



ONLINE MAGAZINE FEATURES CALTECH STUDENT GOLFERS

INTERVIEWED BY *GOLFDIGEST.COM*

Recognized for Dual Academic, Athletic Accomplishment

By IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

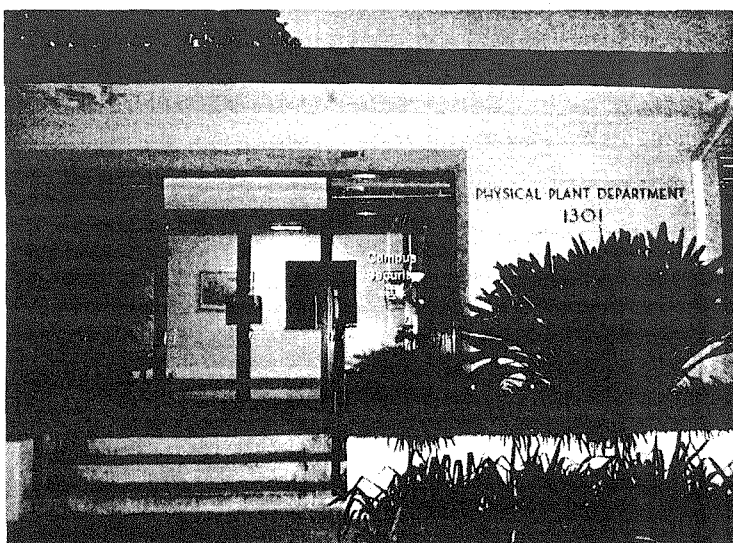
This year, the Caltech golf team found itself unexpectedly in the limelight. Last term, Tim Downes, director of athletics and physical education, was approached by the representatives of the online golf magazine *golfdigest.com* to interview some of Caltech's golfers. An article on Caltech golf appeared in the magazine on March 8, 2002.

Titled "Strokes of Genius," the article mainly compares the relative excellence of students in science here at Caltech and the resulting lack of time and hence, lack of excellence in extracurricular activities, golf being one of them.

It remarks on the unimpressive facilities, time and competition in golf here at Tech. On the Caltech golf team itself: "they are a ragtag group of academic stars," it reads, "for whom a score in the 70s is largely unattainable outside the classroom and largely unacceptable inside one. Together, they form what might simultaneously be the smartest team in college golf and, historically, the worst."

Commenting on the facilities, the article notes that there is not nearly enough response or enthusiasm to provide proper, professional equipment: "They are ill-equipped by any definition to fare appreciably better. A sleeve of balls per player per match is their entire allotment. They receive a single logoed golf shirt,

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K. Bartz/The California Tech

Although it will be replaced, the current Physical Plant is the prime casualty in the administrative drive to clear space for the long-anticipated five-story Campus Center.

Plans Finalized for New Student Center

By ROBERT LI

After two years of work, the proposal for a new 125,000 square foot student Campus Center has been finalized. The Campus Center will provide much-needed facilities for music as well as meeting rooms and exhibition areas for the Caltech community.

The highlight of the Campus Center, according to Professor Paul Jennings, chairman of the Campus Center Committee, will be an "acoustically superb 500-seat music performance hall." In addition, the center will include rehearsal rooms, exhibition space, a music library, a large general meeting room, Graphics Arts, the Caltech Credit Union, a Visitors Center, and other student affairs related offices. The Campus Center will have five levels, three above ground and two below, and will replace the current Physical Plant offices.

The two principal functions of the

Center will be to provide facilities for performing arts and to serve as a focal center for student life. Reflecting these dual purposes are the locations of the two entrances. One, facing northeast towards the parking structures and Avery House, will serve as a formal entrance to the performance halls. The other, facing Chandler and the Red Door Cafe, will contain a lounge and will contribute to the informal and relaxed atmosphere planners are aiming for.

It is estimated that the Campus Center will cost \$30 million to construct and a major goal of the upcoming fund-raising campaign will be to produce this money. The original plan actually called for a much bigger building but this has been reduced. Notably, it was recently decided that the centerpiece of the Campus Center, the performance

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Student Issues Take Spotlight at Meeting

By KEVIN BARTZ

Over four sessions spanning a total of three-and-a-half hours, students, faculty, alumni and administrators convened at Ramo Auditorium for the first Student-Faculty Conference in five years.

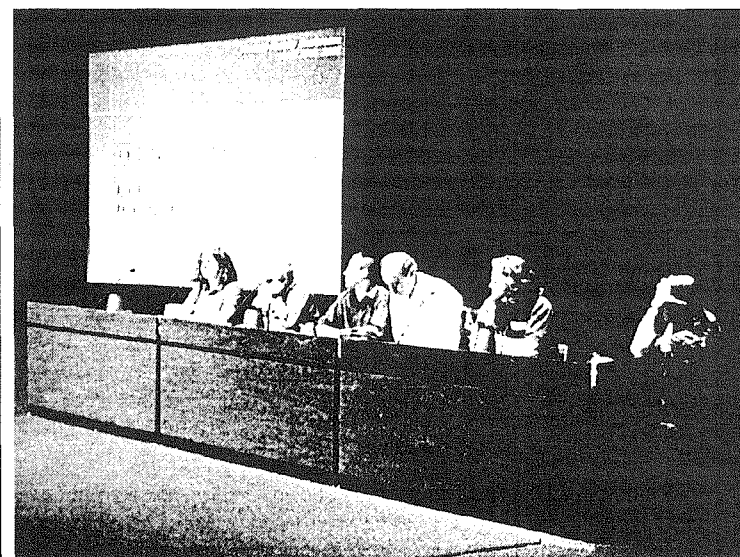
The product of over a year of planning, the event brought together a bevy of Caltech personalities that ran the gamut from upper-echelon administrators to storytelling alumni. In addition, two task-force groups--the Committee on the Honor Code and the Quality of Life Outside the Classroom Committee--presented a year's worth of findings and recommendations.

The administrative trio of President David Baltimore, Provost Stephen Koonin and interim Student Affairs Vice President Gary Lorden kicked off the event with short monologues and a question-and-answer session. Although in the eyes of audience members the triumvirate broke little new ground,

among the few revelations was a promise on the part of Dr. Baltimore to dedicate \$3 million of the Moore family's recent \$600 million gift strictly "for enhancing student life."

Next on the meeting's slate was the alumni panel, made up of a sprinkling of faculty alumni. Besides sharing memories and retrospective--which centered on Caltech's female presence as the primary change since the '60s--the eight-member crew also offered perspective on current student issues. "The thing I'd most like to see today is a lightening of the course load," said Dr. Koonin.

After a lunch break, the afternoon closed with the two committees' presentations. Of their recommendations, the Quality of Life Committee's focused on improving the advising system; and the Honor Code Committee's, on the evolving applicability of Caltech's Honor Code in both academic and social situations.



K. Bartz/The California Tech

The Honor Code Committee lays out its findings on the applicability of the Honor Code at last Monday's Student-Faculty Conference.

Track Team Breaks Records

By MICHELLE GIRON

The track team's 2002 season was one of its most successful in recent history. Perhaps the most notable success was SCIAC 4-way Redlands meet on April 13. For the first time in seven years, the team, led by Coach Julie Levesque, had wins in a conference meet. The women beat conference teams Whittier (126-23) and Redlands (97-89), and the men beat Cal Lutheran (108-86). The men also gave their other opponents a run for their money, falling by only one point to Redlands (95-96) and four points to Whittier (98.5-102.5).

In the process, team members broke quite a few school records. The women's 4x400 team--Helena Kauppila '04, Sarah Horst '04,

Dagny Looper '04 and Alice Lin '05--and the women's 4x100 team, consisting of Kauppila, Horst, Lin and Vi Tran '05, broke two of the school's long-standing records. At the Pomona SCIAC 4-way meet on March 9, the 4x400 team came in 4th place with a time of 4:22.52, beating the school's previous record time of 4:28.27. At last week's SCIAC championships at Claremont McKenna, the 4x100 team set the school record to 53.10 s, which had been 53.84 s at the start of the season. Katie Mack '03, a heptathlete, broke the school's previous heptathlon record at Occidental College on March 14-15 with a score

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Courtesy of I. Shapiro

A Caltech women's trio headed by Kamalah Chang '05 sprints to the finish line last Saturday in a meet marked by a litany of smashed running records.

Annual Awards Recognize 'Excellence in Leadership'

By SUZETTE CUMMINGS

Eight graduating seniors were chosen for a broad slate of leadership awards last weekend, recognizing excellence in fields ranging from community service to "concern for fellow students."

Doris Everhart Service Award

Elisa Chan '02 is this year's winner of the Doris Everhart Service Award. This award is given annually to any undergraduate who has actively supported and willingly worked for organizations that enrich not only student life but also the campus and/or community as a whole, and who has, in addition, exhibited care and concern for the welfare of students on a personal level.

Bibi Jentoft-Nelson Memorial Award

Martha-Helene Stapleton '03 is this year's winner of the Bibi Jentoft-Nilsen Memorial Award. This prize is given in memory of Bibi Jentoft-Nilsen, Caltech '89, who was an exceptional student leader during her time at Caltech. Bibi was Director-at-Large on the ASCIT Board of Directors, President of Blacker House and was a student representative on the Curriculum Committee. She was one of the stars of the cross-country, track and field, and soccer teams. After her untimely death in 1990, a memorial fund was established by her family and friends to recognize outstanding student leaders.

Frederic W. Hinrichs, Jr. Award

Victoria Sturgeon '02 and Dana Vukajlovich '02 are the winners of the 2002 Hinrichs Memorial Award. Established by the Board of Trustees, this award is given in memory of Frederic W. Hinrichs, Jr. who served for more than 20 years as a dean and professor at the Institute. In remembrance of his honor, courage, and kindness, the award bearing his name is made annually to seniors who have made the greatest contribution to the student body during their undergraduate years at the Institute. The award also recognizes students of outstanding character, leadership, and responsibility.

Their dedication to service, their ability to lead broad groups with diverse viewpoints, and their strong interpersonal skills make both Sturgeon and Vukajlovich valuable and influential members of the Caltech community. They will receive the Frederic Hinrichs, Jr. Memorial Award at commencement on June 14, 2002.

Deans' Cup

The Deans' Cup and the Residence Life and Master's Award were presented at a luncheon in The Athenaeum on April 25. These awards, accompanied by small cash prizes, are designated for students whose concern for fellow students is demonstrated by persistent

Continued on Page 2, Column 2

THE OUTSIDE WORLD

By William Fong

Arafat Released From Ramallah

After being confined to several rooms in his Ramallah headquarters, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was released early Thursday by the Israeli military in exchange for six Palestinians who were also in the compound, a deal that had been brokered by the U.S. Those six were accused of being responsible for terrorist activities in Israel. The six men were detained by Israeli forces late Wednesday and taken to Jericho where they would be held under U.S. and British supervision, and Arafat was released after being held captive for over a month in his own headquarters.

Mailboxes Explode In Rural Midwest

In what is being called a case of domestic terrorism, five pipe bombs have exploded in a rural sector of Iowa and Illinois. Attached to anti-government propaganda, the battery-operated bombs appeared to detonate upon opening the mailbox. At least five people have been injured thus far and people have been instructed not to open their mailboxes until further notice.

Unemployment Rate Reaches 6 Percent

On Friday, numbers released for April showed an increase in the unemployment rate from 5.7% to 6%, the highest since the early 1990s. Although 43,000 jobs were created in the past month, over 500,000 entered the job market resulting in the increase in unemployment. Forecasts predict that unemployment will remain steady or increase slightly as companies wait for solid recovery to begin hiring new employees. As a result, Wall Street went down on Friday to negate part of its rally earlier in the week.

Where
in the
World
are
You?



Vaulters, Runners Post Top Marks Over Record Season

Continued from Page 1, Column 2

of 2056. Grad student Ian Shapiro, who holds the school record for the 3000 meter run, broke a meet record for the race at a Pomona-Pitzer all-comers meet on February 16.

The success of the team can be in part attributed to the size of the track team this year. "It's nice having an actual team," said Eric Anderson '03. Anderson recalls how in years past, the whole track team could fit inside a single van. These days, the team fills up three. There are more long distance runners on the team, noted Anderson, and more women have joined the team. Last year, the team did not even have a few women sprinters, but this year, the team has a more solid group.

The track and field team has also attracted more people to field events. This year, the pole-vault team was particularly successful in attracting members. "Pole-vaulting is

friggin' sweet!" exclaimed Jon Simon '04 of his event. Simon had never pole-vaulted before coming here and found his niche in the event. Likewise, other field events were filled with more athletes.

The track team's success is also due to the dedication of the athletes. Track season began the day that second term started and ended just this past Monday. Training at the track for four months indeed takes commitment and motivation.

Steeplechaser Kamalah Chang '05 expressed just what keeps her going: "Running is like ice cream."

This track season, the men placed seventh and the women placed sixth overall out of the eight SCIAC teams. Both teams placed seventh at the 2002 SCIAC championships held last Monday at Claremont McKenna College.



Courtesy of I. Shapiro

Pole vaulter Teddy Yu '04 prepares to plant at last Saturday's SCIAC championship track meet, where Caltech's team achieved its best results in recent history.

Year-end Prizes Recognize Eight Seniors

Continued from Page 1, Column 4

efforts to improve undergraduate life.

Ram Srinivasan '02 and David Guskin '02 each received a 2002 Deans' Cup. Srinivasan is majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering; Guskin, in Physics.

Tim Crosby '02, Richard Karnesky '02 and Todd Schuman '02 were awarded the Residence Life and Master's Award.

Mabel Beckman Prize

Nadia Haq '02 and Emma Hang '02 have won the 2002 Mabel Beckman Prize. This award is dedicated to the memory of Mabel Beckman who supported Caltech as a friend and benefactor for over fifty years. The prize bearing Mrs. Beckman's name is awarded annually to a woman student upon completion of her junior or senior year and is made in recognition of demonstrated academic and personal excellence, contribution to the Institute community, and outstanding qualities of character and leadership.

Haq and Hang will be honored with the Mabel Beckman Prize at commencement on June 14, 2002.

Remote-Controlled Rats Created

On Wednesday, scientists revealed rats with implanted brain electrodes that can be remote-controlled. The rats can be instructed to turn left or right, climb trees, go through piles of rubble or overcome any of a number of small-scale obstacles. With the electrodes attached to the navigation and pleasure-rewarding regions of the brain, the system is set up so that the rat is rewarded for following instructions. One of the purposes of these remote-controlled rats is to help rescuers find trapped humans in collapsed buildings inaccessible by conventional means. The rats carry proprietary battery packs on their backs which power the movement system.



Courtesy of S. Cummings

A group of eight seniors will take home prizes recognizing their leadership roles in assisting and promoting fellow students and the Caltech community.

Magazine Praises Golfers

Continued from Page 1, Column 1

the uniform, a white one last year, a black one this year. The players are required to provide their own clubs, which based on a glance at one player's bag, are technologically deficient and ostensibly assembled from scavenging garage sales."

However, along with criticism, it fairly discusses the golf team members and appreciates their commendable efforts to maintain their practice schedules alongside the often intense workload here at Caltech.

Students pursuing various majors and at different stages in their academic career at Caltech had various ways of reacting to the

attention. Patrick Mullen '02 attributed his playing golf for the first time this year to "Free green fees!" On the other hand, slightly on the more devoted side, freshman Joseph Wasem says he is motivated by "the thrill of discovery!" Another freshman, Manuel Garcia '05, is a nine-holer from Stockton, California and brings with him an 8 handicap that allows him to play No. 2 for the team. Other students mentioned included Eugene Cheung '02, James Lamanna '02, Christopher Flatt '02, Julian Pellico '02 and David Hedley '02.

The article summarized the situation of students pursuing extra-curricular interests at Caltech. It presented athletics at Tech as "just another activity" and a stress-reliever, quoting a line from the Caltech Web site: "It's not that we have no competitive spirit, it's just that we're not elitist about it." And on some level, this team isn't just about golf, Downes explained with a smile. "We're not here to produce better athletes," he exclaimed. "We're here to produce better people!"

AFTER YEAR OF PLANS, CAMPUS READIED FOR NEW STUDENT CENTER

Continued from Page 1, Column 3

hall, would be specifically geared towards music rather than towards both music and theater. Dr. Jennings explained that it is physically impossible for a good theater stage to have good acoustics and simultaneously for a hall with good acoustics to be very suitable as a stage. Therefore, the committee decided to make no sacrifices to acoustic quality for theater purposes. When asked about what should be done regarding Theater Arts, Dr. Jennings suggested a renovation of Ramo Auditorium.

Student reaction to the Campus Center has been mostly positive. Michael Cho '04 said, "Regardless of the specific layout of the center, I welcome the administration's desire to invest in facilities that enrich student life."

Ultimately, Dr. Jennings and the members of the Campus Center Committee, which include faculty, graduate students and two undergraduates, hope that the Center will "improve the facilities for the musical arts and provide space for student and other campus community activities."

The proposal will be submitted within two weeks and copies of the report will be available in Parsons-Gates.

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Question of the Week

Last Monday's Student-Faculty Conference earned mixed reviews. That said, is it worth staging again next year?



K. Bartz/The California Tech

A gleeful pre-freshman enjoys the ASCIT Carnival, although some say his happiness is set to nose-dive after he arrives at Caltech this fall.

Are You Happy Here? Journey From Happiness to Bitterness

By JIALAN WANG

If you asked the average Techer if he was happy, what would you hear? I never thought much about it before, but the issue was a theme throughout last week's student-faculty conference. This is not only a question I would like answered in terms of the general student body, but also of myself. In some ways, I feel unable to answer the question even for myself, as in a sense happiness is irrelevant at Caltech. I know that I love Caltech, that I belong here, and that I am getting the education I want. But being happy is neither here nor there. Happiness doesn't ensure that we're getting what we should out of our experience here, and being unhappy doesn't mean the opposite.

Many things make us happy here. We are happy taking courses and doing research on topics at the cutting edge of science. We are happy because we know we are always being challenged. Our deep and lasting friendships, the community we are a part of, and the campus traditions we uphold all contribute to happiness.

Despite all of these good things and despite the fact that many people are genuinely happy, the general mood among undergrads is very grim. The daily anguish of questioning our abilities takes a harsh emotional toll. Sexual frustration and lack of social life are also major detriments. These are all contributors to depression, but what—if any—is the deeper reason? Why are we so miserable that we tell pre-fresh to go away, that so many of us consider transferring and that we have a school comic called Crippling Depression?

Although it is seldom discussed, perhaps a major cause of unhappiness is one of the very things that we love about Caltech: tradition. Sure, we play pranks and build parties, but our traditions also have a dark side. I don't know when it started, but bitterness is currently one of Caltech's most popular traditions. The bitterness is a thriving subculture that festers across boundaries of house affiliation, class, option, race, and religion. This culture has its own lingo, and in fact, much of the lingo of Caltech

itself is the language of bitterness. In a place where coursework is described in terms of sexual violation, who could help but be unhappy?

By now, even the freshmen can see the vicious cycle. Each year a couple hundred self-assured, enthusiastic freshmen come with dreams of intellectual discovery. But their houses are full of ranting upperclassmen who resent their happiness and are all too happy to share their misery. We are all guilty of repeating the mantras of bitterness and we are all responsible for the depressing social atmosphere. Just living among so much bitterness could bring down the perkier frosh.

Of course, this is not to say that there aren't a lot of things that could be done to improve student life at Caltech, but happiness is something that has much more to do with attitude than with circumstance. As we all know, many of the most pampered and privileged people are not happy, and many people with less fortunate circumstances are. It is easy to slip into bitterness, and once you're there it's hard to get out. But if we are ever going to be happy, we have to fight the bitterness and apathy and work to change the things that make us unhappy.

Conference: Waste of Breath? The 'Politicking' Problem and Possible Solutions

By ABE FETTERMAN

I had been looking forward to the Student-Faculty Conference for quite a while. However, I had my reservations. For one, many of the committees nominated to present their conclusions at the conference did not actually appear. The question-and-answer period was inadequate at best, serving more to clarify the current opinions of the answering persons than to sway them. If I were to ask Dr. Baltimore to give 1% of the recent \$600 million donation to people who write a lot for the Tech (the Dean and I would be in business!) he wouldn't respond with a "that's a very good idea, I had not thought of that and will get to it as soon as I get back to my desk!" Instead, he might tell me to go pound sand, not only because it was a stupid idea in the first place, but also because there's no way that I could pose a worthy argument in the form of a question. I found the administration's standpoint to be completely useless—Baltimore and friends politicked rather than answering questions.

I did find the sessions after lunch to be substantially more useful than the morning sessions. Perhaps this was because I was happier after being fed, but seeing friends on the panel also gave me more confidence in the decisions and the processes by which they were reached. The major problem was that these committees have no power to implement their conclusions, and if anyone does put their plans into action, they will not be around to give suggestions and guidance, or see if the effects are what they intended.

But what sort of format would be conducive to a positive change? What sorts of changes are needed so that both sides can come to agreement? My friends, there is a solution.

One thing that Techers are good at is reading. Ha! I hope you got the joke in that line, because it was planted there like a comedy landmine. We do, however, read when we have to, or when it piques our interest. Even more difficult is getting a student to write some-

thing, but ladies and gentlemen, it can be done. A small publication could be created to log the various questions, comments, concerns, and "smart remarks" voiced by students, strictly related to Caltech administrative issues. Don't like TFM's kosher food? Write an article about how almost identical meals have been served cold out of the fridge every day for the last n years. Don't like changes going on with health insurance? Write an article about how little we get out of it.

The real trick would be getting a response from the powers that be.

"Baltimore and friends politicked rather than answering questions."

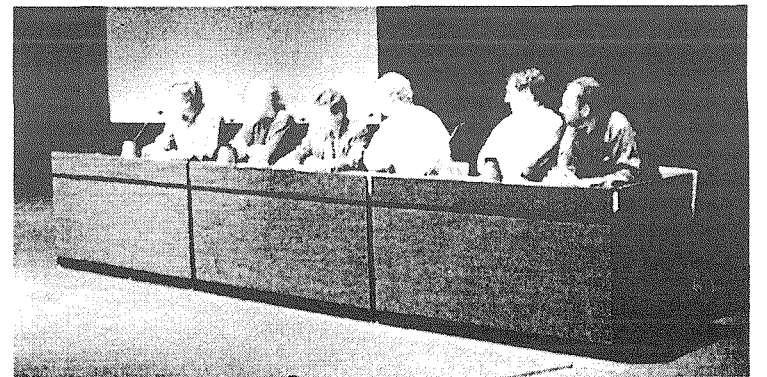
Not only would it assume that the journal is taken seriously, but also that it is read cover-to-cover. A response in the form of another news release would be extremely helpful, and necessary to get a true understanding. I'm sure, however, that if someone up there decides that it is important, time can be made somewhere between having lunch with prospective smarty men and shuffling papers and generally looking busy. I honestly can't figure out what most of these people do that keeps them booked from morning to night, but I think it involves the

media or conferences about black tongue disease or how to deal with an eight year old that doesn't behave. Kim West has a 150-odd-page thesis on us; would she at least write a two-page response to ten pages of our questions once in a while?

Another important part of the solution would be to get the student body involved in decisions before they're made. We already have the mechanisms in place with the Academics and Research Committee (ARC); they only need to be used (possibly mandated) by decision-makers. Is it that hard to ask a 10-person committee whether they hate a solution, can offer a better one, or care at all about a problem? I really don't think so. If people were feeling really lame they could just e-mail Basit with a list of their latest schemings, and he would talk to his ARC, then get back to them. He might be promptly ignored, but at least they would have pretended to listen to us.

Dr. Baltimore claimed that students were already constantly involved in every task force, but that it is difficult to pick a good cross-section of students. The only group that it is possible to get is those over-motivated students with abundant free time, so the slackers, the apathetic, and those who are simply busy are not represented, despite their clear majority.

So there are solutions out there, somewhere in the black foggy void that encompasses student/faculty relations. Just don't put too much hope in seeing changes and we'll all come out happy.



K. Bartz/The California Tech

The alumni panel tackles questions from the audience at last Monday's Student-Faculty Conference.

Letters: Brennen, Carlton, Conference

Antonsson, not Brennen

Dear Editors,

The April 29, 2002 front-page article on the M.E. Option inaccurately portrays the creation of the new undergraduate Option as being my doing. While I did moderate the faculty discussion, this new Option is the result of planning and hard work on the part of the entire M.E. faculty, and the various committees that approved the program. A more accurate headline for the article would have been "Faculty Board Finalizes New Mech.E. Option."

Also, the caption underneath my photograph appears to be left over from a previous issue of the Tech, and incorrectly identifies me as

Chris Brennen.

Erik K. Antonsson, Ph.D., P.E.
Executive Officer (Dept. Chair)
and Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Carlton on the Money

Dear Editors,

My respect and admiration go to O.J. Carlton, IV. His writing demonstrates that he has knowledge and understanding that extends far beyond his young age. It is indeed remarkable that, at considerable risk from detractors that are sure to rise to the surface, he is willing to share his findings with anyone able and willing to carefully read his fine article in the April 15th Commentary. In today's world, it is rare to find such bravery and generosity.

I have been married for many years, and for the past seven years have worked almost exclusively with women. Before working with the women in my current work group, I had more than ten years' experience working almost exclusively with men. Men and women do not think the same way. My longitudinal studies are now conclusive, but I am old. Luckily for me, I began getting along well with women when I stopped expecting them to think and act rationally. Doing so is futile, especially at cer-

tain times of the month. Women respond more according to how they feel at the moment than to facts or logic. And as illogical as it may seem, some of them may well be good scientists.

The expression on the face of the young woman in the photo with Mr. Carlton tells me that she felt happy and safe at that moment.

Donald Massey

'Thanks' From the BoD

Dear Editors,

I would like to thank all the stu-

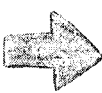
dents, faculty, administrators, and staff who attended the Student-Faculty Conference last Monday. Special thanks go out to the keynote speaker, Professor Melany Hunt, the moderators Nick Knouf and Martha-Helene Stapleton and those who sat on the four panels at the conference: President David Baltimore, Provost Steven Koonin, and Vice-President Gary Lorden on the Administration Panel; Professors Jason Hickey, Steven Koonin, Anthony Leonard, Gary Lorden, Richard Murray and Kip Thorne on the Alumni Panel; Professors Cathy Jurca, Kim Border and Steve Frautschi and students Laura Elliott, Joe Jewell, Yuliya Ruvinskaya, Todd Schuman and

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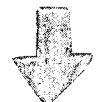
CALTECH CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH



\$600 Million: Baltimore promises \$3 million of the Moore money to students, but gives no indication as to how much of it is earmarked for strawberry donuts.



Advisor Peek-a-boo: If the Student-Faculty Conference was the first time you've seen him, you're not the Ideal Advisee. Survey says: Honor Code violation.



From Birdies to Eagles: golfdigest.com dubs Caltech's golf facilities sub-par--and yet somehow, the golfers still hit below par. Better give this magazine a mulligan.

"Where can you get
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LETTER: THANKS FOR CONFERENCE

Continued from Page 3, Column 4

Marcus Williams on the Quality of Life Panel; and Professors David Politzer, Gary Lorden, and Jean-Paul Revel, and students Dave Guskin, Silas Hilliard, Liz Stameshkin, and Jeff Sullivan on the Honor Code Panel.

Many students have expressed dissatisfaction with the scope of the conference; I have heard many comments regarding issues that were not mentioned or not addressed adequately last Monday. To those students, I urge you to get involved! The IHC and ARC will soon be interviewing and nominating student representatives for faculty committees on academic policies, the core curriculum, health, housing, and many others. If there is no committee appropriate for what you want to discuss, get a group of students together and start your own committee. The ASCIT BoD can help you get recognized - the Student-Faculty Conference wasn't organized by Caltech administration, it was put together by ASCIT and those committees were simply appointed by the BoD earlier this year. If you want to save Russian Literature or investigate student depression, don't wait around for another conference - you can do something about it right now. Contact me and I can help you get started.

And don't forget: tonight is the night for Midnight Donuts!

Sincerely,

Ted Jou '03, ASCIT President

FRIDAY DONUTS: BACK FROM ASCIT'S GRAVE?



K. Bartz/The California Tech

A gravestone commemorates ASCIT's Friday donut tradition, recently axed by President Ted Jou '03. But any mourning may be premature, since a petitioning effort is underfoot that would add a proposed Article XVII to the ASCIT Bylaws to restore the morning treats.

ASCIT Minutes

MAY 3, 2002

Present

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

Guests: Kevin Bartz (Tech editor), Dinkar Gupta (senior class copresident), Tasha Vanesian, Dana Sadava, Ben Aronin from Hillel.

Meeting called to order at 4:17 p.m.

Guests

Dinkar wants some money for the senior class to fund food for the senior "fountain fixing" party. \$150 is later approved (5-0).

Hillel picks up \$88 reimbursement for their ASCIT Carnival booth.

Tasha and Dana are here to "give

their spiel," as Ted puts it, and promote their version of Tech business manager pay scheme reform.

General Meeting

Neda speaks for 13 uninterrupted minutes (amazing, given our BoD!) about the latest revision of her Tech finance reform plan. "The most modified part" of the plan is a change in the way the editors are paid (no longer as the elected Tech editors, but rather for their specific duties like writing headlines, assigning stories, and pagination). This may seem like a technicality, but it will standardize the non-paid nature of Caltech elected student body offices. A new pay scheme for the BM's is also presented, based upon the amount of "paid ad space" in the Tech. Pay levels of 10%, 15%, and 20% are provided if the Tech is less than 5%, up to 12.5%, or over 12.5% "paid ad space". There is some dissent over this. Janet comments that this still seems higher than we had been intending for the BM's. Joe comments that 12.5% seems like a really low number for total ad space in a newspaper (although the Tech of course operates differently than commercial newspapers). Janet confirms

that the Tech usually meets this goal. Neda still thinks it's a good goal, and Tasha and Dana obviously support it. It essentially leaves the current system in place in all but a few cases. Since something needs to be in place at least for the rest of the year, this is approved after debate on a split (4-2-1) vote, with agreement to look into the issue in more detail soon to get a better plan for the coming year.

Midnight donuts will be Monday at 11:59 p.m. Students should note that if they do appreciate Friday morning donuts more than two sets of midnight donuts each term, we will be more than happy to switch back to the regular Friday donuts for next term—this is just an experiment.

Signups for ARC nominations to faculty-student committees will be up next week.

There are interviews going on for a new staff psychologist. They want a student rep on the committee, and we brainstorm names (possibly a BoD member). We also spend some time brainstorming names for the ExComm, and hope to be able to make some progress towards appointment at the next meeting.

Marcus says he'll fix the DVD cabinet today. We'll believe it when we see it (just kidding, Marcus).

Invitations for Formal go out on Monday, and the web page is currently up.

In continuing news of our financial revamp, we have closed two ASCIT accounts at Bank of America and transferred everything to the main ASCIT account.

Finally, many thanks are owed to Andrea for taking notes after Joe had to leave the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Jewell

ASCIT Secretary

A Clarification on My Pontification

Carlton Hones His Female Psychology

By O.J. CARLTON, IV

In the two weeks since the publishing of my preliminary findings stemming from Project Object, I have received invaluable feedback from interested and disinterested readers alike. Despite bending over backwards to avoid my usual tactical pitfalls, at least one reader did not find my analysis helpful or enlightening.

First, I'd like to answer the concerns raised by Ms. Wilhoit in her April 15 letter to the editors I'll forgive her for the headline, as it was written not by her but by an overzealous editor (thanks but no thanks, Kevin; I can pick my own fights). To preface my rebuttal, let me assure you that I was not merely trying to entertain, though some readers may have found humor in what I had to say or the style and tone with which I said it.

Ms. Wilhoit first asserts that I made "discriminatory remarks" about Caltech women. Since the article is an attempt to find an objective method of

Time constraints have prevented me from collecting data on the class of '05, which has resulted in at least one subject being left out of the project. However, something tells me this one's an outlier anyway. (She can't even take a compliment.)

When I said that Techers are trained to use objective reasoning to model the world around them, I was speaking of the entire community, not just men. My point is that relying too heavily on objective techniques is more of a problem for men trying to understand women, since men's behavior can be modeled much more closely by these means. All one needs is a lab rat and a couple of well-placed electrodes.

Ms. Wilhoit asserts that I "marginalized" important issues of

"I think some follow-up news on the project is in order. In short, we're no closer to understanding the female mindset."

avoiding objectifying women, it was highly difficult to write without making any distinction between men and women. The assumption that women and men, while equal, are not congruent was a necessary starting point, and I apologize for not making it explicit. What is interesting is that later in her very letter, she assumes such a distinction herself. Apparently she feels that I was writing "to a male perspective," words that I never thought I would hear from a Caltech woman. Rest assured, my intended audience always includes females, and I am prepared to provide several expert witnesses to support this claim.

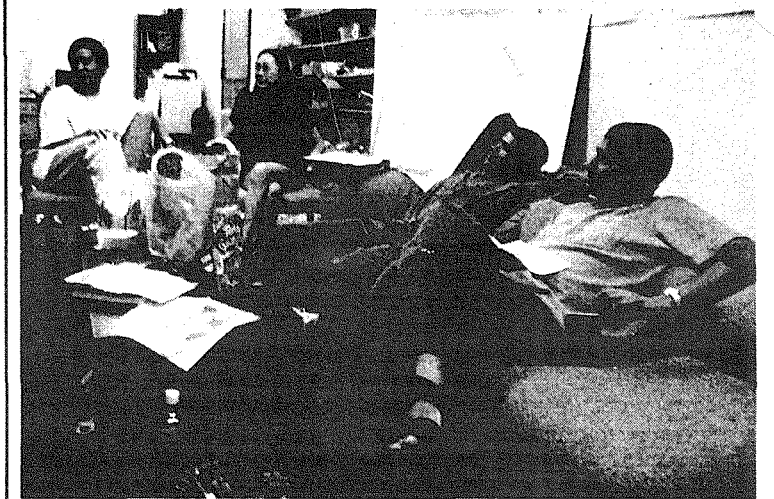
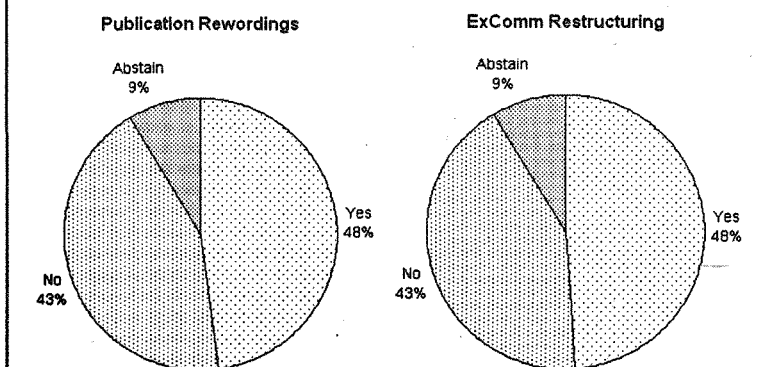
interest to feminist thinkers. This claim, while apparently an attack on my writing, is actually encouraging to me. Apparently she believes it possible to cover thoroughly all major feminist issues in single newspaper article. If she or anyone else can produce a 1000-word document that adequately and accurately describes the inner workings of the female psyche, I'll gladly have it tattooed to the back of my hand for easy reference.

Finally, if you're worried about the safety of airborne cheerleaders, know that they're in good hands. I have the best safety of any male cheerleader in Caltech's history; if you don't believe me, ask the Cheerleading Secretary.

Now that her concerns have been addressed to the best of my ability, I think some follow-up news on the project is in order. In short, we're

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BYLAW AMENDMENTS FALL SHORT IN VOTE



K. Bartz/The California Tech

The ASCIT Board of Directors, diminished due to low attendance, debates nominees for the next Executive Committee, whose role will remain unchanged after last week's failed vote to amend it.



K. Bartz/The California Tech

The ASCIT duumvirate of President Ted Jou '03 and Treasurer Janet Zhou '04 preside over business matters at last Friday's meeting.

Committee: Too Narrow Eurasia Gloom, Doom Daily Lives Are More Than Advising For Some, Reconciliation Beyond Hope

By DANIEL LIEBLING

When the Student-Faculty Conference was first announced, I had high hopes amidst the turbulent sentiments of the time, the news of budget cutbacks, honor code questions, and the housing task force report. Surely with an all-star cast progress could begin.

Indeed, the honor code committee posed some important questions and I feel that progress will be made. But the lack of effort on the part of the Core Curriculum Committee and the apparent lack of comprehension of the term "outside the classroom" that the Quality of Life Committee left was quite anticlimactic. I applaud the insight into the advising system, but this does nothing to address, at the very least, the points raised by Tom Fletcher and Marcus Williams concerning depression and student morale.

As president of Lloyd House I found that my hardest but most rewarding task was to improve the quality of life. It is unfortunate that the committee chose to ignore qual-

ity of life completely simply because it "only met four times." What could possibly be more important than our daily lives? Even small changes like rescheduling the seven a.m. leafblowers would have an impact.

Rather than the lip service given by an unprepared committee, I join with many of my peers in demanding that these issues be examined immediately. The classic business tome *Built to Last* calls "Big Hairy Audacious Goals" a necessity for ensuring future success. As scientists we seek to solve the problems of the universe. Let's begin by solving our own universe of problems.

By demanding a higher quality of life, we set the stage for progress. We can define measurable goals - long-term, no doubt, but achievable nonetheless. It is up to us, and those who represent us - ASCIT, IHC, and the other student-faculty committees - to make improved quality of life, an undeniable priority, a reality.

Since Caltech still does not have cable access, it is unfortunate that many in the undergraduate population is out of touch with events in the real world. Upon graduating, only a few of us will be lucky enough to spend another decade at Caltech, so it is imperative to familiarize yourself with the outside world. Learning about international politics is one way to do it. For the prefrish who are reading this article, know that Caltech is not a mere "playground for science and technology" but that there is some emphasis on literacy as well.

Quick, name all the former Soviet Socialist Republics of the Soviet Union. Some of the countries that you probably don't know, specifically, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kirgizstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, are not surprisingly among the poorest nations in the world. For these backwater nations that Caltech students can't recognize, not to mention Yale graduates

with a speech impediment, the transition to an independent existence has not been smooth. The flowering of democracy and capitalism after the fall of the Soviet Union has been unsuccessful, causing many of these nations to attract disillusioned criminal and terrorist elements. The next time a terrorist strikes, his country of origin may merely rhyme with Afghanistan.

Due to the nature of the Soviet economy with its fuel subsidies and central planning, most of the aforementioned countries were wholly unprepared when severed from Moscow. On average, real GDP has plummeted by half for the five years after the fall. Poverty and income inequality have risen dramatically, not to mention corruption and foreign debt, with per capita income in Tajikistan a quarter of what it used to be. While the economies have made some gains since 1995 and inflation has been brought under control, a further dose of IMF funds is much needed for regional economic stability. However, IMF funding often has several catches to it, since money is never free unless you're a female Caltech student, and implementation of these overdue economic reforms will be devastating in the short run.

Many nations in the rim of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), including the countries above, have suffered military and political strife. Tiny Moldova, replacing Albania in the dubious honour of being the worst European country, has been unable to reconcile itself with Transdnistria, its Russian-speaking bit, that broke away in 1993. Transdnistria, like its counterpart republics in Somalia, has lived for almost a decade with the delusion that it is an independent country, complete with secret agents. It's economy, dependent on contraband and smuggling, has little hope of success. In the Caucasus, Armenian partisans in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of

Continued on Page 7, Column 1



Courtesy of K. Scott
Self-christened "verbalicidal maniac" O.J. Carlton '03 has decided that trying to understand female psychology is "pointless."

AFTER THOUGHT, ELABORATION ON OBJECTIFICATION

Continued from Page 4, Column 5

no closer to understanding the female mindset. I, for one, can't even understand what makes their hair work.

It seems they know something they're not telling us. One female reader commented: "My suggestion is: quit trying to model women's psych, it's a lost cause. For, as you well said it, once you think you have a clue of how it works, we change it! We do not like to be predictable, and we have a great ability - conscious or not - to alter that predictability." This confession, while not necessarily representative of the whole female population, adds yet another layer of complexity to the problem. Not only is my cause lost, it's being perpetually re-hidden in increasingly obscure places. I suppose it doesn't matter much, though, since knowing whatever the answer is would make them far less interesting, and the pursuit all but pointless.

The Coming Canadian Crisis After 'Accidental' Bombing, Prepare for Counterattack

By LIBIN ZHANG

Imagine your children pledging allegiance to the maple leaf. Mayonnaise on everything. Winter 11.5 months of the year. This nightmarish dystopian future will become reality if Canada wins the Cold War.

You may be wondering to yourself, "But Libin, I thought the US won the Cold War thirteen years ago?" True, but that was the First Cold War. During that conflict, the United States and Canada were allies against the Red menace.

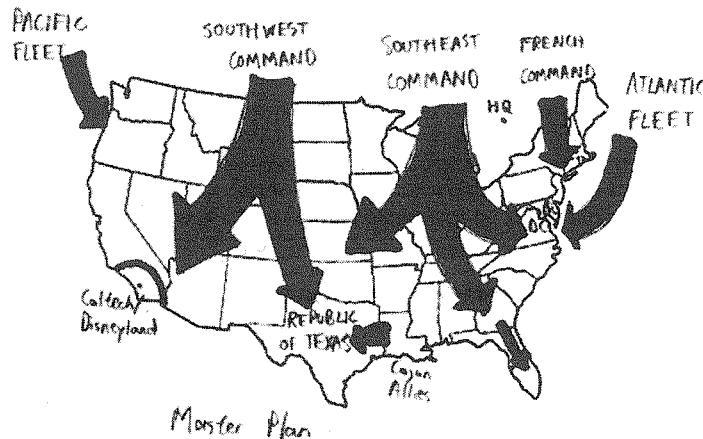
Yet much as the United States and the Soviet Union became bitter enemies after the fall of their mutual enemy, the original Axis, the fall of the Iron Curtain means that our NATO allies are no longer dependable. Foremost among our former allies, martial Canada has risen to challenge the US in a new bid for world power in a Second Cold War. Much as few Americans knew about the Vietnam War during the 1950s, this dramatically escalating conflict has only recently been unveiled to the populace.

The deaths of four Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan at American hands have shown how this Second Cold War is being waged on distant battlefields all over the world. A country with 1% of the world's population has provided 10% of all "peacekeeping" forces. These Canadian soldiers have been present in two score UN mandates and half a dozen non-UN missions. Gradually, these troops, sent ostensibly to keep order as the Red Army did in the Soviet satellite states, have exerted an influence on the client states far disproportionate to their ratio to the general population. Only the US's peacekeeping forces, often sent to the same places as these Canadian expeditionary forces, have been capable of keeping the Canadians and the spread of Canadian English in check.



Courtesy of L. Zhang

International expert Libin Zhang '05 predicts a counterattack from the north after the U.S. military's recent accidental bombing of Canadian soldiers.



Courtesy of L. Zhang

Confidential plans depict the Canadian government's planned four-front military push into the United States.

Most of us are aware of the growing cultural imperialism and sphere of influence of our unfriendly neighbor to the north. Analogous to the way the old colonial powers slowly dominated the world through trade and subversion, the Canadians have slowly but patiently been sneaking their secret agents into powerful positions in American society. These agents walk among us. William Shatner. Michael J. Fox. Mike Meyers. Alex Trebek. Donald Sutherland. David Cronenberg. Dan Aykroyd. Alanis Morissette. Celine Dion. Shania Twain. All of them secretly Canadian, though some profess to be innocently British or even genuinely American. Worst of all, hockey is being played in some American border cities and, horror of horrors, some people are using metric and Celsius units. This International Canadian Conspiracy has been so successful and pervasive in corrupting American life that the next person you talk to could be secretly from the Canadian Intelligence Agency. If you hear the word "about" sound even vaguely like "aboot," turn the speaker in to the racial profilers at your friendly local FBI office immediately.

As peaceful and friendly as these Canadians-in-disguise may appear to be, Canada has always been a warlike nation despite its large French-speaking population. Ninety percent of its people are gathered along the US-Canada border, preparing for the conquest and settlement of the warmer lands to

the south. During the First World War, 10% of its bloodthirsty population served in the armed forces. At D-Day, thousands of specially trained Canadian soldiers landed at Normandy, ostensibly in support of Allied efforts, but in reality as a practice run for their planned invasion of the US. When the Second World War ended, Canada had the third-largest navy and the fourth-largest air force in the world. Since most people do not even know that modern Canada has a Navy, their operation to hide their true military potential has obviously been very successful.

National entities have old memories, well shown in the Yugoslav and Middle Eastern conflicts. In 1812, Americans burned modern-day Toronto, in retaliation for which the Canadians burned Washington. However, in 1775, American forces occupied Montreal and besieged Quebec, yet the Canadians have not yet exacted their revenge. They have been patiently waiting for over two centuries, preparing to strike from the icy finger of Canada that plunges deep into the Great Lakes. Fortifications have been built all along the border, such as the fortress of Windsor, within artillery firing distance of the great city of Detroit. From the Canadian National Tower, possibly the world's largest free-standing structure, military leaders will have a clear view of the battlefronts. Together with the Louisiana Cajuns, ancient immigrants from Canada, the Canadian military machine can quickly overrun the United States and restore America to the British crown. It is the duty of every youth to be patriotic and resist the Canadian menace.

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I JUST FOUND OUT THAT THE COMMITTEE ACROSS THE HALL IS DOING THE SAME THING WE ARE.

ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS HUM "WEST SIDE STORY" AND HAVE A DANCE-FIGHT.

CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO HUM?

ALICE, WRITE A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF YOURSELF FOR ME TO SIGN.

WHAT WILL OUR SEVEN LAYERS OF MANAGEMENT BE DOING WHILE I MANAGE MYSELF?

SORRY, I'LL DING MYSELF FOR THAT ON MY EVALUATION.

IF YOU CAN'T FIND ME, HAVE CAROL SIGN MY NAME.

DON'T E-MAIL YOUR ANSWER TO MY BOSS UNTIL I'VE REVIEWED IT.

UM...OKAY.

MAY I WALK TO MY CUBICLE NOW OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO REVIEW THE ROUTE FIRST?

NOW THAT YOU MENTIONED IT, I CAN'T RELEASE.

ASOK IS THE WINNER OF THE \$25 "CLEAN DESK AWARD."

YESTERDAY THE FACILITIES PEOPLE TOOK MY DESK BECAUSE IT APPEARED TO BE UNUSED.

I HOPE THIS DOESN'T BUMP ME INTO A HIGHER TAX BRACKET.

WRITE ON ALICE'S PERFORMANCE REVIEW, "NEEDS TOO MUCH SUPERVISION."

WHEN SHE GOES TO YOUR OFFICE TO PROTEST, SAY, "SEE WHAT I MEAN?"

OOH! THAT WAS SO EVIL I NEED TO PURR WITH MY LIPS!

P-P-PURRR P-P-PURRR P-P-PURRR

MY REVIEW SAYS I "NEED TOO MUCH SUPERVISION." ARE YOU INSANE?!

MOST DAYS I CAN'T GET YOUR TIME-WASTING, LARD-FILLED SUIT OUT OF MY CUBICLE WITH A FREAKIN' CRANE!!

GAAA!! IT'S A TRAP! YOU'RE SUPERVISING ME TOO MUCH RIGHT NOW!!

I WIN.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WORKING ON MY SPIDER-MAN COSTUME.

MARCUS AND I ARE DRESSING UP FOR THE MOVIE THIS WEEKEND.

THE MASK CAME OUT PRETTY WELL, BUT I'M HAVING PROBLEMS WITH THE—

...WEB SHOOTER? IT LOOKS SO EASY IN THE COMIC BOOKS!

LIKE MY COSTUME? SPIDERMAN. CUTE.

SPIDER-MAN! SPIDER-MAN! STOP LEAVING OUT THE HYPHEN! ARE YOU PEOPLE TRYING TO MAKE ME CLIMB THE WALLS?!

ACTUALLY, COULD YOU KEEP THAT UP? IT'S A SKILL I NEED TO LEARN.

TELL ME, IS SUPER-LOSER-BOY HYPHENATED?

HOW DOES THE WEB SLINGING? NOT SO GOOD. THIS WRIST SHOOTER I MADE KEEPS SPRAYING THE WEBS ONTO ME.

THE NOZZLE SEEMS TO BE AIMED CORRECTLY.

MIND IF I GIVE IT A TRY? YOU'VE BEEN WARNED.

BOY, YOU WEREN'T KIDDING. I WISH SOMEONE WOULD START WARNING ME.

MY HOMEMADE WEB SHOOTER KEEPS BACKFIRING.

I MUST BE DOING SOMETHING WRONG.

MAYBE I NEED TO SQUEEZE THE TRIGGER HARDER.

FORGET "SPIDEY SENSE," WHAT YOU NEED IS COMMON SENSE.

I SUPPOSE I COULD ALWAYS SQUISH MY ENEMIES.

JASON, LET'S MOVE IT! THE SPIDER-MAN MOVIE STARTS IN 45 MINUTES!

I CAN'T GO.

WHAT?! YOU'VE BEEN DRESSED UP LIKE SPIDER-MAN ALL WEEK IN ANTICIPATION! WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T GO?!

NOBODY AT THE THEATER IS GOING TO CARE IF YOU CAN SHOOT WEBS OR NOT! JUST LEAVE IT AT HOME AND COME ON!

...OR DO YOU MEAN YOU PHYSICALLY CAN'T GO?

CAN YOU ASK MOM IF WE HAVE A MACHETE?

SWEETIE, WHAT'S WRONG? I CAN'T GET MY STUPID SPIDER-MAN WEB SHOOTER TO WORK RIGHT!

I DON'T GET IT! I FOLLOWED THE COMIC BOOK DESIGN EXACTLY!

THIS MAY BE TOUGH FOR YOU TO HEAR, JASON, BUT...

CARTOONS AREN'T REALITY. NO! LISTEN REALITY. THAT'S TO YOUR NOT MOTHER, TRUE! JASON.

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Dean's Corner

How Was It?

by Jean-Paul Revel



Well what do you think this Monday after The Monday of the 2002 Student-Faculty Conference? Did it seem to you to have accomplished its goals? There obviously was great interest in the presentations, with many students in attendance, as well as staff and faculty. Many of the latter (except the people who were sitting on the panels) were there apparently just to listen. The students asked lots of questions, some pretty anodyne, but others sharp and incisive. Whether you were satisfied with the answers depended a bit on whom you were. I was generally pleased by what I saw as candor and honesty in the responses that were made, but during the week I discovered that not everyone was as favorably impressed. In the audience there was a reporter for the Pasadena Star-News who aptly noted in the May 1 issue of the paper that, although many problems were aired, none were actually solved. In my mind that was precisely what the conference was meant to achieve, to present the first results of explorations of how things are. Before problems can be solved they need to be identified, a difficult exercise when one is dealing simultaneously with several constituencies. Different groups and individuals within the groups will see different things as problematic. No generally satisfactory solution can be developed unless there is first a consensus as to what needs to be fixed, the budget or the health coverage.

One problem was that the range of topics covered was limited. It was good to focus on a few things at the conference itself, but that means that more work needs to be done now in a follow up of the conference. Of all the Faculty/Student committees set up to explore the countryside, only some reported back. Failure to have everything solved might well have been one of the things that made the event front-page copy. Problems, failures, bad news all make better copy than stories of success. I just read a brief essay in remembrance of Thor Heyerdahl who died 4/19, the guy who sailed the Kon Tiki from Peru to a Polynesian atoll, in an attempt to prove that it was possible that the Pacific had been populated by people coming from South America, traveling East to West rather than the more commonly held route from Asia, West to East. When he tried to publish the story

of his adventures, he could find no one to take the book; it was too dull, no one had fallen overboard or drowned or been devoured by sharks, no titillating bad news.

Like Heyerdahl we too have now arrived into a safe harbor. SFC made it in spite of gales and rough seas that threatened to scuttle it. We must now examine what we have found and devise mechanisms to improve the lives of the students without sacrificing the rigor and high scholastic standards which are so much a part of what defines Caltech. Continuing our efforts will bring rewards to us as it did to Heyerdahl, who eventually found a publisher willing to gamble and hit the jackpot, with his book selling 30 million copies! I hope we too hit the jackpot! But before that can happen we will need to finish collecting data and then follow up that work by devising solutions. To begin the process I have asked the leaders of the two Student/Faculty panels and the organizers of the conference to meet and discuss how we go from here to there. As I said above it will not do to just look at the work of the panels that managed to produce surveys in their areas of interest, but we'll also need to examine other aspects of life at Caltech. The problems of Quality of Life have been surveyed recently in other venues, and while scantily covered at SFC, they are on the minds of many. It will not do to wait for another conference to take place, even if the next one is to be next year rather than some unspecified number of years away.

As I reread the notes I scribbled down last Monday, I come up with the sense that pressure is the major contributor to all the unease that is evident. Not that I am the first or the only one to recognize it, but pressure, pressure and more pressure was a recurrent underlying theme. Caltech is obviously a wonderful place, as can be judged by how many of our alums come back to fill the professorial ranks. Even these fans, however, as they sing paeans to their alma mater, complain that our image is that of the Marine Corps of the Educational Institutions. The alums turned Profs complain that the overall intellectual atmosphere falls short of what they would want it to be. In their days as students, we heard, things used to be hard, but the total workload was less, never mind that the total number of units needed to graduate actually decreased. Students arrive wide eyed, ready to do science, to discover a new particle,

discover a new planet or devise a new way to make transgenic animals, and many go on to successful scientific careers. Yet more people than we would like somehow get discouraged and even talk (heresy!) of abandoning science. Of course this sounds terrible to those of us who have made science our enterprise our careers. Maybe we recoil because of an all too common prejudice that science is the "only" game in town. Of course there are many other worthwhile and exciting careers in fields other than physics or biology, you name it. But I am sure that what has been called at the conference the "rat race of heavy course loads" has precipitated many departures from science. More time to think, more time to assimilate material would very likely also reduce the number of cases seen by the BoC for copy-

ing, breaches of the collab policy and other violations of the Honor Code. Simplistically put, less pressure to do too many things on too tight a deadline will lessen the temptation, or what some might deludedly consider the need, for cheating. Not to give you the impression that cheating is rampant: there just is more than we expect or want to see considering the emphasis placed on the self-discipline of the Caltech Honor Code that a resounding majority of undergrads and the majority of Profs believe in.

One obvious source of pressure is the tendency of students to want to overload. The reasons are almost as varied as the students. There is the hunger for knowledge, of course. There is also insecurity about the future, and the desire to graduate with several majors so as to have more employment options. And then there are the underunited classes, requiring much more time than the catalog suggests they should. Maybe we should lower the requirements, reduce the number of units that one can sign up for. One also needs to deal with the bad study habits carried along from previous lives in which our students were so

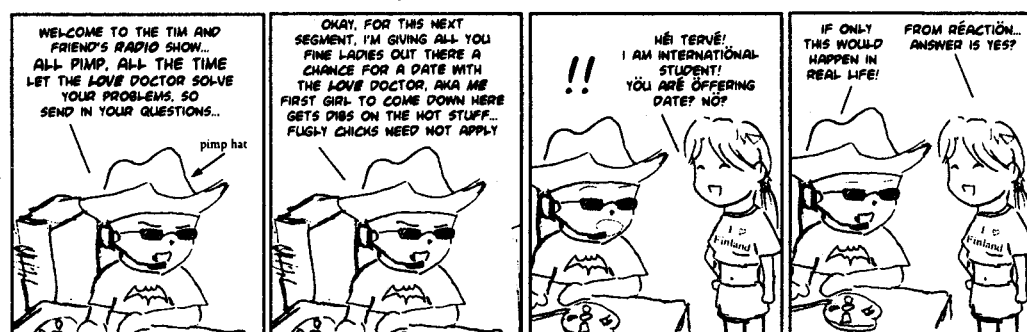
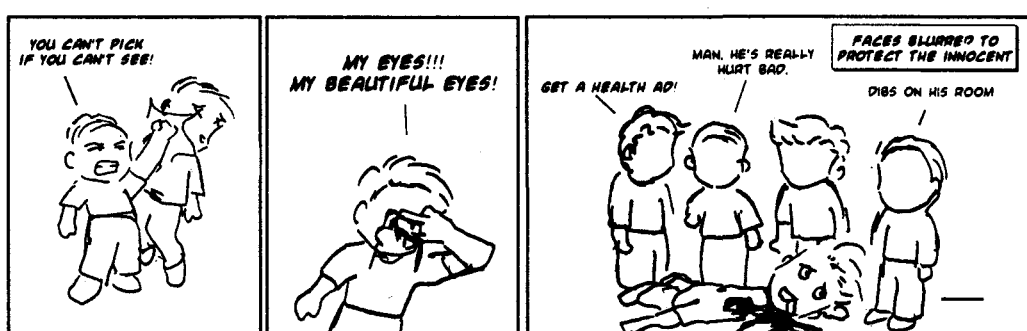
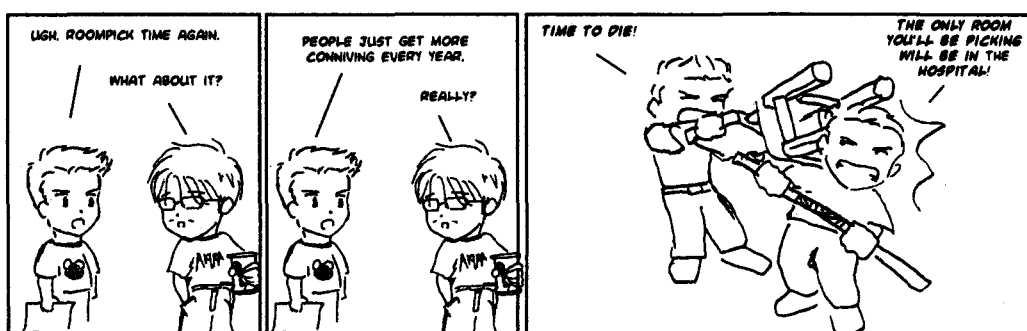
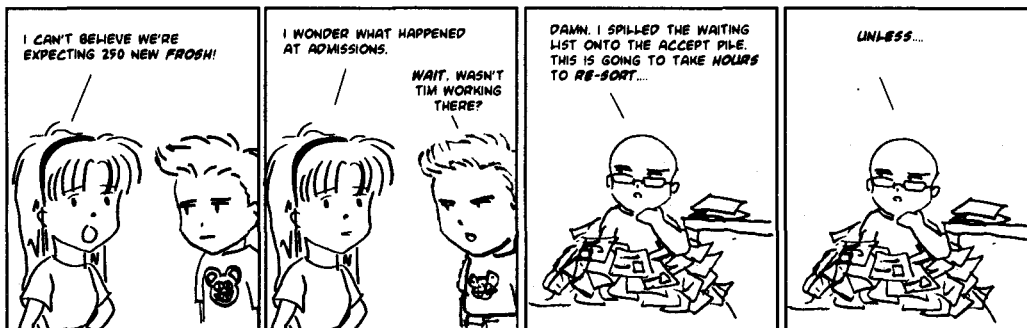
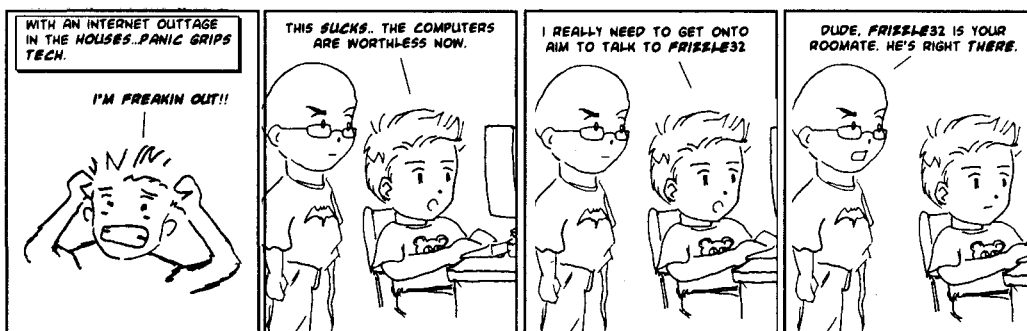
far ahead of their peers that they got away with little or no effort. It takes a great deal of effort to acquire the discipline and determination needed to be successful here. The difficulty is amplified by low student morale, be it caused by food (although food is one of the things that was said by alums to have been improved, and the freedom to use Chandler and Avery should have mitigated some of the complaints), or by housing (although there are changes being discussed at present, but then these are also potentially threatening), or depression, although the counseling center can usually do wonders, if they are consulted.

Let's hope that the SFC will provide a point of departure for a re-examination of where we stand and what we can do to make Caltech even better than it is.

A biont

Jean Paul Revel

Jean-Paul Revel
Dean of Students



Danger in West Asia

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Azerbaijan are struggling to join their mother country with mixed results. Unfortunately, CNN coverage of the conflict is poor, being overshadowed by wars in the neighbouring Chenchnya and Yugoslav states. If the civil war was not occurring, a completed Caspian Sea oil pipeline would bring tremendous wealth into the region, rivaling the oil wealth of the Middle East. Hopefully, the money would be spent on education and social services, not squandered like the \$20 billion airport in Saudi Arabia.

The Middle East shares another characteristic with these poor countries of Eurasia, dictatorship and political repression through the assistance of the United States.

Uzbekistan and Georgia have joined Zaire, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Chile, the Philippines, etc in the list of dictatorial regimes propped up by the U.S. over the years. The American money and military equipment flowing into the region will ostensibly be used to fight terrorism, and certainly not to repress political opposition and liberal elements. Like the Taliban fighters who were trained by Americans during the 1980s, the Georgian and Uzbek forces will no doubt see their combat effectiveness increase dramatically in the future. Combined with suspicions of not all nuclear weapons in the former Soviet Union being withdrawn to Russia, the countries of the CIS have become very dangerous places.



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.

Caltech Opera Club . . . at last! Please join us for the first meeting of the Caltech Opera Club on Thursday, May 16, noon to 1 pm, in the Christopher Brennen Conference Room (Center for Student Services, 3rd floor, adjacent to the Career Center). This newly forming club is open to the entire Caltech community - students, postdocs, staff, faculty. Bring your lunch . . . and bring a friend. Everyone is welcome as we launch the newest club on campus. R.S.V.P or direct all questions to Angela Wood at auwood@caltech.edu.

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. Note: Deadline for all submissions has been extended until Sunday, May 12, 2002.

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 offering two new class series starting next week: Foxtrot and Argentine Tango. Foxtrot, taught by professional instructor Melissa Atkinson, is held on Mondays from May 6 - June 3. \$25 for the 5 week series or \$6/lesson for all Caltech students; \$35(series)/\$8(lesson) for others. Amateur-taught Argentine Tango is offered on Wednesdays from May 8 - June 5; \$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!

The **Caltech Dance Troupe** 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!



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.

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.

The **John Gyles Education Awards** are available each year to students in both Canada and the United States. Full Canadian or American citizenship is a requirement. Awards are available to both male and female students for all areas of post secondary study. A minimum GPA of 2.7 is required. Criteria other than strictly academic ability and financial need are considered in the selection process. Selected students will receive up to \$3000. Filing dates for mailing applications for 2002 are April 1, June 1 and November 15. Students can receive an application by sending only a stamped *** (US.34), self-addressed standard letter size (No. 10) envelope to the following address:

John Gyles Education Awards
P.O. Box 4808, 712 Riverside Drive
Fredericton, New Brunswick
Canada E3B 5G4

Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations. As you may know, the Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations (COHEAO) offers annual scholarships to qualifying students at COHEAO member schools. (Caltech is a member.) The eligibility criteria and the application procedure have been changed for this academic year. The eligibility requirements for applicants are as follows: Applicants must be U.S. citizens; Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale; Applicants must be attending a COHEAO member school; Only undergraduate students, who are entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year, are eligible to apply; freshmen are not eligible; Only one scholarship per family per academic year will be awarded. COHEAO members and their immediate family members are not eligible for COHEAO scholarships. Further information about the scholarship is only available via the Web at: www.coheao.com.

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 ongoing 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.

Theory Labs presents! **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead**, A Play by Tom Stoppard, Directed by Emanuel Bergmann, Produced by Jim King. May 3, 4, 9, 10, 17, 18. All shows start at 8 pm. General admission \$10. It all happens at Theory Labs, 624 Ave 21, Los Angeles, CA 90031. Theory Labs is at the end of the street on the right. Plentiful parking on Ave 21. Parking is very limited inside of the Brewery complex proper. Reservations strongly recommended: Call 323-960-4328 or send email to rosencrantz@theorylabs.org. Check our website for directions and more information: <http://www.theorylabs.org/rosencrantz/>. "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead" follows two minor characters from Shakespeare's "Hamlet" as -- in comic Laurel and Hardy fashion -- they bumble through a drama they can barely understand, much less control. Along the way they contemplate life's great questions and fail to find satisfactory answers.

You are invited to participate in a multimedia cultural experience in **celebration of "The Arpeggio" murals** by artist Mark Venaglia. Synthesizing lecture topics, music and projected images, the artist will take you on his journey that inspired the murals. One year was required for Mark to produce the actual panels- this abridged version occurs from 3 to 5 pm Sunday, May 19, 2002. Presented just opposite the murals in one of the most opulent environments in southern California, the Great Hall of the Masonic Lodge, 200 South Euclid Avenue. Please join this engaging and inspirational speaker as he shares a very practical, grounded application of spirituality and irreverence as it applies to the Art world. \$5. Suggested contribution. All proceeds donated to Aids Service Center. Call (626) 792-7491 for more information.

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, 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.

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