



The California Tech

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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 19, 2001

Professional bartenders only!

BY IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

This week, in your mail, all of you received the Institute's "Drug and Alcohol Policy, Guidelines for the Use of Alcohol" addressed from Chris Brennen. What most of you probably did not notice, however, is the change in it regarding the strict operation of only professional bartenders during parties now.

This has been modified from the old policy in that previously, undergraduates over 21 who were trained at the Athenaeum for bartending were allowed to work at parties. "Undergraduate bartending" started approximately four years back when both the professional bartenders and trained undergraduates were considered valid to operate in undergraduate parties on campus by the policy.

However, the administration claims that having given it a chance, they found that it did not work out in the best interest of the students for the long run. As Barbara Green from the Dean of Students office says, "Over the years, there have been too many underage students that get alcohol. Either it has been because of peer pressure that the undergraduate bartenders felt or that they did not agree with the policy at all. Hence, this change is an effort to prevent its recurrence."

Currently, to fill up the place and requirement for bartenders at parties, there are four professional bartenders from the Athenaeum that are willing to serve. In addition, CDS is planning to volunteer some of its people for the service too. If at any point, the number of bartenders available is not sufficient due to the simultaneity of parties, then back-up bartenders can be employed. They are also used by the Athenaeum but are more expensive to afford. Their cost is managed equally by both Student Affairs and Housing.

A couple of parties have taken place since the change was announced and apparently some students were not satisfied with the quality of drinks served claiming that maybe they were diluted. Furthermore, the admin-

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Nobel Centennial Symposium comes to Caltech

BY PHILIP WONG

On October 24, Caltech will join the world in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Nobel Prize. As part of the ongoing celebration, the California Nobel Prize Centennial Symposium will bring Nobel laureates to UCLA and Caltech in the spirit of innovation and progress.

Founded in 1901 for achievements in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and peace, the Nobel Prize is now the most prestigious award in the world. The award alone has remembered dozens of revolutionary discoveries and honored many world leaders.

Because California holds the distinction of having more Nobel laureates (more than 100) than any other state in the United States or any other country, California is hosting

this historic event. To celebrate the centennial of the Nobel Prize, Governor Gray Davis has made October 2001 the "California Nobel Laureate Month."

Caltech was given the great honor of hosting the symposium on October 24 because 29 Caltech professors and Caltech graduates have received a Nobel prize since the 1920s, a distinction equaled only by Stanford University.

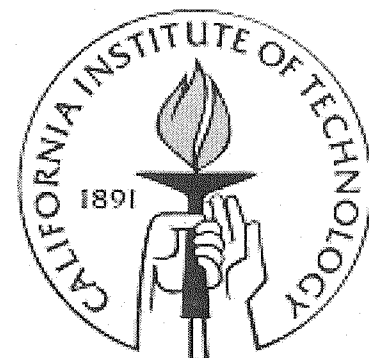
The six Nobel laureates who will be honored speakers include three Caltech professors: Dr. David Baltimore (Physiology or Medicine, 1975), Dr. Edward Lewis (Physiology or Medicine, 1995), and Dr. Rudolph Marcus (Chemistry, 1992) as well as two professors from UCLA Dr. Paul Boyer (Chemistry, 1997) and Dr. Louis Ignarro (Physiology or Medicine, 1998), and Dr. Alan

Heeger (Chemistry, 2000) of UCSB.

While these Nobel laureates will speak on the topic of the Nobel Prize, they will also introduce three additional speakers that represent the next generation of pioneer scientists.

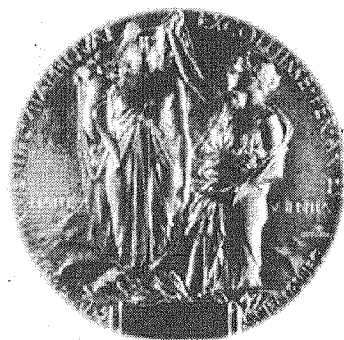
The three speakers that will share their innovative research at this historic symposium are: Caltech's own Dr. Richard Anderson, the Director of the Sloan-Swartz Center for Theoretical Neurobiology, who will speak on "The Neurobiology of Intention;" Dr. Andrew Lange, the Marvin L. Goldberger Professor of Physics at Caltech, who will give a presentation entitled "Imaging the Embryonic Universe;" and Dr. K.C. Nicolaou, from Scripps Research Institute and professor of chemistry at UCSD, who will present "The Impact of Total Synthesis on Biology and Medicine."

In addition to the Caltech community and the general public, many renowned individuals have been invited to attend. Most notably are the



Princess of Sweden and Nobel laureates from around the country who have been asked to come to Caltech for this historic event.

While this symposium will celebrate the achievements of many individuals, it is the gain to humanity that will be honored on October 24th. When asked to comment on what can be gained by the community from this occasion, Caltech President and Nobel laureate Dr. Baltimore responded, "The event will help to add luster to the already lustrous Prize and will, we hope, remind politicians in Washington about the great value they have created by their funding of science and education."



Parking problems perused

BY JON FOSTER

If you're never awake during business hours you might not have noticed it, but at times it can be near-impossible to find parking spots on campus. A growing campus population and increasingly strict rules on surrounding city streets have combined to squeeze Caltech's limited parking resources. The

change has been sudden, but Caltech is taking various steps to address the problem.

The most noticeable change for students is the new registration process which requires all cars on campus to display a placard. Albert Horvath, V.P. for Business and Finance, who has been made responsible for parking issues explained that the purpose of registration process "isn't to go hog-wild on tickets"

but rather to get an accurate count of the number of people wanting to park on campus.

Without a registration system Horvath explained that he "had no clue how many students are try-

ing to park on campus." The registration requirement commenced on October 8th so it is too early to see if it will decrease the number of outsiders parking on Caltech's campus. The hope is that it will stopping outsiders, particularly PCC students, from parking on the east part of campus.

Another change will potentially have a much greater change on undergraduate life at Caltech. Freshmen entering in 2002 will no longer be allowed to have cars on campus. Horvath explained that this decision was

made for a variety of reasons, including a desire to keep freshmen on campus to acclimate them to the Caltech environment. He also noted that the prohibition on freshmen cars is common at other universities.

Horvath denied that the decision had been made because no incoming freshmen are around to complain about the change, but acknowledged, "There are downsides to any decision which changes something. We have a parking problem, and we need to get supply in pace with demand." The downsides to this decision are obvious at an insti-

PLEASE SEE PARKING ON PAGE 3

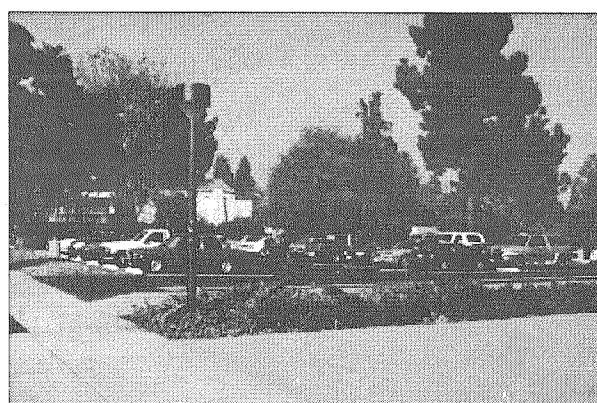


PHOTO COURTESY OF JON FOSTER

Parking space is limited on campus.; a brand-new parking lot on Holliston was recently completed to alleviate the pressure.

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News

Campus faces budget cuts

BY KEVIN BARTZ

All across campus, prices are on the rise.

Tagged at \$10 apiece, yearly course catalogues raised many an eyebrow with their debut at the Caltech bookstore this fall, and city fitness buffs unwilling to shell out an extra \$60 for membership at the Braun Athletic Center found themselves equally perturbed with the dreaded cost hikes.

But in the fifth year since trustees voted to cut the school's annual endowment take, officials at Student Affairs and a full slate of administrative departments have trimmed edges and streamlined operations in response to recently passed across-the-board budget cuts ranging from five to seven percent.

"Earlier this year, all but academic divisions had to undergo budgetary reductions," said Christopher Brennen, engineering professor and vice president of Student Affairs. "We tried to implement these reductions in ways that least affected students."

Handed down three months ago in a collective effort spearheaded by Financial Services, the mid-summer budgetary fiat strives to shake four years of red ink off Caltech's bottom line. Strapped by unexpected technology costs and universally tightened expenses, administrators sliced spending in everything from parking to health insurance. "It was a joint effort," said Sharon Miller, assistant vice president of Student Affairs.

"We all worked hard to think of ways to make our operations more efficient."

But in the eyes of students, ASCIT President Martha-Helene Stapleton pegged the Catalogue's presence on bookstore shelves as the impetus of the "most immediate student response." Distributed freely among students and faculty last year, the 400-page digests now bring in \$10 each: a "disturbing" price for a volume detailing "policies that are important in everyday life," in the words of Stapleton.

"I know it's expensive to publish things like that, especially in large quantities," conceded ASCIT Vice President Joe Fassler, "but you could instead cut funding to publications that don't actually affect students." Yet even at \$10, Student Affairs earns only the publishing cost of each catalogue, according to Brennen. And with the same information openly available online, the department decided this summer to "save some trees and distribute the printed catalogue to only new students."

Still, a perceived rising trend in student costs spited many a worry among students. "The feeling is, 'What's next?'" said Fassler. "We're already at Caltech, we pay so many thousands a year to go to school and now another \$10 for a stinkin' catalogue?" Freshman Director-at-Large Joe Jewell chimed similar sentiment, suggesting a \$10 tuition hike that "nobody would notice" in lieu of the added on-campus costs.

But in its defense, Student Affairs did, in Miller's words, make a "joint effort... to decrease the budget and raise income in a way that would have the least impact possible on students."

In fact, a rise from \$140 to \$200 in annual membership fees at the Braun Athletic Center—a move Brennen tagged as "significant" but one unfelt by students whose tuition still covers gym costs—bore the brunt of the administrative drive for increased income, according to a gym representative. "I think it's unfortunate," said Upperclass Director-at-Large Todd Schuman. "But I'm just glad students don't have to pay to use the facility."

In similar affairs across campus, only academic departments and certain self-funded groups, such as Campus Auxiliary and Business Services (CABS), were left untouched. "Colleges always need to make sure they're lean to devote money to research," explained CABS Director Tom Mannion.

In addition, scattered layoffs and open positions left unfilled relieved overflowing personnel expenses. Student health insurance also felt a mild yearly cost hike, and a just-passed regulation barring campus parking for freshmen is slated to take effect next year. "The administration needs to understand the necessity of transportation here," said Fassler.

Yet in the backdrop of a transportation system racked nationwide in the aftermath of recent

terrorist hijackings, admissions too may have to look for creative means of transportation, according to Brennen. Although the department's budget was not left untouched by the Student Affairs cutbacks, Miller remained confident that the enhanced strain on the "extremely qualified" staff would not scathe its "excellent record."

"Admissions has done an excellent job," he lauded. "With the increased focus on retention, both for every student and through attention to students by staff, the quality of admitted classes is definitely going up." In fact, last year's bumper crop of retained freshman, pegged at 98% of the original crop, proved to be the institute's best in decades.

That considered, Brennen and Miller have reason to be optimistic, despite budget strains. With ambitious fundraising plans already in place—Brennen cited a "major" upcoming institute-wide campaign—Student Affairs has moved plans for the so-called Campus Center, a perceived facility decked with student services, a theater and an inter-faith "Contemplation Center," beyond the conceptual stage. Proposals set into motion for a "complete overhaul of all of the undergraduate housing" will also proceed as the Institute seeks out donors for the project.

However, the future aside, the universal 5-7% slash forced Brennen to prioritize for the present—and pick who and what he would shelter amidst the budget firestorm. The Study Abroad Program, Minority Student Affairs and performing arts facilities felt the least of the cut-

backs, in the interest of "attracting and retaining minority and underprivileged students," according to Brennen.

The decision drew mixed reviews from students. "Minority Student Affairs? Those people are richer than God," said Jewell. "I have mixed feelings about it, but I think it's a little excessive overall. FSI does not need to take a limo to its [events]." And as far as the Study Abroad Program, he called it "definitely worthwhile, but too much money for not enough students."

Even so, Jewell added a note of confidence that "this is evidence that Caltech cares. Students are willing to bear the budget for now." As long as this "isn't a precursor of things to come," in the words of Schuman, students' "faith isn't shattered yet."

"The Institute is in a corner," offered Fassler. "Whose budget will we cut?"

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

Neda Afsharmanesh
Janet Qi Zhou

BUSINESS MANAGER

Tasha Vanesian

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Dana Sadava

COPY EDITORS

Elisabeth Adams
Sam Yeager

COMICS EDITOR

Kenneth Kuo

STAFF WRITERS

William Fung
Robert Li
Jonathan Foster
Iram Parveen Bilal
Kevin Bartz
Kevin Tse

CONTRIBUTORS

Jason Mitchell
Kenneth Kuo
Crippling Depression
Dean Revel

TECHNOLOGY CONSULTANT

Vikram Dendi

MINTS

Jonathan Foster

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR

Justin Kao

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Elisabeth Adams
Jonathan Foster

CIRCULATION STAFF

Roger O'Brien
Christoph Baranec
Rik Williams

FEATURE WRITERS

Justin Ho
Jialan Wang
Niky Morgan

ADVISER

Hall Daily

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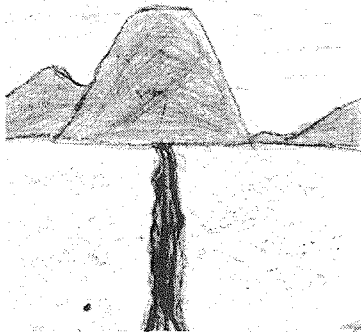
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The Earth Beneath Our Feet



BY DON LY

The normally drab walls of the Caltech Seismology Lab have been covered with colorful drawings of crayon. No, elementary school graffiti artists did not break into it; the lab hosts a display of the winners of the United States Geological Survey Drawing contest. The contest, held in honor of Earth Science Week (October 7-13), was for Pasadena USD elementary students and had a specific

theme: "The Earth Beneath Our Feet." The students, ranging from second to fifth grades, submitted an eclectic mix of their renditions of the Earth and the natural phenomena that are associated with it. The subjects

ranged from Dali-esque interpretations of the natural landscape to depictions of environmental consciousness.

Prizes included official USGS shirts for first place, hats for second place, and geological posters for third place. All participants received USGS pencils and bookmarks for their efforts. However, the real prize was the increased awareness of the Earth

and the sciences related to it. Wendy Shindle of the USGS emphasizes that it is important

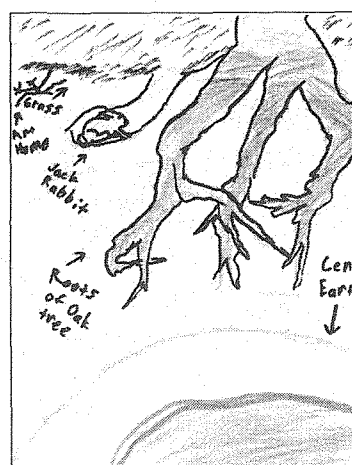


to incorporate fun activities with science at an early age in order to create a positive attitude towards science later in life (creating future Techers?).

The pictures are posted on the second floor of the South Mudd Building (on the corner of California and Wilson) in the southwest corner of campus. The pictures will remain up for about another week and a half and then

moved to the Kidspace Museum of Pasadena around Nov 8. Currently, about half of the entries are on display in the lab, but every entry will be on display at the Kidspace Museum.

The winners of the contest (and their drawings) have also been posted online at the USGS website and are directly available at: <http://pasadena.wr.usgs.gov/earthscienceweek/drawings>.



News

2001 Caltech/JPL LBGT Outlist

Scott Allen, JPL
 Carl Anhalt, BS '99, Mechanical Engineering
 Chris Bartok, Senior, E&AS
 Martin L. Basch, graduate student, Biology
 Richard G. G. Beatty, Alumnus, E&AS, '77, Program Engineer, Astronomy and
 Fundamental Physics Experiments Office, JPL
 Douglas E. Bernard, JPL Section 313
 Sue Borrego, Office for Minority Student Affairs
 Ron Burns; Infrared Instruments Engineer, JPL, retired
 Rich Chin, Alumnus B.S., E&AS/Materials Science, 1996
 Weng Ki Ching, Post Doctoral Scholar, EES (MS '94 PhD '01)
 Rolf Danner, Outreach Scientists, JPL
 Gil Dawson, JPL, Retired
 Rochelle (Shelley) Diamond, Professional Staff, Biology Division
 Dave Doody, JPL Senior Engineer
 Jonathan Dowling, JPL Principal Scientist, Quantum Technology
 Miro Dudik, Senior, Computer Science
 Juan García, sophomore, CSPA President
 Eitan Grinspun, grad student, computer science
 Cate Heneghan, JPL Senior Project Engineer
 Randy G Herrera, Cassini Radio Science Operations Technical Lead, JPL
 Rodney Hoffman, JPL
 Troy Hudson, G1, Planetary Science
 Kate Hutton, Professional Staff, Seismology
 Bill Irion, Alumnus (PhD Chem. Eng. 1996), JPL
 Lynell Jackson, Alumnus, EE, former CCO staff member
 Rachel Lewis, sophomore, geophysics
 Ajay Martin, JPL Section 345, computer engineering intern
 Aron Meltzner, Alumnus (B.S. 2000), Geology
 John Fleener, staff - mission management office, JPL
 Siuan McGahan, Development Engineer, JPL- affiliate
 Dusan Misevic, alumnus '98, mathematics/biology
 Alexander G. Mourad, APT Support Engineer, JPL
 Alex Murray, JPL Affiliate, Software Engineer, JPL
 Teresa Nick, postdoc, Biology
 Jim O'Donnell, Staff, Caltech Library System
 Dean Okamoto Contract Negotiator, JPL
 Craig Peterson, Senior Engineer, Mission and Systems Architecture Section
 Krystal Poole, Forms Designer, Documentation Services, JPL
 Jess Reynolds, Sophomore, Mechanical Engineering
 Derek Shannon, senior, geobiology
 Stephen Shepherd - alumnus, staff - BS Biology 2000
 Kerry Sieh, Professor of Geology
 Derek Slye, BS '90 (E&AS), Mission Systems Software Section, JPL
 Harvey Soldan, Test Manager, JPL-Affiliate
 Daniel Taylor, Staff, Caltech Library System
 Ryan Tischler, Student-Faculty Programs -SURF Staff
 Diane Trout, Staff, Biology
 Ted Wyder, postdoc, astronomy
 -this space left blank for those who feel they cannot yet come out due to societal fear and ignorance-

Caltech--along with the rest of the nation--celebrated National Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, and Transgender Coming Out Day on October 11. The names listed are just a few of lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender individuals who are part of the Caltech/JPL community, and they have contributed their names to this list in hopes of raising LBGT visibility on and around campus and increasing understanding and tolerance among all members of the Caltech/JPL community, regardless of sexual orientation. Submitted by the Caltech Student Pride Association (<http://rainbow.caltech.edu>), here is the 2001 Caltech/JPL Outlist. Apologies for its inadvertent omission from last week's edition of the Tech!

PARKING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tute where the nearest food stores and many other facilities are a decent walk and where the only public transportation is the nonexistent sort that pervades southern California.

There are two other immediate changes this year. The first is the creation of a new 80-space surface parking lot on the old location of the Recycling Center, and the second is the elimination of a large number of reserved parking spots. Reserved spaces are now basically limited to tenured faculty and some emeritus professors. Exceptions include some high administration offices (Horvath made sure to note that neither he nor anyone in his office still has a reserved spot).

It is too early to tell if these changes will help reduce the parking squeeze. A new committee is

being appointed to study their effects and propose any other necessary changes. Horvath mentioned that he was also interested in "touching base with some student representatives" to discuss the future of parking at Caltech.

ALCOHOL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

istration feels that the bartenders need to be more cautious about legal age drinking identification for undergraduates so that the change is effective in lowering the number of underage people using alcohol.

Dean Green said that she planned to meet with the bartenders to discuss the rules and Caltech's policy and to take feedback on the parties that they have served on till now.

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DEANS' OFFICE TUTORS

The Dean of Students Office needs tutors in all areas--help is especially needed with the main Institute requirements e.g., MA1, MA2, PH1, PH2, CH1, etc. The pay is \$10.00 an hour. A strong understanding of the subject matter, patience, and the ability to communicate well are the qualities needed as a tutor. If you are an upperclassman and would like to be a Deans' tutor please stop by the Deans' Office to see Sandra located in 102 Parsons-Gates.

Feature

Conditional Love

BY JIALAN WANG

It's always hard to lose a friend. Not to death or distance, but to the gentle estrangement of affections. As we grow and change, little differences multiply until we have nothing left to say to one another. Random circumstance separates the inseparable and breaks pinky-sworn promises, and at some point friends become strangers. Just like stars, friendships can die quietly or explosively. Although fights are more dramatic and often more memorable, quiet endings are perhaps more heart-breaking and more troubling. In these instances it is impossible to assign blame, to reconcile, to rationalize. All we have is nothing where something good once was.

In this complicated world, can we expect anything to last a lifetime, much less the tenuous strands of love and friendship? Even though most of us outgrow many loves in few years, we still cling to the notion that the only good love is unconditional and forever. The only way we tell true love from false is whether or not we die before it ends. But despite the proclamations of many pop songs, I love you is present tense. It describes the state of one person's emotions at one time, and its significance when spoken does not diminish just because the statement becomes untrue later.

Moreover, the unconditional love so often venerated is a fallacy. Even though we might not be able to explain why we love a certain person, there has to be

something there that other people don't have. But if that person changes, could that something not disappear? What if the friend you've had since kindergarden becomes a neo-nazi and starts beating his wife



and abusing his child? Should you still love him? Do you?

The point is that if we love people for who they are, then love is necessarily conditional because both the lover and the loved change with time. We do not merely love the person who

answers to Joe Blow, but we love something in Joe that may not be there in five years. Not only is fondness fickle, but it is also arbitrary. It sneaks up on us and then slips away just as undefinably.

So what then of the vow of marriage? "To love, to honor, to be true as long as we both shall live" is a promise no one has the power to keep. Love is not a matter of will or commitment. In fact, its very essence transcends reason and will. We cannot will ourselves into any emotion, least of all love. It is a lofty, antiquated fantasy that a certificate and an extravagant ceremony is going to tame love.

This might read like a rebuff of romantics everywhere, but don't mistake me for a cynic. I simply believe that in assuming love to be immovable, we are expecting the impossible setting ourselves up for anguish. Of

course lifelong love happens, and that's great, but there is no crime or failure in changing. It always hurts when someone we love no longer feels the same, but it is something we can all understand. Better we hurt for a while than spend a lifetime trying to salvage something long-gone.

Everlasting love and forever friends are romantic notions born of times when people hardly ventured ten miles from home their entire lives, when divorce was not an option, and when independence was not in vogue. Permanence was more appealing and more possible then. These ideas may have been substantial in a different world, but love and friendship have changed as much as society has. We are a temporary people in temporary times, and our temporary love can be just as true.

Marcus reports from Macedonia

Community outreach is the most pleasing job in the world. While I am still struggling to find paid work in Skopje, I am occupying my time volunteering with gypsies who live in squatter camps scattered throughout the city.

One camp, Klinitsa, is a small patch of industrial dirt on the bank of the Vardar River. My perception of the place has changed sharply in the month I've been working here. I first came to Klinitsa fresh from a stint squatting the mountains of Greece and so I had a special appreciation for the lifestyle. The shelter I built for myself in Greece had been a meager construction of stone, moss and sticks, while the innovative Klinitsa gypsies built houses of discarded metal, cardboard boxes and bottle caps. It's been a long-understood feature of gypsy culture that their way of life is due not just to poverty but also to a sense of culture and freedom, and from these latter contexts I envied it.

But over time my perception of the gypsies has degraded as the poverty of their existence has emerged an overwhelming feature. The ground at Klinitsa is strewn with trash, human and animal waste. They have no organized system for sewage or litter. Everything is tossed in front of the homes where it decomposes or finds its way into the river.

The hordes of children at Klinitsa are my interest and occupation. They are the

toughest kids I have ever seen. A childhood spent barefoot among the broken glass and fecal litter have brought them leathery skin and impenetrable immune systems. Sometimes I joke with the other workers that we run the worst preschool ever. While an American school might be worried about their students hurting themselves with a pencil, I have shouted to a marauding five-year-old, "Stop swinging that rusty scythe!" We certainly can't object to them playing in a pile of broken glass and horse manure. This is the environment they live in, the environment we work in, and to them it is natural.

I've put a lot of thought into ways to improve the Klinitsa lifestyle beyond our general mission of providing clothing, education and attention. Our outreach work is helping a few kids in a localized way, but my ambitious self is seeks to change the whole society.

The most obvious opportunity is to solve the trash problem, and it seems so simple. First I would talk with the city to provide dumpsters at the site then I'd organize a trash cleanup day to establish a clean Klinitsa and encourage the kids to throw their trash in the dumpsters. Inspired by their shiny new village surely the gypsies would change their routines and problems of lacerations and disease would be resolved. How naïve I am!

The workers at my organi-

zation assure me that this has been tried before. At a gypsy camp in Kosovo there was a weekly trash cleanup day and by the next week the trash always returned. This is not to say that we will not try a cleanup project at Klinitsa; it only shows the difficulty of the tasks here. Routine is a powerful thing, and it's especially difficult to change habits when all the motivation seems to be coming from the outside. Is it imposing our values to promote a disease-free, litter-free environment?

I used to stop all kids from fighting, but now I understand the conflict is not just misbehavior. When I would separate kids they would be upset with me and demand the right to return to their scratching. The children are so inured to corporal punishment from their parents and their peers that they can receive a slap, reel back, then carry on as if they didn't notice a thing, as if it was just a gust of wind.

I have to respond to the culture and step in only when one child does not want to fight. If both sides are belligerent they may fight with my hands-off blessing. Maybe we are the worst preschool in the world but unless we want to be a prison we have to compromise. I don't like to compromise—it's not in my nature—but it will remain the chief principle of my work until I can understand these, the most unusual of European peoples.

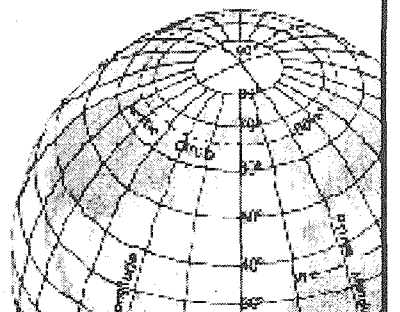
The Outside World

by William Fong

Anthrax In America: As bioterrorism concerns rise here at home, the number of reported cases of anthrax exposure are increasing. So far, a photo editor for a tabloid publisher from Florida has died from inhaling anthrax spores, the first anthrax death in the U.S. since 1976. There has been confirmed reports that letters sent to NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw, an ABC news producer, CBS news anchor Dan Rather, and to Senate Majority Tom Daschle were all contaminated with anthrax. As a result, many of the staff members that were in the vicinity of these letters were tested and found to have been exposed to anthrax but had no symptoms. However, there have been reported cases of cutaneous (skin) anthrax among some of the staff members. Also, as a precautionary measure, the House of Representatives will be closed until next week so an environmental survey could be taken; the Senate has decided to continue conducting business in the Capitol despite the outstanding circumstances. Early tests show that the strains of anthrax found in New York and in Florida are the same strain prompting further investigation as to whether these cases are linked and if they are connected to last month's terrorist attacks. On Wednesday, President George W. Bush, in a proactive step, asked Congress to allocate \$2.8 billion to combat bioterrorism.

Military Action in Afghanistan: The U.S. continued its air strikes against military targets in Afghanistan with most of the bombing concentrated in the capital of Kabul and in the city of Kandahar. With around-the-clock action, U.S. Defense sources believe that most of the air defense capabilities of the Taliban have been destroyed and that key military institutions have been neutralized. However, there have been civilian casualties as a result of guided missiles gone astray. While the U.S. is fighting terrorism on one front, it is also sending humanitarian aid to Afghan refugees. With the U.S. determined to bring Osama bin Laden to justice, the end of the military strikes are nowhere in sight with the Taliban refusing to hand him over unless special circumstances are met, all of which have been denied by President Bush.

Israeli Minister Assassinated: Rechavam Zeevi, a far-right member of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's coalition government, was shot three times in the head and neck at a hotel in Jerusalem early Wednesday morning. Zeevi, the touring minister, had resigned 48 hours earlier with the resignation taking effect on Wednesday. As a result of Zeevi's death, Israel has cut contacts with the Palestinians with the demand that the Palestinians hand over those responsible for the assassination. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine has claimed responsibility and two members have been arrested in connection to the murder. It is believed that Zeevi was targeted for his anti-Palestinian sentiment. This assassination has added to the instability of the Middle East and impeded any progress towards peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

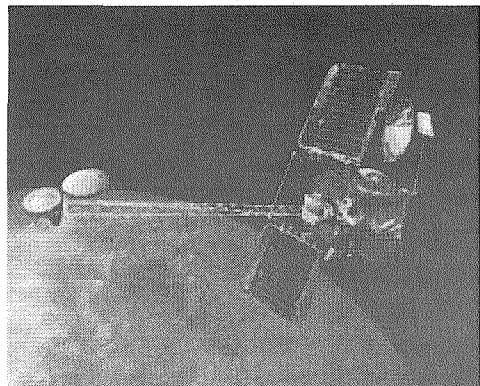


News

Caltech to Celebrate Mars 2001 Odyssey Mission

BY DEREK SHANNON

The Mars 2001 Odyssey spacecraft was in good condition Thursday as it began the final leg of its seven-month, 457-kilometer journey to the Red Planet. Odyssey is scheduled to fire its main engine for 20 minutes on



Tuesday, October 23rd—but contact can only be maintained with the craft for the first 10 minutes of this crucial maneuver, before Odyssey slips behind Mars and communication is lost until Odyssey re-emerges at 7:46 Pacific Time.

If at that time mission controllers again hear from Odyssey,

it will mark the first successful arrival of a NASA spacecraft at Mars since 1997's Mars Global Surveyor, which is still returning data from Mars orbit. NASA officials hope for similar longevity for Odyssey. The

spacecraft will search for water in the upper few meters of the Martian crust using a gamma ray spectrometer, map minerals with a thermal emission imaging system, and measure radiation levels that might pose hazards to future crews. This last radiation-monitoring instrument is one of several

headaches for Odyssey, however, as controllers had to shut it down in August after it stopped responding. Mission controllers hope to revive the instrument after Odyssey is in its final orbit around Mars, but have delayed any repair attempts until then lest they interfere with the all-important orbital insertion.

Another headache for Odyssey and its handlers is the spacecraft's star-tracker, which was damaged by excess light early in the mission and may require a work-around if it is to prove adequate for the spacecraft's operations around Mars. But the most obvious worry for Odyssey is Mars itself, which is currently engulfed in a globe-spanning dust storm whose unpredictable variations might complicate the aerobraking that will put Odyssey in its final orbit.

Still, JPL officials are confident that Odyssey will come through.

Confident, too, are Caltech Mars enthusiasts in the Mars Society (<http://mars.caltech.edu>), who are organizing an event this Saturday to celebrate in advance of the Odyssey arrival. NASA scientist Dr. Pascal Lee will be the premiere speaker at the event, which will take place at 3:30 PM in Baxter Lecture Hall, building 77 on the Caltech map. Lee is a member of the Mars Society Steering Committee, creator of the Red-Green-Blue

Mars flag, and a fearless Arctic explorer who has led the Mars Society's Mars Arctic Research Station program since establishing it in 1998. He will present on how to get to Mars by first exploring the Arctic and other terrestrial Mars-analogue sites, and share the adventures and research he

has undertaken in scientific expeditions to Mars-like sites all over Earth. The latest information on Odyssey will also be presented.



A.S.C.I.T. Minutes

OCTOBER 15, 2001

Corrections to October 10, 2001 minutes:

Due to Martha-Helene's departure out of town shortly after last week's ASCIT meeting, she was unable to approve the Minutes as I had presented them. Upon her return she realized that I had misrepresented several facts. I extend my apologies for misinforming readers and possibly upsetting faculty and administration. In my attempts to make the Minutes more entertaining and user-friendly, I have inserted lines that have reduced the professionalism of this student association and possibly at the cost of misinforming the readers. Accordingly, it is my responsibility to make corrections from last week's minutes and ask you

to disregard the corresponding blurbs that were composed last week.

ASCIT has not funded "dangerous" clubs in the past, but the PE department's decisions made ASCIT more aware of these concerns. The PE department ended its rock-climbing class because there is no formal state certification program to ensure the quality of instructors, so ASCIT is making future note that funding clubs that may likewise have problems with certification could make ASCIT liable.

Minutes of the ASCIT BoD Meeting

October 15, 2001

Present: BoD-Nick, Ayeh.
Guests: Kevin Bartz

Meeting called to order at 10:06 pm.

Guests: Kevin Bartz is sitting in on a meeting again for potential scoops for more stories.

General meeting

Rotation. The Rotation rule changes made this year, allowing freshmen to be taken off-campus by members of a house

within a four-hour drive, were very much appreciated. Updated rules are available on the IHC web site. On the whole, Rotation went smoothly this year according to Dana. A survey will be circulated to gain feedback.

Publications. According to Todd, the publisher lost some of the fonts so the little t will be delayed by a week. The Totem that was finished at the end of last school year will be sent to the MSC's of current students with the exception of freshmen.

Parking. Joe is drafting a letter to administrators requesting a second look at the changes on parking policy toward undergraduates. As the changes now stand, next year's freshmen will not be able to park on-campus, which would pose problems especially since there is no Board on the weekends.

Meeting adjourned at 10:47 pm.

Evidently,
Justin

Did you know?

The Y sells discounted tickets for theme parks and other attractions in the LA area. Tickets include Disneyland, Universal Studios, Magic Mountain, San Diego Zoo, and more! Stop by the Y or call x6163 to check prices or availability.

The Y ExComm meets every Monday at noon in the Y Lounge to plan upcoming Y events. If you are interested in what we do, please stop by! The Y is located on the first floor the Student Services Building, south of the Holliston parking structure.



Thursdays, 4:00-6:00 pm in Winnett Club Room 1.

- Discounted tickets are on sale for tomorrow's (Oct. 20) Pasadena Symphony performance.

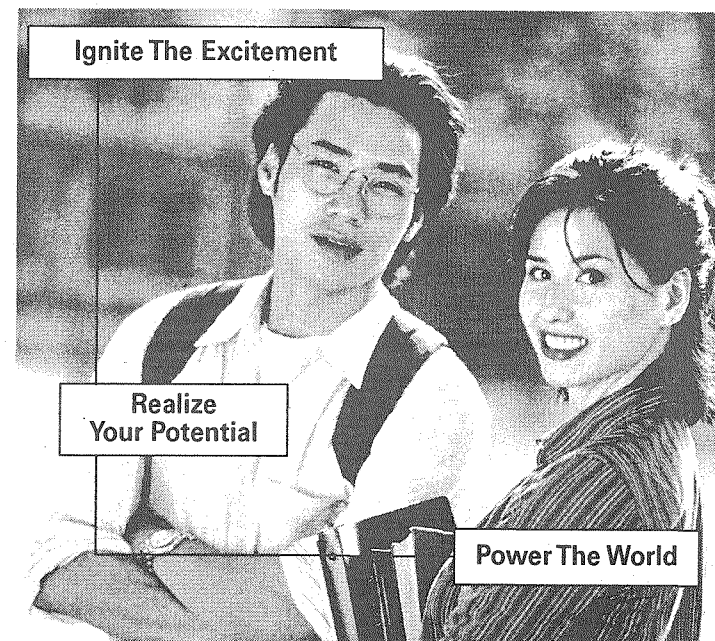
What's new at the Y?

- Noon concert today near the Red Door Café. Chris Hammersmith will be performing a mix of blues, rock, and jazz.

- Noon concert next Friday (Oct. 26). Jeremy Toback will be performing modern rock/pop.

- The Y's on-campus tutoring program started this week. If you are interested in tutoring local middle school and high school students in science and math, contact the Y for more details, or drop by a tutoring session: Tuesdays and

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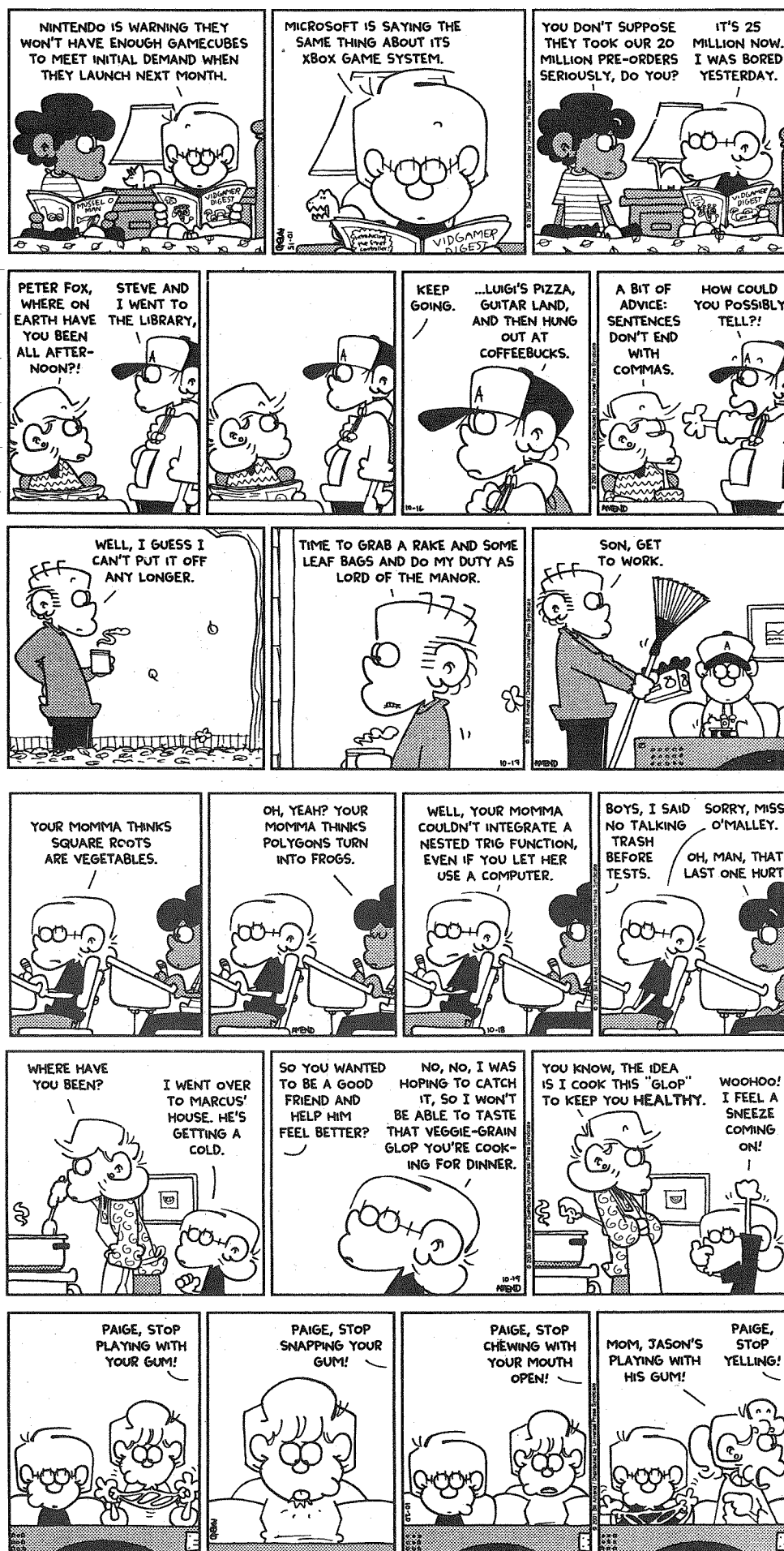
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DANCING AT THE BLUE (R)
[1:15] 4:10 7:00 9:55

BLOODLUST (R)
[12:00] 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00 12:15

TORTILLA SOUP (PG-13)
[11:30] 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30

A Film by David Lynch
MULHOLLAND DRIVE (R)
[12:30 1:30] 4:00 5:00 7:30 8:30 11:00

INTIMACY (NR)
[1:15] 4:15 7:15 10:00

VA SAVOIR! (PG-13)
[1:00] 4:30 8:00

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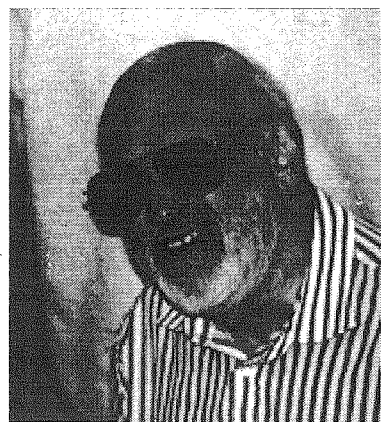
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Dean's

Dean's Corner

The infallible? professor

by Jean-Paul Revel



The only scientist personally honored on a US postage stamp in 2001 is Enrico Fermi, the physicist who achieved the first self sustaining nuclear reaction. The stamp was released last September 29, 2001, the 100th anniversary of his birth in Rome, Italy. Actually the good professor was honored twice on US stamps this year, the second time indirectly because this year is also the 100th anniversary of the Nobel Prizes, a prize Fermi received in 1938 for "his demonstration of the existence of new radioactive elements produced by neutron irradiation". His trip to Stockholm gave him the opportunity to flee fascist Italy with his family and come to the US, where he took up a Professorship in Physics at Columbia, before going to U. of Chicago to lead the team developing the "Chicago Pile-1" under the stadium's bleachers in the early days of the atomic energy program (see the Argonne National Lab site at www.anl/OPA/frontiers96/unisci.html).

It is irrelevant to our story but quaint to note as an aside that the whole nuclear fission effort was led by one Bush, no, not George nor George W., but that other one with an odd name, Vannevar. It was he who placed Arthur Compton, Dean of Physics at Chicago, in charge of "finding fissionable material" and it was Compton who recruited Fermi to the task of building the pile.

Now I am telling you all this because of a letter by Greg Huber of the Dept. of Physics at U. Mass., published on Oct 5 in Science Magazine. Huber points out that the newly issued USPS stamp mentioned earlier, reveals to the whole world what seems to be a shocking blunder by Fermi. The stamp shows the great man pointing to a partly visible formula on a blackboard. Another formula, higher on the blackboard, is also cropped but found after a little sleuthing to define a constant, a , linking electric charge (e), quantum theory (h) and relativity (c).

Huber writes "well sort of. Fermi has completely screwed it up by interchanging the role of h and e ." Instead of $a=h^2/ec$ the expression should have been $a=e^2/hc$. After examining various possibilities Huber comes to the conclusion (at the suggestion, he says, of "a distinguished professor at the U. of Chicago") that "Fermi was just having a bad day. Trottled out

in front of the camera, his memory playing tricks on him, he simply misregurgitated a . End of story. It could happen to anyone."

Well! But Fermi isn't just anyone! After all this was the great Fermi, renowned for his ability to calculate on the fly, on the basis of very little information. Like a Caltecher he prided himself on deriving things from first principles, saying "If I could remember the names of all these particles, I'd be a botanist." Would a photo shoot fluster such a person? It is hard to believe that he knew the relation by rote and just got befuddled.

But there is more to this muddle. You see, Huber identifies the part of the equation seen on the board as defining a by comparison with "an example from his own (Fermi's) notebook." So the whole expression is also written down in a less ephemeral medium than a blackboard, in Fermi's handwriting, and like the expression on the board, it is "wrong". The obvious question arises as to whether Fermi could have had two bad days, one at the blackboard (easy to empathize with that) and another one while calmly sitting at his desk in his comfortable office, perhaps in slippers and with his dog in his lap, writing in his notebook. Again, hard to believe. Of course the a could just be a different quantity than Huber thought. Protests he: "Highly unlikely. If you work out the units- (mass x length)^{3/2}-they make no sense". I did not get that, but that perhaps is because I am not a physicist.

But there may be yet another puzzle. The Argonne Lab web site quoted earlier shows a picture of Fermi standing at a blackboard, actually the same picture that was used by Huber to identify the mistaken equation. What seems to be the legend to the photo displayed on the Argonne web site says that, when Compton invited Fermi to join the project, "Fermi stepped to the blackboard and worked out simply and directly the equation from which could be calculated the critical size of a chain reaction sphere." The juxtaposition implies that the picture was taken the day Fermi was being recruited. This picture and the one which was used in drawing the stamp, were actually taken minutes apart in 1948, long after 1941 when Fermi was being recruited. I guess the discrepancy could just be explained by assuming the web master did not check his sources.

But is the diagram to which Fermi is pointing that of a chain reaction sphere, or, as the USPS claims, a representation of a carbon atom?

So what to make of all of this? I think I know whom to blame. It must be the doings of extraterrestrials! Fermi believed in their existence but expressed frustration at the lack of evidence for them (// seti.setileague.org/askdr/

hungary.htm). "Reasoning that advanced civilizations should already have filled the Galaxy," he asked his famous question, "Where are they?" The answer given by his colleague Leo Szilard was that they were here already, but called themselves Hungarians! Witness he explained, the latter's unusual language (Hungarian is like no other language in central Europe), their wanderlust (it is the land of gypsies), and their unearthly intelligence, witness greats like Teller (father of the H bomb), Wigner (plutonium producing reactors), von Neuman (the famous mathema-

tician) and of course Szilard himself (he was 1st to propose that one could build a fission bomb); all of them HUNGARIAN!

So could extraterrestrials, whether or not disguised as Hungarians, have been involved in a prank? Perhaps this incident will flush them out in the open. A bientot!

Jean Paul Revel

Jean-Paul Revel
Dean of Students

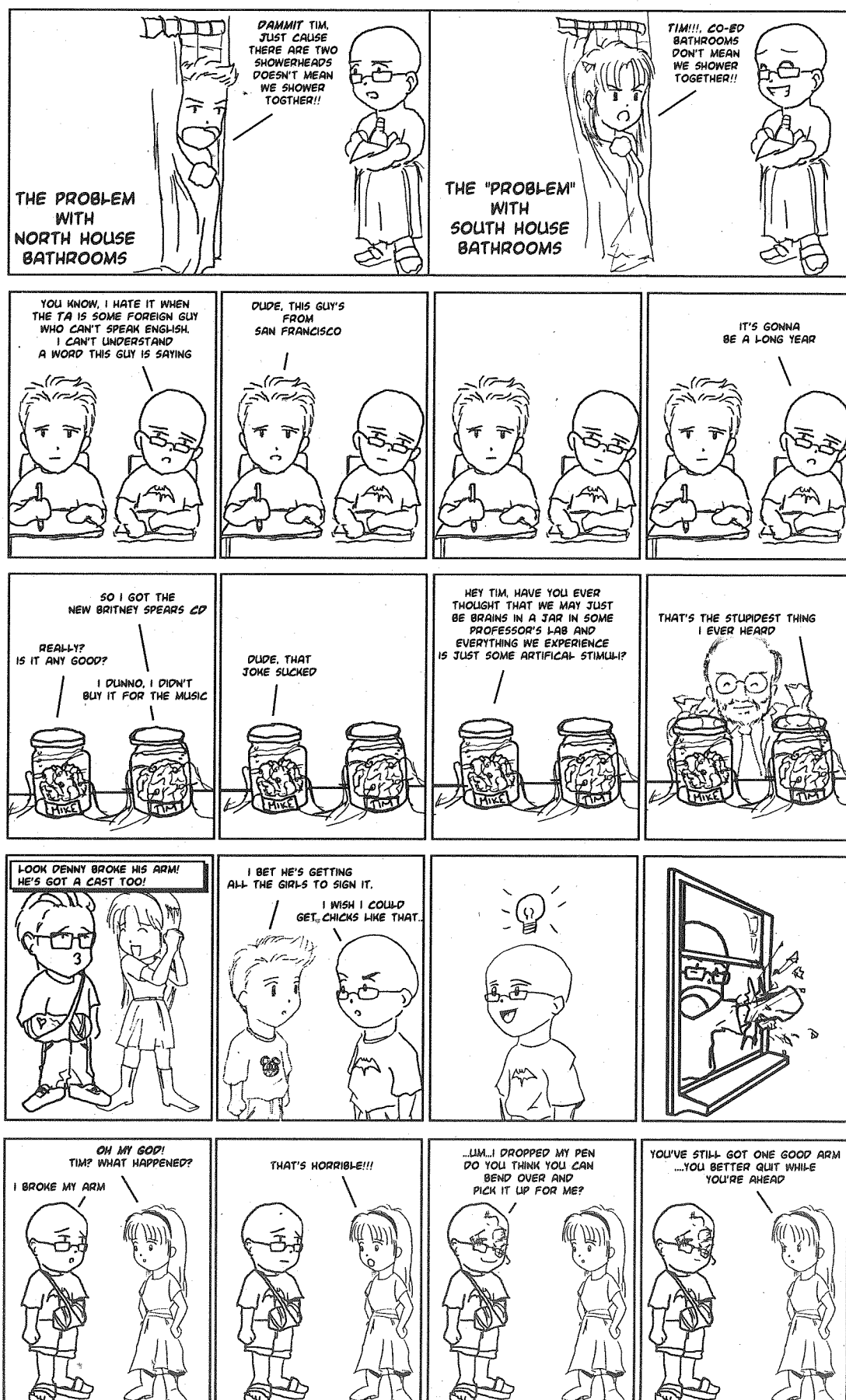
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Mints

Announcements

The Intercultural Discussion and Support Group provides a forum for Caltech students to explore the process of relating across cultures. Group activities will provide participants with an opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings about this process, as well as relate personal experiences from their lives at home and at Caltech. The Group will meet every Monday beginning October 22 from 12 -1 pm in the Women's Center Lounge. (265-86, 2nd floor of the Center for Student Services). This Group is facilitated by the Counseling Center and International Student Programs, and is open to ALL Caltech students, graduate and undergraduate, American and international. Drop-ins welcome. If you plan on attending any of the meetings or would like additional information about the group, please contact Jim at endrizzi@caltech.edu.

Wanna learn to fly? The Aero Association of Caltech/JPL is holding its Fall General Membership meeting on Wednesday, October 24, at 7 pm in 201 E. Bridge. Come learn about our fleet of six airplanes at nearby El Monte Airport and the opportunity to get your pilot's license. The meeting will feature guest speaker Peter Garrison, who writes the "Technicalities" column for Flying Magazine. Both members and non-members are invited to attend. For more information about joining the Caltech Flying club or the Fall General Membership meeting, contact Gilead Wurman, gwurman@its.caltech.edu, x1256, or Elaine Ou, ou@its.caltech.edu, x1037.

Women in Science is a new group on the Caltech campus. It was started by a group of concerned female graduate students, and we are now looking for new members. We will be having an Open Forum on Nov 1 at 7 pm at the Women's Center. The discussion topic for this forum will be "Treatment of Women at Caltech: Past and Present". This event is open to all members of the Caltech community. If you would like to learn more, please email Cynthia at cynthiac@its.caltech.edu.

The Caltech Ballroom Dance Club is offering two four-week class series this month: Lindy Hop and Chacha. The first two weeks have already passed, but if you know the basic figure, come and learn the new figures taught this week. Lindy Hop, taught by professional instructor Sonny Watson, takes place on Mondays (Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29). Classes are \$6/lesson for all Caltech students, \$8/lesson otherwise. Chacha (Wed. Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31) is amateur taught and costs \$1/lesson (free for freshmen). All classes are held in Winnett Lounge from 7:30-9 pm, followed by a half-hour practice session. Refreshments provided; no partner or experience is required. Also, on Mondays from 9:00-11 pm we offer a mini-ballroom dance party (first half hour coincident with the lindy practice session) - request or bring your own music! For more information, contact Megan Knight at knight@its.caltech.edu or visit our web page at <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~ballroom/>.

Caltech Quiz Bowl is having practices every Wednesday and Thursday in SAC 65 at 7:30 pm. We are a group of graduate and undergraduate students who get together and participate in competitions consisting of trivia questions on everything from science to literature to sports. The Wednesday practice in particular is meant for new players. For more information see our website at www.its.caltech.edu/~quizbowl.

Feeling stressed??? Sign up for the Stress Management Workshop offered by the Student Counseling Center. This workshop will include a mixture of informal lecture and experiential exercises focusing primarily on basic relaxation techniques and stress management skills. The three-session workshop will meet on consecutive Mondays (November 5th, 12th, and 19th) from 12-1 pm in the Health Center Lounge. Space is limited, so please call x8331 to reserve your place in the group.

The Dean of Students Office needs tutors in all areas--help is especially needed with the main Institute requirements e.g., MA1, MA2, PH1, PH2, CH1, etc. The pay is \$10.00 an hour. A strong understanding of the subject matter, patience, and the ability to communicate well are the qualities needed as a tutor. If you are an upperclassman and would like to be a Deans' tutor please stop by the Deans' Office to see Sandra located in 102 Parsons-Gates.

Athenaeum Tennis Ladder. All Athenaeum members, ages 18 and older, are invited to join a new managed tennis ladder. Once per month, ladder managers will post matches to be completed by the end of the month. Players call each other to arrange mutually agreeable date and time to play. The ladder includes both men and women, but matches will be formed between players within a few ladder rungs of one another. Each of year trophies will be awarded. Signups welcome at any time, but respond by Oct 23, 2001, to be included in initial matches. For more information, contact Jane Wider at (818) 952-0941 or Rich Dekany at (626) 395-6798 or email to ahhtennis@caltech.edu.

Guitar Classes At CIT

CIT Guitar Classes for the fall quarter will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting on October 9 as follows: Beginning Guitar Class 4:30-5:30 pm; Intermediate Guitar Class 3- 4 pm; Advanced Guitar Class 5:30- 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 three 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

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.

Event Highlights

21ST CENTURY PIONEERS OF SCIENCE
PART OF A STATEWIDE CELEBRATION OF THE NOBEL
PRIZE CENTENNIAL
OCT. 24, 2:30 - 5:00 PM, BECKMAN AUDITORIUM

CALTECH Y NOON CONCERT
OCT. 26, 12 - 1 PM, RED DOOR CAFE
CONCERT ON THE PATIO OUTSIDE THE
RED DOOR CAFE,
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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.

Come learn to dance like your favorite music stars!

The Caltech Dance Troupe will be sponsoring Beginners' Hip-Hop Dance Classes on Tuesdays, 9-10:30 pm, Braun multipurpose room beginning October 9. No experience is needed and no special clothing or shoes are required. There is a \$2 fee for the introductory class. This fee will be credited to the fall quarter fee if you decide to join the class for the rest of the term. The term fee for students is \$10 and for non-students is \$20. To register, email troupe@caltech.edu. Free ballet classes sponsored by the Caltech Dance Troupe start Saturday, October 6. No special clothing or shoes are required for the beginners' class. All classes meet at Braun multipurpose room. Beginners meet from 1-2:00 pm, intermediate from 2-3:30 pm, advanced from 3:30-4:30 pm. For more info, see our website: <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~troupe>. Questions or comments? Email: troupe@caltech.edu.

Les-Bi-Gay-Trans Discussion Group

Whether you are out and proud, exploring your sexual identity, coming out, or anywhere in-between, we invite you to our Discussion Group, which meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 8:15 until 10:15 pm in the Health Center Lounge. The group is a great place to meet new friends and the atmosphere is generally very relaxed; at the same time, more personal and "serious" discussion topics can be addressed. This is a confidential meeting and attendance does not imply anything about a person's sexual orientation; supportive students and staff are welcome as well. And refreshments are served! For more information call ext. 8331. To find out about LBGT events on campus, please visit the Caltech Student Pride Association (CSPA) calendar at <http://www.ugcs.caltech.edu/~cspa/>.

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 information on available scholarships.

Upcoming Events

Self-Defense Class for Women Sponsored by the Caltech Women's Center. Free and open to students, staff, and faculty. Saturday, October 20, 10 am - 6 pm OR Saturday, November 10th, 10 am- 6 pm. Steele House, Carriage House Conference Center. This eight-hour training offers participants the opportunity to learn and rehearse self-defense techniques. Participants will practice these new skills with a full padded assailant in a variety of simulated attack scenarios. The workshop will also include: assessing dangerous situations responding to being followed diplomatic limit-setting and communication skills. This class will introduce you to skills that can help you avoid, deter, and resist physical and verbal assault. For more information or to register please call ext. 3221. Space is limited. ***Please note that Men's Self-Defense Classes will be held in the spring***

The California Institute Of Technology Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences presents its **Seminar On Science, Ethics, and Public Policy** this Thursday, November 1, 2001 in the Baxter Lecture Hall at 4 pm. Dr. Jesper Lutzen, a visiting Associate Professor of History here at Caltech, and an Associate Professor at Copenhagen University will be speaking on the topic of "A Forceless Geometric Image of Nature: Heinrich Hertz's Principles of Mechanics (1894)." Seminars are on the Caltech campus and are open to the community at no charge. For information, contact Michelle Reinschmidt at (626) 395-3563 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>. **Please note that the first Science, Ethics, and Public Policy Seminar has been POSTPONED until further notice due to illness. This WAS scheduled to take place on October 22, 2001 in the Baxter Lecture Hall at 4 pm. This seminar was also a William and Myrtle Harris Distinguished Lectureship in Science and Civilization, and the speaker, Anthony T. Grafton (of Princeton University) was to speak on "Faustus and Friends: The Renaissance Magus in Context." The lecture will be rescheduled.**

Caltech Library System Presents: The following sessions are approximately one hour of formal instruction followed by an optional hands-on practice. All classes begin at noon and meet in the Sherman Fairchild Library Multimedia Conference Room (Room 328). Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is preferred.

Tuesday, October 23: Web of Science for Science and Engineering

Tuesday, October 30: Find it Full-Text! Learning Academic Universe

View details and register for these and other upcoming classes at: <http://library.caltech.edu/learning/default.htm>. For further information, please contact Kathleen McGregor at x6713 or kathleen@library.caltech.edu.

The Caltech Alpine Club and REI present the **Telluride Film Festival** to Caltech on October 23, 7:30 pm in Baxter Lecture Hall. Tickets are \$5 for students (otherwise \$8 advance/\$10 at door). The film line up appears below, in addition there will be base-jumping and ski films with titles to be announced. Tickets are available at the Caltech ticket office 1-888-2CALTECH or through ticketmaster outlets. This event could sell out, so get your tickets early! Films: Ode To Avalanche by Ken Bailey & Michael Friedman, Gatherers From The Sky by Gauthier Flauder, The Fatal Game by James Heyward and Richard Denison, Turtle World by Nick Hilligoss, and The Man Who Planted Trees by Frederic Bach.

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