

## Quad to see a double comeback



Justin Brown/Photo Staff

by **Patrick Pettibon**  
*Junior Staffwriter &  
Jaisen Bell*  
*Junior Staffwriter*

Despite getting kicked off campus over the past two years, Kappa Sigma and Delta Upsilon (DU) fraternities are returning to the quad next year with a pleasant surprise: millions of dollars of renovations to their houses.

Jennifer Church, interim dean of Student Affairs, decided to allow the two fraternities back on

the fraternity quad last Monday. Kappa Sigma and Delta Upsilon have fulfilled the requirements for return set out by Student Affairs and the University Committee on Discipline, respectively.

The return will eliminate Forbes House and the newly renovated Global Studies house as first-year housing options.

### Changes on the quad

When DU left, Global Studies House occupied the building after it received \$1.1 million in renova-

tions. Made up of 30 first-year students from eight countries, Global Studies House brings together people from different cultures to form a close-knit community. The house also has plans for a booth at this year's Spring Carnival.

"It's the best dorm on campus," said Gicheru Mwariri, a first year biology student and Global Studies resident.

But some students at Global Studies House do not think DU deserves to get their house back.

"They destroyed it," Mwariri said.

The DU brothers see things a little differently. "We've been in that house since they built it," said Andrew Melichar, DU president and a junior in music composition. "It's traditionally been our house, and I think we deserve it."

According to Steve Williams, vice president of DU, each brother has performed 50 hours of community service, completed AlcoholEDU training, attended a one day alcohol training seminar, and hasn't got into any more

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## Applicants on the rise

Spike in number of applications leaves University hopeful

by **Andrew Peters**  
*Staffwriter*

Dorm rooms in the Donner Dungeon, Schatz blocks, and the chance to meet Condom Man are becoming more valuable commodities as competition for admittance to Carnegie Mellon grows steadily.

On February 17, the University announced that applications are up 20 percent from last school year, with nearly 19,000 applicants competing for 1360 spots in next year's incoming class.

According to a February 1 report by the Office of Admission, every school in Carnegie Mellon saw an increase in applicants this year. The Tepper School of Business experienced the largest application increase, up 28 percent from last year, followed closely by the Mellon College of Science with a 24 percent increase.

In addition, applications to the Information Systems program increased by 31.6 percent.

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## Trustees approve tuition hike

by **Michael R. Fitzgerald**  
*Staffwriter*

With tuition officially rising next fall and federal financial aid programs facing cutbacks, Carnegie Mellon students may feel an increased tug on their wallets from the higher learning community.

According to a Carnegie Mellon press release, the university Board of Trustees authorized a tiered tuition increase on February 17. Returning students will pay 4.4 percent more for tuition next fall — a total of \$33,050. Incoming first-years will pay a tuition eight percent higher than the current, or a total of \$34,180.

Room and board are up \$267 (a 4.9 percent increase) and \$106 (a 2.8 percent increase), respectively.

"There is a sticker-shock issue," said University President Jared L. Cohon. "The major concern

See TUITION, page A3

## Talking sex with Dr. Ruth



Jiaqi Tan/Photo Staff

Dr. Ruth Westheimer addressed an audience in McConomy Auditorium yesterday morning as part of the 2006 MOSAIC conference on gender issues. Westheimer shared her life experiences.

## Annual MOSAIC conference celebrates 'Milestones'

by **Claire Morgenstern**  
*Staffwriter*

"The more we talk, the less we will have problems," said famed sex therapist Dr. Ruth Westheimer in the keynote address that kicked off the 2006 MOSAIC conference yesterday. Though referring to sexual problems, her advice can be applied to all the topics that Carnegie Mellon's annual gender issues conference brought to the forefront.

This year's event was designed to appeal to a more diverse audience by offering programs with a gender-related spin on a wider variety of topics — from female activism to social security, dieting, dating, drama, health care, and the Great Depression.

"[The conference's goal was] to get people thinking about gender as it applies to our lives," said Becca Steinberg, a senior technical writing major and gender issues intern. The conference changed its focus last year from

women's issues to gender issues to reach more groups on campus.

"People don't just want the same old second-wave feminist rhetoric," Steinberg said. "We want to focus on issues that haven't been addressed before that affect a larger proportion of the campus community."

This year's theme was "Milestones" to commemorate the 10th anniversary of MOSAIC and the 100th anniversary of Margaret Morrison Carnegie College.

Westheimer began the pro-

gram by sharing the milestones in her own life. Born into an Orthodox Jewish family in Germany, she was sent to a school in Switzerland as a child to escape the Holocaust.

After she lived on a kibbutz in Palestine, taught kindergarten in Jerusalem, trained to be a sniper in what is now the Israeli Defense Force, and earned a degree in psychology in Paris, she came to the United States on a scholarship for European immigrants from the New School for Social

Research in New York. Upon earning a masters degree in sociology, Westheimer worked in public health at Columbia University.

But it was a job at a New York Planned Parenthood that launched her interest in sex.

"[I thought] there is something drastically wrong with these people. All they talk about is sex," she recalled. "They don't talk about literature, or research — not even the weather. After 48 hours I

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Justin Brown/Assistant Photo Editor

Anne DiGiovanni is the first honoree of the Women's Leadership Series.

## Leadership Profile: Anne DiGiovanni

by **Laura Palotie**  
*Staffwriter*

Rho Lambda, a leadership and honor society for sorority women, will feature individuals in a new Women's Leadership Series based on their contributions to campus life and their achievements as leaders and role models in the Carnegie Mellon and greater Pittsburgh communities. Anne DiGiovanni is the organization's first honoree for the series.

During her eighth semester at Carnegie Mellon, Anne DiGiovanni is battling with an unfamiliar feeling; as a second semester senior, she suddenly has free time on her

hands. "Being a second semester senior is awesome," she said. "I have nothing to do."

The concept of nothing to do is relative, of course. While DiGiovanni has finished her law school applications and has concluded her term as president of Alpha Chi Omega's (previously Zeta Psi Sigma), she continues to hold the position of Greek Sing chair, take a full load of classes, serve in the Greek Task Force, work as a peer tutor with Academic Development, and intern with the Women and Girls Foundation of Southwest Pennsylvania.

Though enjoying this break from stress, she also admits that handing over many of her previous

responsibilities has not been easy.

"This semester has been hard for me personally because I'm not in the driver's seat anymore," DiGiovanni said. In Alpha Chi Omega this transition has been particularly challenging. "Since I'm not president, I'm not in the loop anymore."

Last semester Zeta Psi Sigma entered the process of transforming itself from a local sorority to a national organization, and in the past month decided on Alpha Chi Omega. As the president of her sorority and Panhellenic president the previous year, DiGiovanni was one of the ringleaders in the decision to become national. She

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# Crime & Incident

**Public Drunkenness**  
18 February 2006  
at 00:56

Campus Police responded to a student needing medical treatment due to intoxication outside the University Center. When police responded to the scene, one of the student's friends began to interfere with police assistance. Police issued the friend a citation for public drunkenness.

**Vehicle Damage**  
19 February 2006  
at 10:00

The complainant called Campus Police and said he found the rear window of his vehicle broken. The complainant's car, a green Mitsubishi Galant, was parked in the fraternity quad parking lot overnight. Nothing appeared to be missing.

**Disorderly Conduct**  
19 February 2006  
at 16:20

Campus Police received an anonymous call that two males were involved in a confrontation outside the music rooms in Morewood Gardens D Tower. Both actors were still at the scene when the police arrived. The actors admitted to fighting and were issued warnings.

**Criminal Attempt**  
22 February 2006  
at 08:26

A faculty member told police that unknown persons

attempted to defraud him of money through an eBay purchase. The case was turned over to the FBI's Pittsburgh field office for further investigation. The incident occurred off campus.

**Burglary — Forcible Entry**  
22 February 2006  
at 15:10

A complainant called Campus Police and reported that the latch to the complainant's door in Margaret Morrison Hall had been pried open with a crowbar or hammer. The complainant noticed missing items, including power tools.

**Suspicious Person**  
23 February 2006  
at 00:24

Campus Police noticed an older man standing in front of Skibo Gym. The actor, who was noticeably talking to himself, requested medical attention. Campus Police transported the actor to UPMC Presbyterian Hospital for treatment.

**Theft**  
23 February 2006  
at 14:01

A university employee stated that unknown individuals had removed her wallet from her jacket. The complainant's jacket was sitting in the hallway of the catering office area in the University Center.

Compiled by  
**Shawn Wertz**



Robert Kaminski/Photo Editor

## This American Life

Ira Glass, host of Public Radio International's "This American Life," spoke to a maximum capacity audience in McConomy Auditorium last night. Glass commented on the power of narrative, offered advice to people pursuing creative work, and criticized the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). "The only way to fight indecency is with decency," he said, regarding the excessive fines against profanity on the air.

# Statistically Speaking

Delta Upsilon and Kappa Sigma are returning to the fraternity quad this fall. Alumni argue that beyond the collegiate fun, being Greek leads to success in the academic and professional worlds. Here are some statistics about the correlation between membership in Greek organizations and attaining leadership roles in U.S. government and business.

Percent of the United States' population holding membership in Greek organizations:	2 percent
Number of current U.S. Senators who have membership in a fraternity or sorority:	43
Percent of U.S. Cabinet members since 1900 who have been Greek:	63 percent
Percent of <i>Who's Who in America</i> listees who are Greek:	71 percent
Percent of Supreme Court Justices since 1800 who have been Greek:	85 percent
Percent of executives from Fortune 500 companies who are Greek:	85 percent
Number of U.S. Presidents since 1825 who have not been Greek:	2
Sources: <a href="http://www.sru.edu">www.sru.edu</a> , <a href="http://www.greekgear.com">www.greekgear.com</a> , <a href="http://www.greekpages.com">www.greekpages.com</a> , <a href="http://www.lehigh.edu/~inifc/docs/national.pdf">www.lehigh.edu/~inifc/docs/national.pdf</a>	Compiled by <b>Benjamin Hackett</b>

Corrections & Clarifications

Last week's Statistically Speaking was erroneously attributed to Adam Greenberg. Staffwriter Steven Spurgeon actually compiled the statistics.

If you would like to submit a correction or clarification, please e-mail The Tartan at [news@thetartan.org](mailto:news@thetartan.org) or [editor@thetartan.org](mailto:editor@thetartan.org) with

# Art curation and modern migration in this week's lectures

by **Brittany McCandless**  
News Editor

Two speakers are coming to campus this week to discuss a unique art curation experience and the literature of modern migration. Today, Tom Smart, the director of museum programs at the Frick Art and Historical Center, will discuss the unique circumstances of his work as part of the Aesthetics Out of Bounds Lecture Series. Director of collections and exhibitions, Smart creates new methods of understanding historical collections by meshing them with modern art. He has worked with contemporary artists to rethink the Frick collection through contemporary

performance, installation, and object placement. Smart has recently been appointed director of the McMichael Canadian Collection, one of Canada's collections of work by the early 20th-century painters known as "The Group of Seven" and by Canadian Inuit artists. In his new position, he is responsible for developing the collections and programs, including those involving contemporary artists, broadening its audience, and directing the operation. The Center for the Arts in Society sponsors the Aesthetics Out of Bounds lecture series with a grant from the Andrew Mellon Foundation. What is the "new migration" of the past 50 years? Susan Stanford Friedman will answer

this in her lecture "The 'New Migration' and Literature: Gender, Nation, and Narration in the Global Age" on Thursday. Professor of English and women's studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Friedman will discuss migration and question whether it has introduced a clash of civilizations between West and East and between North and South. As her abstract inquires, "Are the new migrants to Europe and North America differently resistant to assimilation, in contrast to older waves of immigrants?" The founder and former coordinator of the Cultural Studies in Global Context Cluster at UW-Madison, Friedman will tie her lecture topic to current events.

"[The topic] is especially pertinent to the times because of the significance of migration for the recent struggles over the Danish cartoon and also the riots in France last fall," Friedman stated in an e-mail, noting that she will begin her lecture by discussing the two incidents. According to her abstract, Friedman will also "explore the literature of the new migration to challenge the apocalyptic narratives of civilizational clash in this period of intensified transnational migration." She has published numerous books, articles, and book chapters, and her work has been translated into six languages. Modernity, feminist theory, and cultural studies in global and comparative context and

**Tom Smart**  
"An Archive of Silent Conversations: Visiting Artists at the Frick"  
Today at 5:30 pm  
Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A

**Susan Stanford Friedman**  
"The 'New Migration' and Literature : Gender, Nation, and Narration in the Global Age"  
Thursday, March 2, at 4:30 pm  
Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A

are among her research and teaching interests. The event is part of the University Lecture Series.

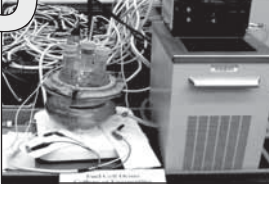
Over the weekend, 127 student organizations submitted budget requests totaling \$1.3 million. With only around \$950,000 to distribute, the Joint Funding Committee (JFC) will soon begin the work of trimming about 26 percent from the organizations' requests. What JFC does is clear: It decides who gets what. How they decide, on the other hand, is not so clear. The best way to learn about JFC's decision-making is to consider the information its members *don't* take into account as they allocate the funds. Most surprisingly, JFC does not take into account how much money goes toward different types of activities. But as caretakers of the students' money, JFC members should look at the big picture. They should take into account how they are investing students' resources. To lend a hand, I've calculated the breakdown for the 2005–2006 allocations:

- **Carnival** expenses, such as Booth, Buggy, and the concert, drew 25.6 percent, a whopping \$244,816.32, of the year's funds.
- **Events** like AB's non-carnival concerts and films used 23.7 percent.
- **Media organizations**, like The Tartan, WRCT, and cmuTV were granted 15.2 percent.
- **Athletic groups**, like club sports and martial arts, received 13.2 percent.
- **Scholarly groups** such as the Undergraduate Investment Club, AB Lectures and Political Speakers, and the Astronomy Club, received 8.2 percent.
- **Arts organizations**, like The Frame, Scotch 'n' Soda, and the a cappella groups found themselves with a mere five percent.
- **Cultural groups** got 3.1 percent.
- **Other Affinity groups** like cmuOUT and the Women's Center made due with 2.8 percent.
- **Student government** claimed a very modest 1.3 percent.
- **Community service** groups took 0.6 percent.
- **Gaming** clubs took 0.4 percent.
- **Advocacy** groups, like Amnesty International and EARTH, were at the bottom of the heap with 0.3 percent.

(The remaining 0.6 percent went to the Activities Fairs.) Carnival, concerts, and movies get almost half of all of students' money, while our community service, support, and advocacy groups make do with mere 3.7 percent. Is that really reflective of what the student body wants? Nobody knows. JFC's only indication of what the students want is how much individual organizations — many of which are controlled by just a few students — request each year. I think it would be a good investment for student government to take another couple hundred dollars for itself and work with the statistics department to learn about what students really value. Even more disheartening than the overall breakdown is that different types of groups end up with very different portions of their budgets getting cut. JFC cut the budgets of Carnival and Events categories by 11 percent and eight percent respectively. On average, the JFC cut the requested budgets of scholarly organizations, community service groups, advocacy groups, and support groups by 38 percent, 36 percent, 32 percent, and 30 percent, respectively. Media lucked out with 19-percent budget cuts, on average. Smaller organizations, those that ask for less than \$14,000, have significantly larger portions of their budgets cut. The effect is that it's tough for new organizations to grow, while large organizations are given the wave-through. In effect, status quo is given priority over innovation. Last year's JFC members had nothing but the best intentions — but they missed the big picture. This year's JFC has the ability to bring harmony back into the allocation process. I hope that as they conduct their arduous and thankless work, they make allocations consistent with our community's values and priorities by keeping sight of the big picture.

Science & Technology

5 Methanol fuel cell research



Also:  
Experiment of the Week  
Novel treatment for seizures

Forum

8 Court abandons free speech



Also:  
Michelle Kwan's Olympic exit  
Newspapers shouldn't self-censor

Sports


12 Men win UAA Championship



Also:  
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Men's and women's tennis

Pillbox

8 Beaux Arts Ball preview



Also:  
Prefuse 73 rocks CMU  
Chocolate-crazed Pennsylvania



# Researchers question college prep tests

by **Justine Lee**  
*Staffwriter*

Scoring a five on an AP exam may not be as useful as many high schoolers think.

A recent study conducted by Philip Sadler of Harvard University and Robert Tai of the University of Virginia established an overall trend that good scores on AP exams do not necessarily translate to success in the college courses.

Furthermore, Sadler and Tai believe that students are struggling in these introductory courses because colleges are too lenient in what they will accept for credit.

Eric Grotzinger, the associate dean of the Mellon College of Science, does not believe that Carnegie Mellon falls under this

category.

“If anything,” Grotzinger said, “CMU is strict.”

According to an article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, the study involved surveying 18,000 college students about their science education.

Sadler and Tai specifically looked at students who took introductory courses in biology, physics, or chemistry, although they scored high enough on the respective AP exam to test out of the course.

The survey determined that half the students who received a five on the AP exam did not receive ‘A’s in the course.

“Presumably, if the AP score was really equivalent to a college grade, then [these students] should have been able to do well in the college course’s exam without even taking the course,”

Sadler said.

At Carnegie Mellon, to receive credit for introductory physics and chemistry, students must score a five on the AP exam. These students have the option of forfeiting their AP credit in order to take the honors-level courses in these subjects.

Students who score a five in AP Biology are able to bypass introductory biology (03-110). However, if the student wants to take an additional biology course that has 03-110 as a pre-requisite, the student must first pass an assessment of 40 questions, covering information on which Carnegie Mellon biology courses tend to focus.

“We have these assessments in place to ensure that students are ready for the college courses at

See AP, page A4

# MOSAIC explores gender issues

MOSAIC, from A1

thought, ‘What an interesting topic.’”

During her keynote address, Westheimer imparted her views on abortion. “From where I stand, abortion must remain legal, not as a contraceptive, but if there is a contraceptive failure,” she said.

Though being largely known as a sexually progressive “sexpert,” Westheimer discussed abstinence. “[Abstinence is] not just for the orthodox. Anyone who wants to remain abstinent until marriage should,” she said.

Westheimer derived the bulk of her advice from her hardships as a child and successes as an adult.

“When an opportunity is presented, take a risk,” she said. “Stand up and be counted.”

Westheimer was confident that Carnegie Mellon students were up to the task. “Carnegie Mellon is a big name. You are at a fantastic university. I would never expect you to follow anyone else’s ideas,” she said.

Following Westheimer’s keynote, she held a question-and-answer session with participants.

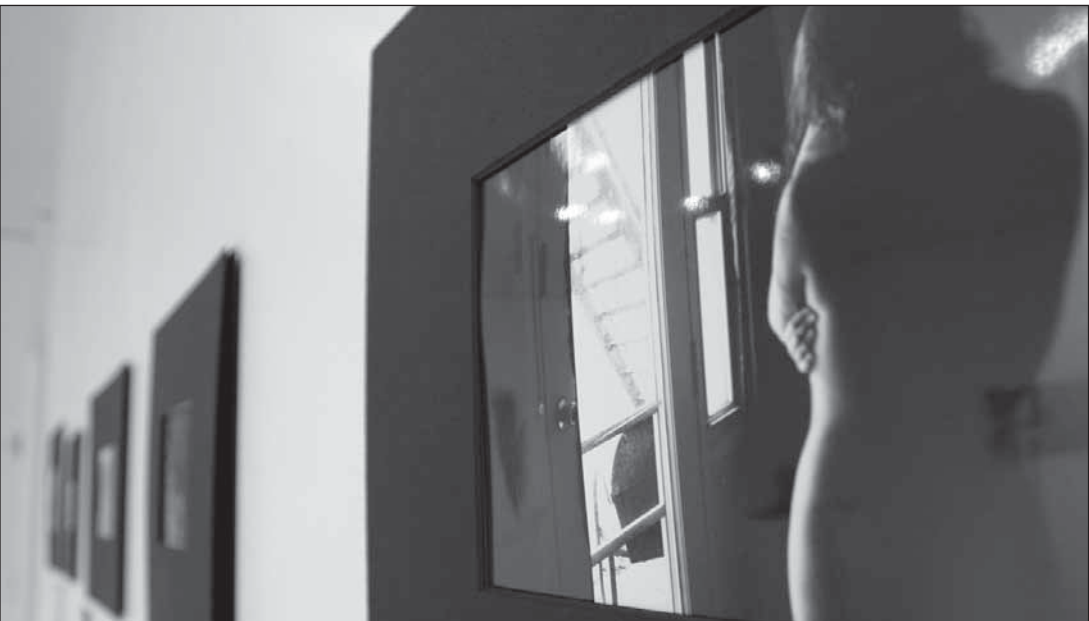
“There is no question that what has changed is that women are being educated,” she answered when asked about the change she has seen in gender issues.

In addition to scheduling Westheimer, the 27-member MOSAIC planning committee, chaired by junior social and decision sciences major Jamie Edwards, designed a series of panels and workshops to encourage participants to take an active interest in gender issues.

In “Pittsburgh Pacesetters,” three female Pittsburghers shared their roles in contributing to the growth of the city, while another three women shared their professional experiences in “Generation XX: Women in Male-Dominated Fields.”

Other panels focused less on gender and more on bringing people of all genders, sexual orientations, religions, and ethnicities together. “Imaginary Home-lives” discussed the comfort in keeping a religious or ethnic identity, especially to first- and second-generation immigrants.

“New Milestones: Crafting the Nation’s First LGBT Public Health Certificate Program” discussed the advantages of developing such a program, while “Who Wears the Pants? A Look at the Terms, Rules, and



Jiaqi Tan/Photo Staff

S.A.D., a photographic exhibit by Jordyn Melino, was featured at the MOSAIC art exhibition yesterday.

# Carnegie Mellon admissions experiences boom in applications

APPLICATIONS, from A1

Michael Steidel, director of admission, attributes the rise to changes in both the university and the higher-education marketplace.

“Carnegie Mellon continues to grow in strength and stature as an institution internationally. That only helps us from an admission standpoint,” Steidel said. “The fact the Carnegie Mellon continues to grow and extend its influence ... will translate into more applications.”

Steidel also noted that within the last year, the Office of Admission has changed all of its communications vehicles — the office updated its website and redesigned its publications in an effort to more effectively communicate with prospective students.

In addition to institutional

changes, Steidel noted that universities that practice holistic admissions — like Carnegie Mellon — are seeing increases in applications. Holistic admission is the process of taking all parts of an applicant’s background into account, not basing admission on mathematical formulas.

“Students are developing a stronger affinity or desire to attend an institution that takes more into consideration than SAT scores and class rank,” Steidel said. “Yeah, we look at class rank and SAT scores, but we also pay attention to what a student does outside of the classroom.”

Applications to all departments have increased, which indicates that schools like computer science and programs like electrical and computer engineering and information systems are recov-

ering well from the decrease in applications they experienced after 9/11 and the subsequent dot-com bust.

“[September 11] took the air out of the economy when the fastest growing sector was the computer industry,” Steidel said, indicating that even before 9/11, the computer industry was oversubscribed and due for a correction.

“Essentially 9/11 was the needle that burst the bubble,” Steidel said. “It’s taken years to get back to where it should be. All areas that were most sensitized to that area of the economy are just now coming back to healthy levels.”

William Elliott, vice president of enrollment, agreed, citing renewed confidence in computer industries and the economy in general as reasons for application increases.

# Students commemorate Cuban crash

by **Michael M. Whiston**  
*Staffwriter*

Cuban fighter planes shot down two civilian U.S. planes on humanitarian missions over international waters in 1996 — 10 years later, junior policy and management major David O. Caballero held a moment of silence for the victims.

Four humanitarian pilots — Mario M. de la Peña, Carlos Costa, Pablo Morales, and Armando Alejandro — were flying a Brothers to the Rescue mission between Florida and Cuba on February 24, 1996. They were shot down between 3:21 and 3:28 pm by order of the Cuban government.

“I’m trying to commemorate the lives of these four men,” Caballero said, leading Friday’s memorial outside Hunt Library. A group of four formed a circle around Caballero as he outlined the tragedy and read biographies of the victims. The memorial ended with a seven-minute moment of silence, during which Caballero made mention of the exact times when the planes were shot down.

Caballero intended to observe the humanitarian efforts of the victims and put politics aside.

“They were young individuals, something we can all relate to,” Caballero said. Three of the four pilots were under 30 years old.

The four pilots were on a Brothers to the Rescue mission when they went down, Caballero explained. Brothers to the Rescue is a humanitarian organization that rescues Cuban refugee rafters escaping from Cuba to the United States. According to an online source, the organization has rescued over 4200 individuals since

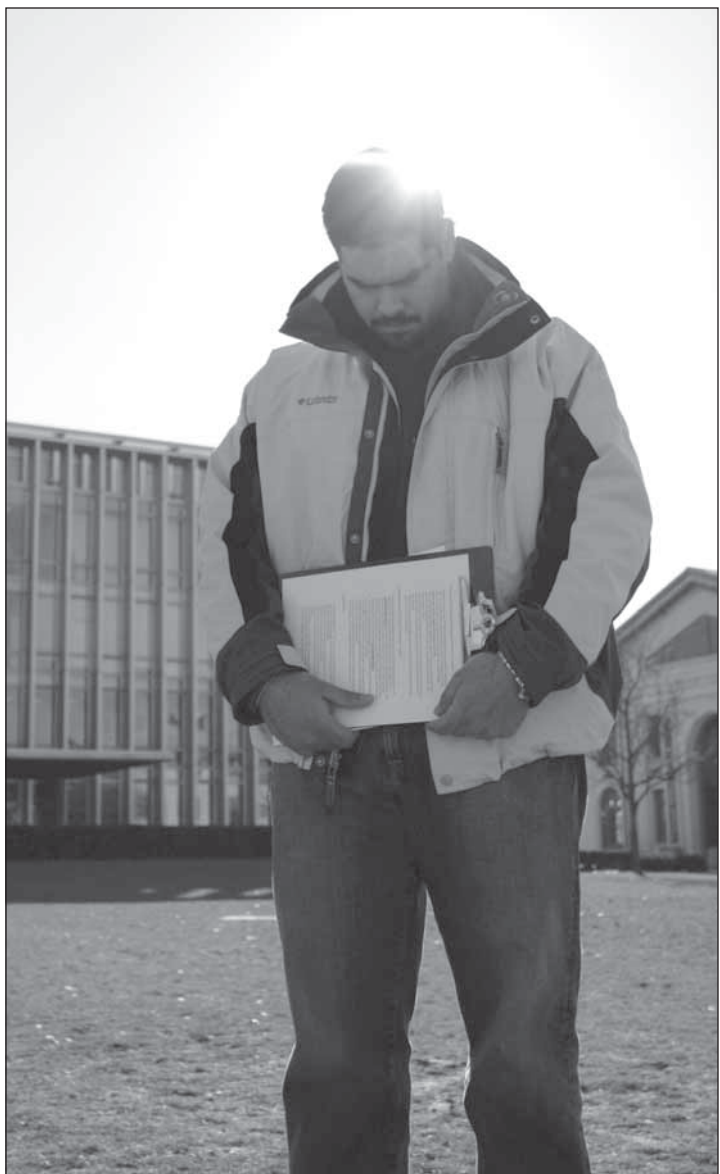
its initiation.

Memorials for the victims were held across 30 to 40 universities as a part of the Raices de Esperanza, a student-run conference bringing together Cuban-American Student Associations across the nation. Caballero is currently writing the constitution

for Carnegie Mellon’s Cuban-American Student Association, a group open to anyone interested in assisting the community and Cuban youth.

“It’s basically a group trying to aid people,” Caballero said.

See SILENCE, page A4



Jiaqi Tan/Photo Staff

Junior David O. Caballero held a moment of silence last Friday to honor the 10th anniversary of a humanitarian plane shot down in Cuba.

# Board of Trustees raises tuition

TUITION, from A1

is that Carnegie Mellon becomes so high-priced that it becomes inaccessible for low-income students.... Students on financial aid are held harmless as it were.”

Along with the \$2734 and \$1454 tuition increases for incoming and returning students, financial aid will increase by the same amounts for all who qualify.

“There was a time when we were a destination for low-income students that were the first generation in the family to attend college,” Cohon said.

Students borrowing money to meet the rising tuition, though, could face an increased strain in light of Senate, House, and White House budget proposals.

“Loans are going to be marginally more expensive,” said William Elliott, vice-president for enrollment. “The final budget will probably be some compromise between the House and Senate,” he added, citing a lack of support for the Bush administration’s plans.

*U.S. News and World Report* reported on January 30 that the interest rate on Stafford Loans could increase from 5.3 percent to 6.8 percent. The rate for Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students could increase from a variable 6.1 percent to permanent 8.5 percent.

In addition, Pell grants, capped at \$4050 since 2003, could be made available to more families

for larger sums.

“There was a time when about 80 percent of our financial aid for students came from the government — it is now less than 20 percent,” Elliott said. “Clinton put the government out of the financial aid business and into the loan business.”

With tuition increasing and federal initiatives aligning to the changing needs of the legislature, Carnegie Mellon has stepped up its own fundraising efforts.

This fundraising campaign, which, as of December 25 had raised \$258 million in three years, is focused on raising money for endowment, noted vice-president of University Advancement Robbee Baker Kosak.

“The campaign is not going to be felt overnight,” Kosak said, citing the \$88 million Gates Center and new labs in Doherty Hall as the most topical changes resulting from recent fundraising efforts. “We are now raising \$6 million a year in annual donations.”

Despite this campaign and an increase in tuition, Carnegie Mellon continues to experience a tighter budget than its peers.

“We are very, very careful about how we spend every dime,” Kosak said.

Carnegie Mellon’s use of a tiered tuition increase differs from peer institutions also with plans for tuition increases this year.

Duke University announced in a February 24 press release that its tuition will increase at a flat rate of 4.5 percent to 32,845,

countered by a 5.7 percent increase in financial aid.

Stanford University announced in a February 22 press release that tuition will increase 5.75 percent to \$32,994, also by a flat rate.

Finally, *DailyPrincetonian.com* reported on February 7 that Princeton University’s tuition will rise 4.9 percent to \$42,200.

“We don’t want to be the most expensive; we want to be in the middle of the pack,” Cohon said.

“Most financial aid we give to students who can’t pay is coming directly from students who can pay.”

According to the president, the University’s aspirations will always exceed its endowment. He noted that it might be a generation before the University is in a place where it can institute a system of financial aid meeting the total need of students.

“I don’t think this institution will ever have breathing room,” Elliott said. “People don’t see how we can be as good as we are with what we’ve got.”

Cohon noted a few specific uses of money accrued from the tuition increase and fundraising efforts, including the addition of more global content to the curriculum, more endowed professorships and graduate fellowships, improvements in language education, and a greater pay raise for faculty. Faculty saw a 2 percent pay increase last year.

“If you’ve got the money, I’ve got the ideas,” said Cohon.





Justin Brown/Assistant Photo Editor

Above, Forbes House and Global Studies House have recently received thousands of dollars in rennovations. Kappa Sigma and DU will return to these houses respectively next fall.

# Greek organizations regain quad housing for next year

CAMPAIGN, from A1

trouble with the University over the past year.

“We’ve done everything the University has asked us to do,” Melichar said.

When Kappa Sigma left campus, their house was turned into Forbes House, another first-year living area. According to Timothy Michael, director of Housing and Dining Services, the change required very little money for cosmetic touches, such as painting. The house had already received renovations in 1999 and 2003, totaling approximately \$1.1 million.

Students at Forbes House recognize the value of living there.

“It feels a lot more like a house than a dorm,” said Ryan Woodring, a first-year art major living in Forbes House. “There’s a lot of first-year interest here. It’s really family-like.”

“Each chapter house is on a renovation plan regardless of who occupies it,” Michael said. “The Greek quad facilities are approximately 40 years old with mechanical systems reaching the ends of their expected life. We have been working with the resident groups on renovation planning since 1997.”

“I think the renovations have been a long time coming,” Melichar stated.

According to Michael, the renovation plan began in the summer of 1999 and includes gutting and rebuilding the major systems of each Greek chapter over the next few years.

“It made logistical sense to renovate these buildings first,” stated Leonard Chan, coordinator for Greek Affairs.

“The projects for Global Studies and Kappa Alpha Theta were combined into one project for efficiency and cost savings. The average per house was approximately \$1.1 mil-

lion,” Michael stated.

The building that currently houses the sorority Kappa Alpha Theta received its renovation after Delta Tau Delta, the fraternity that previously inhabited it, lost its charter in fall 2004.

Since 1999, repairs to Sigma Nu, Theta Xi, Kappa Alpha Theta, Forbes House, and Global Studies House have run a total of just under \$6 million. Renovations are planned for Beta Theta Pi and Pi Kappa Alpha by the end of summer 2006 at a cost of just over \$1 million per building.

“There are three pots of money we keep separate when running the housing system: The Greek quad pot, the sorority complex on Margaret Morrison pot, and a pot for the rest of housing — non-Greek housing.”

Michael noted that all money raised and spent on Greek housing comes directly from rents that Greek housing residents pay. “No money comes from subsidies or contributions from regular residence hall monies, tuition, or other fees,” he stated.

“This academic year, all the rent and expenses from Forbes House and Global Studies are going into the Greek quad budget, even though they are not ‘Greek’ organizations,” Michael stated.

The students in Forbes House and Global Studies House pay the same Standard Single and Standard Double rates that apply to other living areas on campus.

“The master plan for the Greek quad is for it to remain Greek housing, and that housing is to be properly renewed and extended consistent with proper facility and financial planning,” Michael stated.

## Greek tragedy

Two years ago, Carnegie Mellon’s Kappa Sigma chapter came under

scrutiny after reports of hazing of pledges emerged, including a syrup chug and forced house cleaning.

Representatives from Kappa Sigma International became concerned and enacted a membership review of the chapter — a series of interviews and investigations determining who is fit to be in the organization. As a result of the review, all but five members were either expelled or suspended from the fraternity.

Kappa Sigma lost their Carnegie Mellon charter, required for Greek quad housing, and would have a colony, as opposed to chapter status. To get chapter status, the members must participate in a series of fraternal education workshops, complete a fundraiser for \$2500, have at least 50 members, and complete at least 2000 hours of community service.

Student Life also levied penalties: the loss of their house on Morewood Avenue for two years, the prohibition of campus presence for one year, and the completion of 2500 hours of community service. A final University requirement for returning to the quad was regaining a charter from their Kappa Sigma International.

“Membership requirements, community service requirements, and financial requirements have been the most difficult,” stated Cale MacMichael-Magruder, president of Kappa Sigma and sophomore mechanical engineering student.

According to Magruder, not having a place on campus made it difficult to recruit. “A presence on campus is critical to the survival of almost any organization,” he said.

This year Kappa Sigma was able to have a presence via special interest housing.

“While not ideal, [it] has been useful,” stated Magruder. “We’ve seen our recruitment efforts really

benefit.”

The organization has since grown to approximately 50 members.

Delta Upsilon also lost their house this year following an incident involving underage drinking in 2004, though they did not lose their charter because of the occurrence. In response, the University revoked their lease for the 2005-2006 academic year.

This year, some DU brothers have moved to campus housing and others have moved off campus. The fraternity has carried out two incident-free rushes since losing their house, but they have not held any other events.

According to Melichar, the DU brothers hope to move back into their house sometime this summer.

## How the quad was won

Both Magruder and Melichar attributed each of their organizations successes to the support of Church, coordinator for Greek Affairs Lenny Chan, and director of Student Life Renee Camerlengo.

“They have been nothing but supportive,” Magruder stated.

“I am excited that these groups were able to reach a goal they had set for themselves,” Chan stated. “I look forward to my continued relationship with these organizations and their members.”

Magruder also noted the negative reputation that Greek life has at Carnegie Mellon. “I am extremely proud of what our organization has accomplished, and I hope our merits are well known to the campus as a whole,” he said.

Likewise, DU brothers hope to have a positive impact on campus.

“We’re just looking forward to moving back on campus, building up our membership, and rebuilding our ties with the campus community,” Melichar said.

# DiGiovanni raises bar for CMU women

PROFILE, from A1

was thus responsible for convincing her sisterhood that this new development would be a positive change rather than an unwanted renunciation of Zeta Psi Sigma’s own goals and values.

“A few of us decided we were going to lead this movement, and we didn’t know how everyone was going to take it,” she recalled. “But once we got it out there and knew that everyone was supportive, it became really exciting.”

DiGiovanni attributes most of her confidence as a leader on campus to her experience in Greek life. “I don’t think that’s what Greeks always get credit for, but it’s definitely what we are about,” she said.

As part of this semester’s Greek Task Force, DiGiovanni is working with leaders from other sororities and fraternities on campus to address current problems in the community and set goals for the future.

“We want to promote a social but a more responsible atmosphere,” DiGiovanni said. “In the end, we will need a culture change, that what we present to the public isn’t a party night on

the quad or the attitude that all we are about is Booth, Buggy, and Greek Sing.”

As part of the risk management discussion in the Task Force, DiGiovanni hopes to bring up the at-times disconcerting relationship between men and women in the Greek community. “There are some blatant signs, including some fraternity rush posters, that show that women and men aren’t cooperating and respecting each other mutually.”

Overall, however, DiGiovanni feels that the Carnegie Mellon community is one in which female leadership can thrive.

“Women on this campus are strong leaders, and they hold their own,” she said.

She did not begin college as an active feminist, but has over the years become deeply immersed in women’s issues.

“I’ve done a 180 from religious and not liberal in any active way, to being completely liberal and a strong Democrat and a feminist. Part of it was personality change from not knowing who I was and being shy to being a woman and figuring out my identity.”

But it was an internship at the Women and Girls’ Foundation that has turned DiGiovanni

into a vocal advocate of women’s issues.

This past fall she organized a press conference in relation to a protest called “Girlcott.” A group of local teens organized the protest against Abercrombie & Fitch and their line of T-shirts the girls perceived to be misogynistic. The boycott gained national attention, including coverage on CNN, and resulted in a removal of several of these shirts from the company’s line.

DiGiovanni encourages future women at Carnegie Mellon to get involved on campus early on in their academic careers. “Don’t sit around and waste your college years. Stand up for yourself and who you are, whatever that might be,” she said.

For next year, DiGiovanni’s plans include law school. Though she is not yet sure about the kind of law she wants to pursue, she sees women’s issues and political and social justice to be a good fit.

By exploring outward instead of turning inward, DiGiovanni is now finishing college with no regrets.

*Editor’s Note: Anne DiGiovanni is a member of The Tartan copy staff.*

# Service remembers Cuban pilot deaths

SILENCE, from A1

“It’s not only Cuban issues — it’s humanitarian aid.” Caballero aims to provide this aid through fundraisers, book drives, and community service.

First-year biomedical engi-

neering major Daniel Garcia, a high school friend of Caballero, also considers the Cuban situation grim. “It’s just all poverty; there’s no money going around anywhere,” he said.

As his grandfather and grandmother immigrated to the U.S.

in the 1960s, Caballero feels connected to the current situation in Cuba. “They raised me with a sense of pride in where I’m from,” he said.

For Caballero, events like the Cuban shootdown are true awakenings to needed change in Cuba.

# Study questions AP exam validity

AP, from A3

CMU,” Grotzinger said.

Even stricter policies apply to the mathematics department. First-year students in every college except for CFA are required to take a calculus assessment during the summer prior to college, regardless of their performance on the AP exam.

“We have an algorithm that, depending on both your scores on the AP exam and CMU assessment, determines what math course you will be placed in,” Grotzinger said.

After reading the study’s results, Grotzinger was particularly displeased with Sadler’s claim that students who scored fives on the AP exam — but did not receive an ‘A’ in the class — represented a flaw in the AP system.

“There are a lot of reasons why the students don’t perform well in a class that [has] nothing to do with how prepared they are,” he said. “There are transition issues, health issues, and some of them know the material, but just choose not to study.”

In last week’s article “American math and sciences slipping,” The Tartan reported the relevance of AP exams with regard to current policy in Washington, D.C.

“With the way we ration [AP] courses, you would think we don’t want students to take them,” said Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings in an article by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

As The Tartan reported, Spellings spoke before the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions at a February 9 hearing to discuss President Bush’s American Competitiveness Initiative.

Under the proposed initiative, 70,000 new teachers would be trained to teach AP and International Baccalaureate courses in math and science — an effort to bridge the gap in American performance in math and science.

“I don’t have much faith in AP exams,” assistant department head of mathematics John Mackey told The Tartan last week. “We need people who know how to think, not people who have a set of skills.”

Meanwhile, Grotzinger firmly believes in the current AP system. He discussed what he felt to be a testimony of the system’s success — students who tested out of 15-100, the introductory Computer Science course, performed as well in 15-211 as students who had taken the introductory course.

“This tells us that the students

who scored fives came in with all the knowledge that they needed to have,” Grotzinger said.

First-year Sudeep Yegnashankaran, a CIT student, received a five on his Computer Science (AB) AP exam and tested out of introductory computer science courses 15-100 and 15-200. Currently taking 15-211, he agreed with Grotzinger.

“I feel like my high school course prepared me — so much so that, in 15-211, I feel a sense of déjà vu at times,” he said.

Sophomore Allison Hannan, a chemistry and biology double major, felt this same sense of confidence in her science courses at Carnegie Mellon.

“AP Biology and AP Chemistry really helped a lot,” Hannan said. “I had so much background knowledge that it made both of those classes easier [for me].”

Hannan is pleased with the AP system because it has allowed her to have a more flexible college schedule.

“I get to take more classes that I’m interested in, as opposed to easy introductory ones that I’ve already taken in high school,” Hannan said.

Grotzinger stands behind current policy. “We’re confident in the AP exam.”

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## Neurobiologist discovers novel treatment for seizures

by **Radha Chitale**  
*Contributing Editor*

Alison Barth, assistant professor of biological sciences at Carnegie Mellon University, received a \$50,000 grant from the Milken Family Foundation to further her research on a novel treatment for seizures. A drug that acts on a single ion channel is the key to this new treatment, which she hopes will one day be used to prevent seizures in children.

Barth's research identified a specific neuronal target that, when blocked with the drug, significantly reduced seizure occurrence and frequency *in vitro*. The real surprise came when she made the switch from *in vitro* to *in vivo*, testing the drug within a living organism and finding that it worked very well.

The target in question is an ion channel, a structure through which ions, or charged atoms, can cross cellular membranes. Ion flow in and out of nerve

cells controls the chemical and electrical levels necessary for action potentials to occur. An action potential is an electrical signal — a messenger — that travels from neuron to neuron, relaying information as it goes.

Ion channels are directly responsible for electrical activity in a nerve cell, and malfunctions are a likely cause of seizures. Seizures occur when abnormal electrical activity in the brain results in involuntary changes in function or behavior. Barth

looked at graphs of action potentials from neurons of healthy mice and mice that had had seizures. Action potentials have well documented and consistent shapes. A normal action potential would therefore look different than one recorded during a seizure.

"It's a lot like Sesame Street," Barth said. "They show you four [pictures] and say: 'Which one doesn't belong?'" In this way,



Courtesy of [www.cmu.edu/bio](http://www.cmu.edu/bio)

Neurobiologist Alison Barth

See BARTH, page A7

## CMU team joins methanol-powered fuel cell research

by **Hanadie Yousef**  
*Science & Technology Editor*

Carnegie Mellon is joining the tide of research towards creating a society based on an alternative fuel source. Prashant Kumta, a professor of materials sciences and biomedical engineering, together with his graduate and post-doctoral team is developing tiny fuel cells that use methanol, which could one day provide the fuel for technological appliances. Unlike other alternative fuel research projects, this one focuses on methanol instead of expensive and unstable hydrogen, which is difficult to mass-produce and would be more difficult to integrate into society.

Portable electronic devices, such as cell phones, personal digital assistants and laptop computers, may well become the first widely used consumer items to take advantage of fuel cells. Instead of recharging or replacing batteries in these devices, users may one day simply have to refuel them.

"We are developing a fuel cell system about the size of a cigarette lighter that could be refueled by inserting a small cartridge of methanol. So we are

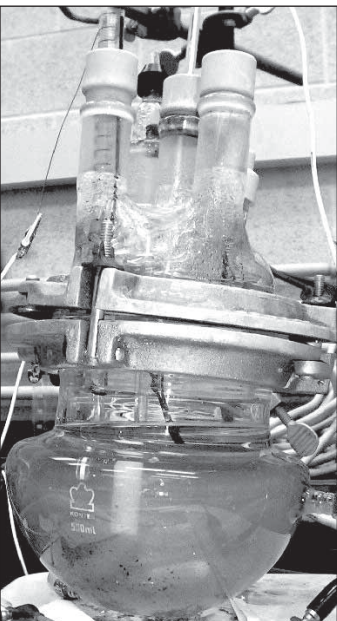
essentially developing a more efficient catalyst," said Kumta in a Carnegie Mellon press release dated January 27. The methanol micro-scale fuel cells are so small they can be etched into silicon much like a computer chip.

The fuel cell is powered by a combination of methanol and water. When the methanol and water make contact with a catalyst in the fuel cell, they break down into carbon dioxide, positively charged protons, and negatively charged electrons. The protons are attracted by a special membrane that allows them to pass through, while blocking the path of the electrons. The electrons must pass through an external circuit to get around the membrane, creating an electrical current. The fuel cell produces carbon dioxide, which is vented away, and water, which can be recycled to use with additional methanol.

**"We are developing cathode material for direct methanol fuel cell (DMFC) applications."**  
— Daiwon Choi

There are many obstacles that must be overcome in order for fuel cells to be commercially viable. Kumta's team is working on a variety of measures to solve these issues. "We are developing cathode material for direct methanol fuel cell (DMFC) applications. We would like to develop stable support material for the cathode," said Daiwon Choi, a post-doctoral student in the lab. The cathode is the place where the oxygen and the hydrogen react, and therefore it is very prone to corrosion. The electrode uses a carbon-based supporting group, and the car-

See METHANOL, page A6



Courtesy of Nicolaus Rock

Methanol-fuel cell demo.

## International autos on display

Pittsburgh show includes European, Asian models



Greg Prichard/Contributing Editor

The R-Class is one of Mercedes' many new SUV-type vehicles. Though it resembles what Americans call "minivans," the high-end automaker would never call it that.

by **Albert Lin**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

Last week we reviewed the Big Three at the Pittsburgh International Auto Show, and this week we're hopping across the pond to take a look at the European and Asian auto offerings.

The Toyota booth displayed an updated model lineup, but the only exciting feature in Toyota's booth was the 2007 Camry, which was completely redesigned to reflect the changing pace of consumer markets. It features a hybrid technology option to conserve fuel and reduce emissions. The sportier exterior charges Camry's image into something that appeals to a wide audience, and the company's signature reliability will keep this the best-selling passenger car in the United States. Missing from Toyota's booth was the new Yaris, a subcompact car that will replace the Echo in 2007, boasting compact efficiency and a starting price just over \$10,000.

Lexus, the luxury subdivision of Toyota, featured its redesigned IS. Many criticized the previous IS, as it was a relabelled Japanese Toyota Altezza. The new IS was built from the ground up as pure Lexus. It comes as in 250 and 350 variants: the 250 with a 2.5-liter V6 and the 350 with a 3.5-liter V6. The IS350 the more powerful of the two, pumps out 300 horsepower and comes only in rear-wheel drive. Both feature the same luxury options that make Lexus a leader among luxury brands, and all models come with automatic transmission standard.

Scion, another subdivision of Toyota, targets the Generation Y market. Scion isn't offering any new models for 2006 (still the xA, xB, and tC) and isn't planning a major update until 2008 at the earliest. However, with today's iPod-flooded market, Scion decided to incorporate iPod capability, and its cars' steering wheels now feature audio controls. The most anticipated performance add-on also arrived this year: the tC

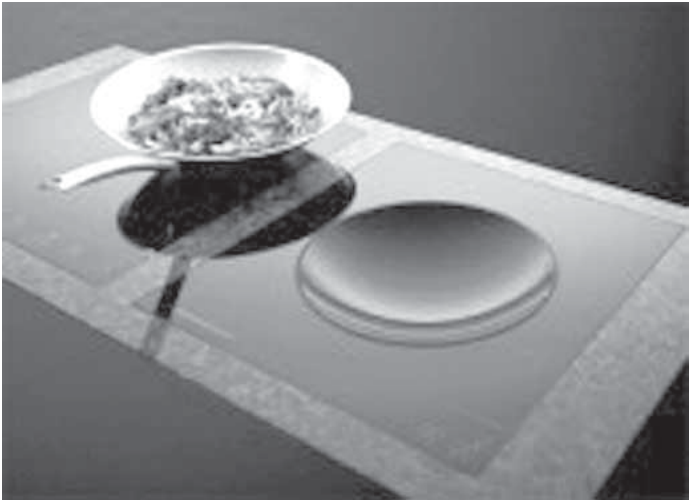
supercharger. It is a factory option, meaning it won't void the warranty, and produces 40 percent more horsepower and 13 percent more torque. Scion featured two corporate-sponsored vehicles, the Injen tC and the Blitz xB, both which underwent extensive modification. Scions start at around \$14,000.

Nissan had some updated vehicles, though like Toyota, they didn't have the subcompact Versa, which is set to compete in 2007. Nissan featured a range of Nismo-tuned vehicles, including the Sentra and 350Z. Nismo is short for Nissan Motorsports, Nissan's in-house tuner division. The new Altima SE-R also made an appearance, targeting those who want the practicality of a basic sedan but like the looks and specs of a performance car.

Honda featured its redesigned Civic platform; the new design looks more upscale and futuristic than previous generations, and includes a modern-looking

See AUTO, page A7

## How Things Work: Magnetic induction cooktops



Courtesy of [design.kitchensatlanta.com](http://design.kitchensatlanta.com)

### William Nicoll

When making dinner, do your ingredients come in microwave-ready pouches? Do you prepare dinner in 30 seconds or less? If so, then stop reading. You're not welcome here.

To the aspiring Food Network personalities out there, I've got the secret to great cooking: heat. While everyone enjoys salads and no-bake cookies, there is nothing quite like a warm, well-cooked meal. Things haven't been the same since the extra-crispy rotisserie mammoth.

In the modern kitchen, the

stove has become the tool of choice for our cooking needs. Stoves have a simple goal: convert a readily available form of energy into heat and transfer it to the food. Today's most readily available sources of energy are electricity and natural gas. But how is that heat transferred?

You are probably familiar with a few forms of stove-top heat transfer. Gas stoves transfer heat through a simple, adjustable flame. Older electric stoves use "resistance heating," where a metal coil heats up when a current passes through

it. Fancy-schmancy households might even have a glass-ceramic stove-top, where infrared radiation is transmitted through a smooth cooking surface to provide heat.

Watch out, cookware: There is a new sheriff in town. His name is induction cooking.

Instead of conducting heat from the cooking surface to the cookware, induction heating utilizes electromagnetism to actually create heat within the cookware. The idea is not that new, actually. Since the early '90s, the technology has gained increasing acceptance in Japan and Europe. American markets are just warming up to the idea.

Let's turn up the heat.

If you have been (un)lucky enough to take an elementary physics course lately, you might know how magnetic induction works. If not, here's the gritty: When an electrical conductor is placed in the presence of a changing magnetic field, electricity is produced in the conductor. This is the same phenomenon exploited in electrical motors and generators.

But how is this useful to cooking? In an induction stove, an electromagnet is placed underneath the cooking surface.

When an alternating current runs through the electromagnet, a rapidly changing magnetic field is produced. An electric "eddy" current will be generated in large metal objects above this electromagnet, causing resistance heating. Unlike traditional electric stoves, this resistance heating takes place in the pot itself, not in a heating element underneath.

This type of heating has important implications for the cook. One of the most startling differences from traditional stoves is that the cooking surface doesn't get hot! Because heat is only generated in the cookware, you can lay your hand right over the cooking surface and not burn yourself. This is a great advantage for children who don't follow their parents' advice.

Another advantage of induction cooking is its responsiveness. This is especially important for chefs, who demand more control over their cooking than the average college student. By varying the strength of the magnetic field, the heat generated in the pot is varied almost instantly. This responsiveness exceeds gas stoves and far exceeds traditional electric stoves.

Induction stoves are also excelling in their efficiency. Because heat is generated right at the surface of the cookware, less heat is lost to the environment. This equates to faster cooking time, cooler kitchens, and lower energy bills. Induction stoves average about 80 percent energy efficiency, compared to about 50 percent efficiency for conventional electric stoves and 30 percent efficiency for gas stoves. In real-life terms, this means the ability to boil water in half the time.

Unfortunately, induction stoves do have a big disadvantage: only ferrous (iron-containing) cookware can be used. This means that only cast-iron and steel pots and pans will work. Cookware made of aluminum, copper, ceramic, or glass will stay cold atop an induction stove. If a magnet can stick to your current cookware, it is "induction ready." If not, get ready to stock up on stock pots.

As competition heats up in the induction stove market, look for prices to steadily fall. Current models still cost several thousand dollars, but they remain a niche item. If you are shopping for a new stove, don't miss this hot new item!

## SciTechBriefs

### Giant cave found with new species

A mammoth cave has been discovered in southern Venezuela that contained a new species of frog. "Cueva del Fantasma" — Spanish for "Cave of the Ghost" — was found deep in Venezuelan Guayana, one of the most inaccessible places on Earth. The cave is so large that the explorers' helicopters were easily able to fly in and land next to a towering waterfall. Scientists soon discovered a new species of poison-dart frog, the *Colostethus breweri*, which lives along small streams in the cave. This is the 18th new frog species found in the area.

Source: LiveScience

### Underwater aircraft proposed for Navy use

Defense contractor Lockheed Martin is designing a jet-powered unmanned aircraft that launches from a submarine. Capable of being deployed from 150 feet underwater, the jet-engine drone could be outfitted with short-range weapons or surveillance equipment. After completing its mission, the plane lands in the water above the submarine, and an underwater robotic vehicle launched by the sub returns the drone to the submarine. The craft's gull wings fold around the fuselage, allowing it to fit inside a seven-foot-diameter missile tube. Tests on a splashdown model and an underwater recovery vehicle are expected to be complete by September.

Source: *Popular Science*

### Quantum cryptography test successful

University of Toronto scientists successfully tested a commercial-style quantum cryptography technique that promises hacker-proof communication. In such tests, photons of specific polarization are sent via fiber-optic cables from sender to receiver. If any of the photons are observed by an outsider, the state of those photons is altered, and the receiver can detect that the signal has been hacked. The Toronto scientists varied the intensity of transmitted photons and introduced photonic "decoys," which were transmitted over a 15-kilometer telecommunication fiber.

Source: ScienceDaily

### "Gay genetic factors" may be found

A new study carried out at the University of California, Los Angeles, found that mothers with two gay sons had a much higher chance of a certain gene arrangement than mothers without gay sons did. The research investigated the functionality of the mother's two X chromosomes. In female cells, either of the two X chromosomes must be inactive for normal reproduction to occur. However, researchers found that in 23 percent of mothers with two gay sons, all cells' DNA had the same X chromosome deactivated. This extreme skewing only occurs in four percent of mothers without gay sons, and in 13 percent of mothers with one gay son.

Similar research has uncovered other oddities in the genome of homosexuals, and some are suggesting that there are multiple genetic factors involved in determining a person's sexual orientation. Instead of a single "gay gene" that determines a person's sexuality, some scientists argue that it is the combination of several genomic features, combined with environmental influences, which will ultimately determine whether a person is gay.

Source: LiveScience



# Experiment of the Week: Hunger hormone linked to learning disabilities

by **Disha Shah**  
*Junior Staffwriter*

For many of us, exam time is synonymous with binge-eating time. Well, apart from making you fat, this could also affect your learning. A recent study completed at the Yale University School of Medicine shows that

you could actually learn better on an empty stomach.

The Yale study has shown that the hormone ghrelin has a direct, rapid, and powerful influence on the hippocampus, the part of the brain associated with learning and memory. Ghrelin, produced in the stomach, was previously associated with growth hormone release and appetite. It is released

primarily from stomach epithelial cells when the stomach is empty, and it binds to receptors in several areas of the body.

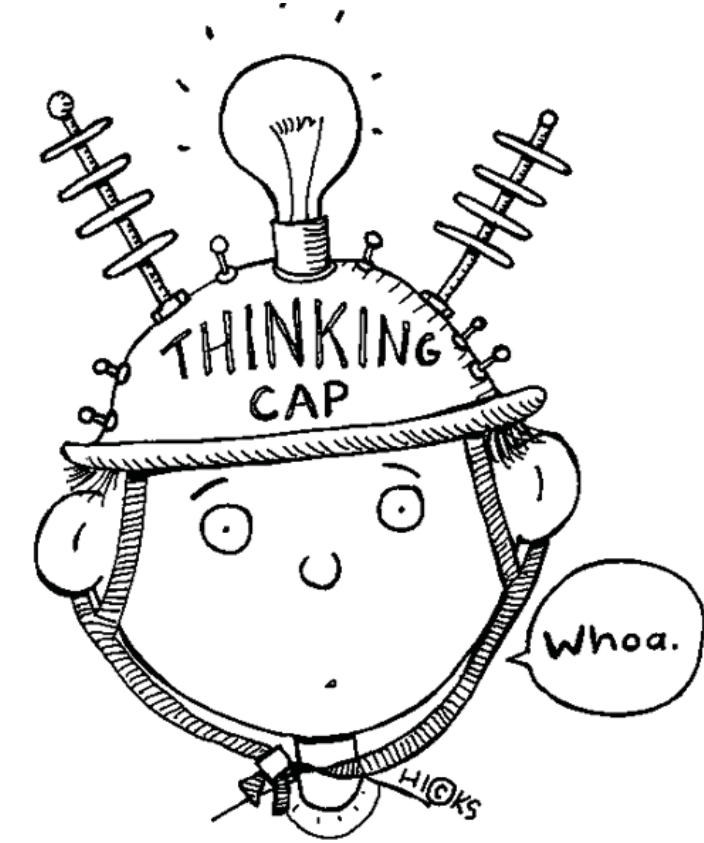
The research team, led by Tamas L. Horvath, chair and associate professor of the Section of Comparative Medicine at Yale's School of Medicine, first observed that peripheral ghrelin can enter the hippocampus and bind

to local neurons. It promotes alterations in connections between nerve cells in mice and rats. The changes in neural connectivity are linked to enhanced learning and memory performance.

In other words, the hunger hormone ghrelin can increase the number of nerve connections in the area of the brain where new memories are formed, thus enhancing it.

"Based on our observations in animal models, a practical recommendation could be that children may benefit from not overeating at breakfast in order to make the most out of their morning hours at school," Horvath said in a Yale press release. "The current obesity epidemic among American schoolchildren, which to some degree has been attributed to bad eating habits in the school environment, has been paralleled by a decline of learning performance. It is however too early to speculate if hormonal links between eating and learning are involved in that phenomenon."

High ghrelin levels or administration of ghrelin-like drugs could also protect against certain forms of dementia, because aging and obesity are associated with a decline in ghrelin levels and an increased incidence of conditions of memory loss like



Courtesy of [school.discovery.com](#)

Alzheimer's disease.

The researchers also say it might be possible to use the hormone to develop new drugs to combat impaired learning and memory, but warn that weight gain may be a side effect.

The study has provided an

advantage by boosting memory skills during food searches when animals are hungry. Learning and memory may be enhanced by high levels of ghrelin during food deprivation because animals need increased cognitive skills to track down food sources.

## Carnegie Mellon scientist takes lead in methanol-powered fuel cell research

METHANOL, from A5

bon degrades due to reactivity. "We need to come up with stable material that will not degrade," said Choi.

"My role is to formulate and test different catalyst compositions specifically for the anode side of the fuel cell," said Nicolaus Rock, a graduate student in the lab. Kumta and his group are developing nanostructural catalyst compositions that exhibit excellent catalytic activity and can also withstand other components of the fuel cell. "The issue is that the catalyst gets poisoned over time — there is less catalyst available to facilitate the fuel cell reaction".

There are many advantages to a methanol-fuel-based sys-

tem. For one, it is liquid-based. "Take the current system. It will be easy to adapt and switch over to methanol-based." Hydrogen fuel would require many more modifications to the current fuel delivery systems in order to accommodate a hydrogen- fueled society." Also, the fuel cell operates at a lower temperature than other fuel cells. Solid oxide fuel cells, for example, operate at 1000 degrees Celsius, while DMFCs can operate at 100 degrees Celsius.

Choi has been a researcher in the Kumta lab for six years. Until the recent switch to the methanol fuel cell research, they have specialized in chemical synthesis, electrochemical storage and convergence devices, including lithium ion batteries,

cathode and anode materials, and supercapacitors. Rock has been a graduate student in the lab for almost three years, and has mostly concentrated on anode materials for lithium ion batteries. He has been working on DMFCs for three and a half months.

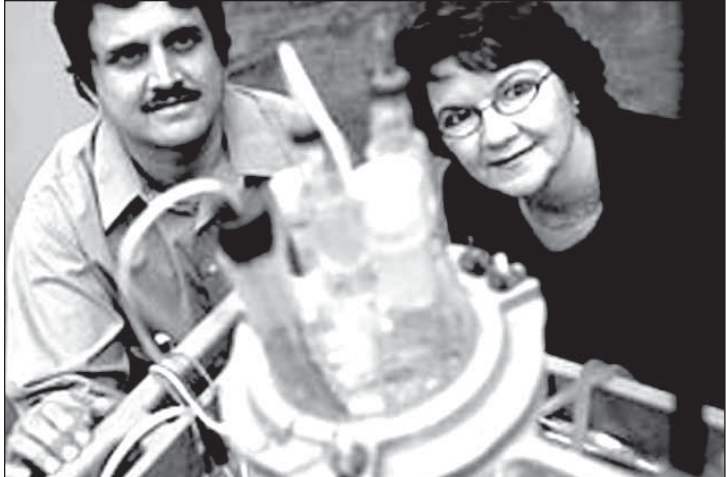
Other obstacles that must be overcome before fuel cells can be commercially available include the polymer electrolyte membrane, which is not very efficient. It is only supposed to allow hydrogen to pass through from the anode to the cathode, but some methanol leaks through. Therefore, a sturdier membrane must be developed.

"There are three main aspects to our lab's DMFC research," said Rock. "We are focusing on im-

proving the cathode, anode, and electrolyte membrane."

Fuel cells might be attractive for use in automobiles someday, but for now they remain prohibitively expensive, mainly due to the use of platinum in carbon based electrodes. On the smaller scale of electronics, however, fuel cells may soon make economic sense. That's because batteries are an incredibly expensive source of power. The cost per kilowatt of battery power is \$10,000. An automotive engine produces the equivalent of a kilowatt for a cost of \$100. It may be awhile before fuel cells can compete with automotive power, but it is highly plausible to replace batteries.

Toshiba Corp. announced in October 2003 that it is developing a handheld fuel cell that



Courtesy of [www.post-gazette.com](#)

Prashant Kumta, left, and Cristina Amon are among those at Carnegie Mellon University working on methanol fuel cells.

could power a cell phone. Sony and Motorola are among other companies working on their own

versions, all of which would convert methanol or ethanol into electricity.

The McGraw-Hill Companies

Develop Groundbreaking Applications

A Discussion

Fast Growing Technology Companies in the Financial Services Industry

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## Europe and Asia offer new automobile designs for 2007



J.T. Trollman/Contributing Editor

The new Subaru WRX STi has the same turbocharged flat-four engine, with the company's new egg crate grill.

AUTO, from A5

dash with digital gauges that run across the driver's side of the dashboard. Honda also introduced the Fit, another subcompact car, for 2007.

Mitsubishi's booth was dominated by its sport cars, for which the brand is best known in the United States. The new Eclipse convertible sat side-by-side with the Eclipse coupe and attracted many potential clients with its space-pod looks, performance features, and quality build. Mitsubishi also showcased the next generation of its legendary sport sedan, the Lancer Evolution MR. The ninth-generation "Evo" features a 286 horse power turbo inline-four, souped up with numerous performance parts. The Evo is the road version of Mitsubishi's infamous rally car and offers extreme performance for its price, starting at just under \$30,000.

Korean automakers Kia and Hyundai made their mark with redesigned flagship sedans Amanti and Sonata, both of which attracted attention with impressive safety, options, build quality, warranty, and budget pricing. Both companies have grown substantially within the recent years as their quality and reputation improves in the U.S. market.

European brands also had a lot to offer. Audi's Q7 crossover

SUV launches the company into new territory with their first true sport-utility. The new A3 hatchback drew much attention from younger showgoers, as its good looks, packed features, and reasonable pricing are attractive to those looking for Audi quality and comfort.

Land Rover showed off an impressive line of SUVs, and many showgoers demonstrated interest in the new LR3 model. The LR3 replaces the Discovery series, and will take the reins as Land Rover's introductory-level vehicle, thus making it affordable for many to own a luxury SUV. LR3 pricing starts at just under \$40,000.

BMW pulled out all the stops with its whole lineup, including the new 3-series and 5-series. The popular brand also brought in its high-performance models, the M3 and new M5. M, the in-house performance brand, takes the already high-performance machines and turns them into supercars. The new M5 is the brand's latest manifestation, where a V-10 produces 500 horsepower and extensive luxury options include voice command and a heads-up display. The price for this critically-acclaimed vehicle starts at just over \$80,000.

Mercedes-Benz came with a large range of vehicles, though AMG models — the German carmaker's performance brand

— were lacking. The redesigned S-Class and new R-Class demonstrated Benz's dedication to luxury, performance, and timeless styling. The Benz roadsters were popular vehicles as well, attracting both young and old.

Aston Martin, the British sports car maker, had its range



Greg Prichard/Contributing Editor

Top: Mercedes' styling is slowly becoming edgier, with BMW-like cat eyes. Bottom: The CLS500 pushes 0–60 in 5.9 seconds, thanks to a 5.0 liter V8.

of vehicles on display. The Vanquish S, featured in the most recent James Bond movie, is AM's top model, produces 520 horse power, and is able to reach 60 mph in under 4.5 seconds. The DB9 Volante was introduced in 2004 and is the only convertible model. The Vantage was introduced this year as the most affordable AM and is estimated to represent 50 percent of sales. The Vantage starts at \$120,000; the DB9 starts at \$170,000; the Vanquish starts at \$230,000.

Jaguar demoed its line of luxury cars but did not have the new XK sports coupe model on hand.

Lotus had their tiny supercar, the Elise, on display. They plan to release their top-end Exige model early next year.

Other exotics made an appearance but weren't accessible. The automakers who showed up included Ferrari, Lamborghini, Bentley, Rolls Royce, and Porsche.

This year's auto show gave insight into the ever-changing industry, and next year's show is sure to be even bigger.

## Barth receives grant to continue drug research

BARTH, from A5

Barth was able to identify which ion channel was responsible for the recorded changes in action potentials during a seizure.

Barth noted that the chances of having a seizure in a lifetime are very low, around one percent. However, one seizure increases the likelihood of a second 50-fold. The chances of having a third seizure increase by 80 to 90 percent, and the numbers continue to rise.

Spontaneous recurrent seizures, commonly known as epilepsy, affect between 1.4 and 2.7 million people in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Barth hopes to interrupt the development of epilepsy from recurrent seizures. "I'm a newcomer to the epilepsy field," Barth said. "The grant allows researchers with novel ideas and new approaches a chance to explore."

To test its efficacy, Barth injected the drug into mice, though still unsure of the rate at which it would be metabolized or the likelihood that it would cross the blood-brain barrier to reach neurons. After several trials, Barth found that administering the drug concurrently with seizure induction effectively eliminated all seizures. "We stumbled upon this finding," Barth said. "I just asked a student try the experiment."

Barth pointed out that the core discovery was that "this particular target treatment could prevent seizures *in vivo*." That is, the drug could be administered to a living animal and produce results.

"It is likely to be an orally administered drug, based upon the compound's structure, although we haven't tried it," Barth said. "And it might be effective for people at risk of developing epilepsy and could be a therapy to prevent epileptogenesis."

This is good news, particularly for young children, who make up a third of all newly diagnosed cases of epilepsy each year and are in danger of developing more

severe forms of epilepsy as they grow older. The drug's efficacy is another reason why Barth is eager to push her research forward so that it can go on to clinical trials.

"For a new drug to get to the clinic, it has to be commercially attractive," Barth said. She is currently in the process of protecting the compound with a patent. However, there is still much work to be done before clinical trials start, including finding a company to partner with. "We would like to work with someone who will pursue this further," Barth said.

The grant has given Barth a big imperative to make progress. "It is a one-year grant," Barth said.

**"It's a clinically exciting compound and we are trying to get it to the clinic as soon as possible."**

—Alison Barth

"We received the money very quickly and therefore we can really do a lot of experiments to investigate this."

Barth hopes her research advances will help her obtain a larger grant from the National Institutes of Health. She is also looking for other sources of funding. "It's a clinically exciting compound," Barth said, "and we are trying to get it to the clinic as soon as possible."


The progression of this project was "a tribute to basic research and persistence," Barth said. "It has spawned a dozen other projects in the lab." Future research projects for her lab include examining the possibility of predicting if and when spontaneous recurrent seizures will develop. Those seizures could then be prevented with Barth's innovative treatment.



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### Panel discusses RIAA



**NEWS** | Analogies flew fast and furious at the Public Debate on Electronic File Sharing hosted by the University of Pittsburgh last Friday. In an October article, The Tartan reported that an undisclosed

### Standardized tests may come to college

**NEWS** | Traditionally, students have equated the beginning of college with the end of one's standardized testing career. However, soon these two may... »

### New Pennsylvania bill demonizes homosexuality

**FORUM** | We see them on television, in movies, and even in magazines: pictures of polished and upstanding men and women who stand out for the simple fact... »

### Campus stores annually lose money to theft

**NEWS** | Bookstore officials do not raise textbook prices just to inflate their pocketbooks. Last fiscal year, the University Shoppe, campus art store,... »

### "Free to the people"

**PILLBOX** | A feature on libraries? Oh dear — well, it looks like you found something to line your birdcage with this week. Scrap paper for the next big... »

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FromTheEditorialBoard



Mike Menchaca/Art Staff

Supreme Court abandons students

“President Cohon stands for all that is upright and good in U.S. universities.”  
“Carnegie Mellon is an absolute steal at \$45,000 per year.”  
“I think that Scaife Hall is a masterpiece of architecture comparable to the Parthenon.”  
Any of that sound bizarre to you? If the Carnegie Mellon censors ever decide to clamp down on student publications like The Tartan, that’s the kind of flapdoodle we might be forced to publish — and you might be forced to read. Our administration can’t (and doesn’t) do it now, but if Carnegie Mellon were a public institution in Illinois, Indiana, or Wisconsin, it absolutely could.  
The Supreme Court has turned its back on the collegiate free press. This issue began at Governors State University in Illinois, where the administration demanded to review the student publication *The Innovator* before it went to press. Evidently, *The Innovator* committed the sin of criticizing the administration in several published articles. The students fought the new rule, suing the university’s Board of Trustees and others because of the censorship. The students fought until the case reached the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, which then said that the students *could not* sue — invoking a ruling that allows high school administrators to censor student publications.  
For the record, Governors State Uni-

versity is not a high school.  
A 1988 case, *Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier*, allowed censorship of high school publications. The students who fought to prevent the censorship at Governors State rightly stated in their petition to the Supreme Court that while in high schools most students are minors, in colleges most students are over 18. We are, by and large, responsible adults. And as the students in this case also correctly pointed out, we come to college to explore new ideas, not to be prevented from hearing the voices of our peers.  
The real tragedy isn’t what the Seventh Circuit allowed, but the fact that the Supreme Court will not hear the case appeal. Our highest court has abandoned the idea of a free press at the college level, and let the irresponsible ruling of the Seventh Circuit stand.  
If you think this case doesn’t matter — that the Supreme Court has bigger fish to fry — think again. Just last month, after the Seventh Circuit decided to allow the censorship to take place but before the Supreme Court refused to hear the students’ appeal, the University of Louisiana at Monroe’s paper, *The Pow Wow*, was subjected to a “new policy of prior review,” according to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Louisiana isn’t even in the region affected by the decision. Yet as long as the Seventh Circuit’s ruling stands, it will be an easy precedent to invoke if college administrators to censor

student content.  
The Supreme Court’s decision is baffling. It allows colleges to infer that they can get away with censoring student presses. The students at Governors State attempted to voice an opinion about the administration, and for that they were unceremoniously squashed. If other universities take their cue from Governors State, students on public campuses will have less and less access to free information. This is completely unjust, not only because we are students — but because we are voters, we are soldiers, and some of us are even husbands or mothers. We are just the same as every other citizen of this nation, and the fact that we attend a university does not change that status.  
Money may be part of the issue. The school foots part of the bill, so administrators feel able to throw their weight around. But as we’ve learned before, not everyone can agree with where every penny spent in a university goes. This is especially true when the university takes offense to a student publication — it’s a matter of trust and an issue of freedom. It’s the principle of defending the values of democracy and equality that every university should stand on.  
And if the Supreme Court does not realize that it is neglecting the highest principles of the nation, then we have yet to see the worst of what will become of free speech.

What we need in a dean of Student Affairs  
Deans Murphy and Church have set the bar high; let’s find a dean who can keep up

As our liaison between the student body and the administration, Carnegie Mellon’s new Dean of Student Affairs should be willing — and prepared — to roll up his or her sleeves, work hard, and become a genuine advocate for the students. As former dean Michael Murphy did, the new dean should become familiar with student organization leaders, attend student events, and exhibit more than just a superficial concern for the daily needs of the Carnegie Mellon campus.  
Since Dean Murphy was promoted to associate vice-president last April, Carnegie Mellon students have largely found this relationship with Interim Dean Jennifer Church. Though she is serving only temporarily, Church has already established rapport with students by attending student events and remaining easily accessible. The challenge is to find another figure equally invested in

Carnegie Mellon’s student community.  
As it stands now, the most visible members of the Carnegie Mellon community are the guys who sell used books in the University Center. Our campus shouldn’t go much longer without a permanent figure to connect the students to their administration. The students need someone who is present in their everyday lives, with whom they are well acquainted, yet who is just as acquainted with the upper tiers of the administration.  
The new dean should waste no time in developing a long-term vision for campus. He or she should dive into student life, learn Carnegie Mellon’s unique culture, assess its strengths and weaknesses, gather student input, and then *act*.  
For instance, an area that needs attention is the sophomore slump — that is, first-years get the royal welcome to the Carnegie Mellon community, and sophomores are left out in the cold,

not necessarily feeling unwelcome but perhaps needing assistance adjusting to upperclassman life. Also, the role model system in residence halls needs extra energy and resources in order to be successful.  
Luckily for the new dean, Murphy set a stellar example of how to be a visible, approachable figure on campus. On the other hand, he set the bar incredibly high. The new dean will enter a community eager for his or her arrival — and we students won’t have to spend too much time or energy acclimating to a new, proactive Dean of Student Affairs. Rather than anticipating another administrator who will join the campus community only to be holed up on the sixth floor of Warner Hall, we excitedly await a dean who will continue in the footsteps of Murphy and Church. In terms of proactivity, we are going to meet the new dean halfway.

Freedom of the press must never allow itself to erode

*James Auwaerter*  
James Auwaerter

The publication in September 2005 of 12 editorial cartoons depicting Muhammad set off a firestorm of controversy. Thousands of people in the Middle East and the rest of the world protested these cartoons, some of which commented negatively on Islam. Despite this, most of us cannot say that we’ve seen these cartoons. News organizations in the U.S. have, for the most part, chosen not to print or display them.  
This decision is entirely within their rights. News organizations choose what is newsworthy and write their stories accordingly. However, that freedom brings with it a great responsibility. A newspaper should never seek to offend, but it should not fear doing so in pursuit of a greater good.  
In modern Western society, there is a separation between church and state that is not seen in many Muslim societies. Saudi Arabia, as an example, prohibits public worship of religions other than Islam, and atheism and apostasy (conversion to another religion) are both capital crimes. Depictions of the prophet Muhammad are seen by many modern Muslims as being close to idolatry, something prohibited by Islam (as well as Christianity and Judaism). Even without this, any criticism of Muhammad can be construed as blasphemy, another crime that is punishable by the death penalty. If the offender is “lucky,” he might merely be convicted of insulting Islamic values and serve a five-year sentence.  
The cartoons were originally published by the newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* in Denmark as part of an article discussing the boundaries of free speech and how Islam should not receive special treatment in the media. Forty cartoonists were approached to draw their views on Muhammad, and 12 responded. Six of these cartoons were reprinted during Ramadan in *El-Fagr*, an Egyptian newspaper that accompanied the cartoons with an article denouncing them. Interestingly, no known protests by the Egyptian government or Egyptian religious authorities resulted from this republication.  
Other newspapers, most of them European, have since reprinted the cartoons. Protests against the cartoons and the newspapers who chose to reprint them have followed, along with at least

30 deaths. Newspapers should report on this, and they have. They also have a responsibility to show what has brought about these protests. A newspaper has to decide what topics should be covered in each issue, but it should seek to inform, not indoctrinate. It can say that other people found the cartoons offensive, but by preventing the readers from drawing their own conclusions from the cartoons, it does a disservice to its readers. Though some may be offended, the importance of the news outweighs the offense that it engenders.  
One newspaper, the *Boston Phoenix*, was blunt with its reasons for not reprinting the cartoons. The primary reason that they did so was “[o]ut of fear of retaliation from the international brotherhood of radical and bloodthirsty Islamists who seek to impose their will on those who do not believe as they do.” Its honesty is welcome at a time when respected news organizations like CNN claim that they will not reprint the cartoons out of respect for Islam while they do reprint anti-Semitic cartoons that are just as offensive. This double standard is nothing new. Andres Serrano’s “Piss Christ” (1989) and Chris Ofili’s “The Holy Virgin Mary” (1996), made with elephant dung as an ingredient, offended Christians across the world, but news organizations saw nothing wrong with republishing them. The largest of the protests had to do with the public funding of such art. Even with these protests, the majority of Christians who were offended by this “art” recognized that their creators had a right to create it, just as they have a right to celebrate their religion.  
The refusal of most newspapers to stand in solidarity with *Jyllands-Posten* is only a single symptom of this moral cowardice. Google’s and Yahoo’s choice to collaborate with the Chinese government in its attempts to censor information, CNN’s censorship of the situation within Iraq as described by Easton Jordan in his *New York Times* article “The News We Kept to Ourselves” — all these result in the erosion of our freedoms as we choose the path of convenience over the sometimes rocky road of free expression. The greatest risk to free speech comes not from the government, but the voluntary self-censorship of those who profess to believe in free speech.

*James Auwaerter (sensei@cmu.edu) is an IMB student in electrical and computer engineering. He welcomes all replies, responsible or not.*

Success is about more than just Olympic gold medals

*Mercy Chang*  
Mercy Chang

Ever since Michelle Kwan announced her decision to withdraw from the Olympics, all we’ve heard from the media is how tragic her story is. True, Michelle has been on the quest for the so-called “elusive” gold medal for about a decade. Indeed, it’s saddening to hear of all the injuries that she’s sustained in her noteworthy journey. However, we must consider that maybe withdrawing from the Olympics may not be as bad as the press makes it out to be.  
They say that it’s better to fail than to not try at all. In Michelle Kwan’s case, she tried, she didn’t fail, but she didn’t win the Olympic gold medal either. In the minds of her fans, Michelle is a winner.  
If anything, Michelle Kwan’s big decision to withdraw from the Olympics tells us that it’s okay to just walk away.

Sometimes, something as great as the opportunity to win the Olympic gold medal is worth passing up when circumstances prevent you from doing the things that you want. I’m not going to lie, though. Seeing Michelle courageously face the media with tears glistening in her eyes was hard for me too. It’s difficult — if not downright discouraging — to see someone walk away from the very thing she’s worked so hard and so long to achieve.  
Seeing someone’s dream getting crushed is a disheartening feeling. It makes you wonder whether we ourselves are chasing after our own elusive gold medal. And if we are, should we just give up, or continue plowing bravely forward, knowing that the chance for failure greatly exceeds our one and only chance for success?

I find the concept of the American Dream to be unrealistically optimistic. According to this model, as long as someone is dedicated and hard-working,

See KWAN, page A9

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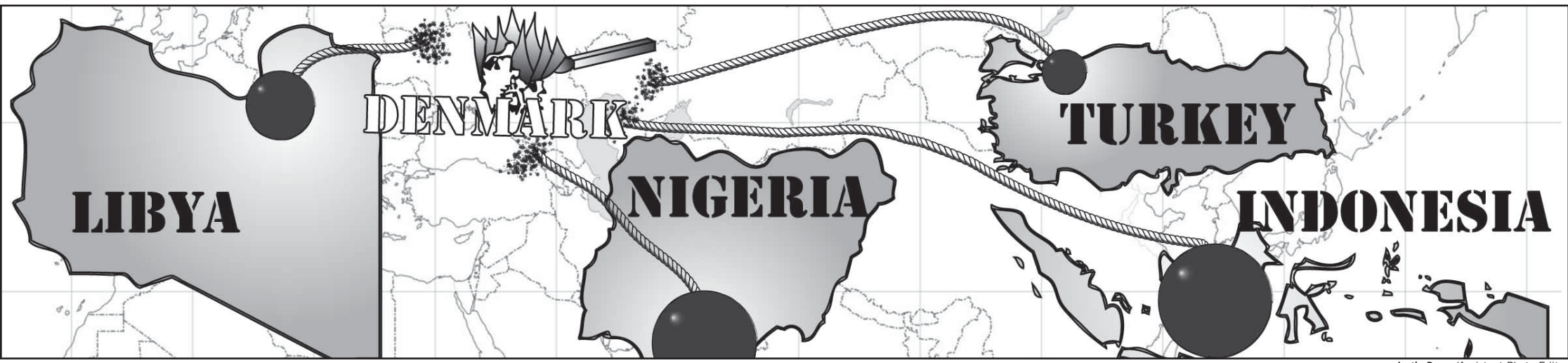
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# Danish cartoon controversy and Islam: An American Muslim’s perspective

*Khalid El*  
Khalid El-Arini

When I first heard that a Danish newspaper, *Jyllands-Posten*, had published inflammatory cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), my initial reaction was of great disappointment and sadness. I was deeply troubled by the fact that the editorial board of a supposedly respectable newspaper would publish such content, despite knowing that nearly a quarter of the world’s population would find it greatly offensive. As a Muslim and as an American, I was raised to always respect the religious beliefs of others. This universal principle that we hold so dear in this country was egregiously disregarded by the newspaper’s editors.

In no way do I support censoring free speech. *Jyllands-Posten* had the legal right to publish the cartoons, but as The Tartan itself found out two years ago, there is a responsibility that comes along with that right.

Contrary to what some may think, there is nothing inherently un-Islamic about freedom of expression. Certainly Islam is not the only religion with prohibitions on lying, cursing, and blasphemy; in modern society, this has never been a barrier to free discourse.

The reason the cartoons are so offensive is twofold. First, the Prophet (p.b.u.h.) preached monotheism to an extremely idolatrous society, and in order to emphasize that it is God that should be worshipped and not him, he explicitly banned his followers from creating any drawings or sculptures that might later be misinterpreted as having divine qualities. This explains why Muslims find even the tamest of these drawings to be abhorrent. Second, the Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) was the living embodiment of Islam. He was a man of impeccable character, and Muslims around the world strive to emulate his excellent example. Thus, for Muslims, an attack on our beloved prophet is an attack on the foundations of our faith.

Therefore, in addition to being disgusted with *Jyllands-Posten*, I was disgusted at those that would respond to an attack on their prophet with lawlessness and violence, which ironically only acted to reinforce what one cartoon implied. If they in fact loved the Prophet (p.b.u.h.), as they claimed, they would follow his example, and his example could not be further from their actions. Throughout his life, the Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) was often persecuted for his beliefs, but in response, he always took the high road. There are countless stories of times when he faced incredible adversity, but one immediately comes to mind.

Once, the Prophet (p.b.u.h.) traveled from Mecca to the Arabian city of Ta’if to preach his message and find sanctuary for his persecuted followers. Instead, his preaching fell on deaf ears, and the chil-

dren of the town were sent to pelt him with stones. His body covered in blood, he eventually made it to safety outside the city limits and was approached by the angel Gabriel, who informed him that God was willing to punish those who had caused him such suffering, if the Prophet (p.b.u.h.) so desired. In a noble display of patience and mercy, the Prophet (p.b.u.h.) declined, for he held out hope that perhaps one day, even just one of the town’s children might grow up to believe in his message.

This stands in stark contrast to the events that unfolded in the Middle East over the past few weeks, and begs the question: If the Prophet (p.b.u.h.) was so merciful, why is it that some of his supposed followers are so ill-tempered and prone to chaos?

First, it is important to note that although much attention has been given to the ignorant few whose actions were inexcusable, the vast majority of Muslims around the world reacted peacefully and responsibly. For instance, there are an estimated 7 million Muslims living in America, and save for perhaps some Steelers fans, none of them could be found on the streets wreaking havoc. *The Philadelphia Inquirer* shamefully reprinted the cartoons a few weeks ago, and the Muslim community of that city staged a large and dignified protest. This was the case, by and large, all around the world. Second, to answer this question is to take a deep look at the sociopolitical realities that exist in the Middle East — something that I am not nearly fully qualified to do. However, I feel that the pent-up rage that these people develop from living under oppressive regimes, when coupled with their strong belief that there is a global war being waged against Islam, provides for a mob easily cajoled into wrongdoing.

When the public eye is focused on radicals that would hijack my faith, I find myself as an American Muslim struggling for the noble soul of my religion. I cannot sit idly by and let these people dictate to the world what it means to be Muslim. My response has always been to educate others about my beliefs, and to become even more involved in my community and civic society than I already am.

We Muslims need to learn more about our religion by studying the life of the Prophet (p.b.u.h.), so that maybe — just maybe — in the future, if such a provocation repeats itself, these people rioting overseas will first ask themselves: WWMD? What would Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) do? And then maybe — just maybe — when others hear the word “Muslim” and try to conjure a mental image, rather than some scruffy fanatic they instead picture their Virginia-born Muslim friend from Carnegie Mellon with a penchant for country music.

*Khalid El-Arini (kbe@), a graduate student in computer science, is on the Executive Board of the Muslim Students Association. He welcomes all responsible replies, except those that make fun of him for listening to country music.*

# Cartoons’ offensive content blown out of proportion by radical governments

*Ben Hackett*  
Benjamin Hackett

The body count continues to rise in fundamentalist Islam’s latest attack on a Western ideal: freedom of speech. Rioters have taken to the streets holding signs saying “Death to Freedom” and “Freedom go to Hell.” While the offending cartoons, depicting the prophet Muhammad, originated in Denmark, any other Western embassies or innocent bystanders in the way have been attacked at will.

Those that argue that this is a fundamentalist hijacking of the religion are absolutely correct. Yet, when the hijacking argument expands to include the phrases “just a small percentage” and “not very representative,” this is where reality and rhetoric part ways.

The violence has not been limited to one region of the world. Riots have spread throughout the globe from India to Nigeria to Denmark to Afghanistan. Just like traditional peaceful demonstrations in Western nations, many people took to the streets to air their grievances. Unfortunately, the destruction of property and lives soon followed.

The death toll continues to rise. Eleven are dead in Afghanistan. Three people, including an eight-year-old child, are dead in Pakistan. Ten people are dead in Libya. In northern Nigerian territories, where the resident Muslims refuse to live by the Western-style law governing the rest of the country, over 45 people are dead, including a Catholic priest.

Remember, this is over an editorial cartoon published in September of 2005.

Supposedly, the depiction of the prophet Muhammad is fueling these riots. However, the Islamic law regarding depictions of the prophet is, by its very definition, not applicable to Western institutions practicing freedom of speech. The prohibition is only restrictive concerning renderings produced by Muslims.

There are those more interested in fueling the fire and destroying Western institutions than in defending the honor of Islam. In one instance, up to \$1 million was offered to anyone who kills an artist of one of the Muhammad cartoons. Other offers include lump sums of money and material goods such as cars. The traditional offering of 72 virgins is, as of yet, nowhere to be found.

There is another alarming element in this latest breakout of anti-Western violence. Some of these protests are not simple individual displays of ignorance: They are state-backed, or sometimes state-incited, ignoramuses on parade.

At a recent news conference, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice denounced those governments that have attempted to exploit this controversy for ideological gain. “Iran and Syria have gone out of their way to inflame sentiments and to use this to

their own purposes, and the world ought to call them on it,” she said. The evidence is strong enough for these governments to be called out on a world stage.

Many of these alleged protests are directed by states with political investments made in removing Western influence in their region. Threatened by the promises of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and representative democracy, these states sponsor unrest to divert attention from their own actions.

If the enemy of fundamentalist Islam is Western civilization, then freedom and the ability to choose the direction of one’s life are adversaries of fundamentalist Islam as well. Freedom of speech would loosen the grip of those radical clerics seeking to promote their interests by stoking the flames of these riots.

An objective lens in the region would expose the inequities and gaps between the leadership and their willing flock of suicide sheep.

Uncle bin Laden wants you. Radical clerics calling in holy war martyrdom, noble, and worthwhile. Yet, in his latest VH1 terrorist pop-up video, Osama bin Laden vows never to be captured alive, wanting never to “find the bitter taste of death.” Hypocrisy?

The command and control structure of both terrorist organizations and fundamentalist political groups, with terrorist wings, requires extensive indoctrination from an early age. Propagandizing the populous is a necessary tool to reign in dissent. Censorship, such as the Iranian blocking of Western entertainment, is a necessary tool to keep recruitment levels high for organizations such as Iranian-backed Hezbollah and the multinational terrorist actor al-Qaeda.

The cartoons’ allegedly offensive content includes renderings of violence. Ironically, the protests over the associations of the prophet Muhammad with violence are both violent and deadly themselves.

As in past instances, condemnations of the violence have been slow in coming. In the rare case that an Islamic cleric does condemn the killings, the censure is preceded with some indignant form of the phrase “We are saddened by the choice to anger one quarter of the world’s population, but we also condemn...”

The base fact is that freedom of speech, of the press, and of the people are directly detrimental to the fundamentalist goal of establishing a worldwide Islamic state, a state ruled by Islamic law.

Kudos to all dedicated journalists and fans of Western civilization, who, whether with good or bad taste, continue to defend these precious institutions. Suppress freedom of speech in a holy war for only 72 virgins? Start me at 73, and then we’ll talk.

*Benjamin Hackett (bhackett@) welcomes all replies, thoughtful or not, through e-mail or on the web at www.BenjaminHackett.com*

# Kwan’s withdrawal teaches us about goals and the true nature of success

KWAN, from A8

In the end, anything is possible. Based on this model, all dreams can come true, regardless of how extraordinary they are. All you need is “x” and “y” to reach “z”. It’s as simple as that — until reality sets in.

I’m not saying that the American Dream is impossible. If anything, hard work and dedication will get you results. Results in what, though, vary by the

magnitude of the dream, and are to be determined on an individual basis.

What people need to realize is that the American Dream is merely a model for success, and as a model, it fails to consider the occurrence of random events such as injuries, deaths, or other hardships.

No model is perfect. No dream is unachievable. What these two seemingly contrary ideas tell us is that life is just a series of random events, thrown together

so that sometimes you end up with a winning streak, and other times your luck runs out.

In Michelle’s case, it wasn’t that she didn’t work hard enough. It wasn’t that she wasn’t 100 percent committed to her goal. Her luck simply ran out at an inopportune moment. Nevertheless, her humble exit from the race for the esteemed gold medal proved that at that moment, Michelle Kwan was not someone who gave up out of fear, but

someone who bowed out gracefully out of respect for the game. That in itself is worth more than a hundred Olympic gold medals.

Not everyone can be an Olympic gold medalist. Not everyone ends up being the CEO of Microsoft. But when people like Michelle Kwan get passed up for a gold medal, I find it more and more difficult to believe that hard work and perseverance is the formula for success. Especially because the Olympic gold medal is such

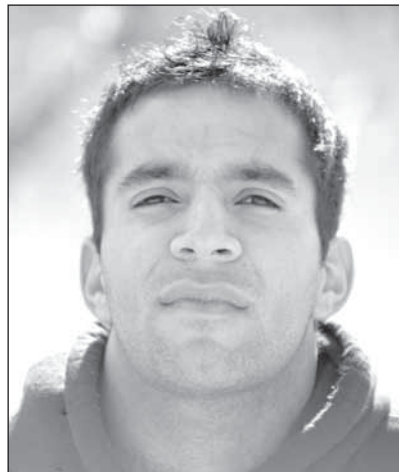
a prestigious symbol of achievement, when it is denied to a highly-deserving individual, for me, the gold medal starts to lose its value and appeal. After all, we should know by now that greatness cannot be reflected in a single piece of cold, hard metal.

*Mercy Chang (mercyc@) is a junior economics and policy & management student. She welcomes all thoughtful comments and replies.*

The highest awards in American cinema — the Oscars — are next weekend, so we’re curious:

## If CMU had its own special award, what would it be and who would receive it?

Compiled by Noah Lorang



**Aanand Radia**  
Junior  
Economics

“Mr. Asia: Everyone.”



**Erin Goldberger**  
Sophomore  
Professional Writing

“It would definitely be most awkward. I tripped the other day and this kid didn’t even ask if I was okay.”



**Rebecca Obley**  
Junior  
Information Systems

“The person who went longest without showering. I don’t know if it would be a good award, but it would funny for the rest of us.”



**Vamsee Pillalamarri**  
Sophomore  
Biology

“Most Amount of Sleep: Business Majors.”



**Alexis Cisneros**  
Senior  
Chemistry

“Probably the laziest chemistry student, and that would be me.”



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**The Dickson Prize**

Dr. Joseph Z. Dickson, a Pittsburgh physician, and his wife, Agnes Fisher Dickson, provided funds in their wills for Carnegie Mellon University to award an annual prize to individuals who make outstanding contributions to science in the United States.

A Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, David Haussler directs the Center for Biomolecular Science and Engineering (CBSE) at the University of California, Santa Cruz and is scientific co-director of the California Institute for Quantitative Biomedical Research (QB3). He has done pioneering work in the fields of computational learning theory and bioinformatics.

Haussler is a past chairman of the Steering Committee for the Computational Learning Theory Conferences (COLT), an associate editor for the Journal of Computational Biology, and was an action editor for the journal Machine Learning. He holds a BA in Mathematics from Connecticut College, an MS in Applied Mathematics from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and a PhD in Computer Science from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Haussler is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the American Association for Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), member of the nominating committee for the International Society for Computational Biology and a member of the American Society of Human Genetics. Haussler received the 2003 ACM/AAAI Allen Newell Award, and R&D Magazine named him "Scientist of the Year" in 2001. He also holds the UC Presidential Chair in Computer Science at the Santa Cruz campus.

## Carnegie Mellon

### 2005 Dickson Prize in Science

#### Dr. David Haussler

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# Get an adrenaline rush

Spend some time with the alpine ski team

by Franklin Williams  
Personnel Manager

As the spring semester begins, cold nights descend over campus and warmth becomes a commodity that most cannot afford to pass up, sending students rushing from building to building as quickly as possible, but not the members of the Carnegie Mellon alpine ski team.

They thrive in the cold, pray for snow, and drive hours every weekend looking for a small drop in temperature. For them, the first five weekends of spring semester — Friday through Sunday — were spent out in the cold, trying to create a place for Carnegie Mellon in competitive skiing.

Formed this winter by senior co-captains Hugh Dunn and Alex Sussman, the ski team is currently an extension of the Carnegie Mellon ski and snowboard club. It is run by students, coached by the captains, and funded mostly through member fundraising.

Carnegie Mellon's division in ski racing is extremely competitive, and many of the member schools take alpine racing very seriously. Schools such as West Virginia University, Davis & Elkins College, and Pennsylvania State University all have skiers who come from ski academies — schools built with the explicit purpose of training students to ski. In addition, many of these teams have ski camps where they practice with a coach hired to train each student on the technical aspects of alpine racing. While the Carnegie Mellon ski team does not have some of these perks, they did better in their inaugural year than anyone could have ever asked.

When the final results came in, Carnegie Mellon placed sixth out of the 10 schools in their division. But according to members of the team, this was

not the biggest victory of the season.

Successful skiing can be measured by the fastest time down the slope, but there are other measures of success that are much more complicated. What makes this conference so successful is the interaction between teams. Daniel Chen, a senior electrical and computer engineering major, said, "It's provided us a competitive atmosphere, but where everyone can relax and have a good time while improving their skiing ability." Although the name of the game is competition, it is extremely common to see team members giving tips and advice to individuals from other teams. The advice and pointers from other schools' coaches are so common that maybe Carnegie Mellon's team does not even need a coach.

Because of the nature of skiing, team members spend a good amount of time contributing not only to their own team's success, but to the success of the conference as a whole. Running a skiing event costs a lot of money, in addition to requiring a significant amount of staff. Due to monetary constraints, each team contributes as much as possible. This strengthens the bond between teams and among skiers.

In light of the team's success, next year's captain first-year Anthony Cartolano hopes to start a women's team to complement the men's team. "I just want people to realize how awesome this is," he said, coming off the slopes after a race. "I'm so excited for next year already."

With the ski season ending, one can only hope to see even greater success on the slopes next year.

*If you have further questions about or are interested in joining the ski team, please write Alex Sussman at ahsussma@andrew.cmu.edu.*

## Alpine ski team

### Season wrap-up

#### Ski Roundtop — 6th place

January 14, 2006  
Slalom  
06:05.15; 6 points

January 15, 2006  
Giant Slalom  
03:47.51; 7 points

#### Elk Mountain — 7th place

January 21, 2006  
Giant Slalom  
05:08.43; 8 points

January 22, 2006  
Giant Slalom  
05:32.58

#### Timberline — 6th place

January 28, 2006  
Slalom  
06:23.76; 6 points

January 29, 2006  
Slalom  
06:57.96; 7 points

#### Wisp — 7th place

February 4, 2006  
Slalom  
05:10.31

February 5, 2006  
Giant Slalom  
04:04.80

#### Tussey Conference Finals — 7th place

February 11, 2006  
Slalom  
06:10.23

February 12, 2006  
Giant Slalom  
04:09.01

#### Overall Scores

Earned Score:  
70 points — 6th place

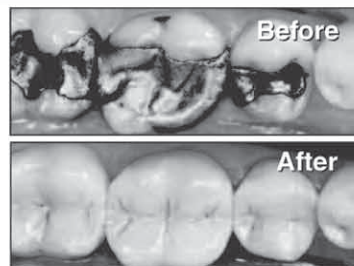
Adjusted Score:  
46 points — 8th place

Snapshots from the slopes. The ski season turned out to be challenging and unpredictable, highlighted by an appearance of the Tartans' mascot, the Scottie Dog.

Photos by Franklin Williams/Personnel Manager

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# Sports

## It's a slam dunk!

### Tartan men clinch the UAA Championship



by **Colin Liotta**  
*Staffwriter*

For the first time in school history, the Carnegie Mellon men's basketball team won the UAA conference championship and received an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III playoffs by defeating conference rival Rochester 78-68 on Saturday. This marks only the second time in school history that the team has gone to the NCAA Tournament; the last berth came in 1977.

In front of a packed crowd at Skibo Gymnasium, the Tartans started off by honoring the team's five seniors and their parents on Senior Day. Rachel Gross, the Tartans' senior scorebook keeper and the singer of the national anthem and "God Bless America," was also honored for her contributions to the team over the years.

The opening minutes of the game saw the two teams battling to take control with neither team gaining a significant lead. However, the Tartans went on a 13-2 run, capped off by an emphatic dunk by senior Bary Dunn, to take an 18-11 lead. The Tartan

Chang Glasgow/Photo Staff

men would never relinquish their lead, as they finished the first half shooting 50 percent from the field, including 7 of 11 three-pointers, to take a 43-26 lead at the end of the half.

The Tartans continued to pour it on in the second half, leading by as much as 24. Despite the strong second-half performance by Rochester center Jon Onyiriuka, who scored 18 of his team-high 31 points in the second half, Rochester wasn't able to cut the lead to less than nine points.

As time expired, the crowd at Skibo Gymnasium gave their team a standing ovation to a historical season that has seen an upset victory over Princeton and the Tartans' first 20-win season in school history. The team celebrated by spraying water into the air and cutting down the nets.

"It was a big game for us, not only because it was for the conference title, but also because it was Senior Day and we wanted to get these guys a win," said sophomore guard Geoff Kozak. "And today, the seniors led us to victory."

Senior Nate Maurer led the Tartans with 16 points. All the

Tartan seniors contributed in the game, combining to score 63 of the team's 78 points — including 14 from Dunn, who shot six of seven from the field. Senior and co-captain Clayton Barlow-Wilcox chipped in with 12 points and eight rebounds, giving him 599 rebounds for his career. Marques Johnson had eight points, five rebounds, and five assists, while co-captain A.J. Straub scored 13 points, including three baskets from behind the arc. Straub extended his school record to 28 straight games with a three-pointer, which dates back to last season.

"It was a great way for us to end the regular season," said Straub. "To win it all in front of the home crowd on Senior Day means a lot."

The Tartans must now wait to see who and where they will play in the NCAA Division III Tournament. The information will be released today, and the team could be in action Thursday or Friday.

"We worked hard all season to finish as conference champions," said Barlow-Wilcox. "But now we have to work even harder as we go into tournament play."



Chang Glasgow/Photo Staff

Senior forward Marques Johnson races down the court.



Chang Glasgow/Photo Staff

Carnegie Mellon cheerleaders and fans celebrate the men's win.

## Tough end to a difficult season

by **Doug Fricker**  
*Staffwriter*

The Carnegie Mellon women's basketball team capped off their 2005-2006 season on Saturday when they hosted University Athletic Association (UAA) opponent University of Rochester. The visiting Yellowjackets, ranked in the top 25 earlier in the season, were too much for the Tartans as Carnegie Mellon fell 66-41 on Senior Day in Skibo Gymnasium.

Graduating seniors Dava Sommermeyer, Rebecca Shore, and Melissa DeAngelo were honored before the game, and all three started for the Tartans. Sommermeyer led the Tartans with nine points, including the last three points of the season when she drove the lane with 1:11 left, scored, and drew a foul. Shore pulled down a team-high eight rebounds to complement her four points, and DeAngelo contributed seven points and four rebounds in the loss.

The Tartans played hard throughout, but they could not keep up with the Yellowjackets' speed and athleticism. DeAngelo started the scoring when she connected on a three-pointer with 18:47 left in the first half to give the Tartans a 3-0 lead. First-year guard Gemma Easterling made a jumper to give the Tartans their last lead of the game; 5-3, at the 18:10 mark. Rochester, behind solid shooting and good ball control, pulled away at this point, as in the first half they shot 45.2 percent from the field compared to the Tartans' 32 percent, while committing only six turnovers to Carnegie Mellon's 14 en route to a 42-22 halftime lead.

"Rochester is a solid athletic team, and we came out slow in the first half," said sophomore guard Leah Feola. "Once they had the lead on us it was difficult to get it back. The UAA is a very competi-



Chang Glasgow/Photo Staff

First-year Gemma Easterling wrestles for control of the ball. The Tartan women were out-muscled by Rochester.

tive conference with many nationally ranked teams."

In the second half, both teams had trouble putting the ball in the basket. For Rochester, this included a 20-minute block spanning from the 5:07 mark in the first half to under the five-minute mark in the second half where they went 2-26 from the field. The Tartans were able to cut the lead down to 45-34 with 12:56 remaining on Feola's creative basket, but despite numerous attempts, they were not able to get any closer the rest of the way, and the Yellowjackets going on to win by 25.

"Overall the season has been a learning experience for all the players," Feola said. "It was going

well in the beginning, until we lost our starting point guard [Stacie Aleski] due to injury. This pushed our team development back tremendously. Moreover, a lot of freshmen were playing significant minutes against nationally ranked teams. The seniors were great team leaders, and they will be missed next year. However, the returning players are eager to take over. Next year we will be more experienced and prepared for UAA play."

The loss puts the Tartans at 5-20 overall and 0-14 in the UAA to finish the season. The Yellowjackets improve to 18-7 and 9-5 in the UAA, good for third place in the eight-team league.



Chang Glasgow/Photo Staff

Sophomore guard Leah Feola only has eyes for the basket as she dribbles through traffic.

## Men's and women's tennis handily serve Case a defeat

by **Jeffrey Wang**  
*Staffwriter*

The Carnegie Mellon men's and women's tennis teams came up with victories over Case Western Reserve University on Saturday. The Tartans dominated the competition with a clean 7-0 sweep for the men and an 8-1 victory for the women. It was an important win for the 22nd-seeded Tartan men's team, which bounced back from previous close losses to secure a blowout win. The Tartan women's team also won by a large margin, winning all of their matches except one.

The men's performance was led by third and fifth singles Stephen Kuhn and Spencer Svetcov, who both collected crucial wins for the Tartan men. Svetcov came up big with the win after a grueling three-set match (6-3, 5-7, 7-6(5)), edging his opponent in the final set via tiebreaker. First singles Yiran Liu also had a strong performance, winning the only two-set match for the men with a score of 7-6(4), 6-1. Another notable performance from the singles team came from second singles Andrew Clearfield, who bounced back from a second set 1-6 setback with a 6-4 perfor-

mance to secure the win. Complementing the successful run for the Tartan men's singles, the men's doubles also came

women's doubles were equally successful in helping the Tartans extend their winning streak, with first doubles Iyer and Amy

**"On both sides we have our best teams we have ever had."**  
- Andy Girard

up big with Svetcov and Ryan Thompson teaming up as third doubles to pull out a close match of 8-6. First doubles Liu and Carl Yang cruised with a score of 8-5, while second doubles Kuhn and Clearfield beat the opposition with a lopsided 8-3 win.

The women carried momentum from their six-game winning streak to extend the run, accenting their victory with a very impressive win by third singles Kelly Nakamura. The normally fifth singles Nakamura was in complete control of her game as she defeated the Case third singles with a 6-1, 6-0 performance. Similarly, first singles Mona Iyer beat her opponent 6-0, 6-1 and fifth singles Claire Weiss won 6-1, 6-0. All of the other Tartan women also secured their wins in straight sets. The

Staloch leading the doubles team with a 8-2 triumph.

"The men are at their best performance of the year," said head coach Andy Girard about the Tartan's impressive sweep. "They have really stepped up their performance to get us the win." The coach also had very positive comments for the women, who now are ranked 12th in the nation. "The women have continued to play very well, however, we have a big match coming up against ranked-second Washington & Lee University," he said, but he is optimistic about the team's upcoming match. "On both sides we have our best teams we have ever had; it will be a good chance to assert ourselves as the best team in the country." The Tartans will compete against Washington & Lee University on March 4.

## IM NEWS

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Women's President: Jaci Feinstein, [jfeinste@case.edu](mailto:jfeinste@case.edu)

### Important Dates:

**Monday, February 20** — Floor hockey playoffs start.

**Thursday, February 23** — Rosters for indoor soccer and three-on-three basketball are due by 4:30 pm in the IM Office.

**Monday, February 27** — In-

door soccer rules meeting in the Arena Room.

### Sports in Season:

**Floor Hockey** — The playoffs start tonight. Brackets are available in the IM Office.

**Basketball** — Schedules are now available outside the IM Office. Games are underway in the UC gym. Games are played Monday through Thursday nights and Sunday afternoons. There are 86 teams playing in the four leagues this year. The finals will be held on Thursday, March 23, IM Night, in Skibo Gym.

**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** — Rosters are due Thursday by 4:30 pm in the IM Office. All teams need to have a representative at the rules meeting Today, in the

Arena Room.

### Tartan IM Basketball Poll

#### Majors

1. Beta 2nd Place
2. Beta Regulators
3. KDR

#### Intermediate

1. HBB Check Ball PiKA
2. 5526
3. Jibrovvia
4. Beta Freshmen
5. Spirit Warriors

#### Women

1. Hoopers
2. Spirit Warriors
3. Lady Ball Knockers
4. Busta Kappa Boombas

#### Minors

1. Terry Time
2. Sig Ep Basketball
3. Fiddlers
4. All Stars
5. PKT A
6. This One's For Ollie
7. Brown Town
8. PiKA Old Balls
9. Beta Old Guys
10. Morewood Reunited





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## Smart Women

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# Dr. Ruth talks sex with CMU

## MOSAIC brings famed sex psychotherapist to campus

First thoughts? The accent is real.

“I used to be a kindergarten teacher,” Dr. Ruth, MOSAIC 2006’s keynote speaker, said, stepping her 4’7” frame up to the podium, “so I know how to do this.”

Part of me really wished she’d already been talking about sex at that point.

In keeping with this year’s Milestones theme, Dr. Ruth Westheimer shared many key moments from her life — from her early childhood in Frankfurt, her adolescence in a Swiss children’s home, and her experience in the predecessor of the Israeli Defense Force. Her first marriage led her to Paris, where she directed a kindergarten and studied psychology at the Sorbonne. She had to pass a placement test because she lacked a high school diploma. Apparently, they only taught the girls home economics at the orphanage. Now, she’s an award-winning author with all kinds of official and honorary doctorates. So it goes.

Before this morning, the most I knew of Ruth Westheimer was my brother’s impersonation the last time our family played Cranium. I knew about the accent. I know that, to some, the concept of sex psychotherapy is a joke. Entering a lecture titled “Soldier, Sex Therapist, & Mother of the Year: Milestones in the Life of Dr. Ruth,” I scoffed about my disinterest in her life and history to some friends. You know, before I learned she’d single-handedly conquered life against all odds.

So, what, I’m superficial, and maybe a little sex-starved. But I wasn’t the only one in that audience who was really just there to hear about orgasms — and Dr. Ruth seemed to know that. She said she had gotten hired at Planned Parenthood and thought, “There’s something wrong with these people — all they ever talk about is sex, not literature or politics.” She quickly changed her mind.

It wasn’t until the latter half of the session that Dr. Ruth started talking about the topic we were all waiting for. She described herself as a turtle — you can only move if you stick your neck out, right? But that leaves you vulnerable. She said she was very explicit, but actually “old fashioned and a square.” When her late husband Fred was still alive, she never let him sit in on any of her talks, except for that one time she was on *60 Minutes*. Fred was wild about Diane Sawyer, who’d asked, “Mr. Westheimer, how is your sex life?” To which Fred had replied, “The shoemaker’s children don’t have any shoes.”

I appreciated Dr. Ruth’s frankness and her unassuming attitude. I mean, it’s not like she was forcing anything on us. She said, “the more we talk, the less we will have problems,” attempting to dispel some common myths about sexuality — one being that American women don’t masturbate. Others being that if you masturbate, your hair falls out, you’ll end up needing glasses, and hair grows on your palms. She complimented the self-control of Carnegie Mellon students at this point, because apparently everyone at Harvard Law looked at their hands when she said that.

Westheimer talked about her experience writing *Sex for Dummies* and how she hadn’t been interested when they first approached her, saying, “No, I talk to intelligent people” — people who ask questions about how her background as an orthodox Jew has affected her advice to others. She said, clearly, to “do as your

values decree.” Each individual has to make decisions about abstinence and his own sexuality for himself.

Still, “sex sells,” and Dr. Ruth talked about that too, claiming she’s the first to pick a new sexy headline up off the newsstands, because “God forbid you should know something about sex that I don’t know.” Certainly nobody complained when she assigned us all homework: for women, sit in your car, doing your Kegel exercises (clenching and unclenching the vaginal muscles) at a red light. Then look into the car next to you and wink. Men were instructed to go home, bring themselves to a full erection in front of a mirror and stand there for a while, admiring it. Additional homework involved making a CD of all the important music in your life for your children and grandchildren. Those with partners were told to go home and try a new position.

Westheimer had opened her talk by inviting students to write questions on cards to be answered at the end of her session. She encouraged audience members to fill the first rows, promising them a lifetime of good sex. “I see that Carnegie Mellon listens very carefully when I talk about sex,” she said later, “especially the ones who moved forward. You can call me tomorrow and tell me if it worked.”

I was still sitting in the back.

**Erika Holmquist** | Junior Staffwriter

I see that Carnegie Mellon listens very carefully when I talk about sex.

Dr. Ruth Westheimer

## Did you know?

50

February 28, 1956

25

February 24, 1981

10

February 26, 1996

5

February 26, 2001

1

February 28, 2005

The Greek Sing and Swing was kicking its heels high again at Carnegie Mellon. Music and dancing were all the rage as 19 fraternities and sororities joined for the fourth annual Sing and Swing. Music provided included everything from “spirituals to Rogers and Hart,” and The Tartan proclaimed that it was “good listening for all.” Gee golly, sounds like a regular toe-tapping riot.

Several residents of Morewood gave their own commentary on food services by placing a sign in their window that proclaimed that neither the food service, nor hookers, tasted good, despite their high prices. Memo to self — Skip both Sí Señor and Club Coochie this evening.

The Tartan commented on attire for such events as formals at Carnegie Mellon. The Tartan warned that you might be the victim of nasty phrases like “Let me tell you, that dress leaves nothing to the imagination” if you made a fashion faux pas. They said it like it was a bad thing. Pish.

A new plan was announced to build a dormitory hall between Mudge and Morewood Gardens. At the time, there were high hopes that perhaps we could name it something fun like “The House of Pain” or “Hufflepuff” or “Cool Kid Castle.” But in their typical unimaginative fashion, they called it... New House. Woo hoo! Carnegie Mellon is such a bucket of fun.

A story in our Science & Technology section taught us all about distilling vodka. We also learned fun facts about, for example, potato vodkas: The Tartan wrote that potato vodkas “have a slightly sweeter taste than grain vodkas.” In other news, the ‘O’ is out of French fries, and your suitemate passed out after he smelled what was in the bathtub.

**Michelle Bova** | Contributing Editor



Opera singers.  
**Left:** Galina Vishnevskaya  
**Right:** Maria Callas



Courtesy of [www.kbyutv.org](http://www.kbyutv.org)



Courtesy of [opera.avis-media.com](http://opera.avis-media.com)

# Opera’s not just for Italians anymore

## Composers utilize the nuances of their native languages to create dynamic pieces

Learning how to sing and act in different languages is a challenge for classical singers, as the languages that singers find themselves singing in are often very different from their native tongues. Languages share many of the properties of music, like rhythm and accents, and with time composers have become very skilled at conveying the meaning of words through music.

Much of the operatic repertory was contributed by Italian composers like Rossini, Verdi, and Puccini, who all wrote in their native tongue; several of Mozart’s operas are in Italian as well. Italian was a natural language for opera because it is an even, flowing language in which each syllable is the same length. Italian also has many easily sung vowels. Spanish is similar; that’s why it often seems like your Spanish teacher is talking at 20 miles an hour! This type of flowing language is very musical.

In the last century and a half, many nationalist composers began writing operas in their own languages, so less common languages became the norm. Czech composer Leos Janáček is a contemporary example of composers who are ignoring the traditions of language in music. According to *BBC Music Magazine*, “Janáček’s voice now had to be taken seriously, and he added something fundamentally new — the accents of the Czech language itself, which he transcribed into the music.”

Languages such as English, Russian, and Czech lack the even, flowing characteristics of Italian. In Russian, each word has a single stress where one syllable in the word is stressed over all the other syllables; English has two levels of stress. Music has to reinforce language’s natural rhythm, or it will

sound artificial. Modern composers have been experimenting lately, composing music that is antagonistic to language.

Another challenge in languages other than Italian is the varying word order. We are accustomed to one certain word order in English. In Russian and German, however, the word order is different. Remember how Yoda talked? For instance, if you translated a line of Russian word for word, it would read “smother I you” in English. A singer does not want to sing like he is smothering himself, does he?

Opera is very different from *lieder* — art songs. A librettist takes a piece of literature and reworks it to be used in an opera. For *lieder*, a composer takes a poem and puts it to music. *Lieder* have the added dimension of the elements of poetry, like meter and more complex grammar.

Obviously, it is very hard for non-native speakers to sound authentic when they are just speaking a language. Consider how much more difficult it would be to bellow out that really weird vowel over the top of the orchestra. Music majors at Carnegie Mellon are required to take semesters of French, Italian, and German language and diction. Diction could be described as the study of pronunciation. Opera companies often call in diction coaches to work with singers.

When singers are preparing a piece of music, they typically have a translation of the music so they know what’s going on in at least a line or phrase of music, if not word by word. The beauty of music, though, is that you don’t have to understand the words to understand their meaning. Samantha Grenell-Zaidman, a senior voice major, said, “The composer guides you with the music, so you’re not completely lost. Composers

write the music to correspond not only to the language, but also to the emotion.”

Some opera companies, like the Pittsburgh Opera, project translations of what the singer is saying during the performance. Many experienced opera-goers ignore the projections. Music is one of those rare art forms that allows us to understand a book without reading it. Nisha Asnani, a voice major, wrote, “The amazing thing about music is that you don’t have to know the words at all to get the meaning, the feeling of the song. Music is a universal language.”

Last Wednesday night, a group of Carnegie Mellon students went to a performance by the Moscow Chamber Orchestra with contralto Ewa Podles. The modern languages department sponsored the tickets, taking their cue from Charlene Castellano, a professor of Russian. Castellano wanted her students to experience the intersection between music and culture. She said, “Some of my classes focus on language, others on culture. I see them as inseparable. The two need to be brought together in order to have a complete understanding.”

Podles, a Polish singer, performed Rossini’s *Joan of Arc* in Italian and later Mussorgsky’s *Songs and Dances of Death* in Russian. This programming is an excellent example of the versatility singers are expected to command. But, having read the song texts, one could sit back in his seat and let Mussorgsky’s imaginative music tell you what Podles was singing about. Mussorgsky was very famous for his skill in setting words to music. His biographer, Gerald Abraham, wrote, “As a musical translator of psychological states and even physical movement, he was unsurpassed.”

**Matthew Campbell** | Staffwriter





Mike Menchaca | Art Staff

# Smart women don't need this book

## David Bach tells women and old people how to get rich

Meet David Bach, financial advisor turned author. Bach has been pumping out books containing advice that everyday people can apply to their finances since 1999. He has written a generic manual, *The Automatic Millionaire*, in addition to several books targeting specific groups. Examples include *Smart Couples Finish Rich*; *Start Late, Finish Rich* (for an older audience); and the upcoming *Start Early, Finish Rich*, which might come in handy for life after graduation. But Bach's *Finish Rich* series has one more part, targeting yet another societal niche: women.

Wait — what? Women aren't exactly a subgroup of the population: they're half of it. That is, unless you're in the world of David Bach, where women are just another marketing group. Bach's books give the impression that women are just another category of people, like married couples, the elderly, or high school and college graduates. In *Smart Women Finish Rich*, Bach provides financial advice that is tailored to fit a female audience. And apparently they needed the help, because *Smart Women* was Bach's first book, preceding even *The Automatic Millionaire*. But wait — do women *need* their own book? Why isn't there a *Smart Men Finish Rich*? Your inner feminist — however small — should be reeling.

Timing is a funny thing. Sunday was Carnegie Mellon's 10th annual MOSAIC conference, a vital campus event meant to survey the role of gender in the modern world. Mosaic also recognized the centennial of the Margaret Morrison Carnegie College — it's been a full hundred years since old Carnegie Tech first opened its doors to female students. A mere three days before all of this, on Thursday, the Joseph-Beth Booksellers store in South Side hosted one of Bach's trademarked *Finish Rich* seminars.

Pittsburgh, what are you doing? How can you be the home

of such a progressive conference concerning gender issues, and yet embrace the teachings of David Bach? Can we really live in a city where MOSAIC 2006 and a seminar on *Smart Women Finish Rich* are allowed to occur simultaneously?

Skeptical, I paid a visit the South Side seminar. But who goes to these things? The audience was entirely female and diverse in age, and by a show of hands about half had already read Bach's book. A representative from Van Kampen Investments — the corporation that bought the rights to *Smart Women* — was leading the show. He navigated through a tedious PowerPoint as we took notes in our complimentary workbooks. On a table in the front of a room were about 50 copies of *Smart Women*. Well, nobody ever had to write *David Bach Finishes Rich*... plenty of people already love his books.

Bach's methods include a nine-step plan, such as constructing a goal ladder, and catchy tips — one of these is finding your Latté Factor. He suggests that people waste something like \$10 a day on things they don't really need. Miscellaneous expenses such as new clothes and dining out can gobble up considerable amounts of cash. The point is obvious, but it nevertheless succeeded in making me feel guilty for my pre-seminar stop at Caribou Coffee. And some of the topics in *Smart Women* are a little more complicated: If you think W4 forms are complicated, try deciphering Bach's advice regarding IRA accounts and 401(k) plans. By the time I left Joseph-Beth, I felt intimidated about finances and thankful for collegiate cushions such as DineX and CampusXpress.

I'm pretty sure most people feel like that, though. Everybody feels overwhelmed on April 14, the day before tax day — men and women. So again I ask, why do we get our own book? Well, I learned from the seminar that there are some gender-

specific financial issues that women would be unwise to ignore. The statistics are daunting: not only do females outlive males by an average of seven years, but the mean age of widowhood is only 56. Perhaps the most disburbing is that approximately one fourth of widowed women spend the death benefits of their departed spouses in two months. This is due, in part, to the typical lack of adequate insurance in men and the regularity of debt before death. Additionally, on average, women sacrifice 11½ years of their careers to raise children.

And many women simply find it natural to let finances remain a male domain. I talked to Samantha Bushman, the committee chair of last year's MOSAIC, and Rebecca Steinberg, a gender issues intern, who both agreed that it's common for married women to give their husbands complete control over the family's money. Surprisingly, this is true even for women who own their own businesses. The David Bach seminar also mentioned that married couples often defer to the 401(k) plan of the male, even if that of the female will do more for their money.

Just the fact that reading the title *Smart Women Finish Rich* probably made you wince is what I would call a good sign. Bach's books are doing a service for previous generations of women, but as Bushman and Steinberg agreed, female financial independence is less of an issue for those of us now in college. Maybe the 'Burgh is big enough for MOSAIC 2006 and David Bach... for now.

**Sarah Mogin** | Junior Staffwriter



**Right:** Greg Gillis of “Girl Talk” performs in Rangos.

**Far right:** Prefuse 73 DJ’s for the crowd Thursday night.



Images by **Deren Guler** | Photo Staff

# Dancing? You must be listening to Prefuse 73

Prefuse 73 rocks Rangos before conquering the world

“Someone call the CMU police, this girl is enjoying herself, she is dancing, please take her out of here...” These were the sarcastic words of Gregg Gillis, known as “Girl Talk,” who opened for Prefuse 73 last Thursday night. This rebellious girl was one of many fans who came to see experimental beat artist Guillermo Scott Herren under the alias of Prefuse 73 (his other aliases include Savath and Savalas, Delarosa and Asora, and Piano Overlord). Prefuse 73 is currently touring with DJ/Knamiproko programmer Ryan Rasheed, who goes by the alias Leb Lase.

Rangos Ballroom was filled with Carnegie Mellon students and Pittsburgh locals who were standing around bobbing their heads and shaking their hips to the ingenious mixing and beats of Prefuse 73. Herren is popular for his unique glitch style, which appeals to both hip-hop and rock audiences. As Peter Marsh’s February 26 article for the BBC said, “[he] turns lyrical flow into abstraction, into something like Kurt Schwitter’s sound poetry or a malfunctioning speech synthesizer. Rhymes are reduced to a collection of plosives, vowels, and half-formed syllables where the power of the original delivery is left intact, but the sense is all but removed; the rap becomes just another component of the music.”

Matt Merewitz, a senior history major, said, “It was good....

He is a sound artist, and what he is doing is basically sonic collages out of any given order, with hip-hop beats to root the crowd every once in a while.” Although most of the crowd was standing in the typical arms-crossed, eyes-fixed-on-the-stage-in-a-trance pose, there were many people who were moving to the beat. There was even some attempted break dancing.

Jamin Warren of Pitchfork Media wrote on February 21, “On record, Prefuse 73 sounds like a cyborg creation caught in a time trap somewhere between the hot buttered soul of the ’70s and the Mantronix-era vintage hip-hop of the mid-1980s.”

Offstage, you probably wouldn’t be able to tell him apart from the rest of the crowd. “They just came out after the show, just like normal people, and stood around like everyone else,” said Camly Tran, a first-year physics major.

In addition to his seemingly infinite amount of projects, Herren has started the Eastern Development Music label, which he describes as being “less concerned with being ‘on some next shit,’ ‘blowing the fuck up,’ or ‘changing the face of anything’ ... [and] more concerned with bringing you music we think you’ll feel and understand in the same way we do.”

He is currently based in Barcelona working on several projects, including recording some songs for Spanish director Roger Gual, pre-mastering a full-length record he has recorded over the last year, and writing what he calls his “most ambitious” Savath y Savalas album ever. His next EP, *Prefuse Reads the Books*, is expected to come out in mid-July. He has a DJ tour in September with his brother, after which he plans to “disappear for a while.” Herren’s description of his DJ tours seems extremely promising: “When I DJ I play whatever the fuck I want, and I want to see people slow dancing like it’s a prom, and everyone should learn to salsa before they come out too.” The tour will definitely provide an amazing show for all of those rebellious fans who like to enjoy themselves.

**Deren Guler** | Staffwriter



# Wiz Khalifa’s ego soldiers on

## Local rapper’s inflated ego is little help to Pittsburgh’s music scene

Pittsburgh needs a music scene. Not just a “music scene” in the sense that touring bands grace Pittsburgh with their honorary presence, but also a “music scene” in the sense that the city can become a breeding ground for up-and-coming artists. Although the city is overflowing with creativity and talent, few artists become successful outside of the city limits — if they even make it that far.

Enter Wiz Khalifa, the city’s answer to the lack of native artists. Khalifa, whose real name is Cameron Thomaz, is a Pittsburgh high-school MC signed to Rostrum Records. He has a mixtape, entitled *Welcome to Pistolvania*, that is gaining recognition from local newspapers and radio stations.

A mixtape differs from a traditional record because it is much more focused on the rapping than on the music. It is meant to create buzz about a certain rapper before his or her legitimate CD is released. Less money, advertising, and general publicity are devoted to a mixtape, because record executives expect word of mouth to be the most powerful initial distributor. Once the mixtape has been well-hyped and distributed, the record labels release a bigger and better CD.

So, when Khalifa’s mixtape landed in my hands late last week, I had high expectations for the young rapper. I expected infectious flow, supportive-yet-simple beats, and, most importantly, intelligent, educated rhymes.

I got very little of what I expected. The beats were dark and heavy, with the stereotypical rap/gangster/street attitude. The rapping itself was no different. I thought, “A high school senior rapping about how good he is and the rough life on the streets? Am I the only one who’s confused here?” “[The streets] don’t want to hear commercial, poppy stuff,” said Benjy Grinberg, who signed Khalifa, in an interview with the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* earlier this month. “They want to hear what you have to say.” Fair enough, I thought. But

unfortunately, Khalifa has very few interesting things to say. In “Me,” Khalifa wastes 4:13 of his audience’s valuable time glorifying himself — a high school senior — and his God-given talent: “Who is on the grind?/ Me/ Winnin’ all the time/ Me/ ’Bout them dolla signs/ Me.”

Sorry Wiz, Kanye’s already got enough ego for the music world... and at least he deserves to brag. In the opening track, “Oh No,” Wiz raps over a hackneyed beat of digital claps and synthesized strings about, yep, his glory: “Yeah, you hot in your hood, I’m burning towns down ... Wiz Khalifa got that fast to that slow flow/ Cash-gettin’ mojo ... play it back they like, ‘oh no.’”

I mentioned that Kanye deserves to brag. Even though Kanye himself doesn’t have many interesting things to say, he makes up for it with fabulous music behind his raps. Who else can sample blues legend Ray Charles, jazz icon Lester Young, and pop singer Adam Levine of Maroon 5 all on the same record, and make catchy and danceable beats? Khalifa and his DJ, DJ Huggy, have done the opposite. They assembled 20 tracks of stale rhymes and unoriginal beats that make me remember why I used to hate rap so much. Regardless of how important the music is in the mixtape, it’s important for the beats to encourage originality and substance in the rapping.

One track out of the 20 just barely caught my attention. In “Soldier,” Khalifa shows off his true strength — his flow — when he raps over the catchy bass-line-driven beat. With a touch of keyboards and strings, the beat brings back the brilliant simplicity that Dr. Dre’s legendary Chronic 2001 record once coined. The hook, sung by Gene Stovall, adds just what the rest of Khalifa’s music lacks: a catchy, soulful chorus that the mainstream audiences can grab onto. However, if you actually listen to the words, you’ll realize that this really isn’t a great hook: “I’m a soldier/ Wiz been the best/ brush your shoulders...” But, when Khalifa opens his best song with, “I

will never sell myself short, I’m too cocky ... I think dudes is mad ’cause you not me/ So you get a pen and a pad and you copy!” that’s about as good a hook as he’ll get.

If Wiz Khalifa gets over his ego and realizes that his flow is just about the only thing going for him right now, he may still have the potential to become a respected rapper. The music industry has enough larger-than-life rappers (like Ludacris) to look at Khalifa and toss his mixtape in the trash. If he channels his talent more carefully and puts himself in the position to say something respectable (let’s face it, Mr. Khalifa’s rap skills are not the most pressing issues in America today), he may be able to become the Immortal Technique or Common of the future. And hey, he just might be able to carry Pittsburgh back to the top of the nation’s music scene... where it deserves to be.

*Wiz Khalifa has a show March 3 at 10 pm at New Evolution Studios, and March 5 at 8 pm at Mr. Smalls with Ghostface and The Govament.*

**Matt Siffert** | Staffwriter



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



## dollar movie

**Justin Brown** | Assistant Photo Editor

### Brokeback Mountain

Wednesday, March 1  
10, 12:30

This movie is about gay cowboys. And their wives. And you know what? Those two gay cowboys are very attractive. Attractive like Jake Gyllenhaal and Heath Ledger. With their shirts off. Riding... horses. I’ll leave the decision up to you.

### I Am Trying to Break Your Heart

Thursday, March 2  
8, 10, 12

...but this movie is not. It’s a rockumentary about Wilco and the making of their sixth installment, *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot*, and it is both visually pleasing and nice to listen to. If you don’t like Wilco, you won’t like this movie. While this may be the slowest movie in the lineup, it does well to cover Johnny Cash in the week of Alternative Country vs. 50 Cent.

### Walk the Line

Friday, March 3  
7:30, 10, 12:30

Go see this movie. It’s good. This is the story of Johnny Cash when he was younger, back when you weren’t alive. Now you can go see this movie when *he’s* not alive. (Sorry.) It serves as a portrait of the artist, but it only focuses on a small portion — you know, the good part, with lots of drugs and women. Not only is it an interesting movie, but it has some great acting, good music, Elvis, and drugs and women.

### Æon Flux

Saturday, March 4  
8, 10, 12

I’ve always been a fan of Charlize Theron, and I mean that in a strictly “she’s goooood-lookin’!” sense. This movie is pretty boring, pretty poorly acted, and pretty incoherent. But that’s one thing going for it — it’s pretty. From Theron to the world we see in the movie, the film is nice to look at. So hey, if you’re bored and seriously deprived of æsthetic pleasure (Going to college *here*? Yeah right, dude!), go watch. It’s no *Pirates*, but hey... at least KDKA won’t be reporting on your ass this time.

### Get Rich or Die Tryin’

Sunday, March 5  
8, 10, 12

Be careful, *there will not be metal detectors outside McConomy*. I would recommend wearing your bulletproof vest. Okay, okay, but what the hell else am I going to say about this movie? It’s Fiddy. In a movie called *Get Rich or Die Tryin’*. You are all going to see this movie whether you like it or not. And if anyone shoots anyone else... well, it’ll be like those rides at Disney that put you in the movie’s world. Except it’ll be with guns. And death. And Fiddy Cent.



# Beaux Arts Ball returns

## Hiatus ends in celebration of the CFA centennial

by **Matthew McKee** | Staffwriter

In this centennial year of Carnegie Mellon's College of Fine Arts, the school has geared up for a celebration of its legacy and future. Its wide-reaching network of faculty, alumni, and students has touched the arts nationwide, and to celebrate, it's bringing back one of its grandest traditions.

Get ready for the heralded return of the Beaux Arts Ball. After a decade of absence, the huge costume party will hit the university scene once more this Saturday. Trust me; you have not seen anything like it.

### A brief history

CFA faculty and students have prepared for this event since the fall of 2005. They know they have a legacy to live up to, since the tradition began at Carnegie Mellon in 1912 under dean Henry Hornbostel.

"It has this Old World grand tradition," said Jim Siders, masters student in music performance. "It's a great chance to throw a thing like this with its background."

"Over the years, it has recurred in fits and starts," said Doug Cooper, the Andrew Mellon professor of architecture. "It's really a wonderful, central experience — an essential thing in the life of the college."

Many alumni and faculty fondly remember past balls,

and former CFA students have already begun buying tickets for the event. The gala of magical performances and magnificent costumes left an imprint on the minds of so many that the college simply could not call this year a centennial without bringing it back.

So what caused the ball to disappear for 11 years? In 1985, the Beaux Arts Ball turned into a chaotic and hedonistic free-for-all as the party got way out of hand. Students just went wild, and many recall beer flowing down steps and through floors into staff offices. It cost the CFA thousands in damage and scarred the ball's already controversial reputation.

Some students attempted to revive the event with mixed success after that, and the last relatively successful attempt occurred in 1995. Since then, the Beaux Arts Ball has faded from student recollection.

### Students and faculty make their plans

This year, planning committees had to work with a student body lacking any collective memory of the ball. Faculty and staff led the massive undertaking, and students had to build from scratch.

"We developed a top-down planning approach with less student involvement than in the past, but this is not how it

should be," said Cooper. "The planning is stronger and more efficient when it is student-run. Students have more natural energy."

Over two dozen CFA faculty members representing each school in the college helped organize the event. They selected a broad representation of students from the college to help them deliberate and make decisions. The students in advisory positions were chosen based on reputation in their school. The faculty and staff members wanted advice from students who could get opinions from their peers and speak for them. Siders identified this as a sort of grassroots group of student advisors.

"We made a constant effort for this to be a student event," said Anne Witchner, assistant dean of Student Affairs. Although spearheaded by faculty, the planning committees aimed for a party that would make the most students happy.

Witchner said that the faculty and staff work mostly behind the scenes for an event like this, but she also stressed the importance of regulation and oversight. She said that the ball of 1985 and the few balls following that did not incorporate administrative input. While believing that student input is paramount, Witchner sees this oversight as necessary and thinks that previous balls suffered from lack of it.

Despite this emphasis on oversight, the administration has worked well with the students. Nikki Delhomme, a senior costume design major, said she was pleased with the way the planning was working out.

"It's very relaxed. [The administration officials] aren't cramming answers down our throat, and we still get a lot done," she said.

### A team effort

What the Beaux Arts Ball represents, then, is an intense and successful collaboration between all parts of the College of Fine Arts. Every kind of person, young and old, from every department of the college contributed to the execution of this festivity. Faculty contributed heavily to the party's planning, but in many cases, the ball is a culmination of student work.

For instance, this is the first time that students designed the ball's invitation. Assistant professor of design Kristin Hughes





led the marketing side of the ball by encouraging willing students to apply what they learned to making tangible results. The techniques of using inks and papers to address the ball's theme "Light and Shadow" inspired a vibrant invitation that plays with light in interesting ways.

"It's nice to advise students when they can design something that actually gets produced and printed," said Hughes. She believes that it's good for students to express their voice and see the impact it has on the intended audience. The invitations were sent to alumni, CFA students, and other related individuals at the beginning of January.

"This kind of circumstance that brings together different disciplines is becoming harder to find," said Cooper.

The event itself will also present a celebration of what CFA students have to offer. Rock bands of alumni and students will perform in the Alumni Concert Hall as a WRCT DJ fills the main CFA hall with tunes. In the backstage of Kresge Auditorium, the "Kresge Club" will feature students from the School of Music performing more intimate pieces in a cabaret setting.

This does not even begin to address the decorations that will adorn the college on the night of the ball. These decorations will take almost a whole day to set up. Entire classes have accepted the task to make the event stand up to its past with an extravagantly constructed atmosphere. Technical aspects of the decorations had to be thought over and rolled out in these classes. Again, the creativity will see tangible results.

"Every public space in the building will be theatrically lit," said Siders.

The theme of "Light and Shadow" prompted students to use only lighting effects in the decorations. This invited design and architectural students to work together and combine principles, for lights incorporate more possibilities than, say, streamers and balloons. Cooper pointed out that the CFA building has such interesting features to highlight in setting up the ambience. Taking advantage of all that the building has to offer means a wonderful surrounding to a party.

"We wanted to build a sense of what was illusion and what was real," said Delhomme.

"It's very much a team effort from all the departments of CFA," said Siders.

**Let's party!**

Ultimately, these well-laid plans will all result in a fun-filled evening of merrymaking. Costume prizes and other surprises will keep the ball interesting until it lets up at 2 am on Sunday morning. In addition to the above events, the Zebra Lounge will be transformed into an oxygen bar. The Kresge stage will host silent films and performances afterwards.

The individuals at the party have the potential to bring some outrageous costumes to the scene. Delhomme hopes to see some risk-taking in costumes, mentioning one instance in the past where a student had a chess piece costume.

"This is one chance to dress up and be extravagant," she said.

The safety issues of drinking alcohol in a packed building have been intensely deliberated in the planning committees with the help of many students, and they believe that their decisions will benefit the most people. Strict regulations will keep the ball in check, and Siders has helped coordinate the party with University Police, Emergency Medical Services, and the fire marshal.

"You can't throw an animal house party and expect to get away with it in an institution like this," said Siders. "It's kind of expected that there's a certain level of control.... I actually think that total lawlessness, not strict regulations, will drive people away. People want to go to an event that's fun but safe."

Now, the only thing left to do is get the word out. Witchner and Cooper emphasized that CFA has not kept the event all to itself. All students can purchase a ticket to the party extravaganza.

"It's hard to have an event that no one's heard of," said Witchner. "Hopefully people will take advantage of this unique event."

If everything goes well, this huge celebration of the College of Fine Arts will reinstate the great memories of the Beaux Arts Ball so that it can happen again. Siders believes that he and his colleagues have truly laid the groundwork for the future.

*The last day to buy tickets is Tuesday. Tickets for the Ball are available at the School of Drama box office, which is open weekdays from noon to 5 pm. For more information, call the box office at 412.268.2407.*



Courtesy of the Tartan Archives

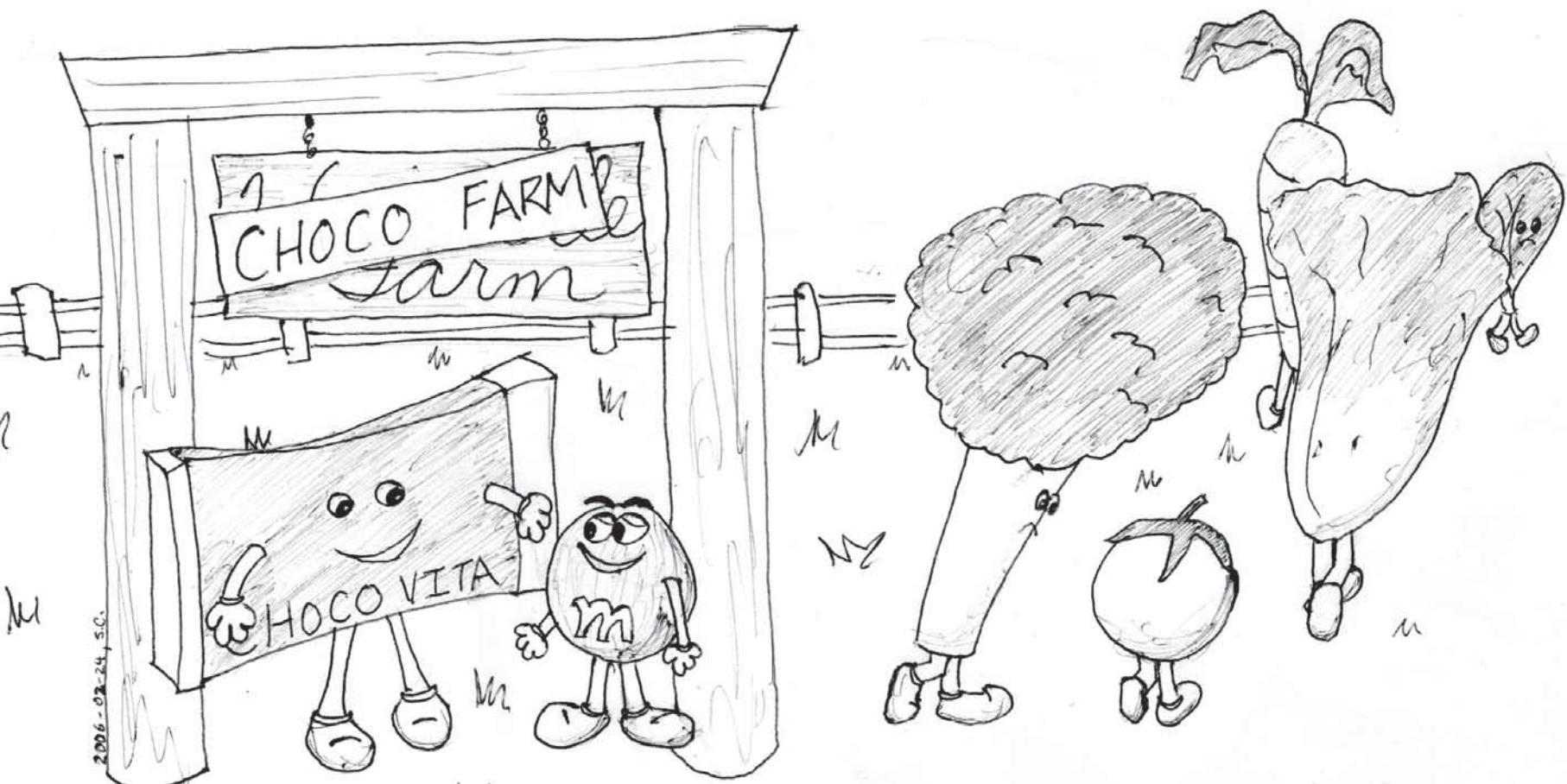


Courtesy of the Carnegie Mellon University Archives

**Top:** Beaux Arts Ball 1990  
**Above:** Miss Olga "Volga" Weigh, Winner of First Place for Costume Revel of the Russians, Beaux Arts Ball 1927.

Background Image courtesy of the Carnegie Mellon University Archives





Sherry Chang | Art Staff

# Cows + chocolate ≠ healthy Pa.

Pa. agriculture still provides more vitamins than “healthy chocolate”

Anyone driving east toward Philadelphia knows that, if anything, there are abundances of cows, trees, trees, cows, cows, and more cows in Pennsylvania. And of course, when there are cows, there’s milk, and when there’s milk, there’s chocolate. Although Pennsylvania is known for steel mills, Heinz ketchup, the Steelers, and cows, we’re also known for chocolate. Centered in Hershey, Pa., is everyone’s favorite serotonin booster: Hershey’s chocolate.

But Pennsylvania’s affinity towards chocolate doesn’t end here. On February 13, 2003, a bill was passed designating the chocolate chip cookie as the official cookie of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Due to Pennsylvania’s leading role in the national production of processed chocolate and cocoa, as well as the popularity of chocolate chip cookies among the children and adults of the Commonwealth, it was deemed necessary to award this title to a beloved favorite in America.

The question then becomes whether or not we are a nation suffering from an acute case of chocoholicism. Perhaps we are — especially with the recent emergence of a slew of studies concerning the theoretical health benefits of chocolate. Are we trying to justify our chocolate craze by rationalizing with the positive health implications of chocolate? Maybe chocolate actually possesses health promoting qualities. Mars, Inc., the maker of M&Ms, Snickers, and Milky Way, certainly believes so.

With a new product line called CocoaVia planned for release nationwide, Mars, Inc. claims that their products are high in antioxidants, which may have possible blood-pressure-lowering effects similar to those of aspirin. Furthermore, since they have been enhanced with vitamins and cholesterol-lowering plant sterols, the company is confident that their line of products made with dark chocolate will fit in a healthy diet.

This insight into dark chocolate has caused other chocolatiers to jump on the bandwagon as well. Hershey Co. is planning on adding new dark chocolate products to their already wide range of chocolate offerings.

Is this new perspective on chocolate something to be concerned about? Yes. In a nation where “chocoholics anonymous” is a phrase that is jokingly thrown around in conversations and nearly every holiday or special occasion revolves around giving or receiving chocolate, we should be concerned with how people will react to information that promotes chocolate as a “health food.”

In a nation where chocolate-covered anything (ranging from strawberries to gummy bears to mealworms) is sold, we should be very afraid of mobs of people swarming to the nearest chocolate store once they find out about “healthy” chocolate.

In a nation where hot chocolate is the choice drink of the winter and chocolate milk is drunk all year round, we should

be worried about consumers giving up wholesome beverages like orange juice and milk for chocolate beverages.

In a nation where obesity is a leading health problem, we should not be encouraging the consumption of chocolate as a snack whose ability to reduce the risk of cancer and/or heart disease has not been clearly established.

Simply put, although consuming dark chocolate in moderation may, in fact, provide the body with a good source of antioxidants, the merits of consuming fruits and vegetables should not be dismissed. If you need an excuse to eat chocolate, don’t say that it is for your health. Be honest with yourself and admit that you are eating chocolate because you enjoy indulging in this delectable sweet treat.

Next time you pick up a Kit Kat bar or some Hershey Kisses, don’t say that you’re eating it for the flavanols. Don’t act like you don’t enjoy eating chocolate, because not only are you lying to yourself, you’re being disrespectful to chocolate... and we all know that disrespecting chocolate is not allowed. Especially if you’re living in Pennsylvania, where there is an abundance of cows.

Mercy Chang | Staffwriter



Tyler and Fred by Greg Prichard gprichar@andrew

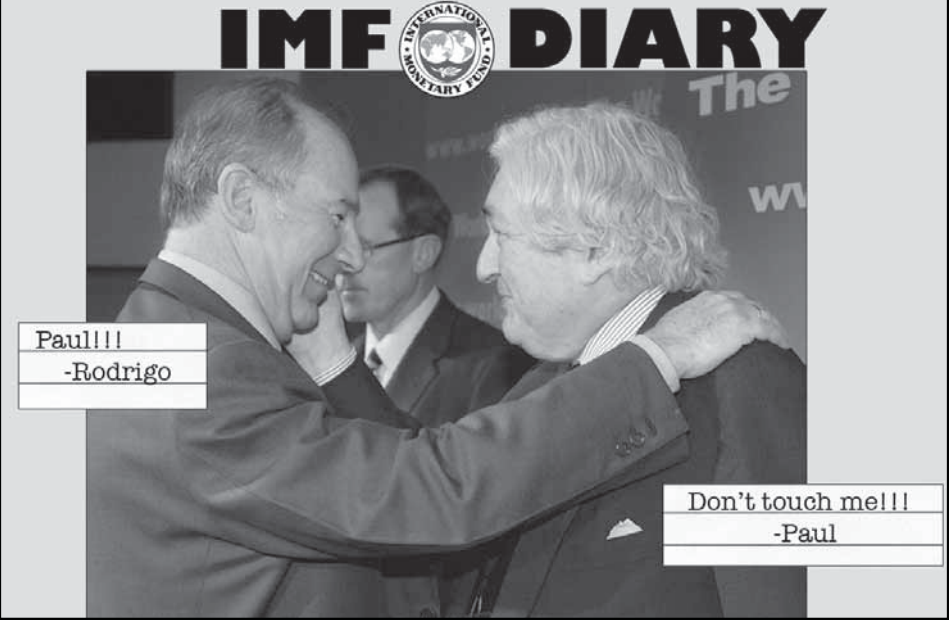


All Hail the Jon by Jon Samuels jsamuel1@andrew



\*GET THIS STRIP ON A T-SHIRT! (IN COLOR NO LESS!) -> WWW.CAFEPRESS.COM/JTSTORE

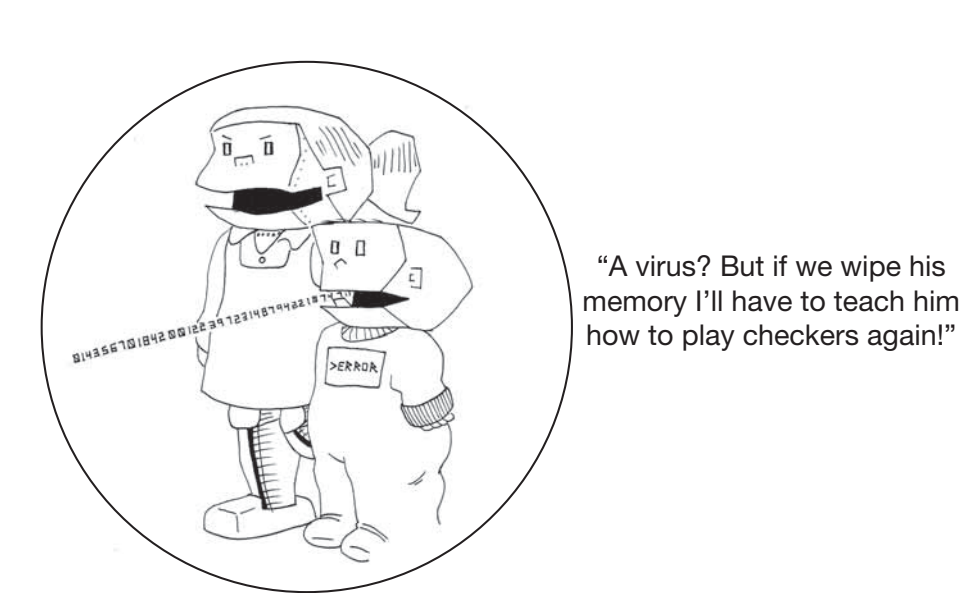
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inSIGHT by Jimi Okelana



Family Circuits by Greg Prichard gprichar@andrew



We're All Doomed by Diego Bauzá dbauza@andrew



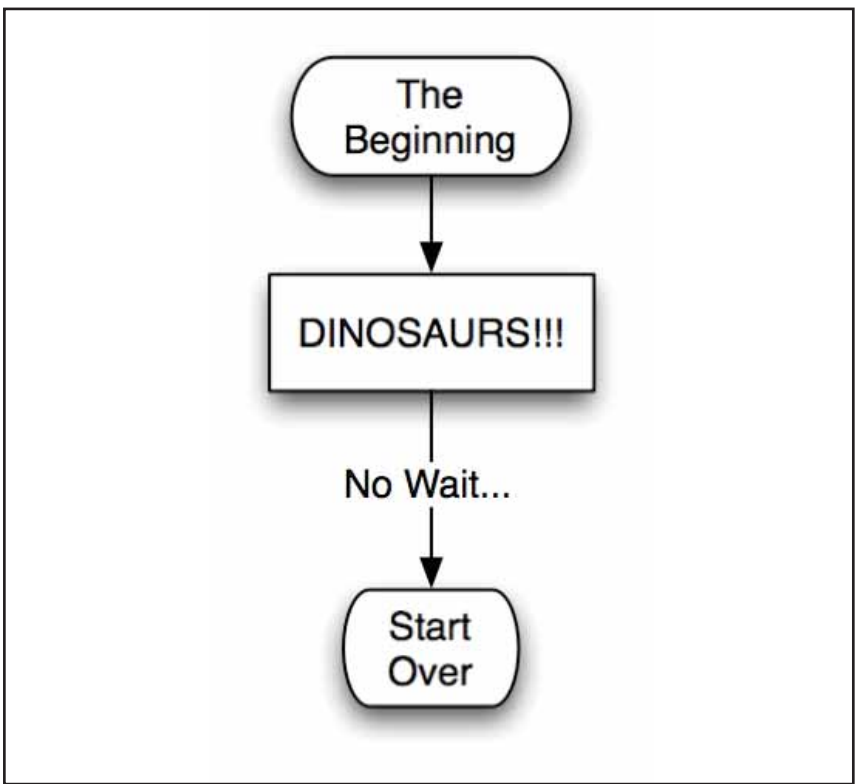
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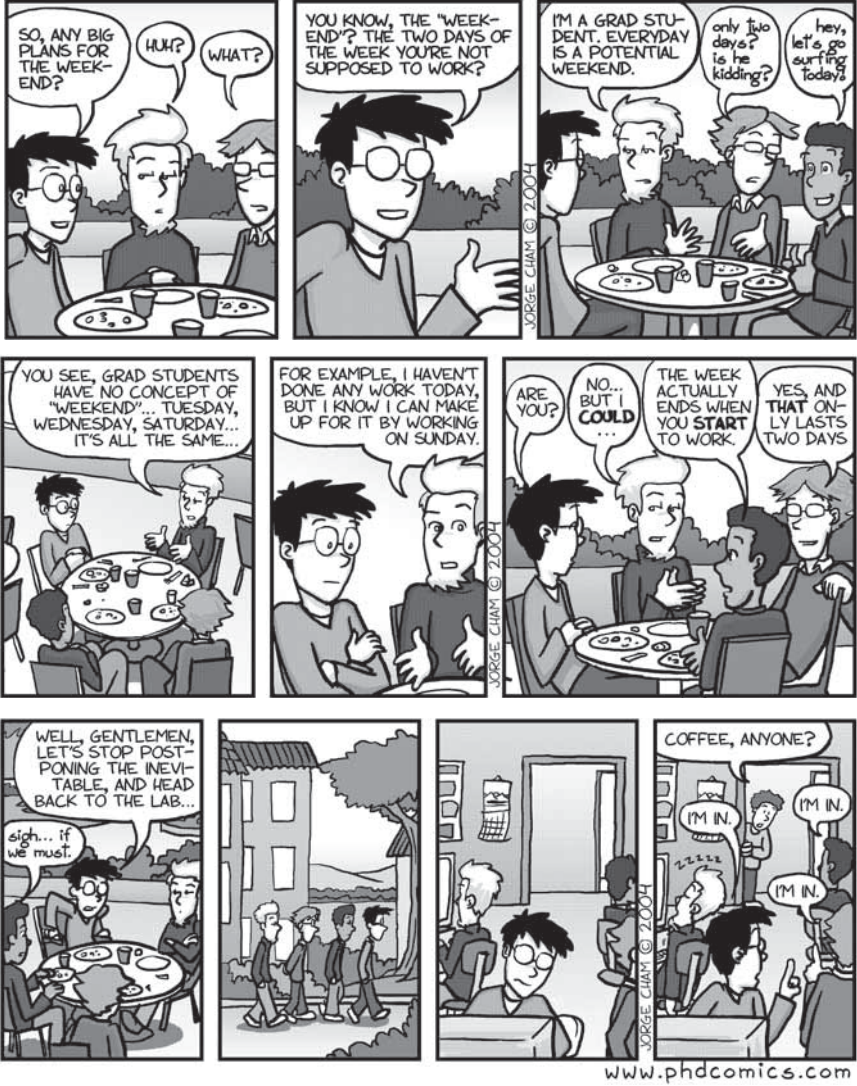




Almost Exactly by Laura Frye Daniels [lfrye@andrew](mailto:lfrye@andrew)



Ph.D. by Jorge Cham [www.phdcomics.com](http://www.phdcomics.com)









# Horoscopes

aries  
mar. 21–apr. 19

Video may have killed the radio star, but I blame *you* for Nick and Jessica's breakup. And I'll never, ever forgive you.

taurus  
apr. 20–may 20

Over spring break, you will be asked to leave the opera house when you interrupt the climax of *La Traviata* with a belting rendition of “Come What May” from *Moulin Rouge*.

gemini  
may 21–jun. 21

This week, you will sit in solemn silence in a dull, dark dock in a pestilential prison with a life-long lock, awaiting the sensation of a short, sharp, shock from a cheap and chippy chopper on a big, black block. Aren't you just so proud?

cancer  
jun. 22–jul. 22

All your romantic conceptions of true love will be shattered when you realize that if Aida and Radames had just shut up and stopped singing, they would have had enough air in that sealed chamber to do it one last time.

leo  
jul. 23–aug. 22

The conductor will not appreciate your attempt to beat-box behind Beethoven's 9th. Sit down and shut up.

virgo  
aug. 23–sept. 22

Tonight, your voice major friend will divulge to you her hot secret: she can hit a high D, but only in bed. You'll ask her why she does vocal exercises in bed rather than in a practice room. She'll look at you quizzically.

libra  
sept. 23–oct. 22

This week, you will chew on a pen till it explodes in your mouth. But it's invisible ink, so... no worries.

scorpio  
oct. 23–nov. 21

While your classmates are getting tipsy and starring in *Girls Gone Wild* DVDs over spring break, you will be the unwitting co-star of a Bob Villa do-it-yourself kitchen cabinet refurbishing video. Your father will be mortified and never show his face in Sears ever again.

sagittarius  
nov. 22–dec. 21

You will try to compete with the popular Lunar Gala by starting your own fashion show: The Solar Gala. Too bad the sun never shines on Pittsburgh. Ever.

capricorn  
dec. 22–jan. 19

Scientists hypothesize that billions of years ago, a planet comparable to Earth's size crashed into it. Earth cracked open like a fallen soufflé and drowned in molten rock. Our planet was completely inhospitable for millions of years. Your week will be sort of like that.

aquarius  
jan. 20–feb. 18

You will try to follow in the successful footsteps of barbeque-chicken pizza with mayonnaise-pickle pizza. You will fail.

pisces  
feb. 19–mar. 20

You're 21 years old this week! Too bad that won't help you get out of your indentured servitude with those pirates. The contract was until your 21st *birthday*, and you were born on February 29th. Enjoy the next 63 years, me hardy, and say hello to the very model of a modern major general for me.

Marshall Roy | Forum Editor

## Remake

by Arthur O'Dwyer

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
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56							57	58				59	60	61
62					63	64				65				
66					67					68				
69					70					71				

### ACROSS

- Admin. and trans.
- Barely makes
- Powder
- Nebraska’s largest city
- Hawk opponent
- It’s made upon a star
- Sacramento’s st.
- Russian range
- Gospel singer \_\_\_\_ James
- Howard Hawks film of 1932
- “Bam!” chef
- “My country, \_\_\_\_ of thee...”
- Subject fictionalized in 20 Across
- Dormant
- Line often cut off in a murder mystery
- Isn’t up to the task
- Gene Chandler’s “Duke of \_\_\_\_”
- “Darn it!”
- Central phrase in 20 Across
- Org.
- ElBaradei’s 43 Across
- Univ. on the West Coast
- “What’s all this, then?”
- Teen horror pic: \_\_\_\_\_ film
- Star of 20 Across, 1932
- Afore
- Something heard often at the Olympics
- Star of Brian De Palma’s 1983 remake of 20 Across
- Gyro wrapper
- Singer \_\_\_\_ Cass
- Ten-cent dorm meal
- Simile words
- Wanes
- Make up (for)
- “Que \_\_\_\_\_”
- Absence of a note
- Clucked

### DOWN

- Vets, e.g.
- Apple offering
- “Sim sim \_\_\_\_ bim”
- Zero Celsius, in Fahrenheit
- Mat material
- Spellings’ dept.
- Place for a ceasefire, 1953
- Spacewalk, for short
- Choose
- Play on a curling team, perhaps
- The N in TNT
- Hendrix producer Mo \_\_\_\_\_
- Member of a pod
- TV’s Lou Grant
- Dense
- Easter flowers
- \_\_\_\_ *Sanctorum*
- Noises from a Scrooge
- Carbon-carbon double bonds
- An eye for an eye, legally speaking
- Number on a carton
- Some indoor pets
- “That hurts!”
- Border on a coat of arms
- Peter the Great, e.g.
- “\_\_\_\_\_ all ye faithful...”
- Ancient Turkish beverage
- Many a gas-guzzler
- High point for Noah?
- Hemingway impersonators, say
- Ouzo flavoring
- Total
- Capital of Tibet
- Metrical feet
- Ultimate
- Thomas Harris’ \_\_\_\_\_, *You’re OK*
- Hawaiian goose
- In a line, mathematically
- Lincoln: Honest \_\_\_\_



MONDAY 2.27.06

**Mahajibee Blues.** Station Square (Red Star Tavern). 5 pm. Celebrate Fat Tuesday.

**Downbeat in the District.** Station Square. 5 pm. Local jazz artists perform.

TUESDAY 2.28.06

**@PGH.cafe.** Carnegie Music Hall. 1 pm. Job fair for soon-to-be graduate students and prospective employers.

**Curt Kirkwood.** Quiet Storm Café. 8 pm. \$8. All ages. Solo artist whose band influenced Nirvana. Also performing: The Crow Flies Trio.

**Fat Tuesday Hurricane Katrina Benefit Gig.** Gullifty's. 8 pm to 2 am. Donations accepted. 412.521.8222.

**The Next Generation of Philanthropy.** Benedum Center for the Performing Arts. 4:30 pm. Free. 412.394.3353.

WEDNESDAY 3.01.06

**The Fiery Furnaces.** Mr. Smalls. 8 pm. Also performing: Sybis.

**The Czars.** Garfield Artworks. 8 pm. \$7. Country pop music. Also performing: Mike Tamburo & The Sea; Like Lead.

**Brett Mason.** Pittsburgh Deli Company. 10 pm. Pop music with a rock edge.

THURSDAY 3.02.06

**Introduction to Computers.** Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. 2:30 pm. Free. Learn the basics of computers, including how to use a mouse and keyboard.

FRIDAY 3.03.06

**History Uncorked.** Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center. 6 pm. All-star party with a sports theme. \$35. Must be 21+. 412.454.6324

**Model Auditions.** Club Zoo. 7:30 pm. \$10.

**TGIF.** O'Reilly Theatre. 8 pm. For tickets, call 412.316.1600. First Friday performance of the American Premier of the Reduced Shakespeare Company's *Completely Hollywood (abridged)*.

SATURDAY 3.04.06

**Student composers.** Heinz Hall. 10 am. Conductor Lucas Richman leads the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra with three student-written pieces.

**Yoga with Phyllis.** Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Squirrel Hill branch. 10 am. Free. Bring a floor covering.

**Introduction to Windows.** Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. 2:30 pm. Learn the basics of the Windows operating system. Free.

**Carnival.** Club Zoo. 7:30 pm. Come celebrate Mardi Gras at this 21-and-under party.

**Bill Deasy.** Casino Theatre. 8 pm. \$15. 724.568.1221. Debut of his follow-up CD.

SUNDAY 3.05.06

**Behind the Scenes: On the set of the war that made America.** Sen. John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center. 11 am. \$7.50. Third lecture in a series. Reveals how filmmakers recreated the French and Indian war battlefield.

**Lights! Glamour! Action!** South Side Works. 6 pm. 412.261.2744. A night of the Academy Awards, red carpet action, and VIP service. Black tie or come as your favorite celebrity.

MONDAY 3.06.06

**Dance Class.** Breathe Yoga Studio. 9:30 am. \$8. Part of a series of classes by members of the LABCO Dance Company; today is hip-hop.

**Business Startup Counseling.** Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Squirrel Hill branch. 10 am. Free. Representatives from SCORE offer advice to individuals starting their own businesses.

**Mark Pipas As The Sleaze.** Club Café. 10:30 pm. No cover charge. The A to Z of Pop. The “Sleaze” (a.k.a. Mark Pipas) sings every pop song ever written... and asks the audience to sing along.

ONGOING

**The White Countess.** Regent Square Theatre. Through Thursday. A 1930s film about a blind American and a Russian countess in Shanghai. Call 412.682.4111 for tickets.

**The Confederate States of America.** Harris Theatre. Through Thursday. A mockumentary about what life would be like had the south won the Civil War. Call 412.682.4111 for tickets.

**After Innocence.** Harris Theatre. Through Thursday. A 2005 documentary about the lives of seven inmates convicted of crimes they didn't commit. Call 412.682.4111.

**Wicked.** Benedum Center for Performing Arts. Through March 5. Story of how two girls in Oz grow up to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glenda the Good. Call 412.456.6666.

**Jesus Christ Superstar.** Byham Theatre. Through March 5. Rock opera. Illustrates the last seven days of Jesus Christ's life in operatic fashion. Call 412.539.0900 for more information.

**Ice Skating Sessions.** PPG Place & Plaza. Through March 10. Take a lesson every day around the 65-foot Christmas tree. Call 412.394.3641.

**Contact.** Pittsburgh Playhouse. Through March 12. Innovative musical that infuses three vignettes through music and motion. Call 412.621.4445.

**Assasins.** New Castle Playhouse. Through March 12. Original, thought-provoking, and funny musical about the lives of the nine individuals who have assassinated or tried to assassnate the Presidents of the United States. Call 724.654.3437 for tickets.

# Classifieds

Apple iPod Battery Replacements with the unique Kokopelli lifetime guarantee! More power and longer life than the originals. All iPod models: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Mini. Only \$16.99 for complete kit, or we'll install it for you for only \$20 more. Local company, fast service. [www.kokopellimusic.us](http://www.kokopellimusic.us).

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Squirrel Hill duplex for rent. One unit is 3BDR, 1BATH, other is 2BDR, 1BATH. BedroomsareHUGE,idealfortenantsthat wouldn't mind sharing a bedroom. Both units have newer carpet and windows.

Both have washer/dryer. Close to bus line. 2 BDR 750+ utilities, 3 BDR 850+ utilities. 412-901-8669.

Last Chance In March!  
Borderless Puzzle Winter Tour '06  
With Big With Seed at The Rex Theater, Southside. Saturday March 4, 9 pm  
Special Promotional Offer:  
[irish1996@yahoo.com](mailto:irish1996@yahoo.com)

Sitters Wanted. \$10+ per hour. Register free for jobs near campus or home. [www.student-sitters.com](http://www.student-sitters.com).



# Backless frontless topless.



J.T. Trollman | Contributing Editor

Katy Lin, a junior communication design major, models backless jewelry at the Lunar Gala show Saturday night. Lunar Gala celebrated its 10-year anniversary with its "X"-themed show, put on by students.