

the kiltie times

2011

From your director:

Hello everybody,

I hope you are all having a challenging and rewarding summer with some opportunities to relax and gain new experiences. Back here in the 'Burgh I'm managing to survive despite the heat (over 90 degrees many days!) and lack of air conditioning in the band room.

Requests for my professional seminars on precision standing, unique dynamic levels (loud and louder), and our unusual approach to intonation have kept me busy all summer. Can't these other band directors figure this stuff out for themselves?

Another year of Kiltie Band is fast approaching. Your officers have done a terrific job of preparing for the first rehearsal, August 29. I hope to see you there.

All the best,
Mr. Gerlach

Who is not putting well and having a hard time breaking 80!

Big challenge!!

Our first football game is Saturday, September 3 less than a week after classes begin! This is the first time in over 30 years that the Kiltie Band has had so little time to be up and running. It will be quite a challenge but we're certain you'll meet the challenge.

Football schedule:

9/3	CMU vs. Grove City
9/10	CMU vs. Allegheny
10/8	CMU vs. Ohio Wesleyan
10/29	CMU vs. Washington
11/12	CMU vs. Case Western Reserve

Care and feeding of fresh persons

When you come to the first rehearsal PLEASE make it your business to interact to the new students. Try to remember how you felt that first day of Kiltie! It's a completely unique and different approach to marching band for most of them. You'll be a big help if you can make them at ease and comfortable.

Attention percussion!!

If you want to play a specific instrument please get to the band room well before 4:30 PM the first day of classes. Jordon Tsvetkoff will be there making assignments and we want you to have the first choice before the new

So What Do You Underneath Those Kilts, Anyways?

Patrick White, Head Cheerperson

This question is usually asked once twice by people after they first see the Kiltie Band. Seeing a kilted marching band is usually a unique experience but at Carnegie Mellon it is a weekly event!

The Kiltie Band performs at every home football game and at the occasional away game when we can convince another band to let us share the field. Although we are the official Carnegie Mellon marching band, we don't always act like a traditional band. Besides wearing kilts and full Scottish dress, the Kiltie Band is well known for their colorful, creative, and occasionally crude cheers. Whether it's "Ye Old CIT Cheer" at the beginning of every game or "Hail Carnegie" that we shout to the opposing fans during the game, the Kiltie Band is always trying to rile up our fans and theirs.

As a senior trombonist and Cheerleader for the Kiltie Band this season, I will be leading the band in the Cheers and traditions during all of the games this year. For new Kilties, I hope to see you on the practice field and in the band this season! It's a really fun and low stress way to continue to play your instrument or learn to play in a marching band even if you have no experience! Feel free to email me if you have any questions at rpwhite@andrew.cmu.edu! For old Kilties, get ready for a seasons and try to remember what you are SUPPOSED to respond when I shout "First and ten!" after each Carnegie Mellon first down. I really hope we can finally get

Tirade on TLC

Bradley Jamison, Keepin' It Real ("It" being TV)

I've been feeling under the weather lately which means I have in turn spent too much time watching television. And this isn't just any television— apart from an excess of Law & Order marathons, my channel of choice has become TLC, The Learning Channel, and boy, have I been learning a lot.

"Say Yes to the Dress" was how it all started. I don't quite know why it sparked my interest, but I have a feeling that me being a female had something to do with it. It taught me a lot. I learned all the bridal dress terms and also that wedding dresses are gosh-darned expensive. When I have \$30,000 dollars to drop on a dress, I've decided that no matter how much I "need" it, I will instead buy a car or

(Continued on back page)

VP for Public Relations Dan Becerra presents some little known facts about the Kiltie Band from his upcoming Kiltie History. Did you know that:

1. the Kiltie Band began in 1908 with a group of just seven students?
2. in 1926, the Carnegie Tech football team beat an undefeated Notre Dame team in what ESPN called one of the greatest upsets in sports history (and was cheered on by the like wise undefeated Kiltie Band)?
3. when the Kiltie Band went with the Carnegie Tech football team to the Sugar Bowl in 1939 in New Orleans, the band members slept on railroad cars parked at the train station?
4. women were not permitted to join the Kiltie marching band for the first 60 years of its existence, and while they could join the concert band, they could not wear kilts?
5. the Kiltie Band used to be a mandatory band for music majors, with a concert band that was considered "serious"?
6. Director-for-Life without the Possibility for Parole Mr. Gerlach received degrees from both Carnegie Tech and Carnegie Mellon, one of the few people in history to have done so?
7. in the late 1970's and early 1980's, the Kiltie Band ceased to be? (But unrelenting student and alumni pressure brought it back).
8. the organized cheering in the stands began only recently in the 1980s, despite the so-named "Ye Old CIT Cheer"?
9. the Kiltie Band once had an official, professional composer who composed original pieces for the band?
10. only eight of the above facts are true? (it

Officers

Paul Gerlach — *Director-for-Life (without possibility of parole)*

Sarah Benjamin — *President*

Patrick White — *VP Marching*

Bradley Jamison — *VP Concert*

Dan Becerra — *VP Public Relations*

Dylan Mori — *Secretary*

Marina Parra — *Librarian*

Got questions?

Contact pg1x@andrew.cmu.edu

Want to write for next year's Kiltie Times?

Contact dmori@andrew.cmu.edu

something else that won't become insignificant after one use. This show also brought to light the importance of the people you

Tirade on TLC (continued)

choose to bring with you dress shopping, and it is valuable to note that you should not in fact bring someone with an overbearing opinion. Their "brutal honesty" will make choosing a dress even more stressful, especially if your opinions don't match. Of course, the most important lesson learned is that you should NEVER try on a dress that is out of your price range. That will, with 100% certainty, be the dress you want to say "Yes" to, but you can't because it's just so expensive and that makes you sad.

On a similar note, "Say Yes to the Dress" currently has three spin-offs. "Big Bliss", the same as "Say Yes" but with more voluptuous women, "Atlanta", similar to "Say Yes" with southern accents and a less impressive bridal shop, and "Bridesmaids". "Bridesmaids" differs from the rest in that instead of making one person happy, you have to make one person happy and three to fifteen people agreeable. This one has given me a great deal of insight. First, having fifteen bridesmaids may be a wee bit over the top (how am I supposed to focus on the bride with so many distractions?). Second, there is not a single bridesmaid's dress that looks good on anyone. I did not

believe this myth to be true, but after seeing a few episodes of girls trying on designer bridesmaid's dresses complete with large flowers, neck ruffles, awkward lengths, and colors like avocado, there really is no other explanation.

An old favorite of mine is "Cake Boss". This show had previously taught me that you can make three impressive cakes within a half hour segment... my own experience taught me it was not actually that easy. This summer, however, it taught me something I never expected to learn from a cake show. As it turns out, if you have a hernia and the doctor tells you not to lift anything until the surgery, you should not lift 200 pound cakes, as this will make it worse. I also learned that I really REALLY want some cake.

This next one I had avoided for so long, but I finally folded under the pressure. "Toddlers and Tiaras" is infamously known for the showcasing of child beauty pageants, and while you might not think there is much to learn there, but, trust me, there is. For one thing, it's OK to teach little girls that beauty is only skin deep, as long as they win. You also have to be orange to be pretty, even if you are too tiny to even know what the color orange is. Also, if your name isn't initially called that means you won a big title. But if it's not the "Ultimate Grand Supreme" and you have a meltdown because you are four, you're an embarrassment to your own mother. I mean,

No Place Like Home

Ellen Obenshain, guide to all things Maryland

I've moved three times so far, but I've lived in Maryland my whole life.

The first time we moved, I wasn't even two years old yet, so it hardly counts, but I remember the town where I spent my childhood. It wasn't much, just a quiet little place completely surrounded by fields at the edge of Maryland and Pennsylvania. Actually, just over the state border was a produce and snowball stand, and whenever I went there, I'd always get a bubblegum snowball with marshmallow fluff in the bottom of the cup. My dad and I used to walk through a soybean field to a nearby farm where there were cows and horses, and we would feed them apples that had fallen off the trees. I always knew when summer was almost over because the sunshine and corn would start to look more golden.

The second time we moved was the summer before I started fifth grade. Although the move didn't seem upsetting to me, my parents were somewhat unhappy about it. Yes, sad things happened for

various reasons, but that's bound to happen when you live somewhere long enough. To be honest, I didn't realize how much I liked that town until I left it. It was much more city-like than where I lived before, but it had a neighborly feel to it. I knew all the neighbors' dogs and we always sat with our friends to watch the neighborhood 4th of July Parade. I got to see the town evolve a little, too, from an OK little town with a few rundown stores to a pretty place with a park and shopping square.

The third time we moved was this summer. This was the most unsettling move for me, even though my parents are very pleased with their new house and town and I'm relatively independent here at college. The new town is a tourist center with all its little shops, restaurants, and museums, and it's at the junction of the Chesapeake Bay and a big river. I walked barefoot to the water and back with my mom once while we were waiting for something to cook. I don't really know anyone there yet, but I look forward to exploring the town further and seeing what interesting things it has tucked away behind its pretty façade.

