

INTRO TO PATIENT CARE

The patient's heart stops. The medical types act quickly: Charge the defibrillator. Apply paddles to the chest. Deliver shock.

Sounds about right. Well, it would have been had the patient not been a cardboard parrot and the defibrillator not caused said parrot to explode and transform into a bucket of fried chicken.

These are the sorts of things that happen when Pitt med students take over an auditorium in Scaife Hall for the annual talent show. (The parrot incident was part of the Class of '09's skit, which also involved, naturally, a pirate and, maybe not so naturally, a man with a spear through his chest and a weeping med student. The skit's title? "Intro to Patient Care.")

On a winter night, Scaife's hallways were crowded with students doing vocal exercises, tuning instruments, stretching, and, in the case of first-year Kevin Carl, explaining how he secured onto his torso the aluminum foil spear that appeared to pierce his chest: "Wire coat hanger."

The man who gave the world TV's *Walker, Texas Ranger*—Chuck Norris—also made an appearance, in the form of an image projected above students heaping praise on the master of the roundhouse kick.

"Fact," first-year student Chetan Irwin deadpanned from the stage. "Chuck Norris doesn't read books. He stares them down until he gets the information he wants." *—Joe Miksch*

ILLUSTRATION
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ILLUSTRATION BASED ON A PHOTO BY HANNI BATZEL