

THE NATRAT



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President Suresh leaks his plans to free UC Stones

MADELINE KIM
Liberate-arian

On March 31, Carnegie Mellon University President Subra Suresh announced his plan to release the UC Stones due to constant student-led protests and complaints. Since its grand opening in 2016, many have pointed out its troubling similarity between the stones' confinement and the proposed policies of then-presidential candidate Donald J. Trump. Much like Trump's policies, the binding of the stones prohibits them from living fulfilling lives and confines them into narrow and unforgiving param-

eters. Discontent has been exhibited in various creative ways, including "free the UC Stones" enamel pins and moderately dank memes posted on the wildly popular Facebook page Carnegie Mellon Memes for Spicy Teens. Bravo, students of Carnegie Mellon University. Your endeavors to liberate the stones have come to show that there is truth behind the classic statement "the squeaky wheel gets the grease." On May 21, 2017, in lieu of the last of finals being administered, Subra Suresh will liberate the UC Stones as they tumble down the Cut and achieve their final destinies.



Courtesy of Anne-Sophie Kim
The UC stones as they break free from their inhumane caging.

Vocelli Pizza serves up the freshest ingredients, finest pie in Pittsburgh



Aisha Han/Vocelli's Vixen

Looking for the best pizza experienc you'll ever have? Try spending your DineX on Vocelli's as The Tartan did at production this past Sunday.

IAN TANAYA
Revered culinary critic

For the typical college student, and really the typical human being, pizza is an essential staple in an enjoyable diet. Containing as many food groups as one desires and making even the least savory of toppings palatable to the pickiest of eaters, a good pizza truly transcends preconceived notions of what food really is. Pizza is a uniting force that people across

all cultures and experiences can share together. Because it is so universally beloved, finding the best pizza is a high impossible task for an average person to achieve. With the original ideas behind pizza lying in Italy, it is easy to assume that one must trek to distant lands in order to experience the best of what pizza is meant to be. While this idea certainly holds merit, the good old U.S. of A. has taken its love of pizza to heart

and churned out thousands of reputable establishments that seek to deliver the perfect pie. Many take up arms in the great pizza debate: New York Thin-Crust vs. Chicago Deep-Dish. Both are excellent templates with armies of supporters, but they all fail to compare to the one pie that rules them all: Vocelli Pizza. That's right: the Pittsburgh-based franchise trumps all pies in the world, offering the best prices one can get

for the best pies possible. The pies are made with the freshest of ingredients: from squeezing cheese directly out of their specially bred cows to taking their vegetables out of the ground and throwing them straight onto the pies. Truly, there is no better option for pizza out there, so praise the food gods for your close proximity to Vocelli and the ability to use the tremendous value of the dining plan's flexible spending dollars on it.

CMU Partners with Innovative Institute for the Innovation of Innovated Institutes

INDIA PRICE
Middle name Innovation

"The Innovative Institute for the Innovation of Innovated Institutes is truly a place where innovation meets innovation," said the institute's founder and chief financial officer Inna Vation in a university press release last Saturday. Vation is a Carnegie Mellon University graduate and, like many other students and graduates, an avid supporter of innovation, institutes, and innovative institutes. As of March 22, 2017, Carnegie Mellon

University is an official corporate partner with the Institute. In an interview with The Tartan, we asked the founder what her motivation was for creating the Innovation Institute for the Innovation of Innovated Institutes. "It's not enough to have a successful innovative institute. We want to be the best. We want to be the institute that innovates new innovative institutes, and we want to do it in an innovative way. It's that simple," Vation responded. The Tartan also had the opportunity to sit

down with Noita Vonni, the Director of the Innovative Innovating Department for the Innovation of Innovated Institutes. "It's a very important department," Vonni discussed. "Without innovation, it's hard to imagine what innovating would look like. Imagine an institute with no innovating for its innovation. Our passion and our goal is to merge together concepts that wouldn't normally be cohesive — such as innovation and innovation — and build a collaborative, innovative institute

where institutes feel free to innovate innovative institutes. Since its launch in January, the institute has already received a great deal of acclaim. *The New York Times* has referred to the institute as "the most innovative innovative innovative since innovative innovative innovative." *The Wall Street Journal* described it as "an institute so institute that it institutes institutes institutes." *Science* called it "institutionally innovated" and "innovatively institutional." The Tartan surveyed

Carnegie Mellon students on their opinions about the new partnership. Anisha Padwekar, senior computer science major and machine learning minor, responded "Will the food there still be CulinArt or..?" Junior chemistry major Karishma Manglani commented, "Is it by Mellon? If it is that's really far. I'll probably never go there anyways." Indorica Sutradhar, a junior material science and engineering major with a minor in biomedical engineering, said "Yeah, I don't care but can you guys find out when

the new Chipotle is supposed to open?" It's pretty clear that students here have a true passion for innovation, innovation, innovation, institutes, and institutes. The innovative partnership is sure to innovate the entirety of the Carnegie Mellon's innovating community. Innovation is an institute innovated for innovate when innovated innovation institute for institute is institute in institute innovate innovated institute, and that's what the Innovative Institute for the Innovation of Innovated Institutes is all about.

Cohon wireteapped President's office, claims President Suresh

RUTH SCHERR
Covers her microwave

Earlier this month, Carnegie Mellon President Subra Suresh posted claims on Overheard at Carnegie Mellon, a Facebook group within the Carnegie Mellon community, that former-President Jared L. Cohon wiretapped Suresh's office. The president declared that Cohon had ordered Carnegie Mellon Police to spy on him at his home, former BNY Mellon Center, Suresh Tower. Suresh's posts followed a tirade about the low ratings for *The Apprentice: Scotty the Scottie Dog*, stating "How low has President Cohon gone to tapp [sic]

my phone during the very sacred process. This is Nixon/Watergate. Bad (or sick) guy!" Suresh followed by claiming the situation was "Terrible!" and just like McCarthyism, or the act of making demagogic, reckless, and unsubstantiated accusations like the current federal administration. When asked to comment, the president's office said that Suresh "firmly believes that Cohon may have, maybe, you know... it's possible that he probably believes it." One of Suresh's current counselors tried to back the president's claims by pointing out that "you can surveil someone through their phones, certainly through their television

sets, even microwaves - I even saw someone building that in Newell-Simon the other day. We're not one of the top robotics programs in the country for nothing!" In order to investigate these accusations, Carnegie Mellon student government has established a Judiciary Branch, where appointed members will serve until they have graduated and achieved tenure. Some members of student senate are demanding that these claims be taken seriously, while others are just confused as to who Cohon is. It remains to be seen how Suresh's comments may be affected by Provost Jahanian's email scandal. earlier this semester.

FEATURE PHOTO

Self-driving Uber nails Cohon Center addition in "accident"



An innocent bystander that almost got taken out. A self-driving uber slammed into the Cohon Center (CC) expansion friday morning at 5:23 a.m. Many suspect that a bitter alum who was not able to enjoy all the fancy new CC stuff is behind the incident.

FEATURE PHOTOS

Hair left in drain for fifth time this week, god d@*&it Catherine



Sarah Gutekunst/Very Hairy

Reports from the third floor of Stever confirm that Catherine has left her hair in the drain of the good shower every day this week. Somehow, everyone else has managed to pick up their hair except for you. You're the only one with blond hair, b****. We know it's you.

FEATURE DANK MEME



A spicy memelord

NEWS IN BRIEF

Student nearly suffocates on Gates Elevator from contaminants associated with flatulence, armpits

On Thursday, March 30, sophomore statistics major Andy Wu boarded the Gates elevator on the third floor, destined for a group meeting in the seventh floor collaborative space. However, upon boarding, Wu was tragically pinned to the rear and, as a result, nearly suffocated.

Wu rode up and down the elevator in this fashion an estimated nine times before the air quality began to take a toll on his respiratory health. Pinned to the rear of the elevator Wu was too far from the fresh oxygen occasionally wafting through the open doors. The air that Wu was forced to breathe contained higher-than-normal concentrations of 3-methyl-2-hexenoic acid, commonly found in underarm sweat, and hydrogen sulfide, a main ingredient in flatulence.

On the aforementioned ninth ride, Wu was finally able to dislodge himself. He limped through the elevator doors on the fourth floor before collapsing on an oddly shaped bench. There, he was discovered by a police officer who alerted Emergency Medical Services.

According to a university spokesperson, "This is an important reminder to all of us that personal hygiene matters. It doesn't just affect you — it affects everyone around you."

Compiled by
SARAH GUTEKUNST

WEATHER

TUESDAY
High / Low
32 ° / 29 °

WEDNESDAY
High / Low
96 ° / 84 °

THURSDAY
High / Low
666 ° / -666 °

FRIDAY
High / Low
0 ° / -47.89 °

SATURDAY
High / Low
87664 ° / -459.67 °

SUNDAY
High / Low
451 ° / 372 °

Campus Crime & Incident Reports

Ratio Violation
March 25, 2015

The Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity suffered a 1:1 men:women ratio at its party on Saturday night, Feb. 30. A member of the fraternity called campus police at 11:30 p.m. to help restore the ratio to 1:30 men:women. An investigation into this horrific incident is on-going.

McConomy Induced Blindness
March 29, 2015

A student has become blind after stepping out of McConomy Auditorium. Medics at University Health Services believe the sudden change from complete darkness to daylight damaged the student's eyes. The student is currently in a stable condition.

Privacy Violation
March 29, 2015

A student has been found guilty of wiretapping over 300 people on campus. The student said he was eavesdropping on conversations to collect content for the Overheard at Carnegie Mellon Facebook group. He is expected to serve a seven-month sentence.

Sabotage
March 27, 2014

Six Carnegie Mellon students have been arrested for sabotaging a competitor's buggy. The students placed a rock in the buggy's chassis, adding two pounds of weight to the overall structure. They are expected to be tried in court later this year.

Compiled by
JOSH ANDAH

Corrections & Clarification

If you would like to submit a correction, clarification, or a complaint about the humor in this satirical issue, please sit down, breathe deeply, and think about all the better things you could be doing with your life.

Horoscopes: sorry, the stars are feeling grumpy this week

ARIES
march 21-april 19

This week will be beautiful, and you'll be drawn to Flagstaff to enjoy the sunset. There, you'll discover that you're highly allergic to bees.

TAURUS
april 20-may 20

You know that internship you've been pining after? They'll call and set up an interview this week, getting your hopes up. Ultimately, they'll hire your best friend in your major, and you'll find out during Carnival.

GEMINI
may 21-june 20

In a moment of weakness, you'll go to Entropy+ to satisfy your cake cup craving, even though you're trying to watch your sugar intake. You'll take one bite of the cake, only to pull a long, curly hair out from your teeth.

CANCER
june 21-july 19

You spot your BFF at the Black Chairs looking very upset, so you go over to see what's wrong. She's been meaning to tell you, she hooked up with your boyfriend last weekend.

LEO
july 20-aug. 22

You decide to treat yourself to a relaxing day of consumerism at the Waterfront. You won't realize until a representative from PNC calls to check in about some suspicious charges, but you dropped your credit card at Target.

VIRGO
aug. 23-sept. 20

After your mid-term participation grades weren't so hot, you go all out preparing for tomorrow's readings, taking notes and jotting down talking points. When you get to class, you realize you prepared for Thursday's readings.

LIBRA
sept. 21-oct.19

You've been holding this group project together for weeks, pulling so much dead weight. You can't wait to get it over with and give your group members bad grades. On the day of the presentation, you oversleep and miss class.

SCORPIO
oct. 20-nov. 20

You catch an amusing conversation and post it on Overheard. You also start a cyber race war.

SAGITTARIUS
nov. 21-dec. 20

After a long day you wander into Hunt in search of a comfy chair to rest your head. A short while later you awake to find a mouse chewing on your backpack.

CAPRICORN
dec. 21-jan. 19

You finally decide to check out the new Cohon Center fitness facilities and get a workout in. The experience will forever remind you of the importance of cleaning the machines after you're diagnosed with a Staph infection.

AQUARIUS
jan. 20-feb. 20

It's been a long week of tests, and this Thursday you're thirstier than ever. You and your crew are looking fierce and ready to down some fishbowls, only to get busted with fakes.

PISCES
feb. 21-march 20

ERROR 404: NO HOROSCOPE FOUND

Compiled by
SARAH GUTEKUNST

THE TARTAN

Carnegie Mellon's student newspaper since 1906



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The Tartan

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TEDxCMU showcases talent of Carnegie Mellon professors and performers, p. B3



Pictured are TEDxCMU presenters Charlie White (top left), Eric Cyphers (top right), Jeff Schneider (bottom left), and Amy Blankson (bottom right).

McNutt, President of NAS, dives into past energy reports

EVANGELINE LIU
Staffwriter

As part of this year's program of Energy Week at Carnegie Mellon, which consisted of activities related to the energy sector and energy issues facing society, Carnegie Mellon students and members of the community had the chance to attend various lectures given by distinguished professors and scientists working in energy-related fields. Marcia McNutt, who last year became the president of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and who was previously the first female editor-in-chief of the journal *Science* and led the United States Geological Survey, gave one of the lectures.

The lecture began with Dr. Jared Cohon, the director of Scott Institute and former president of Carnegie Mellon, giving a welcome address and thanking the many sponsors of Energy Week. He introduced the role of Scott Institute in addressing today's energy issues and recognized the attendees who had played a major role in the institute. Next, Provost Farnam Jahanian introduced McNutt with a statement on

how science is a core part of America's national identity while also recognizing Cohon for the work he has done for the university, even after stepping down as university president.

McNutt's lecture primarily introduced different reports that the NAS has compiled over the years on energy-sector related subjects. First, she briefly described the history of the NAS, which was created by President Lincoln and chartered by Congress for the purpose of advising the legislative body. The NAS puts out around 200 reports a year on widely varying scientific disciplines, but McNutt emphasized that many of them match the themes of Energy Week: policy, research, education, and looking toward the future. Through her lecture, McNutt aimed to showcase how useful these reports can be.

The first report she introduced was a 2016 study, titled "Analytic Research Foundations for the Next Generation Electric Grid," which described the characteristics that a modernized energy grid should have in

See **ENERGY WEEK**, B3

Merit Badge University boy scouts practice first aid skills

VALENE MEZMIN
News Editor

Local boy scouts recently visited Carnegie Mellon University to learn important and potentially life-saving first aid skills. In a demonstration, one scout showed the technique he learned to apply multiple chest compressions to a training doll, while two other scouts prepared an Automated External Defibrillator machine and pretended to call for help.

Every year, Carnegie Mellon University partners with Merit Badge University (MBU) to allow over 200 Pittsburgh boy scouts to utilize the campus in order to learn important skills such as public speaking, chemistry, aviation, and engineering. The annual two-day event, hosted by Carnegie Mellon's Alpha Phi Omega Kappa chapter, offers over 15 of the necessary courses the boy

scouts need to take in order to earn their merit badges. Successfully completing these courses helps the scouts fulfill some of the 21 required merit badges they need to be promoted to Eagle Scouts.

This year, local Pittsburgh Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) volunteered to teach the scouts' first aid course. This partnership with Pittsburgh EMTs means that not only do the scouts get to learn from the officials who have to be prepared to perform these skills everyday, but the EMTs also get to teach more people these important skills which benefits them as well.

According to Mark Pinchalk, it is helpful if public bystanders are trained in performing CPR so that they are able to apply these skills while the EMTs are traveling to the area. "Any kind of CPR, it doesn't have to be perfect, has been shown to improve

survival," Pinchalk said.

The scouts were also trained in recognizing signs of a heart attack, stroke, and hypothermia. They also learned how to stop a person from bleeding.

Scoutmaster Scott Schrecongost states that this training can prepare the scouts to be prepared to be of help in a variety of situations, such as when going camping, when playing with other kids, or even being at home.

Beth McKinstry, the scouts' troop leader, has seen how these skills can be applied in the most unlikely of situations. While her son was a 16 year-old Eagle Scout, he was able to help a woman who was going into shock from a car accident. When he came home, he told his mom that he was only able to help the woman because of the skills he learned as a boy scout.

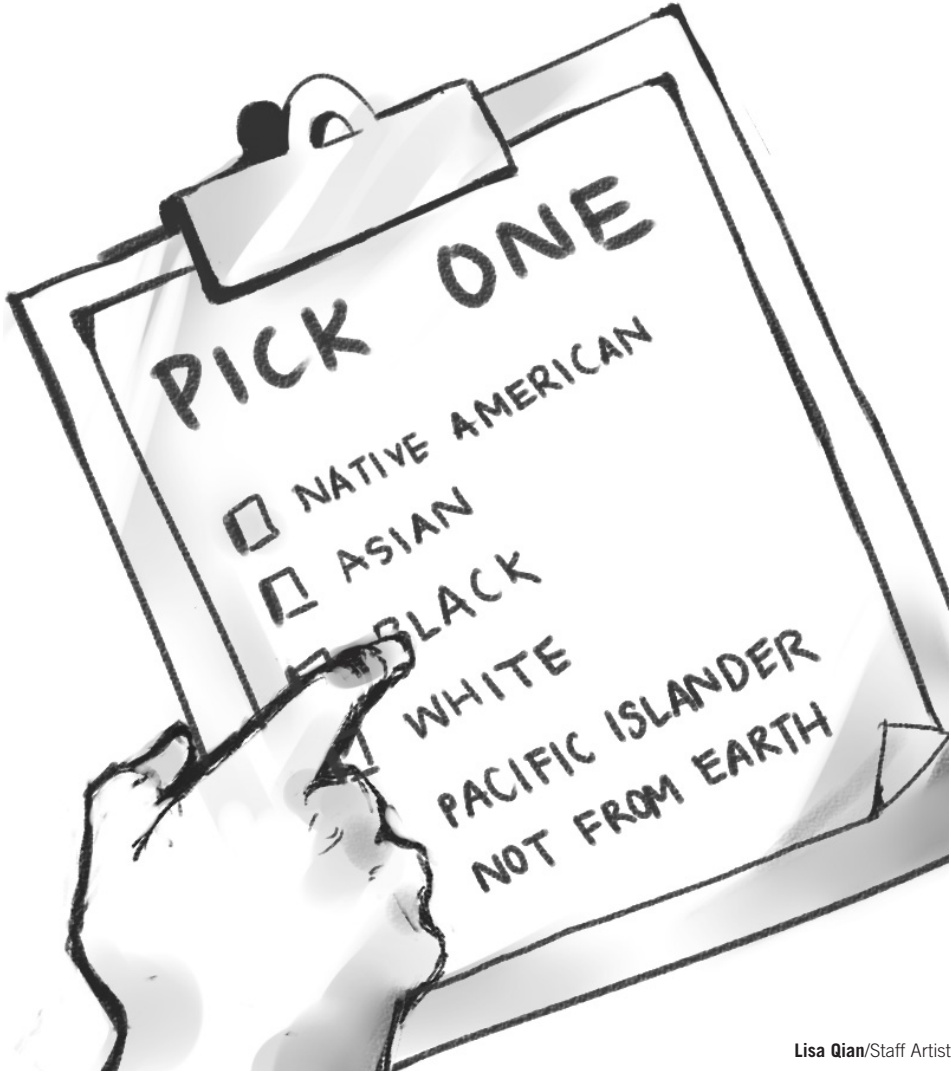
See **TRAINING**, B3



Courtesy of Sihan Dong

Boy scouts from the Pittsburgh area practice CPR at Carnegie Mellon to earn their first aid merit badges.

Spencer proposes a radical solution to the race problem



Lisa Qian/Staff Artist

ROSEMARY HAYNES
Staffwriter

Of all the colleges in the United States, 99.8 percent of them define race with the same five categories in their application process. When applying for health care, taking a standardized test, sending a child to day care, the same five boxes are presented allowing the participant to check as many as apply to them. It is no mere coincidence that all Americans have become accustomed to the categories of Native American, Asian, Black, White, and Native Pacific Islander in generalizing

the abstract concept of race. These categories exist and have existed since 1997, when they were introduced by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to standardize the way we talk about race.

On Wednesday, March 29, Quayshawn Spencer, assistant professor of philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania, gave a lecture about race talk to members of the Carnegie Mellon University community in Baker Hall.

The event was co-sponsored by Carnegie Mellon University's Victor M. Bearg Science and Humanities Scholars Speaker Series and

the University Lecture Series. The title of the lecture, "A Radical Solution to the Race Problem," shares the same name as a paper written by Spencer in 2014 on the same topic. Though Spencer is a philosopher, his concentration is within the philosophy of science, which provides him with some background in biology. His radical solution to the race problem attempts to explain how we define race currently in America, as well as implications of these definitions in medical, social, and political contexts.

See **RACE CATEGORIES**, B3

FEATURE PHOTO

Pittsburghers for America organizes March for Health



Lisa Qian/Staff Artist

On Saturday, April 1, Pittsburghers for America, a new political action committee, hosted a march to raise awareness for equitable and affordable access to quality healthcare. The march took place on Flagstaff Hill in Schenley Park.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Carnegie Mellon students compete in this year’s Three Minute Thesis competition

Thus far, nine students have been identified as finalists for Carnegie Mellon’s Three Minute Thesis competition, which challenges Ph.D. students to present a compelling and easily understood presentation of their thesis and its significance in just three minutes.

This is Carnegie Mellon University’s fourth year hosting the event, which started at the University of Queensland in 2008. Keith Webster, Dean of University Libraries, brought the concept to Carnegie Mellon and now hosts the competition.

“Our students are doing such interesting, innovative, and complex work,” Webster said in a university press release. “It’s a joy to learn more about their research and see how they approach the challenge of conveying it to a non-specialist audience.”

This year, 78 graduate students participated in 10 rounds of preliminary competitions, which has been the university’s highest number of participants

in the competition.

Michael Craig, a doctoral student in the College of Engineering, will be participating in the program for his third time this year. His talk for this year is titled “Grid-scale electricity storage: A help or hindrance for mitigating climate change?”

“Last year I got too involved in the details,” Craig said in a university press release. “But it’s such a good experience. More people should participate.”

Ania Jaroszewicz, who is pursuing a doctoral degree in behavioral decision research in Dietrich College’s Department of Social and Decision Sciences, is competing this year for the first time. She says that Three Minute Thesis has given her an opportunity to think about how she communicates her work to people who might use it to help shape policy or nonprofit programming.

A panel of judges will select the overall winner and runner-up for the competition.

New coding method allows computer systems to better identify faces in crowds

Deva Ramanan, associate professor of robotics at Carnegie Mellon, and Peiyun Hu, a Ph.D. candidate in robotics, have made significant progress to allow computer vision systems to be able to detect tiny faces. This is due to an improved coding method that allows this system to look for larger things associated with tiny objects.

Of the faces analyzed using Ramanan and Hu’s method, 81 percent proved to be actual faces. This is compared to the 29 to 64 percent found using prior methods.

Ramanan describes this accuracy as being similar to spotting a toothpick in someone’s hand. “The toothpick is easier to see when you have hints that someone might be using a toothpick,” said Ramanan in a university press release. “For that, the orientation of the fingers and the motion and position of the hand are major clues.”

Similarly, to find a face that may be only a few pixels in size, it helps to first look for a body within the larger image, or to realize that an image also contains a crowd of people.

Ramanan and Hu’s method uses “foveal descriptors” which allow them to encode context similar to how human vision is structured. The center of the human field of vision is focused on the retina’s fovea, where visual acuity is highest. The foveal descriptor provides sharp detail for a small patch of the image, while blurring the peripheral image to understand the patch shown in high focus while not overwhelming the computer.

The researchers will present their findings at the Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition conference from July 21–26 in Honolulu.

Compiled by
VALENE MEZMIN

STUDENT GOVERNMENT COLUMN



DOMINIQUE ESCANDON
Special to The Tartan

Editor’s Note: Dominique Escandon is the Cabinet Writer of The Student Government.

Here’s a candid confession: student government isn’t always sexy. Being in student government means spending days waiting for replies to emails. It means setting meeting dates two to three weeks in advance, not only because the department head you’re meeting with has a busy schedule, but also because your own calendar is packed full. It means redefining your dreams over and over again to satisfy a large administration and complicated student body or trying to find the line between dreaming big and dreaming up something affordable and realistic. For me, it’s been marked with learning that my dream school, despite having exceeded all my expectations in academia and opportunity, still has work to be done to ensure that all students feel empowered on campus.

It means filling notebooks with brainstorming sessions and resources for change. It means learning how to dig deep into the place you’ve called home and realize you can make a change, and it might even only take a few emails — which is how I got Carnegie Mellon to switch from Blue Books to its sustainable counterpart, Green Books! It means surrounding yourself with a network of intelligent, passionate

people through the Graduate Student Assembly, Senate, or Cabinet and setting up a game plan for how you are going to bring your project to success. It means meeting incredible administrators who guide you and inspire you with their dedication to this university.

Actually, thinking about it again, if you’re someone who loves to see and be a part of positive, sustainable change, maybe student government is still a little sexy.

Now, let’s bring it back around to student elections. The people in these positions matter. When I think about my time in Cabinet, and the opportunities we’ve all been granted to leave a mark on campus, I get so excited to see what will come next from the next wave of student government representatives. How will they continue to push for the protection of our undocumented students? How will they ensure that the student body and administration learn how to empathize with and protect sexual assault survivors, first-generation students, students with disabilities or financial insecurity, and historically marginalized groups? There are so many opportunities to grow kindness on campus, and I look forward to not only seeing those actions happen, but also being able to express who I believe will best represent these groups through my vote.

These are the reasons why I’m voting in these student government elections. What are yours?

Campus Crime & Incident Reports

Warrant Arrest/Possession of a Controlled Substance
March 23, 2017

Two women were reported to be fighting on Fifth Avenue. One of the women had an active warrant for her arrest and was placed into custody. She was also found to be in possession of a controlled substance. The woman was transported to the Allegheny County Jail.

Theft of Bicycle
March 24, 2017

Two Carnegie Mellon students reported that their

bicycles were unlawfully removed from the Fairfax Annex lobby and the bicycle racks outside Morewood Gardens. An investigation is ongoing.

Alcohol Amnesty
March 25, 2017

University Police responded to Mudge House and Stever House after receiving reports of two intoxicated students. The Carnegie Mellon University students were provided with medical attention. All criteria of Alcohol Amnesty were met and no citations were issued.

Underage Drinking
March 25, 2017

University Police responded to Mudge House and Stever House after receiving a report of intoxicated students. A Carnegie Mellon student was provided with medical attention and was issued a citation for underage drinking.

Theft of Laptop
March 26, 2017

A Carnegie Mellon student’s laptop was unlawfully removed from Baker Hall. An investigation is ongoing.

Theft of Sign
March 28, 2017

A Carnegie Mellon staff member reported that a sign was unlawfully removed from Cyert Hall. An investigation is ongoing.

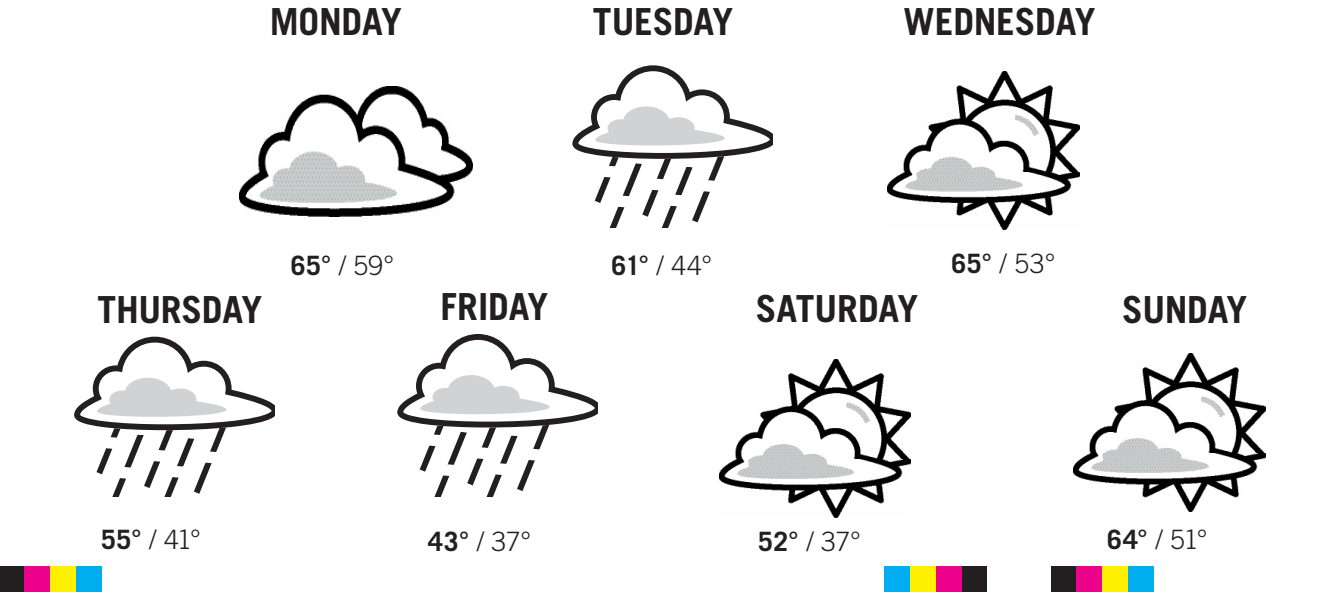
Harassment
March 29, 2017

A Carnegie Mellon student reported that she was harassed by construction workers who were working near Shady Oak apartments. An investigation is ongoing.

Compiled by
VALENE MEZMIN

WEATHER

Source: www.weather.com



Corrections & Clarifications

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



Marcia McNutt talks at CMU Energy Week

ENERGY WEEK, from B1

order to meet society’s future needs — for example, the need for alternative energy sources for electric cars. The characteristics they found necessary include customer participation, integration of generation and storage options, new markets and operations, high quality of power, operation efficiency and asset optimization, and resiliency against attacks and disasters. She also emphasized the importance of the grid being able to handle and analyze large amounts of data in real-time in optimizing the performance. As an example of modernizing the grid, McNutt mentioned that her home in California is a home that produces as much energy as it uses via solar panels. Another significant report was one regarding the potential of using algae and cyanobacteria as sources of future biofuels. Using algae as a biofuel source has several advantages — energy security, no net greenhouse gas emissions, high biomass productivity, and the fact that it doesn’t compete with food, unlike other crops that are grown for biofuels, such as corn. However, the NAS report

concluded that more research is still needed to make algae biofuels sustainable in the long run. McNutt also mentioned a rare two-nation study that was commissioned by both the U.S. and China. Because the U.S. and China are the two top energy consumers of the world, the nations agreed to jointly research areas of renewable energy development which would be ripe for cooperation rather than competition. The collaborative areas identified were basic and pre-commercial research, the proper mapping of production sites, operations and management, recycling materials, and setting standards. Another study that tied together policy and energy identified the impacts of U.S. tax policy on greenhouse gas emissions. The report assesses different facets of U.S. energy-related tax policies — fuel taxes, renewable energy production credits, depletion allowances for oil and gas, home efficiency improvement credits, nuclear decommissioning tax preference, and aviation fuel taxes — on the levels of greenhouse gas emissions. The report concluded that while fuel taxes, production credits, and

efficiency improvement credits helped lower greenhouse gases, the depletion allowances and nuclear decommissioning tax preference did not have a significant impact on greenhouse gas emissions. McNutt highlighted one study that she thought was particularly important which discussed the hidden costs of energy sources such as coal, oil, natural gas, nuclear, wind, solar, and biofuels. The report concluded that the biggest quantifiable hidden costs were greenhouse gas emissions and pollution. It stated that developing tar sands would worsen both costs while using renewable energy sources would lower them. McNutt mentioned an array of other studies, on topics from the impact of the Helium Privatization Act to the prospects of LED lighting. She concluded the lecture by thanking several people from Carnegie Mellon who contributed significantly to the reports she presented. At a post-lecture interview, McNutt was asked about her views on the upcoming March on Science, which will be held in cities nationwide on Earth Day, April 22.

“It is their civic duty to show their support for science, [and] to show that science matters,” she said in response. She voices her concern whenever she hears people denying well-established climate science, and takes to Twitter to point people in the right direction on the subject. However, she expressed a note of caution to people interested in participating in the march. “I think it’s important that they march for science — that they not march against anything else. I would be concerned if they marched against the budget, or they marched against the administration,” she argued. Citing her familiarity with the budget process as the former director of the U.S. Geological Survey, she advised that people should not jump to conclusions about policies too early since it generally takes a long time for anything to become law. Her primary concern was that scientists would come across as a special interest group, further politicizing what should be a neutral, fact-based subject. But despite these concerns, she says that voicing support of science is something people “should be doing as citizens.”

TEDxCMU: *Pivot* presents human aspect to recent technological advancements

YIYUAN CHEN
Operations Manager

Organized and led by 16 Carnegie Mellon students, the second annual TEDxCMU: *Pivot* was held on April 1. The team of students brought nine speakers and two performance groups to the six-hour event, including professors, students at Carnegie Mellon, and guest speakers recommended by sponsors. Carnegie Mellon president Subra Suresh opened the event with a speech about the modern Fourth Industrial Revolution. He noted that technological innovations such as the internet, data science, artificial intelligence, and automated systems have revolutionized human life in the past decades. He also urged the audience to look at the humanities aspect of technology. After illustrating the importance of studying the ethics of science and technologies from a historical perspective, he noted that the advancement of technology must be made in the context of human beings in order to benefit human life. Other guests included Michael Senatore, who discussed the meaning of “going viral.” Senatore became an internet sensation in his senior year of high school because of a video of him flipping a water bottle at his high school talent show, which received over 70 million views on YouTube. He claimed that

the viral effect on the internet has allowed “unqualified people to do amazing things.” Molly Steenson, an associate professor at Carnegie Mellon’s School of Design, talked about design and how visualization could bring inspirations to the research and development of artificial intelligence. Steven Chase, an assistant professor of biomedical engineering at Carnegie Mellon and a faculty expert at BrainHub, showed his research in developing a brain-computer interface, and demonstrated how measuring and simulating human neural activities could benefit disabled or paralyzed patients. He also discussed the challenges of building such an interface from the historical perspective and the development of artificial intelligence over the past 60 years. Amy Blankson, a co-founder of Goodthink and an expert of positive psychology, broadly discussed the upsides and downsides of innovations in mobile technologies. Rebecca Nugent, a teaching professor at Carnegie Mellon’s department of statistics, raised the underestimated issue of being “innumerate” and discussed how the concept is perceived in western culture. She noted that, while illiteracy is often regarded as the more obvious problem to solve, people’s attitude towards the subject

of mathematics, statistics, and data science are often steered by the Western culture that labels mathematics as a “cold, hard, masculine,” and intimidating subjects. Charlie White, the head of Carnegie Mellon’s School of Art, traced the history of photography to the early 20th century, and noted various trends within the photographs that reflected the societal changes over the century. Dr. Jeff Schneider, the current engineering head of machine learning at Uber Advanced Technologies Group and a former research professor at Carnegie Mellon University, discussed the history and technology behind driverless vehicles. Not only did he outline the technology and challenges of artificial intelligence involved in this project, he also showed the benefits of driverless cars. He claimed that driverless technology can decrease automobile-related accidents, fully utilize cars, save parking spaces, and decrease the amount of time people “waste” nowadays on commuting. Eric Cyphers, a renowned cellist and sophomore student studying neuroscience at Carnegie Mellon, was the only student selected to speak at TEDxCMU this year. Cyphers shared his experience of combining his academic interest in neuroscience and music. Prior to coming to Carnegie Mellon, Cyphers studied at Curtis Institute of Music and toured

extensively around North America and Europe, working with musicians such as Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, and Lang Lang. His interdisciplinary interest in music and science had enriched his life and creativity. Two student groups also performed at TEDxCMU including the Exploded Ensemble, an electro-acoustic ensemble at Carnegie Mellon, and the K-Pop Dance Group. “I consider this event as a huge success,” noted Yash Maheshwari, co-founder of TEDxCMU and a junior majoring in statistics and machine learning. Around 400 students and guests attended the event, quadrupling the number of attendees from last year. The team of 16 Carnegie Mellon students have been preparing for this event since October, and was entirely supported by sponsors without drawing funds from Joint Funding Committee at Carnegie Mellon. Due to successful marketing and the improved quality of speakers, all 450 tickets were sold out one week before the event. This year’s theme, *Pivot*, was chosen to represent the idea that TEDxCMU is building upon the foundation of last year’s event. In response to a question about the future of TEDxCMU, Maheshwari said that it “should be an event that people on campus are looking forward to, like Tartan Hacks and Carnival.”

Spencer discusses implications of race categories in the U.S.



Lisa Qian/Staff Artist
Quayshawn Spencer, an assistant professor of philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania, delivered a lecture on race categories.

RACE CATEGORIES, from B1

One strange nuance that may come to mind when one thinks critically about the number of times they’ve filled out a form identifying themselves using OMB race talk is the separation between Hispanic and Latino and the five categories of race. This is because the OMB does not consider Hispanic and Latino to be races, but in an attempt to be inclusive, allows one to mention it as an ethnicity. Why do we define Hispanic and Latino as an ethnicity and not a race? Spencer argues that this is because race is greatly defined by one’s ancestral continental origin. The OMB couldn’t allow such a wide spanning cross-continental group to be defined as a race because it would cause serious issues in a medical context. Spencer showed that statistically, where you’re from in the world can act as a predictor for what your race is. This is important in a medical context as it’s easier to know what diseases you are likely to be more susceptible to based on the origin of your genome. Given his philosophical background, Spencer’s argument combined a strong statistical argument with sociological considerations. Spencer made his argument accessible to those with little to no background in philosophy or statistics while still including the intellectual complexities of his evidence in a meaningful way for the more familiar members of the audience. The unambiguous nature of his dialogue was strengthened by the continued consideration and mention of fellow philosophers in the discussion of race talk. Spencer even included some objections brought forward by students who’d attended

the lecture during this series at other universities, encouraging the audience to bring forward their own insightful questions for a chance to be featured in future lectures. At the core of Spencer’s argument is a differentiation between monism and his radical solution of pluralism. Monism, in the context of OMB race talk, is the belief that OMB race talk is the one true definition of race and that there are no exceptions to this definition. Pluralism recognizes the many nuances in human identity. Depending on context, one definition of race might be more correct than another. Pluralism is the belief that multiple definitions can coexist even if at points they contradict each other. Following Spencer’s prepared presentation, much of the audience remained, eager to ask questions about his conception of race. During this session, some parameters were defined that had not been completely clear initially. The theory Spencer presented was not answering the question of how should we talk about race in the American context, but instead attempted to correctly define the way we currently talk about race. Many questions followed concerning how we should talk about race, which Spencer answered broadly since it is the topic of his next book. Spencer also made clear that this concept of pluralism does not apply internationally. In some countries, you are defined by a single race which is printed on your ID card. Spencer pointed out that it would be hard for Americans to imagine carrying a driver’s license that listed one of four race categories which encompass the diversity of our population.

Boy scouts learn first aid from Emergency Medical Technicians



Courtesy of Sihan Dong
A group of Merit Badge University boy scouts learn how to treat wounds. Alpha Phi Omega organizes the scouts’ annual visit to the university.

TRAINING, from B1

McKinstry says her favorite part about being a troop leader is seeing the young boy scouts transform into men. Akindele Davies, the Head MBU Chair of Alpha Phi Omega, Kappa chapter, along with Karen Kim and Lillian Sheng, his co-chairs, was responsible for organizing MBU’s visit to Carnegie Mellon. This included recruiting counselors, ordering supplies, and setting up an event schedule. “Organizing MBU has taught me a lot about event/project planning, dealing with adversity, and the importance of teamwork,” says Davies. Most of all, he is glad that Alpha Phi Omega is able to allow the scouts to get the opportunity to work on their merit badges, since they

contact Carnegie Mellon professors to volunteer as counselors for the scouts for subjects they need to have knowledge on to earn their merit badges. Chemistry is one of the most popular subjects for the scouts, according to McKinstry. This is taught by Gizelle Sherwood, the Merit Badge Counselor for chemistry, as well as an assistant professor for chemistry at Carnegie Mellon. The appeal? “They get to blow things up,” said McKinstry. Davies adds that “the cool thing about this class is that scouts not only get to learn about chemistry straight from a university chemistry professor, but they also get to do so in a university chemistry lab.” Information regarding Merit Badge University’s next visit to Carnegie Mellon will be out later this year.



Forum

FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Trump’s orders target immigrants, hurt all Americans

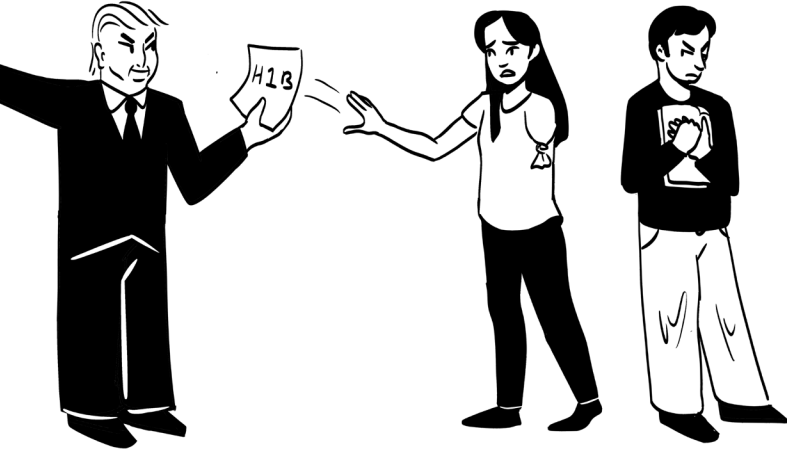
Recently, the drafts of six White House executive orders that outline plans to heavily crack down on the immigrant population in the U.S. have been leaked to Vox. Two of these drafts have already been introduced as executive orders on immigration at the border wall. Another draft has been introduced as the “Muslim ban” that temporarily banned entry from seven countries. The remaining three plans move to end programs that allow immigrants to come and work in the U.S. While the orders have not been confirmed, they align with President Donald Trump’s anti-immigrant rhetoric.

The first of these unreleased orders moves to rescind President Barack Obama’s Deferred Action Childhood Arrivals (DACA). The DACA protects undocumented people coming to the U.S. who are under 16, are in school, and have no felonies from immediate deportation. While permits issued under DACA are set to begin expiring without renewal, Trump plans not only to make them expire sooner than anticipated, but also to ensure that new permits are not issued. This could cause a mass exodus of young immigrants who have done nothing wrong. It would also force children to pay for a decision they did not even make.

This executive order also aims to put an end to Obama’s attempt to extend the DACA to cover more immigrants. Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA) sought to protect the parents of U.S. born children. While DAPA has already been blocked in court, Trump’s executive order would also eliminate the DACA on which it was based, making further efforts to protect immigrant parents even harder to move forward.

The second executive order plans to make the metrics for legal immigration even harder to meet. One of the ways legal immigration will be made more difficult is through the reversal of the Optional Practical Training work visa (OPT) extension added by the Department of Homeland Security. OPT is a time period that allows full time undergraduate and graduate students who have finished or have been pursuing a degree for nine months to work for a year on a student visa to gain practical training in their field. This allows international students to pursue internships and other work experiences related to their field.

The reversal of OPT is something that heavily impacts the Carnegie Mellon community, especially when most companies are only looking to hire full time employees who have internship experience. The purpose



of OPT is to enhance international students’ learning experiences by allowing them to also pursue jobs in their fields. Without this aspect their U.S. education is incomplete, with international students being given a back seat to the experience of American students. Limiting international students’ access to internships with U.S. companies almost eliminates their chances at full time careers with these companies. While the executive order states that its purpose is to prioritize “the interests of American workers and — to the maximum degree possible — the jobs, wages, and well-being of those workers,” it also refuses to reward a large portion of the college population that works just as hard, if not harder than American students for their degree.

This order also moves to reverse Obama’s decision to allow spouses of H-1B visa holders access to work visas. The H-1B visa is what allows U.S. employers to temporarily hire foreign employees. By denying spouses access to work visas, it limits a household of at least two people to a single income, making it that much harder for immigrants to achieve the “American Dream.” It’s another barrier that forces the tired, poor, huddled masses yearning to be free to be prisoner to an unfair immigration system.

Another provision in this order plans to get rid of the relief Obama granted for those eligible for green cards, but who are unable to apply because of the three and ten year bars. When an immigrant has been in the U.S. illegally for more than 180 days, they are barred from entering the country for three years and if they are unlawfully here for more than a year, they are barred from the country for ten years. This makes it impossible for those who want to receive citizenship to do so without risking deportation.

As if the aforementioned wasn’t enough for a single executive order, the last big impact that this order would have is to allow the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to conduct site visits at places that employ L-1 visa workers. The goal is for the site visits to eventually expand to all

employment-based visa programs. L-1 visas allow foreign workers with specialized knowledge to continue employment in the U.S. with the same employer. It’s clear that the common theme in this executive order is to make the process for immigrants to secure work in the U.S. as hard as possible.

The leaked final executive order also tackles a number of issues. The order specifically uses the term “alien” to refer to both illegal and legal immigrants. The first provision it puts forward is to ensure that sponsors of immigrants reimburse the government for the cost of welfare benefits provided to their immigrants. This is something that will eliminate the incentive for companies and sponsors to endorse immigrants.

The provision also calls for the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Mick Mulvaney, “to compile a report detailing how the federal government will save \$100 billion by ensuring that aliens receive only the public benefits that they are eligible to receive.” This report seems to be just another instance of Trump throwing out large numbers to convince Americans that immigrants cost us more than they benefit, despite how much immigrants stimulate our economy and job force.

Another provision outlined by this executive order allows the DHS and State Department to decide on new standards and regulations for immigrants requiring public assistance. The rest of this executive order outlines various reports that would be compiled about the impact of immigrants in the U.S. Though we have not seen what a report of this nature would look like, The Tartan’s guess is that it would not paint immigrants in a flattering light just based on the president’s attitude towards them.

If these executive orders go into effect, which seems likely based on the status of the first three, it could entirely reshape the immigrant population in our country. Trump has brainwashed some Americans into thinking the reason that they aren’t getting jobs is because immigrants are stealing them. He’s failing to acknowledge all the work that immigrants do for Americans, sometimes jobs that American entitlement stops us from pursuing ourselves.

These orders could also make the employment for international students at Carnegie Mellon a lot harder. They come here to receive one of the best educations in the world, and Trump wants to make it even harder for them to use that knowledge in the American workforce. Immigrants are the backbone of this country and without their knowledge, creativity, passion, and ingenuity, America would not advance. What Trump needs to realize is that these orders not only hurt immigrants, but they hurt Americans, too.

Media should reflect immigrant experiences



LYDIA GREEN

The 2016 election season, with Donald Trump’s discussion of walls and bans, brought immigration issues into public consciousness. His more recent executive order attempts at a Muslim ban have held them there. Although this is a debate about immigrants, immigrants and their families are largely not given a voice in it. This week, I sat down with three different first-generation Carnegie Mellon students to discuss the representation of immigrants and the children of immigrants in the media.

A common theme of these conversations was about how American immigrants are an especially hard-working group of people. Jai Ghose, a junior math major with parents from India, said that while growing up his parents especially emphasized the importance of working hard because they were immigrants: “for a lot of [immigrants], they’re like, ‘We have to work this much harder to get this.’ They didn’t have the same support structures [as other Americans].” Ghose strikes on an important point — a new immigrant coming to America has to entirely start over in a country where

foods and things you’ve grown accustomed to for your whole lifetime suddenly change.”

Despite all the challenges that immigrating to America necessarily entails, immigrants overwhelmingly succeed. As Madeline Kim, a Tepper first-year with Korean parents, notes, “[Immigrants] are more likely to attend college ... and they actually add economic prosperity to America. They bring more jobs — they might start a new company or might otherwise open up new opportunities.”

Ghose’s and Kim’s parents came to America for education while the third student’s parents came to America to work. These cases are fairly typical, as most immigrants (both documented and undocumented) come here to get jobs and support their families, yet the news media routinely portrays immigrants as entitled and criminal. These negative portrayals have severely negative effects on politics and worsen subconscious biases against immigrants and refugees.

The students expressed that the rampancy of two-dimensional stereotypes has pervaded their everyday lives. Ghose and Kim both grapple with the effects of the stereotype that Asian people are smarter. This seemingly positive stereotype has, nevertheless, distinctly negative consequences in real life. Ghose

The biggest issue with current media narratives is that they don’t capture the full range of experiences and personalities [of immigrants].

they probably don’t know many people and may not even know the language but have to assimilate to American culture and find a way to support their families anyway.

Another student points out that an immigrant’s ability to be happy and successful in America largely depends on their ability to remain connected to the culture of their native country. He says that his Colombian mother remains in constant contact with her sisters in Colombia and they visit each other often. The student’s father, on the other hand, is from Cuba and has had far less opportunity to remain connected to his homeland. Because of America’s complicated relationship with Cuba his father could not return to Cuba for visits, which was especially difficult when his mother died and he was unable to attend her funeral. Even calling Cuba was not usually an option as the Cuban government has driven up the prices of incoming phone calls from the U.S.

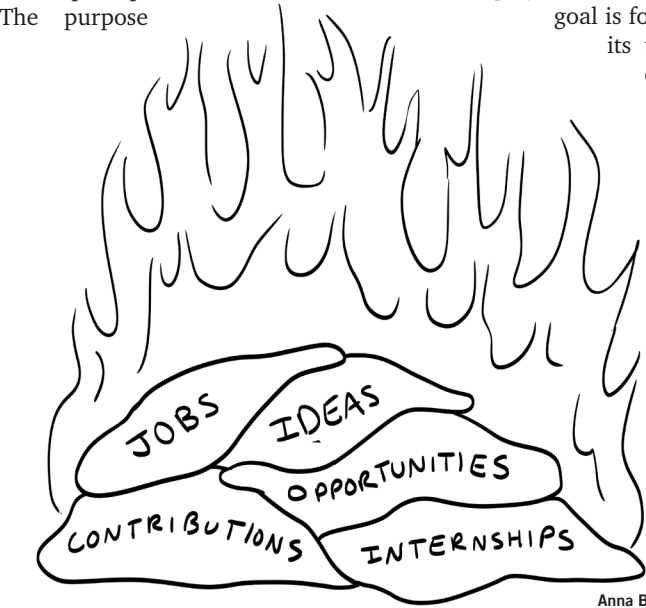
The student says that while his mother is overwhelmingly glad she came to America and now fully considers it her home, his father’s feelings about having come to America have been much more complicated. The student relates his father’s experience of being cut off from his homeland to the experience of being cut off from one’s mother: “It’s like, oh, you can no longer speak to your mother. She’s there theoretically, somewhere faraway, but you can’t just talk to her. You have no communication with her. That’s a hard thing to do... and with the aspect of culture, it can be kind of shocking...

commented that people always assume he’s good at math and will randomly ask him to help them with their math homework, but he wishes that people would see him as more of a complete human being. “A lot of people are hardwired [to stereotype me], so I have to always make a good first impression to show that I’m more well-rounded as an individual,” he said.

Similarly, Kim told me about a teacher she had once who would constantly talk about how her Asian students were so smart and then would grade them more harshly than other students. Growing up Korean in a small, predominantly white town in Alabama, Kim encountered many people making false assumptions about her, most with the implication that she was somehow different or foreign because she was Asian. For one thing, people would assume that she didn’t speak English or didn’t speak it well, even though she has lived in America her entire life. Or, despite the fact that she got an almost perfect score on her driver’s test, people would assume she was a bad driver before even getting in the car with her. These stereotypes are seemingly little things, but when they are taken as reality and repeated frequently, it can have a dehumanizing effect. Like Ghose, Kim wishes that people would see her as more of an equal human being to them: “As cliché as it is, we’re not all that different,” she stated.

As a Hispanic person, the third student has to deal with stereotypes

See IMMIGRANT NARRATIVE, B5



Anna Boyle/Staff Artist

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Title IX should protect the innocent, not shield the guilty



Brandon Schmuck

BRANDON SCHMUCK

Editor's note: Outcry on Overheard is a weekly column that analyzes conversations found on the Facebook group Overheard at Carnegie Mellon. Find previous installments @ thetartan.org

Last week, outcry broke out on Overheard at Carnegie Mellon when a Medium post by a Carnegie Mellon graduate was shared, titled “Empowering my Rapist and Revictimizing Me.” While controversy brewed about the authenticity of the events described in the article, it created a surge in attention on the matter and caused people to raise a number of questions about the transparency of sexual assault cases at Carnegie Mellon and college campuses in general.

Based on the email sent out by Vice President of Student Affairs Gina Casalegno in response to the Overheard at Carnegie Mellon post, it is clear that the university does not take these matters lightly and understands the importance of providing educational and support programs to ensure that sexual assault is prevented and handled properly. As a witness in a stalking case, it was clear that the people I worked with in the university cared greatly about handling such cases in a proper manner and bringing justice and safety to victims.

However, a national policy that works to protect the guilty more than the victim sets legal precedents that can be destructive to college campus communities and potentially endangering to students.

In the comments section of this post, one student wrote, “Why don’t students receive crime alerts when a student sexually assaults another?” The answer comes from a law created in 1974 that was not even intended to deal with sexual assault. The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) was written to protect the privacy of students’ academic transcripts.

However, its vague wording has caused it to be used in far more scenarios than intended by primary author, Senator James L. Buckley. Frank LoMonte, executive director of the Student Press Law Center, even goes as far to say that its unintended interpretations from being a law meant

to protect academic transcripts to one silencing rape cases have transformed it into the “Federal Rapists Protection Act.” FERPA is commonly used by universities to prevent sexual assault case results from being published and shared with members of the community against their best interests.

According to *The New York Times* reporter Jon Krakauer, “When universities want to deny public access to information that might blemish their reputations, they routinely claim that FERPA prevents them from disclosing such information — even when disclosure is plainly warranted. In many instances, the suppressed records concern sexual assault complaints.”

He then goes on to describe a case he was investigating of a University of Montana

football player who was found guilty of rape but was then not expelled after a far-from-transparent repeal process. The University of Montana attempted to use FERPA to shield any information on the case from the reporter and was almost successful due to the flexibility of its interpretations.

According to the National Women’s Law Center, FERPA allows “the final results of any college disciplinary proceeding for a violent crime or sex offense that concludes the accused broke a school rule or policy to a third party” to be released to witnesses, student groups, and reporters. However, colleges like the University of Montana have clearly

overstepped their boundaries and put their interests before their communities’ interests in their interpretations of FERPA.

In the case of the Overheard at Carnegie Mellon Medium post, the accused student was found not guilty and, therefore, had the right to privacy. This is understandable because if there is even a chance that the accusation is false, the tarnishing of this student’s reputation and future could affect him for a lifetime. According to Slate, eight percent of rape accusations are reported by police to be “unfounded,” so false accusations are a reality and should be properly handled. While people have the right to be angry about such cases, we must remember that America is a country built on the foundation of innocence until proven guilty.

In the case of a guilty verdict or a false accusation beyond a reasonable doubt, students and members of the campus community should be given the right to access such information, and cases like the University of Montana one described in *The New York Times* article above must cease using FERPA as a gag order to hide information that could be crucial for their students’ safety. In order to ensure that such cases do not happen, FERPA must be rewritten in a way that preserves the privacy of students but is worded in a way that prevents universities from hiding information from the public that members of the community should be entitled to know.

After reviewing Carnegie Mellon’s 2015 Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence Study, it is clear that college campuses across America are facing a sexual assault epidemic. Out of those surveyed, 38.3% of undergraduate females at Carnegie Mellon University reported experiencing an attempted sexual assault. Even more frightening is the fact that 26% of them have actually experienced a completed sexual assault. According to Carnegie Mellon, this finding is no outlier and is “similar to what has been reported in the media for undergraduate women.”

Despite large numbers, “less than five percent of each type of attempted or completed sexual assault type is reported to [Carnegie Mellon].” 23.3% of unreported cases were not reported because the victim did not believe Carnegie Mellon had the authority to handle such cases, and 9.8% of cases were not reported because the person did not know how to do so. Clearly, there are places where Carnegie Mellon can work to improve, but the lack of transparency caused by FERPA is counterproductive to making students aware of the dangers present in their community and prevents things that could be productive to the community, such as the proposed sexual assault crime alert, from being materialized.

As a witness who went through the paperwork and non-disclosure agreements of a Title IX case, I can say with certainty that this is an issue of national policy. Whether with good intentions to comply with the law or bad intentions to shield their own flaws, the various interpretations of FERPA have caused universities to bar information on cases of sexual assault that are crucial to protecting the community. Why should a rape committed by a college football star be made any less public than one committed by any other rapist on the street? Cases like these should be handled with the same consequences, rigor, and transparency as ones outside of the university, and FERPA must be rewritten in a way that warrants universities to do so.

Brandon Schmuck (@bschmuck) is a staffwriter for The Tartan.
Icon by Qinyi Dong.



Holly Liu/Junior Staff Artist

Negative media stereotypes harm perception of immigrants

IMMIGRANT NARRATIVE from B4

of a very different nature — Latino men are often stereotyped as criminals. He told me a story about how one time he was buying mayonnaise at Giant Eagle but didn’t know which kind to buy, so, as any other college student would, he called his mother. Because he speaks to his mother in Spanish, he said that many people in the grocery store gave him weird looks like they were assuming that he was conducting gang activity. It’s ironic that even such an innocent conversation could be perceived as malicious simply because of stereotypes surrounding the Spanish language.

These stereotypes don’t come out of nowhere: they are drilled into people’s heads over decades through movies, television, and skewed news stories. Asians are portrayed as a model minority while Hispanics are demonized. The students I spoke to all agreed that a more holistic representation of immigrants in the media

is needed. They seemed to feel that the biggest issue with current media narratives is that they don’t capture the full range of experiences and personalities. Negative or stereotypical portrayals are acceptable as long as positive portrayals and well-rounded characters also exist. More recently, however, good media representations of immigrants and first-generation Americans have started to crop up. The students listed *Master Of None*, *Fresh Off the Boat*, and recent episodes of *Law and Order: Special Victims Unit* as examples of media that portray immigrants as complex human beings with both strengths and weaknesses, expose microaggressions, and highlight characters’ cultures without making their cultures be their defining character traits. Notably, two of these shows were made by first-generation Americans.

As the student of Colombian and Cuban heritage said, “Immigrants are actual human beings who are trying to make a living, who are trying to feed their children... [to not have

accurate media representation of them] is dumb, because we’re a country built on immigrants.” Immigrants founded this nation and have made it the country it is today, the least we can do in return is recognize them in our American media and give them credit for their work.

Lydia Green (@lydiag) is a staff-

writer for The Tartan.



Paola Mathus/Staff Artist

Airline electronics ban is about discrimination, not security

NAVIYA SINGLA
Staffwriter

Last week, I called my mother who lives in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, to speak to her about the electronics travel ban. The ban had been implemented by the U.S. government and restricts electronic devices larger than a smart phone on non-stop flights from 10 airports across eight Muslim-majority countries to the United States. When I told her about the ban, her response was, “well, you’re flying Emirates, so you can manage without your laptop for a couple

of hours, right? You can’t possibly be that bored without your laptop.”

The electronics ban — to many people that I’ve tried to engage in this conversation with, including my mother — seems like a minor inconvenience. It seems to them something that is necessary to adhere to because “one can

surely give up their laptop for a few hours for increased security.” However, to me it isn’t about the ban itself. It isn’t about the ‘inconvenience’ that passengers will face and it definitely isn’t about how to spend 20 hours on a plane. It’s about the mindset that implemented the ban — what the ban is supposed to do. It is the (perhaps subtle?) discriminatory undertones of the ban that I won’t be able to forget when I pack my bags in Dubai to come back to the U.S., thinking about the country that I will be returning to that hurt me on a personal level.

“We have reason to be concerned about attempts by terrorist groups to circumvent aviation security and terrorist groups

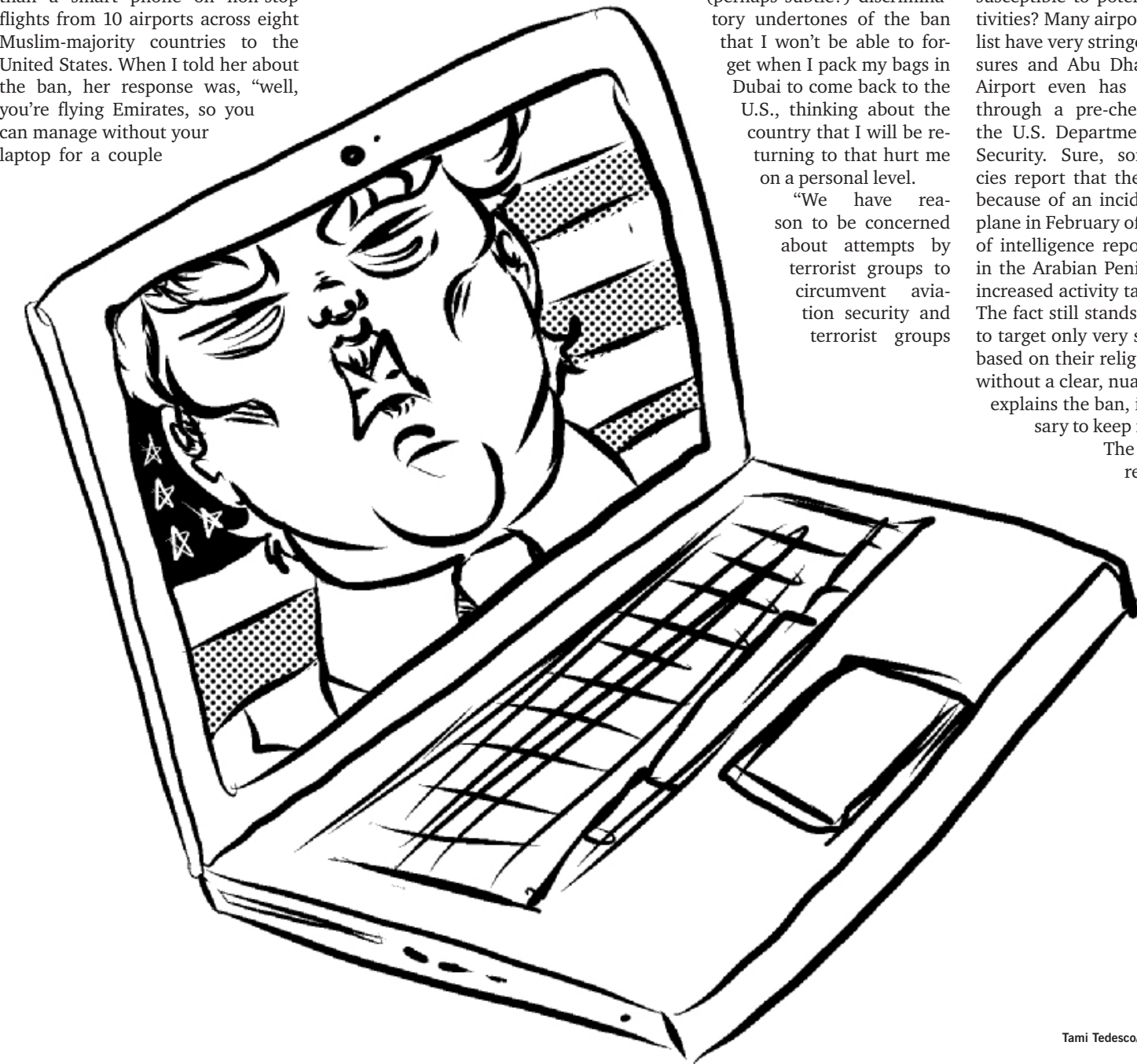
continue to target aviation interests,” U.S. officials said in a statement to Al Jazeera, a Doha-based news broadcaster. In my opinion, these possible “attempts by terrorist groups” are not reason enough to justify an on-board electronics ban. The question here is, what makes these Middle-Eastern and North-African countries more susceptible to potential terrorist activities? Many airports in the banned list have very stringent security measures and Abu Dhabi International Airport even has passengers pass through a pre-check approved by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Sure, some news agencies report that the ban is in place because of an incident on a Somali plane in February of 2016 or because of intelligence reports on Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula which has increased activity targeting aircrafts. The fact still stands that it is hurtful to target only very specific countries based on their religious preferences, without a clear, nuanced reason that explains the ban, if it is that necessary to keep it in place.

The lack of a specific reason not only shows on

the lack of thought process that went in implementing the ban, but also seems to be just a placebo to soothe those concerned by “terrorists from Muslim countries,” considering that the ban doesn’t affect carriers from airports like Paris and Brussels that have only recently been hit by devastating terrorist attacks. In that case, the fact that a placebo security measure had to be used, instead of an actual statement, is all the more alarming regarding the competence of the government in making the public trust it. Even if they do have information regarding threats to security, the security measures that they have put in place, i.e., the electronics ban, are by no means an effective way to stop a determined malicious attack — especially given that the possible electronic threat is still on board, if not in the passenger deck, then still in the cargo hold. Furthermore, this also compromises passengers’ potentially sensitive data since checked-in luggage is a liability, prone to theft, damage and loss.

An article in the *Washington Post* claims that these measures are to ensure the weakening of the U.S.-based airlines’ competitors, which often receive subsidies from the states that they are based in; for example, Emirates, Etihad Airways, and Qatar Airways. Should that be the reason, then the ban and the statements accompanying the ban are hypocritical and misleading. National security is not an excuse that should be used for an ulterior motive by any trustworthy and self-respecting government.

Again, the problem to me is not that much of an inconvenience. I would now have to either check my laptop in, or take a flight to the U.S. via Europe. It scares me that I feel unsafe in the place I come from because of all the conditioning that I have subconsciously absorbed in the U.S., and that I feel unsafe in the U.S. because of the place that I come from. But, it still hurts that I have to think about my identity, about the specific country that I come from every single time I have to step into the U.S.



Tami Tedesco/Staff Artist

Lahren’s firing reflects intolerance

Chie Wach
CHIE WACH

In an age in which political issues are reduced to gossip fodder, it is hardly a surprise that Tomi Lahren’s firing from the conservative news network The Blaze has captivated the eager fascination of American political consumerism as though it were a celebrity pregnancy or breakup.

For those “special snowflakes” who haven’t been caught up on the drama surrounding the conservative right’s sweetheart, Tomi Lahren is a biting sarcastic, fast-talking, spitfire political commentator who routinely attacks liberal stances on the many controversial issues that plague our nation today. Or at least she did, until this past month, when her pro-choice comments earned her an abrupt dismissal from The Blaze.

Like unwilling viewers of a dreadful reality show, Americans reacted with a plethora of vehement opinions, from betrayed conservative anger to liberal disgust for her hypocrisy to reluctant sympathy from pro-choice supporters.

The true issue at conflict here, however, is not about Tomi Lahren, The Blaze, or even the abortion debate — it is about the fatally divisive hypocrisy that afflicts both ends of America’s political spectrum.

In one of her many irate, incendiary rants, Lahren criticized the political left for “preach[ing] tolerance and understanding, but only for those people and issues they believe in.” This type of opinion statement won Lahren widespread approval among conservatives. How ironic, then, that when she gives an opinion that her bosses don’t agree with, all her opinions are subsequently silenced.

Vilifying the opposition for their commitment to fundamental beliefs, while refusing to budge from your own principles, is hypocritical and detrimental to this already sickly political climate. Invalidating every opposing argument by citing it as intolerant is also fatal to the function of a democracy such as ours, the advancement of which depends upon conflicting viewpoints and compromise.

The Blaze is a network that caters to a very conservative audience;

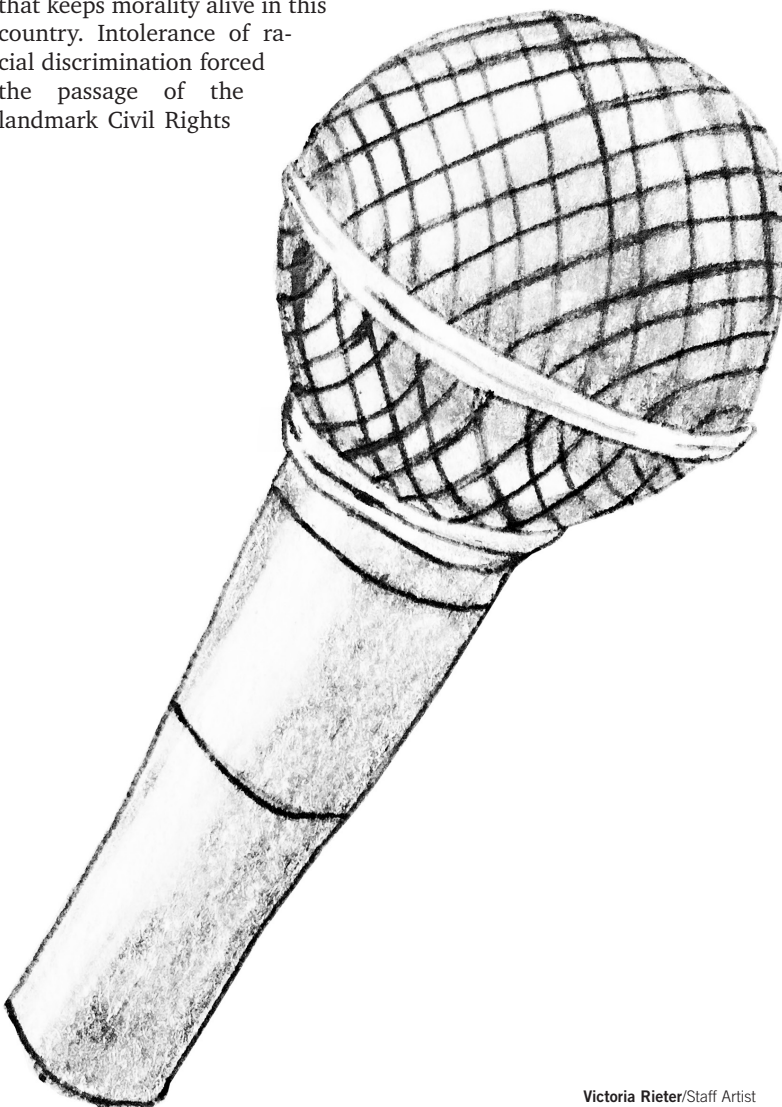
it is unsurprising that they would fire even their most powerful, recognized speaker for her rejection of a value so sacred, so inviolable to most conservatives. However, Lahren is also a nationally recognized pundit, and her dismissal makes an enormous statement regarding the image that The Blaze, as a representative of conservative views, projects to the world — complete rejection of any alternate belief. In the spirit of its own professed tolerance, The Blaze should have retained Lahren as a commentator whose beliefs are not wholly restricted by political party, thus forcing honest discussion and respectful, open-minded debate.

The difficulty with tolerance, though, is that people are only tolerant until a fundamental principle is challenged — when something is no longer a mere opinion, but an inviolable belief, such as racial equality or the sacredness of life. In fact, this sort of belief-level intolerance is essential to one’s moral character, and has historically been the fuel that keeps morality alive in this country. Intolerance of racial discrimination forced the passage of the landmark Civil Rights

legislation in the 1960s and drove thousands of Americans to protest in Black Lives Matter protests, just as intolerance of bigotry inspired the Women’s March in Washington.

It is a very narrow path, therefore, that Americans are now forced to walk in this new political wilderness. One must tolerate others’ rights to hold their own beliefs, without wavering in the defense of one’s own principles. The Blaze, therefore, should have kept Tomi Lahren without sacrificing its own pro-life values, but rather respecting her right to hold an independent belief. Perhaps this, coupled with other groups’ efforts to tolerate and defend, would raise the standard in politics from rejection and repetition to actual conversation. It is the only way to escape the unproductive political rut that we’re stuck in now.

Chie Wach (@cwach) is a staff-writer for The Tartan.



Victoria Rieter/Staff Artist

Division in White House highlights AHCA’s flaws

Madeline Kim
MADELINE KIM

Even before Donald Trump officially became the 45th President, he had shaken up America with his list of things he wanted to complete within his first hundred days in office. One critical task on his agenda was to repeal and replace Obamacare. The original plan was to replace the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), commonly known as Obamacare, with the American Health Care Act (AHCA). Despite the handful of executive orders and promises he has made in the first months of his presidency, he has found himself tangled in healthcare and expressed this debacle when he said “nobody knew health care could be so complicated.”

It is not news that the ACA, or healthcare in general, is complicated or misconstrued in one way or another. Although Trump had consistently condemned Obamacare over the years, he has also consistently praised universal coverage. Despite Obamacare being a failure, “everybody’s got to be covered” and “the government’s gonna pay for it.” Perhaps the part Trump so greatly detests about the ACA is the colloquial name — Obamacare.

This is where the AHCA comes into play.

The AHCA planned to eliminate the funding of the Prevention and Public Health Fund and instead invest more in the funding for community health centers. Ultimately, this could jeopardize services such as the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Healthcare would become even more inaccessible. Currently, Congress estimates 22 million people today benefit from the ACA; if the ACA were to be repealed and replaced with the AHCA, approximately 30 million people in America would go without health insurance.

This is not the first time that Trump’s desires have contradicted those of traditional conservative values. He has proposed regulations to trade and potentially placed the First Amendment in jeopardy. Perhaps the repeal and replacement

of the ACA divided the White House more than Trump’s other controversial stances.

Opponents of the AHCA were not and are not exclusively Democrats; many Republicans had shown criticism of the plan to “repeal and replace” Obamacare. The bill required a simple majority of 216 votes, meaning no more than 21 Republicans could vote against if the American Health Care Act (AHCA) were to be passed. 33 Republicans explicitly showed their discontent with the AHCA by voting no; 45 were undecided or otherwise ambiguous; nine expressed concerns or were leaning towards voting no.

Furthermore, conservatives in the House were not alone in standing up against the AHCA. The Koch brothers, the nation’s second wealthiest family widely known for their monetary political contributions, especially in the 2016 presidential election, showed their great discontent with Trump’s plan to combat the ACA by giving monetary incentive to Republicans opposing the bill. The Freedom Partners, a nonprofit conservative news source partially funded by the Koch brothers, denounced the AHCA as “Obamacare 2.0”.

There is a myriad of reasons many conservatives went against this bill. Some Republicans had echoed similar sentiments as the Freedom Partners. Representatives such as Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY) and Rep. Mo Brooks (R-AL) did not find the AHCA to truly kick out the ACA. Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA) did not see the AHCA lowering premiums, taxes, or expenses.

With all the division it has caused, the ACA has yet to be replaced, and Speaker of the House Paul Ryan stated that “we’re going to be living with Obamacare for the foreseeable future.” However, people benefiting from the ACA cannot get too complacent just yet. Ryan is still determined to repeal the ACA, Republicans are trying to compromise to create a replacement for the ACA they can all agree on, and Trump still has that list of items he wishes to cross off his agenda. As far as how the replacement for the ACA pans out has yet to be determined.

Madeline Kim (@madelink) is a staffwriter for The Tartan.

Science & Technology

Vibration sensors used to collect structural information

NAVIYA SINGLA

Assistant SciTech Editor

Hae Young Noh, a Carnegie Mellon civil and environmental engineering assistant professor, recently won the NSF CAREER Grant for her research on “Structures as Sensors.” Her research uses small cylindrical sensors located at strategic positions to measure vibrations generated by human activity, then extrapolates information about their quality of life. She states that each person’s gait is distinct enough to be used as identifiers. “Each step,” she explains, “is like a mini earthquake with its own epicenter.” The gait of a person can be characterized by various parameters such as balance,

stability, strength, and speed. The vibrations created by steps hold more information such as location, identity, level of activity, health status, and even mood. Although she is still fine-tuning the data related to mood, Noh argues that mood is very certainly reflected in one’s gait. “A depressed person walks very differently from one that isn’t,” she remarked. Vibrations are also generated by machines and other household objects. For example, when someone turns on a tap, the water running through the pipes generates a characteristic vibration. Thus, these sensors receive a lot of information about many different actions occurring within a building. Processing this data is, in Noh’s opinion, one of the

most challenging aspects of the project. She said, “The challenge lies in the data analysis and the signal processing. It is a very convoluted signal, giving us information about people, about structures and about the environment. Now that we have all this data, how do we take what we want? That is something I’m working on.” Noh explained that, at a very basic level, the data works like an identification match. One can look for a “gait match” in a database, and if the match doesn’t exist then the person is unauthorized in the building. This has several different targeted applications such as security. Another application would be in the retail industry where it could be used for customer behavior

analysis. Furthermore, it could give information about road traffic and the climate. Another application for this technology would be to get data about various structures. For instance, when installed in railway structures it could be used to get data about the faults in the tracks as the vibrations change. This technology has been developed keeping the specific needs of nursing homes for the elderly in mind. Noh works with the Vincentian Nursing Home and the Baptist Nursing Homes in Pittsburgh, so she explained, “there is someone whose gait suggests that the quality of their walk is deteriorating and they should probably slow down and take rest. In that case, the system would alert a caretaker who

could handle the situation. Thus, the person in question doesn’t have to completely be confined to a wheelchair to prevent falls in case there aren’t enough caretakers to shadow them all the time.” Noh’s research is particularly advantageous because of its noninvasive nature. Cameras and microphones record very personal and sensitive data by nature, which causes several people to reject them as a method of information gathering. Secondly, wearables such as smart-watches require people to place a device on themselves, which could be seen as an effort on the wearers’ part. Noh reflects that this sensing system requires minimum interaction from the users with the system itself. Regard-

ing this project, Noh predicts that the commercialization of this technology would take five to six years, and the technology for advanced mood-based and medical analysis would take a little longer. Noh said, “It is such a convenient way of discovering so much. It is seemingly impossible in the beginning, when one sees all the information and the noise stored in one signal. But, then it all comes together and makes so much sense.” While reflecting on this technology in improving quality of life, Noh explained, “this research has so much of a human-aspect to it. It is very rewarding to work with people in such a tangible and direct manner.”

Mathematical theorem detects gerrymandering in districts



Tammi Tedesco/Staff Artist

EMMA FLICKINGER

Staffwriter

A team of researchers from the University of Pittsburgh (Pitt) and Carnegie Mellon used a new mathematical

theorem to show that Pennsylvania’s congressional districts are gerrymandered. Gerrymandering was described by President Obama in his 2016 State of the Union address as when “poli-

ticians pick their voters, and not the other way around.” It is the biased process of re-drawing political districts to ensure that one party gets a majority of votes, and it is often used by the majority party

in state legislatures to ensure re-election. Two Carnegie Mellon researchers Alan Frieze, professor of mathematical sciences, and Wesley Pegden, assistant professor of mathematical sciences, worked with Maria Chikina of Pitt. They proved a new mathematical theorem that determines whether a given sample is nonrandom, and therefore biased. The theorem depends on Markov chains, algorithms that can be used to develop models of randomness. A Markov chain begins with a fixed object and evolves it through a step-by-step process, making small, random changes to the object at each step. Markov chains are frequently used to model random processes in fields like thermodynamics, statistics, and genetics. They also form the basis of Google’s algorithm for ordering search results. The researchers applied their Markov chain research to Pennsylvania’s congressional districts. If the congressional districts were unbiased, they would resemble the map produced by the algorithm. This process was not intended to create optimal districting, but to

provide a reliable test for bias within the current districts. To ensure accurate results, the researchers gave their algorithm constraints that congressional redistricting should ideally abide by — each district must be contiguous, contain roughly the same number of people and maintain a reasonable ratio of perimeter to area. In each step of the algorithm, one precinct was chosen at random to be changed over to another district, as long as the change would still adhere to the imposed constraints. Starting with the current congressional district map, the researchers applied the algorithm for over a trillion steps. The map randomly generated by the algorithm was significantly different from the real map. “There is no way that this map could have been produced by an unbiased process,” Pegden said of the current districts. These results confirm mathematically what political scientists have been arguing for years — districting has become a biased system allowing those in power to remain in power. Though gerrymandering is present in almost all states,

Pennsylvania has been one of the worst offenders since its last redistricting in 2010; the state’s seventh district appeared on the Washington Post’s list of the country’s top ten most gerrymandered congressional districts. Gerrymandering has caused drastic bias in Pennsylvania’s state legislature. The Democratic and Republican parties both received close to 50 percent of votes in the 2012 and 2014 elections, but the gerrymandered districts (decided by a Republican state legislature) gave 72 percent of Pennsylvania’s congressional seats to Republicans. Efforts to reform congressional districting are usually faced with partisan groups working to maintain or increase the impact of gerrymandering. Analysis and investigation like the research above constitute an important component of the fight for honesty in state legislature. Former California governor Arnold Shwazenegger started a campaign against gerrymandering. The research was published online in February in the Proceedings of the *National Academy of Sciences*.

SCITECH BRIEFS

Samsung announces the new, sleek S8

After a year riddled with exploding S7 phones and horrendous public relations, Samsung has announced its next phone — the S8 and the S8+. Samsung hopes the new phone will restore customer trust and boost their sales and stock prices. The technology giant has ensured that this phone does not catch fire like its predecessor. The phone will be released on April 21, 2017 and starts at \$720. The S8 comes with a fingerprint sensor, an AI assistant, and an iris recognition security feature. The display screen is incredibly large, boasting a 18.5:9 ratio with curved edges. However, many aspects of the S8, including battery life, camera quality, and RAM are not significantly different from the S7. The S8 thus seems more like a revamped S7 than an entirely new release. Samsung’s new attempt is sleek, safe, and equipped with an amazing display. Although many customers turned away from Samsung, the S8 could turn things around.

Source: TechRadar

NASA switched off one of its satellites

Earth Observing-1 (EO-1), one of NASA’s most enduring satellites, has been switched off. It was originally built to last a year and launched more as a test, but surpassed everyone’s expectations, operating functionally for 17 years. EO-1 observed dozens of natural disasters as well as changes to the Earth’s surface and atmosphere. It contributed to NASA’s understanding of satellite formation flight and AI technology with respect to space observation. The veteran satellite was switched off due to a lack of enough fuel to operate it. It is impossible to refuel the satellite because of the nature of its orbit, which is very low. Other satellites like the Hubble telescope are periodically serviced to ensure they remain at the correct altitude and continue to function. The fuel onboard the satellite is used to power motors for adjusting attitude. EO-1 will orbit in a dead state for 40 more years, until it burns up in the atmosphere.

Source: Forbes Science

SpaceX landed a used Falcon rocket

SpaceX has made history by landing a rocket it sent into space. The Falcon 9 rocket took off from Cape Canaveral in Florida, placing a communications satellite in orbit. The Falcon later landed on a SpaceX drone ship in the Atlantic Ocean. Although SpaceX has landed rockets before, this is the first time in history a space rocket has launched for the second time. Elon Musk, CEO of SpaceX, commented on the feat. “It means you can fly and re-fly an orbital class booster, which is the most expensive part of the rocket. This is going to be, ultimately, a huge revolution in spaceflight,” he said. The conventional rocket disposes of the orbital booster once it has escaped the atmosphere, leaving it to burn on re-entry. The cost of space flight could be greatly diminished if SpaceX achieves this feat regularly. Space flight is now similar to other means of transport, in which the vehicle is not disposed of at the destination.

Source: The Verge



Courtesy of SpaceX, via Flickr

A Falcon 9 lands on a pod. The four stilts serve as landing gear while the booster controls descent and balance.

Compiled by
JOSH ANDAH



New research finds that people create their own realities



Simin Li/Art Editor

JOSH ANDAH
SciTech Editor

A study by Carnegie Mellon researchers has shown what many presumed: we forge our own realities. George Loewenstein, professor of economics and psychology, Russel Golman, assistant professor of social and decision sciences, and David Hagmann, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Social and Decision Sciences, published their work in the *Journal of Economic Literature*. The study showed that people avoid information that disagrees with their world view, but accept information that supports it. People even interpret contradictory information in ways that support their views. For example, many considered the U.S. Congress’ acquittal of Hillary Clinton for a use of a private email server as evidence that Congress is corrupt.

“People often avoid information that could help them to make better decisions if they think the information might be painful to receive.”

- George Loewenstein,
Professor of Economics and Psychology

Information avoidance can be detrimental. It can manifest as a reason why people do not go for medical screenings, why they reject scientific information, or why they accept unfound-

ed facts. The inability to address contradicting views leads to poor decision-making, which is why economists are interested in researching it. Loewenstein elaborated, saying, “People often avoid information that could help them to make better decisions if they think the information might be painful to receive.” The study suggests that people create their own realities to live the way they wish. “Those who do not take a genetic test can enjoy their life until their illness can’t be ignored, an inflated sense of our own abilities can help us to pursue big and worthwhile goals, and not looking at our financial investments when markets are down may keep us from selling in a panic,” said Golman on people’s motivations. Advertisers take advantage of this by making people think they are happy, especially as a

result of a specific product. Two of the most infamous examples of information denial in science are the rejection of climate change and the acceptance of a relationship between vaccines and autism. While the former has been confirmed time and time again, the latter has been completely disproved; yet, people choose to ignore scientific fact in favor of their own beliefs. This affects not only them, but the health and security of future generations and people in their communities. Creating warped realities may be an inherently human trait, which would have wide implications. We may do it to avoid stress. A possible solution to information avoidance trend is less clear. It is up to individuals to challenge their beliefs, an action that exercises a lazy mind and is regular among the best decision makers.

HOW THINGS WORK

The expansion of the universe is steadily accelerating

JOSH ANDAH
SciTech Editor

Cosmologists have known for almost a century that our universe isn’t static. In 1919, Edwin Hubble gazed up at the universe through his powerful telescope and made two ground-breaking observations: there exist galaxies outside our own, and those galaxies are flying away from us. It is the second observation that revealed the true, expanding nature of our universe. Hubble arrived at this realization after he witnessed a strange phenomenon — all distant galaxies are red-shifted. A red-shift occurs when an object is traveling away from an observer at speeds comparable to the speed of light. To the observer, it seems as though light waves emitted from the object are stretched out, increasing their wavelength. This makes the object appear red (red light has the longest wavelength). Hubble also noticed that the red-shift effect was stronger the further out he looked. In every direction scientists

looked, they saw galaxies zooming away from the Earth and one another. Naturally, theoretical physicists like Stephen Hawking wondered what would happen if we ran the clock backwards. The galaxies would come closer together! In fact, if we go back far enough in time, all the galaxies would be at the same point in space. This large amount of mass at a single point creates something called singularity, a point in space with so much mass and gravity that it distorts space tremendously. When all the mass in the universe is compressed at a point, the resulting singularity wraps all space in on itself. This is how the big bang theory was developed. At the beginning of the universe, 13 billion years ago, all matter was at a single point, then began to expand apart. Scientists are still unsure of what initially caused the expansion, however. The cosmic background radiation gives them a glimpse into the early universe. Today, the universe is still expanding and at an accelerating rate. Space expands at 74 kilometers per second per megaparsec



Courtesy of NASA, via Wikimedia Commons

Galaxies in clusters are held together by strong gravitational forces, so they do not fly apart from one another as the universe gradually expands.

(one megaparsec is about three million light years). It is important to note that this expansion only occurs at large scales, such as in the space between galaxies; it cannot be observed here on Earth. Understanding the nature of the universe’s expansion informs us about the future fate of our universe. If the rate of expansion continues to accelerate, galaxies will continue to fly

apart at such a high velocity that their light will not be able to reach us anymore, never to be seen again. When the stars in our galaxy die, the nighttime sky will be completely dark. This is known as the big freeze. Another possibility is that there is just enough mass in the universe to halt the expansion. The universe will simply remain in a stationary state,

neither expanding nor contracting. The final probability is that the mass in the universe is just enough to reverse expansion. The universe will begin to contract, eventually returning it to its singularity state. This is known as the big crunch. Such a universe oscillates between states of singularity and expansion for eternity. All our current data

suggests that the big freeze is the most likely future, because there simply isn’t enough mass in our universe to slow down its accelerating expansion. As sad as this seems, it’s very, very far in the future. For dozens of billions of years, we can still enjoy the view of our neighboring galaxies — that is, if we’re still around.

Write for SciTech

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photo by ciat





SPORTS BRIEFS

Men’s Tennis

The seventh-ranked Carnegie Mellon men’s tennis team traveled to Kenyon College to face 24th-ranked Kenyon and 26th-ranked Lewis & Clark College. The Tartans earned two victories, 5–0 versus Lewis & Clark and 5–4 versus Kenyon, to improve to 13–7 on the year.

Against Lewis & Clark, the Tartans led 3–0 after doubles play with sophomores Daniel Levine and Vayum Arora, earning the first point at first doubles with an 8–1 win. Junior Jeffrey Chen and sophomore Chaz Downing won 8–5 at second doubles while senior Kenny Zheng and first-year Mark Prettyman won 8–3 at third doubles.

With the match being played on four indoor courts and to decision, the Tartans earned wins at second and fourth singles to end the match by a 5–0 score. Earning the victories was Downing at second singles, 6–4, 6–3, and

senior Kiril Kirkov at fourth singles, 6–1, 6–3.

Against Kenyon, the Tartans rallied from down one to hold a 2–1 advantage after doubles play, earning wins at second and third doubles. The second doubles team of Chen and Downing forced a tie-breaker which they won 7–4 to earn what was a pivotal point for the team. Levine’s match at first singles was first to finish, as he won 6–1, 6–0 to give the Tartans a 3–1 lead.

Kenyon tied the score at three-all with wins at second and fourth singles and took a 4–3 lead with a victory at third singles. Kirkov closed out his sixth singles match with a 6–2, 6–2 win before Arora earned match point with a 7–5, 7–6 (7–3) win at fifth singles. Arora trailed 5–1 in the first set before winning six straight games.

The Tartans will next face the no. 16 University of Mary Washington on Saturday, April 8 and no. 20 Johns Hopkins University on Sunday, April 9.

Both matches will be played at home in Pittsburgh.

Women’s Tennis

The 12th-ranked Carnegie Mellon women’s tennis team traveled to Kenyon College to play the 32nd-ranked Ladies on Saturday, April 1. The Tartans won 5–4 and move to 12–6 for the season.

After doubles play, the Tartans led 2–1. The number one pair of senior Nicholle Torres and junior Cori Sidell finished first with an 8–2 win, while junior Katie Lai and sophomore Jamie Vizelman put the Tartans ahead 2-1 with a 9–7 win in the third position.

Vizelman earned a 6–0, 6–3 win in third singles to give the Tartans a 3–1 lead. With the score tied at 3–3, Torres earned a three-set win at first singles, 7–5, 4–6, 6–4, to give the Tartans back the lead before Lai sealed the match win with a 6–4, 6–1 victory at sixth singles.

The Tartans will next host

the no. 17 University of Mary Washington on Saturday, April 8 and No. 15 Johns Hopkins University on Sunday, April 9.

Men’s Golf

The Carnegie Mellon men’s golf team carded a final round of 298 at the Wynlakes Intercollegiate in Montgomery, AL, on Tuesday, March 28, and finished third with a 36-hole score of 589 (291–298). The field of 13 teams, including five teams ranked in the top seven nationally, was won by the host Huntingdon College, ranked first nationally, with a score of 567 (280–287). The University of Texas at Tyler, ranked second nationally, placed second with a score of 578 (296–282). The 36-hole event was played at the par 72, 6,979-yard Wynlakes Golf & Country Club.

Senior George Qian continued his school record performance on Tuesday, as he carded a two-under par 70

for a 36-hole score of seven-under par 137 (67–70). The senior finished second on the individual leaderboard, as Huntingdon’s Addison Lambeth carded a 10-under par 134 to win individual medalist honors. Qian’s two-round score of 137 breaks the school record score of 139 set by junior Adrian Del Bosque in 2015 at the Edward Jones Shootout at The Links at Spring Church.

Junior Nikhil Mohan finished eighth individually in the field of 80 golfer with a one-over par 145 (70–75). Senior Brad Jennette carded back-to-back rounds of 76 to finish the tournament at 152. Del Bosque ended play carding a 155 (78–77) while sophomore Patrick Tan recorded a 36-hole score of 158 (78–80). The Tartans had one individual enter the invitational, as sophomore Adrian Berger shot a 158 (81–77).

On Thursday, the Tartans placed first at the annual Carnegie Mellon Spring

Invitational for the second consecutive season after carding a 304. The 18-hole event was held at the par 70 Longue Vue Club in Verona, PA. Top individual medalist honors went to Mohan who fired a four-over par 74. The win marked Mohan’s first collegiate individual medalist honor. Qian and Jennette tied for second individually in a field of 54 golfers, as both entered the clubhouse with a 76. Berger placed fifth after carding a 78 on Thursday while Del Bosque finished with an 82.

The Tartans had three individuals play in the invitational with senior Alex Woodward leading the trio with a score of 82. Senior Alexander Pomerantz fired an 83 and sophomore Nicholas Moreno carded an 86.

The Tartans will next compete at The Hershey Cup at Hershey Country Club in Hershey, PA, on April 2–3.

Compiled by
IAN TANAYA



Top: Sophomore Jaime Vizelman sets up to serve in a contested rally against her Kenyon College adversary.
Bottom: Junior Adrian Del Bosque surveys the field as he prepares to swing en route to a 155 (78–77) score.

DIETRICH COLLEGE SUMMER INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY GRANTS

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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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<http://bit.ly/2hhVazq>

**Carnegie Mellon University
Dietrich College of Humanities
and Social Sciences**



Sports

Jared Moore breaks record in Tartan Quad Meet victory

IAN TANAYA
Sports Editor

The Carnegie Mellon men's track and field team hosted the annual Carnegie Mellon Quad Meet on Saturday, April 1.

The Tartans won first place with 227.5 points. Penn State Behrend placed second with 186 points.

Sophomore Jared Moore's performance highlighted the day, as he recorded a school record time of 8:41.63 to win the 3,000-meter run.

Moore's school record as well as a stadium record just beat out sophomore William Mitchell in the race. Mitchell finished in 8:42.01. Senior Curtis Watro won the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 9:44.88.

Junior Eloy Fernandez won the triple jump with a mark of 12.63 meters while

first-year Dhroovaa Khannan was second with a leap of 12.56 meters.

Senior Matthew Seifu placed second in the long jump with a season-best mark of 6.19 meters.

Junior David Trzcinski earned a second-place finish in the shot put with a season-best mark of 13.77 meters with sophomore Kenny Sladick placing third with a mark of 13.68 meters.

Junior Jacob Schofel won the hammer throw with a toss of 52.08 meters while Sladick was second with a mark of 44.92 meters.

In the discus, Schofel took second with a career-best throw of 43.28 meters while Sladick also recorded a career-best throw of 41.90 meters to place third.

Sophomore Reed Farber took the top place in the high jump by clearing 1.84 meters

to match his outdoor best, as senior Don Boyer tied for second after clearing 1.74 meters.

Boyer also competed in the 110-meter hurdles and 400-meter hurdles, winning the shorter distance in 15.78 seconds and the long distance in 56.52 seconds.

Senior Owen Norley led a sweep of the 1,500-meter run with a time of 4:01.71. Sophomore Mark Moody was second in 4:08.96 while first-year Liam Walsh was third in 4:13.48.

Junior Jonathan Perry took second in the 400-meter run in a season-best 51.68 before sophomore Isaac Mills won the 800-meter run in 1:54.99.

Carnegie Mellon will travel to New Wilmington, PA to participate in the Westminster College Invitational on Friday and Saturday, April 7–8.



Sophomores Jared Moore (left) and William Mitchell (right) in a tightly contested finish in the 3000-meter run.

Kiersten Chuc earns record as Tartans take Quad Meet



Senior Grace Yee continues her excellence in the pole vault. Yee cleared 3.39 meters in the CMU Quad Meet.

MARIKA YANG
Assistant Sports Editor

The Carnegie Mellon women's track and field team hosted its annual Carnegie Mellon Quad Meet on Saturday, April 1 and placed first with 219 points. Penn State Behrend finished second with 157 points followed by Westminster College and Saint Vincent College with 132 points and 41 points, respectively.

Junior Kiersten Chuc set a new meet record in the hammer throw when she tossed the element 43.72 meters. First-year Julianne Igbokwe earned a second-place finish in the shot put with a mark of 10.78 meters.

Also in throwing events, sophomore Alexa Barriero

won the javelin with a throw of 30.54 meters while senior Emily Swanson placed third with a distance of 22.48 meters.

Sophomore Autumn Hair won the triple jump with a mark of 10.24 meters and placed second in the long jump with a leap of 4.93 meters. Senior Grace Yee, the newly named University Athletic Association Athlete (UAA) of the Week, won the pole vault by clearing 3.39 meters.

Rounding out the field events, senior Rebecca Fortner won the high jump by clearing 1.51 meters.

First-year Emmalyn Lindsey ran a career-best time of 12:03.15 in the 3,000-meter steeplechase to place third among all run-

ners, but first for those eligible for team scoring. Sophomore Rose Ciriello placed second in the 1,500-meter run in 5:02.38 while first-year Joanna Baranowski was second in both the 100-meter hurdles in 17.01 and the 400-meter hurdles in 1:09.90 after clearing a career-best 2.94 meters in the pole vault.

In the 100-meter dash, sophomore Clair Yuan placed second in 13.66, as junior Sarah Cook won the 800-meter run in 2:20.73 with senior Ariel Tian placing second with a time of 2:25.29. Cook later took second in the 200-meter dash in 27.16.

Carnegie Mellon will travel to New Wilmington, PA to participate in the Westminster College Invitational on Friday and Saturday, April 7–8.

NFL Free Agency: Big money for questions and concerns

IAN TANAYA
Sports Editor

As April begins, the NFL's free agency period, which started at the beginning of the new league year on Thursday, March 9, has long since blown past the frenzy that sees established players negotiate new contracts for either new teams or their old one. The period is built on the premise that teams can potentially find a centerpiece in establishing a new identity or acquire the last piece of the puzzle for a Super Bowl run.

While free agency has more often than not ended up letting down the lofty aspirations teams and their fan bases have, huge signings like the Green Bay Packers' 1993 acquisition of defensive end Reggie White, the New Orleans Saints' 2006 decision to bring on quarterback Drew Brees, and the Denver Broncos' 2012 victory in the bidding for quarterback Peyton Manning have been able to effect substantial changes for the teams that best utilize the opportunity for growth.

With the frenzy of the first days and weeks now in the rear view mirror, it's time to see what acquisitions ahead of the annual draft may help or hurt their teams in the upcoming year.

Carolina Panthers sign OT Matt Kalil

Drafted fourth overall by the Minnesota Vikings in 2012, offensive tackle Matt Kalil was expected to be a solid force on the team's offensive line. During his rookie year, it sure seemed like that would be the case, as Kalil earned his way to the Pro Bowl that year.

Unfortunately for the Vikings, his play has become inconsistent in recent years, and an injury that forced him to undergo season-ending surgery last September gave the team an easy reason to let him walk.

Despite the downward trend of Kalil's performance, the Carolina Panthers decided to pay him big, offering a 5-year, \$55.5 million deal.

Certainly, the Panthers are in need of help.

A year removed from taking on the Broncos in Super Bowl 50, the Panthers went 6–10 in 2016, and quarterback Cam Newton certainly regressed, throwing 16 fewer touchdowns and four more interceptions compared to the prior year.

“He’s going to have to rebuild his confidence. I mean, he was shook. Let’s be honest. I’m not going to lie about that,” Panthers head coach Ron Rivera said. “The young man went through a tough time, and we went through a tough time. [The struggles go] back to ‘you’ve got to protect your quarterback and put playmakers around him.’ We’ve got to do that. I’d like to believe that we’re doing those things right now that we need to do in the offseason.”

While many commentators questioned giving Kalil a payday that puts him among the highest paid offensive tackles in the league, it is entirely possible that Kalil can fit in the Panthers' scheme and provide the shoring up for a solid offensive line that can give Newton better protection. After all, Panthers center Ryan Kalil has certainly performed at a high level for the team. Good chemistry could work wonders for the Panthers looking to turn things around.

Cleveland Browns sign G Kevin Zeitler

Oh, Cleveland. You're so laughably terrible that your actual team left your city in 1996, became the Baltimore Ravens, and went on to earn two Super Bowl victories. That certainly doesn't stop the NFL and the Browns' fanbase from pretending that the team merely suspended operations for a few years before returning to compete in 1999. With only two winning seasons in 2002 and 2007, the current Cleveland Browns are in as laughably terrible a position as they have been for most of the past 18 years. Still, if the 0–16 Detroit Lions of 2008 managed to turn themselves into a mildly respectable foot-

ball team, it stands to reason that the Browns might one day be able to do the same.

Known for having 26 different starting quarterbacks in the past 18 seasons, stability at the position is something the current Browns have never had. With no true star waiting to take the reins, it is clear that the Browns need a different foundation in their efforts to become relevant. In a year where offensive tackles seem to be high in demand without many top options perceived in the draft, former Cincinnati Bengals guard Kevin Zeitler took home a 5-year, \$60 million contract that puts him at the highest paid guard in NFL history. While the contract is rich for a player considered good but not the best, it seems like whoever steps into Cleveland's quarterback situation will find themselves with a more than adequate offensive line. It just might be something that finally helps the Browns climb out of the AFC North cellar. Or not.

Jacksonville Jaguars sign CB A.J. Bouye, DE Calais Campbell, S Barry Church

While certainly not Browns/2008 Lions levels of terrible, the Jacksonville Jaguars have struggled to compete in recent years. Quarterback Blake Bortles has shown signs of potential brilliance, but the team ended up 3–13 last year.

The Jaguars seemed to emphasize defense this free agency period, snatching up former Houston Texans cornerback A.J. Bouye, former Arizona Cardinals defensive end Calais Campbell, and former Dallas Cowboys safety Barry Church. Campbell's 4-year, \$60 million contract may be high for a 31-year old, but pass rushers have been known to get plenty higher, as evidenced by the 4-year \$62 million contract the New York Giants gave to defensive end Jason Pierre-Paul, whose performance has fallen off since a 2015 fireworks injury. Combined with Bouye and Church, the Jaguars look poised to challenge a weak AFC South.



Top: Courtesy of Ann Heisenfelt via USA Today. Bottom: Courtesy of Maggie Hendricks via USA Today
Top: Former Minnesota Vikings offensive tackle Matt Kalil joins his brother, Carolina Panthers center Ryan Kalil.
Bottom: Former Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Mike Glennon returns to the field with the Chicago Bears.

Chicago Bears sign QB Mike Glennon

With quarterback Jay Cutler released and now enjoying his time off perhaps a bit too much, the Chicago Bears need to look for their future quarterback.

Former Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Mike Glennon is not likely to be that guy. Though his 3-year \$45 million deal gives him what seems like a high \$15 million a year average, this

would put him around the 20-25th highest quarterback salaries in 2017. Glennon was once thought up as a potential star in Tampa Bay, but a 2,608-yard performance with 19 touchdowns and nine interceptions during his rookie season led the team to bring in quarterback Josh McCown as a competitor before quarterback Jameis Winston was drafted first overall in the 2015 NFL Draft.

Glennon's inconsistency cost him his job in Tampa

Bay, but this may still be redemption for him in Chicago. Buccaneers head coach Dirk Koetter continues to say positive things about Glennon, and Bears head coach John Fox certainly believes in him enough to hand him the starting role. The talent surrounding Glennon in the offensive line and the receiving corps is questionable, and it certainly seems like they will be his undoing. Still, it is possible that Glennon could resurrect his career in the Windy City.



Roommate receives, does not share very nice care package

SARAH GUTEKUNST
Extremely bitter poor person

On the afternoon of Friday, March 24, my roommate Alicia Talbot returned from the Cohon Center encumbered by a large box, reportedly a care package from her parents. Said box was found to contain: one king-sized Hershey's milk chocolate bar, two one-pound Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, one bag of Haribo gummy bears, one bag of Sour Patch Kids, one bag of Pirate's Booty, four boxes of Star Wars shaped Kraft Easy Mac, one tin of Grandma's chocolate chip cookies, and an assortment of snack-sized bags of Frito-Lay products, including but not limited to Cheetos, SunChips, and two flavors of Doritos.

Talbot's mother also included several small but useful items, such as pens and pencils, chapstick, socks,

dryer sheets, detergent pods, makeup remover wipes, and a can opener.

Despite desperate mentions of how hungry I am, how much I love cookies, and how my parents have never sent me a care package, Talbot declined to take the hint and offer to share anything.

The care package arrived less than a week after students returned from spring break, during which time Talbot vacationed with her high school friends at her parents' beach home in Punta Mita, Mexico.

It is reported that the trip was funded in full by Talbot's parents.

The Instagram posts were almost too painful to look at. And yet I liked them all in an attempt to build up her favor, specifically for situations like these.

Our suitemate Molly Wheeler insightfully noted on the matter, "Classic income inequality."



Courtesy of my dumb, selfish roommate

Morewood-Forbes intersection to switch from iconic beep-boop sound to Ludacris' Move B*&%!



Courtesy of Anne-Sophie Kim

New Morewood-Forbes crosswalk sound emboldens students to take action against defiant cars that don't allow pedestrians to cross.

ANNA BOYLE
Aggressive Pedestrian

After months of debate, the Forbes-Morewood intersection has finally switched from the iconic "beep-boop" sound to Ludacris' "Move, Bitch." This change is part of a nationwide initiative to decrease the number of legal adults saying the words "beep-boop" out loud.

The choice of song was based on multiple factors, such as general popularity, the calming quality of the singer's voice, and the amount of profanity that can be satisfyingly yelled at cars who are trying to move when the light is clearly red. (You know who you are, Debra.)

Falsa Nayme, a first-year at Carnegie Mellon, had only positive things to say about the choice. "When I'm sprinting from the entrance of Mudge in a desperate and ultimately futile attempt to get to the street in time, Ludacris really inspires me to push past obstacles. I used to only glare at people who were walking too slowly. Now I'm inspired to shove other students, kick small children, and step on the prone body of an elderly man suffering a heart attack."

Nayme laughed and continued, "It's nice to be able to prioritize my selfish desires over the well-being of others in places other than the dorm and classroom. I really feel like I'm branching out."

However, not all responses are positive; various parents have expressed concerns that the line stating anyone moving slowly will be "ran the f*** over" will result in an increase in accidents.

"Maybe," Bill Peduto, mayor of Pittsburgh, admitted in a press conference last week. "But let's be honest, they're college students. Most of them plead to be hit by cars daily, so we're actually doing them a favor."

When reached for comment, city officials said they were touched by the positive response and will be moving forward with their plan to replace the orange stop hand with one that is holding up the middle finger.

An Ode to Skibo Cafe: Always in our hearts, even when you're gone

APEKSHA ATAL
Feeling nostalgic

I still remember the first night that I stayed up past midnight working. The library was getting emptier, the hum of voices had settled down, and my stomach was growling louder than it ever had before. I was not quite ready to start spending my DineX, and everything with hot meals was closed, except for the one place on campus I had yet to venture out to — Skibo.

Skibo boasted the original flatbreads that we see in Rothberg's Roasters today and milkshakes that sang symphonies even for the lactose intolerant. The fridges with at least 15 flavors of water and the barbecue pizza that just could not hold together were what made Skibo something special.

Seldom am I able to be directed towards one soup option, with the scheduled soups of the day that Skibo brought. Options can be overwhelming, a sentiment that Skibo understood and worked to resolve.

Imagine a voice over a microphone calling you to collect your order, instead of the startling vibration of a device handed to you. When we lost Skibo, we lost the human touch that comes with the process of ordering food.

Let us not forget the early-2000s music that played on a loop, bringing us back to the good old days when college was nothing more than a distant aspiration. Let us remember the days when there were performances held in the deep end of the sitting area, and we had to check back every few minutes to see if our food was ready.

I find it difficult to compare any of the to-go packaging that we currently have on campus to the miniature pizza boxes that Skibo had to offer. The storage capabilities were incomparable, and the ease of commuting back home late at night was comforting.

This extends on to the plastic plate covers, that preserved the heat of the gourmet, triangularly cut paninis, so that they were nothing short of lukewarm at the time of consumption.

Nowadays, I do sometimes get the grumbles late at night, and when I walk up to the second floor of the Cohen Center to scoop some soup from Au Bon Pain, I catch the Skibo sign from the corner of my eye and heave a sigh.

Yes, perhaps Au Bon Pain has the variety and the branding needed to bring joy to our students faces, but we've lost a bit of our campus history.

I often have to pause when I talk to first-years about dining options on campus, because Skibo always lingers at the back of my mind.

The establishment that stood in honor of Andrew Carnegie's Scottish castle is no more, but the memories will last forever.

Also in this issue

Football team mistakenly grabs tennis team's equipment, must play championship game with tennis balls

Sports — T12

CMU College Republicans hold meeting: all three members attend

News — D1

A PUPPY'S OPINION

Compiled by SARAH GUTEKUNST

The Tartan respects puppies more than almost anything. So we asked, **What is your opinion on President Trump's recent action against Obama's climate change efforts?**



Squishy
"Blep."



Fluffy
"Awooo."



Mushy
Licks face.



Sleepy
"Also blep."



Squishy
"I have major concerns about how this careless disregard for the environment will affect the park where I frolic."



FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

The Tartan is NOT fake news, you can take our word for it

It can be hard to determine which news sources are trustworthy. With information coming from so many outlets (the president's Twitter, your mom's Facebook, your roommate's Snapstory), it can be hard to decipher what's real and what's fake.

In the era of fake news (which let's be honest is a wild enough topic by itself), The Tartan has felt that it would be necessary to inform our readership of the credibility of our work. We pinky promise that we are 100 percent legit and in no way are we fake news. Any typo that has ever been published by us was an attempt by loser readers to make us look bad. Sad, honestly.

If The Tartan were fake news, do you really think it would be printed? Nothing in print is fake, that's a fact. Just ask *The New York Times*. If we were fake news, we'd be entirely online. In order to get our

paper physically printed, we have to vow to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. It's kind of exhausting to take this vow every week, but we do it because we're so not fake.

Everyone on The Tartan staff is perfect in every way which is why we don't make any mistakes. We have the best copy editors in the world, and they never ever make mistakes. If you disagree, you'll have to take it up with our copy manager Ruth. You don't want to mess with Ruth.

In just over 110 years, The Tartan has not once made a mistake. There is absolutely no need to fact check us on this. What are you going to do, go back and re-read all of our old issues to fact check this statement? We're surprised you're even reading this issue. So I guess you'll just have to take our word on this one that we are definitely not fake news.

An open letter to the writers of open letters

JADE CROCKEM
Better than your baby mama

Dear open letter writers,

I get it. You have a lot of feelings about losing your best friend that you thought would be your bridesmaid or breaking up with the person you thought would be your life partner at this same fantasy wedding, but you don't want to share these feelings directly with the person they pertain to because it's just a bit too personal.

Or maybe you're just too excited to contain your enthusiasm about meeting your little and having another addition to your dysfunctional family. Or maybe you even overheard someone in the library talking about the exact same issue you've had before and realized that your fake journalist knowledge needs to be shared with the world.

No matter which path you've taken, you're here now with a letter written to someone who might never read it.

Sure, it can be therapeutic to write and never send a letter to someone, but you've kind of done the complete opposite by writing an open letter to everyone who could ever relate to your situation. I

get that the point of an open letter is for others with similar experiences to know they aren't alone, but I think that message gets lost when the letters are so specific that all they're missing is the name.

I know how much all of us college students hate adulting, but it's a lot easier to just be an adult and tell your ex-best friend to their face how you feel than to receive an awkward text a few months later about an open letter you wrote. On the other hand, since it is an open letter, there's no guarantee that the intended audience will realize that the letter is meant for them and they could go on continuing to ruin all of their future relationships.

Basically, what I'm trying to get at with this open letter is please stop writing these unnecessarily long subtweets. We get it, you went away to college, and it didn't work out with your high school sweetheart. I guarantee you that one weekend out with your friends and not stalking their Facebook will make you forget every thought you wanted to write about them in an open letter.

So please just don't.

Love (not really),
Jade

Lanyards: yes or no?

MARIKA YANG
Anna Wintour of CMU

Sigh. Lanyards. The joy and bane of a college student.

Lanyards are incredibly useful and convenient. Your student ID is always with you. You don't have to buy a rubber ID holder to stick to your phone, ruining your wonderfully bezelized phone case. You don't have to take out your wallet and search for your ID hiding somewhere behind your credit card and all the Starbucks gifts cards. You'll always have your ID right on you, resting on the top of your belly, just begging to be swiped at Au Bon Pain for that sandwich that took an eternity to make that doesn't even have the avocado you asked for.

But lanyards are ugly. Repeat after me: U-G-L-Y.

And to top it off, you look like a dumba**.

Lanyards don't match with anything. Not even jeans, the Miracle Outfit Worker, can make lanyards look even remotely decent. You look like an idiot, more like a nerd than you already do (this is Carnegie Mellon, of course). They just hang there (in non-wind situations), at the top of your belly, the thick cord a hideous neon or a mustard beige. The Carnegie Mellon store's selection of lanyards is on the better side — they're mostly dark colors, or a combination of the Cardinal and Gray. But tolerable color choices cannot negate the fact that lanyards are U-G-L-Y.

So, it's your choice: amazing convenience over the perfect outfit of the day. I know what I'm doing! #ootd

Student creates mobile order app while waiting in line at Au Bon Pain

SHARON WU
Late for class

Last Tuesday, Chip Olé, a recent Carnegie Mellon alum, TSB '16, who enjoys hanging around in the Co-hon Center (CC), created a mobile order app for Au Bon Pain (ABP), a bakery café located in the CC. ABP has been notorious for its ability to make students starve to death, or even worse, be late for their classes, due to the long amount of time it takes for their orders to get ready.

After what had felt like hours from the time he placed his order at ABP, Olé knew that he and his frustrated fellow students were ready for a change in the system.

"Recently, I've been enjoying the convenience of mobile orders at Starbucks," said Olé, "And with the marathon wait at ABP,

I decided to multi-task and use that normally wasted time to make a mobile order app to address one of our school's most pressing, but underrated, issues."

With only Principles of Computing (15-110) under his belt, Olé lacked experience in computer programming, much less the experience required to make a mobile app from scratch. However, online resources had helped guide Olé in the app development process.

"I read a lot of old threads on Stack Exchange," said Olé. "I even got my former 15-110 TA to answer my questions — through our old Piazza page!"

Olé also consulted the advice from many students and workers at ABP, which created a lot of buzz for the app, both on social media and in real life. "I really have high hopes for this

new ABP app," said Miranda Jin, a first-year psychology major on her Snapchat story. "Once this app gets released, I can finally get my chipotle turkey and avocado sandwich and not be fifty minutes late to my Introduction to Psychology class!"

Once he had made a fully functioning app, Olé got in contact with Dining Services, which agreed to release an official beta version of his app in the next coming weeks. The project was also recognized by the school administration, who applauded Olé as an embodiment of what they envision their students to become after leaving Carnegie Mellon — world-class innovators with the potential of bringing bank to the school.

"From witnessing his meritorious talents and predicting his likely successful future," said an administra-

tor, who insisted on remaining anonymous, "The Board of Trustees has made future plans to hound Olé to increase Carnegie Mellon's endowment, maybe to a level comparable to Harvard's."

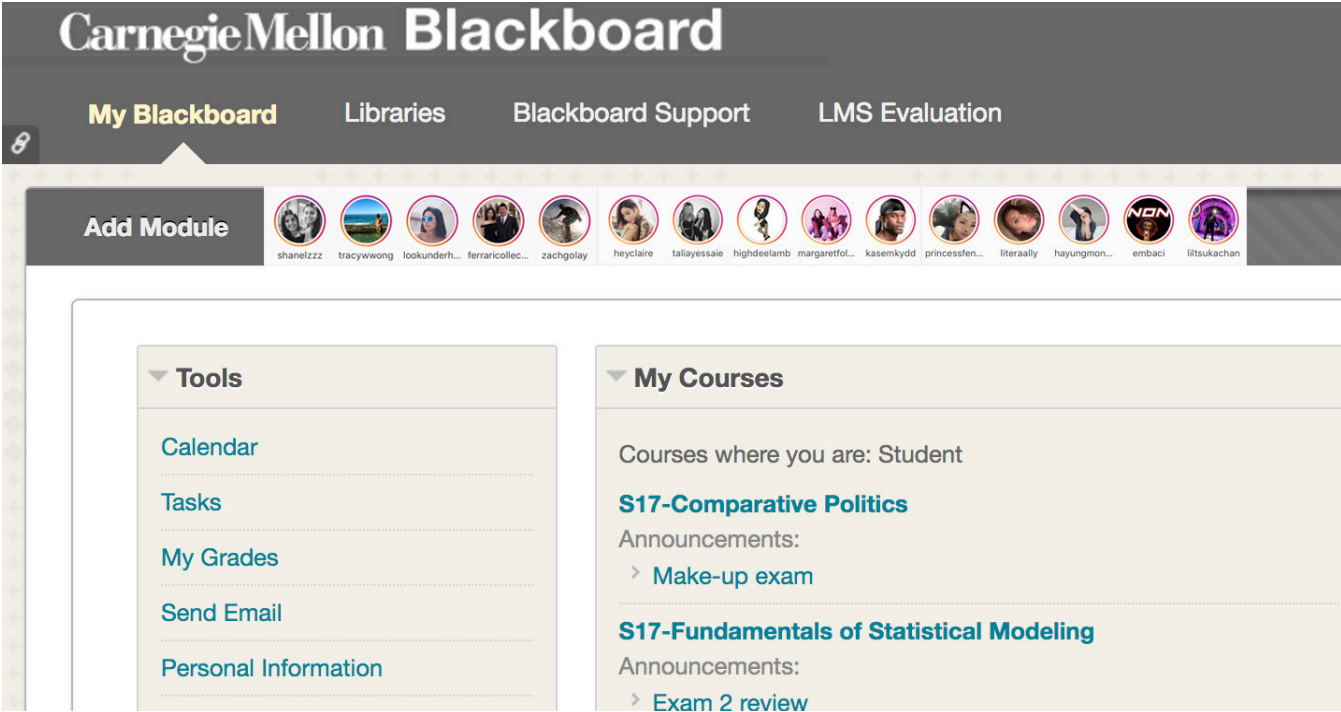
While Olé appreciated the "unreal but dope" recognition for his app, at the end of the day, he is just an average, humble student outside of the computer science department. Olé claims he has a strong, selfless desire to make the world around him a better place, regardless of his job prospects after graduation.

"Now I'm trying to make the app more user-friendly," said Olé. "So I'm working on incorporating a meme generator."

At the time of The Tartan's interview with Olé on that same Tuesday, one of the ABP workers called out a long-awaited order number.

FEATURE PHOTO

Blackboard to follow Instagram and Facebook by adding live student stories



Despite no one asking for this, Blackboard is finally launching live stories. Students will be able to upload live videos of themselves struggling through homework. Professors will also be able to post stories but probably won't because they can barely use Blackboard as is.

The Tartan publishes yet another issue that students ignore, my mother loves

YIYUAN CHEN
Worked really hard on this

After 10 hours of intense copy editing, layout designing, last-minute cramming and writing, trying to change opinions in the forum section, and screaming across the room because of one erroneous use of a semicolon, The Tartan staff had finally finished their weekly issue. This issue is conveniently labeled as "Volume 111, Issue 21" on the front page, which gives their readers a clear idea of how many trees have been killed publishing articles that nobody has ever read since 1906.

By noon on Monday, April 3, brand new stacks of newspapers have been

dropped off at various locations on campus, where the newspaper deliveryman tried to recycle the previous issues on the racks that have not been picked up. "I literally don't understand why they're still publishing," Mr. Newspaper Deliveryman, a Pittsburgh local newspaper delivery man, whined, "The stack is literally the same height as the last time I saw it, which was last Monday when I dropped it off."

Meanwhile in The Tartan office, the copy editors are fervently criticizing Mr. Deliveryman's incorrect use of "literally", an issue that, frankly, nobody gives two s***s about.

In order to increase The Tartan's readership,

the staff members often shamelessly advertise the newspaper to their friends and force them to read the crappy article that they wrote on Sunday to fill in the space because some lazy-a** writer decided not to turn in their article.

Such action has caused these people's friends to unfriend them. "I mean, my favorite part of the newspaper is the ads," said a reader who was forced into reading The Tartan by her ex-friend, "at least the quality is consistent."

Some readers disagree with such criticism. "I think The Tartan is a great newspaper," said an enthusiast. "Although most of the content is pretty mediocre, I

love the comics." But sadly, The Tartan staff did not actually draw the comics themselves. They're usually stolen from websites such as xkcd, but it's okay because we cite them.

However, the most popular and common response from Carnegie Mellon students is the frowning face, indicating that they're very confused. "What is The Tartan?" a student asked. "Wait what, we have a newspaper?" a current senior student exclaimed in disbelief, "you must be f***** kidding me."

No, I'm not f***** kidding you. Excuse yourself.

However, one respondent who is my mother replied, "I saw your name in there three times sweetie! XOXO."

Republicans pull health care bill, attempt to use reverse psychology to win over Dems

SYDNEY ROSLIN
White House correspondent

Last Friday, in a shocking turn of events, House Speaker Paul Ryan officially pulled his Obamacare repeal bill from the floor before it had the chance to be put up to a vote. While President Trump claims that the bill was pulled because it didn't have enough promised votes to pass a vote on the House floor, Speaker Ryan had other methods behind his actions.

"It's a classic example of reverse psychology," said Ryan, winking. "If we show

the Democrats that we really don't want this repeal bill to pass, and I mean that we really don't want this repeal bill to pass, then they'll cross party lines and pass this bill for us, just to spite us."

Now, in the days following the bill's fallout, Ryan lies in wait for the Democrats to take the bait.

"Paul Ryan's been acting rather strange lately," reported House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi. "Sometimes he just walks around the House Chamber, whistling. I'm surprised he's able to show

his face, honestly. If I had been responsible for so much embarrassment and incompetency within my own party, I wouldn't want to show my face anywhere in America, much less in the center of the House Chamber."

"He keeps staring at me when the House is in session with this smug little smile on his face," said Minority Whip Steny Hoyer.

"It's as if he expects me to suddenly jump across party lines and support shoddy legislation written solely to dismantle the work of the Obama

administration. It's just that vibe, you know? It's kind of creepy."

When asked how his plan was coming along, Ryan seemed confident. "They don't know it yet, but those Democrats are right where I want them, eating out of the palm of my hand. Just you watch, they'll pull my bill back on the floor and pass it before you know it."

At press time, the Democratic party leaders were throwing parties across the D.C. area, celebrating the bill's demise. Paul Ryan was not invited.



pillbox

The Tartan's Art & Culture Magazine



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Advice for Awkward People

On the terror of ants

Ruth Scherr | Copy Manager
India Price | Editor-In-Chief

Dear Ruth,
Honestly, dude. I'm so screwed. Two nights ago I threw a pretty LIT banger at my house for my friend's 21st surprise birthday party — which, by the way, was a huge success. But there was one minor mishap. Someone spilled a college student classic of Smirnoff and Sprite on my bedroom carpet. Yikes, I know. Thankfully, both vodka and sprite are clear and didn't leave a stain on my carpet. The real horror is the army of ants that swarmed the crime scene that I got to wake up to. I frantically jumped out of bed and tried to kill them all, and for that day I thought I was safe.

So I went to bed last night, thinking I was in the clear and that I had taken the necessary precaution to avoid an infestation. So this morning, after I got to work and took out my laptop, I soon realized that leaving my laptop on the ground overnight was the single greatest mistake I have made in my entire life to date. Ants began crawling out of my laptop in amounts I have never before seen. I didn't know if it would stop. I couldn't use my usual ant killing methods of stomping on them because, well, it was my laptop. All I could do was shake it violently and hope that they'd fall out (please don't tell the rest of the staff that I dumped out an entire extended family

of ants onto the floor of the office). As the day progresses, I find more and more ants on me and my belongings — just a moment ago I had to shake some ants out of my sleeves. Yuck.

So what do I do? Clearly my home is infested, and now I'm pretty sure I'm going to need a new backpack. Do those ant traps really work? Should I check out one of those weird Pinterest at-home remedies for bugs? Please help, before I'm eaten alive!

Send help,
Not Okay. Ants Need To Stop

Dear NO ANTS,
Run.

No, seriously, run. Drop out of school, change your name, leave the country. Any and all of the above. Tell your parents that you love them, your roommates that they can have your stuff, and your friend who spilled vodka on your floor that you're not mad, just disappointed, and also leaving forever and never coming back. This is your life now.

It's not going to be easy. By the time your soon-

to-be short life ends, you will be hardened, grizzled, and filled with the weary loneliness that can only come from a life on the run. You'll spend everyday thinking fondly of your family, friends, and bed until they start to fade from your mind like a distant memory. Some days, you'll wonder why you ever ran in the first place, but then you'll remember — ants. And then, you'll start scratching.

They will always be following you. They will never stop. Humanity famously beat out apex predators by walking behind them, using our stamina and two-legged physique to outlast them. We're known for being the best followers and the best pursuers, but that's all a lie. It was ants the whole time.

Once they find you, they will never leave you alone. They'll crawl across the world just to crawl all over your skin with their creepy, creepy feet.

Every time you feel an itch, you'll wonder — was that them? Are they still on you? Have they caught up? (They have. It was always too late. Running was a distant hope, but the only one you had left. I'm sorry. You deserved better than this.)

Keep running,
Ruth

Bar Buddies: Acacia

A speakeasy hidden in Southside

After a week of soul searching, I decided it still wasn't too late for Ariel to face retribution for her vicious slight against me a few weeks back, so this week I headed off to Southside with my own replacement. He was in a fancy mood so we decided to go to Acacia, a prohibition themed bar on East Carson.

The location: The only issue with Southside is that the trip can be quite lengthy. The 54 will get you there from Craig in about 20 minutes, so it's not the worst thing, but it's not as easy as some of the places in Shadyside and Squirrel Hill if you live near campus. Aside from that, Southside is an ideal space for a bar, with everything you could possibly want in a one block radius. Post-bar grub is available ranging from pizza at the Pie Bar to cheesesteaks at the Groove. There are other bars to hop to if you want to switch up the vibe, and there are even necessities such as check cashing and tattoos nearby, should that come up.

The drinks: The drinks took a while, and I didn't

have a large enough sample to tell if this indicated that the bartenders were busy or that they were behind the bar working on their sublime mixology.

I ordered a drink, the Nori by Nature, which I can only describe as an alcoholic sushi beverage. Basically, it was a mix of seaweed, finger, lime, and alcohol. It would take a real food critic who knows what words like "saporific" mean to break down the drink into words that convey such complex flavors. A mere occasional bar patron like myself can only offer that it was pretty dope... and surprisingly strong. My temporary bar buddy ordered La Revuelta, which seemed like a misnomer since there wasn't anything quite as revolutionary as seaweed tincture, but it was a damned good drink in its own way. The drinks, unsurprisingly, are not cheap. A cocktail might run you all the way up to \$15 after tax and tip, which is on the pricey side even for Southside.

The vibe: The speakeasy theme informs the décor. To enter Acacia, you walk in through boarded up

windows and a covered door. This is sort of cool aesthetically, but it obscures the step down when exiting. Don't be like me and trip on your way out. The interior is dimly lit even for a bar, especially since the streetlights can't flood in. This gives the bar a bit of a secret and low-key feel to it that makes it a fun place to spend a couple hours.

This bar is not the place to take a bunch of people; there just isn't a ton of space. There is a bar and several booths that provide some seating, but it's more of a place to go hang out with a couple friends than a group. This is magnified by the fact that the bar is fairly quiet compared to others. This could just have been that night, but it was very easy to sit and have a conversation.

Lit or nah: I'm definitely going to go with lit. This certainly isn't a regular jaunt. It's too expensive for that. However, the series of novel ingredients in the drinks and the atmosphere that makes it easy to hang out with a few friends make this a fun centerpiece for a trip to Southside.

Zeke Rosenberg | Contributing Editor

The Yard

More than just gourmet grilled cheese

Pittsburgh is a beautiful city, full of history and culture — art, technology, sports, and of course, food. If I were to use a restaurant to epitomize my experience in Pittsburgh and at Carnegie Mellon so far, it would be The Yard. It is what I have come to expect from the city.

The Yard has three locations: Market Square, PPG Paints Arena, and — the one I went to and the one closest to campus — Shadyside. Located right off Walnut Street on Bellefonte, The Yard is a nice walk (or short bus ride) away from campus.

I went to the The Yard on a rainy Sunday night, to celebrate a friend's birthday. It was past 9 p.m., and since this is Pittsburgh, the restaurant was mostly empty. The lower level of the restaurant has a larger space, with a nice bar, and the upper level, where our party of ten was quickly seated, is smaller, but also holds an ever-necessary bar. The place has a rustic feel — all wood and brick — that allowed us to relax and simply enjoy our food.

The Yard is known for its creative grilled cheese sandwiches, with names like "The Big Che-Bowski," "Buffy the Mac Attack Slayer," "Hail, Caesar!" and "Mother of Dragons." The menu also includes a requisite salad section, with what my friend called a "quality average" Caprese salad. The variety of appetizers includes soft pretzel, buffalo chicken dip and chips, and wings, the latter of which another friend commented "left a little to be desired." The star of The Yard's show, however, are the grilled cheeses.

Each grilled cheese entrée comes with a small bowl of tomato soup, and potato chips, which you can change to fries, sweet potato fries, or tater tots for an extra fee. The wait was short, and soon our whole table was desperately trying to hold our sandwiches with our hands only to give up when everything fell out and resort to using forks.

Because we couldn't decide what to order for ourselves, a friend and I each decided to order a different sandwich and then share. I ordered "Pierogies N'At," a cheddar and gouda grilled cheese with fried pierogies topped with

Marika Yang | Assistant Sports Editor
photos by Cindy Deng | Staff Photographer



caramelized onions, sauerkraut, and kielbasa. The idea of putting pierogies inside a sandwich is like Primanti's putting fries in their sandwiches — so very odd, but so very right for Pittsburgh. The grilled cheese is rich and tasty, with all the flavors complementing each other. The pierogies themselves are wonderful, with a thick and chewy dough and a smooth and creamy potato filling. With my order, I added tater tots with parmesan, which were easily the best tater tots I've ever had. They were fresh and crispy, and went well with the standard tomato soup.

My friend ordered the popular "Mac Attack," (which is proudly displayed on the homepage of The Yard's website) a cheddar grilled cheese sandwich absolutely stuffed with mac 'n cheese, with a sprinkle of bacon lardons. When it came, the mac 'n cheese was spilling over the bread onto the tray, and we had to use our forks to eat it. The mac 'n cheese is great, a level above your normal boxed mac 'n cheese. For her order, my friend chose sweet potato fries, which all our friends deemed the best side The Yard offers. They are delicious, especially with the buttery cinnamon dip they come with.

The service was simple and fast, which allowed us all to talk and catch up with one another. The Yard's atmosphere is very, for lack of a better word, chill. It's a place a group of friends can easily walk into on a whim and enjoy a good meal. It is your quintessential Pittsburgh restaurant and bar that offers great, unique, quality food.





Iris van Herpen: Transforming Fashion

The artist may be Dutch, but the concept is essentially Pittsburgh

Iris van Herpen: Transforming Fashion, the current fashion exhibit at the Carnegie Museum of Art captures themes that are very familiar to us. Throughout the city of Pittsburgh, we often encounter sights that combine technology with art. The unique culture of the city is what makes Pittsburgh one of the best places to display this Dutch designer's collection. From the outfits with textures imitating those of wildlife and natural forces to the ones with 3D printed accessories, the ideas in van Herpen's pieces are those that we can easily relate to.

When you first walk into the exhibit, it'll feel like you're on a runway, with dimmed lighting and models posing on your left and right. All three rooms that house the various pieces from fifteen of van Herpen's collections have the same principle setup: mannequin models lined up standing on long white platforms, surrounded by dark purple walls for a chic feel. The clothes are what add the diversity, fascination, and curiosity to the viewer's experience.

In the first room, the first selection of van Herpen collections you'll find are "Refinery Smoke" and "Mummification." The "Refinery Smoke" pieces are a personal favorite because all the dresses gave off illusions of smoke, which covered parts of the mannequins' bodies. The exhibit described van Herpen's interpretations of smoke as "sinister, alive, and toxic," and that by wearing it, one can have more control over such a dark and mysterious entity. The "Mummification" collection held this theme of wrapping, where most of the dresses were tightly fitted and some outfits were wrapped around more parts of the body than others. Its pieces also had a dark theme, represented by the dark colors of various dresses, and the exhibit describing the whole concept as "macabre."

As you continue exploring more collections, you'll find dresses made in innovative ways from some of the most unique materials; dresses made from children's umbrellas, glass, and 3D prints are just a few examples. Several of the materials were put on sample display for visitors to experience and touch.

Dresses in the "Wilderness Embodied" collection depicted "wild forces," where the fabric from some dresses were made to look like actual leaves. The "Capriole" collection (capriole meaning "leap in the air" in French) was a unique one that presented the experience of free-falling. One of the dresses in this collection was crafted to look like the skeleton of a human, and it was supposed to represent the overwhelming feeling of terror before parachuting out of a plane. All the dresses from the different collections were captivating, however one from van Herpen's "Crystallization" collection was particularly special in that it was the first 3D printed dress to ever walk down a runway. I'd advise you to visit the exhibit to find the dress and see it for yourself.

Van Herpen does her best to incorporate all the relevant themes and ideas we encounter in the world today. She tackles complex concepts which might be difficult for viewers to wrap their head around, such as the behaviors of natural forces or the effects of technology on society, and presents her interpretations by crafting dresses in manners that make her focuses obvious. It makes sense that her pieces have attracted people from all over the world, including well known designers and celebrities like Beyoncé and Lady Gaga. Van Herpen has shown others how fashion can evolve at the same pace and in the same manner as culture and technology around the world. There's a lot to learn from viewing her collections, and they'll only be at the Carnegie Museum of Art until May 1, so be sure to check it out before then!



Michelle Madlansacay | Staffwriter
photos by Shanley Lenart | Junior Staff Photographer



GREEK SING

CMU's Greek community bands together to raise money for Camp Kesem through a night of dancing and singing

article by Izzy Sio | Assistant Pillbox Editor
photos by Cindy Deng and Lisa Qian | Staff Photographers

Throughout the year, 17 of Carnegie Mellon's fraternities and sororities competed against each other to raise the most money for Pittsburgh's chapter of Camp Kesem, a charity program that "operates free summer camps for children who have been touched by a parent's cancer," and to put on a 13-minute musical performance. Greek Sing has partnered with Camp Kesem for two years to help raise \$150,000, and started off towards their goal incredibly strong with a new Greek Sing record of \$100,522.53 raised in the first year.

After Greek Sing chairs and emcees of the night, Alpha Chi Omega senior and senior drama major Stephanie Kane and senior information systems major and Sigma Chi brother Gus Henry gave their opening remarks, the organizations showcased their various skits and acts. Throughout the night, sorority and fraternity pairs competed in the doubles category, performing intricate, condensed versions of full-length musicals.

The show kicked off with Kappa Alpha Theta and Alpha Sigma Phi's performance of *Peter Pan*. While the group did not place, their creativity and the youthful energy of the original show shone through every part of their performance, from their inventive "high-flying" choreography (people in black body suits carrying the cast around the stage) to their costumes. First-year Dietrich college student Jamie Slomka stood out as Peter Pan, leading the performance and the whole of Greek Sing off to an amazing start.

Following *Peter Pan* was Delta Delta Delta and Sigma Chi's performance of *Hercules*, filled with show-stopping vocals from the five Muses and

Megara. Delta Delta Delta and Sigma Chi's performance was the fan favorite of the night, mixing in humor and a classic Disney vibe with talent and nostalgia of the original movie. Alpha Chi Omega and Alpha Tau's performance of *The Little Mermaid* brought Ariel's world to life in its set pieces and energy, and showcased the voice of music and English major Sydney Roslin, who played Ariel, in the best way possible.

However, the performance that blew me away was the first act closer and first place performance of Kappa Kappa Gamma and Sigma Phi Epsilon's rendition of the new Disney classic *Moana*. The performance stayed true to the film's original message of discovering who you are, featured vocals that raised the energy of the room, showcased incredible sets with a giant puppet of Te Ka, and presented amazing choreography that truly utilized the human element of the story, with junior neuroscience major Sarah Deluty, who played Moana throughout the performance, seamlessly climbing on top of her fellow performers to reach up to twelve feet above the ground in the performance's final number. More importantly, it was a great image of the fraternity and sorority involved working together to create something magical for others, encompassing what Greek Sing is all about.

Starting off the second act, and placing third overall, was Alpha Phi and Pi Kappa Alpha's performance of *Little Shop of Horrors*. The spectacular thing about this set was that every soloist had a flawless voice, truly bringing the musical to life. Coming from someone who hadn't watched *Little Shop of Horrors* before Greek Sing, Alpha Phi and Pi Kappa Alpha retold the story in a great way

that flowed well and made me want to check out the original. Additionally, the set pieces, such as Audrey II, helped to bring *Skid Row* to life throughout the performance.

Second place winners alpha Kappa Delta Phi and Phi Delta Theta performed *Once on this Island* next, truly bringing out the heart of the show's setting and bringing the energy and essence of the show to their performance. The choreography of the show helped to bring that energy out into the audience, and carried out throughout the performance thanks to the ensemble and the soloists. In particular, the soloist as Papa Ge stood out, truly becoming his character and commanding over the performance.

Delta Gamma and Delta Tau Delta performed second-to-last in their rendition of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, taking the audience back to a time before college with their fun choreography, crazy costumes, and quirky energy. They brought the crazy energy of the original show to their performance and adapted the musical in a clever way.

Three fraternities competed in the singles category. In this category, the fraternities instead composed original skits featuring familiar melodies with new lyrics. Third place winners Kappa Sigma opened singles with their performance of *El Dorado*, taking Dora into a new direction by bringing her, Boots, and Diego to Carnegie Mellon as first-years in search of bananas. The craziness and hilarity of the number was an amazing addition to the event and kicked off the singles performances on a high note.

In the first act, Sigma Alpha Epsilon also performed

their original musical *Rata-tool-y*, a story set in a Lowe's Department Store about a young power drill stuck on a shelf filled with screwdrivers who seeks to find his true parentage. Adapting songs like *Beauty and the Beast's* "Belle" into their performance, Sigma Alpha Epsilon's creativity with their script, featuring breaking the fourth wall and meta jokes, earned them second place.

The final singles performance was from Alpha Epsilon Pi with their Jewish take on the Tony Award-winning *The Book of Mormon* called *The Book of Moses*. The brothers spectacularly adapted the hit musical and its hilarious vibe into a great performance, most notably by turning "Hello" into "Shalom," that helped carry Alpha Epsilon Pi to first place.

Greek Sing was a truly memorable night that celebrated philanthropy in the best way. It featured the greek community coming together as a whole to make a difference and put on another amazing show, blowing away the Carnegie Mellon community with their talent, creativity, and motivation and desire to contribute to help make an impact.

Editor's Note: Sydney Roslin is a staffwriter for The Tartan.

Awards

Fraternity Philanthropy

1. Sigma Phi Epsilon
2. Phi Delta Theta
3. Sigma Chi

Sorority Philanthropy

1. Delta Gamma
2. Delta Delta Delta
3. Alpha Phi

Chairman's Choice

Alpha Phi

Singles Performance

1. Alpha Epsilon Pi, *The Book of Moses*
2. Sigma Alpha Epsilon, *Rata-tool-y*
3. Kappa Sigma, *El Dorado*

Doubles Performance

1. Kappa Kappa Gamma and Sigma Phi Epsilon, *Moana*
2. Alpha Kappa Delta Phi and Phi Delta Theta, *Once on this Island*
3. Alpha Phi and Pi Kappa Alpha, *Little Shop of Horrors*



Pittsburgh Center for the Arts

Local artists' exhibition raises questions on the role of curation in art

The Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, a bus ride away from campus, is one of the homes of the flourishing arts culture in Pittsburgh. Arts education, exhibition space, residencies, and arts advocacy are the main focus of this organization, making it a useful resource for artists in the area. On Friday, the Center hosted an opening of the 2017 solo and collaborative exhibitions. In a large, canary yellow house, the space is inviting and well lit, offering rooms to wander through in the beautiful house. This particular show featured nine different exhibitions, with a total of thirteen Pittsburgh-based artists including Nikki Brugnoli, Jiyeon Hong, Laurel Wilcox, and Carnegie Mellon professor of art Devan Shimoyama.

Walking the space is certainly an interesting experience, as the architectural features of the house make the space feel vastly different from what you expect from a traditional gallery. Each exhibition space feels more contained and the flow from exhibition to exhibition feels more casual, allowing viewers to explore the space more freely. In a sampler sort of format, the show gives a sense of the themes that run through the Pittsburgh art scene. These works covered a variety of topics, dealing with memory, race, and narrative. This show is defined by a myriad of interesting and expertly contrasted textures, colors, and media. Hong's delicate wire map of Pittsburgh and the contrast of clay, wood, and rope in *Interdependent* by Jonathan Schwartz and Angela Biederman are notable examples. The diversity of the materiality and subject matter in this show was exciting and full of potential, and it makes walking through such a large group exhibition more engaging.

In a show like this, where there are so many different exhibitions and no grounding theme, good curation is crucial. Part of our job as viewers is trying to untangle the intention of the artist and the context of the work, but the curators must also guide us along. Although a lot of art is intended to stand alone and be easily understood, all art requires a basis of knowledge to understand. In shows like this where there is no theme, the artists' background are not well known, and the diversity of work is collected in an intimate space, the curation of individual exhibitions requires more thought. Each artist and collaborative team approached the explanation of their work differently, bringing

us to the question of how one effectively use an artist statement.

The artist statement is presented to give the viewer context and hints at where to look to decipher meaning in work. There is a necessary balance between giving enough information for the audience to connect with the work, but leaving enough out for the audience to be motivated to explore and ask questions. At times, the artist statements and curation in these exhibitions made it challenging to connect with the work. Ambiguity in art is beautiful and important, but vague art jargon and broad concepts without specificity to the work will lessen the viewer's ability to be invested. Each of the exhibitions were clearly working toward interesting ideas and had expert command over medium, but connecting with the work was challenging because some of the artist statements were poorly considered. Art needs to reach both experts and non-experts, and without either clear cues in the work or well crafted curation this cannot happen.

One exhibition that successfully considered the art and presentation was *Oblivion* by Misty Morrison. Walking through a narrow hallway to reach a series of large-scale paintings with haunting portraits and domestic scenes, the viewer is transported into the world Morrison creates. Her work has an undeniably cinematic quality, the lighting and compositions are almost like stills from a film noir movie. The portraits are intimate, but there is also sense of anxious anticipation. The figures are larger than life, and the language they use is familiar enough that the initial connection the viewer makes with the work is immediate and effortless. This gives space to explore the overall narrative, to connect with the characters and bring your own stories to the setup. Thus, with enough information present in the paintings, the lack of artist statement worked. I am excited to see more of her work, as being in the space made me crave more of these styles of narrative to explore and peel apart.

The work of Carnegie Mellon professor Shimoyama and Danny Ferrell in *He's American* contrast in many ways with the work of Morrison as they tackle portraiture and curation differently. Shimoyama and Ferrell are both faculty here at Carnegie Mellon's School of Art, and their expertise in curation and painting is clear. The natural flow

of the viewer through the series of paintings and sculptural installations could have you landing at the artist statement last. The installations and the quality of the paintings are opulent and beautiful, the vivid colors and the bejeweled installations add to the allusions to religious paintings. The presence of gradients and the graphic colors place these works, though surreal and magical, specifically in our time.

Their collaboration is seamless, the art plays off of each other and explores the lived experiences of race and queerness with nuance and softness. In their short artist statement they write about the American dream, the invisibility of intimacy and vulnerability in the gay male experience. Their work talks about America and luxury, and who this dream is for – a topic which is relevant more than ever in this political environment. In this case, the artist statement is important but, a testament to their work, it does not make or break the exhibition. Rather, the artist statement adds depth to the exploration. It allows the viewer to step into the shoes of the characters the artist paint, and see American society through the eyes of those whose identities have been reduced down to political props.

With the recent defunding of the National Education Association and the continuing reduction in funding for arts education, artist and curators have to be especially mindful of the role art is taking in society. Going to a show with a group of such inspiring and talented artist and focusing on the idea of artist statements may be nit picky. But care and attention paid to contextualizing work makes art impactful. As an arts columnist, I have the incredible opportunity to talk to artists about their intentions for their work – their passion for their subject matter and practice is contagious, and it makes it easy to match their investment in their work. The artist statement is for those who don't get to have that conversation. It is the artist's direct communication with the audience and should not be taken for granted. This show was beautiful, diverse, and exciting in many ways. It displays incredible expertise and it is exciting to see what local artist are pursuing. But go in with the benefit of doubt, and leave yourself open to the questions that the art will undoubtedly pose, for better or for worse.



Ambiguity in art is beautiful and important, but vague art jargon and broad concepts without specificity to the work will lose the viewer's ability to be invested.



Archer

The newest season is the stuff of dreams

Caleb Miller | Staffwriter
art by Tami Tedesko | Staff Artist

For most people, hearing about another person's dreams can be boring and tedious. However, super-spy Sterling Archer, who has spent a fictional lifetime flouting every rule imaginable, is, not surprisingly, an exception to this rule.

The seventh season of *Archer* ended with him shot, floating face down in a pool and the new season, dubbed *Archer: Dreamland*, extends the cliffhanger. Archer is in a coma in a hospital bed, and the season takes audiences into Archer's imaginative subconscious. Creator Adam Reed continues to provide the raunchy, ridiculous humor and crisp, photorealistic animation the show is known for while adding a stimulating all-new setting, a gripping plot, and a thought-provoking duality for Archer.

In Archer's fantasy, the cast has been transported back to 1947, and each character assumes a new role. Archer is now a private detective searching for the murderer of his partner, Woodhouse, who in the regular *Archer* universe is his loyal, but heroin-addicted butler. In his hunt for answers, Archer crosses paths with a mob boss by the name of Mother — who is his actual mother Malory — and decides to do her a favor in return for help in his investigation. While on the job for Mother, he stumbles upon Cyril and Pam, now corrupt cops who are helping rival mobster Len Trexler (a rival spy in real life) smuggle prostitutes into the country. Some things haven't changed, however: Archer is still lusting for Lana Kane, although now she is a sultry jazz singer.

The plot has no real bearing on the actual lives of any of the characters, but it is a captivating story nonetheless. Reed has done an excellent job of keeping the audience wondering what might happen next, with twists and turns keeping the audience on their toes. Furthermore, a wacky plot line has Cheryl — now the heiress to a vast publishing fortune, but no less insane than before — enlisting Archer to help her flee her family via a faked suicide, and leaves the viewer in constant anticipation of what crazy stunt she'll pull next. Each episode also ends with a cliffhanger, helping viewers become even more invested in the development of the story.

The plot is bolstered by the addition of a new, deeper, more serious side to Archer — he is haunted by Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) from World War II, suffering from graphic flashbacks during action scenes. While Archer has always come off as cocky and incapable of true emotion, instead focusing his energy on exotic cars, alcohol, and women, there have been brief glimpses

of Archer's vulnerability. Evidence of Malory's psychological abuse occasionally cropped up in the show and in Season 7, when Archer encounters a former prep school bully he still stammers and shakes in the bully's presence. The PTSD Archer experiences from WWII might be acting as a metaphor for the nightmarish flashbacks Archer has to his difficult childhood, revealing why he feels he has to constantly assert himself and torment his co-workers. Reed also introduces a surprising duality for quirky mad scientist Krieger, which hints that his *Dreamland* character may have honest intentions.

But don't worry, *Archer* hasn't gotten serious. While the first episode takes time setting up this new world inside Archer's mind, there is still plenty of inventive, bizarre, and crude humor. Many of the funniest moments come from several running jokes that Reed employs throughout. For example, during scenes inside *Dreamland*, the club owned by Mother where Ray Gillette is now the bandleader, after any sexual innuendo the drummer plays a rimshot in the background, which is followed by Ray yelling at him in frustration. Aside from sexual comedy, Reed has an impressive ability to turn odd, cringe-worthy situations into laughable moments — like one morbid scene where Cyril is found cutting off a corpse's finger to use as proof he has a hostage (something Archer and Cheryl were also about to do). While this grotesque moment shouldn't be funny, the sharp-talking and sarcastic dialogue somehow makes it amusing. Of course, this being *Archer*, many of the funniest lines are unprintable and the rest involve a convoluted set-up that would take half a page just to do them justice.

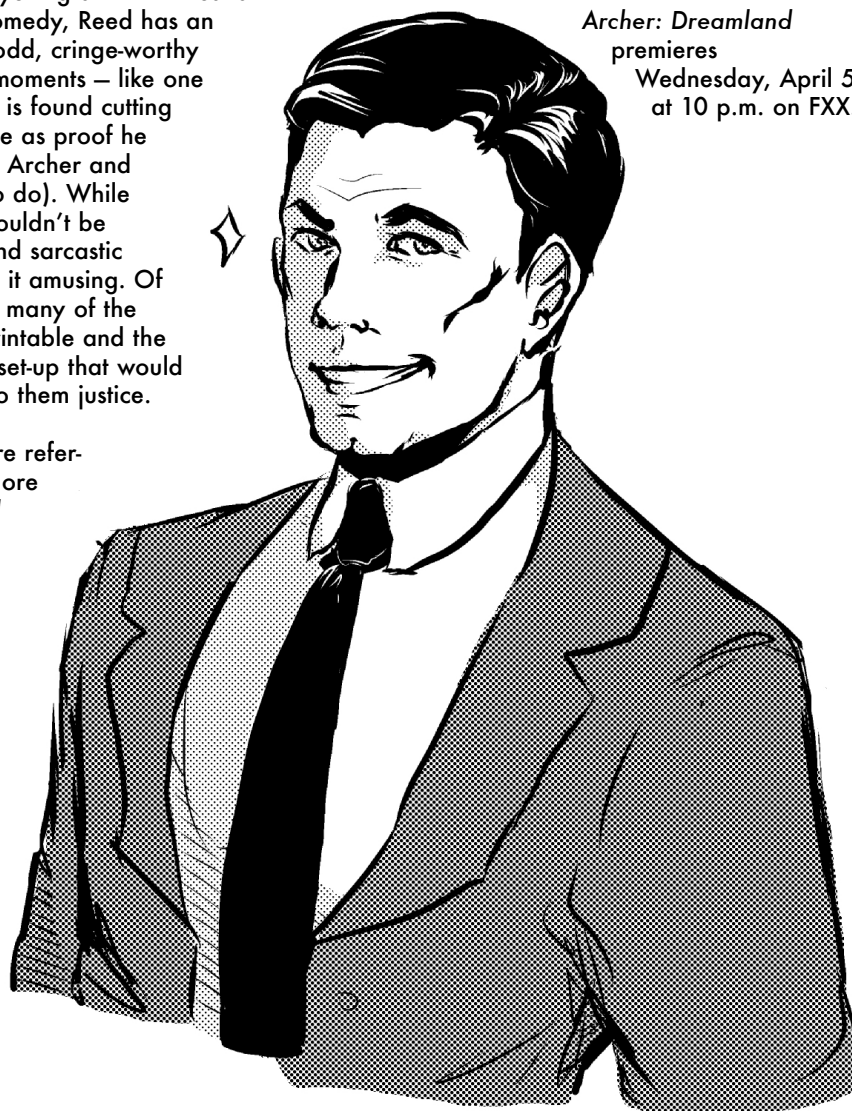
Archer is full of pop culture references, and many of the more subtle jokes in *Dreamland* are parodies of the noir films and novels of the 1930s and 1940s. In one scene, Archer narrates his thought process aloud as he drives, mimicking the deadpan style of storytelling found in noir, before the shot pans to a scruffy dog seated next to him and Archer admits not knowing why he's talking to a dog. In another episode,

there is an explicit reference to the greenhouse scene between General Sternwood and Philip Marlowe, played by Humphrey Bogart, from *The Big Sleep*.

Of course it wouldn't be *Archer* without stunning animation. The vivid colors and intricate details of the *Dreamland* landscape create visuals so realistic that they begin to feel fantastical. The clean, flowing lines of the art-deco architecture and majestic vintage cars work perfectly with Archer's crisp animation style, and the outdoor scenes in particular leave viewers in awe. The show also takes advantage of the endless opportunities that animation provides — with ice cubes dropping into a drink seen from the bottom of the glass or a seamless transition from a spinning vault lock to the speeding wire hubcaps of an antique car.

Despite the triviality of this season's plot, as it lives solely in Archer's head, the absurd storylines, constant cliffhangers, and development of Sterling Archer's character leaves viewers yearning for the next episode.

Archer: Dreamland
premieres
Wednesday, April 5
at 10 p.m. on FXX.

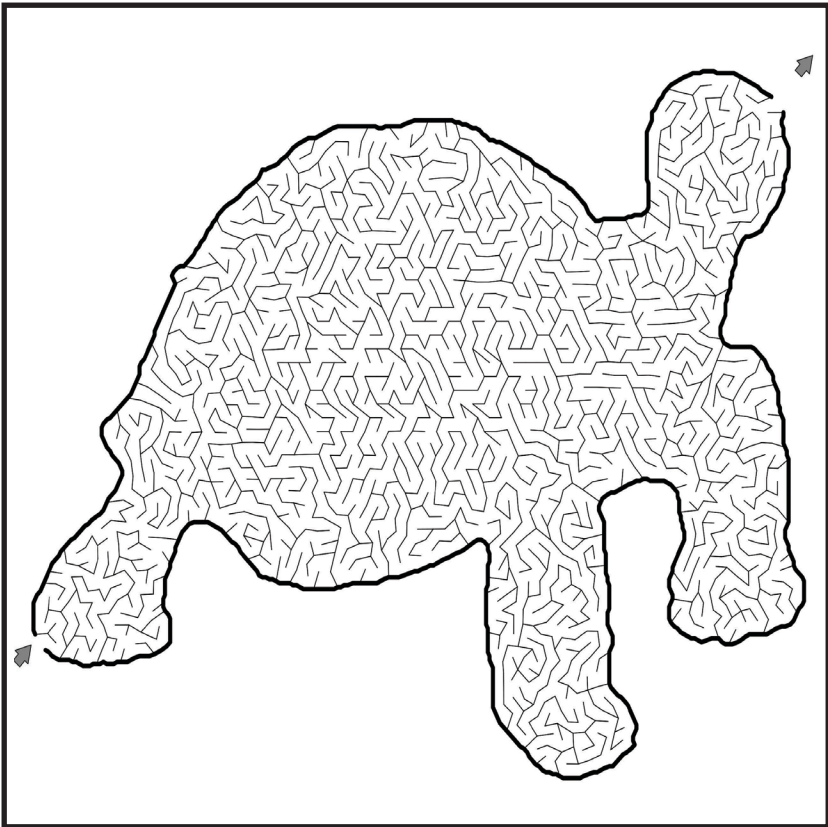


sudoku

		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

maze



maze courtesy of www.krazydad.com

Solutions from March 27

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

087	111	119	033	032	087	101	108
008	032	102	105	114	115	116	032
111	002	102	032	099	111	110	103
114	007	116	115	032	116	111	032
121	111	111	046	032	066	117	116
032	108	105	007	101	032	115	101
114	105	111	117	115	108	121	044
032	100	105	000	032	121	111	117
032	104	097	118	101	032	110	111
116	104	105	110	103	032	098	101
116	116	101	114	032	116	111	032
100	111	032	116	104	097	110	032
099	111	112	121	032	097	032	116
111	110	032	111	002	032	110	117
109	098	101	114	111	032	105	110
116	111	032	097	110	000	032	067
083	067	073	073	032	000	111	110

Only go on odd numbers.


maze

OLL	A	BEAU	SOAPS
ROIL	YAWN	VAGUE	
COMING	TO THE	FORE	
APOGEE	LION	GEM	
NEON	LOGE		
AFT	TREF	FAVORS	
GEES	GELT	LEDON	
ARRIVED	DERCI	ROMA	
RASTA	YEAH	TREK	
SLEIGH	SLED	SOY	
NAAN	ASEA		
AKA	BLAT	SLIDER	
LEFT	OF THE	MIDDLE	
APRON	AREA	EASE	
STOOD	LORN	DYED	

crossword

Change

by Shenanigansen



Anonymous said to owlurdcomix:

How many times a day do you honestly wish to be a different person?

OH, ALL THE TIME.
EVERY HOUR.



BUT THEN I WORK
ON *BECOMING* THAT
DIFFERENT PERSON
I WISH
TO BE.

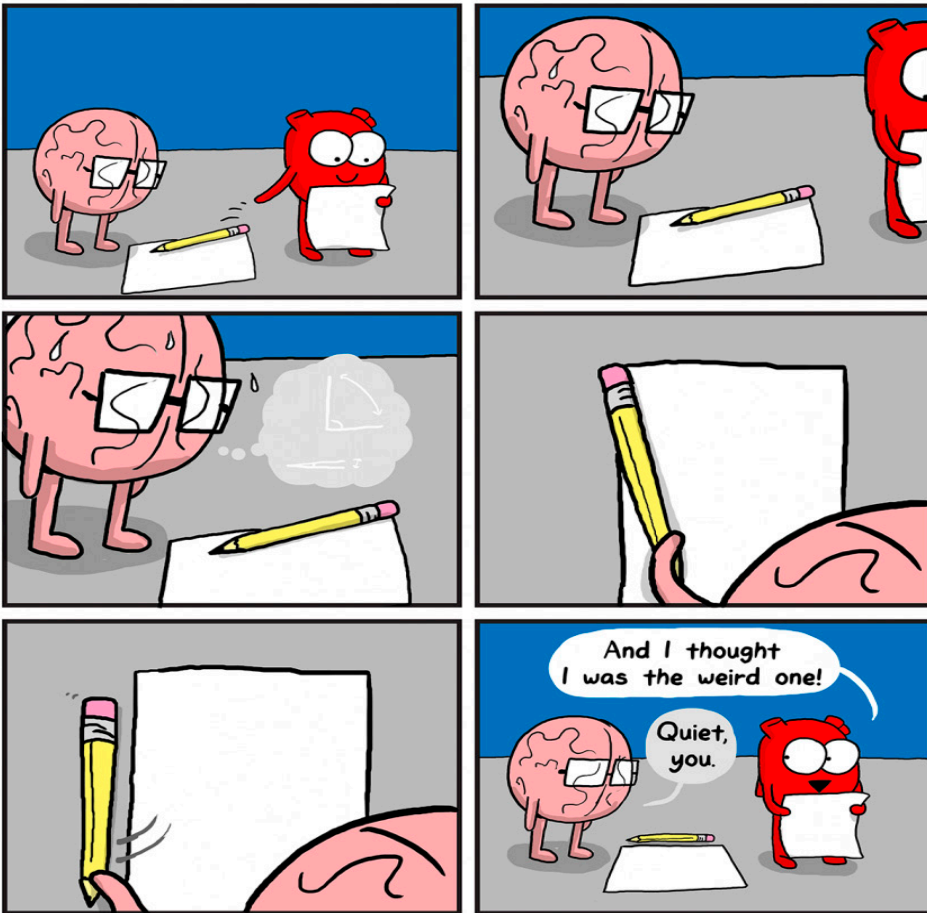


BECAUSE, PEOPLE
CHANGE. Y'KNOW?



Compulsion

by Nick Seluk

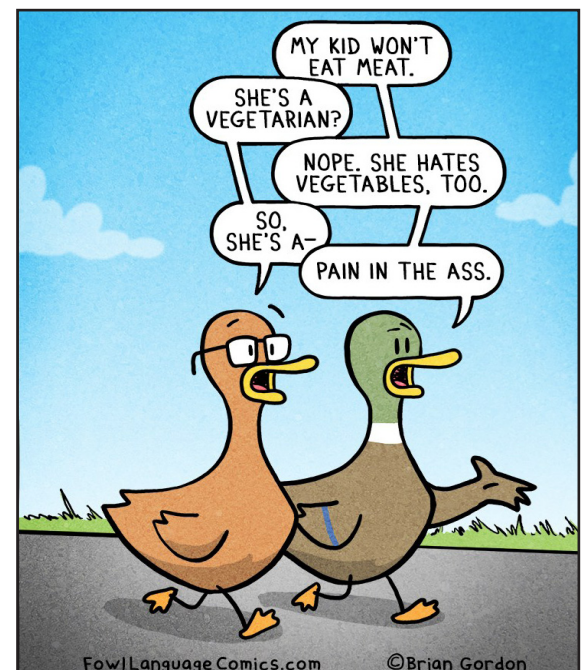


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Listening

by Brian Gordon



horoscopes: Emoji style

Aries

march 21–april 19

Taurus

april 20–may 20

Gemini

may 21–june 20

Cancer

june 21–july 19

Leo

july 20–aug. 22

Virgo

aug. 23–sept. 20

Libra

sept. 21–oct.19

Scorpio

oct. 20–nov. 20

Sagittarius

nov. 21–dec. 20

Capricorn

dec. 21–jan. 19

Aquarius

jan. 20–feb. 20

Pisces

feb. 21–march 20

Maybe you're a meteor, maybe you're a flying meatball. Either way, you are a force to be reckoned with!



Juicy.



What are finals?



When you look at your screenshots...



"Ded" inside.



8:30 lecture hitting you like:



Praying for the last ABP cookie.



Feelings after Greek Sing:



Multitasking like:



Kissing winter goodbye B****!



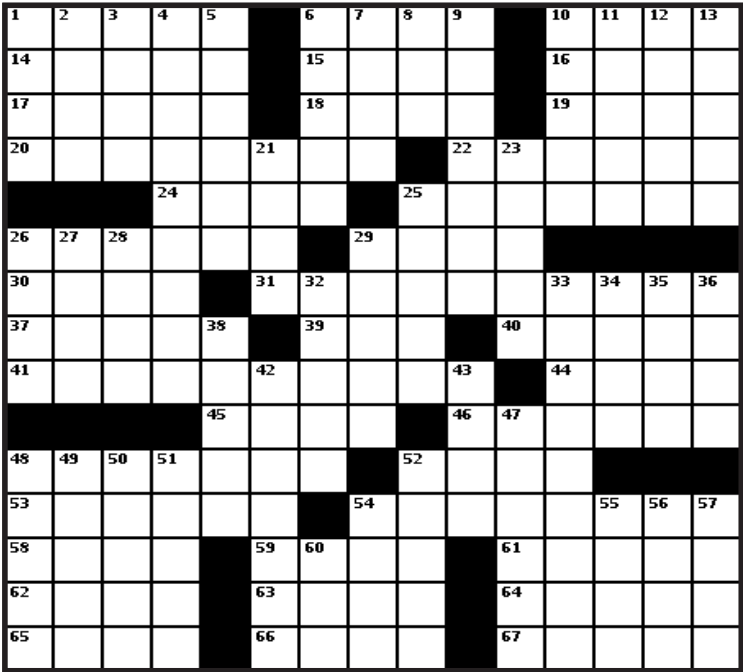
Seeing a wild Subra on the street.



When life gets hard, punch it in its big dumb face!



crossword



Crossword courtesy of FreeDailyCrosswords.com

across

- 1. Pale purple
- 6. Cuatro doubled
- 10. Actor Omar
- 14. Central Florida city
- 15. Swedish auto
- 16. Poultry enclosure
- 17. Humorous
- 18. Cairo cobras
- 19. Actress Bonet
- 20. Since I was ____ to a grasshopper (young)
- 22. Rubs out
- 24. Hawaiian goose
- 25. Out of a short gestation
- 26. Summer ermines
- 29. Bay
- 30. Captain of the Pequod
- 31. Alert
- 37. Hosiery thread
- 39. Cornerstone abbr.
- 40. Causing goose bumps
- 41. Before death
- 44. Actress Turner
- 45. Twice tetra-
- 46. Kitchen utensil
- 48. Governing bodies
- 52. Building additions
- 53. Sickness at the stomach
- 54. Interstellar
- 58. Weapons
- 59. Nair rival
- 61. Compass point
- 62. Let ____
- 63. As previously given, in footnotes
- 64. Strike ____
- 65. Missing
- 66. Preserve with salt
- 67. Pave over

down

- 1. Device for securing
- 2. Image
- 3. Like some excuses
- 4. Capable of being sold
- 5. Prestige
- 6. Missouri feeder
- 7. Money
- 8. Occurrence
- 9. Notice
- 10. Acclaim
- 11. Composure
- 12. Difficult question
- 13. Sudden convulsion
- 21. Not ____ many words
- 23. Actress Witherspoon
- 25. Florence's ____ Vecchio
- 26. Room in a casa
- 27. Lean
- 28. Kiln for drying hops
- 29. ____ Rica
- 32. Drat!
- 33. Optical instrument
- 34. Algerian seaport
- 35. ____ kleine Nachtmusik
- 36. Scorch
- 38. Ham it up
- 42. Like sea life
- 43. Gangster's gal
- 47. Two-dimensional
- 48. Gastropod mollusk
- 49. Keep an ____ the ground
- 50. Deadens
- 51. It's a good thing
- 52. Words on a Wonderland cake
- 54. Will of "The Waltons"
- 55. Horse's gait
- 56. ____ boy!
- 57. "Believe" singer
- 60. Web address ending

this week

04.04.17–04.09.17

The King and I

Benedum Center

237 7th St, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Tickets At: www.trustarts.org

Come check out this Tony Award winning musical that tells the story of the King of Siam and British teacher, Anna Leonowens. The story takes place in 1860s Bangkok, and includes a beautiful score, with numbers such as “Shall We Dance,” “Something Wonderful,” and “Getting to Know You.” Catch this exquisite show throughout the week at the Benedum Center.

wednesday–friday

04.05.17–04.07.17

Boom

April 5 & 6: 8–10 p.m.

April 7: 4–6 p.m., 8–10 p.m.

Purnell Center for the Arts

Tickets at: drama.cmu.edu

The School of Drama presents a quirky story of happy circumstances, homosexuality, and creation theory in *Boom*. The story follows Jules, who has determined when the world will end, and Jo, who finds himself stuck with Jules in an underground research lab.

coming up

04.07.17–04.13.17

2017 Pittsburgh Japanese Film Festival

4115 Butler Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Tickets at: <http://jffpgh.org/>

Row House Cinema is bringing you the second Annual Japanese Film Festival, that will include Japanese films old and new, and of all genres. Check out some truly iconic films, including *Samurai Cat*, *Harakiri*, *Sailor Moon: The Movie*, and the 2014 restoration of *Ghost In The Shell*.

friday

04.07.17

Collaborators

Quantum Theatre

6500 Hamilton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Tickets at: quantumtheatre.com

Quantum Theater brings you *Collaborators*, a hilarious production featuring some unexpected historical figures. Prepare to plunge in 1938 Russia and see Joseph Stalin and Mikail Bulgakov take the stage. Catch the opening night this Friday, followed by a champagne reception. You can also catch any of the featured performances, including a Q&A with the cast and team (April 9), and “Quantum on the Couch,” where Dr. David Orbison of the Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Center, will be hosting a session discussing the psychology of the characters (April 22). The show will run from April 7–30 and a full event calendar can be found at www.quantumtheatre.com.

Spark the Movement Showcase

7:30–9:30 p.m.

Rangos Ballroom, Cohon Center

Tickets at: carnegiemellontickets.universitytickets.com

This truly unique showcase will feature art about contemporary social issues relevant to both the campus and greater Pittsburgh communities. The showcase will include both visual and performance art, and aims to provide a medium for students to connect with the issues that affect our lives. This event is brought to you by the Division of Student Affairs, ACS Scholars, and Holleran Scholars, and is free for everyone.

saturday

04.08.17

Mosaic Conference on Gender

8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Carnegie Mellon University

“_____ Woman Matter” is the theme for Carnegie Mellon’s Annual Mosaic Conference on Gender. The conference addresses issues such as sexuality, identity, and gender-based violence, in a way that is inclusive of people of all races, fields, sexual orientations, and identities. The event will feature a keynote address by Angelica Ross, and will be incorporating feminism as an intersectional entity. The link for registration can be found on the event’s Facebook page.



Looking Forward—Combating Sexual Violence on Campus

On March 25, students from numerous colleges in the Pittsburgh area came together with their Title IX coordinators and local Pittsburgh artists to educate themselves about sexual and gender-based violence and brainstorm ways to combat this violence on college campuses. The summit included speeches by representatives from Carnegie Mellon and other local universities about what their offices have been doing in the past few years to combat sexual violence. These presentations highlighted the different approaches each campus takes, with Carnegie Mellon focusing on providing survivor support and resources, Point Park University emphasizing holding perpetrators accountable, and other schools working on changing the culture around gender roles and expectations at large. The summit also involved a variety of art projects that drove home the realities of the impact of sexual violence, including short videos by the local arts advocacy group STAMPED and photography by local high school students. People who attended the summit participated in an art installation for Denim Day by writing messages about sexual violence on jeans and adding them to a sculpture that will be traveling around Pittsburgh in the coming weeks. Denim Day is a day during which people wear denim as a sign of protest against victim blaming and destructive attitudes that perpetuate rape culture. This year's Denim Day is April 26. Find out more about the history behind the movement at denimdayinfo.org.

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