

## Sexual Harassment in the U.A.E.

*Fatima Ebrahim*

My stay in the United Arab Emirates this Christmas vacation was infuriating and disturbing and I felt very harassed by the male population.

Generally, most women are kept indoors and transported from one part of the city to another via private cars or taxicabs, so it is uncouth for women to walk the streets. However, my summer hikes and cross-country runs made me sensitive to the beauty of the outdoors. It seems like people miss out on so much if they don't go out of doors, even in a crowded city like Dubai which has very little trace of natural beauty. But even the changing weather patterns contribute to making one's walk a new and refreshing experience.

On this particular day, it was drizzling gently outside, and the wind was blowing in little gusts and lifting dust off the desert floor. I made my way to the Corniche, which is a little creek, about half a mile away from where I live.

The Corniche holds a particular attractions for me, because of the sight of the waves crashing against the shore. Also, it is not linked with a thousand rinky-dink shops like the rest of the streets in Dubai, so it is relieved of commercial traffic, both of cars and citizens. City sounds - a thousand and one different car honks, and people calling out to each other - stress me out.

But in order to get to the Corniche, I first have to walk a noisy back-street where I am stared at, and sometimes accosted by men. These men seem to be of different nationalities. Men from Pakistan and Afghanistan customarily follow my path down the street with their eyes. I can feel the burn of their eyes on me when I am a couple of yards away from them. As I walk past them, I am careful not to look at them, though I am tempted to see just who it is that is staring at me. I also find it best to look as stony-faced as possible. If you look nervous or friendly, you have a greater chance of being approached.

Every couple of seconds I turn around to check whether I am being followed. Some men just happen to walking your way but the fact that they keep looking at you as they walk makes you feel uncomfortable and hunted. If I determine that I am being followed I walk very briskly, turn into a gully which usually turns into two or three other gullies. So it is easy to shake off pursuers.

But as I walk, I always think about how all this talk of keeping women locked within the house or in *hijab* as a practice by decent husbands seems like a whole load of bullshit. These men that stare at me direct wholly un-Islamic glares down my figure and I think with repulsion about how they will go home and instruct their wives to cover themselves up, like decent women, and be decent husbands.

I seem to be accosted by differ-

ent types of men in different ways. An Indian guy asked me the time the other day, and when I politely said that it was 10:30 a.m., he tried to pick me up by asking me flirtatiously where I was going in Hindi. Had he come onto me physically, I'd already made up my mind to rap him hard on the knuckles, or scream and rouse a public outcry, but my survival instincts made me leap to my feet and make a run for it.

My walk along the Corniche began peacefully. I met an Indian street-sweeper who greeted me with the Islamic greeting "Assalamu-alaikum," which means "Peace." I smiled and wished him back "alaikum-asalaam." At least, I thought to myself, I wasn't paranoid about men as yet.

The Corniche starts out really deserted, and the only company you have is the waves crashing against the rock. Then, in a couple of hundred yards you begin to encounter small groups of fisherfolk. Then come the boats and a couple of yards further down the creek is filled with colorful boat people, some chatting with each other probably recounting their day's adventures, some unloading cargo - people's luggage from neighbouring countries like Iran and Baharain. This is a crowded and active part of the city because several head office buildings and banks are located here. In fact, it's Downtown Dubai.

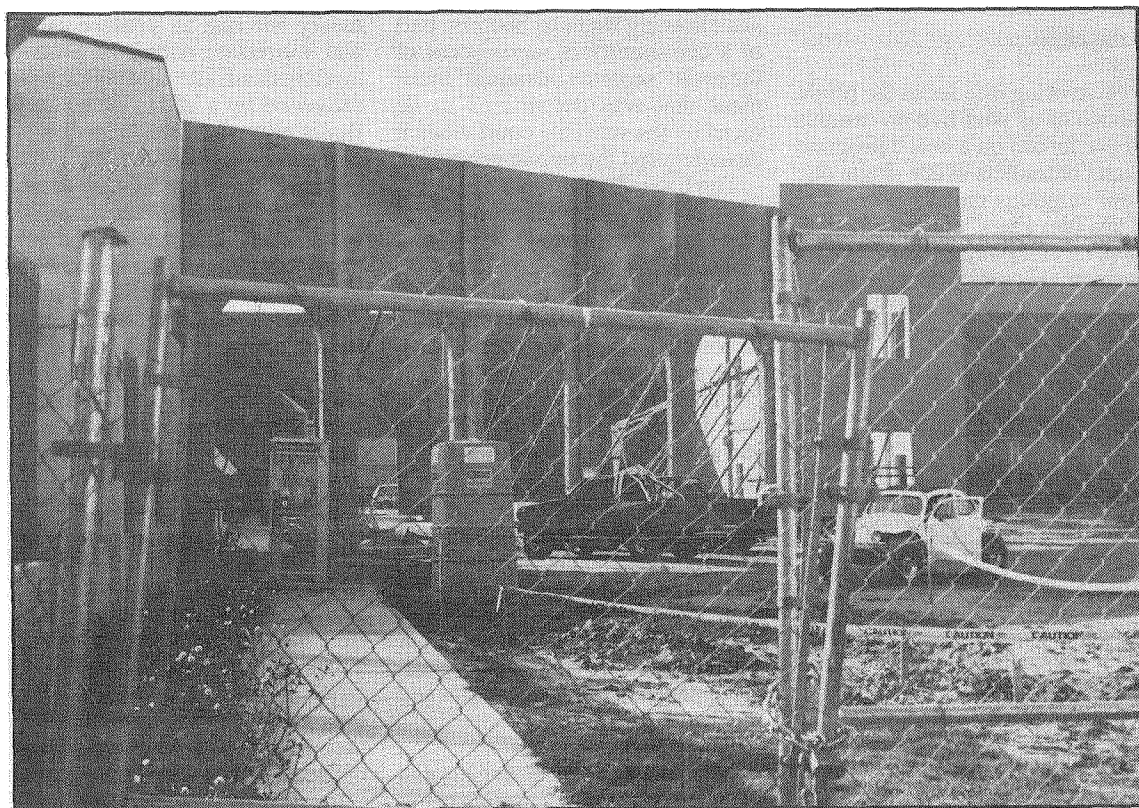
I see many people who recognise me since I walk here daily. A young Arab fisherman eyes me and smiles, almost to himself. I am not sure whether I should be hostile or friendly toward him. I wonder what his reaction will be if I went up and said hello to him, or say waved to him? I am always debating with myself just how much I can trust these people.

I go halfway down the street and decide that I've had it with the crowds and city sounds. So I begin to turn back, and as I do so, a car honks loudly at me. The driver is fat and saucy-faced. He is of a dark complexion, but I can't say whether he is a local, a Pakistani, or an Indian. But there is one thing for sure. He has a fat smile and there is greed in shiny beady eyes. He has a companion who is definitely Arab. I can tell because of his headdress.

I am already quite accustomed to honkers. Uncouth taxi drivers tend to get a kick out of honking at single women walking down a lonely street, so after awhile I pay only the slightest heed to honkers. But I make it a point to check whether the honkers are following me in their cars. The key to surviving the streets of Dubai is to stay very alert!

I proceed down the wet street, now glistening after the rain. As I enter the more deserted part of the city, the crowds abate and I notice the car halt in the middle of the road. My alert button is suddenly pushed on, and I'm wondering why someone isn't coming out of the car if it's parked in the middle of the street. I begin to realize also that the car resembles the one that honked at me

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The prefabricated walls of the Braun Athletic Center, which will house racquetball and squash courts, among other facilities, were raised last week. The structure appeared to pop up overnight. Photo by Rajesh "Q" Bilimoria.

## Christopher Ho Named "Best and Brightest" by USA Today

*Flora Ho*

My first question: "When does he find time to eat and sleep?" In between working (for the third year!) on the Freshman Admissions Committee, playing on the varsity tennis team, editing *The Big T*, participating in design contests, and wading through endless course work for his MechE major, Chris Ho actually does manage to squeeze in a few hours to sleep and sup, although those who know this Fleming senior may be inclined to disagree. But it was this dedication to both campus activities, academics, leadership, and creativity that convinced USA TODAY to select Chris as a member of its 1992 All USA College Academic Second Team.

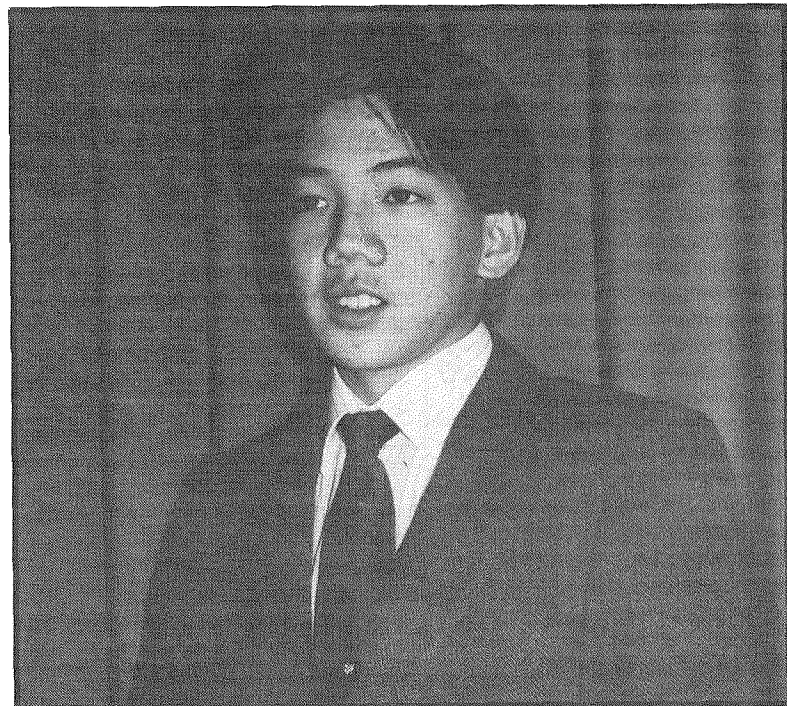
The winners of USA TODAY's salute to the "Best and Brightest" were divided into four categories: 20 students on each of the All-USA Academic First, Second, and Third Teams, and 74 who received Honorable Mentions. As one of the 1,253 nominees, Chris submitted a cover sheet listing numerous awards and honors he had received, campus and community activities he participated in, and academic, professional, and honorary organizations of which he was a member, in addition to an essay describing his contributions to admissions at Caltech and three letters of recommendation — all this, after completing hauntingly similar graduate school applications to MIT, Stanford, UC Berkeley, and Princeton.

Chris's strong academic status, evinced by a GPA of 4.11 and numerous awards and scholarships, along with an internship with Ford (in which he designed sound simulation for vehicle simulation scenarios) and his participation in the Cultural

Exchange Program in Japan constituted only part of the reason behind his selection onto the Team. In order to become a member, nominees must not only excel in their field, but must also demonstrate a desire to interact with others in an endeavor to make a difference in their lives. Because his involvement in the Freshman Admissions Committee entailed reading and evaluating applications and speaking on student panels, Chris found opportunities galore to interact with high school students and their parents and counselors, as well as with current Caltech students, faculty, and administration, and, by so doing, facilitate communication between these groups.

The philosophy behind the USA TODAY Team's selection process, appropriately enough, seems to strike concordance with Chris's view of our place in the grand scheme of things. As Einstein once said (in a quote that Chris disinterred for me from the 1991 *Big T*), "It is plain that we exist for our fellow men — in the first place for those upon whose smiles and welfare our happiness depends, and next for all those unknown to us personally but to whose destinies we are bound by the tie of sympathy."

Such a rare amalgamation of philanthropy, community involvement, and academic talent makes Chris an ideal member of the All USA College Academic Team. Congratulations, Chris — and get some sleep!



Senior Chris Ho, selected as a member of USA Today's All USA Academic Second Team. Photo by Rajesh "Q" Bilimoria.

## ELECTION STATEMENTS

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## Even More TA Dating Letters!

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## letters

Board Contract  
not Kosher

To the editors:

I wish to bring into focus the plight of those of us who live on campus and are forced on a board program which contradicts every single one of our religious dietary laws. For the last two years, I have been able to live on campus and be off board. However, this year, after school had started, I was informed that this could no longer happen. The strict Jewish dietary laws, or the laws of *kashrut* forbid the consumption of meat that is not slaughtered according to Jewish law, as well as restrictions against mixing milk and meat, and certain types of animals that are not *kosher*, and whose meat may not be eaten, including pigs and shellfish. Even the vegetarian option provided by the food service is not acceptable, because all kosher food must be cooked with utensils that are used exclusively on kosher food. Furthermore, the ingredients used to cook these meals must be certified as kosher by one of a number of rabbinical committees. The food service fails on all counts to provide an acceptable kosher alternative, but at the same time, Caltech does not allow anyone living on campus to be exempt from a board contract, as it used to in previous years. I was told that I could either move off campus or forget about some of my religious beliefs. Even if I had decided to follow this route, I was notified after all of the off-campus housing had been filled. Besides, I love living on campus, and want to remain ON campus and OFF board! What if an observant Jewish freshman were to come next year? Freshman are required to stay on campus, so they would be forced on board. The message sent out effectively communicates that all

students except observant Jews are permitted to live on campus. Forcing people off campus is not a fair solution. Segregating people and not allowing them to become part of a community is reminiscent of the same 'separate but equal' treatment that was determined to be racist by the supreme court when it desegregated the public schools.

The food service is not to blame. The change in policy for observant Jews has nothing to do with Total Food Management. Lee Ravis has tried hard to accommodate me and the other five or so kosher students, although it has been literally an impossible task. The reply I received from Nancy Carlton was that they needed me and the other Jews to fulfill a financial bracket, as 525 people were needed. I have heard stories of her interrogating students as if they were lying about keeping kosher. Where was the consideration for religious Jews as there was in past years? It is too late for me, as I will be graduating, but I want a fair system to allow religious people to stay on campus and off the board contract.

Ari Kaplan

## MIT Response

To the Editors:

In light of a recent letter published in the *Tech*, now seems an opportune time to relate our experiences at a certain school back east.

As we exited I-95, we were greeted by the lovely seabreeze that Ernie, *et al*, spoke of with such fanatic devotion in last week's *Tech*. This breeze reduced the outside temperature from a chilling 25 degrees to an Arctic sub-zero (we were reflecting on this very fact as we lay out on the L.A. beaches in January, basking in the warmth of the 85-degree sunshine). Cleverly

enough, MIT has decided to deal with its less than adequate climactic environment by designing an entirely indoor campus. It is not necessary for one to venture outside and appreciate nature or architecture. Instead, all buildings are concatenated by a series of white tile floors and white wallboard, which of course is ideal for the natural transition to the similarly adorned mental institutions of the East Coast. MIT seems to have all the other trappings that befit an institution of its appearance, such as the impersonal staff seated inside the many rooms in the long hallways, who have dealt with the onslaught of the many golems that roam through the campus with phrases such as, "Oh great, I have four problems coming in here!" (pronounced Errr. Uhhh. Oh great, Iuhh have fwoh prahblems coming in heeyah), when anyone dares to invade their cell block and ask a question. It's that "take a number, we'll call for you sometime next year" mentality that pervades the campus. Most people have taken to stamping these numbers on their foreheads, accepting their burden with a learned obsequiousness. When compared with the intimate quality of the Caltech staff, who address us on a first-name basis if we've visited them more than once, we couldn't help but pity the poor sods who treaded on and on as if stepping to some invisible beat, exhibiting the same glazed look in their eyes that they acquire while spending hours upon end ringing the chimes at the Kendall Square "T" stop.

While mapping our way through the corridors (was it Building Number Five?), we happened upon a display case featuring the whimsical mechanical follies constructed for their design class, ME 270. They had that homemade feel, something reminiscent of fourth grade Arts and Crafts, having been assembled with what appeared to be glue and popsicle sticks. I can only assume that these were the winning devices in the display case. The parts were machined with state-of-the-art precision (blind-drilled holes and hacksawed edges). I can't hold the students accountable for the quality of their malformed creations. The two hundred students in the class are given a machine shop no bigger than our own, and the instructor to student ratio is quite a bit higher (I believe the class had one professor and a few graduate TA's). When three-fourths of shop time is spent waiting on line for the bandsaw, one should not expect to see a quality product. Additionally, a perusal of the MIT equivalent of the C.L.U.E. revealed that most students find the Electrical/Computer engineering

labs "overcrowded", "understaffed", and centered around "out of date equipment".

We were also intrigued by the claim in that delightful letter to the editor that MIT men are "graced with the company of many fine women colleagues both at MIT and our renowned sister schools like Wellesley". I wonder if the women at these sister schools consider the presence of MIT men to be a grace? As part of an unpleasant hazing week, a friend of mine in one particular sorority had to ask five MIT men out on dates. She spoke of one nightmare date, who arrived on a skateboard carrying a briefcase (I have yet to see that on *this* campus). Is this the source of social companionship to which you were referring?

The multi-faceted cultural offerings that Los Angeles presents, ranging from the Hollywood Bowl and the L.A. Music Center, to concerts at the pier and various clubs in Hollywood, compare favorably to the slower-paced Cambridge scene, which would inspire the motto, "Boston - the town that lulls itself to sleep." Perhaps the graduate students who authored last week's letter spend too much time chained to their labwork, repeating learned behavior from MIT, not affording themselves the opportunity to appreciate the finer parts of Los Angeles.

What we really don't understand is why those graduate refugees from MIT who feel that Caltech is an "intellectual wasteland", as well as the source of a "second-rate education" bothered to travel all the way out west to degrade themselves. Perhaps their quest for enlightenment and a search for "true excellence" led them out west. Or perhaps they wanted to attend a school with an honor code, where classmates don't sabotage each other's experiments to get better grades.

Sincerely,

Aaron Lipman, B.S. California  
Institute of Technology, 1992,  
Electrical Engineering

Keith Langer, B.S. California  
Institute of Technology, 1992,  
Mechanical Engineering

Good  
Samaritans

Open Letter of Thanks

This past Saturday night I was the fortunate recipient of the work of some Good Samaritans, and I would like use this public forum to thank them.

I had gotten rather drunk that night, lost track of my group of friends, and passed out in the middle of Beckman Auditorium's parking lot. These kind souls came along, figured out I was a Techer even though they didn't know me, and carried me on campus. Somehow they got out of me that I was a Lloydie and delivered me to a friendly trash can inside the front door of Lloyd. From there, some good friends in Lloyd took over, and helped me through the night.

Without the help of those Good Samaritans in the parking lot, I would have been in bad shape and alone. I would thank them in person, but I was so far gone I do not have any recollection of who they were. All I remember is having the impression that they were students from Dabney.

Hopefully, you guys are reading this and by now know I am referring to you. Thank you very much for helping me in a time of need. In your honor, I drink a toast. Salut!

Sincerely,  
Pete Rogan  
Lloyd House

## Lost Mail

To the editors:

In all my life I've never lost a letter in the USPS. In my first seven terms at Tech I've never lost a letter in the house mail slots. In the first three weeks of being forced to use the new "secure" mail boxes I've already lost a credit card.

The excuse for building the undergraduate mail boxes was security. But aside from being ugly, inconvenient, and probably expensive (just how much did they spend on this mess?), they are certainly not secure. They place our mail out in the open giving easy access to passers-by. The locks are small and easy to pick: just one five pin lock gives access to a bank of sixteen boxes. The doors have glass faces and unshielded latches: all you have to do is break the glass and pull back the latch. I think there have been sufficient demonstrations of their vulnerability to show that they are not secure.

If security was a goal, it would have been much cheaper, more convenient, and certainly more secure to simply put doors on the student mailboxes. Instead, our wonderful Caltech beauracracy took it upon itself to spend our money making it easier for everyone except us to get at our mail. Every other department on campus has pigeon hole mailboxes located in their buildings. Why can't undergraduate mail addressed to the houses be delivered there? Let those who want the inconvenience and delusion of security have the outdoor boxes; I want my mail in my lounge where there are people I trust to sort it and keep it safe.

Sincerely,

Seth B. Noble  
1-58, 91126

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## More TA Dating Reponse

To the Editors:

"If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." By my count, this means that you should give up after three tries, so I'll sheath my pen after this note and let TA's take whatever liberties they see fit without the benefit of my commentary.

But first ... Ms. Claire Ellen Slutter's letter in the January 31st Tech contains a couple of factual errors which should be corrected. First, the rule prohibiting TA's from dating their students was adopted by the Graduate Study Committee, a non-protoplasmic entity composed of faculty, administrators and graduate students, not the Graduate Student Council. Admittedly it is confusing to have two GSC's, but please abuse the correct organ. I am no longer a member of either GSC, so please understand that my comments do not reflect any institutional sense of humor.

Second, Ms. Slutter apparently believes that my use of the adjective "unwitting" in reference to students is synonymous with "witless", and that I denigrated undergraduate intelligence. Quite mistaken! The nonpejorative meaning intended is "being unaware", i.e., oblivious to the feelings of animal magnetism that might be stirring hidden within the breasts of their TA's. Even before I embarked on this exchange of correspondence with fellow graduate students, I never doubted that Caltech undergraduates were much more carefully and selectively admitted, generally smarter, more energetic, more open-minded, and much too attractive for their own good.

Technical points aside, I must admit that I was surprised and amused to see that my language had been judged "counter productive, incendiary and offensive beyond belief." Having been a Tech reader long enough to have seen the "Inside World" more than once and even recalling a "Hot Throbbing River" special issue, I would not have thought myself capable of outraging such a jaded readership. Ms. Slutter seems to approvingly suggest a legalistic evasion of the dating rule via mindless ruttin' "that in no way resembles dating", but is shocked by my ironic use of the word "lovebundle" to denote a target of lascivious opportunity. I leave it to you, gentle reader, to draw your own conclusions about the relative peculiarities of the respective writers.

I am surprised by the passion which I have aroused in some by having the effrontery to lightly discuss sexual liberty, a fairly traditional subject for humor. My personal opinion is that anyone who has never been struck by the faint ridiculousness of sexual congress may have a limited experience of either sex or humor. Again, my views do not reflect an official sexual position of either GSC.

Although I thank my correspondents for helping to publicize a formerly obscure but important decision, I would hate to detract from a high-minded discussion of the issues (sexual harassment, abuse of power, and the relative virtues of the freedom to press yourself upon students versus their freedom to be free from such oppression) by becoming a topic of debate myself. Like Saul [Acts 26:14], I have been converted to know that "it is hard ... to kick against the pricks" and will leave the field to fresher blood.

Sincerely,  
Craig S. Steele

Sirs,

In the last few weeks your letters page has been inundated by a discussion of an injunction against divers social interactions between a TA and one of her or his students. Ordinarily I would hesitate to join what appears to have been an extraordinarily thorough flogging of a dead horse, but the exchange appears to have drifted to a topic important to me.

In his letter appearing on January 31, Mr. Steele observes that while he "is pleased that Mr. Maskit [letter appearing January 22] is aware of the Honor Code, [he] would hope that he [Mr. Maskit] would admit that it might take more than his one term of residence in the Caltech community to make an authoritative claim to preach to its inhabitants." Perhaps Mr. Steele will allow a stronger claim to one who has been here almost five years, the better part of three of which have been spent serving on the Board of Control, and has been a significant contributing editor of the last two undergraduate Honour System Handbooks.

Mr. Steele contends that "the Honor Code works well when there is a common understanding of what is appropriate in a given situation...". This is certainly true of the Honour (pardon the Anglicization) System, but Mr. Maskit's point, with which I am in wholehearted agreement, is that the GSC injunction goes beyond defining propriety. (I am not aware of who has actually recommended the injunction. For the moment I will follow the suggestions of the last few letters on the topic and attribute it to the GSC. If this is misplaced please accept my apologies and understand that where I say "GSC" I mean in fact whichever body was responsible.) There is nothing to suggest that a date between a TA and student inescapably involves the taking of unfair advantage. Mr. Steele is doubtless aware of some cases, and even my stunted imagination can conceive of a few, where the Honour System is violated, and which are therefore inappropriate; but the position taken by the GSC (and defended by Mr. Steele) bans not only these, but also others more innocent.

By the adoption of the Honour System we have made a commitment to a simple definition of propriety at Caltech: that any action is acceptable so long as it does not take unfair advantage of another member of the Community. For those who would rush to disagree, notice that this principle is extremely generous. Without wandering too deeply into what has proven a formidable quagmire I will say that I have heard divers very convincing arguments from members of the Board why virtually any undesirable (and some perfectly acceptable) behaviour inevitably violates the Honour System.

This principle accepted, there are two central pillars to the enforcement of the Honour System at Caltech. The first seems to be easily grasped and is perhaps the easier to understand. This is an overt decision to trust members of the community to act appropriately (i.e. not take unfair advantage) without a police force. We tell a student, for example, not to work on a given examination for more than three hours, and fully expect that he will not, even though there is no-one watching. In some ways this is the less important facet.

The second pillar is subtler (and it is here that Mr. Steele appears to stumble) but nonetheless is intricately connected to the first. We have postulated that an injunction against the taking of "unfair advantage", something I call the central dogma of the

Honour System, is sufficient to encompass all behaviour that we consider inappropriate. In view of the remarkable concentration of intellectually able people at Caltech let us further stipulate that the members of the community are sufficiently adept at reasoned thought to be allowed to conclude for themselves the impacts of this maxim. Certainly in the present case it would seem that the sort of harassment or favoritism issues that Mr. Steele or the GSC is attempting to prohibit, are ones where the central dogma is likely to be found violated. (I cannot be categorical because ultimately that is a decision that can only be made by an entire Board, properly convened and without regard to precedent.) This makes additional rules (such as "no TA may date a student") superfluous. Superfluity is not in itself a cancerous evil, but there is more. Additional rules are, as Mr. Maskit suggests, more often than not both insulting and harmful.

They are the former because they belie the trust that members of the community are able, without external imposition, to deduce what constitutes unfair advantage. They are latter for two reasons: first, that more often than not (and certainly in this case) a rule must prohibit more than is ideally desired. It is extremely difficult to pose a concrete policeable rule that is not guilty of overkill. (Besides, we have rejected the need for a police force, so what need have we of policeable rules?) Let us confine ourselves to prohibiting only the behaviour we find unacceptable: the taking of unfair advantage. The second harm arises from a tendency against which we (on the Board of Control) have waged an uphill battle in the last few years. Sadly, there appears to be a propensity to fall out of the habit of critical examination or impossible that violating them of one's behaviour when various organizations fall into the habit of telling one what to do. This is partly due to the implied insult carried by the rule, and partly because it is always easier to let someone else do the thinking.

Thus we see the connexion between these two principles. On the one hand, the reason no police force is required simultaneously suggests that no rules should be required; on the other, the imposition of rules erodes the commitment to and constant reexamination of the Honour System, and so diminishes the justification for the trust of the first part. To quote the undergraduate handbook: "It is a fundamental aspect of the Honour System that the responsibility students display in their conduct must be met by freedom and trust from others. An example of this is the official position on proctoring, which is not only held unnecessary but is discouraged under current faculty regulations. The bodies which deal with violations of the Honour System are also bound to promote an atmosphere of trust and confidence. As it should be, honesty is a two-way street at Caltech."

Mr. Steele proceeds to claim that, "the action of the Graduate Student Committee regarding TA dating sets a standard for academic behaviour just as a faculty member's explanation specifies a homework policy." Not so. The policy surrounding the assignments (tests or homework) for a class are rules of a "game" by which a fair grade will be chosen. Faculty members do not have a completely free hand in choosing these rules. While it is certainly up to them to decide what references (human or not) are permitted, it is not up to them to decide how to enforce this (witness the above quoted disapproval of proctoring). The

problem in the case of homework rules is that it is not *a priori* evident what is fair, and so the instructor defines it. In the case of the dating rule we can return to first principles to figure out what behaviour is fair and so the rule is superfluous.

Thus the "ignorance, megalomania, or ... influence of mind-altering pharmaceuticals" that Mr. Steele groped for in Mr. Maskit's argument turns out merely to be a better grasp of the single most important principle of life at this Institute. It is sad that Mr. Steele's "rather longer exposure" has not served him better. (Mr. Steele will perhaps disagree with my assessment of the Honour System as the single most important principle of life here. Perhaps he would do well to consult the many alumni who in fact claim it to be just that.)

Finally, it is necessary to rebut another common objection to the point of view I have advanced here. While I seem to be advocating the removal of all rules, the very handbook that I have quoted (and partially written) would appear at first glance to contain a variety of rules itself. For instance, I am sure that somewhere it declares that it violates the Honour System to cheat. My claim is that this is not really a rule. If we had said, "never violate the intended policy of the Professor," we would indeed have perpetrated another insulting and hurtful rule upon the community. But we did not. Instead, we used the word "cheat". What does it mean to "cheat"? Why, to unfairly take advantage of the Professor or other students while completing the work. Plagiarism, for example, is cheating, even though I have never seen specific injunctions against it. Similarly, I can imagine situations where the instructor's directions are sufficiently misstated or impossible that violating them would not be an evil.

All we do in statements such as the one about cheating and the one I made about plagiarism policy above, is defer the problem of making a case-by-case decision. With the maxim that cheating is unfair, we still need to examine each case individually to see if cheating did in fact happen. I could never produce a formula for what constitutes plagiarism (and I have no respect for any attempts I have yet seen). All I could say is, that it is an unfair representation of another's work or ideas as one's own. This cannot be reduced to a statement about the number of words copied, or any such thing; we still need to examine each situation to see if there was indeed any plagiarism and in doing so we must examine the actions for unfairness. This is still the watch word. All we have achieved is the focusing of attention on a particular area. It is, I contend, impossible to condense the intuition essential to that word into a series of easy practical maxims. If we try, I fear that we find our-

selves in the position I outlined above. The general case aside, it is clear to me, and I believe to Mr. Maskit and others like him, that in the present case we do indeed encounter overkill.

The organization responsible for this injunction does have alternatives other than the unfortunate rule that sparked this long exchange. It is true that on (unfortunately frequent) occasion the Community will seem to neglect the danger of unfair advantage in a particular realm. It is quite appropriate and useful to redirect attention to this area in response, but this can be done simply by initiating discussion. (We have certainly seen much discussion, but it is unfortunate that it has been in the shadow of this proclamation, and so has been focused on the validity of the rule rather than on the possibility of some behaviour in this area taking unfair advantage of someone at Caltech.) It would even be consistent with the Honour System to create the "rule" that no one may abuse the TA - student relationship. (This is the sort of "non-rule" I wrote about in the preceding two paragraphs - "abuse" is hardly well defined.) But to say that no TA may date one of his or her students is (I will join with Mr. Maskit here) an attack on the principles that underlie the Honour System.

We are privileged in this Community to reject the "lowest common denominator" system of rules that most of the rest of the world is compelled to adopt. We accrue two primary benefits from this rejection: the unnecessary of a police force and the availability of as much liberty as is consistent with the absence of unfair advantage. By recreating rules such as the one presently under consideration, we curtail the liberties with overkill and, as a result, erode the trust and dependability that displace the police force. I would urge the GSC (or whatever subcommittee or other organization was responsible) to retract this policy and instead merely encouraging the determination of unfairness to the GRB or BOC to be adjudicated on a case by case basis.

Sincerely,

Maneesh Sahani

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## election statements

## ASCIT Director of Academic Affairs

Jeff Foust

One of the most important pieces of information that you use when deciding on what classes to take is the Course Listing for Undergraduate Education, the CLUE. However, isn't it frustrating to turn to the page the class you're interested in is on, only to find just a list of grades? Isn't it also frustrating when you look at the grades and discover you don't know how half the class did because they were grad students and didn't have their grades posted there? You've probably experienced this more than once. I know I have. This frustration has inspired me to try and do something about it, and that is to run for the position of Director of Academic Affairs, better known as the CLUE editor.

Like any candidate running for office, I have to try to convince you, the electorate, that I'm qualified for the job. I have been involved with SEDS (Students for the Exploration and Development of Space) here since my freshman year, and I've risen not only to the office of president of the chapter, but I've also become a member of the SEDS National Executive Board, the group of fifteen students that runs SEDS affairs nationwide. I've learned a lot from my experience with SEDS on responsibility, delegating duties, getting things done, and being organized - all attributes that are necessary for putting together the CLUE. I also have a great deal of experience with desktop publishing software, such as PageMaker and FrameMaker. If you've seen the flyers that go up all around campus a few days before a SEDS meeting, or have seen the SEDS newsletter, you've seen my handiwork.

However, qualifications do not improve the CLUE. Reforms do. I've come up with some proposed reforms that I believe will greatly improve the quality of the CLUE. Many of them address the key issue for improving the CLUE: increasing the number of classes reviewed. In the most recent CLUE, approximately 45% of the classes listed in it were not reviewed. That is much too high. I would like to see that figure reduced to under 25%. The way to do that is to make it easier for students to write a review. One proposal is to include a pre-addressed review form in the letter sent out asking the person to write a review. Also, I would accept reviews submitted through electronic

mail, a medium that many students find more comfortable and easier to use. I would write a weekly or biweekly article for the *Tech*, listing the classes that have yet to be reviewed.

I also have ideas for other reforms not directly related to increasing the number of classes reviewed. When a class has both undergraduate and graduate students in it, I would like to insert a grade breakdown for both the undergrads and the grads, so that people can see if there is any great difference between the performance of the two. I would also like to insert a similar breakdown among sections of large classes, such as Ma 1 & 2 and Ph 1 & 2. I would also like to introduce graphics into the CLUE, such as histograms of grades for classes. Finally, I would work on creating a 'new and improved' layout and design for the CLUE, to make it look as professional as possible.

I can't guarantee that I'll be able to implement all of these reforms, nor can I guarantee that they'll work in increasing the number of reviews submitted. I can guarantee to you, though, that I'll try my hardest to improve the CLUE in whatever way possible, as well as to act as a responsible member of the ASCIT BOD. If you have any questions, ideas, concerns, or just want to figure out who I am, feel free to stop by my room (Marks 103) this weekend - I could use a break from 95 and 106. Thanks for reading this statement, and remember to vote on Monday!

Rob Ellis

Hi, my name is Rob Ellis, and I am running for the position of Director of Academic Affairs. I feel that I have the proper qualifications to do a good job, having held many positions in publishing and circulation. I also have met many of you through Interhouse and Discobolus sporting events, and I feel that I can represent the campus on the ASCIT BOD.

I was an editor of my high school newspaper, with experience in writing, formatting articles, page layout, editing, and editorials. I also was the editor of the CCF Fishline, which involved assigning articles, calendar compilation, formatting, publishing, and distribution. Last year I also worked for the *California Tech*. I wrote articles and reviews, and I was also the writer responsible for the Crime and Incident Beat, one of the highlights of the paper. I feel that this publishing experience will serve me well in compiling the *CLUE*, which is one of the main jobs of this po-

sition.

I will attempt to get balanced views on the courses so that the reader doesn't have to know the writer's bias in understanding the reviews. I will also try to increase the percentage of classes that have actual reviews in addition to the grade listings.

I have been active around campus as well. I am currently Ricketts House Athletic Manager, responsible for organizing teams for sporting competitions, handling Discolobus challenges, and refereeing competitions between other houses. I have also been active in Ricketts through waiting, social events, and I have connections to other houses through my Rudd roommate and the baseball team. I will attend the ASCIT meetings and vote intelligently and within the sentiment of the student body. I feel that I can make a positive contribution to Caltech if I am elected Director of Academic Affairs.

## ASCIT Secretary

Korhan Gürkan

Hi, my name is Korhan Gürkan and I am running for the office of ASCIT Secretary. Realizing that the ASCIT Secretary is the main mode of communication between the BOD and the rest of the student body, I promise concise minutes published every week on time. I will also distribute the minutes to all the student houses and set up a mailing list for those of you who insist on getting a personal copy.

I have been fairly active over the past two and a half years serving on the house athletic team for two years and on the house Excomm as treasurer for one year. I have also been involved in several sports teams. Through these experiences, I have learned to deal with the administration and communicate with other students. Since I have met and know many of you, I can truly represent you on the ASCIT Board of Directors. Also, I am aware of the importance of this office since the ASCIT Secretary is next in line to assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President and the Vice President (although this never happens).

I would like the opportunity to work for the students. As ASCIT Secretary, I will do my best to contribute positively to your life at Caltech.

Jessica Nichols

My name is Jessica Nichols and I am running for the office of ASCIT Secretary. After talking with the present ASCIT Secretary, Jason MacLeod, I feel that I am qualified for this office.

The responsibilities include taking minutes at the ASCIT BOD meetings and distributing these minutes to the concerned members of the Caltech community. For the past year, I have served on the Fleming House Excomm as Social Chairman, and feel confident that my experience can be an asset for the ASCIT BOD.

Please give me the opportunity to work for you by voting for me on Monday. Thank you very much.

Won Bang

Hi! My name is Won Bang and I am running for ASCIT Secretary. Last year, I was fortunate enough to be on the ASCIT BOD as the "clueless" Frosh Director. I have carried out all my duties as the Frosh Director, including publishing the

Undergraduate Research Opportunities Handbook which will be out next week. During this past year, I've gained valuable experience on how student government operates at college level. I hope to apply some of the skills I've gained as the next ASCIT Secretary.

## ASCIT Athletic Manager

Bryce H. Elliott

It is clear from the title of the position that the ASCIT Athletic Manager should know athletics. Bryce knows athletics. Bryce knows football. Bryce KNOWS basketball. Bryce knows baseball. Bryce knows track, too. Beyond that, Bryce knows Steve Harkness, and can go to him for help in an emergency.

The polls are in, and consensus is that I am the right man(person, for those of you who are PC) for the job. In fact, here's just a glimpse of what some famous sports figures have had to say about my candidacy: "Unbeatable!" - Hakeem Olajuwon "I'm going to Disneyland!" - Joe Montana "Hey, Bryce! Guess what I signed you up for?" - Joe Long "I \*\$ @%\*" - Charles Barkley "Just get it done." - Gene Victor "Money!, it's gotta be the shoes!" - Mars Blackmon.

Seriously, though, I hardly ever go to my classes (and I'm still doing fine, believe it or not), so time to get the job done is not a problem. I also have more than enough enthusiasm and patience to accomplish all of the long, arduous tasks that face the ASCIT Ath Man. Moreover, I believe in my ability to still be going to school here when it comes time to elect a new Ath Man. "Thank you for your support."

Jeff Pasquino

My name is Jeff Pasquino (some of you may know me as Guido) and I am running for the office of ASCIT Athletic Manager. I have spoken a few times with the current holder of this office, Steve Harkness, and he told me all about the office. I am currently on the Fleming House Athletic Team, and I have been a member of the baseball team for two years. Over this time I have developed an amiable relationship with the athletic personnel that would allow me to manage this office properly.

The duties of ASCIT Athletic Manager are pretty simple in that the main priority is ordering and distributing varsity jackets and pins. Steve showed me how this is done, and I feel I am very capable of doing these and all the duties of the office.

Along with my athletic background, I also know a great deal of the student body of Caltech in the student houses and off campus. I believe that this knowledge of the student body makes me a good choice for a member of the ASCIT BOD.

I would greatly appreciate your vote for me on Monday, because I feel that it would be a vote of confidence on your part in my abilities to hold this office and serve you. Thank you very much, and remember to vote for all offices Monday.

## BOC Secretary

Nathan Frei

In an ideal world, everyone would, without thinking, live according to a creed such as our Honor Code. Ours is obviously not an

ideal world, though (trust me on this one, frosh), and while the Honor System does work, it is only with intelligent thought on the part of the entire community, as well as occasional intervention by the Board of Control.

Unfortunately, this intervention is often misunderstood, either because of prior misconceptions, or because of a lack of information about what is involved. If I am elected Secretary of the Board of Control, it would be my responsibility, as the first formal contact a student might have with the Board, to be certain that the rights and potential actions of all the parties involved are fully understood. (How many of you know that a student can bring any Board member with him or her to a preliminary hearing?) My past experience on the Board as a House Representative familiarized me with Board procedures and potential decisions, so I should be able to answer most questions a student might have.

In a more public capacity, I will do my best to shed light on the Honor Code and the Board of Control whenever the need arises, whether it is during an informal conversation or as part of the annual house forums the BOC has been holding. Overall, I will try to be approachable by anyone, at almost any time.

I am committed to the continued existence of the Honor System. As Secretary, I will put in as much time as needed to ensure that everyone feels they are treated fairly in their dealings with the Board, and to make sure that the Honor System remains understood and enjoyed by all. The benefits of our Honor Code require dedication and responsibility of everyone, and I am prepared to do my part as Secretary of the Board of Control.

Khurram Dastgir-Khan

The BOC Secretary is the interface of the BOC with the rest of the community. This position entails taking notes at BOC meetings, notifying BOC members and the persons considered of any meeting and reporting of the minutes to those concerned.

Lost in the circle of day-to-day assignments and homeworks, we often fail to think about how the Honor System is shaping our daily existence at Caltech. One seldom finds any discussion of this all-encompassing rule in the lounges of undergraduate houses. I will strive to foster discussion of the Honor System by arranging panel discussions with the Board and the Deans. My aim as Secretary would be to keep the undergraduate student body informed of and *involved* in the workings of the Board of Control.

As mentioned earlier, the BOC Secretary is the interface of BOC with the rest of the community; I intend to be a student-friendly (human) interface.

Craig Smith

I, Craig Smith am running for the ASCIT office of BOC Secretary. I think that Caltech's Honor Code is an integral part of the undergraduate community. I would like to be more involved with this system because of the value it has to me personally, and the everyone else. I am definitely very honest and fair. My roommates mock me for being as honest as I am. I know that if elected I will make the commitment necessary to do the job, and do it well. So when you vote, vote for me.

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# election statements

## Freshman Director at Large

Stacy Fox

I would like you to consider me for the position of Freshman At Large. You may wonder what qualifications I have for the position. I have an interest in being on the BOD. I also am willing to fill in and do the lowly frosh things that the upperclassmen deem me worthy of doing. So when you vote in the ASCIT elections please remember my name, Stacy Fox! Thank you.

June Fujimoto

Since I am a freshman here at Tech, I have at least one qualification for the position of Freshman Director at Large. I'm also not jaded, cynical, or bitter yet, and therefore have the enthusiasm and energy for the office as well.

I'm running for this position because I would like the opportunity to represent the Freshman class on the Board of Directors, and be a part of the decision making process at Caltech. I'd like the chance to give my input and the input of others at ASCIT meetings.

I feel I am a good candidate since I have student government experience from high school and the responsibility to carry out what is expected of the Freshman Director at Large.

For those who don't know, the Freshman Director at Large is in charge of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Handbook and is also responsible for tasks from the Board of Directors.

If elected, I'll get the job done. So when elections come, vote for me, June Fujimoto.

Sequoyah Aldridge

I JUST WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR!!!!!! SEQUOYAH ALDRIDGE IS RUNNING FOR FROSH DIRECTOR!!!!

The frosh director's responsibilities are to present his class on the ASCIT board, to write up a report of the present surf opportunities and distribute it amongst the houses, and finally (and most importantly) to buy doughnuts and be a slave for ASCIT meetings. I've talked extensively to the previous Frosh Director Won Bang and feel that I understand the job very well so, VOTE FOR SEQUOYAH DAMN IT!!!!

## Upperclass Director at Large

Richard Baltzer

Now that Amoeba has been elected ASCIT President he can fulfill his campaign promise of fixing the ASCIT copier. This means that the job of the Upperclass Director at Large is back to being more than that of just the Van Man. The job will once again involve the day to day maintenance of the copier so you and I do not have to walk to Millikan to make a few copies. It will also involve the care of the ASCIT van and anything else the BOD decides the office holder should do. This job requires someone responsible and reliable. I believe that I can do this job, and on Monday you can give me the chance. Thank you.

Joe Long

So what exactly does the upperclassman director at large do? Well I think this office is held by an upperclassman (I got that one down...I'm a sophomore.) This person should do some kind of directing (I can handle that...I think?) Also one would guess that someone holding this office would be "at large" or basically LARGE (This one is pretty much covered too...by about 300lbs.) Now let's be serious for a minute (this is a very serious news paper you know!) The little t says that the upperclassman director at large takes care of the van and the copier. Now I know a lot about vans, in as much as they're just like cars but big, and that the one that ASCIT owns is a "flying death trap." As for copiers...I don't think ASCIT has a copier...I don't know if it ever did...I don't know that it ever will... maybe the new upperclassman director at large (van dude) can deal with this problem, but don't hold me to it. I would like to add that the van dude should be available (so one can get the keys from him... DUUUHH) and my room is VERY close to the mail box area so you can come by every day when you check your mail (I'm usually inside listening to classic hits by "THE KING") and ask me if you can have the keys to use the van to go on a Tommy's run... and of course I'll say "NO" because someone else is going to Mexico to buy drugs or something like that.

So being totally serious this time (NOT) just let me say that I've talked to my good buddy Big Dave Ross (the current van dude) and I know the "way of the van dude" and I think that it's a job that I can do well. So while you are voting try not to get all caught up in that Freudian cliché that you call your writing implement and remember to circle my name - JOE LONG. I will leave you now with a story from our beloved Dr. Feynman: "Once I was at a party playing bongos, and I got going pretty well. One of the guys was particularly inspired by the drumming. He went into the bathroom, took off his shirt, smeared shaving cream in funny designs all over his chest, and came out dancing wildly, with cherries hanging from his ears. Naturally, this crazy nut and I became good friends right away."

Todd McLaughlin

Hello, my name is Todd McLaughlin and I am running for the ASCIT position of Upperclassman Director at Large. I have been active in my house as well as in intercollegiate athletics as a member of the Flaming Beaver soccer team. I also participate in Interhouse athletics and have competed against and with many of you. As a member of my house's ExComm I have learned how to fully develop my views and express them effectively in a public forum. Being on the ExComm has also taught me how to distribute money efficiently and given me a good idea of how much things should cost. Since an important function of the ASCIT Board is to spread the wealth among the many groups and clubs I feel comfortable in my ability to use good judgement in helping to decide such matters.

As you know the holder of this office is responsible for the ASCIT van and the soon-to-be ASCIT copier. (Right Amit?) These burdens are admittedly light - when attended to properly. However, if something goes wrong many people could be pissed. I feel certain that I am not only capable of keeping everything in working order but willing as well. I feel especially qualified for this office because I have dealt with asshole mechanics

in Wyoming (long story) and a plethora of copier repairmen in Minnesota.

The basic point here is that this is a simple job if attended to and it needs to be filled by someone who won't screw it up. I won't screw up.

Justin Muhly

Keeping track of the Ascit Copier and the Ascit Van: These are not difficult duties. As I have had the pleasure of fixing the old Ascit copier on my own (when it still had a card reader and it was on a fix it yourself if it breaks basis), the first part of the job is not a problem. As to the second, I have had experience with decrepit vehicles (as any who have seen my car, which is even now being repaired, can tell you) the second is also not a problem. Campaign promise time: If I am elected, the copier will never be down for more than 48 hours (once it starts running), and you will never have a problem finding me when you need the Van. So vote for me, otherwise the other guy will win.

## IHC Chairman

Ben Smith

I have been the IHC Secretary for the past year, and I decided that I would like to run for the position of IHC Chairman. I strongly feel that having continuity between one IHC and the next will benefit the students in the long run. With a totally new IHC, all the presidents, Chairman and Secretary will spend about a term of getting used to the issues which come before the IHC. Then rotation hits. About when the IHC regains energy after rotation, the first Houses elect new presidents and the process begins again. With continuity, we as a community can immediately build upon that which was done this year.

Part of the problem with the IHC this year was the lack of minutes from the last few years. In my year as IHC secretary most of the minutes were published within days of the meeting. All of these minutes have been compiled and will be passed along to the new secretary. The lack of minutes from the past meant that when issues such as the loss of picks at rotation came up, IHC had to struggle to make appropriate actions with little or no known precedents. I think that the IHC needs to face the problems which arise on campus, but not get bogged down arguing and writing rules identical to rules written a few years ago. With continuity, the IHC will remember at least the previous year and will not reestablish that which has previously been established.

I would like to see the IHC take a stronger role in the interactions between the students and the administration. I think that if the IHC firmly informs the administration of campus concerns, such as housing, lack of repairs or anything else that would make life here better, then changes will be made. The key is a unified undergraduate community led by a strong IHC. I think that without someone who knows the ropes, the IHC will not organize before too much time has elapsed to get very much done. I think that I would form the strong leadership and the link of continuity that the undergrads need in the year to come.

Thank you for your support.

Craig Smith

I'm running for IHC chairman and if you want to see who I am then look down at the end of this statement. I think that I have the qualities that are desirable in a good IHC

chair (long legs? — no). I am referring to my ability to deal fairly with students and the administration. I think I am the best choice, and I hope you do too.

Eddie Murakami

Hunger for power? Genuine concern for our fellow peers? Or is it that some of us simply wish to lead an active life in politics?

Yes, it's that time again. Time when some of us are motivated in some way to step out and run for the remaining ASCIT elected offices. Some of these nominees have already been active in the houses, the IHC, and/or even the ASCIT. Some seemingly come out of nowhere. That's where I am.

At this school, I haven't been too active in politics. I have not even held an house office. But that's because I was never into any one house. I've been always hanging around in several houses ever since frosh year. I saw and liked the unique qualities and traditions in these different houses. Holding an office in any one house to me seemed too restraining. One would be required to support that particular house wholeheartedly. See, I can't do that. Since I like many of the houses, I prefer not to put one house ahead of another. I'm pointing this out, because the IHC Chairman, ought to be unbiased toward any house. When dealing with issues such as Rotation or Pre-Frosh Weekend and any violations committed during those times or the reallocation of the off-campus spaces, the impartial Chairman would serve the students well. (It would be fairer.)

In simple terms, being unbiased helps to be open-minded. Being open-minded helps when listening to what others have to say, which includes fellow students, members of the IHC, and the administration. Being unbiased again helps communication between IHC and the administration, which is one of the responsibilities of the IHC Chairman. (Being unbiased does not correspond to being apathetic. I do care..., but that is another issue.)

I greatly appreciate your taking the time to read this statement.

Dan "Fru" Frumin

At the beginning of last year, I noticed that a lot of changes were coming about. Some good, some not so good. I also noticed that a lot of people were very unhappy with the changes. However, when they told their representatives about their concerns, little was accomplished, much to the dismay of both the students and their elected representatives. That's the reason that I chose to run for the position of IHC Chair last year. I really thought that I could do something about that problem. Unfortunately for me, I did not get elected last year. I'm running again this year with the same wishes and opinions. I really,

positively believe in my optimistic/realist heart that if we all get together, we can turn things around. Yes, there are changes taking place around us, but it doesn't mean we have to take them sitting down. Part of the reason we are so vulnerable is the lack of communication between the students in different houses. I think that I could go out there and represent everyone fairly and strongly. I'm a social member of almost all the houses and I've lived in two of the houses in my time here. I also know a lot of people, students, faculty and administration. I've been working for the campus since freshman year. I've been to frosh camp every year since I got here, and was co-chairman of the academics committee in the Student-Faculty conference. I want to do the job. I wanted to last year, and I want to this year. I'm qualified to do this job. I know the people on both sides and I've been working with them for a long time. As for the students, I know the students. When it comes time to vote, please, vote for me and I will do my best to represent you in the upcoming year.

Robert Hanna

Statements all seem to start the same way don't they? Well, anyway, my name is Robert Hanna, and I'm running for IHC chairman. Over the past year I've acted as the president of Dabney House and a member of the IHC. I have some issues I would like to address specifically. I would like the IHC to act as a student advocate, representing individual students to the administration. In this way the IHC can reduce the tensions that sometimes exist between students and administrators.

I would like to improve and clarify the rules for rotation week, so that no house or individual feels that he has been taken advantage of. I would like to improve the relations between the houses through social interactions, perhaps something that can act in the way that Interhouse once did.

The faculty are a valuable resource to the student body and recently their interest in undergraduates has dropped. We need to stimulate their interest because on many issues they best understand our concerns and are a powerful force to elicit change.

The IHC is an excellent forum for better communication within the community we live. I would like to start discussion on the IHC acting as an emissary between ours and other local colleges. We live close to several schools and an exchange between our students and theirs would be fun.

Finally, I would like the undergraduates to participate more in IHC activities. The IHC should not be a private club where non-members feel unwelcome, input from any source should be encouraged. Af-

continued on page 6



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Continued from page 5

ter all, how many people know that free goodies are given out at these meetings? I want everyone to feel comfortable enough to come, eat a goodie, and hear about what's going on in their community, and hopefully be a part of the problem solving process.

During my time on the committee I was able to represent my house very well. I would like to be able to work for the good of the entire community with the same fervor and dedication. But most of all what I would like to stress is that we need a IHC chairman who will be responsive and available to the community. I would hope to be that chairman. Thank you for your support.

#### Justin Muhly

I'm not sure what idiocy prompted me to sign my name under IHC chair, but now that it's official, I'd appreciate it if you did not vote for me for this office. I'd like to see if it's possible to achieve zero votes in an election, as even Sonny was unable to achieve it.

Don't vote for the lesser of six evils, vote Cthulu.

#### Philip Cofield

I would like to serve as your IHC Chair. I have had Caltech leadership experience as a Ruddock House UCC, and I have been very active with the Caltech Y ExComm including being Ranch Manager/"Boss Hog" (the dude who's ultimately responsible for everything) for Decompression, serving as Team Leader for Into the Streets, and organizing the Mountain Biking Trip coming over Spring Break this year. By working as a ranger last summer, I got lots of experience coordinating stubborn 13-year-old mentalities (read: House Presidents) and grumpy 45-year-old advisors (read: Administrators).

Seriously, the qualities I'd be able to bring to the position of IHC Chair are a genuine love of people and an ability to help them cooperate. I've been able to effect compromises successfully between seemingly hopelessly opposed groups and I expect to be able to keep the Houses working together smoothly. I also have had great success dealing with the administration, and I believe I can develop improved communications between the Presidents and Nancy Carleton, Kim West, David Wales, Gary Lorden, and the new Dean. I am willing to do the required leg work to visit administrative offices as many times in a day as necessary to make the IHC's voice heard and respected.

## Social Activities Chairman

Bevan Bennett, Bill Greene, Dan "Fru" Frumin, Alan Kulawik and Jesus Mancilla

Two years ago we claimed that there were three things one could do on a Friday night at tech:

- 1) Drink
- 2) Go to the ASCIT movies
- 3) Drink at the ASCIT movies

Last year we claimed that our statement was still valid except for the fact that the ASCIT movies were getting better. We got better sound (slightly) and the cool screen! This year, we got the ultimate statement. Yes, you can still do those three things on a Friday night, except that starting soon, you can see the ASCIT movies in: (big, big letters) 35mm! Yes, the ASCIT movies team is the proud and only owner of a new pair of 35mm projectors. We're going to start getting movies in 35 and hopefully pump up the sound as soon as we get more money.

So, do us a favor and go out there, vote for us, and go watch the movies.

## Director for Social Activities

#### Danny Chu

My name is Danny Chu and I'm running for ASCIT Director for Social Activities. I have had experience in organizing social events, and I feel that I can not only plan interesting and extraordinary events, but also contribute to student government as a voting member of the ASCIT BOD.

I am currently the Social Chairman for CCSA (Caltech Chinese Students Association), which involves planning picnics, volleyball games, ping-pong tournaments, and major parties with USC, UCLA, CSULA, CSUF, Cal Poly, and Occidental. I also have professional deejaying experience with the GSC dance party earlier this term, as well as many other parties around Caltech, including parties in Ruddock, Page, Blacker, Ricketts, Fleming, and the Halloween Party last year. From these experiences, I came to realize the time and effort required in planning a good social activity, one that will be enjoyed by everyone. If I am elected, I am willing to devote my time to making Caltech a place that you are proud to have gone to.

One of my main objectives if elected will be to have more multihouse parties. I think that if we have more interaction between the houses we can have some really awesome parties. The best party at Tech was Interhouse, because it involved all seven houses. I will try to bring back Interhouse in some form or another, as well as try to loosen up DAPAC by showing the administration that we are capable

of policing ourselves without excessive interference.

I have connections with many other local universities, since I been the social director of CCSA, a Southern California organization. I feel that if I win the election, I will provide the enthusiasm needed to be an excellent Social Director. I will also provide more Ding-Dongs at the BOD meetings. Thank you for your support.

#### Derek Surka

Vote for me, eh!

## ASCIT Treasurer

#### Jill Bush

I recently moved off campus and subsequently gave up my position in the Fleming House Social Team. Off campus life is great, but I really miss being involved in something extracurricular. After all, a large part of going to college is getting involved in campus activities and trying to make a difference. So when I thought about it, I decided that an excellent way to be involved in Caltech as a whole isn't being a Fleming House officer at all. It's being an ASCIT officer.

After deciding to run for a position on the ASCIT BOD, I then had to decide which office to choose. I figure that no position could be more fun than the one that gets to handle all the money! Organization is one of my stronger points and I think that balancing books takes a good deal of organizational ability. My main goal, however, is not to handle ASCIT's money well, although I certainly will do so. It is to offer something to the student government here at Caltech. ASCIT has a lot of potential to do some good for the students around here and with the right members of the BOD, great things can happen. So vote for ASCIT officers and while you're at it, vote for me, Jill Bush!

#### Tim Gerk

Many of you may believe that the results of ASCIT elections don't matter very much, because ASCIT doesn't do very much except the Friday movies and the ASCIT van. In fact, ASCIT is a major supporter of almost every activity undergraduates can be involved in outside of classes. Do you think Caltech is as good now as it could ever be? If undergraduate life here is less stimulating than it could be, and significant numbers of you think so, ASCIT needs to do more.

ASCIT is waiting to be the organization that will unify the campus, to bring all eight hundred-odd of us together to revitalize Caltech for the undergrads. In my own two and a half years here I've witnessed the growing insensitivity to student needs. There has been a major breakdown in general faculty-student trust that once made Caltech so special as a learning community. This was hardly ever more apparent than at the Student-Faculty conference last spring: in each of the three sessions, it was a Faculty party vs. a Student party (with a few defectors on either side) and the evening session on student life was attended

by hardly any of the Faculty, why? In addition, a growing bureaucratic administration (to relieve faculty-administrators on whom the institute was founded) has intruded (insensitively at times) into the former cooperative atmosphere.

Yes, Caltech has problems, as every school must. How we students deal with these problems is the most important factor in re-forging an inspiring instead of grinding academic and social Caltech atmosphere. ASCIT as the main clearing house for student clubs and activities funds, needs to cooperate with the various associations on campus (The Caltech Y, The Alumni Association, The Caltech Service League, etc.). The houses are important in making a friendly, personal atmosphere on campus, and should continue their efforts on the house and multi-house scales.

On the campus-wide scene ASCIT needs to act to more fundamentally support extra-curricular and creative activities for undergraduates. The social schedule of ASCIT could be more extensive, to give us the breaks students should have to prevent burnout by week-to-week monotony. Relations between students and faculty and grad students (and maybe even staff) could be built up by organizing a weekly or twice weekly visit by interested people to the student houses for dinner. Visitors could be found by solicitation or accepting sign-ups among the non-undergraduate members of the community. I believe this program would bring up conversation at the visit, and also in the visitor's work place, increasing awareness of student concerns among the people who can do most about them.

I am running for ASCIT treasurer. I need to tell you who I am, and why my ideas and impressions count. I've lived in Ruddock for my entire time here, I've been treasurer/damage rep/food rep for Ruddock for the last year, and was Pepsi pimp in my sophomore year. I'm a junior double major in E&AS and economics. I've been in the Men's Glee Club and Chamber Singers since I was a frosh, and have served as president of the Men's Glee Club since June, 1990 and have worked closely with Jeanne Noda and the office of the V.P. of Student Affairs at times. In the past I have worked in the H&SS office in Baxter, two weeks or so at the Coffee House, and since January 1990 for the Office of Public Events (I have enjoyed being staff usher for the last two terms).

I really wouldn't have listed all these things if they didn't clearly show a long-term commitment to working with other undergraduates, for my house, and with other members of the whole Caltech community. I am not exaggerating to say I love taking a hard job and carrying it through with style, responsibility, and commitment. I've in fact shown this in countless ways for over two years.

I will end by encouraging you to remember that the job of ASCIT treasurer demands responsibility, requires experience, and rewards with respect. When considering my opponents, think who is the most practical, original, energetic, committed, and experienced candidate. Then remember that ASCIT works by financially supporting the activities of you, the students and

members of ASCIT. You need an ASCIT treasurer who can carry through on their campaign for the whole year. That candidate is me, Tim Gerk.

#### Pablo "Paul" Thienprasit

As stated in the little t ...the treasurer keeps the books, writes the checks, and bribes, stalls, and extorts where necessary...

As Ricketts treasurer for the past year I've kept records of transactions between the House and its members in addition to handling the finances of the social team. I've also learned the procedures for handling commercial accounts both inside and outside of Caltech. Anyways, the point is that I think I can keep the books, write the checks, and deal with the paperwork involved with being ASCIT treasurer. I am a recently retired member of the Board of Control, so I haven't had much experience in bribing and extorting. However, I'm sure I can learn.

On a more nebulous note, I think that I can be valuable and productive as a voting member of the BOD and help bring welcome changes to this campus.

## IHC Minutes: Feb 5, 1992

Randy passed out a memo from Kim about Southern Rap, which is a leadership conference. This year it will be held at USC and Kim has secured 20 spots. The DRL/MOSH's office is picking up the bill. Kim wants the House Presidents to go. Sign up in the MOSH's office by 13 Feb. Any questions, ask your House president.

Jeff and Ari noted that baseball is currently not considered a sport for Discobolus. They asked if baseball could be made a minor sport. A restriction would be placed that if baseball was part of a challenge, then softball could not be part of the challenge. There were no seeming objections. The IHC will discuss the issue next week. One concern that was raised, was that helmets would be required. It is thought that helmets could be borrowed from the Gym.

What is a legal challenge in Discobolus. Some of the members of the IHC feel that specifying three sports (at least one major sport), and posting the challenge by a certain time is sufficient to make a legal challenge. Randy will draw up a proposal to end the issue of legal challenges once and for all.

North House Rehab: Ruddock has formed a group that will follow all the details of rehabs and the situation of lofts. Ed asked for a few members from Page and Lloyd. Kim also wants to meet with such a group about similar issues.

The rehab people gave the North Houses a choice of one kind of bedroom furniture which was not liked. The students want a choice. Rob Hanna pointed out that maybe a group of students should get the price range the rehabs will pay and the students could go out, shop around and bring back proposals.

Nancy has deferred the decision on lofts or no lofts to Kim. No decision has been made yet.

Ruddock claimed responsibility for some of the holes in the walls of the North House basements, but not any since first term. It was pointed out that non Techers could be doing the damage.

Fru mentioned that the members of ASCIT are now the owners of two 32mm projectors. The projectors cost ASCIT ~\$5000. Fru hopes to raise ~\$8000 to put in surround sound and clean the tube amplifier in Baxter Lecture Hall.

On next Wednesday, 12 Feb, David Wales will be hosting a Sweets with the MOSH at the MOSH's house from 9-11pm.



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# Nirvana Revisited; Candyland, Westworld Debuts

For several months, Nirvana has been on the cover of just about every music magazine. KROQ plays "Smells Like Teen Spirit" at least a dozen times a day. And by now, you own a copy of *Nevermind* and feel satisfied about \$12 well-spent. If your favorite songs on *Nevermind* are "Breed" and "Territorial Pissings", grab some money and get *Bleach*, which was released in 1989.

One of the tracks from *Bleach*, "Love Buzz", received airplay on KSPC, which also used the introduction from "Paper Cuts" as the background of a promotional segment. But Nirvana could not reach a wide audience then, because their music leaned more towards punk and thrash than popular "college" music. Nevertheless, the previously undiscovered album is on its way to reaching a good number of Nirvana fans.

All the songs emanate a feeling of frustration, and the lyrics are odd and twisted here and there, but you will find yourself singing along with senseless words just to be able to mouth what your ears seem to like.

Like *Nevermind*, there is a lot of energy in *Bleach*. But there are fewer contrasting melodies. For instance, there are no songs that begin rather softly like "Lithium". The chances are, if the song starts with a certain level of noise, it will be consistent throughout.

*Bleach* was meant to be played loud and regularly.  
(4 beavers)

Mary's Danish, *Circa* - Imagine a cross between funk and country, and you've got Mary's Danish. "Foxev I adv" (originally by Jimi Hendrix) is included. Wag, who does an awesome job playing the bass, does a imitation of the Tasmanian Devil on "Mr. Floosack".  
(3 1/2 beavers)

Pearl Jam - Strong vocals and gui-

tars. It weakens towards the end, and it is more noticeable since the beginning just blows you away. Did I mention the great vocals?

(3 beavers)  
Smashing Pumpkins, *gish* - There are only two kinds of songs here - fast and slow. If you've heard one of each, you've heard the entire album.

(2 beavers)  
The Ocean Blue, *Cerulean* - Yawn. With all the advertising they did for *Cerulean*, one would automatically suspect something. There is not much creativity. Expect KOST to include it in the frequent play list in the near future.

(1 1/2 beaver)  
Keep your ears open for: The Pixies, Ministry, Shakespeare's Sister, Social Distortion, The Sugarcubes.  
—Karen Hong

*Mover and Shakers*, Westworld—  
Every once in awhile a release is issued which threatens the foundations of musical sensibility. This, I am asserting, is one of such release. Mind you, I understand that music is in and of itself a highly subjective thing, but in cases such as this it becomes plainly obvious that the album is quite frankly a piece of horse turd.

Westworld is a four-person effort out of England, and for all the world looks like an entrant in the early Transvision Vamp wanna-be competition. But whereas Transvision Vamp was refreshing in its sound and definitely aware of its image, Westworld does its damndest to pass off as a serious R&B-influenced pop group.

Yeah right, and *Repo Man* was an Oscar winner.

The entire 14-song collection is a pile of unmitigated synthetic fluff disguised beneath layers of mind-numbing electronic rot and hopelessly corny lyrics. Talk about cliché folks. Everything just sounds

so wrong. The electronics sound like they were made on a 4-tone Casio machine, the songs like leftovers from somebody's trash-heap. It's not even worth quoting the words, or for that matter even figuring out the musical parts. This album sounds like the brainless tattling of minds languishing in a torpid stupor.

Succinctly, this is music for morons.

At times I found it necessary to recite some lines from Bob Geldof and the Sex Pistols just to keep myself on the sharper side of musical awareness.

If you really must sample the songs, take a listen to tracks 3 and 14. They're the best on the CD—unfortunately, as they are less than listenable.

It wouldn't have been so obscenely offensive if the songs had at least been fun (a la Times Two with Simon and Garfunkel's "Cecilia"). But the persistent, irritating attempts at serious soul fell some miles short of a decent mark. Despite this group's best efforts, they still showed themselves as without soul, without blues, without a catch, and without talent.

Hopefully, Westworld will improve (mutate) into something a little better on their next effort. For now, however, they are better left forgotten.

**Name:** Westworld  
**Album:** Movers and Shakers  
**Label:** MCA  
**Rating (scale 0-5):** 0  
**Comments:** Vapidly insipid

2. *Ever After*, Levitation—

This four song EP is definitely on the outer mellow end of alternative. Sounding like Zoviet-France on amphetamines, the collection isn't exactly depressing, isn't exactly soothing, nor for that matter intriguing.

Although the compositions at time bordered on the hook-like turns

of Dr. Death's Volumes 1-4, it still never gathered enough momentum to gather any semblance of piquancy. In other words, the final thoughts at the end of the listening were: HO-HUM. Kind of like the way you felt after watching a 2-minute animated short on the nature of a white screen.

Sure, the songs (compositions, excuse me) may be deep. But only if you took your acid today, and even then, I'm sure that a decent rave would offer greater insight into whatever your mind fancies. If you want to go deep, go skydiving in gothic.

The excuse may be offered that not much can be accomplished with an EP. True, EPs, after all are better used as a sampling for prospective talent searches and/or dilettantes. But this still does not make up for the song-by-song judgment: that Levitation is currently less than original or for that matter enticing and has a long way to go.

If you really want mellow gothic/industrial, I would suggest Pieter Nooten's *Sleeps With the Fishes*, or Zoviet-France. Levitation needs time, and perhaps a longer presentation to provide any musical experiment.

In short, the songs were worth an initial listen, but then fell under the influence of the fast-forward button.

**Name:** Levitation  
**Album:** Ever After (EP)  
**Label:** Ultimate  
**Rating (scale 0-5):** 1  
**Comments:** Ennui, ennui, ennui

3. *Suck It and See*, Candyland—

Okay, this release has been out a while and you've heard "Fountain of Youth" on KROQ for quite some time now. But seeing that nothing else has been mentioned about the album, I've decided to review it anyway.

Part of the recent British trend of

'60s revivalism, Candyland would usually be grouped with groups such as the Candyskins, the Happy Mondays, or the Soupdragons. But whereas the other groups may tend to evince that eras notions of esoterica, Candyland is a tad on the modern edge, with fringes of electronics and modern dance-pop surfacing every once in a while. It could be said that Candyland, in essence, sounds like Fine Young Cannibals without guitars stranded in 1969. Indeed, the vocals uncannily resemble the Fine Young Cannibals.

The songs on the release manage to avoid any over-excessive sermonizing and tend to stick to "fun" numbers that could be expected at a KROQ party (remember Ruddock's "Blade Runner" OPI last year?). There are a few lapses into vacuous 60s-ish type songs, but on the whole the album has a consistently catchy feel to it, with each song having decent hooks—sparklers include track 2 ("Fountain of Youth"), track 5 ("Reternity"), and track 9 ("The Body is the Book").

The group has potential, and future releases should definitely be given a good look. If Candyland has any of the luck and diligence displayed by its fellow bands, it promises to become a unique, distinct name with the requisite touches to nevertheless remain accessible to the rave/Poor-man/Richard-Blade fan scene.

Candyland, then, is more than likely worth your while. And hey, with an album name like *Suck It and See*, it at least sticks in your mind.

**Name:** Candyland  
**Album:** Suck It and See  
**Label:** EastWest  
**Rating (scale 0-5):** 3  
**Comments:** fun, catchy, hey, it's not so bad (Ruddock, is this OPI?)

—Jon Liljelblad

## Kate O'Neal at Red Door



Tonight the Red Door Cafe presents the satirical wit of Kate O'Neal.

She has appeared all over LA in comedy and music clubs like the Natural Fudge Company. She has been written up in various publications like 'The Reader' and 'Keyboard' magazine. Now, Kate O'Neal is coming to Caltech for your listening pleasure.

She lists her musical influences as Kate Bush to George Gershwin to Spike Jones. Others have described her sound as reminiscent of both Tom Lehrer and Harry Chapin. Although basing her sound on pop music structures, Ms. O'Neal brings life to her keyboard by taking liberties with the understructure and rhythms of her songs.

And she tops it all off with a potent message and fresh sense of humour as her songs cover every topic from misguided love to homelessness.

So, come on out and enjoy the show.  
7 February: **Kate O'Neal**—Comedy Songs on Keyboard.

14 February: **We Three**—Jazz Vocals with Drums and Keyboard.  
21 February: **Green Onions**—Traditional Jazz Quartet with Guitar, Bass, Drums, and Keyboard.  
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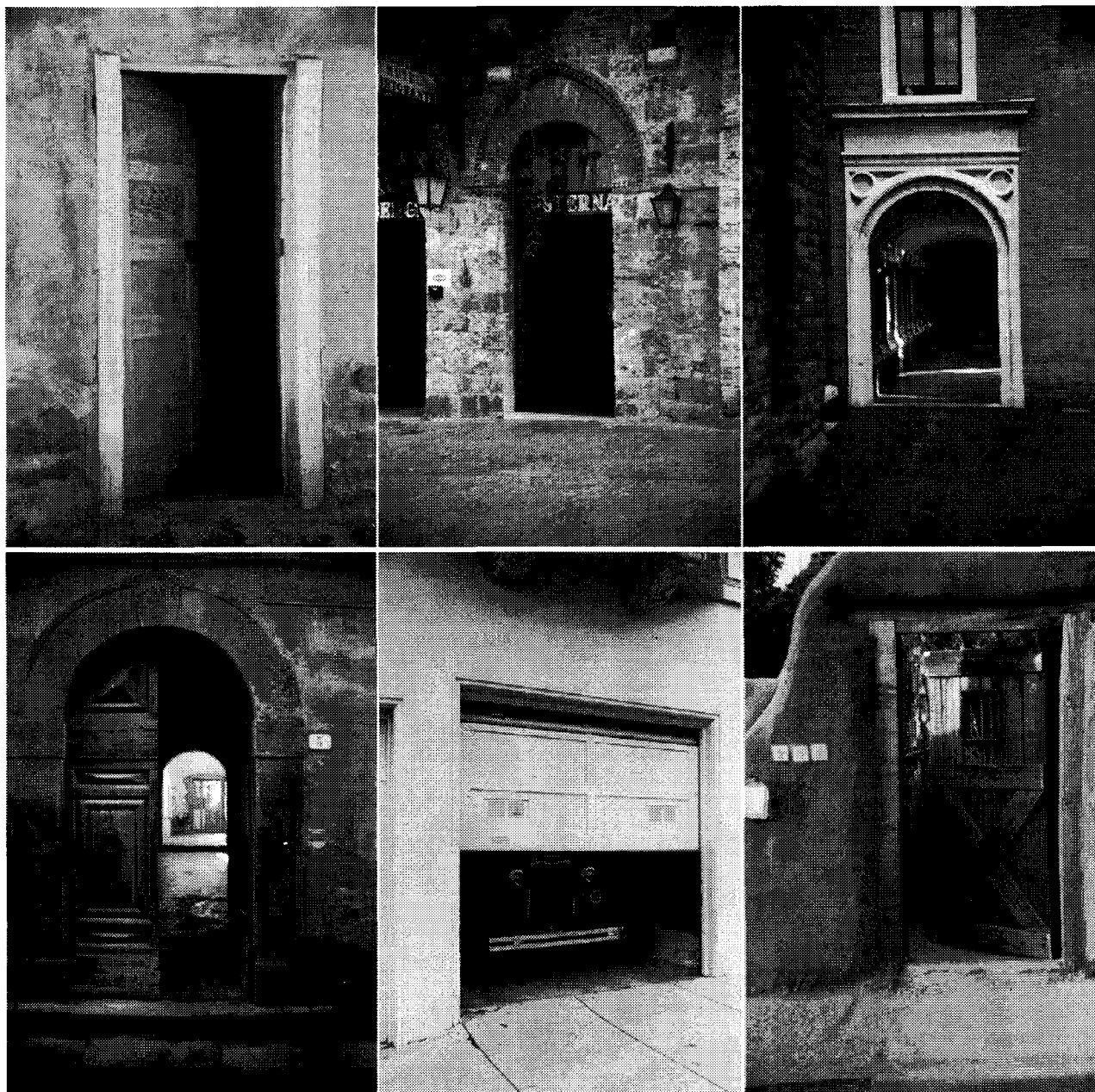
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# Beckman Internship Offered

Charles Halloran

The Beckman Internship is an annual award designed to encourage Caltech students to explore a field that is often overlooked by Teachers - the field of politics. The internship offers a \$3,600 stipend to a student working for the summer in a politically related position. Any student who will be attending Caltech in the fall is eligible to apply. The student may find his own job, or may obtain assistance from the school in locating a suitable job. The position may be located just about anywhere, be it in Washington D.C., locally, or in your home town.

I received the Beckman Internship for the summer of 1991, and worked about 35 hours per week in the District Office of Assemblyman Patrick J. Nolan. Assemblyman Nolan represents the 41st District, which covers Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, Altadena, Eagle Rock, and parts of Pasadena (including Caltech). The redistricting, which takes effect in November, will move the district to represent Glendale, Burbank, and Los Feliz. Working in a state office, my responsibilities were similar to those of a field representative. This primarily involved working on constituent case work. One of the services provided to the public by the district office is help in resolving difficulties or questions concerning state agencies. People would call or write with specific concerns with the state government, and I would decide which agency to contact in order to solve the problem. I dealt extensively with the DMV, MediCal, and the franchise tax board when dealing with many of these problems. Constituent case work is especially important, as it provides a way for an elected official to aid his constituents in a non-partisan way. This provides a great advantage come election time.

In addition to doing case work, I helped in writing letters to constituents, working on press releases, tracking legislation, and relaying constituent concerns to Assemblyman Nolan. Whenever a letter or call was received either in support of or in opposition to a measure, a computer data base was updated with the information. This data collection aided both the Assemblyman and his constituency. It aided the Assemblyman in representing his constituents by keeping him informed of their concerns, and it aided the constituents by keeping them informed of the Assemblyman's activities in Sacramento. I also had the opportunity to join other members of the staff as one of the Assemblyman's representatives at local meeting and events.

I learned many important skills while working in Assemblyman Nolan's office. My ability to solve problems was greatly improved, as was my skill in obtaining information over the phone. My skills in dealing with people in person was also improved, as was my ability to relate information accurately and concisely. This job introduced me to a whole new field of interest, and has led to my working part-time for Assemblyman Nolan's campaign.

The Beckman Internship offers a chance to explore what is probably a new field for most Caltech students. If you have ever thought you would be interested in a politically oriented job, you should consider the Beckman Internship. You can feel free to call me (585-0448) or the Dean's Office (x6351) for more information.

## BridgeWithout Sam

Jeff Goldsmith

Two Saturdays ago we held our second annual Caltech-UCLA Pro-Am. 13 of the area's best players came and played a few hands with each of 35 students from Caltech and UCLA. Tom Zavisca, a freshman from Caltech, won the event going away; he had an impregnable lead going into the last round. The Pro prize was won by Beverly Rosenberg, who has competed for the United States in Ladies' World Championships. After the game, four of the Pros led a panel show giving away tips to all the students. The panel show was moderated by John Mohan, previously World Champion.

This week's hand sparked the most interest during the panel show. The opening lead was the 10 of hearts. Declarer should be able to see that he is in a very good contract, the double notwithstanding. Perhaps the best play, and how it went on the table was, ruff the first heart and cash the two high trumps. After recoiling from the bad news, cash two diamonds ending in dummy, and ruff a heart in hand. Then, cash as many diamonds as possible. Since lefty follows to all four, ruff a heart in hand and play a card to dummy. Ruff a third heart, just in case LHO has three. If it gets overruffed, the club Ace will win the tenth trick, and if the ruff holds up, that is ten tricks. If both opponents follow to three diamonds, or if LHO ruffs the third, LHO will eventually have to lead clubs into AJ. Other variations are possible, but the hand can be made on most normal distributions.

The Caltech Bridge Club meets every Monday night at 7:15 in the Red Door Cafe and holds lessons for new players every Tuesday night in 72 Jorgenson Hall at 8:15. Everybody is welcome; call Jeff Goldsmith at x2818 for details.

IMPs		♠ 4			♠ 8
		♥ J843			♥ AKQ9762
		♦ AK54			♦ 93
		♣ K952			♣ Q63
		♠ QJ1095			♠ AK7632
		♥ 105			♥ —
		♦ 8762			♦ QJ10
		♣ 107			♣ AJ84
West	North	East	South		
—	—	1♥	1♠		
Pass	1NT	2♥	3♣		
Pass	3♥	Dbl	3♠		
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass		
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass		

## Caltech Y News

So, what's the Y got this week? Let's see...

A warmup mountain bike trip is leaving from the Y TODAY. If you read this early and ask nicely, you can probably still come along. Leaving about 1:30 this afternoon, out for a few hours. There's another one on the 21st, all building up to a several day long Spring Break Mountain Biking Trip.

Don't have a bike? You can still get away for a while this weekend. The Alpine Club and the Y are cosponsoring a chance to learn how to cross country ski, this Saturday and Sunday. (You can come along and ski on your own if you already know how, of course.) Sign up at the Y, but do it soon! Cost is \$10 for students, \$18.50 for staff, with a \$2.50 discount for Alpine Club members. We also need a \$5 refundable deposit on equipment. Not a bad price for lessons and some fresh air!

This Sunday, February 9th, Professor Talat S. Halmar of NYU will be giving a lecture on 9000 years of civilization in Turkey. The talk is at 3PM, in Dabney Hall. You need an invitation, but conveniently the Y has lots of those. Just stop by and ask for some. Cosponsored with the American-Turkish Association of Southern California.

We've still got Pasadena Symphony tickets for Saturday. \$6.00 for students, unless you're an international student, in which case it's free! Culture at no charge to you... Check it out. We've also got IMAX tickets on sale. Regular tickets are \$3.50, tickets for the Rolling Stones movie are \$13.00.

In a daring stand defending couch potatoes, the Y will be

providing a TV, food, and a place to hang out to watch the Winter Olympics. The Y lounge TV will be on anytime there are sports to be seen. The Y Winter Olympicathon starts February 10th.

Within the next week or two, the Y's off campus volunteer activities will be going into overdrive. February 13-16 is our next trip down to Tijuana to help build a community center. Come to the Y to sign up or get more info. Outward Bound, three days of outdoor activities with local high school students, runs from February 14-16. Still space for one alternate at submission time... Those who signed up, please remember to come to the meeting today at 3PM.

The week after that, on the 22nd, we're linking up with the national *Into the Streets* movement again, helping out the LA Food Bank for a few hours. You even get free donuts for your time... Sign-ups are located in all the Houses, and the Y office, too.

February 22nd is also the date for the next broomball tournament. But it's much later in the day, so it's no excuse not to volunteer for *Into the Streets*.

Got an idea for activities on or off campus? Tell us about them! Got some spare time? Tell us about that too, we can always

If you have lost glasses and keys throughout the past year, and still haven't found them, stop by the Caltech Y and look through our box of misplaced glasses and keys. You must come in yourself, during our normal hours and see if your stuff is here. We cannot take requests over the phone to match you with your item.

## what goes on

**"Technological Determinism or Social Construction: The Interaction Between Technology and Social Development"** is the title of a seminar to be delivered to be delivered by Professor Tom Hughes, of the University of Pennsylvania. The talk will be held in the Judy Library on Wednesday, February 12, at 4 p.m.

**Senior Pictures** - If you are graduating this June and want a picture in the Big T, please submit a photo by March 9. For house affiliated seniors contact your house historians or section editors. For unaffiliated, and if you have any questions, please contact Chris Ho at x3772, Mailbox 459, Fleming 63. Please accompany your photo with your name, major, home town, any captions and instructions. The editors reserve the right to refuse publication of any inappropriate or offensive material.

**Mountain Bike Trip II** - The Caltech Y is sponsoring yet another mountain bike trip on Friday, February 7, at 1:30 PM. sign up at the Y today... all you need to go is a bike, helmet, and a signed release form (get the release form at the Y)

**Talat S. Halmar - Lecture on Turkey: The Rainbow Country** - The Caltech Y is sponsoring Talat S Halmar as he speaks on Turkey: The Rainbow Country. Invitations are available at the Y for this February 10th event at 3:00 PM in Dabney Lounge. Come by the Y for invitations today!

**Interested in Earth Day?** There is an organizational meeting for the planning of the Caltech Earth Day celebration. The meeting will be Thursday Feb 13, noon at the Caltech Y in the Winnett Lounge. Anyone interested in making Caltech a greener place for at least

**The End of St. Petersburg (1927)** - Vsevolod Pudovkin's masterful chronicle of the Bolshevik revolution will be screened as part of the Film Program's Soviet Film series at 7:30 PM Tuesday, February 11 in Baxter Lecture Hall. Though documentary in feeling, the film tells the story of the Ten Days That Shook the World through the eyes of a single family. Admission free.

**Political Internship** - The Beckman Internship will be available for the summer of 1992. The internship, supported by friends of Arnold O. Beckman, will pay a stipend of \$3,600. It allows a selected intern to spend the summer working in the office of a politician and to see the inside process of government. The intern is expected to make arrangements with the appropriate political persons. It is open to any undergraduate who intends to be a Caltech student next year. If interested, submit a brief proposal describing where and how you would use the stipend, to the Deans' Office, 102 Parsons-Gates, by Monday, March 2, 1992.

**Sweet feast with the MOSH** - It's getting to that time of year again when the smell of cakes, candy, sweets and romance fill the air. Go to the master's house on February 12 for a Valentine's Sweet Feast. Stop by anytime during the hours of 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. and don't forget to bring your sweet tooth.

**Friday Prayers** - Prayers organized by Caltech Muslim Students are to be held in the Caltech Y lounge at 12:30 PM. For further information, contact Asim Mughal or Shameem Hashmi at 564-1701

**Grant Geissman** - Free performance by the Caltech Jazz Bands with Grant Geissman. Friday, February 7, 1992. Admission is free;



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continued from page 1

earlier on.

I am thinking to myself - maybe I can shake them off easily. So I stop as the car stops. The problem with the road I'm on is that it's somewhat removed and someone can easily jump out of the car and yank me in, unwitnessed.

But in a couple of seconds the car starts up again and goes down the road. I breathe a sigh of relief and think happily to myself - how easy it is to shake them off!

I make my way up the Corniche and I'm now in the parking lot. I feel relaxed but my eyes still dart to and fro because my adrenaline rush hasn't died down as yet, and I suddenly spot the two faces plastered against the front car window, grinning with satisfaction. The look on their faces seemed to say, "We've got you now!"

I was aware of what could happen to me - a nasty kidnapping or rape, like the kind you read of in the newspaper and feel glad that it's not you. . . . It almost seemed like I felt at that moment my whole fate flash before my eyes, and I knew I had to get to safety.

I could discern the tiny figures of people moving about in the Gold souk, and I ran across the roads waiting impatiently in-between roads for cars and trucks to speed by so that I wouldn't get hit. I ran into the city, not stopping until I came to an establishment which was the "Dubai Maritime."

It turned out to be a shipping office which sold maritime equipment. Breathless, I made my way to one of the men in overalls, whispering an inaudible "assalaamu alaikum."

"Wasalaam" . . . and then, "I'm being followed. . . ."

In a few minutes all the men in the office were mothering me. They made me sit in their guest room, because I wanted a place to wait in. I figured if I stayed awhile I would lose my pursuers. But they asked me if I wished to call my parents, and when I refused because that would worry them and cause them to lock me indoors for the rest of my stay, they understood. They offered me a ride back home in the company car, but I explained to them

that I was confronted with a form of sexual harassment that I did not wish to cower away from. I wanted to walk home, despite the discomfort of being followed and stared at.

I was really impressed, because they smiled at me - not laughing smiles that meant to ridicule my causes, but knowing smiles. They bade me goodbye and told me to take care. I shall never forget the empathy I sensed between these men and myself.

I walked out of the bureau feeling somewhat collected. I suppose I am too daring, because instead of walking through the city, I decided to take on the isolated Corniche road again. I made my way through the parking lot and was about to cross the main road. To my right were the outer limits of the "Souq al Samaq," the fish market.

Before I crossed, I was honked at by a passing Arab in a land rover. He halted at the end of the road, waiting for me. No doubt he was watching my progress through his rear view mirror.

By now I knew the pattern all too well. If I wasn't so frightened I would be angry at these wanton pickup/kidnap techniques the folks use on girls. Or maybe, if fear or anger were absent, sarcasm would preside.

My first instinct was to run back to the bureau, but that was about half a mile away. He might catch up with me in the meantime. Also, it would be hard getting out of the Souq. I would have to inch my way through the crowd. He could easily park his vehicle and catch up with me. There lay the hint of a threat of his somehow physically forcing me to his car. My strength lay in my speed. I could easily outrun any of them in a wide-open space.

The next moment, it was my good fortune to notice a taxicab right in front of me.

"Taxi, taxi, please sir," I spoke through his half-open window. "I'm being followed by a local - I don't have any money but please take me in your cab and lose him."

He appeared a bit confused. I was nattering in quick English and not his familiar Urdu, but maybe the urgency in my voice conveyed to him that I was in some kind of

trouble and needed his help, because he said "Haah," which means "yes" in Urdu.

I jumped into the taxi and had to explain to him again, emphasizing my words that a local was following me. I saw the face of my potential aggressor through the passenger window of the taxi. His brows had wrinkled into a tiny frown. They were raised slightly, like a little boy that's been cheated out of a treat - a piece of chocolate perhaps, that his mother handed to him a minute ago that's now been snatched. I had almost been his chocolate.

The taxi driver appeared skilled in the art of losing locals, but every few seconds I kept turning around to check whether he had not picked up our scent again. The taxi driver kept insisting I shouldn't worry. "You ride as my passenger," he said. "You be comfortable as my normal passenger. No one is chasing you."

In retrospect, it was an interesting moment. I remember the loud chattering of buyers and sellers at the fish market that mingled with the salt sea air, and my attempts at chatting with my saviour. I found out that his name was Muhammed Younus, and that he was from Kashmir.

Once I felt slightly out of danger, I explained to him exactly where I lived. I was beginning to collect my senses. I told him to drop me off at my flat and wait awhile downstairs. I would run up to get some money to pay him.

He was quite concerned and told me that sometimes Arab men would snatch women who walked the streets against their will. My eyes were slowly opening to the truth.

I came home and munched on an apple, knowing I had only an hour to recover from my experience, because my best friend and mother would be coming to lunch in an hour. After that, we would go shopping for the afternoon. I was able to put on a good front, but my anxiety and anger filtered into my thoughts at night, and I couldn't sleep. My parents blamed it on jet-lag, but my mother couldn't figure out why I had slept soundly the night before.

I debated whether or not I should revisit the Corniche. Part of my heart cried for nature. I hated the city and Dubai wall - all city and different traffic sounds assailed me. The Corniche was this little speck of blue that my eyes could delight to behold, and my heart could take refuge in this tiny blot of nature. I wanted to fight hard and desper-

ately against anything that would cut off my link with nature.

But on the other hand, I reasoned, I would be here for only two weeks. I thought of all the hiking trips to the National Parks over the summer. I remembered my runs in the mountains in fall term, where the pain of uphill running combined with the exhilaration of feeling my body in motion and seeing the changing scenery before me. And I knew there was lots more to come. I couldn't risk all that.

Suddenly, without any warning, the image of the guy who was following me flashed before my eyes. He was lying on top of me, crushing me. And at that point my tired sleepless mind resolved to take no risks.

I would find other ways out. I would wear an "abba" and veil my figure. I also decided to try to walk on inside roads which were much quieter than main roads and which were punctuated by shops I could easily run into and seek refuge if I was ever followed.

My second scheme worked. I acquired a taste for the brown clay houses that filled the narrow streets in the Baraha area behind my house. They matched the color of Arabian sand so well that they didn't protrude into the environment. The cacophony of car sounds was replaced by sounds of children playing in the streets, and I much preferred the latter.

I photographed some windtowers and a tiny castle at the end of my street, and that was the start of my love for Arabian windtowers and their simple architecture which I grew to appreciate. It is a pity that most of them are being currently demolished.

My problems and frustrations didn't stop there. Arabs in land rovers posed a great threat to women. My best friend told me of a gang-rape that occurred recently, but I am sure expatriate women are being kidnapped and sexually abused all the time, and the cases are not publicized. My relatives felt that I had suddenly turned religious, since I had donned the *burkah*, but inside I just felt cornered into hiding behind a piece of black cloth because of this state of lawlessness that was prevalent on the streets. I felt that a human being was the worst kind of animal alive, because his lack of conduct had made it impossible for me to enjoy parts of a city which was considered "safe." No, the streets of Dubai are not safe for women! Mankind is afraid of beasts like sharks and tigers that

roam the wild, bit the beast that brings the greatest repulsion to me is man himself.

Land rovers have become a fad these days in Dubai. Maybe a few Arabs purchase them to cruise the dunes in the desert, but most just catch onto the fad and cruise the streets.

But as I said, my problems didn't quite stop there. There are other Eastern men, Pakistanis and Indians that look at you like you were a piece of tasty flesh. I was wolf-whistled at, even after wearing a veil which makes me think that perhaps it isn't even your figure that matters. Just the fact that you are a woman is enough reason to be jeered at because men in the country have the license to do so. Teasing women provides a mixture of amusement and sexual excitement for them.

Concerned families back home treat women like an endangered species. They must always be accompanied by men when going out and must be fully covered in the traditional *hijab*. They look upon women as the vulnerable sex that should be protected as a *law of nature*. But I think that this is not the solution, because it just makes the women retreat behind the *hijab* or spend most of their lives confined indoors. I could not help comparing our situation in Dubai to that of people who have to remain inside because the streets are constantly bombed or plundered. This is certainly not *natural*.

On my last evening in Dubai my best friend and I went for a drink of fresh mango juice at a fruit stall. On our drive back we saw a group of young Arabs hopping into a jeep and Uzma joked that it looked like they were about to gang-rape someone. We both laughed about it for awhile. But then Uzma remarked that it was rather sad that we had been reduced to making jokes about it in our daily lives. I thought so too.

I feel a bit uneasy writing this article. My parents are expatriates back in the UAE with good jobs, and should my writing be publicized they are likely to be kicked out of the country. But out of my frustrations when I was home grew a strong sense of duty to do something about the predicament of women back in the East and writing about it is the first step.

I would like to add that the behaviour of men I encountered back in the UAE is not a reflection of the Arabs, Indians, and Pakistanis on campus. My interactions with the Eastern men over here have been free and easy.

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## outside view

*Khurram Dastgir-Khan*

### A Dose of Reality

Recently, one of my dinner companions mentioned Mario Cuomo. He was met with questioning glances, which he fielded by saying, "Cuomo....the Governor of New York? Anyone?" Although it had been hard for me to find someone willing to discuss politics and policy, it was at that dinner that I finally realized that most of my fellow Caltech undergrads are not only fairly ignorant of the current state of the politics and the polity, they do not care.

This state of apathy is deplorable. One can understand the apathy of blue collar workers towards politics, since it is they who bear the burdens of such mundane things like recessions (yes! There is an economic recession in the country.) knowing fully well that their interests are not being represented by their representative. BUT the apathy of such a highly intelligent group of young men and women towards affairs of the state means that these people are not thinking about problems that beset their compatriots at large.

This apathy is caused by two factors: lack of information and the attitude towards liberal arts on this campus. As far as lack of information is concerned, it is not that the information is not there; the Caltech libraries get a stunning number of newspapers and magazines. What is lacking is the *will* to get the information. One does not have to spend hours in the library to keep on top of the news, one only need read the *Los Angeles Times* that comes to all the undergraduate houses.

Here is a very short sampling of news in Wednesday's *Times*; the coup attempt in Venezuela, the Fed's willingness to cut interest rates, the discovery of the lost

city of Ubar, Girl shot in heart carried brother to safety, Mike Tyson's rape trial, dissatisfaction with Bush reaches new highs...on and on. If this news is new to you, my point is made.

The second factor is the lowly status of Humanities and liberal arts on this campus. This is understandable, for the majority of Caltech students enter this school thinking that science is the only thing intelligent people do. I will not argue for one side for the other, but may be Caltech students are right; perhaps that is why the polity in United States is in such a bad shape at the moment.

The apathy has resulted in a total absence of political discourse among Caltech undergraduates. Techers do take Humanities and Social Sciences, but with a heavy burden on their hearts. I, for one, am yet to a group of people arguing about Nietzsche or Rawls or Plato. In fact, I seldom find anyone arguing about anything (except room picks and house elections, of course).

I am not suggesting that come Monday, we all change our respective majors to political science. I am making a case for a better informed Caltech student body. We ought to give some thought to issues that affect our fellow citizens. As a group with (hopefully) more intellect than most, Caltech students have an extra responsibility to apply their intelligence- in a way they see fit- towards collective problems. There is no problem, scientific or political or economic, that will not benefit from application of intelligent, systematic thought.

Author's Note: This is the first of the column that I intend to write every week (barring mid-terms week). Readers' comments and suggestions will be immensely appreciated.

## Recycling Update

*David MacKay*

First the good news. Word about the Caltech recycling program has been getting out into the community. The response has been excellent. The volumes of recycled materials have been rising steadily. Thanks for your support.

Now the bad news. The market demand for materials which take more energy to convert into useable form has been dropping. Unfortunately, this means that the Caltech recycling center can no longer take cardboard, high-density plastic (HDPE-2) bottles and mixed paper. However, we will still take CRV 2-liter plastic containers, aluminum cans, newspaper, green, brown and clear glass and white paper — although if the quality of the white paper drops (i.e., if mixed paper is dumped in with the white paper), then the center will not be able to accept white paper either.

Hence, it is a good time to learn about the other facets of environmental consciousness. Although recycling allows energy resources to be conserved, there are better ways to conserve. The mnemonic for conservation is RRR. Reduce, Reuse, then Recycle. Reuse and Recycle may seem like the same thing; however when you recycle, energy has to be expended before you can use the material again. If you reuse something, no energy is used. To illustrate the distinction, you recycle the brown grocery bags, while you reuse the canvas bags. The best option is to use less resources in the first place. Here is a list of easy ways you can reduce and

reuse:

1) Stop the flood of junk mail you don't want. Write to this address to get your name taken off the listings sold to mail order companies.

Mail Preference Service  
Direct Marketing Association  
6 East 43rd Street  
New York, NY 10017

2) Minimize the amount of colored paper you use.  
2.5) For that matter, minimize the amount of paper you use. Utilize email.

3) Use scratch paper, for example the backs of handouts and messages from the administration.

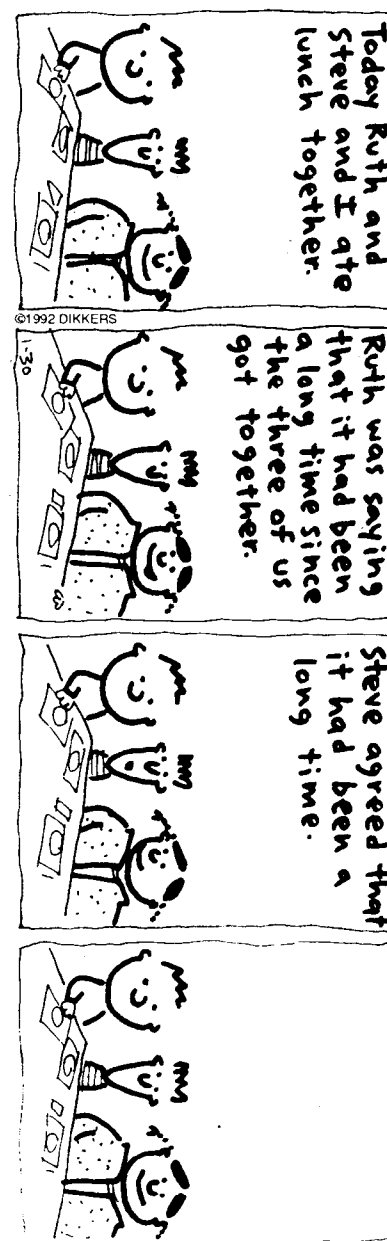
4) Minimize the use of throwaway paper and plastic silverware. Take mugs to seminars and lunches, and plates to decompression, for example.

5) Glass is more recyclable than plastic. Buy glass ketchup, mustard and salad dressings instead of the land-filling, earth choking, squeezeable plastic bottles.

6) Do things in groups. For instance, carpool and share a newspaper subscription with a neighbor.

7) Conserve water. Really easy ways to save a lot of water include: Turning off the water when you shave, brush your teeth or lather up in the shower. Support xeriscaping (use of native flora).

This is only a partial list. If you have any suggestions, interests, concerns or questions, please stop by the Caltech Y, or call x6163 to find out more information.



Jim's Journal

by Jim

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## Crime & Incident Beat

Security tip: When you are leaving your office or room, check to see that your door is locked. In the thefts that have been going around, it seems that in each case the door to the room was left unlocked

1/25 The victim parked her vehicle in the west Wilson parking lot at 1:30 PM. When she returned at 1:52 PM, she discovered that her rear licence plate was missing.

1/23 A camera and lens were mounted on an optical rail in a lab in Guggenheim. The equipment was left in there from 12/30/91 to 1/23. On 1/23 at 3:00 PM, the equipment was discovered missing. Value: \$690

1/24 The victim parked his car between 10:00 AM and 7:30 PM in the west Wilson parking lot. During this time a witness observed two suspects using some type of device to gain entrance into the vehicle. The two suspects noticed that they were being watched and fled.

1/25 The victim was walking between Braun lab and Mead lab at 4:40 PM when she was approached by a suspect. The suspect stated one word in an "assertive whisper" into the victims ear. A search of the area was made but no one fitting the description was found.

1/28 A witness observed a suspect wandering in the SAC laundry room. He was last seen in room 22 od the SAC. A search was made but no one fitting the description was found.

1/28 The victim parked his vehicle in the west Wilson parking lot at 7:45 AM. When he returned at 6:00 PM, he discovered that a small window on the driver's side was broken, and the radio/cassette player was missing. Value: \$150

1/28 The victim parked his vehicle in the Lura parking lot at 10:15 AM. When he returned at 6:20 PM, he discovered that the driver's side window was broken, and the radio/cassette player was missing. Value: \$250

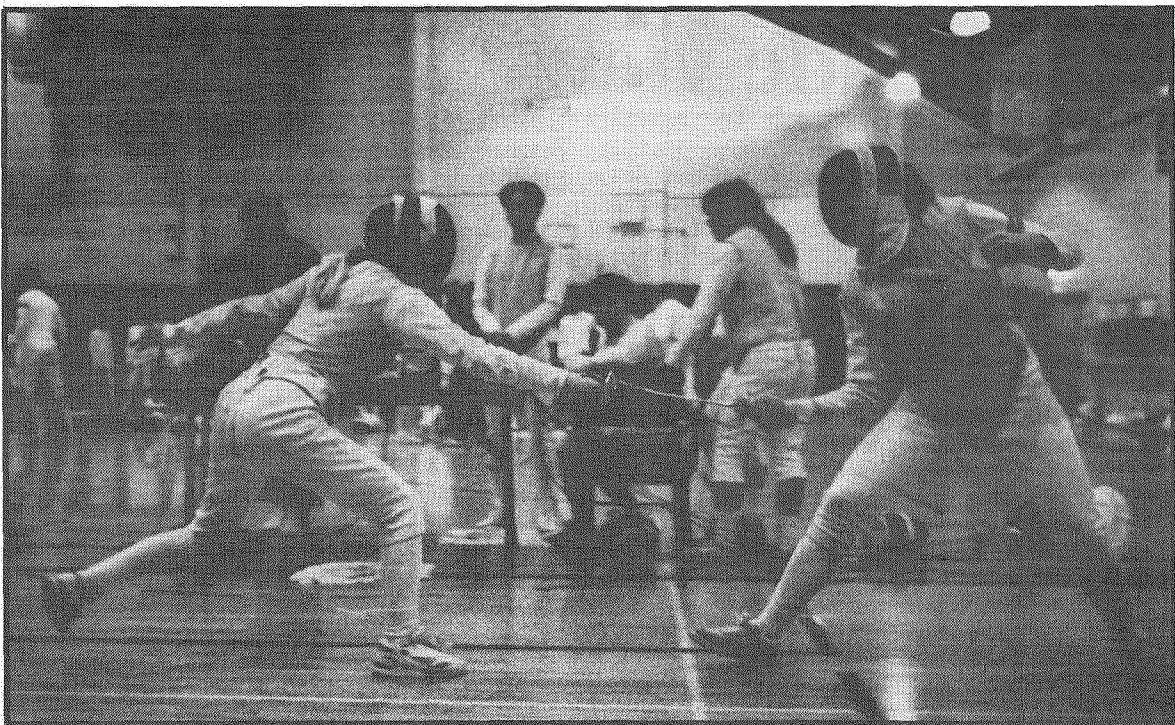
Total value: \$1,090

# SPORTS

## SCOREBOX

Standing

<b>Men's Swimming</b> vs. Redlands	L 49-144	3-4
<b>Women's Swimming</b> vs. Redlands	L 74-100	0-7
<b>Basketball</b> vs. Whittier vs. Cal Lutheran	L 38-73 L 46-79	5-14
<b>Baseball</b> vs. Pomona-Pitzer	L 0-2 L 1-4	0-2
<b>Women's Tennis</b> vs. PCC	W 6-3	1-0
<b>Men's Tennis</b> vs. La Sierra	W 7-2	1-0



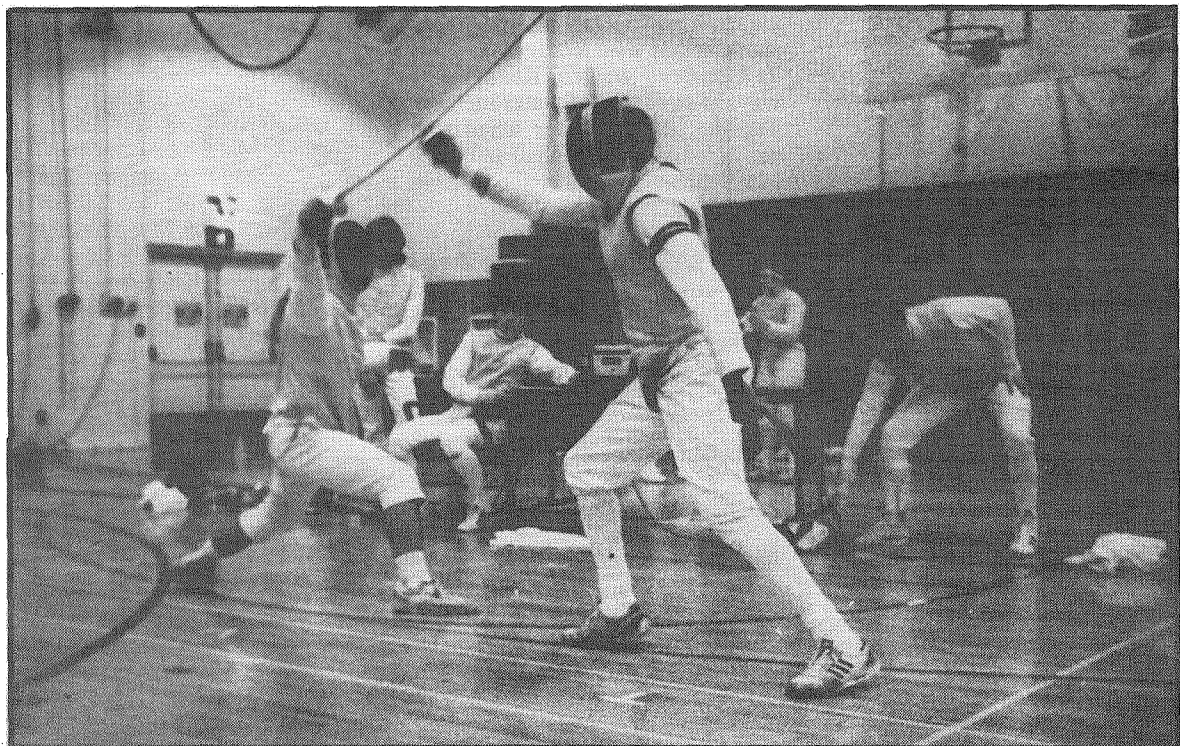
Above: Gisela Rodriguez-Sandoval (left) foils an attack by Kirsten Bolfig of CSULB. Below: Jason Lada (left) blocks an attack by Robinson of CSULB. Photos by Rajesh "Q" Bilimoria.

## Sabre Team Remains Undefeated

Rhonda Morgan

At last Saturday's competition, Caltech's sabre team persisted in their undefeated season to 10-0. The sabre team beat UC Long Beach and UC San Diego 8-1 and beat University of Southern California 6-3. The women's foil team, with three new competitors, defeated

USC by the impressive score of 14-2, but lost to UCLB by the same score. The epee team also tasted victory by beating USC 5-4. The men's foil team did not fair as well, but the entire fencing team exhibited great spirit. Another tournament will be held this Saturday at 1:00 at the Caltech Gym. Take this opportunity to support your fencers and see the number one Caltech sabre team in action.



## Caltech Beavers Top the Waves

Jim Caron

Last Wednesday the Caltech Ice Hockey team hosted the Waves from Pepperdine and the Beavers skated away with 4-3 victory. Caltech had played Pepperdine once before in Pasadena in the beginning of the season and beat them.

The Beavers were not quite sure what to expect from Pepperdine since they had played them so long ago. Caltech came out skating hard in the first period of play and absolutely dominated the game. The

Waves looked as though they were standing still compared to Caltech.

In less than one minute into the first period Ron Siefert and Jeff Hall assisted a goal to Dale Laird who scored the first goal of the game for the Beavers. About two minutes later the french connection teamed up as Francois Rozon assisted a Jacques Belanger who blasted a shot from the slot into the upper right corner of the goal. Later on in the same period with only three minutes left to play Haj Sano scored the third goal for Tech getting his assists from Bob Lane and George Yates. In other words, Caltech was on Pepperdine like fat to a mother-in-law.

In the second period Caltech went to sleep. The Beavers seemed content with a three goal lead and stopped working hard. They seemed as if to just be going through the motions and waiting for the game to end. But Pepperdine answered that with a goal five minutes into the

second period. Pepperdine did not throw the towel in yet as they skated very hard and were in the game. Scoring the final goal for the Beavers was Dale Laird unassisted. The Waves managed to cut the Beaver lead in half towards the end of the period when they scored their second of the night.

When the third period started Caltech was still dominating the game but were making a lot of foolish mistakes. The Beavers were obviously a superior team and everyone was to aggressive and wanted to score and nobody was backchecking or helping the defense. As a result Peepderdine scored another goal and was within one goal of a tie. Fortunately Caltech got their act together and were able to hold the Waves.

The Beavers are on the road next week for two games against Berkeley. The Beavers played Berkley earlier this season and they should know what to expect when they get their. The Beavers would have a good chance of going to the play-offs if they skated away with both victories.

## This Week In Caltech Sports

### Track & Field

2/8/92 12:00 P.M. Caltech Invitational III

### Swimming

2/8/92 11:00 A.M. Claremont, Occidental at Redlands

### Golf

2/11/92 1:00 P.M. at Whittier

### Basketball

2/8/92 5:30 P.M. J.V. at La Verne  
7:30 P.M. Varsity at La Verne  
2/12/92 6:30 P.M. J.V. at Redlands  
8:30 P.M. Varsity at Redlands

### Baseball

2/8/92 11:00 A.M. vs. Burbank

### Men's Tennis

2/8/92 11:00 A.M. vs. La Verne

### Women's Tennis

2/12/92 3:00 P.M. at Claremont-Mudd

### Fencing

2/8/92 1:00 P.M. vs. UCLA, UCSB

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