

Final ASCIT Election Results

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Koop Presents Genome Results

The most extensive sequence comparison ever made between the genomes of different species has revealed that genetic evolution proceeds at distinctly different rates and by distinctly different mechanisms in separate regions of the genome. The study was led by Ben F. Koop, senior research fellow in biology at Caltech, working in the laboratory of Leroy Hood, the Ethel Wilson Bowles and Robert Bowles Professor of Biology.

Koop presented the results of his research Sunday, February 9, 1992, at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in Chicago, Illinois. In addition to Koop, the authors of the study are Lee R. Rowen, Kai Wang, Donald Seto, and Chia-Lam Kuo, all senior research fellows in biology, as well as Leroy Hood.

The scientists first sequenced a region within the human and the mouse genomes involved in coding for T-cell receptors, specifically from the T-cell receptor alpha and delta locus. T-cells are important components of the immune system, and the proteins coded for in the alpha and delta locus function to help the T-cell recognize foreign invaders in the body. This section of the genome resides on chromosome 14 in humans and is 96 kilobases (kb) in length. It includes at least 55 gene segments as well as many non-coding regions spaced between the genes. The human and mouse T-cell receptor sequences constitute the two longest vertebrate genome sequences that have so far been determined. Most of the sequencing was done with an Applied Biosystems Model 373A DNA Sequencer, which was originally conceived and designed in Dr. Hood's laboratory.

Once the DNA sequences were obtained, the Caltech scientist used a TRW fast data finder chip—with software developed at Applied

Biosystems, Inc. in conjunction with Tim Hunkapillar, another researcher in Dr. Hood's group—to perform a base-by-base comparison between the human and the mouse genomes. This 96 kb region constitutes the longest comparison between actual gene sequences that has ever been performed. "We found, to our surprise, that there is a 67 to 70 percent similarity between the human and the mouse in this region of the genome," said Koop. "This value is only slightly higher for regions that actually code for proteins compared to non-coding regions. Since the human and mouse lines diverged some 65 to 85 million years ago, one must ask why this extremely high degree of similarity was preserved during the course of evolution, and whether this is a typical pattern."

The sequences for the T-cell receptor locus were not only highly similar in the human and the mouse, but they were highly "co-linear" as well. This means that the same genes and the same spacer regions occurred in almost exactly the same order in the human and the mouse, and that not only the gene sequences themselves, but also their organization within the genome, have been highly conserved by evolution.

To get at the question of whether the high degree of sequence similarity and co-linearity is a typical pattern, the researchers investigated another gene locus—the one surrounding the beta globin gene—and added another species, the rabbit, to the comparison. They performed a sequence comparison using previously published gene sequences of the beta globin locus in human, mouse, and rabbit. Beta globin is a component of the protein hemoglobin, which is responsible for carrying oxygen in red blood cells. The rabbit line diverged from the human line at about the same time as did the mouse line—65 to 85 million years ago.

"What we found was interesting," said Koop. "when you compare the human and rabbit beta globin regions, you find a 67 percent sequence similarity. While this still represents an impressively high degree of similarity, there are interesting differences in organization. The human and rabbit beta globin gene regions are not as co-

linear as are the human and mouse T-cell receptor gene regions. In fact, we find we can explain the organizational differences between the human and rabbit beta globin regions by three discrete evolutionary events: one 'insertion', one 'deletion', and one 'duplication'."

In the insertion event, an extraneous section of DNA was introduced into the beta globin region in the rabbit's genome sometime within the last 85 million years of evolution. In the deletion, a portion of the region disappeared during the course of rabbit evolution. And in the duplication, a second copy of a small portion of the beta globin region became incorporated during the rabbit's evolution.

Despite these differences, the human and rabbit beta globin gene regions are essentially similar. The mouse beta globin gene region, on the other hand, shows almost no similarity to its human counterpart whatsoever, with the exception of the small portion of the region that codes for the beta globin protein itself. "Somewhere on the evolutionary line that led to the mouse, but not the line that led to the rabbit, there was a complete reorganization of the beta globin gene, to the point where there is no recognizable similarity," said Koop.

"So with the three different comparisons we have done, we have found three different evolutionary outcomes," noted Koop. "in one case, the T-cell receptor region, there was a high degree of sequence conservation and essentially complete co-linearity between the human and the mouse. This probably means that there is important survival value not only in the portions of the region that actually code for proteins, but also in the exact order of the coding proteins and even the spacing between them. Evolution has not been as conservative with the beta globin gene region, however. It has allowed a modest degree of rearrangement in the line leading to the rabbit, and essentially a complete reorganization in the line leading to the mouse. Many more gene regions will have to be examined before we can say which of the three is the most typical outcome."

This research was supported by the Department of Energy and the National Institutes of Health.

Inside this week's

TECH

Letters to the Editors	2,3
Big Jim	3
IHC Minutes	4
Y News	4
Crime & Incident Beat	3
outside view	5
Wayne's World	5
Sports	7
What Goes On	8
Seniors Only	8

Responses to U.A.E Sexual Harassment

page 2

Plans For a Green Planet

Christopher Dunn

Robert Bowman (PhD Caltech, '66, Aero/Nuclear Engineering) described his vision of a secure, green planet Monday night in Baxter Lecture Hall.

He called himself a native of L.A., "the city that the automobile built." Older cities, explained Bowman, suffered from the auto as the affluent moved to the suburbs, forcing cities to raise taxes, causing businesses to move to the suburbs. "L.A. escaped that fate, but found its own....L.A., born of the automobile, was now dying from it."

The atmosphere receives nine billion tons of carbon dioxide per year from oil, more than quarter of which is burned in the U.S. The U.S. contributes 40% of worldwide pollution. Yet there are only nine years of oil left in America. While her residents deplete her reserves, automotive transportation is subsidized by at least 300 billion dollars, exclusive of the future costs of cleaning up the pollution caused by automobiles.

"We are headed downhill, chained to a gasoline engine."

Bush will send negotiators (Bowman said they should be "problem-solvers", not "negotiators") to Rio with instructions "to agree to no timetable, no percentage goals, no new institutions." Bowman would like to see the conference produce a system financed with a "global green tax" on quantities of pollutants from each nation. His institution would have real power to impose sanctions and penalties. It would be guided by weighted voting, instead of the one vote per nation in the General Assembly.

Bowman directed Strategic Defense work for the Air Force from 1976 to 1978. He has given lectures at Caltech on SDI, calling Star Wars a "Maginot Line", an impossible dream, and a fraud. He wrote a book called "Star Wars: Defense or

Death Star". He is now President and Director of Research of the Institute for Space and Security Studies.

As his lecture sank deeper into American politics, he proposed campaign financing caps of \$100 per donor, proportional representation in Congress of California's political parties as allowed by the Constitution, and an office of Prime Minister to be given many of the duties now performed by the President. He said of Reagan, "He should never have been President; he should have been Queen."

As a transition to the next portion of his speech, he complained that Bush did not say "environment" or "United Nations" in his State of the Union Address. Bowman spared the audience from "a very negative harangue which I wrote when I was a little angry," and instead proceeded with his "People's State of the Union", which many in the audience received favorably. He addressed the audience theatrically as if he were addressing Congress.

What received the greatest criticism from the audience during questioning was his proposal to feed all starving children. Many contended that population control was prerequisite, but Bowman insisted that the direct relationship between poverty and population growth is established.

Bowman was to give a lecture on in Baxter Lecture Hall last Monday night. Instead, he gave his own vision for the world, scarcely mentioning the upcoming conference in Rio.

The text of his speech, which was advertised as "The Earth Summit in Brazil: A New World Order for the Environment", but scarcely referred to the upcoming conference in Rio, will be published by the Institute for Space and Security Studies in Chesapeake Beach, Maryland.

Call Boxes Plagued by Problems

Christopher Dunn

Problems with the new call boxes were detailed to a sparse audience at a program called "Campus and Community Security Awareness" in Winnett Lounge Wednesday evening.

Hal Ginder, Manager of Security at Caltech, discussed campus security during the first half. He said that the twelve boxes, which cost \$12,000 each, now on campus have been unreliable, particularly during the last few weeks.

The trickiest problem is electromagnetic interference. When the button is pressed on a call box, the box scans through four frequencies to find an open one. Because of other signals on the campus that sometimes overlap, a call box may function one hour and not the next. That problem was alleviated when Security asked the call box makers to change the frequencies used by the boxes. Extra antennas, hidden in shrubbery, have overcome some of the noise.

Also, signals originated by the boxes have bothered some people. For example, James Boyk has complained that the boxes have inter-

fered with the electric musical devices he and his students build.

The boxes had mechanical trouble from the start. Security officers tested the boxes for a month before they let the boxes be used generally, but the officers never were completely satisfied. They have spent \$10,000 on parts to minimize downtime, and they want to have three whole devices on hand for rapid replacement.

On the advice of a psychologist, the instructions on the boxes were made succinct, which has led to another problem. The boxes take about eight seconds to find a strong link to the controller. If a caller is impatient and presses the button again before the connection is made, the box will deactivate. Security would still receive a signal and respond, but there would be no voice contact. In that case the caller should press the button a third time to reactivate the box.

Each call box is tested at least three times everyday, so problems are discovered quickly. Ginder believes that the boxes will be more reliable soon. There are plans to install more boxes as the campus expands.

Big T Update

page 6

SENIORS ONLY

page 8

letters

PLEASE NOTE: In all future issues, letters of less than 400 words will be given priority for publication; letters exceeding 400 words may occasionally be accepted.

House Autonomy

Many of you have heard about the traditional Ricketts House party called Apache. One of the long-standing traditions at this party is a garter contest held at the end of the evening. Participants enter the contest as a couple; one person puts the garter on the other's leg. A winning couple is selected from the entrants on the basis of the style of their performance. The members of Ricketts House chose to suspend this event, due to an incident several years ago which upset both the students and the administration.

We, as a house, decided to reinstate a revised version of the garter contest because we felt that the problems which led to that incident could be avoided. In pursuit of this aim, the women of the house met to discuss the contest. The issue of sexism was raised, and the women felt that the contest could be redesigned to eliminate these overtones. To avoid the sexual, and perhaps upsetting, atmosphere of past garter contests, the women agreed to place certain restrictions on the behavior of the contestants which would keep the contest in the spirit of fun. The opinions of the women in the house were presented at a house meeting, and the house decided to hold the garter contest with stricter rules and a conservative moderator. Unlike the situation in the past, the entrants this year were to be Caltech undergraduates, *not* out-of-town dates or graduate students. In short, the members of the house decided to hold a legal event at a private party. This decision was taken to Kim West for her consideration.

Her response was, in her own words, a "gut reaction." She cited fears that the contest is inherently sexist towards women. When the proposal was made that all 'garterers' be male, her decision was unchanged. The women of Ricketts House, who have certainly encountered sexism in the male-dominated scientific community at Caltech, were on the whole excited about the contest, and many planned to enter. Without taking into consideration the time and effort the

house put into the revision of the contest, she rejected the idea on "principle." She, not the men or women of the undergraduate community, has decided the role women are to play. She suggested, as a replacement to the garter contest, a costume contest. This is more likely to degenerate into just the situation Kim dreads. We have no desire to project an image of women as sex objects in our own version of the Miss America Pageant.

The issue of the garter contest has once again raised the important question of house autonomy. Should the moral judgement of the Director of Residence Life Kim West be more valid than the decision of a house as a whole? She has cited a fear of 'bad press' and 'poor public opinion' as her reason for this stand. It does not seem to us that the public at large identifies with many of the traditions at Caltech. These self-same traditions, however, are what makes Caltech unique. The image of the school in the past has been a spirit of tolerance for difference and the acceptance of the ability of the undergraduate community to make responsible decisions. This is exemplified by the existence of the Honor Code.

This is not the first time the administration has mounted an attack on house autonomy. The mailbox issue, the repeated cancellation of Interhouse, and various housing decisions made without undergraduate input, all exemplify this problem. There are other incidents specific to Ricketts House, and to other houses, which reflect a lack of consideration for the opinions of the undergraduates. If it is indeed Kim West's job to make moral decisions regarding the behavior of the undergraduate community, and she wishes to maintain a good relationship with the student houses, she should take into account the tradition of house autonomy. Caltech is acclaimed world-wide for the intelligence and eccentricity of its student body. We, as these students, would like to be allowed to exercise our right to make an informed decision.

This letter was drafted by several female members of Ricketts.

Signed,
Sacha Malin, Jenny Cormack,
Joanna Wills, Atiya Hakeem,
and 384 other signatures
(on file in Tech office).

Harassment Author Replies Additional Harassment Responses

To the Editors,

I am writing in response to the two letters by Imran Hashim and Asim Mughal that appeared in the Tech last week.

Referring to the letter by Asim Mughal, he described me as "paranoid" in my attitude toward men. I feel that this is an incorrect application of the term because "paranoid" should be used when a person is unreasonably afraid of certain elements in their life. In my case, I was apprehensive because I needed to be so. Had I not been on the lookout, and acted quickly, I might well have ended up a rape victim.

I was asked by many people why I wrote the story as travel narrative. My purpose in recounting my adventures exactly as they happened was to be perfectly fair to the men back home and to show that some can still be trusted. Although there were some that harassed me, I feel that credit should be given to the human decency of the men at the bureau and the taxi driver who rescued me.

I would also like to clarify that although I wear shorts and running tights when I train, I am sensitive to the dress code of my country. Dubai is a very cosmopolitan city and accommodates an expatriate population from the Philippines, India, Pakistan, Tanzania, Britain, and the U.S. Thus, there is no compulsion to comply to the local dress code. On that particular day, I was dressed in trousers and a loose T-shirt, and quite a number of Lebanese and Egyptian Arabs wear T-shirts and pants. Although I run regularly at Tech, I abandoned running during my sojourn in the U.A.E. since it is not a common sport there, and I was anxious not to appear to westernized.

Furthermore, I might add that even in a burkah, I was jeered at. I will admit that I felt safer wearing a burkah, but that had nothing to do with the fact that I just looked less attractive wearing a black sack over my body and scarving my hair, and was therefore less likely to give rise to sexual thoughts among the kind of people who would harass me on the streets.

I would like to say that I have the greatest respect for the religion of Islam and am sorry to have upset any readers like Imran Hashim. My purpose was not to abuse its practice, but to point out the hypocrisy of some who claim to uphold the religion and still ogle disrespectfully at women.

Fatima Ebrahim

responses to the issues she raises.

Another way Mr. Mughal uses sexist stereotypes to try to discredit the author is by pointing out "the many inconsistencies and contradictions [that] mar the article." He paints the author as illogical, providing us with two examples from an allegedly long list. The first is that she is inconsistent in saying: "I am careful not to look at [the men that stare]" but "every couple of seconds I turn around and check if I am being followed." Making eye contact attracts trouble whereas being aware of your surroundings is an important aspect of protecting yourself. Therefore, this is by no means a contradiction.

The second is that she does not trust the men on the street but does trust the men in the business and the man in the taxi. This selective trust only serves to show that she is not paranoid. That she is willing to place some trust in people in established businesses with specific identities as opposed to nameless strangers who follow her through lonely streets indicates that she is a rational person using good sense.

The last way in which this letter serves as an excellent example of sexism in the USA is by bringing up the question of the appropriateness of the author's dress. Mr. Mughal says, "from what I know, Islam does not allow wearing shorts or running tights showing skin higher than the knees [sic]..." then goes on to "question the right of the author in ridiculing Islam or even passing sweeping judgements on Islam while not even showing the understanding of practicing it." Why does what the author chooses to wear, anywhere, make Mr. Mughal question her right to express her experiences and opinions? Is he suggesting that the way a woman dresses determines the type of

continued on page 3

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ATTENTION FACULTY AND STAFF !!

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letters

continued from page 2

treatment she is entitled to? (The Supreme Court seems to think so.) He claims that if the author had dressed according to local custom, "the outcome of the events would have been drastically different" although Ms. Ebrahim notes, "I was wolf-whistled at, even after wearing a veil..."

Mr. Imran Hashim in a topical letter and Mr. Mughal both accuse Ms. Ebrahim of ridiculing the Islamic faith; however, the only mention she makes of the religion is one in which she notices the hypocrisy of certain individuals - who keep proper Islamic homes, with their wives veiled, yet wolf-whistle and harass single women on the street. This is not a judgement on the entirety of Islam; rather, an opinion of a few of its practitioners. Mr. Hashim also admits that he has seen similar treatment of women in his native country of Pakistan and goes so far as to say that this was one of the reasons why he left his homeland. Now that he is in the US, perhaps his personal actions towards women speak louder than his words (you know what I mean, dude?).

Ms. Ebrahim's article brings up some important issues about the treatment of women that can be seen in all contemporary societies; thus, her comments and experiences should not be taken as an attack against the Islamic faith or men of a particular nationality. Although her article chronicles events specific to the U.A.E., similar types of sexual harassment are a part of every society. The point is not to assign blame to specific religions, ethnic groups, or nationalities, but rather, to recognize that these sexist attitudes are present and contribute to the disempowerment of women in every society. All of us, no matter where we grow up, develop in a sexist society; therefore sexism is a part of every one of us, men and women both. We must learn to recognize and cope with these internalized societal messages so that we can do our best to overcome them.

It would be more productive to read Ms. Ebrahim's article for the purpose of understanding her point of view instead of trying to figure out who is being blamed. Thank you Fatima for bravely sharing with us. We appreciate your courage.

Robert Rickenbrode
Aimee Smith

To the Editors:

I was moved and disturbed by Fatima Ebrahim's descriptive account of sexual harassment in the U.A.E. I was even more disturbed, however, by Asim Mughal's letter addressing the article. In his letter, Mr. Mughal shows an uncanny understanding for a classic procedure known as "Blame the Victim". Two of the more common rules are as follows:

Rule Number One: The events described by the victim could not possibly have occurred; therefore, she is imagining/misinterpreting/falsifying them.

Rule Number Two: If these events did actually occur then the victim did something to bring them on herself.

These rules have been used for countless years, both informally and in the courts, to invalidate or deny women's realities, and to exonerate those accused of sexual harassment, rape, and other forms of sexual abuse ("She was asking for it—look how she was dressed"). Mr. Mughal has learned his history lessons well.

After trivializing the events described by Ms. Ebrahim ("...concerns are of a much higher and bigger level if looked in the broader and bigger picture..."), Mr. Mughal relegates them to the category of "illusion and make-belief [sic]", and states that he was "getting convinced that the source lies no where else but within the author's mind." He rather lamely attempts to bolster his accusation of rampant paranoia by citing perceived inconsistencies in Ms. Ebrahim's behaviour—behaviour which, in my perception, is entirely consistent within the context of events described. Women do not "imagine" sexual harassment,

Mr. Mughal, no matter what you may care to believe. If a woman feels uncomfortable or frightened in a given situation, she generally has a very good reason for it.

Mr. Mughal then turns to an examination of Ms. Ebrahim's form of dress, and seems to imply that she was harassed because she was dressed in Western style and walking alone in the city. Mr. Mughal, there are no excuses for sexual harassment! Neither manner of dress nor difference in cultures, values and social norms is justification for robbing a woman of her inalienable right (so often violated) to be free of oppression and abuse. I should also point out that even after Ms. Ebrahim dressed more "appropriately", veiling herself in traditional clothing, she was still harassed (yes, "wolf-whistles" are a form of sexual harassment), a fact that Mr. Mughal has conveniently overlooked.

Finally, as a perhaps trivial aside, I would like to briefly examine Mr. Mughal's comment "...narration set aside to rag on Islam..." I wonder if Mr. Mughal is familiar with the exceedingly sexist and offensive origin of the term "rag on", or whether he is simply flaunting his command of idiomatic American English. Another lesson learned well.

If the ideas expressed in Asim Mughal's letter are at all representative of the feedback Fatima Ebrahim has received about her article, then my respect for her courage in publishing the article has increased ten-fold.

Sincerely,
Carol A. Hunt
Senior Research Fellow
Division of Biology 216-76

MIT vs. CIT Resolution

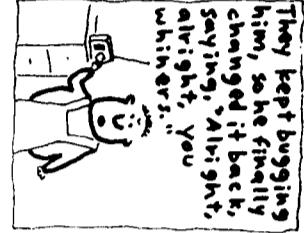
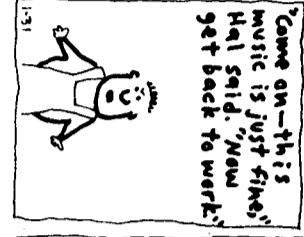
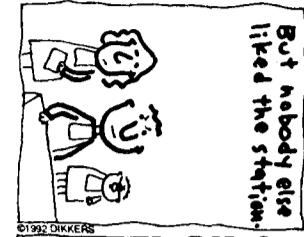
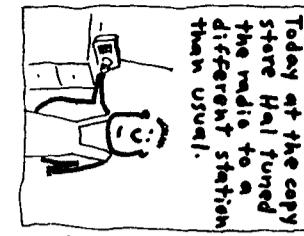
To the Editors:

In the interest of expediency, I should like to point out that this issue has been resolved in the only appropriate way possible.

On Tuesday, February 4th, the Caltech Christian Fellowship held a meeting where they discussed, among other things, my recent letter to the Tech. As a result of this, at 9:30 PM, I was rather unceremoniously dumped (with the aid of a Fleming full nelson) into Millikan Pond.

In conclusion, I must, in all fairness, admit the following: If I am going to be dumped into a pond in February (and have to skateboard home carrying my shoes in my briefcase), I would much rather it be at Caltech than at MIT.

Yours truly,
Ernest N. Prabhakar
S.B. MIT 1988, Physics



Jim's Journal

by Jim

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IHC Minutes 2/19/92

Ben Smith

Present: Aimee Ellicott, "Paquito" Gomez [Pa], Kevin Austin, Steve Harkness, Rich "Tigger" Baltzerson [Fl], Kate Quinn [Bl], Alf Mikula [new Dabney President], Ed Etzkorn [Ru], Delwyn Gilmore, Rich Benzinger [Blacker Secretary], Karen Ross, Ron McKinnell, Nancy Carlton, Chris Launey, Nate Rockwell [Ri], Randy Stevenson [Chairman], Kim West [DRL], David Wales [MOSH], and me.

The meeting started at 2013 19 Feb 92.

Aimee Ellicott, the drug and substance abuse counselor, and Kevin Austin, Director of Counseling at the Health Center, said that they had received requests for various programs. One was for training House UCCs and the other was for stress management. They have held these programs in the past and would like to give them in the future. They would also like to give courses on other matters if the students want to. They will send a letter describing their programs to the House UCCs. [Kim and Randy showed up at 2017. Kevin and Aimee left at 2021]

The next item was the Housing budget... For at least the last 20 years the Housing office has been run as a self sufficient business. About 10 budgets feed money into Housing while Housing pays for part of other departments, like the MOSH's budget. [Dave Wales showed up 2024] In general the Housing budget pays for the following things: Salaries of employees, degradation of facilities (not Damage), utilities (demand has been increasing by 10% each year), supplies (Paper goods and the like). Note recycled paper is more expensive, but environmentally conscious), overhead, maintenance (5% per year, so that funding for items like furniture comes from a fund and not from charging the current students as needed), routine maintenance (sewers, plumbing, electricians, etc.) and GNA (processing of paper work, mail service, fire inspections, etc.). A budget is proposed and is divided by the number of days and the average number of students on campus over the year, giving the amount charged per day (yes all of us are paying for doubles as singles!). Ron McKinnell offered to show all the numbers to people who are interested. Delwyn said he

was interested. Damages in the houses are reported by the janitors or students to housing. A record is made and Nancy tells Physical Plant and Ron. Problems occur if the wrong office is sent to do the job and then doesn't do anything. Physical Plant does not report back that projects are completed to Nancy (and has refused to). Keep reporting things. If Ron notices a number of requests he will personally look in on it. It was brought up that all Houses should have a Damage Control office which keeps tabs on damages and maintenance problems. It was asked if Physical Plant is understaffed. Ron doesn't think so. [Nate left at 2056] Note, the janitors now do minor handy work. Randy asked if Physical Plant has a priority list and if undergrads are at the bottom. Ron doesn't think a written list exists, but labs probably have a priority. As a final note, if two shops in Physical Plant are involved, paper work between the two may get lost.

[Nancy and Ron left at 2111] Baseball- Paquito asked when baseball officially becomes a minor sport. Next school year. Steve Harkness expressed his concern over injuries from baseball. He said that we would probably have to buy our own safety equipment. Steve suggested that the IHC talk to Dan Bridges and the other coaches before we let baseball become a minor sport.

Alf is the new Dabney President. Kate announced that on Monday she is leaving the US for Australia for three weeks. Rich Benzinger will be Blacker President Pro Tem. Graduated picks in the off campus lottery: Should the lottery be based on number of years in the lottery instead of seniority, or both? Randy suggested that we let the Housing committee deal with it.

Paquito asked about the Hazing Committee.

Hi Alex Rosser.

Discobolus: Ruddock won. Page and Ruddock will be playing soccer. Paquito asked if the game could be played on Monday because the Athletic Field is booked all weekend for the women's soccer team. Paquito also mentioned that since Monday is an Institute holiday, that a challenge cannot be issued on Monday for next week. So the challenge will take place on Monday and the next challenge is due a week from Monday.

The meeting ended at 2132 19 Feb 92.

Lieven Leroy

Another week gone by...

Well, enough small talk. Here's what's happening at the Y:

Wednesday, February 26th, at 7:30PM, Luise Engelhardt will be in the Y Lounge (2nd floor of Winnett Center) talking about the Guatamalan refugee situation. She has visited these refugees in Southern Mexico, and been to the Guatamalan highlands. Dessert will be served afterward.

Thursday and Friday, the 28th and 29th, there will be an African-American Art Exhibit in Dabney Hall. A wide variety of art forms will be on display, the artists will be there, and there should even be a band! Don't miss this one, it was great last year.

Also on the 29th, the Y is organizing a trip to Disneyland. If you're interested, come sign up at the Y.

Remember, Broomball has been moved to March 7th.

Caltech Y News

The Y is planning lots of Spring Break activities. There will be a several-day-long mountain biking trip, a three-day camping trip, and a ski trip to Mammoth. As always, call for info. Sign-ups are available at the Y. People interested in the camping trip should come to the planning session Wednesday at 4, in the Y lounge. We're planning on going to Joshua Tree. The Y can provide most/all camping equipment, though there will be some cost for transportation and food.

Owing to the weather, both the Tijuana volunteer trip and the Outward Bound activities were canceled last weekend. Outward Bound was moved to April 3-5 (the first week of 3rd term). The next Tijuana trip is a full week during Spring Break, March 21-28. All the volunteers drive down to TJ to help build a community center for deported youngsters.

On Friday, the 21st, (that's today...) there will be someone distributing information on condoms in front of the Caltech bookstore, from 11AM - 3PM. If you have

questions on safe sex, but didn't know who to ask, here's your chance. You can also check with the Health Center staff, who are will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

If you signed up for the LA Food Bank volunteer action tomorrow, please remember to be on time...

The Y can be reached at x6163. We're on the second floor of Winnett Center. We've got a huge Rideshare Board up there, too. Check it out. The Y Excomm meets Mondays at noon in the Y lounge, except the Monday coming up (Murph Day... Go do something off campus.) We'll be meeting Tuesday at 4 instead.

And finally, though I was credited with all of last week's Y News, one of the paragraphs was not mine. I hereby state that I have not used, nor will I ever use, the word 'ubiquitous'. Well, except this once. Later, all.

Food Service Committee News

M. Wayne Davis

As lowly undergraduates, it seems we often ask, "How can I, a lowly undergraduate, make any impact upon my life at Caltech?" The first obvious answer to this question is, "stop being so apathetic." As most of us know, with everything else going on in our lives (or empty semblances of lives, as the case may be), this is no easy task. However, one need only look in one's *little t*, p.183, under the heading "IHC" resolution II to find a safe, effective way to make a constructive impact on something that affects not only your life, but the life of almost everyone on campus. What I'm referring to is the Food Service Committee, one group that meets on a very regular basis which can have a truly immediate impact on every student's quality of life. As many freshmen have recently told me, many people don't know that we exist, when and where we meet, or what we do. As it so happens, that is what this article is about.

The Food Service Committee does exist. We meet every Thursday at 4pm in the MOSH's meeting room in Winnett. We discuss good and bad things that have happened in the past week and make suggestions for improving the food service. The meetings are open to all members of the Caltech community, and I invite anyone who cares about the food to attend. If you can't go to the meeting, every house has a representative who attends the meetings every week and who will relay your comments directly to the managers from TFM. These people should be easy to find and at least somewhat receptive to constructive suggestions.

If you don't know who your food representative is, cut out this article and glue it to your wall, because I'm including a list of representatives with box numbers and E-mail addresses where you can find them. I'm also including my box and E-mail address, so you can go straight to the top if you like. Now, you might say "So, now that I know whom to talk to, what should I say?" While I welcome E-mails saying "The fud SUX", or more elaborate and well thought out commentary such as "The fud sux long, hairy, *&%@!*&@! etc.", other, more constructive commentary will get a more directed response. We welcome menu comments such as likes and dislikes, what you'd like to see less or more often, or items you would like to see prepared differently. We even like to hear general statements such as "I like the Mexican dishes" or "I don't like the fish that much". If you have specific recipes which you think everyone might enjoy, send them in. Anything pertaining to the food is welcome. Since TFM also runs Chandler, we can also receive comments regarding its operation.

Many undergraduates feel that the board service is run by an unresponsive, totalitarian regime known by the ominous title of Total Food Management. While TFM is actually the company name, they are actually far from unresponsive. Most complaints which I have heard mentioned in THE FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE meetings have been addressed within a matter of days. If there is a situation which requires more immediate attention, you can feel free to approach the TFM managers, Lee or Denise (if you don't know who they are, ask someone in the kitchens - Lee is the

guy with cool ties). If you aren't comfortable with this, tell your food rep, or your head waiter at dinner. These people should be able to fix the situation, or find someone who can. If you still don't feel comfortable with any of these methods of improving your life, you can still use the standard Caltech whining technique; i.e. complaining to those around you, on the off-chance that the sheer droning, repetitive nature of your complaint will make something inside of them snap, causing them to go into an insane rage and perform an unnatural act of constructive action.

I hope that this article has opened your eyes to a powerful way to improve your life with minimal effort. If you can't tell from this article, ask anyone who knows me personally, and they will tell you that I am a very jaded senior. If I can feel strongly enough about the ability of the Food Service Committee to make a difference in my life to become involved, then you can feel confident that it can work for you.

THE FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES:

FSC chair: M. Wayne Davis, Box 536, MWDavis@iago
Blacker: Jason Lada, Box 259
Dabney: Momo Jeng, Box 266
Fleming: Sharon Grelecki, Box 135
Lloyd: Joe Lauer (FSC secretary), Box 745, JoeL@coil
Page: Joe Long, Box 749, JoeLong@coil
Ricketts: Sarah Barwig, Box 588, Barwig@romeo, rifraff@atop
Ruddock: Tim Gerk, Box 458

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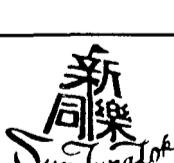
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The Inside World

Inside World Policy:

All Inside Worlds must include the author's name. Inside Worlds can only be written by current undergraduates. The editors reserve the right to edit any or all parts of an Inside World. No libelous material will be accepted. It is the author's responsibility to check material written about a person to see if they consider it libelous. Please submit a 3.5 inch Macintosh Disk by 8:00 PM Wednesday.

This Week's **Inside World** was written by:

Ruddock: Chris Launey, Hans Hornstein,

Ed Etzkorn and Paul Ainsworth

Dabney 1: Godot, Mike Benedetti, John Parsoni

Dabney 2: Lieven Leroy

Page: Paco Herrero

	2 nd	1 st
Blacker	0	0
Dabney	1	2
Fleming	0	0
Lloyd	2	1
Page	0	0
Ricketts	3	0
Ruddock	4	0
	0	3
	3	4

2 nd	1 st
1	3
6	12
0	17
3	11
3	10
7	8
11	9

Behind closed eyelids, at the top of my mind, a murky grayness. Unless my eyes roll back into my head, I'll never see it directly, never meet its constant gaze. But I know it's there, inside my mind now. "Get out," I mutter, "there's nothing very interesting in there."

Thank you, sir, may I have another?

Dear Ramon: I have a problem. My basement is full of ants. I've tried everything to get rid of them, but nothing has worked. Help!

-Worried in Pittsburgh.

Dear Pittsburgh-

Put the ants in a sealed Ziplock bag. Place the bag in the freezer. This will kill the ants quickly and humanely.

-Ramon

The predator moves down the alley in search of other prey.

"We'll stop here so you can have a chance to study Steve Anderson's end table."

The hot sun blazed upon our backs as we set off in search of the Column of Rahul. The cryptic inscription left by the twelfth century scholar Ptolemyrtrflamus was still fresh in our minds even after our weeks of ordeal in the desert, becoming a mantra for our starving and dehydrated comrades: "Go suck on the Column of Rahul."

In the heart of the city, something moves. The predator stops. From the shadows comes a voice. "C'mere." The predator moves slowly closer. His eyes strain to pick out detail in the darkness. He reaches for his

revolver.

"Notice the high tensile strength of Seth's dresser."

The man's motion abruptly halts as he bumps into a yellow foam rod. "That's about far enough."

The man fires into the blackness. The foam rod slams into his face and ricochets away. The man is bleeding. He fires again. Another shaft comes from nowhere, smashing into his gun hand. Two more shafts hit, one in the abdomen and one in the chest.

The man lies bleeding on the ground. His eyes search the shadows for the hidden attacker. Suddenly, a figure looms over him. "Who are you?" he asks through blood-stained teeth. "Buttman," comes the reply.

"We regret to inform you that the Tracy Fu exhibit has been closed for renovations."

Search-a-Word Fun

Find the Darb!

I W B W T L T I T T
A N Y G M F D W I O
S E T H P A W C M L
L B A V P T Q O M A
F W K S M A M Y S U
U A I A W F Y A L R
T M I C Z R F S O E
F A M S O O I P I N
P A U L B S C C W T
E R P T Z H L E H T

Circle the name of the person you might expect to use each of the following phrases:

"I think I just stepped on a snail."

"Spiff."

"You suck."

"Buttload." (also butt big, butt huge, butt weird, butt long.)

"Floof."

"Waffles!"

"More mucus!"

"Notice the fine craftsmanship that went into Khurram's bureau."

This is the dawning of the Age of Aquarius.

-Godot, Mike Benedetti, John Parsoni

DABNEY 1

The enemy of my enemy is Zagrodny.

"You ask who I am? There are those who call me 'The Butterfinger of Death.' Others may know me as 'Sir Thwartzmund Tworfheim.' Still others think of me as 'Froofy the Dog.' However, those who have heard the tale in full call me by my true name... 'BOB the TaNG Infested Cowboy.'

"I'd like to welcome you all to the Dabney Hovse 'Tour of Bureaus,' or, as we like to call it, the 'DaHo ToBu.' The first stop on our tour is room eight. Feel free to exercise your sense of awe as we investigate Colleen Tuffy's old, cruddy bureau with its separate sock drawer..."

The Heart of the City. A shadowy, savage place, where men subsist on the blood of their brothers. Something moves. The young mother stops. She is attacked. Falling, the sidewalk turns red. Her purse vanishes. BGABDCBAGAFACFDCCBIGAIGAIGAIBI CBIAIGFEIFACHEACHEAEACHAEACHEA

The eyes, everywhere, always watching me. I first noticed this morning in the shower - the wet outline on the tiles, the merest hint of sentience behind the moist glare. Annoyed, I wiped it away with my thumb. Malignant stares just aren't the sort of thing you want to deal with in the morning. Especially supernatural ones. But it was too late - I'd already started thinking about it. It

PAGE

I guess that since we had elections a while ago, and I happen to be Secretary and I really have nothing better to do at 4:00 AM (NOT) tonight, I'll give a rundown of the new officers of Page House, and a whole bunch of other shit. If you don't like this, then fuck off. I'm too tired to argue about the literary content of this garbage with anyone. Besides, I'm too sexy for this shit.

President: Paquito "I am Page House"
Gomez
Vice-President: Derek "I am Canadian, eh" Surka
Secretary: Paco "I will BOC you no longer" Herrero
Treasurer: Terry "I have to run twice to win anything" Chay
Ath. Manager: Greg "I wish I knew how to play soccer" Dudey

Social. Team: Flora "I don't know who John Holmes is" Ho
Tobe "I'll beat your ass in any race" Corazzini
Chris "I need a beer this minute" Hare
Mike "I had to walk down from Mt. Wilson" Ng
Amit "I have a cool accent" Mehra

Ath. Team: Brian "I can't play football" Brewington
Dean "I can't play soccer" Harritos
Tim "I can't golf" Nelson
Eric "I can't swim"
Aamot
Grant "I can't play basketball" Templin

Of course, a Page House election just wouldn't be complete without our "other" house officers, all of whom are very proud to have won their respective positions:

House Arrogant Young Man: Duvvuri
House Speed Racer Ho
House Oh-too-bad-he's gone Mukherji
House Agnes Naranjo
House Sunshine Mehra
House Mouth

Ng
House Dykes
Flora, Sarah, and June
House Cabbage Patch Kid
Fukuda
House Satan
Simpson
House Queers and Wayne
House Jabba the Hut
"Bad Kid" Pakianathan
House Axe-Murderer
Halloran
House Martyr Goldberg
House Psycho-Killer Ashton
House Oh-thank-God-she's gone Brooks
House Lush
"Choo-Choo" Trevor
House Too-Sickeningly-Cute and Lucy
House Elvis Fink
House Urinal
House Door
House Mother
Pizarro
House Mother Fucker
Kohler
House Hostess Tritschuh
House Barbarian Derrington
House Loser
Firman
House Texan Elliot
House Cucumber Hare
House Santa Killer Vattaru
House Cucumber Receptacle Cannon
House Hedgehog
Templin
House Twinkie
Lee

So I'm finally done with the Board of Control, once and for all. No more 10-hour discussions with Maneesh over the philosophical meaning of life, no more expelling people for taking their roommate's eraser without their permission, no more dirty looks from other Board members everytime I say something silly... Life is good. Maybe I can finally concetrate now on graduating in four years, which is impossible with all the cut-throats in Electrical Engineering. I don't think I have ever seen such a collection of cutthroats, nerds, social morons, and other assorted losers, together in one class like in EE 151. It's too bad that I, like every other

Tobe, non-genius junior in the class, am going to have to drop the stupid thing and pray that I can pass next year. If you're a frosh and are thinking of doing EE, "you will suffer," to put it in the always wise words of the Evil Dr. Tai.

Seiya
Dave
Chip
Jon
Charles
Dave
Matt
Eileen
Jason
Won
Tom
Fleming
Pedro
Monica
Jennifer
Taletha
Tim
Bryce
Chris
Eddy
Fleming
Grant
Joe

Finally, to the dicksucking, butt fucking, testicleless, shitheaded, assholefuckwadmotherfuckerickheadwithherpes who is trying to make another Eileen out of me by defacing every little thing that I type for the house and in the process pissing me off to extremes, I'd just like to tell you to kiss my Spanish ass. I've had enough of your shit to last me a lifetime, and I will BOC you at the first piece of hard evidence I find against you. So keep testing my patience. You'll get a nice piece of the Honor System that you so "admire" one of these days...

—Wildman

RUDDOCK

So here we are yet again, on yet another Wednesday night, postponing our Math like good Sophomores should. We want to bring you another installment of In/Out picks of the week, just 'cuz we're still irritated at random things.

Out: Won bashing
In: Boc Rep run-off announcements
Out: "Chris, where are the goddamn magazines?"
In: "Ching, where are the goddamn magazines?"
Out: Bush, front runner candidate
In: Buchanan/Quayle '92
Out: Caltech recitation harassment/paranoia rebuttal
In: United Arab Emirates harassment/paranoia rebuttal
Out: Good food
In: Cashew-Soybean gruel

Well, what happened this past week? About fifteen Boc rep runoffs, defeats of Dabney in Basketball and Volleyball (My, that Disco trophy looks good in Ruddock. Maybe we should paint it blue and cement it into the library wall or something). In Excomm news, Ching has neglected his important Librarian duty—hurling non-library things from the library with great force. Stan, however, filled in for him last night, tossing his own bicycle out the window and onto the bike rack below.

Ruddock House Inside World continued on next page

Ruddock's Inside World cont'd from page B

Anyway, here's another game we've thought of for your reading pleasure—

Ruddock Mad Libs

Los Rules—get a pen and insert the proper words below.

So I was walking down Alley [number], minding my own business, when all of a sudden I saw this [expletive] [noun] wearing the most [synonym for "ugly"] dress I've ever seen. She made me want to [verb, but not a nice one]. I was about to call Security and report a trespasser, when someone informed me that the [some other name for female dog] was a guest in Ruddock.

As if that weren't bad enough, she wasn't alone. With her was an old student, who had in the past [story about how clueless flamed Techer was]. I said "[Damn]! Who are they staying with?" It was then that I saw them go into room [an even number between 102 and 106].

I wanted to hit them with a [noun] in the [body part] and thought to myself, "That would be funny if [Name] would come and [coin]stack them in the room." Then I went to [verb] my [subject] homework set up the [body part] of [professor of said subject]. When I came back, there was this [derogatory adj.] [derogatory female noun] standing at the door trying to take the [coin]s out of the door. Apparently, it was [Elizabeth's] mom. The door flew open, and I saw [Name] and [Name] in/on the [furniture item]. Were they [state of clothing]? I at least saw [body part usually covered]. I wonder what the mother would have done if she had caught them [doing the nasty].

So then I went to [meal], wonderfully prepared by [crappy food service]. Oh, the [adj.] delights before us! I [adverb] sat down to enjoy my feast. As I scooped some of the [unpalatable color] [synonym for feces] onto my plate, [Name] across from me threw a whole [noun] of [noun] at Adriana Lozano, who was sitting at the next table. Covered with [noun], she started to cry and said "Why are you all so [adj.] to me?" Then James Rink and said [British exclamation]! You have made a great mess and must be [verb involving liquid or a cat-o-nine-tails]!" As he looked about to find a [noun] big enough to hold the blood of a whole [large hooved mammal], I turned to my plate. Alas! Someone had poured [white granular seasoning] all over it before I had sat down! [Nazi waiter] was standing by [wild gesture]ing in glee at my displeasure. "Hey look everyone!" he shouted. "I sure [verb]ed him!"

Just then, [Tech editor] said to us, "It's time you [verb involving completion] the damn Inside World so we can go [nocturnal verb involving sleep or copulation]." So

there you go.

—the kid, Eskimo, generalissimo, and the goalie.

-Chris Launey, Hans Hornstein, Ed Etzkorn and Paul Ainsworth



We found the White Album today.

Top Ten Most Important Things to do to be a Darb

10. "Don't be polite, especially if you are Asian." (ESL handout)
9. Learn to juggle.
8. Hug a Flem.
7. Read T.S. Eliot's "The Waste Land."
6. Drop something.
5. Pay \$12.50 a term.
4. Tie-dye your brain.
3. Increase your chemical awareness.
2. Be apathetic.
1. Frolic in the autumn mist in a land called Honalee.

Enough of this frivolity. Welcome to the Dabney Inside World. After reading the list above, you may be struck by a question - who would want to live in Dabney, anyway? This question had occurred to others before, and so it was decided that an ambitious project should be carried out — a Darb would record his laugh-packed, thrill-a-minute adventures in Dabney during a typical day. The results are recorded below. (If you are more interested in the surreal "Waiting for Godot" thing, skip the results and come back to them later)

24 Hours in Dabney: To Hell and Back with a brief stopover in Lester Prarie, Minnesota

12 AM: Nothing.
2 AM: Nothing happening in Ruddock, either. Godot not sighted.
4 AM: People in Ruddock talking and doing homework. In Dabney: Karen and Bo are hot tubbing whilst Brad watches a movie and writes.

5 AM: Lloyd: Everyone is asleep.
6 AM: Too early to be up. No sign of Godot.
6:11 : Rich is reading in Dabney library.
6:20 : Rich has mysteriously disappeared.
6:50 : Jon Lange eats soup.
7:50 : Momo returns to Alley 4.
7:54 : CZR finds some useful relationships in EE.
8:00 : B&G already hard at work clearing the weekend's debris.
8:09 : Daily paper arrives. Maybe something is going on somewhere.
8:50 : Nothing happening in Lloyd.
9:12 : Nothing much.

9:43 : p moves in library.

9:46 : Alley 6 phone rings. Action at last!

9:49 : Dabney library is evacuated. Time to move on.

9:50 : Those gooey palm berry things are hosed from courtyard.

10:02 : Nobel laureate Murray Gell-Mann has apparently not arrived. His parking space remains vacant. Godot hasn't arrived yet, either.

12:45 : Nothing happening in Lloyd.

1:45 : Nothing happening in Dabney.

1:47 : Buttman™ replenishes his energy with life-giving ramen.

2:25 : Ricketts courtyard devoid of life.

2:26 : Many Scurves are lying on the floors of their rooms, doing homework.

2:28 : Badminton is being played in Blacker courtyard. Christmas lights are up.

2:30 : Fleming courtyard vacant.

2:31 : Four people in Dabney courtyard (including one maintenance guy.)

2:56 : Four people in business suits sighted in Throop park. Is there a connection here?

2:57 : Rubbed Millikan's nose.

4:30 : A group leaves Dabney courtyard to go out for Thanksgiving dinner (note: this is December 2).

4:37 : Am paralyzed with fear for 23 seconds after seeing Bart Simpson's grisly remains.

6:04 : Dabney lounge rocked by news about Paul Wellstone. Also, Weekly World News has arrived.

6:14 : Dinner : rice n' leaves-MMMmmmm!

8:45 : Rich puts up Christmas lights, turning Alley 6 into a psychedelic wonderland.

11:14 : Having a swingin' time over in Lloyd.

11:16 : Some people in Lloyd are playing pool.

11:17 : Page is loud. No fellatio sighted.

11:17:01: Silly Flem.

11:50 : 46th housequote of the term goes up in library.

11:52 : More nothing.

11:57 : "The Graduate" is being shown in the game room.

Well, there you have it folks. Become a Darb and you too can experience Jon Lange eating breakfast or the unanswered ring of a telephone. Okay, so nothing exciting happens at Dabney. At least you can listen in on surreal/existential conversations like the one dramatized in

Waiting in the Alley Four Kitchen for Godot -Is he here yet?

No, he isn't here yet.

-When is he coming?

He said he'd be here today, or maybe to-

Dabney's Inside World cont'd from page C

morrow.

-What time is it?

It's 4:30 AM.

-I hope he comes soon. Godot will come and everything will be okay.

Hey dude! Look at this! Varieties of Psychedelic Experience...I thought I had all the literature...Wow! This was printed when it was still legal!

-We went to see Ollie North. We taunted him, and he signed our copy of The Doonesbury Chronicles.

You suck, man. We went on a desert trip and climbed on rocks and saw funky trees....

-These are good cookies. What did you say was in them?

I want to do something.

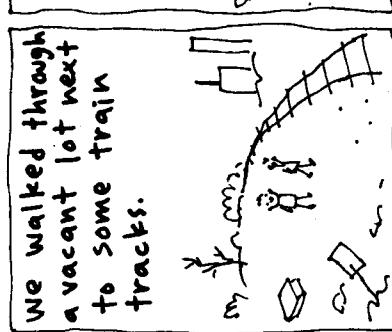
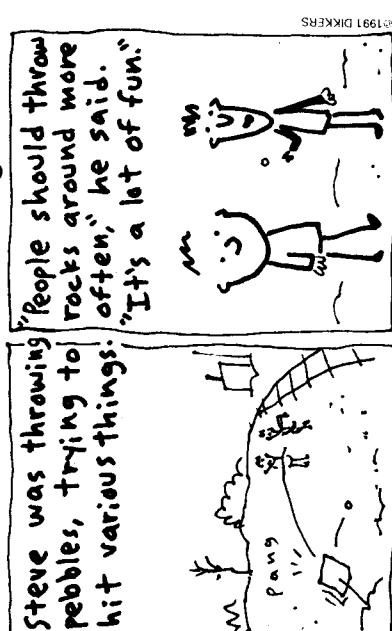
-Let's go to Lloyd.

The horror. The horror.

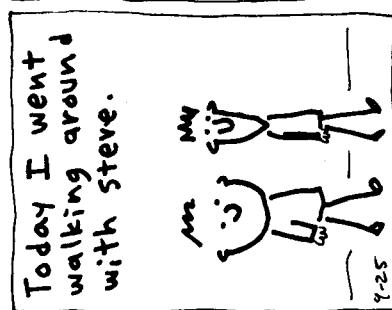
-Nobody comes, nobody goes. Nothing happens, nothing changes. It's awful.

Vladimir
Estragon
Momo

by Jim



Jim's Journal



Jim's Journal

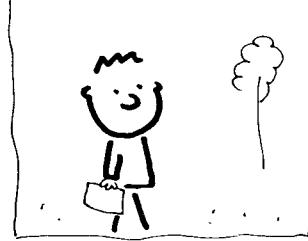
I bought a Newsweek magazine today so I'd have something to read.



while I was walking home, I walked behind two people who were talking about their friends.



"I don't really have just, like, one best friend," one of them said.



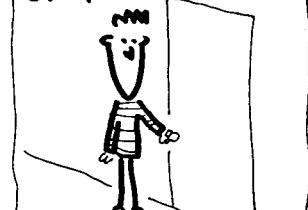
"But I have, like, a bunch of really close friends, y'know?" she said.



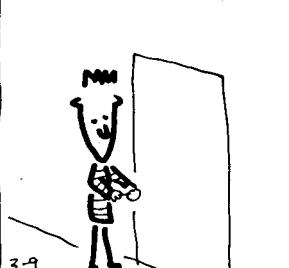
by Jim

Jim's Journal

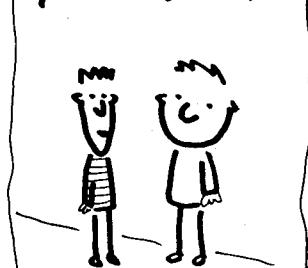
When I walked up to my apartment today, Steve was just coming out of it.



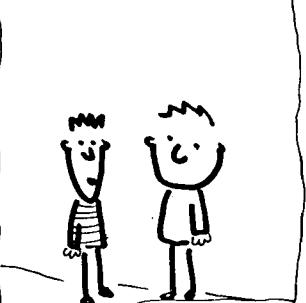
(He took care of Mr. Peterson while I was gone.)



"Hey, Jim!" he said. "How was your big trip?"



I said it was pretty good.



by Jim

Jim's Journal

Today I called to get a pizza delivered, with extra sauce, cheese and mushrooms.



The guy who delivered it was wearing a hat with the pizza company's logo on it.



I sat down and ate my pizza and read my Newsweek magazine.



I thought maybe they forgot to put the extra sauce on my pizza, but I couldn't really tell.



by Jim

Jim's Journal

Steve came over today.



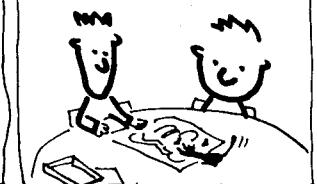
"Hey, Mr. P." he said when he saw Mr. Peterson.



Then he said, "Jim, look what I brought."



We played a few games of Sorry, and Mr. Peterson kept pouncing on the game pieces.



by Jim

Jim's Journal

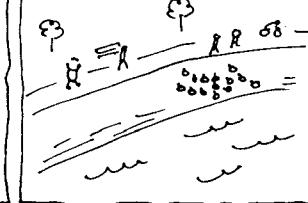
I worked at the copy store today.



Afterwards, I walked home the long way, by the lake.



There were people walking around the lake, and ducks sitting on the shore.



I decided to sit and watch people go by, and listen to the ducks quack.



by Jim

Jim's Journal

Today Tony and I went to Disneyland.



We waited in line for a long time for all the rides.



"The problem is, too many damned idiots come to this place!" Tony said.



We liked the Magic Mountain and Star Tours rides the best.



Music Review: the zeroS

(Bomp! Records)

Chris Pollett

So there I materialized at Poo-bah's. I hadn't quite paid attention to how I got there. Probably got lost eating lunch out — flicking or something. Anyway, so there I was and I even had twenty bucks to buy stuff. I proceeded to look for CD's in my usual fashion. That is, I looked for band names I hadn't heard before and album covers that looked cool. The completely dadaistic approach of buying CD's in the same rack as the first person you see in the store was getting too confusing.

The Zeros' album *Don't Push Me Around* had the subtitle (*rare & unreleased classics from '77*). Guessing that they were probably an early punk group, I bought the CD. I wasn't disappointed. On the way back to my room I read the fairly detailed inside cover which explains where The Zeros fit into the early L.A. punk scene. The Zeros began performing at about the same time as The Germs and The Stains. The Zeros had had the youngest members of any punk group at the time. When they first started performing gigs, only one of their band members could drive a car. As a group they only released three singles before they split up and went to different bands. The pinnacle of their careers was playing a benefit concert with The Clash in 1979. They broke up as a band in 1981. The album I had bought was a complete compilation of their studio recordings released in 1991. This compilation included fourteen distinct songs plus different versions of a couple of tracks.

Musically The Zeros were pretty cool. One or two tracks sound vaguely Ramones-like. They also have faint echoes of the other Mexican punk group of that time, The Plugz. For the most part, though, they were treading in new water. Whatever that means. Their lyrics describe concrete situations. They are not satiric like say The Dead Kennedys. They generally espouse punk ideals. Not that I claim to understand what exactly were the punk ideals, but I get the impression from the records I've heard that punks generally believed in irrational responses to what they perceived as no-win, oppressive situations. Unlike most punk groups which tend to profess destructive tendencies towards, or at least, disinterest in love, The Zeros treat love with more dignity and even have a couple of love-like songs. Such as *Hand-Grenade Heart* which I guess is a love song. Maybe not. Anyway, the Zeros were much more upbeat than groups like Black Flag who seemed to want to annihilate everyone. Most of their upbeatness probably stems from some kind of youthful buoyancy. One gets the impression from the album that it was intended for some quixotic beach party with lots of sand and water that turns into a suburban nightmare unless you look at it funny.

The sound quality of The Zeros' album ranges from somewhat OK to poor. At one point, it sounds like the mike they were recording with falls to the ground. I thought this added to the album, but others may disagree. All in all, though, I thought the CD was pretty good. The Zeros displayed more musical range than most punk groups except maybe The Circle Jerks. They could actually play their instruments.

Movie Reviews

Frank Filipanits

Wayne's World

If you're looking for intellectually stimulating fare, move on. Intriguing plot? Sorry. But if you just want to have fun, it's definitely worth seeing, particularly if you consort with those dang long-haired rocker types.

I suppose everyone knows the premise by now; Wayne and his nerdy pal Garth have been doing Wayne's World skits on Saturday Night Live since 1989. This time a slick sleazeball producer (played by Rob Lowe... a natural for the part) decides to cash in on the naive headbanging duo by moving them out of Wayne's basement and into the pocket of a video arcade mogul looking to lure more kids into his arcades.

It is a film that is aware of its own obvious weaknesses, and even pokes fun at them. However, the most amusing scenes were the ones which I could personally identify with; seeing things you've done up on the big screen makes you realize how goofy they are. Things like singing "Bohemian Rhapsody" in five-part unharmony whilst cruising town in a flamed Gremlin...

The main band featured in these escapades is quite good, and features a bodacious singer (What a babe. Babealicious. Baberaham Lincoln.) who is the love interest of both Wayne and the ever-slick producer. The soundtrack for the film is excellent, if you like hard rock.

All in all, there were enough funny parts and great one-liners to make me want to see it again, when it arrives on video. The last parts drag a bit, and the "pick-an-ending" idea

is pretty lame, but the unexpected little quirks in the plot and guest appearances (including one from T2, but I'm not telling who) kept most of the audience laughing hard.

My amps go up to eleven, but this one gets an eight.

Hand That Rocks The Cradle

Wow. This is one intense movie. Rebecca DeMornay enters a chilling performance as Peyton, a nanny hired by a phenomenally yuppie couple. Seeking revenge for the collapse of her own life, Peyton aims to alienate Claire (the yuppie wife) from everyone and re-establish Claire's happy family as Peyton's happy family.

To this end, she preys on every mother's worst fears, and the ease with which the seeds of suspicion can burst into angry confrontation. DeMornay's portrayal of the borderline-psychotic Peyton is complete; I have never seen such a total immersion in the role. Kathy Bates, look out - you can see it in DeMornay's eyes. This is definitely Oscar material.

However, it is *not* material for the weak or squeamish. This is a very disturbing film, and there are some graphic parts. The trailers for this film were very misleading; *Hand that Rocks the Cradle* is an intense thriller, one that will scare the bejeezus out of you and also really make you think. The screenwriters have also made sure that it will keep you guessing all the way till the end.

This is a must see. 11.

This Week

at the Red Door

Jazz Quartet Green Onions

Pete Rogan

After a temporary hiatus, Green Onions returns to the Red Door Cafe. If you don't remember hearing about them last time, it's because they appeared under another name. Ah, those temperamental artists.

Anyway, they're back and ready to hit the stage with some tight jazz and blues standards, sprinkled with exciting sidetracks of improv. Lend them your ears, and they'll show you a good time.

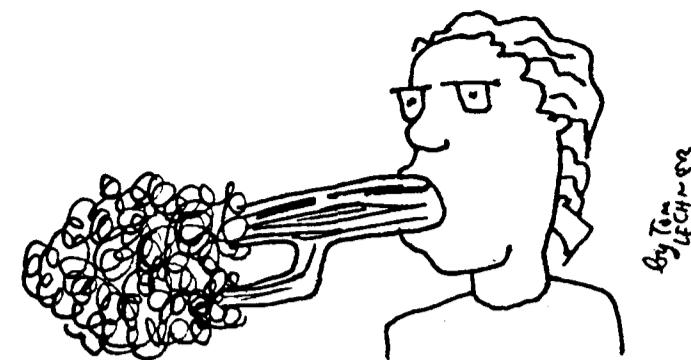
All the guys in Green Onions are from the Caltech grad student population. So, when you come to see the show, you just might recognize a TA or co-worker having a good time up on stage. And that lively spirit of fun is why we like 'em.

The Red Door has other exciting news to announce: We have gotten permission to open up during the morning. Barring any complications, we will begin opening from 9:30 to 10:30 each morning of next week and every week. Come enjoy some early morning java and pastries.

21 February Green Onions
-Traditional Jazz Quartet with Guitar, Bass, Drums, and Keyboard

6 March Jim and Ed and Danny's Garage
-Frolicking jazz improv from 3 excellent players - Drums, Bass, and Sax

All shows are at the Red Door Cafe. The doors open at 9:00pm. This Week and Every Week : 25 cent Hot Cocoa. Believe it.



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YOU PLANT SEEDS

outside view

Khurram Dastgir-Khan

On Pedagogy

Sitting in classes, day after day after day, one tends to forget that the real purpose of education is to learn, instead of turning in homework and taking examinations. This might strike some as an anomaly, since the ostensible purpose of tests and homeworks is to reinforce learning in the class. I can not vouch for anyone else, but there have been times (far too frequent to be reasonable) when I have felt that I was slaving away at homeworks every day of the week with no thought given to the true understanding of the subject matter.

To be sure, one is learning when solving problem sets and taking tests. But it is more by osmosis than by conscious design. Perhaps that is the best way to learn, but I am not sure.

The one place where learning is by design is the classroom. Unfortunately, I have often felt my classroom experience to be lacking in spirit. This lack of spirit is a Caltech phenomenon. Since it is assumed that the Caltech student body is highly intelligent, the faculty often does not teach at the fundamental level necessary to convey the basic phenomenon. The result is that most of the classes are taught one quantum level of understanding above the optimum level.

It is not a lack of effort on the part of the faculty, because I have found all my professors more than willing to explain concepts at the fundamental level in their office hours. So why are the classes dull? They are dull because of the other part of the equation: the students.

Since we are all so conspicuous of our intelligence, it is difficult for us to confront the fact that there are concepts which we can not understand instantaneously. Even when we do not get the foggiest notion of the topic under discussion, we do not ask questions because we are afraid of looking stupid in front of our peers.

The best example of this phenomenon happens every year at the Waterloo of engineering students, AMa 95. Upon making a round of the campus on Sunday night, one is likely to hear an infinite number of gripes about AMa 95. In class, however, whenever the professor turns around and asks "Does everyone understand this?" he is met with an uncertain silence, but silence nonetheless. So the professor carries on, and the questions that were left unasked in class come to haunt the students Sunday night.

If my experience is a rough approximation for the average student's experience, the uncertain silence is not only limited to AMa 95. It is a tragedy. By not asking our professors dumb, fundamental questions, we are wasting a valuable opportunity to benefit from their insight.

Although we may not know it, dumb questions have a noble- and Noble- lineage in the example of the erstwhile undergraduate 'god,' Richard P. Feynman, who prided himself on asking dumb questions. To enrich our academic experience we will do well to heed Feynman's example, and E.B. White's advice, "Why compound ignorance with inaudibility? Why run and hide?"

Author's Note: In response to the column in the issue dated Feb. 7, Dave Flowers informed us that Caltech students have access, with a nominal charge, to wire news services on ClarisNet. Responses to this week's column can be sent to kdtdk@cco.caltech.edu.

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The Big T Controversy — An Editor's View

Christopher Ho

'92 Big T Editor

As one of the editors of the 1992 Big T, I would like to inform you of the current state of this publication. Many hours have been spent with Taylor Publishing Co., the ASCIT Board of Directors, and other Caltech students to work out the details.

Like any other organization, editors can only plan to produce what they can afford. Thus, with our revenues from student Big T dues and realistic advertisement estimates, we can only afford a smaller book (see specifications accompanying this letter). I realize this is a great change from the '91 book (brown cover), but as an editor, I cannot and will not plan to go overbudget.

We are lucky to be allowed to have a Big T again. Three years ago, the '89 publication ran so much into debt that a \$10,000 loan was required. This fall, when the responsibilities were handed to us, we discovered Caltech owed the publisher another \$7,000. The ASCIT BOD has decided to pay off the debt out of this

year's student social budget. Thus, over the last three years, the Big T's have incurred \$17,000 of debt. Yet, the BOD has graciously allowed this year's editors to produce a yearbook starting with a clean slate. Rest assured, however, that all accessible revenues collected this year will be used solely for the '92 book, and not to pay off the deficit of last year.

The bottom line is that we must

subsidize the yearbook. I realize that some seniors are disappointed with the reduced size of the senior section, but with more efficient layout (less white space), we will try to maximize the photo sizes while maintaining theme and style. This applies to all other sections of the Big T; one need only peruse through past books to see how badly space has been used.

In response to fellow seniors' concerns over their section, there are three alternatives. The first is to eliminate or reduce other sections. We have already shrunk the sizes of all eight sections to the point of critically dense layout, and we will not throw out any section. For example, the '90 book eliminated the Academic/Faculty section, but this will not stand in '92.

The second is to raise more money for a larger book or for a specific section. Not only is this expensive for the constituents of the section, but Taylor Publishing, the BOD and the editors will not undertake a larger book without money up front. It does not make financial sense to do otherwise. Unless our business manager receives a check by next week, it will be very difficult to change our contract without risking further complications (i.e. production slows, deadlines pass over, and expensive

penalties follow). Time is critical; we've already spent months sorting out the financial mess of last year, so our schedule is tighter than ever.

The third alternative is to have editors act against the reasoning outlined here; that is, to spend more than we have, or to take pages away from other places, like the houses, sports or clubs, which all deserve space in the publication.

For those who like this last alternative, I'm sorry to say that this team of editors will not relinquish our pursuit of responsible business, fair representation of the school, and artistic excellence for only a small minority of the student body. This year's team has years of experience in yearbook organization, photography, layout and aesthetic production. We are doing our best to capture the essence of Caltech

within the bounds of financial and manpower constraints and approaching deadlines, while looking out for all members of this school as much as possible.

Of course, four editors can't produce a good book alone. If you've ever been on a yearbook staff, let us know if you can help. We'd also appreciate photo contributions. A wider selection means better quality of pictures. And that means a better yearbook.

To houses, clubs, seniors and advertisers: meet your deadlines so we can meet ours. We can't include you unless we have your material.

And if you have any questions, concerns or contributions, please contact us. After all, this is your yearbook and we want it to be as good as it can be.

New Senior Page Format : Pro & Con

Pro:

Emily Wen

Recently, there is some concern about the allocation of 48 pages for the senior section in the 1992 yearbook (that is, in the worst case scenario, each senior will get a quarter of a page). As a past editor of the yearbook (house section '90, editor '91), I just want to point out the difference between a person getting a third of the page or a quarter of the page.

Good layout always results in white spaces around pictures. We cannot fill up every inch of the page with a picture. One can compare the layout of four pictures in one page (figure a) to that of three pictures in one page (figure b). The dimension of a picture in the 3-photo layout is about 3.5 in. x 6 in. while the dimension of a picture in the 4-photo layout is about 3.5 in x 4.5 in. (Please refer to the '90 and '91 yearbooks).

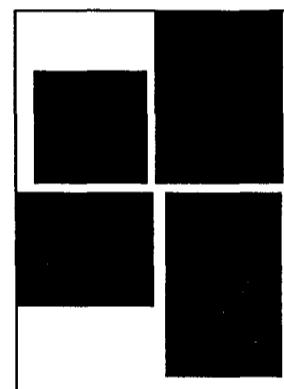


figure a

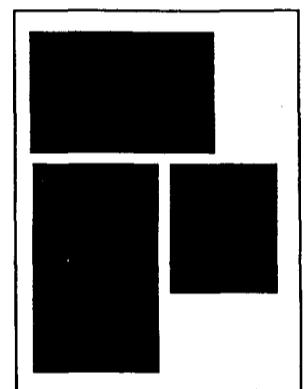


figure b

The difference between the two layouts is that the 4-photo one has less white space to each page without significantly decreasing the size of the picture.

Con:

Deepi Brar

There is a proposal for seniors to vote on today. As you probably know, ASCIT is trying to pull the yearbook out of a debt that has been increasing over the past four to five years. Consequently, the yearbook is planned to be fairly small this year, and each senior is being allotted 1/4th of a page in the senior section. This is a 50% decrease from the space usually allotted to senior pictures.

The proposal is to charge all seniors a one-time \$6 assessment through student accounts to go directly towards buying additional pages for the yearbook, so that each senior will be guaranteed 1/3 of a page in the senior section. This will allow a little more freedom in the design and layout of the pictures and text. A senior picture is an image of how you see yourself and how you want to be remembered when you leave, so the extra space will be put to good use.

For the purpose of this assessment, a senior is anyone classified by the registrars as a senior or super senior, planning to graduate or planning to put a senior picture in the yearbook. In the event this

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- 101 Enhanced Keyboard
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- Full Tower Case with 250-watt Power Supply
- 16-bit Super VGA Card with 1 MB RAM
- 14" 1024 x 768 Super VGA Monitor, 0.28 mm dots (CTX 14" non-interlaced)

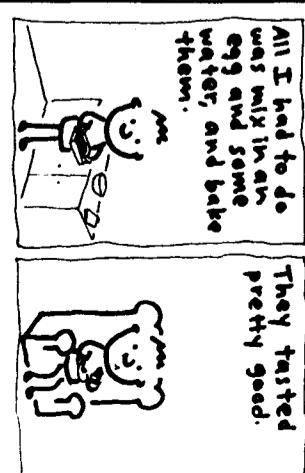
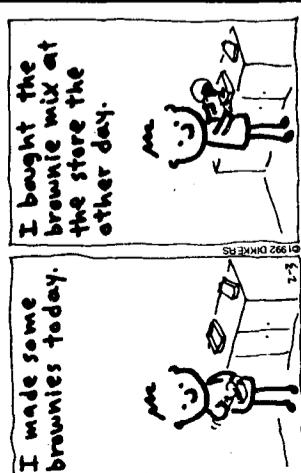
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Jim's Journal



by Jim

SPORTS

Beaver Baseball Beats Burbank

Ted Turócy

The Caltech baseball team opened its 1992 season two Saturdays ago with an afternoon doubleheader against Pomona. In two low-scoring seven-inning matches, the Beavers lost 4-1 and 2-0.

Even though the team has opened 0-2, there are some positive notes. Both games saw fine complete-game outings by pitchers John Stamm (in the first game) and Brian Cooper (in the afternooncap), who, in his first college appearance, demonstrated both poise and an excellent curveball in keeping the opposing batters off-balance. The defense was, on the whole, passable, keeping Pomona off the board in 12 of the 14 innings; however, defensive lapses accounted, directly or indirectly, for several of their 6 runs. The weakest spot was the offense, which produced but one run (and that on a series of Pomona miscues) and failed to hit the ball solidly most of the day, despite the low calibre of the pitching faced. Baserunning errors also cost several opportunities, as runners were doubled off on line drives at least twice during the afternoon.

The club then faced the LaVerne JV team in a scrimmage the following Tuesday afternoon. The Beavers, after falling behind 7-0 by the middle of the fifth, responded by scoring five with no hands lost in the bottom of the frame. However, the rally then fizzled. After adding one more in the sixth, the Beavers were in good position in the last of

the seventh to score, with runners on first and third with one out. A well-turned double play by LaVerne closed the inning and the game.

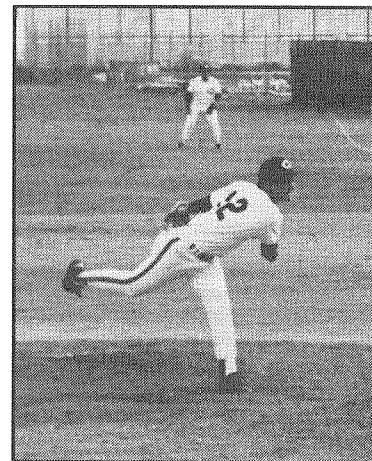
Though the LaVerne scrimmage was not an official game, the offense finally began to come around, with several well-hit balls and improved baserunning (although a run-and-hit play resulted in yet another runner doubled off first on a fly). The defense booted several balls in the first three innings, then found itself again to play solidly for the remainder of the game.

Last Saturday, during a brief respite from the omnipresent deluge we call February here in L.A., the team faced the Burbank Cobras, an amateur team composed principally of former college players, in one game of a scheduled doubleheader. (The second game was cancelled by agreement due to wet grounds). The Cobras scored one run in each of the first two innings off the starter, John Stamm (1-1). After responding with two in the fourth, the Beavers took the lead with a run in the fifth. They later added another in the seventh to pad the lead to 4-2. Brian Cooper (S, 1) came on in relief in the sixth and squelched a rally in the ninth with the score 4-3 with a bases-loaded, two-out strikeout to preserve the victory.

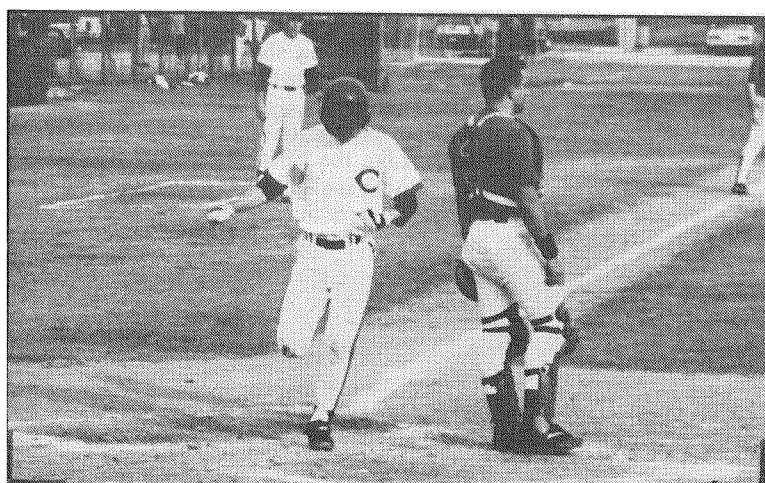
Hopefully, the Burbank game was an omen of things to come. Despite outings from Stamm and Cooper which were, though above average, not nearly as sharp as the previous weekend's, the team won through solid defense and good execution

on offense. For example, the margin of victory Saturday was provided with a walk, stolen base, sacrifice bunt, and sacrifice fly. Manager and new father (twins!!) John D'Auria was very pleased by this, pointing out that, since the Beavers are not as talented as many opponents, execution will be the key to success this year.

The outlook for the 1992 campaign is fairly bright. In four games, the team has played well overall, with only a few minor lapses. However, the Beavers have been unable to practice outside for a week due to the weather, and practices in the gymnasium (arena baseball??) are but poor substitutes. With the weekend off, the team's challenge will be to resume their intensity after the long layoff.



John Stamm pitches against the Burbank Cobras. Photo by Rajesh "Q" Bilmoria.



Brian Duchovny rounds home plate to put one up on the scoreboard for the Beavers. The Beavers were victorious with a final score of 4-3. Photo by Rajesh "Q" Bilmoria.

SCOREBOX

Standing

Men's Swimming		
vs. Occidental	L 102-112	3-6
vs. Claremont-Mudd	L 58-153	
Women's Swimming		
vs. Occidental	L 30-166	0-9
vs. Claremont-Mudd-Scripps	L 34-165	
Basketball		
vs. Redlands	L 69-93	
vs. Claremont-Mudd	L 56-74	5-18
Baseball		
vs. Burbank Cobras	W 4-3	1-2
Golf		
vs. Cal Lutheran	L 429-463	1-2
Women's Tennis		
vs. PCC	W 6-3	1-0
Men's Tennis		
vs. La Verne	W 7-2	2-0

This Week In Caltech Sports

Track

2/22/92 10:00 A.M. at Pomona-Pitzer

Swimming

2/21-23/92 12:00 P.M. at Cerritos

Golf

2/24/92 1:00 P.M. vs. Pomona-Pitzer
2/27/92 1:00 P.M. at La Verne

Basketball

2/22/92 5:30 P.M. JV vs. Occidental
7:30 P.M. V vs. Occidental
2/24/92 6:30 P.M. JV vs. Whittier JV
8:30 P.M. V vs. Whittier V
2/27/92 5:30 P.M. at Cal Lutheran
7:30 P.M. at Cal Lutheran

Baseball

2/22/92 10:00 A.M. vs. Whittier
2/25/92 2:30 P.M. vs. Cal Poly Pomona JV
2/28/92 2:30 P.M. at Pomona-Pitzer

Men's Tennis

2/22/92 1:00 P.M. at Whittier

Women's Tennis

2/22/92 10:00 A.M. at Mira Costa
2/26/92 3:00 P.M. at Mira Costa



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will conduct

On-Campus Interviews
Thursday, February 27th

If you miss us on February 27th, send your resume to: Quantum Corporation, Human Resources Dept., 500 McCarthy Blvd., Milpitas, CA 95035. We are an equal opportunity employer.

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NOTICES

Music of Our Time - Mu36 is being offered in the spring term. The Course will focus on such notable composers of the recent past as Stravinsky, Bartok, and Schoenberg, and composers whose music is widely heard today such as Glass, Adams, and Corliano. The course will include attendance at live music concerts and a field trip to an electronic music studio to witness the production of music for a TV program or film. No music experience is necessary.

TACIT auditions for "The Documents in the Case" adapted from the book by Dorothy Sayers and Robert Eustace will be held on Saturday, Feb. 22 and Sunday, Feb. 23 from noon until 6:00 p.m. in Baxter rm 25. All interested students, staff, faculty and other members of the Caltech community are welcome.

Fun, Fun, Fun - Sign-ups for the Don Shepard Fun Fund for 2nd term are happening now. Sign-up before February 28th at the Res. Life/Mosh Office. The fun part is up to you!

EVENTS

Mountain Bike Trip III - The Caltech Y is holding its third "tune-up" mountain bike trip (2-21-92) as a precursor to the Y's Spring Break Mountain Bike Trip (March 26-28). If you'd like to be a part of either ride, come by the Y and sign up! The February 21st ride starts at 1:30 p.m.

The Caltech chapter of SEDS (Students for the Exploration and Development of Space) will be holding a meeting on Monday, February 24th at 7:30 pm in SAC room 35. We will be discussing plans for our upcoming tour of Edwards AFB on Friday, February 28th as well as our ice cream social to be held at the end of the term. We will also discuss the state of our technical projects, our educational outreach program, and regional and national SEDS events. We plan to show a NASA shuttle video after the meeting. All members of the Caltech community are invited. For more information please contact Jeff Foust at 449-1345 or email jafoust@cco.

African-American Art Exhibit - Come and join the fun at the African-American Art Exhibit in Dabney Hall on Feb. 28th and 29th from noon till 6:00 p.m. There will be not only art, but also music as well as fun. The Caltech Y invites you to join them.

The Man With a Movie Camera (1929), Dziga Vertov's unsurpassed masterpiece of documentary, will be screened as part of the Film Program's Soviet Film series at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25 in Baxter Lecture Hall. The subject of the film is a day in the life of the Soviet union, but through Vertov's revolutionary and unsurpassed techniques of editing, *The Man With a Movie Camera* becomes a stunning exploration of how one makes a film about a day in the life of a country. Admission Free.

The Hudson Vagabond Puppets will present "Cinderella" on Saturday, March 7 at 2p.m. in Beckman Auditorium. This is a Family Faire Series event designed especially for children and their families. The Hudson Vagabond Puppets act, sing and dance in fully staged productions with original music and choreography. The puppets are manipulated by actor/puppeteers clad in black, a performing style influenced by the ancient Japanese Bunraku tradition. This event will be ASL interpreted. Tickets to the Hudson Vagabond Puppets are \$8.50 for Adults and \$4.50 for children. Tickets can be purchased at the Caltech Ticket Office and all Ticketmaster locations.

LECTURES

Luise Engelhardt - Guatemalan Lecture The Caltech Y is hosting Luise Engelhardt in the Wes Hershey Lounge (Y lounge) on Feb. 26th at 7:30 p.m. Come and join us in Luise's "Journey Home" in which she discusses and explores the world of Guatemalan refugees.

Discovering Columbus - Mr. John Noble Wilford, the *New York Times* science correspondent and author of *The Mysterious History of Columbus*, will deliver the lecture on Monday, Feb. 24, at 4:00 p.m. in the Judy Library.

Conflict and Persuasion in the Quantum Revolution: Bohr, Heisenberg and Schrodinger will be presented by Professor Mara Belli of The Hebrew University, Jerusalem on Thursday, Feb. 27, in the Judy Library at 4:00 p.m. as part of the series on Science, Ethics and Public Policy.

INTERNSHIPS

A Caltech alumnus, Elizabeth McLeod Yeltzterman, is looking for someone to work in her lab this summer at the University of West Florida. Her research is in microbiology. Contact the Dean's Office, 102 Parsons-Gates; also see below.

Monticello Foundation Internships - The Deans' Office is accepting proposals for the Monticello Foundation Internship. Three Caltech undergraduate women (current freshmen, sophomores and juniors) will be given an opportunity to participate in research projects outside the Caltech community for ten weeks during the summer. Each student will receive a \$3,500 stipend. Applicants are required to identify the projects in which they wish to participate. All arrangements with the principal researcher will be the responsibility of the student. The application deadline is March 2.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

Rotary Club of Los Angeles is offering a \$2,000 per year scholarship to current sophomores and juniors who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. You must have a 3.0 GPA. The scholarship is based on merit, need, leadership and participation in a community service. Deadline to submit applications to the Financial Aid Office is March 2, 1992.

The Myrtle & Earl Walker Scholarship and the **William E. Wiesel Scholarship** from the SME Manufacturing Engineering Education Foundation are available. Among the criteria for both scholarships are being a full-time student and attaining a minimum GPA of 2.75. All materials must be submitted by the postmarked deadline of March 1, 1992.

The Marin Education Fund announces the opening of their 1992-93 grant application process. For more details see the bulletin board outside the Bookstore or the bulletin board in the Financial Aid Office. The postmarked deadline is March 2, 1992.

The American Scandinavian Foundation of Los Angeles announces five scholarship awards for 1992 to upper and graduate students in business, arts, sciences and music with demonstrated interest in Scandinavia. Application deadline is March 15, 1992.

The National Federation of the Blind 1992 Scholarship Program is once again being offered. Applicants must be legally blind and pursuing or planning to pursue a full-time post-secondary education. All scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic excellence, service to the community, and financial need. The application must be received by the Federation by March 31, 1992.

The Financial Aid Office has information on how to obtain applications for the **Jewish Community Scholarship Fund** for the 1992-93 academic year. Scholarship recipients will also be eligible to apply for an interest free educational loan from the **Edward Meltzer Student Loan Fund**. Awards and loans are based on financial need. Deadline for submission of a completed application is April 1, 1992.

American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society (AESF) is offering scholarships for the 1992-93 academic year. Financial need is not a factor. Applicants should be majoring in Chemistry or the Engineering Sciences. The application and all requested information and documentation must be postmarked by April 15, 1992.

Seniors Only

Jonathan N. Liljeblad

The Rain Came, and Boy was I Soaked

Something about rain seems to make me pensive. You know, sitting in my chair staring out the window while my speakers are glowing with Copland's "Our Town."

Anyways, it ain't rainin' so bad no more, and tennis class FINALLY starts up again after 2 weeks of the most annoyingly wet courts ever witnessed in Caltech history ("Hey man, you ever seen so many dried leaves out there?"). So with all the sunshine, you'd expect a decent trip to the beach, except that it's completely laced with raw sewage and probably will be until the next good surf comes along. Yeah sure, midterms just weren't enough. Oh joy oh boy.

Which makes me wonder, what do they do in Bangladesh and Madagascar during monsoon season? I mean, considering that they've chewed up 90% of their rain forests in the past 15 years (for economic, political, and social reasons beyond the scope of this column), what happens to all their run-off? How much land are they losing annually? What are their populations doing to combat their problem? What's happening ecologically?

And of course now they're saying the whales are threatened not by rampaging Japanese whalers armed with fully-automatic harpoon guns but instead by all the toxic hazards the Western world is spitting out into the oceans (remember the bald eagle and DDT?).

In Burma (excuse me, Myanmar, yah right mon), the military junta has further opened Japanese access to the teak forests in an effort to jump-start the economy. Of course, American observers note that Japanese foresters are responsible for denuding most of the rain forests in the South and Central Pacific. No replanting, no resource management, no pattern cutting, just straight out and out rip, rape, and rumble.

So what do you do? Jump out and start powering through the vast cesspool of a mess that exists out there or bury your nose into that circuit analysis (or molecular biology, or gravitation, or Fermat, or robotics, or whatever)?

But enough of the large scale. I suppose that in all reality we have enough problems here on our own to keep busy for quite some time to come. I mean, it's not every day that these Southern California sprinkles actually turn into something respectable. The only thing missing from last week was thunder and lightning and good old-fashioned root-em-up and shred 'em good tornadoes. Pretty exciting, especially with the nutcakes on the road still doing 90 while hydroplaning. Heyyyyyy, sounds like something for CE111 to check out...

Actually, you know, every rainstorm is the perfect opportunity to pull out "Singin' in the Rain" and grab an umbrella and go out into the street and dance up a storm like Gene Kelly, sopping wet but smiling away. Feeling all that water pouring all over you, the drains just gushing through your clothes, the cop looking at you like you're a nutcake. Yeah, put on the hat and suit, lace up the wingtips, and start twirling in the showers of rain. *'Jes singin' and dancin' in the rain....*

Mmmmm...

And the mountains lie over the horizon with the clouds in misted view lying low over the hills while the showers pour in the still afternoon air...and all the while the leaves on the trees time the time like drip...drip...drip...as the clouds roll away over the mountains sitting faceless above. After the storm is the silence of the dusk, and after the rain is the quiet of the earth. Like the lifting of the gray, like the ascendance of the dawn, everything is still once again.

*"Nuthin' comes from dreamin' 'cept but dreams,
Nuthin' comes from talkin' 'cept but sound,
We can think all we want too,
But the world still goes around and 'round and 'round."*

-Tevin Campbell
- "Round and Round"



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