

The Honorable Mention

Volume 4, Issue III

November 2007

Capital University Honors Program

Moor Lecture Series: Nobel Prize Panel

By Kate Sheehan

On **Friday, November 2 at 10a.m. in Learning Center 202**, the Moor Lecture series is holding a Nobel Prize Panel. The event will feature a 10 minute lecture on each of the awards given out in the fields of chemistry, medicine, economics, and physics. Dr. Murray will be presenting on the award given for advances in surface chemistry. Lecturing on the award given for “producing specific genetic alterations in mice” will be Dr. Chees-

man. Dr. Postolache will discuss the award given for “extending the range of tools used for economic analysis” and Professor Phillips will present on the award given “for the discovery of giant magneto resistance,” which looks at data storage on hard disks. Everyone is welcomed to join Capital’s faculty and students in exploring what these awards are, why they are given, and the future implications the discoveries will have on our lives.



Crusader Tailgate

By Bethany Rowles

It’s football season and that means tailgate parties! The Honors Council has decided to throw a tailgate party for Capital’s last regular season home football game on **November 10 from 12:00 noon until kickoff at 1:30pm**. Come join us for some good food and fun with fellow

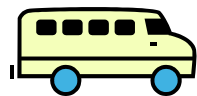
Crusader football fans and get ready to beat Baldwin-Wallace! We’ll be out on the front **lawn of the Honors House** (right across from the Cap Center and the football field), so stop by before the game!



Capital University Honors Program

We are located at:
2373 East Mound Street,
On the corner of Francis and Mound, across from the
Capital Center.

Phone: 614-338-8104



Gallery Hop



By Katie Golovin

Come join the Honors Program once again for a wonderful time in the Short North. **Saturday, November 3rd**, is Gallery Hop!! Enjoy music, art, food, and fun with your friends. We’re trying something new this year. Starting at **5:30 at the steps of the Campus Center by Cotterman**, hop in a Capital van every hour to be shuttled back and forth between campus and the Short North. We know some students do not like the cold for very long so don’t worry about waiting on others to leave late! The last shuttle will leave at 9:30 from campus. Past that, you are responsible for a ride back. If you are interested in going, please e-mail kgolovin@capital.edu.

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What Are You Reading?

By Bethany Rowles

***Lullaby*, Chuck Palahniuk (Random House), 2002.**

If you had a way to kill someone without having to do anything, and which was impossible to trace, would you use it? The book *Lullaby* by Chuck Palahniuk (*Fight Club*) has the reader step into the mind of a man who finds this power. The lullaby is actually a culling song which was used in Africa to bring a quick death to the sick or elderly by speaking or even thinking the words. Reporter Carl Streater finds out about this power when he discovers a connection among years and years of crib deaths where children are found in their rooms with no visible cause of death. At almost every death he investigates, he finds *Poems and Rhymes from Around the World*. Page 27 contains the culling song, and parents have unknowingly been killing their children with it. When Streater realizes this, he sets out, along with a cast of three other people who know the secret, in order to find and destroy all copies of the poem and its original source. Along the way, he finds out that not all of them have the same motivation for finding the source of its power, and discovers a darker side of himself. Palahniuk creates a twisted story about the driving force of having the power to “play God” and how, ultimately, that power can take over.

Do you have a movie or book review?
Please submit them to the
Honors Council.

By Michael Herold

***The (New) Turing Omnibus: 66 Excursions in Computer Science*, A.K. Dewdney (Henry Holt and Company, LLC), 1993.**

It's 10:30 in the morning and I have already used several computers. My phone, my trusty TI-83 Plus calculator, my work computer, and the thermostat on the heater in my room, are all different types of computers. How many computers have you used today? Some computers that you might not think of are the device that splits and sends the analog signal for you to watch cable on your television, or the array of sensors and chips that regulate the systems responsible for running your car. Computers these days are all around us and some people don't even realize it.

These devices fascinate me. I've been enthralled with what you can make a computer do ever since I drew that first castle in 6th grade with a version of BASIC aimed at younger students. I am in many ways your stereotypical nerd; I get giddy when talking about new technology and the cool new devices companies invent. Naturally, this “technophilia” I go through led me to be a computer science major here at Capital. It also influences my reading choice a lot of the time.

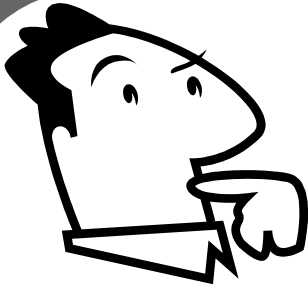
The book I am currently reading is aimed at people who are interested in what makes computers work. It can be used as an introduction to various aspects of computer science, or as a refresher for those who know the deep inner workings of the field. It covers basic things such as Boo-

lean logic and minor circuit design to advanced concepts, like neural nets designed around game theory that can obliterate any opponent in choice games.

If you have ever wondered about the concepts that make up a computer, I would recommend reading Dewdney's book. It takes a candid, open-language look at the world of computing and does a good job explaining any of the more complicated mathematics in useable English, after first showing the mathematical notation. Also, if you're not such a words person, the author includes many illustrative diagrams and stories to go along with each topic he covers.

Math people will also find some gems in this book. The Mandelbrot set is one of the most beautiful fractals out there and Dewdney shrewdly explains the algorithm used to generate pictures of the Mandelbrot set. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Mandelbrot set, it is a set of numbers in the complex plane that form a fractal (meaning a pattern with infinite repetition inside itself – think a triangle divided into triangles, over and over). It is popular outside mathematics for its aesthetic values and its easy-to-explain definition.

I would highly recommend reading Dewdney's “omnibus” if you have ever been interested in any aspect of computer science. It is easy to read and can provide a basis for further study or a refresher if you have already learned the material it covers. I guarantee you will find something that catches your eye in this wonderful book.



Food for Thought

...dinner and conversation with fellow students and Capital faculty

By Tatjana Taleff

Do you ever wonder how some of your favorite magicians perform their tricks? Have you ever thought to yourself "Where did magic originate?" These are some of the questions that will be answered at the Honors Council's Food for Thought. Capital University Theatre Professor, Dr. Bill Kennedy, will be talking about the history of magic as well as performing some tricks on **Wednesday, November 28, 2007 at 6:00 pm**. Come and join us in **Schneider Multipurpose Room** for some food and fun with Dr. Kennedy's tricks! *Come and See the Magic!*

Also look forward to future Food for Thoughts this semester:

Dr. David Reed, a professor of Computer Science, will be talking about audio and video codecs for use in HDTV and other technology.

Dr. Jack Guttenberg, Capital Law School dean, will discuss preparing and applying for law school.

Thanksgiving Break Party

By Katie Golovin

Come join Honors students celebrate Thanksgiving break. **Monday November 19th** we will be cooking comfort food at the **Honors House**. Watch for fliers around campus for further details.



Tai Chi Chuan Lesson

By Kate Sheehan

Join the Honors Council Tuesday, **November 13 at 5:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room in the Capital Center**. Professor Phillips will be giving an introduction level lesson in the martial arts form Tai Chi Chuan. Tai Chi is a soft style martial art which centers on health, mediation through focus and calmness and can be used as a way to relax and relieve stress. It is also used as a form of self defense. Students, faculty, and staff are all invited to join in learning a basic lesson in Tai Chi.



November Calendar:

Friday 2, 10:00 am: Nobel Prize Panel
(Learning Center 202)

Saturday 3, 5:30-9:30: Gallery Hop
(Campus Center Steps)

Saturday 10, 12:00-1:30 pm: Tailgate
(Honors House)

Tuesday 13, 5:00 pm: Tai Chi Chuan
(Capital Center, Multipurpose Room)

Monday 19: Thanksgiving Break Party
(Honors House)

Wednesday 28, 6:00 pm:
Food for Thought
(Schneider Multipurpose Room)

If you notice a mistake in this newsletter, please let an Honors Program representative know by calling: **614-338-8104**