

# The Cornell Daily Sun

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## Pres. Skorton Refuses to Sign Pledge to Lower Drinking Age

By NIKHITA PARANDEKAR  
Sun Staff Writer

The Amethyst Initiative was created by a group of college presidents in June with the goal of inciting discussion about the effectiveness of the current drinking age. As of Wednesday, 129 presidents of colleges and universities around the country had signed an initiative supporting an investigation to lower the drinking age back to 18. President David Skorton was not one of the signatories.

In 1984, Congress passed the National Minimum Drinking Age Act, which penalized states' federal highway appropriations by 10 percent if they set the drinking age lower than 21. Among other things, the initiative suggests that the higher drinking age has spurred a binge-drinking culture and encouraged students to make ethical compromises by using fake IDs.

"I share the urgency and commitment to make progress with what is one of the major areas of concern for all of us in student life and safety — dangerous binge drinking," said Skorton in a statement. "I believe the Amethyst Initiative's statement raises serious policy issues on this important topic, issues that should be debated and evaluated. However, based on my experience and my reading of the research literature, I opted not

to sign this statement."

There have been several studies published on the issue, such as one conducted by James

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DAN SALISBURY / SUN STAFF

**Not for all** | The majority of Cornell students cannot drink in bars such as Rulloff's since they are not yet 21.

## Schedulizer Is Back At C.U. Following Registrar Scuffle

By BEN EISEN  
Sun City Editor

After just over 24 hours without service, the familiar tabs and lists of Schedulizer.com are once again active. Schedulizer CEO Jay Searson '08 put the site back online around 8:20 p.m. last night, citing the willingness of the Registrar to work with the website and the outpouring of student support as the two main causes.

"We've got a meeting with the Registrar, and we're going to work with them to keep Cornell accurate," Searson said. "We haven't come to any firm agreements, but we are very, very optimistic."

However, he added that the student support that Schedulizer received, in all forms — from protesting students to e-mails of support — was what eventually made them put the site back up.

"We got a lot of e-mails saying that even with the inaccuracies, they just wanted Schedulizer back," Searson said. "Even with the inaccuracies, it's so much more conve-

nient. And for many departments we were still on the nose."

Searson hopes that he and the Registrar's Office will be able to come up with an easily automatable format for course listings, something that he says should not be too difficult to accomplish. Then, he says, Schedulizer will be even more accurate.

For now, though, Schedulizer warns students to double-check their schedules to make sure they are accurate.

"We have a system for manual updates in place and we're going to try to keep it as accurate as we can," Searson said. "If someone notices an error, they can tell us and we can fix it. We just don't have any way of automating it."

Nonetheless, Searson is happy to be back. And, it seems, Cornell students feel the same way.

"We were just really overwhelmed and floored by the level of support we got from the Cornell community," Searson said. "We are thankful and we are proud to serve the Cornell community."

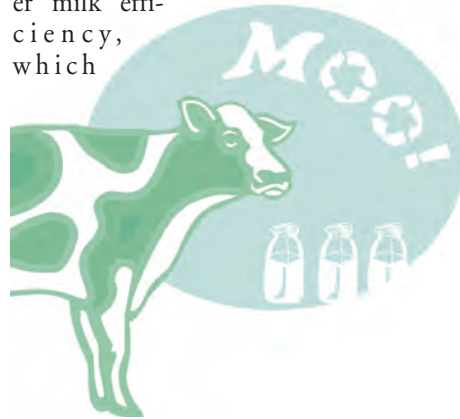
## Study Finds Hormone Makes Dairy Farming More Efficient

By NIKHITA PARANDEKAR  
Sun Staff Writer



SUSTAINABILITY AT CORNELL

A study conducted at Cornell by the D.E. Bauman research group revealed that dairy cows that receive Recombinant Bovine Somatotropin (rbST) have a higher milk efficiency, which



in turn lowers their carbon footprints. RbST is an FDA approved artificial growth hormone that allows cows to more efficiently use nutrients so that fewer cows are required to produce the same amount of milk.

"On an individual cow basis we get eight percent less manure, less feed, less land, less water [when supplemented with rbST]. We get less methane, nitrogen and phosphorus coming out of the cow," said Judith Capper, animal science, the lead author of the study. "The cows give an extra 10 ounces of milk."

According to Capper, the study found that if rbST was used on a population of 1 million cows, the carbon footprint would be equivalent to taking 400,000 cars off the road or planting 300 million trees.

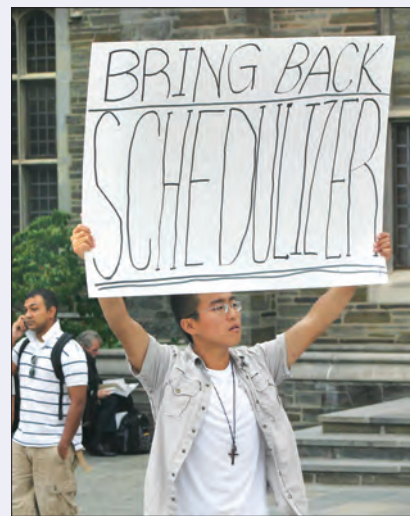
The study was divided into three parts, the first two of which examined the effect

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## Student Rallies for Schedulizer

Meet Peter Kwon '11. Yesterday he got so mad about the death of Schedulizer.com that he ran into the Cornell Store, bought some poster board and a marker, and began a one-man crusade on Ho Plaza.

"Bring Schedulizer back!" he shouted. "PeopleSoft may not need Schedulizer, but the students do!" he



DAN SALISBURY / SUN STAFF

cried.

Again, and again, and again. Kwon drew stares, chuckles and a steady stream of support. "Screw PeopleSoft! PeopleSoft is garbage!" one kid called out.

Kwon said he was undaunted by the fact that he was standing alone, and unafraid of University retaliation.

"What are they going to do, expel me?" Kwon said.

He said his protest wasn't so much about Schedulizer itself as it was about a decision he said the University made wantonly without consulting with students.

"This is supposedly one of the most democratic and advanced centers of science and knowledge in the world. The fact that they would do something like this, over something so small, something so trivial ... without any kind of student consensus ..." Kwon said, "It's just not what Cornell stands for."

At about 1:00 p.m., Kwon's protest was over — he had to go to class.

— David Wittenberg

### NEWS: Russia vs. Georgia

The Sun welcomes a new feature that takes a local perspective on international issues.

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### OPINION: Wine and Brie

Andréa Girardin '09 discusses the difficulties of adjusting back to America after 13 months abroad.

| 10

### FYI: Labor Day

The Sun will not appear on Monday in recognition of Labor Day. We will resume our regular schedule on Tuesday.

### WEATHER:



HIGH: 73  
LOW: 62