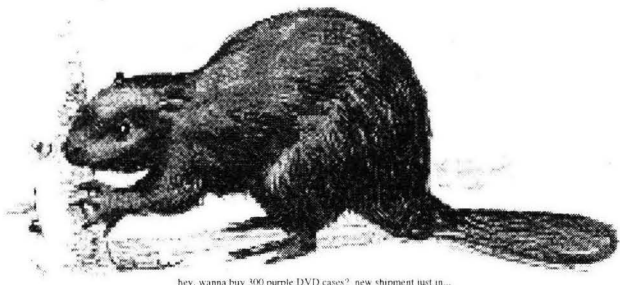


Ecphonema's last concert of the year (with opening act by *Out of Context...*):
This Sunday, 6 PM, behind Sherman-Fairchild Library



Sunday Night Fleming Courtyard

Atlantis

Interhove Party: Eat. Drink. Dance.

The California Tech

VOLUME CII, NUMBER 28

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

MAY 25, 2001

Bonsall prize awarded

BY CAROLYN MERKEL

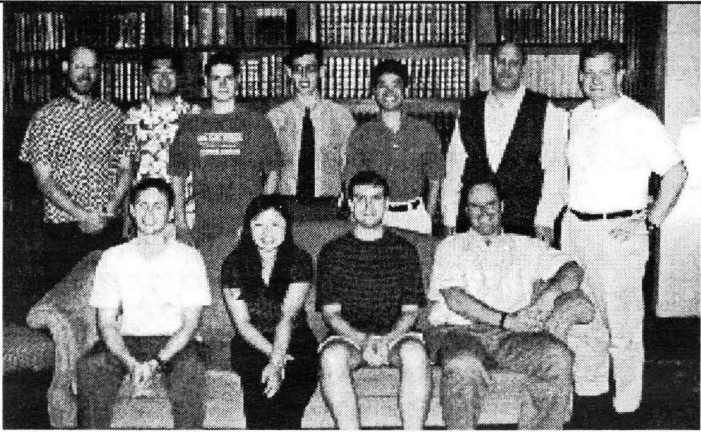


PHOTO BY JON FOSTER

Winners of the Bonsall prize, mentors, and SURF advisory committee members--(from left to right) back: Geoffrey Blake (SURF AdComm), Terry Takahashi (SURF Supervisor for Jeff Barrick), Ilya Fushman (Winner of Prize), Jesse Pino (Winner of Prize), Po-Shen Loh (Winner of Prize), Harvey Newman (SURF Mentor for Jesse Pino), Richard Roberts (SURF Mentor for Jeff Barrick). front: Claus Wilke (SURF Supervisor for Jialan Wang), Jialan Wang (Winner of Prize), Jeffrey Barrick (Winner of Prize), William Deverell (SURF AdComm). Winners of the Prize not pictured: Molly Swanson, John Oh.

The Marcella and Joel Bonsall Prizes for Technical Writing were awarded to seven students at a luncheon at the Athenaeum on Tuesday, May 22. The winners this year were Jeff Barrick, Ilya Fushman, Po Loh, John Oh, Jesse Pino, Molly Swanson, and Jialan Wang. Students received a certificate and will receive a check for \$200. More than seventy papers were nominated for the Bonsall prize. Two faculty members reviewed each paper, and the prizes were awarded on the basis of reviewer recommendations.

Students writing about the results of their current SURF projects are eligible for the prize. Mentors nominate their students' papers for the prize. Papers must be a clear, concise description of the work and should be intelligible to readers in various disciplines.

Marcella Bonsall was a charter member of the SURF Board, serving from 1982 until her death in 1999. As an educator, she had great interest in students and was deeply committed to fostering good experiences for them and enriching their lives. She established an endowment to fund this prize as an incentive for students to develop excellent technical writing skills, skills that will benefit them throughout their lives and careers. She gave her resources to encourage young people. Her

Four students win Robert L. Noland Leadership Award

FROM THE DEAN'S OFFICE

Laura Brogoch, Elisa Chiang, Dan Daly, and Eric Tuttle were awarded the Robert L. Noland Leadership Award at a dinner presentation in the Athenaeum Library on May 16, 2001. The Robert L. Noland Leadership Award is for outstanding Caltech students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership abilities.

Laura, a senior in Engineering and Applied Science, received the award for her outstanding leadership and service to the students of Caltech. She is being recognized for her work with the Board of Control. As a freshman, Laura was appointed Rep-at-Large, and then during her sophomore year she was elected Lloyd House representative to the Board of Control. She was elected chair of the Board of Control last year. Laura has demonstrated great concern for improving student awareness of the Honor System and has done a superb job of carrying out her duties as chair. She has led the Board through some difficult cases, always maintaining a concern for the individual while adhering to the basic principle of the Honor System.

Elisa, a senior in Engineering and Applied Science, received the award for her many contributions

Thief checks out DVD library

BY JUSTIN HO & JASON CARDEMA

A sad face is sketched on the white board on the Coffeehouse counter that usually announces the menu items out of stock. Since Monday, the sad face has been a reminder of the missing DVDs. Undergraduates remain in shock over the apparent theft of over half of the collection, from which titles could be borrowed for free. The recent move of the DVD library to the Coffeehouse was made, ironically, to make the films more accessible. Started in 1999 under Baldeep Sadhal's ASCIT administration to serve as an alternative to the waning Friday night Baxter Movies, the collection had since grown to 300 titles

valued at a total of \$6000. Approximately 170 DVDs that had not been borrowed were stolen sometime between closing time Sunday morning at 3 am and opening time at 7 pm later that day. Cases for all 300 titles were also swiped from the backroom, which also contained an untouched Sony Playstation. The collection was reported missing by the Freshman Director-at-Large, Joe Jewell, at 11 pm on Sunday night, after realizing that ASCIT had not taken them for cleaning or inventory purposes. On Monday during the ASCIT meeting, the Movies Chairman, Sarah Cooke, and the managers of the Coffeehouse, Melissa Soriano and Dominika Rytwinska, also verified that there was no authorization of

large-scale DVD removal from the coffeehouse. Consequently, Caltech Security was notified, and as the missing DVDs were valued at over \$1000, the Pasadena Police was also brought in to investigate.

According to the police, there were no signs of forced entry. Rather, a window overlooking the SAC courtyard that is left open in order to maintain the Coffeehouse computer's network connection most likely served as the entry point. Fingerprints were lifted from the glass, but matching them to the time that the crime was committed has not been performed. Force was also not a factor in removing the DVDs from their

PLEASE SEE THEFT ON PAGE 5



Elisa Chiang, Laura Brogoch, Dan Daly, and Eric Tuttle (not pictured) are this year's recipients of the Robert L. Noland Award

she has made to student life at Caltech. She has been actively involved with the Caltech Y for the last four years and served as ExComm president last year. During her time as president, she motivated other ExComm members to become more involved in service to the campus. She was always willing to help with any task and was instrumental in increasing the Y's involvement with ASCIT. In addition, Elisa has been very involved with community service, serving as the student coordinator for the Huntington Gardens.

Dan Daly, a senior in Applied Physics, received the award for his many contributions he has made to student life at Caltech. He has been very active within Fleming House during his four years and has served that house as a UCC, a house athletic team member, and most recently as Fleming House President. He has proven he has the ability to work well with others, to address and represent the needs of the students in Fleming House. Dan has also served as Junior Class President and currently as Senior Class Vice President. As the Senior Class Vice President, Dan has worked with the students to

help select the commencement speaker, senior class gift, and organize Ditch Day.

Eric, a senior in Applied Physics, received the award for his many contributions he has made to student life at Caltech. He has been the ASCIT President for the last year. In that capacity he has been instrumental in shaping student government. Eric also served on numerous committees, including the Women's Center Advisory Board and the Task Force on Undergraduate Residence Life Initiatives. Eric also participated in volunteer work with the Caltech Y such as tutoring local high school students in math and physics.

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PLEASE SEE BONSTALL ON PAGE 3

ELECTION STATEMENTS

Senior Class Co-President Election Statements

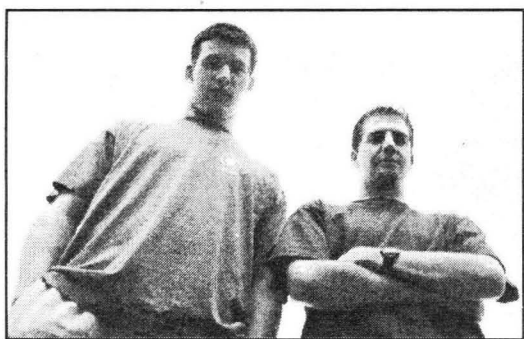
ELECTIONS ARE THIS TUESDAY. ONLY
CLASS OF 2002 CAN VOTE FOR THE
CO-PRESIDENTS.

(If you're wondering why they are running as Co-Presidents, read the ASCIT Minutes in last week's Tech.)

Dan Stick & James Lamanna

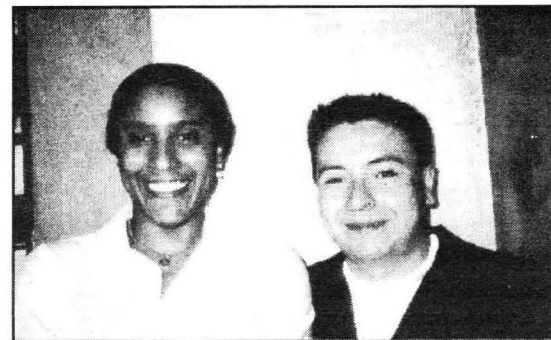
Of all the things we've learned at Caltech, the most important is that we should have gone somewhere else. The second most important thing is that Caltech doesn't give honorary degrees to graduation speakers, which makes us less appealing than other schools that do. So if elected, we will petition somebody important to remedy this. Failing that, we'll just print out fake degrees ourselves.

In addition to this plan of action, we also have experience as officers; James as house secretary and Dan as house vice president and member of ASCIT excomm. We want to have a great graduation and Ditch Day as much as you do and will work hard to make it happen. If you want the best senior year possible, vote for Dan and James, and UNDERLOAD, UNDERLOAD, UNDERLOAD.



Al Valdivia & Beverly Karhson

We, Al Valdivia and Beverly Karhson, both feel that we are very qualified for this position as between the two of us we possess all of the important necessary skills. The senior class co-presidents will be responsible for securing the commencement speaker, organizing Ditch Day, and acquiring the senior class gift. These duties require a certain level of responsibility, drive and a familiarity with the class of 2002 that we feel we possess. We have spent 100% of our time acquainting ourselves with the community's needs and the other 100% of our time immersing ourselves in the administrative side of Caltech. Together, through our friendships and activities we know a major portion of the Caltech community. Moreover, we have been best friends for three years now, so we know we would make an excellent team. Seal the deal, and vote for us.



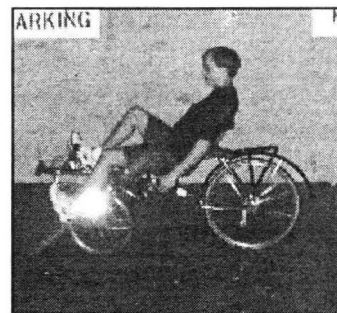
Walter Collins & Abraham Kuo

50% More Experience Than The Competition

What could be better than a senior class president, you say? Two of them! What could be better than your typical senior looking for the fame and glory such a position entails? Not one, but two, count them two, super-seniors seeking that same fame and glory! For a limited time, you can vote for Abraham "That guy in black" Kuo and Walter "that guy on the funny blue bike" Collins. Haven't heard of us? Don't worry, we probably haven't heard of you either. That just means we have no special interests to pander to. Hurry and vote now. Supplies are limited, void in some areas, other restrictions may apply.



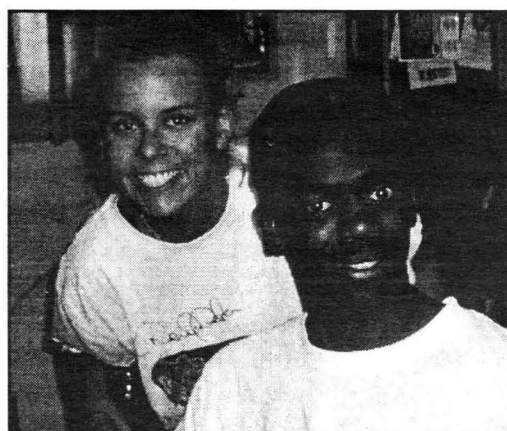
"I have nothing to do with this." - Abraham Kuo
"How hard can it be?" - Walter Collins



John Harris & Sarah Hunyadi

As you know, the Senior Class Co-Presidents will be in charge of coordinating Ditch Day and will carry out the will of the students in planning commencement. The people who serve in these offices should know most of their classmates, have experience dealing with administrators, and be well organized. All of those things are true for the both of us.

Sarah is currently serving as President of Ruddock house and has had experience working for Ruddock's ath team. I've been on Fleming's ath team as a frosh and I have served as Vice President and President of Caltech's National Society of Black Engineers (CNSBE). Our experiences have taught us how to be organized as well as how to be a representative for other students. Sarah and I have known each other for since freshman year and work very well together. And on top of that, we are very enthusiastic for the chance to represent our class. Vote for us so that we can have the smoothest Ditch Day and best commencement ceremony we can possibly have!



Tory Sturgeon & Dinkar Gupta

Why vote? Screw philosophy, we're not that boring.

Why vote for us? Heck, if you are dissatisfied with

ASCIT, we could probably not even make your membership worth it. Here's what we can say though. Last year, both of us ran for Junior class President. Our long-term motivation ever since then was to get really involved in Ditch Day and commencement proceedings. These two events mark a long-awaited end to four intense years at Tech and although sometimes their significance is debatable, everyone would like to see them well organized. If you elect us, we plan to get started ASAP on contacting the potential commencement speakers like Kurt Vonnegut and Matt Groening who were short-listed by the junior class officers. As for Ditch Day, some Daihatsus would certainly have been good to have on "tomorrow" last week. We really want to get those wonderful, walk-saving vehicles back for next year's stacks. So please vote for us and - no we won't be your friends forever - but will do our best for the job.



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NEWS

A.S.C.I.T.
Minutes

MAY 16, 2001

Present: BoD Guests: Chris Elion (old IHC chair) + IHC - Aaron Davies (Dinkar Gupta, Tory Sturgeon, Marcus Williams, Sean McHugh, Sarah Hunyadi, Rick Karnesky, Dan Liebling); Wren Montgomery for info about last year's *Big T*.

Meeting between ASCIT and the IHC to resolve differences in interpretation of their solution regarding transfer of faculty/student committee appointment power to ARC called to order at 10:05 PM. Meeting was also called to address concerns about the selection procedure to the IHC's student/faculty committees.

Guests/General Meeting:

In the manner in which the resolution granting power to the ARC over appointing students to faculty/student committees was written, the ARC was not required to submit the appointees it made to either ASCIT or the IHC before publication in the *Tech*. Clearly the resolution would need to be rewritten in order to incorporate the chain of approval required, which the IHC contended should also include the IHC.

Many of the ASCIT board members believed that the resolution documented a transfer of power to the ARC, granting the ARC full jurisdiction and final approval from ASCIT only thus limiting the bureaucracy. However, IHC interpreted the resolution as a delegation of power and that ARC would need approval from the IHC first, to be followed by approval from ASCIT. While the Faculty Bylaws endow ASCIT with

the ultimate power to appoint students to student/faculty committees, ASCIT originally delegated power over holding the interviews and making appointments to IHC. The new resolution was intended to put committees such as academic policies, core curriculum steering, curriculum, educational outreach, and library under a different branch of ASCIT formed specifically to oversee academic matters, and to split the task of interviewing a sizeable number of students interested in the positions. It was not explicitly stated whether the ARC would need to follow the reverse of the path of delegation, i.e. back to the body it was delegated power from.

Presently, the By-Laws do not state procedures for a complete transfer of power from one organization to another. Since the IHC was delegated power from ASCIT for committee appointments and is required to receive approval from ASCIT before final appointments are made, the argument was made that IHC delegation of power would require the ARC to submit its appointments to IHC for approval. This system would serve as a checks-and-balances, to prevent nepotism/cronyism. Accordingly, ASCIT voted to approve the IHC interpretation, requiring the ARC to submit the student appointees to the IHC for approval in addition to ASCIT. Martha-Helene received complaints from 5-10 students living on-campus and off-campus who were unaware about the sign-ups for the IHC's slate of committee appointments.

The second half of the meeting was devoted to getting more information about the IHC's selection procedures and determining if the IHC had advertised to the full extent of their ability to give all students an equal chance to be appointed. The House presidents were asked to name how they advertised the positions to their houses, whether through e-mail and/or announcements at dinner, to determine if there was a lapse in communication. The concern was also raised by Joe Jewell because there were no Lloydies appointed onto any of the committees, which may have been a result of insufficient advertising to get candidates from Lloyd. Still,

while two of the houses were not e-mailed about the committee openings, there were an especially large number of candidates running for the positions this year, drawn from both on-campus and off-campus. In addition to each house president's announcement, the IHC had posted numerous fliers around the campus to call attention to sign-ups and interviews.

A concern was also raised by members of ASCIT about the amount of diversity on the Freshman Admissions Committee, which consists of 6 females and 2 males, and does not include any white males or minorities. Out of the eight spots, Lloyd did not have a representative, so the composition of the committee reflects a departure from house, ethnic and gender distributions of the undergraduate community. The IHC argued that while the committee may not reflect the demographics of the campus community, the backgrounds of the candidates chosen were highly diverse, and neither racial/ethnic characteristic nor house affiliation were issues in their selection procedure. The IHC also felt that a panel of students that were not necessarily diverse would still be capable of picking a diverse incoming class.

The IHC clarified that candidates were screened thoroughly during questioning about any personal bias, their time commitment especially during finals week first and second terms when the admissions office is most busy, and the ability to advocate for prospective students especially in circumstances where a faculty member or admissions officer dissents. The admissions committee also holds an intensive workshop to train students for work on the admissions panels. For those who may be unaware, the students named to the admissions committee do not work as a group; rather, they are each paired with a faculty member and a member of the Admissions Office to form a sub-committee, and each group then works individually on screening applicants. The IHC approved its list of appointees to the Freshmen Admissions Committee unanimously and asserted that there was no bias in the selection procedure, either along house lines or otherwise.

The IHC regrets that more people were not informed about the interviews, but there are no viable remedies. ASCIT eventually voted 7-1 to approve the list of appointees, with recommendations that representatives who perform appointments in the future should advertise to the fullest and best of their ability. During the dialogue between IHC and ASCIT members, Wren Montgomery, a 2000 graduate, peeped in for a few minutes for an update on the *Big T* from last year. She managed to commandeer the project from Erik Dill and stated that it was feasible to complete the yearbook by Wednesday of this week. She also agreed to make a list of tasks that would need to be completed in order to put a yearbook together, for future reference and for the imminent publication of this year's *Big T*. ASCIT greatly appreciates Wren's dedication in finishing the publication.

Meeting adjourned at 1:24 am.

Evidently,
Justin

weaker links is \$2.00. Transportation to the theater will not be provided, so those of you who intend on going should start walking now. Tickets will be available in front of the Red Door Café Friday afternoon from 11:30-1:00 and from designated house ticket-havers.

In related entertainment news, all of the DVDs were stolen from the coffeehouse sometime between early Sunday morning and Sunday night. We ruled out the prank scenario when the cases for the DVDs also turned up missing, so please be alerted to anyone selling 300 DVDs simultaneously on eBay. At this point, an investigation by the police and the security office have been initiated, but the best remedy is probably our own self-policing. If you recall anything suspicious (e.g.) someone crawling through a window into the coffeehouse and coming out with a box of DVDs, please inform ASCIT, or the Crippling Depression mercenary BoC ninjas.

General Meeting:

Treasury info. Ayeh has been in contact with Harrington-Whitmore, a consulting firm specializing in tax services for non-profit organizations that we are soliciting help from for our tax audit. Any place that uses the slogan "Make an audit a pleasant experience" is worthy of ASCIT.

ARC stuff. Nick drafted a new form of the resolution recognizing ARC jurisdiction over the appointment of students to student-faculty committees. A new, detailed resolution was written because of conflicting ARC and IHC interpretations, the focus of a peachy emergency meeting that was called between ASCIT and IHC last week. Rewording of the resolution is required, so each of the members goes into their respective corners to scribble. Meanwhile, Ted and I skip out for a Fleming thing. Ted and I dissolve quorum at 6:00 pm.

Ted and I return at 6:15 pm, to find total chaos because quorum was not established to bring order. Peace is restored, and discussion returns to the resolution. Todd also has news that the *Big T* from last year will be absolutely finished by Wednesday, thanks to a yearbook marathon by Wren Montgomery, an alum who returned to Tech the Wednesday before Ditch Day and worked through the weekend to finish the missing pages.

Ayeh, Todd, and Joe Fassler leave at 6:30 to make their senior dinner announcements in Blacker i.e. Ditch Day is 3 days ago. Quorum is once again dissolved. Secretary takes a nap. The registration deadline for the ASCIT formal was two days ago. The Moles return to establish quorum at 6:50 to hear that Isaac See's job became much easier in light of online voting. Melissa and Dominika enter and bring aforementioned bad news about the DVD library.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm for discussion with security.

Evidently,
Justin

In need of a new lock and \$6000 to restore the DVD library.

BONSALL:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

interest in and commitment to students was only one facet of Marcella's broad interests. She was an artist, she travelled widely, and she was always a student herself. She was curious, ever cheerful and optimistic, and deeply interested in many things. She reached far and touched many.

THEFT:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

removing the DVDs from their location within the Coffeehouse as the lock for the cabinet was disabled prior to the theft.

ASCIT greatly appreciates any information regarding suspicious activity in the SAC courtyard on Sunday, May 20, that may lead to knowledge of the DVDs whereabouts. Informants are welcome to contact ascit@its.caltech.edu. ASCIT would like to acknowledge the support of many undergraduates who have notified some retail stores in the area that buy and sell used DVDs about the theft and persuaded them not to purchase a large quantity from an individual supplier. ASCIT is also asking that students who borrowed DVDs to return them promptly so that an inventory can be taken to get an exact figure of the total number of DVDs stolen.

The Outside World

by Iram Parveen Bilal

Washington, DC - Reports from Beijing alleging that a deal has been reached on the return of the crippled U.S. Navy plane from Hainan, China have been denied by the Pentagon.

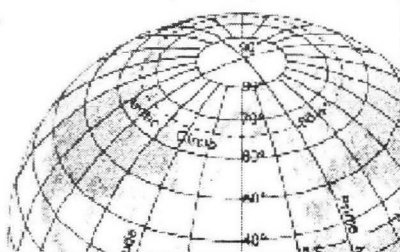
Vermont - Sen. James Jeffords of Vermont left the Republican Party and thereby threw the control of the Senate to the Democrats once again, the first time since 1994.

London, UK - A recent report by the British Medical Association indicated that phone use while driving is risky and potentially dangerous. It warned that phone conversation while driving, even with both hands, substantially increases the risk of an accident because the brain starts juggling messages and responses received from multiple stimuli.

Yugoslavia - Forces on "Operation Bravo" moved into the final part of the Kosovo buffer zone without any significant resistance from rebels. This happened as a consequence of a plan made by NATO-led peacekeepers to hand over the final portion of the Kosovo buffer zone to Yugoslavia.

Islamabad, Pakistan - After about 50 years of hostility between India and Pakistan on the Kashmir border debate, Pakistan is upbeat on the issue saying that it will respond favourably to India's surprise offer for peace talks this month.

Jerusalem, Israel - Israel admitted to shooting down a small Lebanese civilian plane that crossed into its airspace on Thursday. The Israelis had originally feared that the plane was part of a terrorist attack.

A.S.C.I.T.
Minutes

MAY 21, 2001

Present: BoD - Dana, and Joe Jewell due to early exit. Guests: Al Valdivia (Caltech

Undergraduate Law Association), Sarah Cooke (Pearl Harbour information), Isaac See (Election Chair stuff, for senior officer elections), Melissa Soriano and Dominika Rytwinska (Coffeehouse managers and bringers of bad news).

Meeting first called to order at 5:20 p.m. Guests: none.

Al's Law club had its first meeting, during which nominations for the four offices were made. Membership is currently at 22 ASCIT dues-paying students, but the club has not been formally registered on donut.caltech.edu, the mecca of Caltech clickspace, because it may be experiencing a name change. Consequently, ASCIT is deferring decision on its request for \$100, to be spent on off-campus visits to the Bar association, and law offices, etc. Plus, the formal is running over-budget and ASCIT is now poor.

The Web development team recently implemented online voting, which will be used for the senior class officer elections. Electronic voting through donut.caltech.edu should be more convenient than the typical election ballot boxes, but for those of you still used to getting around by horse-drawn buggy-and-carriage, we will have boxes in the houses. Voting will be open on Tuesday, May 29th exclusively to members of the junior class.

Sarah has made arrangements to reserve Pacific Hastings at 11:15 pm on Friday night for a showing of "Pearl Harbor" to the Caltech community: ASCIT-dues paying members can get tickets for free, while admission for the

JAPANESE

WOMEN NEEDED (NOW or this SUMMER) !!!

Physician is assisting a couple wanting to start a family. PLEASE HELP!!! Inquire "donor program" at website www.physician.yourmd.com or toll free (800)862-5158.

Room for rent: Large 2 bed/2 bath apt to share w/female, non-smoker, very tidy, no pets. Rent: \$625/mo + 1/2 of utilities (includes own bathroom, parking & private balcony). Deposit: \$625 refundable based on condition at move out. 445 S. Los Robles. Call Julie (626) 395-9422.

FEATURES

Ordinary People

BY JIALAN WANG

Here at Caltech, the very atmosphere is heavy with the extraordinary. We walk the same grounds upon which Feynman, Millikan, and so many other scientific legends once strolled. We are surrounded by the superlative and exposed every day to the extremities of human achievement, and we ourselves are here because we have displayed an aptitude in the exceptional, studying the fabric of the universe, the nature of life, and the frontiers of technology.

In fact, a common criticism of Caltech is that we seem to give the impression that science is the only great subject worth studying, and we neglect the greatness of other human pursuits. I, however, think that we are overlooking something much more fundamental – the greatness in the ordinary. In our focus on the exceptional, we become blind to the beauty of the everyday, which is the far more abundant variety.

Although we at Tech are probably more subject to this sort of narrow-mindedness than most, the mindset is prevalent in our culture at large. Unlike the vast

majority of people throughout human history, Americans today no longer need to expend all of our effort on survival. But what do we do with all of the extra time and energy? Evolution endowed us with eyes to see and legs to run, but it never taught us how to cope with boredom.

So we seek to fill a void that used to be occupied by the task of staying alive. It's a rather big hole to fill, and so naturally it requires big things with which to fill it, right? Hence 72-oz soft drinks and Ford

Explorers were invented. Unfortunately, happiness is not an inertial state. It must be ever sustained by new stimuli. So we are driven to find bigger, more expensive, and more extreme forms of gratification. Sadly, no matter how voluminous our soft drinks and how large and annoying our vehicles get, we would still be left discontented in the end. We live as thrill junkies, always seeking a greater thrill but gaining ever less from our pursuits.

Are we destined then to live

our lives as bored, apathetic losers? As more and more people are realizing, we have been looking in exactly the wrong places for meaning in life. Instead of finding greatness in the extreme, we have found it in the mundane. Because they are so often ignored, the mundane aspects of life often prove more engross-

ing than the extraordinary simply because they have always been there, and it is a singular pleasure to rediscover something wonderful. With the recent popularity of reality-based TV shows, it seems that we are finally

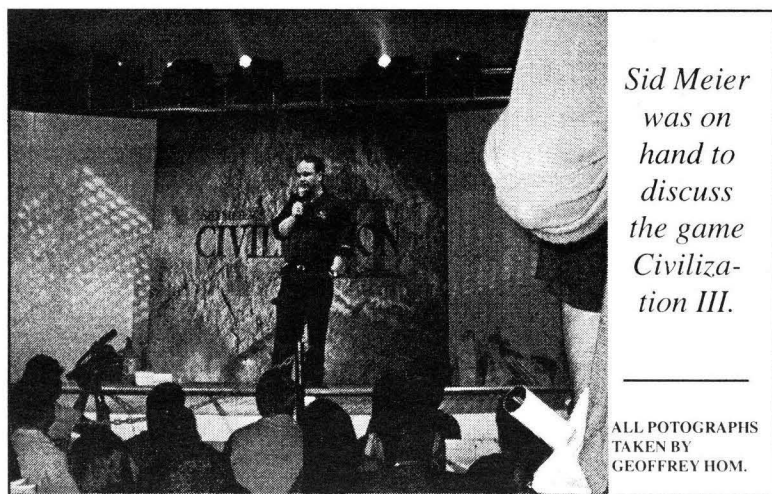
realizing that ordinary people are even more interesting than big stars with fake boobs who recite canned jokes to the soundtrack of pre-recorded applause. Of course, it might be a while yet until people actually realize that they are also real people, and if they would get off their asses and live our own lives, they would be even more interesting.

Luckily, people more cultured than television executives have also rediscovered the beauty of the ordinary and have under-



Video Game Valhalla

BY GEOFFREY HOM



Sid Meier was on hand to discuss the game Civilization III.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS
TAKEN BY
GEOFFREY HOM.

More than 62,000 interactive entertainment professionals from over seventy countries packed the Los Angeles Convention Center for E3, the Electronic Entertainment Expo this past weekend. In its seventh year, E3 is a trade show for those who produce and distribute video games, computer games, and the like. Unlike a boat show or a car show, at E3 you can take most of the products for a test drive. Mix in some celebrities, a couple of give-aways, many slick booth displays, and more "booth babes" than you would see in a year at Tech, and E3 seems more like a party than a business function.

Entertainment software is a

huge business though. Revenues of \$6 billion were generated in the US alone in 2000, and analysts expect that as early as 2003 the game industry will surpass the motion picture industry in terms of revenue. Abiding by the saying, "It takes money to make money," most of the big game companies spent thousands of dollars erecting enormous booths in an attempt to sway retailers and distributors. While a lot of deal-making and networking certainly occurs at E3, every year a significant proportion of attendees, including a few Techers, seem to be there solely to bask in the games. Even the occurrence of Ditch Day on the first day of E3 did

not prevent Junior Gabriel Lomeli from attending. "Ditch Day can't compare to getting my hands on a GameCube and Xbox months before the rest of the country does," said Lomeli.

This year's E3 promised to be a show of epic proportions, as three as-yet-unreleased game consoles were strutting their stuff: Microsoft's Xbox and Nintendo's GameCube and portable Game Boy Advance. Also on display was the second generation of games for the juggernaut that is the Playstation 2. None of the people playing Final Fantasy X (PS2), Gran Turismo 3: A-Spec (PS2), Munch's Oddysee (Xbox), Star Wars Rogue Leader: Rogue Squadron II (GameCube), Luigi's Mansion (GameCube), or Super Mario Advance (GB Advance) seemed to mind the almost total extinction of Sega's Dreamcast.

Speaking of Sega, the company had essentially its entire booth behind closed doors by appointment only. Many of those hoping to play Jet Set Radio Future (Xbox) or Crazy Taxi for the PS2 were understandably disappointed.

Of course, computer games also make up a large part of E3. Sid Meier's Civilization III, Warcraft III, Age of Mythology, and Soldier of Fortune 2 were

taken such projects as the *Journal of Mundane Behavior* [check out <http://www.mundanebehavior.org>] and NPR's program This American Life. These programs show that ordinary people are just as fascinating as extraordinary people, and their lives are just as rich and full of triumph and drama. More importantly, however, they make us realize that we are all ordinary people.

Even movie stars, billionaires, and Nobel prize winners are people who the majority of the time must exist stripped of their greatness, popularity, and pretense, who laugh, love, fart, and make mistakes just like everyone else. Perhaps we would all be a lot happier realizing that beauty lies not only on the cover of a magazine, but also in a momentous scar, in a wrinkle carved by wisdom, and in the hopeful smile of the frosh next door. Greatness lies not only in becoming the President of the United States or winning the Nobel Prize, but also in kindness to a stranger, in raising a child, and in teaching junior high. Life is beautiful – not just for people who survived the Holocaust, but for all of us.

just a few of the titles generating excitement.

In the end, Nintendo seemed to benefit most from E3. Unveiling both the GameCube and the Game Boy Advance, Nintendo had a packed booth throughout the show. (The opportunity to win a free Game Boy Advance probably helped, too.) Daniel Zimmerman (BS '96, MS '98) noted, "Every game in Nintendo's booth – every single game – looked gorgeous. The impression Nintendo's booth gave was, 'Here we are, we own E3, and our stuff is the best.'"



Some "booth babes" just looked cute and smiled. Nintendo's booth babes also demoed Gameboy Advance games!

BECKMAN SCHOLARS PROGRAM AWARD

PRESS RELEASE

The California Institute of Technology has received a Beckman Scholars Program award to support and encourage research activities of Caltech's most exceptional undergraduates in biology, chemistry, and chemical engineering. From hundreds of applicants, Caltech was one of only 14 institutions to receive this prestigious award. The \$105,600 award, given by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, will support six Beckman Scholars over a three-year period, from 2001 to 2003.

The Beckman Scholars Program offers an outstanding opportunity for gifted undergraduate students to obtain in-depth, faculty-mentored, laboratory research experience. Each student named as a Beckman Scholar will perform research activities part-time during one academic year, and full-time over two summers, and will receive an award of \$17,600. The students will collaborate closely with faculty mentors to define and develop their research projects. At the conclusion of the program, students will submit a full technical paper and give oral presentations, and many will become authors or coauthors of papers in refereed literature.

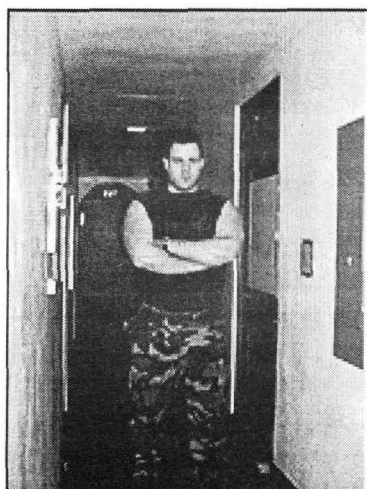
The Beckman Scholars Program provides an unparalleled opportunity for the most promising young scientists to engage in substantive research, to build a network of colleagues, and to achieve distinction in their academic careers. The program prepares these students to become future leaders in their professions and in their careers in industry.

Dr. Arnold O. Beckman and his wife, Mabel M. Beckman, established the foundation that bears their names in 1977. In 1934, while a professor of chemistry at Caltech, Beckman invented a pH meter, which became a widely used tool for analytic chemistry. He went on to found Beckman Instruments, Inc., and in 1940 he left Caltech to work full-time at his company. Beckman served as chairman of the Caltech Board of Trustees from 1964 to 1974, when he was elected chairman emeritus. He has received many honors for his technical, business, and civic contributions, including the Caltech Distinguished Alumni Award and the Robert A. Millikan Medal for distinguished service to the Institute. The foundation supports research primarily in the area of chemistry and the life sciences.

DITCH DAY



Sophomore Jora Jacobi crawls through the maze built on the lawn east of Blacker house. The maze was jointly built and used by three stacks: The Cult of Guayaquil (LI), Ender's Game (BI), and Excalibur (BI).



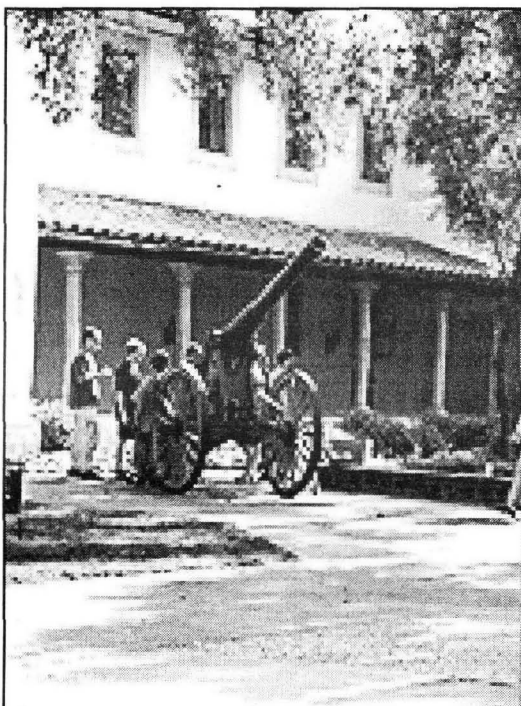
Fleming SENIOR B.J. Horn at 7:15AM, making sure nobody signs up early for a stack.



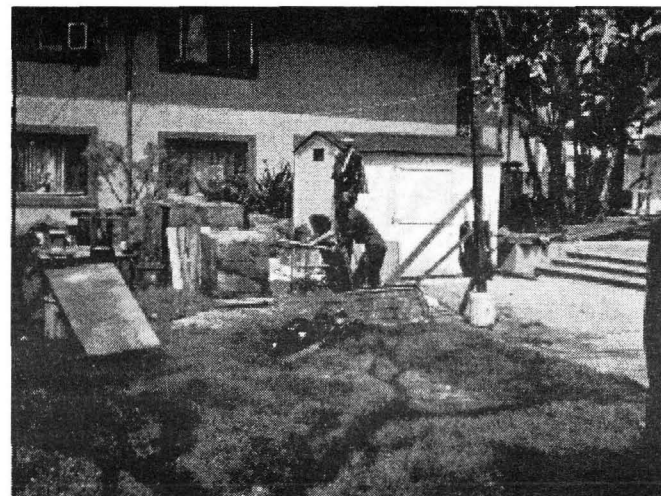
Junior James Dennedy-Frank and Sophomore Chad Kessens sort morse code-labelled tennis balls to decode a clue for "The Cult of Guayaquil."



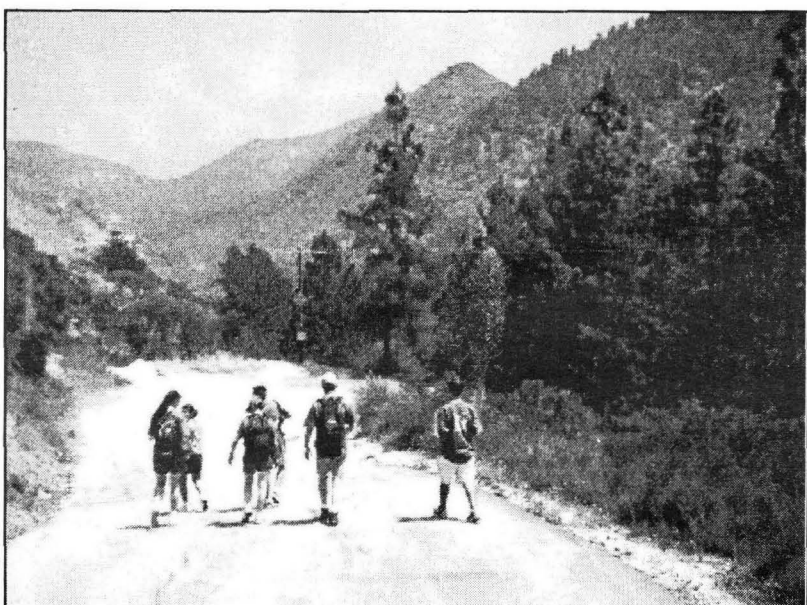
Jeff Cox shows off his rock climbing skills en route to cracking a computer code.



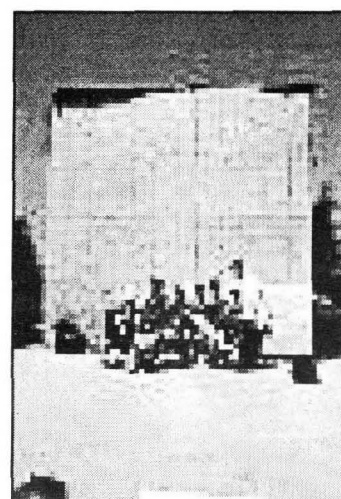
The firing of the Fleming Hovse cannon, signaling the start of Ditch Day



It's not easy getting to that next clue...



Rudds take a hike. Are we there yet?



Conquering "The cube," a five story 16ft x 16ft x 16ft maze that enthralled the participants of two stacks: "The Great Escape" and "007 No One Lives Forever."

Comics

DILBERT® by Scott Adams



FoxTrot by Bill Amend



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HIMALAYA (NR)
 [11:30] 2:05 4:40 7:15 9:50

MAN WHO CRIED (R)
 [11:45] 2:20 4:55 7:30 10:05

UNDER THE SAND (NR)
 [12:30] 2:55 5:20 7:45 10:10

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

WITH A FRIEND LIKE HARRY (R)
 [1:15] 4:05 7:00 9:55

STARTUP.COM (R)
 [12:00] 2:35 5:10 7:45 10:10

MEMENTO (R)
 [11:30] 2:05 4:40 7:20 10:00

Acad. Qual. Doc./
ROCKS AT WHISKEY TRENCH (11:30am)

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DEAN

Dean's Corner

Buoyed

by Jean-Paul Revel

sure my instruments were properly shut off. It was difficult enough to navigate stairs and hallways in the dark, but getting to the controls on the machines was altogether another thing. After banging my head on unexpectedly open doors, there I was, panting, groping in the dark for valves and levers buried deep in their innards. We had flashlights, yes, but could not find them in the dark... and can you imagine connecting hoses to the house water system without seeing a thing? Was that a water spigot or a gas valve? Oops it smells, so it must be gas, turn off your lighter, you lummoX. The water spigot was the one which drenched everyone around and caused the floor to be slippery and...well, you get the picture. Come to think of it it was a good thing there was a power failure or we would all have been electrocuted.

Is that what things will be like in the next months, when turning on all those air conditioners will bring the power grid down? The energy crisis! The energy crisis! No one has yet managed to find a way to deal with it. Conserve energy! Build more power plants! Easier said than done. A plant can't be built overnight. And what kind of plants? Sparked by fossil fuels which will increase the emission of more greenhouse gases? Nuclear plants, improved models, less prone to accidents?

The French have an excellent record, producing 80% of their electricity by nuclear power, so why should not we? Sure, but there is not yet a solution acceptable to deal with existing nuclear wastes. No one wants to have them stored in their state, and even were the storage problem solved, there still is the small difficulty of getting the waste to the repository... not by rail through my backyard, of course not, certainly not by truck. Lets see, I doubt river barges would do the trick either, so I guess we'll have to fly them there (don't they say it is safer than driving?). Maybe the wastes will just be left to fester where they are now, mostly where they are produced (or had previously been dumped). Like this 100,000 years from now people all around the country will have a chance to stumble into the stuff.

There is other hope on the horizon. You have, I am sure, heard of the exciting developments

here at Caltech in the work of Prof. Sossina Haile and her group, hard at work exploring a novel fuel cell technology. I understand there have also been promising steps in the use of wind power, and of solar power but all that is clearly still for another day. My title was inspired by learning about research which attempts to harness wave energy as a source of power.

Actually the idea is not really new. I read in a report by the Office of Naval Research, that stalwart supporter of historical lore, that even in XIIth century, in the time Richard the

Lion Hearted, there were attempts to use wave power to turn water wheels along the coast of England. "Ocean Power Technologies", a modern New Jersey Company, is working on two new approaches to utilize wave power (see The Economist, May 19th, 2001, pp.78-79).

One system is based on the development of piezoelectric membranes which wave in water currents much as flags flap in the breeze. As these membranes ("eels") flex, they can generate as much as 1 watt/m², enough to trickle charge a battery or to power a sensor. More promising as a means to light up your house are buoys, in which a piston rides up and down with the waves, and so powers a generator. While such buoys can now produce

as much as 20 kilowatts, the company expects to scale this up to 100 kW apiece. They are building test facilities on the West Coast of Australia near the euphoniously named town (?) of Warrnambool (does that not roll deliciously in your mouth?), and other test systems are to be installed in Hawaii and the West Coast of the US. Farms of such buoys might be used to generate multi-megawatts of electricity. Great for us on the coast and may be we'll even let those Kansans or Idahoans run their air conditioners too.

A bientot

Jean Paul Revel

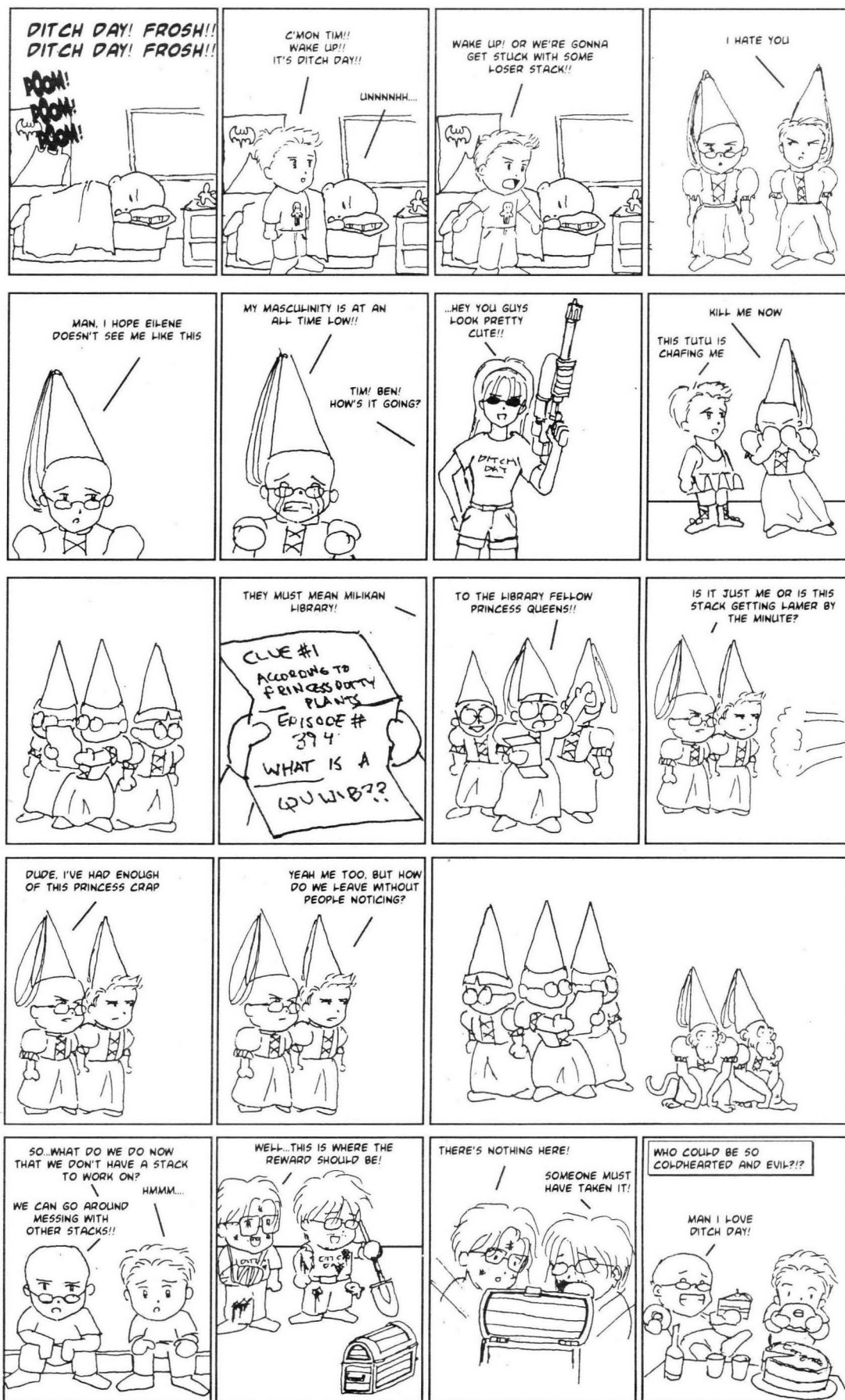
Jean-Paul Revel

by Mike Yeh, Ben Lee, Tim Wan

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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

The **Caltech Student Investment Fund** will continue to distribute funds to Caltech clubs. We are a non-profit group of people learning about the stock market and the art of investment, and having lots of fun along the way. If you would like to apply for a given amount of money for your club, you can download an application form from www.its.caltech.edu/~sif/clubs.html. Funds are limited and the deadline for applications is June 10.

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

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

Caltech Ballroom Dance Club offers: ARGENTINE TANGO for beginners: 7:30 - 9:00pm Mon. May 21, Winnett. This professionally taught class is the third of a five-lesson series - if you missed the previous lessons, still come if you know the basic figure- you can learn the new figures taught this session. \$5 per lesson for undergrads, \$7/lesson for others. WEST COAST SWING for beginners: 7:30-9:00pm Wed. May 23, Winnett. This volunteer-taught class is the third of a five-lesson series - if you missed the previous lessons, still come if you know the basic figure- you can learn the new figures taught this session. Free for Caltech freshmen, \$1 for others. No partner required. Refreshments and a half-hour practice period will follow each class. FREE MINI-BALLROOM DANCE PARTY after each Monday lesson; 9:30-100pm, Winnett.

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.

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

- * Measurement Science Conference - (MSC) Year 2002 Scholarship Awards
- * Scholarships sponsored by SHARE
- * Windstar Environmental Studies Scholarship Program for 2001
- * Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
- * National Institutes of Health Scholarship Program
- * John Gyles Education Awards

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 1st in order to be considered for Summer Work Study. If awarded, the work study funding will begin with the July 2nd payroll.

Upcoming Events

TACIT (Theater Arts at Caltech) presents an adaptation of Luigi Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of an Author* in Ramo Auditorium starting this weekend. This weekend's shows are Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at 8 PM, and also Monday May 28 at 2 PM. The complete list of performances as is follows:

- Friday, June 1, June 8 - 8 PM
- Saturday May 26, June 2, June 9 - 8 PM
- Sunday May 27 - 8 PM
- Sunday, June 3, June 10 - 2 PM
- Monday May 28 - 2 PM

Tickets are available call by calling (626) 395-4652 or emailing events@caltech.edu. The prices are \$15 for general admission, \$10 for students with current ID, and \$5 for Caltech students. More information can be found at: <http://www.cco.caltech.edu/~tacit/>

Seminar On Science, Ethics, And Public Policy Lecture:

Dr. Naomi Oreskes Associate Professor of History University of California, San Diego presents: "Science and Security before the Atomic Bomb: The Loyalty Case of Oceanographer Harald U. Sverdrup". Room 25, Baxter Building Friday, June 1, 2001 4:00 PM. Refreshments will be served. 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 web site: <http://www.hss.caltech.edu/ses/SEPP.html>

How to be suave + Caltech Entrepreneurs:

The Caltech Entrepreneur Club will be hosting two speakers next Wednesday (May 30), at 7 PM in the Avery Library. The founders of Applied Semantics will speak about what it's like to be a Techer and start a successful company. Also, Yfat Reiss of SharpMan will give a talk on how to network, be suave, and come across confidently when under pressure. For more information, email kenjale@its.caltech.edu or rumi@its.caltech.edu

Forum On Preventing Youth Violence:

May 29th, 2001, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Muir High School. Come hear youth talk about violence and how to prevent it. Issues of School Shootings, Gang Violence, Bullying, Relationship Violence, and others are open for discussion. Youth Representatives will talk about violence issues that affect them and possible solutions, and will ask questions of the panelists. Representatives will include: PUSD Elementary, Middle and High Schools, including Youth on Probation and Ex-gang Members. Leaders in our community will be there to answer questions from the youth, discuss existing programs and new ideas from the youth. Panelists will include: PUSD - Interim Superintendent - Dr. Edgar Seal, Interim Police Chief - Bill Saltzman Pasadena Police Department - Lieutenant Darryl Qualls Altadena Sheriff Department - Captain Ronnie Williams Community Non-Violence Resource Center - Ray Ramirez. Facilitated by the Coalition For Zero Violence. Sponsored by the Coalition For Zero Violence, the Community Non-Violence Resource Center (CNRC), Day One and the Human Relations Commission.

Event Highlights

ASCIT movie: "Pearl Harbor"
FRIDAY, MAY 25, AT 11:15 PM
PACIFIC HASTING THEATER

JAMES BOYK PIANO RECITALS
MAY 25 8:00 - 9:45 PM AND MAY 27, 2001
2:30 PM - 4:15 PM
DABNEY LOUNGE

MAY 29 7:30 - 9:00 PM
119 KERCKHOFF
RAY CHOTO, AWARD-WINNING ZIMBABWEAN AUTHOR
AND JOURNALIST, WILL SPEAK ABOUT REPRESSION OF
JOURNALISTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

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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