THE NEXUS

Volume 5, Issue 4 March-April-May 2010

Graduation Marks Send-Off for Eight Seniors

By Eric Guilford, Seth Ficke, and Michael Wriston

This year the Schilling School graduated its largest class in the history of the school. The Class of 2010 consisted of James Colmar, Danielle Daly, Zach Felder, Adam Gold, Amanda Haering, Jeff Honadle, Claire McMahon, and Michael Wriston. Graduation itself was held at 7 PM on May 29 at the Peterloon Estate in Indian Hill. The ceremony included a musical number sung by our beloved Dr. Frank, and accompanied by Mrs. Denise Gold on the piano. Mr. Heflin played several selections on the piano throughout the ceremony, in addition to delivering the faculty address. James Colmar spoke as Valedictorian and Adam Gold as Salutatorian, though all seniors had the opportunity to share a short reflection on their time at the Schilling School. Immediately following the ceremony there was a reception with refreshments in the adjoining dining room. After the reception, the Honadle family graciously hosted a party for the graduates, families, and faculty.

The seniors are a diverse bunch and their future plans vary widely. Zach Felder plans to pursue a degree in music production. Others are interested in more traditional careers. Salutatorian Adam Gold is going to Brigham Young University for Computer Science.

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The graduates on the steps of Peterloon.

Valedictorian James Colmar speaking during graduation.

Upcoming Events

June 4 - Last Day of School

Summer Break!

August 23 - School Begins

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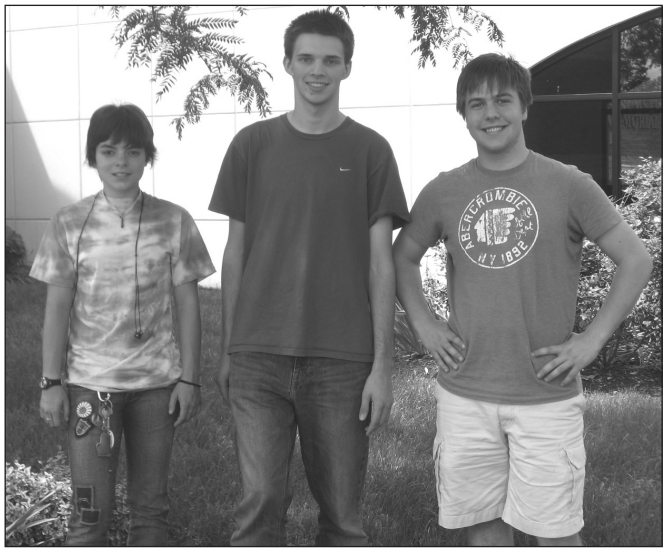
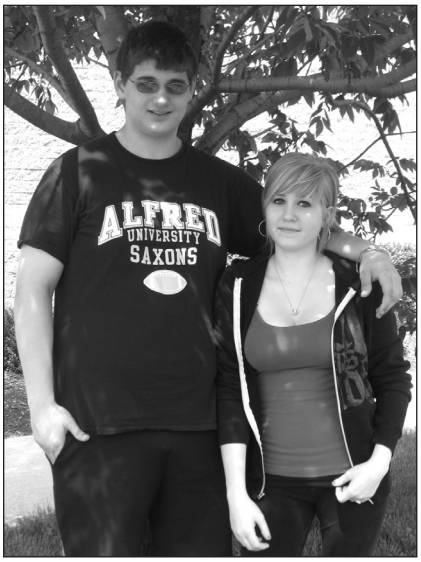
And More...

The Nexus is produced by: James Colmar, Editor-in-Chief ~ Michael Wriston, News Editor ~ Claire McMahon, Community Editor ~ Amanda Haering, Reporter ~ Seth Ficke, Reporter ~ Katherine Guilford, Resident Artist ~ Eric Guilford, Reporter/Designer

CONGRATULATIONS, SENIORS!





Top (left to right): Amanda Haering, Adam Gold, Michael Wriston.
Middle: Jeff Honadle, Danielle Daly.
Bottom: James Colmar, Zach Felder, Claire McMahon.

Graduation ***(continued from page 1)***

Valedictorian James Colmar will be attending Carnegie Mellon, where he hopes to major in Psychology.

Many of the seniors have fond memories of their earlier days at Schilling. James commented on the small class size and how it allows for amazing student-teacher interaction. He added, "One of my favorite memories from Schilling is performing in the school play The Fantasticks. Bing Guan and I had a lot of fun playing Mortimer and Henry. Of the five plays I've been in, The Fantasticks was definitely the most enjoyable." Another senior, Claire McMahon, said that the variety of the classes in the Schilling curriculum is one of her favorite things about the school.

The Schilling School graduation is the only high school event permitted on the Peterloon estate. The estate was originally built by John Emery, who was the developer of the Carew Tower, and a major benefactor to the Cincinnati Art Museum. He served as vice-president of the Boy Scouts of America, and is one of the original founders of the Cincinnati Country Day School. He started building Peterloon, which sits on 1200 acres, in 1929. Tours of the mansion were available to guests before and after the commencement ceremony.

Birthdays!

A belated Happy Birthday to all those who celebrated birthdays in March, April, and May!

Happy Birthday in advance to those with summer birthdays!

June 10	Adam Gold
June 16	Madeleine Gold
June 29	Connor Weeks
July 05	Mrs. Fatica / Mrs. Cooper
July l3	Alan Phelps
July 30	Dr. Schilling
July 31	Taylor Jones
August 05	Derrick Mayes
August 12	Mr. Dusterberg
August 15	Mrs. Hollander
August 16	Jeff Honadle
August 23	Efran Farhey

Schilling Student Enters Art Show

By Katherine Guilford and Amanda Haering

Lily Kovach, a sixth grade Schilling student, had her artwork displayed recently at the Cincinnati Arts Association (CAA) Student Art Show. The show consisted of 132 entries from grades K-8 that concerned each student's personal view of the world. This theme of "identity" was designed so that children would have a chance to express themselves in a creative way. "Children often have a unique perspective of the world around them and the CAA's Student Art Show is a wonderful opportunity for them to creatively express and share their views with the public," said Kathleen Riemenschneider, CAA's Assistant Director of Education & Community Relations. "It is a thrill for the students, their families and friends, and CAA to display these works prominently" (http://www.cincinnatiarts.org/studentartshow).

Works were displayed at the Aronoff Center's Fifth Third Bank Theater from April 17-May 2.

The process of submitting the art, however, lasted much longer than the actual show. The process that Lily followed in order to be able to submit her work started many months ago. In fact, her art teacher, Mrs. Peak, assigned all of her students to create a work of art to send into the CAA. Mrs. Peak's students were required to show her a sketch before beginning the final piece, for only one entry per student was allowed. When they were finally done, however, Lily's was the only one that made the cut.

The piece that Lily entered was based upon Russian matryoshka dolls. She drew four dolls during different seasons along with holiday icons. Her work was done entirely in colored pencil. Congratulations to Lily on her accomplishment!

Fencing Team Completes Annual Competition

By James Colmar and Eric Guilford

Throughout the winter and spring, the Schilling foil and saber teams competed in the Southwest Ohio Highschool Fencing Association (SOHFA) tournament, a competition Schilling has participated in for the past seven years. Every Friday, they fenced one of six other schools, some of which fielded multiple teams. Clark, LaSalle, Learning Tree, Mason, Sycamore, and Walnut Hills have all gone head to head with our six person foil team and five person saber team.

The competition went very well, with the saber team (comprised mostly of fencers relatively new either to the blade or to the sport) losing only twice over the course of the league tournament. The foil team ran an even better record, losing only once. This got the saber team seeded at third and foil seeded at second in the weekend tournament, giving them rather favorable positions from the start.

On Sunday, March 14th, the fencing teams competed in a final tournament featuring all seven schools, and all of the teams from each school. Most of the schools sent multiple teams, with four to six students comprising each team. The Schilling School, however, sent only one team of three people (Jeff Honadle, Eric Guilford and Alex Fine) to be both the saber team and foil team. The foil team fenced a total of three bouts, resulting in a record of one win, one loss and one tie. The saber team, unfortunately, lost its first and only bout. Attendance was low due to previous engagements and injury, but spirits were high, and we all commend the students who came to represent us!

The members of the fencing team who competed in the final tournament (left to right: Alex Fine, Eric Guilford, Jeff Honadle)

Students Enjoy Field Trips

By Katherine Guilford

For the lower schoolers, field trips are always enthralling experiences. On May 7th, Mrs. Cooper took her 5th, 6th, and 8th graders to the Cincinnati Zoo. They went to see all the different groups of animals that they had studied in science class. While at the zoo, each student had to search for ten different examples from certain groups in a sort of animal scavenger hunt. Mrs. Cooper said of the trip, "I think it was a good experience for the students to see live examples of what we had been studying." Madeleine Gold, a student who went on the field trip, said, "There were cool bugs. One bug looked exactly like a dead leaf." In addition to the bugs, her favorite animals included the sand cats and the monkeys.

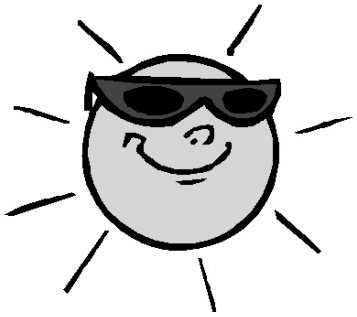
Later, on May 17th, Mrs. Auen also took her K-1 class to the Cincinnati Zoo. The kindergarteners and first graders said that they especially enjoyed seeing the owls, the penguins, a baby fox, poison dart frogs, and flamingos up close. On the same day, Mrs. Auen also took her students to the Krohn Conservatory to see the butterfly display.

Some of Mrs. Cooper's science students at the zoo.

Schilling Students Make Big Plans for Summer

By Michael Wriston

This summer many students of the Schilling School will be going off on vacation, taking summer classes, or participating in other interesting activities. Shelby Argabrite, a Junior, will be going back home to California this summer. Instead of going on any vacations, he plans to write more music and keep striving towards his goal of becoming 'Internet famous.' Shelby plans on coming up with a video game idea that he hopes to share with other people online. Despite the idea being complicated, Shelby wants to summarize it into a song and will send that song to various webcomics in the hopes that they will help fund it or have the connections to help produce it.



Adam Gold, a Senior, also has big plans for summer. His parents will be hosting a huge family reunion this summer at their lake house in Tennessee. Adam expects there to be about 30 people there. Adam is enrolled in Brigham Young University, and will be attending this fall. As part of the trek out to Utah, where BYU is located, he and his family will be visiting many interesting places along the way. He'll be stopping at Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Tetons, and visiting family along the way.

All in all, it is shaping up to be a beautiful summer. Whether or not you are moving on from Schilling or plan to return next year, the Schilling Nexus encourages you to get outside, have fun, and make friends.

Anatomy Class Takes on Dissections

By James Colmar

This past April, Mr. Heflin's Anatomy and Physiology class learned the difficult techniques of animal dissection. They did this to gain a concrete, mechanical understanding of human anatomy by examining animal parts of similar shape to those of humans. The class started out with the classical dissection animal, which frequently introduces rookies to the process: the frog. Through examining the inside of these sacrifices to science, they garnered a greater knowledge of the anatomical connections within, and gained a good deal of knowledge in the highly precise techniques required to effectively vivisect.

After that, the class moved on to studying the arteries and chambers of a pig heart (after clearing it with the synagogue, of course), which is very similar in shape and alignment to the human heart. This makes for a great teaching aid for the human circulatory system.

Awards Given for AMC Performance

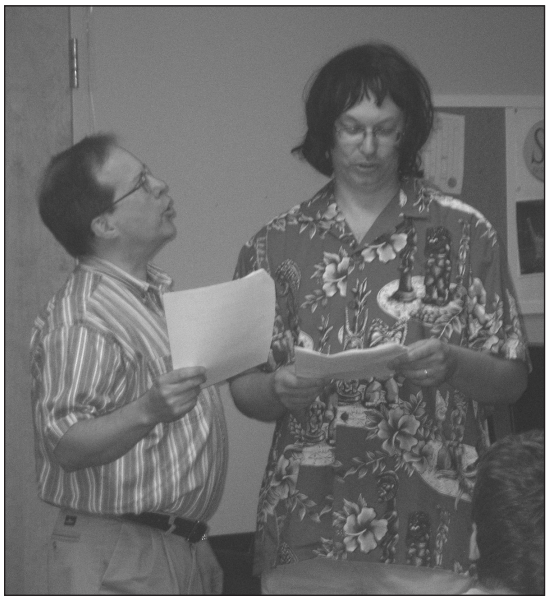
By James Colmar

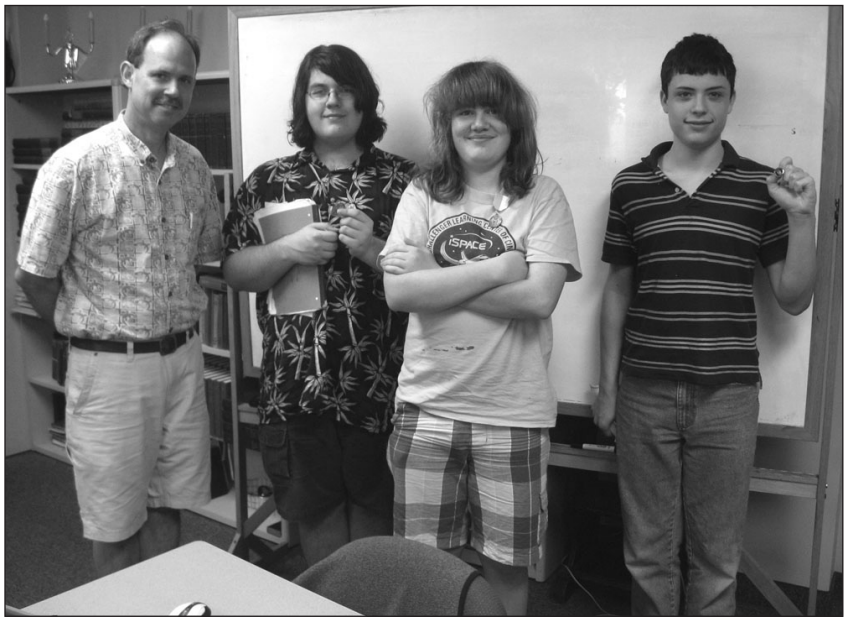
Every year, the Mathematical Association of America sends a round of standardized tests to schools all over the country to determine mathematical excellence. Participating schools receive and administer three forms of the exam, one for 7th and 8th graders, one for freshmen and sophomores and one for juniors and seniors. These three tests are called the American Mathematics Competition, or AMC 8/10/12. These tests, which have been made more and more difficult over recent years, determine schools' mathematical aptitude in relation to other schools. Extremely high scorers are sent to the prestigious AIME, the American Invitational Mathematics Examination, where the mathematical best of the best compete.

Last semester, on the morning of November 17, the Schilling students of appropriate age took the AMC 8. Several months later, on February 24, the older students took the AMC 10 and AMC 12. The results have finally been released, and the award winners were as follows. Third place for the AMC 8 went to Taylor Jones, second place to Joy Ficke and first place to Paul Shreve. For the AMC 10, only one award was given out, and it was received by Nathan Boyce. Finally, the AMC 12's winner was James Colmar.

Congratulations to all of the high scorers this year!

Above: *He is the very model of a modern Schilling graduate!* At the AMC awards ceremony, Mr. Heflin and Dr. Clegg performed a Gilbert and Sullivan-themed skit honoring James Colmar, AMC 12 top scorer and this year's valedictorian.





Left: The top Schilling scorers on each level of the AMC pose with Dr. Frank. Pictured, from left to right: Dr. Frank, James Colmar (top scorer, AMC 12), Nathan Boyce (top scorer, AMC 10), Paul Shreve (top scorer, AMC 8).

Interview with Mr. Sunderman

By Seth Ficke

Recently, I interviewed Mr. Sunderman to find out a bit more about him. Here are the results.

Q: Tell me a little bit about yourself.

A: I'm from Cincinnati; I've lived here my entire life. A friend says I'm a brick in the city wall.

Q: From which school did you graduate?

A: I graduated from UC and got my masters degree at the College of Mount St. Joseph.

Q: My sources among your students have told me you refuse to admit your age. Is there a reason for this?

A: Last year I didn't share that information with my class. I told them that I would tell them at the end of the year, and it got to be a running joke. I'm 57.

Q: What made you decide to teach at Schilling?

A: I quit being a computer programmer and [decided that] I wanted to teach. The teaching jobs I was able to get were not very satisfying. Dr. Schilling's husband was my attorney. He asked me one day, "why aren't you teaching at a school?" and I told him I had quit my job. He then asked me if I would be interested in teaching at a gifted school. The rest is history.

Q: If you could change anything at Schilling, what would it be?

A: I would make the classes a little larger, but just a little.

Q: What do you think about the school-wide reading project that we are currently doing?

A: The book contains a lot of information that many of our students can use. Some students could use more motivation and more directed goal setting.

Q: What is your favorite class to teach?

A: I like to teach math, and reading and 20th century popular music.

Schilling Students Compete in Russian Olympiada

By Katherine Guilford

The Russian class, consisting of eighth graders Joy Ficke and Paul Shreve, recently went on a field trip to participate in the Olympiada of Spoken Russian, an event hosted annually by the American Council of Teachers of Spoken Russian. The event this year was held at Ohio State University. The competition rates each student on his or her knowledge of the Russian language, with the primary focus being on how proficiently the student can speak the language. There are three different events in the Olympiada. In the first, the student has to converse with the judges about himself, and answer different questions. For first year Russian students, these questions might be simple, such as "What is your name?" but for fourth year students, the questions might be quite complex, such as "What is the nature of art?" In the second section, the student has to demonstrate his knowledge of Russian culture, such as notable figures in Russian history, and what they have accomplished. The third and final event is the reading of Russian poetry, where the student has to recite poetry in Russian. The first year students have to read the poem aloud, but the more advanced students also have to memorize the poem.

Although the main event was the Olympiada, the students also participated in several other Russian themed games and activities such as Russian Scrabble, a form of the game using only Cyrillic Russian letters. This can be especially difficult for beginning students because, although many of the letters resemble English letters, they actually make different sounds than the similar English letters.

The class also participated in the decorating of Pysakny eggs, an ancient tradition in the Ukraine. The eggs are decorated, not by painting on them, but by instead putting beeswax on the surface of the egg, and then repeatedly dying the eggs in different colored dyes. The eggs have different designs drawn on them in wax after each color is applied.

In the end, the Olympiada was a success for the Schilling students, as both Joy and Paul received a silver medal ranking in the competition.

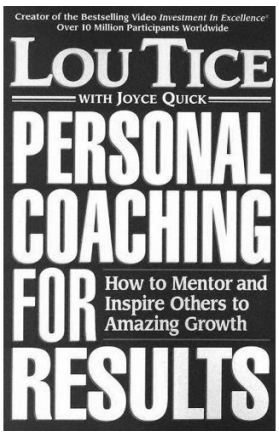
School-Wide "Reading for Success" Promotes Goal-Setting

By Katherine Guilford

Many know about the school-wide reading project involving the book Personal Coaching for Results by Lou Tice. However, few know the story behind the story. In January, Dr. Schilling attended a three-day Pacific Institute Training conference. There, Dr. Schilling spoke to a man named Mark Gabis, who said that he was able to expand his single community college to twenty-one colleges in four states. The most amazing part is that he attributes his successes to the book, Personal Coaching for Results. Dr. Schilling went back to her school rejuvenated and eager to test out some of her new coaching techniques on her students.

However, Dr. Schilling's intent to motivate her students runs deeper than a brief inspiration. Before the seminar, she was asking various students what their future goals were. To her surprise, she found that they had either few or no goals! So, Dr. Schilling set out to find an appropriate project on goal-setting for her students. The book Personal Coaching for Results, exclusively oriented towards goal-setting for schools and individuals, was the answer to her prayers. She set out on an endeavor never attempted in Schilling School history.

The assignment was set up so that both the students and the faculty read one chapter in Person Coaching for Results a week. The high school students actually had to read the text, whilst the lower-schoolers' parents and teachers had to read the book before relaying the information to their children. Once a week, the eighth through twelfth graders gather together to discuss the chapter of that week.



According to Mr. Heflin, a Schilling School teacher, reading the book has been "a good way for students to grow," and encouraged them to "be more positive about life… and expand upon their thinking methods." Of course, he amends that although some students have not taken the book to heart, many have decided that they want to learn what the book has to offer. In fact, some students have made significant changes in their attitudes and outlooks. Though they decide how much they want to adopt, the ones who get the benefit are the ones who take the book to heart.

Japan Featured in Sunny Cincy

By Claire McMahon

Want to take a breath of fresh air and enjoy a whole other country while staying in town? Then today is the perfect time for your experience! The Krohn Conservatory has been hosting the 15th International Butterfly Show, focusing on "Butterflies of Japan". Butterflies will be let loose on visitors who tour the Japanese-inspired flora and fauna gardens. These gardens also feature an exhibit of the Japanese tradition of the cherry blossom trees. The Sakura exhibit was open through May 11, followed by the Tanabata bamboo exhibit through June 1st. There is still time to catch the last exhibit, the Otsukimi (moon) exhibit, which will be held through June 20th.

These exhibits will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, and tickets are $6 each.

Krohn Conservatory.

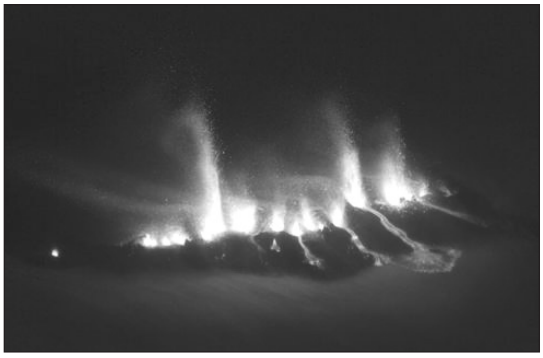
Icelandic Volcano Erupts, Disrupts Air Travel

By James Colmar

Eyjafjallajökull, an ice-capped mountain in southern Iceland, has erupted twice this year. The first, a relatively harmless eruption, occurred on March 20, to relatively little national attention, though it did force the evacuation of half a thousand locals. On the 14th of April, it erupted again with between ten and twenty times the force of the first eruption. More disconcerting, however, was the ash cloud that exploded forth, and continued to do so for several weeks thereafter.

This ash cloud permeated the atmosphere around Iceland, and disrupted mainland European air traffic for six days on average in mid-April when it drifted southeast (on April 20 reaching as far as Kazakhstan). Many visitors to Europe, depending on their time of arrival, either had to extend their stay or postpone their trip until the ash storm cleared. Notable issues arising from these delays were President Obama's inability to attend the funeral of the Polish President, and Sir David Attenborough and his crew becoming stuck in the Norwegian Arctic during filming of a documentary.

Although air traffic was quickly reinstated once the worst of the ash cloud had passed, Eyjafjallajökull expelled ash for a good while thereafter at a lesser rate. As of the time of writing this article, well into the month of May, the stubborn volcano still refuses to cease its barrage, and is not expected to for a little while still. However chances are, it is winding down, and no casualties have been reported. It seems the worst part is over, and we can all breathe easy (so to speak).



Earthquake Trends: A Report on Natural Phenomena

By Seth Ficke

If you have been following the news for the past few months, you may be surprised at the large amount of tectonic activity reported. First, there was the earthquake in Haiti, then the one in Chile, the eruption of the Iceland volcano, and the massively fatal quake in China. *60 Minutes* also commented on the impending release of the San Andreas fault, stating that over a billion dollars are being spent to prepare San Francisco--the bay bridge in particular--for what geologists say will be the first major earthquake in modern times with an epicenter directly under an urban center.

I set out to uncover and analyze the data detailing these unusual occurrences after receiving an assignment from Dr. Frank regarding periodic trends in natural phenomena.. I dredged up several data sets, each containing data going back to the late 1800s when seismographs were first implemented in laboratories around the world to record quakes and calculate their locations and intensities. Prior data tends to be inaccurate, as accounts are frequently exaggerated and there are not simultaneous, accurate descriptions of the event, necessary to triangulate the epicenter of an earthquake and work out its intensity.

The available accurate data described an upward curve which could be modeled by both sinusoidally, (a periodic wave) or exponentially (a curve that is continually accelerating). The exponential model presents numerous problems, such as an apocalypse of moving ground in the near future, and an almost complete lack of quakes thousands of years ago (impossible, as evidenced by historical accounts). The sinusoidal model, however, follows the same trends as millions of other natural phenomena, such as the presence (or lack) of sunspots, the magnitude of the hole in the ozone layer, the temperature of the atmosphere, etc.

After considerable thought, taking into consideration arguments which I have not the time or space to publish here, I have come to the conclusion that the current excess of earthquakes is due to our chronological position on the sinusoidal trend previously described. this implies that earthquakes will become more common until approximately 2150 c.e., after which, over the next 300 years, their rate of incidence will decrease to a fifth of the current rate.

Trends in 3D Entertainment

By Michael Wriston

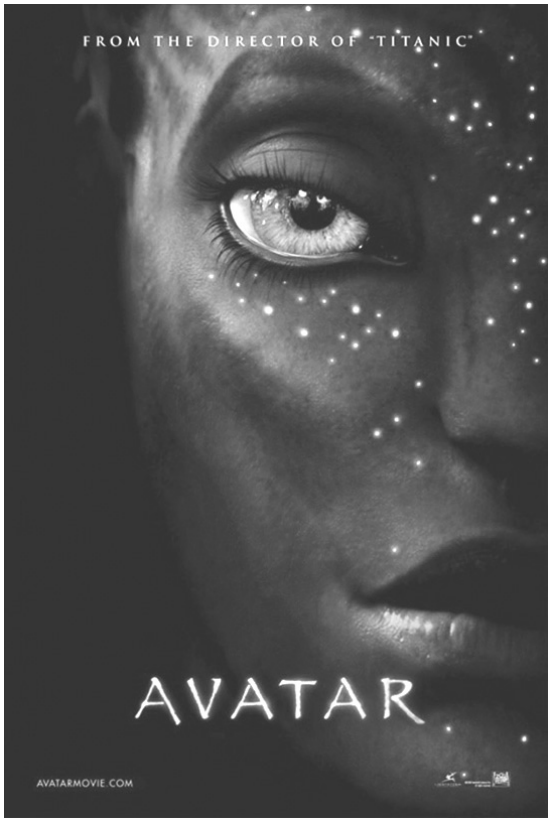
A few weeks ago I read an interview with the director of the movie Avatar, James Cameron. The interviewer asked Cameron about the use of 3D in his film, and Cameron responded that he saw 3D technology as the 'color' of today's movie industry. When films were first made with color, directors highlighted the new technology by making the colors very vibrant, making them stand out like a sore thumb. Cameron asserted that that was what moviemakers today were doing with 3D software, and he hopes that someday soon movies will stop focusing on the 'gimmicks' that are currently prevalent in today's 3D movies (things leaping out of the screen at you, for instance), and will instead start to use the technology as a viable way to make films come alive.

James Cameron's goal seems to have been achieved. There will be more 3D films with RealD (the most popular 3D projection technology) made in 2010 than all of the 3D films in the previous four years combined. In the next six months eleven movies will be released in RealD 3D, almost two per month. Future releases include the latest films in the Harry Potter, Toy Story, Shrek, Saw, and Chronicles of Narnia series, which have previously been major hits.

3D movie technology has come a long way from the old red/cyan color filtering 3D glasses. Now they have head mounted displays, and liquid crystal shutter glasses that alternately let light in through each lens, letting each eye see a different image. There is a way to print 2D objects that makes them look 3D, and a projector and screen that can create a 3D video that doesn't require any glasses!

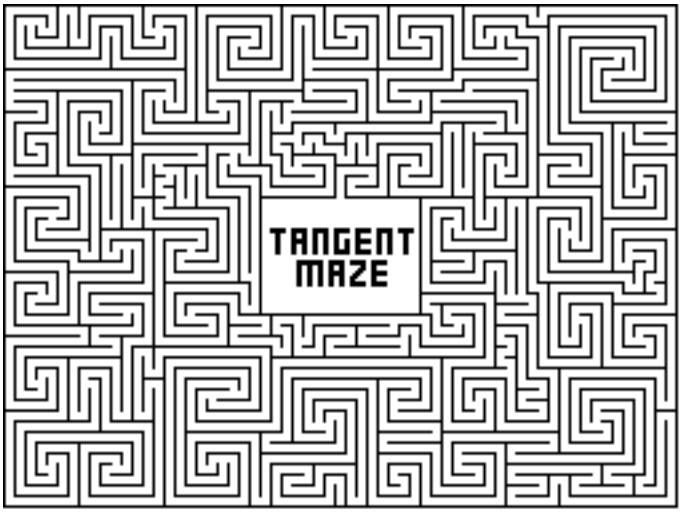
One of the most interesting things about the future of 3D is the possibility of having 3D technology in the home. There is currently one completely 3D TV station, Sky 3D, which was started by the powerful British Sky Broadcasting Company. ESPN will start a channel dedicated to showing 3D sporting events on June 11th. It's likely to show up to 85 live events a year, all in 3D. There are many other channels which already frequently show 3D content (mostly in Korea and Japan), and there are plans for many other 3D channels, including a movies "on demand" channel.

The entertainment industry is driving forward with new technology and innovations, trying to spread 3D media through theaters and home television sets. Within a few years, it's likely we're going to experience most of our visual media in a three dimensional format.



Avatar, James Cameron's 3D feat.

Summer Fun: can you complete the maze?



Summer Fun: Steps of Cincinnati

By Claire McMahon

The historic city of Cincinnati has sprung to life in the past few weeks as the weather changes: summer has arrived!
The trees, flowers, and other parts of nature have all awakened to greet the beautiful days that are to follow, and so can you.

Luckily for the people of the Cincinnati area, enjoying all the possibilities of summer is just a step out the door. There are many sprawling parks and cool green spaces, as well as Cincinnati's historical man-made "steps" that span the city's many vallies and hills, from the west side to the east side. These steps were once used as a simple and efficient means of transportation over the hills of Cincinnati. They have since become the newest attraction; a diamond in the rough of Cincinnati's history, for all walks of life.These steps were first commonly used as a regular way to get around Cincinnati's treacherous geography, by school children, factory workers, businessmen, and the like. These steps were a way of life and connected the city together.

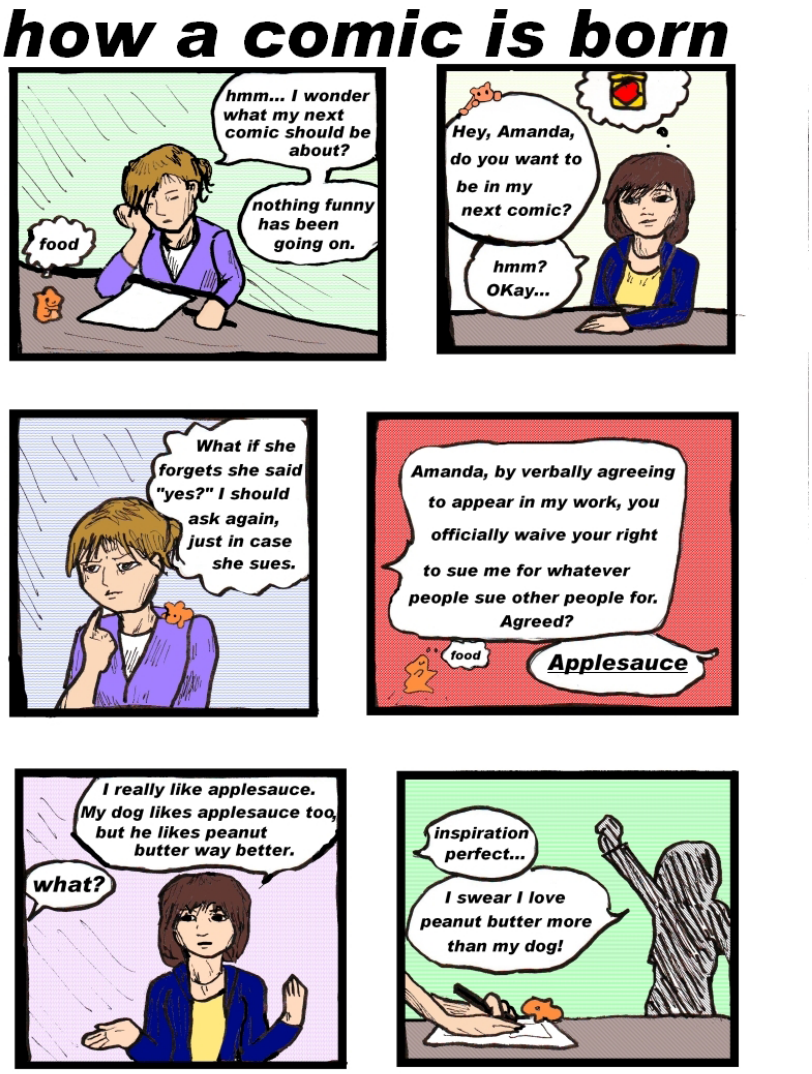
Although they have become slightly forlorn and some steps all together forgotten, the stairs are an important secret of Cincinnati. If you would like to appreciate one of the pre-made walks, here is a sample:

A Science Stroll (2.3 miles):
This walk is the oldest and most popular route, connecting downtown near Procter & Gamble to Mt. Adams. You may park your car in the city lot on 6th Street between Broadway and Sycamore, or at one of the 2-hour parking spaces around P&G. The walk begins between Sycamore and Main St., next to the twin-towered plaza on 5th St, and gives a marvelous outlook of what life in Cincinnati used to be like.

You can find full instructions as to how to conduct this walk and many others in Mary Anne Dusablon's book, The Steps of Cincinnati.

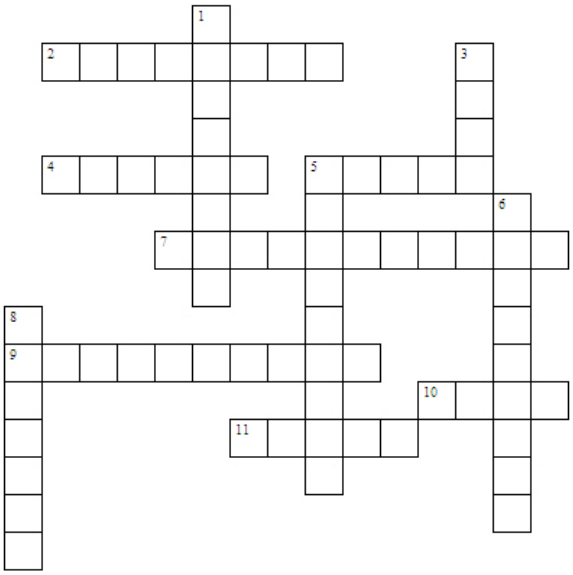
Schilling Humor

By Katherine Guilford



Schilling Crossword

By Seth Ficke



ACROSS
2. Everything, ever.
4. Flying legend
5. Long and slithery.
7. A very principled principal.
9. Your parents drive one.
10. Definitely not allowed in your lunchroom.
11. After breakfast

DOWN
1. Qwertyui.....
3. Delicious food made on birthdays.
5. Gifted school
6. A derivative of the Latin word "spiro"
8. Did you vote on a name for the _____?