



Physics Teaching Assistants Threatened In Sudden Cuts

By KAYTE FISCHER

It may take Richard Feynman to save this year's physics TAs.

Facing a TA budget strained by a deficit of about \$100,000, Kenneth Libbrecht, head of the physics department, has requested extra funds from a fiscal committee headed by Dean Kiewiet of Graduate Studies. But if he can't find money there, the department may have to use royalties from the Feynman Lecture Series to save more than 20 teaching assistants who would otherwise have to be fired.

As a rule, each department submits an estimate of its needs for the next year. Commonly, yearly budget proposals are estimated at a higher value than the actual need, because options know that their estimates will be cut and want some padding to spare. Mr. Kiewiet and his committee designate funds going to each option at the start of each school year by looking at the number of classes, sizes of classes, and past budgets.

According to Mr. Kiewiet, the Dean's office does its best "to make as good a forecast as we can on what options will need."

In theory, more attendance in one class causes another to have less, but it is difficult to predict needs with the amount of new classes being offered; required menu classes, for instance, can disrupt previous relations between class enrollment.

Because class enrollment varies from year to year, the budgetary needs can run higher or lower than the requests. A portion of the overall fund is set aside each year to cover deficits from the amounts allotted. So far this year, the Dean's office has been able to honor all the additional requests for money from this reserve fund. However, the physics department's request for approximately \$100,000 to cover the end of this year will make that streak difficult to continue.

"Things are tight this year," noted Mr. Kiewiet, "but we'll figure them out." To alleviate the deficit, one option under investigation is paying undergraduate TAs using work-study funds. But most likely the division will pick up some of the costs.

Years ago, Richard Feynman and his editors gave the royalties from the sales of the popular Feynman Lecture Series to the physics department. Historically, this money has gone to fund creative teaching endeavors such as the Physics 77 lab and a potential History of Physics class next year to be taught by Professor Jed Buchwald. However, the Physics department may be forced to dip into this fund to cover the deficit in TA budget for this year. According to Thomas Tombrello, chair of the physics, math and astronomy department, "it certainly seems that the spirit of Richard Feynman, like Merlin from

his cave, has risen to save us in our hour of need." Generally, the physics department has difficulties filling its needs for TAs. Because most graduate students are paid from grants of their own or their principal investigator, they are pressured to stay in the lab rather than TA. Often, physics TAs come from engineering or applied physics with some even from the undergraduate pool.

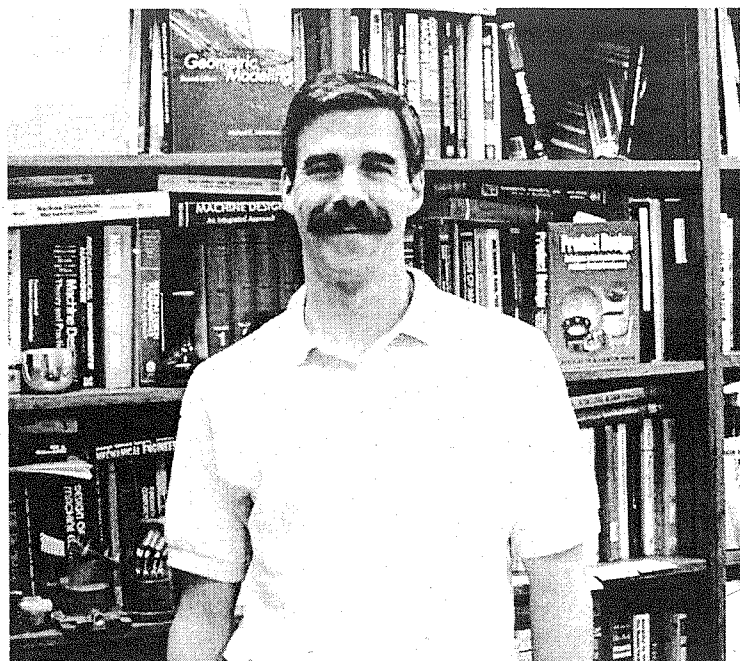
Overall, the job of teaching assistant serves two major purposes for the graduate community. First, the income from working is supposed to help the graduate students in their expenses. Additionally, the TAs handle instructional needs. Either part of this purpose can potentially be filled in other ways.

The TA budget funds approximately 22% of the graduate student population. Others are compensated with research assistant positions and fellowships. The Dean's office is looking to increase fellowship funding for graduate students. This money does not come out of the TA budget, but can help to pay for living expenses. Recent additions to the fellowship pool, such as the Moore fellowship, which can help 10 to 15 students, and the Rosen fellowship, which can help several more. If possible, most graduate students would probably prefer fellowships because they require much less work outside the lab.

Even though the overall TA budget grows by around 4% every year, it has become strained recently due to campus wide budget considerations, student body growth, and increased wages.

For the last two years, the incoming class of graduate students has been around 275, much higher than its past classes of around 215. This fall will bring in an additional 240 students. Also, the undergraduate

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J. Foster/The California Tech

Outgoing Director of Student Affairs Chris Brennen, pictured here at last Thursday's reception, has earned a solid reputation as both hands-on administrator and dynamic professor.

Antonsson Finalizes New Mech.E. Major

By JON FOSTER

In 1907, Throop Institute offered an option in Mechanical Engineering. In 1960 this option became part of the new Engineering & Applied Science option. Students who wished to focus their studies on Mechanical Engineering could still choose to concentrate in M.E.; at graduation their degree would be in E & AS with a note that they had concentrated in M.E. Starting in October of next year, students will once again be able to get a diploma which gives them a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering.

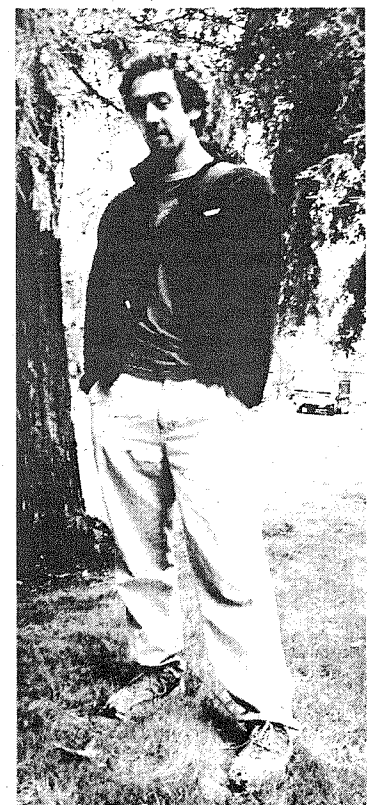
According to Erik Antonsson who was instrumental in bringing about this change, the reasons for making this switch were fourfold: to give the option a clear identity, to give the M.E. profs greater control

over the option requirements, to give them an improved ability to keep track of alumni, and to recognize the existing de facto M.E. undergraduate program.

The ability to more easily change option requirements is seen as a key factor. Although the existing requirements are basically identical to those of the M.E. concentration under E&AS, the new introduction to the option in the catalog will stress the changes in M.E. occurring through interfaces with biology and nanotechnology. "The change of the century was a good time to make changes," noted Antonsson, "things had been the way they had been for most of the last century." The current set of option requirements are not seen as a static set of guidelines, but only a beginning. The basic goal will be to "make sure we're preparing undergraduates for the future of Mechanical Engineering as we see it".

Antonsson does not see the creation of the new option as a way to attract more students into M.E. Few M.E. students make the decision not to attend Caltech simply because no formal option exists, so while a degree program may raise visibility, it is not expected to increase enrollment. "The objective," according to Antonsson, "is not to increase in size, only to strengthen the existing program." Part of the reason this option came about was due to the already large interest in M.E. at Caltech. "If we judge interest by the number of students who take our classes there are about 35 to 40 people per year interested". Historically about 20 to 30 have gone on to concentrate in M.E. (with about 75% actually fulfilling all the requirements for concentrating).

Most students will not notice much change in the fall when the new option becomes available. But over the next few years the ability of the M.E. department to react more swiftly to changes in the field may mean that a lot more people notice the Mechanical Engineering program at Caltech.



K. Bartz/The California Tech

This year's Watson Award winner, Robb Rutledge '02 joins five other students selected for similar summer science fellowships.

Five Seniors Chosen For Paid Fellowships

By LAUREN STOLPER

Five seniors have won prestigious fellowships for study abroad. Robb Rutledge '02 has won a Watson; Serena Eley '02, a Luce; Michael Shulman '02, a Churchill, and Kristen Cook '02 and Dirk Englund '02 have received Fulbright awards.

Rutledge, whose option is biology, will spend his Watson year traveling throughout the Pacific retracing part of Darwin's route on the Beagle in order to study evolutionary issues. He will be doing field work on his own and with several research groups.

Physics major Englund will travel to the Netherlands to do research on optics at either the University of Eindhoven or at Delft. Geology major Cook will go to Iceland to spend a year at the University of Iceland studying the interactions between ice and volcanic eruptions.

For her Luce year, Eley, also a physics student, will research at Japan's Superconductivity Research Laboratory at the International Superconductivity Technology Center.

Shulman, a math major, will do a one-year graduate course in math at Cambridge University and as a Churchill Scholar will live in Churchill College.



E. Adams/The California Tech

The site of Caltech's previous fire station, pictured here, will soon be home to the recycling center, which has been closed since last fall.

Construction Delayed For Recycling Center

By MICHELLE GIRON

Caltech's recycling center, which had long been used by members of the Caltech community and area residents, has been temporarily closed since last fall. Originally located across the street from Avery house on Holliston Avenue, the recycling center will be relocated to the site of Caltech's previous fire station. Due to a holdup in the removal of trailers at this site by the city of Pasadena, the construction of the new recycling center is being delayed. Delmy Emerson, who oversees Caltech's recycling program, predicts that the new recycling center will be completed in early June.

The new center will operate like the old one: recycling will be oper-

ated on a "self-serve" basis in that separation of recyclables will be done by users of the center. The center will be open to the public, but electronics recycling (i.e. computers) will be open only to the Caltech community.

Currently, there are two custodians that handle all of Caltech's recycling, collecting recyclables from different locations on campus. Houses can obtain more recycling bins by contacting Delmy Emerson at the Physical Plant. The new recycling center will greatly expand recycling operations on campus, but Emerson notes that it is ultimately the effort of members of the community that will improve recycling at Caltech.

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Nearby Blair High School Offers New Service Program

By YULIYA RUVINSKAYA

Even though it is only a few miles away, most of us probably do not know much about Blair High School. It is located right off the 110 Freeway, and accommodates over twelve hundred students, including students with special needs and those who are re-assimilating into the company of their peers after a term of imprisonment.

Class selection at Blair is broad and varied. Aside from taking English, Algebra, History, Physics, and PE, students can enroll in flower arrangement classes and participate in ROTC. Bilingual courses are available for students with limited English skills, and honor level and Advanced Placement courses are offered for outstanding students in many subjects. A number of students are enrolled in Blair's International Baccalaureate (IB) program, making them highly competitive for college admission as well as entering the work force.

The Pasadena Unified School District requires all high school students in tenth grade or above to take the District Proficiency Exam, in an attempt to reduce the number of high school graduates with inadequate basic math and English skills. These exams are offered every year, giving students a chance to make up any one section that they did not pass. Although a large number of students who attend Blair do well, some students do not pass all of part of this exam, and are in

danger of not graduating.

The administration of Blair makes every effort to bring the skills of these students up to par. Teachers make themselves available before class and during breaks, and several groups of volunteers come in to help the students during and after school. One such group comes as part of the Higher Education Assistance, Direction, and Support Program (HEADS), an effort coordinated by Serena Eley and Wook Hwang of Caltech's Building Bridges, and Karen Ross of Blair High.

Serena and Wook organized a group of Caltech students that puts to use its math and communication skills in an attempt to help Blair students graduate. To the people immersed in an environment densely saturated with advanced math and science, the problem is apparent. In the four weeks of tutoring, I met a senior who did not know long division, a student placed in second term of algebra who ditched the entire first term and did not know what the inequality symbols meant, and an upperclassman who could not multiply single digit numbers without the use of her fingers. While most of the students ask for help in intermediate level algebra or geometry, and do not seem to be in danger of failing the Exit exam, it often becomes clear that these students do not have a solid understanding of such fundamental concepts as fractions and cross-multiplication.

Most students seek help voluntarily, and cooperate with the tutors. They are capable learners, and show remarkable improvement after just a few hours of one-on-one explanation. The greatest challenge for the tutors is often not communicating the material to the students, but convincing them that they need to practice concepts they believe they already understand—even greater progress could be achieved if students attended more of the sessions they said they would attend.

Although Caltech students have been faced with some adversity in getting the program together (miscommunications with Blair staff, low return rate of students who need help the most), the program is off to a good start, and will resume after Blair's spring break.

PHYSICS DEPT. IN SEARCH OF NEW FUNDING

Continued from Page 1, Column 3

population is growing. Despite the fact that the current largest class will graduate this year, Charlene Liebau, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, predicts the freshman class next year will be big. In the long run, many more undergraduate and graduate students are likely.

Generally, the TA wages increase by approximately 5% to 6% every year to cover the cost of living. This generates strain with the budget, which increases approximately 4% annually.

Another small but not negligible change is that the faculty members do not teach sections as in the past. Historically, the professors would form a significant part of the TA staff. Requesting additional professorial engagement could potentially alleviate some strain on the budget because the professors do not get paid out of the TA funds.

This year, the overall budget has become much tighter. In the long run, nobody knows quite what will happen. According to Mr. Kiewiet, the trustees believe that Caltech has been operating at a deficit for a long time. Many recent budget cuts have been aimed at getting spending down to a more prudent level. However, administrators hope to change towards higher efficiency instead of cutting programs.

If the physics department continues to be short by 10% to 15% of the budget, as it has been so far this year, the number of supported TAs will have to decrease. Of the 900 hours of TA time per week in the physics department, 160 of the hours come from Physics 1 and 110 come from Physics 2. These will be the classes with the most cuts.

"I'm less worried about this term than I am that our budget will be cut for the indefinite future," said Dr. Libbrecht. "We can use our Feynman funds to fix things for one term, but not on a continuing basis."



From left, Professors David Goodstein, Tom Apostol and John Richards discuss the Core Curriculum at Von Karman Auditorium in the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at the first Student-Faculty Conference in 1980.

Students, Faculty Steel Themselves for Meeting

By TED JOU

Caltech's Student-Faculty Conference, designed to bring together members of the Caltech community to discuss issues ranging from honor code to quality of life to administration will be held today, April 29th.

Although there are many topics to be covered, the conference will move along at a brisk pace according to a strict schedule. During the first half of the conference, faculty and administrators will answer students' questions about Caltech. After lunch, committees of students and faculty will discuss specific issues critical to student life.

The conference will open at 11:00 a.m. with remarks from Melany Hunt, Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Vice Chair of the Faculty Board. Ted Jou '03, ASCIT president and master of ceremonies for the conference, will then give a brief overview of the schedule and will introduce the members of the Administration Panel.

The panel of administrators will consist of President David Baltimore, Provost Steven Koonin, and Vice President for Student Affairs Gary Lorden. They will answer questions from students on a wide variety of student issues until 11:45. The first few questions will come from the moderators, former ASCIT President Martha-Helene Stapleton '03 and former ASCIT Director for Academic Affairs Nick Knouf '02. The remaining questions will all come from the audience.

At 11:45, a panel of faculty alumni will take the stage. Six of the 25 undergraduate alumni now on the faculty will talk and answer questions about their Caltech experience for a half-hour. The faculty who have agreed to sit on the panel are Computer Science Professor Jason Hickey '85; Physics Professor Steven Koonin '72; Aeronautics Professor Anthony Leonard '59; Math Professor Gary Lorden '62; Mechanical Engineering Professor Richard Murray '85; and Physics Professor Kip Thorne '62. They will talk informally about Caltech then and now, and it should make for a lighthearted session right before lunch.

Lunch will be served outside on the Court of Man. The kitchens in the Student Houses will be closed and Caltech Dining Services will set up a Jamaican-style barbecue. Conference attendees will have to eat fast though, as committee reports will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m.

The Student-Faculty Committee on Quality of Life Outside the Classroom will begin this segment of the conference by presenting their findings on advising and mentoring. The co-chairs of this committee are Laura Elliot '03 and Literature Professor Cathy Jurca. The other members of the committee are Economics Professor Kim Border; Physics Professor Steve Frautschi; Jeannette Hagan '02; Joe Jewell '04, Yuliya Ruvinskaya '02; Todd Schuman '02; and Kim West, director of Residence Life. After the presentation they will take questions from the audience.

At 1:45, the Committee on the Honor Code will begin their presentation. The Co-Chairs of this committee are Dave Guskin '02 and

Physics Professor David Politzer. The other members of the committee are Silas Hilliard '05; Mathematics Professor Gary Lorden; Joseph Olivier '04, Biology Professor Jean-Paul Revel; Liz Stameshkin '03; and Jeff Sullivan '02.

The question-and-answer session will end at 2:30 p.m., but the discussion will not end there. The online bulletin board at <http://sfc.caltech.edu> has been full of activity this past week and the conference itself should encourage even more discourse. The entire conference will be audio-taped, so a full transcript will be made publicly available as soon as possible.

Ultimately, ASCIT's Board of Directors is hoping that some of the students, faculty, and administration in attendance will be inspired to turn the issues discussed into positive reforms. If there's anything most students agree on at Caltech, it's that everything can be taken apart, analyzed, and improved.

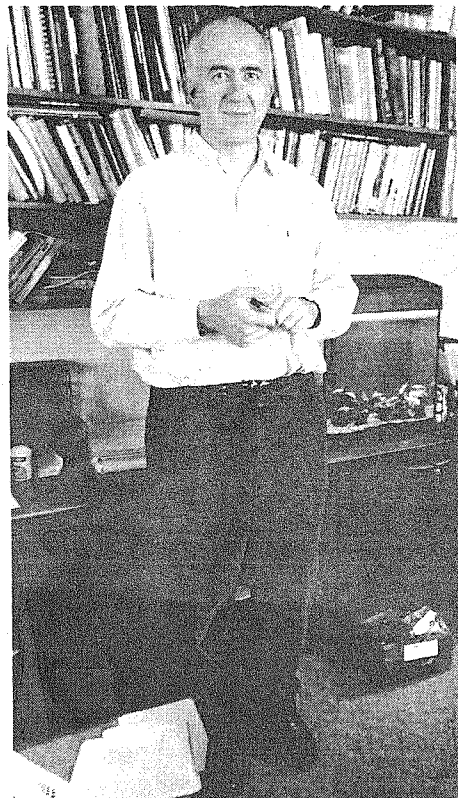
PROFESSOR PERONA DESIGNING SENSORY SYSTEMS TO SEE, FEEL

THE NEXT GENERATION OF MACHINES

PASADENA, Calif.- In our daily life we can recognize our shoes, the grocery store, automobiles, animals, and our mother-in-law, just by looking. How do we do it? How did we learn to do it? And, can we build a machine that will do it too? On Wednesday, April 24, Pietro Perona, a professor of electrical engineering and the director of the Center for Neuromorphic Systems Engineering at the California Institute of Technology, addressed these questions in his talk, "Can a Machine Learn to Play 'Where's Waldo?'," one of the ongoing Earnest C. Watson Lecture Series that takes place on the Caltech campus.

Biological organisms see, smell, hear, touch, learn, make decisions, and recognize patterns to a degree that still escapes modern machines. Perona and his colleagues at Caltech are working toward endowing machines with equivalent sensory systems that will enable them to assist in such things as driving cars on busy roads, detecting dangerous people in airports, and searching for images on the Web.

From Caltech Media Relations



K. Bartz/The California Tech

Professor Perona is working on answering the question of how we can build a machine that thinks like the human mind.

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Palestine: Peaceful Solution Israel: Justified in Defense

Few Saints, Many Sinners in the Holy Land *The Futility of Negotiating With 'Terrorists'*

By MICHAEL RUSSO

There are few saints and many sinners in the Holy Land today. Suicide bombings and counterattacks, occupations and sieges, have led to a situation in which no one can be considered blameless. Apologists for current Israeli policy argue that Yasser Arafat has not done enough to bring his people into line, and that invading the refugee camps is the only way to eliminate terrorism and ensure Israel's safety. This argument is deeply oversimplified. To be sure, Arafat and the Palestinian Authority have not acted strongly against terrorism and for peace – indeed, it was Arafat who walked away from the negotiating table in 2000. Still, it is disingenuous in the extreme to claim that this should shield Israel from scrutiny, or force us to judge their actions by a laxer standard.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has stated that the current military action will "leave no seed of terror" in any refugee camp. The operations, however, are planting seeds of their own. Until January of this year, there had never been a female suicide bomber. There have now been half a dozen. Opinion polls show Palestinian approval of radical groups such as Hamas growing with each day of occupation. Interviews with Palestinians who had long pushed for permanent peace show them growing doubtful and violent. By trying to isolate and discredit Arafat, Sharon is marginalizing the moderate Palestinian leadership and pushing the dispossessed to extremism. It is hard to see how this will fail to lead to more deaths on both sides.

The Israeli offensive has raised troubling human rights issues as well. Eyewitnesses have reported seeing occupied houses bulldozed, civilians used as human shields, and still more of the extrajudicial assassinations of suspected militants which have distinguished the Sharon administration. In chilling echoes, Israeli soldiers have marked civilians with numbers, and considered burying dead Palestinians in mass graves. In the Al-Aida camp, Israeli soldiers bombed an unoffending house, critically injuring a Palestinian woman. Fearing that incoming ambulances might be transporting weapons, they delayed medical care for over an hour. A news camera captured footage of the woman, bleeding to death in front of her children, while her husband pleaded for her life. Predictably, the Israeli military has become reluctant to allow journalists to record its actions, such as firing smoke grenades to reduce coverage of the Church of the Nativity standoff. Dozens of other incidents have been documented in which excessive and indiscriminate force has led to suffering and death.

It is difficult to get an overall view of the offensive from those reports which have managed to trickle out. Encouragingly, the UN has appointed a fact-finding commission to evaluate Israel's conduct in the West Bank

town of Jenin. Damningly, Sharon has dragged his feet, attempting to stipulate the makeup of the team, delaying its arrival and protesting the fact that two of its members were leaders of humanitarian organizations. All these actions aid the notion that there is indeed something Sharon wishes to hide.

Even putting aside this most recent military action, however, Sharon's record indicates that peace is not on his agenda. Through the 1950's, forces under Sharon's command attacked camps and villages in Gaza and Jordan, killing suspected militants, but according to the UN, also murdering civilians. As minister of agriculture in the 1970's, he championed Israeli "settlements" in the land occupied by Israel after the 1967 war, including the West Bank and Gaza Strip. These settlements violate international law, and the settlers, many of whom are virulently anti-Arab and paramilitaries in their own right, now pose a difficult obstacle to peace, as they are unwilling to allow their government to return the land they illegally occupy to the Palestinians. Sharon was indicted by his own government

POINT

"Violence and oppression will not lead to a just peace any more than suicide bombings will."

for his actions as defense minister during Israel's 1982 war with Lebanon, which led to the massacre of two thousand noncombatants in the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps when he allowed a paramilitary group to enter the camps. Sharon's visit to the Temple Mount, with an armed escort of over 1,000 Israeli soldiers, was the pre-

text which sparked the second Palestinian Intifada – a wave of violence and terror which, not coincidentally, swept him into power.

Over the past months, Sharon's popularity has shrunk as his policies have failed to reduce terrorist violence, and he will soon face what will likely be a close re-election campaign against Benjamin Netanyahu, another right-wing hawk. Seen in this light, the current military action, during which the Prime Minister has enjoyed a 30-point boost to his approval rating, takes on a sinister shape. Ariel Sharon, much like his opposites on the Palestinian side, has used violence to further his political aims for half a century. His attempts to destroy the Palestinian Authority and his support for settlers strongly imply that Sharon's solution for the Palestinian problem does not lead to the negotiating table.

This catalogue is clearly not meant to imply that every Palestinian is an angel and every Israeli a demon. Terrorism against civilians is morally repugnant, and Israel surely has a right to defend itself against such a threat. But it is most emphatically bound to respect international law and human dignity while doing so. Violence and oppression will not lead to a just peace any more than suicide bombings will. Both sides must recommit to the peace process, and while Israel practices blatantly illegal and immoral acts, it deserves to feel the world's censure.

By ABE FETTERMAN

I was going to start this article with an account of how life is like for someone living in Israel these days, with bombings every week or more. However, everyone was bored by it, claiming to have seen the same thing many times over. Then, I considered starting out with some numbers – injuries, deaths, bombings, shootings, fights – but what is a number? Is it just something I can manipulate, throw into vector form, and represent as "A"? There is something detached and impersonal that seems to pervade all modern-day media, desensitizing readers to the issues.

I realized in discussing this issue with others that many do not know about the history of Israel, so I will relate some key points. The Zionist movement (promoting a Jewish homeland) made its first breakthrough towards the creation of Israel on November 2, 1917 with the Balfour Declaration. This was the first official word that the British government was in favor of donating a part of their land in Palestine to the Zionist cause. Not until after the Second World War, in

COUNTERPOINT

"It is truly unfortunate that current Palestinian leaders seem to be unwilling to compromise."

November of 1947, was the British Mandate in Palestine to be divided by a United Nations Partition Plan. The Jewish people received about half of what is currently Israel (about 12% of the Mandate, 75% of which is desert). The Zionists at last got their independence day on May 14 of 1948, but the next day the surrounding nations of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq launched a joint attack on the newly-formed nation. Fortunately for the young state, the attack failed, and the Arab nations were pushed back beyond the borders established by the UN, which gave Israel more secure lands. These lands were annexed immediately into the originally established territory.

In 1967, three years after the formation of Arafat's PLO, Arabs remaining in the West Bank invaded from that area among others. Six days afterward, Jordan (from the West Bank), Egypt (from the Sinai Desert), and Syria (from the Golan Heights) invaded Israel, all three were pushed back out of Israel, and even the area from which they attacked. Some of this land was eventually returned in exchange for peace. In the case of the Sinai Peninsula, Israel has captured and returned the land on three separate occasions (the War of Independence in 1948, the Six Day War in 1967, and the Yom Kippur War in 1973) to Egypt.

One can see why Israelis would be hesitant to be caught with their pants down. The Palestinian Liberation Organization, headed by Yasser Arafat, still maintains in its charter the intent to destroy the state of Israel, in direct violation of the Oslo Accords of 1993. The sad truth is that there is little hope for future

generations becoming more tolerant and more understanding of each other as neighbors. Palestinian children see the houses around them demolished by the Israelis; Israeli youths see it as the removal of the structures from which militants have been shooting. Palestinian children are growing up in a climate that embraces suicide bombers as heroic "martyrs"; Israeli children see their friends blown apart at pizza parlors by inhuman walking bombs.

There are many who believe that our own press, and in fact the entire "Free World" is strongly aligned towards Israel. There have been demonstrations in several European nations involving things such as people dressing up as suicide bombers and the burning of Jewish synagogues. In many articles in today's media, particularly European sources such as Reuters, suicide bombers are counted in the death toll, and no distinction is made between civilian targets and armed terrorists.

Israeli history is not limited to the wars and battles it has fought, but rather is quite exciting in an economic, political and social sense. What was once barren desert has been irrigated and is now very productive land – an incredible feat of agriculture. The population of the small country has tripled in its 50 years of existence, mostly through immigration. It has rescued persecuted Jews from

regions such as Russia and Saudi Arabia, Jews who had no means of otherwise escaping, and provided them with homes to live on and jobs to work in. Israel is also the only Democracy that has been stable in that region over the last 50 years. An immense and diverse economy has been created, one fitting of any European first-world nation, and infrastructures and standards of living have been continually improved. Many of the brightest minds come out of the Israeli Weizman Institute and there is an incredible amount of technical innovation that is centered in the region. It is a shame that so many people overlook these great achievements when describing Israel, seeing it only as a war-torn Jersey-sized nation stuck in the Middle East.

Without a doubt, there are other viewpoints on this issue. It is truly unfortunate that the current Palestinian leaders seem to be unwilling to compromise or recognize a diplomatic resolution. None of the many solutions offered by Ehud Barak (then Prime Minister of Israel) to Arafat were accepted, including one that would have given the Palestinian Authority control over 95% of the occupied territory in the West Bank, with boundary-lines very nearly approximating those in effect before the 1967 conflict.

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ASCIT Minutes

APRIL 26, 2002
Present

BoD: Ted, Vikram, Joe, Janet, Marcus, Basit, Jialan, Neda, Andrea.

Guests: Kevin Bartz (*Tech* editor), Alvaro Masias (aka Al Valdivia), Nick Knouf

Meeting called to order (by Vikram) at 4:25 p.m.

Guests

Al wants space for the Totem on Donut. We agree that since it's an ASCIT publication there's no reason he shouldn't get it.

Derek Shannon was on the agenda but not here.

General Meeting

Fleming's \$200 Interhouse funding for BFP is approved (7-0). Fleming and Lloyd each receive \$200 from the Multihouse fund for a joint ice-skating event planned later this term (7-0).

Another lengthy discussion ensues over *Tech* finances. Neda has come up with another sheet outlining some ideas. It still includes a \$1000-\$2000 yearly bonus for the elected Tech editors, which some BoD members remember reaching a consensus not to include (preferring instead that they hire and pay themselves as "layout editors" or through a similar mechanism, since all other Caltech elected offices are non-paying). One aspect of the outline, a "10% gross plus 10% profit" scheme for paying the business managers, is universally well-received. Kevin expresses his approval for a planned fund for more



K. Bartz/*The California Tech*

ASCIT's Board of Directors outlines plans for today's Student-Faculty Conference at their weekly meeting last Friday.

12-page *Tech* issues and a financial "issue summary" that the business managers will have to come up with after each issue.

Next comes a report from Janet over some of the issues of our re-vamping of the ASCIT financial system. We check out a neat chart showing the financial hierarchy and the various categories for which we will get reports each month (clubs, publications, and so on).

The Hong Kong Students Association is approved for \$120 in funding (8-0). The money will be taken from the "on-campus events fund" since there has been little interest in that so far.

It's about time for another ASCIT Movie! We've talked to Tom Mannion and Tim Wan, the ASCIT Movies Chair. There's some debate over "Star Wars" versus "Spiderman," but the vote eventually comes down 5-2-1 in favor of "Star Wars." We will try to get the theatre for the Friday after the movie opens (judging that Thursday night tickets would be virtually impossible as there are probably people waiting in line right now).

The Student Faculty Conference will be taking place Monday April 29th from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. That includes a "Jamaican Barbecue, Rasta Style" on the Court of Man

at 12:15 (the house kitchens will be closed).

We've finalized the Faculty Alumni Panel, who will be answering student questions about what life at Caltech was like in the "good old days." They include: Steve Koonin, Gary Lorden (they're also on the administrator panel), Tony Leonard, Kip Thorne, Richard Murray, and Jason Hickey. All are undergrad alums, from the classes of 1959 to 1985.

We express some dismay over the fact that neither bylaw passed this Tuesday, including the very non-controversial one deleting obsolete publications references (although that one was close). Part of the reason, we're guessing, was the lack of clarity with which they were expressed. We will try to do better on that next time, because some form of both amendments really should be passed at some point.

Since part of the problem seems to have been the timing of the *Tech* articles before the election, we briefly discuss adding (to the By-laws) some more flexibility for scheduling bylaw elections.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Joe Jewell

ASCIT Secretary

THE OUTSIDE WORLD

By William Fong

German School Shooting Kills 18

On Friday morning, in the eastern city of Erfurt in Germany, a nineteen-year old student brought a pistol and shotgun onto the school campus. Dressed in black, the male student began a ten-minute shooting spree which resulted in the death of thirteen teachers, two girls, a school secretary, and a police officer. With commandos closing in on the student, he took his own life after the shootout. The apparent motive for this rampage was that he was recently expelled from the school and would not be able to take the final graduation exam.

Two Trains Collide in Southern California

Pointing out that the sun blinded him and that he was unable to see the yellow warning lights, the engineer of a freight train ran into a Metrolink passenger train near Placentia Tuesday morning. The head-on collision killed two people and injured more than 150 others. Despite the fact that the Metrolink engineer applied the emergency brakes and stopped the passenger train, the freight train engineer was unable to prevent the accident when he saw the two red warning lights signaling the train to stop.

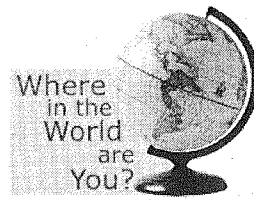
U.S. GDP Grows 5.8 Percent

On Friday, numbers released by the Department of Commerce showed that the first quarter GDP rose 5.8%, the highest jump in more than two years. This growth showed that the recession which began in March 2001 has all but ended and will be the one of the mildest in U.S. history. Many economists believe that growth this quarter will be slightly lower but still positive and

that the unemployment rate will rise from its current 5.7% to about 6% later this year. Also, the Fed is expected to keep interest rates unchanged at their May meeting.

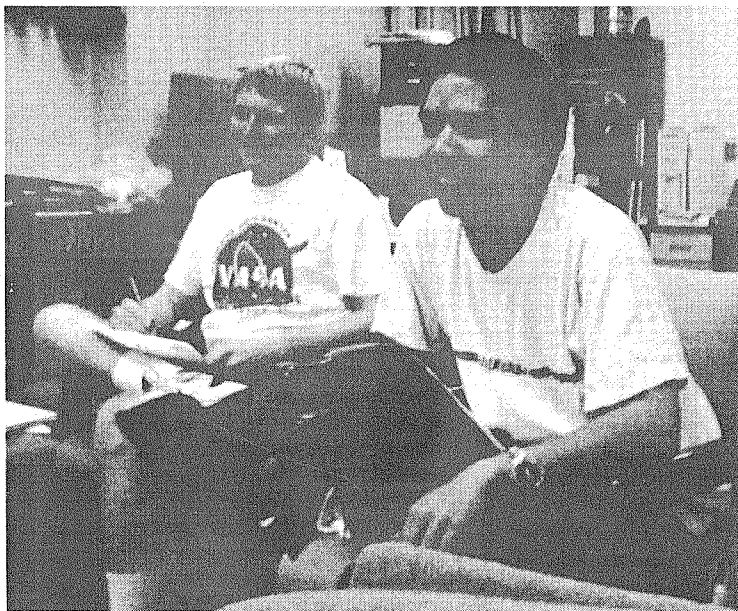
Tensions Rise Between U.S. and Middle East

Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah met with President Bush on Thursday at his ranch in Crawford, Texas. Abdullah presented Bush with an eight-point plan to resolve the Middle East crisis; however, the armed peacekeeping force provision was not in accordance with U.S. policy. In addition, Prince Abdullah offered a warning that the United States' continued tolerance of Israeli military action will threaten its ties with the Arab world. Three weeks have passed since President Bush's order for Israel to withdraw from Palestinian territories and while Israel has withdrawn from certain areas, reentry has been persistent with the latest episode on Friday. In response, Bush said that "we will not allow Israel to be crushed."



Motorcycle Gang Rivalry Kills Three at Nevada Casino

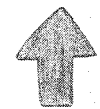
Early Saturday morning, two rival motorcycle gangs, the Mongols and the Hells Angels clashed at the Harrahs Laughlin Casino in Laughlin, Nevada. Characterized as the worst shooting incident in Nevada Casino history, three men were killed and at least 13 other people were wounded. When a member of the Mongols gang wandered into a group of Hells Angels the fight escalated into gunfire. This weekend Laughlin was host to the annual "River Run," which attracts 50,000 to 80,000 motorcycle enthusiasts.



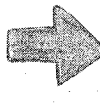
K. Bartz/*The California Tech*

Flanked by Secretary Joe Jewell '04, left, President Ted Jou '03 takes an understanding posture amidst partisan bickering over whether to show "Star Wars" or "Spiderman" as ASCIT's next public movie.

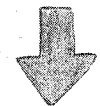
CALTECH CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH



Mech. E. Mania: After 42 years of engineering the major, Mechanical Engineering will finally be recognized as its own option again.



Recycling the Recycling Center: So Caltech is on its way to rebuilding the recycling center. The drawback? It won't be completed until June.



Milikan's Oil Drop: Maybe they got too excited looking for black holes to remember that unlike Milikan's oil drops, dropping TAs is never a good "experiment."

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



E. Adams/*The California Tech*

Miles Chen '05 stops at a booth to chat and enjoy the various displays set up for Caltech's Earth Day Celebration on April 2

PROCRASTINATION: LEARNING TO COPE

By EVELYN NOVELLO

More than a quarter of the general population procrastinates. College students are particularly susceptible to chronic and debilitating procrastination. Procrastination technically refers to the avoidance of a specific task which needs to be accomplished by needlessly delaying it until a later time. Procrastination is not just a matter of being lazy or lacking will power, though it may feel that way. Rather, it is often an attempt to cope with our emotional reactions, and provides a temporary escape from these feelings through avoidance. Procrastination allows us to not only avoid the work itself, but also the uncomfortable emotions engendered by working, such as helplessness.

Some reasons people procrastinate relate to factors inherent to the environment here at Caltech, while others stem from facets of one's personality or emotional makeup that influence one's approach to work. The reason for procrastinating may be as simple as poor time management or ineffective study skills.

Burnout

Students at Caltech have many demands placed on them, and may find themselves feeling overwhelmed, fatigued, and demotivated as a result. Procrastinating may be a way to take time to accommodate other areas of life that get neglected when working hard. Problems outside of school can contribute to burnout and intensify pro-

Continued on Page 5, Column 3

The Fannie and John Hertz Foundation

takes great pleasure in announcing its Fall 2002 Fellowship Awards.

Ms. Elizabeth Hong

Graduating in Modern Biology at California Institute of Technology

is one of 15 Hertz Foundation Fellows chosen from a field of 550 applicants to receive a five year, \$200,000 Graduate Fellowship Award in the Applied Physical Sciences. The Hertz Foundation would like to extend its congratulations to California Institute of Technology for attracting this Fellow to their undergraduate program.

See www.hertzfoundation.org for more details.

The Contributions of Coffee and Caffeine to the Pleasures of Life

How We Can All Benefit From This Aphrodisiac

By YULIYA RUVINSKAYA

Most people are familiar with the benefits of coffee and caffeine. Like a good friend, coffee picks you up when you are feeling down, giving you a necessary pat on the back (or a kick in the ass).

The physiological effects of coffee are widely known. After having coffee, people feel more awake, and thus become more productive, achieving bigger and better goals in record time. When people drink coffee, their mood improves, making them more likely to interact with others and raising their quality of life. Thus coffee has great aphrodisiac powers (why else would there be coffee-flavored breath mints?!)

Some people are seduced by various so-called health cults and agencies, and sway from the righteous path, trying decaf. Do not be seduced by their promises of eternal life and joy, and do not let their prophesies of painful side-effects scare you. Decaffeinated coffee is to coffee what typing is to composing novels, what coding is to computer science, and what taking away 35 parking spaces is to solving the parking deficit. Appearance is not everything—it may look like the real thing, but the flavor, the soul, is not there.

Coffee connoisseurs are not afraid to get creative with coffee. Purists take their coffee with milk or cream. Cappuccino and latte, the former—espresso with a thin layer of milk and a thick layer of foam, the latter—espresso with a thick layer of milk and a thin layer of foam, are widely spread varieties available in most donut shop, grocery stores, and possibly even at the better penitentiaries. A Cosmo girl is defined as much by the triple non-fat decaf latte as by her shade of lipstick (note, editors are not responsible for the negative effects of caffeine deficiencies.) A more exotic mix, cof-

fee milk tea, is available at tea bars.

The tea bars, which are quickly becoming the Starbucks of the 21st century, offer coffee milk tea hot or cold, with or without tapioca balls, whose texture makes them a wonderful accompaniment to cold coffee drinks. Sucking up the tapioca balls with a wide, colorful straw is a wonderful marketing technique that will surely attract younger people to the wonders of coffee.

Bottled coffee drinks, coffee flavored food stuffs, such as cookies, ice cream, and mints, are acceptable sources of caffeine. One must remember that due to the large volume of diluting substances more of the substances must be consumed. Thus, this may not be an ideal choice for people with poor appetites or small stomachs.

Coffee accompaniments contribute a great deal to one's enjoyment of coffee. Cookies and biscuits, tried and true, are favored by the masses, as are brown sugar cubes. Men as well as women will benefit from a scoop of vanilla ice cream in the coffee cup, as it will provide them with calcium, a mineral that makes for strong bones and reduces the strength and frequency of PMS symptoms. Pickles, sardines, and salami are lesser known, but excellent.

There is no right or wrong way to serve coffee. Beginners may want to start with espresso cups, approximately the size of a shot glass, gradually going up to tea cups, and beer mugs. People most in need of

simulation may find a coffee IV useful, though fear of needles and the inconvenience of dragging around a dispenser may outweigh the benefits of a constant supply. Coffee baths are a relaxing, though expensive, alternative that would provide for a wonderfully romantic weekend with a special someone, or a relaxing evening alone.

The physiological effects of coffee, and the subsequent social and economic implications of these effects, point to the fact that more coffee would make life more enjoyable for many members of the society. So let us raise a cup of macchiato in a toast to refueling stations for coffee IV's and to seeing a cup of coffee in the paws of the Caltech Beaver.



E. Adams/The California Tech

Even cats know how to indulge themselves in a good cup of coffee once in a while.

Managing Work, Time

Continued from Page 4, Column 5

crastinating behavior, such as dealing with a death, a break-up, or personal illness.

Fear of Failure

Students often fear being judged, evaluated, or having their work criticized. Putting something off preserves self-esteem and shields you from judgment by providing "an excuse" for what may be less than perfect performance: "I could have done better if only I had more time." When students' self-worth is based on their intellectual ability, this pressure to excel academically becomes even greater, especially if they overvalue others' opinions. Other people have high expectations of themselves that are often impossible to meet, making the process of completing a project more difficult. Focusing on a perfect end-product makes your task more daunting and in turn more difficult to get started.

All-or-Nothing

Procrastinators often believe something must be completed to have accomplished anything, making it difficult to appreciate any progress toward a goal. Thus, they believe they need big blocks of time to get things done, compelling them to put off tasks until the last minute waiting for that ideal block of time. Trying to get the whole thing done in one sitting may keep you from getting started at all. Breaking a large task into smaller, more manageable tasks can help you track your progress towards your goal.

Fear of Control

People who are striving for independence may resist authority and procrastinate when they feel controlled by others or by the work itself. Some people may employ pro-

crastination to assert their autonomy and rebel against schedules, as they want to live by their own rules and feel in control.

Prioritize: Identify major goals for each day, breaking projects down to manageable pieces that seem easy and require little effort. Steady progress will encourage you to move ahead.

Practice good time management: Schedule work time when your energy level is highest and don't forget to schedule regular breaks and times to relax.

Get started: Trick yourself with the "five-minute plan" to get started on your project. Tell yourself to work for just five minutes; you will likely find you don't mind working longer than that once you get started.

Prevent burnout: Recognize when you are feeling overwhelmed and say no to others when necessary. It may not be possible to fit everything in your schedule that you or others would like.

Reevaluate your expectations: Do you believe the task has to be done perfectly or better than anyone else? Are these expectations reasonable? Use positive self-talk to keep in mind that any single effort does not define who you are.

When to Seek Help

In sum, procrastination is often an attempt to manage underlying fears, self-doubts, and irrational thoughts. What distinguishes routine procrastination from problem procrastination is how troublesome your avoidance of tasks has become. Resolving the sources of your anxiety and stress which contribute to avoidance will enable you to develop a new approach to doing your work. The Caltech Counseling Center is always available to help students with their needs.

Letter: Segregated Chalk

Colored Chalk 'Problem'

Dear Editors,

I took serious offense at Libin Zhang's article, "Is All Chalk Created Equal?" (22 April 2002). Mr. Zhang produced a poorly thought out, leftist social commentary more fit for the steps of Sproul Hall than the pages of the *Tech*. Mr. Zhang lashes out at what he calls a revival of "the divisive nature of the Old South," and accuses the Sloan building, and by association the PMA department and indeed *all* of Caltech, of segregating pieces of chalk "merely by the colour (sic) of their skin."

What Mr. Zhang fails to realize is that this colored chalk is not only colored on the skin, but is in fact colored throughout. We as a people

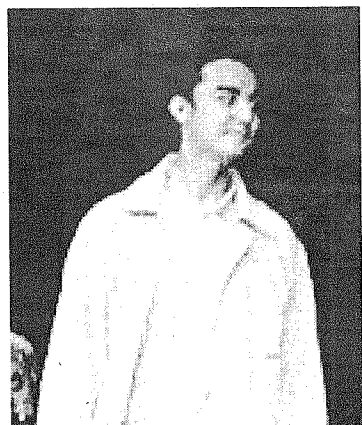
cannot deny the superior contrast of white chalk on a blackboard. Anyone who has ever seen a lecture given in yellow chalk knows how painful it is on the eyes. I can't even look at a piece of brown chalk without getting a headache. Colored chalk is bad, right down to the core.

Furthermore, color in chalk is like a disease that can grow into an epidemic, infecting innocent white pieces of chalk everywhere. The segregation of colored chalk from white chalk is not an arbitrary social establishment, but an actual quarantine measure for controlling the spread of color into otherwise pure white chalk. Even the slightest bit of color in a piece of white chalk forever sullies it and any marks it may leave on the blackboards of the world. White chalk that has been tainted with color will never shine as brightly as its pristine white brethren, and is doomed to a failed life from the very beginning.

We cannot allow the degradation of society by this cancer of color! The segregation of colored chalk from white is only the first step. The final solution to the colored chalk problem must be the systematic destruction of every piece of colored chalk in existence. We must protect our interests at home and abroad. We must secure for our children and their children a world in which they need never fear a low-visibility lecture in their lives.

Respectfully,

Gilead Wurman '02

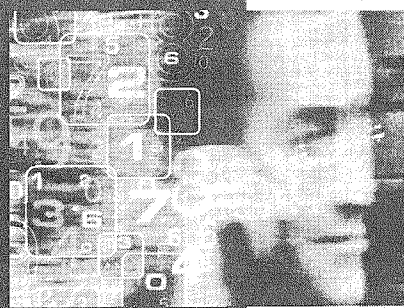


Courtesy of L. Zhang

Armchair investigator Libin Zhang '05 ruffled feathers last week by questioning segregation.

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THE SENTENCE FINISHER I THINK I SHOULD TAKE... MONEY FROM ORPHANS?

NO, I MEAN I NEED... A LARGE SACK AND AN ALIBI?

YOU'RE FINISHING MY SENTENCES WITH... UNCANNY ACCURACY?

GAAA! DON'T BE AFRAID.

I MADE A CAMOUFLAGE SUIT OUT OF CUBICLE-WALL FABRIC. HEH, HEH.

YOU NEED A MASK TOO. I RAN OUT OF MATERIAL. IT WAS A MISTAKE TO MAKE A TIE.

UM... YOU GAVE ME AN ASSIGNMENT THAT ISN'T MY JOB AND DOESN'T NEED TO BE DONE.

I'M TRYING TO TAKE OVER ANOTHER DEPARTMENT BY DOING THEIR WORK. LATER I'LL SAY THEIR MANAGER SHOULD REPORT TO ME.

COULD WE AT LEAST PRETEND MY JOB IS USEFUL? DON'T I ALWAYS?

CAN YOU GET THIS DONE IN THIRTY DAYS? YES, ABSOLUTELY.

WE'LL JUST TRAVEL FASTER THAN LIGHT TO A BLACK HOLE AND DISCOVER A DOORWAY IN TIME.

THAT SOUNDS IFFY. EXCUSE ME FOR BEING FLEXIBLE.

HOW ABOUT ANY TUESDAY THIS YEAR? NO, I'M BOOKED.

YOU HAVE THE HIGHEST RATIO OF UNAVAILABILITY TO USEFULNESS I'VE EVER SEEN.

DOES THAT SOUND LIKE AN INSULT? IF I COULD DO MATH I WOULDN'T BE WORKING IN HUMAN RESOURCES.

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO MAIL IN OUR TAXES TODAY, BUT I'M NOT SURE I CAN BRING MYSELF TO DO IT. I THINK IT'LL BE JUST TOO PAINFUL.

I THOUGHT WE WERE GETTING A REFUND. WE ARE.

I'M TALKING WE CALL A BACK PAIN. MAYBE IF WE CALL A FREIGHT SERVICE...

DID YOU KNOW THAT IN ENGLAND THEY CALL FRENCH FRIES "CHIPS"? THEN WHAT ARE CHIPS CALLED? "CRISPS."

INTERESTING.

THEY MUST OVERCLOCK THEIR PENTIUMS MORE THAN US. I CHECKED THE WORLD ALMANAC. IT DIDN'T SAY.

HOLD ON. I'LL GET HER. MOM! TELEPHONE! IT'S DADDY!

SO HOW LONG HAS THIS HEARING LOSS BEEN GOING ON? FOURTEEN YEARS.

IT'S CRAZY. PARENTS DEMAND WARNING LABELS ON CDS... WARNING LABELS ON VIDEO GAMES... WARNING LABELS ON TV SHOWS AND MOVIES... ALL IN THE NAME OF PROTECTING CHILDREN.

BUT WHEN I'LL GIVE YOU YOU SUGGEST A WARNING, SIMILAR LABELS FOR SOME OF THE MEALS THEY CONCOCT...

DID YOU HAPPEN TO FEEL A SHARP PAIN JUST A SECOND AGO? NO. NOT EVEN A LITTLE BIT? NO, WHY? JUST CURIOUS.

WHAT'S THAT BEHIND YOUR BACK? YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO MAKE HER NOSE HURT.

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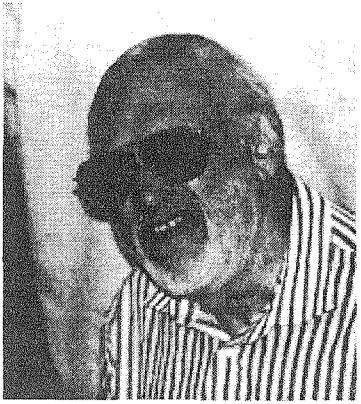
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Dean's Corner

It's The Big Day

by Jean-Paul Revel

The Student Faculty Conference 2002 takes place today. Quite a few students and profs have been thinking about this event for a while and I hope that you too, the rest of the students, have been formulating questions and thinking of remedies for what you see as our short comings.

Of course the day could turn into an occasion like those shameful elections when 20% of the electorate makes decisions for us all, because most of us neglect to vote. As quoted by Jenifer Warren in the *LA Times* of 3/8/2000, "patriotism is more than putting an American flag sticker on the back of your SUV." Well while no one forces you to attend the Student Faculty Conference, it is important to do so, more than wearing a beaver on your sleeve. As they say in the wedding ceremony, "speak now or forever hold your peace" ("forever" being a relative notion, since for most of you the next conference will hopefully be 2 years from now and, in any case, in 3 years most of you, my student readers, will have graduated). But having another chance in 2 years is no excuse. Listen, I understand that some Profs have cancelled their classes, to allow attendance to the Conference.

Concern about attendance has a root in the past. Although nominally taking place every 2 years, there has been no conference for more than that. Organizing and scheduling requires a considerable amount of time and effort. It seems that, like an earthquake which takes place only when sufficient strain has accumulated to break locked portions along a fault, perhaps it takes accumulated stresses to overcome the barriers to holding such a conference. Apparently we have now, just reached that stage.

It is important to acknowledge that SFC provides a means of identifying problems, of sorting through the desires and needs of students and faculty, of helping to clarify

what can be done and what cannot. However it is mostly left to later study groups or decision making bodies to suggest or take measures to solve the problems that were identified. I understand that the timing of lawn maintenance is a topic to be brought to the conference, as it interferes with the sleep of students who have had to stay up late finishing their homework set (they would not stay up for a less worthy reason, of course not). That's the kind of problem which I presume will not be very hard to solve, and in fact might better be solved in some other way, using, say, the good offices of Residence Life. But there are clearly many other problems which will require analysis before they can be tackled effectively. Having an SFC will not solve anything, just help bring problems into the open.

Do not let that discourage you. The Conference program lists some unusual opportunities of interest to all. It is a chance for questions to be asked of the "upper administration", President Baltimore, Provost Steve Koonyn and VP Gary Lorden. Following that session, a particularly interesting perspective should be that presented by Profs who are former students at the Institute. They know Caltech as you know it, from the inside, being more or perhaps less recent alums. It is also a chance to hear views about the "Quality Of Life Outside the Classroom", which I understand will be mostly focused on advising. And then there will also be a discussion of that perennial topic, the Honor Code. Least, but still important in the middle of all this there will be a lunch, different (I believe), from what board would have offered in the Houses.

Just a few days ago the mail brought me "The Gazette" "a publication for the alumni/ae of Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences". It contains an article by the retiring Dean discussing how to prepare students for the future. Discussing the state of advising at Harvard, the reports that the rat-

ings are low, and falling. He writes, "only 56% of last year's graduating class reported that their academic interests were covered in their advising conversations (which makes one wonder what was discussed in these encounters). Overall, student satisfaction with departmental academic advising is not high." Well, I take no pleasure in finding that other Universities have problems with the quality of their advising. At least there were "advising conversations." For us I know we make a great effort to provide appropriate advisers to the incoming frosh and then have an adviser for each student in their option. Yet there are obviously many instances where the advising system as it now exists falls short, partially, I believe, because Profs have too many other responsibilities, and also because

students do not know how to approach, let alone talk to their advisors. Sometimes I wish that they would just talk, even if it is of non-academic matters. Perhaps the recommendation that some form of choice of advisor be implemented will help. One route that Harvard is taking is to get more faculty involved. But then, their ratio is eight-to-one, to our three-to-one. In so far as numbers are concerned we should theoretically have a surfeit of advisors, more advice than anyone can take well? why don't we have more effective Advisor/Advisee interactions?

Dave Guskin '02 has prepared a survey of opinions about the Honor Code held by Undergraduates, Faculty, Grad students and a number of other segments of the Institute. The return rate has been very good, with about a third of the undergrads and faculty responding. It should be possible to extract information on the attitudes of the diverse groups toward the Honor Code. There have been, as you might know, raging debates elsewhere (U. of Virginia, Georgia Tech) about the effectiveness and the type of justice rendered

by other honor codes. From a question on whether the Caltech Honor system "works," benefiting the community, it appears that about three-fourths of the responding undergraduates believe so, but only a little more than two-thirds of the faculty agrees. The graduate students, many of whom act as TAs have divided opinions, with about 50% expressing confidence in the workings of the Honor code. Hopefully by looking at all the data and analyzing the questions about attitudes of various groups some valuable insights can be gained and lead to improvements, particularly by clarifying aspects and providing the means for all the Caltech constituencies to be thoroughly familiar with what is expected.

See you in Ramo, a little later this morning.

A bientot

Jean Paul Revel

Jean-Paul Revel
Dean of Students

BY TIM WAN, MIKE YEH, BEN LEE

CRIPPLING DEPRESSION



GUEST WRITER
SCOTT SINGER

<p>MAN, TECH HAS GOTTEN SO BORING LATELY. I WISH THERE WERE MORE ADVENTURE IN MY LIFE!</p>	<p>DUDE! GUESS WHAT? MIKE DIED AND LEFT US THIS TREASURE MAP!</p>	<p>MIKE'S DEAD???</p> <p>WHO'S GOING TO DRAW THE COMIC THIS WEEK?</p>	<p>I THINK IT SAYS THE TREASURE IS AT UCLA LET'S GO!</p>	<p>I SWEAR I DIDN'T WRITE THIS STRIP...</p> <p>SURE WHY NOT?? LIKE I HAVE ANYTHING BETTER TO DO.</p>
<p>HOW UCLA IS SO...BIG! HOW'RE WE EVER GOING TO FIND THE TREASURE HERE?</p>	<p>DON'T WORRY, ACCORDING TO THE MAP, THE TREASURE'S BURIED RIGHT ON TOP OF THIS NEXT HILL</p>	<p>UM, TIM? THAT'S A SORORITY HOUSE, NOT A HILL TIM???</p>	<p>YAY! TREASURE AND BODY!!</p> <p>I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS</p>	
<p>WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE??</p>	<p>WHAT'S THAT BEN?? I'M SCARED!!</p> <p>I'VE SEEN THESE ON TV... THEY'RE CALLED GIRLS! AND THEY'RE VERY SNEAKY AND DANGEROUS</p>	<p>JUST WAIT TILL MY SISTERS GET HERE!! SUCH PUNISHMENT WE SHALL GIVE!!</p>	<p>MAYBE IT'S THE HEAT OF THE MOMENT, BUT I'M MORE EXCITED THAN SCARED NOW...</p> <p>WHY DON'T WE HAVE THESE BACK AT TECH??</p>	
<p>IF WE WANT TO LIVE... WE NEED TO ESCAPE NOW!!</p> <p>DON'T WORRY I'VE GOT AN IDEA...</p>	<p>CARE BEAR STARE!!</p> <p>AAH!!</p> <p>THUD!!</p>	<p>SHE FAINTED!! IT WORKED!!</p>	<p>OH THE HUMANITY!! PUT YOUR SHIRT BACK ON!!</p>	
<p>ALL THAT AND NO TREASURE!! WE ALMOST DIED!!</p> <p>WAIT... IS THAT MIKE OVER THERE???</p> <p>UMM...</p>	<p>MIKE!! YOU'RE ALIVE!!</p> <p>YEAH...THE WEIRDEST THING HAPPENED... I WAS DOING LAUNDRY WHEN TIM CAME IN STOLE MY BOXERS, AND HIT ME OVER THE HEAD!!</p>	<p>UM...</p>	<p>GOTTA GO!!</p> <p>BYE AWAY!!</p>	
				<p>REMEMBER KIDS, DON'T DO DRUGS LIKE SCOTT SINGER</p>

WINE, CHEESE, ART!



E. Adams/The California Tech

The Buddha head pictured here is one of many displays of art featured by WEST on April 26th at their Women's Art Exhibit.

Announcements

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.

Grant Announcement: The National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance is seeking proposals that support innovation, invention, and entrepreneurship programs in U.S. colleges and universities. Grants support student inventions and projects, and faculty course development. Deadline: May 15, 2002. Information and Application: <http://www.nciia.org>, 413-587-2172 or info@nciia.org.

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.

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.

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

The Morgan Ward Competition- Open to any Caltech freshman or sophomore. Entries may be individual or joint. Each student is entitled to three entries; two may be individual. An entry consists of a mathematical problem with a solution or significant contribution toward a solution. The problem may have any source which should be stated in the entry. The entries are judged on the basis of the nature of the problem, originality, and elegance of the solution. Indicate any outside references used. Entries from each contestant or group must be delivered to 253 Sloan by April 30. The names of the contestant, or contestants, must be written on the envelope only, not on the entry. The Judging Committee will consist of three undergraduates. The judges will select a group of finalists and submit their entries to the mathematics faculty who will make the awards. Prizes of \$75 will be awarded for the best entries. Prizes for individual entries will be limited to one per contestant; no group may receive more than one prize.

The EH&S Office in conjunction with the American Red Cross will be offering **First Aid/CPR training**. Adult First Aid/CPR classes will be held on Monday 6/17, Wednesday 6/19, and Friday 6/21 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the Brown Gym Classroom. Adult/Child/Infant First Aid/CPR training will be held on Thursday 5/9 and Tuesday 5/14 from 8 am - 5 pm, and also a separate class on Tuesday 6/18 and Thursday 6/20 from 5:30 pm - 10 pm in the Brown Gym Classroom. You will need to attend both nights of the class to be certified. The fee for the materials is \$15.00 and must be paid prior to taking the class. If you have questions or would like to register for the class, please contact the EH&S Office at ext. 6727. Class size is limited.

The **Ballroom Dance Club** is currently offering two class series: Merengue and Swing. Next week will be the 3rd of 5 lessons, but if you have any previous experience, come learn new moves! Merengue, taught by professional instructor Kristi Wirz, is held on Mondays through April 29. \$6/lesson for all Caltech students; \$8/lesson for others. Amateur-taught East Coast Swing is offered on Wednesdays through May 1; \$1/lesson (free for frosh). All lessons take place in Winnett Lounge from 7:30-9pm, followed by a half hour practice session. No partner necessary, refreshments provided. On Mondays after class, we have a free mini-ballroom dance party- open dancing, request or bring your own music!

Part of the **Caltech Dance Troupe** will be participating in a performance: "Form Follows Function: pring 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 LBGT 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 endrizzo@caltech.edu if you plan on attending one of the meetings, this will guarantee that we have enough food!

Home for lease. Close to CalTech; 2930 Thorndike in Chapman Woods. Please call 626-577-5500.

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.

Scholarships

The Windstar Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization, co-founded by John Denver and Thomas Crum, and headquartered in Snowmass Colorado, has consistently sought ways "To inspire individuals to make responsible choices and take direct personal action to achieve a peaceful and sustainable future" is pleased to announce the Windstar Environmental Studies Scholarship Program for 2002. With this mission in mind, the Windstar Foundation is awarding three \$500 scholarships to qualified college students. Eligibility Criteria: The applicant must be enrolled as a student in an accredited college or university Environmental Studies or Environmental Engineering Program and be entering his or her junior or senior year in the fall of 2002. The applicant shall have a college GPA of 3.0 or better in his or her major field. Visit www.wstar.org for more information. Applications are due June 1, 2002.

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

James Michelin Seminar Series presents Charley Kohlhasse, Cassini Science and Mission Design Manager, with "Art and Science: Adventures in Creativity." Charley Kohlhasse, a planetary mission designer, author, artist, teacher, environmentalist, and public outreach specialist, will exhibit some of his own and others' photographic work from the microscopic to the remote as well as computer-animated clips and selected projects that combine art and science. During his long JPL career, he led mission design teams for five of the outer planets, three times receiving NASA medals for exceptional performance. He is one of the world's leading designers of deep-space robotic missions. Kohlhasse, who has authored two books and one award-winning computer graphics adventure game, will also briefly discuss the creative process and his future vision that results from combining the analytical force of the scientist with the sensitivity of the artist. Beckman Institute Auditorium, Monday, May 6, 2002, 4:00 p.m. This seminar is part of an on-going series, which augments the James Michelin Distinguished Visitor's Lecture series. Both are designed to foster a creative interaction between the arts and sciences. For more information please contact Michelle Reinschmidt (626) 395-3563 or michelle@hss.caltech.edu.

Pasadena Symphony Music Director Jorge Mester and sisters Ida and Ani Kavafian (who play violin and viola, respectively) are the featured guests at "Classical Conversations - Behind the Scenes with Jorge Mester and The Pasadena Symphony" on Friday, May 10, 2002, 4:30 P.M., at Vroman's in Pasadena. The free six-part series of events is presented by Vroman's Bookstore and The Pasadena Symphony. Mester and the two musicians will discuss the orchestra's May 11 all-Mozart concert (at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium) at which Mester will conduct and Ida Kavafian and Ani Kavafian will perform Sinfonia Concertante. The concert will also include Adagio and Fugue in C Minor and Posthorn Serenade. For information about "Classical Conversations," please call (626) 449-5320. For Pasadena Symphony concert tickets, please call (626) 584-8833; for group sales or season subscriptions, please call (626) 793-7172 or visit www.pasadenasympphony.org.

YWCA of Pasadena Foothill Valley presents **Women Think, Women Listen, WomenTalk**. 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.

Mid-Term Ballroom Dance Party - Join us for a fun-filled ballroom, swing, and latin party! All of your favorite music for dancing, plus feel free to bring your own. Plenty of refreshments. Free as always! Beginners are especially welcome. Sat, April 27, Avery Dining Hall, 8:00pm - ??

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 30, Noon: "GeoRef and other Earth and Environmental Science Databases;" Tuesday, May 7, Noon: "Business 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 ninth annual **Semana Latina** will take place this year from April 28th-May 4th. Semana Latina is organized by Club Latino and CLASES (the graduate and undergraduate Latino student organizations) and is one of the most highly anticipated events at Caltech. Look for posters and advertisements that will appear soon on a bulletin board near you! All events will be free and will be presented outside Winnet Center unless otherwise noted. Lunch will be served for a \$4 fee.

The current schedule of events is as follows:

Monday, April 29th -Johnny Polanco y su Conjunto Amistad, salsa, noon

Tuesday, April 30th -Mariachi Los Pasajeros, noon; -Spanish Night, 5:30-9pm in the Avery House Courtyard. Enjoy Flamenco dancing with Clarita and the Arte Flamenco Dance Theater with free paella and sangria.

Wed, May 1st -Sol de America, Andean music, noon; -Kermes, 5:30-8:30 Avery House Back Lawn. A free family event with traditional folk dances performed by children from Grupo Folklorico de Asuza, with arts and crafts booths, food and pinatas! Bring the children!

Thursday, May 2nd -Gadget Car, roc alternativo, noon; -Art Gallery and the Red Door, 6-9pm at the Red Door Cafe and Winnet Lounge. Art reception and gallery by local artists, music from The Wicked Ray, 7:30!

Friday, May 3rd -Samba Samba School, Brazilian music with dancers, noon; -Movie Night: Ratas, Rateros y Ratones

Saturday, May 4th -Salsa Party, Ricketts/Fleming courtyard, 9pm.

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91126