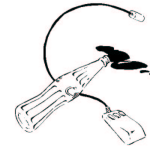




PRAVDA?



The Official(?) Newsletter of the KGB

An open editorial policy

Editor: Sean Dobbs (*teki@cmu.edu*)

Price: FREE from artificial preservatives

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Friendly Public Service Announcement

Wash your hair every day. This has other pleasing side effects such as clean backs and faces and feet.

Here are some happy instructions for the washing of hair. Cluster life is a hard one, which can result in the loss of memory of certain pre-CMU hygienic essentials.

Step one: Find a location which will provide a reasonably consistent spray warm water at a height of around a foot over your head, depending on your height. This is called a shower or bath by outsiders. These can usually be found in bathrooms in houses and apartments. On campus, you have walk to either the UC or Skibo gymnasium to find one of these showers.

Step two: Find some shampoo. This is a reasonably affordable liquid soap item. It can be obtained in exchange for money at drug stores and supermarkets and bizarre crosses of the two.

Step three: Find a towel. Most mothers have bought their children towels at some point. Towels are pieces of terry cloth that you probably own and they can be found shoved into a corner of your room or under the bed. Verify that the towel doesn't smell bad. If it does smell bad, you have several options: a. wash the towel with your laundry; b. find another towel in another corner of your room; c. buy a new towel.

Step four: Find a change of clothing. A change of clothing includes a shirt, variations on pants or skirts, underwear, and socks. The clothes can be inspected again by smell. If your entire wardrobe is unlaundered, choose the least dangerous smelling clothing.

Step five: Return to the shower area with the shampoo, towel, and clothing.

Step six: Turn on the warm water. It will probably be cold initially, especially if you live in Morewood.

Step seven: Remove all clothing. Yes, even your underwear. Don't worry, no one is looking. (Not that anyone would want to...)

Step eight: Wristwatches and glasses are included in "clothing."

Step nine: Check the temperature of the water with your hand or toe. If you feel the water is uncomfortable, raise or lower the temperature accordingly.

CAUTION: Many showers can be confusing. Often red or "H" signifies hot and blue or "C" signifies cold. On showers with more than one valve controls, the one of the left is very often hot and the one on the right is often cold. To open the valve and allow the flow of water, turn the knob to the left. Remember: Lefty, loosey; Righty, tighty. If you can pull the knob, choose an angle which will allow for an approximate

Balderdash, Round 1

Question

On a recent walk of interesting places, I came across two phones. The phone numbers for these phones were 268-1314 and 269-7168.

Where are these phones located (please be as specific as possible), and how did I get to them?

Please vote via private email to me (blk@andrew.cmu.edu) the number of the correct answer (or your favorite, if you prefer). Votes due by Thursday, Dec 20. Everybody is welcome to vote, even if you didn't submit an answer (loser).

Answers

1. On the great expansive campus of Carnegie Mellon there are two phones few people see. These phones are not meant to be seen: they are the hidden phones of CMU. One phone's lonely ring echoes through the bowels of the steam tunnels that run beneath the warm ground; the other chimes into the echoing darkness of the deep basement of the UC. These phones rarely ring, for they were installed for the use of one of the campus's lesser-known graduate schools: the CMU SNS. SNS receives few phone calls.

Founded in the mid-'60s to combat the growing influence of the hippie movement, the Carnegie Mellon Secret Ninja School has been training dedicated and intelligent young men and women for over thirty years now. They work in darkness, learning the secret arts of silent assassination and the intricacies of the bagpipe. Graduates of this school of kilt-girded warriors have been instrumental power players in many elements of corporate and international affairs. The course load is rigorous, involving such core requirements as "Intro to Assassinations," "Basic Combat Training," "Intermediate Combat Training," "Advanced Combat Training," "Using Virtual Darkness," and "Literature Interpretation and Argument." They also offer exciting minis such as "Using Poison Darts Without Hurting Yourself," "Technology as an Aid to Assassination," and "Kicking Jackie Chan's Ass: Acquiring Your Target." This last one is a popular course in which students learn how to stalk a specific target by researching their habits and mannerisms. It culminates in a final exam outside of Jackie Chan's house, in which the students attempt to catch him off-guard and rough him up a bit. So far, no class has yet succeeded, although one class did come close by roughing up his car.

If you want to have some fun, locate the phone in the steam tunnels and use it to call the phone under the UC. You'll have to work a little at it; both phones are guarded 24/7 by students in SNS (however, they are usually

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Continued on Page 2

Balderdash from Page 1

first-years who are on work-study; attempt this early in the school year for best results). The result is interesting: calling one phone from another is an old signal that the school has been taken over by the hippie element. Nothing will happen immediately, but over the next few weeks you'll notice police and campus security acting suspiciously, faculty members showing up to lectures with mysterious bruises and burns, and undergraduate and graduate students disappearing under mysterious circumstances.

2. One of them is in the steam tunnel between Doherty and the UC. The other is the number for the unused loop in the wiring cabinet on the ninth floor of wean, near Architect's Leap. It's a beige, four foot tall wiring cabinet that handles phone lines for the 8th floor. Third row, second column, sixth pair from the top. The unused loop allows international dialing and doesn't seem to have any billing department attached.

3. Both phones are located in Mellon Institute. 268-1314 is in the mechanical area that you got to by taking the elevator down to the first floor then going through the unlocked door across the hall and down the stairway that you found inside. It's on the right-hand wall as you come down the stairs about halfway to the far wall next to a bulletin board that hasn't been updated in a couple of years. Interestingly enough if you walk past the phone and turn left a bit you see a spiral stairway leading downward, but when you get close enough to look down it the entire area is flooded with water up to about the third step down and much of the iron stairway is rusted away below that.

268-7168 can be reached by taking the elevator to the top floor, then taking the hallway to the south. When you reach the hallway that runs around the building perimeter you see a short wooden stairway that leads up to a half-height door that is about 4 feet up the wall. The door is usually unlocked (and from the look of the lock is no longer capable of being locked) and when you go through it and turn left then go almost to the corner of the building you'll see a couple of metal cabinets on the wall, the phone is just on the far side of them but it's

Shower from Page 1

ratio hot:cold. The amount that you pull on the knob determines the amount of water flowing. Similar to electric current, the more you pull, the greater the current of water. If there is one knob and you can't pull it, there are instructions on the panel as to it's operation. Read and follow those.

Step ten: Turn on the overhead spray. If there are three valve knobs, use the center one to reroute water to the overhead nozzle. Else, there is a button on the lower nozzle where the water is coming out now. Pull on the button.

CAUTION: Make sure the shower curtain or shower doors are closed when you start the flow of water. If you aren't careful, water will get all over the floor.

Step eleven: Step into the shower. Making sure you have your shampoo in hand, slip into the shower again being careful to avoid getting water on the floor.

Step twelve: Get wet. Cover your body in water. (Yes, even that part.) If some parts of your body appear grimey still, use some of the shampoo and wash it off. Key areas to target: behind your ears, your bottom, and your toes.

Step thirteen: Wash your hair. For more information, con-

sult your bottle of shampoo for direction.

4. These are the 'unlucky spouse' numbers, for upper-echelon ACS staff and ECE grad students, respectively. The first is in the Andrew machine rooms in Cyert, right by the AFS and Kerberos servers. The second is in the basement of Hammerschlag Hall, outside the chip fab. If you're together with someone in one of those groups, and you get a call from the right one of those numbers, don't even bother picking up the phone – and don't bother staying up the night for your S.O., either.

5. The first is located at the end of a long hallway at the bottom of a small set of stairs near the old gym, on the north side of the wall. The second one is an easy, straight path from that one, further west, near the basement of CFA, in a yellow box, also on the north side of the wall. The numbers are printed on or around both phones, although one of them was faint enough that I had to call it to make sure it was correct. Neither phones dial off campus.

6. In a recent expedition to Antarctica, I happened upon a herd of wild duck creatures. The ducks were quite friendly and offered me a meal (iced fish mocha and lutefisk), but I politely turned them down. I did join them for story hour, the weekly children's show on ArctiVision, the only source for bipolar news. After I returned from my visit in duck's iceberg (Duckberg), I promptly got sick with a severe case of inhalation anthrax. They rushed me to the nearest CDC (Center for Disease Control, not Control Data Corporation), where, in an irrational move they quarantined me in a tent. It was in that tent that I found the cellular phones. Realizing that the phones were CMU phone numbers, I called the office, with no answer. Then I called the HUB, there was no answer but I didn't worry as the HUB is never open anyway. But after calling Shawn at his house and hearing no answer, I knew the truth: it was Opening Night of Lord of the Rings and the entire population of CMU had gotten sick on the overly buttery popcorn. That's why the phones were in the quarantine tent. PS. I recovered from the anthrax and continued to lead a productive life in front of a terminal zephyring.

sult your bottle of shampoo for direction.

CAUTION: Avoid infinite loops at all costs! If you find yourself repeating steps on the bottle of shampoo more than three times, ctl-C to get out.

Step fourteen: Opera. During the rinsing process, the acoustics of the room become quite excellent. You should attempt to sing some opera. Recommended selections include: Tasca, Madame Butterfly, Tommy, and Rent.

Step fifteen: Turn off the water. Simply do the by reversing the process you used to turn the water on.

Step sixteen: Dry off. Step out of the shower being careful not to slip. Grab your towel and wipe the water off of your entire body.

Step seventeen: Get Dressed. Put the new change of clothes on and carry the old clothes to your laundry hamper.

Step eighteen: Comb your hair. Even though your hair is clean, it is still necessary to comb your hair. This will prevent your hair from getting tangled and ratty. The comb should be able pull all the way through your hair with a negligible amount of resistance by the time your are done.

Step nineteen: You are done! Now go out and pick up some attractive members of the opposite sex!

Auction Report

by Chris "Dred Uncle Pennybags" Clark

Well, as you all know, the recent KGB Slave Auction was a great success. However, there appears to be some confusion as to who owns who, etc. Therefore, in the interests of clearing up this mess, here's the complete run down (Any misspellings are the Pfennig's Pfault):

#	Name(s)	Price	Purchaser(s)
1	Alisa & Dave)	\$ 11	Mark Tomczak
2	John McCall & Misha	\$ 30	Laura Marsh
3	Luke & Ed	\$ 30	Yanna Weisberg
4	Carrie Schutrick	\$ 44	Corwin
5	Cort Stratton	\$ 24	Ed
6	Janie	\$ 46	Corwin
7	Laura Marsh	\$ 210	Ed, Tristan, Chris Clark
8	Fwiffo	\$ 22	Janie, Laura
9	Shawn Knight	\$ 90	Janie, Liz, Emily, Laura
10	Marc Tomczak	\$ 12	Neil
11	Bowen Lee	\$ 32	Fwiffo
12	James Johnson	\$ 34	Barbara Jensen
13	Chris Clark	\$ 18	Matt
14	Neal Martin	\$ 24	Misha
15	Luke Schwartz	\$ 13	Laura Marsh
16	Misha	\$ 16	Neil
17	Emily	\$ 100	Misha, Ed, Mark, Tristan
18	Yanna Weisberg	\$ 130	Tristan, Laura, Misha, Chris Clark
19	Tristan Hoffman	\$ 11	Ed, Mark, Neil
20	Ed Ryan	\$ 26	Barbara Jensen
21	Barbara Jensen	\$ 50	Shawn Knight, Sean Dobbs, Chris Clark

Highest price paid FOR a female:	\$ 210
Highest price paid FOR a male:	\$ 90
Highest amount paid BY a female (alone):	\$ 34
Highest amount paid BY a male (alone):	\$ 46
Highest avg. amt. paid BY a female (group):	\$ 32.50
Highest avg. amt. paid BY a male (group):	\$ 70

Ed Ashton Quotes

Collected by Margaret "iPants" DeLap

(Note: Ed Ashton was one of my cow-orkers/sort-of-boss in summer 2000)

- He's going to have to take evil lessons very, very soon. (re. Syria's new dictator)
- If there's one thing we're not interested in here, it's Total Quality.
- Office Depot has a comprehensive list of non-working products.
- They have to buy the books to burn them, right? That might increase sales.
- Do we want to take a half-assed or a full-assed approach?
- Warning: users may experience flaming skulls.
- We should have a lab pony.
- You want new tires, or like-new tires? (quoting a tire-selling guy in Brooklyn)
- Maybe he invented Tang. (re. how a logician got lots of money)
- And then all the passengers will fill out those nasty little comment cards: "Got us into a death spiral. I was strongly dissatisfied with my flight."
- If they find a new place of work, they must be TERMINATED.
- It's reverse solipsism. I exist only when Adrian's thinking of me.

A Deep And Profound Eliza Session

Submitted by Margaret "I.ntercal" DeLap

Why doesn't my furnace work?

Is it because does not your furnace work that you came to me?
Yes.

I see... Well, why do you say this is so?

It doesn't turn on.

Can you elaborat on that?

It's way colder than what the thermostat's set to.

What makes you believe that?

The thermometer on the thermostat.

Earlier you said does not your furnace work?

Yes.

Yes, hmmm... so, are you sure that this is so?

Well, it's not on.

Maybe your plans have something to do with this.

How?

I would appreciate it if you would continue.

Continue trying to take the furnace apart?

Do you really think continue trying to take the furnace apart?

Well, it has instructions on it. The surrounding area is very cruddy and dusty, though.

You mentioned that does not your furnace work?

Nope, it doesn't.

Is it because of your life that you are going through all this?

Actually, it's all Teki's fault.

Is it because of the people you hang around with that you say actually it's all teki's fault?

Yes, because Teki has the pfennig.

Does it bother you that teki has the pfennig?

Not at all.

What makes you think does not your furnace work?

Dammit, I already said it won't turn on.

How do you reconcile problems at school?

School doesn't have heating problems, usually, except that it was sort of cold in Wean today.

Tell me about your school.

It's a bunch of geeks.

Why do you say it's a bunch of geeks?

Because I just stayed up until 1 a.m. talking about why pointers to pointers are different from integer addition and the fact that you can't tail-recurse.

When did you first know that you just stayed up until 1 a m talking about why pointers to pointers are different from integer addition and the fact that me cannot tail recurse?

When Nirav asked what time it was.

What happened when nirav asked what time it was?

I told him it was 1 a.m.

Earlier you said teki has the pfennig?

Yes.

I understand. So what makes you believe this is so?

Kirstin gave him the pfennig at the last KGB meeting.

Perhaps this has something to do with any hobbies you have?

Yes, yes it does.

Is it because of your sex life that you say yes yes it does?

AAAAHHHH!

Go on, don't be afraid.

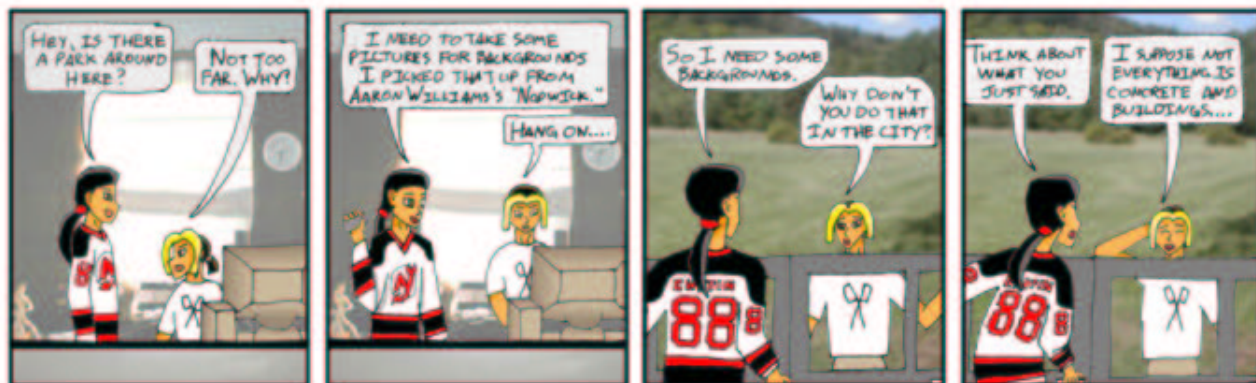
Um. *You're being a bit brief, perhaps you could go into detail.*

There is no detail to go into.

Continued on Page 4

A Work In Progress

by Bayani Caes



Eliza from Page 3

Pravda? Poetry Corner?

You mentioned that does not your furnace work?

Yes, about 4 TIMES.

Do you really think you just stayed up until 1 a m talking about why pointers to pointers are different from integer addition and the fact that me cannot tail recurse?

Yes, and it's now 3 a.m. and I'm talking to XEmacs.

Is it because of your inhibitions that you are going through all this?

It's because I should be writing OCaml.

Does the fact that you should be writing ocaml explain anything else?

It explains that I'm a slacker.

Have you been sure you are a slacker?

What am I doing right now?

Weird (Actual) Thanksgiving Food Items

Eggnog brownies / turkey gumbo / oyster stuffing
pig with beans; no bones / sweet potato pie
sweet 'n' sour not meatballs / tofurky
vegetarian duck meat / sea urchin / Japanese lobster
spamshi / pumpkin eggnog pie / spicy cooked grapes
scrapple / rocky mountain oysters / eggnog brownies
oat stuffed turkey / meat loaf stuffed turkey

CMUtv Spring Preview:

Three months ago a crack student group was sent to the cluster by Greg Kesden for a project they needed to complete. These men (and women) promptly escaped from the maximum security Wean Hall to the Doherty sub-basements. Today, still wanted by their professor, they survive as coders of fortune. If you have a project, if no one else can help, and if you can find them, maybe you can hire the OS Team.

Staring	Rachel Gockley	as	"Hannibal"
	Mike Tolan	as	"Howling Mad" Mike
	Sean Dobbs	as	Sean "Teki" Dobbs
	Nicole DesRosiers	as	B.A.

Premiering in January after the Quiz Bowl on CMUtv

A History of Toilet Paper

Pre-toilet paper

Comrade's bottoms were dirty.
The world was crappy.

What did people do?
A community corncob!
Oh the wonderment.

When business is done,
Dirty paper flushes down.
Then, begin again.

Insane in the Membrane

A perfect chip with perfect release
Aluminum on the surface shone iridescent like
diffraction grating.
Dramatic geniuses are we as I set up the shot with
the microscope.
Hark! A tiny bit of dust!
Carefully, carefully, I use air to carefully, carefully
blow the dust away.
Ack! Hurricane winds rips through the mesh leav-
ing devastation like none ever seen!
All is quite and peaceful
Barren cavity remains.

—Kirstin Connors

Editors in Pittsburghese

Pico:
^G Git Help
^O WriteAht
^W WhereAt

Emacs:
Open in a Whole Nother Winda
Split Winda
(No files need saved)

—mid