



The California Tech

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D. Korta/The California Tech

Author Herman Wouk entertains California State Librarian Kevin Starr during Wouk's Lecture last Tuesday in Beckman Auditorium.

Wouk Challenges Readers' Sense Of Right; Entertains with Stories

By ROYAL REINECKE

Against a backdrop of bushy plants and cushy armchairs, an aging yet still spry Herman Wouk captivated his audience in Beckman Auditorium on the evening of February 3. In a warm engaging atmosphere, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author led attendees through the stories behind many of his works, including a soon to be published new novel focused on particle physicists, JPL and the Higgs boson, no less! As part of the Michelin Distinguished Visitors series, Wouk presented his chat "A Random Walk Through My Literary Life" along with State Librarian of California Dr. Kevin Starr as a companion.

Author Herman Wouk is prob-

ably best known for his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Caine Mutiny*. The seafaring drama became a major motion picture in 1952 and is still popular today. Over the years, however, Wouk has written a number of other works, primarily detailing the Jewish experience and moral quandaries.

Born in 1915 to a family of Russian immigrants, Wouk explained that he soon discovered the direction he wished his life to take. As a young boy he adored the tale of *Huckleberry Finn*; the works of Mark Twain and Alexander Dumas enchanted and inspired him. At age eleven, Wouk decided he wanted to be a writer. "I never had any other goal in life," he revealed. By high school writing

became his niche to fill.

Herman Wouk cites three main influences upon his work and career: his rabbi grandfather, his philosophy professor at Columbia University and the United States Navy.

Wouk's grandfather, described as "very much a rabbi," led to the heavy emphasis on Jewish life throughout the writer's books. When Wouk left home for Columbia University, he found a professor who would impact him just as deeply.

At the time, the writer recalls that "mainly I was majoring in extracurricular activities." But soon he became greatly interested in ethical issues and philosophical problems. He would eventually use his novels to address the various moral matters we face in our daily lives.

After graduating from college, Wouk went on to join the navy. Originally, he had wanted to join

Continued on Page 7, Column 3

Bendfeldt Victorious In Second BoC Race

By DIANA LIN

Ann Bendfeldt, as the new Board of Control Chair, hopes that her position will give her a more active role in helping the general welfare of the students by upholding the honor code.

Her top priority is to reach out to students, to teach them exactly what the honor code is and how to live by it, with all its responsibilities and privileges. Her top targets for aid are the students who break the honor code out of stress. She will try to show these students that help is out there and they can and must still preserve the integrity of the honor code in spite of all the obstacles here at Caltech.

She is a junior, planetary science major. Originally from Massachusetts, she came to Caltech planning on studying math. She was also BoC rep for Fleming for a year. She had first run for this job because it would give her a chance to help more people.

Her role as BoC Chair means

that she conducts the preliminary investigations into the violation that is reported by speaking to the people involved, such as the professors, T.A.'s, defendants and witnesses to decide whether the case should proceed.

Both the chair and secretary choose whether to present the case to the board or not, but they do not vote on the verdict because only the reps do. Being on BoC is a large time commitment and often times very stressful when determining difficult cases, but she is satisfied being an important service to the students.

Ann Bendfeldt hopes that she can "give students a better understanding of how to live under the honor code and the resources they have to help with stress, which would lead to fewer honor code violations in the future." She would like to promise to the student body that she is "prepared to work hard to help the students and uphold the honor code."

BoD Hopefuls Share Insights for Positions

By KAYTE FISCHER

Nominees for the upcoming ASCIT elections are not afraid to speak their minds to the student body or the administration. One unifying goal of this year's candidates is to increase communication and collaboration between different groups on campus, including the ASCIT Board of Directors (BoD), the Inter House Committee (IHC), the Academics and Research Committee (ARC), the student body and the administration.

Says IHC Chair hopeful, Michael Priolo, '05, "Committing ourselves to stand together if developments go sour or when they go well and being patient with each other or with each house if we make mistakes will greatly benefit the student body."

Other objectives this year include increasing ASCIT visibility, resolving ASCIT's budget difficulties, boosting morale among students, improving the undergraduate academic experience, settling issues associated with Rotation and promoting the house renovation project.

Bolstering Communication:

Over the past year, numerous issues with regard to student life

have been negotiated. Some feel that the administration is slowly moving to decrease student freedoms. In any case, a BoD which has a strong commitment to listening to representing students will be critical in the coming year.

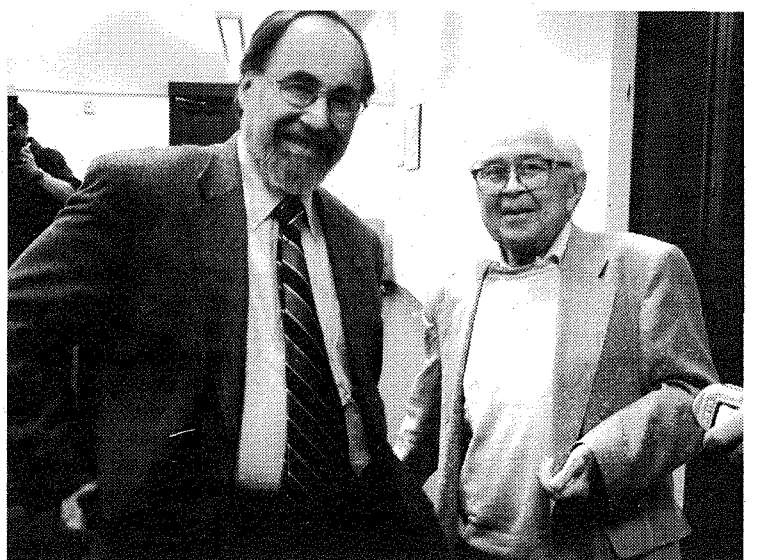
As treasurer, Ryan Farmer, '06, hopes to increase awareness of ASCIT's budget so students can have direct input on how their money is spent. Farmer notes, "As a BoD member, I would like to keep students informed of everything that the BoD accomplishes in the way of using undergrad dues properly."

Treasurer candidate, Abe Fetterman, '05, considers the current BoD's "Transparency and Accountability" movement to be a success, but feels that a more proactive approach to getting in touch with the student body is necessary. After his experience last term as social director, Fetterman feels that informal BoD Q&A sessions in the houses would have more impact.

Corinna Zygourakis, '06, would use her position as secretary to ensure that students' opinions about issues relevant to their lives are heard loud and clear.

Zygourakis elucidates, "I hope to improve communication with

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D. Korta/The California Tech

President Baltimore greets fellow Nobel Laureate and Biology Professor Ed Lewis during a lecture in Lewis' honor.

Lecture Honors Lewis; Laureate Studied 'Fruit Flies and Fallout'

By WILLIAM FONG

On Wednesday afternoon, a standing-room crowd gathered at the Norman Davidson Lecture Hall in Kerckhoff to honor Ed Lewis, one of the most distinguished scientists at Caltech.

Currently the Morgan Professor of Biology, Emeritus, Lewis has been a member of the Caltech faculty since the end of World War II. From that time since, Lewis has made breakthrough discoveries in the fields of genetics and ionizing radiation.

The man honoring Lewis was guest speaker Howard Lipshitz, a professor of molecular and medical genetics and senior scientist at the University of Toronto. Lipshitz is a close friend and has

been a colleague of Ed Lewis for the past twenty years. He is also the editor of a recently published biography, *Genes, Development and Cancer: The Life and Work of Edward B. Lewis*, that recounts the scientific endeavors of Lewis' illustrious career.

In his presentation entitled "From Fruit Flies to Fallout: Ed Lewis and His Science," Lipshitz outlined the major scientific achievements that defined Ed Lewis as a scientist.

A native of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, Lewis received his bachelor's degree in biostatistics from the University of Minnesota in 1939 and received his doctorate degree in genetics from Caltech in 1942.

In 1943, Lewis received a

master's degree in meteorology. With this degree, Lewis served in World War II from 1943-46 as a U.S. Army meteorologist and was stationed in Okinawa.

Upon his return to the States, Lewis was given a faculty position in the Caltech biology department. His research focused on fruit fly genetics, an interest of Lewis since his days in high school biology.

One of the fundamental discoveries made by Lewis in the 1940s was the cis-trans position effect in mutant fruit flies, a condition where two different phenotypes result from the same genotype but with the genes present in different arrangements (cis and trans).

In the 1950s, Lewis discovered

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Silas Hilliard IHC Chair Candidate

I admit, it was a sense of duty that got me first thinking about signing up for an ASCIT office. However, I soon realized that to do the job well at all, I'd have to be genuinely enthusiastic about the position. And of all the ASCIT offices, IHC Chair was the only one that fit that role.

I firmly believe that Caltech would not be nearly as successful as it is without the unique system of hovses that we have. The process of Rotation, as aggravating and repetitive as it may get sometimes, is nonetheless a good one for maintaining an undergraduate environment that both provides the current students with a sense of community and allows alumni to still feel connected vicariously to the life here.

And deep down, we all really want to keep things (at least, most things) the same so that when we return for a visit after the hovses have been renovated, we will still be able to see the same sort of character in them.

I am a strong believer in the honor code and served on the committee for it at the student faculty conference my freshman year. If the hovses abide by the guidelines established by the honor code in their relations to one another, it can reduce a lot of the stress of Rotation, as well as interactions throughout the year.

Events like Mudeo, which drew a huge amount of media attention, are crucial in bringing together the undergraduate student body to

present a strong self-image, both to administration and to the outside world. When we do things as successfully as that, we can not help but prove our point to those who have their doubts about us. We must act responsibly with

the freedoms that we have been given, so that we might present ourselves as the most valid proof of the arguments we have for maintaining the undergraduate lifestyle we prize throughout the process of renovating the hovses.



Courtesy of S. Hilliard

Andrea Kung IHC Chair Candidate

In case we've never been formally introduced, my name is Andrea Kung.

I'm currently a Junior member of both Ricketts and Blacker, pursuing a Chemistry major. I had long purple hair up until a week ago in case you don't recognize the picture. I've also never meant to intentionally glare at you if I don't know you. Glares are reserved for close personal friends, of course.

At first, I wasn't considering running for IHC Chair. However, as I discussed the responsibilities and issues of the position with our current IHC Chair, I found myself becoming more and more interested in the job.

I want to improve the quality

of student life. I can't change the way professors assign problem sets or write exams, that's what ombudspersons are for. However, I can continue to push forward the renovation of the student houses for a safer, more comfortable working environment.

I can also strongly fight against the placement of freshmen in Avery after Rotation, an environment currently lacking a structured support system for freshmen. Improving student life is not a magical process that happens overnight.

It's a long process that requires determined leaders, who dedicate time to deliberating for the best solution. I hope to be that determined leader.



L. Tran/The California Tech



L. Tran/The California Tech

Chris George IHC Chair Candidate

I'll try to keep this short so that you can flip over to read Dean Revel's riveting article as soon as possible. Basically, I see the IHC chair as being a position that requires the ability to communicate and make compromises. I wouldn't have even bothered applying for the job if I wasn't capable of doing both of these things well.

I also believe that the IHC chair shouldn't allow his/her personal beliefs to dictate discussions or decisions in meetings with administration or the IHC. Instead, I see the position as being critical to facilitating discussion between house presidents and ASCIT/administration so that forward progress can be made. This requires an objectivity that I can bring to the

table.

In short, I'll do whatever it takes to voice the opinions and desires of the houses to ASCIT and the Caltech administration so that students have more say in policy making; I'll also use my experience with my house's Picks team as well as input from students in order to make Rotation more bearable. I'll put in whatever time and effort is necessary in order to make student life suck only because of work, not work and interhouse issues.

(Note to reader: I recently heard that Dean Revel no longer writes regularly for the Tech. Therefore, after you've finished reading, I recommend petitioning the Dean to begin writing again. His articles rocked. Seriously.)

Neil Tiwari IHC Chair Candidate

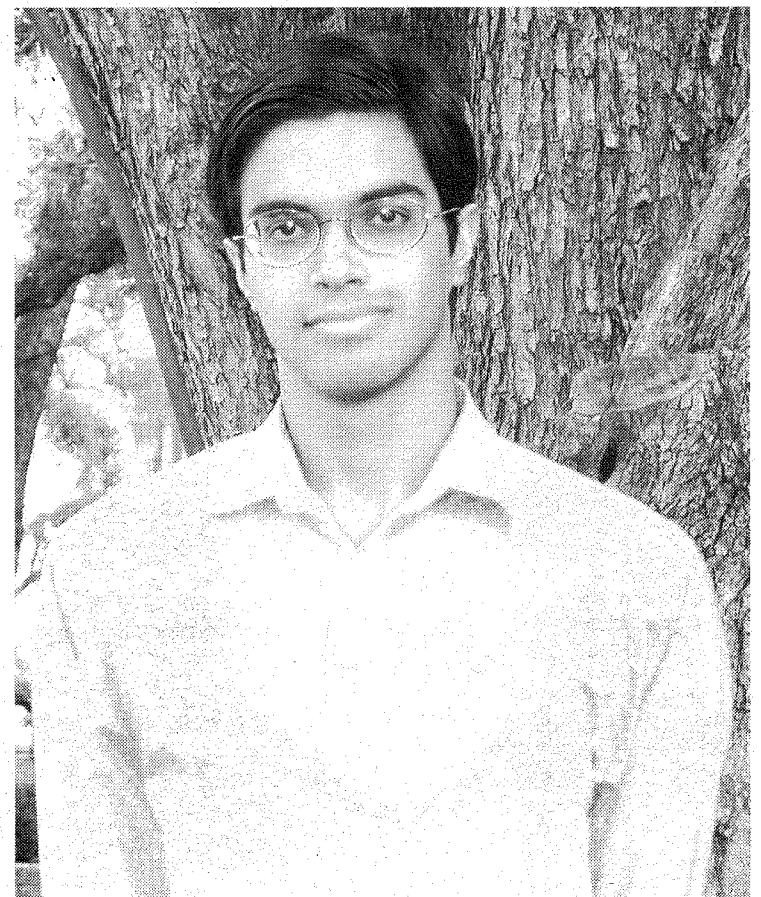
The IHC oversees some of the most important aspects of life at Caltech. The House system, Rotation, interhouse sports and appointment of committees arguably have the greatest positive effects on student life. As a result, it is important that the IHC be open, listening and impartial so that the best quality of life is ensured.

One of the most important issues now facing the IHC is what is to be done during the renovation project. To wherever students are relocated, the impedance to the House system, Rotation and social interaction must be minimized.

Students have the desire to reach out, interact and form communities with others; however, already stressed enough by courses, students need as few constraints as possible. Learning science is only one part of Caltech; learning about others and the world is the oft forgotten other.

As a result, the IHC should work with the Administration and ensure that the renovation project is sufficiently funded, will be completed as quickly as possible and that interim housing provides minimum disruption to student life. We should work to address these issues before moving forward with the renovation.

A new issue that has arisen is the idea of allowing freshmen and prefrish into Avery. Long ago, when there were only the Seven Houses, the IHC did not have to consider other residences. Now, times have changed and because the IHC has such an impact on all of student life, not just in the Seven Houses, it must be open and sensitive to the concerns of what typically has been considered "off-campus" housing.



L. Tran/The California Tech

While many consider the Seven Houses as the heartbeat of undergraduate life, Avery has been developing a pulse of its own. If Avery desires to house freshman and prefrish, then the IHC should not just consider the idea, but help Avery develop the positive support network and infrastructure of the Seven Houses in Avery, such as UCCs, BoC talks and athletics teams. And after Avery has realized an environment supportive and beneficial to freshman, the IHC should allow freshmen and prefrish in Avery. There are many

people who benefit from the environment in Avery, as there many who benefit from the Seven Houses; if Avery wishes to open its doors to willing freshmen, then it deserves the chance.

Elected to office, I that we can make a step forward in keeping the House system alive during the time of renovations as well as in expanding the House system to other places which may better suit the people who wish to live there. While there is much work to be done in both areas, we cannot hesitate moving forward.



L. Tran/The California Tech

Michael Priolo IHC Chair Candidate

The first thing that made me consider running for IHC Chair was hearing who the new IHC members are. I have always liked the idea of working with Phil Wong, Blacker's President and my president, Barrett Heyneman, but when I heard about the rest of them, Penny G., Zak Dydek, and Hesper Rego and the possible presidents from Page and Ricketts, you can only imagine my excitement when I thought of

being the chairman.

After learning more with regards to the responsibilities and aspects of the position, I see holding the office of IHC Chair as an opportunity to learn, to be stretched and to serve the entire student body with a small group of our best leaders who are either my friends or acquaintances, but certainly not my foes.

Simply, I am running for the position because the job will be a

challenge and I like the members of the IHC and want to work with them on whatever tasks are sent our way. I bring an enthusiastic drive for student unity and for camaraderie between the members of the IHC and the ASCIT BOD that will make smooth our workings and make manageable our disagreements and disappointments.

Jessie Suen IHC Chair Candidate



Courtesy of donut.caltech.edu

I think one of the most important roles of the IHC is to represent the undergraduate population. As IHC chair, I would actively try to make the IHC more open by informing students of issues and giving them a chance to be heard before any decision is made.

I think one of the reasons the house system is great is because it allows for a great deal of student self-government, but I believe this system can only work if the views of the student body are represented accurately, not if all the decisions are made by a small group of people who don't discuss the issues with fellow students.

Tech Disclaimer:

The statements printed this week have been composed by the candidates. They have not been edited in any way by the Tech's editorial staff, except to preserve formatting. Printing of candidate statements is required by the ASCIT bylaws.

Claire Walton Social Director Candidate

Social Director is a job for the social and responsible members of the Tech community. Unfortunately, the two qualifications are almost entirely mutually exclusive. However, as I have the social part covered, and my sense of responsibility is at least developed enough to attend ASCIT meetings with free food, organize a happy dance, and talk hot band leaders into visiting Caltech, I'm probably as close as Tech can possibly get.

Vote me: everything would work out somehow.



L. Tran/The California Tech



Kim Pependorf IHC Chair Candidate

Two things are really important to me at Tech: the people and the people. One of the things that I think has the largest effect on the lives of all the undergraduates here is our extremely unique house system. It plays a huge roll in defining the structure of our community and has an immense impact on every student here.

I know that the house system "doesn't work" for some people and that's fine and dandy, those people find their own way of making it through Tech and that's great. But for the huge majority of students, the house system affects how we eat, sleep, learn and live. And because of that, I would like to be involved in keeping the house system as beneficial to people as possible, helping it maintain its function in the undergraduate experience here and making sure that it is able to adjust to all of the issues that are facing it.

Some of the largest issues facing the IHC right now are prospective house renovations and the question of having frosh and/or prefrosh in Avery. Our houses need renovating and I would like to do all I can help to push plans forward towards that, right now, there are miles and miles to go.

The most concerning thing about renovating our houses and what I would put my energy towards, is making sure that our houses have a way to survive while we're temporarily displaced. We need to make sure that the houses will still be able to participate in rotation and most importantly that they'll

still have a way of providing the support, camaraderie and wacko traditions that they do now.

As for frosh or prefrosh in Avery, I believe very strongly that all frosh should continue to live in the houses. I'd say there's probably one student in twenty, or so, who would do just as well on their own somewhere as they would in a house, but I don't trust them to self-select themselves when they're incoming freshman.

I think the house system provides support and experience that is extremely important coming in as a frosh; if only in that living in a house generally makes us actually live at least a little and you all know we can use that. Following from these views, I also am against having prefrosh in Avery, not because there aren't awesome people in Avery who would make spectacular prefrosh hosts, but just because staying in Avery they would entirely miss seeing what the house system is like and that, as I've said, is a huge part of the Caltech experience.

Being an Inter House Committee, it's important that the chair be all about communication, respect and cooperation. Extending that beyond the students, I think it's extremely important to help the administration to get know the house system, understand and respect it more fully. As I said, what I care about here are the people and I would like to do anything in my power to try to make life just a little bit happier for everyone while they're here=)

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Bush's Fiscal Policy Troublesome

By PARAG BHAYANI

I guess we should have expected it. Republican leaders in the House of Representatives held open the vote for an unprecedented three hours (two hours longer than normal) last December in order to strong-arm fiscally conservative GOP congressmen into approving President Bush's prescription drug reform bill. Then, the White House released a budget saying that the bill will cost 33% more than the initial proposal, \$534 billion instead of \$400 billion. It is not surprising, though, as the administration continues its fiscal blunders, having one of the worst records of economic management since the Hoover administration. It is telling when, at the Republican retreat in Philadelphia last weekend, lawmakers lambasted administration officials, including chief political advisor Karl Rove and budget manager Joshua Bolten, for the irresponsibility of the president.

Last Monday, Bush revealed his budget for fiscal year 2004, in which the nation will run a fourth consecutive deficit. As usual, his current budget shortfall breaks last year's record. The proposed \$521 billion deficit comes dangerously close to the threshold of 5% of gross domestic product (GDP), a benchmark to measure the risk of the budget deficit.

Less than two weeks previously, in his State of the Union address, Bush said he was committed to reducing the deficit in half within five years. To accomplish this near-impossible task of reducing the monstrous debt, the administration is going to have to start cutting funding for programs. One would hope that Bush would cut things that do not help society, but of course, this is asking too much. Instead, the White House has decided to chop some of the programs that our nation needs most.

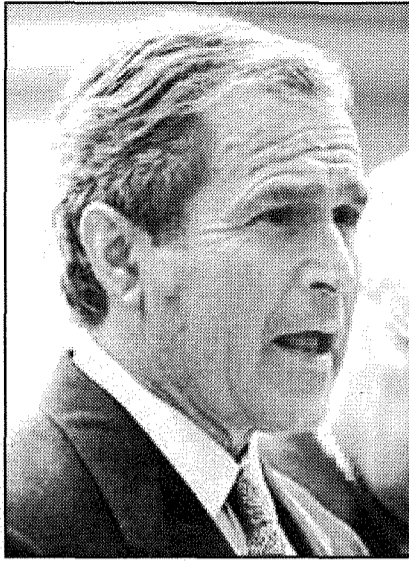
According to the Center for American Progress, the No Child Left Behind Act, Bush's own flagship reform for education, is being underfunded by \$9.4 billion. The budget also cuts 7.3% of spending

for the Environmental Protection Agency (predictable, since Bush has been mostly an enemy to the environment) and slashes funding for the Community Oriented Policing program by 94%, which could take 88,000 officers off the street. Also, interestingly enough, the proposal removes appropriations to fund bio-detection technology necessary to protect the Postal Service and others from anthrax-like attacks, remarkable for a man whose entire re-election campaign is going to rely on his apparent strength on national security.

Even more amazing is that the current budget does not even account for payments for the rebuilding of Iraq and Afghanistan. This means that \$521 billion is just a tentative number; it is certain to increase considerably as Bush asks Congress for more and more money to help rebuild Iraq because he cannot build a legitimate international coalition to aid in the efforts.

The administration's hopes for climbing out of debt rely on higher production and faster growth of the economy, which will hopefully increase tax revenues to the point where inflows will overtake outlays. But as we have seen so far, this almost definitely will not be the case. For Bush has created an optimal situation for growth: sky-high government spending, rock-bottom interest rates, massive tax cuts, and a war, which stimulates productivity. Indeed, the administration hailed the 8.2% GDP growth in 3rd quarter of 2003, but failed to note that despite this dramatic (and unsustainable) level of expansion, tax receipts would not cover the massive proposed outlays.

Also, what the president has not considered is that the flip side to recklessly cutting taxes in 2001 and 2003 is to dramatically reduce spending across the board so as to maintain a healthy, though reduced,



courtesy of www.freerepublic.com

The President's plan for fiscal year 2004 will put the nation in its fourth consecutive year of running a deficit.

government. True fiscal conservatives and Libertarians are outraged at the administration's policy of trying to please everyone; some are even calling Bush, ludicrous as it may seem, a Democrat. It is clear that right now, the president is not solving any problems, but simply borrowing against future generations. As young people, we should be most outraged, as we will bear the burden of paying off this crushing debt when we enter the work force.

How do we resolve this looming fiscal crisis? The only way is to raise taxes. This phrase is an anathema to most people, but it is the only way to address the problem we face. Many polls, including one by *Money* magazine, which caters to a mostly affluent, Republican readership, show that a majority of Americans are willing to pay higher taxes now to avoid major crises in the future. After twelve years of spending run amok during the Reagan/Bush I years, Bill Clinton raised taxes in 1993. In return, we were rewarded with eight years of prosperity, and in the final two years of his tenure, we even had a budget surplus. Bush could have used this to endow Social Security and reduce the national debt; instead, he has now added \$1.4 trillion and counting to the national debt and has raided the Social Security coffers to help fund his tax breaks that are heavily tilted toward the wealthy.

It is about time for a plan similar to Clinton's to be enacted. Income taxes must be raised to at least the level they were under the Clinton administration, corporate tax loopholes must be closed, and companies should not be allowed to incorporate offshore to avoid paying taxes.

ASCIT Minutes: Jan. 28, Feb. 4

January 28th, 2004, 12:05 PM, Olive Walk

Present: Joanna Cohen, Abe Fetterman, Tom Fletcher, Kathryn Hsu, Galen Loram, Jeremy Pitts, Anna Sczaniecka, & Corinna Zygourakis.

Absent: Andrea Vasconcellos

Guests: Jessie Suen

1. Call to Order
2. Congratulations Galen for being elected as ASCIT President - hail leader!

3. Sign ups for BoC Chair came down on February 2nd. The sign ups for remaining offices came down on February 3rd.

4. Jessie Suen requested \$500 for Dabney Interhouse. Vote: 5-0-0, approved.

5. \$500 was also requested for Apache. Vote: 5-0-0, approved.

6. ASCIT wants to show their appreciation for Caltech staff members who have been particularly kind and helpful to undergraduates. Students are encouraged to submit names of staff members that they feel should be recognized on <http://donut.caltech.edu>.

7. Updates will be made to out-of-date ASCIT resolutions shortly; some of them are simply no longer accurate.

8. ASCIT is also working on getting a DVD drop box for the Coffeehouse.

9. In the future, the Shooting Club will need to keep ASCIT informed of the number of Shooting Certificates they actually use.

10. The GSC hopes to publish course reviews and make teaching evaluations public in order to better inform graduate students about classes. On Friday, January 30th Kathryn Hsu met with Scott Fraser and Jeff Berghorson and discussed the possibility of a web-based feedback system.

11. Barret Heyneman is the new Ruddock President.

12. There is some concern regarding student retreats being made available to undergraduates now that Capra is no longer available.

13. Club checks are now available and ready for people to pick up.

14. There has also been discus-

All of the presidential candidates have outlined plans to enact this sort of policy. Governor Howard Dean plans to raise all income tax levels to the levels during the Clinton presidency. Senator John Kerry has pledged to raise taxes on the wealthy, and will offer tax incentives for companies to stay in the United States. General Wesley Clark will change policy most dramatically, eliminating virtually all income taxes for all making

sion about the possibility of freshmen living in Avery. An informal meeting was set up to solicit student input about the issue, but only four students showed up.

Meeting adjourned at 12:57 PM.

February 4th, 2004, 12:12 PM, Olive Walk

Present: Joanna Cohen, Abe Fetterman, Tom Fletcher, Kathryn Hsu, Jeremy Pitts, Anna Sczaniecka, Andrea Vasconcellos, & Corinna Zygourakis.

Absent: Galen Loram

Guests: Mike Priolo

1. Call to Order

2. Elections are today, Monday, February 9th from 10 am to 10 pm. Vote online at <http://donut.caltech.edu/vote/>.

3. The installation dinner for the new BoD will on Friday, February 20th.

4. Joanna pointed out some of the ASCIT resolutions that need to be updated- some of them are simply no longer accurate.

5. All of the DVD's have been ordered and most of them have arrived. Will Coulter purchased the DVD cases and labels and they cost much less than expected.

6. "We Are Scientists" are coming to play at 10 pm in the Coffeehouse on Tuesday, February 17th.

7. Another idea that the BoD is currently working is an undergraduate film festival. It would most likely involve a campus-wide competition for movie shorts and include a monetary prize.

8. All athletes are invited to attend the BoD meeting on Wednesday, February 11th to voice their opinions about subsidizing varsity awards and athletic jackets.

Meeting adjourned at 12:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anna Sczaniecka
ASCIT Secretary

under \$50,000, and taxing the wealthiest at a higher rate. In any case, a Democrat must be elected in November to ensure that our nation recovers its footing.

Bush will be campaigning to make his tax cuts permanent this election year. I can think of no better way to drive this country into the ground. Let us hope that our politicians recover their senses enough to prevent this negligent course of action to continue.



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Diary of a Super Bowl: A Sports Fan Evaluates XXXVIII

By HARRISON STEIN

2:32 PM ET

Hello and welcome to the 2004 Super Bowl Extravaganza. Super Bowl Sunday is the greatest sporting event of the season, and for an 18 year old sports maniac like me, it is the most exciting day of the year. Even though this year's matchup is a little less intriguing than some of the great Super Bowls of the past, I'm looking forward to a wild ride. Since it's still an hour before kickoff, the Fleming Entertainment Room (ER) is pretty empty, with eight of us watching the World Poker Tour. However, the room is far too small to hold the party that should begin any minute now. One incredible benefit to living on the West Coast is we can watch a Super Bowl that starts at 3:30, instead of the typical 6:30 beginning in the East. The Super Bowl starts so early I will still have time to finish my math set before midnight. In the meantime, I'd like to thank Lee Zhu for letting me type on his laptop during the game.

I'm making my game prediction based on the results of a strikingly similar game two years ago. In 2002, the St. Louis Rams were two years removed from a nail-biting Super Bowl and after a 14-2 season, they were highly favored against the scrappy New England Patriots. The Patriots were one of the least talented Super Bowl teams of our era, but with a never-say-die attitude and a fantastic coach, Bill Belichick, New England shocked the mighty Rams. The Patriots showed an unbelievable desire to win, and after sixty stunning minutes of football, they were Super Bowl champions. Now, two years later, the New England Patriots are 14-2, two years removed from a Super Bowl victory and highly favored to win again. Carolina has less talent than a typical Super Bowl team, but they are very well-coached and rarely intimidated. I have this feeling that even though the Patriots are a consummate team, Carolina will find chinks in New England's armor. Either way, I expect this game to be much closer than analysts have predicted. You heard it first--the Panthers will win a thriller, 21-17.

2:53 PM ET

During a lull in the Poker Tournament, I started thinking about the football games two weeks ago and I can't help but feel sorry for the Philadelphia Eagles and their fans. For the third year in a row, the Eagles were one win away from reaching the football's ultimate stage, and for the third straight time, they faltered. At times like this, you wonder whether it's really worth it to root for your favorite team. Nonetheless, Philadelphia fans will recover, and you better believe that they will support their team even more next season. I know all about teams failing at the ultimate stage because I live in Chicago, home of the Cubs. Here are the five teams that have the most tortured fans in the nation:

5. Los Angeles Football

Teams: Los Angeles had two professional football teams in 1995. However, the city never supported the Rams and selfish oaf Al Davis found a better stadium deal in Oakland. Alas, LA lost both of its teams in one season, and since then, the Oakland Raiders have been to a Super Bowl, and the St.

Louis Rams have been to two, winning one.

4. Philadelphia Eagles: Philadelphia loves football and its citizens are supremely passionate about their Eagles. Nonetheless, the team has never won a Super Bowl and has failed in three consecutive NFC Championships.

3. Cleveland Browns: The Indians and the Cavaliers have had more than their share of collapses, but the Browns have suffered more than their companions in the Cleveland hard-luck trio. The Browns had to endure the Fumble and the Drive in two consecutive seasons and watched its beloved team leave for Baltimore. By the way, the Ravens won the Super Bowl in 2001.

2. Chicago Cubs: Anyone who watched Game 6 if the NLCS knows what I'm talking about. 1908 was the last time they won a World Series. 1945 was the last time they made the World Series. They were five outs away from making the World Series this year. The only thing more painful than being a Cubs fan is...

1. Boston Red Sox: being a Red Sox fan. Anyone who's ever watched a baseball game knows what I'm talking about. 1918 was the last time they won a World Series. 1986 was the last time they were one out away from winning the World Series. They, too, were five outs away from making the World Series this year. Alas, like always, they came up painfully short on baseball's greatest stage.

3:16 PM

Sure, I agree that the brave astronauts that died in the Columbia catastrophe deserve to be remembered, but the Super Bowl is hardly the right place. The Pre-Game performance by Josh Groban was excruciating, the astronaut balloons were tacky, and the whole crowd seemed completely uninterested. Coupled with Beyonce's voice cracking during the off-key National Anthem, the pre-game show was a total debacle.

3:24 PM

The game is about to start. My pre-game picks for Super Bowl MVP are wide receiver Steve Smith if the Panthers win and defensive tackle Richard Seymour if the Patriots win.

3:28 PM

We have a brawl after just one play! Expect a very physical game.

3:38 PM

CBS shows a stat that Patriots field goal kicker Adam Vinatieri is 31/33 lifetime kicking field goals in a dome with both misses at Reliant Stadium. Of course, this year's Super Bowl is taking place at Reliant Stadium, and, predictably, he misses his first field goal kick. Even though CBS's football coverage is usually inferior to FOX and ABC, I'm very impressed so far.

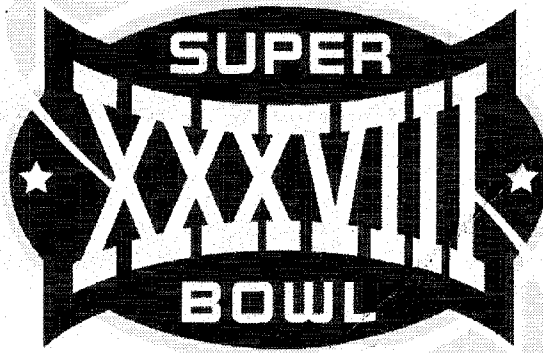
3:50 PM

So far, the game hasn't been too exciting, but you can tell the Patriots are dominating both sides of the ball. With a few minutes left in the first quarter, the Panthers have two yards of total offense. The Panthers just

got their second delay of game penalty on a punt from their ten yard-line. Amazingly, the first delay of game penalty came on defense. Is this even possible?

4:05 PM

Carolina quarterback Jake Delhomme is playing more like Jack



courtesy of www.fanfares.com

GoHome. The Panthers have one first down on a dubious holding penalty and Jake the Snake has completed one of six passes for one yard. If not for some inspired play by the Carolina defense, this game would already be over. It's 0-0 at the end of the first quarter and Carolina has 13 total yards. The first quarter of this game has been one of the most forgettable quarters of football I've ever seen.

4:21 PM

According to CBS, "Kris Jenkins is the fastest man on the football field." Yeah right. Kris Jenkins is a 330 pound defensive tackle.

4:31 PM

So far the commercials have been the highlight of this Super Bowl. The funniest so far has been a Pepsi commercial where a bear dresses up as a hunter in order to look like the man in an ID photo. The defenses are dominating so much that the key play of the game has been a controversial 4th and Inches carry. It remains to be seen whether this "game-altering" call will make a difference.

4:39 PM

Before his second attempt, CBS says that Adam Vinatieri now is for 31 for 34 in domes, with all three misses in Houston. Make that four. Luckily, the defense makes up for the field goal block, as my pre-game Patriots MVP Richard Seymour recovers a critical fumble. At this point, Jake Delhomme has the same number of fumbles as pass completions. 7-0 Patriots.

4:51 PM

It took about 27 minutes of game time, but Delhomme finally completed a pass longer than one yard. In the meantime, we just saw a preview for a movie called *Secret Window*. I guess Hollywood isn't trying anymore. The sad thing about this Super Bowl is that the game is still relatively close, but the main topic of conversation in the ER is whether we should order the Lingerie Bowl at halftime. The Panthers just put together a nice little drive and we have some semblance of a Super Bowl. 7-7.

5:12 PM

Even though neither team scored a point until there were four minutes left in the half, the score is 14-10 at halftime. Once again, there's excitement in the air. If the second half is exciting

as the last five minutes of the second quarter, this game might be one of the better Super Bowls.

5:30 PM

We couldn't figure out how to order the Lingerie Bowl, so after 10 minutes of flipping between CBS and Pay-Per-View, we finally resigned ourselves to watching the Super Bowl Halftime Show. Just like the pre-game show, halftime was an unmitigated disgrace. The Artist Formerly Known as Puff Daddy, Nelly and Justin Timberlake all made glittery, but lousy performances. Kid Rock slashed an American flag and threw it into the crowd. The only highlight of this agonizing spectacle was when Janet Jackson slipped out of her

dress, causing the whole nation to gasp in shock. And then, right before the half started, a streaker ran onto the smoky field. Only in America!

5:53 PM

Panthers tight end, and former Patriot, Jermaine Wiggins just made the play of the game. After catching a pass, Wiggins shed a tackler and leaped over another defender to get a well-deserved first down. Plays like that set the Super Bowl apart from any other football game. Despite his efforts, the Panthers punted three plays later.

6:15 PM

Not a whole lot has happened since halftime as neither team has been able to sustain the momentum generated at the end of the first half. The third quarter has been eerily similar to the first quarter. Still, the Patriots have the ball deep in Carolina territory, and a score here might put the game out of reach.

6:30 PM ET

This game has transformed from a ho-hummer into a nail-biter in the span of minutes. After New England scored a seemingly backbreaking touchdown, Carolina backup running back DeShaun Foster had an incredible 33-yard run that will be remembered for years to come. The Panthers are within striking distance at 21-16, but fail on a controversial two-point conversion. Might this have a bearing on what happens later?

6:52 PM ET

WOW!! What a pass! Jake Delhomme, who has elevated his game after a miserable first half, just threw one of his patented lobs and Muhsin Muhammed turned it into an 85 yard Touchdown. Once again, the Panthers go for two and miss out. Had they just gone for one both times, it would currently be a three point game, instead of one. It looks like we're in for a whale of a finish. 22-21 Panthers.

7:08 PM ET

The last few minutes have been uneventful, but as New England was driving, a guy in our room asked for a gentleman's bet. How soon will CBS show a cliched video of place kicker Adam Vinatieri warming up? Of course, on the very next

play, Tom Brady completed a long pass, that put the Pats in field goal range and immediately, they showed a picture of Vinatieri warming up. The Pats scored a Touchdown and a fantastic two-point conversion to take a seven point lead. 29-22 Pats

7:15 PM ET

As the Patriots tried to shut the door, the Panthers clawed and scratched back with one last desperation drive. After a very pretty finger tip catch on third down, Carolina tied the game at 29. An absolute snoozer has turned into one of the two or three greatest Super Bowls I've ever seen. With only 1:08 left in the game, it looks like we might have the first overtime in Super Bowl history. But of course, on the very next play, John Kasay kicks the ball out of bounds, giving the Patriots prime field position.

7:30 PM ET

And they capitalize. Despite a dubious offensive pass interference call, the Patriots drive down the field and Adam Vinatieri sets up for his third field goal attempt of the game. Of course, CBS displays the graphic that Vinatieri is 31 for 35 in his career in domes, with all four misses in Reliant Stadium. Still, he calmly boots another last second field goal and the Patriots win their second Super Bowl in two years in a hard fought, 32-29 battle.

7:49 PM ET

Patriot quarterback Tom Brady is the Super Bowl MVP. As well as Brady played, his performance hardly measured up to that of linebacker teammate Mike Vrabel. While Brady wasn't even the best quarterback on the field, Vrabel had two sacks, forced a game changing fumble, and caught the go-ahead touchdown.

8:22 PM ET

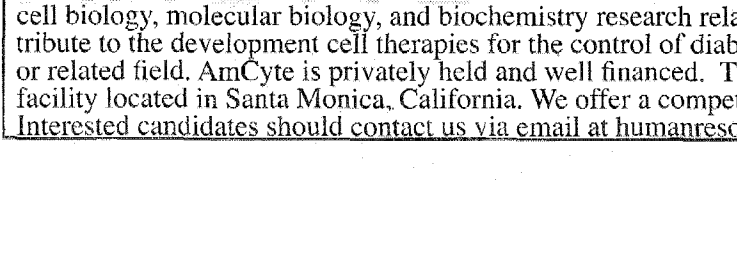
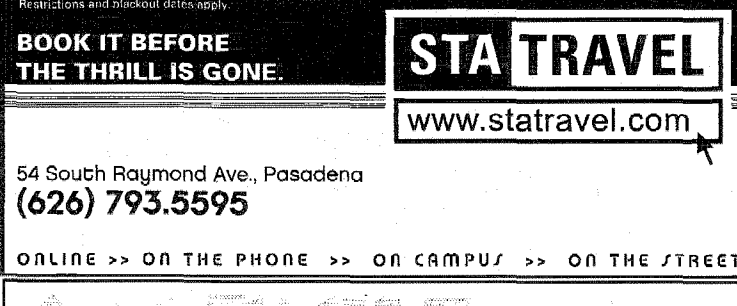
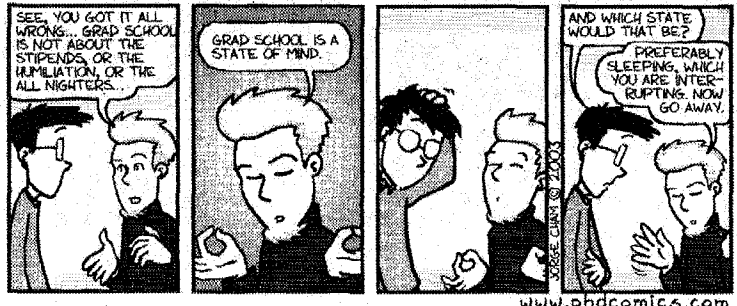
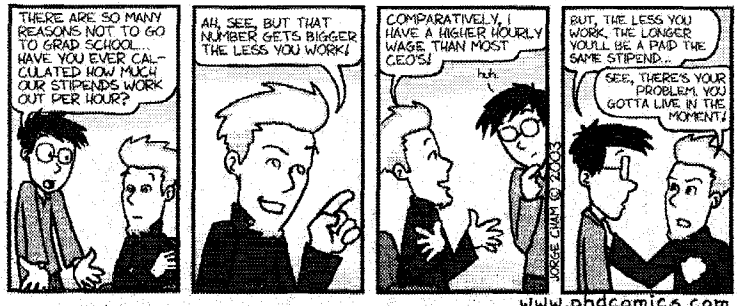
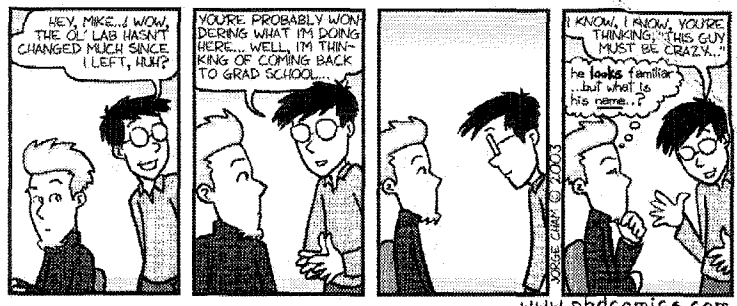
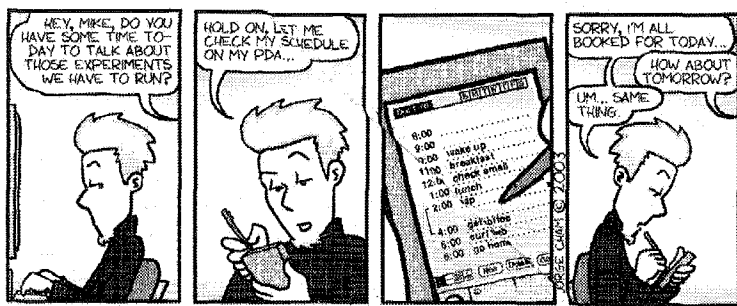
Now that this fantastic game has ended, it's time to see how it measures up to Super Bowls past.

1. Rams 23, Titans 16 (2000)
 2. Patriots 32, Panthers 29 (2004)
 3. Patriots 20, Rams 17 (2002)
 4. Broncos 31, Packers 24 (1998)
 5. Giants 20, Bills 19 (1991)
- Amazingly, among the three greatest Super Bowls, the Patriots and Rams have each played in two, all two years apart. After the First Quarter, I mocked the game's monotony. Four hours later, I wished the game could have lasted longer and longer. And now, I can't wait until the start of next season.



courtesy of www.nfl-against-the-spread.com

A game which started out slow and uneventful turned into a very close 32-29 clinch win for the New England Patriots.



Bored with the Caltech dating scene? Tired of seeing the same old people, day in and day out? Fed up with rejection? Love Sucks...

The Caltech a cappella community is proud to present its annual Love Sucks concert, February 15th in the Avery Dining Hall. The concert, starting at 1:30pm, will feature USC Reverse Osmosis and the UCSB Naked Voices, along with Caltech's own Ecphonema, Out of Context, and the new Fluid Dynamics. Come out and celebrate Valentine's Day the Caltech way...

Single and looking for Valentines fun? Join Caltech Ballroom Dance Club and Occidental Folk and Historic Dance Troupe for the annual **Viennese Waltz Night** at Occidental College! When: Saturday February 14th, 8:30-11 pm. Where: Samuelson Pavilion at Occidental College. Featuring the Caltech-Occidental Orchestra. Open dancing to waltzes and polkas. Semi-formal attire, black tie optional. Refreshments served. Cost: Free. Worried that you can't dance? Come to a quick-start Viennese Waltz and Polka lesson Monday, February 9th from 7:30 - 10 pm in Winnett Lounge. Cost is just \$3 for both dances! More information at <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~ballroom/index.html>.

Join Caltech Ballroom Dance Club for its amateur taught **Mambo class**! Mambo, meaning "conversation with the gods" is a spicy Caribbean mix of African rhythm and European moves. This particular class will center around learning moves to make a Mambo formation for performances. However, all the steps can be used outside of the formation! Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in Winnett Lounge, starting Feb 12. Cost: \$1/class. Refreshments will be served. No experience or partner necessary!

Learn the exhilarating and fabulous **Viennese Waltz!** (and learn what it might be like to live in a centrifuge...) Monday nights starting February 9th. Winnett Lounge, 7:30 to 9:00. Viennese Waltz classes taught by professional instructor Michael Donovan. Fee: Students, \$6 per class or \$25 for the series; others, \$8 per class or \$35 for the series. No partner or experience needed! Lots of refreshments. Mini party for practice dancing to be held afterwards!

The Social Activism Speaker Series (SASS) presents former vice president of Doctors Without Borders, **Alain Dubos**, on Feb 13th at 7:30 pm in Beckman Institute Auditorium. His talk is entitled

"Humanitarian Action: Impartial Aid or Alibi for the Powers That Be?" Co-sponsored with Alliance Francaise de Pasadena

The Tech Express will be holding their annual **Spring Fling Luau** March 10th from 11am-3pm. Drop by for music, hula dancing, free food, door prizes and outrageous pictures of you and your friends.

Submit to the **Totem!** The *Totem* is now accepting submissions for the 2004 edition the literary magazine. Anyone in the Caltech community can submit their poetry, short stories, artwork and/or photography to the *Totem*. Please send your work by email (totem@its.caltech.edu), or by campus mail (MSC 292).

Women's Center Events

1) Wild Women Don't Have the Blues, February 12, 12:00-1:00pm. "Wild Women Don't Have the Blues" shows how the blues were born out of the economic and social transformation of African American life early in this century and women's unique contributions to this American art form. Featuring the music of Ma Rainey, Bessie Smith, Ida Cox, Alberta Hunter, and the other legendary women who made the blues a vital part of American culture. Lunch and drinks provided!

2) February 19 - The Top 10 Mistakes Women Make When It Comes To Their Health. Time: 12-1pm. Location: Women's Center located in room 265 of the Center for Student Services. Director of UCLA Women's Health Education and Resource Center, Cindy Moskovic, will address the crucial mistakes women make regarding their health, the impact of these mistakes, and the cultural and social factors that contribute to the problems. Start the year by taking charge of your health! RSVP required! To sign-up please call ext. 3221 or email: wcenter@studaff.caltech.edu

The **Beckman Political Internship** will be available again this summer. The internship, supported by friends of Arnold O. Beckman, will pay a stipend of \$5,000. It allows a selected intern to spend the summer working in the office of a politician or a government agency and to see from the inside the process of government. The applicant is expected to make arrangements with the appropriate political persons or organizations. The internship is open to any Caltech undergraduate who intends to be a student next year. If interested, submit a proposal describing where and how you would use the stipend along with one faculty recommendation, to the Deans' Office, 210-87, or email machang@caltech.edu, by MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2004.

The California State Society is currently accepting applications for

the **Bono-Capps Congressional Internship Program** for the Spring 2004 term (beginning in March 2004). This internship opportunity is especially appropriate for students who are interested in working in a congressional office. The California State Society provides a stipend of up to \$1000 per month to the Bono-Capps interns to help defray their expenses. Students can learn more about the scholarship and get an application by going to <http://www.cssdc.org/internship.html> (note - this is a new html address). The deadline for applying for the spring term is 15 February 2004.

The first 2003-2004 **Everhart Lecture, "Cancerous Stem Cells: Insights into the Origins of Human Brain Tumors"** will be given by Houman David Hemmati, a Caltech-UCLA MD-PhD student in Biology. The lecture will be held in 101 Guggenheim Lab (Lees-Kubota Lecture Hall) on Wednesday, February 18 at 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served at 3:45p.m. For more information on the lectures, see www.its.caltech.edu/~els. Sponsored by the Graduate Student Council, the Graduate Office, Campus Life, and Graduate Housing.

The **Monticello Foundation and Robert and Delpha Noland Summer Internships 2004**. The Deans' Office is accepting proposals for the Monticello Foundation and the Robert and Delpha Noland Summer Internships. Three to five Caltech undergraduate women (current freshmen, sophomores and juniors) will be given an opportunity to participate in research projects outside the Caltech-JPL community for ten weeks during the summer. Each student will receive a \$5,000 stipend. Applicants are required to identify the projects in which they wish to participate. All arrangements with the principal researcher will be the responsibility of the student.

Interested? Identify a sponsor for your experience at a research facility for a ten-week period. In a short essay, describe your project, and submit it to the Deans' Office, 210 Center for Student Services, along with two faculty recommendations. **PROPOSALS ARE DUE MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2004.**

Upcoming HPS Lectures:
13 February 2004 (4:00 pm 25 Baxter) Munro Seminar Robert Essick (UC Riverside) "Information and Knowledge on the Internet: The Case of the William Blake Archive."
19 February 2004 (8:00 pm Beckman Auditorium) Larry Principe (Johns Hopkins) "Stories and Histories of Alchemy from Nicholas Flamel to Harry Potter"
20 February 2004 (4:00 pm 25 Baxter) HPS Seminar Larry Principe (Johns Hopkins) "Revisiting the Academie Royale des Sciences: Wilhelm Homberg and his Chemistry"

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Francesca Colonnese BoC Secretary Candidate

I believe it is important to get involved with organizations you respect and depend on. I constantly enjoy my freedom to take exams in the manner most comfortable to me. My approach to academics would be different if I didn't know that I would be able to take my final with my music turned up and a big bowl of candy next to me to nibble on during those tough questions.

It is this sort of freedom that makes Caltech a very special place. I wouldn't be able to survive if I didn't have friends to work with on problems sets all night and still have my professors' trust that we could collaborate without cheating. We learn best from each other and our unique honor code helps to foster this.

However, just like at every other school there will be those who break the honor code. We have an amazing power to create our own justice between students instead of having administrators who haven't had to suffer through the same professors and problem sets hand out decisions without ever hearing the student point of view.

It is because I so much appreciate our freedom and our ability to have justice handed out by our peers that I decided to run for BOC secretary. I feel a sense of duty to an honor code that I value dearly and to a community that I

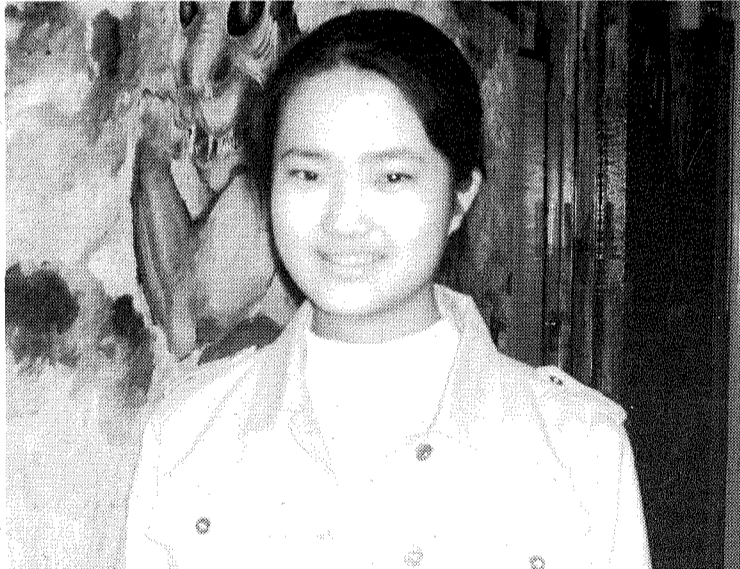


enjoy so much. I am far from the brightest student here and I sympathize with those so desperate to get ahead that they turn to dishonest means.

However, my compassion for my fellow students does not make me soft. Rather, it makes me believe in a need for firm and fair treatment. The justice that BOC creates shows the strength of our community as much as any new measure to improve student life that the ASCIT board may pass. I have a deep desire to participate in the process instead of continuing to watch it from the sidelines.

If elected, I will work hard to ensure that we can be confident of the extraordinary level of trust that we continue to bestow on one another. If anyone has any questions for me, please send me an email at francesc@caltech.edu and I will happily respond.

Kelly Lin FDAL Candidate



L. Tran/The California Tech

As new members of the Caltech community, the Freshmen bring a variety of innovative and thoughtful ideas and suggestions to our campus. If elected Freshmen Director at Large, I will make sure that our needs and suggestions are heard on the ASCIT board. I will make certain that clubs on campus will receive the appropriate attention and funding they deserve from the ASCIT and will dedicate more time on informing the Frosh about upcoming ASCIT activities through fliers

and emails. Also, I will strive to republish the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Handbook (UROH), which was terminated few years ago, in order to provide access to research opportunities for new students. I am ready to dedicate time and commitment to the duties of this position and will work diligently to achieve a more interactive relationship between the students and the BoD.

Thanks,
Kelly Lin

Erin Hartman FDAL Candidate

I am running for this position of _____ because _____ (fill in the blank with a good reason). I am good for this position because _____. Also, I am cooler than _____ (pick opponent), therefore you should... VOTE FOR ME!!!!

Okay, so, here's the deal. Honestly, I think that being Freshmen Director at Large is

a good way to get introduced to Caltech politics. I will work hard and make sure that I fulfill my job requirements as well as anything else that is asked of me. I am looking forward to gaining a better knowledge of how ASCIT functions. Well, I'm at a loss of what else to say, so thanks for your time, I'll let you go now.

J.D. Salazar BoC Secretary Candidate

Having served as a BoC representative for the past year, I have seen both good and bad news for the honor system. As BoC Secretary I would try and continue with what has worked while addressing the honor code issues that currently exist.

During second and third term last year, the BoC was flooded with cases, many of which had freshman defendants. However, over the first term and a half of this year no freshman defendants have come before the BoC. This is partly due to this year's excellent BoC talks at frosh camp that focused more on the substance of the honor code and less on the procedures involved with the BoC than in years past. I will try and continue this trend at Frosh Camp by focusing on communicating the ideas behind the honor code and not just the way that the honor code is implemented at Caltech.

Also, over the past year members of the BoC have been at several Division meetings in order to try and increase faculty awareness of the honor system. I would hope to keep these communication channels alive so that all members of the Caltech community can put trust in the honor system.

However, the news surrounding the honor code has not been all good in the past year. Last term, the GSC/WEST Quality of Life survey revealed that an alarming 23% of the graduate students who responded admitted to breaking the honor code. As a result, ASCIT and the BoC are currently gathering data about undergraduates through an honor code survey of their own. As BoC secretary, I would work with the Graduate Review Board to try and address the fact that many graduate students clearly do not always follow the honor system.

I would also place a high priority on addressing any issues that become apparent once the results of ASCIT's survey are released.

I feel that because of my experience as a BoC rep, I can take on the issues that the honor system is currently facing as well as make the Board run smoothly. I encourage anyone that has any question about my ability to serve as BoC secretary to ask any current BoC rep for their opinions.

I have always appreciated the privileges that the students have because of the honor system. I also believe that the honor system works well at Caltech and can continue to work well. It is because of these beliefs that I choose to become a BoC rep last year, and it is also because of these beliefs that I hope I can serve as BoC secretary over the next year.

Jimmy Jia FDAL Candidate



Courtesy of J. Jia

Those who know me can testify that I'm a very motivated, responsible individual with no distaste toward the hard work that comes with responsibility. I'm also completely sane, with no extraordinary psychoses or neuroses. I am also not a sociopath, and I have yet to commit any felonies. I'm also kind to animals.

I'm also probably more involved in clubs than most of the other frosh this year. Being a member of the Donut Devteam, I can also actually make things like club mailing lists and calendars work. As serving as the club liaison for the BoD is the FDAL's job, I think my current qualifications make me quite suitable for this position.

Science, Politics Clash in Wouk's Latest 'Historical Romance' Novel

Continued from Page 1, Column 3

before World War II broke out; however, at the time the navy was "only taking engineers, they didn't want a philosopher!" Still, the non-techer got his chance soon enough.

While at sea, he also gained the opportunity to "catch up on all those novels I had written book reports on but never read." No doubt we are probably familiar (or perhaps not...) with the books he means.

In particular the author discovered *Don Quixote* and the works of Cervantes. Don Quixote's marvelous exploits showed Wouk that reality can prove much more amazing than any fantasy, a fact which he would continually strive to portray throughout his works.

A combination of being in the navy, seeing the Holocaust in WWII and feeling the need to address the moral issues of his day prompted Wouk to set out on a quest to write his own version of the epic War and Peace. Although most of us are too timid even to read such a monumental tome, let alone tackle the mammoth task of writing such a novel, Wouk did

just such.

He embarked upon a journey which would command fourteen years of his life and 5000 pages of notes. The culmination of these efforts eventually led to a 2000 page two-part work consisting of *The Winds of War* and *War and Remembrance*.

Technically Wouk likes to refer to these books as "historical romances." But wait! Before you get any wrong ideas, Wouk warns people that they ought not to expect any lusty scenes packed with "busty women and bodice-ripping." Indeed Wouk attempts to portray deeper, more meaningful relationships in the midst of a greater context.

After his WWII novels, Wouk ventured into the realm of contemporary issues ranging from the Nixon Watergate Scandal to the Yom Kippur Wars in Israel.

Most recently, Wouk has been working on a novel titled *A Hole In Texas*, described by Dr. Starr as "swift, comic, beautifully written." Indeed Wouk gave his audience a special treat as he read the first couple chapters of his soon to be released novel.

As Wouk read, he showed off his flair for putting a humorous spin on even the most ordinary occurrences. At one point in the first chapter, the particle physicist main character of the novel ineptly struggles to manually open his garage door when he discovers that the door opener button will not work! Every scene from the novel provides a carefully crafted poignant depiction of life down to last detail.

Yet behind the surface of quick wit, Wouk also makes a strong statement on the state of affairs between science and politics. The conflicting goals of the two parties leads to a controversy regarding the funding of an enormous tunnel in Texas known as the "Superconducting Supercollider."

Basically Wouk's book holds something for everyone, especially if you enjoy letting the words "Superconducting Supercollider" roll off your tongue.

As Herman Wouk closed his lecture, Dr. David Goodstein thanked him for a "riveting evening." All in attendance were invited to get their copies of Wouk's books personally signed.



Courtesy of C. Zygourakis

Corina Zygourakis Secretary Candidate

I'm running for Secretary because I believe that one must get involved in student life and student government in order to change things. As this past year's Freshman Director-at-Large, I did my best to serve you in a friendly and responsible manner.

In addition to eagerly fulfilling my duties, I continue to represent student opinion on the ASCIT Board of Directors and throughout the entire campus. I serve as an active and enthusiastic student representative on several committees, from the Director of Admissions Search Committee and the Advisory Committee of the Director of the Council of Undergraduate Education, to the Alumni Fund Committee and the Biology Undergraduate Student Advisory Committee (Quite a mouthful, huh?).

Through my participation in these committees and other campus-wide activities, I continue to learn a lot about the different academic and social issues that faculty, administrators, and-most

importantly-students face on our campus.

I've enjoyed my time on ASCIT, but I think that there are many things that can and need to be improved. First of all, I would like to see ASCIT play a more visible role in undergraduate student life. In order for ASCIT to be an effective force on campus, however, it must communicate better with the students and the entire Caltech community.

As Secretary, I will work hard to improve communication through more efficient use of the donut web site and the ASCIT bulletin board, as well as concise (hopefully interesting!) minutes, suggestion boxes, and visits to the houses. In addition, I will press for student input in actions that directly affect students' lives, such as renovations of the student houses and improvements in undergraduate education, and I will work for the enhancement of campus life through more community activities.

Meng-Meng Fu Social Director Candidate

ASCIT Social Director is an important position that requires a lot of time effort. I will bring to the job enthusiasm, dedication, and know-how. My relevant experiences include being the president of the Caltech Chinese Students' Association and a member of the Lloyd Social Team. Prior to Caltech, I gained years of experience organizing dances and banquets, scouting locations for events, and negotiating rental and catering contracts. Plus, I have mad skills making nifty centerpieces and arranging food in cool spiral formations on trays!

Some of my ideas for new events include arranging for a performance by a well-known band that appeals to a broad spectrum of the student body. I also hope to make social events less of a drain to the ASCIT budget by possibly organizing a "guy auction", with profits either going to ASCIT or a charitable organization.

I also hope to maintain worthwhile projects, such as funding for multihouse functions, and events like the carnival at the be-

ginning of this school year. I will also plan ahead to make Prefrosh Weekend more exciting and fun, because the quality of the incoming class does partially depend on the success of Prefrosh Weekend.

As for ASCIT Formal, I hope to make it more accessible to everyone. Not having a date will no longer be a legitimate excuse not to go! I think it would be great to have a masquerade ball, with prizes for outstanding costumes. That way, couples could still come in full regalia as Cinderella and Prince Charming, but others could come in groups with friends, for example, as the Hobbits or as the kids from South Park. And of course, costumes such as DNA and wave functions are cool too!

Finally, if elected, I will be open to any and all suggestions for future ASCIT social events. Even the quirkiest ideas can be tweaked into super-duper, fun, and do-able events. Moreover, if I become a member of the BoD, I will do everything in my power to make your voice heard.

Alexander Sheive CRC Co-Chair Candidate

I operate under the assumption that we're all reasonable adults capable of taking care of ourselves. Being involved in a fair amount of delinquency myself, I think that most of it involves people being stupid rather than

malicious. We're all out to have a good frickin' time in this damned place, and I'd like to see that happen for everyone. I just want the students to have as much say as possible in how we are disciplined. Alex the CRC chair will

be cool with you if you're cool with not being a dickface. Trust me, it will be awesome.

(Or just vote for Manny, he's chill and did a good job last year.)

Ryan Farmer Treasurer Candidate

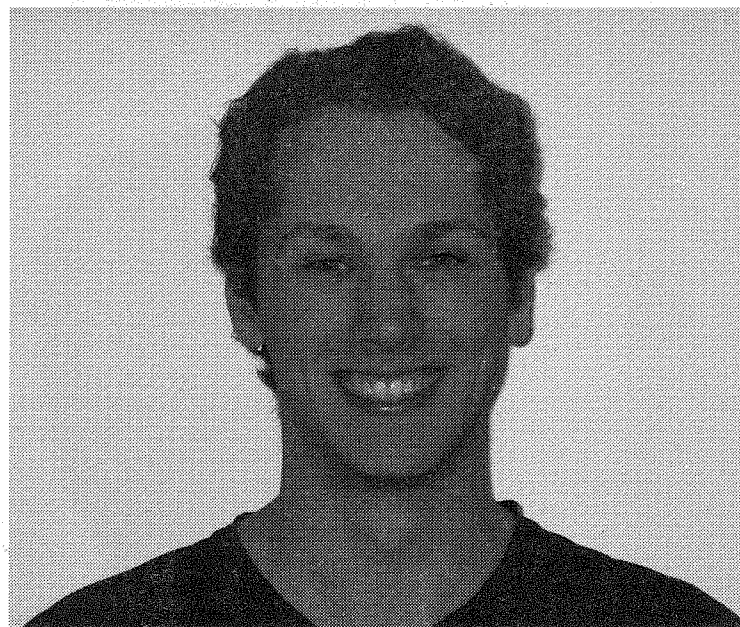
I have great faith in the House system as a whole. I believe that it brings undergraduates closer together and keeps most of us sane during the hectic years at Tech. Within my House, I've become active--acting as a member of the Lloyd Athletic team, a CDS food representative, and a Representative at Large. Now, I'm ready to be involved in campus-wide organizations.

As a member of the BoD, I will represent Techers--both on and off campus--at all meetings and make sure that all decisions are in the best interests of the students. A few of my goals as Treasurer/BoD member are:

+ Increase awareness of ASCIT's budget so that all students will have direct input on how their dues are spent.

+ Keep a sharp eye on the budget: Work to keep ASCIT's budget out of the red and assist any campus organization in obtaining a reasonable amount of funding.

+ Promote additional communication between faculty, administration, the IHC, ASCIT, and students to ensure that all decisions benefit the school as a whole.



Courtesy of R. Farmer

+ Keep an open mind and an open door so that I can represent not only the majority opinion, but introduce compromises so that everyone supports the BoD's decision.

If you have any questions or want to talk about anything, feel free to come by Lloyd 115--my

door's always open. I hope to make a difference in the Caltech community as Treasurer by increasing both intra-campus communication and ASCIT's visibility, keeping accurate financial records, and making sure that every student with a voice is heard.

Abe Fetterman Treasurer Candidate

What do you want out of your ASCIT Treasurer? You want him to give you money, and probably to know how much money ASCIT has got. But ASCIT budgets seem to be a curious thing. There is no "Assets" category, so we don't know how much we really have, just how much cash we have. Because of the lack of this category, past years' surpluses have been

counted as income, and big purchases are counted as lump sums rather than assets which depreciate.

Better accounting here would make it easier to know how much we really have, and so the BoD could dole out money while being better informed. Speaking of which, I would bring a laptop or printout with the up-to-date

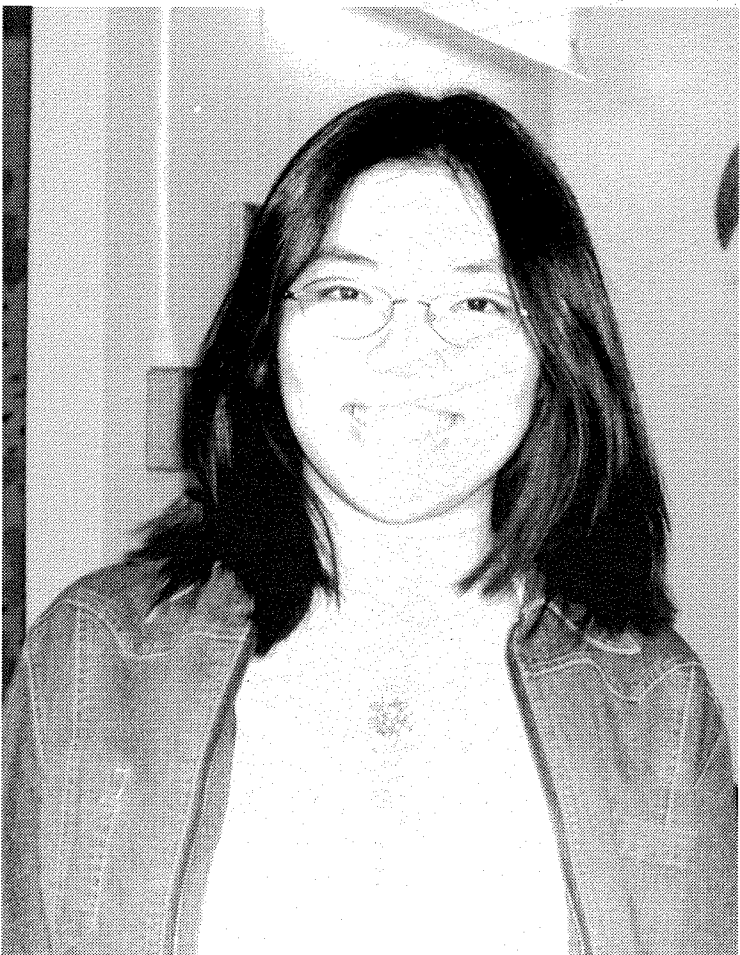
books to BoD meetings, so that we could make these decisions right away there, rather than having it the next week or through e-mail later.

You also want your Treasurer to be competent on issues of the Board of Directors. I have been Social Director for the last term or so, and as such am familiar with the workings and proceedings of the BoD, as well as current student issues. I have also served on the ASCIT Executive Committee for the last year, so understand the Constitution and requirements and responsibilities of each position in-depth.

I also have significant finance and leadership experience that qualifies me for this position. Besides posts mentioned earlier, I am co-President of Hillel and a Vice President in the Consulting Club. On the financial side, I am a Business, Economics and Management major and so understand accounting and business management. I also participated in a project with the Consulting Club that required an intricate understanding of a business' inner financial workings.

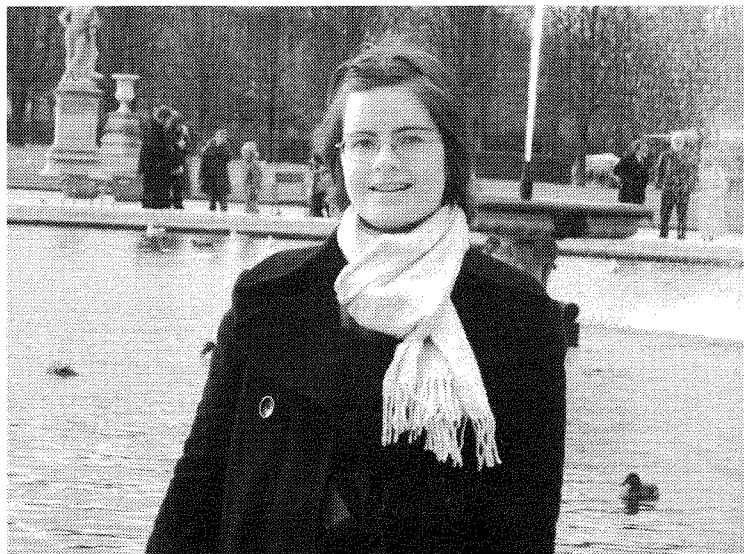
Lastly, I hope I will not be too quickly judged by those in my class and the class above me, who still think of me as the young buckaroo I was my frosh year. If this is the case with you, I urge you to come talk to me, or anyone who has worked with me more recently on the BoD or through one of the clubs. I think you will be pleasantly surprised.

Thank you,
Abe Fetterman



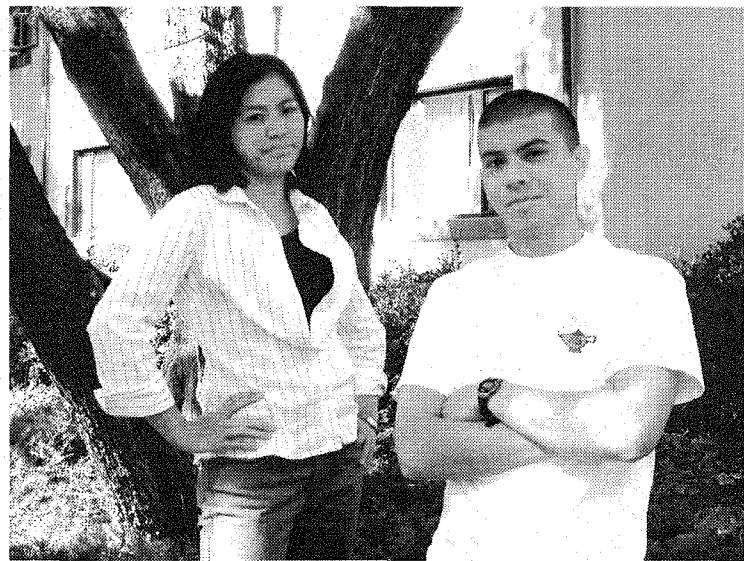
L. Tran/The California Tech

Sarah Wilhoit CRC Co-Chair Candidate



Courtesy of S. Wilhoit

As the CRC chair I would treat each case with fairness and understanding. Having spent a term at another University, I appreciate the comparative freedoms we have here at Caltech. Caltech is a small University where students aren't just numbers, and I would work to treat CRC cases as individual situations rather than strict reinforcements of broadly applied rules.



L. Tran/The California Tech

Tammy Ma and Matt Walker Tech Editor Candidates

While even we'll admit the *Tech* is a far cry from *The Washington Post*, you'll be hard-pressed to find two people as passionate about the paper as us. Between the two of us, we have over 10 years of journalism experience—and we still enjoy bringing you your weekly paper.

Matt has been serving as the News Director since the begin-

ning of this school year, and since his freshman year has been a quality and dependable reporter.

Tammy has already served for two terms as the *Tech's* Managing Editor. Together we've nurtured a growing crew of writers and photographers, and have been continually working with them to steadily improve the quality of the paper.

This year, we've also updated all our technological equipment, which we'll not only make our job a little easier, but also for future Tech editors.

In the coming year, we'll continue to work hard to bring you, the reader, a timely and content-full paper with the school's most relevant news and commentary.

Phil Harris ARC Chair Candidate

Are you tired of doing problem sets all night and then realizing you forgot to do part d of number 3?

Are you tired of going to the Coffeehouse just to find that they closed early?

Do you think the ASCIT DVD library has too many duplicates?

Well what can you do? Go To ASCIT?

ASCIT for long time has been the leading conspirer in many of the world's biggest problems.

Do you remember when JFK was shot? With a little bit of research you would realize that ASCIT conspired with a series of French assassins, the Illuminati and the Free Masons to pull that off.

And that's not all, do you remember when Koybayashi ate 50 hotdogs at Coney Island? Well... maybe you don't, but I certainly wasn't shocked to find out ASCIT was behind that as well.

What about when Alexander Hamilton was shot. Did you really think Aaron Burr was just partaking in a duel or there was a huge ASCIT based conspiracy involving Pikachu and an old oscilloscope.

ASCIT has been the backboard of these conspiracies and numerous other conspiracies. So when you vote for new conspirers. I encourage you to ask the following question.

Is ASCIT plotting against me?

Shaun Lee Upperclass Director at Large Candidate

I was walking down the alley the other day when Will Coulter, the interim Upperclass Director at Large, stopped me and said "Shaun, you should run for UDAL."

I hadn't really been thinking about running for office, but as Will described the responsibilities, I realized I'm qualified for the position for a number of reasons.

Working as Executive Content Editor for the past three issues of

CURJ has given me a lot of experience in dealing with student publications and organizing a staff of editors who don't always want to work.

I have interviewed and evaluated candidates for CURJ editors and have put together some really great teams. This should be useful in the process of appointing editors for the little-t and the Big-T.

My tenure as CURJ editor is over after this next issue, so I'll

soon have a lot more free time.

I know both Matt Walker (half of the only team running for Tech Editor) and Will Coulter, putting me in close touch with both the Tech and Donut.

I'd like to give something back to the students and I think UDAL is a great match for my skills.

Jenny Fisher ARC Chair Candidate

Academics are at the core of nearly everyone's Caltech experience and can make or break our time here. As students, we are directly affected by academic issues and I feel strongly that every student's voice should be heard. Unfortunately, many students feel that no one will listen if they share their ideas.

As chair of the Academics and Research Committee (ARC), my primary goal will be to increase the ARC's impact, visibility and accessibility. With representatives from all seven houses and from the undergraduate community in general, the ARC is the ideal forum for bringing academic concerns to the attention of professors and administrators.

The ARC works alongside other academic groups on campus (the Curriculum Committee, the Core Curriculum Steering Committee, the Council on Undergraduate Education and the Faculty Board) to improve the quality of academic affairs at Caltech, but the role of the ARC is not clear. I believe the ARC is the best mechanism for ensuring that undergraduate views are represented in all academic undertakings and I would like to make that role clear to everyone on campus.

As ARC Chair, I will make the ARC more public and open to students by encouraging ARC

representatives to request student input and suggestions prior to every ARC meeting. I will also work closely with the heads of the Faculty Committees to redefine the role of the ARC in relation to these committees. As a committee comprised wholly of students, the ARC cannot always make changes, but the ARC can and will ensure students' opinions are being correctly represented to the appropriate administrators.

I plan to continue the tradition of organizing a biennial Student-Faculty Conference (SFC). The 2003 SFC was incredibly effective at identifying issues and proposing changes, many of which have since been implemented. Of course, not all issues could be tackled in one conference. Holding another SFC is one of the best ways to publicize these concerns in a forum that makes faculty members and administrators listen.

Having served as the Lloyd representative to the ARC for the past year, I have the experience required to implement the changes I see necessary. I understand how the ARC works in its current form and I am well prepared to assume the ARC's current functions and to help redefine the ARC's role on campus. I am also in an excellent position to organize a Student Faculty Conference, hav-

ing served as the student chair of the GPS committee for the 2003 SFC. I have a number of concrete ideas on how to improve the orchestration of the 2005 SFC.

I would like to make it clear that I am applying to study abroad next fall, although I have not yet been accepted. Being abroad during first term will not affect my ability to perform the duties of the ARC Chair. The fall term is the ARC's least active term and I plan to implement changes in the ARC before I go abroad. The only major work that needs to be done for the 2005 SFC during first term is the selection of committee members and I will be in communication with the interim ARC Chair and the other ARC members at this time. I will be back in time to organize and run the conference.

As a candidate for ARC Chair, the best quality I can offer you is that I care deeply about Caltech and its students. I honestly want Caltech to be the best place it can be and us, the students, to be as happy as possible. The only way to realize this goal is to ensure student opinions are being heard and appropriate academic changes are being implemented. I will do all that I can to improve the Caltech experience for all of us.

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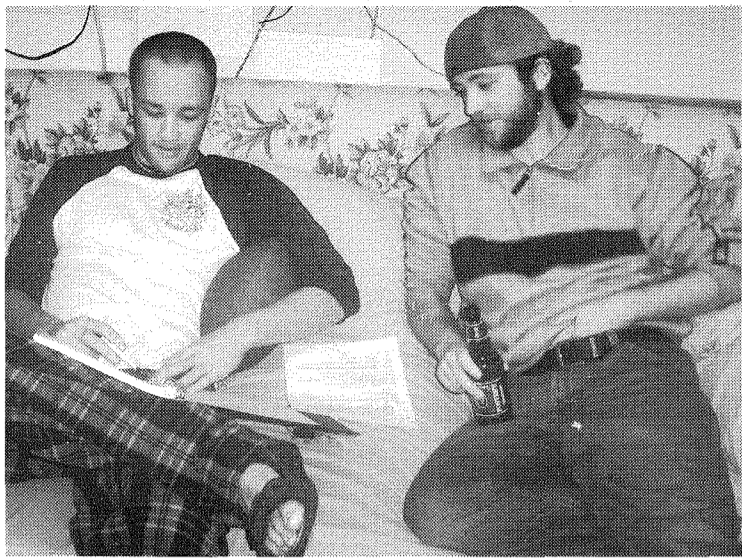
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EXOT A VALID FORM OF IDENTIFICATION

Courtesy of P. Harris



Courtesy of J. Fisher



Courtesy of S. Hilliard

Habegger and Hilliard Senior Class President

I'm Silas J. Hilliard, Esquire.
And I'm Steve "Stephen" Habegger.

And we're... WYLD STAL-
LYNS.

We felt it would be against the spirit of our co-presidency to write this statement while totally sober. So... we aren't. We're proactive that way. We know what you're thinking: these guys feel cooler, just because they're drinking. Hey, that rhymed. Alcohol is our muse. But actually, kicking back and drinking a little is just a by-product of us being cooler than all the other candidates. Anyone that feels like senior class co-president is a position that merits serious responsibility is a nerd. Er, crap, I meant to write "needs to lighten up."

There's nothing wrong with nerds. Some of my best friends are nerds. You know who you are. Man, I just realized I'm writing in the singular, because Steve sucks. Alright, he has a chance to redeem himself-in haiku form.

We like sports and beer.

You should learn to be like us.

It would behoove you.

Alright, Steve, by use of the word "behoove" you have proven your capability to remain a contributor to this article. High five. Alright... we should address... issues. Especially issues that senior class co-presidents can do something about. Or gramatically speaking, issues about which the senior class co-presidents can do something. Because prepositions

are not good words to end sentences with.

Issue #1) Find a date for ditch day. That is, a day on which to have it, not a hot chick. Though, both couldn't hurt. In all seriousness, this is a task a monkey with a calendar and a loaded intestinal tract is capable of doing. In fact, if elected, we'll get right on that.

Issue #2) Finding a speaker for commencement. Given that we have any say in the matter, which remains to be determined, there are two primary qualifications. First, they have to have something to do with science, or education, or something relevant to these 4/5/6/etc. years here. Second, they have to be cool. Example time!

Mr. Rogers: Beloved childhood figure. Problem, he's dead. However, the reanimated corpse of Mr. Rogers would have even more to do with science.

Natalie Portman, perennial candidate: She's magically babelicious. If she were a president, she'd be Baberaham Lincoln. However, her membership in any community other than that of drooling fan boys is yet to be established.

We did image search on google for "smart hot science chicks." Unfortunately, no results turned up. Sorry guys, out of luck. We'll stick with some random scientist on this one.

In conclusion, be excellent to each other. And party on, dudes.

Griswold and Kung Senior Class President

Why should you vote for us to be your co-Presidents? That's a very simple question to answer: we are the best. Sure, the other candidates (mostly) are more well known and have done more stuff than we have (or at least than I have - David) but is that really what represents our class? How many of you out there are actively involved in student government? I think it's safe to say that most of you, just like us, aren't. Therefore, we are clearly more representative of the class than many of the other candidates.

We could be good at this job - we both are interested in having a graduation commencement speaker that doesn't bore us all to tears. Therefore, we're looking for something in a funny writer, maybe with a geeky side to match all of our geeky sides. Off the top of my head, less than 10 minutes before this statement is due, I'm thinking Terry Pratchett, Neil Gaiman, or Joss Whedon. Or somebody else along these lines, though we're certainly open to suggestions.

We're also very capable of planning when Ditch Day occurs, letting the press know, etc. You may or may not know us, but that doesn't mean we're not personable - we are! We can easily talk on the phone or otherwise correspond with whoever we need to correspond with to get things done.

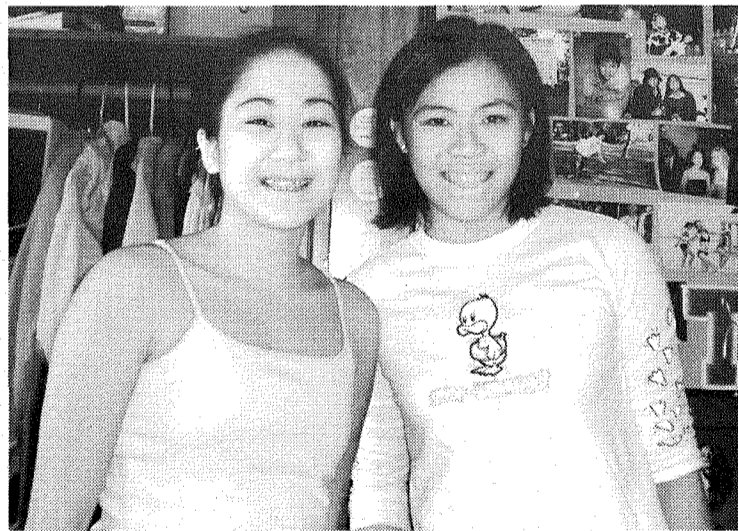
The most important reason to vote for us, though (clearly) is that we are both very tall. And tall people have majesty - and don't you want majesty to represent you as a class? Plus andrea's hair is often quite purple.

Vote for us!



Images Courtesy of D. Griswold

Ma and Tran Senior Class President



Courtesy of T. Ma

Finally! We're almost there! We've been looking forward to senior year since we arrived on campus and we're sure that you have too. And that's why we want to help make senior year as memorable as possible, from putting together a totally awesome Ditch Day, to picking a commencement speaker that we really care about, to giving a senior gift that the school will recognize for years to come.

The loss of traditions has become a concern of students of late. As Senior Class Co-Presidents, we'll do our best to not only make the senior year traditions something we all enjoy, but to also set a good example for future classes to follow. We'll work hard with administrators and the undergrads to coordinate a Ditch Day that proceeds smoothly and which allows everyone to have fun with as few restrictions as possible. We'll listen and consider everyone's opinion in selecting a commencement speaker and further, we'll make the senior gift something we're proud to give.

We've both been intimately involved in the school since our freshmen year, serving as Tech editor, Tech and Big T business manager, participating on the Volleyball, Track and Swim teams, serving on SURFSAC, in multiple house positions, as a Health Ad and a Challenges and Choices counselor. We'd love to serve you as your Senior Class Co-Presidents and hope you give us a chance!



Courtesy of A. Lin

Lin and Vasconcellos Senior Class President

Seniors since our frosh year have gloated in our faces about the joys of being a senior and have held "Ditch Day" as a tantalizing forbidden fruit above our heads.

Next year, it is our turn. Given the chance, we plan to make it an awesome year because, guys, truth be known, we are an awesome class and we deserve nothing less. We've all had to face the grueling Tech experience, our last and final year is where it all comes together.

Having sat through two lengthy, muggy Caltech graduation ceremonies already, we understand

the importance of having a lively and engaging commencement speaker. We need to have the power to decide for ourselves who our speaker will be and not be at the whim of the administration. Graduation will be our time to appreciate what we've all had to endure for four years. It should be memorable and enjoyable.

Let's end our Tech experience with something sweet. The best is always saved for last. Senior year is dessert. Vote for us, because we are people who listen and will do everything to make it a year you remember.

Moore Foundation Makes New X-Ray Study Possible

By MARK WHEELER

Just as astronomers image very large objects at great distances to understand what makes the universe tick, biologists and chemists need to image very small molecules to understand what makes living systems tick.

Now this quest will be enhanced by a \$14,206,289 gift from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation to the California Institute of Technology, which will allow scientists at Caltech and Stanford University to collaborate on the building of a molecular observatory for structural molecular biology.

The observatory, to be built at Stanford, is a kind of ultrapowerful X-ray machine that will enable scientists from both institutions and around the world to "read" the blueprints of so-called macromolecules down at the level of atoms. Macromolecules, large molecules that include proteins and nucleic acids (DNA and RNA), carry out the fundamental cellular processes responsible for biological life. By understanding their makeup, scientists can glean how they interact with each other and their surroundings and subsequently determine how they function. This knowledge, while of inherent importance to the study of biology, could also have significant practical applications, including the design of new drugs.

The foundation of this discovery process, says Doug Rees, a Caltech Professor of Chemistry and an investigator for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and one of the principal investigators of the project, is that "if you want to know how something works, you first need to know what it looks like.

"That's why we're excited about the molecular observatory," he says, "because it will allow us to push the boundary of structural biology to define the atomic-scale blueprints of macromolecules that are responsible for these critical cellular functions. This will include the technically demanding analyses of challenging biochemical targets, such as membrane proteins and large macromolecular assemblies, that can only be achieved using such a high-intensity, state of the art observatory."

The primary experimental approach for structural molecular biology is the use of X-ray beams, which can illuminate the three-dimensional structure of a molecule. It does this by blasting a beam of x-rays through a crystallized sample of the molecule, then analyzing the pattern of the scattered beam. According to Keith Hodgson, a Stanford professor and director of the facility where the new observatory will be built, "synchrotrons are powerful tools for such work, because they generate extremely intense, focused X-ray radiation many millions of times brighter than available from a normal x-ray tube." Synchrotron radiation is comprised of the visible and invisible forms of light produced by electrons circulating in a storage ring at nearly the speed of light. Part of the spectrum of synchrotron radiation lies in the x-ray region; the radiation is used to investigate various forms of matter at the molecular

and atomic scales, using approaches in part pioneered by Linus Pauling during his time as a faculty member at Caltech in the fifties and sixties.

The new observatory, in technical terms called a beam line, will make use of the extremely bright x-rays produced by a newly installed advanced electron accelerator that is located at Stanford's Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory (SSRL) on the Stanford Linear Accelerator site (SLAC). The exceptional quality and brightness of the x-ray light from this new accelerator is perfectly suited to the study of complicated biological systems. The Foundation gift will be used by Caltech and the SSRL to design and construct a dedicated beam line at SSRL for structural molecular biology research. The x-ray source itself will be based upon a specialized device (called an in-vacuum undulator) that will produce the x-rays used to illuminate the crystalline samples. Specially designed instruments will allow fully automated sample manipulation via a robotic system and integrated software controls. Internet-based tools will allow researchers at Caltech or remote locations to control the experiments and analyze data in real time. An on-campus center to be built will facilitate access by faculty and students to the new beam line.

Knowing the molecular-scale blueprint of macromolecules will ultimately help answer such fundamental questions as "How are the chemical processes underlying life achieved and regulated in cells?" "How does a motor or pump work that is a millionth of a centimeter in size?" "How is information transmitted in living systems?" "The construction of a high-intensity, state-of-the-art beam line at Stanford, along with an on-campus center here at Caltech to assist in these applications, will complement developments in cryo-electron microscopy that are underway on campus, also made possible through the support of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation," notes Caltech provost Steven Koonin.

The SSRL at Stanford is a national user facility operated by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science. "I would like to thank the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation for this generous gift [to Caltech]," said Dr. Raymond L. Orbach, director of the Office of Science, which oversees the SLAC and the SSRL. "This grant will advance the frontiers of biological science in very important and exciting ways. It also launches a dynamic collaboration between two great universities, Caltech and Stanford, at a Department of Energy research facility, thereby enhancing the investment of the federal government."

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation was established in November 2000, by Intel co-founder Gordon Moore and his wife Betty. The Foundation funds outcome-based projects that will measurably improve the quality of life by creating positive outcomes for future generations. Grantmaking is concentrated in initiatives that support the Foundation's principal areas of concern: environmental conservation, science, higher education and the San Francisco Bay Area.



Dr. Lewis and Dr. Lipshitz sign copies of Dr. Lewis' biography: *Genes, Development and Cancer: The Life and Work of Edward B. Lewis*, which Lipshitz wrote.

Lewis' Research Paved Way For Ban on Nuclear Testing

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

and studied homeotic genes, genes responsible for the head-tail positioning of cells in the fertilized embryo and for the formation of all organs in their proper positions.

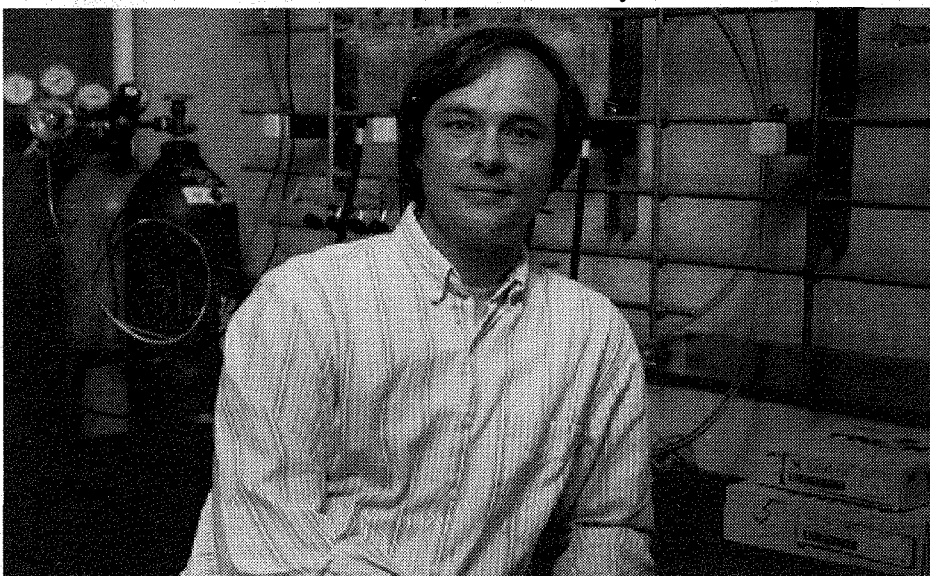
Not as well known are Lewis' contributions to the study of ionizing radiation. Inspired by a conversation with fellow colleagues at the Athenaeum, Lewis developed models that studied the effects of ionizing radiation on the rates of leukemia in the general population.

His work showed that radiation-induced cancer depended on the amount of exposure and not on the degree of exposure. In other words, someone exposed to a low dose over a long period could have the same effects as someone exposed to a high dose over a short period. The models created by Lewis furthered the understanding

of fallout from the atmospheric testing of nuclear devices in the 1960s and eventually led to the ban of atmospheric atomic bomb testing.

The crowning moment of Ed Lewis' career occurred in 1995 when Lewis along with Christiane Nusslein-Volhard and Eric Wieschaus won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. Their research focused on important genetic mechanisms that are responsible for early embryonic development. This work included Lewis' discovery of homeotic genes in the 1950s.

With a career in science spanning over 65 years, Ed Lewis is truly one of the great scientists of his time and based on the size of the audience on hand for this special celebration, the community agrees.



Courtesy of chemistry.caltech.edu

Caltech chemistry professor and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator Doug Rees will be using the observatory to study structural biology.

Be A Hometown Hero



Bring your meetings home to Pasadena!

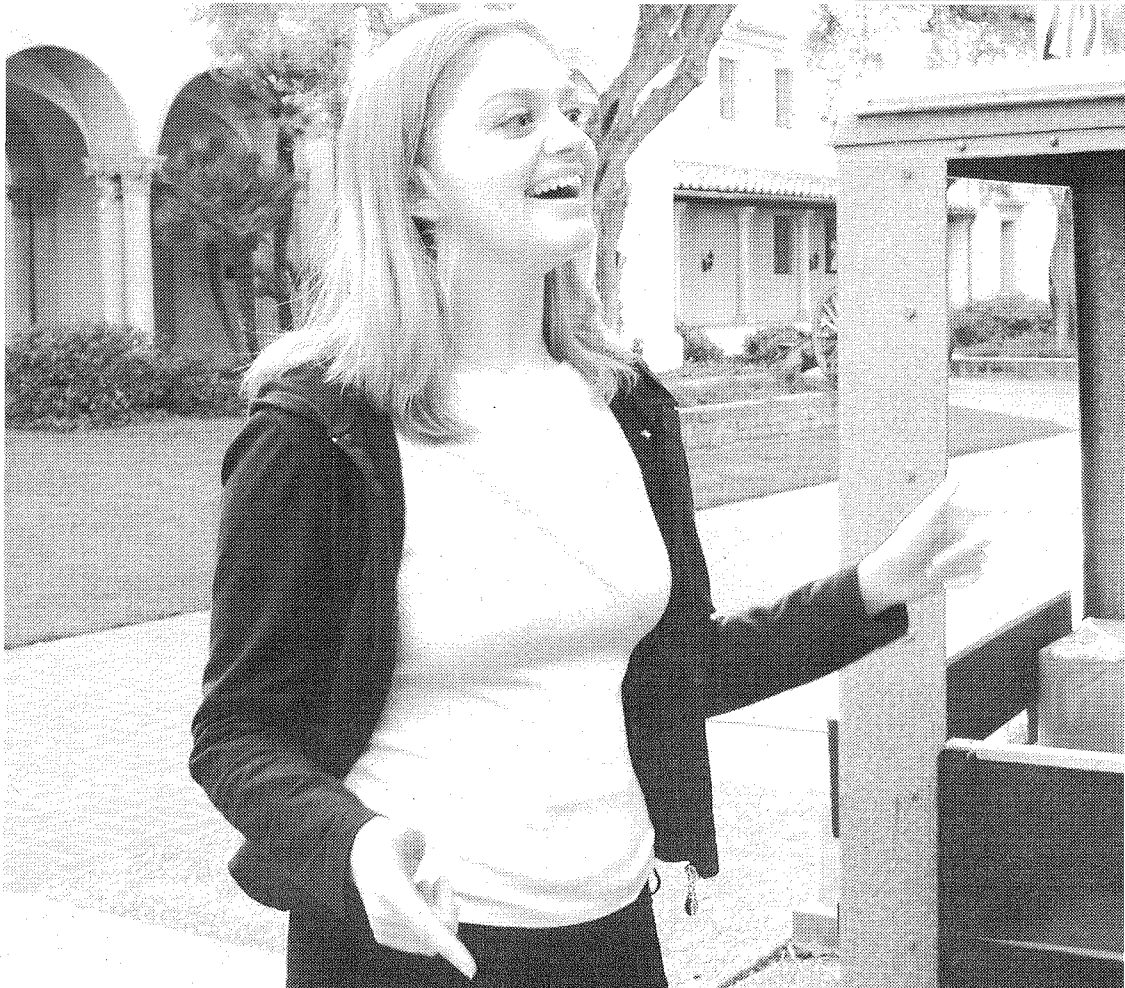
If you belong to an association, corporation or other group that holds meetings or conventions, why not bring them home to Pasadena?

Pasadena's accessibility, first-class meeting facilities and renowned leisure pursuits make it the ideal meeting destination. You will be a hero for suggesting Pasadena to your group. Additionally, your meeting will generate tax revenues for our city's general fund, which benefits everyone. But how can you get the ball rolling?

Just call Matt Hourihan at (626) 795-9311 or e-mail him at mhourihan@pasadenacal.com. If your group decides to meet in Pasadena, you could be eligible to receive one of several fabulous prizes!

Pasadena: The city that feels like a village.

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171 S. Los Robles Avenue
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L. Tran/The California Tech

Ann Bendfeldt, Board of Control Chair and ASCIT Vice President elect, is enthusiastic about having a chance to help students by maintaining and teaching about the Honor code.

Candidates Prepare for Elections

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the students and the entire Caltech community by actively soliciting input from a wider range of the student body and working for more effective student representation on committees.”

She hopes to do this through more efficient use of the donut web site, the ASCIT bulletin board, suggestion boxes and the meeting minutes.

Additionally, *Tech* editor candidates, Tammy Ma, '05 and Matt Walker, '06, pledge, “The *Tech* will do its best to present as much information and as many different perspectives as possible on all the relevant issues to the student body.”

IHC Chair candidate Andrea Kung, '05, aspires to bring a new freshman class into a community where students and administration are working together for the best interests of both parties.

Increasing Visibility:

A major part of communicating with students involves reminding them what ASCIT really does. Meng-Meng Fu, '06, would use her time as social director to change the make-up of the ASCIT social calendar. She hopes to encourage more multihouse events, establish more prominent ASCIT events and to make the ASCIT formal more accessible to everyone.

Fu would like to see more performances by bands that appeal to a broad spectrum of the student body, support for events like the carnival on the Court of Man and a new format for the ASCIT Formal (for example, a masquerade ball).

Says Fu, “I feel that this is an often-overlooked position... and that I can develop it to its full potential by improving the quality and quantity of ASCIT social events.”

Social director hopeful, Claire Walton, '05, also advocates a successful formal and more band performances in the coffeehouse. She would like for people to be so busy that they would not have the time to give ASCIT any thought.

Freshman Director at Large (FDaL) candidate, Kelly Lin, '07, hopes to encourage club partici-

pation in activities. She plans to give clubs an equal opportunity to compete for funds by keeping them informed about deadlines and presentation dates. She also hopes to get more freshmen involved in ASCIT activities and decisions.

Jimmy Jia, '07, another FDaL contender, would use his experience with the Donut Devteam (developing the Donut web site) to contact clubs.

Fetterman suggests more publicity to raise awareness of the things that ASCIT does for the students, for example, putting signs or banners up during ASCIT sponsored events.

Curing the Budget Ills:

Over the past year, the budget was significantly botched; a couple of events cost students thousands of dollars more than was allotted. According to Fu, over 35% of last year's ASCIT budget went to social events, \$5000 of which went to a “TBA” fund. She promises to prevent the ASCIT formal from becoming a fiscal sink and even to make some social events profitable.

Among other ideas, Fu thinks that a “Guy Auction,” profiting ASCIT or a charity organization could be an interesting addition to the ASCIT calendar.

Fetterman hopes to establish a more strict adherence to the budget. Additionally, he would have financial information on-hand at BoD meetings, so fiscal decisions could be made immediately. Erin Hartman, '07, pledges that as FDaL, she would keep the club information in order so that the budget meetings could stay on track and be as efficient as possible.

Farmer would like to keep the budget in control so that he could ensure that any campus organization in need of money can find it. ARC Chair contender, Phil Harris, '05, suspects deep-rooted conspiracies may be behind ASCIT's budget troubles and would work to eradicate them.

Boosting Morale:

At a much more personal level, several candidates expressed a

concern for student body morale.

Jenny Fisher, '05, candidate for the ARC Chair, worries, “If you look around, it becomes clear that a lot of students are unhappy, stressed and bitter. I feel like this is a much larger problem and one that's a lot harder to solve.”

She hopes to attack the issue from an academic angle, identifying changes in the curriculum and requirements and making professors and administrators aware of those changes. Fisher hopes to hold another Student Faculty Conference, noting that the 2003 conference was extremely effective in creating a forum for students, administrators and professors to discuss issues and solutions.

In a similar vein, Zygorakis hopes to solicit student opinions and represent them on the Council of Undergraduate Education, a committee that she currently advises. Fu hopes to bolster morale by bringing students out for a couple of hours of fun with new ASCIT events.

Another major component of the undergraduate morale is the honor code. With the results of the current ASCIT Honor Code Survey, the honor system may be undergoing some changes in the next year. J.D. Salazar, '05, a Board of Control (BoC) Secretary candidate, is concerned about the results of the recent GSC/WEST Quality of Life Survey; he would like to work with the Graduate Review Board to emphasize the importance of the honor system. Additionally, he appreciates the privileges that the honor system allows students and promises to try to solve problems that the cur-

rent survey reveals.

Francesca Colonnese, '06, also running for BoC Secretary, values the honor system greatly; if she is elected, she plans to promote trust in the honor code.

Rotation:

As always, rotation and pre-frosh weekend play a big part in student life. Recently, students in Avery have been trying to persuade the IHC to allow freshmen to move straight into Avery. This topic is currently under debate by the IHC.

Neil Tiwari, '05, a candidate for IHC Chair, strongly advocates allowing freshmen into Avery and opening rotation to places beyond the seven houses.

Tiwari argues, “The seven houses are not for everyone and Avery deserves its chance to show what it has to offer and most importantly, the students deserve the chance to take it if it suits them best.”

Most of the other IHC opponents disagree with this viewpoint. Kim Pendorf, '06, explains, “I'd say there's probably one student in twenty, or so, who would do just as well on their own somewhere as they would in a house—but I don't trust them to self-select when they're incoming freshmen.”

Silas Hillard, '06, Jessie Suen, '06 and Michael Priolo, '06 agree with this standpoint. Priolo adds that the advocates for freshmen in Avery have not proven it to be a good place for freshmen (with quality support networks), or even that freshmen are desired by most of those living in Avery. Additionally, he feels that the IHC has not considered the long-term repercussions of these actions. Suen believes that the houses themselves would lose part of their character if freshmen are allowed to move to Avery.

However, Chris George, '05, approaches the problem from a more objective standpoint. Says George, “If I came in with preconceived notions of how everything should work out, the IHC would cease to be an effective means for the houses to come together make decisions in the best interests of all.”

House Renovations:

Another issue that may significantly change the lifestyle of the common Techer is the impending house renovation project. Current IHC Chair, Jeremy Pitts, '04, advises, “The biggest issue that will be facing the next IHC Chair is doing everything possible to keep the house renovation project moving forward and starting to think about what that will mean to the houses and to rotation.”

Most of the candidates believe that preserving long-established house traditions will be one of the most critical parts of the move. For example, Hillard notes that Mudeo is just the type of tradition Caltech should not lose.

Additionally, George adds that the topic of faculty in residence in

the dorms has been hotly debated. He stresses that it will be necessary to find some sort of middle ground on this issue and that he is willing to put in whatever time it takes.

A big issue in the renovations is finding a way to handle the housing crunch that will result from the temporary loss of an entire house complex. Pendorf stresses the need to make sure that the houses survive while they are displaced.

She emphasizes, “We need to make sure that the houses will still be able to participate in rotation and most importantly that they'll still have a way of providing the support, camaraderie and wacko traditions that they do now.”

Tiwari is less concerned. He believes that if the traditions are so shallow that they fall apart because people are relocated, maybe they shouldn't exist. “Either the house system and Rotation will change and grow with Caltech. Or it will lock us down into the past and be a thorn in the side of Caltech.”

Beyond traditions and population issues, finding funding for the project presents a problem. George has a few ideas about how to increase fund-raising, for example, giving naming rights to big donors.

All the offices promise challenges and rewards. This year's candidates are committed to helping and advancing the undergraduate cause. As Farmer expresses (and seems to be echoed by all), “I can't think of a better way of giving back to the Caltech community than by serving on ASCIT.”

Senior Class Co-Presidents:

The Senior Class co-presidents are responsible for a handling a handful of jobs: ditch day, the senior prank and a variety of graduation details including the speaker. According to current senior class co-president, Greta Jo, '04, the most important job of the class presidents is to pick the graduation speaker. However, working out details of “Tomorrow” is also critical.

Class president hopefuls Andrea Vasconcellos, '05 and Alice Lin, '05, also hope to introduce some more organized senior activities and outings. Says Lin, “This will be a time for house divisions to be softened and a time to be united as a class once again. The last time we all did something together was frosh camp.”

David Griswold, '05 and Andrea Kung, '05, look forward to finding an interesting speaker. Griswold elaborates, “We're looking for something in a funny writer, maybe with a geeky side to match all of our geeky sides.... Terry Pratchett, Neil Gaiman, or Joss Whedon.”

Other pairs, such as Silas Hillard, '05 and Steve Habegger, '05, expressed less specific plans, having to do with badgers and napalm.

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