

Tarps blanket the pool table in the lounge of Dabney House, where an upstairs toilet explosion rained water and sewage last Tuesday.

Toilet Blast Opens Deluge on Dabney

By RUMI CHUNARA

Just before noon, last Tuesday afternoon, residents of Dabney's Alley Seven were showered with a surprise. The supply pipe of an Alley Seven bathroom toilet gave out, exploding into a jet of high-pressure water.

Housing staff were quickly on the scene, diverting the water flow away from the Alley Seven rooms with brooms. This created an immense waterfall down the stairs as witness Chris Cianci cited. Cianci, a Dabney Junior and resident of Alley Seven also commented that the housing staff did an excellent job of responding to the problem while it was happening. From Alley Seven, the water had far to fall, as it is the highest point in Dabney.

P-plant staff were also quick to get to the scene, and the defective part was replaced within the hour. Alley Seven is located directly above the Dabney lounge and furniture in the lounge had to be moved due to leakage through the ceiling. In addition, remnants of Dabney's Drop Day Party still littering the courtyard were soaked with the toilet water.

Fortunately, the hallway in Alley 7 remains one inch below the rooms, so none were afflicted by the mishap. In addition, no one was injured, and no personal property damaged.

Housing employee Jesus was the one who promptly called for a plumber upon discovering the mess. He reported never having seen such an incident before in the student houses.

Despite all of the activities, little evidence besides a slight stench emanating from Alley Seven, and a Wet Floor sign protecting innocent Darbs from slipping on the damp courtyard steps, remained after the event.

Jewell, BoD Spurn Funding for W&C

By IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

Accusations flew inside and outside ASCIT's Board of Directors over the final week of last term as the BoD handily rejected a controversial proposal that would have set aside \$200 from funds marked for "multi-House" events to reimburse Fleming for its annual Wine & Candlelight dinner.

Section I of the Resolution states, "ASCIT shall provide \$200 per house per term for activities facilitating multi-House interaction." Meanwhile, according to Section III, "The BoD shall determine whether a specific event satisfies the requirement for multi-house interaction or an inter-House party."

The problem roots to Fleming's 5-4 majority in the BoD. The issue of House partisanship in the BoD is a touchy one, especially among its members. Last winter, students elected five Fleming members: ASCIT President Ted Jou '03; Treasurer Janet Zhou '04; Freshman Director-at-Large Andrea Vasconcellos '05; Vice President Vikram Mittal '03; and Upperclass Director-at-Large Neda Afsarmanesh '04.

Proponents of the measure pointed to the relative abundance of nonmembers of Fleming House present at the event. As one of the Fleming BoD members put it, "The reason that I believe that wine and candlelight is a multi-House event is because we had good response from both Flems and non-Flems who wanted to attend and because we did not charge more money for non-Flems despite their increased cost to us; they do not pay Fleming dues, which pays for a portion of this event."

The director went on to enumerate the accomplishments of Fleming's social team, responsible for planning the event, as a reflection of Fleming's dedication to including the other Houses in the dinner. "[People from other Houses] also benefit equally from the significant amount of work put in by the Fleming House social team," said the official.

Moreover, the relative leniency employed by the event's organizers in granting tickets proved to be a key argument of the measure's supporters. Said one, "Also, usually with these sorts of events, some sort of House membership is required to attend, but we allowed anyone who wanted to attend the option of attending without making them be social members, which is the general philosophy of Fleming house and why I think it's unfortunate that a house with such an open policy towards students of other houses should be penalized."

Opponents, though, focused on the lack of enough nonmembers of Fleming present at the event to label it "multi-House."

Others were suspicious of the last-minute e-mail vote, which allegedly resulted from proponents forgetting to submit the proposal during one of the term's weekly BoD meetings. This sudden forgetfulness, sources speculated, represented an attempt

Continued on Page 3, Column 5

OUTSIDE GROUP CALLS FOR FULL-TIME VICE PRES.

WRITES OFF PART-TIME OPTION

Advises 'Rethinking Of Organization' in Student Affairs

By JON FOSTER

The search for a new Vice-President for Student Affairs is taking longer than such searches normally do. This was partly expected, as the committee set out not only to search for a new VP, but also to examine the role of the entire Student Affairs office.

As one part of this process, the search committee brought in an "External Committee on Student Affairs," consisting of individuals closely related with Student Affairs at other places of higher learning. This External Committee spent a day and a half on campus meeting administrators, staff in the Student Affairs office, faculty, and students. In the end, it produced the Report of the External Committee on Student Affairs which President Baltimore has made available in its entirety to the full Caltech community

Continued on Page 2, Column 1

Planets Run Rings Around Suns

By ROBERT LI

On April 3rd, David Charbonneau, the R.A. Millikan Postdoctoral Scholar at Caltech, gave a Watson Lecture on the topic of finding planets orbiting nearby stars. Since the discovery of the first extra-solar planet in 1995, more than 70 such planets have been found with new discoveries occurring constantly.

Because incoming light from a planet will be drowned out by the glare from its sun, scientists must

use indirect methods in the search for planets. One method is to look for a periodic Doppler shift in a star's light. Such a shift is indicative of the wobble in a star caused by a nearby planet's revolution. The Doppler method was used by scientists in Geneva to find the first extra-solar planet, 51 Pegasi, in November of 1995 and has generated the vast majority of planet discoveries to date including the notable discovery of the first extra-solar planetary system in April of 1999. Currently, however, the Doppler

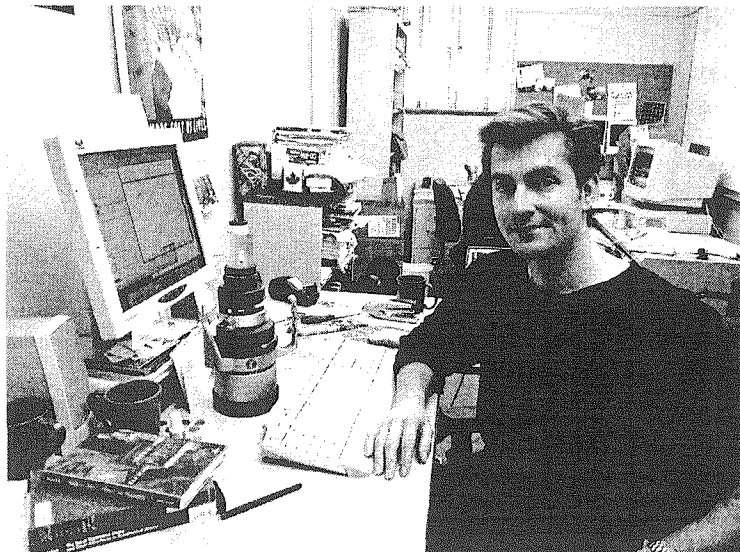
method is limited to finding Jupiter-sized planets.

A second method of planetary detection is to look for a short periodic dip in a star's brightness caused by a planet transiting in front of its sun. This method is especially useful for detecting Jupiter-sized planets orbiting close to their sun. In November of 1999, scientists used this method to find a gas giant orbiting the star HD 209458A.

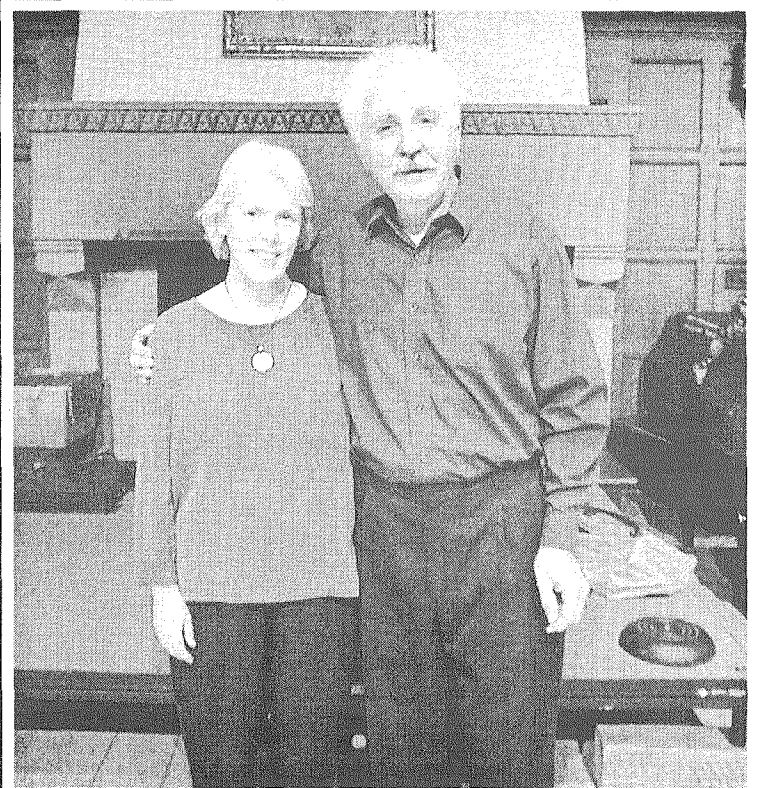
The detection of extra-solar planets allows scientists to learn more about the evolution of solar systems. For instance, the atmosphere of planets found using the transit method can be analyzed by looking at the change in absorption spectra as they pass in front of their sun. David Charbonneau and his colleagues did just that. By using the Hubble Space Telescope to look at HD 209458B, they found strong evidence of sodium in the that planet's atmosphere.

Future developments in planet finding include the STARE project and the Kepler space telescope. Charbonneau, who is working on STARE with people at JPL, aims to build 3 telescopes located worldwide to continuously search for planets using the transit method.

The Kepler Space Telescope aims to look for earth sized planets using the transit method. It is scheduled for launch in 2006 and will monitor 100,000 stars at a time.



Armed with uniquely made telescopes, Postdoctoral Scholar David Charbonneau spearheads Caltech's search for unknown planets.



Folk artists Cindy Mangsen and Steve Gillette pose in Dabney Lounge, where their concert drew scores of admirers the Saturday before last.

Folk Duo Rocks Dabney

By KEVIN BARTZ

He sings in a gentle baritone, softly stroking his guitar as she keys away at her concertina, hands gliding in and out with the ebb and flow of the melody. This is "Long, Long, Trail," one of the tender old ballads that has become a Gillette and Mangsen classic. It's from their chart-topping album, "A Sense of Place"—and as their voices resonate through Dabney Lounge, dimly lit chandeliers cast a soft glow on the musical pair, reminding an audience brimming with friends and family that this folk duo does indeed have "a sense of place."

Amidst an aura of homecoming, husband-wife duo Steve Gillette and Cindy Mangsen delivered a folk concert in Dabney Lounge the

Saturday before last, returning to the campus they call "a bright light on our schedule." Interspersed with their humor, philosophy and musical idealism, the pair performed time-honored renditions of their all-time favorites, from "Rocky Road" to "Grapes on the Vine."

In their commentary, Gillette and Mangsen stressed the meaning of their words, that "it's music we make for ourselves. It's up to us to make it clear that it's not so much about show business." And to an audience over a hundred strong in the acoustically unique Dabney Lounge, the music's poignant resonance was symbolic of the meaning, said Gillette.

Continued on Page 3, Column 1

Baltimore Spearheads 'Rethinking' of Student Affairs

Transcribed by Kevin Bartz

You've requested a "rethinking of the organization of Student Affairs... with the goal of serving students as effectively as possible." What about Student Affairs' current state leads you to believe that it's not already serving students as effectively as possible?

Here I take the advice of the group who visited; they said that. I'm not an expert at Student Affairs. I never had a lot to do with students at MIT where I used to work. I was more involved with management of students and related issues so I'm depending on advice from other people. But just the very fact that we had the communication problems that we've had between students and the administration suggests that the intermediary function that Student Affairs should be playing is not working as well as it should be.

So do you disagree with the External Committee's recommendation that only a full-time professional fill the role as Vice President of Student Affairs?

Oh, it's the commitment of the individual to being a professional in Student Affairs or not; we have had a group of people in the position of Vice President of Student Affairs who have been professors first and vice presidents second. I think we want to turn that around and the only way to turn that around is to have somebody who can commit himself to going to meetings and professionals in Student Affairs, to becoming a student of Student Affairs who will know the issues country-wide that are of concern for Student Affairs, someone who will be connected to the framework of the management of Student Affairs across the country. So it's a full time

job and it's a full time commitment and if we're lucky enough to find a faculty member who wants to sort of rethink their career in this direction that would be terrific.

Along those same lines, then, how does the expanded role foreseen for the Dean—that is, "a dotted line relationship to and affiliation with the Provost"—contribute to your stated goal of "having students flourish, not just survive"?

Again, quoting the report in fact, which in turn quoted somebody else from Student Affairs who said that, the idea is that what drives student life at Caltech is so much primarily the curriculum, that divorcing curricular considerations from student life considerations, which is basically what we've done in the

"Divorcing curricular considerations from student life... is very artificial."

whole history of Caltech, is very artificial. When I go to one of the Houses to eat dinner or whatever and they say that being successful at Caltech academically is so totally absorbing that everything else has to be reflected off how hard it is, how much time is involved, then I

say, "Well the life of Caltech is determined by the curriculum, determined by the problem sets, is determined by the course load" and those are issues which the faculty has always said are faculty issues but the faculty is near the point of placing an individual who will think about those globally rather than individually. So you say you want a course that does this or a course that does that—you want so many units—but nobody looks at it and says, "What does it look like to be a student at Caltech in terms of what's being asked of the student?" I think that's an appropriate job—and I think that many other people do too—for the Dean of Studies for Student Affairs. So we're asking the Dean to take what is the most important element of student life, which

is the curriculum, as part of his or her charge. Now in order to fulfill that it's going to be necessary to work very closely with the Provost because after all, the faculty is still the determining factor in that group and the Provost is the chief academic office of the university, so the Dean will have to work very closely with the faculty as well. And all of it has to be consistent with an understanding of student needs, student desires, student life, so it's a big job, a very different job I think, and I know Jean-Paul feels, a very different job than the job he has been doing. In order for a faculty member to do that job I



Courtesy of D. Baltimore

Culminating in his letter to students last Friday, President David Baltimore has been forthcoming in expressing his goals for Student Affairs.

think it's going to be important that we look at the rest of the Dean's responsibilities to see where they can be granulated some so the Dean has time to do his job.

You expressed in your cover letter that the recommendation from the external committee is not a blueprint, it's just one group's opinion. Can you give us a sense of some of the other opinions that the search committee will be receiving?

"This is, in the Board's terms, a management issue, not a Board issue."

Well, for instance, they said it should be a professional that fills the role of Vice President. We're looking at a broader range of people. As I said in the letter, I don't think that they fully got into the nature of the extraordinary economy of student governance that Caltech has compared to other institutions. I don't think they got into the role of the honor system at Caltech and I don't think that comes up in their report even once; does it? And yet it is a central fact of Caltech life. So there are just a lot of things. And they were only here for a short time. I'm not blaming them for a moment for not having done all those things. But to that extent, their report is intrinsically limited by the time that they had to spend here.

In your meetings with the Board of Trustees, do you plan to support formation of the recommended Trustee Committee on Student Life? If not, what possible alternative do you see to promote your plan to "provide more opportuni-

ties to hear from students"?

I talked to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees at the moment anyway does not want to start any new committees. In fact the Board of Trustees is trying very hard to cut down the number of committees and we're just working with the Board on the organization that will do that. So whereas the Board does want to hear more from students and we're going to arrange a forum for that, I can't be explicit about that since it just hasn't been worked out. I think we'll do that with the Board as a whole rather than with a subcommittee. I've talked to people from other universities who have such subcommittees and they tend to be a few students who come and talk to the committee and tell them how wonderful everything is and then go home. They don't tend to be places where substantive conversations occur and, you know, if you think about it you really need those kind of substantive conversations in order to have an effect on Caltech policy. Then there's something wrong with Student Affairs because Student Affairs ought to play that role. This is, in the Board's terms, a 'management issue,' not a Board issue.

In your e-mail, you said you wanted to explain to students why the report was released just before spring break.

I thought students would be suspect of something that was done just at the start of spring break; they would think there was some meaning to that. It was purely coincidental and the reason we didn't hold it off for a week was that we wanted the process of searching for the new Vice President to move along more rapidly. In fact that process has been slower than most searches because we had to really

change the focus of the job; we needed the external advice and we needed to think through the whole process and so we've been very deliberate with what it's done is to lead us now into the end part of what is usually the hiring time for somebody into a job of that sort and that's where the impetus comes from to try to move rapidly.



The California Tech Archives

President David Baltimore lays out his views on Student Affairs' search for a new vice president.

Professors Out of Hunt for VP

Continued from Page 1, Column 5 at <http://pr.caltech.edu/cit/pres/report.pdf>.

This report, along with President Baltimore's comments on it (available at <http://pr.caltech.edu/cit/pres/letter.html>) was posted at the beginning of Spring Break, and is only available to computers on Caltech's campus. In the e-mail distributed to student lists, Miriam Feldblum explains the timing behind the report's release: "We recognize that the release of the report so close to spring break may inconvenience students and others who are not planning to be on campus next week. However, the Search Committee for the VPSA position would very much like to get their work underway."

That mandate, to search for a new full time VP of Student Affairs, which had previously been a half-time job, is the most contentious aspect of the External

report. The external committee recommended that "Caltech should hire a full-time professional Vice President of Student Affairs." In his comments on the report, President Baltimore supports a full-time VP, but notes that the ideal candidate would be a Caltech faculty member who would be willing to assume this role. Failing that, he suggests that the new VP might have been on the faculty elsewhere or a Caltech alum, someone "who demonstrates a specific understanding and commitment to the unique characteristics of Caltech student life."

The other recommendations of the External Committee are less controversial. The current position "Dean of Students" would be renamed "Dean of Undergraduate Studies" and would be more involved in discussions about curriculum and work load. This change would reflect how vastly the course of

study of a Caltech student dominates the rest of his life here.

The committee also suggested some restructuring of the Student Affairs office, stressing the need for self-assessment within the department. Lastly, it suggested that the Board of Trustees establish a Trustee Committee on Student Life. Although trustees are eager for student input, according to Dr. Baltimore, they are hesitant to form any new committee at this time.

The report also contains the external committee's frank report on the climate at Caltech, and repeatedly stresses that the focus of Student Affairs needs to be redirected towards helping Caltech students "flourish, not just survive." As one piece of information that will be used by the search committee when appointing a new Vice-President of Student Affairs, it remains to be seen how much the document will shape policy at Caltech.

SENIORS

If you have never been to "Dinner with the MOSH" at Steele House, or if you would like to go again before you graduate - this is your chance! There are two dinner dates available, Thursday, April 11 and Wednesday, April 17. If you would like to attend one of these dinners, you can sign up in the Residence Life Office located in the Center for Student Services, or email us at suec@caltech.edu. The spaces are limited - so sign up early!

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

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

VOLUME CIII, NUMBER 20
APRIL 8, 2002

EDITORS

Kevin Carl Bartz
Tammy Yee-Wing Ma

BUSINESS MANAGER

Tasha Vanesian

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Dana Sadava

COPY Sam Yeager	SYSTEM Justin Kao
MINTS Darrail Kazachki	CIRCULATION Leo Rozenberg Chris Crabbe Jeff Bolz
COMICS Kenneth Kuo	ADVISOR Hall Daily
TECHNOLOGY Vikram Desai	

DEADLINES

Advertising:	5 pm Friday
Announcements (Mints):	noon Friday
Letters to the Editor:	6 pm Friday
Unsolicited Articles	noon Friday

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

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

Advertising should be submitted as camera-ready art, but the Tech can also do simple typesetting and arrangement. All advertising inquiries should be directed to the business manager. For email, please use business@tech.caltech.edu. Do not send ad inquiries to the editors. For subscription information, please send mail to "Subscriptions" or call (626) 395-6154.

Printed by Shih's Printing, Monterey Park

Caltech: the Next K-mart?

A Salvage Artist Questions Caltech's Efficiency

By O.J. CARLTON, IV

Among the more interesting aspects of Dr. Baltimore's April 5 e-mail to Caltech's students is his assertion that "the most obvious solution to this problem is to identify new sources of revenue." While I acknowledge that obviousness is a qualitative standard, and that Dr. Baltimore is a highly capable businessman, I've noticed a few other obvious areas where the Institute could save some money, or at least streamline some of the less efficient areas of its operations. Disclaimer: I'm probably one of the least efficient people here, so don't hold me responsible if these strategies cost more money than they save.

First, some aspects of our administrative technology are embarrassingly antiquated. The lack of an automated registration process costs students and instructors alike precious time. The jobs of the Registrars are made significantly more difficult by the obsolete system, and the possibility of overbooking sections and entire courses is more difficult to avoid because of it. If there were a unified system of course selection and registration, students could see, without painstaking bean-counting, what courses would settle their graduation requirements. The ambiguities in the catalog would have to be cleared up in order to implement a modern system, but I for one would not be sorry to see them go. Additionally, students could check their grades online, thus avoiding the cost of mailing grades altogether.

The arguments against such an upgrade make little sense today. While some may cite advisor approval as a necessary ingredient to course selection, this condition can be met just as easily electronically as with pen and paper. While the cost may have been prohibi-

tively expensive, say, fifteen years ago, Caltech throws away more than enough computers a day to do the necessary number crunching and then be burned for security purposes. I'll let the Registrar borrow my computer if it means I don't have to write what term and what year it is twice on the same side of the add card. For an Institute of Technology, we do some surprisingly low-tech things.

Just yesterday, I received a 33-page booklet containing information that I didn't request and that doesn't apply to me. Apparently it was printed, collated, stapled, and sent to all current juniors at a cost I don't want to compute. While we may be able to afford such uses of paper and toner, there is no excuse for the environmental or financial waste of this type of spam. Most of the material in the book is dated and contains links to websites, but I can't click on them because they're on hard copy. If the disparate offices of this campus would realize that the year is 2002 and that I want a hard copy of my junk mail, I'll print one myself. We should be leaders in the internet age, but we're falling behind.

I'll cut the paper wasters some slack, though, compared to the labs on campus that throw away working equipment to make room for upgrades. While admittedly most of the discarded hardware one finds is obsolete, I have personally uncovered a working 110 mW Argon ion laser, a functional laser disc player, dozens of monitors, several computers, and enough office furniture to start my own company. I have a friend with a working oscilloscope (valued at \$4000 used) saved from the dumpster, and have heard a report of a working digital projector recovered from a dumpster on campus. Although

our commitment to cutting-edge technology is admirable, we would do well to remember other institutions with fewer technological resources would hate us if they knew some of the things we throw away.

The measure by ITS to increase revenue is ill-conceived, in my opinion, when the problems with ITS's budget are more likely due to fixing the symptoms of preventable problems rather than implementing preemptive solutions. The network suffers from security vulnerabilities on every front, which cost time and money to fix. Viruses and worms have taken a significant toll on bandwidth and efficiency, and it's only a matter of time before critical systems are compromised and priceless scientific data is lost. (Georgia Tech suffered a major hack attack only a couple of weeks ago, and their network is from my experience considerably more tightly



Only couples with at least one Fleming member attend this year's Wine & Candlelight dated dinner, raising questions as to whether it is truly a "multi-House" affair.

Courtesy of R. Kim

managed than ours.) While we don't want a loss of free information exchange by users who have legitimate business on the LAN, it's time we demanded more out of ITS subscribers in terms of sensible security precautions, for example, requiring all password and other sensitive data transferred to be at least minimally encrypted. While I imagine some of the rising costs ITS notes are due to external factors, time spent troubleshooting preventable virus attacks should be minimized before asking members of the community to cover these expenses.

I know these arguments are largely unsubstantiated, but finding hard figures to cite is not necessarily easy. The budgets of the respective departments are not as easily accessible as one might hope. Detailed financial data about the Institute's operations is fairly difficult to find, and this difficulty could account for the recent lack accounting accountability. If everyone had access to information on how the cash flowed, there would less intra-campus suspicion as to where the money went. Naturally privacy and legal concerns are going to prevent total transparency, but even broad data on percentages of funding would enable objective observers from outside over-spending departments to spot areas of potential improvement. While I admire the effort of the administration to streamline the budget, I find it hard to believe that every department is equally at fault for the deficit, as the equal 5% cut to every department would seem to imply. I suppose keeping 95% of every department's budget is politically preferable to, say, keeping 95% of the departments' budgets at 100% and eliminating 5% of the departments.

The sad thing is that some of us might never notice if five percent of the departments on campus were closed. For such a small community, the organizational complexity is astounding. It seems every time I turn around, I discover another bureaucratic branch whose purpose is not clear to me. There are probably areas where such departments could be consolidated, or at least work more closely together to avoid duplication and wasteful red tape. While the size of the student body has not increase much over the past few decades, I have a feeling the administration has waxed considerably. It is no wonder students find themselves increasingly entangled with the powers that be; there be increasingly more powers for the same number of students.

FLEMING FUNDING MEASURE REBUFFED BEFORE ASCIT BOARD

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

on the part of the BoD's Fleming majority to strong-arm the measure through a vote with little or no discussion.

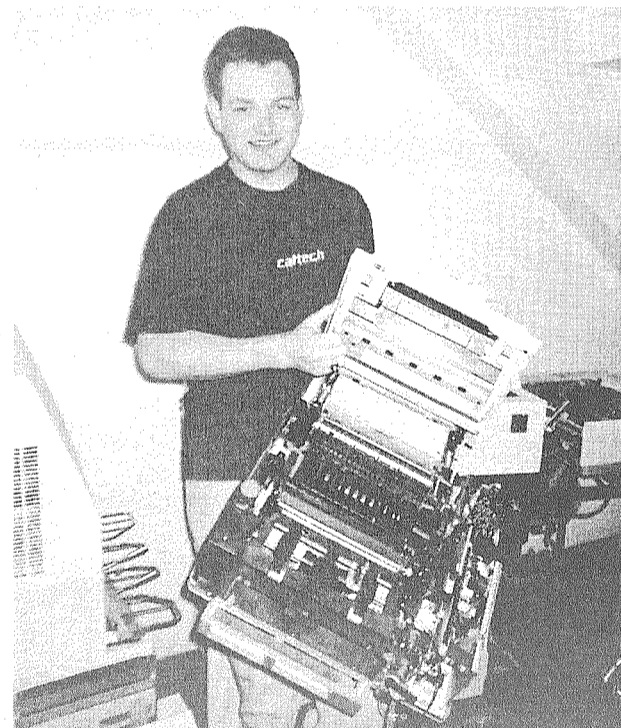
"This was irregular because the BoD (in the past) always met and discussed before voting on funding," said one adversary of the funding proposal. "E-mail votes are quite unusual and usually avoided. In this case, there was no time for debate or discussion; they wanted the vote immediately."

Other BoD members felt that the situation as a whole was somewhat inappropriate, both because Wine & Candlelight does not quite meet the "inter-House interaction" requirements of multi-House funding and also because five of the nine BoD members are Flems, including all three who have the power to sign ASCIT checks.

Still, there was considerable e-mail debate overnight and through the next morning, after which some BoD members changed their e-mail votes. Although BoD-endorsed ghostvoting prevents outsiders from knowing how individual members vote, Secretary Joe Jewell '04 ultimately emerged as the measure's chief opponent and Treasurer Janet Zhou '04, its chief supporter. In the end, the measure failed by a six-to-two margin.

Question of the Week

Is Fleming's annual Wine & Candlelight dinner a "multi-House" event?



K. Bartz/The California Tech

Fleming pundit O.J. Carlton '02 illustrates his expediency in salvaging an old printer.

Playing 'Honest Music,' Couple Captivates Crowd

Continued from Page 1, Column 4

"The notes are very wide in here," he explained. "There's a lot of forgiveness in these words." You might call it the Gillette principle: the view of music as an innately healing force. "It's literature, it's a myth," he said. "Sometimes you look at people you've known all your life and the lyrics take on a different meaning."

Ever since the mid-'60s, when his musical career began, Gillette has held true to his traditional singing and songwriting roots, strumming his guitar with a flat pick and two fingers in a style all his own.

Composed by the man best known as a songwriter, his timeless tunes keep reappearing in pop culture, from folk-spiced country jingles to classic films like "Dumbo." Linda Ronstadt, Anne Murray are among dozens of folk's top names who have taken up his lyrics.

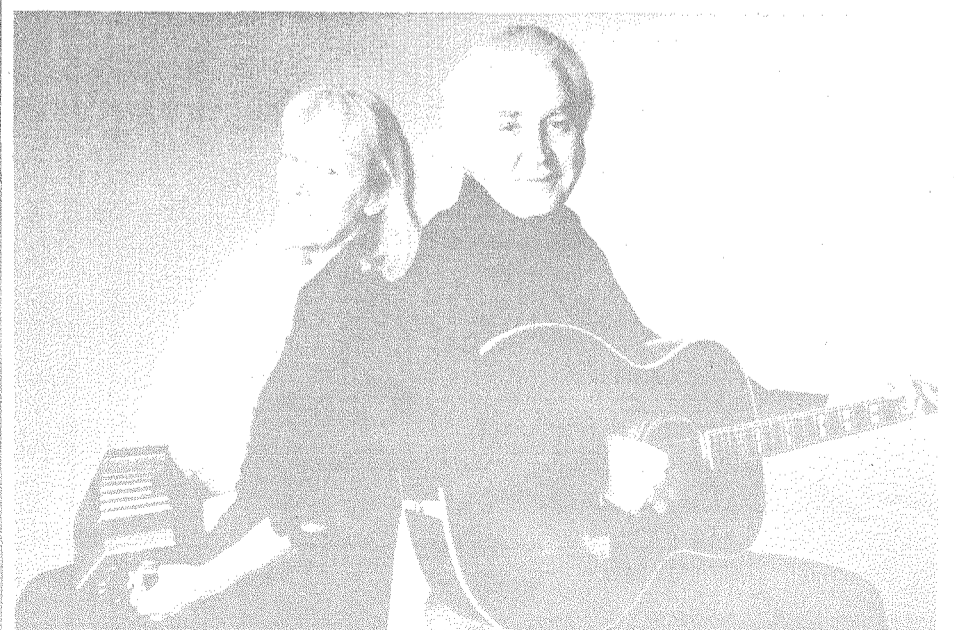
ics.

The match was all too fitting, then, when Gillette teamed up—in music and marriage—with Chicago folk star Cindy Mangsen. Characterized by an admitted "self-indulgence," her long-respected singing voice lends the simple elegance of sincerity to Gillette's guitar-based rhythms.

"It's very moving to sing some of those songs," she offered, smiling. "If there is a sense of continuity it's because with the music you do grow."

Among the audience were family, longtime acquaintances and coordinators of the newly revived "Folk Scene" feature on a local radio show.

"The industry has demanded more honest music," said one. "And Cindy and Steve are honest; they're direct, with an excellent voice. They're just the best."



Courtesy of R. Mayers

Folk musicians Cindy Mangsen and Steve Gillette play the concertina and guitar.

Violence Escalates in Middle East

By WILLIAM FONG

Violence in the Middle East surged this week as Israel invaded the West Bank in response to a series of suicide bombings that left scores dead. Below is a chronicle of the most important events over the past two weeks:

March 27

A suicide bomber attacks a hotel restaurant in Netanya killing 22 Israelis. This bombing occurs as families celebrate the Passover Seder, which marks the beginning of the Passover holiday.

March 29

Early Friday morning, Israeli tanks enter Ramallah and surround Yasser Arafat's compound, cutting off water and electricity. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon stages

a press conference on national television and declared that Arafat in an "enemy" and that he will be "isolated." In an apparent response to the Israeli attack on Arafat, a female teenage suicide bomber blows herself up at a Jerusalem supermarket, killing an Israeli teenager and wounding dozens more.

At a press conference, Secretary of State Colin Powell states that the U.S. understands the "Israeli government's need to respond to these acts of terror and the right of the Israeli government to decide what actions best serve the interests of the Israeli people." He claims to have assurances from Sharon that Arafat would not be harmed. From the U.S. side, there is no call for a withdrawal. However, both the EU and the UN issue statements demanding an immediate Israeli withdrawal.



March 30

A suicide bomber blows himself up in a Tel Aviv cafe, wounding 24 Israeli citizens.

March 31

Two suicide attacks occur in Eilat and Haifa, killing 14 Israelis. Israeli troops and tanks roll into Bethlehem.

April 2

Sharon offers Arafat a "one-way ticket" out of the country. Arafat responds by saying that he would prefer to die rather than be exiled.

April 3

Hundreds of Palestinian gunmen and civilians hide in Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity, the traditional birthplace of Jesus. They are currently still seeking refuge in the church. The Israeli government meanwhile presents evidence that it says links Arafat to the terrorists.

CALTECH CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH



March On, Baltimore: The President proves once and for all that yes, he does care about students. But what will come of his hunt for a full-time Vice President?



Fine Wine, on Your Dime: Flems push for ASCIT to cover Wine & Candlelight costs, extinguishing the light of hope for those of us not lucky enough to be asked.



Drip, Drip, Drop Day: Just after they finish post-Drop Day cleaning, Darbs watch a sudden toilet blowup flood stairwells and litter floors with toilet paper.

April 4

President Bush reverses the U.S. government's support of Israel's "war on terror" and states that "progress is impossible when nations emphasize their grievances and ignore their opportunities. The storms of violence cannot go on. Enough is enough." He sends Secretary of State Colin Powell to the region in an effort to stop the violence.

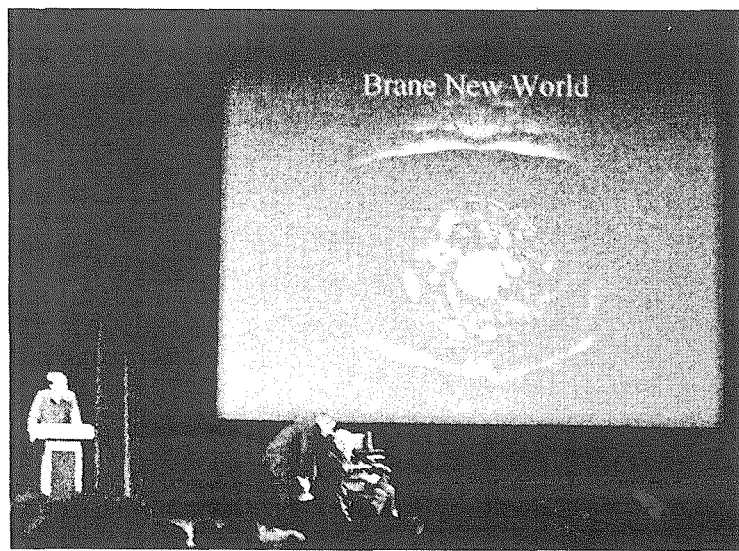
April 5

U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni, who was trying to negotiate an agreement before the violence started, meets with Arafat.

April 6

Ignoring Bush's call for a withdrawal, Israeli troops and tanks continue to pummel Arafat strongholds in the West Bank. Powell is set to meet this week with Israeli leaders.

Letters: BoD, Hawking, Baltimore, Porn Gremlin



T. Mal/The California Tech

Those not lucky enough to win tickets to Stephen Hawking's "Brane New World" had to brave swelling mile-long lines.

Line Cutting: Honorable?

Dear Editors,

The Caltech Honor Code: "No member of the Caltech community shall take unfair advantage of any other member of the Caltech community."

Around 8 a.m. Friday, March 15, I joined the queue for tickets to the Hawking lecture. In just over an hour, the stationary line ahead of me had about doubled in density. Perhaps some of these additional people had merely stepped away for awhile or were joining a friend to get one ticket each.

However, the two individuals (most likely graduate students based on overheard conversation) directly in front of me had ballooned into a group of seven. One of these additional five was called on a cell phone and only cut in front of twenty or so people. Three more appeared and merged in considerably later when the line was substantially longer.

And finally, well after the line was moving and tickets were being distributed, a wispy young fellow (whose name sounded like "Peter"; he subsequently declined to identify himself) with a small green and black backpack who rolls his own cigarettes asked his red-headed young friend with the white on yellow Caltech key fob and blue sweatshirt if she minded if he joined in. All seven of these people appeared to get two tickets apiece. Many people who had waited patiently got none at all. The non-Caltech person behind me was not much impressed with these examples of Caltech behavior.

Do we really need or want Caltech security to police lines to ensure a fair ticket distribution? After all, these cut-ins didn't just avoid waiting in line. They and their friends who let them in are thieves

who stole other people's time and also stole other people's opportunity to attend the Hawking lecture.

Larry Henling

Be Proud of Your BoD

Dear Editors,

I am writing to the Tech regarding the recent ASCIT survey.

There were many comments expressing confusion over the question "Which of these issues is most important to you?" (Changes in Rotation; Health Insurance; Freshman Parking; Library Reform; House Traditions; Dial-Up Fees; Other). The intent of this question was not to survey student opinion on these issues, but to get an idea of the priorities of the student body. While ASCIT intended to fight for the students' interests on all of these issues, the answers to this question would have told us where to focus our efforts. The results showed "House Traditions" as the most important issue, with "Changes in Rotation" and "Health Insurance" in a second tier, and the other choices far below those first three.

In truth, ASCIT did not wait for the results of the survey to begin work on those issues. As evidenced by Dr. Baltimore's recent communication to the students, the efforts of ASCIT, GSC, and the many alumni, faculty, and staff speaking on behalf of the students have finally begun to show results. I would like to thank all those who advocated the students' interests throughout this year, and I would like to thank President Baltimore for his thoughtful letter.

Another result from the ASCIT Survey that I would like to report at this time is the response to the question on donuts: "ASCIT currently provides donuts each Friday morning at 8am and once a term at

midnight. What do you think of this practice?"

These were the survey results:

Rank: 1 2 3 4 5 abstain Keep doing the same thing 101 36 43 13 11 46 Eliminate Friday donuts and have midnight donuts twice a term 78 68 32 9 8 55 Eliminate Friday donuts and use that money for something else 26 53 56 37 9 69 Keep Friday donuts and eliminate midnight donuts 4 24 25 76 91 90 Eliminate ASCIT donuts altogether 15 6 11 16 11 91

If just the issue of keeping or eliminating Friday donuts is considered, the rank one votes are extremely close: 119-105 in favor of eliminating Friday donuts. The only clear result is that if Friday donuts were eliminated, the students would definitely prefer two midnight donuts a term. I raised the issue to the Board of Directors, proposing a scheme where we would hold an additional midnight donuts each term during midterms. The BoD voted to approve the following amendment Resolution XX concerning donuts, which shall now read:

Resolution XX - Donuts

SECTION 1. The Donut Man (a.k.a. Far Foster's) of Glendora shall be the Official Donut Provider of the Corporation.

SECTION 2. Free donuts for ASCIT members shall be provided at midnight twice each term according to the following schedule: Once during rotation first term, once during ASCIT elections second term, once during Prefrosh Weekend third term, and once each term during midterms.

I would like to implement this new Resolution starting with Prefrosh Weekend and try out this system of two midnight donuts on a provisional basis during third term. Whether this practice will be continued in the fall will be contingent upon student opinion at the end of the term. So, if you want a Friday morning donut this term, you must be in the RF Breezeway at 8am this Friday, April 12.

See you there.

Ted Jou, ASCIT President

Porn Scraping Immoral

Dear Editors,

I was disappointed by last week's Tech when I picked it up to find a front-page article highlighting the efforts of alumni to provide a pornographic web-scraper. By publishing the article about the two alumni who started this business, The California Tech is indirectly supporting their pursuits. By providing the web page url, the Tech is providing free advertisement. This supports pornography, a dangerous form of me-

dia. One can imagine how pornography tears down families and healthy relationships. Pornography can be addictive and it desensitizes one to what used to be thought of as unhealthy behavior. In addition, pornography treats women as objects to meet the sexual demands of men. Pornography is a major cause of the lack of respect for women as equals in our society.

I hope that in the future the Tech will be more considerate to others and not support organizations or businesses of this type.

Beth Wildanger '05

Thank You, Dr. Baltimore

Dear Editors,

I applaud the recent actions taken by the Caltech administration, announced in President Baltimore's email Friday to undergraduate students. While the assurance that our insurance plan is secure for another year is by far the most important in a material sense, each of the outlined improvements is symbolic in that it represents increased responsiveness to the needs and feelings of students. Though long overdue, such comprehensive reform certainly goes a long way towards restoring the open and trusting relationship with the administration that the Caltech student body deserves. We asked administrators to address our concerns, and it seems that they have made a good-faith effort to do so—and it should not end here.

We as students understand that certain projects (like library reform, or house renovations, to take two good examples) are inherently long-term. These cannot and should

Continued on Page 7, Column 1



K. Barz/The California Tech

Maintained and operated by Caltech alumni Dylan Owens '02 and Barry Shapira '98, the image indexer www.porngremlin.com has

Y news

by Abel Bourbois

Upcoming Events

Contact Greg (gregf@its) for additional info on any event.

Community Service (4/13, nine a.m. to one p.m., Downtown LA) Reading to Kids: Help promote reading among inner-city elementary school children in Downtown LA. Transportation is provided. Contact Anita (anichoi@its).

International Week is coming... April 14 to 21. Watch out for great cultural activities and the Food Fair!

Y Not Join Us?

There are many opportunities to help the Y continue to serve the CIT community. All meetings are OPEN to students, staff, and faculty.

ExComm: every Monday, noon.
Community Service Committee: every other Thursday, noon.

Outdoor Committee: every other Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Next Meet: Contact Katie (homann@its).

All meetings take place in the Y Lounge. The Y is located on the first floor of the Student Services Building, south of the Holliston parking structure.

If you are, in any way, interested in getting more involved with the Y or have questions about the Y, feel free to e-mail the Vice Pres (yveep@ugcs).

From Tarot Cards to Horoscopes

Prof. Ruvinskaya Reveals the Cosmos to Algy 1 Class

By YULIYA RUVINSKAYA

Every year, a number of graduating seniors choose to enter the industry, rather than continue their education. While having Caltech graduates doing anything remotely practical or applied is highly undesirable, and casts a shadow on the reputation of our fine institution, it is in its best interest to give those who stray from the right path skills that will help them survive in the tough outside world. In the shrinking job market of today, there are certain niches that techers have not yet entered: one such is astrology.

Astrology is an ancient science of telling the future by the stars. The demand for astrologists grew steadily from ancient times, when the science was first invented, to the Middle Ages, when every self-respecting king had a head astrologist to tell him which country to attack and which of his court members to kill, to the modern time, when horoscopes are regularly published in almost every newspaper.

Astrologists are as necessary to people's well-being as psychiatrists, physicists, and physiognomists, and the best way for Caltech to penetrate the field is by creating an Astrology department, or Algy for short. Accredited members of the American Federation of Astrologists and the International Society for Astrological Research should be hired to teach a selection of Astrology classes.

Entering students will be able to take Algy1, or What's Your Sign, progressing to Algy71, How to Tell Future Using a Compass and a Piece of String, and Algy12, Cosmic Body Magnetism. Algy classes will supplement and complement the existing curriculum of several majors in numerous ways: biologists may feel compelled to take Algy/Bi151, Evolutionary Astrol-

ogy: from Amoeba to Aries, while mechanical engineering students would feel at home in Algy/ME71, Telling the Future with a Compass and a Piece of String.

Exchange programs should be established between Caltech and Kepler college, which is the first college to offer four-year degrees in Astrology, so that Caltech students can immerse themselves in the field more fully. Algy SURFs will be established to pique the in-

"The best way for Caltech to penetrate the field is by creating an Astrology department."

terest of qualified students in the field. The students will conduct research under the supervision of the faculty, with the goal of being published in such respected and widely-read journals as In Light Times, Journal of Geocosmic Research, and Cosmopolitan magazine. Soon, Caltech will produce the best astrologers in the country! Watch out, Kepler College. Move over, MIT!

A sample horoscope, organize by major, is provided below for your convenience. If it's not what you hoped for, switch majors.

Astronomy/Physics/Aph: An uncertainty in your calculations may lead to a great discovery. Avoid leaving your room on the 18th, due to collapsing wave functions. Lucky Numbers: 1+0.5, 365+0.5

BEM: The stock market's instability may affect your vacation plans. Check your differential equations. Lucky Numbers: 1 1/8, 3 1, 16 3/4

Biology: The person who'd been annoying you will be at his worst. Resist injecting him with EDTA. Lucky Numbers: 42

CS: Despite your best efforts, you will have to go outside within a week. Ask your roommate for sunscreen and wear shades. Lucky Numbers: Mandelbrot Set

Chemistry/Chem.E: You may find yourself immersing in homework. Find time for yourself and for that cute grad student in the next lab. Lucky Numbers: 0, 6.02*10^23

Economics: An opportunity will present itself when you are knee deep in statistical analysis. If you find yourself in trouble, make use of Excel. Lucky Numbers: more than 50% of anything

EE/ECE: You may wonder why

there are no clocks in the subbasement of Moore. A wise upperclassman holds the key to the stockroom. Lucky Numbers: 51, 52, 53, 54, 55

E&AS: You may discover that being a party animal is harder than it seems. Breath mints play an important role in your future. Lucky Numbers: none

History: Avoid encounters with nuclear weapons. Caffeine may help with a mid-week crisis. Lucky Numbers: 1776, 1812, 1917

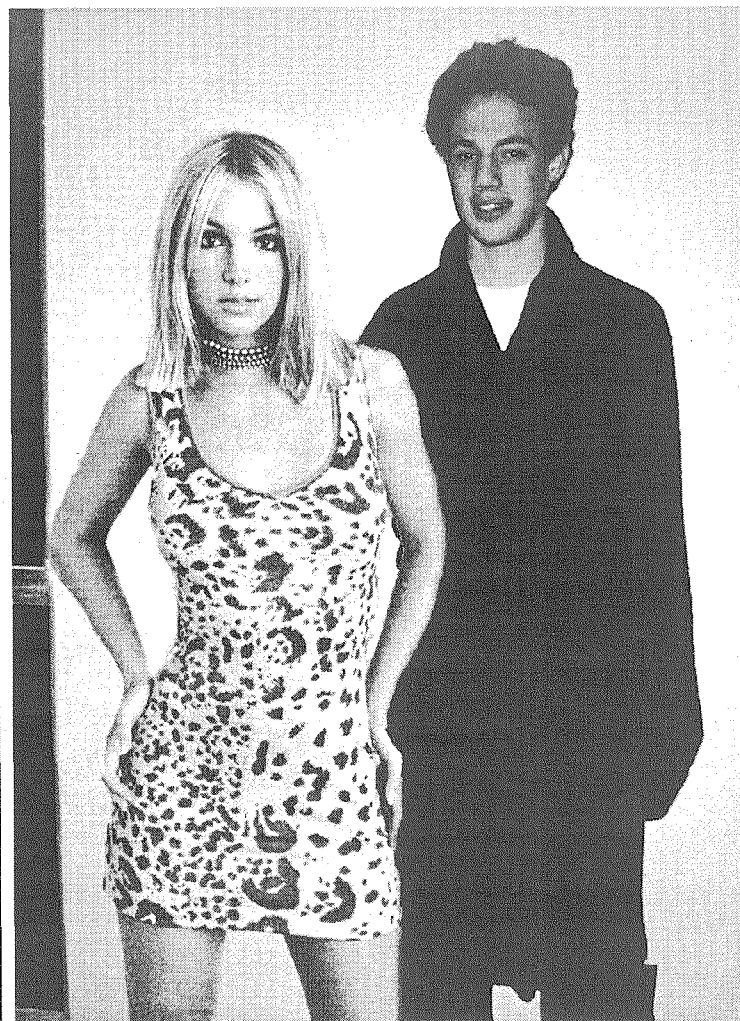
Literature: The uncertain future of the on-campus libraries may have you worried. A trip to the Huntington is coming up. Lucky Numbers: all events

Mathematics/ACM: A problem that's been on your mind may have no solution. A beer may help you forget. Lucky Numbers: pi, e

Mech.E./Aero.E.: A miscalculation will have you reaching for the duct tape. Watch out for a blonde who likes the smell of machine oil. Lucky Numbers: the Fibonacci series

Planetary Science/Env.E.: When building planets, don't forget to provide for water. Color choice will prove important. Lucky Numbers: -7, -3, 12

Political Science: If you think someone is spying on you, you may be right. The walls have ears. Lucky Numbers: all odds



Britney Spears, left, and her boyfriend Abe Fetterman '05 are dumbfounded after Fleming leadership did not allow them to buy tickets for the House's annual Wine & Candlelight dinner, despite a measure before the BoD that would have tagged the event "multi-House."

YURI'S NIGHT TO RECOGNIZE URINE IN SPACE

By NATHAN BROWN and YULIYA RUVINSKAYA

On April 12, 1961, history was made in the Kazakh republic of the Soviet Union. Yuri Gagarin became the first man to relieve himself on a bus tire before flying in space.

An elite group of twenty contenders in top physical shape was chosen from thousands of eager and qualified patriots. When funding cuts in the project forced the designers to narrow the roster to the best six, Yuri's skills, charisma, and determination to be the best reliever he could possibly be made him the obvious choice for the first mission.

Gagarin's flight is recognized today as the greatest achievement ever made immediately after relieving oneself on a tire. Ever since, every man and woman who relieves himself on a tire at Baikonur Cosmodrome flies in space immediately afterward in tribute to Gagarin.

This momentous occasion is also honored every year in a global celebration, called Yuri's Night. This year, 100 parties on all seven continents will commense to mark the 41st anniversary of the opening of space to citizens of all nations. An immense trance party in Los Angeles is just one of the events that will promote a peaceful future in space.

The Los Angeles edition of Yuri's Night 2002 will take place at the Museum of Flying in Santa Monica. Doors open at 9 p.m on Friday, April 12. Parking will be available, but please avoid relieving yourself on the tires.

Honesty: It Does a BoD Good Has the Candlelight and Wine Gone to ASCIT's Head?

By ABE FETTERMAN

Aah, we all remember the fun times of inter-House events. Mardi Gras, Decompression, Prefrosh Weekend, and Fleming's Wine and Candlelight. Wait a minute. Fleming's Wine and Candlelight? Yes, my friends, despite the copious numbers of invitations (sent only to those dating Flemings) that were sent out to this broad, all-encompassing party (entry by invitation only), there are some that don't think of it as such an "inter-House event." I myself was asked by several very attractive Flemings to attend, but sadly I was forced by my morals to refrain. The event was not in the true spirit of "inter-House," or as many people refer to it, "an event that is for people who are not all in the same house."

"What's the controversy?" you might ask. Why should I care whether some people call it "inter-

House," others call it "intra-House," and others might call it "I don't give a damn?" Because of a tale of mystery and intrigue in the Board of Directors, specifically one involving funding of such events that I will weave for you here.

Let us paint a portrait of the BoD: eight active members and a Vikram, with four of the members (and the Vikram) all full members of Fleming House. This disparate bunch had their last meeting for the term on March 15. Or so they thought.

Ted Jou '03, leader of the Board, seemingly came under heavy joint assault from both his girlfriend character and his esteemed co-worker, Janet Zhou '04 (both Flemings, naturally). Zhou wished to pass a measure that would have allocated a large sum of money set aside for "inter-House" events to the Wine and Candlelight. Jou, pressed against a wall, put the motion to a last-minute "midnight vote."

What is the anatomy of such a "midnight vote"? The word "midnight" makes it sound shady, and one can't be too wary. A history buff can't help but be reminded of John Adams' "midnight appointments," in which the famous (or perhaps infamous) president appointed many of those in his party to judicial positions on many levels on the midnight before he rode out of town.

Luckily, incoming President Jefferson was able to hold back these renegade judges from taking their positions, because the ink was still wet and he could just rub the papers until they became unreadable. That's because they didn't have BIC pens back then; they had to use feathers and quills and ink. But there is another, much more morbid example of political trickery going on at the witching hour.

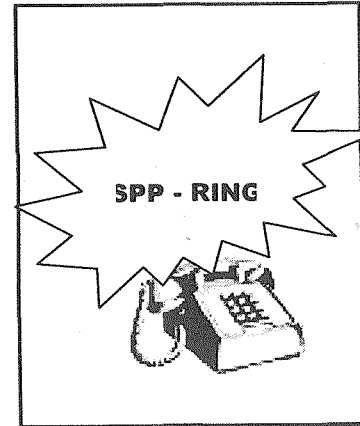
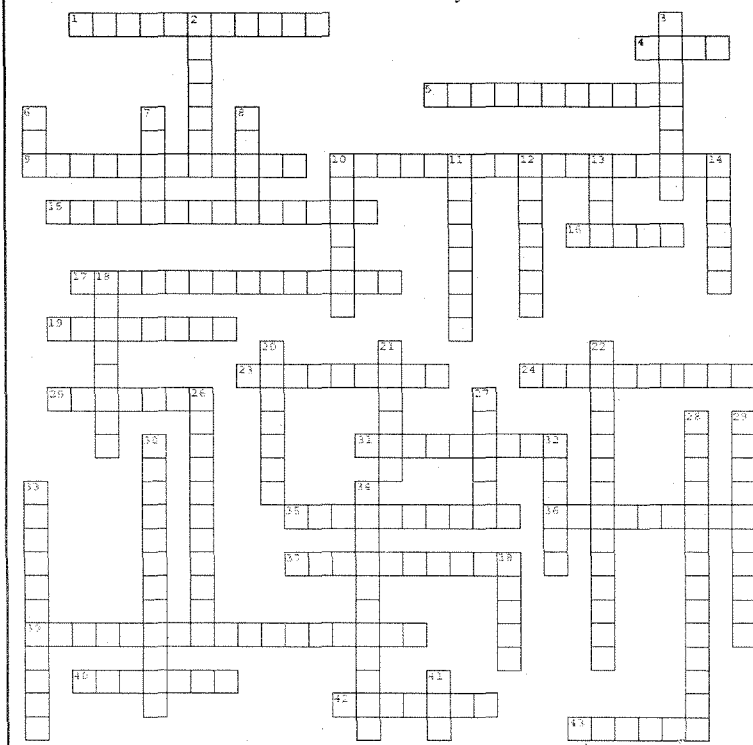
Alas, our last president was loved well by all, feared by enemies, and praised by the righteous. His firm hold on the moral high-ground made him unopposable and unstoppable. Aah, who am I kidding? Nobody liked him *during* his presi-

dency, much less afterward, after his infamous "midnight pardons." Is this a precedent that is to be followed in the future? Are the tainted actions of past presidents seeping down to organizational presidents? What's next, the Boy Scouts?

This dramatic tale, however, does have a happy ending. The midnight vote ended in 6-2; fortunately everyone was able to be contacted for the vote, and some of the Flemings, spearheaded by the hard work of Joe Jewell '04, had enough sense to see how ridiculous this would have been. We were fortunate indeed that Fleming was not able to strong-arm this measure through, but I don't think this is the last we will see of the Fleming Bloc's workings in the Board of Directors.

Tommy's, the Puzzle

All clues: "Tommy's"



Alumni Fund - Student Phone Program is Hiring for Spring Calling! Network w/alumni, sharpen your interviewing & negotiation skills, support Caltech, & earn good \$\$\$!

Calling begins in April

Contact Lucie x6323 - lsnencer@dar

DILBERT® by Scott Adams

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

BUSINESS IS WAY DOWN. YOU KNOW WHAT YOU NEED TO DO.

AVOID FINISHING ANYTHING SO WE NEVER APPEAR TO BE SURPLUS EMPLOYEES?

MAYBE THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO ADMIT THAT YOU WERE WRONG ABOUT US KNOWING.

WALLY, YOUR STATUS REPORT IS JUST A BUNCH OF BUZZWORDS STRUNG TOGETHER.

I'VE BEEN GIVING YOU THAT SAME STATUS REPORT EVERY WEEK FOR ELEVEN YEARS.

FIVE YEARS AGO YOU ADOPTED IT AS OUR MISSION STATEMENT.

OUR NEXT SPEAKER WAS A FAMOUS ATHLETE UNTIL DRUGS AND BOOZE RUINED HIS LIFE.

SHANK HEW VEWY MUSH.

IT'S NOT INSPIRATIONAL UNTIL HE STOPS DOING THOSE THINGS.

TODAY IS THE THREE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF OUR FIRST MEETING TO DISCUSS PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.

AND WE'RE STILL DISCUSSING REQUIREMENTS. DOES ANYONE ELSE SEE A PROBLEM HERE?

WHEN YOU'RE DONE, CAN WE TALK ABOUT REQUIREMENTS?

DOGBERT'S TECH SUPPORT

IT WORKS FINE ON MY MACHINE.

YES, BUT THIS CALL IS ABOUT MY PC. MAY WE TALK ABOUT MY PROBLEM NOW?

OKAY. YOUR PC IS DEFECTIVE AND YOU'RE SELFISH. THAT'S AN ATTRACTIVE PACKAGE YOU'VE GOT GOING THERE.

SAFETY TIP OF THE DAY:

ALWAYS BEND YOUR KNEES WHEN BANGING YOUR HEAD AGAINST A WALL.

I CAN'T REMEMBER IF MANAGING IS AN ART OR A SCIENCE.

PLEASE, CAN I GET A DOG, MOM? PLEASE? PLEASE? PLEASE?

I PROMISE I'LL TRAIN IT NOT TO BARK ALL NIGHT OR SOIL THE CARPET OR CHEW UP THE FURNITURE OR DIG UP YOUR GARDEN OR SHED FOR ALL OVER THE HOUSE!

PLEASE? I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A PET! WHAT DO YOU SAY?

I CAN'T BELIEVE MOM BOUGHT YOU THIS SUPER-FANCY FISH TANK.

IT'S ALL IN HOW YOU ASK.

OK, I'VE GOT THE FILTER IN... THE HEATER IN... THE ROCKS IN... THE BUBBLING CLAM SHELL IN... THE WATER IN...

...AND, OF COURSE, ALL MY CUTE LITTLE FISHIES IN.

STILL, I CAN'T HELP FEELING AS THOUGH I'VE FORGOTTEN SOMETHING.

LIKE, WHAT IS GALLONS OF WATER YOU HELP WEIGHS, PERHAPS? PETER, CAN YOU HELP ME CARRY THIS UPSTAIRS?

PER-FECT. WE CAN PUT THE GUPPIES IN THE SAUCE PAN AND THE ANGEL FISH IN THIS BIG ONE.

DEAR, WHEN YOU SAID TONIGHT'S DINNER WAS A SURPRISE...

HERE YOU GO, FISHIES - TIME FOR DIN-DIN.

THAT'S RIGHT, LITTLE GUPPIES, EAT THE FISH FOOD...

THAT'S RIGHT, MISTER GUPPIES, EAT THE FISH...

... FOOD! THE FISH FOOD! I DIDN'T FINISH THE SENTENCE!

REPRODUCE QUICKLY, I HOPE.

OH, SHOOT. THE PLASTIC PLANT CAME LOOSE AGAIN.

NOW I HAVE TO STICK MY ARM IN AND FIX IT. TALK ABOUT SHEER AGONY.

THE WATER'S WARM. STOP WHINING.

IT'S NOT THE WATER THAT'S TORTURE.

ARE YOU SURE THOSE ARE GUPPIES? THEY LOOK LIKE BABY PIRANHA FISH TO ME.

DADDY, IF YOU MAKE NO MORE JOKE TIME... SAY THAT LAME MORE!

I LOVE MY AQUARIUM, MOTHER! THANK YOU!

I'M HAPPY TO HEAR THAT.

IT'S ESPECIALLY NICE TO HAVE WHEN I'M DOING MY HOMEWORK.

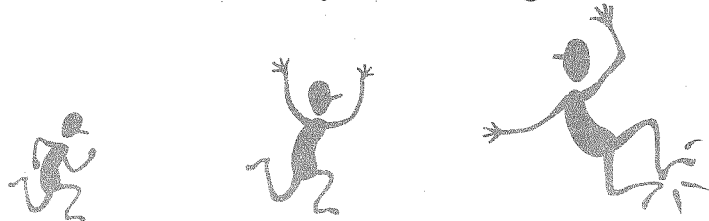
INTERESTING.

BECAUSE IT KEEPS YOU COMPANY? BECAUSE THE SOUNDS AND COLORS ARE CALMING? BECAUSE THE MOVEMENTS OF THE FISH TAKE YOUR BRAIN INTO A HEIGHTENED STATE OF IMAGINATIVE THINKING?

BECAUSE AFTER WATCHING FISH FOR AN HOUR, EVEN GEOMETRY SEEMS EXCITING.

I'M ALWAYS GLAD TO HELP!

it's coming...it's coming...it's coming!!!



Prefrosh Weekend 2002

Thursday, April 18th - Sunday, April 21st

Questions? Suggestions? Want to Volunteer? Contact... asim@admissions.caltech.edu

ATTENTION STUDENTS
200 FREE SAMPLES

Adaptagenix Research

Student feedback needed for new cognitive acceleration product based on Nobel-prize research and use by Olympic athletes.

Only 200 Samples Distributed

Sign up in 1 minute:

WWW.BQSAMPLE.ORG

Ocean Coral Restaurant

★ ★ Award Winner ★ ★

Mandarin Cuisine & Seafood
Cocktail Lounge

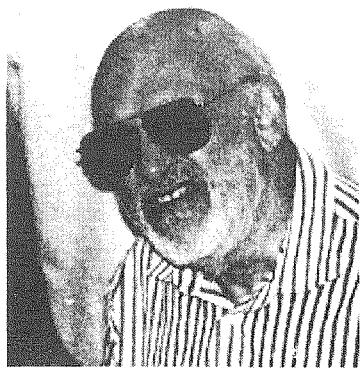
Lunch Specials \$5⁹⁹ 11:30-3 p.m.
Early Bird Specials \$7⁵⁰ 3-7 p.m.
Classic Dinners 3-10 p.m.

Food To Go Welcome

OPEN 7 DAYS.

Tel: 449-8018

2475 E. Colorado • Pasadena
between Sierra Madre Blvd. & Altadena Dr.
Free Parking In Rear



Dean's Corner

Digital Foolscap

by Jean-Paul Revel

Was it not a joke, coming back from break on April Fools Day? Actually, the joke really was calling this brief interval, a break. It was so short that I never had the chance to get my batteries recharged. I hope you fared better, with the resilience of youth and with just no homework due for a few days. Take heart! It is just a few short weeks before the class of 2002 marches on.

Before the break I had the fond hope of getting "organized", at least to the extent of clearing my desk of accumulated papers. I did not succeed, far from it. There are still stacks and stacks of things I had put aside to deal with later, and later has not yet come. So I have not shaken the "cluttered desk" look which I pretend is cozily acceptable. Did not the great Albert wonder what kind of mind a clean desk betrayed since a cluttered desk supposedly indicates of the owner's cluttered mind?

Cluttered mind? Me? I am just busy. Some might say a clean desk shows that one is organized, systematic, neat, logical. I prefer to pretend that it would indicate a barren, read dull, sterile, unimaginative mind. But wait! I smell danger. We have all heard about Nash's *Beautiful Mind* over the last few weeks, but what did his desk look like?

One of the things I came across during break is a review (Malcolm Gladwell, *The New Yorker*, March 25, 2002, pp. 92-96) of a book by Abigail Sellen of HP and Richard Harper of Surrey U., "The Myth of the Paperless Office" (MIT Press). I have not yet read the book itself, but its publication seems to have caused many ripples in that

paperless ocean, the Internet. While it is dangerous to base oneself on second hand information, (the reviews and discussions engendered by the publication), I was affected by the review, perhaps unreasonably so. I let it undermine my determination to clean up, since paper may not be a devil which has to be, ever can be or even should be, tamed.

In the early days of the digital age, when the personal computer was beginning to make inroads in the daily life of many, it was possible to dream that computer screens would eventually supplant paper altogether. But twenty or so years later, Edward Tenner of Princeton, writing in a 1988 article for *Harvard Magazine*, could ask why "almost no one (foresaw) that the microchip would be the best thing that happened to paper since governments got people to accept the stuff as money." While paper has essentially disappeared from parts of the information stream, and in some industries like insurance, there has actually been a steady increase in paper consumption all over the world.

In our enthusiasm for the new, it was easy at first to downplay the real advantages of paper. The papers scattered on my desk act not just as clutter, but as a quick reminders of things to do. Subliminal reminders, since an accidental glance will bring back things that one is not even specifically looking for. This is akin to the serendipitous discovery of gems "hiding" on a library shelf, something that does not happen so readily when browsing through a computerized catalog. Notes made on scraps of paper, back of envelopes or more dignified Post-Its, scattered all around or pinned to the wall serve as informal pointers wherever

you look. A 10" or even a 22" screen is too small to show all the notes at once, and even if entered in memory, they are stored out of immediate view. Out of sight, out of mind. Whatever else I am doing, the notes on my desk show their messages as I glance about in search of inspiration. And those unsightly piles? Well, Sellen and Harper see them as representing the process of active, ongoing thinking! So there, Mr. Executive-with-the-barran-glass-desk occupied only by an intercom and a telephone.

But the digital office has special advantages. If one knows what to look for it is easy to retrieve the material, something I find almost impossible to do when the data is on paper. The laptop has essentially displaced the typewriter and that, for many good reasons. For "authoring" (what a horrible word)

the computer "can,t be beat". The machine even checks spelling and pretends to correct grammar (try that on your Royal or your Olivetti). The only thing it does not know how to deal with, is vacuous thinking. None of this comes free however, and one of the penalties is

that, if I need to work at home tonight, I'll have to lug my laptop along with me. (well, there are other ways, but I have found them painful too). I carefully chose one of the lightest computers around, weighing in at under 3 pounds, batteries and all. That's less than a ream of paper (500 sheets, 5 lbs.). This 1000 word column printed in a readable font, can easily fit on a single page of paper (~1g). Oh, if I take it home to work on, I will also need to lug a pencil or a pen, and may be a second piece of paper to use when the first one gets too messy with erasures and rewrites: in total I would need to carry 22 grams. (At 20g my pen, a Christmas present, is a heavy one). But my digital desk does have the weight advantage if besides pen and paper I also have to lug a Dictionary and a Thesaurus, which are conveniently attached to the word processing program in my laptop.

And with a laptop, I'll even be able to decipher what I wrote. I understand that Tolstoy's handwriting was so bad that his wife used to re-write all of his stuff, yes, she penned *War and Peace*, and straightened out who knows what else besides. My own handwriting unfortunately emulates the great Leo's. Wish that my writing did too!

All the advantages of being digital of course are lost without electrical power. One needs either an outlet to plug into or a supply of charged batteries, if the session is going to be any longer than a couple or three hours. Without juice I must do with paper, assuming of course I can find a match to light that candle. So it is both digital and "oh, oh! 1069 words!"

Time to get this on a piece of paper so I can read it over before e-mailing it off to the editors.

A bientot

Jean Paul Revel

Jean-Paul Revel
Dean of Students

CRIPPLING DEPRESSION

www.CripplingDepression.com

By Ben Lee, Tim Wan and Mike Yeh



Letter: E-mail a Success

Continued from Page 4, Column 4

not be rushed, and I believe that we will have patience in realizing that results will not be immediate for such endeavors. By the same token, however, we hope the rediscovered concern for students will extend beyond Prefresh Weekend to really mean "greater consultation and communication" on the issues that affect our lives in the future. President Baltimore stated in his letter that he is "committed" to permanently improving the decisionmaking process. It is my fervent hope that this will indeed

be the case. The conflicts of the past few months really could have been mitigated by better communication and I trust that administrators have finally realized that.

What has been a tumultuous year for Caltech students so far can hopefully now end on a more peaceful note—and a return of our collective focus to the study of science, which is, after all, why we came here in the first place.

Sincerely,

Joe Jewell, ASCIT Secretary

TAKE ME FOR A 'RIDE'



K. Battz/The California Tech

Caltech plays host to the Sally Ride Festival, where the noted female astronaut inspired young girls to careers in science.

Announcements

Before (And After) The Taliban--Special Spring Course. H 161: Afghanistan 3-0-6; Prof. Rosenstone Tuesday, 7 pm. An exploration of the past, present, and possible future of this colorful and conflict-ridden ancient land -- its people, its art, its wars as seen both by outsiders and the Afghans themselves. Students will be exposed to written works by travelers and natives, academics and journalists. They will also see four films, both dramatic and documentary, about the country and its traditions. Helping to teach the class will be guest experts in cultural, historical, and political developments. Among topics to be covered are -- the Silk Road, ancient history, and art; the birth of the Afghan state; ethnic groups and conflicts; religion and Islamic law; languages, music and culture; the role of women and the veil; the Soviet invasion; the rise and fall of the Taliban, and the American-backed war and new regime. Note: not for advanced hum credit.

The Beckman Political Internship will be available again this summer. The internship, supported by friends of Arnold O. Beckman, will pay a stipend of \$5,000. It allows a selected intern to spend the summer working in the office of a politician and to see from the inside the process of government. The intern is expected to make arrangements with the appropriate political persons. It is open to any Caltech undergraduate who intends to be a student next year. If interested, submit a proposal describing where and how you would use the stipend along with one faculty recommendation, to the Deans' Office, 102-31 or email to deansofc@caltech.edu by MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2002.

Summer Work Study: Information and applications for 2002 Summer Work Study are available in the Financial Aid Office. If you are interested in Summer Work Study, please submit the required application as soon as possible, but no later than June 1, 2002. Your entire financial aid application must be complete by June 1st in order to be considered for Summer Work Study. If awarded, the work study funding will begin with the July 1st payroll.

Attention: Current Freshmen, Sophomores & Juniors! **2002-2003 Upper Class Merit Awards.** Each year, the Faculty Committee on Scholarships and Financial Aid grants a number of Upper Class Merit Awards to the most academically-talented of the Institute's Sophomores, Juniors, and, occasionally, Freshmen. Upper Class Merit Awards are based on outstanding scholastic achievement as demonstrated by exceptional performance in formal classes and/or in independent research, and not on financial need. Last year, students were awarded Upper Class Merit Awards in amounts ranging from \$15,678 to \$27,447. The number and caliber of the applicants determine the level of awards in any year. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office at 355 S. Holliston or online at <http://www.finaid.caltech.edu>. Electronic submissions will not be accepted. The deadline for submitting completed paper applications to the Financial Aid Office is 5:00 pm, April 12, 2002. No exceptions will be made to this deadline.

CIT Guitar Classes for the Spring quarter will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting on April 9 as follows: Beginning Guitar Class 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM; Intermediate Guitar Class 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM; Advanced Guitar Class 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM. Classical and flamenco repertoires are explored, but techniques transfer to other styles of guitar. The Beginning Class includes a jazz/folk chord system. Classes are free to Caltech students and other members of the Caltech community (space permitting). Undergrads can receive 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. The Guitar Home Page is: www.music.caltech.edu/guitar.html.

Are you interested in working for this year's **Totem, Caltech's Annual Literary Anthology**? We are in the process of trying to recruit students to help assemble this year's magazine. If you produce any creative works (prose, poetry, short stories, photography, painting, computer art, original music, etc.) then please submit (either by e-mailing totem@its.caltech.edu or snail mailing to MSC # 920). You could also come to our weekly meetings and be a reader. All you'd have to do is read/look over the submissions and let us know what you think and in the process help us decide what makes it into the magazine and what doesn't. We strongly encourage any level of participation. We can also be reached at totem@its.caltech.edu.

Save the Dates! **Prefrosh Weekend** is coming - Thursday, April 18th Sunday, April 21st, 2002! If you have any questions or suggestions, please e-mail Ashley Sim at asim@admissions.caltech.edu.

Attention all undergraduate students on Financial Aid: The last date to request any change to your 2001-02 financial aid award is Wednesday, May 1, 2002. Requests for 2001-02 changes made after May 1 will not be considered. Please contact the Financial Aid Office at ext. 6280 if you have any questions.

Information on New Tax Benefits. Looking for information on the new tax benefits of paying for your Caltech education? The Financial Aid Office has several publications to assist you in preparing your income tax returns. Stop by our office if you would like copies of the materials. The Caltech Financial Aid Office does not offer tax advice and you should not rely on the publications without consulting a competent financial professional, reading the actual tax regulations, or contacting the IRS Tax Questions Hot Line. These materials are for informational purposes only and may help clarify some of the most commonly asked questions. Although the published materials are believed to be accurate, no guarantee is made with respect to accuracy or applicability to your financial situation.

The Literature Faculty is also pleased to announce the **Annual Hallett Smith Competition** honoring the finest essay devoted to Shakespeare. Only full-time, officially registered undergraduates are eligible to enter the competition. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced and should not exceed 4,000 words. The essay may be one prepared for a humanities class or may be specifically written for this competition. No student can submit more than one essay. All contestants must submit two hard copies of their work to Professor Jenjioy La Belle, Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences, 101-40, no later than April 16, 2002. This year's prize will be approximately \$300, though the judging committee may divide the award in case of more than one outstanding submission. For more information, contact Prof. La Belle, ext. 3605, or Barbara Estrada, ext. 3609.

The Ballroom Dance Club is offering two new class series over the next five weeks: Merengue and Swing. Merengue will be taught by professional instructor Kristi Wirz. Lessons will be on Mondays (1, 8, 15, 22, 29 April). \$25/series or \$6/lesson for all Caltech students; \$35 (series) / \$8 (lesson) for others. Amateur-taught East Coast Swing will be offered on Wednesdays (3, 10, 17, 24 April; 1 May); \$1/lesson (free for frosh and those taking it for PE credit). All lessons take place in Winnett Lounge from 7:30-9 pm, followed by a half hour practice session. No partner or experience necessary - if you missed the first class, come next week! Refreshments provided. On Mondays after class, we have a free mini-ballroom dance party - open dancing, request or bring your own music!

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. No attachments, please. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all material. Deadline is noon Friday.

Unless specified, all mints will run for two weeks.

Part of the **Caltech Dance Troupe** will be participating in a performance: "Form Follows Function: Spring Dance Concert" put on by the USC School of Theatre. Performances will be held April 25 and 26, 7pm. Bing Theatre, USC campus. General admission is \$10, non-USC students \$7, USC students \$5. We will have three dance classes for spring term. All classes meet in the Braun multipurpose room. Beginner's Hip Hop - back by popular demand! Instructor: Joey Dowdy; Mondays, 10-11:30pm starting April 8. Trial class fee: \$5; Caltech students full term fee: \$20; Non-Caltech students full term fee: \$30; (For those of you who like to schedule ahead, there will be no hip hop class on Monday, April 22.) Intermediate Jazz; Instructor: Collette Sibal; Tuesdays, 10-11pm starting April 9; Trial class fee: \$5; Caltech students full term fee: \$20; Non-Caltech students full term fee: \$30; Intermediate Ballet; Saturdays, 1-2:30pm starting April 13, free! For more information, see <http://troupe.caltech.edu>.

Les-Bi-Gay-Trans Discussion Group

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

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.

Scholarships

For 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

Did you play **Quiz Bowl** in high school, but never had time for it in college? Are you looking for an opportunity to play again? Maybe you've never played before and would like to try? This is your chance. On the afternoon of Saturday, April 13, Caltech Quiz Bowl will be hosting an Intramural Tournament open to the entire campus. All members of the Caltech Community--Graduate Students, Undergrads, Faculty, and Staff--are welcome and encouraged to participate. Teams will consist of four players each, which can be made up of anyone from the Caltech community. Once you have found your team members, register online at quizbowl.caltech.edu. If you don't know anyone else who wants to play, but you still want to, contact Jordan Boyd-Graber (jbg@its.caltech.edu) and he will set you up with some teammates. Feel free to send any questions you may have regarding this tournament to quizbowl@caltech.edu. The tournament itself will be run by Ben Aronin and Shaun Lee.

YWCA of Pasadena Foothill Valley presents **Women Think, Women Listen, Women Talk.** Willow Bay, a CNN news anchor based in Los Angeles, will be the YWCA WomenTalk series speaker on Wednesday, May 1 at 7 p.m. in Gosney Hall, Polytechnic School, 1030 E. California Boulevard, Pasadena. Her subject will be "Navigating the News: The Winding Road of a Broadcast Journalist." Bay anchored CNN's Moneyline News Hour from both Los Angeles and New York and now hosts the network's "Business Unusual." Admission is free to YWCA members and students with current ID, \$10 to the public. Call the YWCA at (626) 793-5171 for reservations or information.

WEST (Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology) would like to invite the entire Caltech community to their upcoming art exhibit and social. The art exhibit, featuring the works of women students, staff, and faculty; is available for viewing from noon to 6pm on April 26 in Dabney Hall. Refreshments will be served from 3-6pm. WEST will be hosting another Lunch with Faculty for Women Students on April 24 from noon-1pm in 139 Moore. Guest faculty members will be Erin Schuman (Biology, Caltech) and Karen Parfitt (Biology, Pomona College). They will share their individual pathways to success, their current research projects, and their thoughts on women in science. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to westclub@caltech.edu.

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 April 16, Noon "Endnote for Beginners". Tuesday, April 23, Noon: "Chemistry Information Resources". View details and register for these and other upcoming classes at: <http://library.caltech.edu/learning/default.htm>. For further information, please contact Kathleen McGregor at x6713 or kathleen@library.caltech.edu.

THE CALIFORNIA TECH
Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91126