

# THE TARTAN



Volume 100, Issue 21

Carnegie Mellon's Student Newspaper since 1906

3 April 2006

## Facebook filled with interest and ignorance

by **Andrew Peters**  
Staffwriter

"But how will I know if I have friends?" said first-year Sara-Anne Lee half-jokingly when she discovered that *facebook.com* was down for a day last week.

Lee is not alone in her reliance on Facebook — by late 2005, nearly 70 percent of Carnegie

Mellon undergraduates had profiles on *facebook.com*.

A Donner Hall community discussion last Tuesday focused on the astonishingly popular social networking website. Junior Pat Malatack, the Donner Hall Community Advisor, kicked off a new discussion series with a talk about the issues regarding Facebook.

Malatack, a double major in

human-computer interaction and cognitive science, hopes that a community dialogue will help his residents learn from each other, especially about something as important as internet safety.

"I chose Facebook because there is a lot of interest and there is a lot of ignorance," Malatack said, indicating that news sources like *USA Today* and *The New York Times* are starting to cover

privacy issues brought about by Facebook.

Tuesday's discussion focused on several major issues, including the possibility that Facebook users are unaware of just how many people have access to the information and images they post.

Employers such as Bose, Inc. have started looking at Facebook profiles before they hire employees, Malatack told students in the

discussion.

"Questions [employers] are not allowed to ask you, sexual preference, what country you are from ... they can find out on Facebook," said Rowshan Palmer, coordinator of student development and housefellow of Donner. "I'd like to believe that's not how they would use it, but they could."

See FACEBOOK, page A3



Courtesy of *www.facebook.com*

A discussion in Donner Hall deliberated the security risks on Facebook. Above: The website's icon.

## Tepper Venture Challenge

Business contest  
awards \$10,000

by **Matthew McKee**  
Staffwriter

Many students would love to drop out of school and start their own business. Yesterday, one group of undergraduates proved that they could do just that.

The Tepper Venture Challenge (TVC), a competition simulating the proposal of entrepreneurial ideas, ended yesterday after six final teams presented their business plans to venture capitalists and businessmen.

The judges awarded the grand prize of \$5000 to "Envivial" from Carnegie Mellon, a team composed of Kyle Langworthy, Joseph Damato, and Matthew Humphrey. Coming in second with an award of \$3000 was the team "Acadaid," and the team "Medimaging" took the third prize of \$2000.

The TVC began when teams submitted executive summaries for review at the beginning of March. After that, the judges chose six teams to compete in the finals.

To encourage open-ended creativity, the TVC had no official guidelines for ideas, and the summaries could be as long or short as the teams chose.

"We can give guidelines, but in the end, if it looks solid, it will come through no matter what," said Saravana Sivasankaran, a junior in electrical and computer engineering and chair of the TVC.

Teams from all over Pennsylvania could enter, and a record 34 teams competed for a chance to win a part of the \$10,000.

At the finals, qualifying teams from Carnegie Mellon and University of Pittsburgh each presented their ideas for 10 minutes to a panel of real venture capitalists and businessmen. Then the judges had 10 minutes to question each team and critique their ideas.

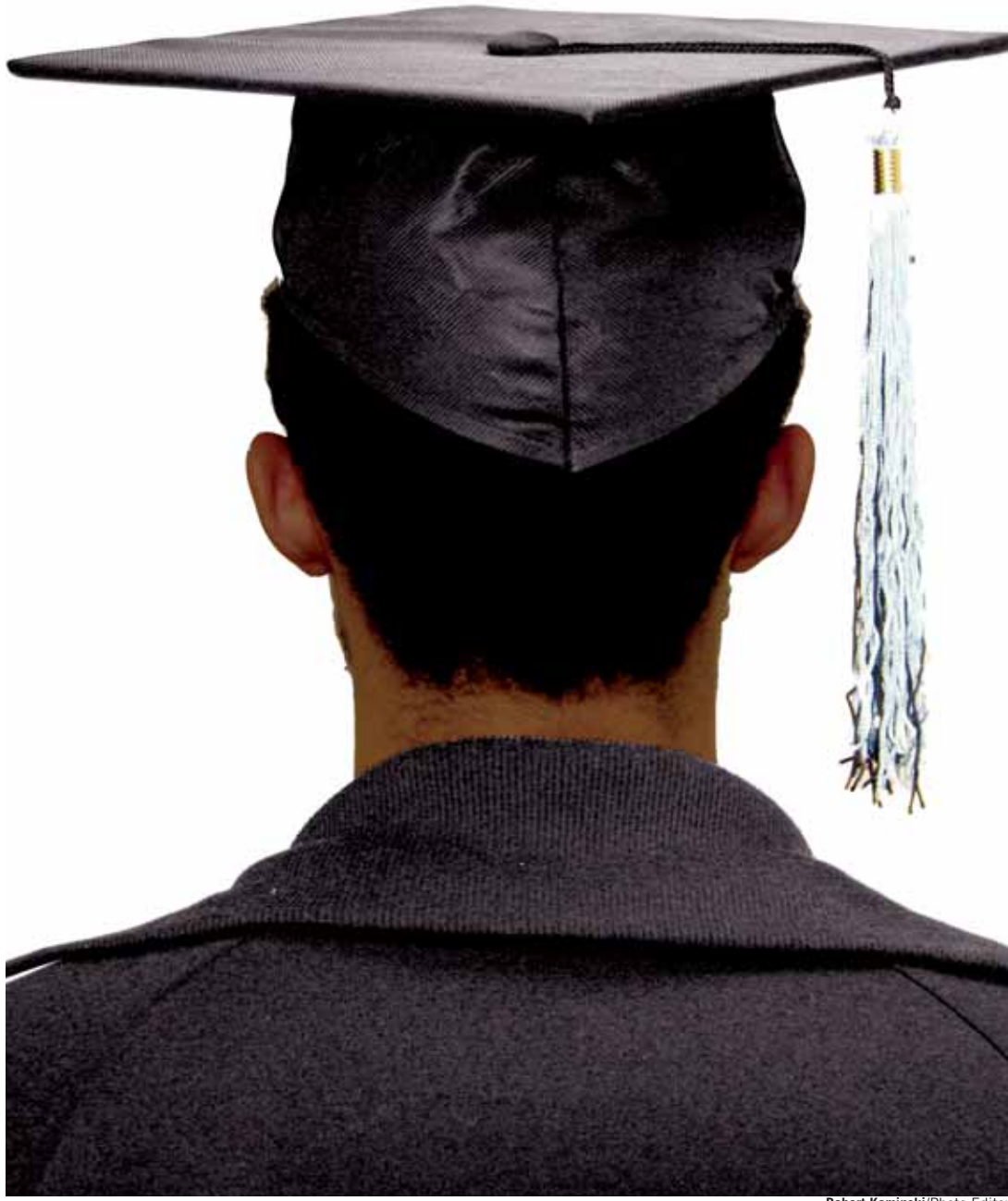
"There are not very many undergraduate entrepreneurship competitions," said Arthur Boni, the deputy director of the Donald H. Jones Center for Entrepreneurship in the Tepper School.

"It allows for an experience much like going for investors. Feedback itself ... is one of the best learning experiences."

This is the first year that the TVC has been open to schools across Pennsylvania. It has grown with its organizing group, the Undergraduate Entre-

See CHALLENGE, page A4

## The color of commencement



Robert Kaminski/Photo Editor

### Graduation rate of black students at CMU higher than national journal indicates

by **Shawn Wertz**  
Assistant News Editor

Recent efforts by Carnegie Mellon to boost black graduation rates went unnoticed this year.

A national journal ranked the University as having the lowest of such rates for black students among "high-ranking universities." But the journal's statistics do not match the statistics provided by Carnegie Mellon. The University's rate in actuality may be much higher than reported, and even higher than some historically black colleges and universities.

The study was published in the *Journal of Blacks in Higher Education's* (JBHE) Winter 2005 edition in an article titled "Black Student College Graduation Rates Remain Low, But Modest Progress Begins to Show."

Data were compiled from the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) regarding graduation rates from top universities across the country, including Harvard University, Stanford University, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Among the rankings, Harvard's percentage rates were highest, with approximately 95 percent of their black students graduating. According to the same study, Carnegie Mellon ranked well below that statistic, with only 65 percent of its black student population graduating.

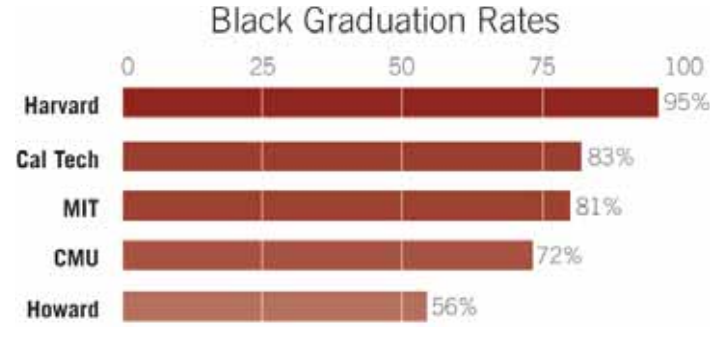
Yet data released by the University, as well as the Department of Education, suggest that the graduation rate for black students at Carnegie Mellon is actually higher. According to the sources, the current rate at Carnegie Mellon is approximately 72 percent, seven percent greater than the 65 percent projected by JBHE.

"We get our statistics from the NCAA because they're first to post them," said Caroline Gelb, associate editor of JBHE in a phone interview, "and we feel that they're probably pretty accurate."

**Understanding the Discrepancy**

When reviewing the statistics

See BLACK, page A4



## Poll to deliberate student bill of rights

by **Claire Morgenstern**  
Staffwriter

Is a student's right to be graded fairly important enough to warrant an amendment to the Carnegie Mellon's Student Bill of Rights? It's important enough, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Program for Deliberative Democracy thinks, to hold a deliberative poll on the subject next Tuesday.

Randy Weinstein, a Coro Fellow in Local Democracy and 2005 Carnegie Mellon graduate, has organized the event along with junior Michael R. Bueti, chair of the Academic Affairs committee of Student Senate, and numerous Carnegie Mellon faculty members.

"We hope the poll will help stimulate discussion of students'

rights issues within the Carnegie Mellon community," Weinstein said, "and the data will help us gain insight into the views of the community on this issue."

According to the committee's "Campus Conversations: The Carnegie Mellon Students' Rights Policy" information packet, there are many possible courses of action within three general directions. Carnegie Mellon could adopt the Student Bill of Rights, retain its current policy, or modify current policy with the addition of the proposed amendment.

As Weinstein explained, the deliberative poll participants will first be briefed on background information and perspectives surrounding the issue prior to the event.

See POLLING, page A3

## Students vote in mock Israeli elections

by **Michael M. Whiston**  
Staffwriter

In the wake of recent political reshuffling, polls opened to millions of Israeli voters last Tuesday. Halfway around the globe, Tartans for Israel ended mock elections at Carnegie Mellon.

Centrist party Kadima claimed 28 of the 120 Knesset seats in the actual Israeli elections, followed by the left-wing Labor party with 20 seats and right-wing Likud party with 11 seats.

"The far right and the far left got clobbered," said military and political analyst Elliot Chodoff, speaking of the election results last Wednesday in Porter Hall. A specialist in terrorism, sociology, and Middle East conflict, Chodoff spoke to Carnegie Mellon students about the impact of the Israeli elections.

"Peace is certainly not on the horizon," Chodoff said.



Justin Brown/Assistant Photo Editor

Elliot Chodoff discussed the Israeli election last Wednesday in Porter Hall.

He noted, however, that Kadima is a pragmatic party looking to find solutions to problems. Furthermore, horizons for peace may not be visible simply because of current positions, he said.

Hasbara Fellowships, a pro-Israel activist program for college students, ran the event and compiled mock election results from across the country. The results

differed from the actual election results, with Likud claiming 44 out of 120 seats, followed by Kadima with 33 seats.

At Carnegie Mellon, the sponsoring organization provided students with candidate information and the chance to vote in the Israeli mock election. They closed

See ELECTIONS, page A4



Weather



TUESDAY  
Hi: 41  
Lo: 35



WEDNESDAY  
Hi: 48  
Lo: 38



THURSDAY  
Hi: 59  
Lo: 50



FRIDAY  
Hi: 60  
Lo: 45



SATURDAY  
Hi: 51  
Lo: 39

Executive Privilege



Bradford Yankiver

Today, The Tartan returns to publishing its annual April Fool's issue. The 2004 joke issue, called The Natrat ("Tartan" spelled backwards), hinged on disgracefully offensive and tasteless material and nearly resulted in the collapse of the organization. After a year's absence, we have made the decision to reclaim the tradition for its original purpose: intelligent satire.

But as we move forward, let's take this opportunity to remember the past. History is the greatest teacher.

On April 1, 2004, The Tartan published racist, misogynistic, and demeaning content that set the Carnegie Mellon campus ablaze. I'd been studying at another university when The Natrat was published, but I was taken aback just hearing my friends' accounts of the issue's publication and the aftermath. It was clear that the event struck a sensitive nerve; it exposed and inflamed underlying issues of the Carnegie Mellon community.

The reaction was strong. Students lobbied to expel those responsible. University President Jared Cohon condemned the author of the egregious piece and the editors who let it run. The Tartan stopped publishing for the first time in years. Everyone on campus was left enraged, bitter, and disillusioned.

But in the months following April 1, 2004, students spoke up in public forums, wrote about their experiences, and talked with each other. A commission led by John Hannon, of the Office of Student Development, worked with The Tartan to help it get back on its feet and moving in the right direction. Members of Carnegie Mellon's administration had a new reason to think hard about the issues of respect, diversity, and creating an inclusive community. In short, we were able to channel much of the anger, pain, and disappointment that the event caused into finding positive approaches to solving the problems our campus was facing.

Shortly after stepping into my current role, I wrote in this column, "The explosive, fiery debate ignited by the 2004 'Natrat' taught this community a lot about itself. But the fire has died. Our campus has returned to its aloof status quo: an environment bereft of debate among most students. In such an atmosphere, underlying problems will not change, and it is inevitable that some event in the future will cause another wildfire of anger and disgust." Exactly one month later, Malik Zulu Shabazz, the bigoted and militant leader of the New Black Panther Party for Self Defense, provided just that event.

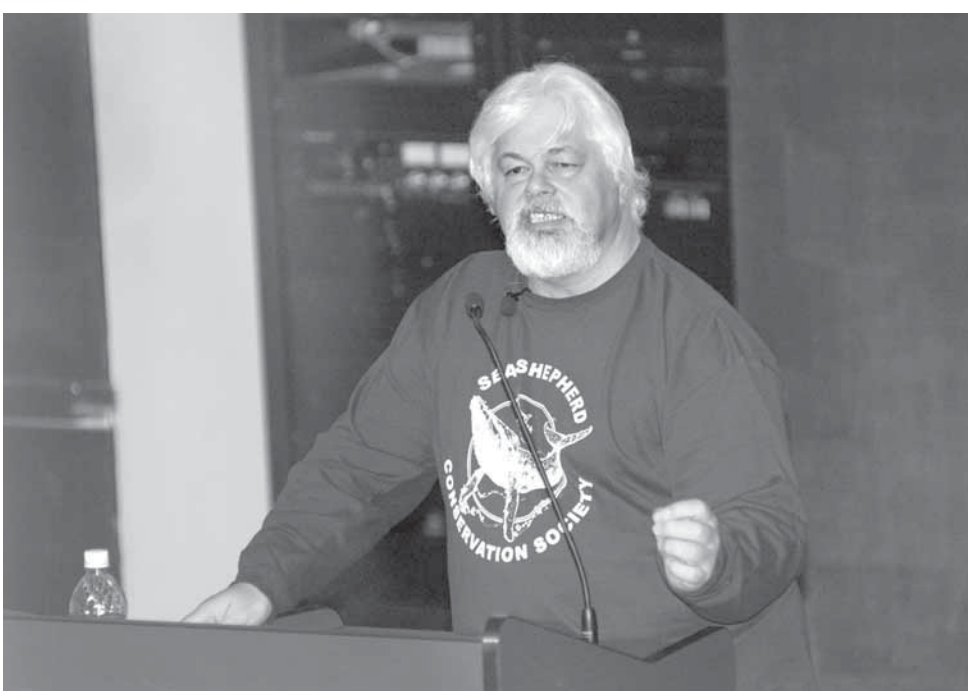
Again, the campus was in an uproar. It felt as though we'd learned nothing. But through forums, debates, and discussions, our community turned it into something that was largely positive.

I remember feeling distinctly uncomfortable each time The Natrat was mentioned in the public forums after Shabazz's visit to campus. For a long time, I'd hoped that the campus would forget The Natrat as quickly as possible. I came to understand, however, that students' memories of The Natrat informed the discussion about Shabazz, just as their memories of Shabazz will some day inform the way they think about the next controversy they will inevitably face.

It sometimes seems that the crisis situations are the only times the big issues, such as race, sexuality, and many others, get any attention on a broad scale. Of course, they come up briefly when first-years arrive, but after that there isn't much. By and large, we depend on controversy.

That's not all bad. Those experiences are the most potent. But by engendering a more robust discussion around the hot issues when we're not in crisis-mode and people aren't so emotional, we will be better prepared to process the complexities of crises when they happen — and they will.

It is all of our responsibility to hold onto the memory of our recent history and use it to find new ways for the members of our community to address the many sensitive issues that have challenged us time and again.



Robert Kaminski/Photo Editor

Greenpeace founder denies being terrorist

Paul Watson, founder of Greenpeace, spoke last Thursday in McConomy Auditorium. Watson responded to accusations of being an eco-terrorist by saying that the UN prohibits enforcement of environmental law by third-party organizations. Watson also detailed how, through his organization Sea Shepherd, a conservation society dedicated to protecting marine life, he has sunk ships and destroyed millions of dollars' worth of capital equipment.

Statistically Speaking

In response to the fine weather and Daylight Savings Time, this week's statistics have spring fever. So go enjoy the sunlight and spend some quality time on the Cut. Take your work with you, if you have to.

Average number of sunny days a year in Kahului, Hawaii 131

Average number of sunny days a year in Seattle: 71

Average number of sunny days a year in Pittsburgh: 59

Average number of hours adults spend indoors per day: 20.4

Estimated number of deaths caused by melanoma in the U.S. in 2005: 7770

Percentage of people with seasonal mood disorders: 16–26 percent

Closest public beach (Raccoon Creek State Park): 33.1 miles

Sources: [www.worldfactsandfigures.com](http://www.worldfactsandfigures.com), [www.emedicinehealth.com](http://www.emedicinehealth.com), [medicineworld.org](http://medicineworld.org), [www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us), [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

Compiled by Meg Richards

Crime & Incident

Theft

24 March 2006 at 12:56

A complainant told Campus Police that an unknown individual had removed unspecified items out of Room 171 at police headquarters, 300 South Craig Street.

Fire Alarm

24 March 2006 at 13:28

Campus Police received a report from Facilities Management Services that a fire was in progress at Roselawn Terrace 4. Smoke was seen billowing out of the second-floor window by FMS. Police suspect a resident's computer caused the fire.

Suspicious Person

26 March 2006 at 04:22

A complainant told Campus Police that two Asian males were sleeping in the lounge in Doherty Apartments. The complainant reported that the men had been rude to him, and he thought they were not Carnegie Mellon students. Campus Police confirmed that the sleepers actually were Carnegie Mellon students, and no further action was needed.

Fraud

27 March 2006 at 10:07

An individual passed a bad check in the computer store in the University Center. The check, in the amount of

\$207.58, was believed to be fake. No further information is available, as Campus Police are currently investigating the incident.

Theft

29 March 2006 at 14:31

A complainant told Campus Police that an unknown individual had removed his leather coat, identification card, cellular phone, and clothing from Skibo Gym.

Assist Outside Agency

30 March 2006 at 16:15

The Information Network Institute called Campus Police and said that an unknown individual interrupted a lecture in the Collaborative Innovation Center. The actor was seen wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and a mask. The actor placed a sign on the glass door of the lecture hall. The sign contained the words "sic semper tyrannis."

Assist Outside Agency

31 March 2006 at 02:50

A driver for Carnegie Mellon Escort notified Campus Police that an accident occurred on Forbes Avenue at Murdoch Road involving two students. Campus Police responded to the scene and notified Pittsburgh police, who also responded.

Compiled by Shawn Wertz

Corrections & Clarifications

In last week's Forum article "Fifty percent of Americans bake the entire economic pie," the sentence "Less than 50 percent of the population pays 99 percent or more of the federal income tax bill" is false. The sentence should have read "If ever 50 percent or less of the population paid 99 percent or more of the federal bill, then politicians would have no incentive whatso-

ever to even consider reform."

In last week's News article "Forum discusses women in Pittsburgh politics," all three of the political hopefuls mentioned at the forum are Run Baby Run candidates for the Pennsylvania Statehouse. The article said two were.

Also, coordinator Natalia Rudiak was incorrectly identified as Natalie.

New dean of Student Affairs to be announced today

by Patrick Pettibon Staffwriter

Two lectures and a newly appointed dean of Student Affairs will usher in the first week of April on the Carnegie Mellon campus.

The new appointment of the dean of Student Affairs will be announced this morning at 11:30 am in the University Center's McConomy Auditorium.

The selection process for the position began last April when former Dean of Student Affairs Michael Murphy took the position of associate vice-president. Associate Dean of Student Affairs Jennifer Church took his position last fall and has since

served as the campus's interim dean.

An 18-person selection committee led the search to fill the position, which formally began last fall. Before spring break, three final candidates held forums as a final part in the selection process.

Departments that the new dean will oversee include the Career Center, Counseling and Psychological Services, Health Services, the Office of International Education, the Office of Orientation & First Year Programs, Student Activities, Student Development, and Student Life.

If you missed the announcement today, [www.thetartan.org](http://www.thetartan.org) has the updated announcement regarding the new dean.

Also today, Philip Landrigan will speak in a lecture titled "Children's Health and the Environment — The Problem and the Solution."

Landrigan is the head of the Department of Community and Preventative Medicine at Mount Sinai School of Medicine and Director of Mount Sinai's Center for Children's Health and the Environment in New York City.

Working with the Epidemic Intelligence Service, Landrigan spent 15 years studying the dangers of lead and other toxins to children. He is a graduate of Harvard Medical School and has worked at Mount Sinai since 1985.

The talk is planned for 4:30 pm today in the Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A. It is part of the

University Lecture Series.

Susan Polansky, associate head of modern languages and teaching professor of Hispanic studies at Carnegie Mellon will speak Thursday.

Polansky has taught courses about Spanish language and culture, including "Reflections on Food in the Spanish-Speaking World." Her research focuses on modern Spanish literature and the development of Spanish teaching tools. Polansky has written several books, including textbooks and articles.

Her lecture "Lessons From Chocolate," part of the University Lecture Series, will take place at 4:30 pm on Thursday in the Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A.

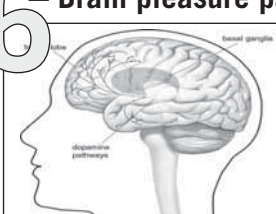
**Dean of Student Affairs**  
Today at 11:30 am  
McConomy Auditorium

**Phillip Landrigan**  
"Children's Health and the Environment — The Problem and the Solution"  
Today at 4:30 pm  
Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A

**Susan Polansky**  
"Lessons From Chocolate"  
Thursday at 4:30 pm  
Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A

Science & Technology

6 Brain pleasure pathway



Also:  
Global warming  
How Things Work: Diamonds

Forum

9 Don't marginalize immigrants



Also:  
RIP "Literally" (1533–2006)  
Student government elections

Sports

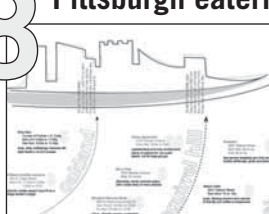
12 Championship track meet



Also:  
Golf  
Women's and men's tennis

Pillbox

8 Pittsburgh eateries



Also:  
What CMU kids eat  
Diners and coffee shops



# Donner discussion warns students about Facebook

FACEBOOK, from A1

Bose, however, is not the only company scoping college students out. According to Malatack, Facebook sells all of its information to advertisers at a hefty price and any advertiser that pays for ad space on Facebook has free reign over all Facebook profiles.

He also noted the difficulty in keeping information safe from advertisers.

“You can choose not to have your information sold, but, as someone at the discussion said, you have to go through seven different links to get there and then click something that doesn’t look like a hyperlink,” Malatack said in an interview after the discussion.

Communications giant Viacom certainly understands how valuable the information on Facebook is. According to the March 28 *Business Week* article “Facebook for Sale; But \$2 billion?,” Viacom offered the owners of Facebook \$75 million for their creation.

Facebook rejected the offer; they want \$2 billion.

Businesses are not the only institutions using Facebook to look at what students are doing and saying. Many universities are monitoring their students as well.

According to a report by Brock Read titled “Think Before You Share” in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Ohio State University officials used Facebook to apprehend students after football rioting last October.

The university’s assistant director of police received a tip that students had posted pictures online of friends storming the field. After logging onto Facebook, the campus police found a group of students who had rushed the field.

According to Read, it only took a few days and a few clicks of the mouse for campus police to identify the offenders and refer about 50 students to the university’s office of judicial affairs.

Loyola University Chicago even went so far as to ban certain students from being on Facebook. According to Malatack, all of Loyola’s athletes were told to get rid of their Facebook profiles if they wanted to keep playing.

Loyola’s concern was that statements or pictures on Facebook could implicate their athletes in activities that violate the code of conduct every athlete signs upon matriculation to the university.

A *USA Today* article from earlier this month indicates that Florida State University has joined Loyola in banning athletes from Facebook.

Currently, Carnegie Mellon University does not use Facebook to investigate students, and both Palmer and Malatack agree that they do not foresee the University using it in the future.

Palmer, who occasionally accesses Facebook to look students up, says that she encourages students not to be careless on their Facebook accounts.

“I may have a conversation with them and ask if they are aware of who has access to this,” Palmer said, voicing concern that Facebook profiles may be making first impressions on behalf of the users. “Is this the image you want to put out there?”

Palmer, Malatack, and those who attended the Donner discussion are not the only ones who are interested in Facebook at Carnegie Mellon.

In 2005, professors Alessandro Acquisti of the Heinz School and Ralph Gross of the School of Computer Science published a report titled “Information Revelation and Privacy in Online Social Networks” with Facebook as their prime example. Acquisti and Gross researched thousands of Carnegie Mellon Facebook users.

“In our study of more than 4000 CMU users of the Facebook, we have quantified individuals’ willingness to provide large amounts of personal information in an online social network, and we have shown how unconcerned its users appear to privacy risks,” the report stated.

“Based on the information they provide online, users expose themselves to various physical and cyber risks, and make it extremely easy for third parties to create digital dossiers of their behavior.”

Though their work is not done, Acquisti and Gross attributed such behavior on the part of students to a number of different sources. They explain that users may publish personal information “because the benefits they expect from public disclosure

surpass its perceived costs.”

“Peer pressure and herding behavior may also be influencing factors, and so also myopic privacy attitudes and the sense of protection offered by the (perceived) bounds of a campus community,” Acquisti and Gross stated.

Malatack and Palmer are not concerned that students are currently any more or less unruly than they have ever been, but the advent of websites like Facebook and Myspace means that there is digital documentation of the choices that a particular user makes.

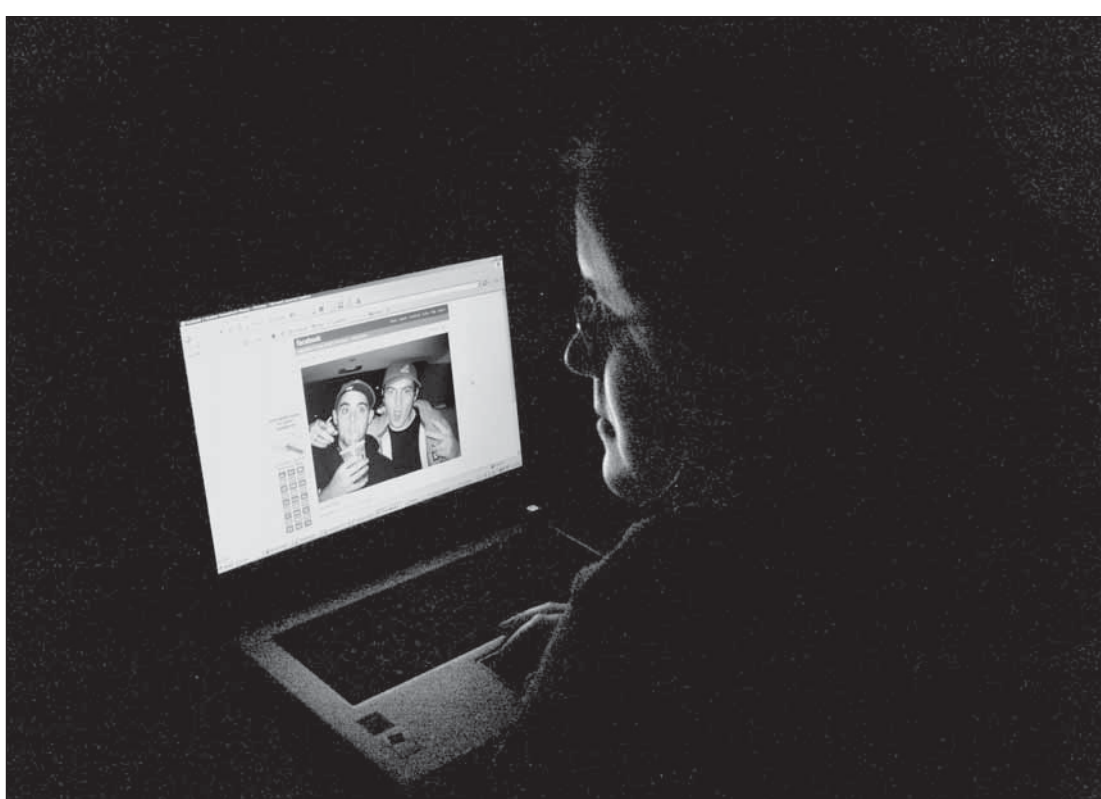
Palmer, however, would have people focus on the better aspects of Facebook as well.

“Facebook has created a huge social web. There is no way you could do this by just walking around meeting people,” Palmer said.

Malatack agreed.

“We shouldn’t focus on the bad. There is a lot of good,” he said, explaining that as a CA, he often uses Facebook to get to know his residents and advertise his community events.

Malatack used Facebook to advertise Tuesday’s discussion.



Justin Brown/Assistant Photo Editor

A discussion in Donner last week focused on the popular social networking site *facebook.com*. Among the issues addressed were privacy issues, including national companies that can solicit student information.

# Poll will deliberate student bill of rights

POLLING, from A1

On the day of the event, they will discuss their reactions to the material in small groups of randomly-selected participants.

Their conclusions will then be turned into data, which will become a factor in the decision-making process of campus policy-makers.

The process of changing University policy is neither easy nor expedient. In the weeks follow-

original decision to veto the resolution.

Sabram also pointed out the benefits for individuals who choose to participate in the poll.

“[Participating in the poll] will provide community members the opportunity to learn background knowledge on the issue nationally and how it will affect our campus so they can make more educated decisions,” Sabram said. “Learning about

the issue gives them the opportunity to converse with other students on this campus and challenge the way they

**“We want to give as educated an estimate as possible on how students feel on an issue.”**

**— Tom Sabram**

think.”

Sabram and Weinsten agreed that the deliberative poll provides an effective way to get an engaged audience and educate others en masse.

In order to get as random a sample as possible, Sabram added, poll organizers will gather two students from each of Carnegie Mellon’s student organizations and poll them if the sample obtained through the self-selection process isn’t diversified enough.

“We want to give as educated an estimate as possible on how students feel on an issue,” Sabram said.

He noted the only disadvantage of the poll is that the leader of the discussion could cause participants’ views to be unfairly challenged — ironically, one of the problems that the Student Bill of Rights is designed to eradicate.

The poll, titled “Campus Conversations: The Carnegie Mellon Students’ Rights Policy,” will take place in Baker and Porter halls on Tuesday, April 11, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Registration begins at 5 pm outside Porter Hall 100.

WHAT KIND OF  
CHANGE  
ARE YOU GOING TO  
MAKE TO EARN  
THIS?  
JOIN STUDENT GOVERNMENT.

Executive officer positions include Student Body President, Student Body Vice President, and Student Body Vice President For Finance.

To run, just get a petition from the UC Info Desk and have it signed by April 14 for senate positions, or April 10 for executive officer positions. You’ll need 25 signatures for a senate seat, or 100 for an executive position.

Elections are April 24 and 25, the week after Carnival. So get started! Petitions should be turned in at 5:00pm on the day they’re due.

If you have any questions, feel free to email us at elections-board@stusen.org for more information. If you want to make some change at CMU, we want to give you the leverage to do it.



# Venture Challenge awards \$10,000

CHALLENGE, from A1

preneurship Association (UEA). The UEA's membership has doubled since last spring, and the group is beginning to sponsor new competitions. Boni said the Tepper School of Business is a pioneer of education in entrepreneurship. "The business plan competition is a very important part of what we do," Boni said. "It's a very, very good mechanism for [proposing ideas]." Sivasankaran believes there is great enthusiasm for entrepreneurs in the UEA; he noted that many students will leave Carnegie Mellon to pursue their ideas. Boni, who expressed his confidence in the Carnegie Mellon entrepreneurship program, believes that students who take the courses of his department have a competitive edge. Langworthy, a junior finance major who has not taken a curricular course in entrepreneurship, and his two

teammates took their winning team "Envivial" in front of the judges and presented the idea during the finals of Sunday's competition they had developed since the summer. "We're looking for help with how to argue a pitch," said Langworthy. "For the most part, I'm not looking for positive feedback." Langworthy intends to develop his idea into his own business. He

sees the TVC as helpful but not necessary. "This is not a vivifying competition. Whether I win or lose, it doesn't matter." Finishing in first place, "Envivial" won \$5000 in legal services from the law firm Meyer, Unkovic, and Scott, LLP.

*Editor's note: Saravana Sivasankaran is a staffwriter for The Tartan.*



Justin Brown/Photo Staff  
"Envival" from Carnegie Mellon receives a first place check for \$5000.

# Campus holds mock Israeli elections

ELECTIONS, from A1

their polls last Monday night after a week and a half of tabling. Tartans for Israel kept bobblehead dolls of the politicians at the table, according to sophomore psychology major and group member Rachel Goykhman. "It gets people laughing; it gets people interested," she said. Even though elections are over, an uncertain future lies ahead, Goykhman said. In the Israeli electoral system, a party must receive a majority vote of 61 seats to govern on its own — otherwise, it must form a collaboration with other parties. "[Kadima] won the election, but it's not a very strong government," Goykhman pointed out. Having won only 28 Knesset seats, Kadima must form a political coalition in order to reach 61 seats, she explained. Parties receive Knesset seats in proportion to their number

of votes. "In Israel, your vote physically matters because you physically elect someone to parliament," said Marie Yetsin, senior economics major and Tartans for

**"We don't know what's going to happen."**  
— Marie Yetsin

Israel leader. In this election, much focus has been placed on previous Kadima leader Ariel Sharon, who left the Likud Party following its 2003 landslide victory to form the Kadima party, Yetsin explained. "This isn't who they elected," Yetsin said, referring to Sharon's

change in stance from anti- to pro-disengagement in Gaza. Goykhman agreed. "It just upset the entire political spectrum," she said. Acting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert claimed victory for the Kadima party in Tuesday's elections, according to the Associated Press. Olmert took over for Sharon following Sharon's stroke in January. "We are prepared to compromise, give up parts of our beloved land of Israel, remove, painfully, Jews who live there, to allow you the conditions to achieve your hopes and to live in a state in peace and quiet," Olmert said toward Palestinians in Jerusalem, according to an Associated Press article last week. With the centrist party Kadima entering in on a historically two-sided match between the ideological Likud and Labor parties, Yetsin noted that uncertainty continues. "We don't know what's going to happen," she said.

# Black student graduation rate higher than national journal reported

BLACK, from A1

provided by the NCAA, Carnegie Mellon's black graduation rate was still listed as 72 percent. What did match with *JBHE's* statistic was the four-year average graduation rate, which included the most recent statistic and also the statistics from the three previous years. It was Carnegie Mellon's four-year average graduation rate that was listed as being 65 percent. William Elliott, vice-president for enrollment at Carnegie Mellon, explained that there is a delay in reporting the statistics of classes that have already graduated. "If we have 100 entering students and by the time they all graduate there are only 97, I track where those three students dropped down, and this process is done for over six years," Elliott said. Elliott went on to explain that the statistics compiled from this

process are what the federal government and the NCAA look at before publishing their data. However, the current data does not describe the statistics for the most recently graduated class. "Quite frankly, the numbers in a graduating class won't get recorded until two years after you graduate," Elliott said. "The current data is from the entering class of 1999, so any progress we've recently made in minority graduation rates won't be seen for years and years."

## Carnegie Mellon's situation

Even with the most current statistic, Carnegie Mellon remains significantly behind its peer institutions such as Stanford University, whose graduation rate is 89 percent for its black students. According to *JBHE*, social environments on a given campus could lead to low graduation rates for its minority students, especially if those students leave

that institution for another. "Clearly, the racial climate at some colleges and universities is more favorable toward African-Americans than at other campuses," stated Robert Slater, managing editor of *JBHE* and author of the article. However, the graduation rate for black students at Carnegie Mellon is higher than the rate for black students at Howard University, which *JBHE* denotes as a "historically black university." Carnegie Mellon President Jared Cohon also acknowledged the role that racial climate plays on campuses, saying that he hoped the current actions done by various organizations at Carnegie Mellon would help to improve the quality of student life, "thereby increasing the number of students who stay." "Our efforts then improve the quality of life for black and Hispanic students," Cohon said. "And I think that our efforts have been successful."

## Current initiatives on campus

The Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) is Carnegie Mellon's leading source for campus initiatives to boost the quality of life on campus for its minority students. The DAC also records the population levels of minority students on campus. "Diversity, in all of the meanings of that word, is one of Carnegie Mellon's strategic priorities," Cohon stated in his letter included in the DAC's annual report. Cohon also chairs the council, which is responsible for current initiatives including minority recruitment. One such initiative started by the the DAC is the Role Models Program, which provides "tutoring programs that bring Carnegie Mellon undergraduates into predominantly African-American city schools," according to the DAC's position paper. Yet because the DAC's initiatives occurred after 1999, Cohon

and Elliott both noted the effects would not yet be seen. "Our great improvement in retention, both for the overall student body, and for black and Hispanic students, is still very recent," Cohon said. "It's still working its way through the system. It takes six years for that. To a journal like *JBHE*, it's a subtlety that escapes them." *JBHE* did acknowledge the recent efforts to boost black graduation rates at Carnegie Mellon. "Far more impressive is the 18-percentage-point increase in the black student graduation rate at Carnegie Mellon University [since 1998]," Slater stated in the article. However, Carnegie Mellon's reputation as being oriented toward the sciences was subject to some scrutiny by *JBHE*. "Black students in the sciences often have been made to feel uncomfortable by white faculty and administrators who persist in be-

liefs that blacks do not have the intellectual capacity of succeed in these disciplines," Slater wrote in his article. However, in a phone interview, Slater did not comment on how he obtained his data. In response to *JBHE*, Elliott mentioned current initiatives at Carnegie Mellon geared toward boosting black participation in the sciences. Specifically, he mentioned reinstatement of the Summer Academy for Math and Sciences, a program that helps to bring minority students to Pittsburgh during the summer to get them interested in enrolling at Carnegie Mellon. "Yes, at one time it may have been race exclusive," Elliott said. "It is now not." And Carnegie Mellon is beginning to see progress. Cohon speculated that the retention rate for the current graduating class is somewhere between 80 and 90 percent. "Subsequently the graduation rate will be higher," Cohon said.

2006 BUHL LECTURE

Brighter Than a Quadrillion Suns:  
Photon Science in the 21st Century

Keith Hodgson

Monday, April 10, 2006  
4:30 p.m. Mellon Institute Auditorium  
4400 Fifth Avenue  
Reception Immediately Following,  
Mellon Institute Lobby  
Free and Open to the Public

Carnegie Mellon

EPA @50  
a vision for 2020

Thursday, April 6  
4:30-5:30 p.m.  
(reception to follow)  
Breed Hall, MMCH 103  
Dr. Alan D. Hecht  
Director for Sustainable Development  
Office of Research and Development  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Co-sponsored by the Center for Building  
Performance and Diagnostics and the  
Steinbrenner Institute for Environmental  
Education and Research

As we look  
toward the future,  
rapid population  
and economic  
growth will  
certainly cause  
significant stress  
on the Earth's  
resources.

How can man and  
nature coexist and  
mutually prosper in  
the face of present  
and upcoming  
challenges?

The Great Global  
Sustainability  
Challenge Symposium

Friday, April 7, 5-8 p.m.  
Danforth Lounge, UC

Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Porter Hall 126A

This event will revolve around sustainability issues that affect the world's  
biggest cities. During this symposium, participants will work in groups to  
generate ideas and a proposal for ways in which a major city could become more  
sustainable. At the end of the symposium, groups will present their ideas and  
a panel of professional sustainability practitioners will award the best proposals.  
First prize is \$400 (and entered into the Meeting of the Minds), second  
prize is \$200, third prize is \$100.

Open to Carnegie Mellon students, faculty, staff and members of the  
Academy for Lifelong Learning. Register by April 5, by contacting Deborah  
Lange at dlange@andrew.cmu.edu or x8-7121.

Co-sponsored by the Steinbrenner Institute for Environmental Education and  
Research and Sarosh Kumana (Tepper '77).

Carnegie Mellon  
SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS



# Looking for a great apartment?

Apartments available in:

North Oakland • South Oakland • Shadyside  
Squirrel Hill • Friendship

Studio & 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 bedroom apartments

Available for May and the fall

## SOUTH OAKLAND

ALL NEW RENOVATED 2, 3, & 4  
BDRM. APARTMENTS

New kitchens with dishwashers,  
garbage disposals, range hoods, new  
bathrooms with ceramic tile floors,  
central AC., new windows, buzz in  
entry, high speed wire and cable  
for net, laundry in bldg., brand new  
**\$850-\$1800 plus utilities.**

**WE HAVE OTHER GREAT  
APARTMENTS IN  
SHADYSIDE, OAKLAND,  
SQUIRREL HILL, &  
FRIENDSHIP AREAS  
\$445 AND UP.**

## NORTH OAKLAND

FABULOUS 1, 3, & 4 BDRM. APARTMENTS  
Renovated, large 4 bdrm. apartment in great  
location, only 4 blocks away from Pitt, central  
AC., new kitchens, with dishwashers and gar-  
bage disposals, new cabinets, hardwood floor,  
buzz in entry, new thermal windows, high speed  
wire and cable for net, laundry in bldg., off street  
parking available, **only \$595-\$1500 plus.**

## SHADYSIDE

HUGE 3, 4, & 5 (2 baths) BDRM.  
APARTMENTS

Newly renovated, new kitchens with dish-  
washers, garbage disposals, new windows,  
hardwood floors, buzz in entry, laundry in  
bldg., too much to list. These apartments are  
some of the BEST AVAILABLE IN SHADYSIDE  
**\$1200-\$1800 plus.**

# E. S. Management

412-795-5845 or 412-325-3905

Call to schedule an appointment today.



## DEFINE yourself

# \$500 cash bonus

Special offer for college and trade school students, recent grads and graduate students

May be combined with most other publicly available Ford Motor Company national incentives at the time of purchase or lease on the model you select. Limit one offer per customer. See your local Ford or Lincoln Mercury Dealer for details. Visit our Web site for official Program rules.

**Log on to**  
**www.YourTicket2Drive.com**  
**for a chance to win:**

**\$ \$500 cash**

**\$ A trip to the 2006 mtvU Woodie Awards in New York City**

**\$ A brand new 2007 Ford Fusion!**

**o6 college student purchase program**  
[www.fordcollegehq.com](http://www.fordcollegehq.com)

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open to legal residents of the U.S. 18 and older who are currently enrolled or have graduated after 5/1/04 in from a nationally accredited college/university, junior college, community college or trade school at time of entry. VOID IN ALASKA AND HAWAII AND WHEREVER PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED BY LAW. Entries for the Grand Prize Sweepstakes must be received by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on 10/1/06 and entries for the Midway Sweepstakes drawings must be received by 11:59 p.m. (EST) on the 27th day of each calendar month during the Sweepstakes Period. Subject to the Official Rules. Visit YourTicket2Drive.com.

# Computer Scientists

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

**INTELLIGENT USER INTERFACES**

**NATURAL LANGUAGE UNDERSTANDING**

Technology that Understands You

Haley Systems is the world technology leader in commercial reasoning systems. Haley technology understands more than enough about physics, business, and English to make computers do what they are told.

Established in many of the world's largest companies and in Pittsburgh. We invite you to join us and other CMU alumni who keep building the smartest software on the planet.

Check us out at: [www.haley.com](http://www.haley.com)  
and

Contact us at: [careers@haley.com](mailto:careers@haley.com)

# Suite Location



**Best location in Pittsburgh**

**One block from Walnut St.'s 144 shops, entertainment and dining**

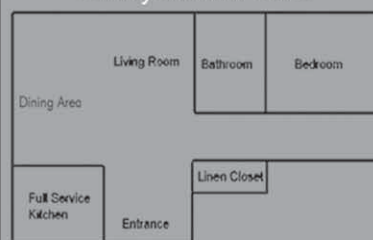
**Less than 1 mile from The University of Pittsburgh, UPMC and Carnegie Mellon University**

**Free High Speed Internet Access**

Elegantly furnished one and two bedroom suites with equipped kitchen, fluffy linens, TV,VCR, digital cable movies, free local phone and reserved parking.

A Suite For Less Than A Hotel Room

## Shadyside Inn Suite



## Regular Hotel Room



*Shadyside Inn  
Suites*

**Daily, Weekly and Monthly Rates**

**5405 Fifth Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15232  
[shadysideinn.com](http://shadysideinn.com)  
(412) 441-4444**



# \$400 OFF ANY NEW TOYOTA OF YOUR CHOICE\* AS A COLLEGE GRAD, YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE!

\*NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY. CUSTOMERS RECEIVE \$400 FROM TOYOTA TOWARDS LEASING OR FINANCING THE PURCHASE OF NEW UNTITLED TOYOTA MODELS THROUGH PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALERS AND TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS. COLLEGE GRADUATE PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR TERMINATION AT ANY TIME.



# COROLLA S

[buyatoyota.com](http://buyatoyota.com)

STANDARD FEATURES:

**MACPHERSON STRUT FRONT SUSPENSION**

+ **AM/FM/CD WITH 6 SPEAKERS**

+ **SIDE ROCKER PANELS**

+ **38 MPG HWY†**

**= YOUR NEW CAR**

**AS SHOWN \$17,360††**



TOYOTA | moving forward ▶

†EPA ESTIMATED MPG FOR 2005 COROLLA S MODEL 1812 4 SPEED AUTO. ACTUAL MILEAGE MAY VARY. ††MSRP FOR 2006 SPORT MODEL 1812 EXCLUDING TAX, TAGS AND LICENSE FEES. DEALER SETS FINAL PRICE.



## Pitt researchers discover brain's dopamine signal

by **Disha Shah**  
*Staffwriter*

Have you ever wondered why people become addicted to drugs and sex knowing that it is potentially damaging to them? This question could be answered by understanding the effects of the hormone and neurotransmitter dopamine. Recent research has indicated that dopamine has a significant role in brain pleasure pathways and has led to the understanding of multiple psychological diseases.

Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that plays a crucial role in addiction by operating through the reward-signaling system in the brain. It is a precursor to adrenaline and plays a pivotal role in brain processes that control movement, emotional response, and the ability to experience pleasure and pain. Pleasurable activities like eating, drinking, and having sex are all associated with elevated dopamine levels in the brain.



Courtesy of [www.esi-topics.com](http://www.esi-topics.com)

Dr. Anthony Grace was head of the dopamine research project.

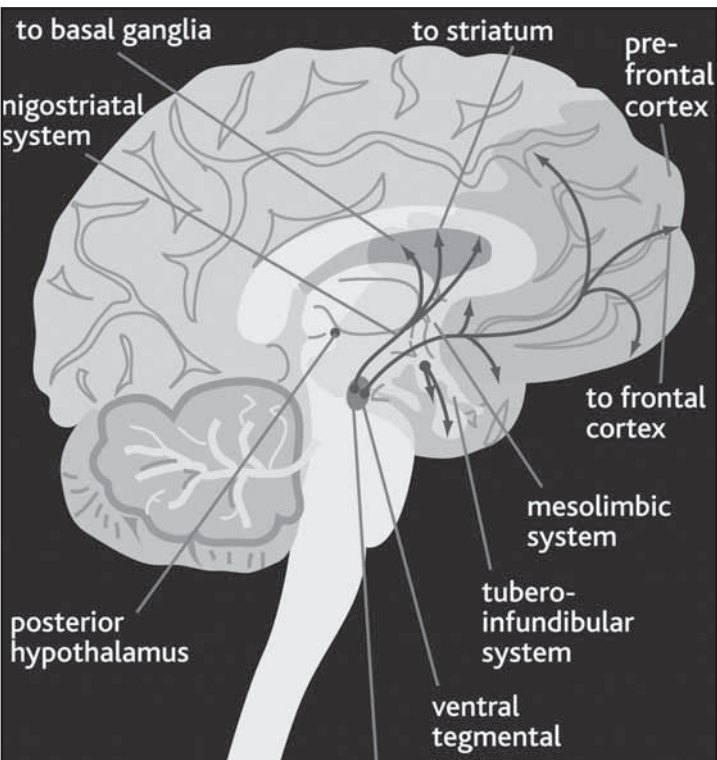
On the other hand, dopamine levels decrease in an individual's brain when the person is experiencing anxiety or depression. Many drugs that give "calming" highs, like cocaine and nicotine, appear to work by simulating the

effects of dopamine in the brain. Due to this, dopamine is called the "pleasure hormone." Dopamine secreted in the body also causes schizophrenics to experience hallucinations.

When a person gets a sudden urge for pleasure-related activities, it is actually the dopamine neurons "burst firing." This so-called burst firing is what channels goal-directed behavior in people.

Research done at the University of Pittsburgh recently attempted to study the cause of the neural burst. "We had a long-standing interest in the dopamine system," said Anthony Grace, professor of neuroscience, psychiatry, and psychology and head of the project along with Pitt neuroscience research associate Daniel Lodge. "The current treatments for curing schizophrenia and other such related diseases block all the dopamine secreted by the neurons. However, some of this dopamine is necessary for cognition."

See DOPAMINE, page A7



Courtesy of [www.cnsforum.com](http://www.cnsforum.com)

The diagram reveals dopamine pathways in the brain. The first extends from the substantia nigra to the caudate neostriatum, the second pathway projects from the ventral tegmentum to the mesolimbic forebrain, and the third pathway is known as the tubero-infundibular system.

## Global warming poses threat to environmental stability

by **Simran Grover**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

"I got the right temperature to shelter you from the storm...." Sean Paul definitely has the right idea: It is getting hot in here! The Earth has not only been plagued with unpredictable climate changes, but also with a flurry of legislation and outcry from activist groups. What could be causing this rapid change and upheaval? Global warming may be the answer.

Global warming is a temperature rise of the Earth's oceans and atmosphere caused by the burning of fossil fuels and industrial pollutants. This releases a major pollutant — carbon dioxide — into the atmosphere, contributing to the greenhouse effect — a phrase for the Earth's atmosphere trapping the energy from the sun. Water vapor, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and methane are all partially responsible for this phenomenon. Without these gases, heat would escape into space, and the average temperature of the Earth would be about 60°F cooler, according to an EPA report. Unfortunately, because of the increase in carbon dioxide, more and more heat is getting trapped within the

Earth's atmosphere.

Electricity production is one factor to blame, causing 35 percent of global carbon emissions. The burning of forests releases about two billion metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year, or about 22 percent of carbon dioxide emissions. Carbon is also emitted from cars, cement production, aerosols, and burning fossil fuels.

Global warming is heating Earth and is causing devastating effects on the environment, said a report by the Pew Center on Global Climate Change. Glaciers are disappearing, causing water levels to rise in oceans worldwide; soon, many islands and coastlines may be significantly altered and, in rare cases, might disappear from the map altogether. Weather pattern shifts are causing hotter-than-ever heat waves, the spread of disease, and record fatalities all over the world. Numerous droughts are causing prolonged wildfires and the destruction of the natural habitats of many species.

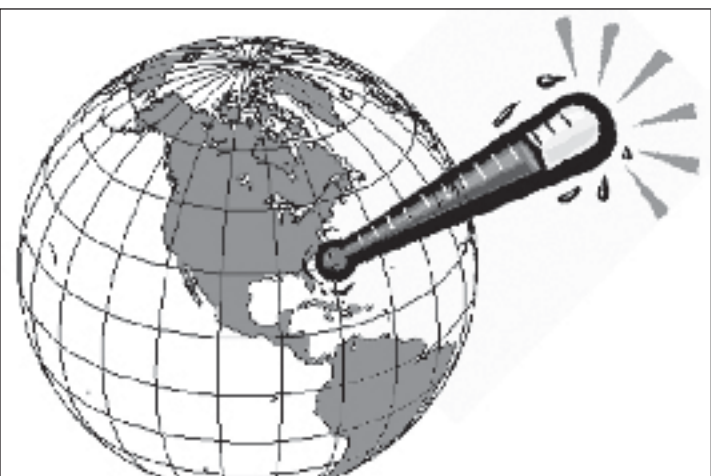
Popular belief is that global warming is an issue that will take years to develop and does not deserve the immediate attention of lawmakers. Some believe that the rising temperatures are due to natural, rather than human,

occurrences, such an increase in the sun's output or volcanic eruptions. Also, the most drastic temperature increase occurred in the first half of the 20th century, not the in the last 20 years like the media have reported.

The evidence, however, is inconclusive. Temperatures and the rise of carbon dioxide have changed drastically over centuries, not decades, as has been the recent trend. Therefore, due to the urgency of global warming, the Kyoto Treaty of February 2005 encouraged reducing carbon emissions to the 1990 level by 2012.

The United States refused to sign the treaty during both the Clinton and Bush administrations. The Kyoto Protocol does not apply to developing countries such as India or China, based on the belief that reducing pollution would interfere with their economic development. The treaty argues that the U.S., Europe, and Russia did not have restraints while developing; therefore current developing countries should also not be confined to pollution reduction.

In the U.S. itself, various pieces of legislation have appeared before Congress to prevent global warming, but few have passed. The most important was the



Alejo Grigera/Art Editor

Global warming is causing the Earth to heat as a result of the burning of fossil fuels and many industrial pollutants which release carbon dioxide.

Climate Stewardship and Innovation Act, which would have created unprecedented limits on U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, jump-started investment in renewable energy, enacted a flexible emissions program, and put aside funding to help adjusting wildlife. Although this failed in June 2005, the mere fact that the bill was proposed shows bipartisan support for this critical issue.

The two largest insurance companies in the world, Munich Re and Swiss Re, have predicted that the U.S. will have to pay \$150 billion a year for the next

decade to battle the international crisis global warming poses. The costs would be related to disaster relief and insurance.

There are a multitude of things that people can do to impede global warming. The most important thing is to use energy-efficient technology, such as hybrid cars, fluorescent (as opposed to incandescent) light bulbs, and "Energy Star" appliances. Investment in solar, wind, and renewable energy sources will decrease the burning of fossil fuels. Also check your vehicles regularly and plant trees.

## How Things Work: Diamonds



Kristen Lukiewski/Pillbox Editor

### Radha Chitale

Millions of years ago, diamonds were formed about 161 kilometers below the earth's surface in a section known as the mantle. Only in the mantle are conditions intense enough to pressurize pure carbon into a gem. Diamonds are made when the pressure reaches 435,000 pounds per square inch and the temperature is above 752°F. Anything below these figures results in graphite, a softer, flakier carbon composition.

The diamonds that we find today reached the Earth's surface by powerful magma erup-

tions through deep cracks. The eruptions formed pipes called Kimberlite pipes, after the first pipes found in Kimberley, South Africa. These are also known as diamond pipes. Diamond miners look for kimberlite, a bluish rock that resulted from the cooled magma, when looking for diamonds. However, diamonds can be found in other locations due to geological activity and glacier and water movement.

Though diamonds are valued for their beauty and rarity, they are, in fact, no rarer than any other gem or precious stone; diamonds are simply carbon. They are special because they

are composed of carbon in its most concentrated form, making it the hardest naturally found substance on earth.

Diamonds are hard because of their unique molecular structure. The carbon atoms in a diamond are closely packed in a crystal lattice arrangement of tetrahedrons, in which a central carbon atom is covalently linked to four surrounding carbon atoms. Though the thought of four linked objects calls to mind a square, a tetrahedron is actually triangular. This shape takes less energy to maintain than a square and is also sturdier. If you try to tie four balloons together, they do not naturally fit as a planar square — the balloons will rearrange themselves into a triangular shape.

Diamonds are sturdy because of their atomic arrangement, but why are they also so hard and resilient? The answer lies in one of the smallest subatomic particles, electrons. Carbon atoms are surrounded by a total of six electrons. These electrons are arranged in three orbitals, the innermost orbital having two electrons, and the two outermost orbitals having four, known as valence electrons. Carbon is short two electrons, which would fill the outer orbitals with unpaired electrons and create a stable octet. Eight electrons is the maximum number of electrons that carbon's valence shell can hold.

When carbon atoms come together in a diamond, they arrange themselves into a lattice by forming covalent bonds in which they share unpaired electrons with adjacent atoms. Electrons that were whizzing around a single atom now travel and disperse their energy between two atoms. Each carbon atom in a diamond is, in effect, sharing its four valence electrons in order to create a stable octet. The structure that results is very stable, giving diamonds their characteristic hardness.

Truly rare diamonds are those of pure carbon and are colorless. Other rare diamonds are colored and can be yellow, red, orange, blue, green, brown, or black. Besides these, the "rarity" of diamonds has been engineered by diamond cartels that monopolize the mines and the market. For the past several decades, De Beers Consolidated Mines, Ltd., based in Johannesburg, South Africa and London, has maintained a firm grip on the diamond market.

Diamonds were not always so popular. Emeralds, rubies, opals, and pearls, among other gems, were equally valued and were used often as engagement or wedding rings because of their rich colors and exotic appearances. The diamond market did not fare well during the Great Depression, particularly since antitrust laws in the U.S. forbidding cartels prevented De Beers

from directly selling diamonds. However, a brilliant marketing campaign launched in 1938 by N. W. Ayer & Son re-imagined the diamond as a symbol of eternity and love with their slogan "A diamond is forever."

The campaign accomplished two things. First, it cast diamonds as the only jewels for special occasions, particularly engagements, weddings, and anniversaries. Second, it encouraged women to keep their diamonds. This prevented competition from a secondary market of used diamonds and allowed retailers to keep prices high. Indeed, the markup on a mounted diamond is between 100 and 200 percent.

Though there may be a diamond monopoly on earth, there are also diamonds in the sky. Tiny but numerous diamonds have been found embedded in meteorites. Often the chemical makeup is the same. However, some of these extraterrestrial variants include xenon gas; this combination is not found on earth. Still others show a hexagonal atomic structure that is unlike the cubic structure of diamonds on earth. Scientists posit that these diamonds were formed during intense extraterrestrial impacts.

Next time you see a diamond, think about all the hard work and time that was put into making it!

## SciTechBriefs

### Japan launches digital TV for cell phones

Japan is now offering digital television broadcasts on mobile telephones. This highly anticipated service could lead to a new genre of TV programs. Handsets that are equipped with the service have been on the market in Japan for several weeks, and broadcast programs can also be received with laptop computers and high-end video-game machines. The service will be free for now, and programming will be the same as on home televisions as mobile operators examine whether the service, dubbed One Seg, will prove popular or not.

Source: AFP

### UMD movies for PSP now on endangered species list

Only one year after Sony launched the PlayStation Portable (PSP) in the U.S., rumors are brewing that production of feature-length movies based on the PSP's proprietary Universal Media Disc (UMD) format will come to a screeching halt. Since the launch of the PSP, sales of UMD movies have become almost invisible. The lackluster response to UMDs has already prompted two major movie studios to discontinue their UMD movie releases and left others contemplating following suit. Adding to Sony's troubles, some retailers are considering getting out of the UMD business.

Source: [newsfactor.com](http://newsfactor.com)

### IBM scientists create tool to build molecular computers

Scientists at an IBM research center in Silicon Valley have created a magnetism-manipulating tool suited to building molecular computers. The development is a step toward making computers based on the spin of electrons and atoms.

"We have a tool in place to develop the product of the future," said researcher Andreas Heinrich of IBM's Almaden Research Center in San Jose, Calif. "We all know we can't shrink the silicon-based technology used in today's computers down to the atomic level. We have to look at a radically different concept, and that is what we are doing here." The new method is called "spin-excitation spectroscopy" and uses a specially-designed microscope capable of creating magnetic fields as much as 140,000 times stronger than that of the Earth, scientists said.

Source: AFP

### Why some kids are smarter

The brains of more intelligent children develop in a characteristic way, growing quickly over an extended period between the ages of five and 12. These findings resulted from a 15-year study done by the National Institute of Mental Health. The study used magnetic resonance imaging to get a detailed picture of how the brains of children change over time. It found that the cortex grew thicker and faster and its growth peaked later in kids who did better on standard IQ tests as compared to their average peers.

The findings could help scientists pinpoint genes involved in brain development and IQ levels. It could also give scientists a better picture of normal brain development and shed light on developmental and psychiatric diseases, such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Source: *MIT Tech Review*

Compiled by  
**Saravana Sivasankaran**



# Companies capitalize on iPod industry with accessories

by **Todd Blose**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

This weekend marked the 30th anniversary of the founding of Apple, a company known for the style and innovation of its products. Among these products is the Apple iPod, which revolutionized the music industry. In just a few short years, the iPod has redefined the portable music experience. Convenient for music lovers, this modern breakthrough in technology has garnered praise for its sleek design, compactness, and efficient song management. As a result of the boom of the iPod industry, many companies have chosen to capitalize on the iPod by providing accessories.

Released in late 2001, the iPod immediately attracted much attention. It exists today in three different models: the standard iPod, the iPod shuffle, and the newest addition, the iPod nano. They share many of the same physical features, and differ mainly in size. The iPod nano, however, differs in its flash memory and a substantially improved screen resolution. Each comes packaged with iTunes software that uses firmware flashing to interact with the device. This remains the only software endorsed by Apple. The most recent generations no longer provide a FireWire cable for connection purposes and instead use the more popular USB 2.0 standard. The amount of available drive space also separates these different types.

The popularity of the iPod opened the door to high sales

for many iPod accessories to improve the convenience and comfortability of the iPod. A wide variety of accessories are used for all sorts of purposes, from adding new capabilities to protecting iPods from damage.

An interesting accessory is the recent “shuffle beanie” from Pakatun, designed for the iPod shuffle. This product attempts to resolve the arrangement of cords that has bothered runners and other iPod enthusiasts for quite some time. The beanie provides a convenient pocket to safely secure an iPod shuffle while simultaneously keeping the wearer’s ears warm, and, most importantly, preventing disastrous tangles. Given the versatility of a pocket, rumors have speculated that other iPod models could be smuggled in this hidden compartment. The company touts their product as something revolutionary, and as providing a new type of freedom.

Another unique accessory is the specially designed iPod sock used to protect iPods. These flashy sleeves come in six bright colors. Besides making any ’80s icon jealous, these socks offer adequate cushioning and protection of any version of the iPod.

Also available are the Iconz cases: These use elaborate artwork to decorate the entire face of an iPod. Some examples of the logos appearing on these cases include Superman, several baseball teams, and the Looney Tunes’ Tasmanian Devil.

For those easily inspired by their iPod, the MicroMemo



Courtesy of John K. Bates, [www.xtrememac.com](http://www.xtrememac.com), [www.mobilewhack.com](http://www.mobilewhack.com)

Many accessories are commercially available for iPod products. These include Pakatun’s shuffle beanie on the top left, Apple’s iPod socks on bottom left, and XtremeMac’s MicroMemo digital voice recorder on the right.

digital voice recorder is the ultimate accessory. The device utilizes the iPod’s high-fidelity audio capabilities to record 16-bit audio.

The MicroMemo features a microphone with a flexible neck that comes in handy for a variety of recording tasks. It connects

via the dock connector at the bottom of the iPod, and includes a built-in speaker for instant headphoneless playback. The device runs on the iPod’s battery.

Other accessories — including leather cases, integrated car components, and custom-designed speakers — exhibit how

much of an impact the iPod has made on society, and how many people won’t leave home without one. Though non are entirely necessary, each accessory demonstrates the popularity of the iPod. These unique accessories serve to enhance the iPod experience.

## Role of dopamine clarified

DOPAMINE, from A6

The medicines or drugs used to cure mental disorders like Parkinson’s disease or schizophrenia and addictions block all the dopamine secreted by the brain. However, dopamine is also important for emotions and pain sensations. For this reason, people on medication for psychiatric reasons often appear to be detached and “zombie-like.”

The researchers attempted to study the mechanisms of the brain’s reward-signaling system. Their experimental setup consisted of anesthetized rats, a model used to study what caused the neurons to go into burst mode.

What they found was a chemical responsible for signaling dopamine neurons to start firing. They found this “switch” in a particular area of the brain stem known as the laterodorsal tegmental nucleus. This area of the brain is regulated by the prefrontal cortex, which is also called the “planning” part of the brain. The researchers then found an indirect means to regulate the dopamine secreted by the brain. Thus, dopamine’s functions in normal routine and mental disorders can be controlled.

“We have found the area of the brain that tells [dopamine neurons] to go into communication mode or not,” said Grace. “It could provide potential therapies for major mental disorders. We could develop drugs that control what the dopamine is doing.” Instead of merely blocking all the dopamine secreted and thus having significant personality side affects, researchers could alter when the dopamine is secreted to cure schizophrenia and other diseases while preserving dopamine for other critical brain functions.

This research is a breakthrough in the understanding of neurological pathways.

## Fun Facts

- A full moon always rises at sunset. This is because sun and moon are at nearly opposite positions in the sky during a full moon.

- The bones of a pigeon weigh less than its feathers.

- The water inside of a coconut is identical to human blood

plasma. It is sometimes used as a substitute because it is sterile, does not produce heat, does not destroy red blood cells, and is readily accepted by the body.

- The area between your toes is the part of the body that has the most bacteria.

- Spider silk is stronger than

steel and can stretch up to 50 percent of its original length. A strand of spider silk the width of a pencil could stop a Boeing 747 in flight.

- When Thomas Edison died in 1931, Henry Ford captured his last breath in a bottle.

- Hummingbirds are the only

animal that can fly backwards. They can also fly upside-down.

- On average, people fear spiders more than they fear dying. However, statistically, you are more likely to be killed by a champagne cork than by the bite of a poisonous spider.

- When a person dies, hearing

is generally the last sense to go. The first sense lost is usually sight, followed by taste, smell, and touch.

Sources: [web.mid-day.com](http://web.mid-day.com), [www.chm.bris.ac.uk](http://www.chm.bris.ac.uk), [www.living-foods.com](http://www.living-foods.com)

Compiled by  
**Disha Shah**



## UNWIND YOUR WAY

*across the country.*

PITTSBURGH — <i>to</i> —>	ONE-WAY FARES AS LOW AS:		<i>Book your trip today at</i> <b>AMTRAK.COM</b>
	NEW YORK CITY	\$70	
	CHICAGO	\$63	
	PHILADELPHIA	\$52	
	WASHINGTON, DC	\$49	
	TOLEDO	\$51	
	MIAMI	\$153	

**1-800-USA-RAIL**



FromTheEditorialBoard



Alejo Grigera/Art Editor

Need a boost? Rest is best

Energy drinks are everywhere on campus, but their overuse is unhealthy

Carnegie Mellon students need potent fuel for their hard-working brains, but the recent upswing in the availability and consumption of energy drinks such as Jolt, Full Throttle, Bawls, Rip It, Rockstar, and SoBe No Fear might be more harmful than beneficial. Students should strive for the energy of a healthful lifestyle fueled by balanced nutrition rather than depend on the temporary kick of sugary, hyper-caFFEinated beverages.

Caffeine has been around for centuries. Incans chewed coca leaves to keep their minds sharp during work hours. Many historians credit Europe's tea consumption with vastly increasing economic productivity during the industrial revolution. In modern times, we have the ubiquitous Starbucks.

Caffeine works by blocking adenosine in the brain, a chemical which slows down nerve impulses and causes drowsiness. It also increases the brain's levels of dopamine, which causes a feeling of general well-being. In short, *moderate* consumption of caffeine is a useful and perfectly safe way to stay alert.

The problem is that the caffeine levels

in so-called "energy drinks" are hardly moderate, and many students consume energy drinks in excess. For instance, one can of Full Throttle (a Coca-Cola product) contains a hefty 142 milligrams of caffeine (more than four times the caffeine of Coca-Cola Classic), a pancreas-torturing 58 grams of sugar, and 200 useless calories. The nutritional content for other popular drinks such as Rockstar and Rip It is similar.

Many students consume more than one of these drinks per day, and those excess calories and sugars can wreak havoc on the body, causing weight gain, mood swings, headaches, and a decline in overall health. Interestingly, too much caffeine can decrease the duration and efficacy of sleep, which leads to fatigue and the need for — what else — more caffeine.

While poor decision-making is mostly to blame, Housing and Dining must accept some of the responsibility for this harmful habit. On the meal plan, soft drinks run like water, whereas juice, milk, and in some cases water itself are more difficult to come by.

By contrast, coffee, while high in caf-

feine, contains no calories. Adding two packets of granulated sugar boosts it to a negligible 32 calories. And recent studies have shown that regular coffee consumption can actually have health benefits. Harvard Medical School reports that coffee is anti-carcinogenic, possibly lowering the risk of breast and colon cancer. It also helps ward off diabetes by increasing resting metabolism rates, and may even prevent Parkinson's disease in men.

Bear in mind that while a healthier option, coffee is high in caffeine. Taken in excess, it can have all the same harmful effects as energy drinks, such as disrupted sleep patterns and the jitters.

At Carnegie Mellon, we sometimes burn the midnight oil by dinnertime. And when eyes droop while deadlines approach, we need a little pick-me-up. When a boost is absolutely necessary, students should eschew syrupy energy drinks in favor of more traditional coffee or tea.

Remember, though: There will never be a substitute for the energy and productivity afforded by a nutritious diet and adequate sleep.

Community appreciates constructive disagreement



Jim Puls

On Wednesday, I received a message from my Lutheran Student Fellowship e-mail list promoting several events meant as alternatives to Sunday's TBA showings. While I was at first somewhat amused — what is this, another outcry from the minority religious right? — it dawned on me that the approach they're taking is a bit different.

Last semester, during *Pirates*, the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF) had what they call an "outreach event." This semester, their efforts were more extensive. IVCF joined forces with several other Christian groups Sunday to have a sexuality workshop, screenings of *Crash* in the Connan Room, and a table with information about sexuality for students in line to see TBA.

The advertising may have been a bit subversive; for the "alternative movie" event, in particular, it seems that they were more interested in promoting their Dave & Andy's sundaes than their moral outreach. The end result, though, was unintimidating: a very non-invasive banner soliciting open discussion about sex.

Consider also what these groups *didn't* do. They didn't stage a one-sided protest rally at the Fence. They didn't enter the film, only to stand up and loudly disrupt the movie by shouting and heckling. They didn't make and sign an empty "declaration of unity" against an "evil force." They didn't ask President Cohon to appoint an ad-hoc committee to investigate. Most importantly, they didn't call KDKA investigative reporter Marty Griffin on the scene to write a sensationalist hack job so riddled with factual errors that he might as well have made it up.

No, they did something that seems to happen rarely — if ever — on this campus anymore: They engaged in rational discourse. They presented their own opinions in a highly available manner; they provided another reason and another means for students not to

consume pornography. They provided a present, clear voice for the part of campus that disapproves of pornography. For this, IVCF and the other groups involved are to be commended.

These groups may have been even more successful, though, had they taken a step back and decided what message they wanted to send. To portray the moral conflict as a purely Christian vs. non-Christian issue looks past a majority of the potential audience. IVCF and the others could have reached many more people by carefully outlining the issues from a point of view of social mores and norms about sexuality in modern society. How many people simply ignored all of their attempts because God was attached to them? How many potential moral outreach opportunities were lost because of the chalk war under the UC loggia between directions to TBA and "JESUS SAVES"?

The members of IVCF who created these events need to realize that Christian life does not need to be about trying to instill the Holy Spirit in every person walking the street. They should learn that only by their own example of living according to Christian values will others get the message.

The only reason the Activities Board still shows pornography on campus is that students want to see it. It has taken the form of a fun, humorous event where people can relax for a few hours. Regardless of whether pornography is morally reprehensible and exploitative of women or just a good time for those watching and supportive of a free market, those who inflame the debate will only make the opposing sides of the argument more jittered.

Abandoning the "this is how I feel, and you're wrong" approach for a "here's why I think this; what's your take?" approach may, in the end, be the best way to move toward enrichment for all of us.

*Jim Puls (jpuls@) believes it is not for him to judge whether or not pornography belongs on campus. He welcomes all replies, especially those from Marty Griffin, investigative reporter.*

LetterToTheEditor

Illuminating opportunities for men to get involved in gender issues

This letter is a response to Jackie Brook's March 27 editorial, "Gender studies should include men." As a male student involved in several gender issues initiatives, I feel Ms. Brook is misinformed about the programs available to students.

It seems that Ms. Brook does not have a clear understanding of the difference between gender studies and gender issues at Carnegie Mellon. Gender studies, an interdisciplinary minor in H&SS, is composed of a number of courses that focus on both men and women, all of which are open to both genders. Gender Issues, on the other hand, is a part of Student Affairs and includes programming focusing on issues faced by both genders.

Ms. Brook's editorial focuses on just one program run by the Gender Issues staff: the Women's Leadership Program. While this program is limited to women, there is an array of other opportunities available to men.

MOSAIC, Carnegie Mellon's annual conference on gender issues, had many sessions that focused on both genders, including sessions on dating culture, gender roles in families across cultures, and historical government propaganda focusing on masculinity. Several men

were on the conference planning committee, and some of the speakers at the conference were men.

The Gender Issues staff also runs the Sexual Assault Advisor program, an intensive training program that educates participants on the prevention of sexual assault and how to support assault victims. The program is open to men and women, and includes information about helping men who are survivors of sexual assault.

These are two of the many programs that Gender Issues provides. Throughout the year, there are lectures, discussions, book talks (the main character in this month's book talk is male, by the way), and other programs that are not only open to men, but focus on both women and men.

Ms. Brook claims "there are no avenues on this campus for men to participate in gender studies." I strongly disagree with this statement and encourage all the women and men of Carnegie Mellon to attend a Gender Issues event. I'm sure you'll see that the programming is inclusive of all people.

Vijay Jesrani  
Senior  
SDS

THE TARTAN



Carnegie Mellon's Student Newspaper Since 1906

EDITORIAL BOARD

BRADFORD L. YANKIVER  
Publisher

EVAN SUNDWICK  
Editor-in-Chief

FRANKLIN H. WILLIAMS, Personnel Manager

J.T. TROLLMAN, Contributing Editor

MICHELLE BOVA, Contributing Editor

EDITORIAL STAFF

ALEJO GRIGERA, Art Editor

RADHA CHITALE, Contributing Editor

AMANDA FLYNN, Contributing Editor

GREG PRICHARD, Contributing Editor

ALEXANDRA KILDUFF, Contributing Editor

SHAWN WERTZ, Asst. News Ed.

JUSTIN BROWN, Asst. Photo Ed.

BRITTANY McCANDLESS, News Editor

JIM PULS, Contributing Editor

GREG HANNEMAN, Copy Manager

MARSHALL ROCH, Online Editor

LIZ SCHWARTZ, Production Manager

ALLISON GALLANT, Layout Manager

BRITTANY SMITH, Business Manager

REINA TAKAHASHI, Asst. Layout Mgr.

HASEEB QURESHI, Asst. Business Mgr.

Staff

SENIOR STAFF

Albert Cohen, Dexter Hu,  
Max Kaufmann, Marcus Gho

COPY

James Auwaerter, Christine Beaty, Matt Campbell,  
Beth Decker, Anne DiGiovanni, Adam Greenberg,  
Arthur O'Dwyer, Sheila Prakash, Greg Price, Erich  
Schwartzel, Hannah Wendling

LAYOUT

Jefferson Ahn, Hye Sun An, Jess Anders,  
Connie Chang, Christine deBriffault, Jessie Kaercher,  
Donghee Kyung, Matthew McKee, Arel Oran, Matthew  
Siegel, Ariane Simon, Shaleya Solomon

BUSINESS

Karina Alvarez, Joannie Carlson, Shephalie Lahri,  
Mansour Nehlawi, Lesley Ridge, Andre Tartar

**The Tartan** is a student newspaper at Carnegie Mellon University, funded in part by the student activities fee. It is a weekly publication by students during the fall and spring semesters, printed by Valley News Dispatch, Inc. **The Tartan** is not an official publication of Carnegie Mellon University. The first issue is free; subsequent issues cost \$0.50 at the discretion of **The Tartan**. Subscriptions are available on a per semester basis.

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

**Letters to the Editor** are the opinions of their authors. Letters from within the University community take precedence. Letters intended for publication must be signed and include the author's address and telephone number for verification; letters must not exceed 350 words. Authors' names may be withheld from publication upon request. **The Tartan** reserves the right to condense or reject any letter. Letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. on the Wednesday before publication by mail or to [forum@thetartan.org](mailto:forum@thetartan.org). Comments about and suggestions for **The Tartan** and notices of errata should be directed to **The Tartan's** independent Ombudsman at [ombudsman@thetartan.org](mailto:ombudsman@thetartan.org).

© 2006 **The Tartan**. All rights reserved.  
Library of Congress ISSN: 0890-3107

Office: University Center 314  
Phone: (412) 268-2111  
Fax: (412) 268-1596  
E-mail: [contact@thetartan.org](mailto:contact@thetartan.org)

Mail: **The Tartan** / Box 1017  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Pittsburgh, PA 15289-1017

Last Friday, one of our board members was enjoying the Pittsburgh sun outside when he was approached by a petitioner holding a clipboard and a pen. The petitioner? Add *readme* to the Senate ballot for this year's upcoming elections. Now, as fine a publication as we're sure *readme* is, the fact that adding Optimus Prime to the ballot isn't enough of a joke anymore means student government elections are spiraling far out of hand.

April 24 and 25 are the dates of this year's Student Senate and executive office elections, which will, among other things, place two new people in the positions of student body president and vice-president. For years these elections have been the object of ridicule among undergrads, as fictitious robot behemoths frequently garner more votes than some flesh-and-blood students. Last year, voter turnout was an "impressive" 28 percent. With numbers like those, who needs apathy?

In reality, though, a student government is only as good as the people who

make it. And that's precisely why *you* should consider running.

We all have our niches to fill on this campus. But if you really want to change how our undergraduate population operates on a very real level, there's no greater challenge than to cut through the bureaucratic flapdoodle in which our student government has mired itself and infuse some efficiency and purpose into its bloodstream. If you consider yourself a leader, student government is simply one of the best places to make a difference in your four years.

You won't be able to take it lightly, though. The issues our student government deals with are no joke: the Joint Funding Committee, composed of Senators and Graduate Student Assembly representatives, doles out nearly a million dollars every year to make up the budgets for every funded student organization on campus. And beyond that, Senate has the power to influence nearly every major decision on campus.

What we need are some movers and

shakers to get things kick-started again. And frankly, *readme* just doesn't have enough charisma.

So how can you get involved, you ask? Filling out a petition is simple. Pick one up at the UC Info Desk, and if you're gunning for a Senate seat, get 25 signatures from students in your college. For an executive office, you'll need 100, but even that is fewer students than in some lectures on campus.

Executive office petitions are due by April 10, and Senate petitions are due by April 14. Turn them back in to the UC Info Desk, and e-mail the elections board at ([elections-board@stusen.org](mailto:elections-board@stusen.org)) if you have any questions in the meantime.

We're looking forward to a solid election season this year — it's been too long since students have genuinely felt their Senate is a crucial part of campus. This year's student government has made some important steps, but there is still much room to grow. We look to people like you to be a productive influence on student government.



# Immigrants — legal or not — must not be marginalized

American citizens and illegal immigrants alike protest harsh new bill, effect revisions



Alexandra Kilduff

At a conference for community improvement last week, I heard the impressive Congressman Danny K. Davis (D-Ill.) give the keynote address. In his deep, melodious voice, he recited some of the lines from Emma Lazarus' famous poem, "The New Colossus": "Give me your tired, your poor / Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, / The wretched refuse of your teeming shore, / Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me."

The poem, written a century ago, was intended as homage to the Statue of Liberty, which welcomed droves of immigrants coming in from the Old World. It struck me how ironic it was that Congressman Davis was uttering these lines at the same time many of his colleagues were literally three blocks away, deliberating over how to discourage newcomers from entering the country and how to punish some who had already arrived.

Immigration probably has not been such a hot political topic since the time of Emma Lazarus, when hundreds of thousands of immigrants stepped on the shores of New York and San Francisco each day. Then, as now, they were looking for an escape from their native homes' poverty and persecution; and then, as now, those who considered themselves "truly" American were panicking over the various negative effects immigrants would have on the country's economy, social hierarchy, and identity.

Today, of course, the argument is mainly focused on illegal immigration, which poses its own set of moral and political conundrums. The Urban Institute and Pew Hispanic Center estimate that there are between 11 and 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States, and more are coming every day, defying border patrol, customs, walls, fences, water, "coyotes" (human smugglers), and possibly fatal dehydration in the desert.

These immigrants risk lives to come into a country where they will most likely be clustered into poor neighborhoods or rural migrant-worker barracks where they will take jobs sewing zippers into jeans for two cents apiece or picking cucumbers for a dollar a crate. This work, which pays poorly and offers few benefits, is strangely,

sadly vital to our economy, and makes these immigrants dangerous, dissident, and undesirable, according to some of the government officials who take their taxes. Yes, illegal immigrants still pay taxes — and receive no government benefits in return. What's wrong with this picture?

In the past week, the hotly contested immigration reform bill has raised the ire of conservatives, liberals, and many of the immigrants being considered in the bill's proposals. It has also offered a unique look at the peculiar prejudices Americans still cling to, and it has also offered a glimpse of the sweeping changes this country is undergoing.

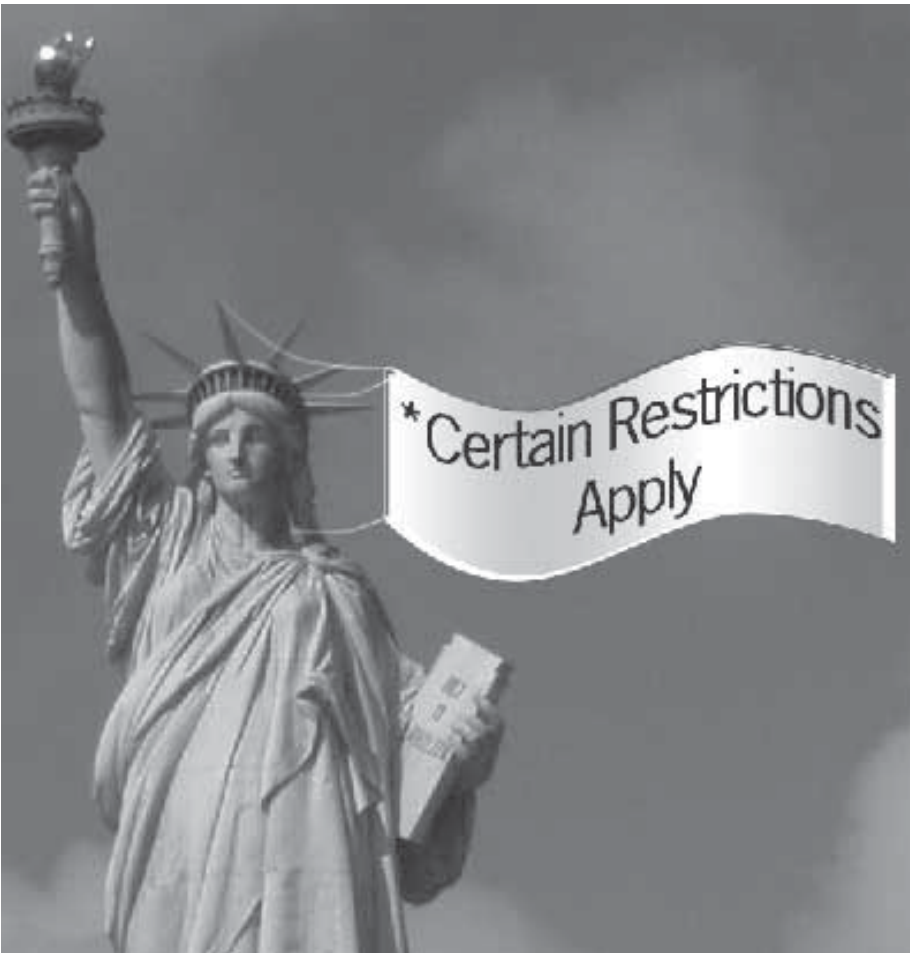
As far as prejudices go, xenophobia and racism have raised their ugly heads at the Capitol, poorly disguised as concerns for the economy and American workers. There may be some politicians who truly hold economic concerns, but consider the following remarks from Congressman Bob Beauprez (R-Colo.):

"My fear is that if we continue down this path that the Senate has established, that we will have created the biggest magnet ever. It would be like a dinner bell, 'Come one, come all.'"

And my personal favorite: Congressman Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.) suggested that illegal immigrants would be effectively discouraged from entering the country if we gave agricultural jobs to prisoners. "Let the prisoners pick the fruits," Rohrabacher said. "We can do it without bringing in millions of foreigners." Yes, Mr. Rohrabacher, even criminals are better than those doggone freeloading foreigners, as long as the prisoners are corn-fed Americans. No sarcasm should be spared in responding to this man and his ill-informed comments.

Get a clue, gentlemen. When did America stop being the land of opportunity? When did we get the right to exclude immigrants when we ourselves are the direct descendants of them? And what are you going to do when recent immigrants become America's principal voting block (which will be happening very soon)?

Representatives Beauprez and Rohrabacher and their supporters will probably tell you that we pay dearly for hosting our neighbors, whether it be through suburban sprawl, overcrowding, or unfair competition in the job market. But take a look at a day laborer who lines up on the street each morning hoping for work, who leads



Alejo Grigera/Art Editor

an unstable and transient life as a migrant farm worker, or who sleeps in a crowded house of strangers, alone and far from his family. Stripped of most of his possessions, his dignity, and his rights, it becomes increasingly hard to argue that the more fortunate native-born are getting the short end of the stick.

Illegal immigrants are not parasites. They are men and women who are looking for a way out of poverty and repression, and they are willing to do anything for it. Many of them plan to make enough money to support their families and then return home; many of them wish to become citizens with all the rights and duties that citizenship entails.

These people cannot be marginalized. The rather thrilling immigrant protests of the past two weeks have shown us that this is an increasingly diverse country — it is estimated that soon almost 50 percent of our country will be non-Anglo-Saxon, most of them foreign-born — with voices as powerful as anyone else's. And they

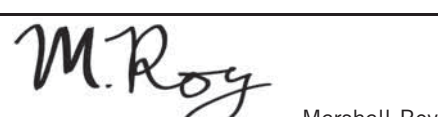
have power — real power — to shape and change policy. This is evidenced in their impact on the immigration bill, which had its more restrictive provisions (such as punishing immigrants already here and punishing those who assisted them) curtailed at the last minute.

The power of people's opinions and their effect on law and government is what makes the United States unique. In making their opinions heard, immigrants have proved that they are really and truly American, regardless of whether or not they're tabulated on the national census. Let's hope that those on Capitol Hill keep this in mind as they further shape immigration policy, and ignore prejudice in favor of keeping the doors open for those who yearn to breathe free.

*Alexandra Kilduff (akilduff@) is a contributing editor for The Tartan. She is a second-generation Scottish-American and sixth-generation Irish-American. She welcomes all thoughtful responses.*

# Mourning a word's death: RIP 'literally' (1533–2006)

Despite warning signs, overworked word dies of exhaustion at seasoned age of 473



Marshall Roy

My cherished brethren, I write today to announce and commemorate a tragic passing in the astonishingly large family of the English language. The loss of "literally" will be deeply mourned by all humanities majors, linguists, and users of English (which includes you, grieving reader).

Perhaps deprived most by this untimely passing are whiny students who love to lament the tribulations of college life, waxing hyperbolic at every turn and exhausting our poor word to death.

"Literally" was born in 1533, though many of us would not have recognized it back then. In its infancy, our dear deceased friend was spelled *litalyie*. Over time, its body grew and changed in many exciting but baffling ways. Its various spellings included *litterallie* and *litt'rally* before it settled permanently into its final form: a prepossessing four syllables with the darling parallelism of those three "l"s, capped off with a graceful "y."

There was a time when "literally" was a rare and potent term. It was invoked only

to signal the gravest departure from metaphor or exaggeration. In 1839, Miss Mary Russell Mitford wrote in a letter that "at the last I was incapable of correcting the proofs, literally fainting on the ground." In other words, she genuinely lost consciousness,

tear off his or her own head.

The young lady blundered in tagging an obviously *figurative* statement with the word "literally." She could have quite correctly said "I will figuratively tear my head off," or maybe "I will literally be up

**That which we call a rose by any other name may smell as sweet, but that which we term a definition in any other usage reeks of idiocy.**

ness and as a result fell down.

Presumably, Miss Mitford came to momentarily. The fate of the uncorrected proofs is ominously unknown.

Compare that to the unfortunate utterance I overheard just last week, while strolling alongside Purnell. A young lady bewailed a looming assignment: "I can't write this paper. If I don't get an extension I will literally tear my head off."

I daren't impugn the stress this assignment was causing the young lady, though I submit that a human being cannot, under any earthly circumstances or fits of audacious,

all night writing it." Unfortunately, she traded an irreplaceable piece of the word's soul for a brief hyperbolic rush. Therein is poor "literally"'s ignominious epitaph. For shame.

Rarity is the essence of value. Words have power only so long as they are unique and memorable. Overuse is their destruction; overuse is the essence of cliché.

We were warned of the impending demise of "literally" more than 80 years ago. Emilie Rose Macaulay pointed out the folly of the word's misuse in 1922, when she was baffled by people who thought "that

'literally' bears the same meaning as 'metaphorically' ('she was literally a mother to him,' they will say)." Tragically, Macaulay was a linguistic Cassandra.

Let "literally" be counted a martyr in the struggle for proper English usage. Let it serve as sober warning to other overused words. "Random" is perilously close to becoming colloquially synonymous with "unexpected" or "unprecedented," when in its heart it is "unsystematic."

That which we call a rose by any other name may smell as sweet, but that which we term a definition in any other usage reeks of idiocy. English is a living language, and we should not resist its maturation. But its changes must always refine — never confuse or pollute.

We bid "literally" farewell, knowing that it has gone to a better place, to the great big dictionary in the sky.

*Marshall Roy (mroy@) is an ordained minister in the Church of American English Usage. Figuratively speaking, that is. He is also Forum editor of The Tartan and a sophomore in English and creative writing. He welcomes all replies and asks that in lieu of sending flowers, mourners buy Strunk and White's The Elements of Style.*

## Presidential Perspectives

### Let's protest elimination of Perkins Loans



Tom Sabram

At a recent meeting with student government, interim dean Jennifer Church called my attention to a website for a grassroots campaign to try to save the Perkins Loans. When President Bush issued his proposed budget for the fiscal year 2007, he eliminated the line item for Perkins Loans.

This is a major concern for the Carnegie Mellon community. We have an endowment that is already smaller than many peer institutions like Princeton, Harvard, and Stanford, and that hampers the financial aid packages Carnegie Mellon is able to offer its students.

On average, somewhere between 20 and 25 percent of undergraduate students on campus receive Perkins Loans as a part of their financial aid packages. The average student who takes out a Perkins Loan receives about \$3000. I spoke to Linda Anderson, the director of Student Financial Assistance and Services, and she believes students will be able to receive other loans to help compensate for the potential loss of Perkins Loans; however, those will be at higher interest rates.

I have only known about this for a few weeks, and during that time I have contemplated how the students should approach it. In the next few days you will see a campaign similar to the one student government initiated around the PAT budget cuts last year. Expect to see an e-mail from your Senator or me detailing how you can help. You will have the opportunity to write a letter to Pennsylvania's Senators and representatives or, for those who don't know what to say, to fill in a form letter, and student government will take care of mailing the letter. You'll hear a little more about this next week.

Due to the unfortunate timing of the Perkins Loans cuts and student government elections, I feel I need to split this column to make everyone more aware of both. I encourage anyone who is interested or who would like to make a change on campus to run for student body president, student body vice-president for finance, or Student Senate. All you need to do is gather 100 signatures from students for an executive position or 25 from students in your college for Senate.

These elections will be held April 24 and 25. If you are planning on running for student body president or Senate and have any questions, feel free to contact me. Good luck to all the candidates!

*Tom Sabram (sbp@) is excited to see how the campus will respond to the elimination of Perkins Loans. Feel free to contact him via e-mail or at 412-657-3953.*

Spring has finally arrived in Pittsburgh! We wanted to know:

### What's the best way to usher in the long-awaited return of spring?

Compiled by Noah Lorang



**Connor O'Malley**  
Senior  
CIT

"I guess doing homework outside. Finding a nice spot in the shade."



**Becky Ascher**  
First-year  
SHS

"I just like to lie outside in the sunshine."



**Kelly Rubinsohn**  
First-year  
CFA

"The return of flip-flops is marvelous."



**Brian Freeman**  
First-year  
CIT

"I like to go outside and throw a football around. Just go outside after being cooped up all year."



**Bagmi Das**  
First-year  
SHS

"Skipping across the Cut with my iPod."



summer  
**SLEEPOVER SALE**

**CHEAP R/T AIRFARE**  
LONDON from \$337\*  
PARIS from \$577\*  
SYDNEY from \$1060\*

**HOSTEL HOOKUP**  
HOSTELS from **\$19\***  
BERLIN, DUBLIN, LONDON, RIO DE JANEIRO, MADRID, SYDNEY, VANCOUVER, MELBOURNE

**GOOD VIBRATIONS**  
HOTELS from **\$29\***  
CAIRNS, MUNICH, MELBOURNE, PRAGUE, PARIS, QUEENSTOWN, MADRID, MIAMI, HONG KONG

**BEDS WITH BENEFITS**  
HOTELS from **\$39\***  
HONG KONG, PRAGUE, SYDNEY, MADRID, BERLIN, CAPE TOWN, NEW YORK, PARIS, SAN FRANCISCO

\*Hurry! Hotel/hostel sale ends 4/17/06. Prices are per person, per night. Some restrictions apply. Airfare is correct at time of print and out of Pittsburgh. Taxes and applicable fees not included. CST #1017560-40

Call or come in to book now:  
**118 Meyran Ave**  
**(412) 683.1881**

**STA TRAVEL**  
[www.statravel.com](http://www.statravel.com)

**school's OUT for SUMMER**

600 courses. 7,000 students. Unlimited possibilities.

DISCOVER THE POWER OF SUMMER

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY**  
SUMMER TERM

617-353-5124 | [www.bu.edu/summer](http://www.bu.edu/summer)

THERE'S NOT ENOUGH ART IN OUR SCHOOLS.

NO WONDER PEOPLE THINK

# CARAVAGGIO

IS A GUY ON THE SOPRANOS.

It's hard to believe. Here's a 16th-century Baroque master whose bold naturalistic painting style first created a sensation, then a movement. A guy whose life was filled with the turbulence and excess of more than a dozen Mario Puzo novels. This guy who, while troubled, ultimately found redemption and immortality in his art. But does the average kid on the street even know who Caravaggio is?

Fuhgedaboutit.

Too bad. Especially when you consider how much our children can learn from the conflicted life of a great artist like Michelangelo Caravaggio.

He grew up in less than ideal circumstances. Most of his family died in the plague. Much of his youth was misspent on the mean streets of Rome. And as a

young artist he struggled for years to make a living. He was angry. Yet the angry contrast between light and darkness in his work is the very reason why it now hangs in countless museums around the world.

If nothing else, it's a case study of the importance of having art as an outlet. Unfortunately, one we're fast removing from our kids' lives.

If the arts are indeed a vital part of your child's education (and studies show you believe they are), then you should demand his or her fair share. To find out how to help, or for more information about the benefits of arts education, please visit us at [AmericansForTheArts.org](http://AmericansForTheArts.org). Because, as Caravaggio would tell you, life without art is torture.

**ART. ASK FOR MORE.**

**Ad Council**

For more information about the importance of arts education, please contact [www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org).

**AMERICANS for the ARTS**

# Shadyside Flexible Leases

Live in Pittsburgh's best neighborhood in the area's only flexible leased building. Rent by the school year and have the freedom to go home in the summer without being locked into a lease. Rent either furnished or unfurnished. One half block from Walnut Street's shops and restaurants.

**1 Bedroom Unfurnished \$759\***  
Includes all utilities plus free High Speed Internet

**1 Bedroom Furnished \$1295\*\***  
Includes everything, just bring a toothbrush


**412-441-4445**  
**fifthavesuites.com**

\* Minimum length of lease 9 months (two semesters)  
\*\* 3 month minimum stay required to qualify for this rate.  
24 hour service. Resident Manager. Parking Available.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH PHYSICIANS CENTER FOR FERTILITY RECRUITING HEALTHY YOUNG WOMEN, AGES 21-31, OF ALL ASIAN BACKGROUNDS TO DONATE EGGS FOR INFERTILE COUPLES.

COMPENSATION PROVIDED.

PLEASE CALL 412-641-7470.



# Delusion, Anger, Grief Girls Audition

[montecristorecords.com/cdstorsale.html](http://montecristorecords.com/cdstorsale.html)



# Baseball season opens today

by **Doug Fricker**  
*Staffwriter*

In my opinion, this year is the Cubs' year. This is their year to go all the way and win the World Series. I can feel it. Then again, I say that every year, and every year ends in disappointment — but that's part of being a Cubs fan. It is part of the invisible pact one makes when placing faith in a team whose last World Series victory came in 1908. This, by the way, is the longest championship dry spell of any team in the MLB, NFL, NHL, or NBA.

Whether this will be a good year for the Cubs is still debatable, but this is certainly a good day for Major League Baseball. The defending World Series champions, the Chicago White Sox, opened the 2006 season last night when they hosted the Cleveland Indians, but the majority of the league's games start today. With 13 games to watch, it is a good day indeed.

There are some intriguing things to keep an eye on during the 2006 season, starting with former Boston Red Sox outfielder Johnny Damon's going over to the dark side to join the evil empire known as the New York Yankees and being forced to get a haircut in the process.

Barry Bonds, currently with 708 career home runs, is only six home runs behind Babe Ruth and 47 behind all-time home run leader Hank Aaron. He is coming off an injury-plagued 2005 season, and to worsen things, he has to deal with allegations that he uses steroids, as published in Mark Fainaru-Wada and Lance Williams' *Game of Shadows*, a book detailing his extensive doping program.

In the American League (AL), the Chicago White Sox hope to repeat as AL Central champions; but the Cleveland Indians, who came close to making the playoffs last year, will try to dethrone the defending champs. It will be interesting to see how the White Sox fare as they try to defend their first World Series title since 1918.

The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim (yeah, that is their name now) and the Oakland A's will both be banking on quality starting pitching and solid defense to carry them to a division crown this season in the AL West.

The East figures to be another Yankees-Red Sox battle, with the two teams playing each other 19 times. The Toronto Blue Jays could challenge these powerhouses with their addition of pitcher A.J. Burnett, closer B.J. Ryan, first baseman Lyle Overbay, third baseman Troy Glaus, and catcher Bengie Molina.

In the National League (NL), my Chicago Cubs compete in the Central Division with arguably

acquired veterans such as first baseman Sean Casey, outfielder Jeromy Burnitz, and third baseman Joe Randa. These players hope to cure the Pirates' problem — diagnosed as an inability to score runs — so their offense will be able to support their young pitching staff. Not one of Pittsburgh's top four starting pitchers (Oliver Perez, Zach Duke, Paul Maholm, and Ian Snell) is older than 24. Talented relief pitcher Mike Gonzalez is the team's new closer, despite having only four major-league saves in his career. Overall, the Pirates are very talented, but young, so Pirates fans should be patient with this team and trust that there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

## Pirates fans should be patient with this team and trust that there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

the best team in baseball, the St. Louis Cardinals. With a brand-spanking-new stadium and the star power of Cy Young winner and starting pitcher Chris Carpenter, not to mention reigning MVP first baseman Albert Pujols, the Cardinals look to be heading to another post-season.

The NL wildcard spot is up for grabs as well, as the NL East figures to have the Atlanta Braves, New York Mets, and Philadelphia Phillies all fighting for playoff spots. The NL West was not strong last year, but the Los Angeles Dodgers had a busy off-season acquiring infielders Rafael Furcal, Nomar Garciaparra, and Bill Mueller and outfielder Kenny Lofton while simultaneously changing their general manager and manager.

For those of you interested in the Pittsburgh Pirates, and only the Pirates, this season, things are on the upswing. The Pirates have a young team (and 13 straight losing seasons), but they have a new manager and a new attitude. They increased their payroll in the off-season and

By my assessment, come October and baseball playoffs, expect to see the NL represented by the Braves, Cardinals, and Dodgers, and the Cubs sneaking in with the wildcard. The AL will wind up with the Yankees, White Sox, Athletics, and Red Sox making the playoffs. The Cubs will throw out the Curse of the Billy Goat, win the National League pennant, and then go on to defeat the New York Yankees in the World Series, ending their 98-year championship drought.

The world will be turned upside down when this happens; there will be utter pandemonium in the streets of Chicago, and I will fly, drive, hitchhike, even scooter if I have to, my way over to the Windy City to be a part of it. After all, every Cubs fan (unless he's over 98 years young) has futilely waited his entire life to see the Cubs win a World Series, so it wouldn't be wise to miss out and bank on their winning, say, three World Series in a row. Although, now that I start to think about it, it would be a lot cooler if they did.

# Club Sports Roundup



Chang Glasgow/Photo Staff

Carnegie Mellon defender Adam Seibert (#13) and midfielder Steven Blair (#3) chase Grove City players down the turf at Gesling Stadium last Wednesday night.

by **Erin Gagnon**  
*Sports Editor*

### Rowing Club

The Carnegie Mellon rowing club competed at the Murphy Cup in Philadelphia on March 25.

The women's team placed second in the varsity lightweight race with a time of 8:19.93 and fourth in the novice lightweight race with a time of 8:41.18. The men placed fourth in the varsity pair race with a time of 8:26.42. The Tartans placed 11th overall out of 27 teams.

The team was back in Pittsburgh this weekend competing at the championship regatta for Division III club crew programs.

### Baseball

The Carnegie Mellon baseball team played a three-game series against the University of Pittsburgh this past weekend, taking the first game 3-2 but falling short the next two games 1-2 and 4-5 respectively.

In game one, first-year Ryan Woodring pitched six solid innings for the Tartans for the win. Senior Matt Corbett, first-year Billy Ratliff, and sophomore Jim Stedman provided Carnegie Mellon with its three runs.

The Tartans were defeated in the second game, 2-1. First-year Jon Coens pitched seven innings with six strike-outs and one walk. Carnegie Mellon's solo run came with Woodring scoring off first-year Brian Tabata's hit.

Game three turned out to be a heartbreaker for the Tartans, who gave up two unearned runs

late in the ninth inning to lose the game.

The Tartans are back in action Wednesday at Robert Morris University and Saturday and Sunday in a three-game series against Kent State University.

### Men's Lacrosse

Carnegie Mellon's lacrosse team pulled out a 14-13 win against Grove City College last Wednesday night at the Tartans' last home game of the regular season. The weather was ideal and the game was a nail-biter, with Carnegie Mellon pulling out the win during the last minutes of the fourth quarter.

Carnegie Mellon jumped out with an early 3-2 lead after the end of the first quarter but could not hold on to the advantage as Grove City came back and led 6-4 at the end of the half. The Tartans' dry spell resulted in only three shots and one goal during the second quarter. Carnegie Mellon was able to regain control of the play during the fourth quarter, score seven goals, and secure the come-from-behind victory.

Senior attacker Alex Knecht led the Tartans with an impressive six goals and one assist. Juniors Rick McMullen and Tomo Gibson and sophomore Zach Teeple each contributed a pair of goals. Sophomore midfielder Steven Blair added a goal and two assists. Junior midfielder Chris Denault added a solo goal, and senior midfielder Troy Cox added an assist to round out the Tartans' offense.

Carnegie Mellon was back on the road on Saturday to play Hope College at Indiana Univer-

sity of Pennsylvania. Although Carnegie Mellon lacked offensive depth, with five players out of action for various health-related reasons, the team was still able to handily beat Hope 14-1. Knecht again led the Tartans scoring with five goals. Knecht was followed by Cox, who had three goals of his own. Blair and junior midfielder Chris Broglie each had a pair of goals and a pair of assists. Teeple contributed two goals and an assist. Denault had two assists. Senior goaltender Pete Lafave had 10 saves during the game.

### Water Polo

This past Saturday and Sunday, the Carnegie Mellon water polo club hosted its annual spring invitational. Attended by the University of Pittsburgh, St. Mary's College (Md.), West Point, Grove City College, Ohio University, Binghamton University, and the University of Toledo, each team played four games over the course of the two days. The Tartans fell to Toledo and Ohio University on Saturday but came back on Sunday to beat Binghamton and Grove City.

Carnegie Mellon's top scorers were senior Daniel Sunday, who came away from the weekend with 12 goals, and graduate student Eugene Natali, who had six goals. Six of Sunday's goals were scored during the game against rival Grove City. Senior Dave Rozner had three goals during the weekend, while sophomore Matt Eager, seniors Arun Ghosh and Carl Neimeyer, and first-years Nik White and Kate Edgar each contributed one goal to the tournament totals.



Clifford Kang/Photo Staff

Preparing for the shot, Tartan goalie Alex Schlichting protects his goal against an Ohio University player.

## IM NEWS

### Important Dates:

**Thursday, April 6** — Rosters due for co-rec kickball and Ultimate Frisbee

### Sports in Season:

**3-on-3 Basketball** — The three-on-three tournament was held last week in the UC. Champions were Beta Ballman (majors), Beta Freshmen (intermediate), Kappa Sigma (minors), and Hoopers Punch (women).

**Individual Call Pool and Table Tennis** — Schedules are available in the IM Office. Please play all games as

scheduled and report scores to the IM Office.

**Indoor Soccer** — The season is underway in the Arena Room. Schedules are available at the IM Office.

**Badminton (Team)** — The champions were Budaya A (majors) and Boo-Yah! (minors).

**3-Point Shootout and Foul Shooting** — In the men's division, Allen Yeh won both foul shooting (89) and three-point (19). The women's three-point champ was Kim Kicielinski. The team champ will be announced next week.

**JERRY CHAMBERS**  
**DAD**  
**IRONER**

Year	Shirts	Pants	Underwear	Sweatshirts	Shorts	Skirts	Blouses	Last Per Load
1998	352	112	405	166	119	152	367	
1999	325	115	385	153	124	143	367	.237
2000	285	123	415	142	137	161	372	.336
2001	335	104	397	134	114	154	391	.299
2002	295	5	420	125	131	149	410	.574
2003	341	117	408	148	102	124	384	.278

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A HERO TO BE A HERO**  
WHEN YOU ADOPT A CHILD FROM FOSTER CARE,  
JUST BEING THERE MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

**Ad Council.org** **1-888-200-4005** **ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG**

**AdoptUSKids**



# Carnegie Mellon hosts Western Pennsylvania Championship

by **Doug Fricker**  
*Staffwriter*  
& **Erin Gagnon**  
*Sports Editor*

Charter buses lining Forbes Avenue and an influx of athletes clad in spandex marked the Track and Field Western Pennsylvania Championship, hosted Saturday by Carnegie Mellon.

Athletes from 16 schools competed in conditions that, while windy, were much better than last year's meet, which was characterized by freezing rain. The meet highlighted track and field athletes from schools across Pennsylvania in Divisions I, II, and III.

The Carnegie Mellon men finished eighth overall with 31.5 points. Robert Morris University won the meet with 165.5 points, Duquesne University finished second with 122 points, and the University of Pittsburgh came in third with 120 points.

In the men's field events, Carnegie Mellon senior Tom Matta placed third in the hammer throw with a throw of 48.58 meters and seventh in the shot put with a throw of 13.88 meters.

The Carnegie Mellon men's 4x800-meter relay team of junior Keith Torluemke, first-year Brian Harvey, senior Dana Irrer, and junior Davey Quinn finished second with a time of 8:03.95. The team of junior Geoff Misek, junior Kevin Pruzinsky, senior Chris Schneider, and junior Mark

Davis finished seventh with a time of 8:17.95.

The 4x400-meter relay team of Torluemke, Davis, junior Russel Verbofsky, and first-year Carlton Reeves finished sixth with a time of 3:27.09.

Harvey came through as the top Tartan in the 1500-meter run, running 4:14.77 and finishing tied for 11th. In the 400-meter, Reeves and Verbofsky ran 51.27 and 51.81, respectively, good for eighth and ninth overall. Verbofsky also raced in the 200-meter, finishing eighth with a time of 23.08.

Junior Nick Bannister came in third overall in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.81, while first-year Ryan Anderson and sophomore Jason Jura finished sixth and seventh, respectively, in the 3000-meter steeplechase with times of 10:02.21 and 10:03.76.

Overall, the Tartan men were somewhat disappointed in their performance. "Our performance wasn't up to our expectations," Jura said.

On the women's side, Carnegie Mellon placed 13th overall out of 16 teams, with 16 points. The University of Pittsburgh took home the competition with a score of 203 points. Duquesne University took second with a score of 136.5, and Robert Morris University finished third with a score of 112.5.

Carnegie Mellon junior thrower Becky Metler finished eighth in the shot put with a

throw of 10.67 meters and ninth in the discus throw with a throw of 33.21 meters. First-year Jessica Meng finished 10th overall in the high jump with a jump of 1.50 meters.

The women's relay teams also put up points for the Tartans. The 4x800-meter relay team of junior Amber Fuller, senior Jocelyn Sikora, junior Jerri Castillo, and sophomore Ashley Bakelmun came in fifth with a time of 10:15.21.

The 4x400-meter relay team consisting of Bakelmun, sophomore Shauna Ormon, first-year Jackie Andreozzi, and first-year Danielle Millett wound up 12th with a time of 4:23.71.

Seniors K.J. Helmstetter and Kelly Cronin competed in the 3000-meter steeplechase, with Helmstetter coming in third with a time of 12:10.1 and Cronin running a time of 13:10.7 and finishing seventh overall. Sikora followed up her performance in the 4x800-meter relay with a sixth-place 800-meter run with a time of 2:26.43.

Commenting on the women's performance, Sikora said, "Despite a hard week of practice and some athletes not feeling well, everyone put forth a strong performance and I expect to see great improvements in the next few weeks."

The Carnegie Mellon outdoor track and field teams compete next Saturday at the Washington & Jefferson/Denison Invitational in Washington, Pa.



First-year 1500-meter runner Mike Haley turns onto the straightaway during Saturday's track meet. Jiaqi Tan/Photo Staff

## Difficult week for Tartan tennis teams



Junior Mona Iyer lunges for the ball at a University of Pittsburgh match. Clifford Kang/Photo Staff

by **Jeffrey Wang**  
*Staffwriter*

The Tartan men's tennis team fell short at the University of Mary Washington (Va.) this past weekend during a three-day tournament. During the tournament, the 22nd-ranked Tartans faced seventh-ranked Mary Washington, 16th-ranked Swarthmore (Pa.), and unranked Rhodes College (Ohio).

Carnegie Mellon kicked off the tournament against Mary Washington, suffering a setback as the Eagles swept the Tartans 9-0. The Tartans struggled to pick off a win, but the Eagles stood their ground, making the Tartans finish the day without forcing any matches to a three-game series.

The men faced Swarthmore next and again suffered defeat, losing 5-2 to the Garnets. Following the team's loss they once again put up a formidable fight with the unranked Rhodes College, hoping to get a win out of the weekend. The grueling matchup became a heartbreaker as Rhodes College edged past the Tartans 4-3.

A notable mention in the midst of a draining weekend goes to fifth singles Jordan Koslosky, who held his own throughout the weekend and had very solid matches despite the intimidating opposition.

Following a tough weekend, head coach Andy Girard showed an undeniable faith and confidence in his players. "We knew this was going to be a big, tough

match up this weekend; it has been a really rough schedule for us, but we have continued to play hard. We've definitely had better weekends, and hopefully we will do well in the upcoming weeks."

On the women's end of the tennis spectrum, the Carnegie Mellon women's spring dual season opened with a formidable matchup against the division one University of Pittsburgh last Wednesday. The women put on a strong performance but was not able to fend off the Pittsburgh Panthers, who handed the Tartans a 7-2 defeat.

The first doubles team of Amy Staloch and Mona Iyer stepped up their play from behind at 3-4 to win five of the next six games, securing an 8-5 victory. Iyer continued the momentum to become the only Tartan to win in singles play. She finished strong with a 5-7, 6-2, 10-7 win over the Panthers' number two singles player Leah Friedman. Fifth singles player Samantha Schultz managed to force the only other three-set match of the day, finishing 6-4, 4-6, 11-9.

This was an important matchup for the 14th-ranked women's team. Iyer and Staloch's doubles win has proven that the Tartan women can match up against quality Division I teams.

Coach Girard said of their performance, "It's great how we have two college teams in Pittsburgh playing together; [Iyer and Staloch] are probably the best match up this year, and have been very sharp and played efficiently."

## Varsity golf team has high hopes for season

by **Adam Lazarus**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

The Carnegie Mellon golf team capped off a successful week of play with a record-setting victory at the McDaniel College Invitational on Sunday, all the while keeping pace with the their goal of a first-ever appearance in the Division III national championship tournament.

Over the weekend, the team blew by the competition at the tournament held in Gettysburg, Pa., and finished at the top of the 11-team field, 14 strokes ahead of their nearest competitor, Susquehanna (Pa.).

"It's probably our biggest win ever. To shoot 599, that's our best two-round score ever," said coach Rich Erdelyi, who has guided the team for 20 years. "I'm really happy for them. They worked hard and they deserve it."

Senior Matt Simone led the tournament after the first round on Saturday with a 72, despite tough winds that made for difficult playing conditions. "We shot 304 as a team [on Saturday], which is our best score of the

year," said Simone, whose first-day eagle chip on the fourth hole highlighted his play.

Sophomore Howard Smith's first-round eagle on the 18th hole also stood out. "It was straight downwind with water on both sides, so I hit two-iron, then four-iron to like two feet and kicked it right in."

The Tartans followed up their season-best Saturday total with their lowest second-day round score ever, a 295 led by first-year Alex Timmons's 72. Simone and senior A.J. Straub each shot 73 on Sunday.

The team's short game proved to be one of the main factors in the blowout victory. "Overall we putted pretty well today," Straub said. "I know personally I didn't have any three-putts and made everything inside of 15 feet."

The Tartans' productive week began last Monday with a collective 315, nine strokes behind first-place Allegheny (Pa.), at the Titan Invitational in New Castle, Pa.

Timmons tied for second overall, firing a 76 on the wet par-72 course. "I thought he played intelligently," Erdelyi said. "He played a very smart round of

golf. He went after pins he knew he could. He made a 25-foot putt that was a 'no-brainer.' I thought 75, 76 was going to be a good score that day, and it was."

"It was a par-three, number 13 I think," Timmons said of his lengthy putt. "Not many putts were dropping all day because the greens were wet and sloppy. I got up there and just knocked it in and it helped me out confidence-wise. It is hard to get confidence on those greens because you are missing one-footers, two-footers because you hit a bump and a kick. There is nothing you can do about it, so any confidence helps and dropping one that is outside 20 feet helps."

Simone and Smith each shot 78 at Westminster, tying for seventh place while sophomore Blake Darby and Straub carded 83 and 87, respectively. First-year Joshua Chen competed as an independent and fired an 85.

"I was pretty happy. I didn't hit the ball particularly outstanding, but everyone pretty much kept [the ball] in front of them, didn't do anything too crazy, and we ended up having a good team score," Simone said.

The Tartans' stellar play has

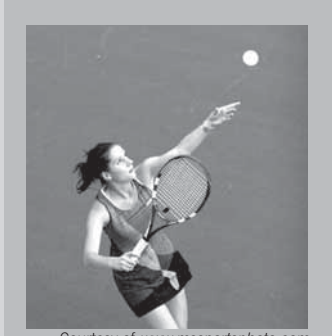
kept them in the hunt for an appearance in the national Division III men's golf championships, a tournament in which Carnegie Mellon has never competed.

Following Monday's third-place finish, the Tartans climbed to fifth in the Mid-Atlantic regional rankings. At the end of the regular season, the top three teams from each region qualify for the 120-team national championship tournament. After the first-place finish at Gettysburg, Erdelyi expects the Tartans to rise in the rankings.

"For a senior, [reaching the national tournament] would be the ultimate culmination of an athletic career at Carnegie Mellon. We've never gone," Simone said, "So to be the first team that would be able to accomplish that would be huge."

The Tartans have four tournaments in the next 15 days and hope to continue their strong play to secure a championship tournament berth. "This is great. We're riding high right now," Straub said. "Hopefully we can carry that into our match on Thursday and regionals this weekend and just keep the low scores coming."

## ATHLETE PROFILE: Amy Staloch



Courtesy of [www.mssportsphoto.com](http://www.mssportsphoto.com)  
**Full Name:** Amy Lynn Staloch  
**Age:** 20  
**Hometown:** Midland, Mich.  
**College/Major:** Chemical Engineering

by **Corey Tucker**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

Last week, Amy Staloch was named the University Athletic Association's tennis athlete of the week. The honor was in response to Staloch's outstanding performance at the Fab Five Invitational hosted by Washington and Lee University.

Staloch came out of the tournament with a 2-1 record with wins against Williams (Mass.) College and Mary Washington University (Va.), placing her in the number-one spot in both singles and doubles. Recently, The Tartan spoke with Amy about her tennis accomplishments.

**Tartan:** When did you start playing tennis, and why?

**Staloch:** I started playing when I was three. My mom teaches tennis, and so I was always out at our tennis club anyway.

**T:** Did you always know that you wanted to play tennis in college?

**S:** I just played tennis for fun and for the competition. I didn't really ever think ahead as to what I wanted to do with it. College tennis just came up when coaches started contacting me.

**T:** What is the hardest part about being a student athlete at Carnegie Mellon?

**S:** The hardest thing is missing stuff that goes on at school

when we are gone for tournaments. We are really busy in the spring and miss a lot of weekend stuff.

**T:** What is the best part?

**S:** The best thing about being a student athlete is getting to know the team. We just have a lot of fun.

**T:** How do you prepare for a match?

**S:** I just do the team warm-up and hang out with the girls. I don't really do anything special except try and be confident going on the court.

**T:** Where is your favorite place to compete and why?

**S:** My favorite place to compete is anywhere outside, when it's hot and my parents are watching.

**T:** What is your most meaningful tennis accomplishment to date?

**S:** Winning nationals because I was so calm during the whole tournament and actually felt confident in myself.

**T:** To what do you attribute your success in tennis?

**S:** I really think it's just that I love to compete. I'd much rather play matches than practice.

**T:** How supportive is your family?

**S:** My parents are the best tennis parents I could imagine. They sit and watch me calmly and don't care about the outcome. They only care how my attitude is on court. They are disappointed when I get mad at myself, but they always comfort me anyway.

**T:** What is the best advice that a coach or teammate has given to you?

**S:** A coach once told me that the best win is to win ugly. It takes a lot of pressure off of "playing well" and focuses on simply competing with what I've got that day.

**T:** Do you like watching tennis or just playing?

**S:** I'd much rather play tennis. I like to watch my teammates but I don't watch professional tennis.



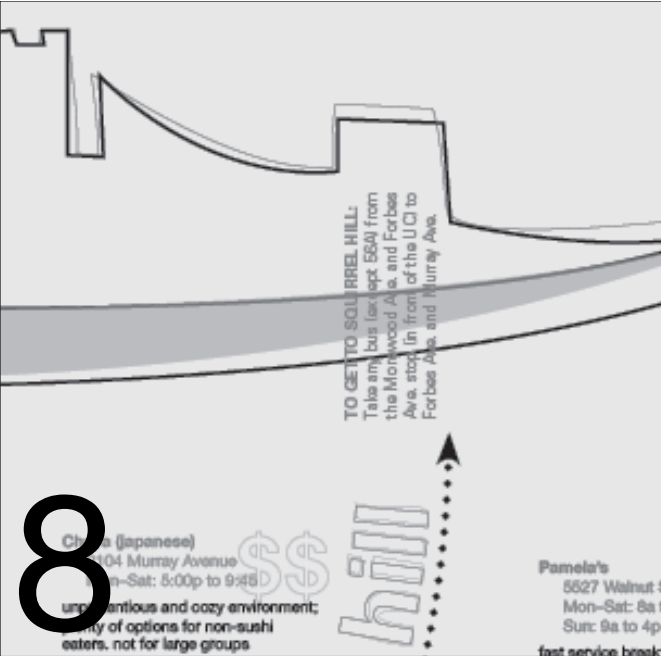
SEE INSIDE FOR  
SCANDAL ISSUE



**pillbox**  
Volume 4. Issue 20. 3 April 2006.



# ...this week only



4

## Diners

Find out whether to visit Eat 'n Park or Pamela's this weekend.

5

## Coffee Shops

Weigh in on the age-old Starbucks vs. Kiva Han debate, or just go to Squirrel Hill.

6

## Eating Disorders

Learn to recognize the common symptoms and understand the psychological causes.

7

## Ramen

Everything there is to know about this staple in college eating.



# ...feature

8

## Local Eateries

An infographic of places to eat in Pittsburgh.

# ...regulars

7

## Dollar Movie

Heath Ledger chasing skirts (not cowboys), and a more realistic Pocahontas.

11

## Comics

See how superheroes duke it out in this week's "Vs."



# What is that on my meal plan?

Carnegie Mellon kids try to stay healthy despite long hours and limited options

The folds of flimsy meat are flapping around each other, dripping in post-frying oil. The cheese is mysteriously bright in its artificial yellow color, and your bag of fries is slowly turning into a puddle of delicious greasiness. Sound familiar?

As we envelop ourselves in the madness that is the end of the second semester of the academic year, the tolls of extracurricular activities, excess homework, and extraneous stress are beginning to add up. Feeling lost in the masses of work and responsibility, it's easy for students everywhere to turn to the one remaining comfort on a high-stress campus: food. Carnegie Mellon students, typically up late and overburdened with in-depth course material, comprise a unique social group with its own health-related characteristics. So, what is everyone at Carnegie Mellon eating? And when and where are they eating it?

Many college students have started taking a closer look at what — and how — they eat. But what does the University do to keep the population of Carnegie Mellon healthy?

“Food is all about choices, and we provide a lot of choices 16 hours a day,” said Tim Michael, the director of Housing and Dining Services. He explained that the “philosophical reason” behind the University having a meal plan for students is to “help create the social fabric of the school and help first-year students make a connection to the school,” and “to help them be successful.” Fine. That is, in fact, what the dining facilities do — they bring people together, everyone eating the chips, packaged sushi, or waffles from Schatz.

But if Housing and Dining Services says that the dining options on campus unite the student body — and provide (or aim to provide) healthy, “nutritious” food — then what do they say to people who have knowingly gained 10 pounds from the meal plan? “Eating is not just about availability,” Michael said, “it's about your personal approach.” Carnegie Mellon students' personal approaches to eating, though, may not be wholly personally determined. What happens when you're up late, and obviously hungry?

“I normally get hungry around 12 or 1 o'clock in the morning, usually because I am up working,” said Katie Bergman-Bock, a first-year policy and management student. Other students feel the same way, saying that they get hungry when they're up late at night — then turn unhealthy snacks into a fourth, very unbalanced meal.

According to Carnegie Mellon Health Services, people are routinely eating instead of sleeping. “When your body is tired, your brain will say, ‘Oh I'm tired, I must need something to eat,’ ” explains Kristine Cecchetti, director of Health Services.

Beyond that, many people are agitated that the ‘O’ is the only food venue open past midnight on a campus where students are notorious for staying up late. While Housing

and Dining Services says this is just a coincidence, as the hours of dining services are specific to the venue itself, the idea of very unhealthy food being advertised as a late-night binge does not bode well for the campus's desired “healthy” image.

“I think it just encourages CMU students to eat greasy foods late at night. There should be another healthy option,” said Janice Weinberg, a first-year information systems student.

However, two new additions to the dining facilities on campus will come in the fall: a Carnegie Mellon Café in Resnik, and the Maggie Murph Café in Hunt Library. Michael boasts that these venues will maintain longer hours of availability.

So do we eat balanced meals?

Probably not. Many students claim their favorite foods on campus include pasta, pizza, cereal, loaded sandwiches, fried foods, and Skibo subs. While everyone is, of course, entitled to indulging in such comforts, it can get out of control with the freedom that comes with college.

The meal plan system of blocks and DineX is one that is supposed to provide structure to our daily lives — act as a nutritious intervention, per se.

“The block is a ‘value meal,’ ” said Michael. It is designed so that students “get a full, nutritious meal” for a supposedly lower price than if the items were bought separately.

However, as Weinberg said, “The meal blocks really screw me over because they include things I don't even like and big portions ... [and] I don't have a big appetite.” Other students have echoed the sentiments that the meal blocks are easy, but they often end up feeling like a waste of money.

The diets of Carnegie Mellon students on the meal plan are in fact dictated by its quality. Although Housing and Dining Services does now employ an in-house dietician, Paula Martin, many students agree that it is still difficult to stay healthy while simultaneously balancing a busy work load. If you are content with your Pepperazzi pizza or your Sí Señor quesadilla, rest assured that many of your academic peers are on the same page. But, if you want to change it, you can do that, too. Go to bed earlier (yes, easier said than done), go to the salad bar, and just eat — healthily, contently, and fully.

**Jessica Thurston** | Staffwriter



Let your man out. Fuel to be fabulous. Get to it. Be nocturnal. Unleash the beast. Throttle in a bottle. Seize the day.

The beverage world is changing. Mega-corporations like PepsiCo and Coca-Cola have realized that energy sells, maybe even more so than sex. Energy drinks are the hot new bandwagon that everyone is scrambling to get aboard, and the options on the market are becoming so varied that the whole energy drink economy is on the verge of becoming saturated.

Energy drinks, regardless of their formulation, typically have a few things in common. They all have copious amounts of caffeine, along with herbal supplements like ginseng, taurine, and guarana, plus a spate of vitamins and minerals. The drinks are usually marketed toward the ever-lucrative 18–24 demographic, promising them the extra energy they need to find the time for all the responsibilities and activities they involve themselves in. This marketing tactic makes energy drinks a prime choice for stressed-out college students and young professionals who are working more than 12 hours a day trying to make ends meet.

Take a walk to Entropy and on any given day you'll see more than 10 different energy drinks on the shelves: Full Throttle, MDX, Tab Energy, NOS, Rip It, Adrenaline Rush, Bawls, Vault, and Omega are just a few examples of this ever-expanding market segment. Most people try a few different brands and then choose one to stay loyal to. The beverage corporations see this behavior as the holy grail of marketing.

Energy drinks are popular because of the image they convey. They'll give you that extra kick of energy you need to get through your bright-and-early 8:30 am Interp class, or help you pull an all-nighter to finish that killer programming assignment. However, energy drinks don't really have anything that good old coffee can't get you. Starbucks coffee has more than three times as much caffeine per ounce as a Red Bull. All that energy drinks get you is a ton of chemicals and a lot of sugar, plus whatever beneficial effects the extra herbal supplements might have.

All that sugar, though, is the main strength of an energy drink. There are plenty of people who just don't like coffee, and they much prefer the soft drink taste of products like Full Throttle or MDX. So, as bad as these energy drinks might be for you, for many people they're a necessary — or at least desirable — evil.

**Evan Sundwick** | Editor-in-Chief

*For a tastier sip of the health concerns surrounding energy drinks, turn to page A8 in Forum.*



# Eating the right way: cheap, quick, and fried

## Diners offer delicious alternatives to the meal plan

Were diners made for college students? Sometimes it seems like it. We don't have any money; we get odd cravings for things like maple syrup and cheeseburgers; and we're definitely not organized enough to make dinner reservations. If you've had enough of the meal plan (or the trucks) and are desperate for an affordable, high-quality meal, don't call Vocelli's for the fifth time this week. The Tartan is here to help. Here's a list of five diners in Pittsburgh and what they have to offer.

**Eat 'n Park:** Eat 'n Park is the ultimate chain of Pittsburgh diners. It's legendary: over 55 years old and located in 80 places throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia. But Eat 'n Park is most intimately connected to the city of Pittsburgh. It's hard to say which is more true — that Pittsburgh loves Eat 'n Park or that Eat 'n Park loves Pittsburgh.

"Most of my high school friends who go to school far away say that they miss Eat 'n Park more than their parents," said first-year Nicole Hallinen, a psychology and French major and Pittsburgh resident. The appeal is not limited to college-aged individuals; Eat 'n Park is primarily a family-style restaurant. The menu is entirely alcohol-free and many of its items are appropriate for children. When it comes to chains and smaller restaurants, Eat 'n Park is the best of both worlds. It's dependable and affordable, but it still has a cozy, friendly environment. Check out the one on Murray Avenue in Squirrel Hill if you want to put your DineXtra to good use.

**Frank & Shirley's:** Some of the other diners in Pittsburgh are actually former Eat 'n Parks, including Frank & Shirley's Restaurant. It's a small space, which is at best a mixed blessing. You might enjoy having the place nearly to yourself,

but it comes at a price: bizarre hours (they close at 7 on weeknights, but are open 24/7 over the weekend), and frequent lines. Frank & Shirley's is also hard to get to by bus. However, the place is known for its breakfasts and burgers, which are cheap and served quickly. It's worth a try, so visit Saw Mill Run Boulevard in the South Hills.

**Tom's Diner:** You'll also want to check out Tom's Diner. There are three locations: one on the South Side (on East Carson Street), one in Homestead (on West Eighth Avenue), and one in Dormont (on West Liberty Avenue). They're open 24 hours a day, and the food is very Pittsburgh — almost all of it is fried. Tom's also has something called a Gyro Omelet, which is a rather brilliant way of taking an ordinary breakfast and turning it Greek. The most exceptional part of Tom's Diner is the service; there are a multitude of reviews praising the wait staff for their manner, speed, and near-flawlessness.

**Pamela's:** When you think Pamela's, you probably think of a line stretching outside of the restaurant and into the street. It's loaded with Pittsburgh spirit. Earlier this year, Eat n Park's black and yellow smiley-face cookies paled in comparison to Pamela's Steelers-themed decor, which included strips of "Steelers fans only" caution tape across the front door and on the walls. And just as Pamela's embodies the city of Pittsburgh, a Pamela's breakfast embodies the weekend. "I don't consider it a weekend if Pamela's brunch isn't involved," said first-year biology and psychology major Becky Ascher. Pamela's is known for having the best pancakes in Pittsburgh — not only are they thin, but they can come stuffed with strawberries, apples, bananas, or blueberries. There are two locations on Forbes Avenue in Squirrel Hill and Oakland, a third in Shadyside on Walnut Street, and a fourth on 21st Street in the Strip District.

**Ritter's Diner Restaurant:** Ritter's Diner Restaurant is an excellent choice if you're interested in flashing back while you eat. Comfortable booths, '70s-style decoration, and music via vinyl 45s contribute to a soothing, classic atmosphere. They serve breakfast 24/7, and you'll want to order a bagel breakfast sandwich, which is their most popular dish. They also serve feta cheese omelets and excellent deserts, including banana cream pie. Ritter's has an extremely loyal following and often — like Pamela's — has an extremely long line. Visit Ritter's on Baum Boulevard in Shadyside.

Whether you're sipping an Eat 'n Park milkshake or enjoying French toast from Pamela's, if you're at a diner in Pittsburgh, you're probably having a good time.

"I think the thing about all of them is that they have Pittsburgh pride and they promote that 'hometown feeling,'" said Hallinen. All five of the diners cater to every age group and have excellent menus you can depend on that include classy diner dishes like grilled cheese and breakfast foods. Most are open 24/7, so be sure to walk — or stumble — into any of them whenever you're craving the diner experience.

**Sarah Mogin** | Staffwriter

## Smoking or non-smoking state?

"Isn't making a smoking section in a restaurant like making a peeing section in a swimming pool?"

George Carlin had a good point: Cigarettes and dining out are a bad combination. And, in light of the past few years, the world seems to be catching on. An increasing number of U.S. states and cities, in addition to other countries across the globe, are passing legislation banning smoking in public places, including bars and restaurants. Pennsylvania isn't far behind. Not everyone is in favor of such a change in policy, but recent statistics concerning the possible economic and medical benefits practically speak for themselves.

Many stakeholders in the restaurant business are opposed to a statewide law against indoor smoking. "Every owner or operator should make his own decision, and customers can vote with their feet," said restaurateur Kevin Joyce, as quoted in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. According to the *Post-Gazette*, approximately one-fourth of all Pennsylvania residents are smokers. Many restaurant owners are afraid that without a smoking section, they'll lose a significant portion of their patronage.

However, data from places where it is already illegal to smoke indoors suggest that anti-smoking laws are actually good for business. In the year after New York City prohibited indoor smoking in 2003, bars and restaurants in the city experienced an 8.7 percent gain in profit. Similarly positive results have been recorded in the cases of Delaware and California. "It's fear of the unknown that makes restaurants think business will go down if they go smoke-free," said Greg Hartley of Smokefree Pennsylvania when interviewed in the *Post-Gazette*. "Will some businesses lose business? Probably. But most will not, and you don't make public policy decisions based on the least common denominator."

When it comes to anti-smoking legislation, the main issue is health. Employees of establishments that permit indoor smoking suffer significant risk due to the dangers of secondhand smoke inhalation. A University of California at Berkeley study determined that taking an eight-hour shift in a smoke-filled environment is equivalent to smoking 16 cigarettes. And even employees in the non-smoking section are vulnerable: the same study reported such employees might as well be smoking 10 cigarettes with every shift.

According to an article in *HealthDay*, secondhand smoke can have debilitating effects on the circulatory system, including a heightened risk of heart attack and clotting. A ban on indoor smoking could also prove salubrious to current smokers, since a smoke-filled environment is more likely to tempt a struggling quitter to light up another cigarette.

Pennsylvania lawmakers are starting to come around. The *Post-Gazette* quoted state Senator Jake Corman (R) as he described how opinion changed. "My initial reaction was that it was a marketplace issue, that businesses should have the freedom to cater to people who smoke," he said. "But now I want to know more." At this rate, it might not be long before Pennsylvania becomes the next state to ban indoor smoking.

**Sarah Mogin** | Staffwriter



# Java joints offer good joe

## Local coffee shops offer a variety of atmospheres

Despite what the French say, I love my American sock juice. Flavored? Sure, whatever, I'm no purist. Unsweetened with whole milk — cream, if you have it — too.

Coffee shops serve many functions. They're a place to meet friends, engage in lively intellectual conversations, read a textbook, write a poem. They're a destination on those angsty days when I just need to get away. Cafés are my escape plan. I go, mostly, to trick myself into thinking I'm not doing work, but when I'm not people watching, I often am. I mean, who can say no to free wireless Internet? And, when this de-stress strategy fails, I'll just quit school. I'll start a coffee shop of my own — a small, slow, struggling one with three tables and loyal regulars. I'll wipe the tables and read a book in the down times, basking in the smell of freshly ground beans and listening for the bell on the door to ring business.

Coffee shops provide a refuge for the hipsters, the writers, the readers, the caffeine addicts, and café connoisseurs. They're a place to be alone, a place to catch up. Go there for a more enticing meeting, or apply for a job there; the pay's not great, but the people are friendly (except maybe at 8:05 am in the business district). And whether it's Starbucks, Panera Bread, Caribou Coffee, the Coffee Tree Roasters, Crazy Mocha, or a locally owned venue, Pittsburgh's coffee scene has a lot to offer for every taste and comfort level, if you know where to look.

**61c:** I like to walk to the 61c (located on Murray Avenue, in Squirrel Hill) on sunny Saturday afternoons, because then it doesn't seem like working. I get to kill five birds: It counts as exercise, gets me off campus, a chance to call my mom, a place to work, and gets me a hot mug of something for a perfectly reasonable price. And, for my tastes, their muffins are the best I've found. Granted, it's a bit cramped; the dozens of little square tables are a little gridlocked, but the light from that huge front window is fantastic. There is outside seating when it's warm enough, but I prefer to be inside anyway, because that soft electronica they play is often new (to me) and always good.

**Tango Café:** Farther down Murray (on Forward Avenue) is the Tango Café, Pittsburgh's Argentinian coffee house, offering a variety of teas and coffee drinks, tasty sandwiches, and Spanish classes almost every night. There are only seven tables, but on a Thursday afternoon, I am the only one there. From there I can catch either a 61C or 59U back to campus.

**The Beehive:** Go to the South Side's Beehive if you wear Converse sneakers, like disco balls, and paint in primary colors. The Beehive now boasts a smoking lounge and a quiet study room, but I prefer to be loud when I'm there. It's a place for my friends and me on Friday nights, playing Jenga in large groups. Their game section has a lot of potential if you can find all the pieces. With Jenga it's not a problem, and all the blocks have long since been individualized — go ahead and call all those numbers “for a good time” if you want. The 54C will take you right back to Craig Street, where you're faced with a choice:

**Starbucks, or Kiva Han?** I choose Kiva Han, usually, out of loyalty to the artists and musicians who exhibit there and because I love to while away the hours on their upper level while reading the philosophies expressed on the colorful walls of their bathroom. You have to love a place that recycles their cup sleeves, right?

**Coffee Tree Roasters or Walnut Jitters:** If the Coffee Tree Roasters in Shadyside is full (or all the couches are taken), I walk a few more blocks down to Walnut Jitters, a tiny little place in the Shadyside Mall. I like their couch, their white-chocolate-flavored coffee, and the sight of young couples buying ice cream for their children while people peer in from the street. It's small, intimate, and relaxing. They were playing Coldplay's “Parachutes” last time I was in.

**Enrico's Tazza D'Oro:** I have to say my newest favorite is Enrico's Tazza D'Oro, which is located on Highland Avenue in East Liberty. I like the little tables, the couches, the photographs on the walls, and the sense that when I go there I'm among real people, not just students. The music is mild, but far from elevator music — music like Aimee Mann. They are bringing Europe to Pittsburgh's East End. They take great pride in the quality of their coffee, while providing a variety of soups and sandwiches. And I'm definitely going back for another cappuccino and that enormous brownie.

**Erika Holmquist** | Junior Staffwriter

## Eating like it's home... *but at school...*

We all say we miss home, sure, but what we're really missing is the home-cooked food — because every once in a while, the ‘O’ doesn't cut it. And the workers aren't that nice when you call them Mommy. Here's a list of the top five things about dining at college that just can't compare to home-cooked meals, and some of our imperfect solutions.

**No dining table or dining table conversations.** We don't know about you, but the fact that we have to eat dinner while worrying about spilling stuff onto our laptops is not fun. Crumbs in our beds? Like sand in your bathing suit — also not fun. Our substitute: Vacuum your room. Yeah, you heard us. Clean your floor. Here's why: You can put out a blanket and have a picnic. Heck, make it a party and invite that cutie from down the hall.

**Radioactive food.** Microwaves are God's gift to man. But once in a while, having to microwave everything for 1:30 gets annoying. Especially those times you find out that the plasticware you just used is not microwave-safe. Word to the wise: Check the label.

**Plasticware.** Plastic knives do not work. They don't slice open bagels and are therefore pointless. However, having many real knives is sketchy. There is no happy medium. Sorry to disappoint, there is no solution to this problem. Except maybe a bagel guillotine.

**Egregious amounts of ramen noodles and Easy Mac.** I don't care what Matt Fischer's blog says. “Pez and ramen soup” is disgusting. And Easy Mac tastes like cardboard. It's not even a good source of calcium! The solution? Get your mom to mail you some of her fabulous lasagna. We wish.

**Having to worry about meal blocks ending.** This. Blows. We hate having to look at our watches, realize it's 7:50 pm, and sprint to Skibo to get dinner before it's time for the late-night meal block of doom. It sucks even more when you eat your lunch at 4 and can't have dinner until 8. You could always try picketing Housing & Dining Services. Viva la revolución!

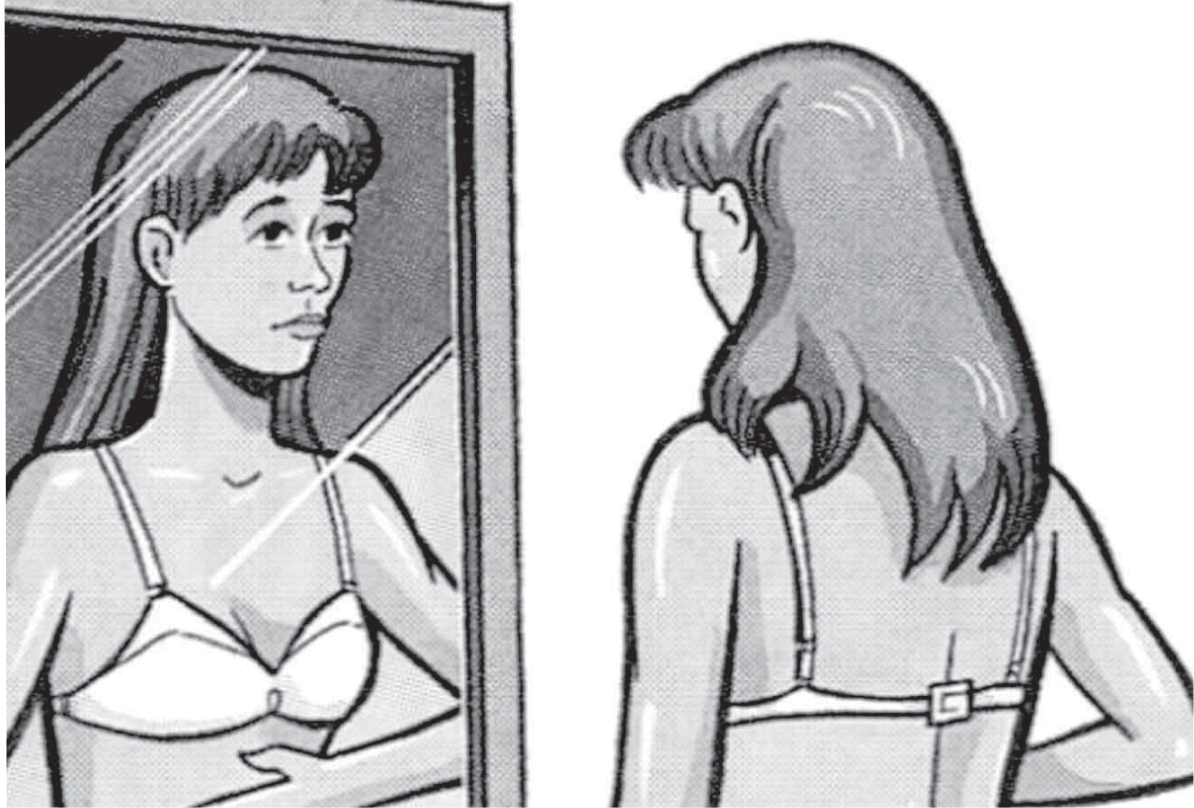
One day, we will be real grown-ups with real kitchens in real apartments. Some of you already are. We secretly hate you. However, no matter how old you get, you will always miss your mom's (or your dad's) cooking. And we're sorry to break it to you, but you'll never escape the power of your momma's food. It almost makes a good defense for the 40-year-olds still living at their parents' houses.

It's always nice to remember that whenever you do manage to get yourself back home, your mom will be waiting there with open arms. And if you're lucky, she'll have chocolate chip cookies.

**Pratima Neti** | Junior Staffwriter  
**Shweta Kumar** | Junior Staffwriter







Courtesy of [www.yesnet.yk.ca](http://www.yesnet.yk.ca)

# Eating disorders offer false sense of control

## College-age students are most prone to food misconceptions

Eating disorders. They’re something you joke about, right? Like Derek and Hansel in *Zoolander*, when Matilda breaks the news about her recovery from bulimia. But she’s right: An eating disorder is a disease. And, in today’s America, an increasingly prevalent one. The National Eating Disorders Association ([www.edap.org](http://www.edap.org)) estimates almost 10 million Americans currently suffer from some kind of eating disorder — about three percent of the population.

At our age, the percentage is much higher, since eating disorders occur most commonly between the ages of 13 and 25, according to Carnegie Mellon’s Counseling and Psychological Services website. The ratio of women to men afflicted is 9:1. One-half percent of college-aged women have anorexia nervosa, five percent suffer from bulimia, and up to 40 percent of those who are obese may be binge eaters.

Scary, right? It gets worse. Chief complaint of all boyfriends: Girls seeking assurance by asking if they look fat. Sure, it’s clichéd, but true; most women and many men are needlessly unhappy with their bodies. The fact is that eating disorders come in varying degrees and many forms. A person can have an emotional obsession while maintaining a healthy weight. Counseling Services provides a variety of educational brochures on the topic, all of which are also available online. They place eating issues on a continuum: with confidence about body shape and size and flexible eating at one end, then a preoccupation with eating and body shape and size, which can give way to distress about the topic and finally eating disorders.

The brochures say: “Eating disorders are emotional problems which manifest themselves through behavior related to food, weight, eating, and exercising. At the root of these symptoms are issues related to self-esteem, control, trust, and difficulty coping with life events.”

Symptoms to look out for in yourself and others include:

**Behavioral:** Restricting calorie or food to feel more in control, eating episodes where you feel out of control, feeling compelled to exercise to compensate for food eaten, self-induced vomiting, temporary fasting to compensate for food eaten, drug use to control eating or weight gain, rituals around food, frequently weighing yourself, and counting calories.

**Emotional:** Depressed mood, mood swings, irritability, guilt about eating, intense fear of fat, low self-esteem, eating when upset, emotional discomfort after eating, difficulty tolerating the feeling of being full, and shame about eating behaviors.

**Psychological:** Perfectionism, preoccupation with food, high need for structure, rigid eating schedule, alternating between being in control of eating and “letting go,” difficulty concentrating, and a fluctuating body image.

**Social:** Frequently eating alone, eating in secret, avoiding friends, avoiding situations where food is involved, strained relationships due to food related issues, and difficulty being assertive.

**Physical:** Amenorrhea (menstruation has stopped), throat problems, frequent weight fluctuations, significant weight loss or gain, swollen glands, hair loss, puffy cheeks, broken blood vessels under eyes, fainting or dizziness, fatigue, unexplained tooth decay, and the development of fine hairs all over your body.

Having an eating disorder can be detrimental to a person’s own emotional and physical health and, for that reason, can adversely affect all aspects of their life: school, relationships, work. It’s mind-boggling: Why would we do this to ourselves?

What is it about food and our bodies and the way we look that is important enough for us to jeopardize so many other important aspects of our lives for them?

Eating disorders can be about looking really thin, or they can be about analyzing what you eat and micromanaging. It’s an important issue at Carnegie Mellon, where most are under a lot of pressure and many are perfectionists to begin with. When everything else seems out of control (classes, grades, etc.), eating is one “small” thing that can be constrained to prevent feeling powerless over your life.

The National Eating Disorder Association says some psychological factors that contribute to eating disorders can be low self-esteem, feelings of inadequacy or lack of control in life, depression, anxiety, anger, or loneliness. Troubled family and personal relationships are among the interpersonal factors that can contribute to an eating problem, as are having difficulty expressing emotions and feelings, a history of being teased or ridiculed based on size and weight, or a history of physical or sexual abuse. Socially, we are all faced with cultural pressures that idealize thinness and create narrow, size-based definitions of beauty for men and women. For the most part, we, as a culture, superficially judge ourselves and others based on physical appearances.

So what do we do about it? Be attentive to your own needs, both emotional and physical; watch out for your friends; seek help if you need it (there’s no shame in that, it’s a courageous step); and try not to think about it. Probably the person who cares most about the way your body looks is you, because the rest of us are too busy worrying about ourselves. Eating should come naturally and be as enjoyable as it can be.

**Erika Holmquist** | Junior Staffwriter



# Noodles, soup, or other

## Students’ creativity yield unique uses for ramen

When I was 12 years old, I had a great fear that they would stop making ramen noodles by the time I got to college. I considered stocking up on them, but my mom assured me that this would not happen. Ramen was one of my top after-school snacks in middle school and high school. I found that one package was good for two people and two packages were usually good for three people. One of my friends introduced me to the concept of adding vegetables and egg to the noodles, which I found greatly enhanced my meal.

I did of course bring a 20-pack of ramen with me when I came to college, but to my surprise I still have about half of the box left.

Ramen will always have its place in college life. As Chris Custer, a student at Georgia Perimeter College, writes, “It is a perplexing enigma how students ever managed to survive before the advent of these miraculous noodles, and their equally miraculous foil seasoning pouches. Whether the student is a young, insecure freshman right out of high school or a burly, beer-tested senior who is slogging his way through [his] last year of college, these divine packets are as essential to college life as a loud, ear-splitting stereo, an ice-cold, refreshing beer, or a weekly check from the student’s financially burdened parents. Ramen possesses several qualities that are extremely attractive to students: It’s cheap, it’s fast, and it doesn’t taste that bad. It’s also extremely versatile, and I’m not talking about the fact that you can eat it raw, cooked as noodles, or as a soup.”

The traditional ramen soup is a very popular way of eating noodles, but it can get a bit boring. Fortunately there are

several websites, such as “The Official Ramen Homepage” (<http://mattfischer.com/ramen/index.php?cat=13>), and books, such as *101 Things to do with Ramen* by Toni Patrick, which are filled with new ways to spice up those noodles. After looking up some recipes online, I found that eggs and vegetables were pretty basic compared to the inventive things that people have come up with. Recipes range from “Sweet and Spicy Coke Ramen” (yes, that is Coca-Cola) to “Sinful Breakfast Ramen” (with eggs and bacon) to “Hyperactive Candied Coco-Ramen” (with chocolate and whipped cream). Ramen has been combined with almost everything from Girl Scout cookies to chicken salad and jalapeños. It seems as though these noodles can find their way into any dish.

### So where did ramen come from?

“Instant noodles” were invented in 1958 by Momofuku Ando, the founder and chairman of Nissin Foods. They were initially considered a luxury item sold for six times the price of other noodle in Japanese grocery stores. Momofuku’s ramen arrived on the east coast of the U.S. in 1972 as “Oodles of Noodles.” “Nissin Cup Noodles” came the next year in the convenient styrofoam cup, and soon hundreds of knock-offs arrived.

### What is that block made of?

Some people think that each package of ramen contains one incredibly long noodle curled and coiled into a solid block. In his book, *The Book of Ramen: Low Cost Gourmet Meals Using Instant Ramen Noodles*, Ron Konzak took a package of ramen noodles, boiled it and carefully took it apart. He reports, “I found that the package contained 80 strands of curly noodles

5/64 inch (2 mm) diameter that, when straightened out, measured approximately 16 inches (40 cm) in length. This would indicate that the noodle dough was extruded through 80 nipples into continuous rows, and cut into uniform lengths. The 80 curly noodles, cut to length, were then folded over once before being dropped into a mold, lightly fried, dried, and packaged with a flavor packet insert. Each package, when boiled, stretched out and laid end to end contains about 100 linear feet of noodles.”

### What else is in a package?

Well, there is a downside. Each flavor package contains about 1560 mg of sodium (which is approximately 60 percent over the daily recommended amount). To remove the water and form them into blocks, the noodles are deep fried in palm oil, which contains about the most saturated fat there is. Then again, the average Japanese person eats about 45 packages of ramen a year, and the Japanese manage to stay quite petite.

With all cautions aside, if eaten responsibly, ramen probably won’t hurt anyone. It seems that as long as ramen stays so cheap, it will remain a staple in the lives of many college students — an old salty friend who just wants to make them happy.

**Deren Guler** | Staffwriter



**Matthew McKee** | Staffwriter

### Princess Mononoke

Wednesday, April 5  
10 12:30

Hayao Miyazaki’s masterpiece outclasses almost everything from our worn-out Disney. This animated film is about a young prince, cursed by a demon, who must find the legendary spirit of the forest to cleanse his wound. He is cast into a grand battle between man and nature that explores the implications of progress. I don’t want to make it sound too material, though, because you’ll find love and beauty in *Princess Mononoke* along with moral ambiguities and soul-probing questions. I can’t say anything about this film without mentioning Jo Hisaishi, who has provided an epic musical score that is absolutely perfect.

### Man’s Castle/No Greater Glory

Thursday, April 6  
8 10 12

Welcome to two relics of the ’30s! *No Greater Glory* shows some cool gang members who end up in a not-so-cool gang war started by a flag-stealing. It’s like capture the flag taken way too seriously. All the depressing themes are here — suffering in youth, the pointlessness of war... you get the picture. If the KGB took their game this far, Wean and Doherty would be no more. *Man’s Castle* is about love and shanty towns with random castles. It also has a guy who robs a toy store. I don’t care what your motivation is, you *do not* rob a toy store. That’s just evil.

### The New World

Friday, April 7  
7:30 10 12:30

Roger Ebert noted that the great thing about this new take on the old story is that the director, Terrence Malick, doesn’t tell this story with the modern mindset. Pocahontas and John Smith both play their parts with a sincere sense of discovery without knowledge of the coming tragedy. The tired “let’s learn the word for ‘lips’ so we can kiss” scene actually works. Telling the truth still matters, though. John Smith is not an idealized hero, and his relationship with Pocahontas is more complicated than usual star-crossed romance. Malick makes the cultural encounter authentic and, thank God, without Disney songs.

### Casanova

Saturday, April 8  
8 10 12

I’ll show you the Hollywood checklist: Attractive male — check. Hot female — double check. Decent script — oops, looks like the producers forgot this one. Casanova really was a man with some awesome adventures. (Roof-jumping to escape the Inquisition? No one expects that.) Somehow, though, this film gets the spirit wrong. The wit is lacking and the fun misses the mark. While the real man had a very unique character, *Casanova* just seems to blend into any other action flick with a romance tacked on.

### Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels

Sunday, April 9  
7:30 10 12:30

One episode of “Hitchcock Presents” pulled off the suspense of finger amputation and truly made it a scary threat, and these British filmmakers took the scare and made it a poker strategy. *Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels* is about a man at the losing end of a rigged game of cards who has to pay his debt in one week or face a stumpy appendage. Illegal means being the best means to pay off something like that, the characters start a lot of surreal chaos where just about everything goes wrong. This is a whirlwind plot with some crazy turns, but the ending is good.



# PITTSBURGH

[ by **Reina Takahashi** | Assistant Layout Manager ]

## DINING

### TO GET TO OAKLAND:

To get to S. Craig, walk. Or, to reach Oakland, take any bus (except 28X) from the corner of Morewood and Forbes to Fifth and Atwood (or DeSoto on a 67).

### TO GET TO SQUIRREL HILL:

Take any bus (except 56U or any 67) from the Morewood and Forbes stop (in front of the UC) to Forbes and Murray.

#### **Kiva Han**

Corner of Forbes and S. Craig  
Mon.–Fri. 6:30 am to 11 pm  
Sat.–Sun. 8 am to 11 pm

Local, artsy coffee shop; features deli-style foods and wi-fi access.

#### **Ali Baba (Middle Eastern)**

404 S. Craig Street  
Mon.–Fri. 11:30 am to 2:30 pm  
4:30 pm to 9:45 pm

Authentic Middle Eastern food fit for a college student budget.

Oakland

#### **Chaya (Japanese)**

2104 Murray Avenue  
Mon.–Sat. 5 pm to 9:45 pm

Unpretentious and cozy environment; plenty of options for non-sushi eaters. Not for large groups.

#### **Eat 'n Park**

1816 Murray Avenue  
Daily, 24 hours

Affordable, family-oriented eatery with a wide array of menu choices.

#### **Bangkok Balcony (Thai)**

5846 Forbes Avenue (2nd fl)  
Sun.–Thurs. 12:00 to 10 pm  
Fri.–Sat. noon to 11 pm

Quick, friendly service; moderately priced authentic Thai cuisine.

#### **61c Café**

1839 Murray Avenue  
Mon.–Thurs. 7 am to 11 pm  
Fri. 7 am to 12 am  
Sat. 8 am to 12 am  
Sun. 9 am to 11 pm

An ideal atmosphere for studying with free wireless; over 24 specialty teas.

Squirrel Hill

#### **Jitters Café**

5541 Walnut Street  
Mon–Sun 7 am to 10 pm

Quiet, relaxing environment; service is friendly and coffee is inexpensive.

#### **La Feria (Peruvian)**

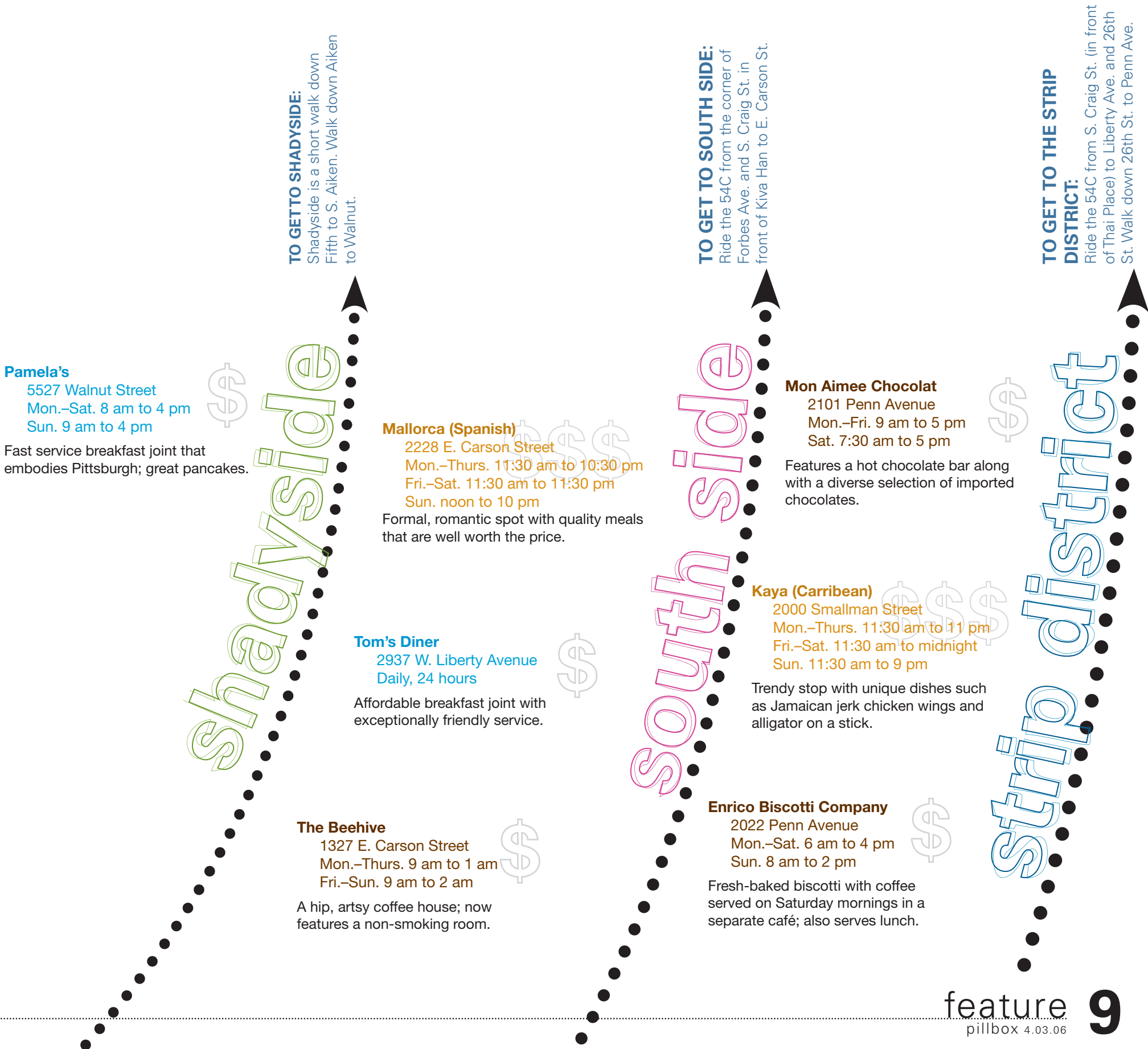
5527 Walnut Street (2nd fl)  
Mon.–Sat. 10 am to 10 pm

Small but delicious selection of authentic Peruvian dishes in a quaint environment.



# We give you the dish on the 'Burgh's must-have bites

- breakfast bites
- ethnic eats
- java joints







How do seeing-eye dogs know where to go? How do kids who are visually impaired surf the net? How do individuals who can't see cross busy streets?

Find out by attending the  
**University of Pittsburgh's**  
**PROFESSIONS IN EDUCATION INFORMATION FAIR**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup> 2006 FROM 11 AM TILL 1 PM**  
**In the William Pitt Union on Pitt's Oakland Campus**

**SPEAKERS WILL EXPLAIN HOW YOU CAN PUT YOUR DEGREE TO WORK IN FORGING AN EXCITING AND REWARDING CAREER IN SPECIAL EDUCATION—THERE IS GREAT DEMAND FOR TEACHERS LOCALLY, REGIONALLY, AND NATIONALLY. LUNCH AND PARKING ARE PROVIDED. THE EVENT IS FREE AND THE FIRST 100 PEOPLE THROUGH THE DOOR WILL BE ENTERED IN A RAFFLE TO WIN FOUR PIRATE HOME OPENER TICKETS!**

**For more details or to register for the Professions in Education Fair  
log on today to**

**[www.education.pitt.edu/edfair](http://www.education.pitt.edu/edfair)**  
**or call 412.648.2230**



**Graduating with a Bachelor's in linguistics? How about communication disorders or speech pathology/therapy? Interested in getting a Master's Degree & certification in a highly marketable field—**

**EDUCATION OF  
DEAF & HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS?**

**Find out the details by attending the  
University of Pittsburgh's  
PROFESSIONS IN EDUCATION INFORMATION FAIR  
SATURDAY, APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup> 2006 FROM 11 AM TILL 1 PM  
In the William Pitt Union on Pitt's Oakland Campus**

**Speakers will explain how you can put your degree to work in forging an exciting and rewarding career in Special Education! There is a great demand for teachers of deaf and hard of hearing students locally, regionally, & nationally. Lunch & parking provided. 412.648.2230**

**THE EVENT IS FREE AND THE FIRST 100 PEOPLE ARRIVING WILL BE ENTERED IN A RAFFLE TO WIN 4 PIRATE HOME OPENER TICKETS!**

**For more details or to register for the PROFESSIONS IN EDUCATION Fair  
log on today to [www.education.pitt.edu/edfair](http://www.education.pitt.edu/edfair)**



Tyler and Fred by Greg Prichard gprichar@andrew



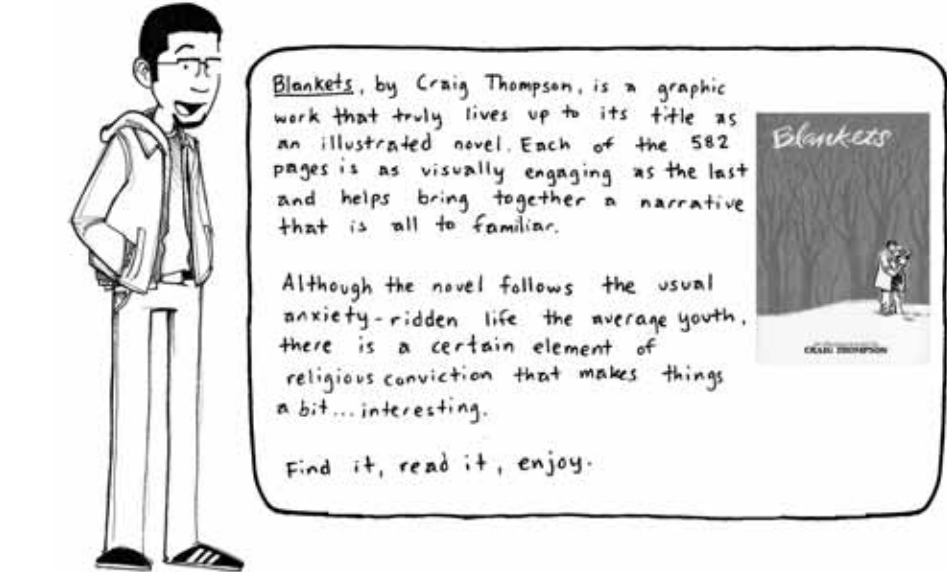
All Hail the Jon by Jon Samuels jsamuel1@andrew



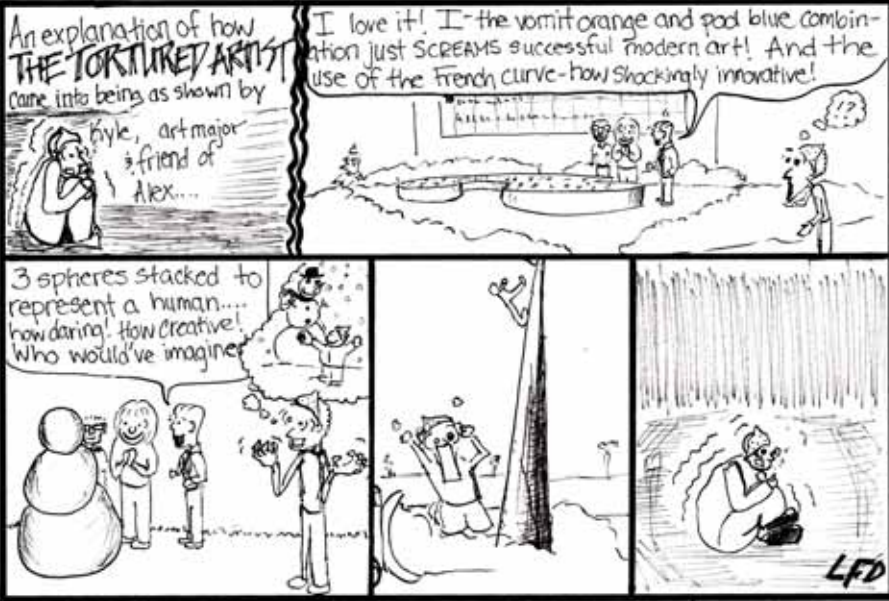
IMF Diary by Robert Kaminski rkaminsk@andrew



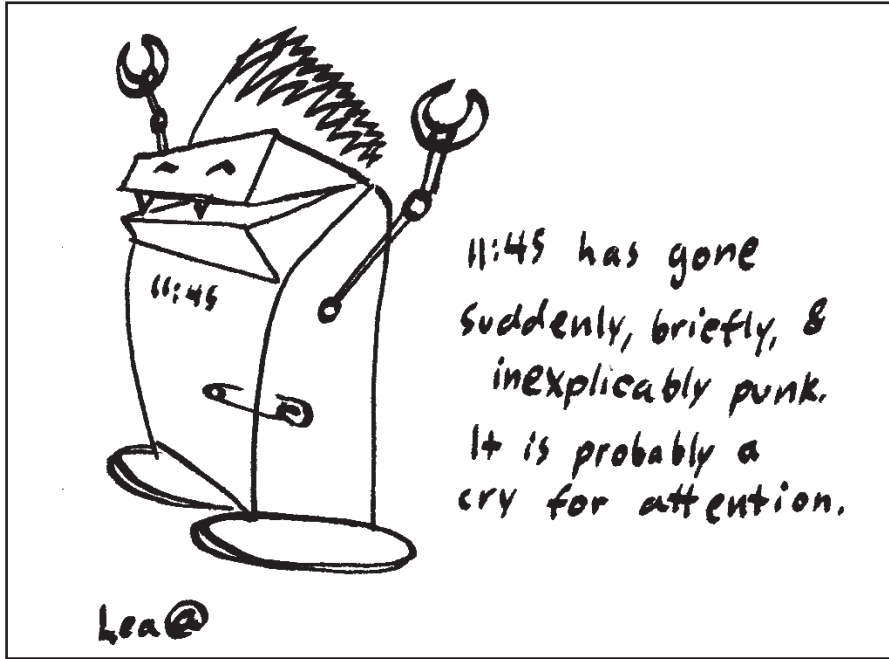
Comic Review by Jimi Okelana jokelana@andrew



Almost Exactly by Laura Frye Daniels lfrye@andrew



11:45 by Lea Albaugh lea@andrew



Family Circuits by Greg Prichard gprichar@andrew

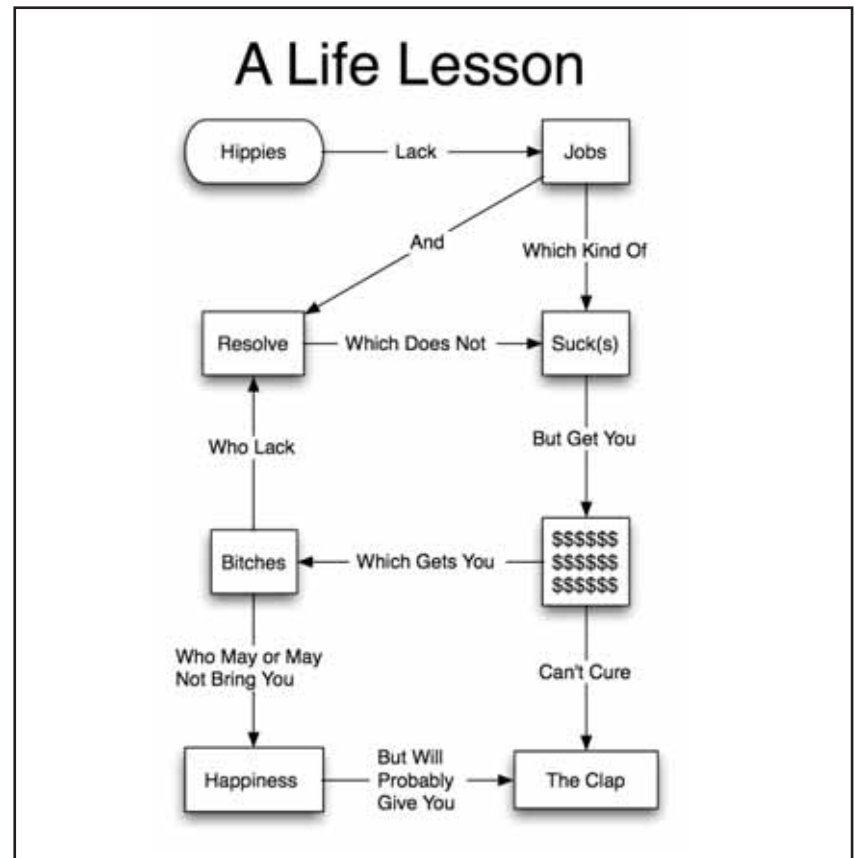
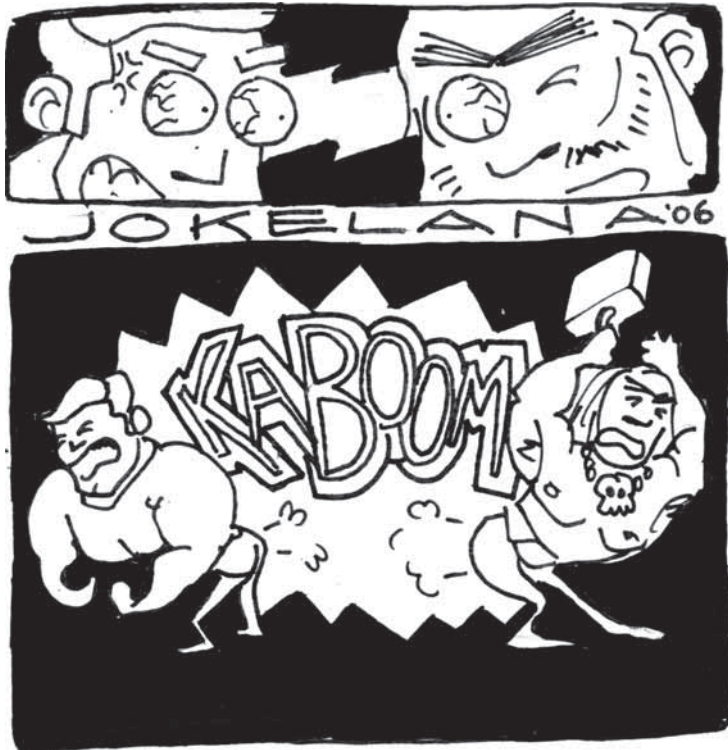






**Vs.** by Jimi Okelana

jokelana@andrew



**Ph.D.** by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com









# Horoscopes

## aries

mar. 21–apr. 19

Your decision to boycott Daylight Savings Time in its entirety will backfire when every single other person in your project group forgets to change their clocks, leaving you to finish the project alone. Way to go...

## taurus

apr. 20–may 20

The Carnival Chair will reject your booth proposal themed around 1992 Los Angeles, citing that, while it is technically another place and another time, it's just a bad idea in general.

## gemini

may 21–jun. 21

You will receive yet another homoerotic fortune in your fortune cookie, leading you to believe that all those extra free egg rolls were not simply an accident, and that the nice delivery boy really did try holding your hand when you gave him the tip.

## cancer

jun. 22–jul. 22

As you test a buggy fueled purely by Vault Hybrid Energy Soda on the Cut, lightning will strike the Borofsky pole, sending you back in time to 1960. You will immediately seek out Roy Hunt and tell him to redesign his library before it is built.

## leo

jul. 23– aug. 22

You will drop it like it's hot. Unfortunately, you will drop it because it is actually hot, and you will start a fire. The building will be evacuated.

## virgo

aug. 23–sept. 22

You will receive 538 spam e-mails about a great new investment opportunity. The 539th will actually be from Steve Jobs about a great investment opportunity. You will consider changing your spam filter settings.

## libra

sept. 23–oct. 22

An eccentric German engineer will offer to un-pimp your auto, and will then drive it off a bridge into Panther Hollow screaming, “Representing Deutschland!”

## scorpio

oct. 23–nov. 21

Your ultimate April Fool's prank will go horribly awry when, days later, you will find out that the poor hamster had been alive this whole time.

## sagittarius

nov. 22–dec. 21

In a freak biology accident, you will be bitten by a radioactive spider, but instead of getting super-powers, you will just become very, very sick. Your attempts to sue Stan Lee and Marvel for false advertising will largely go unheard.

## capricorn

dec. 22–jan. 19

Your boredom in Interp will continue to grow until it collapses in on itself and forms a singularity, gradually destroying Baker Hall from the inside out.

## aquarius

jan. 20–feb. 18

You will finally be awarded the patent for McGriddles, but before you can collect your royalty payments, Grimace will pay you a visit. You will develop an irrational fear of milkshakes. The less you know, the better. No one stands up to Grimace.

## pisces

feb. 19–mar. 20

You will try for weeks to get the phrase “psychotically enjoyable” to catch on in the mainstream, but it just doesn't have the same ring as “crazy delicious.”

Evan Sundwick | Editor-in-Chief

# Seasonal

by **Arthur O'Dwyer**

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8
9			10		11			
12				13				
14			15		16	17		18
19	20							
	21			22	23		24	
25		26			27			28
29						30		
31			32					

This week's crossword is in “cryptic” style; instructions for deciphering cryptic crossword clues are available online. The usual crossword will return next week.

This puzzle's central thematic entry is unclued. Three entries are capitalized.

## ACROSS

- Sound hugging curves is annoyance (6)
- Reason complaining less “in” (3)
- In the style of first and last accounts (1,2)
- Scrambled Al bite leg bones (6)
- Bear costs, without middle cross (4)
- Fishy treat for aquarium denizen (5)
- Boxed in alive, a little calf (4)
- Initially, each servant promises gift (3)
- Space station returns to edge (3)
- Predict Spanish outburst (4)
- Poetry for Roman doorways? (5)
- Big as heartless prejudice (4)
- Hunting dog (6)
- First-rate run past (3)
- Scrape by with startled little scream (3)
- Sounds like I allowed a loophole! (6)

## DOWN

- Dined on fish, sans head (3)
- A general out of the wind (4)
- Is reversed about distant expedition (6)
- Keep without a pen (3)
- Drunk English variety of beer (4)
- Cunning, clever fellow (3)
- Instrument precedes love for funny brother (5)
- Annual wise loudly surround lord (6)
- Fee taken back in preposterous quarrels (5)
- One in stately dance case (6)
- Afterlife contest (5)
- Cola is mixed for a party (6)
- Ran in Prussian king, for a joke (5)
- Sight European agent (4)
- Changed gear in anger (4)
- Bumbler — more, less right (3)
- Break in tournament play, until next time (3)
- Lush Sargasso that conceals (3)







# Taste the rainbows.



Justin Brown | Assistant Photo Editor

A double rainbow formed over Oakland on Friday afternoon. Marking the end to what may have been the most beautiful day this year, these rainbows are a hopeful sign of happy weeks to come. Visit [www.thetartan.org](http://www.thetartan.org) for a picture of the second rainbow.