

# The Kiltie Times

SINCE A REALLY, REALLY LONG TIME AGO

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY 08

## War Update

It is not uncommon knowledge that Carnegie Mellon University has been at war for quite some time. That war, as we all know it, is with the grass. Year after year, orientation after orientation, Carnival after Carnival, the cut and lawns are turned a depressing brittle brown as they concede yet another defeat to the CMU warriors.

Perhaps the greatest battalion that CMU has ever enlisted is the Kiltie Band. With a fidelity only rivaled by the Marines, the kilt-clad troops rally each fall to annihilate the CFA lawn. In a finely tuned technique known as "precision standing" the Kiltie Band plants 100+ undergrad and grad soldiers at the command of Paul Gerlach to successfully kill the field of green.

"It's really something I've been working on since I was a troop in the field," says Gerlach. "We've found through experimental process that standing is much more effective at killing the blades than marching. The piano-fortes help a lot too."

Perhaps this is an explanation to the Kiltie tradition of avoiding complex marching routines.

"We're just really disappointed that our job is going to be less intense this year," commented the commander.

What is he referencing? CMU, in a traitorous act, has begun an exploit to give aid to the various lawns across campus. The grass, already decrepit and dying from Pittsburgh summer heat, is receiving round-the-clock watering from campus lines. Not unlike the US's bomb-then-aid routine that has been employed throughout the world.

President Cohan seems to be responsible for this action. Although conveniently unavailable for comment, it is widely accepted that the Sprinkler Act has been put in place to make the campus seem less soul crush-... spirit brea-... depressing for parent arrivals.

Enraged by the act, the Kilties let out their battle cry:

"Who's going to kill the grass?"

"THE BAND IS GOING TO KILL THE GRASS!"

Hoo-rah, Kiltie Band.

*-Natalie Straight*

## A Sad Goodbye

Since the term ended in May the Kiltie Band has lost 2 of its strongest and most dedicated advocates. In June, Dr. Paul Fowler, Director of the CMU Career Center, announced that he will leave for a similar position at Emory University. In the mid 1990s he was the administrator overseeing the Kiltie band. His support via funding and scheduling was secondary only to a crucial role in seeing that the Kilties had rehearsal and storage space in the newly opened University Center.

Sadly, Jennifer Church, Dean of Student Affairs, is also leaving Carnegie Mellon. There is no enough space to cover all the specific contributions she has made to our success. Be it funding, support for Kiltie issues, or unwavering encouragement, Jennifer Church has been behind the band and shares in our success.

Thanks to both. We will miss you greatly.

## From Your Director

Hello everybody,

I hope you are having a relaxing summer, enjoying your time off and being challenged by whatever activity you've chosen to pursue. Back here at the hub of the Kiltie Nation work continues to ready for a smooth start to another year.

Music has been ordered, new instruments purchased, and uniforms have been cleaned and repaired. Over half of the shoes have been replaced with new ones. They should help us look really good while standing and playing (softly!!).

I've tried to not forget our last performance during Spring Carnival. Having been the director for 26 years I can tell you it was something very special. A standing room crowd, many whom were former Kilties, cheering every selection is something we should regard with great pride.

Another challenging year awaits us. As academic demands grow and time management becomes more of an issue I hope you'll remain loyal and dedicated to the Kiltie Band. I look forward to seeing you in a few weeks.

Sincerely,

Mr. Paul D. Gerlach

Director For Life

## How To March

Many of you reading this are about to start a new year of marching band for only the second or fifth time, and I'm sure you have many questions. Questions such as "How do I march?", or "Why does my skin itch all the time?" While I can't do much for your skin problem past recommending that you see your physician, I certainly can help you with your marching. Just follow these two easy steps.

### Step 1: Stop doing it wrong

Look around you. Just look around you. Have you found what we're looking for? The answer is feet. That's right; all marching band members have feet, and yours should look somewhat like everyone else's when they move. If you're doing it differently, then stop that. Problem solved.

### Step 2: Honk on your horn

My high school band director used to say that "marching is more than just honkin' on a horn and stompin' on a white line." He also told some pretty funny jokes, like this one time. You totally should have been there; it was hilarious. But the point is that if you're just standing around pretending to play your instrument, or if you are playing quietly because you don't have the confidence to rock the [expletive deleted] out, then you're doing it wrong (see Step 1) and you just need to put more air through that thing. So man up, bucko, and stop being a wuss.

### Step 2: Move when you're supposed to

You may have noticed that this is the second "Step 2" in the list. Congratulations! You now qualify as "sufficiently observant". The best way to move when you're supposed to is to actually remember the drill and just do it. But if you can't do that, then the next best thing is to rely on these same observational skills, your quick wit and reaction time, and somebody nearby who actually knows the drill. Just make sure that there is a ratio of at least one leader per every five followers in any given section on the field. If not, then don't be afraid to actually do your job and learn the drill. You know, so you can move when you're supposed to.

THE END

-Robert X. Rost

## Kiltie Band Loses Marbles; Trombones Probably to Blame

After much deliberation, the search for the Kiltie Band's missing marbles has been called off. When asked for comment, Mr. Gerlach replied, "Honestly I didn't think they had any to begin with."

Efforts to find the marbles stretched over a period of two months or half an hour, according to conflicting reports. Heather Strong, flute, laments, "I can't even remember what they look like, they've been gone so long." When this reporter suggested that they might be small, round pieces of glass of assorted colors, Strong said, "No. No, I don't think I remember ever having anything like that."

Surprisingly, evidence points to the Kiltie Band once being in possession of marbles. Says Dan Sibley, oboe, "What do you think those pockets in the band jacket are for?" The suggestion of kleenex was met with uncomfortable laughter.

Members of the Kiltie Band have come up with their own thoughts on where the marbles have gone. Said one trumpet, who wished to remain anonymous, "I'm sure I saw them lying around by the trombones just before they vanished."

The trombones, however, deny all allegations. When approached for details, members of the section chorused, "No, no, no!" while hastily hiding their Will It Blend? TM Blender and crumpling up blueprints for an in-stand slingshot. When questioned about a suspicious rattling noise in their cases, the trombones responded by playing louder.

Horn section twins Tim and Tim were quick to jump to the trombones' defense. "Honestly, of all the people in the band, I'd say that the trombones are the least likely to have all their marbles."

Thus far, no charges have been pressed.

-Erica Sandbothe

## The Long Arm of the Kilties

On Monday, July 21 the Kiltie Band Recruitment Committee assembled to prepare 1,200 brochures for mailing to incoming freshpersons. Thanks goes to Dina Machin and David K-L for revamping the brochure and the following people for helping out: Mrs. Gerlach, her niece, Mackenzie Freudenrich, and a random stranger named Davy Coppock.

### Days to Remember

Aug. 25: First Rehearsal  
Sept. 13: Grove City (Away)  
Sept. 20: Hobert  
Sept. 26: Secretary's Birthday!  
Sept. 27: Hiram  
Oct. 04: Kenyon  
Oct. 25: Wittenberg  
(Homecoming)  
Oct. 31: Halloween!  
Nov. 15: Chicago  
Nov. 27: Thanksgiving!  
Dec. 4: Holiday Concert

### Happy Contributors

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