Last month the contestants were asked to unravel a number of anagrams of film or TV titles or actors. All of the answers were related in some way to Pittsburgh, CMU, or Sheldon Cohen. Well, the first two at least, depending on whether you saw his blink-and-you-miss-it appearance on Bonanza. The contestant who scored highest would have immunity for the next challenge; the contestant who scored lowest would be eliminated from the competition, as would the person who received the most votes for eviction overall. There was also the matter of, dare I say it, a rather ingenious tie breaker, which was designed to engender a certain level of love and harmony in the department. To this end, the TSSC has noticed a significant increase in the number of group hugs taking place in the Head’s suite – though Mike’s hands-on style may have something to do with that too.

The answers to the competition are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Anagram</th>
<th>Film or TV Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Phenom chemotherapist</td>
<td>The Mothman Prophecies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Snob fresh jonah</td>
<td>John Forbes Nash</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pets gored acting</td>
<td>Inspector Gadget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bedouin warlord</td>
<td>Blair Underwood</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Dye so brown</td>
<td>Wonder Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The only hurl</td>
<td>Holly Hunter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Doughy dragon</td>
<td>Groundhog day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Be a leftish clothesmen</td>
<td>The Silence of the lambs</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gore more gore</td>
<td>George Romero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Zoo lies lorn</td>
<td>Lorenzo’s oil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Anomalous agaric</td>
<td>Laura San Giacomo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sandal chef</td>
<td>Flashdance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Thieving a deft holding</td>
<td>Night of the Living Dead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Grape pop greed</td>
<td>George Peppard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Ah, draw only</td>
<td>Andy Warhol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>I dart sir</td>
<td>Iris Dart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Supersede a steamer</td>
<td>Desperate Measures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Kind act sistering</td>
<td>Striking Distance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Ace hamlet ikon</td>
<td>Michael Keaton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Tender here hut</td>
<td>The deer hunter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Not surprisingly, there was considerable variance in the scores. More surprisingly, a number of contestants scored 20 out of 20. Some folks will do anything for a free meal. Those with a perfect score were Brooke Feeney, Liz Ploran, Roxanne Thrush, Marlene Behrmann, and Dara Stern. One of these lucky folk will receive immunity based on their answer to the tie breaker “I enjoy being around my colleagues at CMU because...”. Some of the responses were damn right silly: The ones that first come to mind are Roxanne’s “I enjoy being around my colleagues at CMU because CMU because of the hats”. Mandatory retirement is looming Ken. Others were either lying or sucking up in a quite frankly embarrassing way: Ed’s (whose tie-breaker is not an issue but is amusing) was “because they are so pleasing to the eye”, for example. Then there were the clever ones: Dara, for instance, answered that “federal flee isles oink”, whatever the hell that means. But the winner of the tie-breaker is “cute fanfare” Marlene. Not only does she not “like” but “love” her colleagues but she’s clever about it; that is, she combined the Ed suck-up with the Dara cleverness. And we all know that two is better than one, unless of course you are talking about faculty meetings. Her answer was: “I LOVE being around my colleagues at CMU because they are statistically significant”. Marlene, we love you too. And now you’re immune from eviction in the next challenge.

Onto sadder news: Someone is about to be evicted. Ed did well but couldn’t figure out George Peppard (neither could the rest of the A-team) and scored 19. Ken struggled, forced the core staff to help him, and tried to bribe the TSSC. He ended up with 11 correct. Kathy Majors, well, I don’t know what to say about Kathy except that she better buck up her ideas. She scored a measly one (yes one) correct answer. How is she still in the competition I hear you ask? She remains a contestant because someone failed to provide any answers despite repeated prodding, late night phone-calls, and some blatant sexual harassment. Who was it? Nick Yeung. I would like to offer condolences to Nick, but I’m not going to. He’s history. If he couldn’t be bothered to provide one answer, he deserves to leave the competition. And as bad luck would have it, he also received the most votes from the contestants – so in a way he saved himself a bucket-load of work. Goodbye Nick, and thanks for all the fish.

After long discussion and some hard drinking, the TSSC decided that the competitions have been too easy. So this month we’re mixing it up. As you will see, the competition has a different flavor to it: that is, we’re asking the contestants to be creative. Most if not all of you have probably seen the satirical on-line newspaper called The Onion (http://onion.com/). Each day, ridiculously silly stories are presented as if they were real article. The TSSC’s the competition has a different flavor to it: that is, we’re asking the contestants to be creative. Most if not all of you have probably seen the satirical on-line newspaper called The Onion (http://onion.com/). Each day, ridiculously silly stories are presented as if they were real article. The TSSC’s favorite is below. In Round 4, the contestants have one week to write an Onion-style article of no more than 300 words that is related to Psychology in some way. It can involve a ludicrous experiment (see Erik Thiessen’s work for up-to-date examples), silly theory, or a new take on an old view (Examples are from Mars and men have a penis). How the contestants approach this is up to them, but the answers should be as amusing and clever as possible.

Here’s what will happen. Once the TSSC have received the responses they will be posted in the mailroom for everyone to read (we will also remind the department that they have been posted via email). The department will then vote through email for their favorite (giving someone immunity) and their least favorite (evicting someone from the competition) response. Contestants can vote and are encouraged to have their friends in the department vote for them. But naturally, individuals can vote only once. Here’s the kicker: The answers will be posted without names so unless you’re told you won’t know who wrote which one. Remember, Marlene cannot be eliminated – but she can get immunity again in this competition.

Contestant’s articles to be sent to the new TSSC address: plb_survivor@yahoo.com by the 5th of May.

Good luck to everyone!
Psychology Department Logo Competition

The Department is in search of a Logo!

As conference season arrives, we are in search of an icon to represent the CMU Department of Psychology. Think you can come up with a graphic that can serve as a Department Logo for poster presentations, talks, and mandatory first-year graduate student tattoos?

Submit your designs (serious, playful, otherwise...) to Lori Holt at lholt@andrew.cmu.edu for publication in the next PLB.

To the right, see the first entry from Bobby Klatzky.

Faculty Joke of the Month

Back in the olden days when Samurai were important, there was a powerful Japanese Emperor who needed a new Chief Samurai. So he sent out a declaration throughout the entire known world of that time that he was searching for a CHIEF.

A year passed, but only 3 people applied for the very demanding position:
1. a Japanese Samurai
2. a Chinese Samurai
3. a Jewish Samurai

The emperor asked the Japanese Samurai to come in and demonstrate why he should be the chief Samurai.

The Japanese Samurai opened a match box, and out popped a bumblebee. Whoosh! Went his sword, and the bumblebee dropped dead on the ground. The emperor exclaimed "That is very impressive!"

The emperor then issued the same challenge to the Chinese Samurai, to come in and demonstrate why he should be chosen. The Chinese samurai also opened a match box and out buzzed a fly. Whoosh, Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! And the fly dropped dead on the ground in four small pieces.

The emperor exclaimed: "That is VERY impressive!"

Now the emperor turned to the Jewish Samurai, and asked him to demonstrate why he should be the Chief Samurai. The Jewish Samurai also opened a match box, and out flew a gnat. His flashing sword went Whoosh! But the gnat was still alive and flying around.

The emperor, obviously disappointed, said: "Very ambitious!, but why is that gnat not dead?"

The Jewish Samurai just smiled and said: "Circumcision is not meant to kill."
Congratulations Jessica Cicchino!

Jessica has been awarded the highly prestigious Ortho Tri-Cyclen Lo graduate student research fellowship. This competitive fellowship is awarded to one promising infant research graduate student each year. Jessica’s proposal “How We Can Tell Babies Are Stupid” was outstanding enough to merit this year’s research award. Jessica’s project involves demonstrating infant’s inferior intellect by simulating the virtual cliff experiment with an actual cliff. Additionally, she will be interviewing individuals who at one time were babies to further demonstrate her basic hypothesis. Please join us in celebrating with Jessica on May 32, 2005 in the Grand Room on the third floor of the Tepper School of Business. Please RSVP to gingerp@andrew.cmu.edu.
Sometimes, it pays to read email carefully. Below is an email sent to all faculty as a mid-semester grade reminder...

-----Original Message-----
From: Theresa Kurutz [mailto:tk0w@andrew.cmu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2005 3:36 PM
To: lhok@andrew.cmu.edu; mcclelland@cmu.edu
Subject: MID TERM GRADES DUE MARCH 7

All,

Spring 2005 Mid-Term Grades are due Monday, March 7 by 9 p.m.
or now if you want to enter them early!

Websex is: https://acis.as.cmu.edu/fio

Theresa
Aussie Travel Humor

These are from potential visitors. They were posted on an Australian Tourism Web site and the answers are the actual responses by the web site officials, who obviously have a snide sense of humor.

Q: Does it ever get windy in Australia? I have never seen it rain on TV, so how do the plants grow? (UK)
A: We import all plants fully grown and then just sit around watching them die.

Q: Will I be able to see kangaroos in the street? (USA)
A: Depends how much you've been drinking.

Q: I want to walk from Perth to Sydney - can I follow the railroad tracks? (Sweden)
A: Sure, it's only three thousand miles, take lots of water.

Q: Is it safe to run around in the bushes in Australia? (Sweden)
A: So it's true what they say about Swedes.

Q: Are there any ATMs (cash machines) in Australia? Can you send me a list of them in Brisbane, Cairns, Townsville and Hervey Bay? (UK)
A: What did your last slave die of?

Q: Can you give me some information about hippo racing in Australia? (USA)
A: A-fri-ca is the big triangle shaped continent south of Europe. Aus-tra-ila is that big island in the middle of the Pacific which does not... oh forget it. Sure, the hippo racing is every Tuesday night in Kings Cross. Come naked.

Q: Which direction is North in Australia? (USA)
A: Face south and then turn 180 degrees. Contact us when you get here and we’ll send the rest of the directions.

Q: Can I bring cutlery into Australia? (UK)
A: Why? Just use your fingers like we do.

Q: Can you send me the Vienna Boys' Choir schedule? (USA)
A: Aus-tri-a is that quaint little country bordering Ger-man-y, which is...oh forget it. Sure, the Vienna Boys Choir plays every Tuesday night in Kings Cross, straight after the hippo races. Come naked.

Q: Can I wear high heels in Australia? (UK)
A: You are a British politician, right?

Q: Are there supermarkets in Sydney and is milk available all year round? (Germany)
A: No, we are a peaceful civilization of vegan hunter/gatherers. Milk is illegal.

Q: Please send a list of all doctors in Australia who can dispense rattlesnake serum. (USA)
A: Rattlesnakes live in A-meri-ca which is where YOU come from. All Australian snakes are perfectly harmless, can be safely handled and make good pets, especially The Taipans.

Q: I have a question about a famous animal in Australia, but I forget its name. It's a kind of bear and lives in trees. (USA)
A: It's called a Drop Bear. They are so called because they drop out of gum trees and eat the brains of anyone walking underneath them. You can scare them off by spraying yourself with human urine before you go out walking.
April Madness

St. Peter’s
April 21
Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church

Italy
Europe
Latin America
Africa - Asia

DIONIGI TETTAMANZI
Italy

GIOVANNI BATTISTA RE
Italy

OSCAR ANDRES RODRIGUEZ MARADIAGA
Honduras

ANGELO SCOLA
Italy

CHRISTOPH SCHOENBORN
Austria

TED CRILLY
8 Creggy Island, Ireland

GODFRIED DANNEELS
Belgium

JOSEPH RATZINGER
Germany

JORGE MARIO BERGOGLIO
Argentina

CLAUDIO HUMMES
Brazil

NICOLAS DE JESUS LOPEZ RODRIGUEZ
Dominican Republic

DARIO CASTRILLON HOYOS
Colombia

WILFRID FOX NAPIER
South Africa

DUKE

IVAN DIAS
India

FRANCIS ARINZE
Nigeria

Sponsored by:

The new low-carb communion wafers
“I can’t believe it’s not Jesus!”
Baby Pool!

For those who haven't heard, Elida is due on May 29, 2005. We're starting a baby pool--winner gets 1/2 the take and the other 1/2 goes to Baby! If you're interested in taking a chance, its $1/ guess. The questions are "Due Date?", "Sex?", "Birth Weight?" and "Birth Length?" (which will be used as a tie breaker if needed).

So, if you're interested in participating, the entry deadline is May 16 and the form is at my desk.

Thanks! Ginger

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Department Professor Ken Kotovsky dodged inquiries regarding his role in the Carnegie Mellon University squirrel scandal reported in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette.