

## The Sweet Taste Of Panther Victory

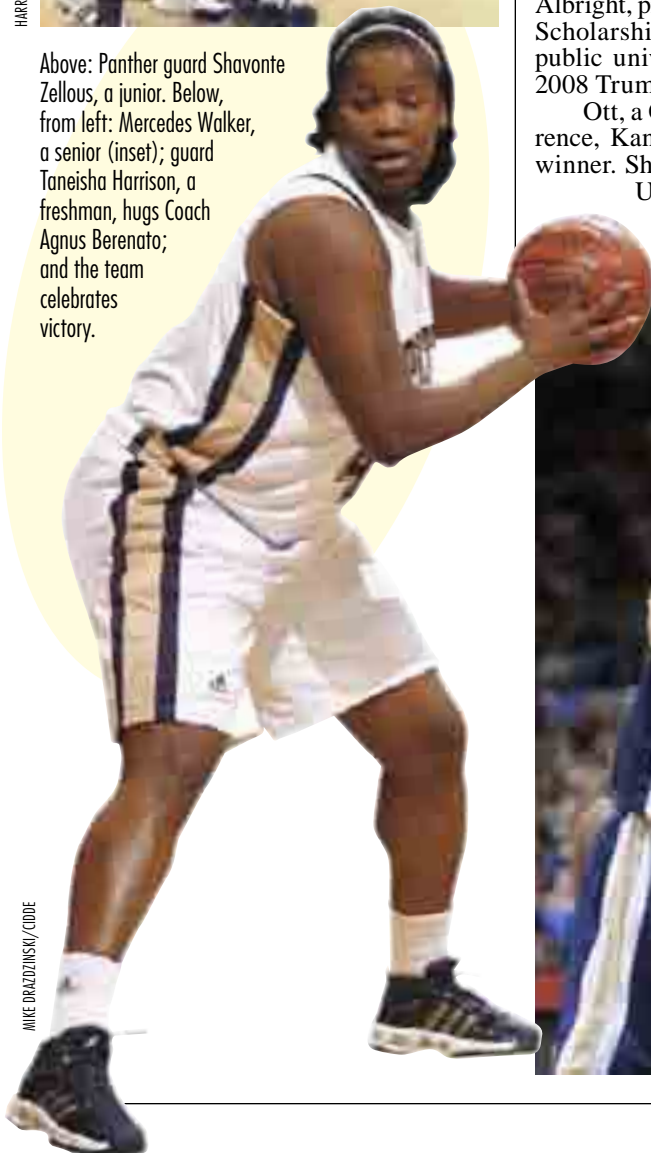
The Pitt women's basketball team worked its way to the Sweet 16 for the first time in school history. The Panthers stunned Baylor University with a 67-59 victory in the NCAA Tournament second round on March 24. Led by Shavonte Zellous, a former track sprinter turned shooting guard, the Panthers climbed from a 28-26 halftime deficit to a 52-41 lead midway through the second half, and held on.

As of press time, the Pitt Panthers were headed to the regional round in Spokane, Wash., to play Stanford University on Saturday.



HARRY BLOOMBERG

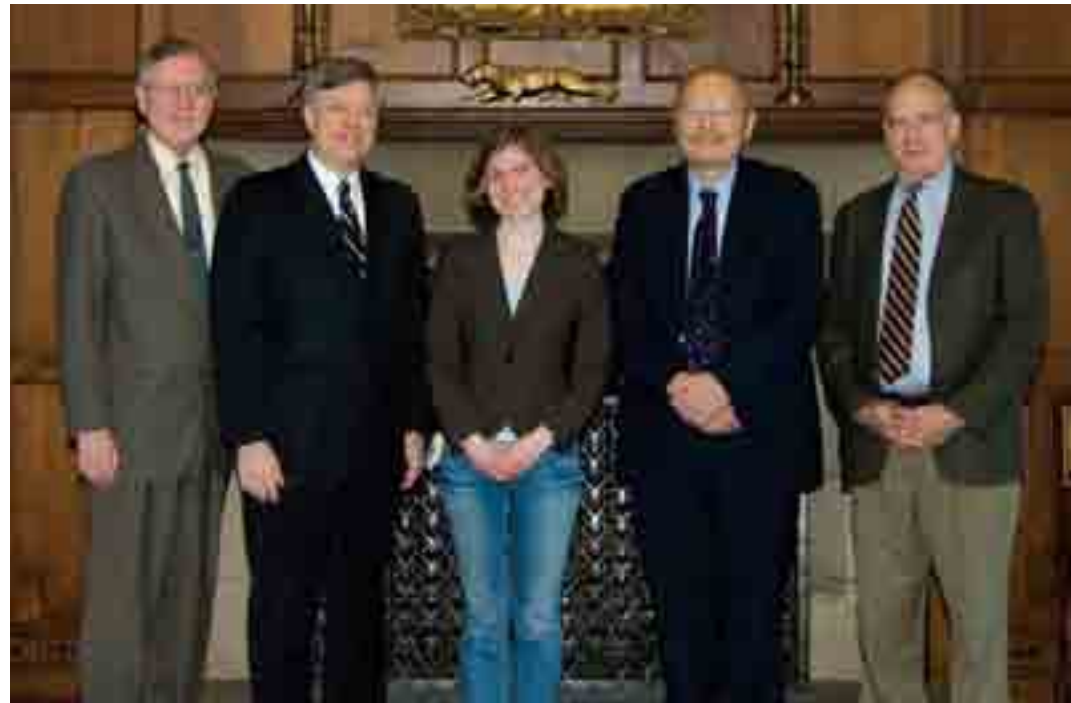
Above: Panther guard Shavonte Zellous, a junior. Below, from left: Mercedes Walker, a senior (inset); guard Taneisha Harrison, a freshman, hugs Coach Agnus Berenato; and the team celebrates victory.



MIKE DRAZDZINSKI/CODE

## Pitt Junior Eleanor Ott Named 2008 Truman Scholar

Pitt is Pennsylvania's only public university to win a Truman



MARY JANE BENT/CODE

From left: Pitt Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor James V. Maher; Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg; Truman Scholar Eleanor Ott; University Honors College Dean G. Alec Stewart; and Honors College Director of Programming Edward McCord

By Amanda Leff

University of Pittsburgh Honors College junior Eleanor Ott—a triple major in chemistry, history, and French—has been named a 2008 Harry S. Truman Scholarship winner for her superior academic and leadership abilities.

The scholarship was announced by former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, president of The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation. Pitt is the only public university in Pennsylvania with a 2008 Truman Scholar.

Ott, a Chancellor's Scholar and a Lawrence, Kan., native, is Pitt's 11th Truman winner. She is one of 65 students from 55 U.S. colleges and universities to have been chosen as a 2008 Truman Scholar. The recipi-

ents were selected from 595 candidates from 283 institutions across the country.

"The University of Pittsburgh is one of this country's most consistent producers of high-achieving students," said Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "Ellie Ott's selection as a Truman Scholar extends that enviable record. She is a very worthy recipient of this high national honor, given her exemplary record as an outstanding student, a committed contributor to the broader community, and a highly effective

organization that she helped found in 2005. In cooperation with this organization and Catholic Charities, Ott has been instrumental in assisting local refugees to obtain clothing and in starting a mentoring program to develop job skills, in which Pitt students work one-on-one with refugees.

In addition to pursuing work with refugees, Ott is dedicated to working with youth in local schools. She is an aide for the English as a Second Language class at Schenley High School and has mentored at-risk elementary and middle school students with the Beginning With Books and First Step After School programs.

Ott's long-term goals are to earn a master's degree in international affairs as well as a master's degree in public administration and work with Human Rights Watch, a nongovernmental organization dedicated to protecting all human rights. She aspires to one day be a United Nations Protection Officer in a refugee camp as an advocate for the refugees.

Congress established the Truman Scholarship in 1975 in memory of the 33rd U.S. president. It is a highly competitive, merit-based federal award to college juniors who wish to attend graduate or professional school in preparation for careers in government, the nonprofit sector, or elsewhere in public service. The scholarship, which can total up to \$30,000, will benefit this year's 65 winners, who will pursue graduate studies in the United States or abroad in a wide variety of fields.

Award recipients also receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Truman Scholars Leadership Week May 13-18 at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., and the awards ceremony May 18 at the Harry S. Truman Library in Independence, Mo.

**"The University of Pittsburgh is one of this country's most consistent producers of high-achieving students."**

—Mark A. Nordenberg



HARRY BLOOMBERG

# Women's History Month

Sister Margery Kunder

## Making a Difference



PHOTOS BY BRADEN WOLFE/CODICE

Sister Margery Kunder welcomes students to St. Benedict the Moor School in the Hill District

By Patricia Lomando White

Sister Margery Kunder, principal of St. Benedict the Moor School in the Hill District, turned her childhood passion of playing school into her life's work.

After years of making her sisters and neighborhood friends "play school," Kunder took a major step toward becoming a teacher during her senior year at Mount Gallitzin High School in Baden, which was staffed by Sisters of St. Joseph nuns. Kunder decided to join the Sisters of St. Joseph, an order that designates education as one of its many ministries.

It was a move that garnered some skepticism, Kunder remembered with a smile.

"I prayed about" entering the convent, she said. "My Dad said, 'Margaret, I'll give you six months.'"

Her father's skepticism was understandable, Kunder acknowledged. "I went to all the proms, and I never wanted to miss or be left out of anything, but joining the order was something I felt I needed to consider."

The decision was one that has served Kunder—and hundreds of her students—well. In 2006, she celebrated 50 years as a Sister of St. Joseph. She began her teaching career in 1959 and taught at various schools throughout the Pittsburgh and Altoona-Johnstown dioceses. For the past 29 years, she has served as St. Benedict's principal.

She attributes her commitment to service to her parents. "My parents were always helping others. They had a life of service, and they instilled that in us. The lesson was that you have a lot, so give what you can," Kunder said.

Her parents, who went through the eighth grade, also were firm believers in education.

Kunder earned a Bachelor of Sci-

ence degree in education at Carlow College in 1968. Four years later, she received her Master of Education degree, with a minor in reading and language arts, from the University of Pittsburgh. Kunder's three sisters also are college graduates with professional careers.

In Kunder's early teaching career, there were often 50 students in her classroom. Although Kunder has learned much on the job, she said Pitt also helped to prepare her for her career. She said she had many excellent professors.

In 1979, seven years after receiving her Pitt degree, Kunder became St. Benedict's principal. "I wanted to work in a school where I felt I could continue a good quality education for students in a low-economic area. I knew it was an African American school, and I wanted to be there."

Kunder said St. Benedict provides a structured and safe environment where students can learn and grow. The school employs six sisters as teachers, three full-time and three part-time, as well as nine lay teachers. While it is a Catholic school, St. Benedict does not consider religion in accepting students. "We accept everyone—85 percent of the students are of different denominations, only 15 percent are Catholic," she said. "We're here to teach the good news of Jesus that proclaims social justice and gospel values."

Each school day, 12 buses travel to St. Benedict, filled with students from across the region, including the North Side, South Side, Hazelwood, East Liberty, and North Hills, among others. Students' families pay tuition, but the school's operational costs are heavily subsidized by the Extra Mile Education Foundation, the Pittsburgh Diocese, and St. Benedict the Moor Parish.

The Extra Mile foundation supports the education of urban children in six Pittsburgh

parochial schools, including St. Benedict. The schools are located in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, and the students are primarily African American. About three-fourths of the 800 students at these schools qualify for the free- or reduced-price lunch program, and 60 percent of them live in single-family homes.

"Without the help of Extra Mile, the school would have to close," Kunder said.

Ambrose Murray, Extra Mile executive director, said the schools are known for their quality of education, discipline, and mutual respect. Ninety-five percent of Extra Mile students attend school daily, and parent participation in education conferences is about 98 percent.

Murray calls Kunder an exceptional education leader. "She knows what to do and how to get it done. She has a little inclination towards perfection, near perfection. She wants what's best so that these kids succeed."

Like any other school, St. Benedict faces its share of problems. Murray said Kunder is an excellent problem solver. Kunder said she encourages teachers to keep an open line of communication with parents, calling when student's grades are going down, but also when students are doing well.

"People don't forget Margery," Murray noted, recalling the time when a former student wrote her as he was finishing Temple Medical School in Philadelphia. "'I'm graduating,' the student wrote, 'and I'm graduating because of you.'"

Adam Idriss, another former St. Benedict student, described Kunder "as a sincere and thoughtful educator."

Idriss, a 2006 Truman Scholar at Pitt and a Pitt graduate, is finishing his first year of medical school at Johns Hopkins University. "She has a passion for education and cares deeply about the students and the



school. She is well respected by students and teachers," he said.

Idriss credits his success, in part, to Kunder's influence. "The combination of Sister Margery and the environment that she cultivates helps to foster success at St. Benedict and beyond," he said.

Kunder said that today's students participate in more activities and are more knowledgeable than their predecessors. Their learning needs to be challenging, Kunder said, adding that the teacher is still the key to successful learning.

"If the teacher is enthusiastic and conveys that message to her students, they will be successful," she said. "I tell my teachers, 'Don't discount anyone.'"

As principal, Kunder maintains structure for the students and the teachers. She also enlists the help of parents. "St. Benedict's believes in getting the parents involved," she said. "All are asked to volunteer, and they do so in the classroom, cafeteria, and library. We have a grandparent on the playground and, in the summer, parents help to get the school ready for the coming year." Parents also are required to personally pick up students' report cards.

Kunder aims to create a network, where St. Benedict's students receive support from their families, the school's teachers, religious guidance, and the community through Extra Mile.

"I feel good about walking into the school every day. And I'm truly happy when I see the students come back after graduation to tell us what they are doing."

## PittChronicle

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# Happenings



"Design for a screen" by Venessa Bell, Carnegie Museum of Art, through May 18

## Concerts

**SHANGHAI, CHINA: Shanghai Quartet, today**, Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society, New Hazlett Theatre, 6 Allegheny Square East, includes music by Zhou Long and Bright Sheng, survivors of Mao's Cultural Revolution, 412-624-4129, www.pittsburghchambermusic.org.

**Audrey Chen and Frederic Blondy**, improvisational experimental music on cello and prepared piano, 8 p.m. **April 2**, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, Oakland, Music on the Edge, Pitt Department of Music, 412-361-2262.

## Exhibitions

**Carnegie Museum of Art, Great British Art: 200 Years of Watercolors, Drawings, and Prints From the Bank of New York Mellon Collection, through May 18; Ecology.Design.Synergy, through June 1**, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622-3131, www.cmoa.org.

**Andy Warhol Museum, Canis Major: Andy Warhol's Cats and Dogs (and Other Party Animals), through May 4; Neke Carson: Eyeball Portraits and Beyond + Neke Paints Andy '72, through June 1**, 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.

**Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, One Potter's Touch Affects a Generation of Artists and Their Communities, Kerr Gallery, through April 4**, 1815 Metropolitan St., North Side, 412-322-1773, www.manchesterguild.org.

**707 Penn Gallery, Suggestion/Submission, through April 5**, 707 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-325-7017, www.pgharts.org.

**Wood Street Gallery, Urban Living, through April 5**, 601 Wood St., Downtown, 412-471-5605, www.woodstreetgalleries.org.

**KOA Art Gallery, Affairs of the Art 2008, through April 11**, Blaisdell Hall, Pitt-Bradford, 814-362-0248, www.upb.pitt.edu.

**Silver Eye Center for Photography, In Search of America**, photographs by David Graham, **through April 12**, 1015 E. Carson St., South Side, 412-431-1810, www.silvereye.org.

**Mattress Factory, Gestures: Illustrations of Catastrophe and Remote Times, through May 11**, 500 Sampsonia Way, North Side, 412-231-3169, www.mattress.org.

**Carnegie Science Center, Bodies: The Exhibition, through May 31**, 1 Allegheny Ave., North Shore, 412-237-3400, www.carnegiesciencecenter.org.

## Lectures/Seminars/Readings

**"International Human Rights Courts—Democratic? Legitimate?"** Andreas Follesdal, director of research at the University of Oslo's Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, **noon today**, 4130 Posvar Hall, Pitt's European Studies Center and European Union Center of Excellence, 412-648-8517, www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/euce.html.

**"Shabbos Goyim and the Re-creation of Jewish Space in Present-day Poland,"** Erica Lehrer, professor in Concordia University's Department of History, 1:30 p.m. **today**, 2500 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Center for Russian and East European Studies and Jewish Studies Program, 412-648-7404, crees@pitt.edu.

**"When the Waves Ruled Britania: Geography, Empire, and the Discipline of the Sea,"** Jonathan Scott, professor in Pitt's Department of History, 4 p.m. **today**, 3703 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Department of History and the European Studies Center, 412-648-7487.

**"Mathematical Representation,"** Emily Grosholz, professor of philosophy at Pennsylvania State University, 12:05 p.m. **April 1**, 817R Cathedral of Learning, 412-624-1052, www.pitt.edu/~pittcntr.

**"Fertility and Economic Growth in Ukraine,"** Svitlana Maksymenko, professor in Pitt's Department of Economics, **noon**

**April 2**, 4217 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Center for Russian and East European Studies, 412-648-7407.

**"In Sisterhood: The Women's Movement in Pittsburgh, 1967-1997,"** Pat Ulbrich, visiting scholar in Pitt's Women's Studies Program, **noon April 2**, 2201 Posvar Hall, Pitt's Women's Studies Program, www.pitt.edu/~wstudies/news.html.

**"The Iranian Scientific Community and Its Diaspora After the Islamic Revolution,"** Mazyar Lotfalian, a visiting professor of contemporary issues in Pitt's University Center for International Studies, 5:30 p.m. **April 2**, 4130 Posvar Hall, sponsored by Pitt's Ridgway Center for International Security, Consortium for Educational Resources on Islamic Studies and Global Studies Program, and the Middle East Gulf Initiative of Pittsburgh, 412-624-2918.

**Andrew Zawacki**, author of *By Reason of Breakings*, literary reading, 8:30 p.m. **April 2**, 501 Cathedral of Learning, 2007-08 Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series, oaks@pitt.edu.

**University Art Gallery, Studio Arts Student Exhibition, April 2-27**, Frick Fine Arts Building, Pitt's Department of Studio Arts, 412-648-2430.

**Jan Beatty**, author of *Red Sugar*, poetry reading and book signing, **noon-1 p.m. April 3**, University of Pittsburgh Book Center, 4000 Fifth Ave., 412-383-2493, mes5@pitt.edu.

**"The Relevance of Homeland Security Issues in the EU-US Relationship,"** Durante Rapacciuolo, a fellow in Pitt's European Union Center of Excellence and European Studies Center, **noon April 3**, 4217 Posvar Hall, Pitt's European Studies Center, 412-648-8517, www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce/euce.html.

**"The Aesthetic Value of the Sublime,"** Patrizia Lombardo, professor of French and comparative literature at University of Geneva, 5 p.m. **April 3**, 149 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt's Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, Cultural Studies Program, and Distinguished University Professor of English Colin MacCabe, losagio+@pitt.edu.

**"The Stratigraphy and Paleocology of the Chesapeake Bay and Watershed,"** Grace S. Brush, a professor in Johns Hopkins University's Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering, 3:45 p.m. **April 3**, 203 Thaw Hall, Pitt's Department of Geology and Planetary Science Spring 2007 Colloquium Series, eelliott@pitt.edu or www.geology.pitt.edu/colloquium.html.

**"Fantasies of Children's Literature,"** Laurie Langbauer, professor of English at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 4 p.m. **April 3**, 501 Cathedral

of Learning, Pitt Department of English and the Children's Literature Program, www.childrenslit.pitt.edu.

**"Predictive Genetic Tests for Complex Diseases,"** Robert C. Elston, director of Case Western Reserve University's Division of Genetic and Molecular Epidemiology and professor of epidemiology and biostatistics, **noon April 4**, A115 Crabtree Lecture Hall, Fifth Annual C.C. Li Memorial Lecture, Pitt Department of Human Genomics and Graduate School of Public Health, www.publichealth.pitt.edu.

## Opera/Theater/Dance

**Paul Taylor Dance Company, April 1**, Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center, Pitt-Johnstown, 1-800-846-2728, www.upj.pitt.edu/ArtsCenter.

**Big Love** by playwright Charles Mee, **April 2-13**, Henry Heymann Theatre, Stephen Foster Memorial, University of Pittsburgh Repertory Theater, 412-624-7529, www.play.pitt.edu

**The Miser**, by Moliere, **April 3-5**, Ferguson Theater, Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company, 724-836-7483, sas114@pitt.edu.

**Amalga-Motion, April 3-5**, Trees Hall Dance Studio, University of Pittsburgh Dance Ensemble, 412-648-8262, gillis@pitt.edu.

**Lavendar Lizards and Lilac Landmines: Layla's Dream**, directed by Linwood Sloan, **through April 5**, Kuntu Repertory Theatre, Seventh-Floor Auditorium, Alumni Hall, 412-624-7298, www.kuntu.org.

**Aida** by Verdi, **through April 6**, Benedum Center, 801 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Opera, 412-281-0912, www.pittsburghopera.com.

**Fiddler on the Roof**, **through April 6**, Byham Theater, 101 Sixth St., Downtown, Pittsburgh Musical Theater, 412-539-0999, www.pittsburghmusicals.com.

**A Number**, **through April 6**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, 412-316-1600, www.ppt.org.

**Late Night Catechism**, **through April 20**, City Theatre's Hamburg Studio, 1300 Bingham St., South Side, 412-431-2489, www.citytheatrecompany.org.

**The Big Bang**, **through April 27**, Theater Square Cabaret, 655 Penn Ave., Downtown, CLO Cabaret Theater, 412-281-2822, www.clocabaret.com.

## Miscellaneous

**A Symposium: The Slave Ship in History and Literature**, featuring novelist Barry Unsworth, Pitt professor Marcus Rediker, and others, 3 p.m. **April 2**, Chancellor's Conference Room, 2500 Posvar Hall, Department of History and School of Arts and Sciences, 412-648-7451.

**Eighth Annual University of Pittsburgh Integration Bee**, 8-10 p.m. **April 3**, 343 Alumni Hall, open to all Pitt undergraduates, sponsored by Pitt Honors College and Department of Mathematics. Register at rubin@math.pitt.edu.

**Pitt Women Connect: Annual Leadership Conference for Pitt Alumnae and Students**, **noon-4 p.m. April 4**, Connolly Ballroom, Alumni Hall, 412-624-8215, www.alumni.pitt.edu.

**"Narco-Epics Unbound: New Narrative Territories, Affective Aesthetics, and Ethical Paradox,"** Pitt's Fifth International Latin American Cultural Studies Conference, **April 4-5**, Pittsburgh Athletic Association's main dining room for discussions, Frick Fine Arts Building Auditorium for films, sponsored by Pitt Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures and others, schedule available at www.ucis.pitt.edu/clas/events.shtml.

## Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

**Ava Puccio**, School of Nursing, "Effect of Short Periods of Normobaric Hypoxia on Local Brain Tissue Oxygenation and Cerebrospinal Fluid Oxidative Stress Markers in Severe Traumatic Brain Injury," 9 a.m. **today**, Room 331 Victoria Building.

**John R. Shaffer**, Department of Human Genetics in the Graduate School of Public Health, "Genetic Epidemiology of Longitudinal Change in Bone Mineral Density in Mexican Americans," 11 a.m. **today**, Room A312 Crabtree Hall.

**Jean A. Grace**, Department of English, "Working Knowledge: Composition and the Teaching of Professional Writing," 2 p.m. **today**, Room 527 Cathedral of Learning.

**Molly Stitt-Fischer**, Department of Environment and Occupational Health, "Nitric Oxide-Mediated Signaling in Pulmonary Endothelial Cells," 2 p.m. **today**, Fifth-Floor Conference Room, Bridgeside Point.

**Ning Zhang**, Department of Anthropology, "Donkey Friends: Travel, Voluntary Associations, and the Public Sphere in Urban China," 1 p.m. **April 1**, Room 3106 Posvar Hall.

**Min-Mei Shih**, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, "Multiple Perspectives of the Functional Status of Stroke Survivors at 3 Months Post-Stroke," 9 a.m. **April 3**, Room 4065 Forbes Tower.

**Wentao Feng**, Department of Biostatistics, "Inference, Power and Sample Size for Adaptive Two-Stage Treatment Strategies," 10 a.m. **April 3**, Room A522 Crabtree Hall.

**Jessica L. Hughes**, School of Medicine's Molecular Virology and Microbiology Graduate Program, "Borrelia burgdorferi Surface-Localized Proteins Expressed During Persistent Murine Infection and the Importance of BBA 66 During Infection of C3H/HeJ Mice," 2 p.m. **April 3**, Room S120 Biomedical Science Tower.

**Zvi Biener**, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, "The Unity of Science in Early-Modern Philosophy: Subalternation, Metaphysics, and the Geometrical Manner in Late Scholasticism, Galileo, and Descartes," 2 p.m. **April 3**, Room G28 Cathedral of Learning.

**Jennifer Keating-Miller**, Department of English, "Labyrinths of Language: Representations of Identity Formation in Contemporary Irish Literature," 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. **April 4**, in Room 5011 Cathedral of Learning.

**Ruth A. Helms**, School of Medicine, "Generation and Characterization of the Cellular Immune Response to a Clostridium Perfringens Anti-SIV Mucosal Vaccine," 2 p.m. **April 4**, Room 1195 Biomedical Science Tower.

**Aida**, Benedum Center, through April 6



**Audrey Chen and Frederic Blondy, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, April 2**



# Briefly Noted

## University Gamelan Ensemble Celebrates 10th Anniversary

The University Gamelan Ensemble — whose members perform the rich and exotic traditional music of Indonesia with gongs, chimes, drums, and metal-keyed instruments — is marking its 10th anniversary at the University of Pittsburgh.

To commemorate the milestone, ensemble director and Pitt professor of music Andrew Weintraub has planned a series of events, from Indonesian dance classes to a performance in Washington, D.C.

The gamelan, which originated on the island of Java in Indonesia, is a collection of large and small gongs, chimes, xylophone-like keyed instruments, and drums. Members of the ensemble sit cross-legged on the floor and strike the instruments with padded mallets.



The University received its first gamelan in 1995, and was one of only a handful of U.S. universities at that time to own one. A second hand-carved set was donated to Pitt last year. Weintraub established the University Gamelan Ensemble in 1998 and holds an annual concert for the public, frequently featuring traditional Javanese dancers in native clothing.

The following events are planned.

### Through April 13

A group of visiting instructors/performers — West Java dancer Ening Rumbini, pop music composer Nano S., and vocalist Rita Tila — will conduct classes at Pitt and several

other American universities. Pitt students who want to learn native dances of Java are welcome to contact Weintraub at 412-624-4184 or [anwein@pitt.edu](mailto:anwein@pitt.edu).

### Through April 15

Dancer Ening Rumbini will teach traditional dance movements from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays to students at the Falk Laboratory School, Oakland.

### April 5

The University Gamelan Ensemble will perform at the residence of the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the United States in Washington, D.C. The concert kicks off an international relief fund to benefit Indonesian disaster victims.

### April 11, 11 a.m.-noon

The University Gamelan Ensemble and guests will perform for Falk School students and will be joined by students demonstrating what they have learned. The matinee performance will take place in Bellefield Hall.

### April 11 and April 12, 8 p.m.

The University Gamelan Ensemble and guests will perform at Bellefield Auditorium in Bellefield Hall. The concerts, to be taped by Voice of America for broadcast on Indonesian television, will include traditional gamelan, dance, pop Sunda (Sundanese pop music), and dangdut, a form of popular music in Indonesia. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for all students or senior citizens, and free for all Pitt students with a valid ID.

—By Sharon S. Blake

## Pitt's Observatory Wants to Open The Heavens to the Public

The University of Pittsburgh's Allegheny Observatory wants to open the heavens and a historic scientific landmark during public tours and a lecture series this month.

Between April and November, curious sky gazers can

room the landmark observatory, peer at the stars through the observatory's oldest telescope, and hear expert portrayals of supernovae, dark energy, and asteroids. The observatory is located at 159 Riverview Ave. in Riverview Park, North Side.

Twice-weekly observatory tours are planned. Friday night tours run from April 4 to Oct. 31; Thursday night tours begin May 1 and end Aug. 21. The two-hour tours begin at 8 p.m. and include a film presentation followed by a walking tour and a look through the 13-inch Fitz-Clark Refractor telescope constructed in 1861. The Fitz-Clark was the primary telescope for the first observatory and the third-largest telescope in the world when built.

The observatory also hosts a public lecture every third Friday through November. The lecture series features astronomers and physicists from Pitt and other institutions. Topics covered include putting asteroids to use, looking into deep space, and the significance of supernovae in creating new stars. The evening begins with refreshments at 7 p.m. with the lecture to start at 7:30 p.m., followed by a tour of the observatory.

All events are free, but reservations are required. To make reservations, call the observatory at 412-321-2400 between 1 and 5 p.m. More details are available at [www.pitt.edu/~aobsvtry/tours.html](http://www.pitt.edu/~aobsvtry/tours.html)

—By Morgan Kelly

# Pitt Grad Programs Advance in U.S. News Rankings

By John Harvith

The latest edition of the *U.S. News & World Report* newsstand book *America's Best Graduate Schools* contains rankings that show advances in a number of Pitt graduate programs, according to that publication's 2008 methodology.

Highlights of these rankings will appear in the April 7-14 *U.S. News & World Report* magazine, on sale at newsstands on March 31.

The book, which goes on sale April 1, shows that Pitt's School of Medicine moved to 14th place from its ranking of 15th last year in the Schools of Medicine-Research category, tied with the University of California-San Diego.



The Pitt School of Pharmacy advanced to the 19th place from its ranking of 24th in 2005 in the Pharmacy-Pharm. D. category, tied this year with the University of Kansas. The Swanson School of Engineering advanced to 48th place from its ranking of 50th last year in the Schools of Engineering category. For the first time since 2004, a number of health disciplines were ranked by program directors and faculty, and among them Pitt was ranked 9th in the Clinical Psychology-Doctorate category, up from 20th in 2004, tied this year with Duke University, Penn State, SUNY-Stony Brook, the University of Illinois, the University of Iowa, and Penn; in the Occupa-

tional Therapy-Master's/Doctorate category, Pitt also was ranked 9th, up from 14th place in 2004, tied this year with New York University and the University of Washington; and in the Physical Therapy-Master's/Doctorate category, Pitt was ranked second, up from 3rd in 2004, tied this year with Washington University in St. Louis.

In the Medical Specialties category of Women's Health, Pitt was ranked 4th, unchanged from last year. And in the Social Work-Master's category, Pitt's ranking of 14th was unchanged from 2004, tied this year with Boston College, Penn, and Virginia Commonwealth University.

Also, a *Best Graduate Schools* article titled "'Critical Care' Is a Rising Med School Specialty" highlights Pitt's Department of Critical Care Medicine, quoting its chair, Professor Derek Angus, and noting, among other things, that the Pitt program is a pioneer in the field "and, with about 40 fellows,

one of the largest in the country" that "now runs simulations in a multilevel facility using actors and 'robotic' humans."

**PUBLICATION NOTICE** The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published April 7. **Items for publication in the newspaper's Happenings calendar (see page 7) should be received six working days prior to the desired publication date.** *Happenings* items should include the following information: title of the event, name and title of speaker(s), date, time, location, sponsor(s), and a phone number and Web site for additional information. Items may be e-mailed to [chron@pitt.edu](mailto:chron@pitt.edu), faxed to 412-624-4895, or sent by campus mail to 422 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033 or e-mail [robinet@pitt.edu](mailto:robinet@pitt.edu).