

# The Cornell Daily Sun

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## Scheduling Glitches Plague Campus

### Quarrel With Univ. Registrar Forces Scheduler Website to Shut Down

By **BEN EISEN**  
Sun City Editor

In a surprising and unprecedented move, the popular website Scheduler.com decided to discontinue its service for Cornell students, causing massive outcry as Cornellians attempted to plan their classes for the semester. At approximately 8:15 last night, the system shut down all class listings and other Scheduler services, leaving in its stead only an open note to Cornell students.

“Scheduler is down because Cornell has made it prohibitively difficult for us to maintain accurate course information,” the note read.

The website — which collects Cornell course roster information and allows students to optimize their schedule planning — has remained up and running for the other eight schools that it serves. 11,033 Cornell students have logged in to Scheduler in the last six months, and it has grown at 50 percent per year at Cornell since it was introduced.

According to Jay Searson '08, CEO of Scheduler, the decision was the result of a disagreement between the website owners and the Cornell Registrar.

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*Scheduler is down because Cornell has made it prohibitively difficult for us to maintain accurate course information.*

*Scheduler has maintained an extremely high level of accuracy despite tens of thousands of course changes over our history. Recently, staying accurate has become infeasible. Ever since Cornell's switch to PeopleSoft, keeping our course information current with Cornell's course roster has caused technical difficulties for the University. Recently, the University has asked us to stop updating from PeopleSoft altogether.*

*We have made our best efforts to work with the University Registrar to arrive at an acceptable solution to keep Scheduler running, but the Registrar has been unresponsive. We know that many of you depend on Scheduler to schedule your classes, and believe us when we say we really, really didn't want to do this.*

*Please, if Scheduler is important to you, send an email to the registrar at univreg@cornell.edu. Let them know. Ask them to work with us to bring Scheduler back.*

*If you have any questions for us, you can email us at support@scheduler.com.*

*Thank you,  
The Scheduler Team*

### Add/Drop Jams PeopleSoft Server

By **ELIZABETH KREVSKY**  
Sun Staff Writer

“It was a nightmare,” Ryan Fan '10 remarked, referring to yesterday morning's frustrating and stressful beginning to the fall semester's Add/Drop period. Just like last April, when Student Center crashed on the first day of CoursEnroll, students were confronted by a faulty program yesterday with extremely slow, and often completely stagnant, performance.

Student Center is the University's new PeopleSoft replacement for Just The Facts, and is intended to be a smoother vehicle through which students can add and drop classes from their schedules.

According to David Yeh, vice president for Student and Academic Services, “In the course of the morning, perfor-

mance degraded to a point where students effectively were not able to access Add/Drop.”

Problems surfaced right from the beginning of Add/Drop, according to the Cornell Information Technologies website, when Student Center and Faculty Center self-service applications developed severe performance issues. According to CIT, these problems impacted all students participating.

According to Yeh, however, the problems yesterday and the issue in April 2008 appear unrelated.

In April, the problem was fixed after the first day of CoursEnroll and Student Center continued to run smoothly throughout the remainder of the semester and summer sessions.

However, CIT and the Office of the

University Registrar are still unsure of the reason behind the system's current failure.

Yeh stated in an e-mail, “CIT and the OUR continue to analyze the many components of our set-up to ascertain the root cause of the performance problem.” Cornell also has the assistance of Oracle, the

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*We're not helping them do their work. That is not our responsibility. It's a commercial company; they have resources. We did give them an approved location to give them information.*  
— David Yeh,  
V.P. for Student and Academic Services

## Fence Around Fall Creek Gorge Attempts to Block Access



SIMON TARANTO / SUN SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER

**Fenced in** | The new fence erected around Fall Creek Gorge already has a hole in it.

By **JIMMY CROWELL**  
Sun Staff Writer

As students flock to the gorges of Fall Creek to enjoy the last days of summer, they will run into a problem that may cut their warm weather fun short: a large wire fence. After the tragic drowning of Douglas Lowe '11 over the summer, the portion of Fall Creek Gorge located under the suspension bridge has been closed off by a fence.

The fence, which runs along one side of the gorge, was erected as a temporary solution to the high number of injuries and

deaths that occur at this particular portion of Fall Creek. Plaques commemorating the lives of those who have drowned over the years can be seen along the path leading down to the gorge.

Kathy Zoner, the deputy chief of Cornell University Police Department, stated in an e-mail: “There are various types of fences near the gorges on campus. There are two fences built to restrict access to former pathways, the newest one is about 15 feet long and 8 feet tall at the trailhead near [the West Campus fraternity] Fiji. Its intention was to warn of dangers below and

decommission the trail, as the trail served no purpose except to allow access to a dangerous natural area where we responded to multiple deaths in the past few years.”

Cornell is working closely with City of Ithaca officials and CUPD to investigate the issue and determine any alternative solutions. Their main goal is to create better and more accessible ways to communicate the dangers of swimming and hiking in the gorges.

“Cornell has been part of a task

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