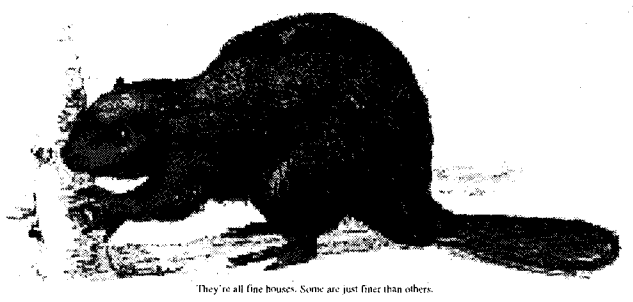
donuts donuts donuts donuts donuts donu
ts donuts donuts donuts donuts donuts don
donuts donu **ASCIT DONUTS** ts donuts d
onuts donu **Tonight at midnight** ts donuts d
onuts d **Ricketts-Fleming courtyard** onuts
donuts donuts donuts donuts donuts donuts
donuts donuts donuts donuts donuts donut



They're all fine houses. Some are just finer than others.

New comic strip!
Check it out on page 8

The California Tech

VOLUME CII, NUMBER 2 | PASADENA, CALIFORNIA | SEPTEMBER 29, 2000

CS1 SYLLABUS QUESTIONED FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW BY STUDENTS

BY TECH STAFF

Last year, the computer science department gained some notoriety over a change in the CS1 curriculum when JJ was offered in place of C. This frustrated students who had enrolled in the course expecting to program in a practical language.

After much controversy, JJ was abandoned mid-term because the department had to honor the course description. This year, C has once again been replaced.

The CS department currently plans to use the programming language DrScheme in CS1 and CS2. This leaves a gap in the Caltech curriculum. There is currently no course at Caltech which teaches introductory C or C++.

Many students argue that practical programming skills are useful in the workplace in a variety of fields and that teaching DrScheme is not helpful in developing those skills.

Once again, dissatisfied students are objecting to the changes. Jay Hubisz, Travis

PLEASE SEE CS1 ON PAGE 3

Tech volleyball sweeps tournament

BY NEDA AFSARMANESH

Though this is the first year women's volleyball is competing in the Conference, the season is off to a successful start with a 4-3 standing.

The team was victorious in the Sept. 19-21 Life Bible Tournament. Though in previous years "[the team] would get trussed by those teams, this year they grew as a team; they believed they could win," said Chris Hughes, Director of Athletics Media and Services.

Caltech first faced Southwestern College, winning all four matches. On Sept. 20 the Beavers lost their first match against Multnomah 0-3, but defeated San Jose Christian 3-1. On the last day of the tournament, the team won another match against Rio Hondo College, standing 3-1 overall in the tournament. The final

PHOTO BY ERIK DILL

Donut development team gets off its ASCIT

BY JAY CARLTON

They haven't gone public yet, but don't bother calling your stock broker. You're all shareholders whether you like it or not.

ASCIT, Inc., in its first ever e-commerce venture, has launched the Bookmart (http://donut.caltech.edu/bookmart). While its initial release was met with limited fanfare, the site has skyrocketed in popularity in its first weeks of existence.

Among the services of the new site are a convenient ISBN book posting function and matching database. After undergoing a relatively painless account creation procedure, one can post titles using only a couple dozen keystrokes.

While a simple bulletin board may have sufficed, the site allows the seller instantly to compare his or her asking price to the prices of other students seeking to rid themselves of the same text. This reverse bidding war is of benefit to buyers, who can save tens of dollars over the Bookstore's used price (assuming the used book is even in stock there).

In order to ease comparison shopping, the Bookmart displays the Caltech Bookstore's new and used prices for a posted book, as well as the price on ecampus.com and Amazon, rival online booksellers.

Students selling books have no trouble fetching a better price than the Bookstore's buyback rate. The bookmart grew from former ASCIT president Baldeep Sadhaal's vision to update the association's website (http://www.its.caltech.edu/~ascit) with a "unified look and feel." Donut.caltech.edu has been years in planning and weeks in development. The project has employed three students: Jonathan Dama, Robert Christy and Dylan Simon. When the upgrade was approved in February, ASCIT allocated $8,000.

At some point during this summer, however, those funds were transferred to the ASCIT endowment. On the

PLEASE SEE DONUT ON PAGE 3

CDC director steps in

BY DANA SADAVA

"Before you get married to a career, you have to date around a bit," advised Jerry Houser, the new Director of the Career Development Center.

He should know. Arriving at Caltech to replace now-retired Sally Asmundson, Houser has almost twenty years of experience in the career planning profession.

Before joining the staff a month ago, he was the director of USC's Career Planning and Placement Center for ten years.

Teaching has also been integral to his career. He has taught a variety of courses ranging from management to ethics and philosophy in several different countries.

His work has attracted the attention of many organizations, including the Western Association of College and Employers, which bestowed its Outstanding Service Award on him this year.

Houser holds a B.A., an M.A., and a Ph.D in educational psychology and higher education.

New Center for Student Services opens

BY JON FOSTER

Over the summer, the first step was completed in a process which may in 5 years' time result in the complete consolidation of all student services on the east side of campus.

The old Keck graduate house, which was majorly renovated towards the end of last academic year and over the summer, has been turned into the first half of the Center for Student Services (CSS), and now houses several groups and offices important for undergraduates.

As anyone who attempted to visit Financial Aid at its old location already knows, the Financial Aid offices have relocated to Steele House, moving the Caltech Y, the offices of Residence Life, the Women's Center, and the MOSH across the street.

All these groups are on the first floor of the new building, with the exception of the Women's Center, which shares the 2nd floor with Minority Student Affairs (relocated from 204 Central Engineering).

The last of the groups located in the newly-opened building is the Career Development Center (CDC), which used to be split between Parsons-Gates and the SAC.

As one staff member of the CDC remarked, "We were asking companies which were coming to one of the top research institutes to conduct interviews under the student houses." Their new office space consolidates the offices with the recruiting and interview rooms. There are further improvements and additions

PLEASE SEE CSS ON PAGE 3

Inside the *Tech*

The Usual		*Features*	
Editorial	2	Frosh Camp	3
Outside World	2	Rotation Rules	5
Bookworm	4	Rotation Dinner	6-7
Foxtrot	10	Map of Pasadena	8-9
The Dean's Corner	11	Shannon writes an article	42

News and Battle Plans

CSS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

planned. The old Mosher-Jorgensen graduate house, which is adjacent to the current CSS offices, will be renovated (with work starting as early as next May).

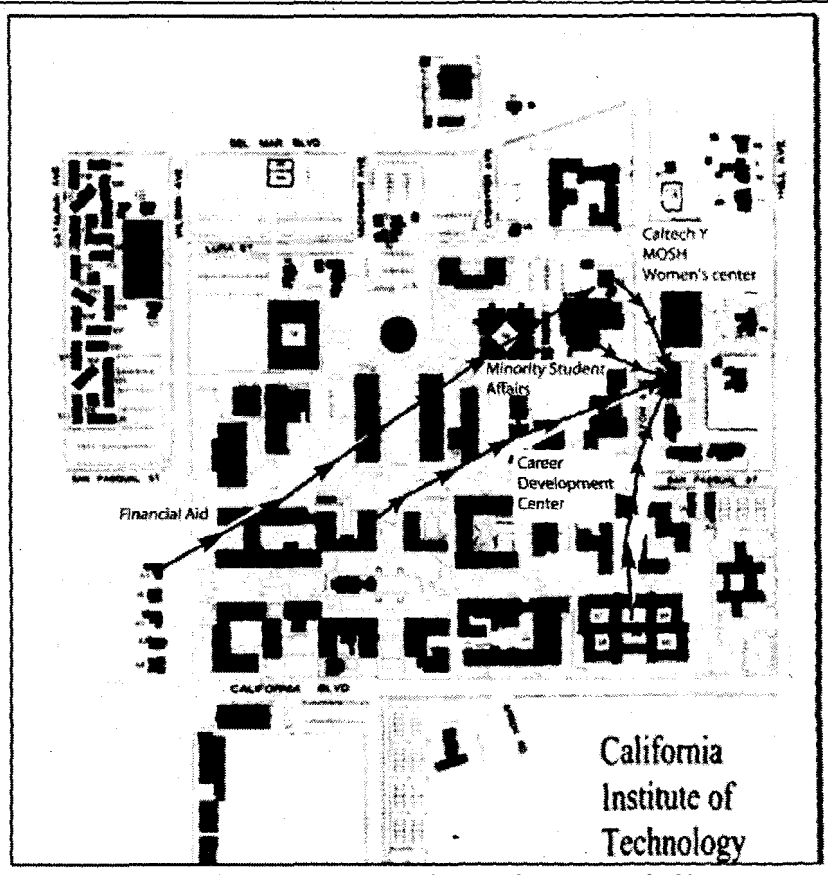
The offices currently planned to move there are many: the Bursar/Cashier, financial aid, undergraduate admissions, the registrar, the undergraduate dean, the fellowship and study abroad office, and some graduate offices.

As Stan Borodinsky of Student Affairs put it, "most of the needs of the students will be met in one place."

It will take time, however. Since offices like admissions cannot easily move during times when they are especially busy, it is not expected that all the new offices will be relocated into the CSS in much less than two years. Even further off in the future, but perhaps within the next 5 years, a new student center will be built on the current location of Physical Plant, containing new music and art facilities and the rest of the facilities which Caltech students would need.

At that point, the seven houses, Avery, and the new student services in between them should comprise the pathetic little existence of lazy Techers.

There will be an open house for the Center for Student Services on Tuesday, Oct. 10th from 3-5 to commemorate the opening of the new building.



Don't know where anything is located anymore? This map shows the recent moves of useful offices like Financial Aid, the Women's Center, Minority Student Affairs, and the Caltech Y. The Deans, registrar, and admissions offices will soon be moving as well.

DONUT:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

technical aspects of OPERATION: DONUT, the development team commented as follows: "the site is done with PHP 4.0, Apache, PostgreSQL, some utilities in Perl, C, etc., on a FreeBSD 4.1 system."

The site was developed "the hard way," starting from scratch instead of from prepackaged e-commerce modules. The Club Finder, another ASCIT e-service, is up and running, but the clubs' sites are not yet connected thereto. An event calendar is also up, but it is likewise blank.

Tutors Wanted! S.A.T. & Academic Subj.
Score! Prep, the nation's fastest-growing In-home tutoring service needs tutors with high S.A.T. scores & for all academic subjects.
Reliable transport req'd. Flex. Hours, $16/hr
Call (310)446-2161 to apply!

Hang out. Surf web. Sleep late. CompuBank.

College is an art and a science.
Soon enough, you'll discover the proper course of study is figuring out the brave new world while expending as little effort as possible.
Which brings us to the subject of CompuBank.

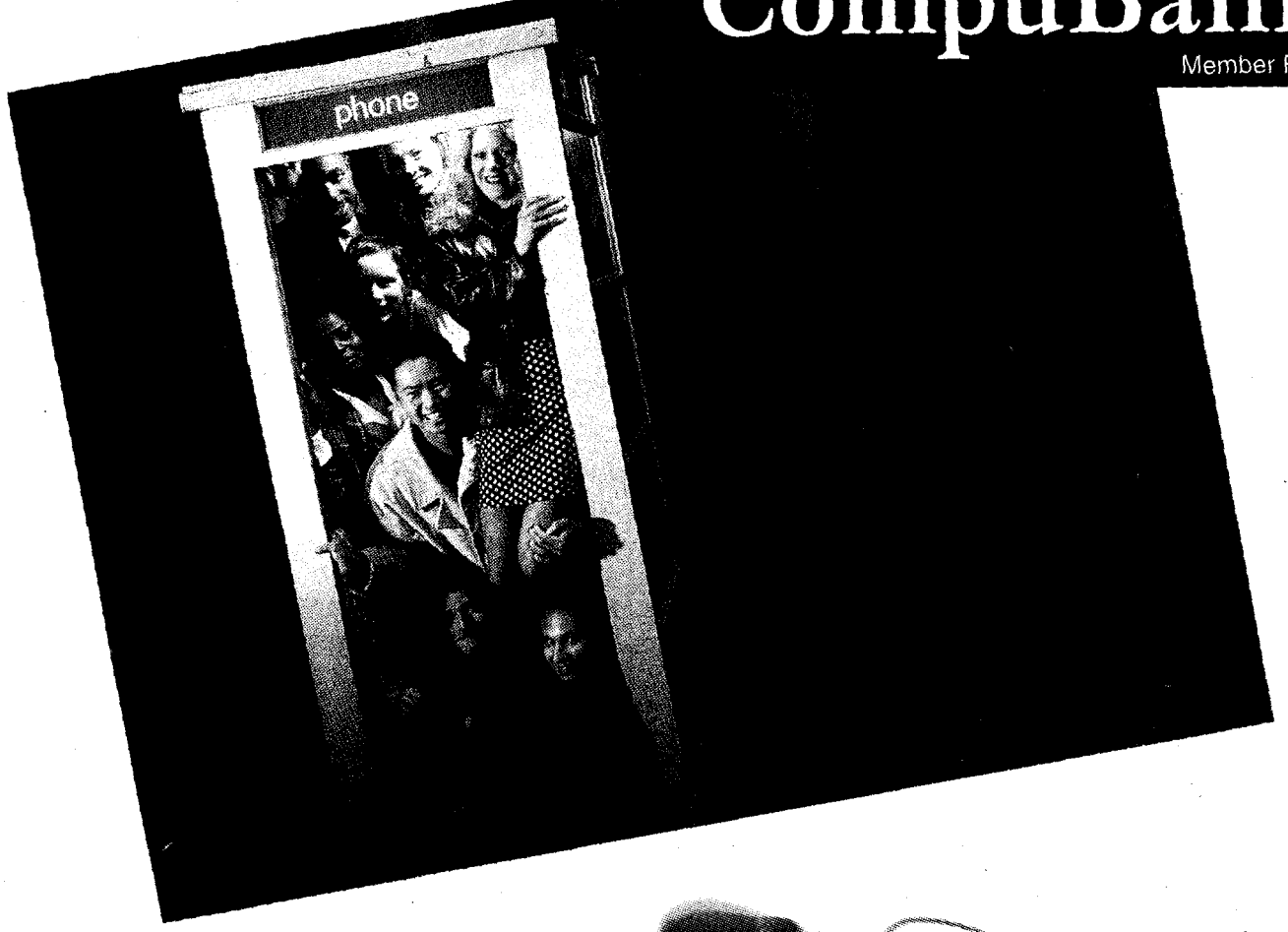
CompuBank isn't just around the corner. It's right in your room. Right on your computer. You get free basic checking, free savings and access to free ATM networks. You get a CompuBank check card to use any place Visa is accepted.

And, when you run out of money about every other week, your mom and dad can wire you more -- free.

Log on to **www.CompuBank.com**
Click on Circle of Friends™ to learn how you can earn $40 for each friend you refer who opens and funds a CompuBank account.
You can open an account right online and approval can happen within minutes.

Have you ever tried swallowing a goldfish?

CompuBank®
Member FDIC



Everything you don't like about your bank...

we don't have that.™

© 2000 COMPUBANK, N.A.

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Caltech 40–58, Pasadena, CA 91125
editorial desk: (626) 395–6153
advertising desk: (626) 395-6154
editorial email: *editors@tech.caltech.edu*
advertising email: *adv@tech.caltech.edu*
ISSN 0008–1582

VOLUME CII, NUMBER 2
SEPTEMBER 29, 2000

EDITORS IN CHIEF
Jonathan Foster
John Oh
Dana Sadava

BUSINESS MANAGER
Tasha Vanesian

ADVERTISING MANAGER
Jennifer Lee

COMICS EDITOR
Kenneth Kuo

PHOTOGRAPHER
Erik Dill
Dana Sadava

COPY EDITORS
Elisabeth Adams

CONTRIBUTORS
Jason Cardema
Vanessa Sih
Erik Dill
Kenneth Kuo

STAFF WRITERS
Justin Kao
Mohi Kumar
Merc Chasman
Mona Sheikh

FEATURE WRITERS
Justin Ho
Stephen Shepard
Jason Meltzner
Adam Villani

MINTS
John Oh

CIRCULATION STAFF
Roger O'Brient
Rick Karnesky

ADVISER
Hall Daily

DEADLINES

Advertising:	5 p.m. Monday
Announcements (Mints):	noon Monday
Letters to the Editor:	6 p.m. Tuesday
Unsolicited Articles	noon Monday

Published weekly except during vacation and examination periods by the Associated Students of the California Institute of Technology, Inc. The opinions expressed herein are strictly those of the authors and advertisers.

Letters and announcements are welcome. All contributions should include the author's name and phone number and the intended date of publication. The preferred submission method is to e-mail tech@ugcs.caltech.edu with the body of the article appearing in plain text. Alternatively, you may submit copy (preferably on Macintosh 3.5≤ disk) to the *Tech* mailbox outside SAC room 40.The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all submissions for literacy, expediency, etc. All articles are the property of the authors. Authors and columnists retain all intellectual property rights.

Advertising should be submitted as camera-ready art, but the *Tech* can also do simple typesetting and arrangement. All advertising inquiries should be directed to the business manager. For email, please use *business@tech.caltech.edu*. Do not send ad inquiries to the editors.

For subscription information, please send mail to "Subscriptions" or call (626) 395-6154.

Printed by News-Type Service, Glendale.

We live for the One. We die for the One.

Sports and News

New RAs settle in

BY DEBBIE LEE

Your mother isn't here to tell you not to drink from the milk carton. Your Resident Associates probably won't, either, but they're the closest thing to mothers around here. Have you met yours?

McKell Cartou is Page House's newest parental figure, a second-year graduate student at Tech in biology. He holds a B.S. in that field from the University of Utah.

"Why did I choose Caltech over MIT? Here they let me work with people outside my major," said Cartou. "And there are mountains and beaches closeby."

The two new RAs for Ruddock House, Mike and Rachel Marsden, enjoy the distinction of housing the only dog on campus along with their two cats. They met while stationed in Panama for the army and wed this summer.

When not participating in RA duties, Mike and Rachel pursue degrees in civil engineering and higher education administration from Cal State L.A. and USC, respectively.

Last year Rachel led the Caltech women's basketball team to set a new record for number of wins per season.

Just when you thought being an RA was the closest you could get to nirvana, Rachel begs to differ.

"Being a Caltech coach tops it all," she said. "There's zero pressure."

"And tons of job security," added Mike.

Letters to the Editors

Brian Meehan, the R.A. and beloved friend to Ricketts Hovse submitted his resignation on Tuesday the 19th of September. He earned the love and respect of the Skurves and others in the Caltech community by fighting for what he thought was in the best interest of the undergrads against the increasingly inane policies that have spewed from Residence Life recently. Brian will not be forgotten for this and we wish him the best of luck in his future.

--Ricketts Hovse

Volleyball:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in the tournament. The final match was against Life Bible; and though the first two games ended 16-14 and 18-16, the women swept the last game 15-8, winning the tournament.

"The win against Life Bible was nice to get, especially with them having defeated us a week earlier and also being a team I considered to be our toughest rival in the tournament," was head coach Brent Reger's comment.

More recently, the Beavers faced La Verne University, placed 18 in the country, losing all three games. The match started "with a little intimidation," commented Hughes with regards to the 15-0 and 15-2 losses.

However, by the end the team gathered grew more confident and finished the match with a 15-4 loss.

Other sports headlines

Men's Soccer

Starting the year with a victory over conference-rival La Verne, the men's soccer team leads an optimistic season. The 3-2 victory over UVL came after a scoreless first half. However, early in the second half junior forward Fernando Campos scored two goals before ULV also scored to tie the game at 2-2. The last goal was scored by junior co-captain Ben Kalenik during a penalty kick, saving the game at 3-2. Senior defensive player Nathan Flowers-Jacobs also aided the team in preventing La Verne's star athletes from gaining ground. "It was great to get a conference win this early in the season," said head coach Julie Levesque.

The wins have not gone unseen by the Caltech community either. Crowds of well over 100 have joined at the soccer field to watch the games and cheer for the Beavers, according to Director of Athletics Media Services Chris Hughes.

Men's Water Polo:

With eight athletes scoring 21 goals against Penn State-Erie Behrend in last Friday's game in Pittsburgh, the Caltech Water Polo team has a 1-4 standing.

The "impressive" aspect of this game was that the usual goalie Vladimir Federov was playing offensive, while backup goalie Aaron Hicks took his place. Hicks made eight saves against PSU-Behrend, while Federov stopped 34 shots in the three contests he played goalie. Senior Tom Daula scored 14 goals in the five matches at Pittsburg. "We had a good trip to Pennsylvania," said head coach Clint Dodd. "...[we] exploded on offense against Penn State-Behrend. The looks good in the early part of the season."

RETIREMENT INSURANCE MUTUAL FUNDS TRUST SERVICES TUITION FINANCING

Why is TIAA-CREF the #1 choice nationwide?

The TIAA-CREF Advantage.

Call us for a free information package.

...ear in and year out, employees at education and ...search institutions have turned to TIAA-CREF. And for good reasons.

- Easy diversification among a range of expertly ...anaged funds
- A solid history of performance and exceptional personal service
- A strong commitment to low expenses
- Plus, a full range of flexible retirement income options

For decades, TIAA-CREF has helped professors and staff at over 9,000 campuses across the country invest for—and enjoy—successful retirements.

Choosing your retirement plan provider is simple. Do with the leader. TIAA-CREF.

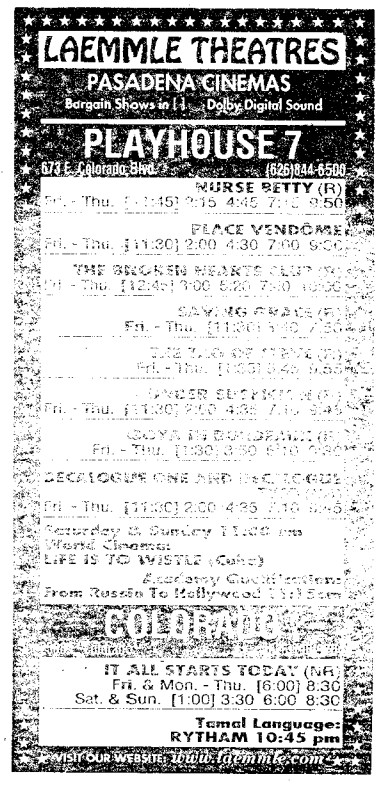
THE TIAA-CREF ADVANTAGE
Investment Expertise
Low Expenses
Customized Payment Options
Expert Guidance

Securing the future for those who shape it.™

1 800.842.2776

www.tiaa-cref.org

For more complete information on our securities products, please call 1 800 842 2733, ext. 5509, to request prospectuses. Read them carefully before you invest. • TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc. distributes the CREF and TIAA Real Estate variable annuities. • Teachers Personal Investors Services, Inc. distributes the Personal Annuities variable annuity component, mutual funds and tuition savings agreements. • TIAA and TIAA-CREF Life Insurance Co., New York, NY, issue insurance and annuities. • TIAA-CREF Trust Company, FSB provides trust services. • Investment products are not FDIC insured, may lose value and are not bank guaranteed. © 2000 TIAA-CREF 08/03



CS1:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Waddington, and Dev Kumar are circulating a petition either to restore the traditional introductory CS curriculum or to institute a new class which will teach an industry-standard language.

Over 150 Caltech students have signed this petition, indicating strong support. There has been no response from the CS department or the Curriculum Review Committee.

The Computer Science Department Chair was unavailable for comment.

Features

A Frosh Perspective

Incoming...

by Tom Hetcher
tomf@its.caltech.edu

I left chem lab amazed at how wonderful and different Caltech was last Wednesday. This place sure is something else. Not only did I practically get my own TA in class, my lab drawer was stocked with everything I could ever possibly need. No more sharing bunsen burners, no more having to wash out old pipettes, no worn-out flint lighters. High school memories faded like a dream upon awakening. As I passed through the high-IQ conversations of grad students at the tables outside the Red Door Café, I was certain. Caltech is a world of its own with no analog in the world I once knew.

After returning to my room with more Frosted Flakes and milk (the breakfast of champions!), I realized that the lab book I had been lovingly carrying like a newborn was no longer in my hand. Had someone stolen a lab book? Did the unknown acid eat away the entire book? Where the hell was it? A fifteen-minute ransacking of my room uncovered nothing. Standing there, fuming and frothing, I recalled in a cathartic moment putting it on top of the cereal boxes while hunting for Tony the Tiger's familiar visage. I left the book in the convenience store?!

Sure enough, the clerk in the convenience store had it waiting for me. A few profuse thank-yous later, the clerk revealed that this was not entirely out of the ordinary. Ohmigod, I thought. I'm becoming one of them. No matter what the rotation committee says, I'm not a pre-frosh anymore. I can feel myself getting absorbed into Caltech culture by the minute. "TI or HP?" is replacing "Britney or Christina?" as the controversial question.

With that in mind, I decided that a little anthropology exercise would be humorous and enlightening. Since my initiation will be completed sometime in the next 72 hours or less, this is my only chance to observe this unique place with any sort of objectivity.

The Caltech student, an enigma long unseen by the public. First sighted by the outside world was confirmed on "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" Previous unconfirmed sightings reported strange and unusual beings in Pasadena stores. The only proof of such a presence seems to be some tribal art on the side of Canterbury Records, a stylized "Laplace transform" tagged onto the wall. Thanks to the daring and initiative of this modest anthropologist, you can now see the Caltech student in its natural environment, interacting with its unusual social hierarchies, and reveling in its bizarre and unfathomable tribal activities.

> *"I can feel myself getting absorbed into Caltech culture by the minute. 'TI or HP?' is replacing 'Britney or Christina?' as the controversial question."*

To begin, the local people appear gaunt and pale. Sickly, even. It is a deplorable condition to be pitied by the more advanced peoples. Despite our shortage of time for investigation, it would seem that healthy dietary staples like red meat are completely absent. Instead, the peoples of this resource-poor land are subjected to feeding off plants and unidentifiable morsels of unknown origin. When we did finally find animals that could be used for meat, we were informed by the locals that they were reserved for ceremony only. "An open cortex investigation of the neural pathways of Rodentia" is what they called it. The tendency of the Beaver people to remain indoors, causing their wan complexion, is also religious in nature. The only ceremony in which we were able to partake was a thoroughly barbarous bonfire beneath the moon. We can only conclude that the tribal religion includes some form of ritualistic fear of the sun. Truly, a confused people.

Amongst the self-described Beaver people, it is taboo to look another tribe member in the eye. Whereas civilized members of society greet each other by looking them in the eye, this unusual people merely focuses on their feet and scurries off into a lab, hallway, alley, steam tunnel, etc. No native subject we encountered could account for this unusual social practice, nor could they explain to us how these people did not constantly bump into each other whilst fixated on the arrangement of bricks in the Walk of Olives. Our research team could only draw the conclusion that the technical skill inherent in this people must have led them to augment their visual organs with some form of RADAR apparatus. Curious indeed.

Unlike the other tribes members of the society have encountered in the past, the Caltech student does not adorn himself with ornate jewelry, marvelous pelts, or rare trinkets. The lack of the traditional alpha-male pack leader was initially confusing, but this insight allowed us to make a cultural breakthrough. Hunting prowess is not an indicator of strength here, nor is the presence of expensive cars or clothing. It would seem that prowess and standing in this society is based solely on intellectual ability and emotional depth. Baffling was my reaction as well! How can a society function with-

PLEASE SEE INCOMING ON PAGE 8

The Outside World

by Erik Dill

Eastern India - Unseasonable monsoon rains over the past ten days have resulted in widespread flooding, killing approximately 1,000 people. Millions in India and Bangladesh are now homeless.

Jerusalem, Israel - Leaders of Israel's hard-line Likud party toured the Temple Mount holy site, sparking violent protests from Palestinians. Control of the site is a key point of contention in ongoing Arab/Israeli peace talks.

Washington D.C. - The Pentagon plans to sell $1.3 billion worth of military weaponry to Taiwan, including air-to-air and anti-ship missles. China says the sale amounts to U.S. interference in Chinese internal affairs.

Belgrade, Yugoslavia - Pro-democracy candidate Vojislav Kostunica appears to have won last Sunday's election. However, the results are contested and current President Slobodan Milosevic is planning a run-off election in October. If Milosevic is removed from power, NATO will consider lifting economic sanctions against the nation.

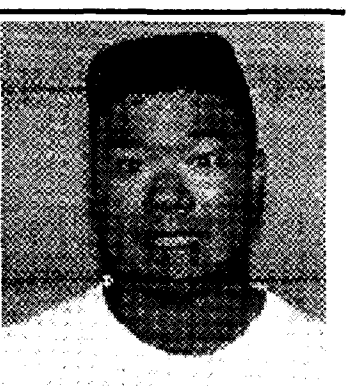
Jakarta, Indonesia - Hundreds protested the dismissal of criminal charges against former President Suharto. Police attacked one protester, firing a tear gas grenade at point-blank range and beating him into unconsciousness.

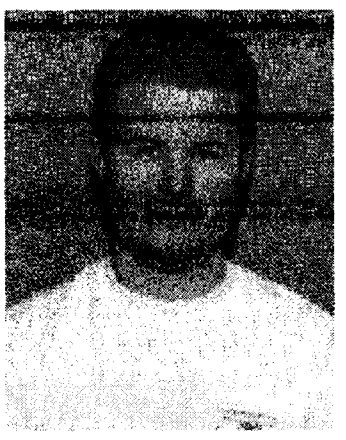
Washington D.C. - The FDA announced Thursday that the abortion-inducing drug RU-486 (mifepristone) has been approved for use. The drug, long available in Europe, can be used to induce an abortion up to 7 weeks after conception.

Question of the Week

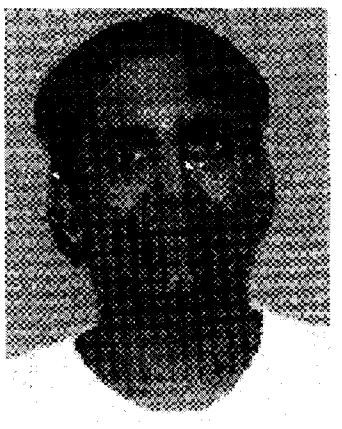
BY JANET ZHOU

"What do you think of the rotation rule: Houses are specifically prohibited from otherwise biasing a new student toward or against a House?"





"I think that aside from not making any sense, the interpretations of the rule prevent the students from acting naturally around prefrosh, which gives them an inaccurate picture of the house." —**Jeff Sullivan**, junior

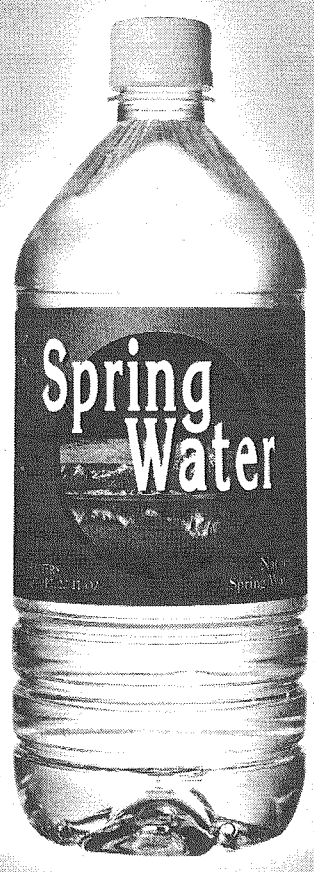


"With the exception of vicious lies, frosh have a right to hear any opinions or facts shared by upperclassmen" —**Ramanujan Srinivasan**, freshman

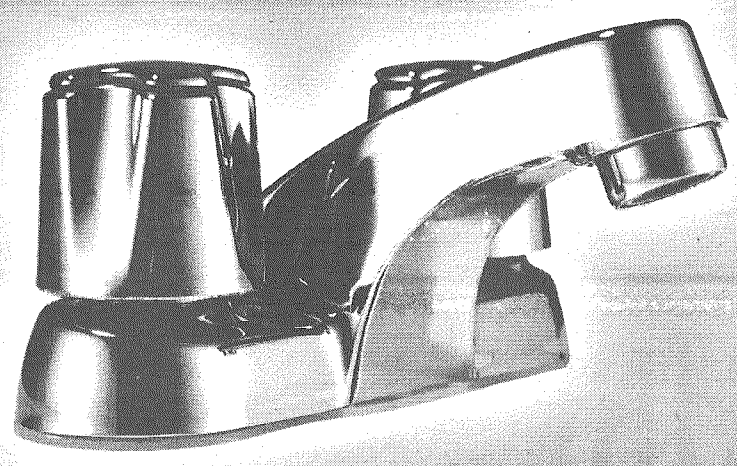
"'If the egg it ain't broke, don't check its teeth.'" —**Jason Chua**, senior

No Picture Available

"I think it's fair to an extent, since some houses have enough money to literally buy people into the house. However, I feel we should be given more leeway with what we are allowed to do." —**Kelly Klima**, sophomore



college bookstore



e campus.com

CHEAPER

eCampus.com SAVE UP TO 50% ON TEXTBOOKS AND STUFF. WITH FREE SHIPPING.

Thoughts by Prefrosh

Divergent Manifestation #1:

A Beaver, Eh?

by William Fong

Before I got here to Caltech, I was always wondering what the mascot of this place was. My friend, who now attends Berkeley, kept on prompting me that the golden bear would be better than whatever the Caltech mascot turned out to be. With that, I decided to stop taking his taunting and did a little research.

After searching the Caltech web site, I found out that it was a simple beaver. When I shared the results with my friend, he just laughed. I couldn't blame him; to me, a beaver was quite lame. Unfortunately, his bold statement was true and indisputable.

Ever since that moment (although we are still good friends), I have been pondering the question: Why does Caltech have a beaver as its mascot?

After many hours of deep thought, I arrived at the conclusion that the beaver was a symbol for diligence and work which, I suppose, does represent the student body here at Caltech, a studious and intellectual bunch indeed. Or was I wrong to elicit such an implication from something as simple as a mascot?

As I set foot onto the Caltech campus, I knew immediately that the beaver was not an accurate portrayal of the student body of Caltech. The people were more dynamic than a beaver would convey. Also, I would have expected more from a group of students with such exceptional brilliance to derive a more interesting mascot than a beaver. Where's the originality in that?

At this point of my argument, I am reminded of my high school studies, particularly a work by Henry David Thoreau, "Walden". In this piece, I remember Thoreau attempts to teach the reader that it is important to listen to the beat of your own drummer, not the beat of another drummer.

His plea to society to not conform to the pre-established ideals and beliefs is an important idea in the realm of individuality. You may be asking at this point, "What is the relevance of Thoreau in accordance to the Caltech beaver?"

Well, I believe that the choice of the beaver as a mascot was an act of conformity to an already existing beaver mascot at some other school (Oregon State...).

Even if this is not true, I am appalled at the fact that whoever was involved in the selection of the mascot was not willing to go off on a tangent and select something new and fresh or at least something more interesting. How about a penguin? Or a chimpanzee? It's not as if I prefer those animals over the beaver, but at least it's something different, maybe even ingenuous. Why do people always conform to the norms set by society?

At a school that sets the academic standard for all other colleges, why don't we also set the standard in choosing a school mascot? Are the people of the Caltech community really that indifferent towards athletics? Where's the school spirit?

If the consideration of a different mascot seems too radical for those of you who fear change, the beaver can stay, but can it look anything but generic? When I first saw the beaver mascot at the talent show during Frosh Camp, I was thinking to myself, "What the heck? This is our mascot, the mascot of a prestigious institution?" I beg to differ. Once again, I wonder where the creativity was. Can't the beaver look a bit more interesting? Colored hair? Certain fashion apparel? A personality? At a place where the students are creative and inventive in their various forms of fun-seeking activities, I would have expected more. But hey, what can you do? At this point of the column, you might be asking, "What's the point of all of this?" or "Why do I care at all about this column?" Well, my friend, that's the whole point.

Special thanks to my friend Ahmed Mian for coining the phrase "Divergent Manifestation" and my friend at Berkeley Kanwarjit Kelley who inspired me to write this piece. If you would like to respond to this article, please e-mail me at william@its.caltech.edu.

Incoming:

Continued from Page 4

out superficial, meaningless status symbols?

Of even more interest are the complex and mind-boggling mating rituals of the local populace.

What unthinkable and perverse rituals do these people participate in you ask? As you, we were curious as to how these people behaved. What we discovered was shocking. Not lewd, not grotesque, just shocking. In short, the society lacks courtship rituals.

Whether this is caused by an unnatural balance of the sexes or simple disinterest due to environmental factors could not be determined. Our current hypothesis revolves around consummation by way of light refracted off a weather balloon by swamp gas. This theory was proposed to us by a member of the tribal society who ended the discussion with a cackle and a snicker while we took down everything he said about wild tribal orgies on a revered holiday, March 14. A comprehensive study of how this society manages to perpetuate its population will have to be a subject of future research.

At this point, we will have to end our discussion, as there may be virgin ears in the audience. For those whose curiosity has been aroused and piqued, ask any of the presenters about the disgusting hygiene practices of the tribe, the crude and vulgar tribal "art" encountered in their squalid hovels, and the sick mental condition of the diseased populace...

Ok, so maybe it wasn't all that objective. But hey, maybe it made you laugh while you read it, which, I have found, is a wonderful form of escapism from the daily grind of a student's life here.

WELLS FARGO

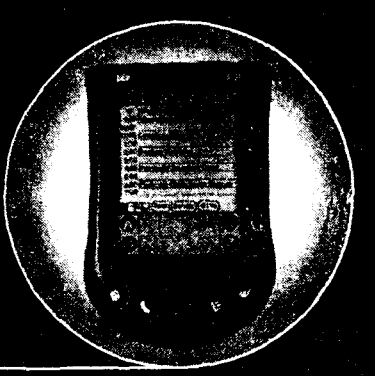
SKIP the LECTURE We make BANKING easy

Here's a subject you can ace. Banking at Wells Fargo is a walk in the quad with the *Student Combo*℠ Package. It combines a range of services into one smart plan. **Sign up today at the Wells Fargo location nearest your school and you'll rock with a free Sony Music Gift Certificate.**

The *Student Combo* Package

- Student ATM Checking
- Free Student MasterCard® *
- ATM & Check Card
- Online Account Access and much more

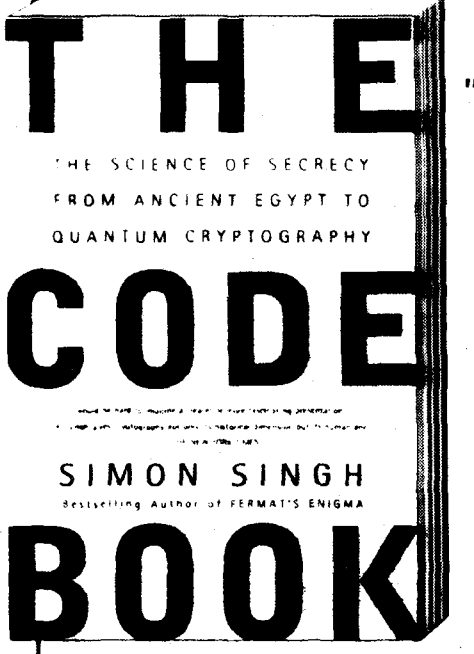
Plus log onto wellsfargo.com/special/sweepstakes and enter the **Wells Fargo *Student Combo*** Sweepstakes for a chance to win a Palm™ m100 handheld computer.



* No annual fee when linked as overdraft protection to your Wells Fargo checking account. Credit card issued by Wells Fargo Bank Nevada, N.A. and is subject to qualification. © 2000 Wells Fargo Banks. Members FDIC. All Rights Reserved. Palm is a trademark of Palm, Inc., or its subsidiaries.

CODES SECRETS HIDDEN MESSAGES

NATIONAL BESTSELLER



"A fascinating glimpse into the mostly secret competition between code makers and code breakers.... Entertaining and satisfying."
—*USA Today*

ARE YOU PREPARED TO TAKE THE CIPHER CHALLENGE?

Included in the book is the worldwide Cipher Challenge, a 10-step code-breaking contest. A prize of $15,000 will be awarded to whomever cracks the code first.

ANCHOR BOOKS ⚓ NOW IN PAPERBACK

for more information visit www.anchorbooks.com

Random Access

Random Access...

by: Vikram Dendi
vikram@caltech.edu

Welcome to Random Access. You will find in these columns cool things in no particular order, varying from reviews and views of interesting gizmos to ways of finding better textbook deals on the net.

There could be talk about how the next frosh camp should be based on the "survivor" model, whether a distributed delivery system for digital products is workable and why I shouldn't run for president. It could also be place for your own random thoughts, where I will discuss your different viewpoints.

And sometimes, I might digress into reviewing books, movies and even quotations...

All right, on to the cool stuff...

* * * * * * *

Sometime back, when I was at my internship in Stamford, CT I dropped by a Radioshack to pickup a cute little device that had caught my attention at a beta test. It's called a CueCat.

The premise is quite simple. Take a barcode scanner (a miniature one of the kinds found in, say, Wal-Mart), connect it to the Internet through your computer, and have a huge database of all things barcoded.

Considering there are millions of things in the world that have barcodes on them, it's quite a nifty way of finding out more information about such stuff. Digital Convergence's Cuecat then allows consumers to scan special barcodes within articles or advertisements, called "cue codes," and be transported to related web sites, with the company acting as a central switching point.

I tried it, and it worked reasonably well. When I swiped it across a Mountain Dew can, it took me to its website, and a Harry Potter book led me to the scholastic (publishers) website.

Of course, not all barcodes are in the database (like the Japanese playstation2 I swiped), but they want you to help them by inputting what it was.

Well, once this device was slashdotted, many cool applications have been found for the device.

Linux drivers were written, the device was reverse engineered and the functionality enhanced many times over.

Hackers figured out the simple base64+XOR system used to scramble the CueCat's output, and wrote a Linux device driver for the scanner.

A decoder was written in Perl. An engineer from Nevada published a detailed analysis of the barcode cues themselves, and a Wisconsin hardware hacker physically dissected his CueCat and discovered a way to neuter the device's electronic serial number with a careful slice of an X-Acto knife. He figured that the serial EPROM was easily accessible and so by cutting one of the traces, the serial number could be disabled. Websites that read the cat's output took birth. One such site is still up at spun.com, where you can look up CDs and DVDs by scanning the UPC barcode and trade them using instant quotes.

Digital Convergence has taken a very aggressive approach against these hackers and got a lot of different applications pulled from the websites by citing intellectual property issues. They felt that if people took over their device and started using their own databases, they would lose out on the revenues. Their revenue model is being the gatekeeper between codes and their destinations online. Cease and desist letters were sent to many hackers, and partial success was claimed by the company.

Despite this fallout, and the claims from Digital Convergence, the hacker community hasn't stopped in making this device cooler and cooler and a search on google for Cuecat should spew out a ton of webpages hosting different functionalities. Give it a try!

* * * * * * *

I just started beta testing a service called me.net. It claims to be the world's first online network that enables you to place and receive calls anywhere in the world by routing your personal ME.net phone number to any available telephone, regardless of time, location, or communication devices.

You can access emails; voice mails and faxes remotely using the net, the phone, web-enabled devices etc. You can forward all of these, and even do a 12-way conference call using this service.

It's free, and you even get 1000 minutes of long-distance free when you sign up. I tried it out and it turned out to be quite a useful service. There were, as you could expect, a few glitches... but that's beta for you!

* * * * * * *

Before signing off for the week, here's one other neat technology that's out on the Internet right now. Last year sometime, I read about a big venture capital firm investing in a small startup called octopus.com. I decided to do some checking, and ended up looking at some very interesting Internet technology. Recently I went back to find that the service had improved tremendously.

Here's how Octopus works: Say you want information about a company called Walker Digital. Instead of searching multiple sites and search engines, which return lots of superfluous information, Octopus lets you mix-and-match relevant information to create a single, customized source. For instance, you can:

Get stock quotes and charts from Quicken

Get corporate and competitive information from Hoovers Online Get recent news and headlines about Walker Digital from Yahoo

You can pretty much put anything on one web page using the octopus service. You can put webpages or little pieces of webpages, pictures, cartoons (I have a Calvin and Hobbes cartoon that changes daily on my octopus homepage)... almost anything that is found online.

Whether the company has a sustainable business model I cannot say, but from me there are just two words for that technology...

pretty cool!

* * * * * * *

A glossary of some of the terms, websites and companies I talked about is forthcoming as part of Random Access. An online resource center will soon be open at http://randomaccess.geekguru.com. Please direct any questions, comments and other correspondence to randomaccess@geekguru.com or v@cns.caltech.edu.

I hope you enjoyed the column as much as I did writing it. I will be back soon with more random access to the world of cool things out there...

until then... goodbye!

Bookmarks from Today's Random AccesS:

www.octopus.com
www.me.net
www.cuecat.com
www.digitalconvergence.com
www.slashdot.org
http://freshmeat.net/news/2000/08/28/967502569.html (Linux driver)
www.spun.com

Vanilla

by Jason Mitchell

*Introducing a New Comic Strip by Jason Mitchell. Meet Vince Newton. He was your average high school student. Well, except for the fact he is a lemur, but other than that he *was* normal. Y'see, Vince is no longer a high school student, but is now a frosh at the possibly weirdest college in the nation, the California Institute of Technology. Well, just remember as usual: College is hard enough without the eight foot tail.*

www.vanilla-the-comic.8m.com (C)2000. Jason Mitchell

Be afraid. Be very afraid. Of mediocrity.

Put your best idea forward.

And move minds.

It's a brand new day in a brave new economy.

It's time to create a movement.

As of now, you can lead in ways you never

dreamed possible.

Come and Join us at the Caltech PHD Career Fair on October 5th, 2000, on campus

Contact some of your Caltech Alumni now working for marchFIRST

Jeroo Sinor	jeroo.sinor@marchFIRST.com
Patrice Maheo	patrice.maheo@marchFIRST.com
Brigitte Baldi	brigitte.baldi@marchFIRST.com
Jennifer Ma	jennifer.ma@marchFIRST.com
Andrei Marinescu	andrei.marinescu@marchFIRST.com

Other dates for your calendar.....

- marchFIRST presentation on October 9th from 4-6pm at the Career Development Center
- 1st Round interviews October 31, 2000

Parris Kent, Recruiting Coordinator
410 Townsend St., 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94107
ph: 415-369-6893
fx: 415-369-6385
e-mail: parris.kent@marchFIRST.com

m marchFIRST

www.marchFIRST.com

© 2000 marchFIRST

Goldman, Sachs & Co.
Information Sessions

Claremont McKenna College/Pomona
Founder's Room
Monday, October 2nd, 2000
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

USC
Upstairs Garden Court
Tuesday, October 3rd, 2000
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

UCLA
Kerckhoff Grand Salon
Monday, October 16th, 2000
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Send Cover Letter/Resume/Transcript By October 24th
Goldman, Sachs & Co.
Fox Plaza, Suite 2600
2121 Avenue of the Stars
Los Angeles, CA 90067
Fax: 310-407-5555
Attn: Joel Werner

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Joel Werner (310-407-5704) or Jill Axelrod (212-902-7286)

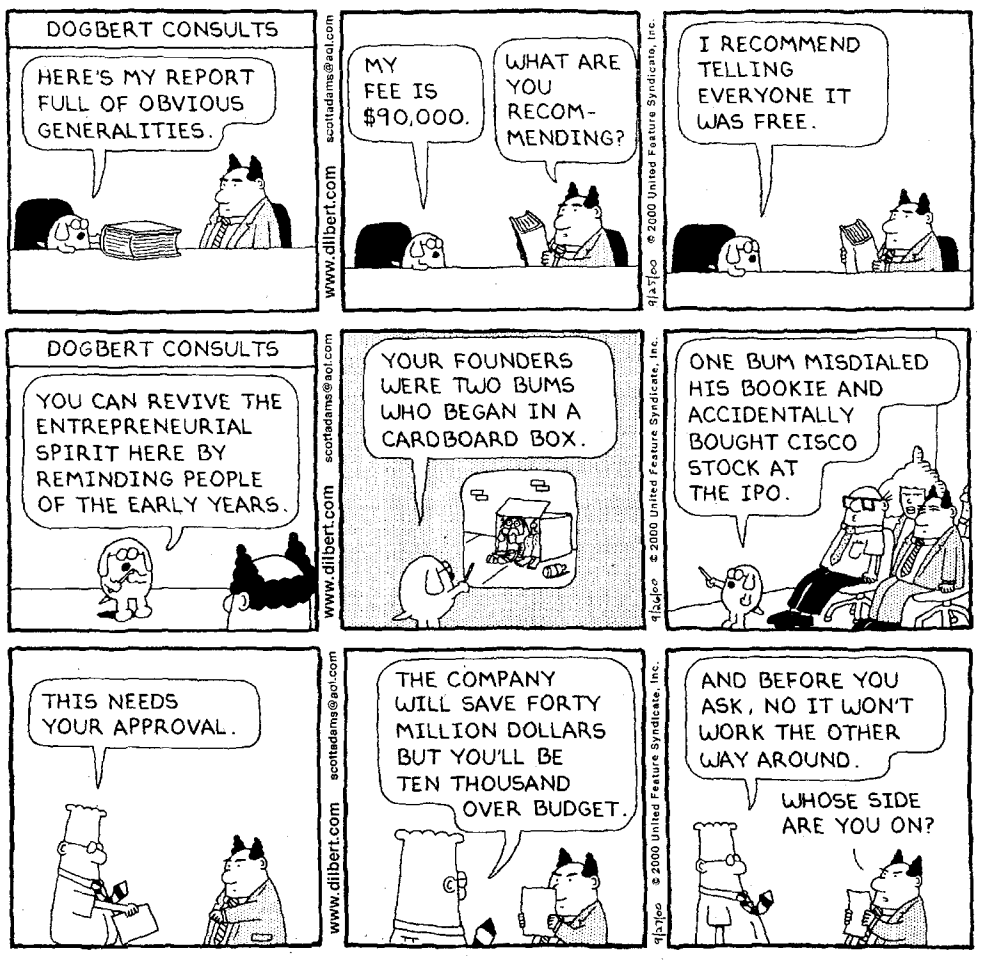
Goldman Sachs

MINDS. WIDE OPEN.℠
www.gs.com

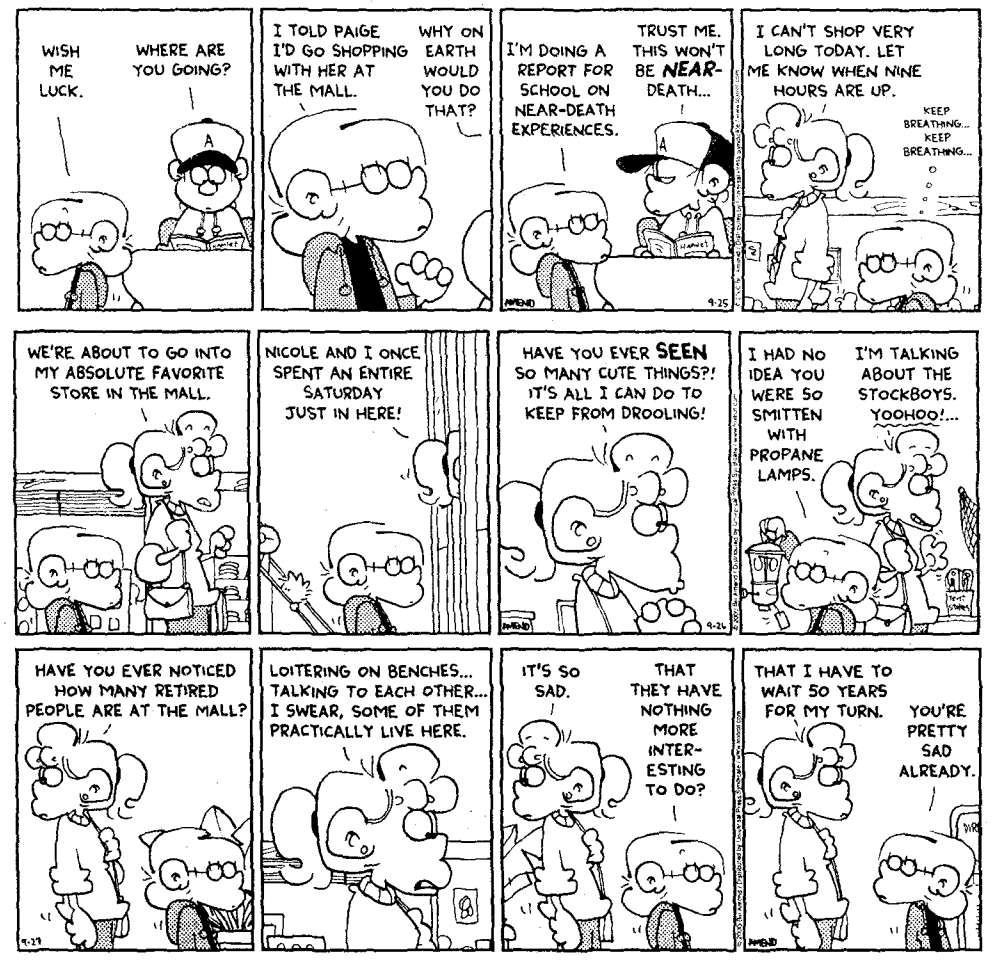
Goldman Sachs, an equal opportunity employer, does not discriminate in employment on any basis that is prohibited by federal, state or local laws. © 2000 Goldman, Sachs & Co.

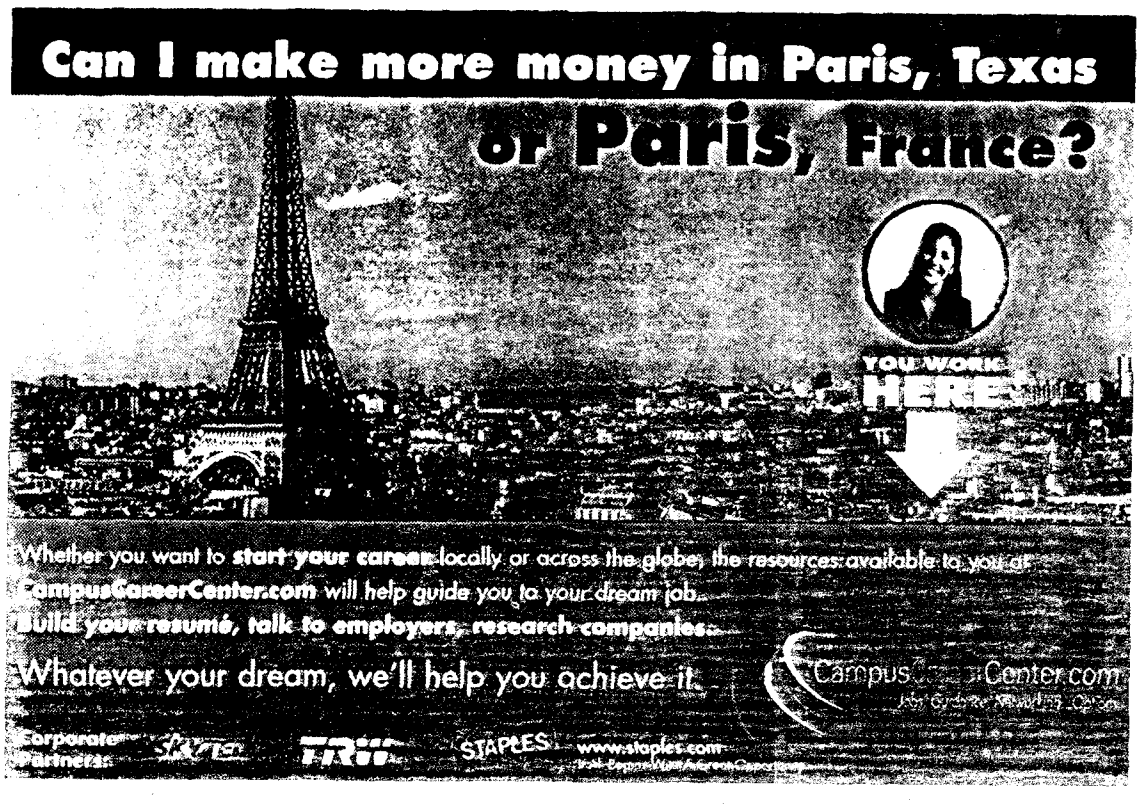
Comics

DILBERT® by Scott Adams

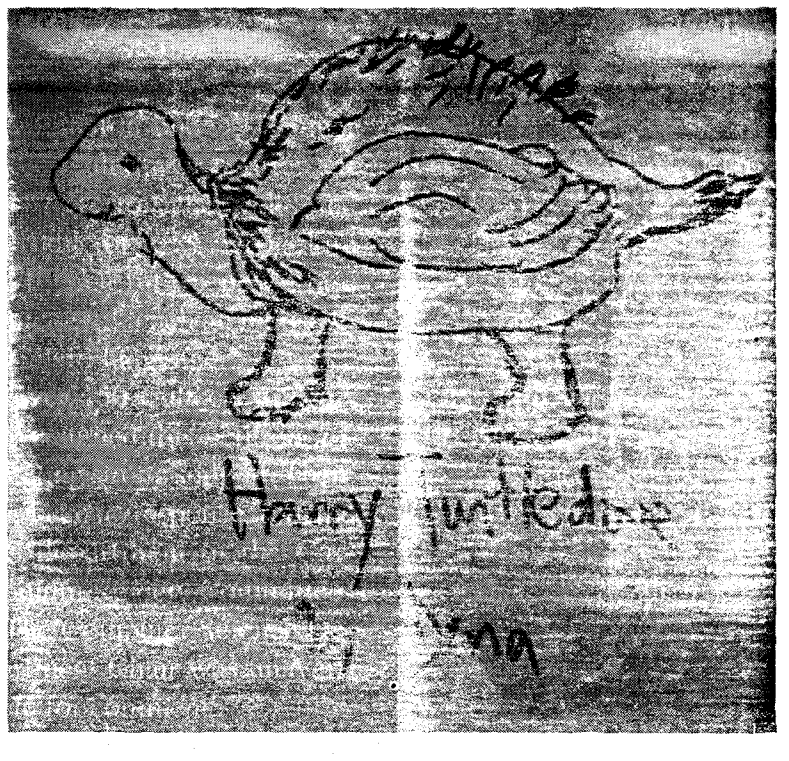


FoxTrot by Bill Amend





CHANGE HISTORY.
WORK FOR THE TECH.



The Dean's Corner

Dean's Corner

Spring in the fall

by Jean-Paul Revel

The new term has started. Something alive is in the air. Campus has shed its torpid summery feeling and has acquired a bustling atmosphere. One only has to go to Chandler dining hall to become aware that something has drastically changed. Where last week there were empty or nearly empty tables it is now difficult to squeeze in. It is even difficult to get to the food, so crowded is the serving area. Never mind trying to get to the present favorite, the pizza from the wood-fired oven. The line is so long that one risks fainting from hunger before being served. But that does not inconvenience the frosh, who eat in the houses.

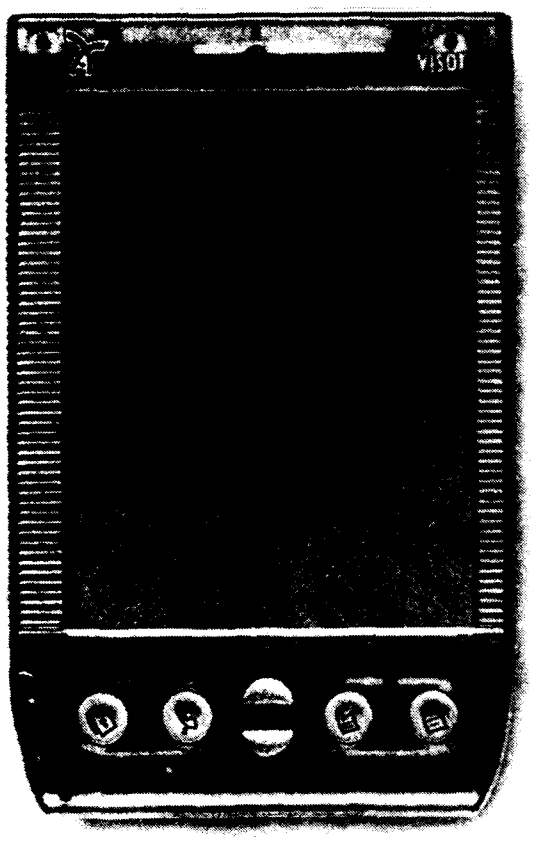
At the bookstore there are tape barriers, you know the kind one sees in banks or airports to control the press of the crowds against the counters. Of course the presence of a barrier doesn't mean that there's a crowd. In fact when I visited the bookstore last the barriers looked more like wishful thinking than an actual need. But all is ready for any eventuality. There is a large inventory of the things needed at the beginning of school. New pens and pencils, new notebooks, new book bags with spiffy Caltech insignia, calendars and caps and sweaters even radios and calculators, and of course next door at Wired, psychedelic computers. The shelves are full of textbooks and the Pasadena StarNews had a story about how much it costs to keep a Caltech student in books. They indicate it is about $500 this term. One can also tell that the new term has started (Spring in the Fall) by the rush of students spilling out of classrooms on the hour. For example I try to avoid being under the archway by the door to Parsons-Gates around noontime. You see, there a near stampede MTTh at that time in the Fall, presumably as Ch1a students escape from the Pauling auditorium.

You know who Pauling was, frosh, don't you? I can hear you saying yes, of course, there are Linus effigies and mementoes all over the bookstore. He was the (twice) Nobel Prize Prof. who believed in vitamin C as a cure for the common cold. A good thing that he came to that idea late in his life, because it is while he was at home nursing a cold that he made one of his major contributions. I understand that he was nursing a fever, playing around with some bits of paper on which he had drawn peptide bonds (the main bond in the backbone of proteins). By wrapping the paper just so, he suddenly realized that a helical structure for the backbone could be stabilized by hydrogen bonds. And that was the inspiration for the "alpha helix" that we now know as a major structural element in proteins. I guess the lesson is, don't take vitamin C or you will risk missing your next discovery.

Another sign that a new term has started is the meeting of UASH. For you frosh not yet completely familiar with all our acronyms, UASH stands for Undergraduate Academic Standards and Honors committee. Although UASH is one of the most important committees at Caltech none of you has yet tangled with it. Like many other Caltech committees it is comprised of professors and students. It is almost, but not quite, as feared as the Board of Control. While the Board of Control is charged to uphold the Honor Code, UASH deals with academic status. A student with a poor academic record is first seen by the deans. If their ministrations do not succeed in improving the situation the student's problems are then likely to end in UASH laps. The committee decides whether to let her continue or whether to ask him to leave Caltech, at least for a period of time. Often the committee makes recommendations about what the student is expected to do before returning to the fold. You also need to address UASH when a grade needs to be changed, a course needs to be dropped after the drop day deadline, or a course added which was inadvertently left out of your registration card. The committee approves underloads. It also examines petitions for reinstatement, necessary if you had to leave Caltech for some reason. Based on the documentation provided by the student and others, the problem(s) at hand are described by one of the members of the committee and possible outcomes then discussed. Eventually, when all of sides of the problem have been well aired, a motion is made and voted on. Until this year petitioners had to be available in the eventuality that clarifications would be needed. That was nerve wracking, because it meant that students had to wait around for their turn to come up. It sometimes was a long wait. The deliberations could not take place on a very tight schedule, since it was obviously impossible to interrupt someone else's impassioned plea on the grounds of timeliness. To reduce the stress, a different way of dealing with petitions will be tried starting early next year. Students will not need to personally present their petition. Only if the decision reached by the committee is not satisfactory to the student does he or she have the option to appeal the decision in person. I hope you Frosh and for that matter no one else, will have to meet with UASH, except of course in its munificent role as dispenser of prizes and kudos. Best of luck to all!

A bientot!

Jean Paul Revel

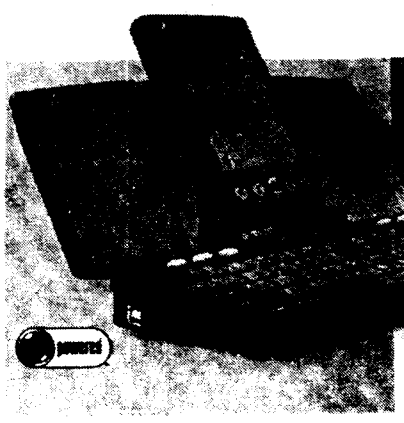


VISOR

taking notes.

More than just an electronic organizer, now the Visor™ handheld can be a part of a mobile note-taking system with the Go-Type!™ portable keyboard. Together, they make typing information a no-brainer. And since the keyboard serves as a cradle you can even hotsync with your desktop computer. The Visor Go-Type!™ system is perfect for back-to-school. But this offer is only available online and for a limited time. This year, take notes to the extreme. With Visor™

handspring™



SAVE 15% ON THE GO-TYPE! FOR VISOR AT:
www.handspring.com

FREE $40 Value Software Bundle From LandWare Includes: WordSleuth Thesaurus / TakeNote! Text Editor

Visor™ and Go-Type!™ sold seperately. LandWare™ and Go-Type!™ are trademarks of LandWare, Inc.

Mints

Announcements

Additional HSS Course Announcement for Fall Term 2000-01: Lit 129 Austen, Bronte, Woolf An introduction to four of the most important English writers of the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Understanding these novelists as a tradition, we will pay particular attention to formal developments in the Novel from the marriage plot through modernism. Jane Austen, Charlotte and Emily Bronte, and Virginia Woolf's major works-including but not limited to Emma, Persuasion, Jane Eyre, Wuthering Heights, Mrs. Dalloway, To the Lighthouse. Instructor: King; TTH 1-2:30; Lit 101 Elementary Chinese I - Instructor: Ming; OM, M 7:30pm 125 Baxter; SS 200 Reasoning about Knowledge - Instructor: Heifetz; TTH 10:30-12 27 Gates. Courses that did not make fall term pre-registration: Lit 123 The Nineteenth-Century English Novel did not make fall term pre-registration. It will be offered on W 1-4pm in 127 Baxter - Instructor: King

The Dean's Office needs tutors in all areas -- help is especially needed with the main Institute requirements e.g., MA1, MA2, PH1, PH2, CH1, etc. The pay is $8.50 an hour. A strong understanding of the subject matter, patience, and the ability to communicate well are teh qualities needed as a tutor. If you are an upperclassman and would like to be a Deans' tutor please stop by the Deans' Office to see Sandra located in 102 Parsons-Gates

Looking for a safe and supportive place to discuss issue such as coming out, being out, dealing with family, coping with a homophobic culture, and being gay/lesbian/bisexual at Caltech? Want somewhere just to make new friends? We invite you to the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Discussion Group, which meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 8:15 until 10:15 p.m. in the Health Center Lounge. This is a confidential meeting and does not imply anything about a person's sexual orientation—only that s/he is willing to be supportive in this setting. The group usually discusses a particular relevant topic and then moves on to the general discussion. Refreshments are served. If you would like more information, please call ext. 8331.

CIT Guitar Classes for the spring quarter will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting on October 3 as follows: Beginning Guitar Class: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM, Intermediate Guitar Class: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Advanced Guitar Class: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM. Classical and flamenco repertoires are explored, but techniques transfer to other styles of guitar. The Beginning Class includes a jazz/folk chord system. Classes are free to Caltech students and other members of the Caltech community (space permitting). Undergrads can receive 3 units of credit. The instructor, Darryl Denning, has an international background in performance, teaching and recording (two of his CDs are available in the Bookstore). Mr. Denning can be reached at (323) 465-0881 or by email at: *ddenning@caltech.edu*. The Guitar Home Page is at: *www.cco.caltech.edu/~musicpgm/guitar.html*

The Caltech Ballroom Dance Club [CBDC] continues its offerings of dance classes and parties.

Sat 30 Sep'00, an Intro Dance Party to introduce the Caltech community to the offerings of the Caltech Ballroom Dance Club will be held from 8:00 to 11:59 pm. in the Avery Dinning Room. The party is free, refreshments will be provided, and no partner is required. In addition to describing the activities of the club plans include demonstrating various dances such as the Argentine Tango, East Coast Swing,

Beginning West Coast Swing - taught by a professional dance instructor, five week series starting Mon 2 Oct'00: $20/series for undergraduates, $30/series for others.The lessons will be held from 7:30 to 9:00 pm on Mon in the Winnett Lounge with a 1/2 hr. practice period after each lesson. Refreshments will be provided, and no partner is required.

Beginning Argentine Tango - "Amateur"-taught, five week series starting Wed 4 Oct'00 , free for undergraduates, $1.00/lesson for others. The lessons will be held from 7:30 to 9:00 pm on Wed in the Winnett Lounge, with refreshments and a 1/2 hr. practice period after each lesson. Refreshments will be provided, and no partner is required.

Fri 20 Oct'00, A Milongo [Argentine Dance Party], will be held 8:00-1159 pm in Dabney Lounge. The party is free, refreshments will be provided, and no partner is required.

At a later date, it is planned to schedule an event called a practicon [instructor circulates among dancers giving individual suggestions/instruction]. The instructor is from Forever Tango and has been invited to attend this party to observe the level of competence of the various dancers.

For last minute changes see its.caltech.edu/~ballroom, or call Don at 626-791-3103

NCIIA 5th Annual Conference call for papers submission deadline extended to Sep. 30, 2000. The National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA) invites proposals for conference sessions for our 5th Annual Meeting on March 6-9, 2001 in Washington, DC. We invite proposals for interactive and creative presentations, panels, poster sessions, and workshops on innovative programs, courses, and approaches to teaching innovation and entrepreneurship at the graduate and undergraduate level. Complete submission instructions appear on our web site at http://www.nciia.org/events/conf01.shtml . All submissions must be received by September 30, 2000. We will notify submitters of the status of their proposals by November 1st.

Events

Caltech's free Watson Lecture Series opens on October 4 with "Combined-Value Markets," presented by Dr. John Ledyard, professor of economics and social sciences, and chair of the division of humanities and social sciences at Caltech.

Other Watson 2000 Lectures:

"The Evolution of Big Brains" Dr. John Allman October 18

"Keck: the Early Childhood of a Scientific Giant" Dr. Judith Cohen November 1

"Memories of Caltech Past" Dr. Judith Goodstein November 15

All Watson lectures are held on Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. and are open to the public, free of charge. For full abstracts and more information on the series, visit the Watson Lecture Series web site at: *http://www.events.caltech.edu/watson/*

Science, Ethics, and Public Policy Lecture Series for Fall Quarter 2000:

Dr. Anne Kox, Pieter Zeeman Professor of History of Physics, Institute of Theoretical Physics University of Amsterdam, Lorentz vs. Einstein: The Special Theory of Relativity in Historical Context Thursday, October 5, 2000 4:00 p.m. Room 25 Baxter Building

Dr. Andrew Scull, Professor of Sociology and Science Studies, The University of California, San Diego, Combatting the Perils of Pus Infection: A Cautionary Tale from the History of Psychiatry, Wednesday, October 18, 2000 4:00 p.m. Room 25 Baxter Building

Dr. Myles W. Jackson, Assistant Professor of the History of Science, Willamette University, The Standardization of Aesthetic Qualities: Physics and Music in Nineteenth-Century Germany, Thursday, November 9, 2000 4:00 p.m. Room 25 Baxter Building

The William and Myrtle Harris Distinguished Lectureship in Science and Civilization presents Dr. Peter Galison, Professor of the History of Science and of Physicsm, Harvard University, Poincare's Maps and Einstein's Clocks, Friday, December 1, 2000 4:00 p.m. Beckman Institute Auditorium

Seminars are on the Caltech campus and are open to the community at no charge. For information, contact Michelle Reinschmidt at (626) 395-4087 or *michelle@hss.caltech.edu*. For a complete list of SEPP Seminars and Harris Lectures scheduled for this academic year visit our Website: *http://www.hss.caltech.edu/ses/SEPP.html*

Scholarship

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

* The Hispanic Scholarship Fund (formerly the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund) is accepting applications for scholarship awards ranging from $1,000 to $3,000. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents of Hispanic heritage, full-time undergraduate work with a minimum 2.7 GPA. For further information about HSF, informative links, and tips for applying, visit their web site at *www.HSF.net*. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office and Office of Minority Student Affairs. Entries must be submitted to the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF) by October 15, 2000.

* The Measurement Science Conference (MSC) has established scholarships to students in an Engineering or Science or Quality Assurance degree program. The scholarship program places emphasis on papers or projects that discuss the advancement of measurement science technology. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, have a overall grade point average of 3.2 or higher, completed at 24 units of upper division courses in Engineering or Science degree or five courses in a Masters Degree Program in Quality Assurance. Current members of the Measurement Science Conference Committee are ineligible for this scholarship award. Also, applicants must be able to attend the Measurement Science Conference luncheon held on January 18, 2001, at the Disneyland Convention Center in Anaheim, California. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. For further information regarding MSC Scholarships, you may contact: Rick Careyette, MSC Scholarships Chairperson, Teledyne Electronics Technologies, Marina del Rey Facility, 12964 Panama Street, Los Angeles, CA 90066-6534. Entries must be submitted to Teledyne Electronics Technologies by December 1, 2000.

* The AFCEA Copernicus Foundation is offering a $2,000 scholarship to eligible students working towards an undergraduate technology degree in the fields of computer engineering technology, computer information systems, and electronics engineering technology. Applicants must be enrolled full-time in a technology related curriculum at any four-year institution in the U.S., be a U.S. citizen, and be a sophomore or junior at the time of application. Special consideration will be given to military enlisted candidates. For further information regarding the AFCEA Copernicus Foundation Scholarship, you may contact: Norma Corrales at (703) 631-6149, e-mail *scholarship@afcea.org*, or visit their web site at *www.afcea.org*. Entries must be submitted to AFCEA Educational Foundation by November 1, 2000.

* The National Academy for Nuclear Training is offering $2,500 scholarships to eligible students majoring in nuclear engineering, power generation health physics, electrical or mechanical engineering, or chemical engineering with nuclear or power option. Applicants must be U.S. Citizens, enrolled full-time in a four-year accredited institution, minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher, and interested in nuclear power careers. Additionally, scholarships will be renewed for current Academy scholars who maintain their eligibility. For further information on the National Academy Educational Assistance programs, please visit www.nei.org. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Please send completed application materials to: National Academy for Nuclear Training, Scholarship Review Committee, P.O. Box 6302, Princeton, NJ 08541-6302. Entries must be submitted to the National Academy for Nuclear Training by February 1, 2001.

* Green Hills Software annually awards merit-based scholarships and fellowships to Caltech undergraduates who have demonstrated ability and special aptitude in computer science. The award for the junior year consists of a $2,500 scholarship. The award for the senior year may consist of either a $2,500 or $5,000 scholarship. In addition, one or two applicants are invited to become Green Hills Fellows. Applicants should be second term sophomores with a GPA of 3.2 or higher. The selection criteria include programming ability, academic performance, and faculty and peer recommendations. To apply, applicants must submit an application form, current academic transcript, and three letters of recommendation, preferably from faculty or employers familiar with the student's work. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Entries must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office by October 20, 2000.

To submit an event for the Mints, contact *mints@ugcs.caltech.edu* or mail your announcement to Caltech 40-58 Attn: Mints. Submissions should be brief and concise. Email is preferred. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all material. Deadline is noon Wednesday. Unless specified, all mints will run for two weeks.

The California Tech
Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91126