



## Dissent Prevalent as *Vectors* Forum Grinds to Standstill

By ROBERT LI

Having run into unexpected opposition to the planned and essentially approved *Vectors* project at the last meeting on May 20, the Caltech Art Committee held another in the Beckman Auditorium on Thursday.

Attendance consisted of roughly 50 people with students, faculty, as well as non-Caltech people all present in significant numbers. The initial 30 minutes of the meeting was taken up by David Kremers, a conceptual artist in the Biological Imaging Center at Caltech. Kremers, in a masterful Powerpoint presentation and speaking with great enthusiasm, listed in detail the many large, black, steel walls that Serra has built around the world. According to Kremers, these walls are hailed by the art world as works of genius whose

presence forces us to relook and rethink the spaces in which they stand. Towards the end of the presentation, Kremers also mentioned the famous 1981 incident when angry office workers protested and forced the dismantling of another Serra Wall (this one having the distinguishing features that it was curved and leaning) from Federal Plaza in New York City. Kremer's presentation was met with scattered applause.

Immediately after the presentation, Robert Rosenstone, history professor and chair of the Caltech Art Committee, made a statement that the Security Office has determined that the Wall poses no security risk. The floor was then opened up to questions and statements.

Of the first people to speak was a female art student from the California Institute of Art who, according to her own words, specializes in the relationship between art and technology. This student proceeded to spend several minutes praising Serra for his many works of genius and then stated that Caltech students, being so science-oriented, simply cannot appreciate the nature of Serra's works and concluded that we should be "thrilled to have such a work on our campus". Upon hearing these remarks, the auditorium exploded and several students shouted rebuttals to her statements. Prof. Rosenstone asked the audience to be civil and the art student then sat down. Several speakers later, she again took the floor and stated that recently, MIT had a Serra Wall placed on its campus so why couldn't Caltech do the same. A student in the front immediately shouted back that "Caltech isn't MIT" and soon other students joined in the shouting. Calm was restored when the art student sat down. After a few minutes, she left the auditorium.

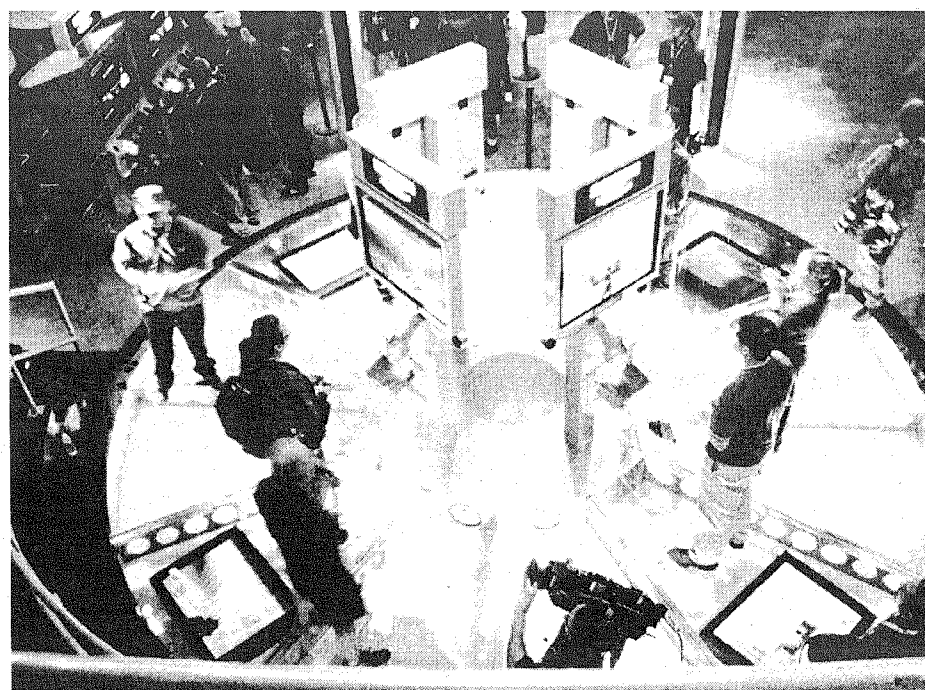
*Continued on Page 2, Column 1*

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Comment on *Vectors* in a *Tech* survey.

<http://tech.caltech.edu/survey>

Results will be published next week.



Courtesy of J. Rorie

Gamers at this year's annual E3 expo enjoy Sony's new *Socom: Navy Seals* game.

## Electronic Entertainment Expo Hosts City Gamers

By GEOFFREY HOM

Acronyms every video gamer should know: PS2 equals PlayStation 2. GC equals GameCube. GBA equals Game Boy Advance. And E3, Heaven on Earth.

Okay, so E3 literally stands for the Electronic Entertainment Expo, held this year from May 22 to 24 at the LA Convention Center. However, E3's connotation is anything but mundane: lavish exhibitor displays, booth babes, swag, and kiosks or demos of every video and computer game to be released over the next twelve months. E3 is the place to have your video game be seen, and hence E3 is the place to see games.

This year's E3 housed 60,000 "interactive entertainment professionals" from 70+ countries and included 400 exhibitors showcasing thousands of new games and products, including more than 1,000 never-before-seen titles. In Caltech terms, that's about sixty times the undergraduate population in one

convention center, with one never-before-seen game per student.

Every major game system (GC, GBA, PC, PS2, and Xbox) was well represented at E3. Nintendo, exhibiting the strength of its Game Giants, had playable versions of *Super Mario Sunshine*, *The Legend of Zelda: Star Fox Adventures* and *Mario Party 4* for the GC. All of these games were well received, but *Metroid Prime*, sporting a 3D first-person view unlike previous *Metroid* games, generated the most talk of being Best of Show.

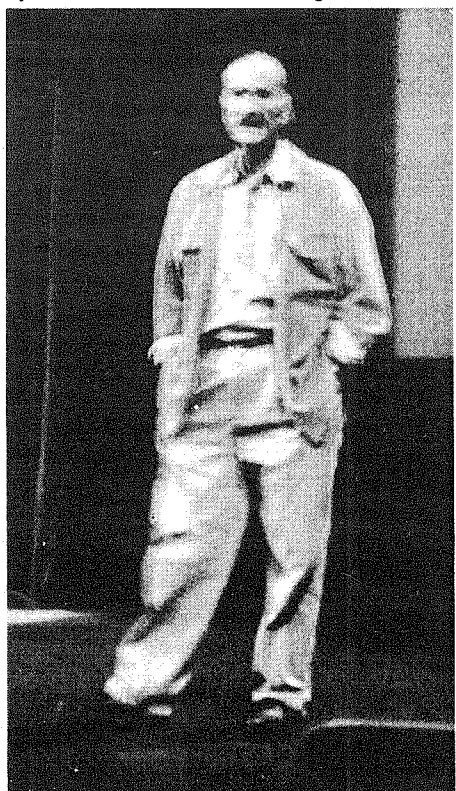
Third-party support of the GC was less impressive, but that wasn't true for the GBA, which has a monopoly on the portable game market. The GBA library, not including backward-compatible *Game Boy Color* games, should include 300 titles by year's end. *Metroid Fusion*, *Contra Advance*, *Golden Sun: The Lost Age*, *Yoshi's Island: Super Mario Advance 3*, *The Revenge of Shinobi*, *Castlevania: Harmony of Dissonance* and *The Legend of Zelda: A Link to the Past* (including 4-player mini-games) were all reasons to hope Nintendo might release a backlit GBA and a device for connecting a GBA to a TV. They won't, but instead Nintendo is releasing the e-Reader, a GBA device for reading info off of specially encoded trading cards. For example, an e-Reader Pokemon card has data encoded in a bar along the left and bottom borders of the card. This data, up to 2.2 kilobytes along the left bar and 1.4 kilobytes along the bottom bar, can unlock or create new game features such as mini-games, hidden characters, and new levels. The e-Reader is already available in Japan but won't be released until September 16 here.

PC games were abundant as usual, with massively multiplayer games and first-person shooters prominently displayed. *Warcraft III*, *World of Warcraft*, *Doom III*, *Age of Mythology*, *Impossible Creatures*, *SimCity 4*, *Soldier of Fortune II*, *Everquest II* and *No One Lives Forever 2* were all marquee titles. The biggest PC surprise must have been *America's Army*, a role-playing, first-person shooter by none other than the U.S. Army and experts at the Department of Defense. *America's Army* will be distributed for free from requests at [www.americasarmy.com](http://www.americasarmy.com) and will be available in August.

Sony decreed that the console war is over. There were no doubt more PS2 games than games for either GC or Xbox, and emphasis was on *The Getaway*, *Kingdom Hearts*, *Final Fantasy XI*, *Madden 2003*, *Resident Evil Online*, *Ratchet and Clank* and others. Sony's online plans involve users purchasing a \$40 PS2 network adapter; details on a PS2 hard drive (required for *Final Fantasy XI*) weren't revealed.

The Xbox, armed with its internal hard disk

*Continued on Page 2, Column 1*



K. Bartz/The California Tech

History Professor Robert Rosenstone, chairman of the Institute Art Committee, fields questions from *Vectors* adversaries.

## KICKING BACK WITH A CAPELLA

CONCERT SET FOR MONDAY

By MARC POPKIN-PAINE

*Ecphonema* is Caltech's oldest a capella group and the only all men's group. A capella, the creation of music without the aid of instruments, is the new craze of the college campus.

The *Ecphonemen* can easily be recognized by their purple shirts and loud music. Their musical style is unusual even in the a capella world. They sing songs from groups such as Creed, Van Morrison, Billy Joel, and the Rolling Stones. No matter who you are, they have sung a song that you love. Of course, their versions of the songs are a little different. Whether they change the words or mix two songs together, they give each arrangement its own *Ecphonema* touch.

The group will continue its annual tradition of singing almost every song they know on Monday, June 10. Weather permitting, this 7:00 p.m. concert in the amphitheatre behind Sherman Fairchild Library offers a moment of relaxation before finals start.

Those who arrive on time will even get to hear Caltech's own mixed a capella group, *Out of Context*, open the show.

## AACIT Fleet on Showcase At Upcoming Open House

By GREG ROMANO

The Aero Association of the California Institute of Technology, more commonly referred to as the CalTech/JPL Flying Club, will feature free introductory flights for Caltech students during a BBQ and Open House at El Monte Airport June 15.

"For many folks, flying is just a dream, but AACIT helps make that dream a reality for Caltech students, CIT and JPL employees and their friends and family," said Alan Ehrlich, AACIT President. "Beginners and experienced pilots alike have found AACIT to be the place to go for top-notch flight instruction, affordable aircraft rental rates and the camaraderie that all pilots enjoy."

This year's AACIT BBQ and Open House will feature free demo flights provided by several of the club's Certified Flight Instructors. In addition to the demo flights, attendees will have the opportunity to view the club's aircraft up close and speak to current members about the club's

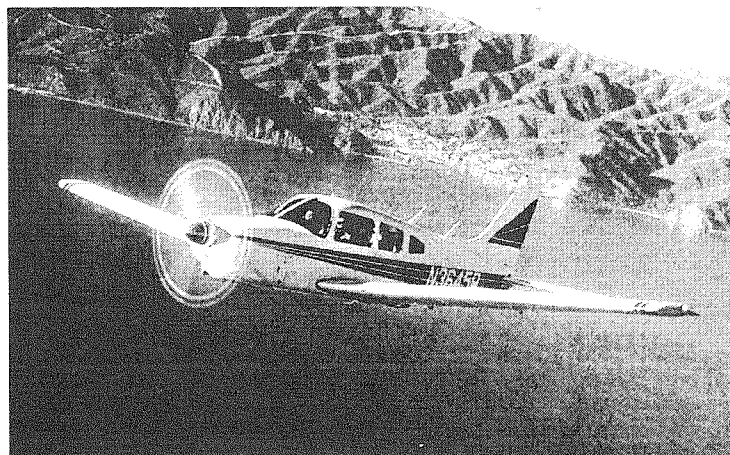
activities.

Founded in 1966, AACIT currently has six single-engine aircraft in its fleet, including a two-seat Cessna 152 and three four-seat Cessna 172s, all of which are ideal for flight training. Two of the Cessna 172s feature 180-hp engines, making them affordable family traveling machines. The club's fleet also includes two high-performance, retractable gear aircraft, a Piper Arrow III and a Cessna 182RG.

While flying is the main fo-

cus, the club also hosts various social events throughout the year. Due largely to the club's close ties with Caltech and JPL's scientific community, the club and several of its members created an Earthquake Response Team in conjunction with the USGS/Department of Geology to facilitate getting scientists and researchers to the site of major quakes.

The BBQ and Open House is slated for noon on June 15 in the FAST Aviation Hangar.



Courtesy of E. Ou

Owned by Greg Detweiler '00, one of the aircraft in the Caltech Aero Association's fleet takes to the skies over a lake.

## E3 MEET UNROLLS NEW GAME TITLES

Continued from Page 1, Column 4

and broadband adapter, seemed to hold its own. Microsoft announced its Xbox Live gaming service, which will open this fall and feature Halo Online as one of the launch titles. The big Xbox games at E3 included *Panzer Dragoon Orta*, *Shenmue 2*, *MechAssault*, *Blinx: The Time Sweeper* and *Malice*. Some very promising titles had video clips but were non-playable, including *Dead or Alive Xtreme Beach Volleyball*, *Project Ego*, *Ninja Gaiden*, and *Metal Gear Solid 2 Substance*.

Some companies are hedging their bets by releasing the same title for multiple consoles. The recently released *Spider-Man: The Movie*, is one example. Another is *Robotech: Battlecry*, which will be released for the GC, PS2, and Xbox. *Robotech* will feature fully transformable Valkyries and missile trails galore.

In addition to a plethora of games, a lot of hardware was also on display. Some of the most creative devices were Nyko's AirFlo controllers, the P5 glove-like peripheral, the Miracle Mouse head-worn controller (useful for quadriplegics), the ButtKicker Personal Seat Shaker, and the ER1 Personal Robot System. This last item is from Pasadena-based Evolution Robotics, Inc. The ER1 is a \$500 robot kit you assemble and attach to a laptop. The finished robot can be programmed to do various tasks. As an example, one robot was shown an empty Pepsi can; the robot then traversed a room, grabbed a new Pepsi (as opposed to a Coke) from a shelf, and brought the Pepsi back to the user. Such demonstrations may be old-hat at Tech, but the crowd at E3 was impressed.

E3 is a unique experience. Although E3 is supposed to be a trade event, every year several Techers manage to get in on questionable terms. Next year's event is slated for the week of May 12, 2003.

## Question of the Week

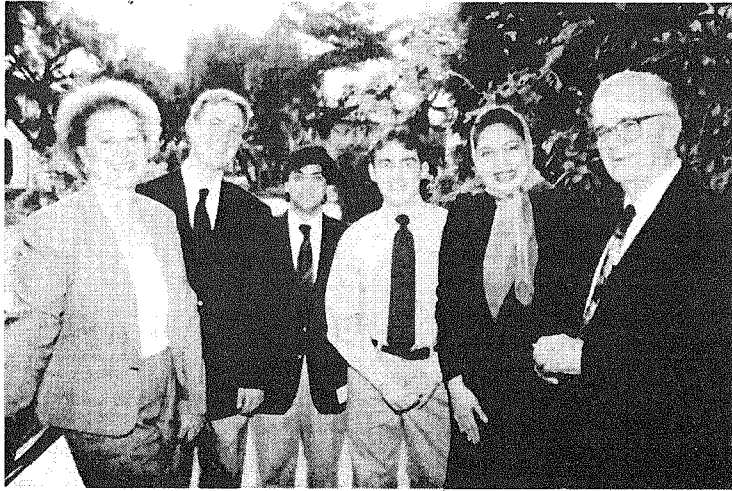
Will Serra's *Vectors* wall survive the recent barrage of protests?

## Second *Vectors* Forum Draws Poor Reviews

Continued from Page 1, Column 2

Another speaker, again not associated with Caltech, presented an alternative art piece to the wall. He showed a scale model of the art piece, which was a mobius-strip type hanging sculpture reminiscent of a 3-D recycling sign and then proceeded to make bizarre connections between it and various scientific disciplines. Prof. Rosenstone soon flatly told the speaker that this was not the forum for such proposals and that the Art Committee had already made its decision.

The student questions and reactions were unchanged from that of the last meeting and essentially boiled down to "Why was there no student involvement?" and "What can be done?" To the first question, Prof. Rosenstone replied that he doesn't know and to the second, Prof. Rosenstone replied that the Art Committee serves only an ad-



Mr. and Mrs. Noland with this year's winners. From left, Joe Fassler, Dinkar Gupta, Aaron Robinson and Ayeh Bandeh-Ahmadi.

## Four Seniors Awarded Annual Noland Prizes

By SUZETTE CUMMINGS

Ayeh Bandeh-Ahmadi '02, Dinkar Gupta '02, Joe Fassler '02 and Aaron Robinson '02 were awarded Robert L. Noland Leadership Awards at a dinner presentation in the Athenaeum Library on May 15. The Robert L. Noland Leadership Award is for outstanding Caltech students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership abilities.

Bandeh-Ahmadi received the award for her leadership and service to the students of Caltech. She has been active in Blacker House serving as treasurer during her junior year as well as serving as the ASCIT treasurer. As ASCIT treasurer she helped to coordinate the annual ASCIT budget meeting at which the ASCIT Board of Directors appropriated funding for student activities and clubs for the year. Since then, she has facilitated funding for over 30 campus clubs and organizations, and helped a number of new organizations form with ASCIT support.

Fassler received the award for his many contributions he has made to student life at Caltech. His primary contribution to his fellow students has been his work with the Board of Control. Elected chairman and vice president of ASCIT his junior year, Fassler has demonstrated great concern for improving student awareness of the Honor System and has done a superb job of carrying out his duties as chairman and vice president.

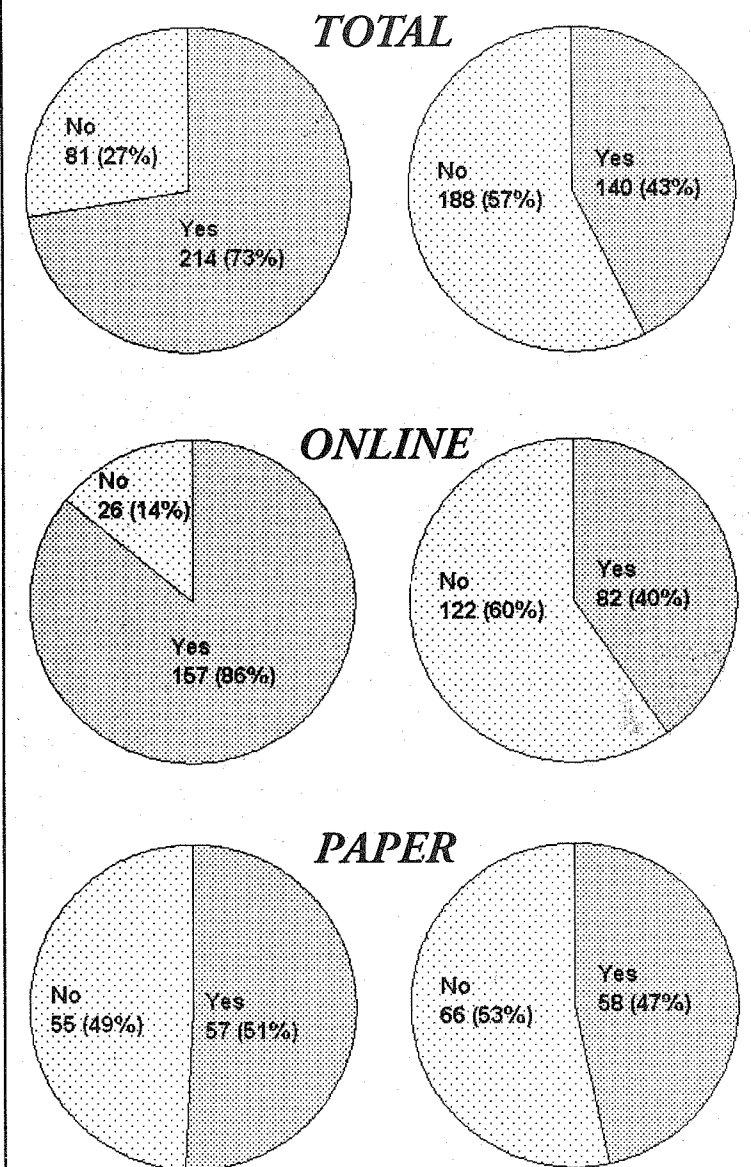
Gupta received the award for his many contributions he has made to student life at Caltech. He has been active within Ricketts House during the last three years. Dinkar has

served that house as treasurer his sophomore year, food representative for Ricketts House his junior year and vice president as a senior. Dinkar also served as IHC Secretary and as a senior class co-president, is currently working with the seniors and the many activities associated with commencement.

Robinson received the award for his leadership and service to the student of the California Institute of Technology. While he has been involved in many activities since his freshman year, the most significant contribution has been his work on the Conduct Review Committee (CRC). The Conduct Review Committee works in parallel with the Board of Control making decisions about issues affecting undergraduate students. Aaron's integrity, impartiality and leadership skills as co-chair on the CRC have contributed to the committee's success.

## Voters Block Donuts, Agree to Publications

PUBLICATIONS FRIDAY DONUTS



## THE OUTSIDE WORLD

By William Fong

### Bridge Collapse Kills 14

Last Sunday morning, a barge rammed into a section of the Interstate 40 bridge at the Arkansas River located in eastern Oklahoma. The result was a 500-foot gap in the bridge which caused several cars and trucks to plummet into the river. On Thursday, rescue efforts were called off and the death toll was at 14. The captain of the barge, Joe Dedmon, said that he blacked out just before the collision. Officials expect that the bridge reconstruction will take about six months to complete at a cost of \$15 million.

### China Airlines Plane Destructs

Last Sunday, a 23-year old Boeing 747 carrying 225 passengers crashed into the Taiwan Strait. The Hong Kong-bounded plane broke into four pieces at an altitude of 30,000 feet and fell into the waters. Only 97 bodies and one percent of the plane has been recovered; the black boxes remain on the ocean floor. With a history of fatal accidents, China Aviation Development Foundation chairman Tsay Jaw-yang and eight other directors resigned on Friday and their resignations were accepted by Taiwan's cabinet. As a result, the Taiwan government has decided to take over the airline until the formation of a new board.

### Kashmir Tensions Rise

Over the past week, tensions between Pakistan and India over the adjoining Kashmir has grown resulting in an increase in troops

on both sides of the border. Since 1948, India and Pakistan have fought three wars with two concerning Kashmir. The South Asia nuclear rivals have raised the concern of the United States, with officials on Friday announcing that all Americans should leave India as soon as possible. One U.S. official suggests that the medium-range nuclear missiles possessed by both sides can kill 17 million people in a week of military action.

### Rescue Crashes On Mt. Hood

On Thursday, a rescue helicopter on Mount Hood in Oregon sent to help injured climbers began to spin out of control as it approached the mountainside. Then the rotor hit the mountain and broke off, causing the chopper to crash into the snow and tumble 1000 feet down the slope. Although the crew was ejected, none were killed; however, three climbers died in the fall that prompted the rescue. Investigations are under way in determining the cause of the crash.

### Israelis Move Into West Bank

Late Thursday and into Friday, Israeli troops moved into the West Bank cities of Nablus, Qalqilya, and Tulkarem. Israeli officials confirmed that the incursions were a part of the patrolling effort to catch Palestinian suicide bombers. Also, CIA Director George Tenet was headed to the Middle East Friday to work with both sides of the struggle in an international effort to reach security cooperation.

Where  
in the  
World  
are  
You?



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## Letters: ASCIT BoD, *Vectors*, Donuts

### ASCIT-Dropping Party

Dear Editors and Students,

Ever wanted to drop ASCIT?

Tired of paying dues to an organization in which you feel you have no say? Join us on the Olive Walk Thursday, June 6 from 11:30 to 1:30 for the first Triannual ASCIT-Dropping Party. Free donuts will be provided. Brought to you by Dabney house and ASCIT multihouse funding.

Zack Chadick '03, Dabney House

### Open Field Beats *Vectors*

Dear Editors,

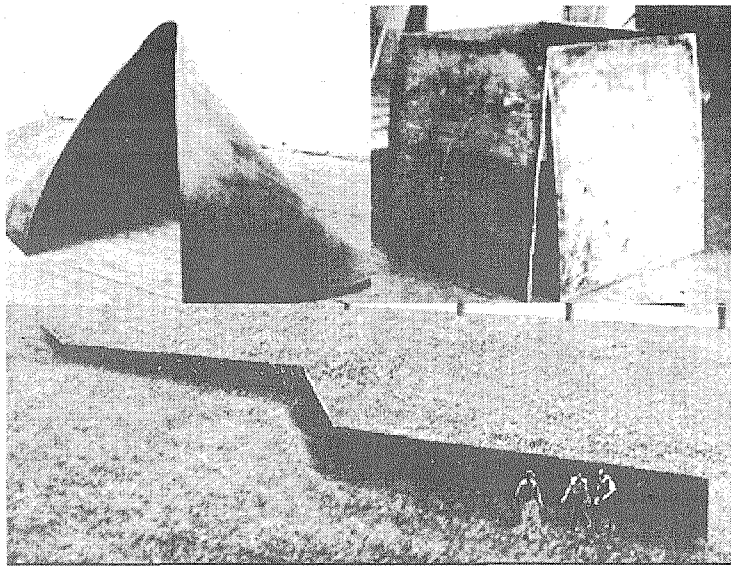
An open field can be so much more than a "big blank space that says nothing." An open field can be a place for people to gather, to play games, enjoy the environment. Such a field was Beckman Lawn. For years this field was a favorite spot for frisbee games, cricket, or general lounging about. It hosted many student-run events, including the occasional medieval tournament. It was one of the main routes onto campus for graduate students coming from the Cats. I hope, someday, that it will be all these things again.

If President Baltimore, the Art Committee, and Richard Serra have their way, that will never happen. *Vectors*, the sculpture planned by Serra, threatens to destroy forever the utility and beauty of this once open space. This artwork is nothing but a metal wall to cut the field in half, ruining the field for most purposes but to look at the wall.

Much has been said before of the potential dangers of this piece. Some say it will provide a place for muggers to hide; others protest that people will be injured running into it, falling from it, or tripping over its lower parts at night.

If Beckmann Lawn had never been used in its bygone days, then perhaps one could see the sense in putting a large wall diagonally across one of the very few open spots we have on or near campus. But like the pedestrian mall in New York that hosted Tilted Art, another of Serra's metal walls, the lawn was a popular spot. Tilted Art proved such a useful and successful addition to that plaza that it was torn down and sold for scrap. Now, it seems, President Baltimore and the Administration are setting us up for a repeat of this failure, having refused to heed the lessons of the last one.

*Vectors* is, in the end, a very



Courtesy of caltech.edu

The modern artistic work of renowned sculptor Richard Serra runs the gamut from artily crafted geometric shapes to a planned wall streaking through the center of the Beckman Institute lawn.

poorly named piece. It evokes nothing of the mathematics and geometry from which it derives its name. Instead, the main effect of the piece will be to build a barrier where once there was none. Is that what Caltech is about?

Luke Sollitt  
Graduate student, Physics

### More Pressing Issues

Dear Editors,

Last week, upon reading the three pages of the Tech dedicated to ASCIT Donuts and mocking it endlessly, my friend made a valid point. Why don't I write something for it? If I find the issues and articles so innane, why don't I do anything besides disparage it to my acquaintances?

Here, then, is what I believe students should be caring about and what the paper should be concerned with:

Students at Caltech are not happy; in fact, our quality of life is probably in the bottom percentile of college students. The houses are in need of repair, and at least twice as many students in some houses want to live on campus then there are spaces available. The workload for many students entering is oppressive to the point of depression, and few of us made it through core without other students helping to pull us through. Many, though certainly not all, of our professors have no desire to teach and thus do a poor job of it. There are even cases, such as that in the case of Professor Cheron (who has taught Russian Literature here for at least twenty years), where the professor was excellent, responsive to students, as was terminated under circumstances that are still unexplained and suspicious at best. In a year or so, I'm guessing we'll be one of very few major colleges without a central library. Parking is impossible, and will soon be available to a select few freshman. And I would not be surprised if even that privilege is revoked in the coming years. While I am not knowledgeable about the healthcare issues, those, too, are of concern to many undergraduates. There has recently been a Task Force and report questioning the Housing system, Rotation, and House traditions, in a sense attacking the only community many of us have here at Tech, and some of the few things that keep us here. Ricketts had its firepot taken away for reasons many of us don't understand. The Alcohol Policy has changed so

much over the past several years that no one knows where it stands; furthermore, it is very selectively enforced. President Baltimore wants to erect "artwork" on Beckman Lawn that most, if not the entirety of the student body, objects to and finds repulsive.

The incoherent nature of that last paragraph was done for a purpose—to display the magnitude and variety of just a few of the problems, the *real* problems, plaguing Caltech. We have more serious concerns, I am sure, than any college is facing at this particular moment.

Thus, I am imploring *The California Tech*, and to a lesser extent ASCIT, to stop concerning the student body with such innane issues as Friday Morning Donuts. I don't care if five students now have to pay \$3 at Chandler to get their food on Friday mornings instead of waiting 15 minutes for ASCIT to show up with free donuts. If you are seeking a cause to latch onto, read my above paragraph. Write editorials and commentaries about a beloved house tradition that is facing termination by the administration. Complain that decent professors are being forced to leave us, and that the poor ones remain. Demand either stricter admissions standards or a more manageable Core curriculum.

Please care about the issues that need to be addressed, instead of those that have no impact on our future or the future of the institute we have chosen to spend four years of our lives at.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Dyl '04

### Minutes Photos 'Ridiculous'

Dear Editors,

I would like the readers of the *Tech* to know that neither I nor the rest of the ASCIT Board of Directors have any control over the (often ridiculous) photographs that run adjacent to the ASCIT Minutes. I assure you that they can annoy BoD members as much as they annoy you!

Sincerely,

Joe Jewell '04  
ASCIT Secretary

### BoD Minutes 'Ridiculous'

Dear Editors,

I would like the readers of the *Tech* to know that neither I nor the rest of the *Tech* staff have any control over the (often ridiculous) remarks in both the letters to the editor and the ASCIT minutes. I assure you that they can annoy newspaper editors as much as they annoy you!

Sincerely,

Libin Zhang '05  
London Correspondent

## The BoD, Integrity And Lack Thereof

### How the BoD Conspired to Kill Donuts

By ABE FETTERMAN

Wednesday was a record-setting day. The first bylaw amendment ever to be proposed from outside the BoD was voted on and failed before the public. So be it, I would say: if the people do not want the bylaw, I would be the last one to push it on them.



One who has a heart (and stomach) for donuts, however, may wonder about the root of the failure. This one amendment has brought out the most rigorous campaign by the BoD to date. One may seriously wonder why it takes the BoD over a year to work out the salaries for

*Tech* business managers, while they immediately put their hearts and souls into the failure of this amendment. Not one progressive amendment has been campaigned for this

much by our illustrious president, his tagalong secretary or other members of the Board. Is it the \$63 that would surely come straight from ASCIT's slush social fund or the fact that it posed a serious question as to the correctness of the BoD's decision?

One can see many incarnations of the campaigning BoD members put into this amendment. Ted Jou '03, ASCIT President and Fleming leader extraordinaire, sent a lengthy plea to the Fleming list asking that people turn down the Donut amendment and pass the publications amendment. Joe Jewell '04 sent a considerably lengthier plea to all of Avery (forwarded to all of Blacker house) saying that the passage of the donut bylaw would set a "dangerous precedent by putting a

highly specified issue in the by-laws." Joe also complained that the amendment was poorly written. Interestingly, if you check [donut.caltech.edu](mailto:donut.caltech.edu) and go to BoD resolutions, you will see that the Donut resolution, passed by the BoD itself, was strikingly similar to the proposed amendment. Also, the bylaws are the only place safe from tampering by the BoD, the group profiting most from the shutdown of Friday donuts.

Several other issues produced by our illustrious student governors conspired to set the donut bylaw at a distinct disadvantage. For one thing, the publications bylaw failed by more than a majority just two weeks ago. Why would ASCIT propose the same,

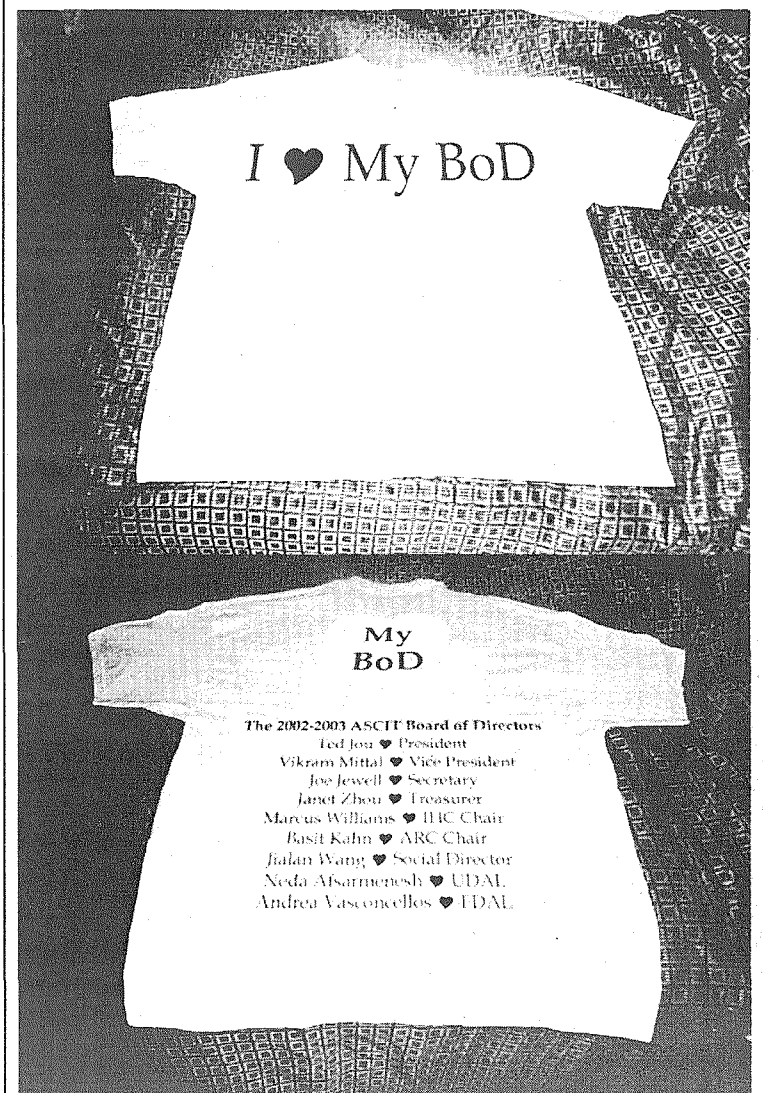
*"The solution is to stick it with another bylaw: conveniently, one they don't like!"*

unaltered amendment so soon after? The only solution would be that ASCIT voters are unable to vote properly when presented with two issues simultaneously. The obvious solution is to stick it with yet another bylaw being voted on: conveniently, one they don't like! Hooray!

Under this precedent, we can draw a conclusion: that my donut amendment should, in all fairness, be likewise placed on another ballot sometime soon, next to an amendment I don't like. Maybe one that would turn the North Houses into a parking lot or force everyone to wear "I love my BoD" shirts on Fridays. I can't think of any way that this should not be valid, considering it's exactly what happened with the other amendment (which for some reason passed by a vast majority this second time).

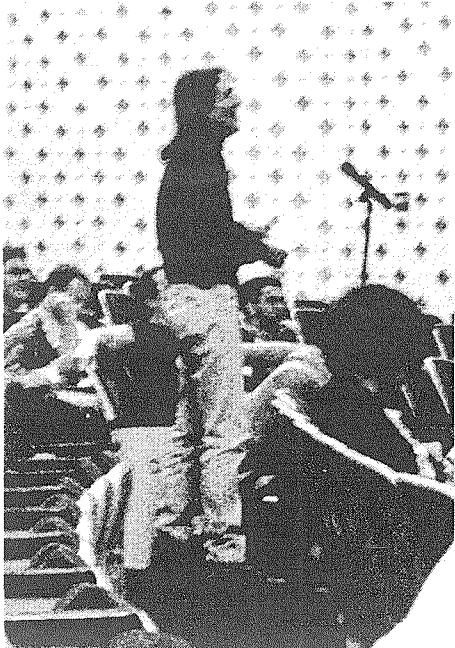
But besides rigorous campaigning

*Continued on Page 5, Column 1*



Courtesy of A. Fetterman

With newly minted "I Love My BoD" T-shirts, Abe Fetterman '05 is well-dressed for Dabney's ASCIT-Dropping Party next Thursday.



K. Bartz/The California Tech

A protester speaks out for a *Vectors*-free Beckman Lawn at the Art Committee's open forum last Thursday. The sentiment is common among graduate students.

understand. The Alcohol Policy has changed so

# Restoring Grass-roots Government

## ASCIT's Absence From Student Issues of Importance

By MICHAEL RUSSO

Late first term, a group of students organized a protest event to voice undergraduate concerns about the way the administration was handling several major issues, including housing, health care, parking, and traditions. The event had its genesis in a far-ranging late-night conversation; of the principal organizers, one was a member of the IHC, while the rest had no significant student government affiliation.

Over the past few weeks, I've been involved in an effort to convince the administration (specifically, Provost Koonin) that a central library is a better idea than many distributed ones, and to register our complaints with the lack of information the undergraduates have been given on this important issue. Once again, the students who are working on this hold no related offices, and found out about the current library plan through a fortuitous series of conversations.

It seems telling to me that of the two major student agitations this year, both have been organized and carried out by, in effect, private individuals – people with no qualifications or mandate other than concern and a desire to do something. To a certain extent, this is a laudably civic-minded, grass-roots method of dealing with problems affecting the undergraduate community. On the other hand, it is inefficient and haphazard in the extreme – how many other important issues have gone unaddressed simply because no one with the requisite interest and abilities stumbled across the information they would need to act? What other problems do we simply not know about yet?

It doesn't have to be this way. Recently, the graduate students, upset with a variety of Institute policies, organized and presented their demands to the administration. The Graduate Student Council played a key part in coordinating the action and keeping the grad students informed. Instead of the GSC, however, we undergrads have ASCIT.

Why hasn't ASCIT had a hand in any significant lobbying of the administration and why hasn't it done more to keep its constituents informed about worrisome administration policies? One would think

that these would be near the core of ASCIT's purpose as an organization. But instead of dealing with substantial issues which will have a deep impact on the quality of undergraduate life, the current ASCIT BoD seems bogged down with complaints about interhouse funding, allegations of electoral misconduct, and other minutiae. The recent donut bylaw "controversy," and the frankly embarrassing amount of attention it received, strikes me as almost insulting, given the gravity of the issues ASCIT is not confronting.

The only meaningful ASCIT comment on the administration's policies I can recall over the past

*"Why hasn't ASCIT had a hand in any significant lobbying of the administration?"*

year is President Ted Jou's characterization of Dr. Baltimore's April letter to the student body as a "major victory." The letter was indeed a step in the right direction, towards more effective undergraduate-administration communication, but it was only the first step. There were many specifics the letter left unresolved, but instead of following up, the current ASCIT BoD seemed content to trumpet a victory they had little to do with and quietly let the issue die.

The current state of affairs requires first of all a deep-seated change in the way ASCIT sees its purpose. Actually carrying out this new role, however, could be quite simple. There are a large number of task force reports, recommendations, and faculty board minutes that are available somewhere on the web. ASCIT should be responsible for collating the most important and making them available on their webpage. I know that the library task force report is currently online at donut; however, it is inaccessible unless one knows the URL, since ASCIT hasn't seen fit to include a link to it anywhere on their pages. An important report to President Baltimore on health care was re-

cently released, but I can find no mention of it anywhere on ASCIT's site, nor was any email sent to ASCIT members about this issue, which the first term protest showed was critically important to many undergraduates. As well as simply collecting these documents, however, ASCIT also needs to be telling us which are important and likely to cause problems for students. Beyond all of this, one of ASCIT's primary duties, it seems to me, should be to keep its ears to the ground, digging to discover exactly what the administration has in the works and how it's likely to affect undergraduates. To be an effective representative of undergraduate desires, ASCIT needs to be informed, and it needs to keep us informed as well.

None of these proposals would be terribly difficult to implement. ASCIT already has an impressive Web site and the e-mail addresses of every undergraduate. They surely have the ability to set up, say, a bi-weekly meeting with the President and Provost to keep up to date. All that's missing, then, is the desire on ASCIT's part to actually go out and do this. We can't really blame them for this, though – ASCIT needs to be sensitive to our wishes, and as long as we're clamoring about trivia like donuts, that's what's going to be addressed. We all need to think for a while about what kind of a student government we want. If we truly want one that's committed to safeguarding student interests and standing up to the administration, it's incumbent on us to give ASCIT that mandate. We need to write letters, we need to have conversations, and we need to vote for candidates who are committed to these ideas. Governments can't change by themselves; we need one last grass-roots movement to make ASCIT the kind of organization that doesn't need grass-roots movements to do its job.



K. Bartz/The California Tech

Prefrosh arrive at this year's Prefrosh weekend. Although dubbed worse than last year, the event did succeed in drawing a record yield. Over 240 freshmen are slated to matriculate.

## Prefrosh: Any Cooler?

### Explaining the Increased Matriculation

By ABE FETTERMAN

You might have noticed that next year's Frosh class is going to be gigantic. By "gigantic" I mean in terms of number of people, not that they are overweight. They might be overweight but that's completely irrelevant to my argument, which is that there are more incoming freshman than Techers who regular *fark.com*.

Anyways, there are several possible reasons for this hoop-lah. Did admissions screw up and send out more acceptances? Or was the acceptance rate simply much higher than expected?

It is doubtful that the admissions committee could be so oblivious as to send extra invitations to this special place we call hell. We already have a severe housing crunch (I hear even Page will fill up next year), as well as a parking scarcity and potential decrease in health insurance. What's really interesting is that the plans of Dining Services are being pushed back by this influx – next year's frosh will not be on de-

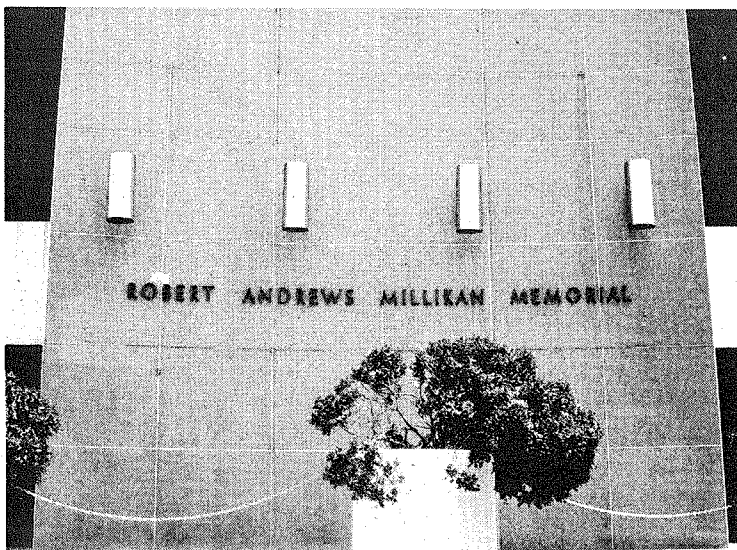
clining balance, despite plans to the contrary.

But how could more people accept this year? Prefrosh Weekend was worse by far this year than the year before, and we didn't really rise in the revered rankings. Perhaps this year's seniors didn't quite match the bitterness of last year's and so couldn't drive away as many unwitting potential students, but certainly not for lack of trying.

The main reason the acceptance rate has increased, as I see it, is the parallel actions of our main competitor for new students, the "other" institute of technology, has decreased its admissions by a non-trivial amount, to "keep classes smaller." The result is to be larger classes for our freshman, which will be a pain in the arse to deal with. Oh well, more TA positions, I suppose.

What sort of effect will this inflated number of happy-go-lucky, bright-eyed bushy-tailed freshman

*Continued on Page 5, Column 4*



K. Fitch/The California Tech

Michael Russo '03 and Tom Fletcher '03 are among the many students advocating the idea of a central library to Provost Steve Koonin.

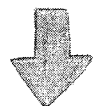
### CALTECH CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH



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**Kick Your ASCIT:** It remains to be seen how many ASCIT non-members Dabney's ASCIT-Dropping Party can add to the current grand total of two.



**DoNutcase:** Highest turnout ever in a vote about... donuts. If these partisans put a tenth the effort into student issues, we'd have all of Moore's \$600 million by now.

## Library Concerns Meet Deaf Ears

### Provost Koonin and the Pattern of Administrative Fiats

By TOM FLETCHER and MICHAEL RUSSO

A series of bewildering decisions by the administration, most of them centering around changes to the library system, prompted the two of us to set up a meeting with Provost Steve Koonin in order to better understand the rationale for the changes being implemented. Rather than clarifying anything, however, the meeting only served to show us that the current plan is flawed in many ways, and to paint us a picture of a troublingly irresponsible administration.

Jon Foster's article two weeks ago provided an admirable summary, but the salient facts are as follows: the Faculty Library Committee rejected the Provost's proposal to move towards a distributed library system. Unsatisfied, Koonin appointed the Library Task Force committee whose final report was released in March 2002. The task force concluded that "the library lies at the core of a University... a library is an indispensable focal point of an institution." The task force also found that an overwhelming 62% of the Caltech community preferred a central library to closer, distributed libraries. Refusing to be dissuaded, Koonin criticized his own task force and moved forward with disassembling the current library system.

Concerned by this apparent arbitrariness, we scheduled a meeting with Koonin to discuss our concerns with the library plan, the denial of a meeting with students on the plan, and general concerns with

the Institute. The meeting, and subsequent fact-checking with library staff and HSS faculty, convinced us that Koonin's library plan is flawed and underdeveloped.

The Provost felt justified in his cancellation of a campus-wide meeting because in his opinion "a large single-focus meeting is probably not the best way to accomplish things. I think also the student issues have not been clearly defined. What are the issues here? Many of them have come out already. I think they have been dealt with... I've heard all of the opinions. Nobody has brought up anything new." To

*"How can we as Techers prevent women from being 'objectified'?"*

be fair, we had not brought any novel concerns to the table, but the complaints already levied against the current library plan have yet to be adequately addressed.

The primary argument against a central library hinges on the fact that a central library would be too expensive to build, given Caltech's current financial situation. This argument, however, is a patent fallacy. The task force report found that "distributed libraries are more costly to operate than a central facility," and listed five more solid arguments against distributed librar-

ies. This conclusion is quite unsurprising – distributed libraries will require a duplication of staffing and facilities, provisions for transportation, and greatly heightened administrative costs. When asked about the long-term cost of operating distributed libraries versus the short-term cost of building a new central library, Koonin answered that "nobody has quantified that for me. The task force should have quantified something like that." This explanation damns more than redeems the current plan – surely it is the height of administrative incompetence to proceed with a plan before examining the costs of the two alternatives!

Part of the current plan is to place over half of the reference collection in Millikan basement, despite the fact that this basement has flooded at least once a year for the past three decades. When questioned Koonin answered, "We are in the process of doing an extensive waterproofing study; the report should be available [around June 8th]. Obviously if there are major problems we are going to have to rethink this." In this aspect as well, the current library plan seems characterized by inappropriate haste. Ignoring the confusion over whether the books will actually be safe in Millikan basement or not, the books are already being packaged up, and the new compact shelving has already been bought. While the committee is optimistic about the waterproofing, this reckless speed could very well be quite costly.

*Continued on Page 7, Column 1*

## Fetterman: BoD 'Biased' Friday Donut Bylaw Vote

Continued from Page 3, Column 5

and an amendment soggy with the taste of failure, some members of the BoD took decidedly low blows at the donut amendment. While I was assured by Ted that my amendment would appear first on the ballot, and so suggested that people vote "yes" on the first issue and "no" on the second, the online polls displayed the amendments in a distinctly different configuration. Not only that, but vocal anti-donutite Joe Jewell wrote the summaries for each of the amendments online. Why could the amendments not just be linked instead of having an obviously biased statement about them? If such a statement is required, why not let the proponent

of the amendment write it? Such discriminatory power in the hands of the Secretary may have been enough to tip the amendment on its own. However, when factored in with the other issues, one can certainly see how the amendment was fighting an uphill battle.

So, in retrospect, the amendment did not stand much of a chance against the BoD's determination. It did, however, teach a number of lessons to future generations. Our only hope is that Ted follows through with his promises of a survey (during finals week?) and that should that indicate a fondness for Friday donuts, that they are reinstated without another such "experiment" next term.

Bylaw vote this week. Neither result was close, and turnout was above average for a Bylaw vote.

We discuss off-campus house-affiliated alleys for a short period, although that's really the IHC's turf. Neda has heard a rumor that there won't be any off-campus alleys past next year. Marcus assures her that to his knowledge, there will always be off-campus alleys, although the locations may be changed.

We debate what to do with the DVD Library over the summer, with various BoD members wanting various degrees of security versus accessibility. We punt the decision to next week and agree to seek Tim Wan's input. Joe secretly hopes that they'll be put in an "undisclosed secure location" (just like Dick Cheney!) so that he can work that phrase into the minutes.

An online survey will go out to all undergrads electronically next week, and likely remain open for several weeks in order to maximize response. The first question on the survey, as promised back when our "two midnight donuts" experiment started at the beginning of third term, will be used to decide the future of Friday morning donuts vs. two sets of midnight donuts for the rest of our terms in office. We encourage every student to fill out the survey—although the rest of the questions haven't been finalized yet, it will likely be about 20 multiple-choice questions long.

Three committees need student co-chairs—alcohol and fire policy review committees being pulled together in response to this week's jointly signed ASCIT-IHC letter to the administration, and a committee requested by the administration to provide student input into how to spend the income from the first installment of the Moore money.

## ASCIT Minutes

MAY 20, 1996

### Present

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

Guests: Kevin Bartz (Tech editor)

Meeting called to order at 4:16 p.m. It's a new record—that's the closest to our nominal 4:15 start time we've ever achieved quorum!

### Guests

Kevin is here to listen, but no guests have any business to present this week. In lieu of guests, Joe reports excitedly that he received a really cool email from Eric Tuttle this past week, right around bylaw election time.

### General Meeting

The TV in the ASCIT Screening Room mysteriously stopped working, as several patrons have reported to us. We definitely want to get it functional again before leaving for summer. Ted will contact a repair person, hopefully through Caltech. If necessary, funds can be taken out of the money we had budgeted to improve the Screening Room's ceiling acoustics.

ASCIT Teaching Award nominations are open and will close Wednesday. We will have a special lunchtime meeting on Thursday to consider the ARC's nominations (the Deans have requested that we make our selections soon so that the awardees can be notified in time for the Faculty Board meeting).

ARC-nominated committee appointments will be made at the regular meeting next Friday.

Laura Elliott is appointed ASCIT Executive Committee Chairman (5-0-1).

A summer pre-planning committee for next year's Student Faculty Conference will be established soon. Ted is going to submit a statement to the Tech asking both for concrete, constructive suggestions on the conference and volunteers to help organize it.

Janet will hopefully get a comprehensive report on the state of ASCIT finances for the next meeting (our last of this school year) so that we can close out the term with our financial affairs in good order. With the new system, things are definitely much improved from last year, but there are still transitional issues to work out.

The ASCIT Publications amendment was approved and the Donut amendment was defeated in the

## Independence for Indian States A Plan to Appease the Quickly Growing Demand

By LIBIN ZHANG

The diplomatic tug of war in the Middle East and the demands for the formation of an independent Palestinian State have diverted attentions away from other repressed indigenous people's demands for independence. It is time to spread our efforts and guarantee the self-sovereignty of every race whose land has been taken by the white man, starting with the American Indians. The hypocritical Americans who want Israeli settlers to abandon their homes must be prepared to give up their own homes to the original Indian owners. Even if it means the division of the United States into thousands of independent warring nations of only Indians, and the expulsion of all "foreign" settlers, the creation of Indian states must not be delayed.

The plight of the American Indians parallels in many ways the situation of the so-called Palestinian refugees. While Israel expanded its territorial boundaries only in the past half century, the American government has been relentlessly seizing Indian lands for three centuries until the passage of the Dawes's Act a mere 70 years ago. High unemployment, poverty, crime, and alco-

Both committees will meet over the summer. Since the first two are primarily housing issues, we decide to get names from the IHC for them (via Marcus who already has a few suggestions, but says he will talk to the IHC and get more at their next meeting). For the third committee, we decide to send Ted Jou (as ASCIT President) to the preliminary meeting and see if his summer schedule is compatible with their plans.

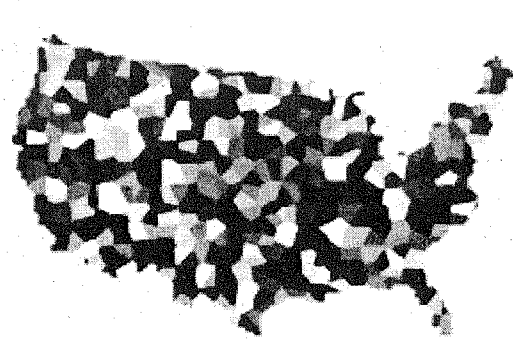
By the meeting next Friday all of the student co-chairs should be finalized (this has to be done quickly to get things rolling by summer), but for the other student members on the committees, where there is more slack in the schedule, we agree that formal signups and interviews should take place.

Meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Jewell

ASCIT Secretary



Courtesy of L. Zhang

Maps show the former United States and former Israel after the success of Palestinian and Indian separatists.

holism plague both peoples, while occupying races (Israelis and The White Man) live in luxury. The Indian peoples are huddled in highly populated "reservations," their men disarmed and their economies disrupted. Many despair at living and the suicide rate is extremely high, but the Indians do not have the benefit of painless, bomb-assisted suicide that is popular among young Palestinians. The tribes that have not been wiped out by genocide and self-destruction all yearn to recover their ancestral lands.

The Indians do not have high-profile or oil-rich sovereign allies to help them recover their territory, nor do they win Nobel Peace Prizes every two decades. No nations came to the Indian's assistance and aggressively attacked the United States when the American Army fought at Wounded Knee. Their only hope is that the occupying Americans might be forced by their conscience, combined with international pressure and outspoken students, to abandon the occupation of the New World and return to Europe. This has taken longer than expected. However, I am prepared to

take the initiative and return the lands on which Caltech resides, if everyone else agrees, to the Indians who once lived in this region, wherever their place of exile may be.

Once all of the United States has been returned to the Indians, each Indian tribe would form its own independent nation. However, sometimes it's difficult to find the original Indian settlers. Trustees can temporarily maintain the ownerless nations in a regency pending the discovery of the last Yahi or Mohican. The United States would be depopulated and be ripe for a Canadian invasion (as faithful readers of my last article are undoubtedly aware), but all good men must agree that this is a small price to pay to return people to the lands once belonging to their ancestors.

The aborigines in Australia and the Maoris in New Zealand have made some progress in their demands for autonomy, climaxing in Cathy Freeman's waving of the aboriginal flag in the Sydney Olympics. However, the list of oppressed native peoples does not end there. Why send Colin Powell to



Courtesy of L. Zhang

A Palestinian boy shows his Indian friends, not shown, how to use an assault rifle in their peaceful bid for self-determination and independence from tyranny.

## NEW PREFROSH TO BE 'COOLER'

Continued from Page 4, Column 5

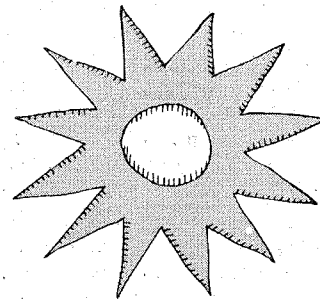
have on our lives? Well, if you're a senior, none. Otherwise, there are a slew of pros and cons.

On the good side, there will more people to put through the harassment and abuse that all freshmen are inevitably put through. Hopefully, as more people have been accepted, there will also be more "cooler" people coming to this place, although freshmen tend to be less exciting.

Some of the adverse effects are already being felt. Many more students were kicked off-campus than ever before, and even off-campus housing filled up pretty quickly. There will be more names at Rotation, more freshmen to induct, more brats running around on pass-fail. The parking situation will only worsen and the ratio will be ridiculously low. More child prodigies will pass out of core and ruin the curve for us.

So is this surplus freshman class a burden or a boon? We will see next year, as the wide-eyed younglings are brought into the harsh realities of the world we live in.

## Don't Let Summer

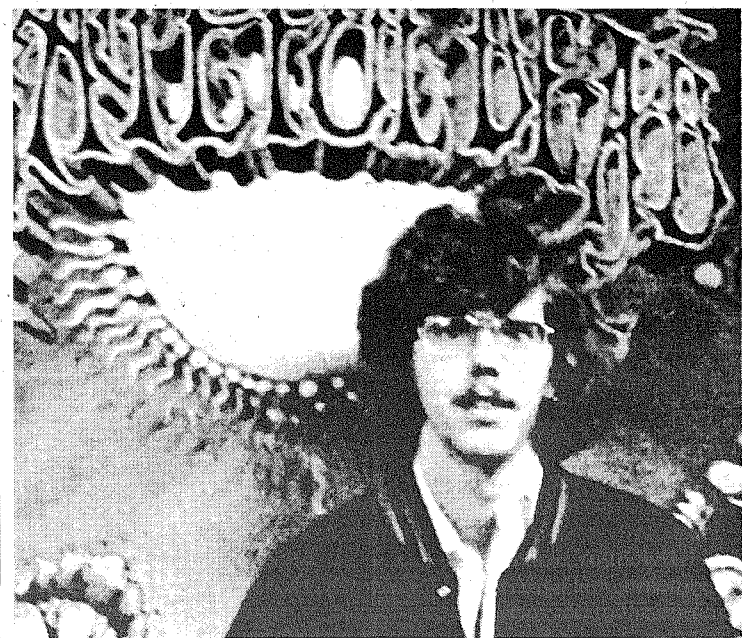


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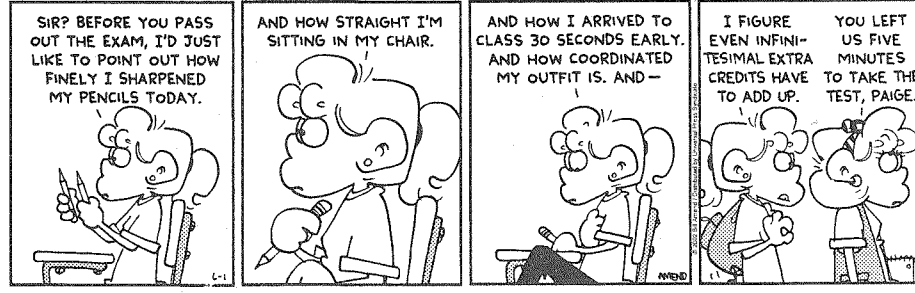
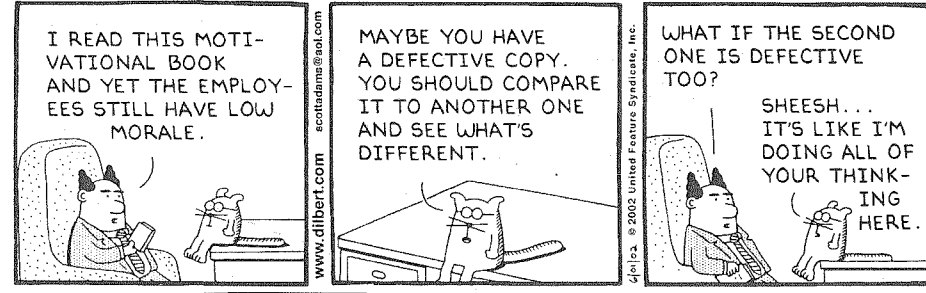
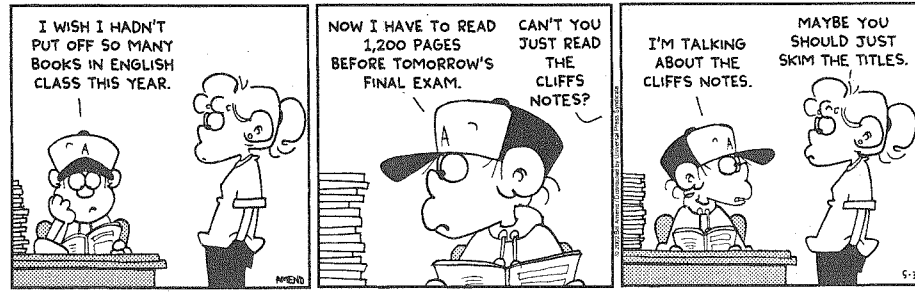
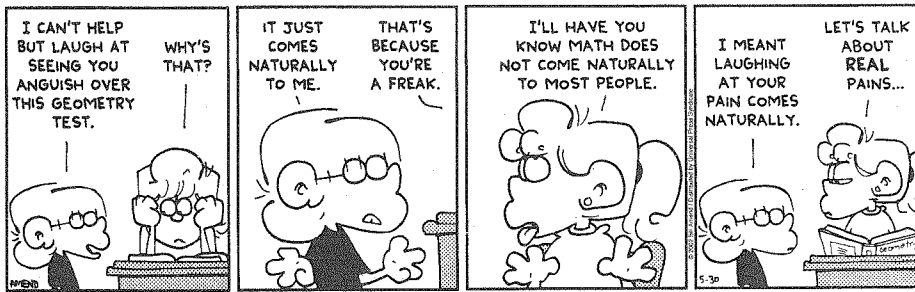
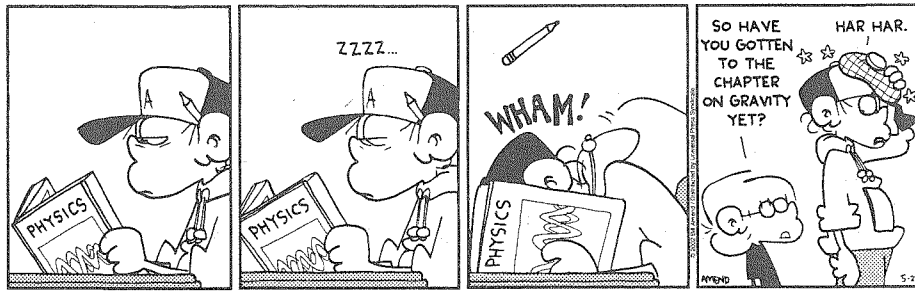
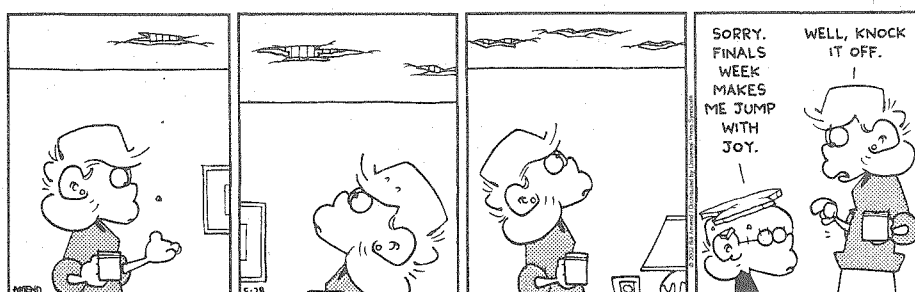
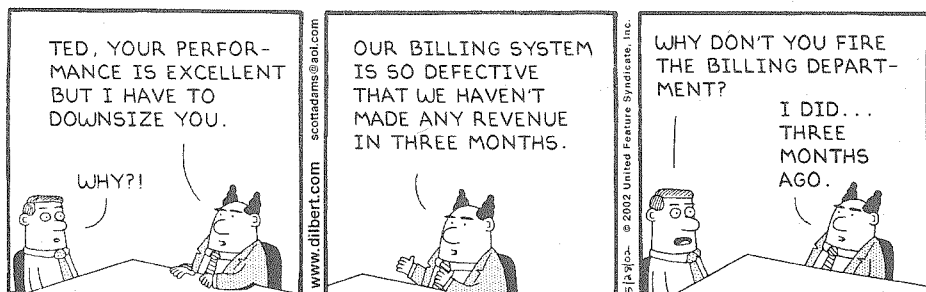
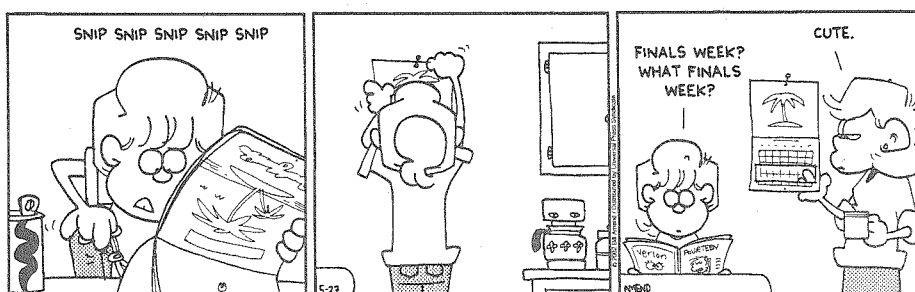
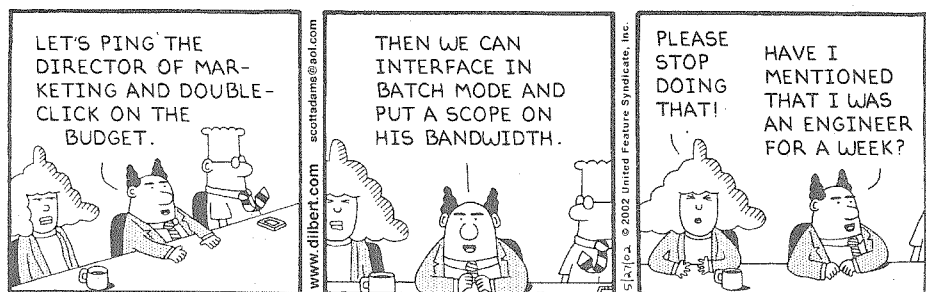


The California Tech Archives

Maverick 1979 ASCIT Vice President Jim Jensen '80 outlines his plans for structured communication with trustees. In the spirit of Jensen's joint ASCIT-IHC-trustee committee, administrators have proposed a similar group charged with doling out the first installment of Gordon Moore's recent \$600 million gift this summer.

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# Dean's Corner

## Did We Teach That?

by Jean-Paul Revel

The end of the school year is approaching. For the seniors last Friday was already the last day of classes, and the end is near even for the others, only a week later. Note I do mean the end of the Caltech school year, this is not an apocalyptic admonition by a white robed doomsday prophet or a warning of the possible horrifying consequences of an escalation of one of the disputes, conflicts or real wars that are taking place around the world.

The distractions of ditch day are behind us, all the energy, effort (and expense) that upper class students lavish on their stacks has mostly evaporated. In a way would you not think that ditch day would fall more appropriately in some part of the calendar less fraught with other distractions? Although just when that would be is hard to imagine, maybe somewhere in the second term, but that would give less time to prepare, and disrupt the senior's progress towards graduation. Let ditch day be where it falls, third term sometimes. Ditch day aside is a strange time in the school year, this rump part of the third term. Everyone is tired and in a bitter-sweet way glad the year will soon be over. People are gearing up for the summer. Some are having exciting dreams about their SURFs, or the job awaiting them, the trips they'll take, the friends they'll see, the visit home (warning: your rooms at home will look

small). Speaking of SURFs there is even a student who is going on an archaeology expedition in the steam tunnels, under the aegis of the Institute Archivist (a.k.a. Registrar). And of course most of the seniors have heard from the graduate and professional schools they plan to attend, or from the firms that they will be joining. There is a whirl of social activity, parties, trips and outings nearly as many as in the Xmas and New Year seasons. However sweet the dreams of the future it is also time for the sadness of saying good bye to the friends who graduate. In the middle of the celebration and the rush of feelings you must find the time and energy to finish that lab, these homeworks, and then write those finals. The final finals of the year.

All of you are seasoned Techers by now, there is not a new conscript in sight. The frosh are frosh no more. The study cards I sign all say Soph, or Jr or Sr, and we will have to wait for the Fall to have significant numbers of newcomers around again. And just as we reflect on the past and make resolutions for the future around New Year time, now might be a good time to look at the school year past and make resolutions for the future. One of the areas where such resolutions may be needed is that of study habits, an subject in which I believe (horror) Caltech may have let some of you (not too many I hope) down.

There are many schools other than Tech that you could have attended.

You could have picked a less picky place and sailed through college, just as you sailed through high school. I hope that the extra sweat and extra effort that at least some of you have had to expend will have taught you the importance of doing things on time rather than at the last minute. Many students arrive with terrible work habits, because those are skills, which hotshots all, you did not need wherever you were before. One way this shows itself is the tendency to skip classes. After all they are at an inconvenient time, how can you be expected to go to Physics at 11 a.m. and Math at 10 a.m. when you went to bed at 4 a.m., so much work to do. I know it is fashionable at Tech, a badge of belonging here, to pull all nighters, to miss morning classes. But few employers, medical schools or law schools will be able to tolerate these habits (things

would probably be different at grad school, but even there being organized about your work will pay dividends). Oh, I have heard the Profs are bad, the Profs don't care etc., therefore class cutting is the thing to do. Don't blame others, it is your responsibility to learn from your instructors. (the most picturesque statement of that I have seen is from Virginia Polytech: "Whereas Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State U. is committed to providing high quality education to its students, and Whereas attendance at classes is essential." You cannot sit passively hoping that you'll absorb any of the drenching of knowledge and expertise without an effort on your part. You have to be active and drink from that firehose. And whatever you do you'll need these good positive habits. Don't be ashamed to admit that you don't know, or don't understand, there is no shame in asking questions. Most of your colleagues will actually be grateful to you in their inner thoughts.

Everyone has had to learn at one time or other; knowledge cannot advance if one has to continuously reinvent everything. Also don't sit

on all the stuff you have to do and wait for next week, don't let the pile of stuff increase to the point that no one could ever catch up with it. Whether Caltech has done its magic for you is a question which it might take several years, maybe even a lifetime to answer. What you have learned will influence your reactions and thoughts in subtle ways and will support you even when you don't specifically realize that part of your answer to the problems you'll be facing is a legacy of what you did while here. To those of you going a step higher on the ladder, make certain to take active advantage of what we have to offer. To all of you who are leaving us, the 250 or so BS recipients, best wishes in your careers, your futures. We have done our thing, now go do yours

Au revoir to some, a bientot to the others!

*Jean Paul Revel*

Jean-Paul Revel  
Dean of Students

## Library: Victim of Fiat

Continued from Page 4, Column 5

Why was this study not completed before the current plan was chosen and implemented?

The haphazard character of the library transition does not stop at Millikan basement. The specifics for this massive reorganization seem to change daily - currently, the humanities and social science collection will be housed in no less than six locations over the next 18 months. Responding to concerns about the lack of foresight, Koonin asserted that "[the] plan was forwarded back in January, if not earlier, and so people have been thinking about how to do this for a while." Upon follow-up with library staff, we discovered that they first learned of the plan to relocate three floors of Millikan Library in April, not January, and that they heard about the plan from janitors, not the administration. Yet even more concerning is that if Koonin's date is correct, the plan for moving the HSS collection was put into motion two months before the task force report was even released, essentially meaning that their hard work and the opinions of the community were ignored.

Koonin did indeed seem to have "heard all of the opinions"; unfortunately, despite his knowledge of them, he was unable to convince us that these contrary opinions were in error. Instead, we were treated to pat oversimplifications and a condescending invocation of the administration's responsibility to balance competing concerns.

Beyond the administrative malpractice, the Provost's plans seem at odds with his overall design for the institute. When asked to provide his vision for the future, Koonin replied that Caltech's twin concerns must be "world-beating research, and educating the next generation

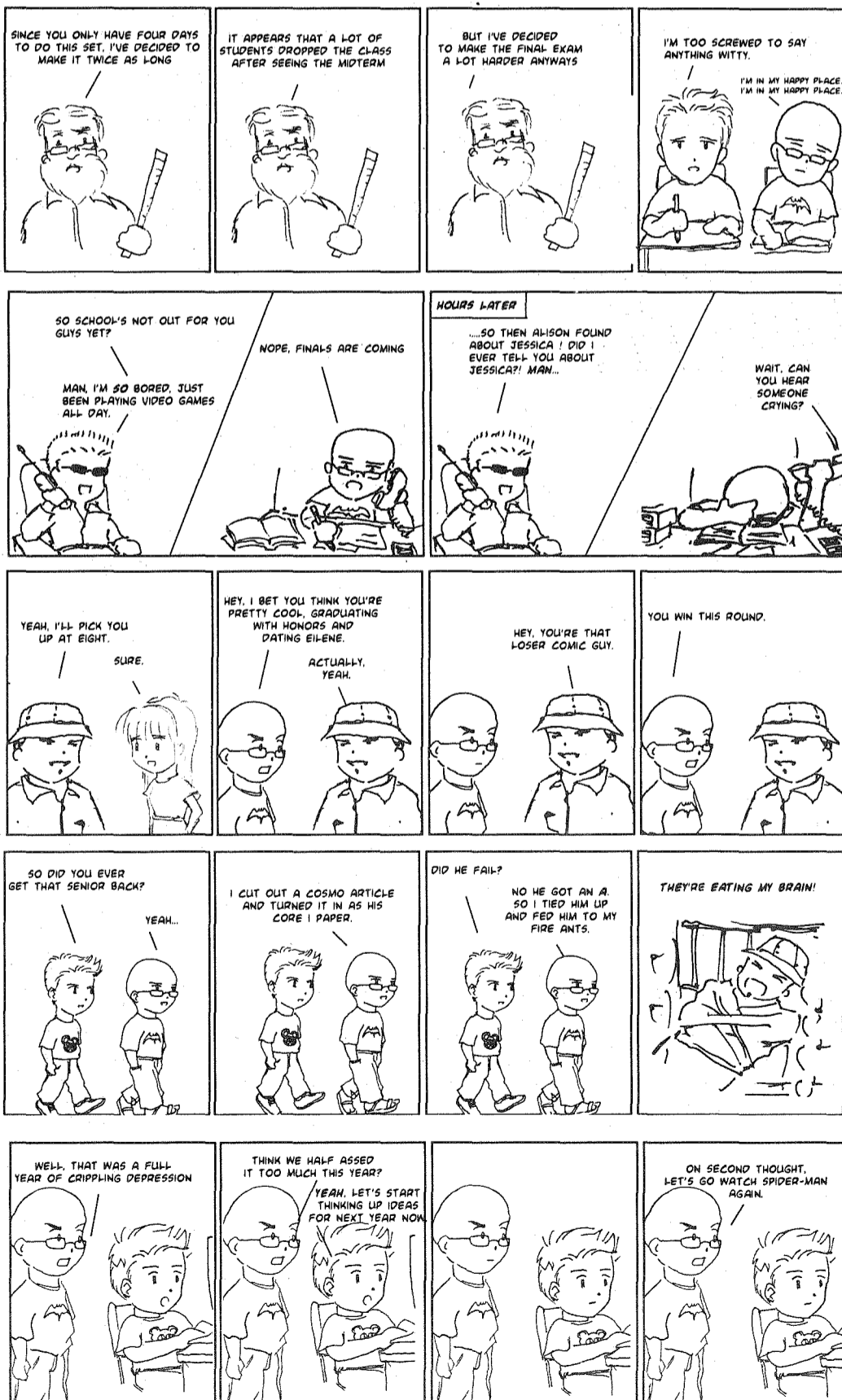
of people who are going to do that - and that means increasing interdisciplinary activities, attracting the best faculty, providing the best facilities, attracting the best students." But an atomistic system of distributed libraries will act to foreclose interdisciplinary study, and will be a mark against us when researchers and undergraduates consider coming to Caltech, to say nothing of the effect splitting the library budget will have on each individual facility. Further, when we asked about plans for the HSS department, Koonin said, "we'd like to strengthen the humanities program, we're making some faculty appointments in that direction... we have strengthened history of science." In spite of this claim, last year Caltech lost three of its history of science faculty when the administration failed to put enough resources into retaining them. Additionally, since 2000, Provost Koonin has for unstated reasons blocked two prospective professors of American history, who were overwhelmingly approved by the HSS department. His actions seem in direct tension with his stated objectives.

We left the meeting more concerned than we entered; the pattern of administrative behavior that had been revealed was profoundly disquieting. The library issue appears to have been decided by fiat, before gathering critical information and ignoring campus opinion. Further, the Provost seems to be marching the institute directly against the vision he purports to favor with a reckless abandon that should frighten us all. In all likelihood, the idea of a central library is dead. At least we can take away a lesson - the administration's decision making should be watched closely, and we must be sure to weigh in early enough to make a difference.

## CRIPPLING DEPRESSION

www.CripplingDepression.com

By Ben Lee, Tim Wan and Mike Yeh



## Announcements

The Aero Association of Caltech and the Caltech Flying Club are hosting a free barbeque at the El Monte Airport on June 15, from 9:00am to 3:00pm. All members of the Caltech community are invited to come down and see the club's fleet of six single-engine aircraft. Club members and flight instructors will be giving FREE flight tours over the Pasadena area. Come see what Caltech looks like from a mile in the air!! For more information, please visit <http://aacit.caltech.edu> or contact Elaine Ou at [ou@caltech.edu](mailto:ou@caltech.edu).

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: 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>.

Would you like a sounding board for an essay or report that you're writing? Need help with a statement for a research proposal or a grad school application? Visit the **Hixon Writing Center**. The Center's Consultants Service offers free and confidential writing conferences with an English instructor or peer writing tutor. A writing consultation can benefit writers at all levels of ability. Consultants provide supportive, informed feedback at any stage of the writing process—from brainstorming and drafting, to editing and revising. They can also help with writer's block or second-language issues. Consultants do not merely proofread papers or provide remedial grammar instruction, but help writers develop methods for improving their own work. For more information, go to <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~writing/>.

### 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](mailto:endrizzi@caltech.edu) if you plan on attending one of the meetings, this will guarantee that we have enough food!

**2002 McKinney Competition Winners.** The McKinney Committee of the Caltech Literature Faculty is pleased to announce the winners in the 2002 contest for excellence in writing. In the category of non-fiction essay, first prize is awarded to Cecile Lim. In the category of poetry, first prize has been won jointly by Kyle Bradley and Martha-Helene Stapleton. No prizes were awarded in prose-fiction. Honorable mention is given to Tina Hsu, R. Aaron Robison, Minta Akin, Craig Countryman, Tim Crosby, Yuliya Ruvinskaya, and Jolene Lau.

**2002 Hallett Smith Competition Winner.** The Hallett Smith Committee of the Caltech Literature Faculty is pleased to announce the winner in the 2002 contest for finest essay devoted to Shakespeare. The prize is awarded to Dana Sadava

## Scholarships

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

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!

To submit a Mint, e-mail [mints@tech.caltech.edu](mailto: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.

## Upcoming Events

California Institute of Technology, Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences presents its **Seminar on Science, Ethics, and Public Policy**. Dr. Don A. Howard, Professor of Philosophy and Director, Program in History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Notre Dame will speak on 'Lost Wanderers in the Forest of Knowledge: Some Thoughts on the Discovery/Justification Distinction.' Room 25, Baxter Building, Thursday, June 6, 2002, 4 p.m. Seminars are on the Caltech campus and are open to the community at no charge. For information, contact Michelle Reinschmidt at (626) 395-3563 or [michelle@hss.caltech.edu](mailto:michelle@hss.caltech.edu). For a complete list of SEPP Seminars and Harris Lectures scheduled for this academic year, visit our web site: <http://www.hss.caltech.edu/ses/SEPP.html>.

The **Pasadena Symphony**, conducted by Music Director Jorge Mester, concludes its 74th season on Saturday, June 8, 2002, 8 P.M., with a concert entitled "Three Mighty B's" featuring masterpieces by Beethoven, Britten and Bartók. Guest soloist Christopher O'Riley, an acclaimed pianist known for his versatile repertoire, will perform Bartók's demanding and explosive Piano Concerto No. 1, a work so intimidating it was once shunned by conductors. Mester will also conduct Britten's mournful and grief-filled Sinfonia da Requiem, Op. 20, the composer's only large-scale orchestral work. Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 "Dance" aptly closes the concert and the season with its rolling thunderous climax. The concert will be held at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, and a pre-concert lecture will be presented by musicologist and KCSN-FM host Bill Toutant at 7 p.m. Single tickets are \$10, \$22, \$24, \$40, \$42, \$52 and \$64 for adults; \$5 for children ages 5 to 17. Student and senior rush seats are \$10 and are available with I.D. the week prior to the concert. Season subscriptions are also available. The Pasadena Civic Auditorium is located at 300 E. Green Street in Pasadena. For single tickets, please call (626) 584-8833; for group sales or season subscriptions, please call (626) 793-7172 or visit [www.pasadenasympphony.org](http://www.pasadenasympphony.org).

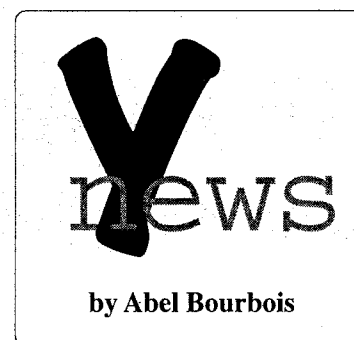
### Wanted: Students to help plan the next Student-Faculty Conference

I have had discussions with the Deans, faculty members, and various students on what to do for the next Student-Faculty Conference, and although the SFC's traditionally occurred every two years, there is a strong impetus to hold another conference in the next academic year. So, ASCIT would like to form a committee that will meet over the summer to plan and organize this conference.

The committee will need to decide what topics the conference should cover and which committees to form. One idea that some people have suggested is that the Conference focus on a specific theme, like the Curriculum. Over the summer, the committee will also try to elicit faculty interest, work out logistical issues, and should aim to finish its work by the fall so committees can start meeting as soon as possible.

Students who are interested in serving on the planning committee for the 2003 Student-Faculty Conference will need to be on campus over the summer and should contact me, Ted Jou, [tjou@caltech.edu](mailto:tjou@caltech.edu). In addition, students who might not be around this summer but have thoughts on the next Student-Faculty Conference should also e-mail Ted or post on the Student-Faculty Conference website at <http://sfc.caltech.edu>.

Jessie Kneeland, Student Co-Chair of the Conduct Review Committee, will be studying abroad in Copenhagen during Fall Term, 2002-2003. During that time, Nicole Eber will assume the responsibilities of CRC Student Co-Chair. Kneeland will return at the beginning of Winter Term, and will then serve out the rest of her term as CRC Co-Chair.



### DECOMPRESSION

-Sat/Sun, June 8-9, 7-10pm  
-South Side of Winnett

Come join us for FREE food, live entertainment, and socializing before Finals Week. Also, be sure to check out the Lost & Found Auction. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Susan ([ayer@its](mailto:ayer@its))

### SUMMER EXCOMM

During the summer, the Y ExComm continues to plan events for the Caltech Community. Are you interested in helping out? We meet once a week (usually evenings) and help organize events like: BBQs, hikes, museum trips, sporting events, etc... If you are going to be around this summer and think you might want to get involved, e-mail [y-veep@ugcs](mailto:y-veep@ugcs)

## THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Caltech 40-58  
Pasadena, CA 91126