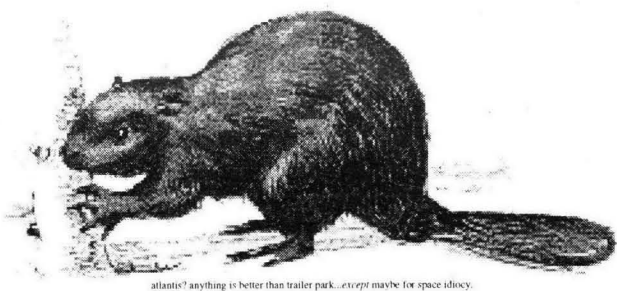


April 30: "Ahead of the Curve" comes out (a.k.a. Baltimore biography).



Fill in
the blank!

The California Tech

VOLUME CII, NUMBER 24

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 27, 2001

CALTECH STUDENTS AWARDED FULBRIGHT

BY MARK WHEELER

Yuki Takahashi's curiosity about outer space was sparked after he read 250 pages of an astronomy encyclopedia. Yuki was nine at the time. Such is the kind of intellectual verve two students at California Institute of Technology have shown in receiving prestigious Fulbright Scholarship Awards for 2001-2002. Takahashi, a senior graduating in the spring, and PhD candidate Jeffrey G. Linhardt will use the award to spend the academic year studying abroad.

Linhardt will spend time in two separate labs in the Netherlands, with the ongoing goal of designing new vaccines that induce a particular immune response. His research is concerned with dendrimers, a spherical polymer or chemical compound that can serve as a kind of scaffolding for different vaccines. The dendrimers contain various antigens on their surface that bind to a variety of different antibodies. Linhardt hopes to develop a number of such synthetic vaccines, eventually testing them in humans.

Linhardt, 28, and his wife, Dawn, will spend the year in Europe. Then, following his post-doctorate work, he will seek a position with a U.S. university. He wants to start his own lab to continue his research in biomedical engineering, and looks forward as well to teaching and mentoring students.

"I've always felt that one of the beautiful things about life is that it's not predestined, but is a dynamic path that's constantly being redefined by our exposure to new experiences," says Linhardt. "I'm confident that my life will be enriched by my research experience in the Netherlands."

Takahashi's research interest concerns the origin of the universe. He will pursue a Master of Philosophy degree in astrophysics at Cambridge University in England. He chose Cambridge, he says, because of its "multicultural atmosphere and its strength in the observation of cosmic microwave background,

PLEASE SEE AWARDS ON PAGE 2

Will they rebuild the Houses?

BY IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

Ideas are built into realities after long periods of time, especially in an atmosphere like that of Caltech, which does not welcome sudden changes. After all, it was just around three decades ago that Caltech became co-ed after a long and patient struggle by students and faculty, and also changed the list of academic options offered by introducing humanities majors.

On the same lines, certain aspects of campus life, which haven't been discussed in a while, are once again issues, such as the renovation of the undergraduate houses. Efforts to renovate the Houses date back to the '60s. In fact, only seven years after the North Houses were built, the Institute sponsored student trips to colleges around the US to analyze campus residential facilities there. The students came back and submitted a report on the changes they wanted to make, including

suggestions on building suites, having more space to socialize in hallways, creating faculty house masters, encouraging greater interaction among the houses, and going co-ed. When Caltech did go co-ed, some work on the Houses began, but the "big project" never went anywhere. However, after a survey of facilities by the Caltech administration, the project has begun once again.

The survey yielded numerous problems with the Houses including fire-safety, plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, and electrical wiring issues, and called for a huge infrastructure modernization and upgrade. Because these issues are intricately related to the design of the Houses, there seems to be a call for major restoration and renovation of the

structures.

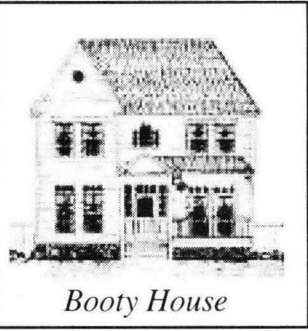
At first, rumors were spread concerning the renovation. What began as a whispers has become quite a hubbub because no one knows exactly what is going to happen. The biggest question haunting everyone is over the historical significance of the houses. On this particular issue, Miriam Feldblum, Special Assistant to the President, said, "Undoubtedly, the South Houses are more

historically significant than the North Houses in this aspect." Most probably would extrapolate that the North houses will be totally demolished from Feldblum's statement, but no certain decision has been made on the situation. However, Feldblum did mention that, especially for the North houses, administration was considering

the costs and benefits of maintaining the outer shell while renovating the interior. Continuing on the same topic, she expressed that no set figure has been announced for the plan. She added, "Caltech is entering into a capital campaign and the renovation of the undergraduate houses should be a priority."

How are all the decisions going to be made? The President has created a committee called the Task Force on Undergraduate Residence Life Initiatives. The Task Force consists of students, faculty, staff members, and Caltech alumni.

Feldblum, who is coordinating the Task Force, said that it was formed because the Houses are a central issue for many constituents on campus and they need to have input from everyone affected. Feldblum has even taken tours of some Houses asking for suggestions about renovations. The Task Force is asking for student feedback on these issues.



Booty House

Task Force On Undergraduate Residence Life Initiatives Member List:

- Kim Border - Professor of Economics, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, Chair of the Faculty, BS '74
- Chris Brennen - Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Division of Engineering & Applied Sciences, Vice President of Student Affairs
- Rick Canny - Assistant Manager, Physical Plant, Engineering & Estimating
- Elisa Chan - Student, Avery House, BS '02 (expected)
- Hubert Dubb - Caltech BS '56
- Laura Elliott - Student, Blacker House, BS '03 (expected)
- Miriam Feldblum - Faculty Associate, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, Special Assistant to the President
- Scott Fraser - Professor of Biology, Division of Biology
- Harry B. Gray - Professor of Chemistry, Division of Chemistry, Director of Beckman Institute
- Debra Dison Hall - Caltech BS '74
- Cathy Jurca - Professor of Literature, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, Chair of the Committee on Student Housing
- Monica Kohler - UCLA, Caltech PhD, Former RA of Page House, '95
- Tom Mannion - Director of Campus Auxiliary & Business Ser-

vices

- Martha-Helene Stapleton - Student, ASCIT President, BS '03 (expected)
- Eric Tuttle - Student, Lloyd House, BS '01 (expected)
- Dana Vukajlovich - Student, Dabney House, IHC Chair, BS '02 (expected)
- Kim West - Director of Residence Life, Student Affairs

The Task Force is meeting from January to June this year. At the end of June, it will write up a report outlining recommendations and suggestions.

When asked about student accommodations during the renovations, which clearly would take more than a summer, Feldblum said that one of the ideas was to build a swing house. No space has been decided for that residence, but the area just north of Avery was originally planned for more undergraduate housing. She said that the Task Force is exploring different ideas.

For more information regarding the Task Force, please read the formal mandate on page 3 outlining the questions the administration would like to address.

PLEASE SEE RENOVATIONS ON PAGE 3

CORRECTION

There was a gruesome mistake in last week's *Tech*. Evidently, the *Tech* editors lost it! **They're** usually not this crazy or careless; but **their** deadline was coming up, and then **there** were all these yummy strawberry donuts that distracted them. And so, they just forgot to proof-read everything! Sorry! It won't happen again...we promise. So, **their**...uhh...we mean **they're**...uhhh, third times the charm? **SO THERE!**

Inside the Tech

The Usual

you know what's inside!

Features

look inside to see what we have!

Features

CRUSH

BY JIALAN WANG

Note: As I have yet to discover a way to discuss a gender-neutral person without sounding silly, I'm going to use generic male third-person intermittently even though it does not reflect the gender ratio of the readership. I also apologize in advance for my abuse of the second-person form and my rampant person-shifting.

Your heart beats just a little bit faster, your laugh rises just a little bit louder, and secretly you smile. It's springtime in California, and the air is pungent with the scent of crush. The crush is a peculiar phenomenon which is particularly endemic to teenaged girls but experienced by pretty much all of us.

Even though it is so commonplace, exactly how crushes arise has always been a mystery to me. Of course, there are obvious cases of those people who just hit you over the head with their drop-dead gorgeousness, but most of us are just ordinary folk. At the same time, however, there are always people who see the beautiful and extraordinary in each of us. But there still is a big difference between seeing the good in people and actually being attracted to them. What

makes us focus our attention on one particular person when there are so many other equally good candidates?

Looking back on the people that I have had crushes on, the whole process seems entirely arbitrary. Now that I no longer like these people even I don't have a clue as to why I liked them in the first place. Although a person would have to be somewhat appealing to begin with, my theory is that crushes arise from the subtle idiosyncrasies that we so often ignore. Whether it's the way someone tilts his head when he smiles, that cute Canadian accent, or something else equally trifling, it's the details that matter. In fact, I think that the very beauty of the crush is in its unpredictability. We're not maximizing a utility function or searching for an optimally compatible DNA sequence. It is neither a choice nor an obligation. It's somehow just natural.

However, the way we act under the influence of a crush

without being attracted to him at all, but then one day it just hits you. Whereas you used to be able to say or do whatever you felt like around him without fear of judgement, having a crush makes you keenly aware of your every word and gesture. My personal experience of crushes

seems to be all but natural. Often you would know a person for years

sounding like an idiot, of course, when the encounter actually happens. In fact, it seems like the whole point of your existence is to prepare for these "accidental" meetings and to attract attention from the "crushee." You try to act normal, you try to stay cool, but somehow, you've forgotten how to do it.

Unfortunately, a crush is often more driven by your own imagination than anything exceptional in the person you covet. Although it usually has some basis in reality, a crush is essentially

fantasy. We all have idealized notions of love, romance, and the perfect man/woman, and when someone desirable comes along, we

but it's important to recognize it is separate from that reality. By its very nature a crush is a transitory, ephemeral creature. To prolong the happy feelings they bring, we often cannot help but act on our crushes even though they may not have any foundation in reality. But even if you do genuinely like the person, the magic of the crush can never be recovered after it has been revealed.

When we actually interact with the objects of our desire, our fantasies become actual people who absurdly insist on being themselves instead of conforming to what we want them to be. Reality is inevitably messier, uglier, and more complicated than the person you had a crush on, and if it was merely a flight of insubstantial fancy, as most of them are, it is often better just to restrain yourself. But if you still like someone after all of the giddiness has died down, there's no better time than now for romance.

Short story: NFL draft results

BY KEVIN TSE

The 2001 NFL Draft came and went Saturday night with a lot of trades and some big winners, including the Seattle Seahawks, San Diego Chargers, and St. Louis Rams. The Seahawks ran away with the draft, getting 20-year old WR Koren Robinson from NC State and G Steve Hutchinson from the University of Michigan. Though it was suspected that Seattle coach Mike Holmgren really wanted Heisman candidate WR David Terrell (also from UM), Robinson and is expected to make an immediate impact on an offense that lacked firepower last year. Robinson should give new QB Matt Hasselbeck a good target, while Hutchinson (all Big-10 first team) will give him good protection.

In a distant second in terms of success during the draft were the Chargers. They were able to get a steal with the first pick in the second round and

selected Heisman candidate QB Drew Brees from Purdue who will most likely back-up veteran QB Doug Flutie barring any serious injuries to Flutie. They also bolstered their stagnant running game by selecting TCU RB LaDainian Tomlinson. The Chargers can't do much worse than their 1-15 record from last season.

The Rams also helped themselves by upgrading a defense that gave up 471 points last season (which was worse than even the 1-15 Chargers). In the first round they took Miami DT Damione Lewis, ASU LB Adam Archuleta, and OSU DT Ryan Pickett to fill holes left by cuts and free agency. Though they lost Todd Lyght to the Lions, the Rams were able to steal away Pro Bowl CB Aeneas Williams from the Arizona Cardinals for a measly second- and fourth-round draft pick.

The consensus loser in the draft were the Dallas Cow-

boys. Losing Troy Aikman to retirement in the off-season, the Cowboys drafted QB Quincy Carter in the second round, though most thought he should be a sixth or seventh round pick. The Cowboys didn't do much to improve on their disappointing season last year by drafting a couple of questionable players in the early rounds.

Other key points to mention were Atlanta's trading draft picks with San Diego to climb up to the #1 slot and take Virginia Tech QB Micheal Vick as the first pick overall. Vick might make the Chargers regret trading away their first pick if Vick does well. The Bears picked up a couple of Wolverines by getting WR David Terrell and RB Anthony Thomas (aka: the "A-train"). The Redskins made their defense younger with CB Fred Smoot (arguably the top corner in the draft) and added depth at receiver with WR Rod Gardner.

can't help but project all of these fantasies onto that person whether they fit them or not. When you have a crush on someone, that person is perfect. Behind the rose-colored lenses of a crush, we don't see volcanic zits, abnormal obsessions with *Magic: The Gathering*, or the inability to carry on coherent conversation; we only see what we want to.

A crush is a welcome bit of whimsy in a reality that doesn't always do what we want it to,

AWARDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the relic radiation from the Big Bang." Upon his return from England, Takahashi will pursue his PhD at the University of California, Berkeley. In the meantime, he continues working on a proposal to NASA to establish an international observatory on the Moon, and remains hopeful that he will one day fulfill his lifelong ambition to be an astronaut.

"The more I think about it, the more I'm convinced that changes are what make life fulfilling," he says. "So I'll always be proactive about trying new things. And I try to make my decisions with the idea of making my life and the lives of others more dynamic."

The Fulbright award is the U.S. government's premier scholarship program. It was established by Congress in 1946 to foster mutual understanding among nations through educational and cultural exchanges. Linhardt's Fulbright is sponsored by the Netherland-America Foundation, which seeks to promote relations between the U.S. and the Netherlands. Fulbright awards enable U.S. students and artists to benefit from unique resources in every corner of the world.

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News

RENOVATIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

At Caltech, structural plans for undergraduate residences have always been integrally linked with larger social visions of campus residential life. As an educational institution, Caltech has a strong responsibility to provide for the social development of its students, and foster their growth as good citizens. Starting in 1928, a special committee, led by Robert Millikan, Arthur Noyes, and William Munro, issued recommendations to create at Caltech a distinctive type of student life and social organization that would be organized around a series of residence halls, each providing for not more than 75 students. The committee sought to create a system of residential life that would offer all the real merits of the fraternity housing system without incurring the serious evils which that system brings with it.

In the seventy years following the creation of the South Houses (Dabney, Fleming, Ricketts, and Blacker), Caltech has seen the building of the North Houses (Rudlock, Lloyd, Page) in the 1960s, and the construction of Avery House in 1996. Over the decades, the changing conditions of societal life and developing needs of Caltech students have led to new structural plans and visions. Avery House, while modeled on the layout of the South Houses, was conceived as an innovative residence hall, providing for a mix of undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty to encourage greater interaction and varied kinds of usage. At present, our undergraduate housing consists of the seven Undergraduate Houses, Avery House and an assorted mix of additional dormitory and apartment options. Remaining at the core of Caltech's undergraduate residence life is the distinctive system of student houses that was imagined in 1928. The Task Force on Under-

graduate Residence Life Initiatives is charged to investigate the conditions and needs of undergraduate housing on campus, and to identify ways in which to improve the quality of residence life. Specifically, the task force is to consider the kinds of structural improvements, major renovations, and new residence halls that may be required to substantially improve the quality of undergraduate residence life at Caltech. As part of its mandate, the taskforce should address the following issues and questions.

The renovation of dormitories and the construction of new residences have been a burgeoning area of campus growth across other universities. What can we learn from the comparable renovation and construction experiences elsewhere? What amenities and improvements in student housing should be considered? Should the housing system be better integrated with or provide additional facilities for non-academic activities on campus, including sports, music, and performing arts?

A goal of the 1989 Caltech Master Plan was to provide on campus housing for 100% of the undergraduate student body. There are currently 835 bed spaces available to undergraduates on campus, of which 560 are in the Student Houses, 107 in Avery House, and 168 in other housing (Marks, Chester, Del Mar, and Catalina residences), some of which may be displaced by future construction. What is the optimal number of bed spaces? Do we need to consider the construction of one or more new undergraduate residence halls?

What is the array of residential styles and structural plans to be considered in the needed renovations or new construction? Should we design plans or options for single-sex floors, cultural floors, suites, or apartment style wings? How would different residential options and renovation proposals affect

the operation of Caltech's board plan?

What has been the impact of the system of Houses and House governance on the quality of residence life on campus (including features such as rotation, student governance of the houses, intra-house and inter-house traditions)? What are the benefits of the Houses? Do they benefit all students? Do they provide for the social development of all students and their growth as good citizens? What changes or improvements could be made to improve the quality of residence life? What is the effect of the physical architecture of the houses on student life?

What is the impact of the current housing system on recruiting students? Does it have a differentiated effect on different kinds of students?

Other universities have re-

cently focused on the specific needs of freshman. Reflecting on current research and findings concerning the Freshman year, how does the Caltech housing system compare? What improvements can be made to the housing and residence life system for Freshmen?

What has been the impact of Avery House as an option for undergraduate students? Is Avery House an appropriate model for future residence halls? Should renovation of existing student housing or future residence halls incorporate the mixtures of undergraduates, graduate students and faculty found in Avery?

Is the current Residential Advisor (RA) system working as well as it should? What do RA's see as the benefits and costs of the system? How do students perceive RA's? Are changes to the RA

system necessary to improve the quality of residential life on campus? What role does the Master of Student Houses (MOSH) now play on campus?

How well does our current system of residence life and undergraduate housing enable Caltech to comply with government rules and regulations that affect undergraduate residence life, including drug and alcohol policies, sexual and racial harassment policies, the American with Disabilities Act, and so on? In what ways do we need to improve our compliance, and thus also the overall quality of residence life?

What are the different costs involved in different construction and renovation scenarios? The task force should consider and outline plans for renovation and construction that range in cost and financial commitment.

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FEATURE

Caltech receives grant to fund science and religion course

BY MELISSA DEARMAN

The Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences (CTNS), Science and Religion Course Program, today announced that they have awarded California Institute of Technology with a \$10,000 grant to fund the development of a new course focusing on the ongoing dialogue between science and religion. The grant is one of 100 awards given to colleges and universities around the world in CTNS annual Science and Religion Course Award Competition. California Institute of Technology professor Alan Hajek received the award for his course entitled Probability, the Philosophy of Religion and the Philosophy of Science.

"As the pace and scope of scientific discovery increases, as science and technological discoveries permeate the everyday world of religious and cultural traditions, courses, which critically address the relationship between science and our religious experiences become increasingly vital," said Dr. Ted Peters, director of the CTNS Science and Religion Course Program. "By bringing science and religion into contact with one another at universities our goal is to

foster a worldwide community of scientists and religious intellectuals actively engage in formulating and addressing questions of ultimate concern."

In addition to California Institute of Technology, \$10,000 course grants have been awarded to schools from across the United States and schools in Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Czech Republic, China, Estonia, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Singapore, Slovakia, Sweden, The Netherlands, Uganda, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom. The award is divided evenly between the course instructor and the institution. For a complete listing of this year's winning schools, please visit the CTNS website at www.ctns.org

Established in 1994, the CTNS Science and Religion Course Program (SRCP) has granted 669 awards for new courses in science and religion. It is estimated that these awards have resulted in more than 1,500 new courses offerings on campuses around the world and approximately 40,000 students have included science and religion dialogue in their

academic pursuits.

"Funding can often be an obstacle to developing new college courses, these grants offer professors the ability to introduce new curriculum," said Peter Hess, associate director of the CTNS Science and Religion Course Program. "These awards allow professors to engage questions of growing import world wide."

The Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences (CTNS) is a non-profit international member organization, affiliated with the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. The Center promotes the creative mutual interaction between theology and the natural sciences through research, teaching, and public service. For additional information about the CTNS Science and Religion Course Program, please visit the CTNS website at www.ctns.org.

The John Templeton Foundation was founded in 1987 by internationally renowned investment manager Sir John Templeton to encourage the pursuit of religious and scientific knowledge. For more information about the John Templeton Foundation visit its website at www.templeton.org.

what truly sets people apart from the rest of the animal kingdom then, especially as something so exclusively human as love is

compared to an animal.

With the portrayal of man's best friend alongside the human characters in this rapturous sketch, one is bound to think that there is something lost in the translation. Equating love with "bitch" in English has a thoroughly negative connotation but there is something pure in a dog's affection for its owner that makes me wonder that even in this tale in which its characters are lost and disillusioned, the makers meant to proffer at least a glimmer of hope. On one level, I suppose

the filmmakers could be saying to banish human contact, as humans are cruel and loving will only hurtful. But dogs, besides their primal instinct for survival, have developed trust even as necessities for survival have been secured. Even in what humans define as poverty and emotional wastelands then, the example of dogs would tend to point to love, for without it one would be sub-human.

"Amores Perros" was another nominee, besides that martial arts movie, for best foreign film. Unfortunately this film does not appear quite as comprehensible in subtitles juxtaposed with a movie where simply seeing was amazing. Although I cannot fully appreciate the significance of this movie, I admire this film for putting a face on the gritty mass of people south of the border and portraying human cruelty in the tide of poverty and hopelessness.

The Ticket Stub

by Justin Ho

Amores Perros (B+) "Amores Perros" roughly translated from Spanish, means "Love's a Bitch", a metaphor that the filmmakers do not tread upon lightly. The movie is abounding with canines, displaying a wide range of loyalty and savagery that is meant to parallel the volatility of human relationships. It is an apt analogy as one considers the nature of man's best friend faithful and comforting, yet rooted in primalness and with the potential for ferocity. One may wonder

Time to reward teachers

BY NICHOLAS KNOUF

Every year, ASCIT recognizes five faculty and two teaching assistants, without regard to title, who excel in inspiring and motivating students; who show approachability and concern for students; and who are effective and efficient communicators of course material (from the ASCIT resolutions).

As Director of Academic Affairs for ASCIT and Chair of the Academics and Research Committee (ARC), it is my pleasure to solicit nominations for the 25th ASCIT Teaching Awards. This year's award is open for instructors for the

2000-2001 school year, as well as third term of the 1999-2000 school year.

Each nomination should include the names of the nominee, the person making the nomination, and the course title. Please state a

few reasons for your nomination to help convince us to give your nominee an award. Nominate as many many instructors and teaching assistants as you feel have set an exemplary standard for teaching.

To nominate a professor or teaching assistant for the ASCIT Teaching Awards:

—Send mail to: Director of Academic Affairs, MC 64-58

—E-mail teaching-awards@ugcs.caltech.edu

—Fill out the online form at the ARC website, <http://donut.caltech.edu/~arc>

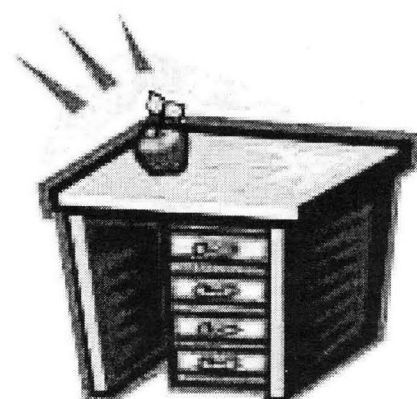
—Fill out the form found in your house lounges

Nominations close May 2nd at

5PM, with winners to be announced May 14th.

Thank you for your nominations.

Nicholas Knouf Director of Academic Affairs, ASCIT MC 64-58 arc_chair@donut.caltech.edu



Leadership prizes awarded

Congratulations to the following recipients of the 2001 leadership prizes!

Robert L. Noland Leadership Scholarships:

Laura Brogoch, Elisa Chiang, Dan Daly, and Eric Tuttle

Frederic W. Henrichs, Jr. Memorial Award:

Mark Barrett and Iljie Kim

Bibi Jentoft-Nilsen Memorial Award:

Bryan Eastin

Doris Everhart Service Award:

Melinda Turner

Mabel Beckman Prize:

Jit Kee Chin

JAPANESE

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ARC

ARC Minutes

ARC Meeting: Wed, 4/18, 4:10PM

Present: Nick Knouf (Chair), Al Valdivia (Secretary), Tim Crosby (Blacker Rep), Isaac Hilburn (Fleming Rep), Veasna Sok (Rud-dock Rep), Clinton Conley (Lloyd Rep) and Iram Parveen Bilal (Page Rep)

Rep-At-Large: The ARC is charged with interviewing candidates for this position and selecting two students. It is decided that interviews will take place this Monday (4/23) between 10:00-11:30PM.

Teaching Awards: The ARC needs to solicit nominations from the student body to come up with 10 professors and 5 TA's to propose to the ASCIT BoD for their selection of the annual 5 professor and 2 TA teaching awards, with a web form available this year. The awards will be presented at the mid-May Faculty Board Meeting. Last year there was a luncheon at Avery before the 4 o'clock faculty meeting for the nominees and awardees to socialize with each other; this event will be held again this year. John Lee, the Dabney Rep, arrives. There is discussion surrounding the lifetime achievement awards, two of which are given out annually; this degrades the award in the eyes of many, and the ARC votes to discontinue this practice and reserve the award for special occasions.

Student-Faculty Committees: The ARC has been given the job of appointing the Academic Policies, Core Curriculum Steering Committee, Library, and Faculty Advising committee student reps by the IHC. Nick proposes a plan to advertise the sign-ups starting with this Friday's Tech (4/20) until next Wednesday (4/25) with interviews being held either that Thursday (4/26) or Monday (4/30). There will be a new policy

of asking existing members of said committees to provide a final report of sorts and for the new appointees to submit monthly reports, as appropriate. The ARC agrees to meet twice a month.

Student-Faculty Conference: Traditionally, there is a Student-Faculty Conference every couple of years (3 lately) during which there are daylong discussions about a great variety of student related topics. Currently the ARC will plan on hosting one early next year and there is a movement for holding the conference at least every 2 years or possibly every year. Al raises a concern that each conference could try to re-invent the wheel as a 3 year time interval provides very little overlap among students and hence accountability.

Tim makes the point that the discussions at the conference should be well-published to serve as a reference for future students. The format is described as consisting of two forums, one open to all student input and one carried out by organized committees well-prepared for the conference itself. Tim makes a point that it would be very desirable to see a large distribution of student input, in addition to the same usual suspects.

Faculty Advisor: The conference issue raises the issue of obtaining a Faculty Advisor for the ARC. Al says that one of the biggest problems facing the ARC is a lack of continuity which an advisor could help establish. Nick prompts the ARC to state potential candidates. The position should be defined as a liaison between the faculty and ARC with meetings approximately once a month pos-

sibly during lunch. The advisor should serve in the following capacities: as a means to feel out the faculty, provide advice on academic matters, be willing to proof and possibly sign on to any open letters which may be sent to the faculty, help us determine the appropriate channels for pursuing certain matters, provide the ARC with some continuity, and be a means for the ARC to receive faculty responses and feed-back.

CS1: There is a consensus among the ARC that the CS department should offer a more practical introductory track for CS123 then what is currently being offered. Is there a problem of staff and/or money within the department for such a course sequence? Several ARC members agree to investigate this issue.

Russian: Tim states that the current Russian Lit lecturer will no longer be teaching and that it is unknown whether he will be replaced or the program cancelled. Tim says he will talk to H&SS to see what's up. At the very least the ARC should make a statement to the department so that our voice is heard. Nick expresses interest in talking to Leon Bellan, the student who organized a petition drive to save the department.

Library: There is currently a plan to close Millikan library and to place its books on reserve as a means to open up more administrative space on campus. So far the student reaction to this proposed plan has been decidedly negative, it is decided that the ARC should consult with the various students on the library committees.

The paper ballots for the teaching awards were distributed to all house representatives, with the exception of Ricketts (rep not present).

Meeting adjourned at 5:30PM.

ARC Announcement

The Academic and Research Committee (ARC) is now in charge of appointing student members to the academic Student-Faculty Committees. Signups for these committees go up on Friday, April 27, and come down Monday, April 30, at 5PM. Descriptions of these committees are below. Students appointed to these committees will be required to make regular reports to the ARC. Many thanks to the current members of these committees, both faculty and students, who provided valuable information.

Nicholas Knouf
Director of Academic Affairs, ASCIT

Academic Policies — two students

Academic Policies has not met in the past three years, as most of the issues are handled either by the faculty board or by UASH.

Core Curriculum Steering Committee (CCSC) — two students

The CCSC is responsible for changes to the core classes (Ma 1&2, Ph 1&2, etc.). Recent actions of the committee have been the addition of Core lab and the new menu course, Ma 7. The committee meets two or three times a term, or as needed. A CCSC member should have a good knowledge of the core and what its goals are. They should also be able to communicate and express their views well, as the position requires much faculty/student interaction.

Curriculum Committee — two students

The primary purpose of the Curriculum Committee is to

review all changes to the course catalog. This includes not only checking course descriptions for typographical errors but also approving all major course content changes, changes to option requirements, and creation of new options. It also handles student petitions and monitors student exchange programs. The committee meets about once a month with lengths varying tremendously. Prospective members should be comfortable working with the Deans, the Registrar, and faculty members.

Educational Outreach — two students

The main activities of the Educational Outreach Committee recently have been to collect information about the feasibility of creating the post of an Educational Outreach Coordinator. Students interested in K-12 outreach activities would be most interested in this committee.

Faculty/Student Advisors — three students

This committee did not meet last year. Headed by the Deans and the MOSH, Faculty/Student Advisors was set up to improve the faculty advising system.

Library Committee — two students

This committee is headed by Professor Kevin Gilmartin and deals with issues pertaining to the Institute's libraries. Note that this committee is different from the Ad-Hoc Library Task Force, which is studying ways of improving library service on campus.

Lovely furnished house available to share rent with a female student. Convenient location just off Main Street, Alhambra near shopping district. Full utilities available. Beautiful piano and organ inside, too! \$450/month. Please contact either Daisy at (626) 282-7582 or Connie at (626) 284-3627.

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THE LUZHIN DEFENCE (PG-13)
[11:30] 2:10 4:50 7:30 10:05

THE GOLDEN BOWL (R)
[1:00] 4:00 7:00 9:50

PANIC (R)
[12:15] 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:35

TAILOR OF PANAMA (R)
[11:45] 2:20 4:55 7:30 10:05

CENTER OF THE WORLD (NR)
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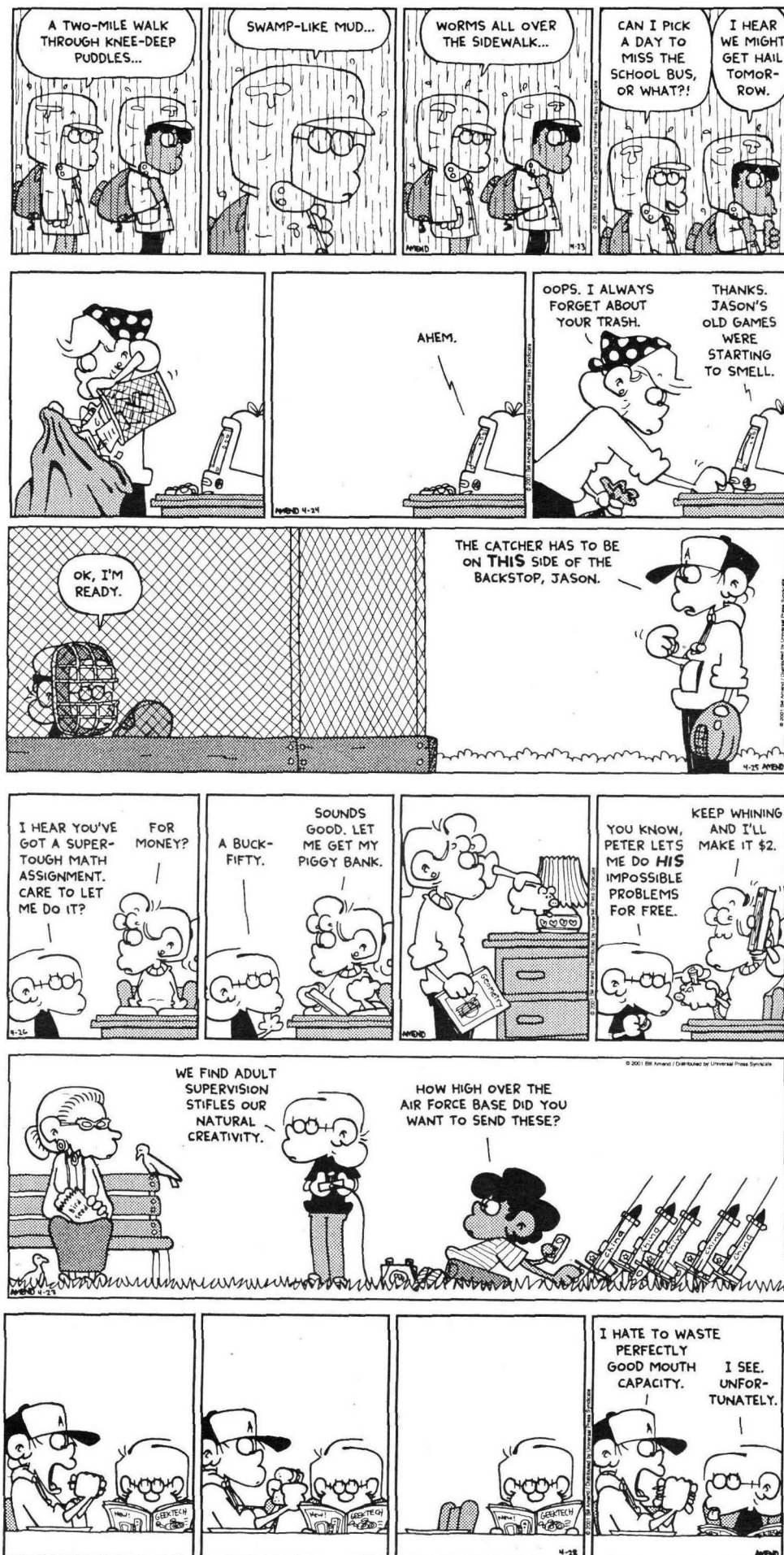
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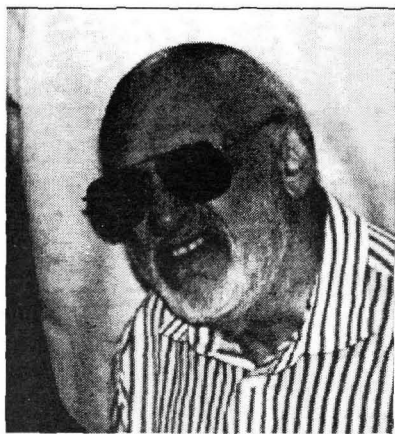
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DEAN



Dean's Corner

You are what you eat
(revisited)

by Jean-Paul Revel

In the March 30th issue of Science magazine, contributing correspondent Gary Taubes tells an astounding story about the food ingredient that everyone seems to love to hate most. This enemy no. 1 of course is fat, particularly in the form of saturated fat. The story told seems so strikingly against otherwise commonly expressed opinions, and appeared in print at a time so close to the traditional day of pranks (no, not Ditch Day, that's tomorrow), but the day of pranks in the outside world, April first, Fool's Day, that it seemed possible that the article was a joke.

I carefully scanned the rest of the issue, and also the next one, that of April 6, for any indication that the report was in fact a thoughtless and potentially harmful attempt at "humor". But I found no indication that the article was a joke in very bad taste (sic). So I will try to summarize the astounding revelations it holds.

Over the years, the story goes, direct links were discovered between the uptake of saturated fats, and the level of cholesterol in the blood. There also appears to be a connection between increased cholesterol (as LDL, low density lipoprotein³) and atherosclerosis, the vascular disease at the root of many heart attacks. And so, linking these results it was concluded that eating fat caused deaths from heart attacks.

Ignored, or perhaps even actively buried, were statistical analyses, done first at Harvard, and supported by studies at UC San Francisco and at McGill which suggested that lowering fat consumption might not affect survival in a very striking fashion. It seems that individuals with a high risk of heart disease could expect to gain, on average, an extra year by shunning saturated fat. Healthy non smokers, however, might add 3 days to 3 months. While cutting fat consumption in America would delay 42,000 deaths each year, "the net increase in life expectancy would average out to only 3 to 4 months". "A woman who would otherwise die at 65 could expect to live two extra weeks" by life time abstinence. "If she lived to be 90, she could expect 10 extra weeks" for her life of denial.

A lack of correlation between cholesterol and heart disease is also strikingly illustrated in a study carried out in Lyon (France) by researcher Michel de Lorgeril.

Patients recovering from heart attacks were divided into two groups, one advised to eat a sensible diet, similar to what is considered a healthy diet here, the other told to have a Mediterranean diet, with little meat, more fish and lots of vegetables. No differences in HDL (see footnote 2), LDL and other indicators were found between the two groups, yet after 4 years, there were 14 heart attacks in the group following the Mediterranean plan, and 44 for those on the American plan.

The French researchers believe that their results speak to the positive effect of a diet rich in polyunsaturated fatty acids (found in vegetable based foodstuffs). It would seem that other stuff than cholesterol is important also! So don't invest in Olestra, but buy stock in pita bread bakeries or makers of hummus. Actually no, invest in hydroponics or in companies that make, or operate fleets of refrigerated trucks. That way more vegetables could be made available year round in Northern countries, where crudities can be hard to come by, especially, said one wag, because "in the area I work in there's not a single grocery store." Others opine that "the only green leafy vegetable these populations consume regularly is tobacco" (those guys should take Bot 1).

In fact there is even evidence that raising cholesterol levels might even be beneficial in some cases! On a visit to Japan, David Jacobs of the U. of Minnesota was struck by the fact that physicians there were placing their patients on diets intended to raise cholesterol levels. This was to ward off a prevalent type of stroke, which was killing as many Japanese at the time as Americans died of heart attacks. Back in the States, it was found that, in fact, men with low levels of cholesterol were at greater risk of stroke, cancer and other diseases than men with higher levels. The death rate from these causes decreased as cholesterol levels were raised. Things got worse again only when cholesterol levels were higher yet. In the case of women, if anything, the higher their cholesterol the longer they lived.

So what's to keep us from enjoying that Porterhouse steak? One could argue that it is mainly their effect on our pocket books. Taubes explains that, after broiling, a Porterhouse would be about half fat and half protein. 51% of

the fat is monosaturated, i.e. mainly oleic acid, the healthy component of olive oil (mono-unsaturated fat raises HDL more than carbohydrate would (supposedly good), and reduces LDL (also believed good)). 45% of the steak's fat consists of stearic acid a saturated fat which is neutral (it raises both LDL and HDL) and the remaining 4% is polyunsaturated, which improves cholesterol levels (very good). (Better eat butter rather than margarine with that steak, because the trans-fatty acids in the margarine raise LDL and lower HDL, yuck).

Of course this analysis assumes

that cholesterol levels are causal. If so that steak might even be better than the same amount of carbohydrates since a high carbohydrate diet raises LDL and reduces HDL! And worse yet! If fat is removed from a food, then the percentage of other classes of foodstuffs is, of course, increased. So the lo-fat yogurt, by definition will be higher in carbohydrate, than the regular stuff. So, I guess until there is clearer evidence that it would negatively affect your survival, enjoy that steak and add the french fries! Or maybe play it safe and instead have broccoli (not the other "green vegetable"???? mentioned above!)

A bientot.

Jean Paul Revel

Jean-Paul Revel

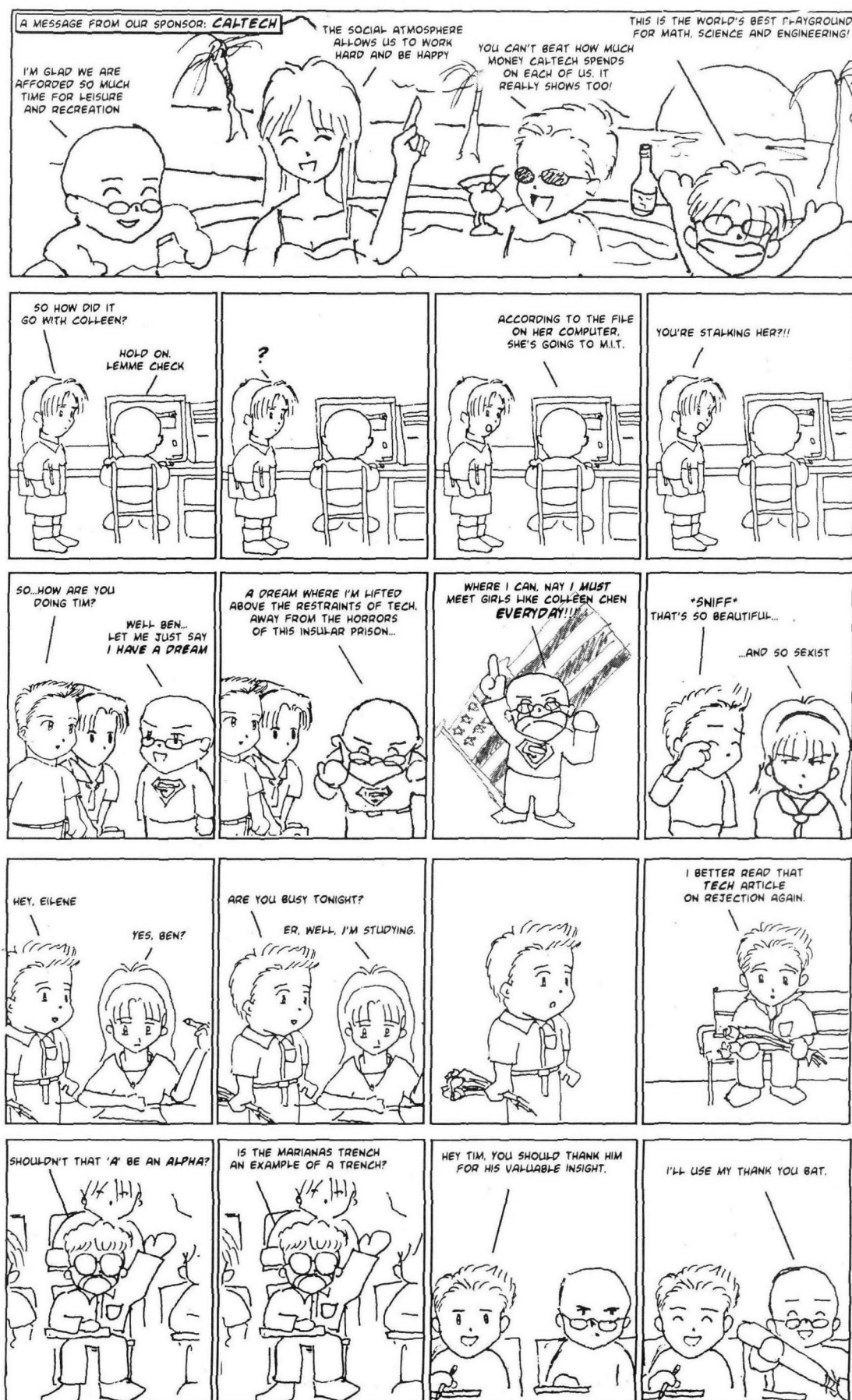
by Tim Wan, Mike Yeh, Ben Lee

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All characters are purely fictional. Any resemblance to any persons living or dead is coincidental. The views expressed are those of the authors, not those of the newspaper staff or Caltech.



Mints

Announcements

Work-Study Opportunity at JPL: Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory Archival Data Analysis for Studying Temporal and Spectral Properties of Gamma-Ray Sources. This is an announcement of opportunity for 1 or 2 undergraduate students in physics or astronomy to participate in a part-time work-study research program to process and analyze archival data obtained by the Burst and Transient Spectroscopy Experiment (BATSE) onboard the NASA Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory. The major scientific objective is to study the properties of gamma-ray emission from cosmic sources including black holes and active galactic nuclei and neutron-star systems. For this research, it would be useful if the student had some experience with programming as well as working with the Interactive Data Language (IDL) package. Employment would be on a part-time work-study basis during the school year and possibly up to 40 hours per week during the summer. Contact information: Dr. James C. Ling, JPL 169-327. Phone: (818)354-2819. E-mail: james.c.ling@jpl.nasa.gov

The Math Department announces two categories of prizes offered this year to Caltech undergraduates.

The E.T. Bell Undergraduate Mathematics Research Prize: A cash prize of \$500 awarded for the best original mathematics paper written by a Caltech Junior or Senior. Contestants for the Bell prize must be nominated by a faculty member familiar with their work. Students who wish to be considered for this prize should contact a member of the Mathematics faculty prior to the end of the second term to discuss the nature of the research. If the entry is sufficiently worthy, the faculty member will nominate the contestant and act as sponsor. Each student is entitled to only one entry. All contestants nominated must submit their papers in final form to their faculty sponsors by the end of the fourth week of the third term, (April 30). A faculty committee will then judge the papers and announce its decision before the end of the third term. The committee may award duplicate prizes in case of more than one outstanding entry. The name of the winner (or winners) will appear in the commencement program.

The Morgan Ward Competition: Any Caltech freshman or sophomore may enter this contest. An entry may be individual (submitted by one student) or joint (submitted by a group of two or more students). Each student is entitled to at most three entries, of which two may be individual. An entry is to consist of a mathematical problem, together with a solution or significant contribution toward a solution. The problem may have any source, but this source should be stated in the entry. The entries may be judged on the basis of the nature of the problem, originality and elegance of the solution. Any outside references used should be indicated. Entries from each contestant or group must be placed in an envelope and delivered to the Mathematics Office, 253 Sloan, during the fourth week of the third term. The names of the contestant, or the names of all participants in the case of a joint entry, must be written on the envelope only, not on the entry. The Judging Committee will consist of three undergraduate. The judges will select a group of finalists and submit their entries to the mathematics department faculty who will make awards to the winners. Prizes will ordinarily be awarded for the 2 to 4 best entries, the value of each prize being \$75. Prizes for individual entries will be limited to one to a contestant, and no group may receive more than one prize.

Guitar classes at CIT for the spring quarter will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting on April 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.music.caltech.edu/guitar.html

The dance troupe will be offering **FREE dance classes** Spring quarter. On Thursdays from 9-10:30pm, an introduction to modern dance series will be taught by professional instructor Liz Maxwell. Ms. Maxwell received her BFA and MFA degrees from The Juilliard School and the University of Washington, respectively. She has spent 30 years in modern dance, touring extensively throughout the US and Europe with several distinguished companies. Relocating to LA in 1994, Ms. Maxwell has been on the faculty of CalArts, CSULB, Moorpark, Loyola Marymount, and Scripps teaching dance technique, composition, and specializing in dance history. These classes will begin on April 12 and run through May 31 in the Braun multipurpose room. No prior experience is required, and no special clothing or shoes are needed. Free ballet classes taught by volunteer instructors will begin April 7. Beginning ballet meets from 1-2pm, intermediate ballet meets from 2-3pm, and advanced ballet meets from 3-4pm. For the beginning class, no special shoes are required. For more information, please visit our website at www.its.caltech.edu/~troupe. To sign up on our mailing list or to reserve a place in the modern class, please send an email to troupe@caltech.edu.

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Discussion Group: 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 GLB 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 10:15pm 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

Community Service Opportunities Abound! The Caltech Y offers students and staff a variety of ways to participate in community service. Opportunities include working with Habitat for Humanity, Union Station Homeless Shelter, math tutoring (on or off campus), reading tutoring, and working at local hospitals. One-time community service events are planned each term and opportunities for service on a regular basis exist. Undergraduates with federal work-study can receive \$15/hr for their community service work. To be added to the community service interest email list, or for more information about the Community Service Program, please contact Kristin Abbott at kabbott@caltech.edu or call 626/395-3180. Or, stop by the Caltech Y in the Center for Student Services (formerly Keck House) for a complete listing of opportunities.

Scholarships

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 355 S. Holliston, second floor.

Summary information:

Information, applications and recommendations for the 2001-2002 UPPER CLASS MERI

T AWARDS COMPETITION are available at www.finaid.caltech.edu

Please visit our web site at <http://www.finaid.caltech.edu/news.html> for complete information on the following scholarships:

- * Scholarships sponsored by SHARE
- * Win cash in EDFUND photo contest!
- * Windstar Environmental Studies Scholarship Program for 2001
- * Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
- * P.L.A.T.O.
- * National Institutes of Health Scholarship Program
- * American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society (AESF)
- * John Gyles Education Awards
- * Danville-Alamo Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW)

Attention all undergraduate students on Financial Aid: The last date to request any change to your 2000-01 Financial Aid Award is Tuesday, May 1, 2001. Requests for 2000-01 changes made after May 1 will not be considered. Please contact the Financial Aid Office at Ext. 6280 if you have any questions.

Summer Work Study: Information and applications for 2001 Summer Work Study are available in the Financial Aid Office. If you are interested in Summer Work Study, please submit the required application as soon as possible, but no later than June 1, 2001. Your entire financial aid application must be complete by June 1 in order to be considered for Summer Work Study. If awarded, the Work Study funding will begin with the July 2nd payroll.

Upcoming Events

All Juniors are invited to attend a **workshop about Watson Fellowship opportunities** on Wednesday, May 9th at noon in the Carriage House. Sandwiches from Eddie's Market will be served. Please RSVP to ssstone@caltech.edu no later than Friday, May 4th and a menu will be sent to you for your selection.

William Bennett Munro Memorial Seminar, Friday, April 27, 4:00 pm, 25 Baxter. "Science and an African Logic" presented by Professor Helen Verran, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Melbourne University.

Caltech Library System Presents:

"A Quick Review for Humanities and Social Sciences Staff": Review the content and use of the Library's subscription databases most useful for Humanities and Social Sciences. The main emphasis will be on Web of Science, MLA and FirstSearch for locating and verifying journal article citations and books. We will talk about how to identify and access full text e-journals, including JSTOR. There will be extra time for questions and hands-on. All are welcome. Tuesday, May 1, 12:00-1:00pm, Sherman Fairchild Library, Room 328.

Also: "Quick Review of Online resources for Electrical Engineering and Computer Science": Need quick access to electrical engineering and computer information resources? Confused about distinctions between IEEE, INSPEC, ACM, NCSTRL and CaltechCSTR? Not sure how or when to access INSPEC or the ACM Digital Library? This speedy session is designed to help all members of the EE and CS communities improve their research skills and expand their access to information options. Wednesday, May 2, 12:00-1:00pm, Sherman Fairchild Library, Room 328.

Please register at the CLS website: <http://library.caltech.edu/learning/form.htm>. For more information contact: Kathleen McGregor, x6713 or, kathleen@library.caltech.edu

Free Chamber Music Concert: Wednesday, May 9, 2001, 8:00 pm in Dabney Lounge. This event is Free & Open to the Public.

Event Highlights

USGS PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES: "PENT-UP STRESS PUTS THE SQUEEZE ON L.A." BY KEN HUDNUT
May 1, 8:00 - 9:00 PM
BAXTER LECTURE HALL

BIOTECHNOLOGY JOB FAIR
May 2, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
WINNETT LOUNGE

THE CAPITOL STEPS
May 4 and 5, 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM
BECKMAN AUDITORIUM
FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION CALL 626
395-4652 OR EMAIL EVENTS@CALTECH.EDU

To submit a Mint, e-mail mints@tech.caltech.edu or mail your announcement to Caltech 40-58 Attn: Mints. Submissions should be no longer than 150 words. 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.

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