



E. Adams/The California Tech

Writer-in-residence and renowned Irish author Seamus Deane jokes with Instructor in Humanities Steven Youra and other members of the Words Matter team.

Renowned Irish Author Deane Leads Seminar, Visits Classes

By WEI DANG

The Words Matter program officially got underway last week when the program's first writer-in-residence, renowned Irish author Seamus Deane, arrived on campus for a one-week visit.

Seamus Deane, instructor at University College, Dublin and Keough Professor of Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame, toured campus last week as the first Words Matter writer-in-residence. His scheduled week was filled with numerous activities from meeting with faculty to visiting classes to giving lectures and seminars.

During his stay, Professor Deane held discussions with students who last year had taken "The Irish Voice"—a course on Irish literature and history—and spoke on his novel, *Reading in the Dark*, with students from Dabney. He also met with tutors from the Hixon Writing Center, discussing methods of editing and revision. Later, he paid a visit to "Writing Fiction: The Imaginary," taught by Instructor in Humanities Judith Hall.

Asked about his impression of Caltech undergraduates, Deane remarked that he was somewhat surprised at the timidity of most students, but marveled at the intellectual prowess they demonstrated in the topics they discussed. This marked Professor Deane's first visit to Caltech, though he had previously lectured at the University of California at Berkeley and visited nearby Huntington Library.

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Deane also remarked on the "great deal of concentration" that has come to be expected due to Caltech's radiant reputation and said he found it rather impressive. He said he found the size of the school surprisingly small, yet he believed the campus was elegant.

On Wednesday, Deane led a seminar on "Literary Revivals, Colonial Aftermaths; Ireland and Northern Ireland, 1900-2000," that was mainly geared towards an audience of HSS faculty. On Thursday evening, Professor Deane gave a public lecture and reading in Beckman Institute Auditorium entitled, "Politics and Culture in Modern and Contemporary Ireland," co-sponsored by Caltech Public Events as part of the "Voices of Vision" lecture series.

Deane also addressed the longstanding perception that Caltech humanities, as many students believe, often take a backseat to scientific pursuits. "The difficulties in uniting the humanities and science are legion," he said. "It would be very useful to explore how science was originally represented by the literary people... both are deforming in the sense that each one is marginalizing the other. They need to recognize each other's importance."

What message does Deane want to impress upon the Caltech community by his visit? "People should know," he asserted, "that the study of humanities involves a serious intellectual effort."

The next Words Matter event is slated for

Davis Takes California; GOP Wins Senate in Election Cycle

By MARK POLINKOVSKY

In the backdrop of higher-than-expected turnout, last Tuesday's midterm elections saw Democrats triumph in the state of California while Republicans gained seats nationally to take over Congress in returns that toppled scores of longstanding midterm election trends.

For the first time since 1934, the President's party gained seats in Congress in the off-year contests. Voter turnout was much higher than anticipated in many parts of the nation and precincts struggled to accommodate everyone. Although in contrast to predictions, there were almost no reported voting problems, Alabama's gubernatorial race remains in flux after Mobile County reported a 7,000-vote mistake that would swing the outcome of the election.

Now swelled to 226 seats in the House and 51 thus far in the Senate, the Republicans' Congressional pickups are especially significant because of the tendency for the President's party to lose seats in the House in midterm elections. Then-President Bill Clinton managed to buck that trend once before in 1998 with Democratic House and Senate pickups, but one need turn to Eisenhower to find the last example of midterm gains for the administrative party.

With a majority in Congress and control of the White House, the Republicans foresee few problems in pushing their agenda. Among agenda items are approving backlogged judicial nominations and finalizing Congressional budget appropriations.

The mandate was a hard-fought

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Master Plan Construction Phase Kicks Into High Gear

By MATTHEW WALKER

From Avery to Braun, renovations, new buildings and destruction of old buildings have changed campus greatly in the last 13 years. In response, Baltimore in conjunction with administrators has begun taking a hard look at revising the more stringent construction requirements mandated by the 1989 Master Plan.

"Footprinting" Revised

Broad Center, Avery House, Braun Gym, the Physical Plant, two parking structures, scores of new academic buildings and a fire station are among the many building projects 1989 administrators couldn't have anticipated when they drafted the Master Plan.

As a result, certain stringencies, such as footprinting and open-space requirements, have been abandoned. President David Baltimore emphasizes that it is important to have flexibility and since the "guided thinking" of the Master Plan is somewhat restrictive, revisions are needed to reflect the needs. For instance, the footprint—the ground level space occupied by a building—of the North Houses was extended so that there would be more space when the Houses are rehabilitated.

Another example of revisions is that the site of the Physical Plant was originally designated to be open space, but it was traded for a building envelope sited where the

Broad Lawn is and where *Vectors* is proposed to be built. The reason that the space needed to be traded is that one of the City's conditions for the Master Plan was that buildings maintain a "footprint ratio" with open space.

The new fire station, for its part, was not required by the city or the Master Plan, but Caltech made provisions for the possibility. In addition, more than 30 of the 40 houses on campus have been relocated out of building envelopes and of 13 properties on campus not owned by Caltech, 11 have been purchased.

Another condition that the city set for the Plan is that a building over a certain cost has to set aside some percentage of the cost to public artwork. Changes to the Master Plan must be reviewed by three city bodies, though the City Council has the final say.

Communication with Pasadena

The Master Plan first received approval in 1989 after four years of development. Stemming from a City of Pasadena Ordinance in the early 1980s called the General Plan, Caltech was required by the city to lay out a plan for 10 years of growth, along with other major landowners.

Pasadena prompted Caltech to estimate the expected growth of the contiguous Pasadena Campus, which extends from Catalina to Hill

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Lights, Streamers Decorate Beckman in Diwali Festival

By RUMI CHUNARA

King Hima was doomed to die on the fourth day of his marriage, according to his horoscope. So on that day his worried wife lighted countless lamps and laid piles of ornaments and gold and silver coins at the entrance of her husband's room. When Yam, the god of death, arrived there in the guise of a Serpent, the dazzle of the brilliant lights blinded his eyes and he could not enter the Prince's chamber.

Similar bright lights, along with colorful streamers and flowers adorned Beckman Institute courtyard Friday night, as the Organization of Associated Students from the Indian Subcontinent (OASIS) celebrated the

Hindu festival of lights: Diwali.

The evening began with music from classic Indian movies. Graduate students from OASIS sang and accompanied the tunes on a keyboard. A traditional Indian folk dance followed, in the style of Dandia, in which the dancers each carry two wooden sticks, each about a foot long and wrapped in colorful ribbons. The sticks are tapped together, between dancers and against the floor as the dancers weave in symmetrical patterns.

King Hima's escape from death by light is only one of many legends that accompany this festival. Diwali literally means "a garland of lamps" and is thought to be the most

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R. Chunara/The California Tech

Dancers perform at Caltech's Diwali festival. Organized by the Organization of Associated Students from the Indian Subcontinent, the event commemorates the return of the Hindu deity Lakshmi and symbolizes King Hima's escape from death by light.

Parking Space, New Astrophysics Building Highlight Master Plan's Construction Goals

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in the west to east direction and from Del Mar to Tournament Park (south of the athletic complex) in the north-to-south direction.

In response, Caltech extended its survey to encompass what it hoped would define growth for the next 40 years. By designating building envelopes in current open areas where buildings could be constructed rather than laying down specific building sites, Caltech was able to designate 1.5 million square feet for development of parking, residence, administration and academics.

Of that space, "the lion's share will be going to academic [buildings]," emphasized Vice President of Government and Community Relations Hall Daily.

Mr. Daily is serving as the "guy who takes the plan to the City." A member of the Caltech administration for almost 15 years, he also represents Caltech's interests in government. He lobbies for increased appropriations for the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Health at the national level and StateCal grants at the state level, but he said his "most important mission is convincing the City of Pasadena to agree with Caltech's planned campus development." Before coming to Caltech, Mr. Daily spent 15 years working for newspaper and wire services.

Said Mr. Daily of revisions, "we propose and they dispose"—meaning that the city redrafts the proposals so that both sides can agree on the changes. Mr. Daily added that Caltech has an excellent relationship with the City and that "Pasadena really cares what gets built here. Caltech is a great asset to Pasadena, being the number one employer, having a beautiful campus and, of course, being one of the world's premier research universities."

SCIENCE FAIR TO FEATURE FEMALE CONTRIBUTIONS

WEST SPONSORS UPCOMING SYMPOSIUM

Forty Women Scientists Take Spotlight in Two-day Event

By MAG BAK, CYNTHIA COLLINS, SARAH HEILSHORN and PATRICIA PERSAUD

On November 12 and 13, the Caltech Women's Science Symposium will feature the work of over 40 women scientists on campus. This event, sponsored by WEST (Women in Engineering, Science and Technology), will include scientific lectures by Caltech faculty, professional development seminars, scientific poster sessions by students and postdocs and social events.

The goals of this symposium are to foster interdisciplinary scientific discussion on campus and to encourage a sense of community and support for women scientists at Caltech. While few would question the importance of interdisciplinary scientific discussion, some may doubt the need for community-building among women scientists.

In 1991, women earned 44% of the science and engineering undergraduate degrees, 36% of the science and engineering masters degrees, 28% of the science and engineering doctoral degrees and they represented 19% of the science and engineering workforce. Women hold 11% of the faculty positions at Caltech. These numbers briefly demonstrate the well-documented trend of women dropping out of science and engineering at all levels of the academic pipeline.

Why are women leaving these professions? A comprehensive study sponsored by the National Science Foundation found that this high drop out rate is not due to the lack of academic ability, but to a discouraging academic climate and women's lack of the feeling of being part of a larger community. Loss of self-esteem, lack of encouragement and misperceptions about the lifestyle of a scien-

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Fundraising for the Future

Recent capital campaigns have brought campus development to a new level. Among the planned buildings to be constructed are a new astrophysics building, in the space occupied by a Keith Spalding parking lot, a new chemistry building to replace Mead Laboratory, the long-awaited Campus Center at the site of the Physical Plant and a new Information Technology building.

Admittedly, the latter two, said Dr. Baltimore, are in the "earliest stages of planning." He added, however, that the astrophysics building has been a commitment of Caltech for the last 20 years and will likely be the next priority.

Additionally, a revamped physics building is also long overdue, according to Vice Provost David Goodstein. Lauritsen-Downs was the last physics building, constructed in 1970. Since then, the number of staff and post-docs has grown considerably, causing a space crunch.

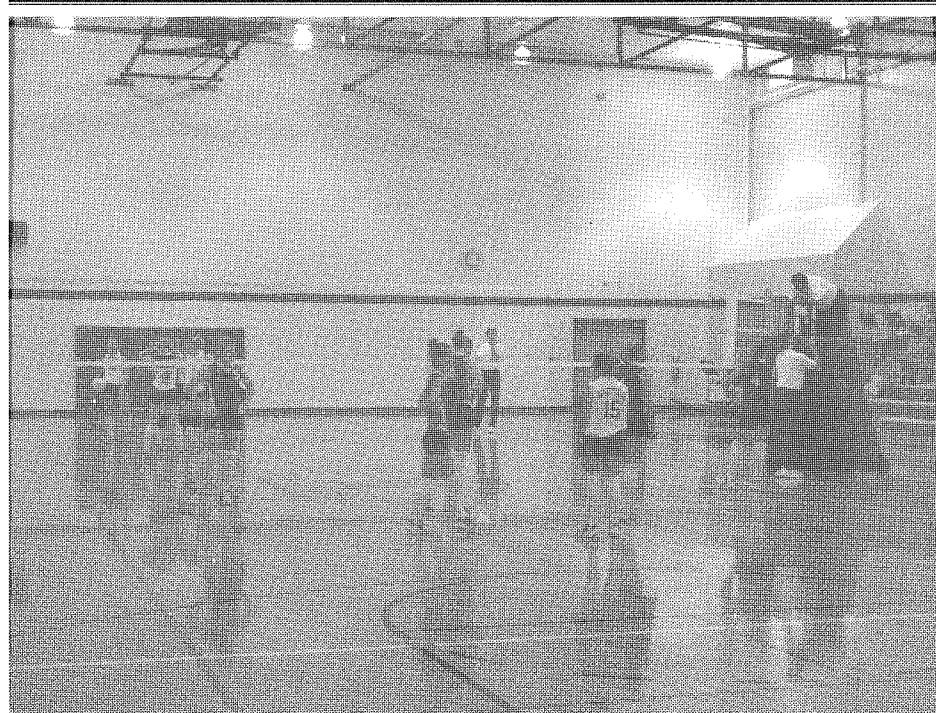
"Caltech's astrophysics is the best in the world," said Dr. Goodstein. So besides the benefits of putting this esteemed group to-

gether in one building, considerable space will be freed in Bridge for the rest of the physics department. Progress on the astrophysics building is good, with one donor already recruited to pay for half of the planned cost of the building.

However, the construction of the astrophysics building will compound another of Caltech's problems: parking. The Master Plan requires Caltech to deal with the parking problem before the new building is constructed.

There are several plans involving both underground and above-ground parking structures, but according to Mr. Daily, "the costs are really prohibitive." Costs for the proposed above ground Holliston Parking structure range from \$10,000 to \$12,000 per space and costs for underground parking structures start at \$18,000 per space.

The problem is compounded by the fact that "nobody wants their name on a parking structure," in the words of Mr. Daily, making it hard to find donors. The result: Caltech will most likely have to issue a bond to pay for parking structures, but Caltech's good credit rating makes this a viable solution.



J. Mao/The California Tech

Caltech's women's volleyball team takes the floor against Redlands this week. Poised for its upcoming final match, the squad posted another two losses last week.

Soccer, Volleyball, Water Polo Teams Post Six Straight Losses

By BRENTON REGER

Athlete of the Week

Gustavo Olm '06, of the cross country team, is this week's Athlete of the Week. After having a great freshman season Olm finished 14th at the SCIAAC Championships with a time of 27:59, a personal best for Olm. This finish was good enough for second team All-Conference honors in the SCIAAC.

Men's Soccer

Caltech (0-19) 0
LA VERNE 3

Caltech 0
POMONA-PITZER 2

The Beavers dropped two this week with narrow losses to La Verne and Pomona-Pitzer. Despite several chances to claim victory, Caltech fell short in the end. The squad finishes SCAIC play and the season against Claremont-Mudd-Scripps on the road.

Women's Volleyball

Caltech (5-20) 0
CAL. LUTHERAN 3

Caltech 0
OCCIDENTAL 3

The Lady Beavers hung tough against very solid conference opponents last week. The lady Beavers had 48 digs against Redlands

and an unbelievable 94 digs against Whittier. Top performers for the week: Megan Kennedy '04, with two kills, 26 assists and 27 digs; Kelly Klima '03, with five kills and 29 digs; Kristen Zortman '05, with seven digs, six kills and two blocks; and Vi Tran '05, with three kills and 25 digs. The women play their last home match November 5th in Braun.

Men's Water Polo

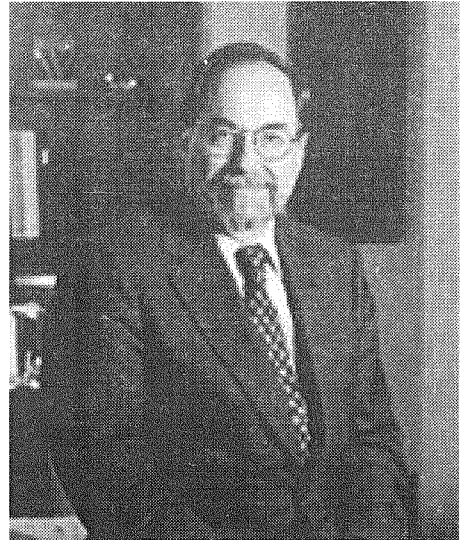
Caltech (2-12) 12
OCCIDENTAL 14

Caltech 4
CMS 15

The Caltech polo team played the best four-quarters of the year, but they were spread over two games. The Techers traveled to the small shallow-ended pond of Occidental College. This proved to be the difference in the game as two goals on the "good" side went to the home team resulting in a Caltech loss, 12 to 14. Jim Rebesco '05 was the star popping in three goals and controlling the set position. Logan Linderman '05 also chipped in two outside shots to get Caltech close. "If we had not played a such a poor second quarter the outcome would have different," said Linderman.

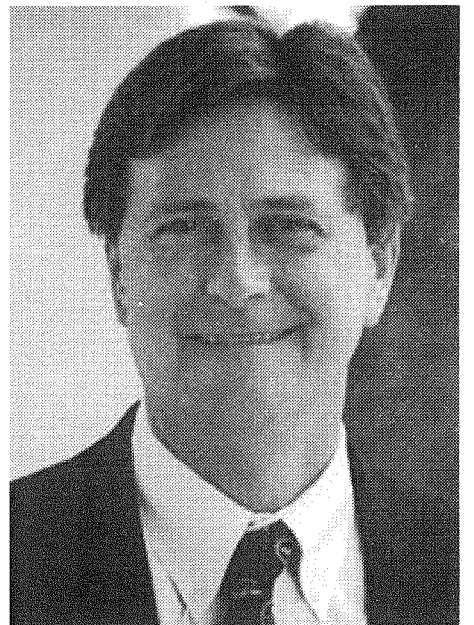
"True, if we had another quarter to figure the pool out we could get these guys," added Captain Erik Grandstedt '04. Other scorers for the Beavers were Marko Cetina '04 with

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"A named parking structure is not something I've seen on a college campus."

David Baltimore
Caltech President



"Nobody wants his name on a parking structure."
Hall Daily
Community Relations

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EARLY LEAD CRUMBLES IN 20TH POLO LOSS

ONLY ONE GOAL AFTER HALF

Claremont Stags Too Much for Wali, Beavers

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two, Ben Solecki '03 with two, Grandstedt with one and Saskya Byerly '03 with one.

The next match was at Caltech Saturday morning against Claremont. Home cooking seemed to help as the Beavers jumped all over the Stags two-to-one on the strength of Solecki's two goals early in the first quarter. Grandstedt followed with a outside shot early in the second to extend the lead to three-one and Paul Wali '05 continued his outstanding play with another penalty shot blocked and a number of nice tip-outs to frustrate Claremont.

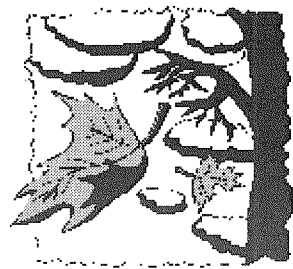
Then, a few miscues let Claremont back in the game and to a five-to-three lead at the half. Claremont dominated the rest of the match, with only Isaac Hilburn '04 answering with a goal of his own late in the 15-4 loss. "The game needed more effort in the second half but in the fourth quarter I played a lot of our subs and most looked really good," said Coach Dodd.

Cross Country

In the men's SCIAC championships, Olm placed 14th in the individual round at 27:59; Eric Anderson '03, 25th at 29:01; JR Heberle '04, 33rd at 29:45; Mathew Ng '06, 34th at 29:51; Marcus Ng '06, 38th at 30:09; David Gutschick '06, 45th at 30:45; John Yao '04, 56th at 32:15; and Japeck Tang '04, 60th at 32:34.

In the women's SCIAC Championships, Andrea Vasconcellos '05 placed 22nd in the individual round at 25:01; Tamara Becher '04, 31st at 25:36; Kamalah Chang '05, 41st at 26:10; Kim Popendorf '06, 48th at 27:44; Tracy Janov '05, 62nd at 28:04; Rachel Yohay '06, 72nd at 28:48; Grace Chuang '06, 84th at 31:22; and Michelle Giron '05, 85th at 32:20.

Falling Leaves, Falling Temps



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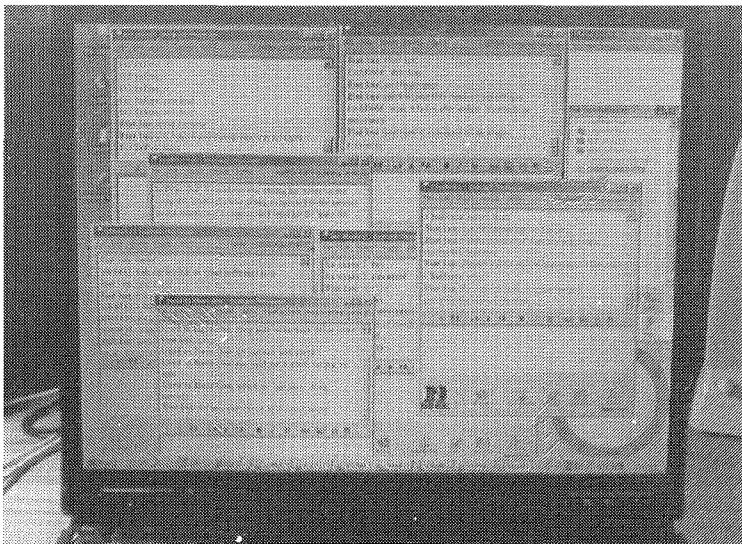


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Courtesy of Y. Li

"AOL Instant Messenger" can quickly take over one's computer desktop.

AIM Addiction: Causes, Symptoms and Remedies Admitted Addictee Advises Community

By YE LI

AIM. This seems to be one acronym that just about every computer user recognizes these days. For the few that don't, it stands for AOL Instant Messenger, the most popular of a handful of free programs made for the express purpose of having online conversations. Along with its siblings ICQ, MSN Messenger and Yahoo! Messenger, it has created a revolution in communication. Email was the natural evolution of "snail mail." Instant messaging is simply the next step in removing obstacles from the flow of words.

In hindsight, the basic concept behind instant messaging doesn't seem all that innovative. Effectively, you can think of it as a chat room with only two people, or a system in which e-mails are immediately read and replied to. Yet, the culture that instant messengers have spawned is truly novel.

From the day a user first registers for his or her "screen name," a whole new world is opened. Suddenly, friends attending schools across the world are as close as a double click. Computer-savvy parents can pester without worry of long-distance phone charges. Homework checking can be done without trekking across campus.

These programs also offer voice and video conferencing, file transfer, news and stock tickers and a long list of other goodies designed to make them fully capable of relaying to you all the information you could possibly want, when you want it. Their only limit is your typing speed and ability to carry on

multiple conversations.

Indeed, some would argue that these programs are the best tools yet invented to facilitate communication. The world is shrinking, one instant message at a time.

But of course, I didn't write this article just to sing praise of AIM, for there is a far darker side to this miracle. Just as power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely, the absolute ease with which AIM has allowed people to communicate has tainted this otherwise benign program. It and its brethren have created an ever-growing legion of IM addicts.

What is an IM addict? Well, www.IMaddict.com has a quiz that will tell you if you are one. In fact, it has a severe addiction quiz to take if you do "well" enough on the first quiz. From having multiple screen names to compulsive checking of away messages and profiles, these two quizzes cover the full range of symptoms attributed to IM addiction. Take a few minutes sometime and give it a shot, or perhaps you already have.

Why do I know so much about this subject matter? I can admit it now. I am an IM addict. During the course of writing this article, I was able to avoid AIM only because I unplugged the ethernet connection from my laptop and worked in the lounge.

Yet, the two symptoms listed above and a few others I suffer from were only enough to give me a score of 35% on [IMaddict.com](http://www.IMaddict.com)'s first quiz, not nearly enough to qualify for the severe addiction

Announcements

There will be a **kosher dinner** this Wednesday, November 13 at 6 pm in Chandler Dining Hall, to be followed by a talk/discussion with a guest speaker. The cost of dinner will be subsidized by Hillel. RSVP to Caltech's kosher cook, Joel Weinberger, at kosher@caltech.edu.

What I Love About Caltech. Saturday, November 16, 2-4pm on the Olive Walk. Caltech is probably the only top university where so many students have so little love for or pride in their school. This event aims both to celebrate the good things and to discuss the things that need to be changed about Caltech. Various speakers from throughout the community will share what they love about Caltech and there will be an open microphone session for students to share their thoughts and concerns. ASCIT DONUTS and refreshments will be served. This event is the first in an initiative to improve student morale at Caltech through increased communication between students and faculty, staff, and alumni.

The Prince Must Take a Wife . . . Theater Arts at Caltech presents Marivaux's *Double Infidelity (La double inconstance)* in a translation by Dr. Oscar Mandel, professor of literature at Caltech. Performances begin November 8 and end November 24, on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m., in Dabney Lounge. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$10 Caltech faculty/staff, \$5 students.

The **Caltech Alpine Club** and REI Arcadia present *Mountainfilm* in Telluride, on Thursday, November 21, at 7.30 PM, in Ramo Auditorium. For 24 years, Mountainfilm has brought together adventure, travel, unique personalities and important social messages in a travelling evening of film. Whether it is the story of a gripping adventure, a struggle for environmental justice or an intimate glimpse into another culture, the films at Mountainfilm expose

people to forward-thinking ideas, global awareness and personal integrity. With films this year about climbing, skiing, kayaking, environmentalism and wildlife, this is an event not to be missed! For more info go to: <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~alpine/mountainfilm.html>. Tickets \$10 in advance/\$12 at the door/\$5 Caltech students available at the Box Office (1-888-2CALTECH). Also, after getting excited by the Film Festival, don't miss our Joshua Tree Rockclimbing Trip, on November 23-24. We will camp in Joshua Tree on Saturday night. Sessions on anchor building and traditional lead climbing will be offered, as well as the usual top-roping. Beginners welcome. E-mail pwiggins@caltech.edu if interested. For more info: <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~alpine/jtree.html>

Caltech Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences presents a **Seminar on Science, Ethics, and Public Policy**. A talk given by Dr. Christof Koch, Professor of Cognitive and Behavioral Biology at the California Institute of Technology on "The Zeitgeist of Discovering the Neuronal Correlates of Consciousness." Friday, November 15, 2002, 4:00 p.m., Baxter 25. Seminars are on the Caltech campus and are open to the community at no charge. For information, contact Heather Guyett at (626) 395-3829 or heather@hss.caltech.edu. For a complete list of SEPP seminars and Harris Lectures scheduled for this academic year, please visit our website: <http://www.hss.caltech.edu/ses/SEPP.html>

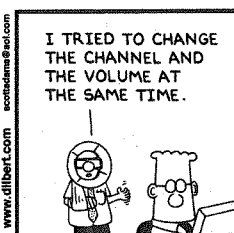
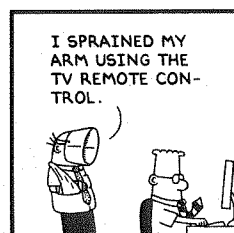
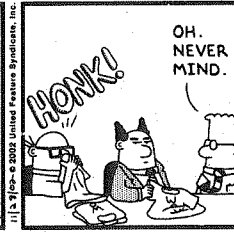
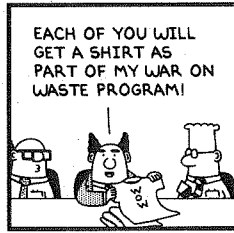
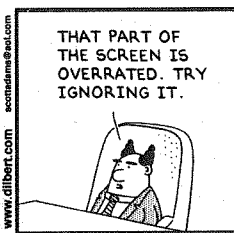
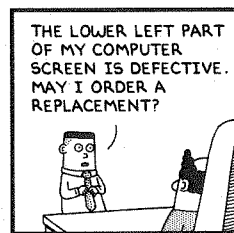
Caltech Library System Presents: The following sessions are approximately one hour of formal instruction in the Sherman Fairchild Library Multimedia Conference Room (328). Pre-registration is preferred.

November 12, Noon: "SciFinder Scholar"

November 14, 2:00pm: "Patents"

You may register for these and other upcoming classes at: <http://library.caltech.edu/learning/>. For further information, please contact Kathleen McGregor at x6713 or kathleen@library.caltech.edu.

DILBERT® by Scott Adams



Pranks: Intrinsic to Caltech History

By TED JOU

Caltech's history has been marked by several great pranks and for many current students, this was probably one of the things that attracted them to Caltech. We all know the big ones: The Great Rose Bowl Hoax of 1961, when the Rose Bowl crowd inexplicably spelled "Caltech" with a card stunt; the inscription of DEIFEIF on the Voyager I and Voyager II spacecraft, now leaving the solar system; re-wiring the Rose Bowl scoreboard to show "Caltech 38, MIT 9" in 1984; and on Hollywood's 100th anniversary, altering the Hollywood sign to read "CALTECH." It has been over a decade since there was a prank of national interest, but recently, students made the local papers by constructing a mock *Vectors* on the Beckman Lawn.

If any students are interested in perpetrating other similar pranks, there is \$200 set aside in the ASCIT Budget for that purpose. That fund, interestingly enough, has its roots in the "Prank Club" that was

founded in 1987 for the Hollywood sign project. The big pranks that make headlines are the ones that are remembered, but they represent only a small fraction of the innumerable pranks that are happening on campus all the time.

With clockwork regularity, students pull pranks on each other. This happens on an interpersonal level, an inter-alley level and an interhouse level, leaving no student unscathed in his years on campus. These smaller pranks come in many forms: stringing chairs across the Olive Walk, building metal dolphins in Millikan Pond, stacking someone in their own room and the occasional exchange of house furniture.

This may paint a picture of a campus in total anarchy, in which no student feels safe, but in fact, the atmosphere of pranking does quite the opposite. Pranks are a way for students to unwind; they provide a level of closeness and a way to escape the pressures of academics. Pranks are a fundamentally social activity—at the very least, two people are involved: the prankster

and the victim. A good prank doesn't humiliate the victim; it is something both parties can laugh about. A prank done with style will gain the respect and admiration of your peers. Tipping over trash cans is artless and frowned upon, but delivering papier-mâché appendages is commended by students, if not by the administration.

Pranking is not about terrorizing other students, but is more about outsmarting them. An easy rule to remember when pulling a prank is the only rule you ever really have to know: It's called the Honor Code. When you cause physical damage, pay for the repairs. If people feel uncomfortable, don't cross that line.

Most importantly, with every prank, remember to leave a note. If things start disappearing, it's comforting to know that they are simply in the House next door. If threatening signs appear, it's nice to know your friends are behind it. Leaving a note is a matter of common courtesy and is one of the main things that separate a Caltech prank from your average college high jinks.

Continued on Page 7, Column 4

The Fannie and John
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California Institute of Technology
for attracting this Fellow to their graduate program.

See www.hertzfoundation.org for more details.

Wang: 'What I Love About Caltech'

By JIALAN WANG

Caltech is unique in many ways. The honor code, the house system and our student government set us apart from all other top universities. But we are also different in another way. Caltech is probably the only university of our caliber where if a student is asked whether he loves his school, the answer would most likely be "no." When most of us were prefrish and visited Caltech and other universities, the difference was striking. The upperclassmen at Harvard and Stanford and MIT were uniformly enthusiastic about their college experiences. But here, all the upperclassmen told us that Caltech was a horrible place and told us to go elsewhere. Despite the warnings we received, we're all here anyway, although many of us have now become the upperclassmen who discourage prefrish from attending Caltech.

What happens between the time we are enthusiastic prefrish determined to seek out the most challenging science education and the time when we have become resentful sophomores and juniors who

know no joy? The Institute tried to answer this question once about 10 years ago by commissioning an independent consulting company to investigate the condition of student life, but the results of the study were never released. Like that report, student morale has been all but forgotten by the higher-ups in the administration and for all of the talk about wanting students to flourish and not just survive, little real action has been taken.

As returns from our endowment continue to diminish due to economic recession, the Institute is facing more budget cuts and programs that benefit students are likely to be affected. But with student morale already at critically low levels, budget cuts for student-related activities would be devastating. Although no such decisions have been made, it seems likely that the administration will continue on its track of ignoring the student morale problem when making key judgments.

The shortsightedness of this ignorance is glaring as President Baltimore's capital campaign kicks off. "To remain preeminent, we must bring to bear on our mission

of increasing resources. Without the best labs, equipment and instrumentation, we cannot hope to attract the very best scholars and students to campus," says Baltimore. But whom are going to be the main contributors toward the campaign's \$1.4 billion goal? Alumni. If it doesn't become the Institute's mission to improve student morale now, who will a President twenty years from now turn to donate to the Institute? If the quality of student life continues to decline, would new and shiny labs and equipment be enough to attract the best students?

These are the sorts of questions that we students often raise in discussions amongst ourselves. But we need to complain not to each other, but to people who make decisions and we need to take up the challenge of turning those complaints into actions that will result in positive change. The creation of the new VP of Student Affairs position and the coming of Margo Marshak to fill the position makes this action and communication more possible. Dedicated to championing student

Continued on Page 7, Column 1

Canter's Diner: Expensive, Tasteless Escalada Critiques Hollywood's 'Classic, Hip' Jewish Restaurant

By JOE ESCALADA

You've finished your problem sets, it's 4:00 a.m., you're hungry and you want to get far away from Caltech. Whatever you do, don't go to Canter's Deli.

Canter's is described both as "classic" and "hip." These words have practically opposite meanings in sane-people English, but are often used in unison to describe things in Hollywood. Perhaps there is some subtle wisdom in using these contradictory terms to describe this restaurant: I did find myself wondering if the classic elderly servers had prosthetic hips. Unfortunately, I didn't have the courage to ask.

If the cuisine proved excellent I would be the first to climb aboard the "classic-hip" train, but unfortunately the food wasn't. In fact, it was mediocre and overpriced. Canter's omelet was pathetic and the "Famous" Fairfax sandwich was just old deli meat on soggy bread. My Israeli friend noted that the balls of the matzo ball soup weren't salty enough; he said it sincerely, without a trace of sexual innuendo. Yet somehow, despite the balls lacking in salt, the soup broth was too salty. Throughout the universe, one can depend on the diffusion of salt. Not at Canter's. Either as a purveyor of Jewish cuisine, a delicatessen, or a Ph 2a demonstration, Canter's falls short.

Honestly, I have never been a fan of Jewish food. Why do we, as Americans with a rich multicultural heritage, look to Jewish cuisine to provide us with a satisfying sit-down meal? Throughout history the Jews have been persecuted and forced to flee from tyranny, be it at the hands of the Nazis, the Spanish, the Romans, the Egyptians, or really angry bears. With all that travel there must be great Jewish fast food and surely the world will be forever changed by the first Gefilte Fish McMuffin. But until I see Ronald McDonald wearing a

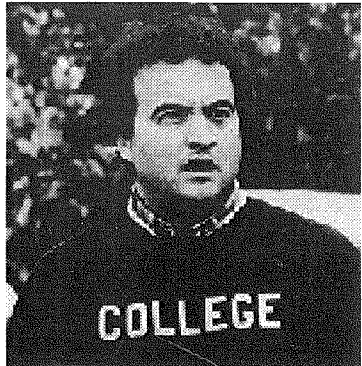
Yamika, I'll opt for other culinary styles.

Like its menu, Canter's ambiance doesn't live up to its hype. Every time I've eaten at Canter's—twice on weeknights and once on a Friday night—there were few customers and lousy servers. Canter's is the only place in Hollywood where the people are uglier than in Pasadena and where you can't buy drugs. The waitress looked as though she had been serving coffee since the place opened up in the thirties. The clientele was no better. The last time I ate at Canter's two old men sitting at different tables were muttering gibberish. It was impossible to tell if they were mumbling to themselves or if they were having a conversation until one of them belched and they both stopped speaking.

Why, if not for the belching old men and ancient waitresses, do people continue to eat at Canter's? Perhaps people are attracted to its history, or because it's always open. I think it's the hype.

Canter's Deli is a second-rate restaurant that would persuade even John Belushi to go on a diet. Therefore, I give it one Angry, Dead, Fat Comedian.

(Minimum Rating: 3 Sad, Dead, Fat Comedians. Maximum Rating: 3 Happy, Dead, Fat Comedians.)



Courtesy of Animal House

John Belushi is this week's Angry, Dead, Fat Comedian.

Abstinence Education Mandated for Priests

By LIBIN ZHANG

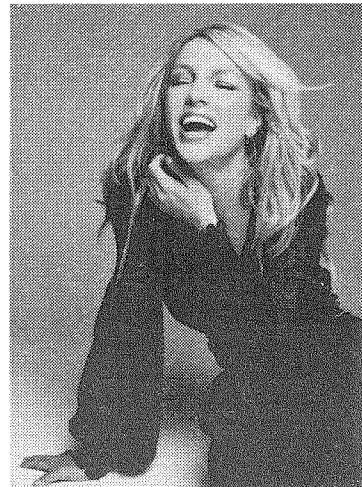
Pope John Paul II issued the encyclical "Onay Oremay Exsay" today, requiring that all Catholic priests in the United States attend abstinence-only sex education classes similar to those for middle school students. The priests are to study in the same classroom with the young boys and girls until permanent priest-only sex education facilities are constructed. The Pope was impressed with the high rate of success of the abstinence-only program in schools and decided that mandatory sex education classes would appease lay-Catholics worried about the Catholic priest child abuse scandals.

The abstinence-only sex education program is familiar to most Americans, but for those who slept through them, it is a series of middle school seminars that taught that abstinence, or no sex, is the only form of safe sex. The program focused on the negative consequences of using contraceptives, such as the astronomically high failure rate of condoms and scientifically-proven facts, like the fact that all sexually-transmitted diseases are immediately fatal. The program has been a resounding success, with surveys showing that the teen sex rate has fallen to 35% from 37% in the past year. The surveys have a margin of error of 3%. The Catholic church hopes that the priest sex rate will fall as dramatically once the priests start to believe in only abstinence.

Since the 12th century, Catholic priests have been celibate, so they would not give ecclesiastical property to their children. They were supposed to remain pure, thus for those who dared not risk being

blinded by masturbation, there were very few outlets for the repressed sexual energy. One outlet was molesting little boys and girls. The church used its might to cover up knowledge about pedophile priests until the embarrassing facts became public a few years ago. After much soul searching and consultation with God, the 82-year old Pope concluded that abstinence-only education would reduce the priests' sexual urges more than allowing them to marry, or allowing women to be priests. The Pope, who unlike some of his predecessors has no known illegitimate children, is infallible, of course.

In other news, the Catholic church recommends that people stay indoors at all times, preferably inside churches, to reduce the chances of being struck by lightning.



Courtesy of britneyspears.com

The abstinence-only sex education program's most high-profile success is pop singer Britney Spears, who is still virgin at age 20.

Hundreds of Nations In Grasp of Luddites

Continued from Page 5, Column 1

spread to all 48 contiguous states, forging the "Golden Link." The group established divisions in Hawaii and Alaska by 1978. By 1985, this arm of the Luddites had gone international after it had spread to six European nations. Currently, the group has spread to 200 countries. Everyday they handle over 13.6 million "packages" everyday, sabotaging all technologically advanced items they encounter.

New insights into how the Luddite saboteurs operate have been provided by a former Luddite strongman. Everyday fleets of drivers pick up the "packages" from central collection locations. From there, the packages are transferred to processing hubs, whose location is undisclosed at this time. Using code phrases, such as "Fragile," "This side up," "Handle with care," "Do Not Drop," "Do Not Double Stack," and worst of all, "Computer," the handlers efficiently sabotage the technologically advanced "packages" while letting everything else through safely. To limit suspicion, the handlers use complicated hand and dropping techniques to damage the wares without obvious physical signs. It is not uncommon for the case of a computer to come through unscathed and even function normally for a few days before the effects of the saboteurs set in. Conservative estimates have them sabotaging over \$300 million worth of technology in the last decade.

When presented to the student body, many reacted with outrage. They had no idea that the sabotage problem had gotten so bad. One distraught student, Alex McCauley, ranted, "Damn it! They broke my computer." Other students related stories about destroyed computers and other damaged property. Clearly this Luddite sabotage network is an increasing problem. With their plans of expansion, and past success, this group is obviously a real danger. More commonly known as UPS, they intend to continue their work far into the future with overnight processing in 109 countries and have it returned to your door by 8:30 a.m.

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Letters: Web Site Art, Kern Apology, Posters

Kern: Ruddock Apology

Dear editors,

I would like to take this opportunity to apologize to Dabney House for the accusations made against it by one of my frosh, Matthew Walker '06. Although he may not be able to take a joke, I certainly enjoyed your company on the night of your visit. We'll try to keep Mr. Walker safely penned up until the next *Tech* submission deadline has passed.

Robert Kern '03
Ruddock House President

Web Site's 'Composite' Art

Dear editors,

Like many people at this school, my browser's home page is set to *caltech.edu* and I was shocked to see the picture shown below as the first image that loaded. To anybody who has been near the south houses, this picture is an obvious forgery. It is an assemblage of two images: one of the side of Ricketts house in the background and a second of a student sitting on the columns outside of Fleming. This image is a truly bold move for Caltech. First allowing a post-modern post-abstract visionary such as Richard Serra to build a sculpture on Beckman lawn and now allowing Surrealist artwork on the front page of the Caltech Web site.

No one needs me to explain how this picture brilliantly subverts your perception of Caltech as a physical concept, by combining two contrasting images seamlessly. My favorite part is how the Olive Walk is not a straight line, but rather is slowly overcome by shrubs as it fades to the vanishing point. Every time I see this picture, I think, "Huh? How's that happening?" It totally blows my mind. I lose whatever I am doing to spend 5-10 hours to think about how my understanding of the physical world is filtered through my perception.

I think this picture shows how Caltech is not a bunch of boring stuff shirt scientists, but the scientific and cultural epicenter of the 20th century. If only there were

more surrealistic and post-modern things on the rest of campus, I think students would find this a much more enjoyable school. I earnestly petition the board of trustees to approve what I call, "The Plan de Surrealism." Instead of raising more funds for new buildings and laboratory space, we should just spend all of Gordon Moores' money on supporting student performance art. People at this school are just dying to walk around draped in human organs and do pile drivers onto a bed of nails, just to point out the futility and bleakness of modern existence.

This picture is the beginning of a new day for the California Institute of Technology. I boldly suggest we follow this path wherever it may lead us. For the first time since I have been here I am proud to say that I go to Caltech.

Your Humble Servant,

Jimmy Corrigan

Poster Mockery Offensive

Dear editors,

Last Sunday fliers began appearing on campus that "mocked" the upcoming student program, "What I Love About Caltech." These fliers ranged from being in poor taste to being disrespectful and offensive.

Over the past year our community has engaged in a number of conversations aimed at improving the student experience, encouraging more dialogue and communication between various groups, and defining the role of the honor code in our daily life. If we are to truly address these issues then it is critical that we begin to understand how our words affect others and how our actions help create the campus climate. As we continue to discuss and debate issues that are important for all members of our community, we need to do so in a manner that is respectful to others.

Caltech Women's Center
Caltech Y
International Student Programs
Multicultural Education and Minority Student Affairs
Undergraduate Dean's Office
Vice President for Student Affairs



Courtesy of caltech.edu

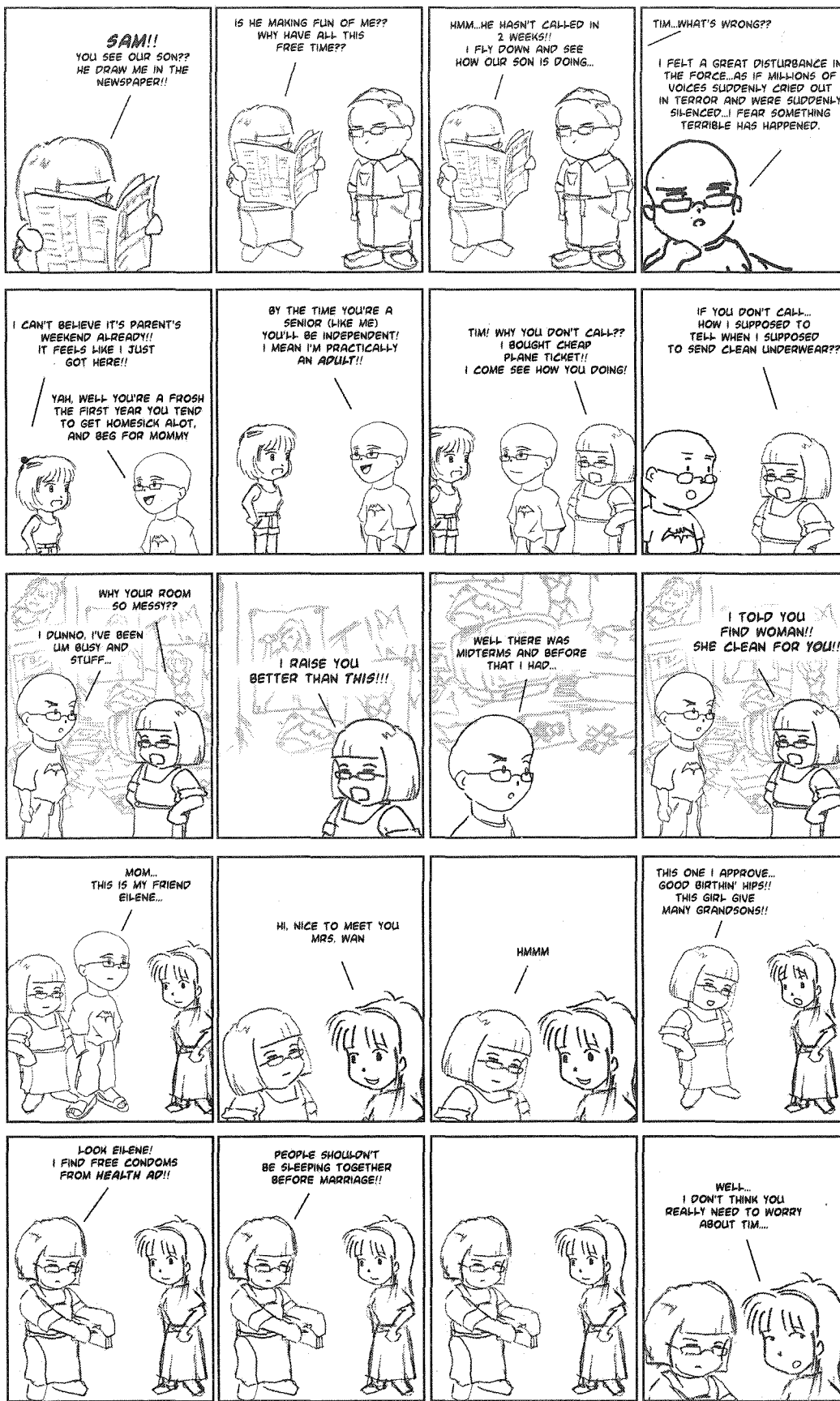
Caltech's Web site features "surrealist artwork," apparently a composite of the front of Ricketts House and the columns of Fleming.

by Tim Wan, Mike Yeh, Ben Lee

CRIPPLING DEPRESSION

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All characters are purely fictional. Any resemblance to any persons living or dead is coincidental. The views expressed are those of the authors, not those of the newspaper staff or Caltech.



What Students Love About Caltech

Continued from Page 6, Column 3

causes to the rest of the administration, Ms. Marshak has already taken measures to better understand our concerns. Last Wednesday she held an open house for students to drop by to visit her and she has instituted biweekly meetings with the BoD to keep informed about current student issues.

With the help of Ms. Marshak and the many other student advocates on campus, student morale and other student issues are going to get more attention than ever before. There is definitely a lot of policies and conditions that need to be changed to improve student life, but the change must start with ourselves. Much of the morale problem can ultimately be traced back to the incredible workload we all endure. But despite the fact that a normal load of 45 units is already a full week's work, a great many of us overload each term. And although many of us are unhappy with life here, our Caltech timidity

prevents us from relating our troubles to the people in the administration who can make changes. Many of the characteristics common to students—diligence, apathy, fear of confrontation—work against us when we need to come together and make change take place.

Caltech is already a place many of us both love and hate more passionately than any other place, but we often get so caught up in the stress and pressure and atmosphere of bitterness that we overlook the love part. To get at the core of the student morale problem, we need to determine what must happen to make Caltech a place that every student can love and be proud to be a part of as well as recognize what we already love about it and it is hoped that an event happening on Saturday, November 16 will be a start in this process. For "What I Love About Caltech," Margo Marshak, Provost Steve Koonin and other faculty, staff and alumni

will come together for a forum on what we can do to make Caltech a place we can all love. The first part of the program will consist of different people from the Caltech Community speaking about what they love most about Caltech. Then the microphone will be open for students to comment on their own Caltech experiences. The event goes from two to four p.m. on the Olive Walk and refreshments and ASCIT Donuts will be served.

Question of the Week

What, if anything, do you love about Caltech?

The Price We Pay: 'AIM' Steals Time

Continued from Page 4, Column 2

quiz. I am merely at the tip of the iceberg. A glimpse below the water offers some horrific sights. I have seen people carry on conversations via away messages, compete to see who can stay online the longest and message next-door neighbors or even their own roommates. With AIM, you can order pizza, make requests to radio stations and even carry on conversations with an automated program known as "smarterchild."

Is this the price we pay for instant messaging? Communication has become so effortless that it is possible to never leave the front of your computer except to perform your natural functions and pay the pizza boy. Does that seem right? Honestly, how many hours have you

wasted coming up with clever away messages and profiles? How much efficiency have you lost because you couldn't bring yourself to sign off while doing homework or studying? Is the improvement in communicational efficiency worth it for all these potential inefficiencies it may cause? These are all questions you should ask yourself before the next time you sign on.

For this week I leave you with this challenge: take a one-week sabbatical from your favorite instant messenger program. See for yourselves if this problem really deserves the harsh label of "addiction." I tried and failed. It is an exercise in self-control. I sincerely hope that you fare better.

Upcoming WEST Symposium Brings Gender Issues to Fore

Continued from Page 2, Column 1

tist rank at the top of the list of reasons why women leave science.

Further evidence suggests that potential female scientists are more strongly affected by the lack of positive reinforcement from their professors than their male counterparts. This symposium attempts to address these concerns by providing women students an opportunity to showcase their research in a supportive environment.

Other studies show that support activities and a "sense of community" both play vital roles in retaining undergraduate women in engineering majors. This includes a support network of peers and mentors. There is no doubt that mentors are useful to students of both sex; however, there is evidence that mentoring is a vital part of career development for women and minorities.

Research shows that both students and mentors feel most comfortable with someone like themselves—

that is, same in gender and ethnicity. Unfortunately, the numbers of female and minority faculty rarely matches the number of students of similar backgrounds looking to be mentored and therefore women have more difficulty finding mentors than men. In short, as Trower

"Research shows that both students and mentors feel most comfortable with someone like themselves."

and Chait once said, "who teaches matters the most accurate predictor of subsequent success for female undergraduates is the percentage of women among faculty members at their college."

Many universities, including Caltech, have recently released statements that they are committed to increasing the number of female

faculty and studying potential gender bias among faculty members. MIT released a landmark report in 1999 that showed women faculty from all parts of that institution suffered multiple disadvantages that compounded over time.

At Caltech, it was recently reported that women faculty were "markedly more dissatisfied than their male peers with many aspects of Caltech." Furthermore, the mean of the normalized residuals for the 29 Caltech female faculty members, salaries were 2.08 times the standard deviation expected for a random population of 29 out of a total sample of 239 faculty members.

If there were no systematic difference between male and female faculty members in terms of accomplishment and value to the Institute, there would be only about a one in forty chance of the discrepancy being a random result.

Due to the low number of women faculty and postdocs at Caltech, women students often have difficulty finding mentors. The Caltech Women's Science Symposium hopes to "bring together a cross-section of women scientists from many disciplines and at various stages of their careers, building a community and encouraging the formation of mentoring relationships and support networks."

Deane Stresses 'Serious Study of Humanities'

Continued from Page 1, Column 2

February. A science writing symposium will be held, featuring David Goodstein, vice provost and instructor in physics, and various writers from *The Los Angeles Times* and *The New York Times*. Core writing students will be among the attendees to the conference, which will focus on the communication of specialized science to the general public.

"Words Matter really began with that simple phrase," said Steven Youra, Director of the Hixon Writing Center and chair of the *Words Matter* committee. Dr. Youra pointed out that part of the program includes small grants to bring local writers to campus for class visits, the purchase of books and other requests. Last year, the program supported *Totem*, a student literary publication.

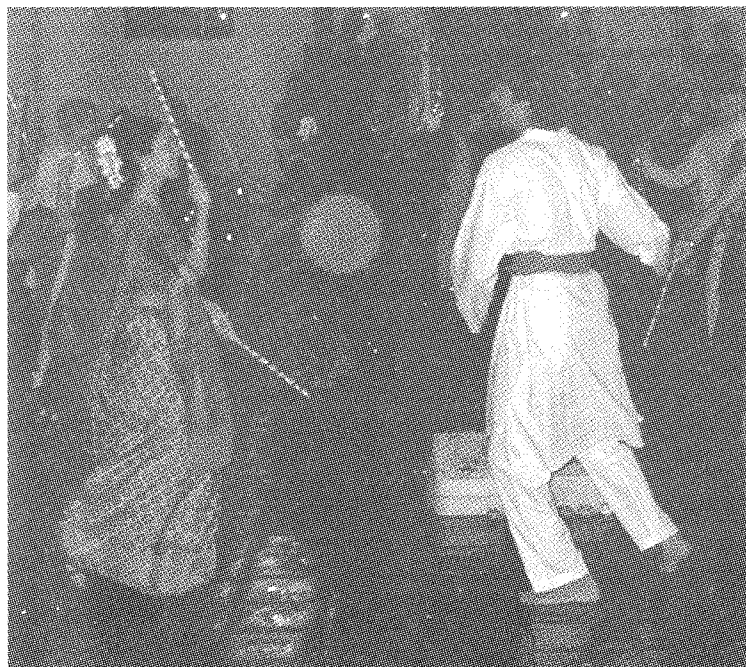
Words Matter is a new presidential initiative that brings important authors to campus for lectures, readings, class visits and other interactions with students and members of the Caltech community. It is guided by a committee made up of students, faculty and administrative officials. *Words Matter* is funded by the Office of the Provost.

While Caltech is undoubtedly one of the world's premier playgrounds for math, science and engineering, many have often overlooked notable literary events that have taken

place on campus. However, with the recent opening of the Hixon Writing Center and the initiation of the *Words Matter* program, awareness for the humanities is being spread throughout the Caltech community.

The *Words Matter* program is a brand new, three-year program that seeks to foster interaction between Caltech students and distinguished writers. Initiated by President Baltimore, the project's primary goal is to encourage and support literary activity on campus. The project is made up of three aspects: writers-in-residence, a symposium on science writing and a small grants program. *Words Matter* will invite an accomplished writer to campus each term for a visit lasting three to five days.

The program's first resident, Seamus Deane was born in Northern Ireland and educated at Queen's University, Belfast and at Cambridge University. He is a poet, essayist and leading historian of modern Irish literature. His internationally acclaimed first novel, *Reading in the Dark*, won the Guardian Prize for Fiction, the Irish Times Fiction Award and was short-listed for the Booker Prize. Professor Deane is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and editor of the monumental three-volume *Anthology of Irish Writing*.



R. Chunarua/The California Tech

OASIS members dance to Diwali, an Indian festival aimed at preserving the memory of Prince Rama's return to Ayodhya.

Diwali Welcomes Lakshmi to Caltech

Continued from Page 1, Column 4

widely observed event on the Hindu religious calendar. For some, it is a five-day festival on which lamps are lit to keep alive the memory of Prince Rama's return to Ayodhya.

In Hindu Mythology, Rama is the seventh incarnation of the Lord Vishnu, and his heroic deeds make Diwali symbolize the victory of virtue over vice. Stories regarding the other four days also involve light and characteristics of love, wisdom and celebration of the powers of God. For the North Indians, Diwali is a single-day celebration to welcome Lakshmi, the Goddess of Wealth and Prosperity. It is believed that on this auspicious day Lord Krishna discarded his body. For Indian farmers, Diwali signals the coming of winter and the beginning of the harvest season. The festival is thus also considered the Hindu New Year. Even for the Sikhs in Punjab, Diwali marks the release of the sixth Sikh Guru.

Diwali is a festival that unites all of India, just as it united people of many different faiths, races and creeds at Caltech this past Friday. Approximately 100 people attended the free celebration, including undergraduates, graduate students, staff and faculty of Caltech, as well as visitors.

Following the dance performance, attendees partook of tasty

Indian snacks including Bhel-Puri, a sweet and tangy mix of rice-puffs, chutney and other condiments and Dahi-Puris, small puffed pastries filled with yogurt, potatoes and lentils. Taste-buds were tantalized with gulab jamuns, small one-inch diameter balls of flour and milk powder deep-fried until golden and served cold in syrup along with jalebi, another tasty dessert, deep-fried and pretzel shaped, covered in saffron syrup. OASIS members gracefully demonstrated the twirls and gliding of Dandia and gave everyone a chance to try it out, while attempting not to damage their partners' knuckles.

Other pleasant aspects of Diwali include the exchange of sweets and displays of fireworks. At Caltech and worldwide, the festival is celebrated throughout the world regardless of religious or economic background, to welcome light and hope into life.

The event was organized by OASIS, and sponsored by the Graduate Student Council, the Graduate Student Housing Office and Caltech Auxiliary and Business Services. Diwali is celebrated 20 days after the 15th day of the dark fortnight of the Hindu lunar month of Ashwin, which falls in October or November every year.

Democrats Pick Up Seats in State Legislature, Republicans in Nation

Continued from Page 1, Column 2

victory for Republicans, who banked Bush's reputation on scores of last-minute stumping visits viewed by many analysts as incredible risky. *Time* magazine called it "one hell of a risk."

The result was that, even in this midterm year, a number of contests stayed neck-and-neck to the end. In Georgia, state Senator Sonny Perdue defeated incumbent Governor Roy Barnes, becoming the second Republican governor of the state and the first since Reconstruction. Vermont Lieutenant Governor Doug Racine ceded to Republican Jim Douglas, even though the latter did not receive 50% of the vote, as required in Vermont.

In Minnesota, former Vice President Walter Mondale, who replaced the late Senator Paul Wellstone in the race only a week ago, conceded to his Republican challenger, Norm Coleman. Missouri incumbent Senator Jean Carnahan admitted defeat to Republican Jim Talent. Republican Saxby Chambliss defeated Georgia Senator Max Cleland in an upset. Also, Lindsey Graham retained the South Carolina Senate seat vacated by J. Strom Thurmond for the Republicans by defeating Democrat Alex Sanders.

But Democrats were not without their share of victories, especially in the gubernatorial races, where—

barring any change of outcome in Alabama—Democrats are poised to pull even with Republicans in numbers. Most notably in Kansas, Wyoming and Oklahoma, Democrats took governorships in the traditionally conservative heartland.

Locally, California Democrats gained a House seat to bring them to a total of 33 of 53 seats, while the Republicans gained two seats in the California State Assembly. Governor Gray Davis was re-elected with 48% of the vote, versus 42% for Republican challenger Bill Simon. Although Davis has only a 45% favor rating, he stayed ahead of Simon throughout the campaign due to a controversy involving Simon's refusal to disclose tax

documents in the wake of the corporate scandals.

Additionally, several important measures were on the ballot in California. Proposition 49, the widely popular Schwarzenegger-crafted initiative which calls for increased funding for educational programs, was approved with 57% of the vote. On the contrary, Proposition 52 about Election Day voter registration was rejected with 59%.

The Democrats cited President Bush's favor ratings in explaining why they were defeated by the Republicans. Meanwhile, the Democrats will try to regroup under new leadership so that they can mount a substantial challenge against the Republicans in 2004.

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM: ELECTION EDITION



It's Over: The election season has gone; a more moderate bunch awaits. Thurmond is leaving the 21st century to people under the age of 100. And with his protege defeated, wrestler-governor Ventura is headed for a bodybag.



Role Model? Schwarzenegger returns to champion his \$450 million initiative for "after-school programs." So Mr. *Kindergarten Cop* suddenly loves kindergarteners. Really, he's just out to *Terminate* his 2006 gubernatorial opponents.



Grayed Out: A guy with 45% approval runs for re-election against a millionaire who won't release his tax returns and a weirdo who spits on radio hosts. Look out, California: Schwarzenegger's looking pretty good just now.

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