



BALTIMORE BACKS DEM. CLONE BILL

WOULD ALLOW STEM CELL STUDY

Supports Feinsein On Banning Cloning, Permitting Study

By MATTHEW WALKER

This past Wednesday, Caltech President David Baltimore spoke at a Congressional hearing in support of a new Senate bill that would outlaw human cloning, but allow research of cloning.

The bill, entitled "The Human Cloning Ban and Stem Cell Research Protection Act of 2003," was introduced by Senators Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif), Arlen Specter (R-Penn), Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass) and Tom Harkin (D-Iowa). The bill places strict penalties on cloning — up to \$1 million and 10 years in prison — while still allowing somatic cell nuclear transfer, though only under heavy government regulation.

Voicing support for research into stem cell cloning, Dr. Baltimore said, "Cellular therapies are the therapies of the future." Also speaking in favor of stem cell research were actor Kevin Kline, paraplegic former triathlete, policewoman Kris

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Dodgers Great Lasorda Looks Back on Career

By ERIC PETERS

Many famous men have strolled the Caltech campus over the years — far too many to list. But what could possibly happen on campus that would bring Bob Graziano, the president and chief operating officer of the Los Angeles Dodgers, along with other current and former Dodger executives, a former owner of the Dodgers, as well as legendary baseball managers Sparky Anderson and Rod Dedeaux?

The answer: Tommy Lasorda — a man whose name is synonymous with Dodger, with over fifty years as a player, scout, coach, manager and executive behind his name.

Last Friday, an evening honoring Lasorda began at the Athenaeum with a dinner for Caltech faculty and guests and ended before a packed house of approximately

Record 37 ASCIT Hopefuls Face Off in Mid-year Elections

By TED JOU and JIALAN WANG

In an election field nearly double the size of last year's, 37 candidates representing all factions of the political spectrum face off in what many see as a turning point in ASCIT's history.

News Analysis

In contrast to last year's meager slate of 23, this year's profusion of candidates as well as the high voter turnout of over 500 for the presidential and vice presidential races the week before last is widely seen to signal a greater interest in student government.

The three candidates for ASCIT secretary, for instance, have all been outspoken and involved members of the student body in the last few years. Joe Jewell '04, the current ASCIT secretary, has also served as ASCIT FDaL and as a member of the student housing committee and the Avery council. In contrast, the other two candidates have been strong critics of ASCIT: Abe Fetterman '05 as a *Tech* writer and Anna Sczaniecka '04 as co-organizer of the Olive Walk sit-in the December before last.

Asked how ASCIT could improve its communication, the candidates had a variety of proposals. Fetterman felt that communication should work through the house structure and also proposed that the minutes be divided into two sections: one for important announcements and another for records of votes and other less important details.

Sczaniecka said that the BoD

needs to "change its image from that of a resume-building committee and work harder to serve student interests" and proposed that the BoD ask for more student input and address their specific concerns. Both Fetterman and Sczaniecka advocate one-to-one communication between the BoD and the student body so that students feel more comfortable expressing their concerns.

BoD veteran Jewell pointed to the ASCIT Minutes as the single most important form of communication with the student body, but added that the BoD should also actively communicate with students by going to dinners and opening up the political process. As for ensuring the objectivity of the minutes, both Jewell and Fetterman said they would submit the report for the approval of the rest of the BoD before sending it off for publication, while Sczaniecka held that she "will not make selective omissions or alterations to serve [her] own agenda."

Jewell also championed the recently-passed ASCIT Publications Amendment as the most important measure to ensure accuracy and an unbiased tone in the minutes.

There are also three candidates running for ASCIT treasurer, for whom a hot-button issue is a proposed bylaw amendment regarding the ASCIT endowment created this past year from \$50,000 saved by

previous ASCIT administrations. The amendment proposes that three fourths of any budget surplus be rolled over to the next fiscal year, with one fourth deposited in the endowment.

Joanna Cohen '05 thought that the amendment created "a good, comprehensive set of rules" and Janet Zhou '04 agreed that "the majority of the surplus should be put directly toward the students the next year." Matthew Walker '06, however, disagreed, proposing only "one fourth rolling over to the next year. In the long run, this will surely serve our posterity much better than simply rolling the money over."

Each candidate has shown a great interest in student involvement during their time at Caltech. While only a freshman, Walker has written regularly for this newspaper and applied for the interim ASCIT treasurer position when it became available. Cohen served on the Page Social Team and the ASCIT Executive Social Committee this past year. Zhou is running for reelection, having been elected ASCIT Treasurer last year in addition to serving as assistant social chair of Fleming House and associate editor of the *Big T*.

In one of the most wide-open elections, six different students are running for IHC Chair. They are among the most experienced candidates in any election, many with prior experience in public service.

For them, a key issue is how to alleviate complaints about Rotation.

J.R. Heberle '05 had many different ideas, suggesting "no undergraduate course work to be due before the Monday of the following week." He also advocated "openly informing the frosh at Frosh Camp about what houses do during Rotation," including the meetings where upperclassmen "scrutinize" the frosh.

Neda Afsarmanesh '04 held that the IHC "can come up with a clear statement about when a frosh should talk to a House president and what it means."

Underlying the platform of Joe Olivier '04 is his idea "that the freshmen should be very strongly encouraged to visit all of the houses during non-after-dinner-Rotation receptions." He added that "freshmen deserve to see what members of the respective houses do during their free time."

Yussanne Ma '04 promised simply that "when approached with specific complaints, I will certainly act to resolve them and I feel this would be much more effective than promising to change things that people may or may not want changed."

Libin Zhang '05 took a similar approach, saying "the incremental Rotation changes this year were well received and I hope to continue to implement any necessary mod-

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D. Korta/The California Tech

Aaron McGruder, creator of "The Boondocks" comic strip, shares his political views on Tuesday's "Voice of Vision" lecture. He succeeded in ruffling many feathers.

Comic Ponders Bush-Powell Dynamic

By ROBERT LI

True to his reputation, Aaron McGruder, the creator of the well known comic strip "The Boondocks," gave a controversial talk to a packed Beckman Auditorium audience last Tuesday evening.

Starting off by declaring that he "did not like lectures and was not about to give one," McGruder nevertheless talked at length about his views on a number of politically charged topics.

His first point concerned Colin Powell, whom he called "the thing that stands between this planet and World War III" and the person that would have won the Republican primary in 2000 had he chosen to run. In spite of these characteristics, however, McGruder stated that Powell was still, as singer and activist Harry Belafonte put it, just a "House Negro," one who kisses up to the master in order to be allowed to live and work in the comfort of the master's home and one who

would be turned out if he doesn't say what the master wants to hear.

On the subject of President Bush, McGruder stated his belief that Bush "stole the election" and in the process disenfranchised 20,000 black voters in Florida. McGruder went on to criticize Bush for his policies on everything from his effort to make war on Iraq to domestic issues like the University of Michigan's affirmative action case.

On the subject of the tensions with Iraq, McGruder revealed that in high school, he had planned to enter the Naval Academy but that he realizes now that it would have been a serious mistake and that currently, he would be unwilling to die for his country.

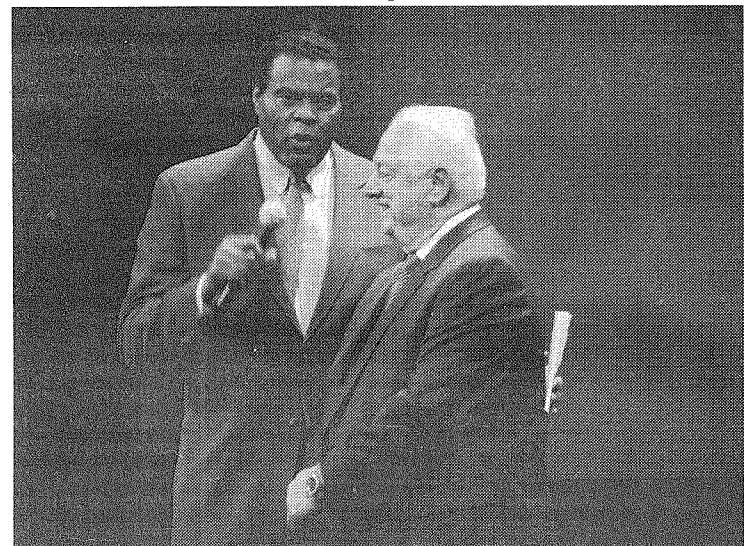
McGruder went on to criticize the media for hijacking hip-hop and ruining it like every other Black art form. Adding to that, McGruder said he agreed with the sentiment that, Eminem, like Elvis, is overrated trailer trash who is overshadowing much better Black artists.

Finally, on the subject of political activism, McGruder claimed that civil disobedience was ineffective and cited the Million Man March and the WTO protests as examples of its failure. He also said that if Martin Luther King were alive today, he wouldn't be popular enough to get assassinated. The Left, McGruder went on to say, should use the same means as the "enemy" to get in power, including methods of which King or Ghandi would have disapproved.

When O.J. Carlton, IV '03 asked McGruder if the Right is the enemy, McGruder responded, "What lecture did you think this was?"

After the lecture, Carlton, when asked about his thoughts on the talk and McGruder, said that "on the whole, I felt that Mr. McGruder was a backwards-thinking individual and less than worthy of the distinction of a 'Voice of Vision.' He's a clever man and knows how to stir up controversy, but his systematic

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D. Korta/The California Tech

Tommy Hawkins, L.A. Dodgers vice president for external affairs and former Lakers guard, welcomes Lasorda onto the stage.

Election Candidates Call For ASCIT Reform

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est and reasonable reforms."

Jeremy Pitts '04 emphasized gleaning "a lot of input from freshman to try to alleviate as much pain as possible for next year's freshman."

Both candidates for director for academic affairs are currently student co-chairs of committees for the upcoming Student-Faculty Conference: Kathryn Hsu '04 of the Core Curriculum Committee and Elizabeth Felnagle '05 of the Humanities and Social Sciences Committee. Asked about the three academic issues they would focus most on if elected, the candidates had a variety of responses.

Hsu would like to tackle some longstanding student complaints about CS1 and Core 1, follow up on the quality of the menu classes and freshman labs and try to solicit more student involvement on academic issues.

Felnagle would focus on clearing up HSS graduation requirements, make faculty evalu-

ations public and make ARC and ASCIT proceedings more transparent and public. Because the director of academic affairs must deal directly with faculty who are often reluctant to make any changes in the curriculum, an additional question is just how each candidate would convince the faculty that some changes need to be made.

From her experience on the HSS Committee, Felnagle was impressed by the faculty's eagerness in approaching the SFC and became convinced that establishing a positive dialogue will help effect change. She also advocated diligence toward the organization of the SFC, ombuds meetings and research about how competing schools deal with academic issues.

Hsu favored getting broad-based student support for changes via petitions and surveys to give faculty evidence of student sentiment. In addition, she would discuss changes with faculty before submitting a proposal to work out any objections so that the final proposal would have addressed both faculty and student concerns.

The candidates for ASCIT Social Director boast many different proposals for ASCIT social events, but no matter who is elected, it looks as though the much-maligned Prefrosh Weekend carnival is about to go the way of ASCIT parties.

Spencer Rarrick '04, current jamroom manager and Dabney treasurer, had the most radi-

cal proposal, stating that ASCIT should not stage any social events, but should support the events thrown by the houses. He further suggested that ASCIT give the houses more money for inter-house parties and should buy equipment such as scaffolding and a public announcement system that would be available for house events. Rarrick would also start up an ASCIT arcade.

Vivian U '06 proposed a "scientific" event in which people dressed up as their favorite scientists and impersonated them.

Of all the candidates interviewed, Kim Hiscox '05, who is currently serving as interim ASCIT treasurer, is the only one with experience organizing a formal dance, experience that could be useful for planning for the annual ASCIT Formal. She described planning her Senior Prom, which took place on a yacht in the San Francisco Bay. Both U and Hiscox agreed that the ASCIT Carnival needs some major work, if not elimination.

Alex Sheive '06 is also running for ASCIT Director of Social Activities but turned down requests to be interviewed.

The ASCIT upperclass director-at-large has been in charge of overseeing ASCIT's publications since a *little t* and *Big T* failed to come out three years ago. For the three UDAL candidates, the big question is how they might foster improvement of the quality of this newspaper, since that has been a common complaint.

Andrea Vasconcellos '05 suggested using "ASCIT's relation with administration to push for journalism classes or seminars."

Ryan Olf '05 would "like to review how the editors are paid and perhaps push towards revamping the system so that editors are rewarded for quality editorial work." He also suggested that ASCIT "finance a sort of training for the newly elected *Tech* editors." Both candidates have written for this newspaper before.

The failure of recent bylaw amendments that would have eliminated the FDAL position showed that maintaining a freshmen-only position on the BoD is important to students.

How do this year's four FDAL candidates feel? All expressed the sentiment that it is most important simply for freshmen to have a voice and a vote on the BoD to represent their class. Asked what they hope to accomplish during their term in office, the candidates replied with goals that go beyond the official duties of the FDAL as club liaison.

Corinna Zygourakis '06 vowed to "work hard to be the voice of the freshman class on an ASCIT BoD focused on reform." David Kahn '06 would like to represent freshman interests and make ASCIT more responsive to students' needs. Gunnar Ristroph '06, who campaigned successfully to defeat the aforementioned amendment, would show people that FDAL can be an "effective and important office" and further promised to take on the task of overseeing student representatives to committees. Meng-meng Fu '06 would

Continued on Page 8, Column 3

IHC CHAIR

J.R. HEBERLE '04

Lloyd, Lloyd Treasurer

"Rotation is somewhat of a necessary evil."

NEDA AFSARMANESH '04

Fleming, UDAL, Tech Editor, Fleming Librarian

"ASCIT and IHC have very different roles—both equally important in the up keeping of student life, but still very different"

JOSEPH OLIVIER '04

Dabney, CRC, UASH, Jamroom

"A view of each house, established outside the dinner receptions, would be a monumental help in the freshmen house-decision-making process."

YUSSANNE MA '04

Blacker, Blacker Vice President, ASCIT Executive Social Committee, Blacker Social Team

"I think that there will always be a group of people who are discontented with Rotation and I cannot honestly claim to be able to make a change that would make everyone happy with Rotation."

LIBIN ZHANG '05

Ruddock, Tech Commentary

"I will cooperate with ASCIT to ensure a smoothly running government, but I will dissent if mandated by the people."

JEREMY PITTS '04

Ruddock, Ruddock Vice President

"My job IHC chair would not be to do what I think is best, but to do what other people tell me is best."

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

ALEX SHEIVE '06

Lloyd

"For too long its duties have been summed up as running ASCIT Formal."

VIVIAN U '06

Lloyd

"I think that ASCIT social events should be fun and should pertain to the interest of the majority of the students."

SPENCER RARRICK '04

Dabney, Jamroom, Dabney Treasurer

"I personally believe that ASCIT should not actually throw social events, but rather play more of a supporting role for events which the houses throw."

KIM HISCOX '06

Fleming, Interim ASCIT Treasurer

"If elected to Social Director, I would hope to gather input from the students to determine what social events are actually enjoyed."

TREASURER

JOANNA COHEN '05

Page, ASCIT Executive Social Committee, Page Social Team

MATTHEW WALKER '06

Ruddock, Tech News, Tech Commentary

JANET ZHOU '04

Fleming, ASCIT Treasurer, Fleming Social Team, Big T Associate Editor, Tech Editor

CRC CO-CHAIR

JIM REBESCO '05

Page, Page Vice President, Page Athletics Team

"Mediation is often a better solution to a conflict than punitive action, so action by the CRC ought to be used as a 'last resort.'"

NICHOLAS WALL '05

Dabney, CRC

"The honor code applies to every aspect of our lives while at Caltech; to deny this is to surrender our trust in each other."

MANUEL GARCIA '05

Ricketts, Institute Grievance Committee

"A student co-chair should also be someone who can interpret the details of a case from the perspective of the student in question."

SENIOR CO-PRESIDENTS

BRANDON BALLARA '04

BEN MATTHEWS '04

Dabney, Dabney Social Vice President

"I believe that Mr. T would be an excellent commencement speaker. Perhaps not a speaker but definitely someone who could 'pity us fools.'"

SPENCER RARRICK '04

JON LEE '04

Dabney, Dabney Treasurer, Dabney Secretary

"Personally, even at my old age of 21, I really enjoy playgrounds."

PO-SHEN LOH '04

DEBBIE LEE '04

Blacker, Ricketts

"For the [commencement] speaker, we thought of a 'standard' kind of speaker, Jimmy Carter, but personally we would prefer someone out of the ordinary: Sam Donaldson."

RUMI CHUNARA '04

GRETA JO '04

Fleming, Lloyd, Faculty Advisor

"The senior class gift has to be something the whole class wants."

HARRIS NOVER '04

KATHLEEN KIERNAN '04

Ruddock, BoC

"For a commencement speaker, we would like someone who is relevant to the Caltech experience, but who is also interesting and not 'just another scientist.'"

LISA WANG '04

IRAM PARVEEN BILAL '04

Ruddock, Page, Faculty Curriculum, ARC, Institute Programs

"In a day that's meant for us, wouldn't it be awesome to have an undergrad speaker selected by all 234 members of our class?"

ARC CHAIR

KATHRYN HSU '04

Lloyd, Core Curriculum Steering, ARC

"Regardless of how the ARC chair election turns out, I will continue to work on resolving the issues that surface through the conference."

ELIZABETH FELNAGLE '05

Ricketts, Ruddock, Freshman Admissions

"I'd like to increase communication between faculty and students, starting with publication of student evaluations."

TECH EDITORS

KEVIN DUNCKLEE '05

PETER SAMUELSON '05

Blacker, Blacker Social Team

"We would like to improve the content of the paper, as well as settle the disagreements between the BoD and the *Tech*, as it will make for a stronger, unified voice for student issues."

LEO STEIN '06

TAMMY MA '05

KEVIN BARTZ '05

Lloyd, Fleming, Tech Editors, Fleming Librarian

"We've built the content base from barely 3,000 words weekly to over 10,000 on a regular basis, even though it meant giving up much of the automatic weekly \$200 endowed to *Tech* editors in the past."

SECRETARY

JOE JEWELL '04

Lloyd, ASCIT Secretary, ASCIT FDAL, Student Housing Committee, Avery Council

"I believe that the BoD should communicate actively with students in the houses and off-campus by attending dinners, publicizing meetings well and in general opening up the political process."

ABE FETTERMAN '05

Ruddock, Tech Commentary

"Writing unbiased, objective notation of events is a simple task and can be achieved if one's personal motivations are set aside."

ANNA SZANIECKA '04

Lloyd, December '01 Student Protest

"The BOD needs to change its image from that of a resume-building committee and work harder to serve student interests."

BOC SECRETARY

LAWRENCE STEWART '04

Dabney, ARC

"When the professor doesn't actually see your work, but instead it's graded by some grad-turkey who sees the job as a paycheck, there is no motivation to do honest work."

HARRIS NOVER '04

Ruddock, BOC

"The confidentiality of participants in a [BoC] case must be respected."

FDAL

CORINNA ZYGOURAKIS '06

Lloyd

"If you have an idea to improve campus life, I want to hear from you."

DAVID KAHN '06

Dabney

"I feel as if this year's government will have a great dynamic for change, especially with our new President and I would be excited to be a part of it."

GUNNAR RISTROPH '06

Blacker

"I'm going to restore respect to the position of FDAL."

MENG-MENG FU '06

Lloyd

"I hope to generate a more efficient and fair system for the distribution of club funding by regulating club activities and member participation."

UDAL

ANDREA VASCONCELLOS '05

Fleming, ASCIT FDAL

"Since the Director at Large bylaw did not pass, perhaps part of my job could be to oversee some of the ASCIT committees or at least be a liaison."

RYAN OLF '05

Lloyd, Ruddock

"Obviously we need to improve the quality of *The California Tech*."

The California Tech

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ASCIT Minutes. February 5, 2003

Present: BoD: Ted, Vikram, Joe, Marcus, Basit, Jialan, Neda. Absent: Kim (track), Andrea (track). Guests: Tom Fletcher (ASCIT President-elect), Galen Loram (ASCIT Vice President-elect), Liz Stameshkin (BoC Secretary), Kevin Duncklee (ASCIT lights manager), Lionel Jingle, Cris Cornell, Tamara Becker.

Meeting called to order at 10:15 p.m.

Guests: Kevin gives a report on the ASCIT Lights. He reports that they were used for about 15 different events last year, by all seven houses plus Avery. He has developed a manual for their use and suggests delaying this year's new equipment funding to next year so that we can buy cooler stuff. The BoD later votes to give him the yearly bonus of \$50 stipulated for good work (5-0).

Liz reports that the BoC laptop crashes all the time, including during preliminary investigations and cases. The BoC two years ago bought a refurbished laptop to save money, but now it looks as if it will have to be replaced again. This is probably a matter for next year's budget, but we will recommend to the next BoD that they budget for a new and more reliable BoC laptop. It could also come out of this year's budget surplus. Lionel Jingle requests \$200 of Interhouse funding for Ricketts House (Apache), which is later approved (5-0). Cris and Tamara are organizing a wine-tasting event with Cathy Jurca and Tom Mannion. They present a budget requesting a total of \$250 from ASCIT for food, wine, and wine glasses. The event will be limited to 12-15 students ages 21 and older, but they plan to repeat it at least once a term and eventually form a club. The BoD later votes (3-1-1, Marcus opposed, Basit abstaining) to fund them for the full \$250. Marcus voted no because he objects to the 21-plus age stipulation, saying "We should break this law whenever possible. Civil disobedience is completely justified."

General Meeting: Joe requests \$200 of Multihouse funding for Lloyd House for the annual capture the flag match and barbecue with Blacker, which is approved (5-0). Ted mailed a formal letter to the IRS, reporting that the IRS was "reasonably friendly" on the phone and that we can probably get out of paying any penalties for the forgetfulness of the 1999-2000 BoD in filing taxes. He also recommends that BoD members write handbooks for their successors (which he has done for Tom), and fill out critiques of each other.

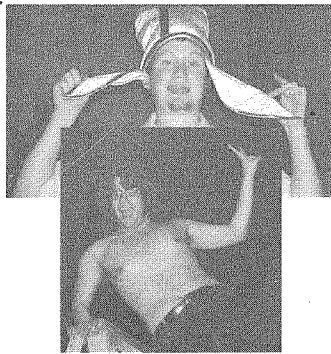
Marcus reports that there are two new house presidents: Mike Davenport of Blacker House and Jason Schadewald of Ruddock House. He then requests \$200 in Interhouse funding for the Dabney House Drop Day party, which is approved (5-0). Basit reports that the Student/Faculty Conference is now on April 23, and that the Faculty Board has been asked by the provost to vote to grant a holiday from classes for that day. Jialan reports that the ASCIT Officers Installation Dinner will be the evening of February 28 at the home of Vice President for Student Affairs Margo Marshak. Tom Mannion will be cooking. The current BoD will be having lunch with Margo Marshak on February 7 to discuss current issues facing the student body. The yearbook will also take a photo at that time.

Elections are next week, February 12 from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. Ted has four proposed bylaw amendments to discuss, but not vote upon yet. They include a "Club Amendment" to more carefully define clubs, a "Dues Timeline Amendment" to change the time for proposed dues change votes to first term from third term, a "Big T Assessment Amendment" to fold Big T dues into general ASCIT dues and increase the amount of money given to both the Tech and the Big T, and a "BoD Policies Amendment" that makes technical changes to the way in which the ASCIT BoD passes resolutions and policies.

Meeting adjourned at 11:27 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Joe Jewell
ASCIT Secretary

Senior Co-presidents

Ben Matthews and Brandon Ballara



We are honored to be running for senior class presidents, for the class of 2004. We would like to share with you a couple of ideas for making our class stand out from the myriad of bitter, ambitious, dull science-types that have characterized previous senior classes. The question you should be asking yourself when you vote for senior class president is: "Do I trust these men to represent my class, in your and our final year at Caltech, with matters of extreme gravity?" The answer is indubitably clear: Oh, Yeah. As for concrete promises, we pledge the following to you, our peers: Ditch Day will, indeed, occur despite rumors to the contrary. There will be a gift given by us, the senior class, to Caltech despite wishes to the contrary. This gift will be something for the students of a future Caltech. A speaker will speak at our Commence-

ment. It will be in the form of an address. This individual will be famous, and it will be someone who doesn't suck. In conclusion: "Fat, drunk and stupid is no way to go through life, son."

Harris Nover and Kathleen Kiernan

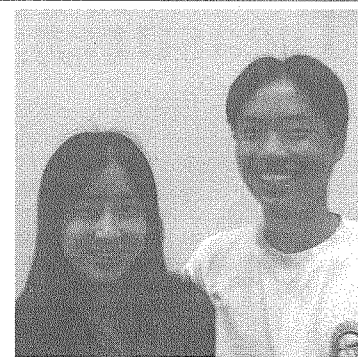
The senior class co-presidents must be able to provide options which inspire enthusiasm and further ideas on the part of the senior class. However, we feel that the most important requirement for the co-presidents is not the ideas they have on their own, but their ability to listen to and incorporate the ideas of others. If elected, we plan to be accessible and open to every member of the senior class, so that we can have a ditch day, a commencement, and a class gift in which we can all take pride.

We will look for a commencement speaker both who has something to say which is particularly relevant to the Caltech experience, and who also

Lisa Wang and Iram Parveen Bilal

Oh my God, we are almost seniors! The time for our commencement speaker, our senior class gift and our ditch day is finally here. With 6 teams vying to serve you, it might appear that no matter who gets elected, the same old thing is going to happen come Ditch Day & graduation time. Give us a chance to show you what we can do. Our Commencement is something we want to remember for the rest of our lives; it's a time to reflect upon 4 years of tough-love experience with Tech and celebrate our survival through it all. Feel less than the newlygrads from MIT & Harvard 'cause they've got congratulatory remarks lined up from some World Bank President or NSF Head? In a day that's meant for us, wouldn't it be awesome to have an undergrad speaker selected by all 234 members of our class? We're serious about making this happen, if that idea interests you; we'll fight to have one member of our class—chosen by your votes and selected from among the best speeches submitted—be the first-ever undergrad speaker at a Caltech commencement. And what about the

Debbie Lee and Po-shen Loh



Huh? What are these guys doing here? Zoom out: Two seemingly apolitical people — not the types to lead a parade. Zoom in: A natural team that won't need to schedule times to meet. Different [Po cooks up crazy ideas; Debbie's the artsy one] yet similar [both are responsible and want to go beyond the job description]. Focus: A pair that came up with a concrete idea to unify our class - and all undergrads - together in an unprecedented way, possibly start a Caltech tradition, and write our class down in Caltech history, all through a Ditch Day senior prank ** (which for obvious reasons we can't tell more about here). And with many more such ideas to come.* Unfortunately, Administration didn't support our current plan because it was too big (Po

checked on Friday). But we'll try to think up a less controversial prank in a similar vein. So we still can't tell about it here, but if you're a curious junior, just contact us or ask around — word might have spread by now.* For the commencement speaker: we'd like an engaging non-scientist, but we're open to suggestions. More specifics are in Ted's election article.* Thanks for reading! =)

Greta Jo and Rumi Chunara

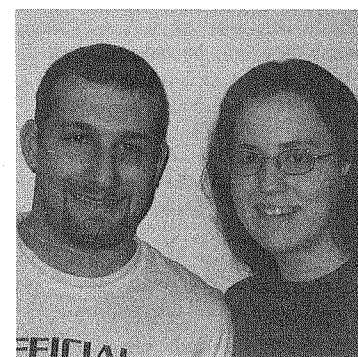


The duty of Senior Class Co-Presidents is not a political matter, but a job of making sure our time at Tech comes to a memorable closing. To accomplish this, we chose to run as Co-Presidents. Since we are both already involved in student activities, we can make a great team to represent what the Class of 2004 wants. In recent years, students wanted to know how the commencement speaker was chosen, but instead were left in the dark. We will not let administration drown out our classmates' voices, and we will update the students about the selection process. Ditch Day is something that sets Caltech apart from other schools. To keep this uniqueness, we will work hard with the undergraduates and administration to make sure we have a great Ditch Day with as many freedoms as possible. Because the Senior Gift is something bought by the senior class itself, we want to make sure that our gift is something that the whole class will be proud of. Let's have a gift that is meaningful as well as novel, and not just your typical bench or tree. However, we don't want to only focus on these three things. Another event we want to make more memorable is Senior Dinner, possibly having it in a different location than just Chandler.

We sincerely hope that you give us the opportunity to serve as your Senior Class Co-Presidents. Thank you.

will be entertaining. One way to do this is to consider individuals from groups likely to produce speakers with these qualities. We suggest from the scientific TV community Bill Nye and Beakman. From the comic strip community there are Scott Adams and Bill Amend. From the science fiction/fantasy community there are Neil Gaiman, Terry Pratchett, Larry Niven, Orson Scott Card and many others. We also feel that the speech delivered is more important than the name of the person giving it. In this vein we'll make an effort to investigate the past public speaking experiences of prospective speakers.

We would like the senior class gift to be useful to future generations of Techers and help improve their quality of life, even if only in a small way. We would like to avoid more traditional gifts such as a bench or a bor-



ing sculpture. Some more interactive ideas we've had are to get a sauna or a participatory zen rock garden. Of course, all the above are simply our ideas. We're far more interested in what you, the senior class, have to say.

Sincerely, Harris and Kathleen

Jon Lee and Spencer Rarrick



Here's our top 5 list of commencement speakers:

1. Matt Groening
2. Conan O'Brian
3. Andy Richter
4. Mike Myers
5. Dana Carvey that is all.

brought UN weapons inspector Scott Ritter to campus. We've networked with all the major administrative players at Tech, from the President's Office and VP for Student Affairs to Alumni Relations and the Y, so we know who we can count on to support the interests of the Class of 2004.

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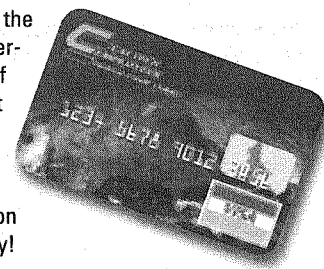
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Treasurer

Joanna Cohen

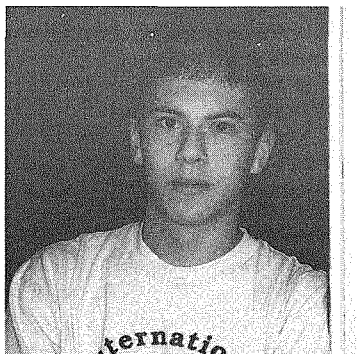
I'll admit: I know a lot of cynical undergrads who criticize ASCIT, complaining, "where does all the money go?" They pay their dues and put money into an organization that they say doesn't give them anything in return. I always find myself on the defensive in these conversations; I mention such services as the ASCIT DVD library, the formal, funding for all the clubs on campus, and of course the Tech that you're reading right now. I think that it's time I put my money where my mouth is; I want to be the ASCIT treasurer so I can be a part of what I always stand up for. I would like to see a copy of ASCIT's budget published in the Tech - it is currently available online, but the typical Caltech student probably doesn't have time to search for it. Publishing it in the Tech will make it easily accessible to all ASCIT members; they will be able to open the



newspaper and say, "oh, that's where the money is going." Much of ASCIT's money is reserved for people who specifically request it, but many undergrads don't even know how much money is available, or what it can be used for. For example, I'm sure there are students who aren't aware that ASCIT reserves \$200 a year for pranks. One of my goals is to make sure that everyone knows about these opportunities. As ASCIT treasurer, I will help connect the BoD to the students it represents.

Matt Walker

Soon, fellow Techers, you will elect the next Treasurer to represent and protect your investments in our student association, ASCIT. Unfortunately, I can't make grandiose promises like doubling the house budgets or increasing ASCIT funds by millions of dollars. What I can promise is to fulfill the basic responsibilities that you should expect and demand from a Treasurer. Checks will come out on time. ASCIT won't get audited for turning in taxes late. Training will be available for new accounting software. The Treasurer will be accessible to all who have budget concerns. Additionally, I have ideas to increase the productivity of BoD meetings and to provide motivation for on-time Big T and little T delivery. Most importantly, as Treasurer, I will work for the good of the students. I will take



seriously all serious suggestions, and I will pursue the student good in every way necessary and possible. Already, I have gone to the top of the administration to hunt down answers to student questions in my capacity as a Tech reporter, and I will return to fight for the students. Help me help you. Vote Matt Walker.

Janet Zhou

As ASCIT treasurer this past year, I have 1) filed the taxes for both the 2000 and 2001 fiscal years that were neglected by previous treasurers, which are crucial in retaining our nonprofit corporation status.2) supervised the transition of our accounts to a Caltech agency account, which saved ASCIT \$10,000 a year in accounting costs.3) set up the ASCIT endowment (~ \$50,000 value) with money previous treasurers had lost track of, which will earn us a \$3500 return this coming year and provides a foundation for growth.4) set up House endowment accounts for each of the seven houses, so that houses can also run fundraising programs, and benefit from ASCIT's nonprofit status. As a student leader and member of the BoD, I have 1) met with administration many times to campaign for increased communication with students, which will result in upcoming regular town hall meetings attended by top administrators and open to all interested students.2) been very open with undergrads with any information I may know on any issue. When the ASCIT BoD visited houses last term, I was always in attendance, and gave complete responses to ques-



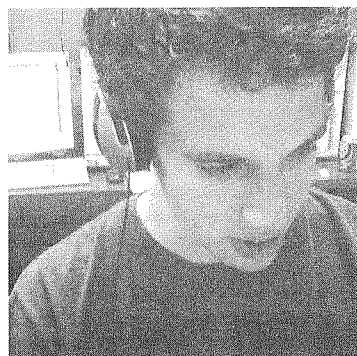
tions posed by students.3) organized and implemented the student-faculty lunches program, which allows students to take a professor of their choice to the Athenaeum free of charge, promoting increased student-faculty interaction.[TJ]4) exposed the interest for wine tasting and cooking classes, and proposed them to the BoD and Tom Mannion, who has taken up the idea. I am not just a bunch of promises. As the associate editor of the Big T last year, I came through and delivered a quality product. I have the experience and motivation to get things done.[TJ]Are there stats on how many students/professors?

Secretary

Abe Fetterman

What does it mean to be secretary? Isn't that just a job for people whose main qualification is typing speed? Why would we even elect such a lowly office? How did I get tricked into coming to Caltech? These are questions I often ask myself during times of deep thought and introspection, such as during lecture or perhaps whilst sitting on the john. In any case, I thought that as that is where you are most likely reading this, I might attempt to answer such questions. To be Secretary is akin to being both a scribe and a wise man simultaneously, a cross between Secretary of State and his administrative assistant, the Secretary to the Secretary of State.

While one duty is to take down the minutes which will be published in the Tech, the Secretary is also an integral part of the Board of Directors, third in line to the President Himself. Nothing would please me more than being Tom Fletcher's third-in-command, except perhaps being Tom Fletcher's third-in-command and also taking notes during meetings. This definition of the position of ASCIT Secretary, while not directly written in the Corporation's Constitution, does well enough that we can use it to answer the next two questions. The last question, how I got tricked into coming to Caltech, is a much longer story that I am sure all of us (or at least most of us) have our own version of. I bid you Adieu, Abe

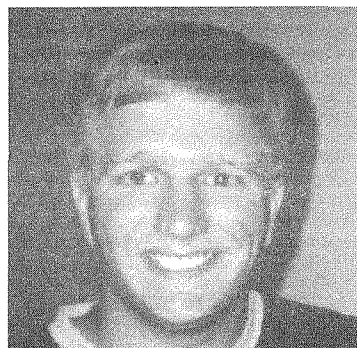


Fetterman. PS: I am sure that if I am elected to this position I will have enough work to do that I will not feel the need to write commentary on exciting campus issues for the Tech, if you know what I mean (and I know you do).

Joe Jewell

The Secretary's job is all about communication, and if re-elected I will continue to play an active role in unequivocally communicating the views of the student body to the administration. Improving the quality of Caltech student life should be ASCIT's top priority, especially now in this critical and uncertain time for the Caltech undergraduate community. I also see the position as an opportunity to facilitate communication between ASCIT and its members, through the Minutes and other media. The Board of Directors ought to be held accountable to the students it

serves, and open dialogue is an important part of this. In my two terms on the ASCIT BoD, first as Freshman Director at Large and currently as ASCIT Secretary, I have been a steadfast and vigorous defender of students' rights to fair representation, equitable treatment, and full information, both within the student body and to the administration. I have a record of fighting hard to preserve those rights, and I've taken on everyone from David Baltimore (on parking, health insurance, and "Vectors") down to Kevin Bartz (to ensure unbiased and uncensored ASCIT Minutes) to sustain them. The job is not always easy, but I consider it a privi-



lege to serve the student body, and I am excited about the opportunity to renew my commitment as your representative for another year.

Anna Sczaniecka

Let me begin by saying that I haven't served on a lot of committees or held a lot of offices. Instead, I believe it is more important to do the things I feel passionately about and to improve life for those around me. I played volleyball for Caltech because it was fun, I tutored junior high kids in math because I enjoyed it, and I helped organize the campus wide sit-in because I wanted student opinion to be taken seriously. First term of 2001-2002, many students were disgruntled, yet few knew what do with their grievances. I worked together with a handful of students to organize the sit-in to bring the campus together, give students a chance to speak out, and get the

administration's attention. It is one of the things I am most proud of in my life, and while my parents weren't thrilled to learn that I blew off part of finals week to organize it, I did it because I knew it had to be done. I think it's great that students have been much more proactive on campus over the last year. However there is still room for improvement. The BoD needs to ask for more student input and focus on the issues that concern them. I also think the BoD should encourage interaction between the houses by sponsoring more non-competitive events. I had a great time at decompression, Ricketts' bowling with Lloydies, and Dabney's communist takeover of dinner, but I cannot for the life of me remember the supposed BoD dessert night that took



place last year. I want to serve as ASCIT secretary because I would like to see the BoD change from a resume-building committee to a group that serves the student body out of genuine interest.

BoC Secretary

Harris Nover

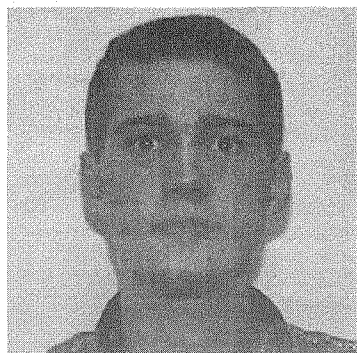


The honor system is one of the most important things about life at Caltech. I believe that the honor system does work, but also that it could work better. I would try to improve the system in a variety of ways. First off, incoming freshmen are not adequately prepared. On the whole, frosh talks and the presentations at frosh camp focus far too much on the procedure of what happens when someone is BoCed, and not enough on the actual substance of the honor code. The honor code is not simply about cheating on tests. It also is not a tool for the administration to set policy. Rather, it is about treating others fairly. This is a simple truth which I feel has largely been lost. I would also educate the faculty more about the honor code. Many professors don't seem to get it, with too many in-class

quizzes and finals. I'd also like to see a precise statement of class policies handed out at the beginning of every class. Much of what the Board sees is the result of simple miscommunication between students and professors. I will take more care to inform students why exactly they are being called before the Board. Secrecy is necessary for many reasons, but that secrecy should arise only out of necessity, not out of habit. I also support releasing additional statistical data about cases so the community can get more of a sense of how the honor code is working. Being Secretary is a big job. Having served as Ruddock's rep for the last year, I feel I have the experience necessary to help the Board run smoothly, and I know what I'm getting into. If you have any questions about the job I've done so far, I encourage you to ask the other BoC reps for their opinions.


Lawrence Stewart

The BoC is absurdly secret. I believe it should be run in a fashion more like our current judicial system and less like a secret tribunal. We students should be directly accountable to one another, and the system should follow accordingly. The BoC proceedings should be made available to students.



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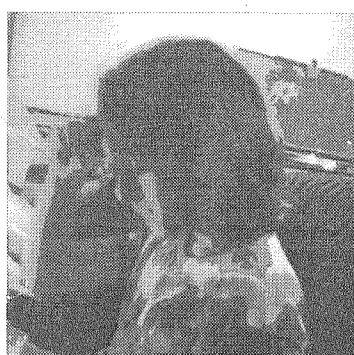
Hey Jude, "...but thy eternal summer shall not fade, nor lose possession of that fair thou owest ..." - Farmland Lion

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Spencer Rarrick

When's the last time you got really excited about some ASCIT social event? I can't think of any. I'm not trying to say that I can change this. I don't blame previous Social Directors. I don't think anybody could make ASCIT social events exciting. Not even if Mahatma Gandhi himself went head to head against 1984 Olympic figure skating gold medalist Scott Hamilton. I honestly feel that ASCIT has no business planning social events. On the other hand, the student houses put together some really excellent interhouse parties. As ASCIT social director, I would divert the money otherwise squandered on ASCIT social events to fund interhouse events put on by the houses or by any independent group

which might want to organize them. The current of interhouse allowance of \$200 three times a year is ridiculously small considering the amount of money ASCIT sits on (not to mention gift wraps for the IRS.) I also think it would be great if ASCIT invested in some party-throwing items which would be too expensive for any individual house to afford. In particular, ASCIT could purchase more scaffolding which several houses incorporate into their structures. Although this is a rather large investment, it will be used extensively, and it will last every long time. Another interesting (but riskier) possibility might be purchasing a really nice sound system that various entities could borrow for their respective events. I've heard rumors that in the past there was an arcade in the SAC. I'm interested in the



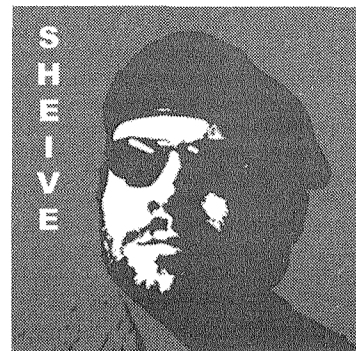
possibility of starting this up again (assuming some appropriate machines could be found.) I'll make no promises in terms of organizing social events. Once again, I believe that the houses are much better at this than ASCIT, whomever the social director may be.

Social Director

Alex Sheive

The Social Manifesto

The history of all hitherto existing ASCIT Social Directors is the history of half-assed struggles. The position is due for a change. For too long its duties have been summed up as running ASCIT formal. The student body needs to be asked if this poorly attended event is worth the six thousand dollars allotted for it. Allegedly, there have been other ASCIT social events, but they are primarily disorganized, ill conceived, and duly ignored. The Social Director must work with the members of ASCIT to spend their money in a way that creates recognizable value. The housing system's profound effect on the social life of the campus must be acknowledged and enhanced, rather than ignored. These things involve



interacting with the student body and doing the legwork required to help organize, fund, and rally support for any suggestion that will increase the quality of the social lives of the students of this institute. That is the job, please exercise your rights and vote for whomever you think can do it best.

Vivian U

A conversation between me and an IR (not infrared, not Ohm's Law V = IR, but Imaginary Reporter)

IR: You're a frosh! And you're running for ASCIT Director of Social Activities?

Viv: So? Frosh = fresh = new ideas!

IR: Why do you want to run for this position?

Viv: I think it's a great way to contribute to the school and it'll be a valuable experience for me as well. I would also like this position to be filled by someone qualified, so that the social events can be organized in a successful and fun way.

IR: Why are you qualified?

Viv: Well, I don't like to brag, but I'm a very creative, organized, and

responsible person.

IR: And you said you don't like to brag!

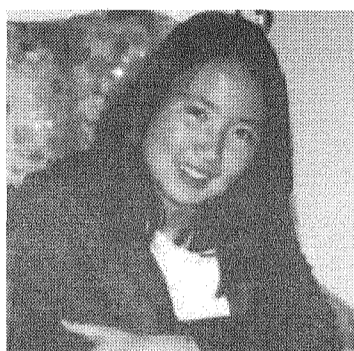
Viv: I wasn't bragging! Otherwise, I'd say I'm SUPER creative, organized, and responsible!

IR: Fine, fine. How creative are you?

Viv: Let's see. Here are the titles to my last two hum papers: (regarding Benjamin Franklin) "Man on the Hundred Dollar Bill" and (regarding Edgar Allan Poe) "Darth Vader? Dark writer!"

IR: Uh... I'm speechless.

Viv: Fine, they may be stupid ideas, but at least they're extraordinary... I thought. But seriously, I thought of some new social events that might be exciting and appealing to the majority of the student body. Since science



is one common interest that unites Techers, we can hold a Scientist Impersonation Contest in which participants will dress and perform experiments like their favorite scientists and win prizes. Such an event would be entertaining and educational.

IR: That sounds interesting. Is there anything else you want to add?

Viv: Yes, I like DONUT... and oh, "a vote for me is a vote for U!"

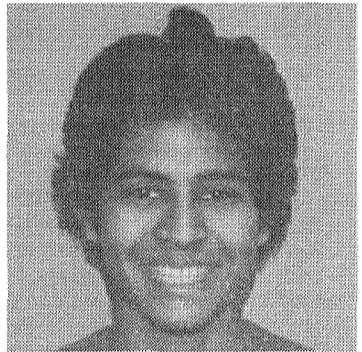
IR: Well, good luck!

Viv: And to everyone else who's running for a position too.

CRC Co-chair Manuel Garcia

Fellow ASCIT Members, I have been chosen to run for the position of Conduct Review Committee Student Co-chair for a few simple reasons. First and foremost, it is my belief that while the position requires a student to be in support of institute policies, the student co-chair should also be someone who can interpret the details of a case from the perspective of the student in question rather than playing the role of judge. Secondly, while I am in firm support of the Honor Code, I feel the CRC has not created a clear sentiment of trust among the student body. To be more specific, I believe the CRC does not present itself and sometimes does not conduct itself in a manner that is beneficial to the students involved in cases, where implicated students sometimes feel that it is in their best interest to withhold the truth or lie. Should I be elected, I would strive to create a better image for the CRC, one where a greater sense of trust is established. Finally, I am not afraid to admit that I have been "CRC'd" myself like others at this institute, so I know what it is like to be on the receiving end of CRC case decisions. It is through this

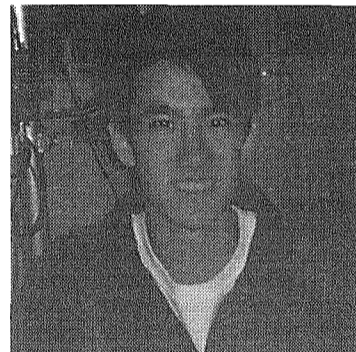
experience and through listening to the views of many others who have been involved with the CRC that I believe I am best suited for the position. Therefore, I ask that you please elect me, Manny Garcia, for the position of CRC Student Co-chair. Thanks.



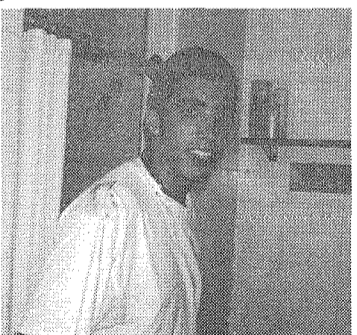
Nicholas Wall

If elected to the office of CRC Student Co-chair, I would act as a moderating influence at the routing committee and CRC hearings. I realize how difficult it can be to address the interests of the entire Caltech community, but I hope that my experiences as a CRC member this year will provide insight toward future courses of action. Serving as a representative of the undergraduate population, I


will make every effort to reflect your perception of Caltech policy. However, while navigating through the CRC proceedings, I will also attempt to keep an open mind and remember that I am only one voice of many. I swear to maintain utmost confidentiality and demonstrate respect for all individuals involved in CRC cases, as well as those brought before the routing committee. I hope to continue the fine leadership that has guided the CRC in past years.



James Rebesco



Since its inception, the CRC has had no clear jurisdiction. The Honor Code Handbook states, The CRC's role is purposefully not expressed too specifically so as not to limit its scope and unnecessarily complicate its workings. The intent to streamline the workings of the Committee, though well intentioned, has raised some serious issues. First among these is the lack of accountability and clear guidelines. As students at a private university, we do not have any claim to due process protections. This is not an explanation for the lack of elucidated procedures. Rather, it is the strongest argument for them. The absence of other safeguards places a premium on a full understanding of the process. The CRC was created in part from a desire to give undergraduates and faculty a voice. We need to make sure that voice is not lost.



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FDAL



Meng-Meng Fu

To fulfill the main duty of the Freshman Director at Large, I plan to strengthen communication between ASCIT and the various undergraduate student clubs. By enforcing better regulation of club activities and member participation, I hope to generate a more efficient and fair system for the distribution of club funding. Also, I believe that by encouraging cooperation between clubs with similar interests, not only will events draw more participants, but also funds and resources can be maximized and optimized.

In carrying out the other significant responsibility of FDAL, I also hope to reorganize and update the UROH (Undergraduate Research Opportunities Handbook). Moreover, I believe it is crucial to provide advice for underclassmen, especially those without research backgrounds and those lacking in resources and contacts when seeking out research prospects. This is why I hope to establish a mentoring program for underclassmen, by introducing them to upperclassmen in their respective majors who are knowledgeable and informed of research openings.

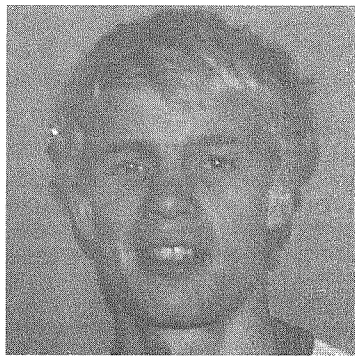
Lastly, but perhaps most importantly, I believe that I am aptly qualified for the position. Having served as class treasurer and the president of three clubs in high school, I am familiar with budgets and fund distribution. Also if elected, I will commit myself fully to the position and represent the freshman class to the best of my ability, by expressing their views and concerns.



Corinna Zygourakis

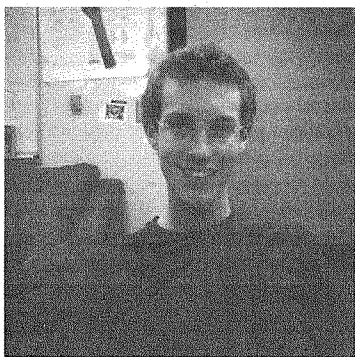
I'm running for Freshman Director-at-Large because I believe that one must get involved in student government in order to improve the life of students. I have already learned a lot about the different issues Caltech students face through my participation in various activities—from working as an editor of the Caltech Undergraduate Research Journal to serving on the Biology Undergraduate Student Advisory Committee and even playing the violin in a chamber music group. I've enjoyed my time so far at Caltech, but I think that there are many things that can and need to be improved. If I am elected, I will work hard to be the voice of the freshman class on an ASCIT Board of Directors focused on reform. If you have an idea to improve campus life, I want to hear from you. I'm eager to listen to your opinions and learn from you, and I think I'm an easy person to talk to. I keep up with friends in all the houses, and I want to improve communication between the student body and ASCIT. If you honor me with your support, I will do my best to be an active and enthusiastic representative of all Caltech students.

—Corinna Markenscoff-Zygourakis



Gunnar Ristroph

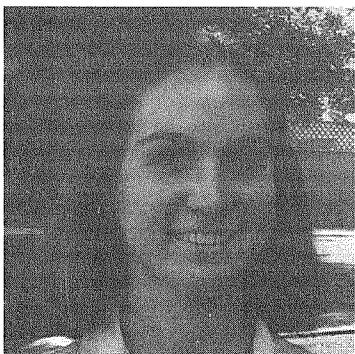
I, Gunnar Ristroph, will make the best Freshman Director at Large because I am competent and I care. I'm not going to let this opportunity go to waste. For the past two terms, I've been going to the meetings of the current BoD. I've seen how ASCIT functions and how it doesn't. The mess of committees and procedures are no mystery to me. ASCIT is doing some cool things, but we can do much better. I'll be intensely active in making the BoD responsible and functional. We deserve more for the \$55,000 a year we pay. I give a shit. I know what I'm doing. I will be an important player in a new effective and passionate BoD that will keep ASCIT running just like a song.



Dave Kahn

The position of Freshman Director at Large, I feel possesses certain challenges for the freshman who holds it. Being so new to the Caltech community, a freshman could face difficulty adapting to the unique nature of ASCIT, or interacting with other upperclassmen leaders. I feel confident that I can deal easily with any difficulties, and work with the BoD with both an open mind and a sense of humor.

UDAL



Andrea Vasconcellos

When I think ASCIT, I think opportunity—opportunity to represent the students and make a difference. Although the UDAL's job is not specified in the bylaws, the person has traditionally been in charge of publications over the past few years. I am enthusiastic about continuing that, and intend to enhance ASCIT relations with publications editors and foster a friendly, working relationship. The Tech has received criticism, and students and faculty alike desire improvement. Although I believe the quality of the paper resides mainly in the hands of the editors, I hope to use ASCIT's connection with administration to push for taught journalism classes or seminars. Nevertheless, in addition, I want to be a liaison between ASCIT and committees. There has been a growth in committees over the past year alone, and often times, once students are appointed, there is little further contact, which I feel is necessary. As Freshman Director-at-Large previously, I have enjoyed being a liaison between ASCIT and



Kathryn Hsu

Hi everyone. I've spent the past year on the ARC (as the Lloyd rep), and in that year I've thought of some things that could be done through the ARC to help the undergraduates. As ARC Chair, here's what I'd like to change:

First off, people don't seem to know what the ARC is, but it could be twice as effective if they did. Hopefully, adding more activities for the ARC would counteract that. I'd like the ARC to revive and maintain the Clue, which can be a valuable source of information and would provide an additional avenue of feedback on courses and instructors for students. Also, I would work in conjunction with other groups on campus like the career center to inform students about off-campus research and work opportunities. In the past the ARC hasn't been involved with this, but I think the current efforts to let students know about these opportunities are fair, at best.

I'd also like to see student involvement in academic affairs increase. I'd encourage more students to sign up for faculty committees such as curriculum and academic policies - last year there were several instances in which the ARC had to place the same student on multiple committees. Placing more students in fewer positions would result in better representation for the undergraduates.

Lastly, I'd like to call attention to the fact that the Student Faculty Conference is one of the best opportunities we have to command the attention of the faculty. However, I am concerned that little will occur after the conference. As the ARC Chair, I would personally contact all of the committees' student and faculty co-chairs and make sure that the concerns and recommendations brought up at the conference are followed up on.

Thank you for reading.

clubs, and found it rewarding to remain updated on club events on a termly basis. I hope to entertain a similar relationship with the various publications and committees. Finally, any position on ASCIT involves being a member of the Board of Directors, whose main purpose is to hear the voice of the students and act, regardless of the specific duties. It is with passion and enthusiasm that I hope to fulfill that role. Please vote!



Ryan Olf

I'm a real guy, and not so much in to the political stuff, although like most people I do it to some extent out of necessity, and occasionally for fun. But I think being political is a dangerous thing, because in wearing that mask it's possible for people to lose sight of a person and focus on a political entity. And who trusts a political entity? The thing that bothers me most about government is that people have to plan face-to-face talks. I hear on television all the time that "talks are expected to commence..." What's the matter, do political entities not have telephones? I believe in honesty and I believe people can speak their minds but at the same time be sensi-

ARC Chair



Elizabeth Felnagle

So I've been randomly telling people I know, "Vote for me!" to which they respond, "For what?" After telling them "Director of Academic Affairs," a blank stare ensues. "ARC Chair?" I add, helpfully. The blank stare becomes a raised eyebrow. "That thing Basit does?" I say, exasperated. This usually illicit a nod of comprehension - not because they know what Basit does, but just because they know Basit's busy all the time. I feel running for this office would be a whole lot easier if people knew what it was, so here goes: the Director of Academic Affairs runs the

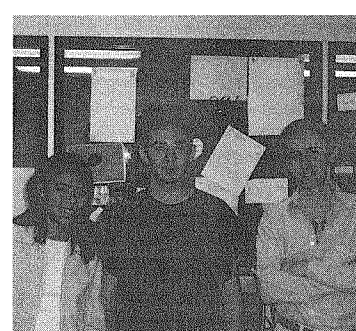
Student-Faculty Conference, chairs the Academics and Research Committee, and most importantly acts as a liaison between overworked students and stressed faculty members. I'm already serving as Co-chair for one of the SFC committees this year, and I also worked on the Core curriculum committee last year. More importantly, I've got ideas up my sleeves I know students are pushing for right now - cleaning up the HSS graduation requirements, making course evaluations available to the student body, pruning Core of redundant courses (Ma 2b versus ACM 95, for example), and more. Plus as a member of ASCIT, I would push to make proceedings more visible to the Tech community. Meetings out on the Olive Walk at lunch would be a great way to attract passing students and get more people involved. I have real ideas and a desire to hear more from the student body. I have experience working with faculty on curriculum-related issues. In truth, I've done this kind of stuff before, and I'm not half bad at it.

Tech Editors



Kevin Duncklee and Peter Samuelson

The California Tech is one of the main sources of campus information for most students at Caltech, and as such, it is an important publication. We see a need for a number of changes that need to be made. Communications and relations with the BoD need to be improved so that the Tech can keep the student body informed of the issues that ASCIT is working on. The writing quality of the paper can be improved by involving more students to write articles, to supplement the feature writers. We will assign the best feature writers to the important stories that affect students. Will Heltsley will be hired as Associate Editor to assist in publishing a stylistically proper paper every week with a minimum of errors. While we plan to improve the overall quality of the Tech, we would not publish a purely serious paper. Humor articles will continue to be published, as will Crippling Depression, Dilbert, and Foxtrot. We hope to serve you as Tech Editors, and will work hard to bring you a quality paper.



Kevin Bartz Tammy Ma and Leo Stein

A technical school attracts few journalists. Advertisements lag amidst economic slowdown. Aging computer infrastructure meets untimely death. Yes, the Tech has problems—fundamental problems, problems so deeply ingrained they're unlikely to heal on their own.

Others are more pressing. Lacking writing, especially in commentary, commands attention. Production hinges too greatly on a few familiar faces, both on the editorial side and on the writers' side. As always, more is better—and those students represented in the Tech remain too few.

The Tech is far from perfect, but we've worked this past year to correct these problems. Given a depleted staff lucky to come up with three news articles any given week, we've nurtured a 10-person crew consistently cranking out seven. Collaborating with writers on a face-to-face level, we've steadily improved news writing and, through a new assignment system, ensured that the best stories fall to the best reporters. Given a "photographic" effort aimed more at clip art than at cameras, we've opened an efficient four-person photography team. And given an outdated wax-based printer submission system, we've moved into the new century, handling everything electronically. Simply stated, we've worked with what we've had.

In another year at the helm, we would decentralize the Tech's leadership, allowing Leo Stein to focus exclusively on commentary while Tammy Ma and Kevin Bartz restrict their attention to news. We would continue our aggressive recruiting, targeting for relevant commentary those influential in the school community. We would carry on our personalized attention to staff, working with writers to augment style and quality. And we would continue to sacrifice the weekly \$200 endowed to past Tech editors to reward the most dedicated reporters.

And, of course, we'll continue to bring you the occasional color issue. After all, from software to style, from comics to color, from layout to leading, from photos to picas, from computers to copy and from this year to next, we go the extra mile.

Interhouse Committee Chair

Libin Zhang

I realize it is unusual to have a statement written by someone other than the candidate; but I think it is appropriate to be 'nominating' [sic] someone for the position of IHC Chair. I won't bore you with a pointless list of Libin's past offices and responsibilities. His integration [sic] is revealed when he did not demand a recount after winning a surprising number of votes as the ASCIT presidential candidate who ran on a not-so-serious platform. He is *seriously* running this time, so unfortunately free doughnuts and booze cannot be officially promised.

I am a faithful reader of his Tech articles, reviewing deep social issues in a readable fashion. His obstinacy against criticism and concern for the oppressed are necessary qualities in

an official who shall confront many challenges from the Administration and the student Houses. Who else is willing to stick it to The Man? However, some of his writings are a bit hostile towards me, so electing Libin is a sure-fire way to reduce his writing spare time.

Houses are a unique and sacrosanct aspect of Caltech, but House members don't interact much outside their own House. For example, have you been meeting enough new members of the opposite sex after Rotation? While that may not seem like a problem to all, a major benefit of college are the 'connections' one make, if you get my drift; School is not about academics. Yet the IHC is not a despotic Politburo; Libin will welcome recommendations from the student body towards ending our isolationism and other institutional ills.



The IHC Chair is a grim and thankless job. I hope you share my belief that Libin can handle its demands and liven the office up. Vote wisely: the future of Caltech is in your hands. Amen brother [sic].

George W. 'Dubya' Bush

Neda Afsarmanesh

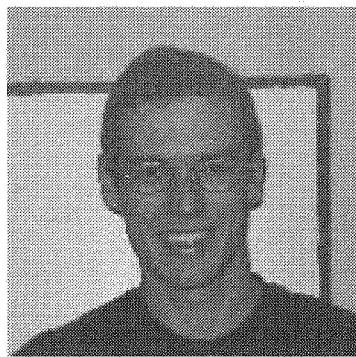
I've been interested in being IHC Chair for a while now, but I think it really became a passion and goal of mine this past year when I served on ASCIT as UD@L. Now I have a real appreciation for how student government works at Caltech and how much students can actually accomplish. And I am even more excited about how I can help student life. After a year on ASCIT I have a clear idea about what is IHC's turf and what is ASCIT's turf-and I'm eager to represent IHC and its goals. Furthermore, I think I can represent IHC well on the ASCIT Board of Directors, and at the same time be an asset on the BoD. I've learned quite a bit about how both the IHC and ASCIT work, so it would be nice to be able to put the knowledge and experience to good use. There's quite a bit that the IHC can do for students and the houses. I am confident as IHC Chair I can be resourceful in achieving our goals: I've been involved in numerous committees and organizations on campus (not only through ASCIT), so I have a good idea of the various resources and administrators that can be helpful along the way. Lastly, I am



really enthusiastic about helping to improve Rotation. I've been on picks for two years now, so I have a good understanding about how the process works. I have very concrete ideas about how Rotation and picks can be improved to make it a more pleasant and productive experience for everyone involved. For instance, I think some aspects of Rotation were not made clear to freshmen this past year-which is one feature I would work on. I believe that I am a passionate, enthusiastic, and responsible person. I would put much time and effort into the IHC if I am IHC Chair. I'm excited about all the ways I can be helpful, so I hope I'll have this opportunity....)

J.R. Heberle

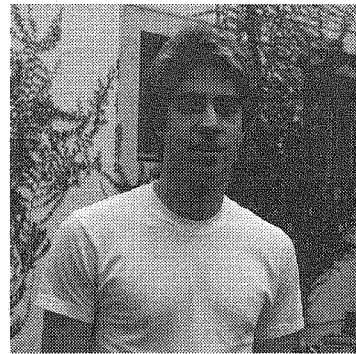
As IHC Chairman I will see that the duties of the IHC are carried out in a manner that maintains or improves the quality of student life. I will see that rotation goes as smoothly and fairly as possible for all involved. I served on my house's picks team this year, so I am familiar with the picks process, ways in which it may be altered, and how to handle complications that may arise, such as rotation violations. I will see that our administrators fully comprehend the effects to life on this campus before altering Institute policies. I will make it clear to them that this is their place of work, but it is our home. At all times the Chair must be prepared to address the concerns of whole houses, which can differ from the concerns of individual students. I have become accustomed through my house government experience to dealing with such concerns. I will fulfill the Chair's primary role on the Board of Directors by maintaining open communication between ASCIT and the IHC. I will pass per-



tinient information between the two without filtering according to my own stances. To stay focused on communication and the promotion of good will between the two bodies, I will generally not involve myself in internal ASCIT controversies that do not bear on the goals of the IHC. However, as a BoD member I will always listen to and represent the opinion of any student who offers it, just as I did while serving as house treasurer. I will see that student life is affected by students, not just the will of the members of ASCIT or the IHC.

Joe Olivier

I wasn't sure about running for IHC chair until I talked to Marcus about the job. He described it as a lot of time, effort, and no thanks whatsoever. That was when I decided to run. I've been serving on the CRC and UASH for the last year now, and have found those thankless jobs (and I assure you, they are thankless) very fulfilling. I believe that ASCIT and the IHC can do a lot of good for students, working with or against the administration (as needed). I believe more of ASCIT's money should go towards interhouse activities, and clubs. I think the student government stands for more than donuts and something to complain about. I think ASCIT and the IHC should work to change the most awful of Caltech's classes. Further, I want to convince the administration that we, the undergraduates, are not the ones who should suffer whenever the institute has a parking or funding problem. I'm sick and tired



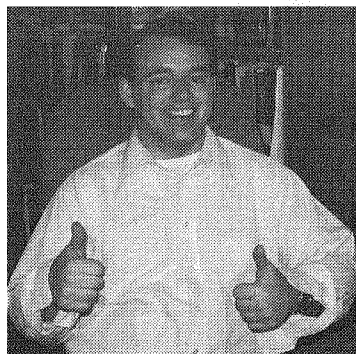
of dealing with an administration that won't care about me until I have money to donate. I know some of my goals are unrealistic. I want to do as much as I can.

Question of the Week

Do you feel that any BoD position is extraneous? Is there a BoD position which you feel needs to be added?

Jeremy Pitts

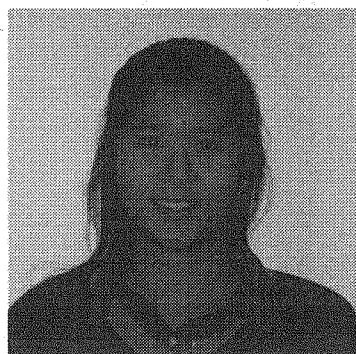
Last Monday I was eating lunch at Avery (I had the South American burrito from the Latin Bistro) when I happened to run into Tom Mannion. After exchanging cordialities (you know, talking about the wife and kids), Tom Mannion suggested to me that I should run for IHC Chair. I hadn't really considered running for this position before then, so I was a little taken aback. I did know that I very much wanted to be involved in student life at Caltech; being involved is what I like to do, it's what makes me tick. After thinking about it for a bit though, the idea became more and more appealing. I realized that I have the experience and qualifications to do the job well. I have served as vice president of Ruddock House for the past year. This position has allowed me to deal with the IHC several times. I also have significant rotation experience. I ran the Ruddock side of rotation this past year as well as going to frosh camp and picks. Another example of my leadership and organi-



zational abilities is that I am currently in charge of this year's OPI. Anyone who wants to know how well I can organize things should feel free to stop by and take a look at the construction project going on in the Ruddock courtyard. These things and others made me realize that I would be able to do a great job running rotation and picks, as well as chairing the IHC and serving on the BoD. I hope that they will convince you too. And for those of you who need just a little extra convincing, I don't suck, I swear.

Yussanne Ma

I care deeply for the undergraduates here as a community and individually. I sincerely want to do whatever I can to make life here better for everyone. The reason I accepted the nomination to run for IHC chair is because I feel that my skills will allow me to serve best in this position. I have been Vice-President, UCC and a member of the Social team in Blacker Hovse. I am a good leader and decision maker. Rotation will, of course, be my main priority for me, in particular the welfare of the incoming freshmen. Given my active involvement in Rotation in the past two years, I am confident that I can help run it well. I can't offer prior experience with ASCIT and the IHC, only a fresh, unbiased attitude and a very



real concern for my fellow students and the desire and ability to act upon these concerns. I'm not interested in politics, or past rumors. I only want to work together with the presidents of the seven houses to ensure smooth interhouse relations and to serve the undergraduate community.

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Ex-coach Reminisces In 'Evening With Lasorda'

Continued from Page 1, Column 2

the stands at one of his minor league baseball games. Lasorda joked around, telling of how he was once called by his wife on her coming second to baseball, saying, "She once claimed I loved the Dodgers and baseball more than her... I said, "Yeah, but I love you more than football or basketball."

The evening was full of laughter and thunderous applause from the crowd, with one of the loudest responses coming from a piece of pointed criticism of Dodgers ownership, Rupert Murdoch and FOX, by Lasorda. When former owner Peter O'Malley came out on stage, Lasorda said, "Let's get Peter back running this club again!" at which point the crowd erupted.

At the end of the evening, Lasorda was presented with a myriad of gifts

from Caltech, JPL and California Coast Baseball Academy and the Pasadena Unified School District. He was given an award by the Caltech Management Association along with his very own Caltech baseball jersey with his name across the back.

Eleanor Helin of JPL said, "This baseball star has elevated to the celestial ranks... Now [Lasorda] can watch [his] own celestial body in the sky" upon presenting Lasorda with his very own asteroid whose orbit lies between that of Mars and Jupiter. "I can't wait 'til it goes over Sparky's house," said Lasorda.

The Pasadena Unified School District named a newly constructed baseball field in Pasadena "Tommy Lasorda Park" in Lasorda's honor.

Before the close of the program, Lasorda took a minute to reflect on himself and Caltech, saying, "I'm like the professors over at Caltech... The Dodgers are like the Caltech of baseball. They've got professors there and I'm a professor of baseball at Dodger Stadium."

CALTECH PRES. LIFTS CAREFUL STEM SUPPORT

BUT BUSH WOULD VETO BILL

Cautions Against 'More Defective People in World'

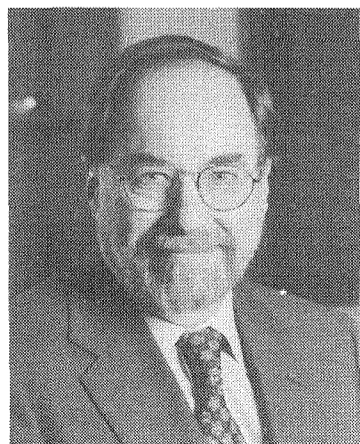
Continued from Page 1, Column 1

Gulden and the mother of five-year-old Cody Anderson, who has been diagnosed with a severe form of diabetes. In addition, a letter from Nancy Reagan was read, which implored the nation to not turn its back on the possibilities of cures for diseases that the research could find.

Dr. Baltimore also spoke out against human cloning, citing concerns that the current cloning procedures are not yet safe enough to ensure that the person will be born with out significant defects. His remark that "we don't want to bring more defective people into the world" raised concerns among some present that scientists want to "eliminate quote-unquote 'inferior' people," according to Andrea Lafferty, executive director of the Traditional Values Coalition. Ms. Lafferty was reminded of eugenics, the Nazi plan to control physical characteristics to create the master race.

Refuting the claim, Dr. Baltimore proclaimed, "All reasonable people hate, abhor and want to see [eugenics] banned from the world." He was unable, however, to convince the skeptics in the audience of this view.

Despite the large crowd and varied support that spoke in favor of the bill, chances of its passing into law are slim, as the Bush administration has already indicated that it will veto the bill. The Bush stance has been to deny funding to all cloning efforts, except for 70 or so projects that were in progress when President Bush took office.



Courtesy of D. Baltimore

Caltech President David Baltimore supports stem cell research.

ASCIT Candidates Promise Radical Change

Continued from Page 2, Column 4

"generate a more efficient and fair system for the distribution of club funding," update and reorganize the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Handbook and establish a mentoring program for freshman.

For the two candidates for Board of Control secretary, the Honor Code is the foremost question. When asked what he might say to students who don't believe the honor system is working, Lawrence Stewart '04 attributed the decline of the honor code to a decrease in student-faculty interaction. He wrote, "When the professor doesn't actually see your work, but instead it's graded by some grad-turkey who sees the job as a paycheck, there is no motivation to do honest work... Saving our system can only come from embracing how we are different and why we are special."

Harris Nover '04 emphasized that "the responsibility of upholding the honor code does not fall simply on the Board, but on us all." He also held that "more effort needs to be made to raise student awareness that the honor code applies not merely to academics, but to all aspects of our lives."

Stewart and Nover also expressed pointed views on the secrecy of the

BoC. Calling the BoC "absurdly secret," Stewart said he does "not believe that the accused have a right to privacy. We students should be directly accountable to one another and the system should follow accordingly." In contrast, Nover held that "the confidentiality of participants in a case must be respected... We do not want any stigma to attach to those individuals... capable of living under the honor code in spite of a violation." He pledged, however, to "work with the Chair and the rest of the Board to find ways to open up the BoC while respecting the necessary limits imposed by the Board's obligations."

Stewart's previous experience in student government includes a year on the ASCIT Academics and Research Committee and Nover has served as the Ruddock BoC Rep for the past year.

This year marks the second time the student body has elected the student co-chair of the Conduct Review Committee and there are three candidates competing for the position this year. Jim Rebesco '05 has never served on the CRC, but was the vice president of Page House and a member of the Page Ath. Team. Nicholas Wall '05 served as a CRC representative this past year. They were asked about the routing of cases to the CRC and while Wall said "the routing committee has done an exceptional job assigning proper cases to the CRC," Rebesco was wary that "as the breadth of cases [the CRC] takes on grows, the risk of capriciousness becomes serious."

They also both commented on the punishments the CRC hands down, with Wall saying, "I strongly support the creative sentencing often employed during CRC cases. A punitive measure alone is a strong symbol, but has little education value." Rebesco stated that "the possibility of redress through all other means ought to have been exhausted. Mediation is often a better solution to a conflict than punitive action, so action by the CRC ought to be used as a last resort."

Manuel Garcia '05 is also running for CRC Student Co-Chair but did not respond to interview requests.

The two teams running for editors of the *California Tech* both have some definite plans for improving the *Tech*. Incumbent editors Kevin Bartz '05 and Tammy Ma '05 have already made many changes during their past year in office and along with Leo Stein '06, they intend on making further improvements by moving toward decentralization. Ma and Bartz would focus on news, while Stein would be in charge of the commentary section. According to Bartz, this organization would create more accountability and more personalized attention given to writers as well as style. They are also considering adding arts and sports sections.

The Kevin Duncklee '05-Peter Samuelson '05 team said that the changes the current *Tech* editors have made are a step in the right direction, but they would like to further improve the content of the paper as well as resolve the dispute between the BoD and the *Tech*. They also proposed to appoint Will Heltsley '05 as Associate Editor to ensure the timely publication of the *Tech* "in proper style and with a minimum of errors." They plan on soliciting articles from the entire

student body instead of relying heavily on regular staff writers.

In a highly contested race, candidates from all of the seven houses are running for senior class co-presidents and they all have very different ideas about commencement speakers and senior class gifts for the class of 2004. Candidates Brandon Ballara '04 and Ben Matthews '04 favored Mr. T and Mr. T's gold chains. Lisa Wang '04 and Iram Bilal '04 had some rather ambitious ideas, suggesting as commencement speaker an undergraduate chosen by the class of 2004 as well as a senior class trip. Po-shen Lo '04 and Debbie Lee '04 suggested a mural or swing as the class gift and Jimmy Carter or Sam Donaldson as speaker.

Harris Nover '04 and Kathleen Kiernan '04 preferred speakers on the nerdier side and some unconventional class gifts, suggesting Bill Nye, Beakman of Beakman's world, Bill Amend of *Foxtrot* or Scott Adams as possible speakers and a sauna or zen rock garden as possible gifts. Greta Jo '04 and Rumi Chunara '04 favored reviving the giant T, a big "T" that was once on the mountains overlooking campus and would push for whatever speaker the whole class wants. Spencer Rarrick '04 and Jon Lee '04 proposed Matt Groening for speaker and something along the lines of a playground for class gift. Only members of the class of 2004 will be allowed to vote for their class co-presidents.

In a larger sense, the diversity in the senior class co-presidents' race mirrors that of the entire candidate pool. Not only are there more candidates, but many cite those running as more qualified and more enthused than ever. Whatever the results of the sure-to-be-fierce election, nearly all agree on the result: a student government that is more active, more dedicated and more responsive to their needs.

Another positive trend with this year's elections is that candidates from all houses are running for office. While some have complained that in years past certain houses were overrepresented among student government officers, this complaint almost surely will not come up this year. Among this year's candidates, there are four from Blacker, six from Fleming, nine from Dabney, 11 from Lloyd, three from Page, four from Ricketts and nine from Ruddock. Moreover, the candidates have had experience in a variety of activities on campus, so the slate of new officers promises to be the most representative of the student body in recent history.

This new slate of candidates has a flavor distinct from those of the past few years. These candidates are informed and experienced and they call for somewhat radical changes, but they also face unprecedented challenges. Not only will they face stiff competition in the election, but once in office they will have to deal with student apathy and a growing budget crunch within the administration, among other issues. However, these accomplished and motivated students may have a better chance than ever of meeting these challenges and the winners of Wednesday's elections should be well-equipped to help solve the pressing problems that face the student body.



D. Korta/The California Tech

Among the many awards bestowed upon him on Friday, Lasorda will also have a baseball field in Pasadena named after him.

Boondocks' McGruder Spurs Campus Clash

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

hatred for everyone in a position of power or influence was disenchanting."

Carlton went on to say that during the talk, McGruder "kept harping on differences between races, which, as far as I'm concerned, are artificial in nature. While I don't dispute that we have a long way to go, I disagree wholeheartedly with the notion that we're fighting a battle. By drawing a line in the sand and declaring those more fortunate than him to be 'the enemy,' he is taking the struggle for equality and color-blindness backwards. As an educated man with a working knowledge of politics, he should be supporting leaders, candidates and other voices that make an improvement to the situation, instead of simply whining about how 'Any white person in this room could decide they want to be famous tomorrow and be famous.'"

Carlton concluded by saying that "it's not a contest that one side is winning and the other is losing; as long as there are sides, everybody loses."

William Fong '04, who also attended the event, said, "For the most part I agree with Oscar's assessment of McGruder on the issue of race. However, I think McGruder is right about Bush stealing the election and I thought his characterization of Bush was hilarious at times. But I thought McGruder's comments on Eminem were highly in-

appropriate."

McGruder's lecture is part of the "Voices of Vision" series. According to Denise Nash, the director of Caltech Public Events, "The Voices of Vision series features talks by some of the most creative thinkers of our time... Our goal is to bring speakers to campus who engage in the process of questioning, exploration, discovery and creation in their chosen fields [and] hopefully inspiring and challenging our campus and community to examine and consider different viewpoints on a variety of topics... Judging by the audience response, Aaron McGruder's visit certainly accomplished this goal."

The next speaker in the series will be Lawrence Krauss, author of "The Physics of Star Trek," who will give a talk on February 26.

The California Tech

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