



Red rover, red rover

William "Red" Whittaker builds his rover to drive itself over the California and Nevada deserts.

SciTech, A6



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Foreign-born professors come and stay at CMU

by James Tetlow
Staffwriter

Carnegie Mellon University draws its pool of talent from all over the world. Many of the most well-known and respected professors at the University are originally from a foreign country. These professors have been drawn to CMU and stay here to in pursuit of a career in America's academic community.

According to Rupert Croft, an assistant professor of physics who specializes in astrophysics, what made him leave the U.K. was a job offer in America.

"I came to the U.S. about eight years ago. I didn't come straight to CMU. At first, I came because there were more jobs here than in the UK," he said. "I applied everywhere in the world, and received two job offers: one in Copenhagen, and one from Ohio State. I came here because I thought the U.S. would be more fun."

Croft said that one of the greatest advantages to teaching at CMU was that it was easier for him to feel accepted here than in many European countries, and that job advancement and salaries were dif-

ferent here.

Croft talked about the professional differences between universities in Europe and in the U.S. He said that the universities in England judge people more on who they know rather than on their hard work and accomplishments. He also related a difference in the job market. "There are more jobs available here because more people go to university here than in the U.K.," said Croft. "Also, salaries here are about 50 percent higher than their equivalent in the U.K."

Croft also said there was a difference in the way CMU students acted compared to universities in the U.K.

"Students [here] take things very seriously — in CMU and in the U.S. in general. In the U.K., students go drinking a lot, stuff like that... when I was a student, we used to do a lot of stupid things," he said. Croft also appreciated the diversity on campus.

"I also like the variety of students in my classes — you have people with purple hair sitting next to the typical computer geeks," he said.

Croft, who plans to stay here and hire a post-doctoral student, also enjoys the grant money he receives from the University. When he first arrived, Croft received a grant to build a Beowulf cluster, which has the computing capability approaching that of a supercomputer but is cheaper. He now uses the cluster for his research in astrophysics.

"In the U.S., you have everything

See AMERICA, page A4



SYLMA BORZUTZKY

Starbucks

by Andrew Johnson
Editor-in-Chief

Starbucks Coffee has purchased a prime piece of real estate on the corner of Forbes Avenue and Craig Street. Craig Street has a large local business population, including a popular Chinese restaurant, a video store, a comics shop, and two coffeehouses. The block between Fifth Avenue and Forbes Avenue has just one national chain, Subway, and two locally-based banks. There are 34 Starbucks retail stores within 20 miles of Oakland. Bonnie Elster, district manager for Starbucks Coffee Company, said via e-mail that Starbucks examines a lot of factors in determining where to open new coffee houses, though she did not specify what those are. She said that the company spends a lot of time listening to consumers, such as through their Starbucks hotline. The new 1749-square-foot location features antique architecture and stained glass windows. It is across the street from Kiva Han, a coffee shop and shares the block with Craig Street Coffee, a coffee shop, and eatery. The patrons of Kiva Han say they enjoy the place because the atmosphere is relaxed, and suitable for studying.

"The coffee is actually terrible, but the atmosphere is nice and the sandwiches are good," said Ian Blecher, a graduate student of philosophy at the University of Pittsburgh, adding that he also does not dig sterile corporate environments. His companion, Sam Arnold, also a Pitt philosophy grad student, said, "I come here because they don't care when I sit here for four or five hours at a time and only have one coffee."

CMU's history of heists

ft revealed

and legend has it that there was a time when they loaded the water tanks and opened up the hoses on unsuspecting bystanders. PIKA brothers went into the garage one day last year to discover that the bell was missing from the top of the truck. They had no idea who could have taken it, or how the perpetrators could have gotten in. They filed a report with campus police, and somehow Sigma Nu became a suspect in the investigation. This claim led to an illegal search of the fraternity by Campus Police. According to Sigma Nu brother and Eminent Commander (president) Ian Kash, "They believed we had the bell, which wasn't the case.... Basically, our fire alarm was pulled as a pretext to look for the bell."

The search came up empty and the bell is still missing.

University Archivist Jennie Benford contributed to this report.



Courtesy of Hunt Library Archives

University of Pittsburgh's football goal post, a

competition

vegetarian fare, but has branched out to include more food for omnivores.

"I think it would be real hard to go head-to-head with Starbucks," he said. He said that Craig Street Coffee needs to sell better sandwiches and soup, and exploit its competitors' weaknesses. "Competition keeps you strong," he said.

The Craig Street Starbucks is slated to open in late winter.

Foreign-born professors come and stay at CMU

AMERICA, from page A1

you need to succeed — you have all the resources," said Coty Gonzalez, a professor specializing in information systems and dynamic decision making from Leon, Mexico.

"In Mexico, each professor had a limit on the copies they could make each month. Here, we have all the resources we need. That might actually be a disadvantage, though: we're not forced to think more creatively," she said. Gonzalez first came to America for her PhD at Texas Tech University, where she met her future husband. Her decision to stay in the U.S. was not entirely based on the economic opportunities found in the country.

"We decided to stay in the U.S. because for him, Mexico wasn't fair, and for me, Jordan wouldn't be fair," she said. Gonzalez came to CMU for her post-doctorate studies which led to an offer to become a professor at the University three years ago.

"I am where I want to be — this is a place where I've wanted to be for a really long time," she said. Gonzalez said the biggest difference between teaching at CMU and Mexico was that schools in Mexico are less formal.

"It's not particular of the campus — it's a cultural thing. People in Mexico are more personal — it has been my experience that this isn't the case in the States.... After my PhD I went back [to Mexico], and I felt very uncomfortable at first. You can talk to the janitor the same way you can to the president

of the university," she said. Gonzalez plans on staying at the University.

Professor of social and decision sciences Sylvia Borzutzky, who left Chile in 1972 to live in the United States with her husband, said the greatest difference between Chilean and American campuses was that, in her time, there was a lot of political discussion on Chilean campuses. "Especially Vietnam in the 1960s — even though we were in Chile, we felt very involved in it. Things at CMU have changed too, and students are much more engaged in politics, which is great," said Borzutzky. She won the Elliot Dunlap Smith Award for Distinguished Teaching and Educational Service in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences last year and has taught at CMU for 14 years. She also believes in allowing students to discuss their thoughts in class.

"I think in order to be a good teacher, one has to be able to listen to one's students. For that reason, I always conduct my classes as part lecture and part discussion. Discussions allow me to know what my students are thinking, their concerns, and allows them to express their ideas." Borzutzky was concerned about the recent changes to immigration policy that make it more difficult for foreign students, especially those from the Middle East, to come here.

"It's a problem for the University, because these students bring in new ideas, new resources, and make a great contribution to the University," she said.

Town meeting held

PITTSBURGH, from page A1

But unless the city and county governments can provide incentives for suburban communities to pour their tax dollars into the roiling communal pot, we may never achieve a working definition of regionalism, he said.

Pittsburgh has come along way towards becoming an ideal place to live, said panelist Doris Carson Williams, president and CEO of the African American Chamber of Commerce of western Pennsylvania. Without the efficiency to make good

these, as many cities around the country have had," said Williams.

Pittsburghers have a lot of catching up to do, said panelist John Craig, a retired editor at the *Post-Gazette*, who recounted many of the other panelists' remarks.

Pittsburghers are clinging to the perceived intimacy and democracy of local government, he said, because they do not realize that with the status quo, that intimacy is already gone. Craig added that better organization would also help.

"We have an inefficient resource distribution system ... and we need to