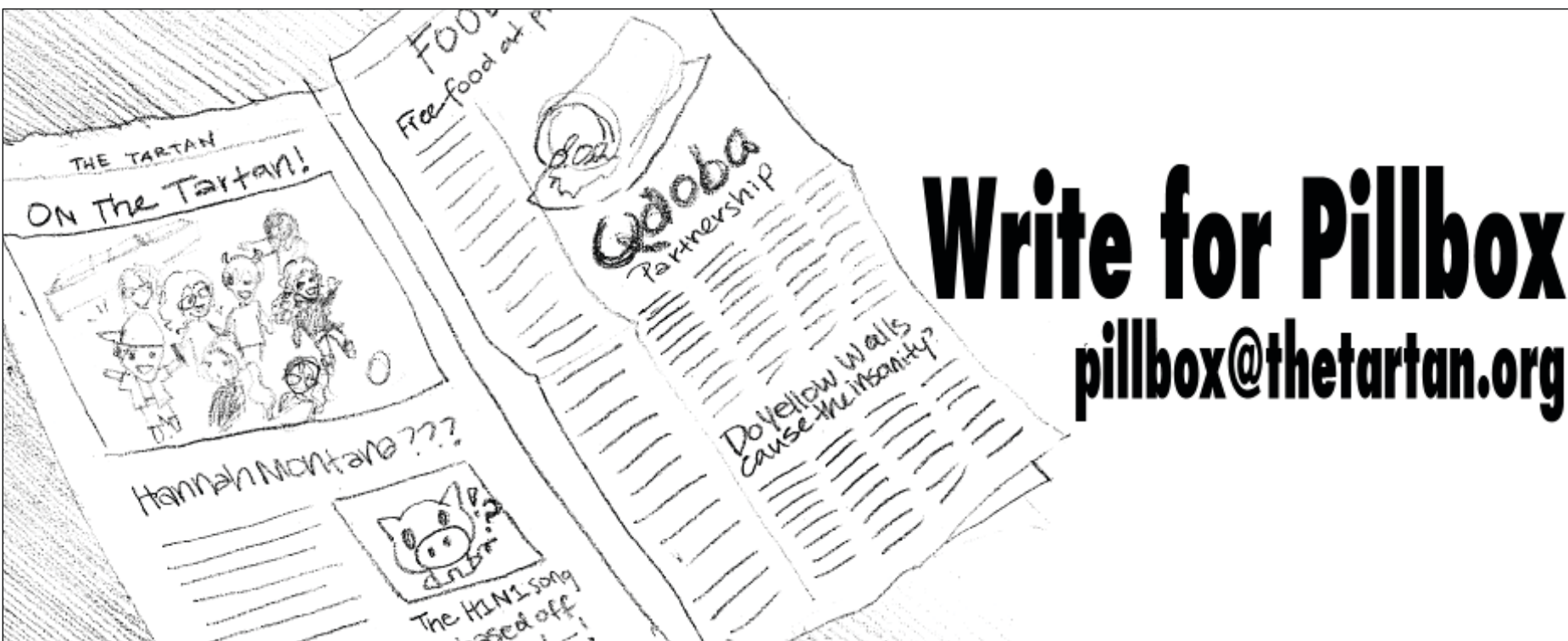
The University of Pittsburgh's support resources for sexual assault and/or sexual harassment including instructions and contact information for reporting can be located at [www.SHARE.pitt.edu](http://www.SHARE.pitt.edu) and [www.safety.pitt.edu](http://www.safety.pitt.edu).

exhibit. It will include the duo's work from the past decade, as well as an interactive art component.

## **Want your event here?**

Email [calendar@thetartan.org](mailto:calendar@thetartan.org).

Compiled by **Jade Crockem** | Staffwriter



# ab concert.



Courtesy of Sloane Macklin



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

**Top:** Members of Activities Board pose for a photo with Jukebox the Ghose and Memphis Hill after their concert in Rangos Saturday night.  
**Bottom:** Rapper Danny Brown was announced at the concert as the performer for the Activities Board fall concert coming up on Nov. 21.

