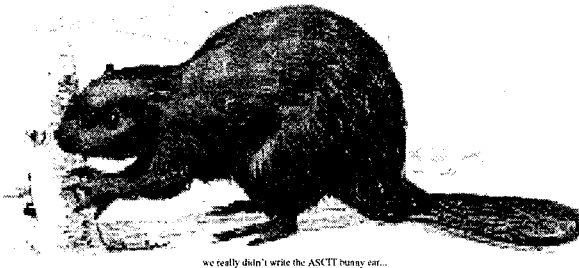


Ask not what your ASCIT
can do for you,
Ask what you
can do for your ASCIT.

Sign up outside of Sac 33, Descriptions on Page 7



**BLOOD
DRIVE!** THURS. JAN. 31
WINNETT LOUNGE

The California Tech

VOLUME CIII, NUMBER 13

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JANUARY 28, 2002

OUTSIDE WORLD

By William Fong

Economic Crisis in Argentina:

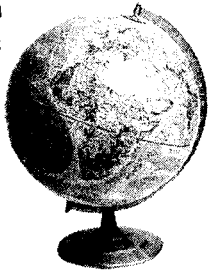
On Friday, labor groups encouraged citizens to participate in a national day of protest, the first against the three-week old government of President Eduardo Duhalde. In the midst of a four-year recession, the people of Argentina have become frustrated with the inability of the government to resuscitate the nation's economy. Since President Duhalde took office, the peso has been devalued by 30% and the nationwide banking freeze has tightened. For weeks, people have been waiting in block-long lines to withdraw their money from bank accounts and this money crunch has resulted in unrest. The end of the recession is nowhere in sight as the government's main objectives are to ease public dissension and to stabilize the economy.

Indian Missile Test Raises Tensions:

A nuclear-capable ballistic missile was tested by India despite the existing conflict between Pakistan and India which has led to the buildup of Indian forces on its border with Pakistan. Although viewed as a political statement by Pakistan, Indian officials claim that this test was necessary for technological advancement and development of its defense system. Pakistan responded that it possessed "the means to defend itself." Other countries including Australia have been quick to denounce the test as a possible source of destabilization in the volatile region.

Middle East Violence Escalates:

Early Friday morning, a suicide bombing at a pedestrian mall near a bus station in Tel Aviv injured at least 24 people according to estimates. Hours afterward, Israeli F-16 warplanes launched missiles at Palestinian government institutions as Israel held Arafat responsible for the recent acts of terrorism. The Tel Aviv bombing came after Israel killed Bakr Hamdan, an activist of the terrorist group Hamas. Vowing to avenge Hamdan's death, Hamas claimed responsibility for the launching of three Qassam I rockets at Israeli military outposts on Friday. These rockets are capable of hitting targets six miles away; however, there were no reports of damage or injury from the rockets.



Tolerance, peace permeate MLK Day

BY KEVIN BARTZ

Strolling past the Red Door Cafe, you'd think it was the '60s all over again. Civil rights, Vietnam, peaceniks and a battery of loudspeakers—all remnants of the same nonviolence your parents knew. Forty-three years after his first visit to Caltech, Martin Luther King, Jr. has returned.

In a week marked with recited speeches, King-era folk singers and a public drive for peaceful justice, students and faculty celebrated Dr. King's birthday in Caltech's second annual observance of the national holiday.

"All the things we've done have focused on getting his exact words out to people," said Peaceful Justice Coalition leader Michael Russo, whose group organized public recitations of King's work. "Personally, I'm a pacifist and I think the idea of having a group of people hearing MLK's ideas—his views on social and economic issues—is good."

In this spirit, students repackaged King's message for a Caltech audience this week in a series of verbatim monologues by King and fel-

low activists, with motifs running the gamut from Vietnam to the legacy of civil rights in the '90s. Each afternoon, students from PJC and the newly formed Caltech Public Speaking presented an hour-long dose of civil liberties to a lunchtime Red Door Cafe audience.

"It was an effort to familiarize people with what a great speechwriter and person he was," explained CPS founder Iram Parveen Bilal. "People today don't fully understand his accomplishments." Bilal led off the week with King's noted "I Have a Dream" address, she said, to highlight the life of "a man who had no problems countering racists."

Indeed, fellow orators echoed themes of tolerance. "What was important about speaking was that we actually thought about his message. It was a good idea to pay homage to Martin Luther King's birthday," said Frosh Katie Fitch, who followed up with King's "Beyond Vietnam." Among others, PJC founder Jennifer Caron, History Professor Morgan Kousser and an assortment of



Caltech Y administrators also spoke over the course of the week.

But along with the cut-and-dry elocution, '60s-era folk music also rang the bell of civil rights. Livingston Taylor, younger brother of popular singer James Taylor, joined folk icon Richie Havens in Beckman Auditorium for a sold-out Saturday night performance that combined their characteristically poignant, soulful and gleeful singing with the legacy of African-Americans' struggles.

"Music was an important part of the civil rights movement in the

1960s, and singers like Richie Havens helped to keep problems in the public focus," offered Graduate Nick Smith, coordinator for the Caltech Folk Music Society who spearheaded the effort to bring Havens to Caltech.

In one particularly moving moment, the singers epitomized King's mission in a euphonious rendition of "Handsome Johnny," the hit song that glorifies black soldiers through history, each verse the story of an African-American in a major national war. "Here comes Handsome Johnny with a musket in his hand/

PLEASE SEE MLK ON PAGE 2

Commencement confusion clarified

BY IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

"Getting a commencement speaker is not an easy task. One has to match issues of time, cost and so many other things," said Senior Class Co-President Dinkar Gupta. The graduating class always wants someone exciting and enthusiastic who is illuminative in not only science but in other diverse fields as well. At the same time there are issues of whether the speaker would necessarily like to speak to a group of science-based intellectuals and whether he or she thinks that they would be able to connect to a Caltech audience.

Potential speakers in the past have admitted that they felt that an audience of Caltech related people would be intimidating. Hence, people who know the school and its prestige have to question whether they would be able to justify being the chief guest of one of its most honorary ceremonies.

This year's speaker, Alan

Alda, not only thinks that he can justify it but is also very enthusiastic about it. He has had media experience and is an entertainer. In addition, he has spent a lot of time at Caltech during the past two years while studying Feynman's lifestyle for his play *QED*. Victoria Sturgeon, also Senior Class Co-President proclaimed, "I am really happy that Alda is the speaker."

Even though all seems well, there have been rumors about the process of selection of this year's commencement speaker and that Alda was not the most wanted choice amongst the seniors. Students want to know whether their choice was given priority during the final selection or not. Sturgeon and Gupta, being on the committee, clarified most of this.

They admit that Alda was not at the top of their list but also claim that he was one of the finalists. However, they could only get speakers who matched Caltech in terms of schedules and offerings. Some people just do not want to speak here while others like

busy actors are shooting in June or politicians are always surrounded by the chance of being called back to office. For instance, nominations like Patrick Stewart and Rudy Giuliani were just not able to make it.

The major confusion that led to some people thinking that the choice of the students was not given priority, was a last minute miscommunication between Robert O'Rourke, who is on the committee, and the two presidents. They suddenly got to know from O'Rourke that it was Alan Alda without getting to know that the reason it was him and not anyone above him in the list was be-

cause they had already tried everyone.

Robert O'Rourke, Vice President for Institute Relations, and Jerry Nunnally, Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations, were on the committee. Gupta and Sturgeon had been talking with them about this since last year and hence, they felt that they should have been given complete information before the final decision was made. Although the senior class presidents are on the committee, the final invitation goes from the President of the Institute.

In future proceedings, however, this method will be al-

PLEASE SEE ALDA ON PAGE 3

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Letters to the Editors

Student concerns on search for new VP

The news that Vice President for Student Affairs Chris Brennen will be stepping down from his administrative position at the end of January for personal reasons, announced by President Baltimore in a campus-wide email memo January 8, came as a shock to the undergraduate student body.

While our first concern is of course with Prof. Brennen and his family and we wish him good luck in his return to teaching and research the challenge that his departure leaves comes at an especially critical time for the Caltech community in general, and undergraduate students in particular. While we have every confidence that Gary Lorden will do a fine job as temporary Vice President, the selection of Prof. Brennen's permanent replacement is an issue of paramount importance for the undergraduates.

The Vice President for Student Affairs is one of the only direct advocates that students have in the upper administration, mak-

ing the job key to ensuring a continued high quality of student life. Prof. Brennen was able to perform effectively due in large part to frequent communication with students and the trust built up over more than four years in office, not to mention previous terms as Dean and MOSH.

His rapport with undergraduates is such that more than one student I spoke with believed (erroneously) that he must be an alumnus, he understands our concerns so well! Clearly a person of similarly exceptional caliber and dedication is needed to fill this position, and I suggest that this individual note well Chris Brennen's example.

Prof. Brennen did not need to rely on committee reports or vaguely worded surveys to find out what undergraduates think about the issues he took the initiative in scheduling regular meetings with ASCIT, the IHC, and other students to hear it directly from the source. Spending time with the general student

population is a priority for him. President Baltimore scheduled one meeting with undergraduate student leaders last spring, at which not a hint of the coming significant changes in health care, parking, tuition, and the housing system was heard. Prof. Brennen, by contrast, has always been forthcoming and supportive.

We call on President Baltimore to ensure that students are well represented in the process of picking a new Vice President for Student Affairs. At a time when student-administration relations have been plagued by an uncharacteristically closed communication process (put plainly: we're kept in the dark as long as possible about things like the parking issue), this is a unique opportunity for him and other administrators to demonstrate anew their concern for the welfare of Caltech undergraduates, and rebuild some of the trust so recently eroded.

Joe Jewell
ASCIT FDAL

Torches

I must thank Dean Revel for his warm and appropriate words about Dr. Chris Brennen. Students will surely miss him when he leaves his office so very soon now. As the time nears that I must pass the Ricketts presidency onto some other very determined and slightly unsuspecting soul, I do not envy the work of any student leaders who won't have the pleasure of working with Chris.

Unfortunately, I also have to take issue with Dean Revel. He rightly expresses concern about our safety and our violations of the fire policy. But I do not see actions to back up any of the words. The fire policy states that violations can result in investigation and action. But the only "investigation" I have seen has been that of the Ricketts firepot. That investigation produced only witnesses who said that no violation took place, yet we are still not allowed to have safe fires in accordance with city code and with the Institute's fire policy.

While some of my fellow Scurves are desperately searching for a less offensive simile of "take-back giver" which they can call administrators, I find that "irresponsible" is much more appropriate. Is the torch of policy to shine without burning? Why is there no action taken on real violations of the fire policy?

I do believe that some administrators have a hard time separating the danger of fire from fire itself. The fire de-



partment and our own policy agree that an enclosed fire that is quite far from anything else flammable, has fire protection tools nearby, and is maintained by people who have been trained how to use fire appropriately and have proven that they do use it safely is no less reasonable than having a fire in the fireplace.

I urge Dean Revel to peruse the fire code and policy once more. He'd find that, although we do not live in caves, we can still have contained fires outside of our homes.

Richard Karnesky

MLK:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Marching to the Gettysburg war," goes the song.

"Richie Havens is one of relatively few African-Americans in contemporary acoustic folk music," said Caltech Folk Music Society administrator Rex Mayreis. "Like Martin Luther King, he symbolizes a recognition that there are many inequities in America, in the world, but he retains an optimism that we can do much better."

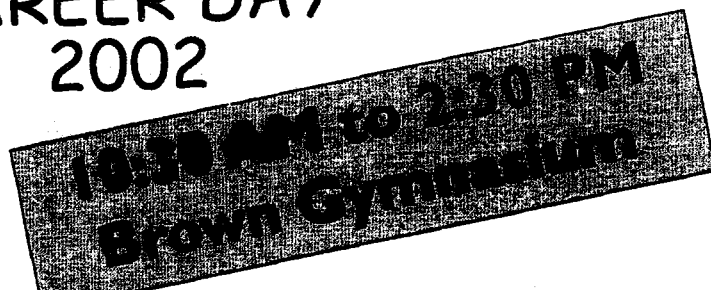
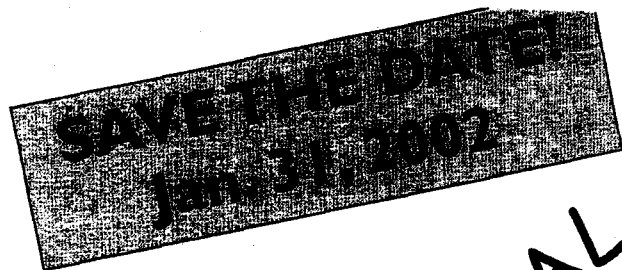
In fact, Monday marked only Caltech's second observance of the nationwide holiday, which still struggles for acceptance in academia. MIT and Northwestern, for instance, also began only in the

last decade to set aside classes and seminars for January 21. Two years ago, a faculty-based team led by Alumni Affairs Vice President Jerry Nunnally and Community Relations Vice President Hall Daily orchestrated Caltech's move to observance.

But ironically, recognition of the holiday may have actually diminished students' awareness of civil rights issues, according to some administrators. One cited students' propensity to leave campus for the three-day weekend as the reason behind Caltech's seemingly scant array of MLK Day speakers. The year before Caltech observed the holiday, for instance, two noted speakers turned out for on-campus MLK celebrations; this year, none.

"I'm personally somewhat disappointed that not much is happening," said Russo. "Honestly, I'm not sure whether I would say people think of it as anything more than a day off." In contrast, 300 students turned out for a Monday-morning sermon this week at Harvard University, according to the Harvard Crimson newspaper.

"I don't think most people think of it as a day to celebrate Martin Luther King," lamented PJC activist Peter Dennedy-Frank. "I would like to see the administration educate about Martin Luther King Day rather than just to educate. After all, [King] was in a lot of ways the man who brought nonviolence in general to the world—and that's something a lot of really believe in."



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Letters to the Editors

Feldblum responds to IHC concerns

Dear IHC Members,

I would like to respond to the specific concerns and questions raised in your letter of January 14, 2002 regarding the process of the Task Force on Undergraduate Residence Life Initiatives. This has been an extended process during which I and other members of the task force spoke with many of you on numerous occasions as well as solicited input from you and other members of your houses over dinners and in during pre- or post-dinner discussions. I will try to be specific and detailed here given the nature of your letter.

First, student representation. Let me lay out the process of the selection of students that I can reconstruct based on my notes and emails.

In fall 2000, I approached both the IHC and ASCIT to request nominees for the task force. I specifically told the IHC that besides the two representatives/nominees from the IHC and ASCIT, we would then also select 2 other students who would be an off-campus representative and Avery House representative respectively. I communicated by email and also had lunch with the members of the IHC. As I laid out in my conversations with the IHC, the IHC nominee was understood to be someone who was very engaged and thoughtful on House issues, and who could serve as a resource for the task force as well as keep the IHC informed on the general direction of the task force. For the latter two spots, I solicited names from all relevant student affairs offices, including the IHC and ASCIT. I then consulted on all the names with Student Affairs.

The IHC produced a short list of three names (after some initial disagreement within the IHC), none of whom were members of the IHC; in consultation with Student Affairs, I chose Laura Elliot from that list. How-

ever, given that part of the role of the IHC nominee was that the student could also serve as a link to the IHC during the process, we decided that the chair of the IHC would serve as an *ex officio* member of the committee, which is a full member of the committee. Chris Elion was at that time IHC Chair. Soon after the task force was set up to meet, Chris Elion was not re-elected chair of the IHC.

I spoke with the new chair of the IHC, Dana Vukajlovich, who had just ended her term as President of Dabney. She did say that there were other members of the IHC who were more interested in serving. I explained to her how it came about that the chair of the IHC was an *ex officio* member, and how it was appropriate for the chair to serve in that capacity. I did not say that it had to be her, but I did encourage her to accept the position given her background. She went away to think about it, and go over the list of task force meetings already set up to see if it fit with her schedule, and later informed my office that she could do it. Dana was a full, voting member of the task force. I know it is difficult to know the history of the process given that the IHC has changed membership from the period of time when the selection was made. I hope this narrative helps in this respect.

Please do note that I do not believe it is correct to state that only one of the five students on the task force lived in the Houses last year. As far as I understood, Laura Elliot (IHC nominee), Eric Tuttle (ASCIT Nominee) lived in Blacker and Lloyd respectively in 2000-01, and Dana Vukajlovich lived in Dabney until late January/February 2001. In addition, both the then IHC and ASCIT thought in late fall 2000 that Martha-Helene Stapleton was an appropriate selection for off-campus representative given her multiple house memberships and con-

tinuous engagement with many different constituencies on campus.

The Survey. The survey was a qualitative, open-ended survey formulated by a small subgroup of the task force, in which two students participated. As with many qualitative surveys, matrices are set up in order to code the survey, and to provide some quantitative measurements. Eric Tuttle, a student member of the task force who graduated in June 2001 conducted the analysis.

Let me talk briefly about the intention behind the June 23 note, in which I stated: "We also would like to briefly explain the role and goals of the task force. Some students have expressed concern that the goal of the task force is to dismantle the house system. This is not the case at all. The task force, composed of students, staff, faculty, and alumni, is working to develop recommendations for renovating and improving the infrastructure and system of the Houses. We have been looking at a wide variety of issues, with the goal being to enable the House system and residential life to flourish as well as possible."

There were two primary reasons for writing this. First, it turned out that there were a few intentional efforts to frame the survey. The Ricketts House president sent an email on June 5 to all his House membership in response to the first survey query. The following is an excerpt from the email:

"So, I'm sure most of you have noticed an email from Miriam Feldblum in your inbox. She's on the taskforce & has strong personal opinions that the house system sucks. Quite frankly, most of the people who respond to her will probably be throats in Avery who are of similar opinions. If you haven't yet deleted the message (which I wouldn't blame you for), please try to spend a few moments saying that

there are things about the house system you actually like."

Second, it was clear that some students perceived that the question regarding "all-frosh housing" meant that the task force was looking into this as a serious option for Caltech, which it was not; rather the subgroup thought the responses would provide some interesting insights into the Housing system at Caltech, which they did. It was to respond to these misperceptions that we then included the addendum about the goals of the task force in the survey reminder.

Regarding IHC surveys, we did request from Chris Elion IHC surveys on Rotation from past years, and received the 1999-2000 survey (there appeared to be some issues with the 2000-01 survey). The survey was distributed to the task force. In that survey, 44.5% of respondents (it is not fully clear what was the total number, perhaps 285) answered "no" to the question, "Are you generally satisfied with the way rotation is carried out?" At the same time, the majority of students were satisfied with the results of where they ended up ("Are you happy with the House you got in to?"); 16% answered neutral or 11% not happy, the remainder were happy or very happy. The 1999-2000 IHC survey largely resonates with the results of the task force survey, which makes the distinction between process, results, and the social dimension of Rotation. The majority of respondents to the TURLI survey were happy with the results and social dimension of rotation as reported in Tuttle's analysis.

The Report itself. At this point, Appendix E--which are lists of all the many documents collected by the task force--is still in the process of being typed up. Please do not hesitate to see me if you have queries about any specific area that you want to know more about. Many of the

documents can be copied for your reference (other than task force member reflections, reports, office reports, student or alumni emails and letters, which are confidential--unless specifically okayed by the author for public distribution).

As with all committees, there were several drafts of the task force report, in which all task force members read the draft, made comments, provided different language and input. The insertion of Tom Jovin's quotation is an example of such a suggestion by a task force member who thought setting the issue in some historical perspective would be nice. All such changes were incorporated with task force members being asked to read the report again to ensure that it accurately reflected their opinions. All I can say from a process perspective is that the text reflected the opinions of the task force and that all members of the task force signed off on the final text of the report at the end of November 2001.

Please note that with regard to specific House problems and issues (pornography, etc.), it was decided for reasons of confidentiality and in order not to single out individual Houses, that the task force would not name specific Houses or incidents.

It is now the time to reflect on each of the individual issues raised by the report and, as noted by the report, there are certainly different courses of action that could be recommended. I think the remainder of your letter deals with your committee's reflections on some of those issues, and I look forward to working with you on this in the coming months. Please do not hesitate to email or come speak to me. And, I would be happy to meet with your committee again if any additional questions remain.

Best wishes,

Miriam Feldblum

Baltimore's response to IHC

Dear IHC members,

Because Miriam has so completely responded to your letter, I am not going to try. I just wanted to say that there are many sides to these issues and it is important that all voices be heard. We are a community, involving students, alumni, future students, faculty and administration. Decisions about student activities

and student life often impact all of the constituencies and each sees the issues differently. The Turli report raises questions that touch on very deeply-felt beliefs, but these questions need to be addressed before we can consider designs for rehabilitating student housing.

I want you to know that I deeply appreciate the values of Caltech student autonomy. The Honor System, which guides your actions, is one of

the most precious virtues of Caltech. Because I deal with the various constituencies that make up the Caltech community, I need to hear all voices. I look forward to the opportunity to interact directly with the students as these discussions move forward.

David Baltimore

Alda:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tered. "We want the senior class presidents to co-sign the invitation letters in future," said Sturgeon and also claimed that this will happen from next year onwards.

Currently, the class seems satisfied with Alda because even though he was not their number one choice, he was near the top of the list anyways and given that he has accepted the invitation with such gratitude hints at how thrilled he is to speak at Commencement.

Gupta said, "So far I have had a mixed response from the seniors. Not much about why Alan Alda, but more so like, 'Hey, we did not know it would be Alda!'"

It seems that the misunderstanding is now gone and that most students are content with the choice, especially when they have been assured that their voice was not neglected in making the final decision.

Sturgeon comprehensively said, "There was a lot of confusion in the committee but now it is clarified and we are happy with it!"

Commentaries

Dating & Relating: from the Counseling Center

Despite the tremendous academic demands that Caltech students place on themselves, many students manage to find time for relationships, perhaps attesting to the deep human need to be connected. This article will speak to the challenge of dating among students, but much of it is relevant to relationships in general.

Caltech students face a unique set of challenges around relationships. The stress and overwhelming demands of academics can intensify the stress level in relationships sometimes pushing students and relationships to the breaking point. Ideally however, a good working relationship will act as a buffer to the stress that students experience and increase effectiveness overall.

It can difficult to have a relationship and more particularly to end a relationship when your network of relationships revolves around a shared living space and you share meals, classes and the same circle of friends. For those students whose relationships mostly center around the house, if a problem should arise in a relationship, or if a relationship ends, there may be little opportunity to get an outside perspective or even support because most of your peers may already be involved with the situation.

The imbalance in the male-female ratio at Caltech creates additional pressure for both men and women. Women may receive too much attention and interest from the men in their life and men can feel like they have little or no opportunity for a romantic relationship with a woman. Whether in romantic relationships or relationships with friends, advisors, roommates, etc, students have a wide range of concerns around relationships.

These concerns include; how to find a relationship, how to find time for the relationship when academics are so demanding, how to let a relationship develop given all the social and academic pressures, how to manage the problems and challenges in a relationship, and how to end a relationship or cope with the loss.

If you are concerned for example about a relationship interfering with your academics you may already feel so stressed and short on time and energy that being in a relationship just seems impossible. It could also mean that there is too much anxiety provoked by relationships, and you would rather avoid the anxiety. Or perhaps you have a tendency to get pulled into very intense, unhealthy relationships, and you

are anticipating how these relationships will impact other areas of your life. Sometimes it means several of these things or maybe none of these things or something entirely different. The point here is that exploring the basis for your feelings, thoughts and attitudes about relationships can help you by providing you with insight into yourself, and why and how you make decisions/choices about relationships. Insight and self-awareness is important in relationships because there is a strong correlation between self-awareness, maturity, and satisfying relationships.

It is not uncommon for students to look to their friends and therapists for relational guidance, particularly when they feel that their relationship is unmanageable. Should I stay or should I go? Is he or she being unreasonable? How do I know whether a relationship is healthy or unhealthy? How do I decide? What do I do? These are some common questions that students ask one another.

What is healthy or not in relationships will vary to some degree from one relationship to another and from one individual to another. But, the research has shown that good relationships share a number of common characteristics. These factors pertain to relationships in general, whether it is a friendship, a dating or committed relationship, or a relationship with parents, siblings, advisor, etc.

Safety and trust – feeling physically and psychologically safe, trusting that you will be able to work through your differences, trusting that your needs and best interest will be considered;

Respect -accepting people for who they are versus who you want them to be, respecting each other's right to his/her own feelings, opinions, friends, activities and interest. Balancing respect for the other along with respect for yourself;

Communication and sharing – sharing as well as listening and trying to understand both with your head and your heart;

Commitment – committing time and energy to the relationship, making it a priority;

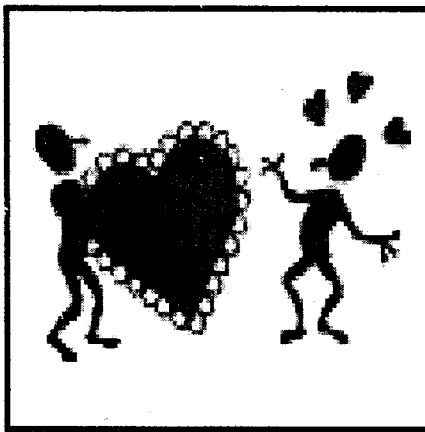
Ability to resolve conflict/fight fair – being able to express yourself/ asserting your needs, feelings, being able to hear and respect someone else's perspective, accepting responsibility for yourself, being able to admit mistakes and being wrong, being able to compromise;

Boundaries - boundaries enable you to balance the need to develop as an individual along

with the need to bond with another. Mental, physical, emotional boundaries help you to distinguish where you end and the other person begins. You set boundaries and limits with regard to physical proximity, touch, sex, and emotional intimacy (how much you disclose to others, how much you invest emotionally into a relationship);

Affection, physical intimacy – being comfortable with affection and intimacy

Cultural differences can also put an interesting spin on relationships. For example, some



cultures define friendship differently from how you may define it. Cultures will often vary in their expectations of friends and may even restrict who can be a friend. For example, a "friend" in some Asian and Latin cultures may be akin to a brother or sister. The differing expectations and obligations around friendships may be unfamiliar to many Americans. It is no wonder why intercultural relationships can be fraught with misunderstanding, miscommunication, and frustration when cultural differences are not identified and understood. If you try to connect across cultures however, you can expand your world view. In coming to understand others who are different from you, you come to understand yourself better and you can discover options and aspects of yourself that you never knew.

In a sense all relationships can be viewed as intercultural because within-culture differences will always exist. It is not then surprising that one of the greatest challenges faced by people in relationships is in understanding each other and how their actions, speech, and expectations of each other can result in misperceptions, misunderstandings, confusion, frustration, and conflict.

It is important to respect these emotions, understand them, and use your heightened awareness to work through the inevitable differences in relationships. At the same time, you try to suspend making rash, critical judgments of others. In doing so, you give people the benefit of the doubt, you consider and try

to understand why people behave the way they do and accept the differences for what they are – just differences. And, these differences that threaten your relationships must be confronted if you want to achieve deeper and greater intimacy.

Given what I have said about relationships so far, how do you cope with and manage the relationships that you have? How do you move towards more satisfying relationships? Here are some suggestions:

Trust your instincts – if you feel like something is wrong here...maybe that's an important sign;

Learn to communicate - that means not just talking, disclosing and asserting yourself but listening, empathizing and understanding other points of view;

Suspend critical judgment until you have considered the other person's perspective, upbringing and cultural background;

Increase your awareness of what your limits are and know how to set limits;

Open yourself up to aspects of yourself that are underdeveloped;

Know yourself...again, there is a strong correlation between self knowledge and maturity and being in a healthy relationship;

Seek professional help for problems that can increase the stress in a relationship, depression, anxiety, drug and alcohol problems or other problems of addiction;

Talk with trusted friends and

family members, seek support from a counselor/therapist, health advocate, R.A., etc.

In the winter term, the Counseling Center will present an outreach program in the houses on Developing Satisfying Relationships. A similar program for Avery House and graduate students is scheduled for the spring term. This program will address students' concerns about all types of relationships, and characteristics of healthy relationships.

In this program, we will be looking to promote discussion on specific signs and symptoms of successful relationships; for example, when someone is angry at you and doesn't talk to you for 3 days, how does this impact the relationship? When someone is frequently accommodating and passive, or argumentative and frequently angry, how do you cope or manage? How do you decide what is healthy or not? These are some of the questions we will explore in our program. We invite you to join us!

Elizabeth Shon, Ph.D.
Staff Psychologist

This article was inspired by a number of students and I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge them. A special thanks to the health ads who gave us feedback on our Relationships workshop and the many students over the years who have shared their perspectives, experiences and struggles around relationships.

Share Perspectives...

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Commentaries

Marcus in Macedonia: Kosovo's Murky Morality

Did you ever wonder about right and wrong? I've been agonizing over this matter, as regards Kosovo, for a long time. The issues aren't as simple here, up-close, as they seemed when I lived in America.

If we simplify matter to a question of Serbs versus Albanians then the question becomes "Who's your favorite ethnic cleanser?" The Serbs tried to cleanse Kosovo of Albanians. The Albanians returned and tried to cleanse Kosovo of the Serbs, the gypsies and the Egyptians, and they're not too fond of the Bosnians either. Fortunately, the United Nations is currently preventing the kind of genocide that many Albanians would like to see, but the UN can't stay in Kosovo forever.

Maybe we can see the war as a question of who started it. It really began in force when Serbian troops attacked

the village of Gjilan, killing some 40 men, women and children. But for two years before this, the Kosovo Liberation Army had been running guerilla-type raids, shooting Serbian policemen.

The Serbian culture is a modern Western culture, familiar to me, and the people are personable and easy to like. Albanian culture is, however, foreign. It's a society where unmarried women must maintain their chastity, marrying a non-Albanian is shameful and occasionally fatal, black people are called 'filthy', and my female friends complain that they can't walk alone to the store without drawing the attention of car horns. My cultural bias isn't a basis to draw political conclusions, but it is a difficult thing to ignore.

The murderous ways of Serbia's army over the last ten years are well-documented. But the Kosovo Liberation Army was armed with guns raided from Albania's national armory

during that country's 1997 spate of anarchy and funded by the Albanian mafia, a group that controls Europe's heroin and female slavery markets.

So here we have the complicated morality of Kosovo. Do I support the army of Serbia, a force with a history of genocide who tried, in an organized way, to remove Kosovo of its majority Albanian ethnic group. Or do I support the Kosovo Liberation Army, funded by the [local] mafia, armed with raided Kalashnikovs, who for their part showed no mercy towards civilians, and clearly would like to see Kosovo an exclusively Albanian state. The United States, for its part, decided the latter group was the most moral.

I don't know if I could ever, in good conscience, make a choice.

-Dave Marcus

How to get away from Caltech

Tired of doing problem sets? Annoying TAs got you down? Then study for a term in Europe where the courses are not graded and the minimum drinking age is 18.

Currently, two programs are offered to undergraduates for studying in Europe: the Caltech Cambridge Scholars Program and the Caltech/Copenhagen Study Abroad Program.

The Cambridge program lets juniors and seniors spend either the fall or winter term at Cambridge University in England. Students take 3-5 courses related to their Caltech studies and are given 36 units of Caltech general or option credit. Teachers who have participated in the program report that there are no tests and homework is optional. Furthermore, professors are perfectly willing to discuss your work over a pint of Guinness at the local pub.

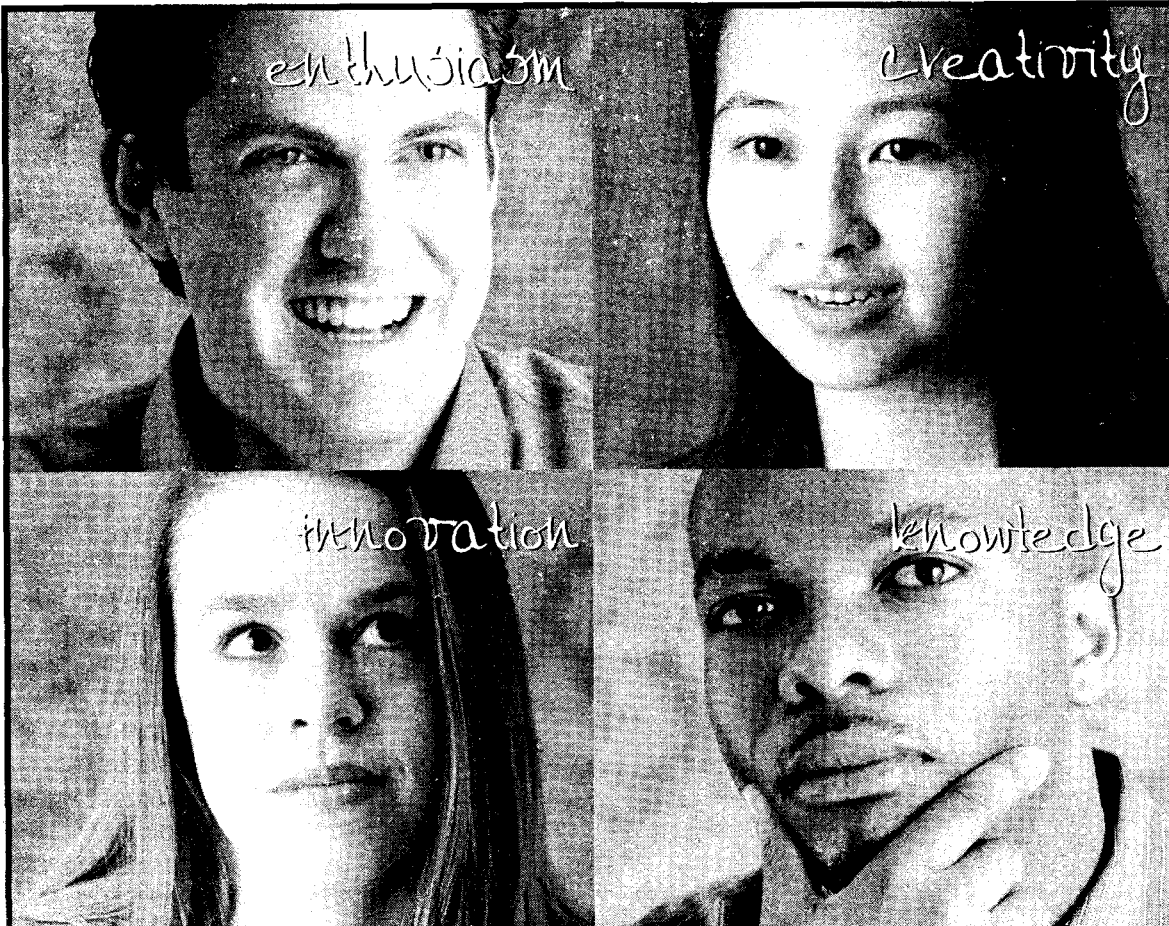
If attending the fall term, students take part in the traditional freshmen initiation of which the most notable thing is "Pub Golf"—a contest where frosh go to the 20 or so pubs in Cambridge and try to chug down various drinks in as few sips as possible. A 3.2 or above GPA is needed to apply though consideration is given to those with a GPA above 3.0. Appli-

cations for the next fall or winter term is due in February.

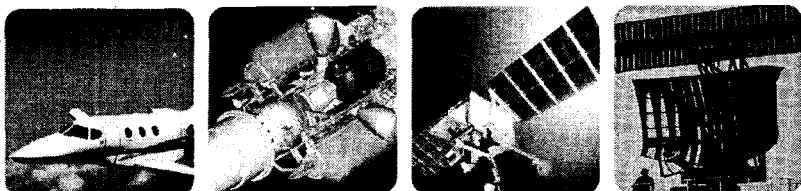
The Copenhagen Study Abroad Program allows sophomores and juniors with a GPA of 3.0 or higher to attend Copenhagen University for the fall semester (Sept. 1 to mid-December). Students take 3 science and engineering courses—preferably in their field of study. There is also the option of taking a free intensive 1-week Danish course in the summer as well as a Danish culture course during the semester. Teachers who have been in the program report that almost all Danes speak fluent English and classes are given in English to accommodate any non-Danish students. However, to maximize opportunities for social contacts, it is highly advisable to learn some Danish. Like Cambridge, homework is optional and there are no tests. Application are due in March.

For both programs, tuition is approximately the same as Caltech tuition for one term. Financial aid is available. More information about both programs can be found by contacting the Fellowships Office or going to their website.

- Robert L



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ASCIT

A.S.C.I.T.
Minutes

JANUARY 23, 2002

Present: BoD; Guest: Shane Arney, current IHC Ath-Man

Meeting called to order at 9:14 pm.

Guests

In addition to fulfilling his duties in coordinating Interhouse events and Discobolus challenges as the IHC Ath Man, Shane has also met with the Athletics Department concerning the athletics awards for students who have played on Intercollegiate teams. Students who have played for one year will receive a certificate of achievement award, followed by a varsity letter in his/her second year. After three years on a team, a student has a choice between a jacket, sweater, or a blanket, on which the varsity letter can be sewn. Athletes completing four years on an intercollegiate team will receive a watch. The Athletics Department has decided to cover all costs with the exception of the

third year awards, for which the Department will cover up to \$50. The sweater and blanket options each cost less than \$50, and would therefore be covered completely by the Athletics Department. ASCIT has earmarked a small portion of its budget for athletic awards that will be used to subsidize students planning on buying the jackets, which cost more than \$50. However, the amount that ASCIT will subsidize each student depends on the number of students planning to purchase the jackets, which may not be determined until the rosters for each of the sports has rolled in closer to the end of the school year. In the ideal scenario, the awards would be presented at the awards banquet for each of the respective sports, but it would be difficult for ASCIT to predict how much to allocate athletes playing fall sports without an idea of how many returning students are playing winter or spring sports. Shane is still awaiting rosters from 2 of the 4 fall sports. Pending more statistics, he will be making recommendations of whether or not to wait until the end of the year to subsidize the jackets or to allocate a certain sum of money to cover sports in

each season beforehand. Awards will not be granted retroactively, so this BoD will have \$1000 to subsidize for fall sport athletes since the fiscal year is drawing to a close. The task of distributing the athletic awards funding to athletes in all three seasons will begin with the next BoD.

General Meeting

MOSH search. The search for a new Master of Student Houses has been established as Dr. Steve Frautschi will be stepping down in the near future. A panel including three undergraduates: Tory Sturgeon, Dana Vukajlovich, and Martha-Helene, and several representatives from Res Life will also be redefining the duties of the MOSH.

Van. In order to complete our transaction, we are desperately trying to find the pink slip. The last time anyone remembers the van being insured, Caltech was kind enough to step in and insure it for us. The third party who is planning to sell the van on our behalf will remake a key and make improvements to bring the van up to smog check standards.

ARTS bus re-routed. Beginning in March 2002, the Pasadena ARTS bus will assume a new route that does

not include the stops on Wilson on the western edge of campus, which is very unfortunate in light of new parking restrictions as well. Undergraduates without cars will have more difficulty in getting off-campus, and are more restricted to the shops on Lake, which are facing a downturn following the emphasis placed on the El Paseo shops. The BoD hopes that the administration will lobby to re-establish the Caltech bus stops in the near future.

SFC. During the past week, the BoD has been communicating by e-mail about the addition of non-faculty, administrative members onto the committees. While the student-faculty conference primarily concerns the titular parties, the discussions that will ensue in each of the committees relates to the jurisdiction of other groups on campus, and input from the related parties would be beneficial since possible implementation of recommendations would be handled outside of student and faculty groups. Discussion in the BoD meetings concerning the additional parties that will address the committee or be added to the roster of the committees has been postponed. Tentative recommendations by Nick and

Martha-Helene include: a member of the Ombuds office for the Core Committee, either to be added as an official member of the committee or to address the committee; the Dean for the Honor Code Committee and a representative of the general counsel, which may be delegated to address the committee as opposed to holding an official seat since the legal ramifications of the Honor Code is not the focus of discussion; representative(s) from Res-Life for the Quality of Life Outside the Classroom Committee; and the head of the Women's Center for the Women in Science Committee.

Selection of Core Committee members. The ARC recently selected 5 students to serve on the Core Committee, and their names were presented before the BoD for approval. The approval of the student delegates on this remaining committee brings the selection process to a close, and the identities of the members will be made public shortly.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 pm.

Evidently, Justin

CRC chair to be decided by election

Last Wednesday there was a campus-wide election regarding amendments to the ASCIT bylaws. All six items on the ballot passed, receiving well over the required 2/3 majority; therefore the CRC student co-chair is now an official, elected position. The amended bylaws now read as follows:

ARTICLE IV—OFFICERS SECTION 1. The general officers of the Corporation shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Interhouse Committee Chairman, Director for Academic Affairs, Director for Social Activities, and two Directors at Large. These offices, and those of Board of Control Secretary, Conduct Review Committee Student Co-Chairman, and Editor of the California Tech are elected offices.

ARTICLE VIII—ELECTIONS AND PROCEDURES SECTION 4. All registered undergraduates may vote for the Vice President (Board of Control Chairman), the Board of

Control Secretary, the Interhouse Committee Chairman, and the Conduct Review Committee Student Co-Chairman. Only members of the Corporation may vote for other elected officers. A voter may cast no more than one ballot in each election

ARTICLE XVI—Conduct Review Committee Section 1. The position of Conduct Review Committee Student Co-chair is not a Corporation office and shall be open to any undergraduate. Procedures for electing the Conduct Review Committee Student Co-chair will follow those as outlined in Article VIII. Section 2. The application period for Conduct Review Committee appointments shall be opened no later than 1 week after the election of a new Conduct Review Committee Student Co-Chair. The application period shall remain open at least one week. Section 3. Students shall be interviewed for appointments as Conduct Review Committee representatives by a 9-member panel

consisting of 4 members of the outgoing Board of Directors, 4 members of the Interhouse Committee, and the outgoing Conduct Review Committee Student Co-Chair, who shall chair the meeting. The outgoing Conduct Review Committee Student Co-Chair shall only have a vote in the case of a tie. The delegates from the Board of Directors and the Interhouse Committee to the appointing panel shall be selected based on consensus of the respective bodies. If the CRC Student Co-Chair serves on either the Board of Directors or the Interhouse Committee, he shall remove himself from serving as a representative of either body. No student may represent both bodies on the 9-member appointing panel. The appointments shall take place no later than 2 weeks after the application period closes. Section 4. The appointing panel shall select 6-10 student representatives

-Isaac See
ASCIT Election Chair



by Nathan Wozny

What's new at the Y?

Social Activism Speaker Series planning meeting. Help plan upcoming events, including Tim Wise's speech, tomorrow (Jan 29) at 11am in the Y Lounge. - Alternative Spring Break. Make your spring

break an exciting and fulfilling one: go to Tecolote, Mexico, or the Navajo Nation in Utah to make a difference in the community. If you missed last week's meeting, stop by the Y for more details. Space is limited, so come soon!

Did you know?

Alternative Spring Break is an opportunity to use your time and skills to help a community in need. It's also a great time to meet new friends, learn about another culture, and have fun! Inquire about the trips to the Navajo Nation in Utah and a community center in Tecolote, Mexico. Federal Work Study pay is available.

Interested in helping plan Y events? Stop by one of our meetings! ExComm: Mondays at noon (the ExComm oversees all programming); Community Service Committee: every other Thursday at noon (next meeting Feb. 7); Outdoor Committee: next meeting to be announced. All meetings take place in the Y Lounge. The Y (x6163) is located on the first floor the Student Services Building, south of the Holliston parking structure. To join our email lists, contact y-veep@ugcs.

ASCIT

ASCIT
positions
for election

Announcing the opening of nominations for: ASCIT Secretary, ASCIT Treasurer, Interhouse Committee Chairman, Academics and Research Committee Chairman, ASCIT Social Director, ASCIT Upperclassman Director-at-Large, ASCIT Freshman Director-at-Large, Board of Control Secretary, Tech Editors, and Conduct Review Committee Chair

A sign-up sheet will be posted outside SAC 33 from 8am Wednesday, January 30, through 5pm Tuesday, February 6, for nominations to the elected offices listed above. Interested candidates are advised to send a picture and a brief profile outlining their qualities and reasons for running to the Tech at tech@ugcs.caltech.edu no later than 11:59pm, Friday February 9. Direct responsibilities of these two officers can be found in Article IV of the By-Laws. Comments on the offices by the student currently holding the positions are enclosed.

Secretary (Justin Ho,
justinh@its.caltech.edu)

The ASCIT secretary's main duty is to record the minutes at each of the meetings and publish them in the *Tech*. The hardest part of this task is making them entertaining to the student body and balancing humor/frivolity with the acknowledgement that this is a corporation and read by administration. [it would help if the secretary had a sense of humor, justin. -ed.] Since the inception of the Donut website, this online resource has been the location of the archive. In the absence of the President and the Vice President, the Secretary leads the discussion at ASCIT meetings, although this has not happened in my term. The Secretary also plays a role in overseeing elections, publishing election announcements in the *Tech*, and coordinating meeting times.

Treasurer
(Ayeh Bandeh-Ahmadi,
ayeh@its.caltech.edu)

As appears in Section 6, Article IV of the By-Laws

"The Treasurer shall receive all money belonging to the Corporation and shall deposit it to the credit of the Corporation in such bank or banks as the Board of Directors shall determine. He shall keep a full account of money expended and received and shall make a report of such account once a term at a regular

meeting of the Board of Directors, and at such time as the Board of Directors may desire. He shall have the Corporation books audited as soon as possible after the close of the previous fiscal year. The Treasurer shall receive and present to the Board of Directors term and annual reports of all ASCIT publications, and he shall ensure that all publication officers are informed of and comply with the provisions of Article XIV. He shall have direct charge of all Corporation property."

Interhouse Committee Chairman (Marcus Williams,
rawfrog@its.caltech.edu)

The IHC chair is a non-voting member of the IHC, who serves mainly to coordinate IHC activities, including organizing student faculty committee interviews and selections, IHC weekly meetings, and rotation. The chair also serves as a representative for the IHC when the entire committee cannot be assembled, or as a liaison between the IHC and the administration.

Academics and Research Chairman (Nick Knouf,
nknouf@its.caltech.edu)

The Director of Academic Affairs serves as the main liaison between ASCIT and the students regarding academic and research issues. He or she chairs the Academics and Research Committee (ARC), which consists of representatives from all the student houses, two at-large members, and a secretary. This committee discusses academic issues that affect students (for example, recently we have discussed CS 1 and questions related to the core). The ARC appoints students to the academically-related Student/Faculty Committees, and solicits nominations for and selects the winners of the ASCIT Teaching Award. The Director of Academic Affairs also serves as the main liaison between ASCIT and the faculty and administration regarding academics. He or she may be called to serve on committees related to academics. As well, it is the duty of the Director of Academic Affairs to represent students in discussions with faculty.

Director of Social Activities (Ted Jou,
tjou@its.caltech.edu)

The ASCIT Director of Social Activities is a member of the ASCIT Board of Directors and is responsible for the organization of all ASCIT social events. The first and foremost responsibility of the Social Director is the planning of the annual ASCIT Formal. This includes choosing a location, negotiating a contract, selling tickets, hiring a band, florist, and photographer, among other things. He or

she also organizes the Prefrosh Weekend activities, which in recent years has included the ASCIT Carnival. The Social Director can also plan other events at his or her discretion, like the recent Battle of the Bands. The Social Director appoints and serves as chair of the ASCIT Executive Social Committee, whom assist with ASCIT events and help coordinate the social activities of the undergraduate Houses.

Upperclassman Director-At-Large (Todd Schuman,
shrike@its.caltech.edu)

The primary responsibility of the UDAL at this point is overseeing ASCIT publications, including the *Tech*, *Big T*, *little t*, and the *Totem*. By overseeing, I mean getting regular status reports from the heads of the various publications and making sure things are running smoothly. The UDAL also manages the ASCIT copier and keeps it in working order (harder than it sounds, that thing breaks often and has to be fixed by housing people that never respond to calls or e-mail). The ASCIT van should be sold before elections, so that will no longer be in the job description. I've been getting the Friday-morning donuts lately, but that job should return to the president after my term as well. Finally, the UDAL (with the FDAL) takes care of odd random jobs that don't fall under any one else's jurisdiction. But again the primary UDAL responsibility right now, especially in light of past problems with the *Big T*, is dealing with ASCIT publications.

Freshman Director-At-Large (Joe Jewell,
jjewell@its.caltech.edu)

The FDAL position, the only seat on the Board of Directors reserved for a frosh, exists both to provide freshmen with a voice and experience in student government and to ensure that fresh, new perspectives are available to ASCIT. The officially enumerated duties are to maintain ASCIT relations with student clubs, publish the *UROH* (though this is now handled rather automatically online), and perform other tasks as specified by the BoD. "Other tasks" can grow to include anything and everything, including overseeing the SAC screening room, sitting on various committees, and helping out with ASCIT events. The job is time consuming: expect a bare minimum of five hours a week, which can sometimes balloon to 30 or more during budgeting time. Even given the necessary time commitment, however, you will find being FDAL extremely rewarding. Apart from the general

feeling of satisfaction and "making a difference," you get the chance to make your voice heard in campus affairs, and the opportunity to interact with many interesting people who you otherwise are not likely to meet as a frosh.

Board of Control Secretary (Dave Guskin,
dave@ugcs.caltech.edu)

The Secretary of the Board of Control is responsible for the logistical details of the Board, including interviewing potential witnesses, defendants and case reporters, organizing and scheduling meetings of the full Board, and making sure both room and food are available for these meetings. The Secretary does not have a vote in case proceedings, since he or she is involved in the preliminary investigation with the Chair. The Secretary is also responsible for keeping complete and accurate accounts of the proceedings of the Board of Control in the temporary and permanent files of the Board.

Conduct Review Committee Co-Chairman (Aaron Robison,
aaron@ugcs.caltech.edu)

This election serves as the first time that the Conduct Review Committee Co-Chairman is an elected position. The CRC is a committee of undergraduates, faculty, and staff that is co-chaired by the Associate Dean of Students and the Student Co-Chairman. The CRC was formed recently to handle disputes that do not fall under the jurisdiction of the BoC, such as personal disputes between individuals and cases that affect a large number of students. It often acts more publicly than the BoC since the cases that arise may concern an incident that is widely known. Decisions made by the panel reflect input from professors and administrators, in addition to undergraduates.

California Tech Editor(s) (Neda Afsarmanesh,
neda@its.caltech.edu, and Janet Zhou,
qiz@its.caltech.edu)

Caltech has one of the few student newspapers in the country where the editors are elected by the student body. The responsibility of the editors of the *California Tech* is to maintain the newspaper and its staff. The job requires some knowledge of page layout. The editors must make sure that stories are assigned and a vast array of news is covered in each issue. Furthermore, the editors must be willing to spend hours...and hours...working on each issue.

WORK
FOR THE
TECH ...

AND
WE'LL
PAY YOU
TO FILL
THIS
SPOT!

Features



The Ticket Stub

by Justin Ho

In the Bedroom (A-)

Violent crimes in small towns rarely make a splash in headlines despite their relative rarity. The scarcity of inhabitants, greatly restricting the number of usual suspects, and the relative isolation of sleepy hamlets make for much less sensational material than juicy car chases. But the social recoil from such an incident, when a single act robs a provincial town of its sense of security makes for intriguing character studies, even as a jarring introduction to the dangerous world the majority of us has accepted draws a hitherto uninitiated group into de-sensitized conventionality.

In *In the Bedroom*, an intense, indie film steeped in domestic

tragedy, we are first introduced to Frank and Natalie, a pair of far-crossed lovers sheltered in the serenity of a small town in Maine along the coast. Frank is the only child of Matt and Ruth Fowler, an ordinary well-to-do, middle-aged WASP couple. Their opinion of his relationship is cautious, as Frank's budding love affairs appears to be in conflict with his parents, expectations to see him through architecture school in the big city. Matt's feelings are slightly more ambivalent, with eyes that insinuate encouragement for his son's courtship for a vicarious rush. Ruth's disapproval is muted, sensing the potential for a backlash. Despite these differences, the family is never overtaken by a dysfunctional grip, choosing instead to allow the simple pleasures of small-town life to consume them, all the while avoiding the contentious issue of Frank's relationship. Treating Natalie's sons as members of their family, the Fowlers gather around the town little league games, and introduce the boys to lobster fishing, a quirky

family tradition that Frank maintains in lieu of matriculating to graduate school.

The delicate unit starts to disintegrate, however, when Natalie's estranged, jealous husband returns and starts to lay claim to the house and ex-wife he feels are inextricably his. Ruth's alarm and Matt's desire to pass on some machismo to his son engenders a mutual, visceral resentment, disturbing the domestic bliss that may have existed prior to this. The family unit collapses when the inexplicable happens. Frank is murdered at the hands of Natalie's ex-husband, and as Ruth and Matt are left picking the shattered remnants of their trinity, the rites and rituals of their son's burial appear to be the most frivolous of duties.

There's a great foreshadowing element aboard the lobster-fishing boat before Frank's demise, when the captain makes a remark about two lobsters caught in a cage and refusing to share the space. They would rather fight than spend their captivity in peace. In the aftermath of

Frank's murder, Matt and Ruth are caught in an excruciating limbo between revenge and forgiveness. An inconsistency in Natalie's testimony snags a loophole and the couple finds no peace in the legal resolution. Ruth draws painfully into a recluse, puffing joylessly on cigarettes with eyes glazed over, seeing but not watching the comedic drivel of a late-night variety show which to her may be the most inconsequential, meaningless speech. Matt walks into the room, a look of failure on his face as he realizes his inability to reach her. It's one of the saddest moments in the film, and a powerful testament of truth in which not a word is uttered. Their conversations with friends are marked with awkwardness, as traditional conversations about watching grandchildren grow up becomes a moot issue in light of the Fowlers' loss. A simple task such as mowing the lawn assumes an odd symbolism, as one realizes that the earth has claimed their son. Every detail of their existence lacks definition as they try to piece

together meaning with mortality.

In the aftermath of a tragedy, an eerie restraint consumes the survivors. There is no immediate call of retaliation as evinced in the much-maligned Sally Field, Kiefer Sutherland drama *An Eye for an Eye*. Such a passionate response violates the emptiness, the feeling of helplessness that more accurately characterizes the pain of having violently lost a loved one. The film makes a very convincing appeal for empathy, that is, to justify the action that Ruth and Matt take to stop any further harm to their marriage when they can't find the words to console each other for their loss. The finale is a bit difficult to swallow and may alienate viewers who can't conceive of such a displacement of morality. It has been said that what separates private thought from action is civilization, but a survey of the system that has failed Matt and Ruth leaves nary an alternative.

Cows for better living

BY YULIYA RUVINSKAYA

Walk around the campus at night or during the day, and you will hear a groan. The students are studying, reading, proving, writing, programming, building, around the clock, day in and day out.

Many a person is stressed out by the quantity and difficulty of homework sets, but as though that is not enough, there are also graduate schools to apply to, internships and summer jobs to think about, and the anxiety of being away from home to deal with.

The administration has not been blind to the needs of the student body to relieve stress—they sponsor several dinners, movies, and parties per semester. The students very much enjoy the distraction, and participate in them wholeheartedly. As a matter of fact, they often wish they had more opportunities to take a break from academics (especially on the nights before important deadlines).

One solution to satisfying this need of the student body that will cost the administration little, and possibly even making a profit, is populating the campus with cows. The therapeutic value of cows is obvious in many respects. Who wouldn't want to take a moment between classes to watch a calm, mountain-like creature, gracefully bow to fill its four stomachs with grass and clovers?!

The serenity of the bovines will undoubtedly spread itself to the observers, who will relax,

and no longer stress about not understanding the proofs of Phys 12 and Aph 9 that they were supposed to have done in kindergarten. And since most students venture outside at least once a day, and faculty—at least twice a day, everyone on campus will be exposed to cow-therapy, so long as the cows are grazing in places where people are most concentrated. This can be easily accomplished, as the campus is already very green.

Cows will also provide an outlet for stress relief through physical activity. At present time, the gym is closed at nights (and, on weekends, late evenings), when most students are awake and desperately trying to finish their sets, they cannot go to the gym to lift heavy weights or run long distances to release their stress.

But with the constant presence of cows, this problem will be solved as, undoubtedly, a percent of the Caltech community will be tempted to go cow-tipping. Seeing (and hearing) the distress of the tipped cows, another part of the community will want to restore the bovines to the upright position, releasing their stress in the process.

A few problems that arise are: how to keep the tipped cows from waking up people with their mooing, is this safe for the cows and the participants, and will tensions rise between cow-tippers and those, opposed to such activities.

The first problem is not a serious issue due to the existence of the Honor Code, which prevents

all members of the Caltech community to take advantage of other members of the Caltech community. Thus, the tippers will not be tempted to tip cows immediately outside of the graduate and undergraduate residences on and off campus, and if they do so, they will have to accept the consequences of violating the Honor Code.

Security employees, who patrol the campus, will also be able to stop people from tipping cows in areas that should be kept reasonably quiet. Not hurting the cows, again, falls under the Honor Code, seeing how the cows will be members of the Caltech community.

To prevent students from hurting the cows and themselves, a committee on safe cow tipping and restoring should be formed, with at least one member of each of the groups composing the Caltech community (minus, perhaps, the cows), that will determine the guidelines of these activities (for instance, at least one person concentrating in mechanical engineering and/or biology and at least one health advocate must be present during the tipping).

An expert tipper and an expert un-tipper should be on call at all times, to consult first-timers, and, perhaps, everyone should be required to attend a practice session once a year.

The problem of tensions can be considered a serious one, unless one considers the following: ...

CONTINUED IN NEXT PAPER

Sign up for ASCIT elected positions outside SAC 33!

Sign-ups for President and Vice-President/BoC Chair are coming down at 5pm on Tuesday, January 29.

Sign-ups for other elected positions* go up at 8am on Wednesday, January 30 and will come down at 5pm on Tuesday, February 5.

ASCIT Elections!

Vote for President and Vice-President/BoC Chair on Monday, February 4.

Vote for the other elected positions on Monday, February 11.

*See Page 7 for information on ASCIT positions.

Features

Sticks and stones may break our bones, but as we all know, words can wound us much more deeply. Although all words have the potential to be hurtful or offensive in the right context, certain words seem to be offensive just by themselves. You know which ones.

Although our standards for acceptable language have been going down ever since the word "damn" appeared in the film *Gone With the Wind*, many taboos remain. In fact, we are still so squeamish that even seeing the words in print – say, on the cover of a book – is enough to cause great commotion. Notable examples of this phenomenon are Madonna's *Sex* and Elizabeth Wurtzel's *Bitch*, both books living up to their risqué titles by exploring the even more risqué subject of strong, independent women. Harvard law professor Randall Kennedy tackles perhaps the most taboo word of them all in his new book *Nigger: The Strange Career of a Troublesome Word*. Although most curse words are not as heavy with context as "n*****," it provides a poignant illustration of the power of words and the folly of political correctness.

So what is it about these words that scares us so much? Furthermore, why is it less offensive to use euphemisms rather than directly using the intended words?

Supposedly, words are just pointers that refer to entities in the real world, and euphemisms point to the same entities as the words they stand for. But the use of euphemisms suggests that part of a word's power is embedded in its particular sound and appearance.

When we experience a word, we don't just think about its abstract reference to an object or idea, but we are also affected by the way it hits our eardrums and the way it rolls off of our tongues. Just the sound of the word "n*****," for example, is enough to evoke images of brutality and hatred. "N-word" just doesn't have the same ring to it. If this is so, that is, if we use euphemisms to suppress the full connotations of provocative words, euphemisms (especially so-called politically correct terminology) work against their intended purposes. No amount of vocabulary-shuffling will solve the underlying problems (e.g. racism and sexism) that make words hurtful, and making up new labels just obscures the problems. Whether a man is called a n*****, a black, or an African American, he still earns less, is more likely

to be murdered, and is more likely to be arrested than a white man. As Kennedy states in a short piece in *Harper's Weekly*, "To paper over [the term "n*****"] or to constantly obscure it by euphemism is to flinch from coming to grips with racial prejudice that continues to

haunt the American social landscape." [http://blackhistory.harpreek.com/1Introduction/RandallKennedyEssay.htm] Instead of inventing new words to escape the past, wouldn't it be more helpful to change the circumstances that make words hurtful? Furthermore, if taboo words were more commonly used, they would have less power when used with cruelty. We have seen it happen with "fuck you," which nowadays is about as threatening as "butthead," so maybe more difficult words can be partially disarmed as well. Indeed, as Kennedy documents in his book, the word "n*****" has gradually been reclaimed by the black community in the de-

cadences since Richard Pryor, and it is now used within the community as anything from an affectionate handle to a multiply ironic insult. Although the word will never lose its potential for harm, bringing it into open use makes its power much less devastating. Thus, it seems clear that cultural progress could be made if we face the implications of charged words instead covering them up with euphemisms. Public policy, however, seems to be decidedly to the contrary. As most of us know, many public schools ban all books containing the word from their libraries and reading lists regardless of the content of the books. Kennedy gives accounts of many ludicrous cases of teachers, coaches, professors, and public servants being fired and criticized for judicious if perhaps imprudent uses of "n*****." In fact, public trepidation toward the word is so extreme and illogical that David Howard, director of a Washington D.C. municipal agency, was driven to resign for using the word "n*****dly," which has no etymological relation to

"n*****" but merely suffers the misfortune of sounding like the dreaded epithet.

Even the supposedly free-spirited environments of university campuses (like ours, for example), have policies to repress any vaguely controversial speech. As far as Caltech's hostile environment policy goes, any verbal or physical act that could be construed as intimidating or harassing to anyone is prohibited. So next time you want to make a crude joke or engage in frank discussions on politically incorrect terms, keep in mind that if even one person feels threatened by it, you might get yourself an intimidating meeting with a Caltech lawyer. In fact, holding our tongues will become ever more important if we intend on keeping respectable jobs (other than comedian or gangsta rapper, that is) once we're out in the real world.

It seems we're a bit uptight for a culture that places such a great value on freedom of speech. Sure, we can have all of the sex and violence we want, but when it comes to a few touchy subjects, uttering a single word for the sake of academic inquiry can be grounds for dismissal from one's job. In the case of "n*****," at least, our handling seems more Orwellian than American. But how then can we expect to solve our great social problems if we are too scared to even face words?

dangerous words

by Jialan Wang

Review: Aimee Mann

BY TERRY YEN

Today, in a world filled with caustic angst and growing apathy, many are slowly losing their faith in life. To them, existence has become nothing more than a meaningless void. They believe that no one will be able to understand their feelings of loneliness, heartbreak, insecurity and dejection. This troop have definitely not experienced Aimee Mann live.

Mann performed at the House of Blues in Los Angeles on the night of December 10, 2001. Dressed simply in a red turtleneck and a pair of brown corduroys for the holidays, Mann stepped nonchalantly onto stage with the theme of *Magnolia* purring in the background. After taking a sip of water, she immediately greeted her cheering crowd of mostly rich, middle-aged male fans with "One," "Choice in the Matter" and "Sugarcoated."

The audience responded wildly. Everyone's eyes were fixed on her while their bodies swayed ceaselessly to the catchy beats. Her poignant voice rang with amazing purity; her lyrics articulated such naked honesty about relationships and reality; her melody lines conveyed stag-

gering depths of emotion. Unlike many artists, Mann required no peripheral stage allure to help connect herself to her audience – her songs combined with her cool and unassuming appearance did it all. Mann sang nearly twenty songs that night, including an acoustic version of "It's Not Safe" and three encores. Most came from her two most recent albums, the *Magnolia* soundtrack and *Bachelor No. 2*.

Mann proved to be armed with not only profound expression, but also wit and charm. In between songs, she smiled occasionally and bantered freely with her audience and band as she made humorous comments about the Gap commercial and herself. At one point, when she was singing "Susan" from *Bachelor No. 2*, she forgot the lyrics twice and had to have a member of the audience hand her a copy of them, all the while remarking, "What the hell rhymes with 'Susan'?" and "You're going to be so tired of this riff."

Mann was incredible – her noble and modest beauty was touching, humbling and inspirational. Mann's concert that night at the House of Blues was not a mere live show, but an entrancing and thought-provoking experience.

Caltech swimming update

BY MICHELLE GIRON

For nearly two and a half months, the swimming and diving team has arrived to the Braun Alumni Pool dressed in their long black parkas anticipating their dive into the blue water. Coached by Clint Dodd, new and old members of the team have steadily improved their swimming techniques and times over the demanding practices. The swim team's schedule often includes two meets a week, usually within a day of each other. Unlike many of the teams at Caltech, the swim team has a sizable amount of women compared to the number of men.

On Friday, January 18, the women competed against the women's school, Mills College, and won, with a score of 138 compared to Mills' 67. The Saturday after, the whole team challenged Whittier College. Tech swimmers placed in many events, but the team lost (Men: 98-109, Women: 96-123). This past weekend, the team swam against both Pomona College and Occidental College. The opponents won in both meets.

Men's & Women's Swimming/Diving

Last Week: Men
Vs Whittier L, 109-98
Vs Mills

Head Coach: Clinton Dodd

Women
L, 96-123
W, 138-67

Top Performances of the Week: Women:

1650 Free- 1st Kristen Cook (20:08) 2nd Shannon Lewis (21:05) 200 Freestyle- 1st Sarah Mahoney (2:17) 1st Jackie Wilbur (2:08) 500 Free- 2nd Kristen Cook (5:51) 100 Breast- 2nd Kristen Cook (1:23) 200 IM- 1st Jackie Wilbur (2:29) 2nd Saskya Byerly (2:38) 50 Free- 2nd Sarah Mahoney (27.03) 1st Saskya Byerly (27:59) 100 Free- 1st Saskya Byerly (59:69) 2nd Jacki Wilbur (1:00) 100 Backstroke- 2nd Shannon Lewis (1:16) 100 Butterfly- 2nd Jackie Wilbur (1:05) 200 Butterfly- 1st Jackie Wilbur (2:32) 400 Freestyle Relay- 1st Lewis, Moser, Dorman, Byerly (3:05) 1M Diving- 1st Auna Moser (118)

Men:

400 Medley Relay- 2nd Lui, Seidel, Sung, Farr (4:21) 200 Free- 1st Hans Smith (1:49) 50 Free- 1st Jim Robesco (23:01) 1650- 2nd Marko Cetino (19:36) 100 Fly- 1st Jason Lee (1:00) 100 Free- 2nd Jim Robesco (52:29) 100 Back- 1st Hans Smith (59:34) 500 Free- 2nd Isaac Hilburn (6:00) 100 Breast- Hans Smith (1:03) 400 Free Relay- Lee, Soleski, Robesco, Cetina (3:33)

Comics

DILBERT® by Scott Adams

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

DILBERT THE SALES GUY
I'LL TALK TO YOU EVERY DAY TO SEE IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND.

DON'T TALK TO ME EVERY DAY. YOU MIGHT CHANGE YOUR MIND.

DID YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU CROSS "SALES" WITH "TALK" YOU GET "STALK"?

WHERE'S JASON? MOM TOOK HIM TO SEE AN ORTHODONTIST.

APPARENTLY, OUR TWERPY LITTLE BROTHER MIGHT HAVE TO GET BRACES.

WOW, THAT'D BE AWFUL. NO KIDDING.

WOULD ANYONE ELSE CARE FOR SOME FRESHLY GRATED PARMESAN?

DILBERT THE SALES GUY
I WOULDN'T BUY THIS @#!%!!\$ WITH YOUR MONEY.

IT'S OVERPRICED, HARD TO USE, FULL OF BUGS AND IT SOLVES NO PROBLEM.

I SPIT ON YOUR PACK-AGING! UM... MOM...

I'VE HEARD SOME KIDS' BRACES PICK UP RADIO SIGNALS.

OH, MAN, WOULDN'T JASON LOVE THAT?

WHERE DO YOU WANT ME TO SOLDER THE VOLUME KNOB?

IN SERIES WITH THE AMPLIFIER CIRCUIT, SILLY.

DILBERT THE SALES GUY
HERE'S MY CARD. NONE OF THE INFORMATION IS CORRECT.

WHY DON'T YOU GET NEW ONES? THAT COSTS MONEY.

YOU MUST HAVE A LOT OF CLOUT IN YOUR COMPANY. SHUT UP AND BUY SOMETHING.

IF JASON GETS BRACES, HOW WILL HE BREAK THE NEWS TO HIS LITTLE SWEETHEART EILEEN?

WITH HIS USUAL CHARM, I'M SURE.

HA HA, EILEEN! NOW YOU'LL WANT TO KISS ME EVEN LESS!

IS THIS ONE OF THOSE "NEGATIVE INFINITY MINUS ONE" QUESTIONS?

PLEASE, I BEG YOU, TRANSFER ME BACK TO ENGINEERING.

I'LL TAKE A PAY CUT. NO, I'LL WORK FOR FREE. NO, I'LL PAY YOU.

I SHOULD MAKE ALL OF MY ENGINEERS WORK IN SALES FOR A WHILE. YOU COME BACK MORE APPRECIATIVE.

JASON HASN'T SEEN MANY JAMES BOND MOVIES, BY CHANCE, HAS HE?

WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH HIS MAYBE GETTING BRACES?

YE GODS— THE EVIL MASTERMIND AND HIS HENCHMAN JAWS HAVE BECOME ONE!

HEH HEH HEH...

HI. MY NAME IS MICHAEL T. SUIT. ALL MY FRIENDS CALL ME M.T.

I ENHANCE CORE COMPETENCIES BY LEVERAGING PLATFORMS.

DID WE SHAKE YET? SOMETIMES I CAN'T TELL.

YOU HAVE TO ADMIT IT'D BE A LITTLE FUNNY TO SEE JASON WITH BRACES.

THE PLASTIC KIND, MAYBE. BUT NOT METAL.

I HAVE TO DRESS LIKE THIS NOW, MOTHER— I'M 0.002 PERCENT CYBORG.

HI, I'M M.T. SUIT. I'M A MAN WITHOUT SUBSTANCE.

I COMPENSATE BY USING BUZZWORDS AND ATTENDING MEETINGS.

I LIKE HIS STYLE. WE NEED TO SELL SOLUTIONS, NOT PRODUCTS!

SO WHAT'S THE VERDICT? DOES JASON NEED BRACES? NOT FOR NOW.

THE ORTHODONTIST WANTS TO SEE HIM AGAIN IN SIX MONTHS, THOUGH.

YOU MEAN WE HAVE TO GO THROUGH ALL THIS ANXIETY AGAIN? WHAT ANXIETY IS THERE FOR YOU TWO??

DANG, I'D HAVE MADE SUCH A GOOD PARTIAL CYBORG...

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Dean's Corner

Copy right or copy wrong?, revisited

© JP Revel 1999, 2002

by Jean-Paul Revel

The Honor Code, as all of you know, (should know, it is amazing the number of people who hesitate when I ask them if they have read the relevant documents) speaks about the rules governing our behavior towards each other at Caltech. One aspect of the code which sometimes causes problems is how to deal with homework which the students are expected to work on together. Guidance about the "collab" policy should be sought from the Prof. In the absence of specific information about what the policy is, you should act on under the obvious premise that the work you turn in must represent what you know. Sure you can have discussed the problems (except in the case of exams) with your roommate, or work group, but what you commit to paper, must be from your very own head. Obviously using services which provide "ghost writing" are out. And when you use outside sources, like books or notes, they should be acknowledged. In fact I need to let you know that this column is based on one I wrote for "The CaliforniaTech" of Feb 19, '99 (not an exact reference but as good a one as I can reconstruct). None of us would knowingly steal someone's work. It would be theft. Unfortunately theft is not always simplistic and blatant. There are many cases where "ownership" may not be absolutely obvious.

One of the ways in which Society has tried to insure that each of us can enjoy the fruits of our own labor, has been to establish a copyright system, a set of exclusive legal rights that authors generally have over their works for a period of years. Eventually the works enter the public domain i.e. can be used without restriction by one and all. How long they are protected depends on when they were created (see http://www.caltech.edu/ott/security/copyright_tutorial_Basic.htm). Beginning in 1978, the copyright protection extends for 70 years after the death of the author. This is so whether or not the material bears a copyright notice (©), and whether or not they are registered with the (US) Copyright Office. Of course, things get difficult if the works are not registered, since the date of their creation may not be obvious. Still, works by Beethoven

are likely in the public domain, but Dilbert cartoons or Chaka Kahn songs are not. To use copyrighted material one needs to apply for permission to copy, giving the copyright holder a chance to earn a living. This is true even for partial copies or derivative works, and for distributing and performing them (showing a movie or playing an audio recording, as well as performing a dramatic work). The law also applies to software and databases.

It is obvious that problems can arise from too strict enforcement of the prescriptions. To allow access to material in special circumstances, for example for purposes of criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship or research, the copyright laws include fair use provisions which allow for limited copying or distribution of published works without the author's permission. The guidelines for determining what is fair use are vague as they should be, since one cannot predict all circumstances. Thus limited copies used for teaching at a non-profit institution, distributed by the teacher to his students without charge would likely be considered "fair use". However, any use that would diminish the potential market for, or the value of the copyrighted work may be an infringement of the copyright.

One specially touchy issue has been raised by the distribution of music, movies and other materials on the Internet. Part of the problem arises because generally speaking the tradition has been that what's on the Net is free and many sites that do not require one to pay to use their services. It is possible to visit a Museum, and view digital reproductions of their holdings for free. However reproduction of such works, are prohibited without permission from the copyright holder. When I was writing the first incarnation of this "corner" I had recently e-visited the site of the Bodleian Library in Oxford, England. Before being allowed to view material in their "Toyota City Imaging Project" I had to click my agreement with the copyright notice which was on the Homepage. Lo and behold one of the items I was then allowed to see was the pamphlet used at the memorial service of one CS Rolls, who died in 1910 at age 23, in an airplane accident. He was the dealer who had the exclusive

rights to cars produced by engineer Sir Henry Royce (1863-1933), he of the motto "Quidvis recte factum quamvis humile praeclarum". Neat, hey?

In the case of music or movies, there has been a cottage industry of individuals who have placed songs on their sites, which can

then be accessed by thousands. Actually in this post Napster era, (and I paraphrase the Caltech copyright site at the address above), "willful infringements of each piece of copyrighted work can result in statutory penalties of up to \$100,000. Copyright infringement in the digital realm carries the same penalties... Allegations of copyright infringement on a Caltech-hosted web page will be investigated and if necessary, the item(s) removed. Repeated incidents of copyright infringement may lead to a shut down of the site." Let's apply our Honor Code here, as in all other aspects of our lives. I urge you to avoid situa-

tions where copyrighted material can be pirated. Contact my office if you have questions or problems. We can put you in touch with expert help.

A bientot!

PS: Rolls was a car dealer and Sir Royce an engineer. His motto translated means: Whatever is done right, however humble, is noble.

Jean Paul Revel

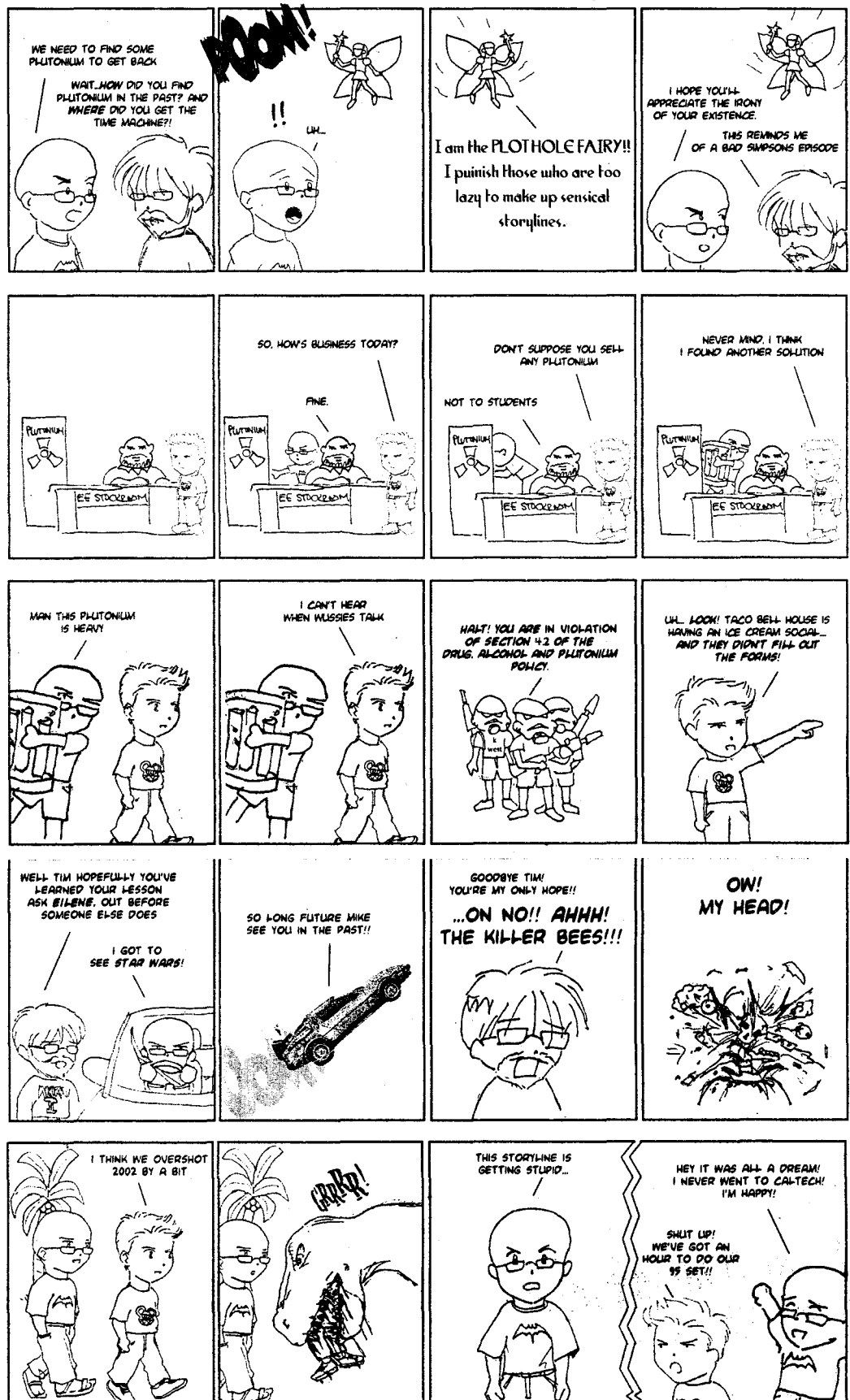
Jean-Paul Revel
Dean of Students

CRIPPLING DEPRESSION GOES TO THE FUTURE

www.CripplingDepression.com

By Ben Lee, Tim Wan and Mike Yeh

All characters are fictional. Any resemblance to anybody is purely coincidental. Comics represent the views of the authors and not the tech staff. Contact feedback@cripplingdepression.com



Mints

Announcements

The Caltech Flying Team is looking for new members! Caltech is a member of the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate Flying Association and competes in the annual SAFECON flying competition in February. Competition events include navigation, bomb drop, flight simulator, and many others. You do not need to be a pilot nor a member of the Caltech Aero Association in order to participate! For more information about joining the flying team or attending practices, contact Elaine Ou (ou@caltech.edu) or Gilead Wurman (gwurman@caltech.edu), or visit the Aero Association web page: <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~aacit>.

The Caltech Ballroom Dance Club is offering professionally taught Viennese Waltz and amateur-taught Rumba. This is the fourth of a 5-week series running on Mondays (Viennese Waltz) and Wednesdays (Rumba) - if you know the basics, come learn new figures. Viennese Waltz: \$6/lesson for all Caltech students; \$8 per lesson for others. Rumba: \$1/lesson. No partner required. Refreshments and a half-hour practice period will follow each class. Winnett Lounge, 7:30-9pm. On Mondays from 9-11pm we offer a mini-ballroom dance party (first half-hour coincident with Viennese waltz practice) - request or bring your own music. Mark your calendars - join us for a festive Viennese Waltz Night, featuring the Occidental-Caltech Orchestra. Open dancing to waltzes and polkas of the 1840s-1870s. A choreographed piece will be performed by the Occidental Folk and Historic Dance Troupe. Semi-formal attire, black tie optional. Refreshments served. Free! Dabney Lounge, Sat. Feb. 9, 8-11pm. For more information, contact Megan Knight at knight@its.caltech.edu.

CIT Guitar Classes for winter quarter will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting January 15 as follows: Beginning Guitar Class-- 4:30-5:30 pm. Intermediate Guitar Class--3:00-4:00 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 ext. 2923 or (323) 465-0881 or by email at ddenning@caltech.edu. www.music.caltech.edu/guitar.html.

Piano Player Wanted! The Caltech Swing Band is looking for a piano player. Must be able to read music, and have some knowledge of chords and jazz styles. If interested, please contact Bill Bing wbing@caltech.edu

The Glamour Magazine's 2002 Top Ten College Women Competition has begun. The competition is open to all full-time juniors regardless of major or GPA. All entries must be postmarked by January 31, 2002. Contact the Dean of Student Office, 102 Parsons-Gates, for the application.

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 one or two 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. If interested, or for further information, contact Dr. James C. Ling, JPL 169-327, (818)354-2819, james.c.ling@jpl.nasa.gov.

As a result of **Irvine Foundation** funding, Caltech has a limited amount of money available for diversity programs related to underrepresented minorities and women for academic year 2001-2002. Proposals from students, faculty, and staff are welcome and should clearly address how the program relates to issues of diversity. Proposals should also include a description of the event, including purpose, audience, date, location, and budget. Application forms can be picked up at the Caltech Y. An Institute committee will review the applications and make the awards. For more information, contact Athena Castro (athena@caltech.edu) or Greg Fletcher (gregf@caltech.edu) at ext. 6163.

Student Programming Board. The Caltech Women's Center invites you to be part of the new and exciting changes taking place in our office. Our new staff is interested in working with you to develop programs and services that meet your needs and interests. Get involved now! Take on a leadership role in deciding how the Women's Center addresses the issues you are interested in. Be a part of designing, developing and implementing programs and events focused on women's and gender issues. Undergraduate and graduate students, women and men encouraged to get involved. Contact the Women's Center at ext. 3221 or stop by our office in room 265 of the Center for Student Services.

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 year trophies will be awarded. Signups welcome at any time. For more information, contact Jane Wider at (818) 952-0941 or Rich Dekany at (626) 395-6798 or email to ahntennis@caltech.edu.

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 Greg Fletcher at gregf@caltech.edu, ext. 6163. Or, stop by the Caltech Y in the Center for Student Services (formerly Keck House) for a complete listing of opportunities.

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.

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 Saturday. Unless specified, all mints will run for two weeks.

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 LGBT events on campus, please visit the Caltech Student Pride Association (CSPA) calendar at <http://rainbow.caltech.edu>.

Are you interested in discussing life at Caltech and in the United States? If so, the **Intercultural Discussion and Support Group** provides a forum for Caltech students to explore the process of cultural adjustment and relating across cultures. The group meets every Monday 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. Since lunch is provided, please contact Jim at endrizzi@caltech.edu if you plan on attending one of the meetings. This will guarantee that we have enough food!

Scholarships

2002-2003 National Academy Scholarships. For 2002-2003, new scholarships of \$2,500 each will be awarded to eligible students majoring in nuclear engineering, power generation health physics, electrical or mechanical engineering, or chemical engineering with nuclear or power option. Please note that electrical and mechanical engineering majors without nuclear or power options are eligible disciplines. For additional information on nuclear industry career opportunities and the National Academy Educational Assistance Program, visit www.nei.org "Careers & Education". Brochures and applications are available at the Financial Aid Office, 355 S. Holliston, 2nd floor. Complete application packages must be postmarked by February 1, 2002.

Morris K. Udall Foundation Scholarships. Up to 75 \$5,000.00 scholarships will be awarded to outstanding sophomores or juniors majoring in environmental studies or related fields (e.g. biology or geology related to the environment, etc.). You must apply directly to the Fellowships Office, MC 25-58, no later than February 1st. For more information and to get the application form, go to www.udall.gov

For more information on available scholarships, please visit the Financial Aid web site at <http://www.finaid.caltech.edu/news.html>. All qualified students are encouraged to apply!

Upcoming Events

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, January 29, Noon: "Structure Searching Quick Review: Beilstein, the CCD and SciFinder Scholar(CAS). Tuesday February 5, Noon "Introduction to Endnote 4.0 Citation Manager Software" 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 ext. 6713 or kathleen@library.caltech.edu.

The Caltech Women's Center will be sponsoring these upcoming events:

Wellness Series: New "You" Resolutions: Diets, Nutrition, and a Healthier you!

Date: January 29, 2002. Time: 12-1pm. Place: Avery Library.

Guest speaker Nancy King will discuss the pro's and cons of fad diets and healthy eating habits. Lunch will be provided, Nancy is a registered dietitian, exercise physiologist and certified diabetes educator. She has been counseling individuals and groups in her private practice for the past 16 years on personal wellness, diabetes management, and disordered eating concerns. She is a recognized speaker and workshop leader both locally and nationally. She has been featured or quoted on ABC, NBC, Glamour magazine, SHAPE, and others. She is co-author of "Moving Away From Diets: New Ways to Heal Eating Problems and Exercise Resistance."

Reading Women

Date: January 31, 2002. Time: 12-1pm. Place: Women's Center, room 265 Keck Center for Student Services.

A monthly reading and discussion group focusing on issues in Women's Studies. The group will read short articles exploring current issues and theories relating to gender. The group can decide upon specific topics. Lunch will be provided.

To register for these events or for more information please contact the Women's Center at ext. 3221.

WEST (Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology) will be holding several events this term. While the Lunch with Faculty Events are designed for female students and require an RSVP to westclub@caltech.edu, the Open Forum Events are open to the entire Caltech community (males and females; students, faculty, and staff) and do not require an RSVP.

Feb. 11 Open Forum, 7-8pm, Beckman Institute Auditorium
Speakers: Profs. Dennis Dougherty, Jean Ensminger, Jared Leadbetter, and Erin Schuman
Title: A Day in the Life of a Caltech Professor

For more information on WEST, please email westclub@caltech.edu.

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