

"All is for the best in this best of all possible worlds."

# The California **TECH**



Volume XCVI, Number 28

Pasadena, California

Friday, May 26, 1995



Scott Van Essen, Fritz Kruger, Philip Rodriguez, Kent Bradford, Ching Liu, Lara Hughes, and Chris Springfield plan an assassination.

## TACIT Assassins Invade Caltech

by Kelly Cowles

Several Caltech students are starring in TACIT's latest production, *Assassins*. Freshman Phillip Rodriguez III, junior Ching Liu, senior Scott Van Essen, and graduate students Lara Hughes, Kent Bradford, Fritz Kruger, Chris Springfield, and Ted Turocy star in this musical about people who have killed or tried to kill American presidents. The musical is directed by Caltech 1986 alumnus Richard Doherty.

*Assassins* presents the contro-

versial theory that our American presidential killers may be the best examples of the American Dream—those that strive for and achieve their goals in the pursuit of happiness. Through song, dance, and dialog, *Assassins* details the lives and motivations of those individuals who have attempted to assassinate a United States president.

The theatrical show includes a fair bit of sarcasm and comedy, which may prove disquieting for some. Nevertheless, the overall presentation strives for historical

accuracy and allows the viewer to pass the ultimate judgements.

*Assassins* was written by John Weidman, with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim.

*Assassins* will be presented in Dabney Lounge on the Caltech campus. The May 26-28 and June 2-3 showings are at 8 p.m.; the May 29 and June 4 showings are at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$6 for students. For tickets and information, please call the Caltech Ticket Office at (818)395-4652 for (800)423-8849.

## International Day Celebrated

by Gypsy Achong

International Day was held on Friday, May 19th from 4-6 p.m. on the Olive Walk. The Caltech Y organized the event with financial support from the Y, ASCIT, GSC and Student Affairs. About 1500 people attended. Korea, Vietnam, China, Hong Kong, the Indian subcontinent, Greece, France, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Dominican

Republic were represented by members of the Caltech Community. All had tables with great food (including bright red ceremonial rice from Vietnam). The Greek and Chinese table had posters of their countries. Canada had a photo layout (and two flags of course). The Vietnamese students even dressed in typical ceremonial clothes which were made with very colorful, delicately embroidered fabrics. The Caribbean table had some interest-

ing books available for perusal and some photos of the scenery and people. Celebrations of Carnival (which is held the Monday and Tuesday before Ash Wednesday) and Divali (a Hindu festival of lights) were highlighted.

Entertainment began with a demonstration by the Caltech Karate Club, followed by a Tai Chi demonstration by Ming Zhu. The mood changed with Korean dancers from the

SEE "INTERNATIONAL," PAGE 7

## Caltech Tang Soo Do Team Joins Elite

by Nicky Impert

Friday, May 5th was a special day for the Caltech Tang Soo Do Club; seniors William Glenn and Ricardo Hassan completed their black belt testing at Lake Tahoe. Instructor Cristopher Pasqualino

was thus able to see his second and third students travel through all the color belt ranks, though official results will not be in until later.

After the testing, the club members celebrated until the early hours of the morning. De-

spite the lack of sleep, the Caltech team still managed to do quite well. Over half of Caltech's team members placed in individual competitions, which are divided by rank and weight class. In the black belt candidate division, Ricardo Hassan placed third in forms. Wayne Yoshida placed first in forms and Lawrence Chu placed second in weapons forms in the red belt division while in the brown belt division, Steven Padilla placed third in weapons forms. Patrick Ogle placed third in forms for orange belts.

To top it all off, Caltech's Tang Soo Do demo team placed second in the creativity division. In this competition, Caltech has again expanded its reputation for excellent demo teams. This reputation arose when a Caltech demo team placed third in the creativity category in the world tournament in 1992, placing only behind the Netherlands and Great Britain.

## KELROF Race Begins Tomorrow

by Tom Dmukauskas

It's time to stop the trash talk! The twenty-four-hour mammoth race is upon us!

There is a lot of last minute mayhem surrounding the track team. Dan Kleiman has (as of Monday night) elected to bypass KELROF in favor of a 3 week rest period. Brad Nakatani has declared that if there is no track KELROF team, he will do a 2-man team. His first choice for a partner—a 2-man veteran from last year, Chris Cary. What has gotten into this boy's head?

In other news, judging from the house sign-ups, Lloyd is going to have a couple of teams and Dabney is pulling together a 6-8 person team. Kumar is spreading a rumor that some Fleming seniors may be interested in doing KELROF while attempting to gain membership to the 10-liter club. A few words of warning to these soon-to-be-discombobulated souls: vomit in the outside lanes! Going beyond house boundaries, rumor has it that the ASCIT BOD might have a team in the works. As they have provided the majority of our funding, the KELROF staff implore them to come out and enjoy its fruits.

Speaking of fruit, that is only one of many luscious gastronomical options planned for runners. There will be as many granola bars, bagels, cereals, Gatorade, soda, juice, sandwich materials and other goodies as our budget permits. There will be tents pro-

vided to keep weary athletes from wilting in the heat. Remember, though, that it does get cold at night, so bring your sweat clothes.

An approximate schedule of KELROF events:

**8:00 A.M.:**

Tom will try to call someone on each team so that all team members may be given ample time to rise and shine. Volunteers will also begin setting up the tents and food out by the track. Any other early risers are welcome to help us out.

**8:45 A.M.:**

Everybody planning to run KELROF should be at the track now. The past couple of years, the race has gone off late due to tardy arrivals. If you do not have a team yet, come on down and you will get one. Extra batons will be available if you do not bring your own.

**9:00 A.M.:**

The gun (or whistle, or somebody shouting "START") will go off...

**9:01 A.M.:**

Everybody begins laughing at Brad and Chris.

**SUNDAY, 9:00 A.M.:**

KELROF ends. Everybody says that they will never do KELROF again.

**MAY 1996:**

Everybody has forgotten the pain of last year.

Even if you are not planning to run, come out and help the trainers and timers and grab a piece of the hype. See you there!

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## Submit your Ditch Day Abstracts!

The *California Tech* is seeking abstracts and pictures from last week's Ditch Day. The editors wish to create a four-page, pull-out section describing each stack and displaying interesting pictures. This means that one person from each stack, either a creator or a solver, needs to write a one-paragraph abstract describing the stack and email it to [editors@tech](mailto:editors@tech). The editors will be making the rounds at dinner to ensure that each stack has someone to write an abstract.

## OPEN HOUSE WITH AVERY ARCHITECTS

**TODAY!!!**

**1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Steele House - 355 S. Holliston**

See plans, sketches and models of Avery House and hear the architects describe some of the features of the House. Students, Faculty, and staff welcome.

# Official IHC Minutes of 5/23/95

**Committee members present:** Thomas J. Maccarone, chairman; Laura E. Brady, secretary; Alison E. Slemp, Blacker president; Guillermo Castillo, Dabney president; Brian Katon, Fleming president; Nestor A. Ocampo, Lloyd president; Michael J. Vogel, Page president; A. Arthur Clarke, Ricketts president; and Adil Karim, Ruddock president  
**Esteemed Guests:** Mr. Thomas Mannion, Caltech housing director; Mr. Biff Yamazaki, Caltech

Undergraduate housing coordinator.  
 Mr. Yamazaki approaches the IHC in hopes that the spaces which he has need of for SURF this summer will be divided fairly among the houses. As a result of Fleming's renovations, Fleming requests 5 spots in Ricketts, 19 spots in Blacker, and 3 in Ruddock. The SURF students are given spaces in Ruddock, Page, Dabney (including off campus), and possibly Lloyd off campus.

Numbers will be crunched once more communication has gone on between the presidents and the secretaries. Fleming asks for some late stay privileges and Mr. Yamazaki assures Mr. Katon that this "will be worked out". Housing in Marks-Braun is a possibility but not likely.  
 The housing office will be making more dumpsters available for rubble from Ditch Day, as well as wheelbarrows. If your stack or one that you know would be good for the parents to see at commencement please speak to Mr. Mannion.  
 Mr. Mannion and Mr. Yamazaki depart at 11:26 p.m.  
 Mr. Clarke proposes that the IHC set some rules governing summer roompicks. Several proposals are discussed and Mr. Maccarone agrees to clean up

some of the points made so they can be made into official bylaws.  
 Mr. Katon notes that the interhouse trophy that was last reported seen in the basement of Noyes. It is still at large. Please return it if you have it.  
 There exists no tie-breaker policy in the little t for the Interhouse trophy, and it is suggested that first the teams head to head records be compared then their records versus the third place finisher.  
 The final faculty student committee interviews are this week. The final list of the committees will be published in next week's Tech and posted in all the houses and on Winnett.  
 The meeting adjourns at 12:03 p.m.  
 Respectfully submitted  
 Laura Brady, IHC Secretary

## Deadlines for Submission

- Letters to the Editor— 8 P.M. Monday
- Events and Notices— 8 P.M. Tuesday
- Unsolicited Articles— 8 P.M. Tuesday
- Regular Columns— 11 P.M. Tuesday
- Articles, News Submissions— 11 P.M. Tuesday
- Art/Photo Submissions— 8 P.M. Wednesday

## Work for The Tech!

12:15, Fridays, Coffeehouse

## Letters to the Editor

Dear California Tech:

In your editorial "Take a Number, Please," you referred to the Housing Office as you were describing a number system for off-campus room picks. Going right to the point, our office does not perform this function. The Office of Residence Life runs the undergrad room assignment. While our offices work together in many areas, and benefit from cooperation with one another, Housing is not actively involved in the processes you described and is not in a position to answer your concerns and questions.

Tom Mannion  
 Director of Housing

The author of the editorial, Wei-Hwa Huang (whose signature was mysteriously omitted last week), apologizes for this oversight.  
 -eds.

Dear California Tech:

I recently read through the May 19 issue of the California

Tech and must express my disgust at the "Don't Get Screwed" ad appearing on page 10. This is in the poorest taste. Getting screwed is not a joke and should not be treated as such by members of the press. I sincerely hope you can come up with more responsible methods for increasing your staff in the future.

Adam Villani, M.G.

We would like to announce that no one was screwed in the production of last week's advertisement. The Tech editorial team does not, in fact, use screwing as a method of getting new "staff" members.  
 -eds.

Please send submissions for letters to the editor to The California Tech, Caltech 40-58, Pasadena, CA 91125, or by electronic mail to editors@tech.caltech.edu. Deadline for submissions is Monday at 5pm on the week of publication.  
 The editors reserve the right to edit or refuse to print any letter for any reason.

## Scientific Motivation - A Quick Poll

by Dave Relyea

**Quick background:** I came to Caltech on the presupposition that I wanted to be a "scientist," most likely a physicist or a chemist. When I first returned home from Caltech, many of my former teachers asked me why I had chosen to become a scientist. Although many answers immediately came to mind, none of them seemed to be an overriding reason for me to have chosen science over any other career. I'm good at things besides science and math, and I presumably could make just as much (or more) money in a non-scientific career. After having been at Caltech for two years, I've found that many of my original reasons for wanting to become a scientist have changed. Thus, I wish to poll the campus on a simple question:

### Why were/are you motivated to choose "science" as your career?

**Bonus question:** If you have chosen to do something other than science as a career, then why have you done so? (Here I assume that you originally chose to do science as your career. If you didn't then this poll really isn't applicable to you. Sorry.)

**Details:** These questions are open to all members of the Caltech community - I want to hear from graduate students and professors in addition to undergraduates. To answer this poll, please email me at relyea@cco or send a written response to me (Box 765). I intend to print the results of this poll in next week's Tech (deadline Wednesday), so I'd appreciate submissions on or before Tuesday. It will only take you a few minutes to respond to this poll (unless you want to put deep thought into it), and it might be very interesting to see why most of the people at the California Institute of Technology have chosen a scientific career. I'm sorry if anyone feels that this is a meaningless poll that I shouldn't put in the Tech, but I thought that the motivation behind our career goals was something in which everybody here would be interested. Thanks.



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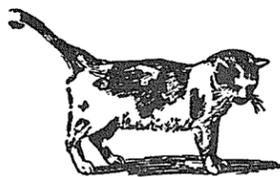
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<p><b>COPY EDITOR</b> Shay Chinn</p> <p><b>LAYOUT EDITORS</b> Mason Porter Stephen Van Hooser</p> <p><b>EVENTS AND NOTICES</b> Terry Moran</p> <p><b>BUSINESS MANAGER</b> Francisco Gutiérrez</p> <p><b>BUSINESS STAFF</b> Heidi Eldenburg</p> <p><b>CIRCULATION</b> Shay Chinn Robert J. Johnson Lydia McKay</p> <p><b>PHOTOGRAPHER</b> Samantha Foster</p>	<p><b>CONSULTANT</b> Wei-Hwa Huang</p> <p><b>STAFF WRITERS</b> Zack Berger Michael Kantner</p> <p><b>FEATURE WRITERS</b> Wei-Hwa Huang Robert Rossi S&amp;M Adam Villani</p> <p><b>CONTRIBUTORS</b> Laura Brady David Relyea Tophier Hunter</p> <p><b>RODENT BOY</b> Sid Padmanabha</p> <p><b>ADVISOR</b> Hall Daily</p>
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## Mmmm, Kitties: A Social Commentary

by J. Random HercFrosh III and Lauren



**Today's Target:** Cat lovers. Specifically those yellow bellied, PC, liberal communists who criticized the *California Tech* for strangling little tasty, baby kitty cats. Mmmmm, donuts, er, cats.

We here at Social Commentary love cats. We love them broiled. We love them on a rotisserie. We love them in pot pies, in stew, even in quiche. Yep, that's right. Real writers eat quiche. As we said, it's especially tasty with cats. Oh, and cats make fine burgers. They are a fantastic substitute for beef. Particularly the young ones. Before they mature, their flesh is still tender and moist - not at all like the chewy, stringy mature cat.

Which brings us to the heart of the matter - how much we enjoy slaughtering cats. Well, kittens really, but that's not important. Actually, we derive pleasure from killing all sorts of animals: dogs, horses, bunnies, birdies, frosh, spotted owls, bald eagles. You get the idea. Actually, maybe 'slaughtering' isn't the right word. Torturing to the point of death and beyond would be more correct.

One of our favorite tortures is to make kitties read our articles. And, always being the eco-

conscious earth-friendly people we are, we like to recycle kitties, usually in edible forms. Though it's not on the menu, certain coffee house waiters will readily make us a kitten quesadilla, or even an extra-thick kitten shake. Though we do endorse the choking of kittens, this is not our preferred method of extermination. The best way is to hog-tie kitties and roast them over an open fire live — kind of like lobsters, but mammals. And the kitty has already gotten too tough and chewy for food, they also make good firewood. Freezing them in liquid nitrogen and tossing them off Millikan is an old classic — they actually do give off a blue flash, unlike pumpkins. Also form the other side of Millikan you can win bonus points if you hit the whirling blades of death! Rumors persist that Scurves used to funnelate new-born kittens into Blacker, but any proof of this has been lost. It's so sad when traditions die, but perhaps this one can be revived. And for those desperate thrill-seekers who've lost their bungee cords, cat's intestines work well. Just slice open a live cat, tie one end of its entrails to the bridge, hang onto the cat for dear life, and jump. Warning — do not try this

at home, unless, of course, you happen to have a bridge in your house.

Okay were tired now, maybe we'll share some tried and true, down home cookin' kitty recipes next week.

**P.S.** The backspace key doesn't work on this keyboard and plus there's more trash on this computer. The recycle bin is full. But users take note. There is a gray piece of paper in the bin. Oh sure, some will say it's just shadow, but we enlightened individuals know the truth. Bill Gates and his evil clan are disposing of non-white paper in the recycle bin. Heresy! There is simply no excuse for failing to properly segregate your paper. Until this offending icon is corrected we ask that all users refuse to take part in the Windows '95 experiment. Solidarity is the key to victory.

**P.P.S.** Several animals were harmed in the filming of this article, and there's not a damn thing you can do about it!

**P.P.P.S.** Ditch Day is tomorrow, frosh!

**P.P.P.P.S.** Special thanx to The Black Death for his contributions to this article.

# YNEWS

by Donna Ebenstein

To start off your Memorial Day Weekend right, Agent Shocking, the next band in our noon concert series, will be playing outside Winnett today. Bring your lunch and listen to some good music.

If you haven't finalized your plans for the weekend, remember that the Caltech Y rents camping equipment and sells discount tickets to Disneyland, Magic Mountain, Universal Studios, and many of the local movie theaters. Take advantage of these great deals and go out and have fun on your day off.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to International Day—it was a great success. If you have any suggestions for improvements next year, be sure to drop by the Y and let us know.

Have a great three-day weekend!

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# ADAM VILLANI: MEDIA GUY

by Adam Villani



## *Die Hard With a Vengeance*

I had a great time watching the third installment of Fox's popular *Die Hard* series, starring Bruce Willis. As expected, the explosions and stunts were great and the plot leapt around like a jumping bean, but what was particularly appealing about this one was how its premise seemed like a Ditch Day stack without the honor code — Willis and co-star Samuel L. Jackson (*Pulp Fiction*, *Jungle Fever*) have to perform bizarre tasks and solve various puzzles or else a mad bomber, played by Jeremy Irons (*Dead Ringers*, *Reversal of Fortune*), would blow up more parts of New York City.

The ending is somewhat anticlimactic and the editing seems choppy at times, but thankfully there wasn't anything that really annoyed me about this movie. The first one managed to do the impossible by painting the LAPD as being so stupid as to be unbelievable, and the second's entire premise was preposterous (why didn't they just land the planes somewhere else?) But *Die Hard 3* is a welcome change from the "Bruce Willis stands alone in one location on Christmas" structure that had become cliché. Better than the second, not quite as good as the first.

## *Various Artists, Trans Slovenia Express*

This is a tribute album to seminal German techno band Kraftwerk, who more or less invented synth-pop in the 70s, by various industrial bands out of the former Yugoslav republic of Slovenia. As with many various-artists compilations, the results range from sublime (Borghesia's "Ohm Sweet Ohm") to downright lousy (Demolition Group's "The Model.") The problem is that Kraftwerk presented us with a sanitary, anesthetized, mechanic future-world while industrial music is much more overtly negative and threatening, despite having evolved from the more Utopian Kraftwerk. Not surpris-

SEE "MORE MEDIA GUY," PAGE 5

## Official ASCIT Minutes of 5/17/95

*Present:* The BOD minus Kanna (late), Kim Komisarek, Renny, Steve "ASCIT" Van Hooser, a zillion interview candidates

⊕ Meeting starts at 4:02 p.m. A bunch of anxious, worried interview candidates are standing in the doorway and refuse to sit down. The doorway is entirely blocked, preventing people from entering and exiting SAC 64. Oddly enough, the Pasadena Fire Marshall doesn't shut the room down.

⊕ Kim says that the Movies have roughly 168 people per movie (for the entire night). Kim is hunting Hack for possession of the Movies' financial records and checkbook. In the interim (I personally have never been in an interim — have you?), Kim started a temporary account, and she only has records from third term.

⊕ Renny requests multihouse money for Blacker for third term. Kanna isn't here, and the BOD asks Renny to come back (or find Kanna). Later, Kanna adds that Page also requested multihouse funding.

⊕ Steve presents the Tech compensation schedule. The BOD reviews the schedule in its entirety (and what a lovely entirety) and passes it 6-0-2. The BOD later moves to approve the salaries of the Tech workers 5-1-2. (Did we do this twice? Oops. Well, at least it passed both times)

⊕ INTERVIEWS OCCUR HERE. You'd really like to hear what happened here, but I'm not going to tell you.

⊕ Jon McDunn, ASCIT President, does hereby apologize to Connie-Lynne Villani for opening a packet of hot sauce in her car.

⊕ Greg says the Caltech C requested money for International Day. Earlier, the BOD decided to let the Y do the funding for International Day, so we deny the Caltech C's request.

⊕ Steve, Francisco, and Gavin all enter.

⊕ Melissa asks if she has anything to do besides the UROH. Jon reiterates that the duties of the "Freshman" Director at Large (Melissa's 19, and Dave is only 18, so I think freshman isn't a fitting phrase) at whatever she makes them to be.

⊕ Laura asks what pudos and garts are. The old copier is going away to copier heaven (or perhaps copier hell). The Van is getting a spare tire because the CCF left the uninflated, rimless tire that had been in the Van in Ruddock driveway.

⊕ Greg says that 100 students are going to the Formal. Greg sent fliers to every member of the faculty about the Formal. ASCIT was required to pay to use Dabney Lounge for the Pre-frosh party.

⊕ Adam Villani shows up and vehemently denies that he is in fact the husband of Connie-

Lynne Villani.

⊕ Ken and the ARC asked the registrar if the ARC could help out at pre-reg., and the registrar said no. Registration has been changed - consult your house ARC rep or look at the nifty fliers all over campus.

⊕ Ken also brings up the point that the Student Handbook has been changed in an important way. Students are no longer allowed to register for courses that conflict with each other. Hopefully, the administration will be lenient about enforcing this rule, but students who are brought before UASH should beware. These are the times to sell treadmills. Try men's souls. Whatever. Ken promises to do the ASCIT teaching awards soon.

⊕ Kanna contacted Mike Radford and will mail him a W-4. Kanna also strongly requests double signatures on the Movies account, and although some members of the BOD view this as an unnecessary inconvenience, nobody forces the point.

⊕ Dave will do sign-ups for class officers soon. Dave will also put a little blurb in the Tech. Did that.

⊕ James asks why the Tech, which now has surplus money (they will finish the last payment on a \$6000/year loan next year), claims that the Inside World is unaffordable.

(We have made no such claim.—eds.)

Here you go.  
David Relyea ASCIT Secretary.

## TAKING STEPS TOWARD THE FUTURE...

*Those of us at Oracle would like to extend a warm welcome to the newest members of our corporation.*

**Arsalan Farooq**  
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**Jiho Hahm**  
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HI, THIS IS DILBERT. IT'S 4 A.M. AND I'M IN MY UNDERWEAR AND I THOUGHT OF YOU... OOPS... ERASE... OOPS...

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NO... I THINK I HIT THE GROUP CODE.

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I WROTE A DRAFT OF A WHITE PAPER ON A STRAWMAN PROCESS TO REENGINEER OUR PRODUCT PROCESS.

AND WHAT WAS THE IMPACT OF THAT WORK?

I THINK SOME OWLS LOST THEIR WOODLAND HABITATS.

YOU MUST LEARN TO USE YOUR BOSS'S IGNORANCE TO YOUR ADVANTAGE.

FIND OUT WHAT IMPRESSES HIM AND LIST IT ON YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

YOU'RE THE ACTOR IN THE "BARNEY" SUIT?! I LOVE THAT GUY!

DON'T TELL ANYBODY MY SECRET IDENTITY.

IN MY DREAM I FLOAT OVER FIELDS OF HEATHER.

THE FLYING DREAM ALWAYS PREDICTS AN IMPORTANT CHANGE. I FEEL THAT MY FREEDOM WILL SOON INCREASE.

DOES SOMEBODY ELSE HAVE A QUESTION FOR OUR NEW CEO?

MY FINGER IS STUCK.

## MORE MEDIA GUY

FROM PAGE 4

ingly, it is the bands which stayed closer to Kraftwerk's original vision that come off better on this collection—a notable exception being Mitja V.S.'s bizarre upbeat Eastern European hoe-down take on "Neon Lights" with the Enzo Fabiani Quartet. As the most well-known group on the album, Laibach contributed two of their own compositions to the record, but as usual, their Teutonic posturings could be taken better if I knew they were a joke. This album bears looking into for anyone interested in Kraftwerk or industrial music.

### The Perez Family

Mira Nair's (*Mississippi Masala*) newest film is a mixed bag that tells an interesting original story, features great photography and good performances, but nevertheless seems patchy and inconsistent, making for a somewhat disappointing affair. It stars Marisa Tomei (aka the most gorgeous woman working in Hollywood today and a pretty good actress, too) and Alfred Molina as Cuban refugees (ouch—watch that accent, Marisa) in 1980 Miami; Tomei and Molina fortuitously both have the same last name and thus pretend to be husband and wife, since families are given priority for obtaining a host from the immigration service. Molina's real wife in the movie (Anjelica Huston) has been in Miami for twenty years waiting for him, but her brother seems intent on keeping the two of them apart. The tone of the film shifts from comedic to dramatic to dreamlike, distracting the audience enough to make us wonder about the characters' motivations: "Why doesn't Molina just talk to his real wife?" "Why is his brother-in-law such a jerk anyway?" Tomei (*My Cousin Vinny*) once again manages to find the human side of a character we might otherwise just find annoying. The supporting performances are all good too, and shouldn't be faulted for the stilted dialogue they have to recite. This film has a lot going for it and is entertaining, but just feels weak in retrospect.

### Media Guy on the Web

Check out my primitive home page at <http://www.ugcs.caltech.edu/~addam/> even though about all it has is a link to the Pasadena Area Movies Guide maintained at <http://www.ugcs.caltech.edu/~benedett/movies/> by Mike Benedetti and myself.

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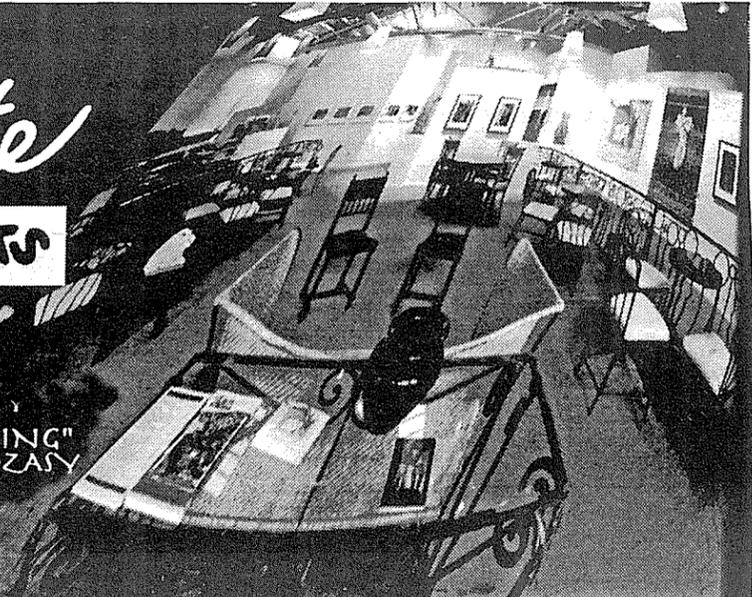
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There are times when we're walking down the street, just minding our own business, and some guy in a trenchcoat comes up to us and says, "Pssst! Hey, wanna buy a Rolex? It's real!" But that's not important right now. Other times, when we're walking down the street, just minding our own business, children will approach us and ask for our autograph. We always give them a thrill by letting them write the '&'. They exclaim their envy for our world-renown, and predict a bright future for themselves when they grow up to be columnists. "Why not start today?", we always ask. "I can't think of anything to write about", they reply, "How do you two come up with your ideas?"

When that happens, we just look at each other and smile. If they persist, we'll grab back the autograph and rip it up and tell them to get lost. But usually they just figure that we're flashing back to the 60's, and leave us alone. Ahhh, the 60's. We don't remember any of it. But it sure looked screwy. Glad we were too young to participate. Now, the 70's! That's a whole different

story. Every so often, Marc likes to put on a pair of his old corduroy pants, which he usually can't pull up past his knees, and listen to the "Saturday Night Fever" soundtrack. Stayin' alive! Stayin' alive!

But we digress. How do we come up with so many wonderful ideas for our columns? Could it be our massive list of potential column topics, currently numbering over a dozen different possible subjects? Could it be the desperation borne out of contractual obligations to our national syndicate? Maybe it's the theft of truly innovative ideas from more talented people. But whatever the source, one thing remains true: we have yet to lose a court case based on the theme or content of a single column. Even that one from a few years ago, "Why Foreigners Are Ruining Our Lives Almost As Badly As Americans." Boy, were we in a bad mood when we wrote that! Anyway, below are just a few of the many sources we rely upon for inspiration.

① **The Newspaper:** When we read

the paper, we don't just glance at the first page! No, intrepid columnists such as ourselves have utilized every page of the paper at one time or another. From

# S & M

by Sharon & Marc

prize-winning exposés like "Fast Food: Is It Fast Enough?" to our more whimsical "Garfield vs. Hobbes: Only One Will Leave Here Alive", we've relied on newspapers more than any other single source. Although, we readily admit that in our zeal to use 100% of the paper, we went a little too far with the poorly received "Broadway's Having A Sale, Friday Through Sunday."

② **Competing Columns:** In the cut-throat world of column-writing, either you keep tabs on your competition or they'll eat you alive, and these days they're probably using a microwave instead of those really large pots on an open fire. Sometimes we read

something from a competitor and just know that we could write an entire new column based on it. For instance, when we saw (and we're not making this up!) that Ann Landers needed to consult with a veterinarian to confirm that rabbits couldn't cross-breed with cats, we came out with "Dear Ann: Maybe If You Were Smarter, Most Of Your Readers Wouldn't Be White Trash." We actually got two columns out of it, although some people don't consider a public apology to fall into the category of "column". Another example, and one by which no one seemed to be greatly offended, was last year's "Ellen Snortland: Dedicated Feminist Woman, or Incredibly Misguided Man?" Although our syndication deal with the Pasadena Weekly was abruptly terminated. Probably coincidence!

③ **Dreams:** Ever have a really weird dream? Ever been so desperate to fill space in a weekly column that you wrote about it? Ever inadvertently caused a panic with the column, just 'cause you named it "The Aliens Are Coming To Kill Us All"? Well, uhh, neither have we. But we have written about some of our other dreams with great success ("Do You Really Die If You Die In A Dream?"), despite the fact that neither of us has any formal education in dream analysis ("Seems Like This Train Tunnel Will Never End").

④ **Television:** From general columns such as "The New Fall Season: What Is All This Junk?" to more focused pieces like "The Martin Short Show: What Kind Of Garbage Is This?", we've often been inspired by the "boob toob." Not only have we delved into the more obvious issues ("Leno vs. Letterman vs. O'Brien vs. Snyder vs. Stewart: What Happened To 'Thicke Of The Night?'"), but we never hesitate to go behind the screen, so to speak ("Are Magnets Manipulating Your Electron

Beans? Phosphor-Coated Screens Say 'Yes!'). Deep down, though, we still have some bad feelings about television, ever since the dismal failure of our public access cable call-in show, "S&M: Let's Talk." Those demographics were totally off! Although it sure didn't help that we got scheduled to follow "Dominatrix Chat".

⑤ **Marc's Cats:** Not always the best source of inspiration ("Meow. Purr, purr. Meow"), Marc's cats do occasionally provide greater insight into the world around us ("Spiders: Fun To Play With, But Not Very Tasty"). Most of the time, though, they just sleep in our laps while we write.

⑥ **Various Mystical Sources:** Okay, we admit it, we sometimes need to reach our columnly hand beyond the fabric of the known universe, and this practice has resulted in some of our more unusual outputs. Whether we've used Sharon's Magic Eight Ball ("Yes. No. Answer Hazy."), the Oracle at Delphi ("I've Been Dead For A Couple Thousand Years. Get Lost.") or even Madame Zelda from the Pasadena Psychic Factory ("I See You ... Sitting On The Other Side Of This Crystal Ball. That'll Be Ten Dollars."), our forays into the black arts never fail to provide us with confusing meanderings into questionable English.

That covers most of our sources. Naturally, not all of them can be revealed, due to their questionable origin ("Sharon, Sharon, Wherefore Art Thou Sharon?") or minor legal technicalities ("Nicky 'Chatty Weasel' Rigliano Ratted On The Boss, Vinnie 'King, Of Torturous Deaths' Garboni, And The Feds Stashed Him In The Motel Six In Fresno Until The Trial"). So, our loyal readership, you can feel secure in the knowledge that we will never run out of things to say. See you next week! ("Marc's Cats Walked On The Keyboard, And This Is What They Typed.")

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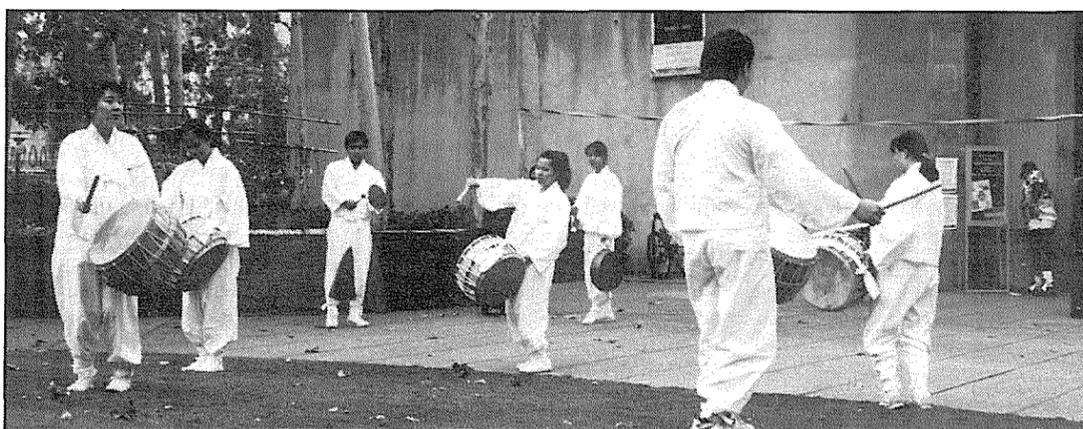
# INTERNATIONAL

FROM PAGE 1

Center for Korean Youth Culture. They danced to the rhythms of their drums which were carried with swathes of cloth around the shoulders and back. The display of energy by this group was invigorating. Then Thanh Ngn Tran, an undergraduate in chemical engineering, played a Vietnamese string instrument. The evening closed with some ca-

lypto and reggae played by the New Caribbean. Trinidad and Tobago's national musical instrument — steel pans — were featured. Us Caribbean types even got a few more staid types to join us in the dancing.

International Day was lots of fun for those who participated. It's a great opportunity to get to know people on campus from your own country. The Y is always looking for willing hands, so if you want to get involved call Chris at extension 6163.



Artistic Oriental dance was one of many beautiful displays on International Day.

STEPHEN VAN HOESER

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The Caltech Muslim Student Association will hold Muslim Friday Prayers weekly in the Y lounge at 12:15 p.m.

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**Events and Notices**

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Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Health Center Lounge. This confidential meeting is open to all Caltech community members looking for a supportive context in which to address questions and concerns about sexual orientation—including coming out, being out, self-discovery, coping with families...We begin with a focus topic but move to whatever is feeling most relevant to the group that night. Refreshments will be served. For information, please call 395-8331.

**Coming Events**

The Theater Arts of Caltech present their performance of **Assassins**, based on the book by John Weidman on May 26th, 27th, and 28th, June 2nd and 3rd, at 8 p.m. and May 29th and June 4th at 2 p.m. in the Dabney Lounge on the Caltech Campus. Tickets are available ahead of time through the Caltech Ticket Office (x4652, [tickets@caltech.edu](mailto:tickets@caltech.edu)); admission will be \$6 for students with ID, \$10 for general admission. Group rates are available.

The Asian American theatrical troupe **Here and Now** will be performing in a multimedia production of stories, drama, song and dance relating to the experiences of Asian Americans on Saturday, May 27th, at 7:00 p.m. in Baxter Lecture Hall. Choreographed to entertain a diverse audience, the 11 member cast alternately perform in a series of segments that address the state of Asians in today's world. A reception will follow the performance; admission is free. For more information, please contact Alex at [alexlin@cco.caltech.edu](mailto:alexlin@cco.caltech.edu), or at phone extension x1422.

**Club Announcements**

Caltech Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (SEDS) will be having its final meeting of the school year on Saturday, May 27th, at 4 p.m. in the Winnett

Clubroom #1. We will be electing officers and discussing end-of-term and summer activities. All members of the Caltech community are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Brad Dooley at x3285 or e-mail [seds@cco.caltech.edu](mailto:seds@cco.caltech.edu).

The Caltech Ballroom Dance Club **Friday beginning and intermediate SALSA classes** will be held this Friday, May 26th, in Winnett Lounge. Intermediate class is from 7 to 8:20 p.m., and beginning class is from 8:30 to 9:45 p.m. Taught by professional instructor Enio Cordoba, no experience needed for beginning class though six months prior dance experience is recommended for the intermediate class. No partner is required. There will be 2 more classes — June 2nd and June 9th. Registration is \$12 for Caltech students, employees, or JPLers, and \$24 otherwise (couples will be charged \$24 if one of the two is from Caltech or JPL). Come to the first class, even if you haven't yet registered! For more information, contact Bob Herman at [rherman@arms.gps.caltech.edu](mailto:rherman@arms.gps.caltech.edu), or at 393-4720.

The Caltech Ballroom Dance Club offers free beginning classes to all. Classes are Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Winnett Lounge. People are welcome to join the classes any time; no experience is required. Come with or without a partner. This week the club will hopefully be learning the cha-cha, and will do other dances in the future. For more information, contact Bob Herman at [rherman@arms.gps.caltech.edu](mailto:rherman@arms.gps.caltech.edu) or at 393-4720.

**Internships and Competitions**

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, established by Congress in 1975, is the official federal memorial to honor our thirty-third President. The Foundation awards \$30,000 merit-based scholarships to junior-level college students who wish to attend graduate school in

preparation for careers in government or elsewhere in public service. Scholars may attend graduate schools in the United States or in foreign countries. In 1996, up to 85 students will be awarded Truman Scholarships. They will receive leadership training, graduate school counseling, preferential admission and merit-based aid to some premier graduate institutions, and internship opportunities with federal agencies. Scholars are eligible to receive \$3,000 for the senior year of undergraduate education and \$27,000 for graduate studies. The Foundation defines public service as employment in government at any level, including uniformed services, public interest organizations, nongovernmental research and/or educational organizations, and public service oriented nonprofit organizations such as those whose primary purposes are to help needy or disadvantaged persons or to protect resources. The eligibility requirements are a full-time junior-level student at a four-year institution, committed to a career in public service as defined above, and in the upper quarter of his or her class, and a U.S. citizen. If interested, please contact the Dean of Students Office at 102 Parsons-Gates. The deadline is late November 1995.

**Fellowships and Scholarships**

The Financial Aid Office has applications and/or information on the following and additional scholarships. All qualified students are encouraged to apply. The Financial Aid Office is located at 515 S. Wilson, second floor.

Information and applications for 1995 Summer Work-Study are available in the Financial Aid Office. If you are interested in Summer Work-Study, please submit the required application as soon as possible, but **no later than June 1st, 1995**. Your entire financial aid application must be complete by June 1st to be con-

sidered. If awarded, the work-study funding will begin with the July 3rd payroll period.

Jewish Family and Children's Services announces the continued availability of financial support for Jewish individuals and their families. There are loans, grants and scholarships available, and students may qualify for up to \$5,000 in aid. The Financial Aid Office has a flyer and questionnaire that you can use to apply, or you can call (415) 561-1226. **There are no deadlines** and students may apply throughout the year.

The John Gyles Education Fund is again this year offering financial assistance to students in the United States. Canadian or American citizenship is a requirement. Awards are available for all areas of post-secondary study. A minimum GPA of 2.7 is required. Criteria other than strictly academic ability and financial need are considered in the selection process. Selected students will receive up to \$2,500. Deadlines for 1995 are **June 15th, and November 30th**. Applications must be mailed by those dates. Students may receive applications by sending their request, along with a self-addressed, stamped (US 32 cent) No. 10 envelope to: The John Gyles Education Fund, Attention: R. James Cogle, Administrator, P.O. Box 4808, 712 Riverside Dr., Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada E3B 5G4.

Summer Work-Study: Information and applications for 1995 Summer Work-Study are available in the Financial Aid Office. If you are interested in Summer Work-Study, please submit the required application as soon as possible, but no later than June 1, 1995. Your entire financial aid application must be complete by June 1 to be considered. If awarded, the work-study funding will begin with the July 3rd payroll period.

The Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations announces three \$1,000 scholarships and six \$100 scholarships available to students at Caltech. To receive an application, you must come to the Financial Aid Office to pick up a COHEAO postcard. The postcard must be submitted by April 1, 1995. The complete application is due to COHEAO on **June 1, 1995**.

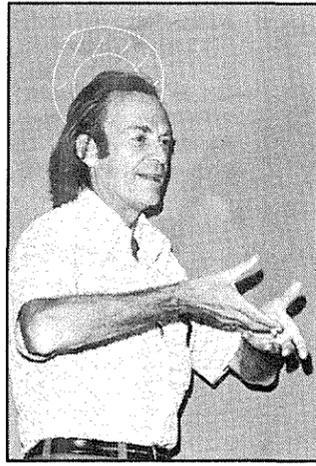
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