

Mel Gibson Announces New Movie: The Passion of the Reindeer

Road Warrior and staunch advocate for FREEEEEEEEEEEE-DOOOOOOOM, Mel Gibson, has announced that he has "produced a more-truthful and authentic version of the Christmas clay-mated classic, *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*." Reportedly titled, *The Passion of the Reindeer*, the new film will be clay-mated like the original work, but will rated R for intense violence and gore.



They're whipping my childhood!

Misfit Toys (AFTMT) is already preparing a protest on their portrayal in the movie. "It's a total misrepresentation of the role of misfit toys in the story of Rudolph," said Furby, the President of the AFTMT. "It is clear Mr. Gibson holds some prejudice towards our kind. We intend to boycott the movie and get the word out that we helped Rudolph realize a great truth. Not shove red-hot pokers up his reindeer

Preliminary reports from Hollywood insiders are extremely negative. "This isn't the tale of Rudolph," said film critic Amanda Moss. "I don't know where Mr. Gibson heard the story, but it certainly did not involve Rudolph being tortured for an hour and being forced to carry Santa's sleigh on his back all the way to the top of Santa's workshop! And the misfit toys were definitely not whipping him at the time."

The movie is expected to create waves in America. The Association for Fair Treatment of

asshole."

Gibson, however, is not worried about the growing controversy. "If it will get people to see my movie where they will learn something about the real history of Rudolph, then I've done my duty," said Gibson in a press conference. "Pre-production has already started on a film about the Easter Bunny and his adventure behind enemy lines to recover stolen chocolate eggs from the Jews."

Tom Ridge Steps Down, His Family Raises Terror Alert to Red

Last Tuesday, Tom Ridge announced he will be stepping down from his post to spend more time with his family. Ridge's family, in response, immediately raised their terror alert from Elevated to Severe. "We are not safe anymore, anywhere," said Ridge's brother-in-law, Bryan McGill. "With the Severe level in place, there is 30-60% increase in the possibility that he will be trying to visit me, and 15% increase in the chance that he will 83% more boring."

Ridge family authorities also have begun training all auxiliary family members to be cautious and vigilant. "Be on the



You're not fooling anyone!

lookout for people that look suspiciously like Tom," said Martha McGill, Ridge's sister. "There have been cases where Tom has been seen wearing a mustache and hat."

"Don't shit your pants if you

find Tom has entered your home." stated security analyst Bob Johnson, "Proceed to the nearest bathroom, and duct tape all the edges of the door. Stay calm and wait until help arrives."

Ridge authorities say that there maybe probably will be a specifically unspecified 'Ridge attack' within the Northern Minnesota, Pennsylvania, or Arizona area during the next 6-8 weeks, business days only. Agents have already been posted at undisclosed locations in all 3 states in anticipation of the possible, but definitely definite threat.



Zombie Arafat Calls for Sovereign Zombie Nation

In a record political move, Yasser Arafat returned from the grave to demand a sovereign nation for zombies last Monday.

The move was a large surprise to the world political community, which expected Arafat to stay dead and not become a zombie. The UN has put together an emergency Council on Zombie Affairs to work with Arafat. "We are currently in a state of heightened religious turmoil, which has reached a boiling point in its crucible, Israel," said UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. "We do not wish to exacerbate these issues with conflict between walking dead and their enemies."

Exactly who these enemies are is still unclear to the world community. Arafat has not yet explained whether the process of death and rebirth has affected his loyalties. "We expect he still doesn't like the Israelis," said a political analyst, "but we don't know how the whole dead/undead works into this. Is he still at conflict with all of Israel, or now only with Jewish zombies? How does he feel about non-zombie Palestinians? Would he object to partnerships with other sovereign undead nations, such as the great state of Transylvania?"

Having just recently risen, Arafat's only political appearance has been on a tape produced by Palestine's newest militant group, Zombie Hamas. Judging from the tape, Arafat has only one request from the international community: "Braaaaaiiiiiiiiins."

Bush Proposes Mandatory Abortions of Gay Babies



A Ken doll in the womb? This baby's gay!

In a landmark political move last Wednesday, President Bush announced his proposal for a new Constitutional Amendment, which would outlaw abortion in all cases but one: babies suspected, through scientific testing, to be gay.

"It is now possible, through scientific methods, to determine if babies are homosexuals or not," said Bush. "The gift of life is great and this bill is designed to help ensure that it is given only to deserving, God-fearing, heterosexual babies."

These babies, once identified, would be subject to abortion by licensed practitioners, who would receive government funding for

Point-Counterpoint: readme needs a break

Point: It's us, not you

CMU, baby, readme needs a little break. readme knows that you and readme have had a good semester. We spent a lot of time together. readme remembers all those nights we spent together alone in the basement of Hunt, you giggling at readme's jokes. We know readme told you that we didn't care that Pitt has a better body. readme knows there were a few weeks when we didn't deliver, we weren't there for you. readme's sorry for that, but here's the deal. A little break. Let's say from mid-December to about mid-January, you and readme spend a little time apart. Now don't cry. No tears. readme's a little burnt out. You know how you bitch all the time about not sleeping 'because you stay up all night listening to Hanson's Christmas album and writing papers on phallic imagery in "Jack and the Beanstalk"? Well, what do you think readme was doing? We have work too, for fuck's sake. You think we sit around and write articles all day?

the procedure. "Originally, the President wanted all these procedures to be undertaken by licensed priests, but we talked him down from there," said one of his key aides, who wished to remain nameless. "We finally convinced him that priests can't perform surgery."

Bush's claim that gay children can be identified genetically has caused controversy, especially among the scientific community who believes that this technology is still not fully developed. "We are still on the verge of useful gay-identification technology," said Brian Sikes, the overseeing physician at a local abortion clinic. "Sure, sometimes you can get some hints by the limpness of the wrist, by the choice of womb décor, but this data is definitely inconclusive by scientific standards."

Despite the controversy, the administration has decided to proceed with the process of amendment ratification. This is a long, complicated process which takes upwards of ten years, at which point the administration will no longer be in power and the issue will probably not even be controversial anymore. At that point, it will be put before Congress, which is expected to pass it by a 76% majority.

Counter-Point: It's you, not us

CMU, baby, if you would just do more stupid shit, readme would have something to write about. It's been the same shenanigans and same freaks since you and readme got together. readme's just about desensitized to how you can't talk to the opposite gender and your stupid top hats and fedoras. Like, everybody knows that improv is lame, so we can't make fun of the social outcasts wrapped up in that freakdom anymore. Go have sex with a Chihuahua. Now that would be an article. And where the fuck is Lobster Boy? He knew how to turn readme on. Somebody go buy a praying-mantis suit and live under Panther Hollow Bridge and get a grant to do it. Now that's rife for some contrarian commentary. Let your inner freak out, and go do something worth writing about, or after January, we might just have to let you go. readme hopes things can be like they were.

K-Mart and Sears Merge to Combat Wal-Mart



Der Uberkraftsmensch!

Weeks after K-Mart announced its merger with Sears, the companies have released the true reason behind the buy-out: to build a Craftsman Lawnmower equipped with Blue Light Lasers piloted by Bob Vila to fight Wal-Mart. The Uberkraftsmensch, as the device has been dubbed, is the first step in K-Mart/Sears assault on Wal-Mart. Investors in both companies were shocked, and K-mart's stock suddenly tripled, then was halved, rose by two points, fell by five, and then divided by e.

"We're not stupid," said Edward Lambert, K-Mart executive and merger mastermind. "We know we can't compete with Wal-Mart on the business level. We only stand a chance if we engage in all-out war." The idea came to Lambert during a drunken stupor after Martha Stewart's sentencing. He immediately ordered K-Mart Research and Development teams to stop making bad commercials and start making lasers.

K-mart managed to adapt their Blue Light Special lamps into lasers capable of vaporizing small continents and yellow smiley faces. But the only object that could withstand the heat from the lasers was a Craftsman Lawnmower. And the only man who could pilot such a machine was the legendary Bob Vila. And so Lambert set to work on joining forces with Sears to combat Wal-Mart and its fleet of Smiley faces and advanced nuclear weapon program.

The United States government has ignored these developments, claiming that since none of the companies in question are run by Muslims that there is no threat. Wal-Mart only laughed at K-Mart's efforts and continued its plan to convert the moon into a giant smiley face capable of launching nuclear warheads from orbit.

Guy Gives Himself AIDS HIV (according to Fred Merkle) for AIDS Day

Local man, Steve Jones, has reportedly given himself AIDS HIV (according to Fred Merkle, who thinks that if we write AIDS instead of HIV, which is the actual virus that can be transferred through bodily fluids, groups and organizations will get upset with readme about misrepresenting AIDS and HIV to the public) in celebration of World AIDS Day. Jones apparently injected himself with blood from an AIDS HIV (according to Fred Merkle, who thinks that if we write AIDS instead of HIV, which is the actual virus that can be transferred through bodily fluids, groups and organizations will get upset with readme about misrepresenting AIDS and HIV to the public) patient at UPMC in Oakland. "Getting AIDS HIV has really raised my awareness of it," said Steve. "I mean, hell, I thought AIDS was like some sort of rock band from Canada. I learned the valuable lesson that AIDS HIV (according to Fred Merkle, who thinks that if we write AIDS instead of HIV, which is the actual virus that can be transferred through bodily fluids, groups and organizations will get upset with readme about misrepresenting AIDS and HIV to the public) is a deadly disease that no one should have to endure."

Steve says he still will live his life the same way as before, except now his dreams of having numerous sexual escapades have been severely dashed. "Oh, well. If God gives you AIDS HIV (according to Fred Merkle, who thinks that if we write AIDS instead of HIV, which is the actual virus that can be transferred through bodily fluids, groups and organizations will get upset with readme about misrepresenting AIDS and HIV to the public), better make lemonade...or something." says Steve. Brave words from a complete moron.

Fred Merkle is leaving Pittsburgh.

readme's Tips to Stay Warm Over the Winter

It's winter again and means it's cold. You might have hoped December to switch places with July so you wouldn't look stupid wearing shorts under your trench coat, but it didn't. You look really stupid and you should be bundling up in ridiculous looking hats and stupid gloves. This also means you're bitter. When friends ask how you're doing, you respond, "cold." Well, cut it out. It's redundant and annoying, and people hate you for it.

readme, in an effort to prevent you from looking like an asshole and so we don't have to listen to your douche bag complaints about the weather, has compiled a list of practical ways to stay warm:

1. Punch yourself in the face. Striking yourself in the cheek and jaw regions breaks capillaries. Warm blood lingers at the surface of your skin keeping you warm. This also gives your face a warm, rosy palette so you can forget your rouge application in the morning. This technique is best when used on your face, mostly because you deserve it, but it will work for any cold body part. For some readme readers, we suggest striking yourself in soft sections of your abdomen and/or your genitals, also because you deserve it.

2. Alcoholism. First of all, the answer to any question is alcohol, but in this instance, alcohol is extremely relevant. Take a tip from the hobos sleeping on cold sidewalks in Oakland: chugging a fifth of whiskey will keep your belly warm the whole night through. readme suggests cheaper whiskeys, like Old Crow or High Ten, because they rip apart the lining of your gastrointestinal track. If the warmth of blood in your stomach doesn't warm you up, the vomiting will. Other beneficial side effects include running and yelling at people for no reason, both of which encourage increased heart rate.

3. Masturbate constantly and frantically. Although the majority of readme's readership already does this, those of you who do not, especially females, are charged to do so. Spanking the monkey or flicking the bean increases your heart rate and circulation, which will keep you warm even when you're not touching yourself. Also, hand/finger-to-genital friction creates a warm sensation in your privates which can keep you glowing in the coldest of ice storms. Remember, the more frequently you flog the dolphin, the warmer you'll be, and you just might distract yourself from your pervasive and consuming loneliness.

Elsewhere in the issue...

A Treatsie on Jay-Z and Linkin Park (this is actually on the next page!)

Kid Dumped Over Change in Facebook Profile

Chicago Prepares for Fred Merkle, Small Children Evacuated

Editing & Writing Staff

Kiva Han: Brian Leahy

Starbucks: Chris Rotella, Greg Modzelewski, *, Alison Lauer, Andrew Moore, Fred "He's Finally Fucking Leaving" Merkle, Katie Wallat, Ceci Westbrook, Caleb Stright, Milon Chakrab, Chris Kier, Andy Jih, Carmen!

What is readme? Well, it's funny and it's useful. And free. So it's better than sliced bread.

Who makes it? readme is printed by the Activities Board, sponsored by your student activities fee

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Online: www.activitiesboard.org

How do I help? Email bleahy@andrew.cmu.edu. We need funny writers, non-funny writers, and Photoshoppers

And remember: Fred Merkle is leaving Pittsburgh! Praise diety of your choosing.



activities board

This is the **True** section, where we tell you how to live your life

A Treatsie on Jay-Z and Linkin Park

Get on your knees for the music deities! We've been blessed by a new album sent down from the music lords. It will surely shake the music industry from its decade long slumber of uninventive, lack-luster, shit-music. All praise the Jay-to-the-Z! All praise Linkin of Park! Their beautiful love child, "Collision Course", is our salvation!

Combining rock and rap? This is brilliant! How come this didn't happen sooner? Rock and rap are so different. Mashing them together is so, brilliant! So new. So fresh. This is going to rock the industry to its core, and those who fail to recognize and conform to it will be cast into the fiery pit of shadows to spend an eternity with Whitesnake, Poison, and Twisted Sister, who failed to bow before the gods of grunge.

Make the Hurting Stop!!!! (We forced him to review an album he hates)

So this week, our editor recommended that, rather than reviewing an album I appreciate and that I think everyone should run out and buy, perhaps I should write about something I can't stand. And so I got thinking what the worst album I heard this year was, and one album came to mind. Not Creed's so-called Greatest Hits because technically, it's a reissue. Not whatever self-applauding garbage Bono and U2 put together this time around. One album this year made me want to jam sharp objects into my eardrums more than anything else, and that was *Leave a Whisper* by Shinedown.

Plain and simple, this album is wretched. It never should have been released, and it should be pulled from shelves immediately. If you purchased it, I recommend writing to the band and demanding monetary compensation not only for the fifteen bucks it cost, but also for the time you spent buying and listening to it. If you had the sense to not buy it but downloaded it instead, demand your fifteen bucks and all anyway.

Shinedown is tedious, boring, and generic

readme predicts that because of this Jay-Z/Linkin Park revolution, rock bands will mesh rap vocals into their music. They'll call it, Nu-Metal! Brilliant! Maybe the Red Hot Chili Peppers will try something like that. Word has it that Aerosmith and Run DMC will collaborate, maybe even tour. Oh shit! Maybe even Anthrax and Public Enemy might cash in. God knows Flava Flav needs something to do.

Poor suckers like Limp Bizkit, Kid Rock, Korn, and 311 better jump on the bandwagon before it gets out of town, and I suggest Rage Against the Machine get hip. I think if they tried putting rock and rap together, maybe even throwing in a political message, I think that little band that nobody's ever heard of, just might make it.

beyond recognition. It rips off other tedious, generic hard rock acts, most obviously, Nickelback. Note to band: if you're going to rip someone off, rip off someone good. Lead single "45" is poorly written generic angst about contemplating of suicide. This song is tasteless, trashy, and hearing it makes me want to either find a gun, either for myself for suffering through this or for the band for making me suffer through it, or write to the singer and tell him I wish he had gone through with it rather than writing this song. "Simple Man" is an equally tedious cover of Skynyrd's classic song, and the members of Skynyrd should press charges against Shinedown for this brutality. The rest of the album is equally bad, or at least I think it is. I honestly couldn't bring myself to listen to more than fifteen seconds of any given song.

I really don't know what else to say about this horrid experience forced upon me. I'm now going to attempt to get my ears to stop hurting, drown the memory of this album, listen to worthwhile music, and hope I haven't been scarred for life.

Cheap Movies at McConomy

Want to write these next semester? e-mail bleahy@

All the nights, brought to you by AB, except Saturday which is SDC. 1 Buck.

Wednesday: Nightmare Before Christmas @ 8 10 12

Tim Burton's Christmas classic hits McConomy. It's short, sweet, and full of wonderful goth Christmas cheer. Jack Skellington is one of the coolest protagonists ever, and the tunes are so insanely catchy. This is probably Tim Burton's best movie simply because he didn't direct it.

Thursday: Sanjuro & Yojimbo @ 8 10

It's samurai night with this Akira Kurosawa double feature. Toshiro Mifune kicks some ass and takes some names. You know what also kicks ass? Cheese. I'm not sure if cheese is actually a part of this movie, but I'm currently on a cheese kick. Cheese rocks my socks.

Friday - Hero @ 8 10 12

This movie is so ridiculously awesome. It's visually stunning, intelligent, AND full of awesome martial arts. Plus Jet Li rocks the casbah. It's told in a Rashomon-esque set up, where each retelling of the story is done through different perspectives with twists and intruige along the way.

Saturday - Collateral @ 7:30 10 12:30

Tom Cruise is a "hitman" who bangs people's holes. With a gun. Jamie Foxx is the cab driver who gets conned into driving him around for the evening while Tom Cruise finishes his "hits." Sounds like a heartfelt bonding story between a male gigolo with the heart of gold and the taxi driver who saw through it all.

Sunday - Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas @ 8 10 12

Drop some mescaline before/during/after this movie. Not that I'm saying I've done so before or anything, but I imagine it would make the viewing experience a lot trippier. Johnny Depp plays Hunter S. Thompson in this one folks, so all of you who loved *Pirates of the Caribbean* will really like this one. I promise.

This is the True section, where we tell you how to live your life

Final[s] Concerts of the Semester

During the course of finals, everyone needs a break/entertainment. And so we have a grand total of two concerts, and fortunately, they're not on the same night, so in the event that your tastes are eclectic enough and your finals schedule cooperates, you can hit both.

Wednesday, December 15th, the punks are coming to the World. Lars Frederiksen and the Bastards, the side project of Rancid's guitarist, bring their straight-up punk that sounds remarkably like...Rancid...but without Tim Armstrong singing, and very little ska influence. But we won't hold that against them because, hell, it's fun, it's better than pop-punk, and anyone who names the band [insert name here] and the Bastards is cool. Also on the bill are the Disasters, featuring Roger Miret of hardcore legends Agnostic Front. So get out your plaid, your leather, and your liberty spikes, because this show will be fun.

The next night (Thursday the 16th, for those



Lars Frederiksen and the Bastards



Trans-Siberian Orchestra anyone?

of you keeping score at home), the Trans-Siberian Orchestra bring their annual holiday tour to Mellon Arena. Not familiar with them yet? You're missing out on some wonderful holiday music. Vocals where appropriate, wonderful lyrics (and storytelling) when there are vocals, and brilliant music the rest of the time. And we need more good instrumental holiday music because seriously, Mannheim Steamroller blows. Hot on the tails of their highly acclaimed new album, *The Lost Christmas Eve*, the conclusion of their Christmas trilogy, Trans-Siberian once again hits the road to spread holiday cheer. This time, however, founding guitarist Alex Skolnick, best known for his work with legendary metal bands Testament and Savatage, is actually touring, meaning that their consistently amazing show will be even better. Celebrate the end of the semester, the holiday season, and good music with this show - it's guaranteed to please.

readme will be back next semester

But we need writers & photoshoppers.

Send an e-mail to bleahy@andrew to find out when our first meeting next semester will be.

readme will be good to you and keep you warm through the harsh winters of Pittsburgh

readme is off for winter break

email bleahy@andrew if you're interested in joining next semester

On AOL Instant Messenger all day?

**Talk to readme!
readmecmu**

If you're funny enough, we'll put you in readme!

Events and Things On and Off Campus

finals and stuff...

Wednesday, December 8

movie: Nightmare Before Christmas @ McConomy.
8 10 12. \$1

Thursday, December 9

movie: Yojimbo @ McConomy. 8pm. \$1.
movie: Sanjuro @ McConomy. 10pm \$1.
concert: Ian Moore @ Club Café, 10 pm, \$12, 21+
concert: Rev. Billy C. Wirtz @ Funny Bone

Friday, December 10

movie: Hero @ McConomy. 8 10 12. \$1
screening: Maborosi @ Silver eye Center for
Photography at 1015 East Carson St. \$7/\$10.
concert: Citizen Cope @ Club Cafe, 7 pm and 10
pm, \$12, all ages @7, 21+ @10
concert: Karrin Allyson @ Dowe's On 9th
concert: Rev. Billy C. Wirtz @ Funny Bone
concert: Butch Walker and American Hi-Fi @ Mr.
Smalls Fun House/Theatre, 7:30 pm, \$12
concert: Kottonmouth Kings, Pepper @ The World, 8
pm, \$18

Saturday, December 11

movie: Collateral @ McConomy. 7:30 10:30 12:30.
\$1
poker: SDC Poker Tournament @ UC Connan Room.
4-9pm.
concert: David Bromberg @ Carnegie Lecture Hall
concert: Karrin Allyson @ Dowe's On 9th
concert: Rev. Billy C. Wirtz @ Funny Bone

Sunday, December 12

movie: Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas @
McConomy. 8 10 12. \$1.
event: Primal Scream @ The Fence. 10pm - 12am.

Monday, December 13

finals: Holy Shit! Finals start!

Tuesday, December 14

food: Dunkin' Donut Giveaway @ Doherty Mall.
11am - 1pm.

Wednesday, December 15

event: DDR Tourney & Free Massages @ New
House. 2-4pm.
event: Tea & Comfort with Peer Health Advisors @
Hunt Library. 1-5pm.
concert: Wayne Newton @ Benedum Center
concert: Lars Frederiksen & The Bastards, Roger
Miret & The Disasters @ The World, 7 pm, \$13

Thursday, December 16

concert: Beans @ Garfield Artworks
concert: Trans-Siberian Orchestra @ Mellon Arena,
7:30 pm, \$37.50-\$42.50
concert: Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes @
Rex Theatre, 8 pm, \$28, 21+

Friday, December 17

concert: The Exploited, Total Chaos, Resilience @
Mr. Smalls Fun House/Theatre

Saturday, December 18

nothing: nothing

Sunday, December 19

nothing: nothing

Monday, December 20

nothing: nothing

Tuesday, December 21

nothing: nothing

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