

Adam Villani returns! Wild new formats ensue in this article of the *Multi-Media Guy*. see page 6

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

VOLUME C, NUMBER 9

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1998

HAROLD VARMUS SPEAKS ON BIO-MEDICAL RESEARCH

BY JUSTIN HO

On Friday, November 6, the Baxter Lecture Hall hosted a lecture by Nobel Laureate Dr. Harold Varmus entitled "Biomedical Research: Public Investments and Public Expectations."

At the start of the session, Dr. Varmus was introduced by Caltech President Dr. Baltimore who happened to allude that while there is a tendency of institutions to start students on research at young ages, Dr. Varmus in fact started very late, but was nonetheless publishing within a very short period of time.

Dr. Varmus earned a bachelor's degree in English and became an M.D. before pursuing research at the University of California School of Medicine, with which he was affiliated when he was named a Nobel Laureate in Medicine in 1989.

Speaking at Caltech was an opportunity for Dr. Varmus to "speak freely about things without making [his] life difficult."

As director of the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Varmus has faced many contentious issues, such as the process of appropriating finite funds to different and competing fields of medical research.

Advocacy groups of specific diseases have become very vocal, both to management and Congress, about allocating enough funding to their cause, but based on the uncertainty of scientific breakthroughs, choosing to devote more support for one disease over another is a difficult issue.

In addition, basic research, without specialization for the cure of ailments, is equally important. By placing more emphasis on finding cures for diseases, basic research may lose out, but it is always possible that in the process of performing basic research, serendipity may yield a much more significant discovery.

Life trustee dies

COURTESY OF CALTECH

William Eugene (Bill) Zisch, a life trustee at the California Institute of Technology, died Tuesday, November 10th, 1998, in Poway after a brief illness.

Zisch, 80, was vice chairman of the board of Science Applications International Corporation of San Diego, a company that applies scientific expertise, together with computers and systems technology to solve complex technical problems. Zisch also served as director of Science Application, and prior to his joining the company in 1973, was affiliated with Aerojet-General Corporation and Systems Development Corporation.

He attended Caltech in 1940-41, and also was an assis-

tant in aeronautics and an assistant to the Comptroller at the Institute from 1939-1942. He began his career in 1935 as a chemist at Great Western Sugar Company.

A native of Denver, Zisch held many committee memberships in his long affiliation with Caltech. He had been a life member of the Associates since 1972 and a member of the President's Circle since 1982; a member of the Athenaeum Board of Governors almost continuously since 1977; a member of the Visiting Committee for the Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences since 1986.

Survivors include his wife, Majorie Griffin Zisch, of Poway; and three children, Stephen Michael, James Henry and Karen Louise Zisch.



Millikan Library looms in the darkness. A central landmark on campus, this has been subject to many pranks and undergraduate traditions.

IHC Holds First Ever Rotation Forum



The House Presidents met with incoming Freshmen at Catalina Island. They then played an integral part in Rotation, including regulating it as members of the IHC.

BY TIM RAUB

The IHC held an open forum last Sunday to discuss the motivations behind and the in-

terpretations of various rotation rules.

Many specific rules were discussed as the IHC compared its perceptions of the rotation

structure to those expressed by undergraduates.

At the end of rotation this year freshmen were asked to rank at least four houses in order of preference. They could assign two houses the same rank if they wanted to.

Although this tying of houses creates logistical difficulties at Picks, the IHC decided that if freshmen really feel indifferent between

two houses, they should be able to rank them that way.

Participants also discussed the rotation drinking rule. This rule states, "Houses are specifi-

cally prohibited from doing the following during rotation: (h:) providing alcohol or other controlled substances to a new student."

Although this rule does not specifically prohibit upperclassmen from drinking, some houses restrict drinking in order to minimize the possibility that freshmen will drink at their house's reception.

Concerns had been raised that since the purpose of rotation is to give freshmen a feel for each house's personality, and since drinking is part of the social scene at some houses, then the Rotation week restrictions on drinking can give freshmen misleading ideas about these houses. After discussion, the IHC decided that the rationale behind the rule was enough to

PLEASE SEE IHC ON PAGE 2

First Caltech-Occidental concert

BY TECH STAFF

On Saturday, the 14th of November (tomorrow!), the Caltech-Occidental Wind Ensemble will be presenting their first concert of the year in Beckman Auditorium, at 8 P.M. Admission is free, with free parking and free cookies and juice afterwards.

Tomorrow evening at 8

P.M., William Bing will conduct the Caltech-Occidental Wind Ensemble as they recreate the dulcet sounds of Mozart, Whitwell, Bernstein, Gershwin, and a veritable ensemble of other composers.

According to Jason Chua, ensemble euphonium player, "It will bring you two hours closer to self-actualization."

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IHC ROTATION FORUM...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

keep it for next year despite these concerns.

At this meeting and through the survey it sent out last week, the IHC has received feedback regarding its gag rule.

Each year's IHC interprets and enforces the gag rule differently, leading to some confusion due to inconsistencies. This year, upperclassmen could pretty much say anything they wanted to as long as they made clear that it was their own opinion.

Still, since the gag rule has been more strictly interpreted in past years, almost a quarter of respondents claimed they did not understand that the current IHC chose to interpret the gag rule in this way.

The IHC resolved to put the results of this meeting in a booklet of recommendations for next year's Interhouse Committee; as Jaideep Singh, IHC Chair, noted, "Communication is key."

Regarding rules dealing with publication and organization of social event schedules, the IHC would have given any event proposals serious consideration.

This year's committee saw the main purpose of the "no social event"-rule as the prevention of houses drawing freshmen

away from other houses' after-dinner receptions.

Picks procedures were not discussed at this meeting, although they were considered at a recent, closed IHC meeting.

Survey responses indicated that a near 2:1 majority of un-

"The thing we tried to emphasize was the spirit of the ideas as opposed to the letter of the law. I think we set the precedent that common courtesy is not at odds with the rotation rules."

dergraduates favor keeping the Picks process secret. If an overwhelming majority of survey responses had called for the Picks process to be made public, the IHC would have done so.

Singh summarized this year's IHC position on rotation rules by saying, "The thing we tried to emphasize was the spirit of the ideas as opposed to the letter of the law. I think we set the precedent that common courtesy is not at odds with the rotation rules."

Many Techers agreed that the rotation survey, handed out for the first time this year, was well-received and will hopefully continue to serve as a yearly review of the rotation process.

IHC Survey results

	NA	Fr	So	Jr	Sr	Super Senior			
1. (Classification)	0	69	46	63	46	3			
2. (Currently live)	NA	On	Off (Avery, etc.)		Off (House Affiliated)	Off (Off campus)			
	0	191	16		4	16			
3. (Plan to live on)	NA	Y	N						
	51	144	32						
4. (House)	NA	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	1	165	30	12	9	2	1	7	
5. (House happiness)	NA	1	2	3	4	5			
	0	2	7	12	50	156			
6. (Other houses?)	NA	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	5	17	51	83	43	18	5	4
7. (Rank differently?)	NA	Y	N						
	2	144	81						
8. (Rotation info)	NA	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	18	20	19	39	28	45	26	31
9. Ranked houses on the basis of...									
Cleanliness		74							94
Noise level		60							211
Singles v. Doubles		67							138
Athletics		47							162
Traditions		102							97
Social environment		192							68
Amenities (TV, etc.)		22							87
Where friends wanted to be		60							104
House President									
House upperclassmen									
Post-dinner reception									
House Dinner									
Upperclassmen hearsay									
Freshmen hearsay									
Prefrosh weekend									
North v. South									

Look for more results next week...

CORRECTIONS

We regret that last week's correction of the article run on political positions implied there was only one error. This impression is wrong. There were multiple errors in text omission and placement. We regret these errors.

Additionally, in the article last week entitled "Earth found to have two inner cores," the second to last sentence should have read "Donald Helmberger was a recipient of the 1997 Lehmann Medal of Geophysics."

Not all the photographs last week were credited. Those on the front page and second page of the Flying Karamazov Brothers and the Dabney Pumpkin Drop were taken by Erik Dill.

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Clubwatch!

The **Big T** is looking for layout staff, photographers, information gatherers, and business staff for the production of the 1998-1999 yearbook. For more information, email big-t@its.

The **Bridge Club** meets 7:30 p.m. every Monday night in the Avery Dining Hall. Come early to find a partner. They usually play duplicate.

The **Caltech Anime Society** is planning a trip to Little Tokyo on Saturday September 21st from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. They are especially looking for drivers. If you are interested in going, email isaacs@its. Also, they hold showings for the entire Caltech community on Fridays and Saturdays in SAC 13 starting at 7:00 p.m. and lasting until 11:00 p.m. They welcome people dropping by at anytime. To request an anime title email cas-viewing@ugcs.

The **Caltech Ballroom Dance Club** started its free beginner Cha-Cha classes on Monday November 9th at 7:30 p.m. in Winnett Lounge. They started their second session of protaught Argentine Tango last night. For more information, email dbass@srl.

CLU (Caltech LesBiGay Union) is hosting a movie night at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday November 21st. It will be held in the Avery RA Apartment, Avery 104. They will have free dinner and dessert, and we will be watching *The Object of My Affection* with Jennifer Aniston and Paul Rudd. For more information or if you are interested in attending, please contact Aron Meltzner at meltzner@its.

The **Caltech Student Investment Fund** meets every Monday night at 5:30 p.m. in Club Room 1 of Winnett Student Center. They discuss how to invest intelligently in the stock market, how to pick the best stocks and how to obtain and interpret a company's financial statements. They invest approximately \$250,000 of Caltech's money. Meetings are informal and open to the entire Caltech community. Pizza is usually served. Email sif@its for more information.

The **Science Education Club** is holding its Fall Meeting on Monday, November 16 at 5:15 p.m. at CAPSI, 287 So. Hill Ave. Pizza will be provided. They will be holding an open forum discussion on under-

graduate teaching and curriculum at Caltech. They are interested in hearing opinions and ideas. Please RSVP by emailing jzs@its or leaving voice mail at x3297 or x3222.

Students for the Exploitation of Space: Meet in Ricketts courtyard to assemble the Alien Death Ray.

Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (SEDS) will be holding a special Star Party on Monday November 16th at Joshua Tree National Park to see the Leonid Meteor Shower. They will be leaving around 6:00 p.m. They will carpool so they are also looknig for more drivers. For more information, email cyrano@its

The **Totem**, Caltech's literary magazine, has begun accepting submissions. They welcome poems, short stories, essays, plays, drawings, and photographs from anyone in the Caltech community. Please send all submission to iljie@its.

If your club is having an event and would like to see it in Clubwatch, email club@tech with appropriate information.

The Outside World

by Cheryl Forest

BAGHDAD, IRAQ: As late as Thursday afternoon, the ruling Baath party is refusing to back down in the current dispute over U.N. weapons inspections in Iraq. This stand came even after eight Arab nations (Oman, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Syria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Bahrain) "urged Iraq to resume cooperation with U.N. arms inspectors, and said Baghdad would be to blame if the crisis led to military action." U.N. staff are continuing to evacuate as the U.S. is moving military personnel and equipment into the area. According to British Prime Minister Tony Blair, "the next step is action."

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Saturday, November 7, Newt Gingrich stepped down as Speaker of the House and will be leaving Congress at the end of the year. His decision to leave came only four days after a midterm election in which the Republicans lost five seats in the House. The most likely successor to Gingrich right now is Rep. Robert Livingston from Louisiana.

JAKARTA, INDONESIA: Indonesian troops fired on student demonstrators this past Thursday after the students broke through police lines that had been set up around Parliament. The demonstrators were demanding that political reform occur in Parliament; according to them, many of the current members are in power due to former President Suharto. Suharto was pushed from power after riots that occurred in May.

ALGIERS, ALGERIA: Seventeen people were massacred early Thursday by armed men. The victims were mainly women and children. This attack appears to be the latest in the violence that has been going on in this country since 1992. An insurgency was triggered then by the army's decision to cancel legislative elections that a now-banned Muslim fundamentalist party was poised to win. About 75,000 people have been killed thus far.

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The 1998 Annual Caltech Biology Forum

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Dr. David Baltimore, Caltech's president

Thursday, November 19, 1998 at 7:30 p.m.

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PANELISTS

Dr. Nancy Wexler (Columbia University)

Dr. Francis Collins (National Institutes of Health)
Human Genome Research Institute

Dr. Gary Nabel (University of Michigan)

Dr. Raymond Deshaies (Caltech)

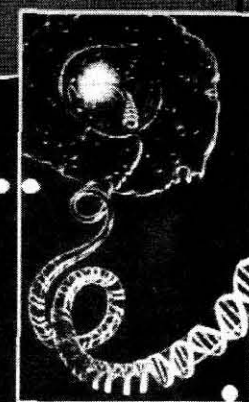
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Robert Lee Hotz (Los Angeles Times)

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A.S.C.I.T. Minutes

NOVEMBER 9, 1998

Present: **BoD** (minus **Devi**),
Shannon Stewman

Meeting called to order
at 22:10.

General Business

Tech - The Tech wants \$1000 from ASCIT to defray the cost of a new printer. They cannot afford both the full burden of the printer (\$3000) and software licenses. Mike suggests that maybe we could ask the other publications to pitch in the dough. Autumn doubts the little t has that kind of cash. The situation of the Big T is in question. The BoD votes to supply the money. In the meantime Rob will get a handle on the Big T's situation.

Coffeehouse - The Coffeehouse needs more waiters. Talk to Jennifer Caron (caron@cco) about joining the ASCIT empire. The Corporation requires your loyalty and service.

Officer Reports

Steve - The SFC report

will be done by next meeting. Steve and Alan will get together to figure out this wrestling mat thing. Steve wants to get together a list of club contacts to hand over to the next frosh director. He foresees the office of the Freshman Director becoming a general ASCIT liaison to campus organizations. Things are gearing up for the UROH.

Autumn - Will approach Tom Mannion and motor pool about selling the van. Autumn noticed in school newspapers from other universities, that students are allowed to drive many passenger vans similar to the ASCIT van. What's that all about? The previous upper-classman director thought that you needed a special license to drive such a van. Autumn is all over this action. The Coffeehouse is still sans TV.

Hanna - Fleming borrowed the lights and hasn't given 'em back yet.

Jaideep - About 225 surveys were returned. Preliminary results show no big surprises. About 2/3 of folks favor keeping the picks procedure secret. The only Rotation rule that is on the black is the one that provides a transportation radius. Sixty

percent of respondents found that rule "unreasonable." This Thursday at 10:30 in SAC 33 there will be a meeting of the IHC closed to people who have attended picks before to discuss the picks procedure. The meeting on Sunday sucked. Only six people (other than the IHC) attended. Jaideep met with the ISO. They think the house system is OK. The IHC will be talking about the off-campus picks procedure soon.

Rob - The ASCIT accounting system is being altered to deal with budgeting. The little t editors have been

paid. The BoD voted via email to approve the proposed Big T compensation schedule. The BoD votes to allocate the \$500 bonus for a job well done (and on time).

Mike - There will soon be a mailing list for non-house-affiliated students.

Alan - Frosh BoC talks are almost done. There will be an open business meeting of the Board of Control on Monday, 23 November at 7:30 PM in the Winnett Student Center.

Baldeep - No progress on the IT specification this week, but it is half done.

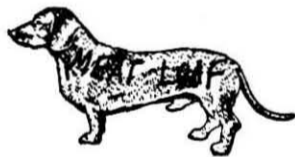
Tom wants a proposal (drawings, estimates, etc.) for improvements to the SAC courtyard. The Avery Grill is shutting down because of lack of business. Baldeep talked with Andre about the Coffeehouse. He also talked to the Alumni Association about why Tech sucks.

Meeting adjourned up at 11:06.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Astle

Mike D. Astle
ASCIT Secretary



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Upcoming Caltech basketball

BY GERALD PALMROSE

Now that most of the fall sports are finishing their seasons, it is time to move on to the winter sports. Men's basketball will have their first preseason game on November 20 against Cooper Union, and currently they are working very hard to sharpen their skills. I recently had a chance to interview Coach Gene Victor, and I asked him about his thoughts for the season.

First of all, the team will feel the loss of Ben Turk. Turk played center and was a dominating presence on both offense and defense. The Beavers will, however, return 8 players from last year's varsity team including Senior Rajat Kongovi, Juniors Jay Henderson, Mike Kuhlen, and Matt Musick, and Sophomore Chris Arnesen. These five make up this year's tentative starting roster.

Coach Victor, in the midst of his twelfth year coaching here at Caltech, has a tremendous amount of respect for his squad this

year. "We recruit academically, not athletically," says Victor. "Out of the 18 players I have out there, only two played for their high school varsity teams. But we're out there practicing everyday, working hard, and getting ready. We're going to be as good as we can be."

A member of three halls of fame and winning coach in more than 700 games, Victor has had a distinguished coaching career. As he reflected on his experience, he related that coaching for Caltech has been very enjoyable. "They're here for the right reason," said Victor of his players. Assistant coaches Marcel Gavrilu and Reggie Roberts, both graduate students at Caltech, will help out with coaching duties this year.

Personally, I'm really looking forward to some BASKETBALL, in light of the fact that the pros and owners can't decide on how to split their earnings. So come see Caltech play Cooper Union, next Friday, November 20th, at 7:30 in Braun Gym.

Sport Shorts

Men's and Women's Cross Country will compete in the Western Regionals tomorrow at 8:00 in Prado Park, Chino.

Women's Volleyball finished their season with a record of 4-13.

Men's Water Polo finished their season with a record of 1-10.

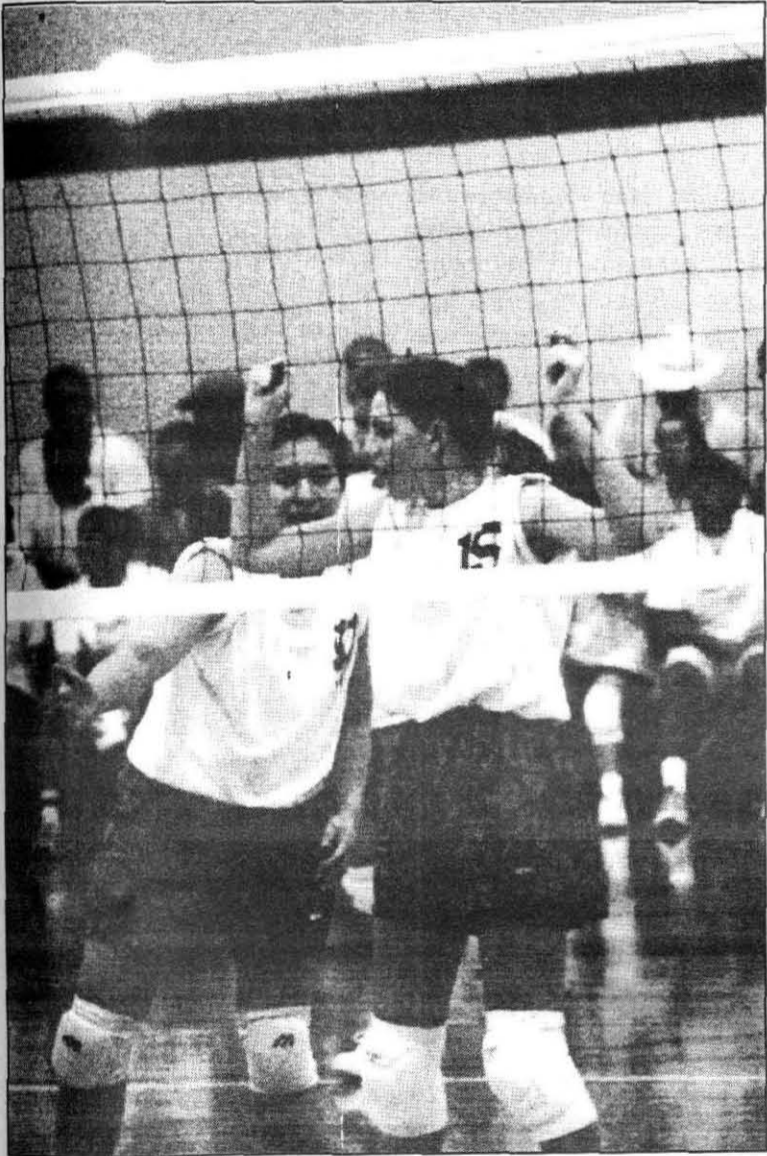
Zhao Huang and Xavier Fan led the **Men's Fencing Team**, and **Jane Garrity and Sarah Quan** led the women in the Caltech Intercollegiate Tournament. The team will face UCSD and CSUF in San Diego tomorrow.

Men's and Women's Swimming/Diving opens its season TONIGHT against Chapman at Braun pool at 6:00pm.

The Men Beaver Basketballers square off against Cooper Union in their season opener tonight at 7:30 in Braun Gymnasium.

The Lady Beaver Basketballesses square off against Menlo College tonight in their season opener at 5:30 in Braun Gym. Be there!

Fleming, Page and Ruddock are all undefeated in Interhouse soccer.



Jen Fong(left) and Barbara Kraatz (right) celebrate a point. The women's volleyball team finished the season with 4 wins, and placed 4th in the Caltech Volleyball tournament.

Soccer season ends: Team has high hopes for next year

BY TIM RAUB

The Men's Soccer team lost a frustrating game to LaVerne, ending a season that pointed promisingly to future successes. The game was the third of the round-robin bottom-four team bracket that decided final SCIAC placements.

After losing a close match to Occidental to start the tournament, Caltech won its second match of the season against Whittier last Tuesday, and last Saturday's loss to LaVerne landed the Beavers in eighth place in the conference, with a season conference record of 2-8 and a goals for/goals against ratio of 12/62.

The LaVerne game opened with a near score by LaVerne in the ninth minute, and a yellow card for a LaVerne midfielder two minutes later. Tech made many shots on LaVerne's goal, but most went just wide or high.

The referees, clad in pretty pink blazers, called a tight game, which may have cramped

Caltech's style: while LaVerne midfielders sent many through-balls down the sidelines, leading to a constant barrage of attacks on goalkeeper Brian Frazier, whistles seemed to stop almost every Caltech offensive as it began. In the 27th minute, a LaVerne forward took a tumble in the box and stayed down; mysteriously, the referees did not make a call, so Tech did the "nice thing" by kicking the ball out of bounds.

April Reed administered to the fallen player, and after LaVerne substituted, they did the "nice thing" back by throwing the ball back to the Tech goalie, who punted the ball to resume play.

Frazier played another great game, making a flying save at the half-hour mark, but LaVerne finally capitalized on a perfect volley-shot in the 38th minute to put themselves ahead at half-time.

Caltech kicked off to start the second half, and Stefan Kazachki made a brilliant run to

almost score an equilizer for the Beavers, but LaVerne scored another goal 17 minutes into the second half. Down two goals with time running down, Caltech made substitutions geared toward a more offensive approach. The approach paid off in the 19th minute, as Craig Vieregk kicked a long-range rocket past LaVerne's flying keeper from 25 yards out. This was Caltech's last gasp, as LaVerne controlled the ball for the rest of the half, defeating the Beavers 2-1.

The game, played on the North Field, drew a record number of spectators, including 21 Rudds and five Flems.

The spectators made the most of the loss, critiquing the stylish do's on LaVerne's midfielders. "Hey, #17! Jason Priestly's off 90210 — you can lose the sideburns!" A grand time was had by all, and the soccer team looks to build on this year's successes next season. In the meantime, come support your winter sports teams!

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Adam Villani: Multi-Media Guy

BY ADAM VILLANI

Jorge Pardo

Jorge Pardo is a Cuban-born sculptor who has made his reputation sculpting functional objects: lamps, chairs, a boat, a pier, and now, his house. The Museum of Contemporary Art has on display, for one final weekend, the redwood-clad house Pardo is building at 4166 Seaview Lane, in the Mount Washington area of Los Angeles. Actually, he's not building it himself, but he did design it, is supervising its construction by a bunch of uncredited workers, and will live in it once completed. Pardo's house is a very low-key horseshoe-shaped ranch house surrounding a gravel courtyard, built on multiple levels to take advantage of a sloped lot that has a great, long view of the city. I imagine it will be a nice place to live, but despite its claims to stylistically reflect the low-key wood-clad Richard Neutra and John Lautner houses of the neighborhood, one can't help but notice that it completely shuts itself off from its neighbors, presenting the street with nothing but a featureless, fortress-like wall. Take a look if you can, anyway; it's free. Open 12-5 this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

The Celebration

This new Danish import from director Thomas Vinterberg is a truly remarkable film. This raw movie shot on hand-held video with no extraneous lighting or incidental music is a stinging jab at bourgeois society, portraying a wealthy landowner's 60th birthday party ripped apart by revelations of great conflicts in

family. Vinterberg is a colleague of the great Lars von Trier (*The Kingdom, Breaking the Waves*), and this film is similar in Vinterberg is a collage of the great Lars von Trier (*The Kingdom, Breaking the Waves*), and this movie is similar in tone, but more direct and focused. One of the year's best films, there is not a single moment that does not have the ring of truth.

Petersen Automotive Museum

This past Saturday I visited the Petersen Automotive Museum, located on the corner of Wilshire and Fairfax along the Miracle Mile in LA, and I quite enjoyed it. It's quite large and well-maintained, particularly for a county facility. One suspects large infusions of cash from corporate donors. Regardless, the first floor is their more or less permanent exhibition, displaying quite a multitude of vehicles of historical interest amongst lifelike surroundings that give one the feeling of being in a giant model train set. This focuses not only on the cars themselves, but on how the automobile has shaped life in America, particularly in Southern California. The second floor contains more specific and changing displays, ranging from movie stars' cars and antique motorcycles to the dazzling Porsche retrospective that just closed and the impressive Duesenberg exhibit (slogan: "Powerful Cars for Powerful People.") The third floor houses the kids' interactive area. If you're at all interested in cars, this is quite an enjoyable place to visit. The museum is an unabashed booster for the industry, but it makes for quite a treat to see so many fine, historical examples of design and engineering.

VARMUS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In his discussion of the public's perception of research fund allocation, Dr. Varmus introduced two opposing models, that of (1) the King and his money house, and (2) Tolstoy's Army. The King and his money house model thrives on the public's perception at times that money disbursed is fueled by personal bias. For example, a scientist with a lot of funds may choose to support research among scientists in the same field, while paying less attention to other branches. It was this approach that precipitated the discovery of a cure for polio. An intense concentration was placed on a cure for polio, and by pure saturation of research in this endeavour, a remedy was found. Science advocacy groups tend to take this model because of their belief that their cause is insufficiently funded and that money is diverted elsewhere based on a bias.

The contrasting model, Tolstoy's Army, incorporates the idea that work is the sum of the interests of thousands. This model is founded on spreading money across a

PLEASE SEE SURF ON PAGE 6

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American History X explores racism and emotion

BY JUSTIN HO

American History X
Rated R for: violence, strong language, a prison scene, and nudity
rating: **

When a movie only shows in a couple of movie theaters, it usually means either that the flick is too artsy for the general public, or it's a porn flick. It is so irritating, then, when a movie of great potential mass appeal hides in 4 theaters, the closest of which is in Santa Monica. I wouldn't normally suggest a movie which might incur a gas bill, but for the sake of the possibility that more people will realize just how great a movie *American History X* is, an exception must be made. Find a carpool, it's worth the trip.

On a cautionary note: the movie is quite graphic, but it's used for more of a shocking effect than to induce any puking. It's no worse than a gun fight that you'll see on TV, while the brutality is an inherent part of fascist skinhead culture anyhow.

What is troubling about the movie, however, is that it will break stereotypes and transgress that border of political correctness. There is a tendency to identify bigotry with ignorance and misguided youth. What happens, then, if a leader resorts to philosophical undertakings to rationalize brutality against illegal immigrants? Read *Mein Kampf*, Danny Vinyard did.

After writing a scathing defense of Hitler as a civil rights hero, Danny Vinyard (Eddie Furlong), the rising neophyte skinhead, is placed in a "special" class, with an assignment meant to curb his racist tendencies. He's incited the mentorship of Dr. Sweeney, the increasingly perplexed principal who has witnessed Danny's transformation from the embodiment of sweetness to the edges of racist insanity. As punishment for holding his dangerous credence, Danny is forced to write a new report, seemingly simple enough, about his brother. The lines of this new report provide the narrative voice of the tragic story of the Vinyard family.

Danny's older brother, Derek (Edward Norton), walks out of prison a changed man on the very day Danny has received his new assignment. Derek's previous state isn't elucidated until a blistering image of the flag of the Third Reich hang-

ing above the room, and a realization that Danny's bold endeavours is a trance-like devotion to his brother's cause of days past.

American History X is cleverly photographed in segments, incorporating a sequence of flashbacks in eerie black-and-white that portray an increasingly disturbing and tragic past leading to the incarceration of Derek Vinyard.

The trouble starts when the brother's father is murdered while putting out a flaming crackhouse in an economically depressed African American neighborhood. Interviewed amidst tear jerks, the reporter asks Derek Vinyard how he feels, and how should he feel? The pain of losing a loved one is usually adequate to satiate a reporter's curiosity, yet Derek, still accoutred in very normal clothes at the time, embarks on a discourse of the burden of minorities in general. Shielding himself among white rage rhetoric as a defense against vulnerability, he speaks against the growing influence of minorities vigorously in the few seconds he has on camera, stopped only by his shocked mother.

His casually racist disposition grows in intensity into a furious political discussion of the evil of affirmative action when his mother, on the rebound, invites her Jewish boyfriend to dinner. At this point, the transformation is complete, and far from being the stereotypical, misguided ignorant teenager who would be easily swayed to xenophobic beliefs but slow to defend them, Derek expounds his racist fury with rational basis. The manifestation of his abusive temperament just clicks at the dinner table scene, with mother Debbie Vinyard (Beverly D'Angelou) hapless and enervated, murmuring "What did I do? What did I do?"

The sheer terror and consternation of the family engagement is only a precursor to that night's insanity and sadism. Merciless in his show of supremacy over two black, would-be car thieves, his face of pure evil and triumph stabs right at the heart—Norton is a god. His look of pure pleasure after the heinous slayings would inspire terror in even Jason, and even more captivating is the look of pure helplessness on the face of Danny.

In the wake of Derek's sentence, the formerly poorly organized minions of

White fascism in the Vinyards' community erect Derek as an idol, and Danny is doomed to repeat the madness of his brother.

Certain events occur in the prison which simplify the often humbling effects of incarceration, yet blame can not be placed for preservation of cinematic brevity.

There is an idealistic quality to the character who acts as Derek's mentor and fellow laundry folder. As a counterpart on the other end of the racial scheme, he does the seemingly impossible by transforming Derek to a softer side.

A guilty conscience even pervades Derek's thoughts as he finally realizes a tone of injustice. Quick to condemn Rodney King in the past, Derek is bothered by the fact that he was sentenced to 3 years for the slaying of two people, while his partner was sentenced to 6 years for television theft and a spurious charge of police assault. While the prison interplay is didactic at times, it is genuinely heartwarming and exhibits moments of levity to relieve the otherwise serious overtone of the feature.

When Derek returns, his mind is set on the goal of re-

jecting his hateful past and preventing his brother from following a similar path. Yet, each action has its consequences, and the past is not so easily erased.

In a momentary divergence to colored flashbacks of the siblings as little children playing in the water at a beach there is a nostalgic pang of innocence lost. As the memories of days past filter through this wretched man's thoughts, he stands in front of the mirror, the emblem of neo-Nazi hatred burning on his chest.

Given the disturbing and unpredictable nature of the movie, there is no ending which is resolved or even truly appropriate. The consequences of actions done are not easily forgiven, and despite Derek's desire to make amends, it is not adequate for redemption. However, the desire for atonement should not be seen as futile.

The ending is so distressing that its true effect can only be savored in the context of watching the movie, a film which despite lurid details is nonetheless uplifting. You will not walk out until the last credit has traveled to completion.



by Elisa Chiang

What's going on the with the Y?

The Y will be having a Trail Maintenance Trip to do some brush clearing at a nearby area on Nov 21. If you would like to join us, meet at Steele house at 10:15 am and expect to get back around 2:00. The Y will probably provide lunch. This is another great opportunity for Work Study, \$12/hr!

Today, the noon concert is the Caltech Jazz Band. Get your lunch and go out to hear them play!

Remember, the Y can help fund any trips or activities students want to do that are open to anyone. Come see the Y about getting funding for a trip you'd like to do. Examples include Kelroff, Acapella concerts, etc.

The Y meets Mondays at 12:15 at Steele House. Bring your lunch and come join us! Anyone is welcome.

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innerspace

by Jason Meltzer

Something Wicked This Way Comes

A demon has invaded our happy world of Caltech: an evil presence that seeks to destroy our very way of life. Silently, invisibly, it works its will, manifesting itself only in the form of a grotesque *stench*, concentrated at the north end of Moore Labs. What is its cause? Sub-quality fertilizer? A dead, decomposing body? A strange EE experiment gone wrong? Or is it some piece of infernal evil, ripped from the bowels of Hell, sensible to us — through our imperfect perceptions — as only a putrid and horrible smell?

What is its cause and will? Nobody has yet to explain its nature or purpose; one can only asphyxiate when touched by its presence. All we know is this: it now lurks primarily to the north of Moore Lab and in the parking lots around the building, it is strongest and most perceptible at night, and it smells *really bad*. Also known is that it is spreading.

Slowly, it creeps its way west to the Del Mar apartments, east toward the sheltered courtyards of Avery, and south beyond Moore Lab.

It is a powerful force. Even the strongest of will and bravest of heart cannot stand it for long and when touched by its presence cannot but cry in terror, "My God, what is that horrid stench?" And why should all of you who live on campus worry about a problem so distant as Avery House? As I have said, the smell is spreading, and soon it may be upon the entire campus. Nobody is safe! Something must be done before it is too late.

If you think I'm a raving madman, going on like this about such a minor matter as a bad odor, you are partially correct. But do not judge me until you have experienced for yourself the overpowering disgust of the demon stench! Then you, too, would be irate about the lack of action against

this terrible invasion of our senses.

Now that I've had my say about "the smell," it's time for something completely different. It seems more people read the Tech, and my column, than previously thought. The Tech Office recently received a letter addressed to me, from an unknown sender, which contained a good amount of religious propaganda, apparently from the Institute for Creation Research. It included: a pamphlet for the "Creation Museum" (conveniently located at 10946 Woodside Avenue North, Santee, CA 92071, for those of you who are interested), "Days of Praise" — a collection of Biblical wisdom for each day — "What to do to go to Hell?" (should I take that as a hint?) and an order form for further information and articles.

Apparently someone is concerned that I'm on my way to Hell! While I appreciate the sentiment, I can't say I share in that belief. First off, I'm an atheist, so I don't believe in God, let alone Heaven or Hell. And even if I were not an atheist, my default religion would be Judaism, as that is my heritage. So either way, according to all of the Christians out there, I'm going to Hell. I also don't believe in an afterlife, so there's another minor snag in the argument. In my philoso-

phy, when we're dead, we're dead — nothing more than a rotting corpse in the ground. Pleasant, ain't it? Personally, I think I'd rather suffer eternal torment in Hell than eternal nothingness, but I have no reason for changing my system of beliefs at this time.

I've also thought, at times: what's so bad about going to Hell, anyway? Eternal torment and pain? I'm already attending Caltech — how much worse can it be? And besides, all of the cool people in history went to Hell: Plato, Socrates, Homer, Virgil, Euclid, Archimedes, Caesar, to name a few. How interesting could the conversations be in Heaven? What would there be to talk about? The weather's always good; there aren't any disasters, catastrophes, strife, or human drama (really, what else to people talk about, except here at Caltech where computers are always a good alternative?).

So, to whomever decided to try to save my soul, I appreciate the thought (and it's the thought that counts, right?), but I'm not interested. Go sell fruitcakes somewhere else. I'll probably start on my anti-religion diatribes in another edition, but right now I've got a few problem sets calling my name. Until next time: may your religious deity of choice be with you!

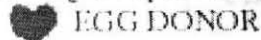
VARMUS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

broad spectrum of fields; eventually, discoveries will be made without over-emphasizing any certain area. The development of recombinant DNA methods, for example, was not a topic of specific interest to any group, but the methods were formulated and have proved exceedingly beneficial. The Tolstoy's Army is generally the method administrators prescribe, though the concept of research is usually an item of public misconception. In either case, appealing to the public is crucial as medical research is 50% supported by taxpayer dollars.

In the future, Dr. Varmus hopes that the focus of advocacy groups will be scientists themselves who hold the key to scientific breakthrough. While research funding is crucial, simply distributing money does not certify any talent or interest. The road to scientific discovery is contingent on a scientist's personal desire for the undertaking, and advocacy groups should divert attention from administration and Congress to certain scientists. To account for the possible mobility in the fields of interest among scientists, Dr. Varmus has proposed giving postdocs and affiliated scientists more leeway to explore other areas of research.

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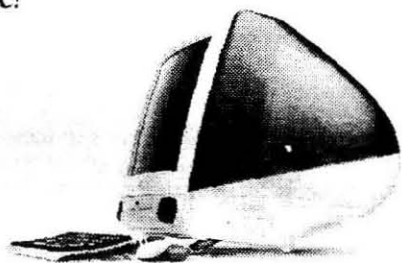
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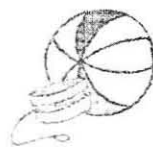
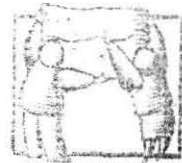
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The CDC is looking for a few creative students with organizational and solution-finding abilities to assist with the planning of Career Day on February 18, 1999. Committee members will commit to attend approximately one meeting per month prior to Career Day, and serve as hosts for company representatives on Career Day. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Jonie Watanabe at ext. 6361 or joniew@caltech.edu.



Dean's Corner

To Risk and Not To Be

by Jean-Paul Revel

Last September, a Caltech student on his way back to campus stopped to visit a friend at the Rose Hulman Institute. On September 20, the two (accompanied by others) went to test out a bomb of their design, but the device exploded prematurely, killing sophomore David Alex Rosefielde. We will never fully know why Alex worked with explosives. Some of us did not even know he was fascinated by them. I can only presume that it was part of the need for excitement, of his curiosity and willingness to try things even if they were fraught with danger.

Some of us manage to satisfy such urges in somewhat less dangerous but still perilous ways, such as hang gliding or sky diving, rock climbing or white water canoeing. Others instead (or sometimes also) find the same exhilarating rush in their research or intellectual endeavors, or take chances exposing their psyches as they communicate with other

people. In all these activities, as in anything we undertake, there is a chance of failure, and the possibility of getting hurt.

Yet risk-taking is a necessary ingredient of progress. The turtle needs to stick out its neck to move forward, my professor used to say. But the necessary daring has to be controlled. "I dare do all that become a man; Who dare do more, is none" said Shakespeare (Macbeth, Act I, Sc. 7).

Indeed. Daring do more, is believing that one cannot fail, that one is immortal, and is one of the behaviors characteristic of the young. A famous risk taker, Charles Lindbergh, claimed he didn't "believe in taking foolish chances, but nothing can be accomplished without taking any chance at all." Risk taking for the sake of risk itself is foolish.

Young people, however, need practice to learn how much risk it is appropriate to take to find out when the returns are worth the danger. Lindbergh could believably say his piece, having succeeded in the New York-Paris

crossing which made him so famous. Had he disappeared en route, he might have been seen as a foolish daredevil. But he was 25, an experienced mail pilot, with the sufficient experience and know how, so he ended up a hero to the relief of the admiring populace.

But under what circumstances is anything worth the risk to die prematurely? The operative statement is that one must not take "foolish chances". Unfortunately foolishness, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder. Flying solo to Paris in a single engine plane could surely be seen as foolishly dangerous if attempted by less

experienced and confident people. But is it foolish to climb Everest? Many have died there, some, like Mallory, in glory for having attempted where nobody had yet succeeded, some in, can I say, infamy?

Being taken up, yes even that is hard, they surely must have had the wish to succeed, and anticipated the pleasure of vanquishing such an adversary, just as many of us who are satisfied by testing ourselves on lesser hills.

I guess what's wrong with the newly dead on Everest,

is that their search was selfish, and endangered or jeopardized others in their care. I remember the picture of one climber who just barely did not die, his hands frozen and face blackened, being carried back to the wife and children whom he had left behind. How could he have taken such a risk just for his own selfish pleasure? That he would have tested himself as a young man without responsibilities except to himself, that I understand (assuming he had the proper know how, acquired by gradual endeavors of ever-increasing difficulty, under the tutelage of truly knowledgeable guides).

But what is to be gained in a risky endeavor has to outweigh the negative consequences of failure. Do not assume from what I said that I value a "safe, watch your step, be careful, don't try this yourself" attitude, a cocooned approach to life, maybe with a computer interposed between us and harsh reality. No, I don't.

Each of us must find our way of doing things— of living life— fully. I can only ask that appropriate caution be used, that applicable laws be respected, that serious and deliberate consideration be given to the impact of one's actions on the neighborhood, physical, emotional, intellectual.

So many young adults (old adolescents?) do not factor in their own place in the world in

their risk-taking behavior. They are becoming independent from their parents (although the ties the parents feel remain in place) and have not yet been integrated into a world that truly depends on them. They don't have the families or children who would be subjected to hard times without them.

And yet, even discounting parents and siblings there are already others affected. In the short year that you were with us, Alex, you made so many contacts, touched so many hearts, that your disappearance has caused a lot of pain and distress, not just at home but here among us, your brief acquaintances.

We are not islands, each of us, proudly aloof of each other. We are not plants standing close to each other but separate, independent individuals, but are rather like an Aspen forest or a ring of mushrooms or a coral reef, with more or less strong links between all the individuals. We are bound by heartstrings, invisible and mysterious, and none of us can disappear without leaving a void.

May your memory live among us Alex, and may it prevent others from taking a path similar to yours.

Au revoir

Jean Paul Revel

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results

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in botswana.

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"THAT TOO WOULD REQUIRE KNOWLEDGE ON YOUR PART."

SHUSH!

"I AM YOUR KING! BOW BEFORE ME, PEASANT!"

"THIS WAS A TEST OF THE EMERGENCY MONARCH SYSTEM."

"IF THIS WERE A REAL MONARCHY, YOU WOULD ALREADY BE WRETCHED."

"YOU NEED TO SIGN THE NON-EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION FORM BEFORE I PROCESS YOUR RAISE."

"BUT THIS WOULD BE A LIE. I'M NOT A NON-EMPLOYEE."

"I'M ONLY THE MESSENGER."

"WHERE DID IT COME FROM?"

THE FILE CABINET.

"WHY SHOULD I FILL OUT THIS FORM? IT WOULD TAKE AN HOUR AND IT DOESN'T EVEN APPLY TO ME."

"I DON'T MAKE THE RULES. I JUST APPLY THEM WITH A HELPLESS AND DEFEATED ATTITUDE."

"YOU'RE DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB."

SEVEN MORE HOURS UNTIL QUITTING TIME.

"I WAS TIRED OF BEING THE ONLY GUY AT WORK WITHOUT ONE."

YOU BOUGHT A CELL PHONE??

"EVERY TIME I'D SIT DOWN AT A BIG MEETING, OUT THEY'D COME - THE LITTLE STARTACS... THE LITTLE SONY'S... FRED WITH HIS LITTLE Q PHONE..."

"WELL, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THE LOOK ON THEIR FACES WHEN I TRUMP THEM ALL WITH THIS BAD BOY!"

"BIGGER IS BETTER, RIGHT?"

"WANT ME TO GIVE YOU A PREVIEW?"

"ROGER, I HOPE YOU DIDN'T PAY A LOT OF MONEY FOR THIS THING."

NO - THAT'S THE BEST PART!

"SOME OF THE CELL PHONES THEY HAD COST HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS, SOME WERE AS CHEAP AS A DOLLAR A PIECE. BUT YOUR BARGAIN-HUNTER HUSBAND FOUND THIS HIDING IN THE BACK!"

"YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE THIS, BUT THEY ACTUALLY PAID ME TO TAKE IT OFF THEIR HANDS!"

"THE MOBYTEL-2000 (OOOF) I ASSUME THE 'MOBY' IS SHORT FOR 'MOBILE'."

GEE, FANCY THAT.

"ANDY, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DON'T LIKE IT!"

"I MEAN, LOOK AT THIS BROCHURE! LOOK AT WHAT IT SAYS!"

"THE MOBYTEL-2000 IS WITHOUT QUESTION THE CADILLAC OF CELL PHONES."

ROGER, THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT ITS WEIGHT.

READ THE PART ABOUT ITS SOLID STEEL CONSTRUCTION.

"SO HOW DO YOU CHARGE THE BATTERIES IN THIS THING?"

ACTUALLY, IT DOESN'T HAVE BATTERIES.

"HUH? APPARENTLY, THEY COULDN'T HOLD A CHARGE LONG ENOUGH, SO THE MOBYTEL-2000 USES A DIRECT CONNECTION TO HOUSEHOLD CURRENT."

"WHAT ABOUT THE HIGHWAY?? WHAT ABOUT IN AN EMERGENCY??"

SEE THESE 10 BUILT-IN CIGARETTE LIGHTER ADAPTERS?

"HI, ANDY, IT'S ME. I'M OUT BACK ON THE MOBYTEL."

ROGER, SPEAK UP. I CAN'T HEAR YOU.

"I SAID I'M OUT BACK ON THE MOBYTEL!"

I STILL CAN'T HEAR YOU.

"MUCH BETTER. HONEY, YOU'LL HAVE TO SPEAK UP."

"ANDY, I CAN'T TAKE THIS CELL PHONE BACK!"

WHY NOT??"

"I SIGNED A LONG-TERM CONTRACT, THAT'S HOW I GOT SUCH A GOOD DEAL. CAN'T YOU AT LEAST TRADE IT IN FOR SOMETHING SMALLER?"

"LOOK, I PROMISE THE MINUTE MY MOBYTEL AGREEMENT EXPIRES, I'LL SWITCH TO ONE OF THOSE LITTLE FLIP-TOPTOBIES."

"YOU KNOW, THE KIND CAPTAIN KIRK USES."

"STAR TREK TAKES PLACE IN THE 23RD CENTURY, ROGER. WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, ROGER?"

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THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT OF THE CALIFORNIA TECH IS LOOKING FOR NEW STAFF MEMBERS. POSITIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION STAFF AND ADVERTISING SALES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD CONTACT THE BUSINESS MANAGER AT x6154.

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Monday, November 16, 1998 at 4:00 p.m.
Student Activities Center
Room 13

LEHMAN BROTHERS

Mints

Announcements

The **Career Development Center (CDC)** is looking for current graduating seniors to participate in focus groups to assess student career-related needs. Whether you've decided to go to grad school, get a job, don't know yet, or haven't even started thinking about it, the CDC would like to hear from you. Each focus group will last approximately 2 hours (refreshments will be served) and participants will receive gift certificates. Debi Tuttle, a Caltech alum and intern in the CDC, will conduct the focus groups. If you are interested in voicing your opinion and making a difference, please email Debi at debit@caltech.edu or call the CDC at x6261.

Attention Seniors: Hard copies of the **DOD Fellowship** application are available in the Fellowships Advising Office. You can also access applications on the Web at www.battelle.org.ndseg. The formal name for the DOD fellowship is the **National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Program** or NDSEG. It has nothing at all to do with government service and those who applied for the NSF and have U.S. citizenship should apply. The application receipt deadline is January 20, 1999. Contact: Lauren Stolper, Director, Fellowships Advising and Resources Office, MSC 25-58.

Study Abroad in Cambridge. Come find out about Caltech's new study abroad program in Cambridge, England. Wednesday, November 18 at 12 noon in Winnett Club Room I. This will be the only meeting for those who wish to go during the 1999/2000 academic year. Please RSVP to fellowships@caltech.edu so that we can get a count for lunch. Current Frosh, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors who are not graduating until 2000 are eligible to apply. Contact: Lauren Stolper, Director, Fellowships Advising and Resources Office, MSC 25-58.

El Lissitzky (1890-1941), one of the most influential artists of the early twentieth-century Russian avant-garde, will be the subject of an exhibition at the Getty Research Institute for the History of Art and the Humanities opening on November 21, 1998. The display will draw entirely on the Getty's own collections, "**Monuments of the Future: Designs by El Lissitzky**. A pre-opening press preview will take place on Friday, November 20, 9:00-11:00 am. To make (required) reservations to attend the press preview call Paula Tia at 310-440-6605. For other information and parking reservations to visit the exhibition call 310-440-7300.

Interested parties may nominate themselves to be the **Big T Business Manager** by signing up on the door of SAC 33. The BM is responsible for keeping the books and getting advertising for the Big T. This position carries with it not

insubstantial financial compensation. Talk to Wren Montgomery, Sarah Wantoch, or Nicholas Breen for more information about the duties of the Big T Business Manager. Join the ASCIT publications machine.

Low-cost and free mammograms and Pap tests will be available at hundreds of approved facilities throughout the months of October and November. These facilities are listed in the free Breast and Cervical Cancer Health Services Directory. An English and Spanish directory is available by calling 1-800-706-3131 or visiting an American Cancer Society Office.

Events

Caltech A Cappella Get over being unlucky! Come hear an a cappella concert by Caltech's TrebleMakers and Echphonema on Friday, November 13, 9:00 pm at Winnett Lounge. Free admission and refreshments -- you're lucky already. Contact Rachel Steinberger, treble@its.caltech.edu

Caltech SEDS (Students for the Exploration & Development of Space) will be holding a **general club meeting** on Saturday, November 28th at 4pm in Winnett Lounge. If you're interested in space, stargazing, and/or undergraduate research, come on by! Everyone in the Caltech community is welcome. We'll be nailing down plans for a lecture series that will include Caltech faculty and JPL engineers, as well as nextterm's tours, Star Parties, and technical projects. Email the executive committee of SEDS for more information: seds@cco.caltech.edu. Or see www.cco.caltech.edu/~seds to learn more about SEDS and its activities.

Caltech SEDS will also be having a **star party** at Joshua Tree the night of Monday, November 16, which corresponds to the peak of the Leonid meteor shower. Telescopes will be along. For more details email the SEDS excomm.

The 3rd lecture in the fall seminar series on science, ethics, & policy will be held on Friday, 20 at 4:00 p.m. in room 25, Baxter. The lecture, entitled **Carbon Dioxide and Climate: The First One Hundred Years, 1859-1959** will be given by Dr. James R. Fleming, Professor of Science, Technology, and Society at Colby College. Refreshments will be served in Judy Library in Baxter following the lecture.

The **Toyrific Antique & Collectible Toy Show** will be held Sunday November 15, 1998 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Pasadena Center, 300 East Green Street. There will be over 150 vendor tables with toys and collectibles, including Star Wars, Star Trek, Transformers, and G.I. Joe. Admission for early buyers is \$10.00, general admission is \$5.00. Over 150 vendors will be present. For more information, call 909-880-8558.

The **Nutcracker** will be presented by the new Pasadena Civic Auditorium Foundation at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, 300 E. Green St., on December 22-27. The times are as follows: December 22: 7:30 pm; 12/23: 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm; 12/24: 11:00 am; 12/26: 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm; 12/27: 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$21 - \$56. To order by phone call Ticketmaster at 213-480-3232. For additional information call the Civic Box Office at 626-449-7360.

The **Distinguished Speaker Series** continues with Governor Mario Cuomo on Monday, 16, 1998 at 8:00 p.m. at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. For information, call the Pasadena Civic Box Office at 626-449-7360.

The **Toy Train Operating Society** will be holding an open house at the Exhibition Building of the Pasadena Center, Sunday, November 15, 1998 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. General admission is \$5.00. Featured will be hundreds of tables filled with model trains from throughout the century. For more information, call 818-888-0603.

Fellowships and Scholarships

NSEP Scholarships for 1999-2000

Applications for National Security Education Program (NSEP) undergraduate scholarships are currently available for study abroad in summer 1999, fall 1999, and spring 2000. Scholarships are available to U.S. citizens enrolled at two- and four-year institutions who wish to study abroad in critical world areas in Africa, Asia, Eastern and Central Europe, Latin and South America, and the Middle East. Scholarships are not available for study in Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Sophomores and Juniors majoring in science and engineering may apply to study for a summer. This summer, Walt Ogburn '99 studied Russian language in culture in St. Petersburg under an NSEP Fellowship. During the summer of 1998, Jeanne Wilson '98, who is now on a Watson Fellowship, studied Turkish language and culture in Istanbul.

The maximum scholarship is \$8,000 per semester and \$16,000

per academic year. **The campus application deadline for the 1999-2000 academic year is January 25, 1999.** Turn all materials into the Fellowships Advising Office, Room 25 of the SAC. All applicants must undergo an endorsement interview with Lauren Stolper, Director of Fellowships Advising Applications will be available in Fellowships Advising by mid-October. Additional information on preferred geographic regions, languages, and fields of study and application procedures can be found at <http://www.iie.org/nsep> (FAR)

The **American Society of Naval Engineers** is offering scholarship awards of \$2,500 for undergraduate students and \$3,500 for graduate students for the 1998-99 academic year. Applicants must be U.S. Citizens and demonstrate a genuine interest in a career in naval engineering. The scholarship award must be for support of the last year of full-time or co-op undergraduate program or for one year of full-time graduate study leading to a designated degree at an accredited college or university. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. The deadline is February 15, 1999.

The **Southern California Chapter of Women in Cable & Telecommunications** is offering a \$1,000 Jeanne Cardinal Grant to one female junior or senior student residing in Southern California. Applicants must plan to pursue a career in the telecommunications field, have a 3.0 or higher GPA, and be active in at least one school approved campus organization or in community service. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Applications are to be completed and sent to: The Southern California Chapter of Women in Cable & Telecommunications, c/o Pamela Drake, Avenue TV Cable Service, Inc., PO Box 1458, Ventura, California, 93002. The deadline is December 31, 1998. (UFA)

The **Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity** sponsors an annual essay contest for full-time undergraduate juniors and seniors in colleges and universities throughout the United States. Essays must be submitted on behalf of a student by a college or university administrator, faculty advisor, or faculty member, and be accompanied by a completed entry form. No more than three (3) essays may be submitted from the same college, university, or campus in any one contest year. To obtain an entry form and further information, send a self-addressed,

stamped envelope to: The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics, The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity, 450 Lexington Avenue, Suite #1920, New York, NY 10017. No FAX submissions will be accepted. Entries must be postmarked by January 22, 1999, or be delivered to the Foundation office by 5:00 p.m., January 22, 1999. (UFA)

The **American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society (AESF)** is offering scholarships to upper-class undergraduate and graduate students for the 1999-2000 academic year who are interested in careers in the electroplating and surface finishing field. Undergraduates must be full-time and majoring in chemistry, chemical engineering, environmental engineering, materials science, materials engineering, metallurgy, or metallurgical engineering. To obtain an application form and further information, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: AESF Scholarship Committee, American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society, 12644 Research Parkway, Orlando, FL 32826-3298. The deadline is April 15, 1999.

The **Caltech Financial Aid Office** is proud to introduce a new link on our website called the Financial Aid News. This site is designed to provide students with updated information about scholarship opportunities at Caltech. Our office will post these scholarship opportunities on a weekly basis. You can view the web site at www.finaid.caltech.edu/news.html. (UFA)

For information on the listed fellowships, assistance with essays, for clarification of questions, contact:

FAR - The Fellowships Advising and Resources Office.

For information, please contact lauren_stolper@starbase1.caltech.edu. To make an appointment, call x2150

UFA - The Undergraduate Financial Aid Office.

For information, call x6280, or stop by 515 S. Wilson for an appointment.

To submit an event for the Mints, contact mints@tech.caltech.edu or Mail Code 040-058 by noon on the Monday prior to its inclusion. Submissions must be brief and concise. Please do not send Mints in difficult formats like binhex or word document, .rtf and ASCII are best. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all material. Solicitations will be referred to the business manager.

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