The Army AI Task Force ceremony took place Friday, Feb. 1, 2019, at the National Robotics Engineering Center, the hangar-like, Lawrenceville building that was divided by a stage holding a large screen, showcasing videos of federally-funded Carnegie Mellon University projects.

As the ceremony commenced, Carnegie Mellon's campus and industry partners across the country. Secretary of the Army Mark Esper, and Senator Bob Casey at the activation ceremony on Friday.

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Campus Crime & Incident

Alcohol Amnesty
Jan. 27, 2019
Officers responded to West Wing in response to reports of an intoxicated Carnegie Mellon student. The student was provided medical attention and no citations were issued, due to alcohol amnesty.

Alcohol Amnesty
Jan. 27, 2019
Officers responded to Morewood Gardens to aid an intoxicated University of Pittsburgh student. The student was provided medical attention and no citations were issued, due to alcohol amnesty.

Motor Vehicle Accident
Jan. 27, 2019
Officers observed a motor vehicle accident on Fifth Avenue adjacent from Carnegie Mellon-owned property Residence on Fifth. During this time, a non-affiliate was observed to be under the influence of alcohol. Standard field sobriety tests were conducted and the non-affiliate was charged driving under the influence of alcohol or a control substance.

Disorderly Conduct
Jan. 31, 2019
Officers responded to Welch House after reports of an odor of marijuana. Officers made contact with a Carnegie Mellon student who provided the small amount of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. The student was issued a non-traffic citation (disorderly conduct).

Thieves and Vandalism
Jan. 31, 2019
Officers responded to Mudge House after receiving reports of broken glass on a vending machine. It was discovered that numerous food items were stolen from the vending machine.

Weather
Source: www.weather.com

Source: www.weather.com

FRIDAY
51°/45°

SATURDAY
59°/43°

SUNDAY
60°/46°

WEATHER

TUESDAY
48°/28°

WEDNESDAY
50°/22°

THURSDAY
56°/46°

FRI

FRIDAY
48°/28°

SUNDAY
53°/46°

Saturday

Weather

Sari Samakie, student and Syrian refugee, tells his story

Compiled by
ADAM TUNNARD

Samakie spoke to students at Carnegie Mellon about his life, mentioning being kidnapped several times, escaping Syria, founding a refugee youth program “Fikra 3al Mashi,” and presently, attending Georgetown University.

Corrections & Clarifications
If you would like to submit a correction or clarification, please email The Tartan at news@thetartan.org or editors@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.

Social Action Calendar

Lecture: Soul and Slavery
Gasterra, 12:00-1:00

FORWARD: A few of this week’s advising opportunities at Carnegie Mellon

Source: www.weather.com
Like a “startup,” the Army seeks future of AI alongside CMU

ARMY. From Al

comparing, ventures into AI, space, directed energy, AI, and machine learning. Artificial intelligence will be “in everything, and everywhere.” The task force, according to Murtagh, is not just meant to “make our soldiers and units of the future more effective,” but to also make them more “precise.” Murtagh added, “there will be nobody at the world’s end who will challenge [the U.S.].”

The next to speak was Carnegie Mellon professor Farzan Jahanian, who exclaimed exactly “Carnegie Mellon stands ready to assist the Army” to advance breakthroughs in the future of multi-domain artificial intelligence development.

Following Jahanian, the Secretary of the Army, Mark T. Esper, took the stage. Formerly president of government relations at Raytheon, Infantry Officer in the Army, and chief of staff at the Heritage Foundation, Esper was appointed to the Army position by President Trump following the withdrawal of two other appointees to the position. Many stressed a pronounced intersectionality in AI, weapons systems, with Esper adding “tackling the battlefield for years to come.”

Among all of the speakers, the press conference was referred to as “the warmest press conference ever,” leading to this question: “how do we do these things in cold weather? It’s hard to wrap your head around AI development, but ‘better yet’ may end conflict and save lives all over the world.”

The task force, brings new technology to push the envelope to try and get answers.

Murray suggested that these same ‘ethical considerations’ would follow whatever inevitable technological development arises from the task force, stating “the press conference, the policies, the discussions that will have to come. But [what] we can’t afford to do is to try and get people going to have to go to push the envelope of what AI means.” In terms of policy, “part of task force is concerned with removing barriers to its ability to move fast, while maintaining safety and rigor [of the task force] brings new technology and new capabilities to its forces.”

The Army AI Task Force, now launched, will begin to oversee AI projects and military application, that “anyone who gets [AI] is likely to be the first to get new capabilities to its forces.”

Dr. Judah Cohen, a researcher, stated at the press conference: “winter is shortening, but you’re increasing in frequency. A ‘polar vortex,’ a phenomenon that has been more frequently in the 21st century. Thus, this might not be the last year like clockwork, recovered the flu vaccine and has made their predictions. Ryan Tibshirani, Associate Professor of Statistics and Machine Learning and co-founder of Delphi, says that the group is looking to make accurate forecasts at a regional level.

“At the moment, we’re using a local model at the level of the city which is better than regional model, but it’s still far too big,” Tibshirani told The Tartan. He continued “it’s not a really a public interest yet. If we tell that people in Pittsburgh was Pennsylvania than New York, that wouldn’t affect public’s health decisions. It will be affecting health decisions in places in very many years.”

Tibshirani compared the importance of task force’s predictions to that of weather forecasting. Predicting the flu, for example, is a weather app every day, something most people check from the moment they wake up. If weather forecasts only predicted the weather at the coast, they would not be applicable to the general public. Delphi is essentially model this on a city-by-city basis for different places in the U.S. “We’re up about 11 percent from last year at this time,” Jahanian added, “about 400 students vaccinated this year from last year at this time, so that’s a very good sign.”

While many students who walk into Health Services for the flu are healthy and prod lactic, but antibiotics will not help control the illness. “Wisdom of the Crowd.” The CDC, partnering with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the most accurate for four consecutive years.

Delphi uses two main systems to make forecasts on the current and future states of the flu virus, a statistical and a neural network system. “Wisdom of the Crowd” system combines historical data and information from other sources that correlate with flu trends, such as flu-related queries that are inputted into Google, and it has been more accurate with short-term flu forecasts. The Wisdom of the Crowds system uses predictions and comments from humans to help combat it, but Health Services also has an app on your phone, where you check not only the vaccine, but also the flu report. Delphi’s forecasts are made on a daily basis, three times a day from 10:30 a.m., noon, and 3:30 p.m. The model is also extremely accurate in creating long-term forecasts. Certainly, Delphi helps Pennsylvania state data to make their predictions: Ryan Tibshirani, Associate Professor of Statistics and Machine Learning and co-founder of Delphi, says that the group is looking to make accurate forecasts at a regional level. Ryan Tibshirani, Associate Professor of Statistics and Machine Learning and co-founder of Delphi, says that the group is looking to make accurate forecasts at a regional level. Ryan Tibshirani, Associate Professor of Statistics and Machine Learning and co-founder of Delphi, says that the group is looking to make accurate forecasts at a regional level.

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Tuition hikes, much like diet and taxes, are one of the few sure things we can cling to in this time of mass uncertainty. That helped blunt the backlash for taking that stance with the recent communique from our very own Carnegie Mellon, letting us know that the highly sensitive email—“Duke has absolutely no excuse for its behavior”—has approved a 2.0 percent increase in tuition and fees, as well as for all students. 2.9 percent this year, and 3.5 percent the last two years. 3.0 percent the year before. As regular as a clocktick, as dependable as the tides. It’s at least comforting to know that “CMU is committed to keeping any cost increase as low as we can.” It might feel a little exploitative otherwise.

Carnegie Mellon is not alone in its rise of rate hikes. Tuition increase has crossed the country, across the board. From private to public to for-profit the price of every institution of higher education has increased dramatically over the last four decades, far outstripping the rate of inflation, all while these universities promise the “value” of their degree programs and promise a better, more stable, higher earning future for prospective students.

According to the 2019 Carnegie Mellon Factbook, the total estimated cost of attending Carnegie Mellon in 1984 was $13,200. Adjusted for inflation, that’s $33,433 in 2019 dollars, or almost 2.5 times the current estimated total cost of $72,283. The trend is universal: school costs more than it used to. But while the universal nature of the trend doesn’t last long, we must also jettison our image of college as a public good, with open access, full tuition scholarships for all who want to go. The same trend occurs for public universities, shifting more of the costs onto students and their families. This in turn forces students to drop out of school, the fancy student loan debt not affected by bankruptcy. According to "The Value of Carnegie Mellon," students are then trapped under the weight of several hundred dollars a month for a period of approximately one year. The Washington Post, the current inventory of the United States in $1,530,000,000,000, that being a number of students that are struggling to make ends meet each month, by putting everyday expenses to the upper class, meaning it can’t absorb the costs.

The university should be more up front, more honest with students, and parents about what they need to be living with, not affecting "starting careers, home ownership, health, retirement, and, for students, getting married and having children." The university should tell people who are going to be affected by this tuition rate increase clearly and accurately, that student debt has become a burden on students.

Carnegie Mellon’s低廉 endowment and low student loan fees are the "value" of Carnegie Mellon, a point that the university has not been able to explain to students. While the university sent us a letter in response to our letters, they did not address what it means to have that tuition rate increase.

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There are few topics as polarizing in our nation as conversation on abortion. While beliefs about abortion vary on a continuum, as with all other controversial issues, the extremes are what come most easily to mind: hardened pro-life and hardened pro-choice engaged in an endless war, neither side willing to yield an inch to the other, the two trapped in a perpetual ideological deadlock.

Adding to these ideological confusions, New York State recently passed the Reproductive Health Act (RHA) on Jan. 22, while in that effect, codifies protections granted under Roe v. Wade and signed into law by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo who claimed the act was a push towards a usually progressive legislature. The RHA guarantees a woman’s right to an abortion without restriction until 24 weeks of pregnancy, and it further protects the right to a late-term abortion should there be a substantial change to the mother’s health or double the risk of fetal viability. The timing of this legislation is also crucial: with Brett Kavanaugh’s appointment to the Supreme Court and mounting fear over narrower interpretations of reproductive rights, solidifying such protections are now more important than ever before.

Unfortunately, Cuomo saw immediate criticism from various bishops of the Catholic Church, with many calling for his resignation over what they see as an inappropriate and cruel law. Various pro-life organizations have also voiced their anger, arguing that the RHA is a pathway to access late-term abortions.

Regardless of your individual beliefs, I think we can all agree that any complicated problem at the heart of society isn’t about science or religion. It would be inaccurate to portray the question of reproductive rights as binary, because there is no correct or incorrect answer. When people believe differently, we always benefit most when we can find common ground.

In a hypothetical scenario, if a skilled transgender person is replaced by an unskilled person, would the cost of training this unskilled individual be necessarily less than the medical cost of the transgender person? Since the logic of this ban can’t be justified, the true motive becomes clear: discrimination.

The impact of this ban on the trans community, or the LGBTQ community in general, is tremendous. Trans individuals currently serving in the military will be the direct victims of the policy. They face the choice of either quitting their job or hiding their identity. If they choose to stay hidden, this policy would be constant schemas to their perception of self, triggering alarming mental and physical health problems in the future.

For the trans community, this is an overt act of discrimination, and demonstrations that they still have a long way to go to be fully accepted by the American public. Not to mention a president who claimed in a recent that trans individuals are “disruptors” to the military further promotes a skewed and biased view of the trans community.

While the future for the LGBTQ community in the U.S. seems grim, global prospects aren’t as optimistic. Around the same time, on Jan. 25, Japan’s Supreme Court upheld a law that “effectively prohibits transgender people to be sterilized” before they can change their gender on the official documents. The Supreme Court’s supporting argument was equally fragile — “to reduce confusion in families and society” — an argument that I hope clarifying confusions for an undetermined impacted group weight more than the freedom of trans individuals.

Other LGBTQ groups also continue to be targeted globally. During this year’s campaigning last November, a man was voted against same-sex marriage on May 13, a lesbian couple in Beijing get beat up by security after the eventing the gay for a secretly organized LGTQ+ parade. Regretting that although the concepts of discrimination and liberty have been the basis of democratic societies for hundreds of years, it’s almost shocking to see how nonsensical they still can be. With increasing restrictions on access to reproductive rights and birth control, transgender communities have become more frequent, meaning that the demand for abortions is increasing. In some situations, going through with having a child can lead to greater financial burden and lower quality of life if that child cannot be adequately supported, both of which are unacceptable circumstances. Giving birth may also pose a greater risk for the mother’s health. With nearly 700 deaths due to childbirth, every year, this is a vital consideration. In this sense, banning abortion access isn’t even beneficial, provided they are only enough. Furthermore, the increased accessibility can also benefit rape victims who become pregnant. Victims of sexual assault are often reluctant to come forward to share their story or to seek help, so by making such services more readily available, it might help those who find themselves in such a difficult situation.

That’s not to say that there are no points from Trump’s case. Some argue that the restrictions for late-term abortions are often explored as a way to terminate a pregnancy after the fetal heartbeat has been, leading to an unjust loss of life. Perhaps reasoned that this law allows abortions to be carried out by health professionals other than doctors, which, while increasing the available pool of service providers, could lead to health complications later on.

However, the RHA affects the scope of reproductive rights regardless, with different laws for every state, it is difficult to grasp the general consensus on such a hot-button issue. Nevertheless, it is important to gauge the national attitude on such a hot-button issue.

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Puerto Rico deserves more respect from the U.S.

EVANGELINE LIU

A study has found that Puerto Rico received drastically less federal disaster aid post-Hurricane Maria than Texas post-Hurricane Harvey and Florida post-Hurricane Irma in terms of both dollar amount and efficiency, even accounting for the geographical differences between island and mainland.

According to the study, while Texas and Florida received about $100 million in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds in the nine days after Harvey and Irma, Puerto Rico only received about $6 million in the same amount of time post-Maria.

Around the same time, Department of Housing and Urban Development Deputy Secretary Pam Patenaude left her post after allegedly clashing with the White House over funding for Puerto Rico. One of those incidents apparently occurred when President Trump tried to divert funding Congress had approved for the island to Texas and Florida. Trump was angry at Puerto Rico because he believed — with no factual basis — that Puerto Rico was using disaster money to pay its debts, even telling then-chief of staff John Kelly and budget director Mick Mulvaney that he did not want a single dollar going to Puerto Rico.

A political consulting firm, Peloton, has reported that the White House has been cutting food aid for Puerto Rico’s pace, and gave another reason for Trump’s treatment of Puerto Rico: the fact that he was angry at Ricardo Roselló, the governor of the island, for endorsing Democrat Bill Nelson for the governor of the island, likely because he knows Trump will not have to answer to them or at least those still living on the island, in 2020.

President Trump’s background wasn’t exactly helpful in narrating an empathetic heart either. There is another Chinese saying inrediscri the sansheng ching chih shang translated from “turn with a golden spoon in his or her mouth.” In Trump’s case, money and fame didn’t touch him to care about the struggles of the left behind, and seems to have had the opposite effect. Because his badge-end led him to think that he deserves everything he has and more and that struggling people deserve their suffering, the challenges of poorer people are ignored.

The president sees no problem in being verbally mean to Puerto Rico despite the island’s many struggles because he sees everything through his own lens, colored and distorted by the Washington bubble and his own wealthy background. In that lens, like the evil mirror in the Snow Queen fairy tale that shatters to pieces and corrupts people by entering their eyes and heart, what is right becomes wrong and what is wrong becomes right.

I’m not an expert, and I don’t pretend to know how to prevent a statoil independence is born for Puerto Rico, nor the ins and outs of disaster aid and welfare policy. But Puerto Rico deserves so much better. Petty verbal assaults and federal foot-dragging whatever it gets hit with a natural disaster, and that event with the financial turbulences following, the mainstream showing more empathy towards the island and its leaders everyone everywhere could open their hearts just a little wider to let the light of compassion and empathy would shine far and light up more people’s lives.
Robot arm learns physical skills by playing Jenga

ASHWIN SRINIVASAN
SciTech Editor

For decades, engineers and computer programmers have been teaching robots how to play popular games like chess and Go. Artificial intelligence has even claimed the global top spot in some of these games, like when Google DeepMind’s AlphaGo defeated Go world champion Lee Sedol nearly three years ago. Now, researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are training a robot to play Jenga.

Sedol was defeated by Google’s artificial intelligence program, AlphaGo, in 2016 in the game of Go, which involves strategic thinking and planning. Similarly, Jenga requires players to think several steps ahead to remove blocks from a tower without toppling the entire structure. The game is a physical game that does not rely on electronic sensors or algorithms.

Traditional machine learning algorithms require extensive training data, covering all possible scenarios that might occur given a particular action. It would take tens of thousands of attempts to remove a block from a tower to gather enough data about Jenga. Additionally, since Jenga is a physical game that does not translate well to simulation, the robot needed training on how to operate in the real world.

Alberto Rodriguez leads the team that developed the Jenga robot. He is a Walter Henry Gale Career Development Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at MIT and received his Ph.D. in robotics from Carnegie Mellon University. Unlike in more purely cognitive tasks like chess or Go, playing the game of Jenga also requires mastery of an assembly process: composed of Jenga also requires mastery of chess or Go, playing the game of Jenga also requires mastery of the assembly process: composed of wooden blocks into 18 layers the objective of the game is to carefully remove blocks and place them at the top of the tower without toppling the entire structure.

The robot at MIT uses the industry-standard 6-axis RB 120 robotic arm from ABB (also used in electronic and food manufacturing) to interact with Jenga blocks. While it is certainly impressive to watch the robot prod at the tower and slowly push blocks out of their place, the real advancement is in the technique used to train the machine.

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A robot designed by Carnegie Mellon alumnus Alberto Rodriguez and his team slowly pokes a wooden Jenga block out of a tower. Unlike traditional machine learning schemes, this robot takes careful visual and tactile measurements to model the behavior of Jenga blocks continuously, which has broad applications in manufacturing.

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These electromagnetic waves can wirelessly harvest electromagnetic radiation in the WiFi (2.4 GHz and 2.5 GHz) and cellular technologies, which can produce 40 microwatts when exposed to typical Wi-Fi power levels, which is enough to power an LED or a silicon chip. It doesn’t yet provide enough power to do something as small as a smartwatch, but the authors are hopeful that by building arrays of these devices, they could increase the amount of power needed for these devices. This opens up the possibility of self-sustaining electronics.

### Rectenna Designs

Rectennas: converting radio waves into electricity

A rectenna is a device that can convert energy from radio frequency waves, such as WiFi, into useful energy. These devices are made possible in the 1960s with the research of Nikola Tesla. The idea of turning radio waves into electricity was popularized by a 2015 MIT paper on flexible rectenna technology. Flexible rectennas are a novel design because it features a flexible semiconductor, such as molybdenum disulfide (MoS2), that can generate electricity when exposed to certain frequencies of WiFi.

#### MoS2 Rectenna

- MoS2 is a two-dimensional material that can be used to create flexible rectifiers.
- It can be used to convert energy from WiFi signals into electricity.
- The MoS2 layer is only 3 atoms thick.
- When WiFi signals are received, the MoS2 layer changes its electrical properties, allowing it to convert the energy into electricity.

#### Rectenna Efficiency

- The MoS2-based rectenna can be used for wireless power transmission, making it useful for applications such as Wi-Fi-powered electronics.
- The efficiency of the rectenna can be improved by using advanced materials and fabrication techniques.
- The MoS2 material can be made from molybdenum disulfide, which is a flexible semiconductor.

### Rectenna Applications

- Flexible rectennas can be used in a variety of applications, including IoT devices, health monitoring, and smart homes.
- They can also be used to power wireless sensors and other low-power devices, making them ideal for remote sensing applications.
- The rectenna technology has broad implications for sustainable energy solutions, as it allows wireless charging of devices without the need for wires or cables.

### Rectenna Technology

- The rectenna technology is based on the conversion of electromagnetic waves into electricity using rectifiers.
- The rectenna technology has been developed by researchers at the University of Southern California.
- The rectenna technology has been tested in various environments, including lab settings and outdoor environments.
- The rectenna technology has the potential to be used in a variety of applications, including wireless power transmission and sustainable energy solutions.

## Robotics Research

### Robot Jenga Training

A group of researchers at MIT have developed a robot that can play Jenga. The robot uses AI and machine learning to learn the game by interacting with the physical Jenga tower. The robot has been trained to accurately predict the stable block configurations and remove blocks from the tower.

#### Jenga Time

- The robot has been trained for over 300 hours and has learned to play Jenga accurately.
- The robot uses a combination of visual and tactile sensors to interact with the tower.
- The robot uses a reinforcement learning approach to learn the game.

### Machine Learning in Robotics

- The use of machine learning in robotics is growing rapidly, with applications in areas such as autonomous vehicles, space exploration, and medical robotics.
- The field of machine learning is still in its early stages, but it has the potential to revolutionize the way we interact with the world.

### Future Directions

- The researchers plan to use the robot to explore other complex physical tasks that require both visual and tactile perception.
- The robot could be used in applications such as construction, where the ability to interact with physical objects is crucial.

## Conclusion

The development of rectenna technology and the advancement of AI and machine learning in robotics demonstrate the potential for sustainable and intelligent solutions in the future.
Culture of economy, not baseball in China

Beijing: Enterprises and Estate Group to build 24 new facilities for high-school age-athletes. The effort seems to be paying off, as in the past six years, the number of Chinese colleges with baseball teams has more than doubled. Communist new standards and training centers have been built, and interest in international baseball competitions, like the World Baseball Classic or the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, is on the rise.

But beyond the already converted, awareness of the game still has a long way to go. For the vast majority in China, baseball is still a novelty at best. The baseball bat is associated more with self-defense than sport, and very long time viewers don't fully understand the rules. It's hard to engineer a fanbase from the ground up, and while the investment has certainly produced the infrastructure to support college individual players, the social foundation for being genuinely popular is missing.

Still, the difference between being well-marketed and being genuinely popular is less important than it used to be. The ultimate aim of these investments in China is not just to produce baseball in numbers, but to create a lucrative and tightly integrated revenue stream almost completely from scratch. From its streaming partnerships with domestic and international competitors, the MLB has pretty much everything that a successful sports franchise demands. A niche sport with the profitability to fund most of the earnings and top prospects to the American teams.

The beautiful game turns to new statistics in the age of Internet

Though fairly recent, the incorporation of statistics into soccer has brought new life into the game. Soccer is the most popular sport in the world, perhaps because of its unpredictability. However, there were only ever a handful of teams that would win the top-flight leagues, like La Liga or Bundesliga, killing the odds of surprises towards the end of competitions. Leicester City’s performance was more than just a fluke. It was a sign of the times to come. Despite its flaws and its recovery, analytics are helping smaller clubs catch up with the bigger ones. Those hesitant to embrace and exploit the benefits soccer analytics can produce should look forward to soccer’s Moneyball revolution, if not for the advancement of the sport, for the sake of more competitive leagues and more exhilarating matches.

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Penalty Shouts: A Super Bowl’s definitive recap

Matthew Benesla, sports Editor

This is Penalty Shouts, The Tartan’s sports culture inspired by The New Yorker’s column Daily Shouts. This extra-fuelled column will focus on anything and everything in the sports world that is deserving of our comedic attention.

For congratulations to the New England Patriots! And to the Los Angeles Rams! And sorry… to both teams. Everyone played well, and there was so much love on each side of the field, mostly because of Josh Gordon. Tom Brady doesn’t feel your human emotions because he’s a robot. And a Nazi.

One of the high points of the evening was when Mason 5 came on field in the middle of the game, not unlike the University of California and Stanford game in 1982 when the marching band ran on the field. Per usual, Bill Belichick was stone-faced, and the referees started dancing to “Gettle Like You.” Ndamukong Suh dropped back for a mic pass to feature performer Snoop Dogg.

Eventually the team got off the field, and the action commenced again when Mason 5 actually came on for their halftime performance. It was fine, but way less exciting than their surprise gab at the end of the first half.

In the second half, the game came down to the wire as Tom Brady, or Jared Goff, threw up a last ditch Hail Mary to win the game, and it came down and the dust settled, the other team that won the coin toss immediately went down field and scored a touchdown. Of course whoever gets the ball first is going to score to win the game. If you don’t score on the first drive, in overtime, then do you even deserve to win? The team that won the coin toss seemed more effort in pee-wee football. Not sure just how small the endzone is. It’s not actually that hard.

Still, the game ends with just a few fights between fans, so I have something fun to write about next week. Or maybe Tom Brady spontaneously combusts mid- touchdowns past to tumultuous applause. Maybe something will make me happy. I know the Patriots won that do that. The food won’t even make me happy. Thanks, Patriots.

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MBL banks on future economy in China, not the love of the game

GABRIELA COLON-ROUJA
Senior Writer

Historically, people who follow soccer have not paid much attention to statistics. Some may argue that talent and skill cannot be quantified easily, or they might suggest that numbers and mathematical models fail to acknowledge the intangible aspects of the sport. For the most part, they are right. Soccer is a low-scoring game with few other standard statistical markers. The game also involves a huge cast of characters whose actions — for the duration of the 90 minutes — influence the final results. These players make the outcome, which is simultaneously influenced by external, uncontrollable factors like weather conditions, hard to predict and hinges individual talent in numbers.

This unpredictability stands in contrast with other sports, which have been implementing mathematical models and statistical data in analysis of their respective games. Basketball, for example, has its Moneyball movement in the early 2000’s. This movement saw teams beginning to use data collected on players to drive recruitment and develop new on-field strategies to increase their likeliness of winning. The best example of this analysis in basketball is the advanced analytics, like Wins Above Replacement (WARP), and teams continue to develop more advanced statistics that relate the average launch speed of a batted ball to a player’s wOBA (Bating Average on Balls In Play).

One of the reasons for this is the collection of reliable numbers. For the most part, they are not classically known for its statistical side. This relatively new practice means that soccer analytics has produced the most important change in the game, like expected goals, which have been implemented in many other sports like soccer is the collection of data. Aside from goals, assists, clean sheets, individual achievements in a soccer game are hard to quantify. This statistical roadblock is why systematic tracking of players and match data only began around ten years ago. Before this, keeping scores with multiple matches occurring at different locations across different leagues made the reliable collection of numbers impossible. Soccer analytics has been the model to follow and has increased the potential of soccer to attract new viewership for each stream, but the potential for each sport is in the hundreds of millions.

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The opportunities are better at the local level, with a small but dedicated handful of younger players becoming increasingly enthusiastic young fans. The league's growth reflects the continued appeal of the sport. Major League Baseball, for example, has more than 150 million fans worldwide and is a popular and successful franchise in its home base.

Baseball is a sport that has a long history. It began in the mid-19th century and has been played professionally in the United States since the 1870s. In the 20th century, it became a global sport as players from around the world were recruited to play in Major League Baseball. Today, baseball is played by millions of people in countries around the world, and it has gained popularity in many different cultures.

Despite baseball's popularity, there are still challenges facing the sport. One of the biggest challenges is the lack of diversity. While there are players from many countries currently playing in Major League Baseball, there is still a significant gap between the number of minority players and the general population. This lack of diversity is an area that needs to be addressed in order to ensure that baseball remains a sport that is accessible to everyone.

Additionally, baseball also faces challenges related to the economic landscape of the sport. Major League Baseball is a billion-dollar industry, but it is also a highly complex and competitive environment. This complexity can make it difficult for teams to make decisions that are in the best interest of the organization.

However, despite these challenges, baseball remains a beloved and timeless sport. It continues to attract millions of fans and players around the world. As the sport continues to evolve, it will be important to address these challenges in order to ensure that baseball remains a vibrant and relevant part of the cultural landscape.
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A Serious Man

Matthew Benusa | Sports Editor

A Serious Man is one of the Coen Brothers’ most forgotten movies in their canon. Miller’s Crossing and maybe one or two others are a little more far gone, but A Serious Man is everything that people love about a Coen production. The story is the bumbling everyman who happens into increasingly horrifying situations that are increasingly comical in the light of the protagonist’s sheer ineptitude. What makes A Serious Man unique compared to the rest of the Coen’s filmography is the minimizing of the drive for an economic resource by the protagonist. In their most famous films, Fargo, The Big Lebowski, O Brother, Where Art Thou, No Country for Old Men, etc. the goal is the same — money — but the goal for the serious man in his namesake film is to understand the world, and the world to understand him. He wants to be taken seriously, but the mechanism by which he convinces himself that he will be taken seriously is an understanding of the natural world. After all, the protagonist is a professor of physics in a Midwestern, suburban world that just doesn’t make sense at any level. I believe that the years will show A Serious Man to be the Coen Brothers’ most complete movie.

Hell or High Water

Sujay Utkarsh | Pillbox Editor

This was my second favorite film in 2016, and it is now on Netflix for everyone to view. This modern western follows two brothers who pull off a series of small armed robberies to save their family ranch from being repossessed by the bank. The film is a straightforward, entertaining masterpiece. The script is so tight and fluid, and populated by so many likable characters. The dynamic between the two brothers was really fun, and it also served an important point to the story overall. The rowdy older brother and the smarter, quieter younger brother really complemented each other. The performances are all spectacular. Chris Pine and Jeff Bridges in particular stand out amongst the stellar cast. It is also a very topical and relevant film that explores the complexities of economic inequality. It’s really well shot and directed, with a lot of great subtle and visual storytelling. The shootouts were fantastic and entertaining. It’s just a near perfect film and I highly recommend checking it out. It’s also a great watch with some friends. I watched it with a few of mine, and we got a kick out of several scenes in the film.

Cowboy Bebop

Jacob Paul | Layout Manager

Cowboy Bebop is one of the greatest anime series of all time. It first aired in Japan in 1998, but you can watch it on Hulu today. The show is set in 2071. Earth has largely been abandoned and humanity is scattered on planets and moons throughout the solar system. The series follows two bounty hunters, referred to as “space cowboys,” as they chase down big time criminals for big time cash. Each episode is structured like a Western. A villain is introduced, Spike and Jet pursue them, and after a chase scene spectacularly choreographed to jazz, they almost always come up short. Though this may sound formulaic, what ties the 26 episodes together is the relationships between the four protagonists. The audience watches unlikely comrades Spike, Jet, Faye, and Ed collide as they escape their crumbling pasts. Struggling with their individual solitude, they fail to embrace their new friends again and again. Cowboy Bebop is chiefly known in the anime world for its beautiful animation, its fantastic English dub, its heartfelt themes, and its subtlety. The moments of freedom, flashbacks, friendship and loss never hit you over the head and that’s why they’re so effective. In my mind I can visualize the final sequence of the first episode, “Asteroid Blues.” Spike swoops down in his red spacecraft in pursuit of a drug dealer, Asimov, and sleekly shoots down two irrelevant parties. As the world underneath them rushes by, a saxophone searches over dreamy, escalating chords. Asimov’s wife realizes they’re not gonna make it. Bang.

Sex Education

Gabe Bamforth | Staffwriter

Season one of Sex Education follows Otis Milburn, an awkward 16-year-old who teams up with his classmate Maeve Wiley to start a cash-only sex therapy clinic in their high school. As Otis, who can’t even bring himself to masturbate, helps his classmates navigate sex and relationships, he is faced again and again with his own problems surrounding the subject. What makes the show great isn’t necessarily its protagonist but the weaving of secondary characters’ stories and the honesty it brings to conversations about sex. Sex Education takes high school tropes like the bully, the popular squad, and the gay best friend and gives each a compelling story. It almost serves as an implicit, hilarious, and touching sex-ed curriculum on its own, taking awkward moments not usually depicted on screen and giving them the representation they need. The writing ranges from juvenile anatomical humor to Virginia Woolf references and manages to appeal to a mainstream audience without being problematic. If it were up to me, I’d replace the existing sex-ed curricula in Texas, Arizona, and most of the South with this show.
Welcome to Marika’s Menu, a new column all about the joy of cooking! I’ve always loved food, but it wasn’t until I got to college when my love for cooking blossomed. From making a simple stir-fry, to throwing something in the oven, to trying something more complicated, I’m excited to kick this off and share different recipes that apply to all different sorts of occasions.

This week’s recipe is inspired by a semi-impromptu dinner my roommate and I whipped up when we realized we had a lot of stuff in the fridge that was going to expire soon. It also goes perfectly with Super Bowl weekend — or any weekend to be honest, as long as you love tacos. My shrimp tacos include four toppings: stir-fry shrimp and tomato, stir-fry mushroom, guacamole, and shredded cheese, all on corn tortillas.
Stir-fry Shrimp and Tomato

This is the star of the show, the main dish of the tacos. To balance the sweetness of the shrimp, I add tomatoes for a sour, acidic kick.

Ingredients:
- 1 tbsp of olive oil
- 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- ½ onion, chopped
- 1 cup of shrimp
- 2 tomatoes, chopped
- ¼ cup of water
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Directions:
1. In a skillet, heat the olive oil. Add the garlic and rest of the chopped onion.
2. When the onion is halfway cooked, about one minute, add the chopped tomato and water, and stir fry for two minutes.
3. When the tomatoes are nearly fully cooked, begin forming a paste.
4. Add the shrimp, and cook until their color is soft orange, about 1 minute. Add salt and pepper to taste. Remove the dish from the skillet into a bowl.

Stir-fry Mushroom

I love having this topping simply because I’m a huge fan of mushrooms. However, I know that mushrooms are hit or miss, so this simple stir-fry can be done with almost anything: eggs, spinach, corn, and so on.

Ingredients:
- 1 cup of mushrooms, sliced
- 1 tbsp of soy sauce
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Directions:
1. In the same skillet used for the shrimp and tomato, toss the mushrooms until cooked.
2. Add soy sauce, salt, and pepper to taste.

Guacamole

There are many different ways to make guacamole, from simple mashed avocado with salt and pepper to complicated concoctions with several ingredients. My version adds onion and tomato for more flavor.

Ingredients:
- 3 avocados, peeled and pitted
- 1 tomato, chopped
- ½ onion, chopped
- 1 tbsp of lemon juice
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Directions:
1. Mash the three peeled and pitted avocados in a medium-sized bowl.
2. Mix in the chopped tomato and onion, along with the lemon juice
3. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Corn Tortillas

For the corn tortillas, I like to heat and fry them for a minute or so in a skillet for some extra crisp, but they are perfectly fine straight from the package. With a bowl of shredded cheese, your table is set with three dishes. Pile the toppings on your tortilla, and voilà, your taco is ready to eat. Bon Appétit! Or more appropriately, Buen Provecho!
So I’ve noticed you haven’t been making much money recently, and all you bigwig executives are wondering why. No, it’s not Rotten Tomatoes’ fault (although that’s an article for another day). Allow me, a 19-year-old amateur filmmaker and watcher of cinema, to explain it to you because I know better than you.

PART 1: WHAT’S WITH THE LACK OF ORIGINALLITY?

Let’s take a look at the number of remakes and sequels coming out in 2019. Do you want to guess how many they’re releasing? The answer is too many. There are live-action remakes of *Dumbo* and *The Lion King* coming out, with the *Dumbo* remake being made by Tim Burton of all people. That’s the equivalent of letting Logan Paul host a travel documentary. How devoid of ideas do you have to be to want to remake old animated movies? I’m sure you could find some fanfiction writers on Tumblr who have something you can adapt. I’ll give you some ideas for free. I’m sure you could get Nick Cage to star in it.

PART 2: STOP MAKING MOVIES ON LITERALLY ANYTHING YOU SEE.

This is pretty obvious. Whenever you do make original movies, you tend to make the wrong ones. No one wants a YouTuber movie. No one wanted an emoji movie but you made one anyway. No one wanted an escape room movie. What’s next? A movie about sporks? A movie about dabbing? A movie about dabbing sporks? That sounds so stupid, but it might be possible at this point. Even if you want to make movies on the most ridiculous things and trends, you could at least give the project to someone with talent. I guess the problem is all the talented people are making the movies you don’t advertise.

PART 3: THE OSCARS ARE A SHAM AND REPRESENT EVERYTHING WRONG WITH YOU.

Recently you gave *Black Panther* a Best Picture nomination in an attempt to stay relevant. Except you’re missing the point. People don’t watch the Oscars because you all take yourselves too seriously and you pay for the winners. You make easy jokes about Donald Trump thinking people care about your opinion of it. News flash: none of us do. Just make a good speech, and if you want to get political, do so with some semblance of honesty. The fake liberalism espoused by the industry is very transparent. Keep in mind that you all championed women’s rights while Harvey Weinstein’s crimes were an open secret. Maybe turn your criticism towards yourselves and people will actually care about what you say. It’s kind of bad that the only criticism about the industry is coming from *BoJack Horseman*, a cartoon. Also, don’t hire Jimmy Kimmel to host. Rotting corpses have more charisma than him.

So now the question becomes: what can you do to make more money? Well, the answer is obvious. Give the people what they want. Give them something good. Stop being a bunch of hacks. Stop being this self-congratulatory echo chamber of false politics. And maybe, just maybe, you’ll make more money again.

lots of love,
sujay
Cold War is director Paweł Pawlikowski’s second attempt at canonizing a sociopolitical history of his home country, Poland. The first was Ida, a family tragedy in the wake of the Holocaust and the new politics of a Soviet bloc state post-World War II. Now, in Cold War, the politics remain, but Pawlikowski takes on the transcendent human experiences of music and love rather than ones of grief and loss.

Opening in the mode of observational cinema, the emotional core of the film, outside of the romantic relationship, is set by two men performing a Polish folk song in Lemko, a dialect of a blend of Ukrainian and Polish languages. They’re singing about lost love. The first act continues in the same manner, developing the anthropological goals of state-run performance group, Mazurek, the protagonist, Wiktor (Tomasz Kot), and co-director of Mazurek, Irena (Agata Kulesza). At the same time, the political goals of the state-appointed cultural director of the Mazurek, Kaczmarek (Borys Szyc), run parallel, creating dramatic tension, and then, Wiktor and femme fatale, Zuzanna (Joanna Kulig), share their first moment of romance over a series of vocal exercises. Each relationship is dynamic and the reversal at the end of the first act makes plenty of narrative sense: Zuzanna caves to the political games.

From there, the movie only focuses on the relationship between Zuzanna and Wiktor. There are only flashes of the early relationships developed in the movie. A few others are developed, but not at the level of intimacy of the first act. The movie of differing loyalties to cause becomes a movie about distance in love. All of the cinematic qualities remain: Pawlikowski and cinematographer, Łukasz Żal, develop shots that resonate with the romantic relationship in the movie, and at the same time, retain the emotional sterility of an aesthetic not dissimilar from L’Avventura.

As the movie progresses into the later stages of its brisk 87 minutes, it loses the old emotional core of the struggle between culture and state in favor of a way less interesting battle between West and East. Instead of the West staying as an enigmatic place where the state does not interfere in artistic creation, we actually see Wiktor engage in the practice, and almost all of the tension from the first act is resolved before the movie reaches its conclusion. The story is then solely about the relationship between Zuzanna and Wiktor. We see the West and its artistic freedom, which most artists would realize as patently untrue considering the United States’ economic interests in Hollywood and MFA programs nationwide. If the A plot is the romantic relationship between Zuzanna and Wiktor, the B plot is a meandering stream of musical creation that loses any tension outside of the A plot after the first act.

But the romantic relationship can carry all of the emotional weight of the film with the support of the music. Music and lost love are the two languages spoken by this movie that everybody can understand regardless of their fluency in Polish, and they combine to create the third language spoken — film — which can be understood by everybody without the dialogue in the movie.
When people think of Carnegie Mellon University, the first word that comes to mind is probably not fashion. However, sophomore computer science major, Darren Mok, hopes to change that. He wants campus to be seen as more than “one-dimensional.” As the creator of the CMU Lookbook page on Instagram (@cmu.lookbook), Mok hopes to bring awareness to the existence of the “underrepresented” style scene on campus and how it “tends to surprise you.”

While Carnegie Mellon may be like many other college campuses in that a lot of people will just throw on some sweats and call it a day, there are also many hidden gems on campus, and the goal of CMU Lookbook is to provide a platform to show that “people’s efforts are being noticed.”

Mok started the page back in Spring 2018, but had a small following of roughly 40 people. With merely a phone in hand, he was not a big fan of the aesthetic of his work, and took up more of an interest in the work once he was able to borrow a friend’s camera and eventually bring one of his own. After the account’s reboot in the Fall, however, things started to take off. CMU Lookbook has more than 500 followers and Mok’s photos have even garnered the positive attention and feedback of more than 5000 users on the r/streetwear thread on Reddit. Now, he brings a camera with him everywhere he goes, and he is extremely passionate about what he does, stating that it “motivates [him] to go to class,” since he shoots as much as he can when he has a free moment in the day.

While Mok himself tends to lean towards a grayscale wardrobe, he is also a huge “sneakerhead” (sneaker enthusiast) and advocates for color blocking, layering, patterns, and experimentation. When out and about taking photo, he approaches people based on the composition of the look, rather than something like brand name. If you scroll through the page, you’ll notice a lot of bright colors and bold patterns.

Mok has been interested in fashion for quite a while. Having lived in places like Taipei, Seoul, Shanghai, and Hong Kong, he has been exposed to a wide variety of styles and trends in Asia. He feels that he “has definitely been influenced by the looks in Seoul…the people there are such innovators when it comes to style and fashion.” In the future, after getting more involved on campus, he hopes to bring the page abroad and try out new mediums like video lookbooks.

As for advice for those who may not be sure about how to step up their style game, he believes it is crucial to experiment and step outside your comfort zone. Some easy recommendations are to experiment with different sizing and fits, and to thrift since it is a cheap way to try new looks.

Make sure to keep an eye out for Mok on the Cut throughout the week, and don’t be afraid to experiment with your own style!
By now, I feel like I should’ve outgrown emo bands, but it feels like Bring Me the Horizon (BMTH) has been an integral part of my adolescence. In middle school, I thought my friends and I were so cool because we gushed over the lead singer, Oli Sykes, and screamed in *Sempiternal* as if that put us on an intellectually superior level to those who gushed over One Direction or Justin Bieber. In my senior year of high school, *That’s the Spirit* had some of my anthems and carried me through my last year. Now, three years after their previous album, the band has now released their sixth studio album, *amo*.

Here’s a track-by-track review of the songs:

**Track 1: i apologise if you feel something (6/10)**

This is a decent enough interlude, but the lyrics are what you would expect from a 12-year-old’s Tumblr bio. The band does scream teenage angst, but this song falls flat even then.

**Track 2: MANTRA (6.5/10)**

Would it be a BMTH album without a stab at organized religion? This catchy beat tells the story of one creating a cult to find a purpose “through this existential misery.” As with most other BMTH songs about religion, it shows the band’s — especially Sykes’ — belief that organized religion erases individuality and autonomy. Aside from the obviously edgy lyrics, the overall song just feels generic at best. But it’s catchy; I’ll give it that.

**Track 3: nihilist blues (feat. Grimes) (6.5/10)**

I applaud the band for venturing outside the typical genre. *That’s the Spirit* dips its toes a bit outside of their traditional screamo, but this track incorporates inspiration from disco and electronic dance music. Keyboardist Jordan Fish praised singer Grimes, who collaborated with the band. “She’s someone we respect, and not really someone you’d expect to find working with a metal band. Or a rock band. Or whatever it is we are...” he said to *Kerrang*! This track is far from my favorite, but it has definitely grown on me a bit, and I’ve come to appreciate it more.

**Track 4: in the dark (9/10)**

This is easily one of my favorite tracks. Although it sounds a bit generic (hence why it did not rack up a perfect score), it’s catchy and the lyrics are actually somewhat clever and memorable (my favorite being “don’t ask God, He never asked you”). The pop-ish elements are somewhat reminiscent of tracks from *That’s the Spirit*, especially “Follow You.”

**Track 5: wonderful life (feat Dani Filth) (7/10)**

This track earns a marginally better rating than “MANTRA” and seems to echo the albums I grew up loving. It has a similar musical feel and is almost as lyrically edgy. Again, it sounds generic, but also like a good anthem to blare in a car with friends.

**Track 6: ouch (6.5/10)**

For what it is — an interlude between “wonderful life” and “medicine” — it’s decent. Fish explains that “it’s got some lyrics from another song that we didn’t end up using in the end, but we really liked the words and they tie in nicely with the themes of the record. So we wanted to find a way of keeping them.” Although this wasn’t the weakest lyrically, the track did feel like a filler and a quick way to rack up an extra buck on iTunes. Despite that, it wasn’t terrible, nor did it make me wonder if I could get two minutes added back into my life.

**Track 7: medicine (8.5/10)**

This appears to be the album’s most successful track, and I can see why. It’s hard to not jam along, and it starts off with a hook: “some people are like clouds you know / ‘cause life’s so much brighter when they go.” Again, this song feels like it would fit with the previous album. Unfortunately, the lyrics aren’t as creative as “in the dark,” so it ranks right below. Still, it’s a solid track.
Track 8: sugar honey ice & tea (8.5/10)

This song would be close to rivaling “in the dark,” but the bridge just had to knock half a point. The lyrics are clever (most notably, those surrounding the title of this song); I need to give them credit for that.

Track 9: why you gotta kick me when i’m down? (4.5/10)

Sykes dabbles a bit into hip-hop, almost as if he’s trying to emulate Linkin Park’s fusion of the two genres. However, it falls flat. I understand that the band was trying to do something different, but the mixture of the genres feels forced, and the lyrics, again, feel as though they’re ripped out of my diary from when I was 12.

Track 10: fresh bruises (2/10)

Why. Just why. Judging from Kerrang!’s interview with Fish, it doesn’t appear the band knows, either. “This is another interlude. There’s not really much to say about it other than it’s very different for us.” It literally repeats two lines for over three minutes and doesn’t really transition the tracks, so it doesn’t even serve a purpose like “ouch” does. I would like those three minutes back. Still, a 1/10 feels harsh and I feel like a true 1/10 exists somewhere; this isn’t quite there.

Track 11: mother tongue (6.5/10)

This is where the title of the album comes in; the chorus kicks off with “So don’t say you love me ‘Fala amo [speak love].’” The reason BMTH chose Portuguese as their love language specifically is not apparent, but the title fits the song. Even though this song wasn’t the album’s strongest links, it at least makes sense why it’s incorporated. It’s one of the poppier songs, but it’s a love song; what more could you expect?

Track 12: heavy metal (feat. Rahzel) (8/10)

Again, amo dabbles into rap by collaborating with rapper Rahzel. Rahzel’s beatboxing meshes surprisingly well with the rest of the song. This whole song screams irony; although “‘a kid on the ‘gram in a Black Dahlia tank says it ain’t heavy metal,” this song is perhaps one of the heaviest on the track. It ends with Sykes screaming with heavy guitars in the background, a nod to BMTH’s origins.

Track 13: i don’t know what to say (8/10)

Like the previous album, the name of last track summarizes how I feel about the album as a whole (That’s the Spirit was “Oh No!”). Lyrical, this album was actually one of the strongest. Sykes originally wrote the lyrics before his now-late friend passed from cancer. The heavy usage of the synthetic string orchestra cheapens the quality of the track, making it sound like it would come from a cliché movie soundtrack. It’s unfortunate; the cheesy “orchestra” distracts from a song that is emotionally tolling for Sykes and the band.

Overall, I’m disappointed with the album, which got an average of about 6.73/10. The online reviews appear to hover around the 3.5/5 star mark, so I can’t say I’m surprised. I can appreciate changes and growth in style, and I understand that BMTH is continuously experimenting with new sounds and genres. However, half of the tracks felt like they were fillers and were thrown in for the sole purpose of completing an album. amo had the potential to be a strong EP instead. However, Sykes appears to be happier, and so does the band. In 2014, between the release of Sempiternal and That’s the Spirit, Sykes was hospitalized for drug abuse. “When I got out of that rehab, I didn’t want to scream anymore, I wanted to sing from the f***ing rooftops.” Judging from That’s the Spirit and now amo, it looks like the band is experimenting with new sounds and having fun. Sykes sure looks happier in performances. At the end of the day, that’s all I can ask for.
Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s name has become synonymous with resilience and perseverance, especially among her liberal-minded supporters, who want her to keep fighting against an overturn of Roe v. Wade and other liberal legislation — at least for the next two or so years. But even though Ginsburg (or the “Notorious RBG”) has garnered an almost celebrity status throughout her tenure on the Supreme Court, the story of how she acquired her fiery determination was almost as little-known as the names of some of her less famous colleagues.

On the Basis of Sex aims to change that. The film takes a closer look at Ginsburg’s beginnings at law school and her first job as a Rutgers professor before tackling her breakout court case. Felicity Jones portrays Ginsburg as a brilliant and ambitious scholar, yet commands her audience to sympathize with her as she is faced with the systemic sexism trying to hold her back, from Dean Griswold (Sam Waterson) asking her to explain why she feels entitled to take a seat at Harvard Law that could have easily been given to a man, to her thirteenth job interviewer after graduation denying her due to the close-knit nature of the predominantly male firm and their fear that “the wives might get jealous.”

Ginsburg eventually accepts a professorship where she will teach a class on sexism and the law, despite her over-qualification for the job. Audiences are left feeling especially moved when her husband Martin (Armie Hammer) tries to console her by saying she is leading the next generation of lawyers to change the world, and Ginsburg responds by crying out, “But that’s what I wanted to do!”

As a woman, I empathize with the pain Ginsburg experienced throughout the film when being faced with sexism head-on. But it wasn’t “as a woman” that I went to go see the movie — it was as a constitutional law nerd with a few years of Moot Court under my belt and a travel-sized US constitution in my back pocket. So when Martin Ginsburg handed her a tax law case and said that “you might want to read this,” I felt especially excited to finally get the chance to see Ginsburg’s famous legal analysis work in action.

The case, Charles E. Moritz v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, concerns a man, Moritz, who had been acting as a caretaker for his elderly mother. He hired a woman to help with the care-taking, as it was becoming too big a task on his own since he was also a full-time employee. He then attempted to deduct the caretaker’s salary on his federal tax returns under a special caregiver’s deduction, but his request was rejected due to a technicality in the law. The law read, “There shall be allowed as a deduction expenses paid during the taxable year by a taxpayer who is a woman or widower, or is a husband whose wife is incapacitated or is institutionalized [emphasis added], for the care of one or more dependents... enabling the taxpayer to be gainfully employed.” The government had successfully argued in court that, seeing as Moritz had never been married, he did not qualify for the tax deduction.
In the film, Ginsburg identified Moritz v. Commissioner as being one of the first cases to challenge a law discriminating against men. She instantly recognized that it was far more likely to win on appeal in front of a panel of all male judges than a case that challenged a law that discriminated against women. She also recognized that, upon victory, it had the potential to establish a new precedent for other cases of discrimination on the basis of sex — although making a case without precedent is still incredibly difficult. In the legal world, precedent is a big deal — judges are much more likely to decide in your favor if judges have ruled that same way in the past. The representation for the commissioner (the respondents) had the advantage of over a hundred years of precedent in treating men and women differently under the law, thereby making the argument for Moritz (the petitioner) significantly more daunting — there was no legal precedence, and the jury was skeptical that discrimination on the basis of sex was even an issue.

On the Basis of Sex is a brilliant movie that allows ordinary people the opportunity to look back on the history of discriminatory laws, and appreciate the struggle of women like Ginsburg to lead the change in the court’s interpretation of “equal.” Although On the Basis of Sex chooses to omit more of the legal nuance than I would have hoped, it serves as a fascinating and inspiring glimpse into Ginsburg’s past, and a rallying cry for women and men hoping to continue her mission well into the future.
On a very frosty Wednesday, Josh Peck came to Carnegie Mellon, giving students an excuse to leave their rooms during the polar vortex. Peck told several stories that revealed a lot about his career, his family, and his general outlook on life. The first half of the event was a moderator asking him questions, while the second half of the event was a question and answer session with the audience.

It was amazing how naturally funny and likable he was. During the question and answer portion of the night, he frequently had the audience crying with laughter. He took to roasting some of the students asking him questions, and his casual attitude made asking questions really easy and fun. He obliged a fan’s request to say his catchphrase from *Drake and Josh*, “Well I ain’t calling you a truther!” He shared several embarrassing stories without hesitation as well as his most fun stories from his career. He even offered some valuable insight about his life, saying that he feels blessed and is really happy with how his life has turned out. He treated the audience like his friend, and it was a treat to watch him.
This week, Creed II will be screening in McConomy and was reviewed in an earlier edition.

Creed II is a really solid Rocky film. It’s not as good as the original Creed but it’s up there. In terms of being an inspiring boxing film that’s part of a long-running franchise, this is almost as good as it gets. The film was really enjoyable overall with some solid stakes. For those who don’t have context, Adonis Creed’s father, Apollo, was killed in the ring during the events of Rocky IV by Ivan Drago. This film has Adonis going up against Ivan Drago’s son, Viktor, and there are some heavy emotional stakes on the line for both families.

The motivations and characterization for the Dragos are surprisingly fleshed out, and it made the conflict that much more palpable. In a lesser Rocky film, the Dragos would have been caricatures with hilariously fake Russian accents, but Creed II does a good job making the audience care about them. That made the fight scenes, all of which were pretty great, that much more engaging.

Michael B. Jordan is incredibly well cast as Adonis, and seeing Sylvester Stallone again as Rocky is always a blast. The semi father-son dynamic between the two is really endearing and fun to watch. There isn’t really a bad character in the film at all. It’s just a really well made Rocky movie and a really well made boxing movie. Creed II shows that while not every film has to be a masterpiece, they can still be well done pieces of entertainment.
horoscopes: the signs as potatoes

Aries
march 21 – april 19

Bacon and cheese fries.

Taurus
april 20 – may 20

Potato perogies.

Gemini
may 21 – june 20

Potato chips.

Cancer
june 21 – july 22

Potato salad.

Leo
july 23 – aug. 22

Mashed potatoes.

Virgo
aug. 23 – sept. 22

Waffle fries.

Libra
sept. 23 – oct. 22

Loaded potatoes.

Scorpio
oct. 23 – nov. 21

Potato soup.

Sagittarius
nov. 22 – dec. 21

Sautéed potatoes.

Capricorn
dec. 22 – jan. 19

Hash browns.

Aquarius
jan. 20 – feb. 18

Tater tots.

Pisces
feb. 19 – march 20

French fries.

sudoku
doku courtesy of www.krazydad.com

last week’s solution
1-28-19

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

sudoku courtesy of www.krazydad.com
Give Yourself Time
by Guy Kopsumbut

Do you think we can redefine ourselves?

I think so. Why do you ask?

Dinosaur means terrible lizard... I don't want to be terrible.

Well, dinosaur originally meant fearfully great.

Really? I'm great?

To the point of being scary!

Well, that's how I want to define my life then!

Sounds like you'll have a very meaningful life.
Sincere, Intimate Moment
by Sarah Andersen

Horses
by xkcd
week of 2.4.19 - 2.10.19

WRCT Massive Movie Week (Row House Cinema)
2.1.19 - 2.7.19

CMU Art Lecture: Ulrike Müller (CFA 300)
2.5.19 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Hanif Abdurraqib (City of Asylum)
2.5.19 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Spark the Movement - A Discussion: Media and Representation (Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion)
2.6.19 5 - 6 p.m.

CSA Event: New Year Extravaganza 2019 (UC)
2.8.19 - 2.9.19 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Taco Trail: A Tour of Pittsburgh's Best Tacos and Margaritas (Mad Mex)
2.9.19 1 - 5 p.m.

Women Direct Horror (Row House Cinema)
2.8.19 - 2.14.19

week of 2.18.19 - 2.24.19

Carnegie Mellon Chamber Series: “Music of the Americas” (Kresge Theater)
2.18.19 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

CMU Art Lecture: Thaddeus Mosley with Naomi Chambers (CFA 300)
2.19.19 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Reception: CMU Design Exhibit - Generous Feedback (Miller ICA)
2.21.19 6 - 8 p.m.

week of 2.25.19 - 3.3.19

Pittsburgh's Harry Potter Film & Cultural Festival 2019 (Row House Cinema)
2.24.19 - 3.7.19

CMU Art Lecture: Lenka Clayton & Jon Rubin (CFA 300)
2.26.19 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Bloomfield Saturday Market
3.2.19 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Lunar Gala 2019: Anomie (UC)
3.2.19 8 - 11 p.m.

ongoing

Colorism: Thinking Outside the Paper Bag (Phosphor Project Space)
Open until 2.16.19 - open Sundays 1 - 4 p.m.

Orchid and Tropical Bonsai Show: Eye Candy (Phipps Conservatory)
Open until 3.4.19 - open every day 9:30 - 5 p.m. (10 p.m. on Fridays)
PARADOX: 
THE BODY IN THE AGE OF AI

The Miller Gallery’s latest exhibit, Paradox: The Body in the Age of AI, explored “the primacy of the human body as it’s poised on the precipice of a potential fusion with artificial intelligence.” Paradox opened Oct. 5, 2018 and ran through Feb. 3.