Non-profit org partners with Panera to help children with autism

JANE CROCKEM
Publisher

This past week the Wesley Spectrum, a local non-profit organization, began partnering with locally-owned Panera Bread stores to sell cookies with the international autism symbol on them for their “Every Cookie Counts” fundraiser. The proceeds will go directly to Wesley’s programs for autism.

The Wesley Spectrum is an organization that has reached over 5800 families and children with their services. With three locations in the Pittsburgh area, Wesley Spectrum offers several onsite and outpatient programs. Many of these programs are set to target both children and teens and some, such as their Wonderland’s social skills program, have a curriculum that continues to develop and adapt to their needs as the children get older. Some of the programs benefiting from “Every Cookie Counts” are Healthy Relationships, Behavioral Health and Rehabilitation Services, and Creative Arts.

The Healthy Relationships program is set to target transition-age youth that are starting to enter more serious friendships and relationships. It helps the students develop skills for more adult interactions, such as helping students with relationship and dating skills. It shows them different ways to handle situations like going out for a cup of coffee. Beyond just teaching them simple skills, Healthy Relationships also teaches them what a healthy relationship looks like.

Creative Arts is another program that will receive funding from the “Every Cookie Counts” fundraiser. This program is open to anyone with behavioral health issues. It allows participants to express themselves through various forms of art such as dancing, signing, drawing, and playing instruments. Out of this group, some participants have formed rock bands that have performed at churches, local bars, and even Panera restaurants.

Wesley Spectrum does not just limit its work to children impacted by autism. It also makes an effort to reach out to parents. “We work with parents so they can take over when Wesley Spectrum isn’t there,” director of Public Policy and Strategy, Michelle Shanes explained in an interview with The Tartan. “We hope to decrease stigma and increase community awareness for autism.” She explained that early diagnosis and education is important in the success rate of their programs.

Testament to their needs as the children grow older. Some of the programs start with children at a young age, and follow them as they grow older. Wesley Spectrum will also be using the funds from “Every Cookie Counts” to acquire new equipment for sensory rooms. “These rooms are designed to help those that are sensitive to surroundings.”

Shanes explained. The space is usually a large room with big maps, low-lighting, and lighter shades of colors. There are also water bubble machines and other things that make the room a calm environment for soft talking and soothing conversations.

With programs and services that are constantly expanding to reach more and more families, Wesley Spectrum is always looking for new members and additional resources to help their cause. “We have a wide variety of services and positions both on and online for anyone looking to get involved,” director of Public Policy and Strategic, Michelle Shanes explained. “Whether it’s interacting with families and children or doing administrative work, there’s always something to do.”

Wesley Spectrum provides a large number of services to children and families in Pittsburgh, ranging from help with autism and behavioral health to education and support for families who live been impacted by autism. More information about “Every Cookie Count” and Wesley Spectrum can be found at wesleyspectrum.org.

Sasha Wahl Collier

VILEM MEDWIN
Producer

Proven Turnaround Joha

n recently announced the Task Force on the CMI Experience’s newest mission: the UPLift Challenge. This challenge, which promotes the importance of university-placemaking at Carnegie Melon, allows students and faculty members to submit ideas to temporarily enhance campus infrastructure to create a more supportive and engaging environment.

According to the Project for Public Spaces, placemaking is a collaborative process by community members, which “inspires people to collectively re-imagine and renovate public spaces as the homes of every community,” while also strengthening the connection between people and the places they share. “Placemaking facil

itates creative patterns of use, pairing particular attention to the physical, cultural, and social identities that define a place and support its ongoing evolution.”

Carnegie Mellon University will fund up to $20,000 for each, placemaking project, which will be selected and executed by a faculty-staff committee. Since this is a pi

lot challenge, submitted proj

ects are meant to experiment with different ways community members can temporarily enhance Carnegie Mellon’s physical environment and influence our campus culture for up to one year.

“Fosters are all about learn

ing,” through Perry, a member of the Campus Infrastructure working group of the Task Force on the CMI Experience who has been helping to lead the UPLift Challenge initiative, said. “We are actively looking for unproven, unusual ideas that we can try for a while. Through these temporary interventions, we can gain invaluable insight into what can make our experience and our campus better, in both the short and long-term.”

See UPLIFT CHALLENGE, A3

The Tartan is Carnegie Mellon’s student newspaper since 1906.

Chris aunt Avin

New UPLift Challenge will influence campus culture with enhanced infrastructure
CMU UNICEF empowers individuals to help children

Based on data compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, roughly 14 percent of architects are female and it appears that this gender discrepancy is still an issue.

Lecture focuses on accomplished architect at Carnegie Mellon University

Two student starts earn investments in the McGinnis venture competition

In Carnegie Mellon’s 2017 McGinnis Venture Competition, startup Rosalyn and Inventory Connection secured top winnings.

The McGinnis Venture Competition is the culmination of the entrepreneurship training we provide students at Carnegie Mel- lon,” said Dave Mawhinney, executive director of the Swartz Center for Entrepreneur- ship, in a press release. “The McGinnis Venture Competition is an opportunity to bring it all together and showcase their compa- nies’ potential to real-world investors.”

From the competition, Rosalyn earned a $25,000 investment for getting first place in the graduate stu- dent sector. Rosalyn was founded by business administra- tion master’s students in the School of Business at Carnegie Mellon.

Rosalyn’s team makes reusable indoor vertical farm using automated robot- ics and software analytics to impact the food system.

Rosalyn has been very fortuitous for the opportu- nity to plug into Carnegie Mellon and the Tepper School’s entrepreneurial ecosystem,” Wolsle said. “I have been able to lean on my education at the Tepper School with the growth and progress of Rosalyn, allowing for immediate ap- plication of my learning in an experiential, learning setting."

The company Inventory Connection, which was founded by senior electrical and comp sci engg. and engineering and public policy major Keroshi Mi- kawara, was the undergraduate competition. Inventory Connection gives sales rep- resentatives real-time inven- tory and price data as a way to stock shelves better. They secured $4,000 from the competition.

Roslyn and Inventory Connection are the Cabinet Prize Winners of 2017.

Campus Crime & Incident Reports

Criminal Trespass/ Carrying a False Identification Card

Criminal Mischief/Theft

A student was walking in the Library when they were approached by a person asking for money. The student was attempting to get away when the individual hit the student with a back and kicked them. The student was not injured.

A vending machine in Doherty House was reportedly damaged. An AVI Pooling System, Inc. employee stated that an unknown person removed the glass from the vending machine and walked away with an unsecured item from inside. An investigation is ongoing.

A Carnegie Mellon staff member turned over a found wallet containing a fake identification card to University Police. The owner of the wallet, a Carnegie Mellon student, was issued a citation for possession of a fake identification card.

Assist Outside Agency/ Disorderly Conduct

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Task Force on the CMU Experience moves forward with projects

**UP UPTIME CHALLENGE**

According to the challenge’s website, proposals can seek to create branded new interior spaces, can plan to renovate gathering spaces or shared “nooks,” or can be as simple as creating more comfortable benches. We are looking for any kind of conversion or re-imagining of campus places that can be executed for free or less than $5,000.

“In addition to UPFunk, our group is really excited about the renovation of several ‘nooks’ on campus,” Mar- dia Lavent, co-chair of the Campus Infrastructure working group of the Task Force on the CMU Experience, said. “The ‘Nook’ Project is an ef- fort to convert shared, small public spaces where students gather together to learn and collaborate. Its goal is to keep the community connected and engaged while we learn, play, and ‘build’ building seating, lighting, white boards and outlets, we can transform an empty corner into a learning environment for students,” Lavent said. This event, the first two “nook” spaces to be upgraded will be in the first floor of the William Hall.

According to the “Nook” Project, the UPFunk challenge is just another way the Task Force has embraced the idea that “small, creative place-making projects can make a big difference,” Jahanian said in his email.

When asked about how he hopes the UPFunk challenge will benefit the Carnegie Mellon- lon community, Byrnes noted that he hopes it will remind us that “our campus environment is not just a backdrop, but a shared playground, workspace and home that can meaningfully influence our community and culture” while also fitting into the Task Force’s ultimate goal of reinforcing health and wellness, school pride, and the open exchange of ideas as core community values.

Kristen Kaufland, co-chair of the Campus Infrastructure working group of the Task Force on the CMU Experience adds that “more than any other result, this is an existing conversation starter. Even if an idea’s not executed, having a conversation from community about what they see is miss- ing from campus will help to reveal possible problems and suggest relation.”

The Task Force for the CMU Experience will continue to move forward with other infrastructure projects such as building the Topper Quadrangle and creating a new health and wellness center. They are also currently working on projects to renovate classroom, residence academic, and athletic facility.

Applications for ideas may be submitted by April 28 at http://www.cmuelections.cmu.edu/leadership/CMU-experience-taskforce/application-form.html.

**picoCTF competition promotes computer security awareness**

**EVANGELINE LUI**

For the third time, students all over the nation have the chance to compete for prizes at the annual computer security competition known as picoCTF, run by CybSafe, the security and pri- vacy initiative of software mogul Sam- le. The online competition is open to anyone, everywhere, but only middle and high school students in the U.S. are eligible for cash prizes, which totaled over $30,000 this year thanks to corporate sponsors of the event.

CTF stands for ‘Capture The Flag’ and the virtual game has previously drawn almost 30,000 participants. The major theme of picoCTF is computer security. Par- ticipants must solve a set of challenges surrounding a story line over a period of two weeks as the challenges get harder the further you go in the competition. In essence, the competition, according to a university press release, teaches students the basics of hacking.

The challenges involve various computer-security related skills, such as reverse-engineering, hacking, and low-level programming.

Even though the competition has already started, students can still register any day until the end of the event on April 14.

The goal of the competition is not only to have fun, but also to promote awareness of computer security as a potential career field. Currently, there is a shortage of computer security experts, and one of picoCTF’s main goals is to make up for this shortfall, according to David Brumley, the electrical and computer engineering pro- fessor who also serves as the project leader of picoCTF and the director of CMU’s DEFCON. “The root of the problem is that computer security is a field that gets into a bit of a bad name. There’s a lack of awareness in how to promote it and that computer security is a field that can grow into arecurse computer-security skills are needed to do real-world hacking,” according to Brumley, the competition helps build the critical think- ing skills necessary for thinking and performing at a high level in challenges related to computer security.

Carnegie Mellon has op- ened up a computer- science course so that other students can compete in the competition, which can introduce new students to computer security. Many high schools around the country are now taking part in the competition, according to David Brumley, the electrical and computer engineering pro- fessor who also serves as the project leader of picoCTF and the director of CMU’s DEFCON. “The root of the problem is that computer security is a field that gets into a bit of a bad name. There’s a lack of awareness in how to promote it and that computer security is a field that can grow into a

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Trump’s Syrian decision needed further deliberation

On Thursday, April 6, President Donald Trump ordered the launch of 59 Tomahawk missiles, which struck Al Shayrat airfield in Syria and resulted in the deaths of 15 people. Many other countries in the region quickly condemned the attacks, and the United Nations Security Council met to discuss the situation.

According to Trump, the decision to launch the missiles was a direct response to the brutal chemical attack that killed dozens of people — many of them children — in the Idlib province in northwestern Syria on April 4. He cited a “total to national security” threat as the United States “pro- vention and deter the spread and use of deadly chemical weapons,” an explanation for his action. — sympathies that many American states and nations want to see.

But Trump, who was resolutely against taking action against Syria until this decision, acted quickly and without the approval of Congress. For all we know, he acted without any serious plans for its near-near move all at once.

Furthermore, he may have in stalled over the past, or threatened with the US, build up a core of support and account for any consequences he might face.

Conversely, it is true that Congress was not involved in the decision to launch the missiles. Trump ordered the attack after only two days of deliberation with his own security advisors — and some messages reportedly went out, not at the White House, but to his Mar-a- lago estate in Florida.

Whether the strike was legal in the United States or not in the eyes of the affairs in the debate over the strike, it seems that the actions of former presidents have been used to frame the debate as a misuse of presidential powers or a lack of accountability.

The strike, which also involves the actions of other countries, has been a major test case in international law and diplomacy. The President’s actions have been praised and condemned by many different nations.

It is true that the strike was carried out early in the morning, but it is unclear if this was due to concerns about the use of chemical weapons, or for other reasons.

In conclusion, it is clear that the strike was a major test case in international law and diplomacy. However, it is also clear that the decision was not made after careful deliberation.

Dr. Ian Tanaya, General Editor
Assistant Pillbox Editor

Sinead Foley
Editorial Board

The death toll of the attacks vary from account, but most likely falls somewhere between 50 and 100. Many people are killed in the attack and injuries to many others are reported. Both the Syrian government and Iran are denying involvement in the attack, but the United States insists that Syria was behind the attack and Iran was “complicit.”

Trump’s decision to attack the site may be an important first step in the effort to put an end to the genocide, violence against civilians, and the use of chemical weapons.

It is important to note that there is no reason to doubt whether he even considered such an impact before moving forward with the attack.

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Generalizing that all white people are racist is reductive, harmful and goes against the laws of nature. We must teach them to be decent human beings, respect others and do all that we can to fight racism. This is not an easy task, but we can't afford to lose.

In my opinion, differential treatment regardless of the atrocities of some groups to race,” Ruth Scherr states. “We’ve imprisoned, we’ve imprisoned, we’ve imprisoned. We must teach them to be decent human beings, respect others and do all that we can to fight racism. This is not an easy task, but we can’t afford to lose.

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Carnegie Mellon develops new carbon dioxide emission index

Carnegie Mellon has collaborated with Mitsubishi Hitachi Power Systems to design and create a new index to evaluate the carbon emission levels of US energy companies. The Carnegie Mellon Power Sector Carbon Index was released at the Power Systems Conference in March 2017. The release of the index was intended to contribute to this year’s Energy Week discussions, as its contents were of great interest to the hundreds of energy scientists and power industry leaders and innovators in attendance at Energy Week.

The index contains data on the carbon footprints of various electric companies in the United States. It compares the footprint data of each company to each other in addition to emissions data from past years. It also includes an online component, which includes supplemental data and projections for future emission and carbon footprint trends. According to the university, “the index will provide policymakers, regulators, utilities, industry analysts, and the public with a source of objective information on overall emissions across the United States electric power grid.”

The data presented in the index is important information to have as the United States slowly heads toward building a future with more reliable and sustainable power sources — the index will help determine whether any progress is being made. And, if progress is being made, the index will help determine how significant such progress is.

Paul Browning, a Mitsubishi executive and Carnegie Mellon graduate, states that “As the power sector continues to evolve, the Carnegie Mellon Power Sector Carbon Index will provide useful insights into progress the power sector is making to safeguard the environment while meeting the nation’s energy demand.”

The Carnegie Mellon Power Sector Carbon Index can be viewed at emissionsindex.org.

Genetic risk for second cancer in pediatric patients

Scientists now believe there is a genetic component to account for the higher risk of childhood cancer survivors getting a second cancer later in life. When researchers examined data from 3,000 childhood cancer survivors, they found that 31.5 percent of them carry genetic mutations in at least one of the 156 genes the researchers looked at.

On April 3, the researchers presented their findings at a meeting for the American Association of Cancer Research. Of the mutants they examined, a third had childhood leukemia, by age 45-20 percent had developed new tumors on the skin, bones, or thyroid. Some were due to effects of chemotherapy or radiation therapy. Of the 156 genes examined, there exists a subset of 60 genes in which a single mutation is highly likely to lead to cancer. 6 percent of the survivors had mutations in these 60 genes.

Genetic counseling is now advised if a second cancer develops for these patients. “This is a nice first step,” says David Malkin, a pediatric oncologist at the University of Toronto. “The results validate the thoughts of those of us who believe there is a genetic risk that increases the risk of second malignancies.”

Pesticides found in Iowa tap water

Pesticides have long been controversial. For the first time, traces of neonicotinoids in the form of environmental chemicals have been discovered in tap water in Iowa, in a study published in the Journal of Environmental Science & Technology Letters. Despite treatment, the level of chemicals was discovered to remain constant. With various types of filtration, it was discovered that 0.24 to 57.3 nanograms of individual neonicotinoids per liter remained. While it is currently unknown whether the chemicals will have harmful effects relating to human health, the uncertainty that goes along with chemical treatment is what makes this discovery a large setback for pesticide use.

Neonicotinoids were originally used as a seed coating for crops, harmful to seniors but not other species. “Based on some of the literature that has been published, the neonicotinoids have the potential to be removed in the filtration processes and that is the group that confers the selectivity to insects,” said lead author Kathryn Blanchard from the University of Iowa.

Source: BBC

Atmosphere is detected around planet

An astronomy team at Keele University in England has recently discovered an atmosphere surrounding an Earth-like planet. The planet is called GJ 1132b, residing in the southern constellation Ophiuchus. Dr. John Southworth, who led the team, said, “While this is not the detection of life on another planet, it’s an important step in the right direction: the detection of an atmosphere around the so-called Earth twin GJ 1132b marks the first time that an atmosphere has been detected around an Earth-like planet other than Earth itself.”

The team consisted of researchers from Keele University, the Max Planck Institute for Astronomy (MPIA, Germany), and the University of Cambridge. To take images of the planet and its host star, GJ 1132, the team used a GESOS imager telescope at the 2.2 m ESO/MPG in Chile. The researchers examined the planet at seven wavelengths, detecting 0.24 to 57.3 nanograms of individual neonicotinoids per liter remaining. While it is currently unknown whether the chemicals will have harmful effects relating to human health, the uncertainty that goes along with chemical treatment is what makes this discovery a large setback for pesticide use.

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Source: BBC

Source: ScienceDaily

The sun rises over planet Earth and our protective atmosphere blocks dangerous sun rays to keep us safe.

SCIENCE BRIEFS

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SCIENCE BRIEFS
Use of foveal descriptors help improve facial recognition

JOSH INDAH
Assistant Section Editor

Dev Ramanan, an associate professor of computer Carnegie Mellon, and Peiyun Hu, a Ph.D. robotics student, recently developed an improved method for detecting multiple faces in a crowd. The fear of distinguishing small objects is one challenge in computer vision, which is why Ramanan and Hu’s achievement is so crucial.

The method they developed uses “foveal descriptors.” Just as the human brain causes the eye to focus on an object and blur the peripheral vision, so does this method, which allows a computer to process specific pixels in search of facial features.

The team also developed specific detectors for different sized faces. For example, a detector was made to find faces a few pixels across, while another focused on faces with much higher resolution.

Improved computer vision has many benefits. Self-driving cars need exceptional vision to avoid accidents, and at high speeds the images they process may be slightly blurred. Agencies like the Federal Bureau of Investigation could use improved face detection to better identify suspects, even if the only images available are from a grubby closed-circuit television feed. Ramanan and Hu’s developments may offer a solution.

Computer vision is arguably one of the fastest growing fields in computer science. Today, phones like the iPhone use facial and iris detection to restrict access. If someone is using an Accessory camera head-on. Ramanan and Hu’s complete publication, titled “Finding Tiny Faces,” is available online.

An epileptic seizure is caused when there is abnormal and excessive amounts of brain activity. The seizure is basically a sudden burst brain activity from a collection of brain cells, which creates a very high-energy waves that afflicts the brain and the immediate surrounding tissue. The effects of an epileptic attack are varied. While some can be mild or controlled, others can manifest themselves as uncontrollable jerking movements, convulsion pain, extreme alteration, and momentary loss of awareness.

Proneness to seizures may result from a variety brain disorders or diseases that increase the probability of being a seizure (epileptic), but can also be a product of drug use, brain trauma, very high body temperature, low blood sugar, and low body oxygen levels. According to the Carnegie Mellon University press release, the team of epilepsy often reduces the impact of their seizures or suppress them by taking medication, avoidance triggers, and adhering to a specified diet. Other practices, some patients whose seizures are hard to control or be overcome exceedingly difficult can handle only surgery to have certain portions of their cortex removed or have neurostimulators implanted. These procedures occurs, though often benefit those whose seizures are very difficult to control.

Peiyun Hu, a Ph.D. robotics student at Carnegie Mellon, and Reza Alam, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at Carnegie Mellon University, have recently published a paper in the Journal of the Royal Society Interface. The paper explores an alternative method to suppress seizures in a non-invasive way. The method uses a phased array of ultrasound transducers. This would create multiple, which disrupt the spread of the brain waves that cause the seizures by making them lose energy. The team expects to test this procedure by having patients wear a headset that would launch a random pattern of ultrasound waves that propagate across the brain surface, then, one can ideally attempt to disrupt this spread by locally modulating nerves, hypothesizing using a phased array of ultrasound transducers. This would create several nodes, which disrupt the spread of the brain waves that cause the seizures by making them lose energy. The team expects to test this procedure by having patients wear a head device in the form of a cap or a hood that would launch a random pattern of ultrasound waves that when a seizure onset was detected, a method that is especially significant because it is non-invasive and non-invasive response to a seizure.

CMU scientists looking for safer seizure suppression

Thursday, April 13, 2017
4:30 p.m., Mellon Institute Auditorium

Dystonia (tht, fits, trembling, stiffening) is an involuntary movement disorder that affects the brain and the nervous system. Dystonia can also be a product of drug use, brain trauma, very high body temperature, low blood sugar, and low body oxygen levels. According to the Carnegie Mellon University press release, the team of epilepsy often reduces the impact of their seizures or suppress them by taking medication, avoidance triggers, and adhering to a specified diet. Other practices, some patients whose seizures are hard to control or be overcome exceedingly difficult can handle only surgery to have certain portions of their cortex removed or have neurostimulators implanted. These procedures occurs, though often benefit those whose seizures are very difficult to control.

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In the 400 hundred years since Galileo, the physics community has constructed a remarkably successful mathematical description of physical laws. From deep inside the attic of the structure of the universe on the largest scales, from the air flows over the wing of an airplane to the laws of electricity in a computer chip, we can understand in detail what we see, and predict what will happen in places we have never looked before. What are the underlying theoretical-principles that underpin the physical-theoretical-principles of the world? By understanding how the universe is fundamentally unpredictable about life, or are we missing some deep principles to bring the living world under the reductive umbrella of physics? Finally, how should we understand that what we expect from our scientific theories, and on many beautiful principles, and to leave you with a deeper appreciation for the precision of life’s forms, and with optimism about the prospects for better theories.

Supported by the Carnegie Mellon Department of Physics. The lecture is funded under the auspices of the David M. Levy Program in Physics, the William E. Collier Jr. Professorial Chair in Physics, the Mildred Dresselhaus Chair in Physics, the Visualizing President’s Underwriting, and the William E. Collier Jr. Professorial Chair in Physics.

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Today’s lead under the supervision of Anne Wood.

April 10, 2017 • The Tartan
thetartan.org/scitech • A7

A7
When our energy production is put into perspective, energy harvesting is a gross overstatement. For instance, the sun delivers to the earth, by far, the direct form of solar light, or indirectly by burning fossil fuels or harnessing wind energy.

The result of his musings, the Kardashev scale is, at its simplest, an attempt to classify these civilizations in terms of intellectual and technological advancements. There are three categories of this scale. The first category, and most primitive one, is a Type I civilization. An example of this is when all the energy delivered by the sun is harnessed by the civilization. That's what our civilization has been doing.

The next type is the Type II civilization. A Type II civilization uses very tiny plots of the surface and transmits all central energy to the civilization. It would be hard to find such a civilization since its star's light would be blocked by the sphere, limited the survival of life on the planet. The best and most advanced civilization is a Type III civilization, which harvests the energy of its entire galaxy. To understand how astonishing this is, realize that there are about a hundred billion stars in our Milky Way, all producing as much as or more energy than our sun.

Type I and III civilizations would be far more advanced than us, as we could only imagine. It took only 200 years for us to go from coal to electricity, to 2,000 years to turn carriages to supersonic jets and autonomous vehicles.

The most likely way this can be achieved is with a Dyson sphere, a hollow sphere that encompasses the host star's surface and transmits all central energy to the civilization. It will be hard to find such a civilization since its star's light would be blocked by the sphere, the sun would outstrip our technology achieving things we have only dreamed of.

It would outstrip our technological development in underprivileged communities. More powerful INFORMATION methods will be engineered, and humans will become a space-dwelling species. Powerful computers that can support artificial intelligence will be made. The possibilities are endless.

Perhaps, being a Type II or III civilization in our future — that is, if the innovation turns out well. We'll have to get by with our limited fossil fuels, hydroelectric dams, and solar panels.
SPORTS BRIEFS

Julianne Igbokwe finished her season's best distance of 33.48 meters, while first-year Hunter Barriero was fourth in the discus with a mark of 35.97 meters. Sophomore Isaac Mills ran a season-best time in the 1,000-meter run with a mark of 2:32.13 and placed third in the discus with a season-best throw of 160 (83–77). Senior Owen Norley claimed three wins on the weekend. First-year Joanna Baranowski earned a second-place finish in the 800-meter run in 2:24.41. Following Penn in the 5,000-meter run was first-year Rachel Reolfi in third place at 16:44.20. First-year Amanda Barraclough earned a second-place finish in the 400-meter hurdles with a career-best time of 1:01.69. The Tartans will next compete at the Westminster Invitational on April 15–16.
Women's Tennis overcomes foes to earn thirteenth win

NATASHA YANG
Assistant Sports Editor

The Tartan
April 12, 2017

Junior Cori Soll led the Tartans against Mary Washington on April 8 to their thirteenth victory.

Sophomore Daniel Levine at number one singles, won his seventh straight match against the Eagles on April 15.

TARTAN
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Sports

The NBA season draws to a close on Wednesday, and even with no few games left, questions remain about the postseason picture. That said, the end of a grinding 82-game basketball season leaves very little left to learn in the final few games besides playoff seeding.

While that seeding will determine home court advantage and can certainly swing games, the large number of possessions in a basketball game and the best-of-seven format in the playoffs means that the best team usually sees the Larry O'Brien trophy come June.

This article will explore the top two teams in each conference's reasons to believe and potential weaknesses going into the playoffs. It will also pick out two teams that could potentially play spoiler or surprise people with deep playoff runs.

Gold State Warriors

Reasons to believe: The Warriors have claimed the league's best record in three consecutive seasons. This season, the team has been particularly devastating at home. The Warriors had already won their first 51 games at home before they faced the forward Khris Middleton on March 24. The regular season was record in back-to-back games, and they scored 113 points in 11 of those games. They have been on a roll since they added the All-Star, playing in a potent lineup.

Potential weaknesses: The Warriors' Achille's heel is their health. They have an average team by rebounding, but are not the weakest rebounding team by far. Only three of the nine teams ahead of them will have home court advantage in the first round of the playoffs, but only five will make the playoffs at all. The weakness I see here is their team chemistry for turning the ball over. Golden State was the eighth team to start at protecting the pumpkin this season, as they turned to their defense to turn it back in. It is a concern for them, but it is also the game that the team has turned to due to the salary dumping necessary after acquiring DeMarcus Cousins. This will be a huge area of concern for them in the playoffs.

Cleveland Cavaliers

Reasons to believe: The Cavaliers have one of the best offensive units in the league. Forward LeBron James has been to the All-Star since the third year of the past six seasons on two different teams. Thrice, he has used up another point in the list of the most valuable player stock, but his knock on passing vision and athleticism has been improved. In the first of the two seasons, the team has faced an opponent on the court. Keep the ball flying around the floor, find open degrees of the floor, and precisely being a nightmare for opposing defenses. The Cavaliers' offense is a well-oiled machine. Every position is strategic. The ball movement is their best way to put up points, but in crunch time, it would be much harder to have a fullback option. That could cause them headaches in the playoffs that they could soon find themselves burdened by this clinch.

Potential weaknesses: The Cavaliers have a defensively strong unit with three All-Stars. It's a unit that can put up 100 points per 100 possessions and has only given up 98.9 percent of their points in the last three seasons.

Iann Tannah Abbey
Sports Editor

The seventh-ranked Carnegie Mellon men’s tennis team hosted Wabash College on Saturday, April 8 and earned a 5-4 victory against strong single players. The Tartans moved to 17-4 on the year while the Eagles dropped to 16-4.

The Tartans earned their first point of the contest in third doubles when seniors Jamie Vizelman and Alex Moore dropped their doubles competition 6-3 to give the Tartans the early lead. The Tartans trailed the Eagles 2-0 in the first set but pulled them even with a 6-2, 6-5 win at sixth singles.

Scores went back-and-forth through the rest of the match. Sophomore Jadd Soll didn’t drop his second singles match while senior Michael Rozenvasser defeated Wabash’s feelings on the floor.

The final point was won by the doubles team of Nicholas Trenchi and Mike Barto at first singles when the Bishop fell at Keno Bregg, 6-4, 6-2.

After a Sunday match with Johns Hopkins University, the Tartans will face another strong opponent Monday when the New York University Violets come down from a set to win 6-3, 6-3, 2-6 at second singles.

Honors student Troy Ayres earned two valuable trophies to win the fifth and final awards ceremony. Troy Ayres dropped his singles by the score of 6-3, 6-3, 0-6 in Saturday's third singles before winning the fourth singles match 6-4, 6-3 at first singles.

Women's Tennis

Sophomore Daniel Levine’s victory in first singles marked the first point and beginning of the Tartans’ second straight win.

Tartan senior Nicholle Torres won 6-3, 6-2 at fourth singles, Vizelman completed the sweep at second singles and Levine hoisted the Larry O’Brien trophy at first.

The Tartans then won singles matches one through five, 6-4, 6-3 and 6-2, which is their second straight win against Wabash.

The Eagles fell 3-2 after dropping all 13 matches in eight matches at second on the year.

Women's Tennis overcomes foes to earn thirteenth win

Reasons to believe: The team has been deep with talent and is back to back seasons before winning the University of Mary Washington Invitational.

Potential weaknesses: The team rallied against 17th-ranked University of Mary Washington in three matches, the large number of possessions in a basketball game and the best-of-seven format in the playoffs means that the best team usually sees the Larry O'Brien trophy come June.

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Spark the Movement

Never Built CMU

Mattress Factory

Advice for Awkward People: On marriage and talking to relatives

Bar Buddies: Le Mardi Gras

Collaborators

International Film Festival: The Age of Consequences

Puzzles: Your weekly mental warmup

Comics: Teamwork, tolerance, and troubleshooting

Horoscopes: The signs as literary quotes
Advice for Awkward People

On marriage and talking to relatives

Dear Ruth,

Coming in to Carnegie Mellon, I was convinced that medicine was my destiny. It was the perfect path for me considering my love for helping people, cutting things up, and having a viable career. The plan was to be financially independent by my mid-twenties, and to be on the cover of all the cardiologist magazines by the age of 35. But alas, I took on the premed classes and found myself grasping at straws. I struggled to find value beyond the prospects of the future, and thus diverted myself to an alternative path: one of free expression, and independence.

Now, my goal is to take some time to find myself after I graduate, with a more indefinite career path, something that I would expect my relatives to be weary of, right? WRONG.

I went home to visit family a couple weeks ago, and found myself nervously explaining my situation to a relative of mine. I was prepared to defend myself with explanations of my hopes and dreams, and was instead met by a completely different monster: a sigh of relief. “Oh wonderful! We were worried sick. Now you have the flexibility to get married before you’re 27.”

How is one expected to respond to THAT? Do I want to get married? I have no idea right now. Do I think I’ll be financially stable by the age of 27? There’s really no way of knowing. I feel sick to my stomach. Right now, it seems like the only magazine I’ll be on the cover of is Cosmo, as some sort of trophy wife. How do I tell my family that I don’t really want to think about marriage?

Please help,

Super Into Not Getting Literally Engaged

Dear SINGLE,

When I started reading your question, I was honestly expecting the quandary to be “how do I explain to my relatives that I don’t want to go to med school without them trying to push me toward being the typical hyper-successful perfect child.” I’m actually a little blindsided that the problem is your family is okay with your “career” change.

Well. That’s not really the problem, though. Because it’s actually pretty great that your relatives are cool with your new plan to take time and find yourself — the problem is that they’re trying to tell you what you should do with that time. Specifically, that you should get married. If it had been anything else, like “Now you have the flexibility to publish a book,” or “climb a mountain,” or even “sit on your parents’ couch for five years,” it’d still be frustrating — anyone telling you what you should or shouldn’t do with your life always is — but the expectation that marriage is what should be in your plan has an extra added bonus of sexism to make it even worse. The fact that women are STILL fighting the expectation that their ultimate goal should be marriage frustrates me too no end.

I fully recognize that there are some people (yes, including women) out there who actively want to be married. They’ve wanted it for as long as they can remember, and having a fulfilling marriage is what they want from their life. There’s absolutely nothing wrong with that — it’s just not what you want.

So how do you tell your family, aka people you can’t avoid, that marriage isn’t what you’re aiming for and that it frustrates you when they presume that it is and should be? Well, this is going to be annoyingly simple: you either tell them or you don’t. Unless you have some special undisclosed circumstances, they can’t force you to marry. It’s possible they’ll figure it out eventually even if you don’t explain.

I think you should try telling them, though. It may take a couple tries, but you’re an adult, you can explain your reasoning and thoughts. You’ll probably have to do it a couple of times — and there’s definitely a point where you should give it up as a hopeless case and just talk about the weather — but if it keeps coming up then that’s the way to handle it. It doesn’t have to be a 10 minute treatise with citations and evidence, just a comment. Think “Oh, I’m not really interested in marriage right now and I think it’s a better use of my time to make plans for things I actually want.”

Best of luck,

Ruth

Bar Buddies: Le Mardi Gras

Old school and dimly lit, with drinks strong enough to hold you down

This week, we decided to move back closer to campus. We ended up at Le Mardi Gras just off Walnut St.

The location: Just off Walnut is a nice place for a bar since there are multiple places on Walnut open until 2 a.m. Post-bar grub is a huge benefit and Stack’d, The Yard, and Steel Cactus will keep you fed well into the night.

Walnut, as we’ve mentioned before, is also pretty easy to get to. The 75 and 71B and D will get you there from Oakland and Shadyside, while the 64 will bring you from Squirrel Hill, and it’s a doable walk from campus.

The drinks: I ordered a whiskey sour and Ariel ordered a ... margarita? Not only did Ariel order a margarita at a smoke-filled dive bar, but it was the most gourmet margarita in human history, coming with fresh-squeezed lime juice. They have a pretty extensive list of drinks they make, so no matter what your drink of choice is, you will probably find it here. The fact that they will squeeze the juice at the bar is an added bonus.

The drinks were good and were also really strong. I’m not kidding about that, be careful and go slowly when drinking here. They weren’t cheap, clocking in around the cost of most well drinks at nearby bars. This being Walnut St., that is quite expensive, but there aren’t many better options nearby for cost effectiveness. A quick heads-up; you’re going to want to stop by the ATM a block away, since this bar is cash-only.

The vibe: Le Mardi Gras is a true dive bar. I’m fairly certain the only lights are the televisions and a neon sign detailing happy hour deals. Other than that, the bar is really dark. The dark hides what I assume is a massive cloud of smoke lingering over all of the patrons. Smoking is allowed in this bar, and whether that is a good or bad thing by your count, you will leave smelling heavily of smoke. For days.

The bar can get crowded, and the cozy looking booths that dot one side of the bar were completely full when we went on a Thursday. This makes for some close quarters at the bar, but that’s to be expected when a bar is at capacity.

The bar seems to have an old school theme going, with a juke box in the back with a pretty extensive selection of music and a Pac-Man table near the front. It’s not a place to bring a large group of friends, but it’s a fun night out with a buddy where you can have a couple drinks and the drunken cigarette you might be craving without anyone judging you.

Lit or nah: Le Mardi Gras is quite literally not lit, seeing as there are no lights. On the other hand, strong drinks, Pac-Man, and the setup with booths and the dark make this bar a place you can spend a few hours with a friend or two, which is lit.
Spark the Movement

Visual and performance art ignites new understanding in campus community

With so many different challenges to face in today’s world, we as a community should take the time every now and then to reflect, to let others within and outside our community know that we are here to support and care for one another. Events like Friday’s Spark the Movement Showcase give us that kind of opportunity to reconnect and shine light on pressing issues and topics that are very relevant to us in our current society.

The showcase was a project by fifth-year scholar Rachel Freer, who has always seen art as a powerful way to communicate messages on some of the most sensitive topics of our time. Subjects like mental health, ethnicity, and feminism (just to name a few) were represented in the visual and performance art pieces created by students from all over the university. The hour and a half long event was surely a great way of allowing more voices to be heard in the community, and a way of embracing the diversity on campus.

Before the live performances, visitors were able to view pieces of visual artwork made by students, which focused on topics related to self-identity and gender. The depiction of these concepts in the students’ works were very genuine and honest. For example, one of the pieces was a collection of photos that responded to society’s view of women’s fashion, while another was a self-portrait of a student whose cultural heritage was the focus of the piece. Displaying all the artwork at the very front of the room helped make clear that the primary intention of the event was to create a comfortable and safe space for everyone.

The student performances were equally moving, and certainly left the audience feeling inspired at the end. The first performance, titled “Finding Your Power,” was by Carnegie Mellon’s female a cappella group, Counterpoint, in which they sang two songs that focused on empowering all women and building the confidence to stand up for the equal treatment everyone deserves. The talented group clearly put a lot of emotion and soul into their performance, which helped them successfully get their message across to the audience.

The second performance was a dance piece titled “The Edge of It,” choreographed by Michaelina McGee, a senior political science major at Chatham University, that portrayed the challenges that come with a mental illness like depression. The dancing in this performance was beautiful and provided a very liberating experience for everyone in the room. The purpose of this piece was to raise awareness of mental illness, and to help others better understand the difficult situations people are dealing with but may not be very vocal about. Throughout the event, there were several other inspiring dance and song performances, as well as a few incredible spoken word pieces. The entire show exhibited a different aspect of the culture on campus. Oftentimes, we as students get so busy and overwhelmed by our work that we don’t even notice those around us. The diversity in culture, ethnicity, sexuality, and talent are what really shape the community at Carnegie Mellon. This event helped the audience realize how much more there is to learn about the people campus. If you’re interested in seeing the event, click on the following link to check out a recording of it!

https://livestream.com/cmuTVlive/events/7238772/videos/153642202

List of performances:
1. “Finding Your Power” — Counterpoint
2. “The Edge of It” — Michaelina McGee
3. “Some Assembly Required” — Javier Spivey
4. “Voodoo Bag” — Josh Brown and Amy Lee
5. “Chivalry is Dead” — Angie Wang and Albert Du
6. “I’m Here If You Need Me” — Yiyi Zhao
7. “Parental Advice” and “Baby Don’t Cry” — Jacqueline Puschmann
8. “Start Over Again” — Amy Lee
9. “When Your Feet Don’t Touch the Ground” — Angela Ng and Shreya Desikan
10. “Cherry Wine” — Infra Dance Company
11. “My Skin” — Rob Stephens
12. “We Won’t Live Afraid” — Jordon Bolden
Collaborators

“It’s man versus monster, and the monster always wins.”

Perhaps one of the best ways to spend a Friday night is, surprisingly, in a cold warehouse. Why? For a theatrical performance. Upon entering the Quantum location, strings with dull filament lightbulbs hang overhead and plastic drapes over various walls and over the seating structure. The space feels inherently secret. The set hints to the absurd and surreal nature of the coming play; chairs hang upside down on the wall, picture-less picture frames hang tilted, and another chair floats nearby, looming over the set for someone to sit in and watch.

Quantum Theatre’s Collaborators hones in on a story about artistic freedom, politics, and family. The black comedy tells the story of Russian playwright Mikhail Bulgakov, who is given the ultimatum of writing a celebratory play for Joseph Stalin’s birthday in order to save his own censored play. The story is mostly true sans occasional twists of the surreal as visions of Stalin dance about in Bulgakov’s head — and chase him about with a typewriter with comedic music blasting in the background. Shifting from hilarious to absolutely menacing, the play highlights quirky, sometimes caricature like characters. Truly, the dark humor sucks you right in. At some points, I stopped taking notes for the review because I could not stop laughing. The humor exists both on the grand scale and the tiniest detail. However, the comedy cannot survive in this play’s world forever as the threat of political terrorism and fascism becomes all consuming.

Carnegie Mellon School of Drama’s own Jed Allen Harris was drawn back to Quantum to direct this particularly timely play. After all, with the current threat to the National Endowment of the Arts, Collaborators begins to take form as a terrifying reflection in a present mirror. “How much of your artistic soul will you sell to save your artistic soul?” asks Harris, framing the play in a dilemma that has tormented artists from Stalinist Russia to present day America. Susan Tsu, professor of costume design in the School of Drama, joins Harris in his mission to bring this show to life with costumes rich in texture: leather, fur, and fabric soaked through with blood.

On a campus arguing about Make America Great Again hats on Overheard, censorship and fascism are hot-button topics. If one is looking to venture into Pittsburgh and experience thought-provoking, comedic, and sometimes terrifying art, then Quantum’s Collaborators is a viable nighttime adventure for a curious theatergoer. Student tickets are 18 dollars when called for ahead of time. The play runs until April 30.
The addition of the Tepper Quad is set to completely change the way in which students, faculty, and outsiders perceive and experience Carnegie Mellon’s campus. Already, the construction on Forbes Avenue has transformed the way in which members of the campus community interact with the space. Once it opens, the Tepper Quad will serve as a new entrance to our campus. It will represent us as a university and as a community to all those who visit. However, not all ambitious projects at Carnegie Mellon like the Tepper Quad have been realized. Many visions for the modern landscape of Carnegie Mellon’s campus have been laid out and rendered, but ultimately rejected due to various complications. The idea of a Carnegie Mellon completely different to the eclectic scenery we know and (maybe) love struck us as quite an interesting idea. Pictured are drawings, sketches, and other documentation of Carnegie Mellon building prospects. This is a Carnegie Mellon campus that never was.

Historically, most of the built additions to Carnegie Mellon’s campus have tended to work in agreement with the original campus designed in 1900-1910 by Henry Hornbostel. Despite being built in the last half century or so, the Cohon Center, Purnell Center, Posner Hall, West Wing House, Resnik House, Newell-Simon Hall, The Collaborative Innovation Center, and the additions to Doherty Hall are all designed to fit in with the university’s original 1910 yellow brick aesthetic. Despite the cutting edge nature of much of Carnegie Mellon’s work and the modernity of our campus community, the architecture of our campus is largely tailored to match a style that is more than a century old.

Just a few years ago, the addition of the Gates Hillman Complex had a huge impact on the way that members of the community and visitors perceive Carnegie Mellon. It completely changed the work environment for all the members of the School of Computer Science and several others who now use Gates as a place to study. It has become a hub of campus life, and many, if not most, of us would be hard pressed to imagine Carnegie Mellon without it. However, the Gates Hillman Complex did more than just change the campus dynamic. It also played an invaluable role in bringing the university into the 21st century. It injected a fresh sense of modernity and cutting edge design into an environment populated by largely historical works of architecture.
There are some buildings on our campus that have challenged the yellow brick vernacular. The Gates Hillman Complex, Scott Hall, Hunt Library, Wean Hall, Donner House, and Scaife Hall somehow managed to escape the steady encroachment of yellow brick and stand out as examples of the architecture of their time. These buildings represent a minority of modern design proposals that made it through the selection process and were realised.

It is curious that the unbuilt proposals shown here do not display the same characteristic yellow brick. Rather than blend in with the historic style, they are each emblematic of their time. Had they been realised, Carnegie Mellon’s campus would have been a very different place indeed.

Fortunately, the architecture of our campus is moving away from historical contextualism towards a more modern style that is more representative of our community and our times. The Gates Hillman Complex and Scott Hall stand out as symbols of the university’s progress and are emblematic of the community’s place in society, professionally and culturally. Despite its use of yellow brick, the Tepper Quad promises to continue this trend by creating spaces that will encourage the confluence of the diverse thoughts and ideas that make our campus and our community so special. If anything, the yellow brick on Tepper symbolizes our university’s connection to its heritage, while creating a new space where we can go boldly into the future.
Mattress Factory: “so it is”

New exhibits, renovations, and updates make room for social justice

In a time of massive political strife and division — not just in the United States, but around the world — the Mattress Factory’s new exhibit, “so it is”, helps to unite the present day with history and to remind people of strength, opposition, and resistance through artistic expression.

Curated by John Carson, former Head of the School of Art at Carnegie Mellon University, “so it is” opened at the Mattress Factory on April 7 at their location on 1414 Monterey Street. The exhibition is based around the works of seven Northern Irish artists whose early works were inspired from “The Troubles” of Northern Ireland, a series of political and religious conflicts between Northern Ireland’s Protestant Unionist population and its Catholic Nationalist population from 1968 to 1998.

In addition to featuring “so it is”, The Mattress Factory also spent months renovating their entire gallery. The gallery now features new permanent exhibits, such as a handrail featuring aluminum troughs of running water, in a collaboration between the Mattress Factory and six artists; Bill Woodrow’s “Ship of Fools: Discovery in Time,” a kitchen “frozen in time” left in a dilapidated state; and a modern interpretation of Leonardo da Vinci’s “Vitruvian Man”.

“so it is” makes the most of its space and embraces its interactivity, incorporating art into each room and using it to engage with others by educating them about the past. Rita Duffy’s “The Souvenir Shop” introduces that concept to visitors as they walk in the gallery, serving not just as a functioning museum shop for the exhibit but also as its own part of the exhibition. Adapted last year in Dublin as a commentary on Irish politics and other social issues, “The Souvenir Shop” is mainly directed towards critiquing United States political issues, and showing how Irish and African American culture is intertwined in their fights for freedom. In “The Souvenir Shop,” Duffy shows “how people revisit time and places of the past for understanding the future.” The mass produce “grocery shop”-like aspect of the exhibit and each individual piece in it showcased the concept of how ideas were products, and how its purchase helped others to engage with modern ideas and social issues. Duffy was also influenced by aspects of Pittsburgh in her exhibit, as shown through the Andy Warhol-inspired Campbell’s soup cans and the bottles of hot sauce inspired by its location in Pittsburgh, and the Mexican War Street Districts.

Ursula Burke’s “The Precariat” also aimed to showcase the harsh reality of resistance of revolution through her mutilated and nearly-faceless busts. Her medium spoke volumes about her piece in general, using black porcelain to reference contemporary politics and the Black Lives Matter campaign. “Embroidery Frieze (The Politicians)” is
a mesmerizing, distorted display of current global politics, educating visitors while also serving as a display of contemporary issues.

As I continued through the rest of the exhibit, I found that each work of art was touched by political empowerment and passion, helping to kindle the drive for social justice in its visitors. Locky Morris’ “Untitled (tyre fire)” used a variety of mediums, including photography, to illuminate its work. While the photo was shot in Derry, Northern Ireland, the work is also reminiscent of Donald Trump’s proposed wall along the Mexican/United States border and its fire serves as a reminder of not only the failure of this wall but as a spark to empower social justice.

Paul Seawright also utilized photography in his installation “They Dropped Like Flakes, They Dropped Like Stars.” Seawright’s works are known for examining the impact of American troop deployment since 9/11 through the nature of conflict. In his latest photographic installation, Seawright “depicts the American city as a contested space that gives form to the fraying edges of American life,” highlighting the issues that American veterans face. Seawright’s use of photography succeeded in displaying the reality of the issue at hand, making the work poignant and the problems of American veterans all the more important.

Willie Doherty’s “No Return,” a video “set in a fictional future where the planet is slowly dying as a consequence of pollution and climate change,” was one of the most interesting additions to the exhibition. Reminiscent of his earlier works, “Ghost Story,” “Buried,” and “Remains,” “No Return” analyzes “the relationship between landscape and memory.” Unlike the other works, “No Return” looks at the present to analyze the future, rather than remembering the past to change the future, and demonstrates an apprehensive fear about the future.

One of the most striking pieces of the exhibit was John Kindness’ “Dionysus.” Unlike the other works, Kindness’ lime fresco was inspired by the unity of Pittsburgh. In the artist’s statement of “Dionysus,” Kindness says “We may not all eat the same things but we all feel hunger. And there I no better way to unite strangers than by getting them to share a meal.” To acquire inspiration for his work he asked local Pittsburghers about what they like to eat, resulting in a lighthearted, vintage-looking, and fun work that brings a joy to people’s faces.

My parents often don’t understand modern art. But what I love about it is that while I may not understand the meaning of a work in greater detail, I know it carries a special meaning to the artist or even to another visitor. Throughout “so it is” I knew that each piece would be special to many people in millions of different ways, and I was so excited to see what that could bring. What made “so it is” even more special was how these seven artists came together to create an exhibit that stimulated the mind, empowered the soul, and reminded us of the past to inspire the future.
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Scott captures the implications of our perceptions of climate change

A lone polar bear floating on a shrinking iceberg. Plumes of smoke billowing from a factory. Hundreds of gas-guzzling SUVs inching forward in traffic. These are all images commonly associated with climate change, but for some people, these warning signs still don’t register. The Age of Consequences, directed by Jared P. Scott and just shown at the tail end of the Carnegie Mellon International Film Festival, approaches climate change from an unusual angle, United States national security, in a bid to convince those who still don’t believe in climate change of how dire the situation has become.

As Scott discussed in a question and answer session following the showing, the idea for the film came after a conversation where Scott learned that his uncle still didn’t fully believe in climate change. Scott thought that by looking at climate change through a lens of conflict and national security, conservatives like his uncle would more easily understand the direct impact of climate change on their lives.

The Age of Consequences’s main message is that climate change is an accelerator to instability — it is not climate change alone that causes conflicts, but unexpected or particularly brutal natural disasters can help exacerbate growingly unstable situations, and these volatile situations can be a threat to the United States’ national security. Scott provides global evidence, like Syria, where a years-long drought drove unemployed young men to urban areas where ISIS easily recruited them; later, ISIS would use precious water as a way to hold communities hostage. He later brings the issue home by discussing Hurricane Katrina and the ensuing violence caused by this storm. He also uses a more unique example, showing how the U.S.’s ability to help with humanitarian situations and lessen the chance of a resulting conflict will be hindered as rising tides threaten Naval Station Norfolk, where many of the missions embark from.

The documentary presents a new, intriguing perspective on climate change and several useful narrative examples, but it quickly becomes repetitive. While Scott divides the film into several chapters (“Instability” and “Conflict” for example), the actual ideas within each section differ very little from each other, making the titles seem arbitrary. The basic idea behind the documentary is certainly interesting, but becomes tedious after it has been rehearsed again and again. Scott claimed in the Q&A that it was his intention to hammer in the message that there are immediate national security effects of climate change, but he pushes the idea a few too many times.

The repetition also rears its head through the overwhelmingly dismal outlook of the film. Images of desperate refugees, rioting civilians, and armed terrorists dominate the documentary, and after a while this catastrophic onslaught grows tiresome. The overdramatic music score makes the depressing images even more ominous. There is a brief glimmer of hope near the end of the film, which encourages action, shows video of wind turbines and wave energy converters, and claims that the technology and money is available and that change simply relies on having the wisdom to act. However, this section is short and while the rest of the film may feel pertinent to the target audience, complex alternative energy technology and vague call-to-actions are not as relatable or effective. A more extended and focused section on what can be done in daily life would have been more successful.

Finally, it is important to consider that such a barrage of imagery — violent riots, terrorist convoys, and refugees sneaking across borders — that mostly involve people of color could prove to be harmful even as the film tries to promote climate change awareness. Terrorism, civil unrest, and illegal immigration are important issues for many members of the target audience, so perhaps by constantly showing those images and associating them with threats to U.S. security, the film may just be reinforcing xenophobia and fervent nationalism. Might The Age of Consequences be increasing support for Trump’s wall while also teaching new audiences about the effect of climate change? It can’t be known for sure, but it does seem possible that the constant negativity matched with images of people of color, as well as the fact that the people interviewed about U.S. national security are almost entirely white, could have unfortunate consequences.

The Age of Consequences has noble intentions, a compelling main topic, and numerous convincing examples to back it up. However, the repetitiveness of the argument and constant deluge of bleak, disastrous imagery cause the documentary to grow redundant and difficult to continue watching.
puzzles

Julie Sanscartier | Comics Editor

sudoku

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sudoku courtesy of www.krazydad.com

maze

maze courtesy of www.krazydad.com

Solutions from April 3

sudoku

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sudoku courtesy of www.krazydad.com
Decline
by xkcd

OUR RELATIONSHIP ENTERED ITS DECLINE AT THIS POINT.

THAT'S WHEN YOU STARTED GRAPHING EVERYTHING.

COINCIDENCE!

Security
by xkcd

A CRYPTO NERD'S IMAGINATION:

HIS LAPTOP'S ENCRYPTED. LET'S BUILD A MILLION-DOLLAR CLUSTER TO CRACK IT.

NO GOOD! IT'S 4096-BIT RSA!

BLAST! OUR EVIL PLAN IS FOILED!

WHAT WOULD ACTUALLY HAPPEN:

HIS LAPTOP'S ENCRYPTED. DRUG HIM AND HIT HIM WITH THIS $5 WRENCH UNTIL HE TELLS US THE PASSWORD.

GOT IT.

xkcd@gmail.com    xkcd.com
horoscopes: Signs as literary quotes

**Aries**
March 21–April 19

"Folks say God crumbles up the old moon into stars."
— Alexander Solzhenitsyn

**Taurus**
April 20–May 20

"The curves of your lips rewrite history."
— Oscar Wilde

**Gemini**
May 21–June 20

"There are more things in heaven and Earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."
— William Shakespeare

**Cancer**
June 21–July 19

"Do I dare disturb the universe?"
— T.S. Eliot

"We cross our bridges as we come to them and burn them behind us, with nothing to show for our progress except a memory of the smell of smoke, and the presumption that once our eyes watered."
— Tom Stoppard

**Leo**
July 20–Aug. 22

"So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past."
— F. Scott Fitzgerald

"We need never be hopeless, because we can never be irreparably broken."
— John Green

**Virgo**
Aug. 23–Sept. 20

"We remember the past, live in the present, and write the future."
— Shaun David Hutchinson

**Libra**
Sept. 21–Oct. 19

"The half-life of love is forever."
— Junot Diaz

**Scorpio**
Oct. 20–Nov. 20

"I want to know you moved and breathed in the same world with me."
— F. Scott Fitzgerald

"I will not say do not weep, for not all tears are an evil."
— J.R.R. Tolkien

**Sagittarius**
Nov. 21–Dec. 20

"We are all Holden Caulfield at fifteen, but when we grow up we want to be Atticus Finch."
— Shaun David Hutchinson

**Capricorn**
Dec. 21–Jan. 19

**Aquarius**
Jan. 20–Feb. 20

**Pisces**
Feb. 21–March 20

Crossword courtesy of FreeDailyCrosswords.com

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<tr>
<td>17. Horse's goal</td>
<td>7. Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Skeptic's scoff</td>
<td>8. Self-generated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Reply</td>
<td>10. Like afterschool activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Hermit</td>
<td>11. Actress Peeples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Noblesst knight of the Round Table</td>
<td>13. Shortened version of actor Stallone's first name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Disney dog</td>
<td>14. Schilling replacement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Artist Mondrian</td>
<td>15. Baseball family name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Mediterranean juniper</td>
<td>16. Like some symmetry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. Wife of Jacob</td>
<td>17. Horse’s goal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. Contour feather</td>
<td>18. Skeptic’s scoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. Inquires</td>
<td>20. Reply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. Highway</td>
<td>24. Can _ now?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. The wolf _ the door</td>
<td>25. Noblesst knight of the Round Table</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. Swagger</td>
<td>29. Disney dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. Baptism, e.g.</td>
<td>32. Artist Mondrian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44. Asia’s mistress</td>
<td>34. Mediterranean juniper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45. New Mexico art colony</td>
<td>35. Wife of Jacob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46. Broden</td>
<td>36. Contour feather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47. Small ornament</td>
<td>37. Nervous neighbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49. Shamus</td>
<td>38. Inquires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50. Valleys</td>
<td>39. Composer Bruckner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52. Pertaining to the brain</td>
<td>40. Highway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56. ___ I can help it!</td>
<td>41. The wolf _ the door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59. ___ no good</td>
<td>42. Swagger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61. Director Wertmüller</td>
<td>43. Baptism, e.g.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62. Large piece</td>
<td>44. Asia’s mistress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63. Support for a broken limb</td>
<td>45. New Mexico art colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64. Mary Kay competitor</td>
<td>46. Broden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65. Last letter of the Greek alphabet</td>
<td>47. Small ornament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66. Excitement</td>
<td>48. ___ I can help it!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67. Actor Auberjonois</td>
<td>49. Govt. security</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Julie Sanscartier | Comics Editor
**Tuesday 04.11.17**

**JSA presents: Matsuri 2017**
3:30–8 p.m.
Cohon University Center
Tickets at: matsuri.cmu-jsa.com

Come celebrate Matsuri with the Japanese Student Association this Tuesday with food, performances, and plentiful decorations and games teeming with Japanese culture. This annual festival will also be incorporating booths from other Japanese student organizations, including cooking, origami, and cosplay. All profits from the event will be going towards a disaster relief fund for the Minato Middle School in Japan. Further donations can be made here: matsuri.cmu-jsa.com/cause.

**Thursday 04.13.17**

**Carnegie Mellon University Jazz Orchestra**
8–11 p.m.
Carnegie Music Hall, Oakland
4400 Forbes Ave
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213
Tickets at: eventbrite.com

The Carnegie Mellon University Jazz Orchestra will be hosting a performance free for faculty and students on April 13. The ensemble includes students from all disciplines, and hosts numerous performances throughout the academic year. Be sure to check them out in the beautiful Carnegie Music Hall, this Thursday.

**Activities Board Presents: Laverne Cox**
7–10 p.m.
Wiegand Gym, Cohon University Center
Tickets at: carnegiemellontickets.universitytickets.com

The Emmy-nominated actress will be coming to Carnegie Mellon this Thursday to speak on issues such as race, class, and gender, specifically through the lens of trans women of color. Cox has been an active advocate for the trans community, both through her political activism, and acting roles, such as in *Orange Is The New Black* as Sophia.

**Saturday 04.15.17**

**Arabic (Khaleeji) Coffee House**
3–5:30 p.m.
CMU Arab Student Organization
5032 Forbes Ave
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15289

ASO’s second annual Arabic coffeehouse will be held this Saturday, and will feature a variety of Middle Eastern snacks such as chai, karak, and other traditional sweets. The event this year will be focused on cuisine of the Arabic Gulf region, or the Khaleej, and offers the opportunity to learn about the region.

**Sunday 04.16.17**

**Tickling Giants | Carnegie Mellon University**
7:30–9:30 p.m.
Porter Hall 100
Tickets at: eventbrite.com

The Roosevelt Institute at Carnegie Mellon, FORGE, and Amnesty International, are hosting a screening of *Tickling Giants* this Sunday. *Tickling Giants* is the story of Bassem Youssef, who becomes the creator of “Al Bernameg”, a satirical show launched in the midst of the Arab Spring. This film brings into question themes such as hypocrisy, political controversy, free speech, media, and religion. Catch the trailer here: bit.ly/2hSoBFMe.

**Classified**

**Highland Park Tennis Club**

The Highland Park Tennis Club is recruiting 4 Tennis Coaches for their summer tennis clinic. Part-time, 12 weeks, Saturdays only: 9:00 am-11:00 am, May 6–July 22. $20/hour. Group lessons. Must have tennis experience (preferably college level as a player or coach but others will be considered). Requirements: child abuse, criminal background, and FBI clearances. Familiarity with USTA teaching. Qualifications: reliable, punctual, strong people skills. Send cover letter, resume, 3 references to Ms. Bey at msbeybey@hotmail.com. All applications must be received by April 14, 2017.
SPIRIT Fashion Show

This year’s annual SPIRIT Fashion Show took on the challenge of creating a safe space for individuals by addressing a theme of resistance. The show explored three different stages in the life of a person: childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. The show was divided into three acts, each specific to one of these stages. Senior civil engineering and engineering and public policy major Pierce Sinclair, who was the overall chair of the show, explained that the show emphasized that “beauty has no standard, be it in shape, skin, color, or orientation.”

The show featured lines from 14 designers, and performances from Infra Dance Company, Chuku of the Wh9le collective, and the SPIRIT Dance Group, each catered toward one of the different stages. The lines within each act also emulated the conceptual features of the stage of life. The act surrounding childhood focused on the concepts of youth and coming into the world as a blank canvas, free to do what one wants. The adolescent act looked at how people begin to adhere to trends, and follow others’ expectations and standards. The adult act was focused on resistance, and how people can find themselves, break away from beauty standards, and speak up for what they believe in.

For more information on this show, and shows to come, check out spiritfashionshow.com.

Apeksha Atal | Pillbox Editor
photos by Aisha Han | Visual Editor