Blue Cross Double Crossed

by Kevin Drum

Due to the specter of a 30% increase in fees by Blue Cross of Southern California, the Young Health Center has switched insurance carriers to Mutual of Omaha. The move was prompted by significantly lower fees from Mutual.

Blue Cross had projected a bill in excess of $130 per student according to Director of Student Relations Lynne Bonner. This is in contrast to Mutual of Omaha's bid of about $98 per student per year.

Besides the elimination of a 3% increase, there are other benefits to the Mutual of Omaha policy. Blue Cross has a maximum payment of $100,000 (five times Mutual of Omaha's maximum), but that is an extremely small figure in practical terms. "I haven't seen a case here (at Caltech) where a $10,000 maximum would have made a difference," explained Larry Thompson in Personnel.

Blue Cross has been a major player in the insurance industry since the early days of sailboat racing. The company was founded in 1934 by Dr. Karl Putnam, a medical doctor who recognized the need for affordable health care for the working man.

By contrast, Mutual of Omaha is a more recent player in the insurance industry, having been founded in 1888. The company has a reputation for providing affordable health care to a diverse range of individuals, from students to seniors.

In conclusion, the switch to Mutual of Omaha is a wise decision for both the Young Health Center and the students it serves. The lower fees and additional benefits make Mutual of Omaha the clear choice for those seeking affordable health care.

Son of Baxter

Robert Hutenhahn, chairman of the Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences, recently announced several developments which will allow the continued operation of the Baxter Art Gallery for the foreseeable future.

The student-operated framing program resulted in contributions of some $3,000 from a highly diversified group of contributors from both on and off campus. These funds allowed the Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences to develop a long-term plan of operations.

As a consequence, Professor Robert Rostenstone will take over as director of the gallery. He will replace Professor David Smith, who through great personal effort made the gallery one of the most innovative and exciting in Southern California. Professor Hutenhahn has entered into an arrangement with the Panamera Art Alliance under the terms of which the Alliance will support the exhibiting program of the gallery. Professor Rostenstone will be supported in his management of the gallery by a board of directors which will consist of three members from the Art Alliance and three from the Institute.

In addition, a professional curator will be hired to work in conjunction with Dr. Rostenstone and the board. The Division will provide sufficient funds to cover the salary of the curator for one year, during which period more permanent support will be available to be procured.

Footsteps of the GODS?

Tech Prof Lectures on Genetics

The normal expectation of the human race is to become extinct. This is, after all, the fate of nearly every species since the dawn of life on this planet. The question of how mankind may avoid this fate in a similar way has been considered by Professor James Bonner (PhD, '34) in Wednesday's Watson Lecture.

The history of life on Earth began with the first bacteria (under the supervision of Professor Norman Horowitz, our expert on the origin of life), followed by the development of photynthetic bacteria, eukaryotes, vertebrates, reptiles, mammals, birds, and finally mammals. When the first early hominids dimly grasped the usefulness of a tool, technology, a process was placed on bigger and better brains, or, as Professor Bonner put it, "the swelling of the head." The transition from these primitive hominids to man's modern form did not occur in a quantum leap. Two separate gene pools gradually arose in Central Asia which eventually formed the Homo neanderthalensis and the Homo sapiens. These species were competing for dominance (meaning the ability to occupy a limited ecological niche). Homo sapiens, the surviving species, was able eventually to eradicate its rival through an improved ability to manipulate a rather hostile environment through the use of tools. In Professor Bonner's whimsical expression, "Who survived? Well, it wasn't them."

Evolution, however, has not ceased with the advent of Homo sapiens. Genetic change is as surely a part of man's future as his past. Numerous genetic factors have become fixed in the population in the intervening time. Several different subspecies (what a biologist would call strains) have become firmly established. Any two randomly chosen individuals have an average of only 15% of their DNA in common. Orthodontists claim that the human jaw is getting smaller and that teeth are becoming softer. Traits such as hemophilia are known to have surfaced in the population only within the last four to five hundred years. As Professor J. P. Revel has said, "Man as he is must vanish."

Genetic change is both inexorable and inevitable. In the face of the forces governing natural selection and evolution, it is therefore the expectation of Homo sapiens in the long run to be superseded by a better adapted species of man. ("We hear about how smart the Koreans are getting...",)

However, the human race has the capability of guiding its own genetic change. It is the first species which is not subject entirely to blind chance in this page.

Brief News Brief News Brief News Brief News...

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Burch's audience
Ballet
Boggles
Beckman

Double Coverage?

Continued From Page One
Cross card and letting the hospital (or doctor) take care of paperwork, a form must be filled out and filed with Mutual of Omaha each time you enter the hospital or visit your doctor. These forms, half of which the patient completes (the other half is filled out by the doctor), are available at the Health Center. Notice of injury must be made within 20 days and notice of sickness within 90 days.

Miscellaneous items covered under the Mutual of Omaha Policy are injury to natural teeth (up to $500), diagnostic treatment of a condition requiring a hospital stay (up to $150 per sickness), outpatient hospital services (up to $300 per accident and $150 per sickness), and coverage for mental and nervous disorders (the plan provides for up to 20 days hospitalization).

Double Coverage
Many students are wondering why they must pay the $100 premiums (included in the cost of tuition) when they may already be covered by their own insurance carrier. According to Lyman Bonner, it is the custom at Caltech to provide coverage for all students. The principal reason for this is Caltech’s size. If the insurance were made voluntary, a few students would sign up for it so that they might be covered by another insurance company (although the other insurance company may have different ideas for those of you out to beat the system).

Students who have not picked up an insurance card at the Health Center (located on Arden St., just south of California Blvd.) should do so immediately. The old Blue Cross cards are no longer valid and the new cards are necessary to prove you’re insured in case of an accident.

Precisely what the insurance carriers design to “spiff” up might otherwise be simple choreography. Often, when the heavily choreographed dance episodes (which were very good!) gave way to singing, you began to wish they hadn’t. Most of the singers were either inexperienced or else had never laylagoed. The show capitalized on a sense of morbidity throughout. If the action had stopped long enough for someone to actually think about what was going on, it might have been bad. But like slapstick comedy, a series of mediocre incidents alternated with good footage, can make the whole look good. Certainly I can’t say I’m sorry I went.

—David E. Callaway

Friday, October 8, 1976

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Burch's

Viking

Revised

Dr. Carl Sagan, authority on Mars and member of the Viking science team, will discuss the two Viking landers and what they are revealing about Mars in a program to be held on Tues., Oct. 12 at 8:00 P.M. in Caltech's Beckman Auditorium.

The host of the program will be Dr. Bruce Murray, director of Caltech’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Dr. Murray will participate in a discussion illustrated with pictures taken by the Viking spacecrafts, and both scientists will talk about the results of the spacecrafts' biological, chemical, and seismic experiments.

Aileen Slone

—Al Keller

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THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Friday, October 8, 1976

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Editor-in-Chief

Al Keller

—Carl J Lydick

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This program is free and open to the public and sponsored by the Caltech Y.

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MAGNIFICENT LAMB

Douglas Fairbanks

Wanted for Murder

Aileen Slone

—Al Keller

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General Staff

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The writing of the book itself isn’t that great, ranking alongside perhaps an average Andre Norton book in quality. The thing that makes the Dragon books worth reading is the dragons themselves. There are two major types: Fire Lizards, the size of perhaps a hunting falcon, shy of humans, but lovable; and DRAGONS, big enough to ride on. These dragons are telepathic, fly, can breathe flame given the right diet, and can teleport. This last is, I admit, a bit unusual for the average classical dragon, but it is a necessary plot device. Anyway, the byplay between dragonkind and mankind is beautiful.

Man: “Why didn’t you drag- tell us you could travel through time?”
Dragon: “Well, you didn’t ask.”

Dragons is primarily recommended for people who have read and liked the other two novels. Right now it’s only available in hardbound (Atheneum, $7.95), but hopefully it will come in paperback soon.

* * *

Erich of Melbronn is the name of Michael Moorcock’s new series. “New” because it sort of came out once before, entitled The Dreaming City. It seems that Lancer Books, a now-defunct book company that caused everyone a lot of trouble both before and after its demise (more on that later), edited EOM, changed all of the text, and present it as a sort of sampler of the book. This has resulted in a legal battle of enormous magnitude, resulting in many books being out of print, including Conan, Sigh.

The Silmarillion, in the long awaited sequel to J.R.R. Tolkien’s The Lord of the Rings, may come out approximately one year from now, according to last estimates. Rumors are flying about an earlier release date, but those are still rumors.

Marvel Comics, after doing what has turned out to be an impressive series of straight SF adaptations into a comics medium, is attempting two major adaptations at present: the adaptations of 2001: A Space Odyssey, and Logans Run. The first issue has come out; the former is bad, the latter good. The visual format is somewhat limited but there are definitely possibilities.

You may think that I’m ignoring Space: 1999 in this column. You’re right. Watch UFO, Star Trek, Outer Limits, or whatever else instead. One of the bad guys. He serves the Lords of Chaos. He wields a sword that doesn’t sing, it moans as it devours the souls of its victims. Sir Lancelot he ain’t.

However, Michael Moorcock, who won major SF awards for his “Behold the Man” is at his best when working with tormenting beings. His entire Eternal Champion series is about a man, or group of men, or whatever, who are drafted into fighting the good fight for one side or another in every time and place; sometimes winning, sometimes losing, always fighting.

Erich of Melbronn is a worthwhile book that I really do recommend it when you’re in a down mood. A few last bits and pieces: remember what I said about Lancer Books still hassling people after it ceased to exist? Well, it’s still going on. It seems that Lancer had the rights to a number of books (i.e., self-authorization to print and sell copies), including all of the Conan books and many others. It seems that Lancer, which went bankrupt rather suddenly, had a lot of obscure creditors who want some kind of control over these properties. This has resulted in a legal battle of enormous proportions.

For any of you interested in a night out about town, let me suggest going to see the current show at the Ice House. These acts are really something out of the ordinary.

First of all the billing is John Hannah, a singer and guitar player. This act consists of some lovely Latin songs, too. One number, a take-off on New Orleans Jazz, involves a good trumpet interlude by John and some bass-sounding vocalizations. Sometimes the facial expressions of the actor distract from the music, but overall the show is good.

Second of the show is GALLAGHER, a comedian. This man is extremely funny. His act includes puns, take-offs on T.V. ads, and discussions of parts of the body.

Last in the night is the MFQ, or Modern Folk Quartet. These four musicians do songs ranging from Talmieh to down south, and from Hawaii to Frank Sinatra. This is an act really worth seeing if you like banjo-picking and harmonica。

The shows are at 8:30 and 10:30 Mondays through Thursdays, 8:30 and 11:00 Fridays and Saturdays; and 8:30 Sundays. This act will be on the 10th. Cost is $3.50 on Tuens. and Thurs. and $2.00 on Fri. and Sat. Sundays are ah $1.50, while Mondays are much more expensive (being special shows) and the prices are marked before billing. If you want to see a show at the Ice House especially on weekends, you should call and make reservations. Call MURRAY – 1-9942.

To get to the Ice House, go North on Mentor from Walnut, turn left on Walnut and go. The Ice House is on the east side of Mentor, south from Walnut a most all the way to Colorado, it’s because Mentor: ONE WAY, stupid!! The entrance is through an alley, an hard to find. Some coming attractions are Corry Carroll and the Fat Dog, Editorial Band; Monday, Oct. 11, $2.00.

Rick Cunha, Lawrence Beene and Mike Farrow ... Do 12–17.

1976's Nostalgia Monday with May Wheel and the Jug Men ... Monday, Oct. 18, $2.50.


Bluegrass Monday with Snowbird ... Mon. Oct. 25 $2.00.


Big Band and Big Act Monday with MFQ. pick the band that suits you best, Dennis Driff ... Mon., Nov. 15, $2.50.
BETTER BABIES

Continued From Page One

Two approaches to this suggest themselves, namely, scientific elimination of "bad" genes, and careful promotion of "good" ones. He didn’t attempt to solve the question of who should do the selecting, answering with what criterion. As was once pointed out to him, if the selection committee were composed of biologists, we would breed a race of scientists—which would not provide the variety of intellectual capabilities needed to adapt to a complex environment. (The same problem of course, applying to any particular committee, even with only the highest motives.)

Amniocentesis is a method of safely obtaining cellular samples from a young fetus. These cells can easily be screened for a variety of genetic defects. Gross chromosomal abnormalities involving wrong numbers of chromosomes, broken chromosomes, and the like can now be routinely detected. (The process, called karyotyping, required one day when performed by hand; and one hour when performed by a special machine hooked up to a computer. Unfortunately, only one such machine has been built, and it does not seem likely to replicate itself in the near future.) When such an abnormal fetus is detected, it can be aborted. The morality of such a result is moot; the evolutionary benefit of aborting defective fetuses clearly exists, and it is a moral point. At present, not all genetic diseases can be detected by this method; for instance, sickle cell anemia affects only one in every 500 black persons. However, if methods were found to turn on genes at will, their products could be examined in cultured cells derived by amniocentesis, and the affected fetus aborted. Beneficial genes (for example, for longevity, high energy, and wide-spectrum intelligence, all of which have been shown to have at least some genetic basis) could be encouraged by several means. One emanates from H.S. Muller, who suggested that germ cells from newborn children should be frozen at birth, and the child sterilized. Such recessive genes are expected to turn on genes at will, their products could be examined in cultured cells derived by amniocentesis, and the affected fetus aborted. Beneficial genes (for example, for longevity, high energy, and wide-spectrum intelligence, all of which have been shown to have at least some genetic basis) could be encouraged by several means. One emanates from H.S. Muller, who suggested that germ cells from newborn children should be frozen at birth, and the child sterilized. Such recessive genes are expected to

Friday, October 8, 1976

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Page Five

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Continued on Page Six
FOOD
Continued From Page Five
have your meals at "non-stan-
dard" times. While Techers may keep weird waking/sleeping hours, meal times tend to be surprisingly regular. If you are fortunate enough to have access to a microwave oven, use it, and plan your menu accordingly.

6. Remember that you've got to keep up whatever mess you make, and a little planning can cut the mess down significantly. For example, brisket things with aluminum foil on top of the broiler pan; then you can just throw away the foil and you might need to wipe the broiler pan with a damp sponge, as opposed to scrubbing it for 15 minutes with a brillo pad. If you're using an electric stove, keep weird waking/sleeping patterns are . fortunate enough to have bananas in the refrigerator.

Above all, remember not to keep bananas in the refrigerator. For example, broil things with aluminum foil on top of the broiler pan. If you're using an electric stove, keep weird waking/sleeping patterns are . fortunate enough to have bananas in the refrigerator.

The weekly dance we'll begin back in 1971 by Techers and for Techers—namely several Greek undergrads who wanted to learn the dances of their homeland. Taught by Rand Walmans, another undergrad, they practiced weekly on the top floor of the Keith Spaulding Building eventually, with Professor Ted Apostol as a faculty advisor they moved to Dabney and accumulated quite a collection of folk-dance records. The weekly event grew more popular and after a year the G.C.S. [sic] assumed responsibility for running it. In the past few years, if the nearest folk dance halls though popular, have been forced to close for various reasons, and Continued on Page Seven
Folk Dancing
Continued From Page Six
Cialches remain one of the few cultures in the L.A. area that still holds regular dances. As such, it has become even more popular, filling the dance hall every week.
Back in 1971, the dances were invited to traditional Greek folk dances alone. However, the in-

Continued From Page Five
Folk

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Beavers Engineer Lutheran Loss

The Caltech cross-country team followed up the previous week’s heroic loss to Claremont-Mudd with a win over Cal Lutheran on Oct. 2., by a score of 22-33. The meet was considered an upset in that Caltech hasn’t beaten Cal Lutheran in many years.

Steve Kellogg, Rob Bouret, and Berti Von Steenwyk finished 1-2-3 for Caltech in times of 27:39, 27:57, and 28:05 respectively. Garnering the top three places means an automatic win in cross country, however, a Cal Lutheran runner who looked like the winner of the race ran off the course. Even if he had finished first, the race run by Eugene Loh and Eric Seri, garnering seventh and ninth places respectively, would have rounded out the scoring against Cal Lutheran. Their times were 26:38 and 27:57, respectively.

Other times for Caltech in state of CA: 30:22 (Winnett Center, Santa Monica), 30:27 (Pasadena, California).

The meet loss to Cal Lutheran was the first, line races run by Caltech lost this one 14-5. Here was 22 of our 6 goals. The preseason began with a scrimmage against Ambassador College. Although no score was kept, it was obvious to all involved that Tech dominated the game.

Last week’s games, however, did not go as well. The first game of that week was held on Wednesday, at East Los Angeles City College (ELACC). Tech lost 11-6, but was handicapped by the loss of frosh starter Bill Power early in the game, when he was ejected for fighting with an ELACC player. One of Tech’s outstanding players was freshman Doug Jones, who scored 3 of our 6 goals.

The second game was a scrimmage against the Alumni. Tech lost this one 14-5. Even though Tech was down one man when he was ejected early in the game for "verbally abusing" a referee. A second player was ejected later in the game, but Tech still managed to stop the Alumni from scoring. Doug Jones was credited with 5 goals against the Alumni. Pat Huber was playing well at deep water goalie, and was credited with several fine blocks.

The water-polo team will see action again this Saturday, when it travels to San Bernardino Junior College to take part in an invitational tournament. Last year Tech finished second. If any spectators are interested in attending the game, it might be possible to arrange for rides with the team, or if you prefer to drive yourself, directions are available in the Athletic Office at Bonne Gymnasium.

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Second Class Postage paid at Pasadena, California. The California Tech is published weekly during examination and vacation periods by the Associated Students of the California Institute of Technology, Inc., Kessell Center, Caltech 105 N. Main St., Pasadena, CA 91125.

Beavers Engineer Lutheran Loss

The Caltech cross-country team followed up the previous week’s heroic loss to Claremont-Mudd with a win over Cal Lutheran on Oct. 2., by a score of 22-33. The meet was considered an upset in that Caltech hasn’t beaten Cal Lutheran in many years.

Steve Kellogg, Rob Bouret, and Berti Von Steenwyk finished 1-2-3 for Caltech in times of 27:39, 27:57, and 28:05 respectively. Garnering the top three places means an automatic win in cross country, however, a Cal Lutheran runner who looked like the winner of the race ran off the course. Even if he had finished first, the race run by Eugene Loh and Eric Seri, garnering seventh and ninth places respectively, would have rounded out the scoring against Cal Lutheran. Their times were 26:38 and 27:57, respectively.

Other times for Caltech in state of CA: 30:22 (Winnett Center, Santa Monica), 30:27 (Pasadena, California).

The meet loss to Cal Lutheran was the first, line races run by Caltech lost this one 14-5. Here was 22 of our 6 goals. The preseason began with a scrimmage against Ambassador College. Although no score was kept, it was obvious to all involved that Tech dominated the game.

Last week’s games, however, did not go as well. The first game of that week was held on Wednesday, at East Los Angeles City College (ELACC). Tech lost 11-6, but was handicapped by the loss of frosh starter Bill Power early in the game, when he was ejected for fighting with an ELACC player. One of Tech’s outstanding players was freshman Doug Jones, who scored 3 of our 6 goals.

The second game was a scrimmage against the Alumni. Tech lost this one 14-5. Even though Tech was down one man when he was ejected early in the game for "verbally abusing" a referee. A second player was ejected later in the game, but Tech still managed to stop the Alumni from scoring. Doug Jones was credited with 5 goals against the Alumni. Pat Huber was playing well at deep water goalie, and was credited with several fine blocks.

The water-polo team will see action again this Saturday, when it travels to San Bernardino Junior College to take part in an invitational tournament. Last year Tech finished second. If any spectators are interested in attending the game, it might be possible to arrange for rides with the team, or if you prefer to drive yourself, directions are available in the Athletic Office at Bonne Gymnasium.