

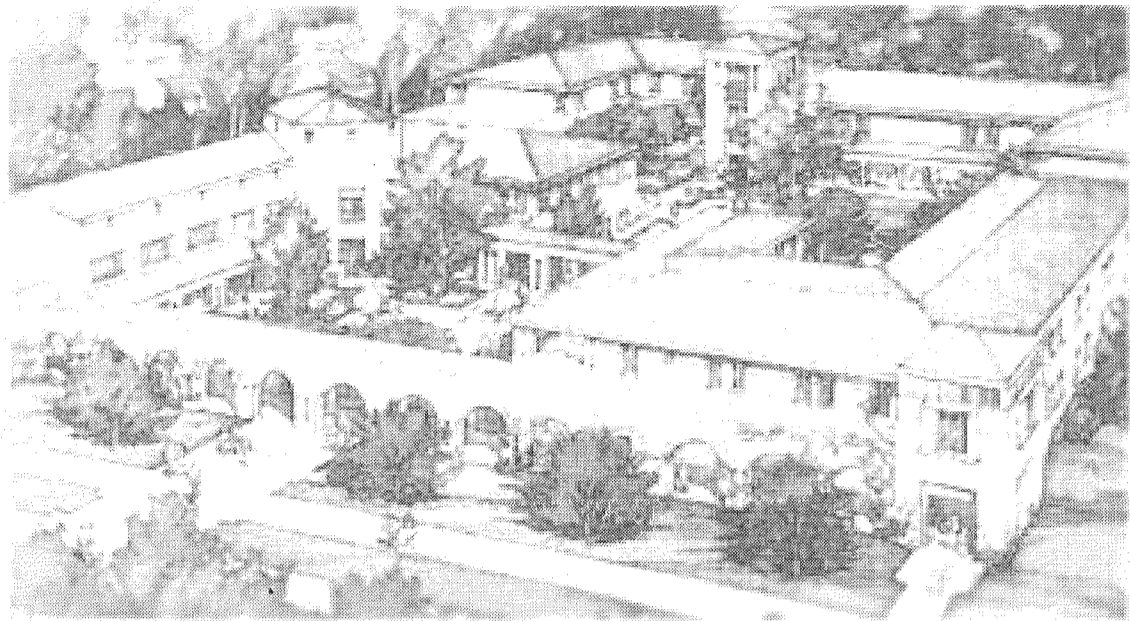


The California Tech

VOLUME CV, NUMBER 20

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 15, 2004



Courtesy of Avery House

Avery House, built in 1996, has recently become the focus of an intense campus debate about whether freshman should be allowed to pick into the house at the end of Rotation.

Presidents Passionate About Their Houses

By ROYAL REINECKE

The past month's elections have brought new presidents to reign over each of the seven houses. These students form a mix as eclectic and diverse as the seven houses themselves. Yet at the same time, the new presidents all share a strong passion for their respective houses and a great desire to be involved in campus life. Being president brings many new responsibilities and a time commitment of up to ten hours of meetings per week-but, on the other hand, the president does get the highest room pick in the house!

Philip Wong of Blacker House represents one of the four new presidents majoring in Mechanical Engineering. On the whole, he feels that he has "really gained a lot from Blacker," and he sees the position as a way "to give back." Coincidentally, Phil jokes, "I took my roommate's [former Blacker president Mike Davenport's] job!"

Prior to becoming president, he served as vice president and before that he also helped head the social team. In addition Phil currently works as Editor-in-Chief of CURJ. Yet Phil finds the job of president to be much more work than VP. After all, he describes the president as "who people go to when something goes wrong."

On top of that, Phil must put up with requests from the house "to dance on command," and he tells in an innocent voice that "sometimes I get dumped when I haven't done anything." At dress dinners, Phil also now has the honor of donning the presidential jacket, a tan relic passed down through generations of Blacker Presidents.

Dabney's new president--Physics major Hesper Rego-exudes a strong aura of enthusiasm for

her house. For her, wanting to be president came from the fact that "I just really love my house," a feeling echoed in different words by each of the seven presidents.

Ath man her Freshman year and BOC Rep as a Sophomore, Hesper now wields a phallic symbol that cleverly hints at her position of power that has been passed down by Dabney presidents. At present, Hesper is dismayed by the "strong social misconceptions" and stereotypes of Darbs as people who don't really care. Hesper notes that in her house, members truly "care about each other," and on the larger scale she regards Dabney as a house that "cares about social issues affecting the campus and the world."

Through her office, Hesper feels that she has "become more aware of the campus outside my house." Although she sees this as a good thing, she also views the house system as "a beautiful thing where people find their niche," and she values serving as a president as a way to preserve that.

Junior Zac Dydek, a Mech E major from Fleming, considers the house presidents as "liaisons to the administration." As thus, he believes it his duty to represent the opinions of all the students in his house. Additionally, Zac notes the importance of the president during rotation. Zac brings two year of experience on the picks team to his post. Also he served on the Ath Team as a freshman and as Athletic Manager as a sophomore. Coincidentally, the two presidents before him followed the exact same succession of positions.

Currently the IHC has been very busy debating the issue of prefrosh and frosh in Avery, but eventually Zac would like

Prefrosh Question Postponed To Allow IHC Presentation on Issue

By KEVIN BARTZ

On the heels of the Student Housing Committee's postponement of a heavily anticipated vote on whether to open Avery House to Prefrosh Weekend prospectives, the Avery Council is poised to unveil a new publicity campaign aimed at "taking our message to the people" in advance of an upcoming Interhouse Committee survey on the matter.

Meanwhile, in a move that may add a twist to both sides' efforts to win support among the majority faculty SHC, economics professor and SHC head Kim Border is spearheading a push to add a student and two faculty members to his nine-member housing committee.

Also sandwiched between this week's developments was the public release of minutes of Av-

ery-themed meetings of the previous IHC, from which perceivably offensive passages have raised guarded concern among Avery's supporters.

Taking a productive turn after a March 10 meeting that participants dubbed ineffective, the Avery Council unpacked its case for freshmen at an SHC meeting Monday. Border had planned to follow up with a committee decision on a recommendation to admissions--the department ultimately in charge of Prefrosh Weekend--but agreed to delay balloting when Undergraduate Admissions staffer Michael Herrera said he could wait until after the SHC hears an IHC presentation against the measure on March 31.

"Nothing has changed," said Border. "We are still waiting to hear the IHC's presentation on

March 31."

The postponement raised the stakes on the looming dispute over a controversial measure to admit 20 to 30 freshmen to Avery next fall. The proposal would treat Avery as something less than an "eighth house" but as something more than an off-campus dormitory.

Opponents have scrutinized the viability of the house's support structure, raised the possibility of pushy parents forcing students into Avery and questioned the wisdom of removing the lone alternative to the seven on-campus houses.

Avery's Monday talk tackled those concerns and laid out a battery of perceived benefits: alleviating on-campus overcrowding; enriching Avery's social atmosphere; and enhancing choice. In a direct response to IHC calls for more deliberation, advocates also made the case for freshmen next fall rather than later.

Continued on Page 7, Column 1

International Coding Contest Approaches

By CHRISTINE CHANG

The Caltech team, consisting of senior Po-Shen Loh and sophomores Jacob Burnim and Adam D'Angelo, will travel to Prague in the Czech Republic to compete in the Association for Computing Machinery International Collegiate Programming Contest on March 31.

In order to go to the international level, the team of Loh, Burnim and D'Angelo competed and won against the other schools in the Southern California region.

The three Caltech teams which competed at regionals were selected over the course of the first term. All members of the community were invited to compete at weekly practices, where people individually solved problems which were modeled on those from the competition.

Based on the scores from these weekly practices, the top nine were chosen to be on three teams of three, which were sent to regionals. Loh, Burnim and D'Angelo were all placed on the top team due to their high scores during these weekly practices.

During the second term, the team held a few practices during which they solved sample problems which can be found on the internet. However, Brantley says that the fact that the team could not practice more often is a disadvantage, since other schools devote curriculums around the competition. With the normal Caltech workload, though, more time for practice is difficult to find.

"To still do well is definitely a testament to these guys' abilities," said Brantley.

The competition consists of a five hour session during which the teams will be given ten problems. Each team will have to write a computer program to solve the problem.

"They try to give more problems than anybody can solve in the time period," said advisor and lecturer of computer science Ben Brantley. Sample problems could include routing and schedule problems.

"For example, you are given a maze and you have to make a computer program to find a

Continued on Page 8, Column 1

Continued on Page 2, Column 3



Dancers perform one of the acts during the Caltech Dance Club's first Dance Show. Running Friday and Saturday in Ramo, the show was put on by Caltech community members.

L. Tran/The California Tech

Increased Interhouse Interaction, Repairing Houses Among Goals

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

to bring up some of his house's concerns with respect to certain athletic events. Prefrosh weekend presents a challenge for him in the near future as well. Zac wouldn't mind seeing the exaggerated atmosphere of Prefrosh weekend being toned down a little so that unassuming Prefrosh may see that, "we [Flems] are not scary people."

Lionel Jingles, also a Mechanical Engineering major and junior, sees "being a good Scurve" as an important part of his duty as the present Ricketts House President. He explains that among other things, his house "represents partying and the counterculture and I embrace that." Before becoming president, Jingles joined and eventually became VP of the social team, which he considers "as important to Ricketts as athletics are to Fleming."

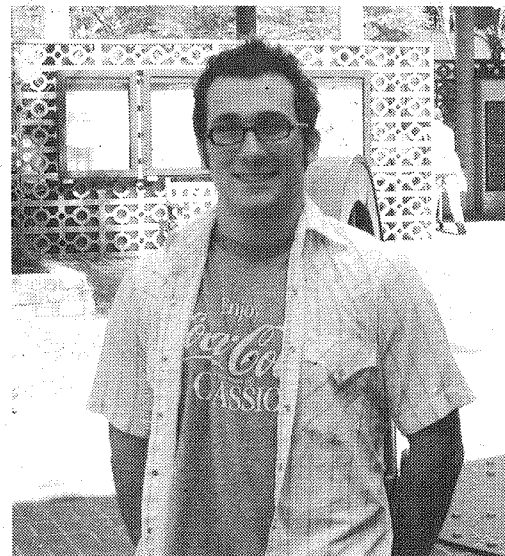
Jingles explains that most of his house's social events are open to all. He believes that Tech "needs more house interaction as a whole," and sees activities such as TND as one way to help solve this problem. He also likes to see "the quieter Scurves come out" to participate in events. Relatively

social himself, Jingles makes a point of knowing the people in his house and others. He describes himself as a "mediator on the house level."

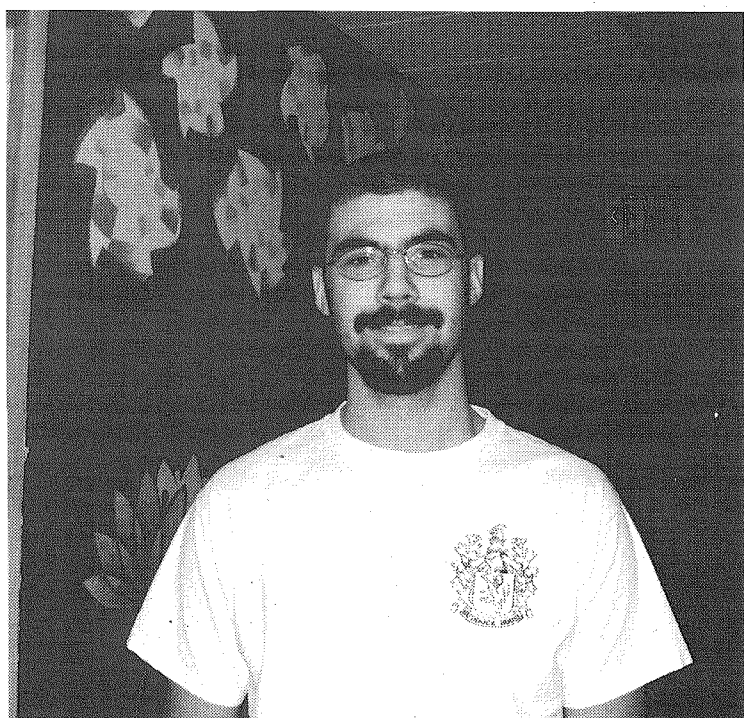
At the top of to do list, he ranks "getting a good frosh class" during rotation, by which he means a class that will also understand and embrace the traditions of the house. So far Ricketts traditions have held strong over time. In fact, Apache as we know it today dates all the way back to the 1940s. Presently Jingles sees the renovation of the South Houses in 2005 as the main threat to the culture of his house.

Biology Major Jason Quimby, as the new president of Page House, would above all like to see his house become more active. The junior means to increase Page's "inclination to participate in social events, athletic events and even living in the house." His basic strategy involves "showing up and being there" at house and social events. Despite Page's prowess in some interhouse sports, Quimby has seen real attendance problem after serving as "de facto Ath Man" for a year and a half.

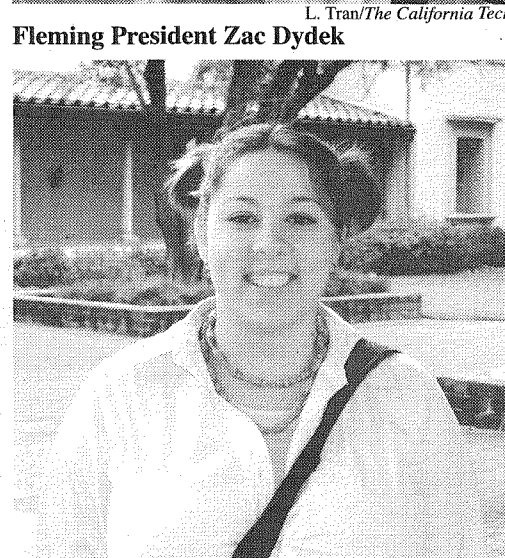
Overall, however, his main



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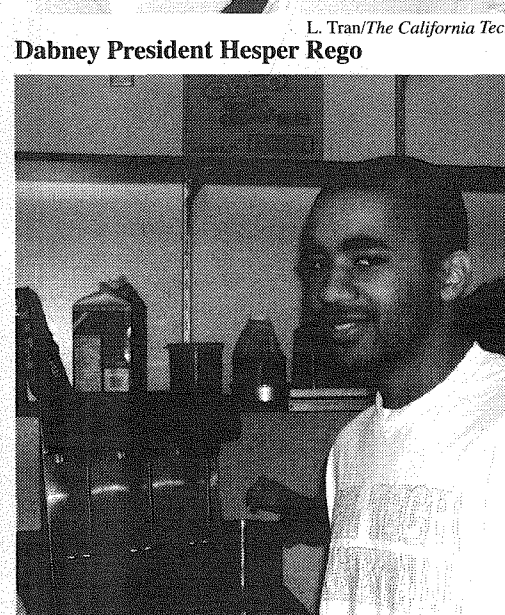


Lloyd President Penny Gunterman



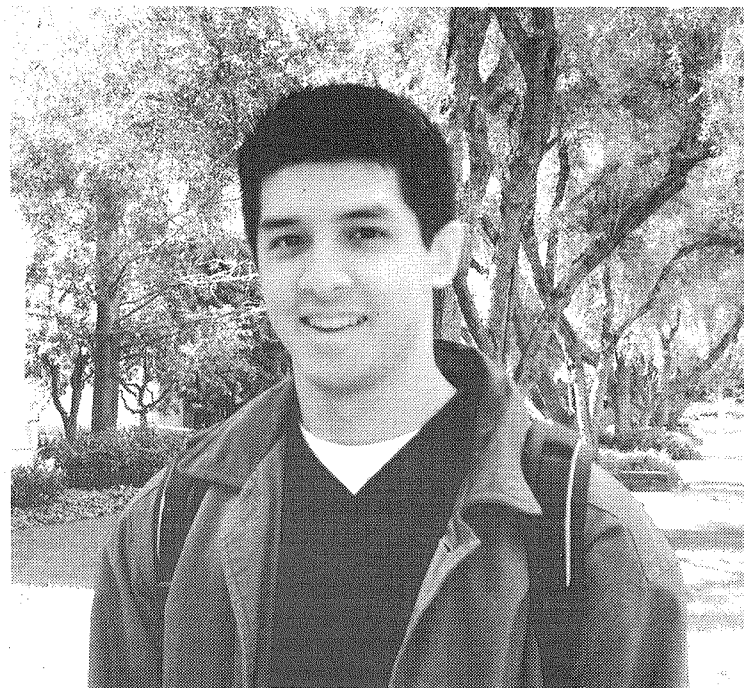
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Fleming President Zac Dydek



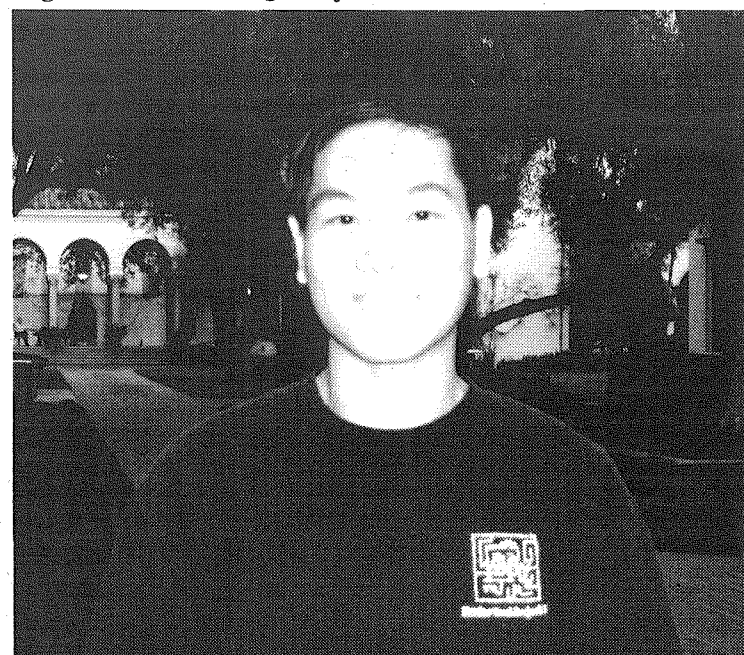
L. Tran/The California Tech

Ricketts President Lionel Jingles



L. Tran/The California Tech

Page President Jason Quimby



L. Tran/The California Tech

Blacker President Philip Wong

challenge lies in filling the house. As Quimby explains, it is "cheaper to live off campus," and he also describes the house as not as well maintained. For example, stoves don't work and other amenities are lacking. Another goal of Quimby's involves "reinspiring pranks." Over the past few years, he has seen some activities go from "pranks to CRCable offenses." Additionally, his executive committee consists of mainly freshman and sophomores who know little about such traditions. Quimby's feels that he's adapting well to his new position, partly because his best friend Mike Lammers held the post just before him.

Junior Penny Gunterman of Lloyd has been working to serve her house since being elected president and as treasurer before that. The Chemical Engineering and BEM major cites some of her main goals as achiev-

ing "more interaction between houses" and expanding a mentoring program within her house that will match up freshmen with upperclassmen in their major. Of her plans for the house, Penny knows one thing is for sure: "We're not going to Vegas!"

Generally Penny relates that she enjoys "talking and working with people." For that reason she adds with a smile, "I'm glad people aren't afraid of me-I'm too short to be imposing." Being president of her house also requires out of the ordinary duties such as sitting in a bucket of water at dinner and walking around in crutches, activities which she notes "are all in fun" and show that "you'll take it for the team." Moreover, Penny believes techers should be able to have a good time and not have to be "all serious all the time."

She does not think that her office puts her above the house, but instead she feels that the whole house puts together a group effort. Despite the meetings and time involved, Penny enjoys the opportunity to keep in touch with everyone, "It just gives you warm fuzzies!"

Since being elected Ruddock House president, Mech E major Barrett Heyneman now proudly displays the "Tech is Hell" banner on his door as a sign of endearment for his house and school. Barrett explains that his main reason for wanting to be president lies in the basic fact that "I like being involved." He views the new presidents as the type of people who would end up becoming president no matter what house they had been part of.

Prior to taking on the job of being President, Barrett also participated on the social team and served as Ruddock House Vice President. On the house scale, he must now take on the task of selecting people for ath man and food chair, but throughout all his duties, Barrett feels that his main obligation consists in "voicing the concerns" of his house and "keeping an open mind."

New challenges and new responsibilities await each of the seven house presidents. So far, however, these students have proven that they are up to task of serving their houses. In the coming year, we must watch to see how these students work to better their houses and campus life as a whole.

The California Tech

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Renovations Update

South Houses slated for 2005, Temp Housing Possibly in Cats, Modules

By GALEN LORAM

First of all, if you have something that you would like to see written about in this column in the future (which will be weekly or biweekly) let me know. I'm open to any suggestions. Thanks to Matt Krogstad for suggesting this one.

The Houses

What could be more dear to the students that the houses? Little, it seems, given how much attention the whole Freshman in Avery issue has received. However, that issue has drawn attention away from what otherwise would be the elephant in the living room - House Renovations.

As you all no doubt know, the condition of the houses leaves something to be desired. Complaints about wiring, hot water (or water at all), decrypted walls, and general disrepair are not uncommon. The plumbing and (I believe) wiring have not been redone in 70 years in the South Houses! It's no secret that repairs are needed, and planned.

So, I thought I'd give a bit of an update on the current state of affairs, to hopefully quell the rumors that I've heard abound.

Yes, it really is happening soon. The Board of Trustees, on Tuesday, approved the plan to begin construction at the beginning of the summer of 2005, and conclude by the end of the summer of 2006. If you aren't a math major, you might have noticed that means that there is a full year of school elapsing during that time frame, which raises the obvious question: where will those of us who live in the South Houses live?

Right now there are two options on the table: The Central Catalinas, and "Modular Housing." Both have advantages and drawbacks.

The Central Cats are currently occupied by about 150 grad students, who would be displaced - a prospect that they do not relish. Housing would be tight (two undergrads would squeeze into where one graduate formerly lived). And then there is the question of what would be done when the North Houses are renovated/replaced (both of which are options currently on the table, and will soon move off the back burner). However, they are close to campus, already built, have little kitchenettes and living rooms, and are homey.

Modular Housing would be in the form of trailers. The current thought is that they would be built on the parking lots north of Avery, Baxter and Moore. This would displace 300 parking spaces - a prospect no one relishes. However, the new parking structure is anticipated to be completed by the beginning of the next academic year, which will ease the parking crunch on everyone (hoo-rah!). They are also more expensive than the Cats. They would likely be clumped into a "Ricketts Clump" a "Dabney Clump" etc. I must say that I find the prospect amusing, and perhaps it would be fun. It would only be for a year, after all. Princeton apparently recently tried them, and the students loved them.

Which will result is at this point unknown, but if you have ques-

tions or opinions, feel free to let me or Kim Pependorf (the IHC chair) know. We'd love to hear from you.

A few other things of interest

The goal is "Historical Restoration" This means that the façade of the house (windows, etc.) will be preserved. It is most likely that the position of dining rooms, courtyards, etc. will all remain unchanged. It is also likely that the allocation, and placement of rooms will remain constant - as this is what students have in general expressed as what they want. However, if this is not the case, make sure that we know as soon as possible. They're going to be putting out bids for an architectural firm soon, and this will be an important part. Expect new plumbing, wiring, furniture - as well as many other amenities. Expanded computer facilities are also likely in the cards.

Transoms will have to go (they were outlawed many years ago, as they're an incredible fire hazard), as will dead-end alleys (same reason). In their place will be... Air Conditioning!!! Imagine, being able to survive the cold, cold winters of Southern California (at least I think they're cold). Or the sweltering, oppressive heat of summer.

There are still a lot of things to be looked into. In Vice President of Student Affairs Margo Marshak's words, "Nothing is set in concrete, except the timeline." No doubt there will be a couple of new committees, which we'll need students to serve on. In addition, we really, really, really, really want to hear input from you. What's important? What needs to be changed? Feel free to talk to your house president or anyone on ASCIT if you have thoughts on the subject - I think I can speak for anyone on the above committees that we want to hear what you have to say.

We [I don't really know who we are, in this context] are also looking into developing a group of students and alumni from each of the houses to talk with Development about what needs to be changed, and what things are important to retain on a house-by-house basis.

No word yet on any potential accommodations for graduating seniors in the class of '05, or on what the plan for summer programs for both '05 and '06 is. It is currently in the plan to do our best to save some of the artwork, though through what means is as yet unknown. Saving the walls themselves is prohibitively expensive, so if you have ideas for what would be interesting (some sort of gallery in each house?) mention them.

This Week in ASCIT: ARC Reps, Club Funding, New Resolutions

BoD Jumps Into Term With Planned Club Funding Mtg

ASCIT Minutes
March 9, 2004

Present: Ann Bendfeldt, Ryan Farmer, Jenny Fisher, Shaun Lee, Kelly Lin, Galen Loram, Kim Pependorf, Claire, Walton, Corinna Zygourakis

Guests: Parag Bhayani, Will Coulter, Emma Schmidgall, Alex Munoz, Candace Seu, Parth Venkat, David Kahn, Matt Krogstad

Introduction:

1. Call to Order, 12:08 PM
2. There will be no ASCIT meeting next Tuesday. Meetings will resume as usual after spring break.

New/Open Positions:

3. Jenny Fisher still needs an Academic Research Committee representative from Page house. Sign-ups for rep-at-large will be posted after all the house representatives have been selected.

4. Meeting for clubs to request funding from this year's BoD will occur on Friday, April 5, at 7 PM. Any club interested in applying for ASCIT funding must submit a budget proposal form by Tuesday, March 30. If you have any questions, email fdal@donut.caltech.edu.

5. Congratulations to the new ASCIT Movie Chairs, Graham and Ryan Yoakum.

6. Congratulations to the new BOC representatives-at-large, Jessica Stockburger and Arturo Pizano.

Other Business:

7. Galen Loram brings up the results of GSC/WEST Gender Harassment Report (May 2003), which shows that 50% of graduate

women and 15% of graduate men have experienced some sort of harassment ("unwanted attention") during their time at Caltech. The report also finds a strong correlation between the reporting of harassment and the likelihood of the individual to recommend Caltech to prospective graduate students. Interestingly, harassment numbers varied significantly from department to department.

8. BoD discusses possible confounding factors and considers whether a gender harassment survey would be appropriate for the undergraduate students as well.

9. Galen will soon analyze results from the undergraduate Honor Code survey, which was prompted by the results of the recent GSC Honor Code Survey, in which more than 20% of the graduate students respondents confessed that they had violated the honor code during their time at Caltech.

10. Coffeehouse manager Alex Munoz reports that he is having difficulty finding enough students to work at the Coffeehouse. In response, Galen mentions that he will talk to Tom Mannion about trying to increase student Coffeehouse employee wages. Alex says that increased wages may help alleviate the worker shortage, but also notes that the increased workload (due to increasing Coffeehouse business) may be discouraging students from working at the Coffeehouse.

11. Kim Pependorf reports that last Monday's meeting of the Student Housing Committee (SHC) included a presentation by Avery council members about their reasons for wanting freshmen in Avery. The IHC will present its side to the SHC on March 31. The IHC opposes the idea of having freshmen in Avery primarily because it feels that there must first be widespread acceptance of the idea among the undergraduate population at large in order to ensure its success.

12. Kim notes that the SHC also discussed the possibility of hosting a small number of pre-frosh in Avery this year. Admissions officer Mike Herrera is in favor of having pre-frosh in Avery. Mr. Herrera is listening to opinions of the SHC, Prefrosh committee, and others before making his final decision by April 9.

13. The SHC also discussed where to

house undergraduate students when the South House Renovations occur (possibly from the beginning of summer 2005 through the end of summer 2006). Potential solutions, to be discussed in an upcoming Board of Trustees meeting, include moving undergrads into the Catalina apartments or installing modular housing on the north side of campus near Avery. Current estimates indicate that modular housing would be more expensive than the Catalina apartment solution.

14. Will Coulter notes that a wireless access router, funded by ASCIT, will be installed in the Coffeehouse this week.

15. Corinna Zygourakis reports that several ASCIT resolutions, including resolutions VII, IX, X, XI, XIII, XIX, and XXI, were updated to more accurately reflect current procedures. Resolution updates will be posted on the donut website.

16. Claire Walton mentions that she is still considering different venues for the ASCIT formal and discussing ways to make the formal a more "singles friendly" event. She welcomes suggestions via email at esc@donut.caltech.edu.

17. Shaun Lee notes that the Totem editors plan to distribute the literary magazine by the sixth or seventh week of third term.

18. The BoD will meet with the provost and the faculty chairs of each department on April 1. If you have issues you would like ASCIT to consider/bring up in this meeting, please email bod@donut.caltech.edu.

Money Requests:

19. Emma Schmidgall requests \$250 for Hillel speaker, Ishmael Khaldi. Mr. Khaldi, an Israeli Bedouin Arab, will give a presentation at Caltech on March 31 at 7:30 PM in Beckman Institute Auditorium. Vote: 8-0-0 (approved).

20. Parag Bhayani thanks the BoD for the \$500 (from last week) to subsidize Quiz Bowl team travel costs to a national tournament.

21. Parth Venkat, from Fleming House, requests \$100 multi-house funding for weekend BBQ with Dabney House. Vote: 7-0-0 (approved).

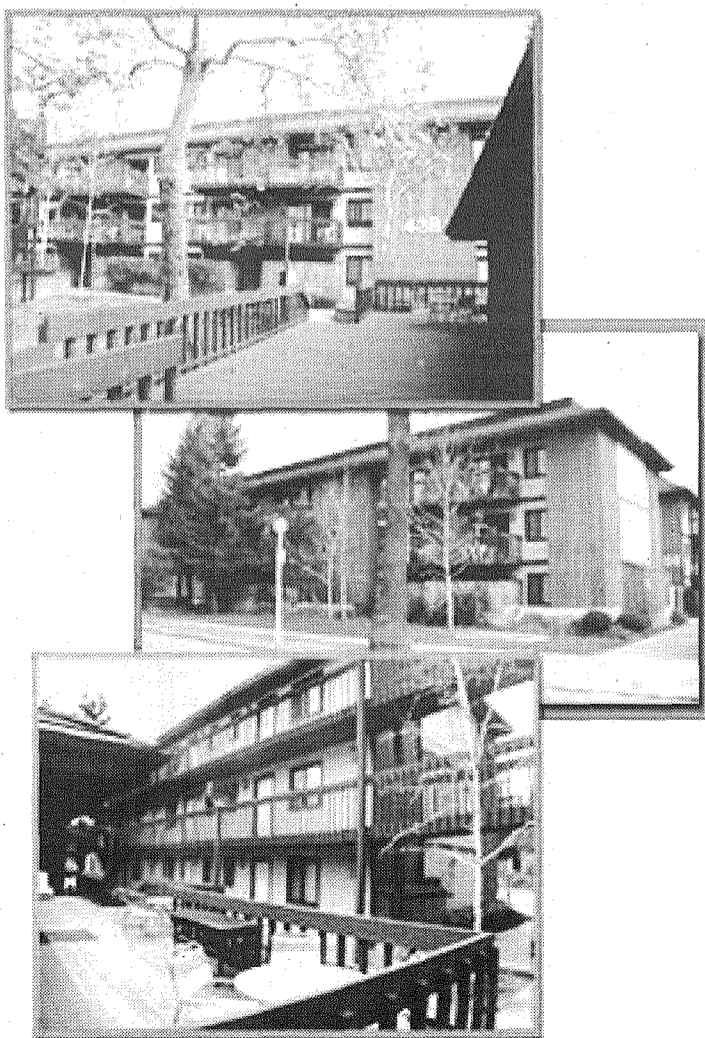
22. David Kahn, from Dabney House, requests \$100 multi-house funding for weekend BBQ with Fleming House. Vote: 7-0-0 (approved).

23. Candace Seu, from the Hawaiian Club, requests \$120 for second term hula lessons and \$200 for third term hula lessons. BoD reaffirms the old BoD's allocation of \$200 for hula lessons. Vote: 7-0-0 (approved). Galen suggests that Candace return to club funding meeting to request more money for upcoming hula lessons.

24. Jason Quimby (and up to two other students) ask to take Professor William McCaffery out to lunch at the Ath. Vote: 5-0-1 (approved, with Kelly Lin abstaining).

Meeting adjourned 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Zygourakis



courtesy of www.iis.caltech.edu/~housing

The Catalinas, located on the northwest end of campus, and pictured above, currently house 450 graduate students. Catalina Central, the potential temporary housing for undergrads during the renovation consists of 38 four bedroom, two bath units.

CUE Convenes for Second Term to Discuss Regis, Core

By JENNY FISHER

The Council on Undergraduate Education convened for its second meeting of the term on February 27th.

The registrar's office has created a new course calendar that is now posted on their website and can be accessed at <http://www.registrar.caltech.edu/schedules/SP2003-04%20Frosh2.pdf> (Core courses) and <http://www.registrar.caltech.edu/schedules/SP2003-04%20NonFrosh.pdf> (non-Core courses). This calendar allows students and professors to determine at a glance the times during which courses are offered. The Curriculum Committee, led by Professor Alan Weinstein, plans to use this calendar to identify classes scheduled at lunchtime and in the 4 to 7 PM time period.

The Curriculum Committee is also continuing efforts to investigate course unitting and grading. New information from the registrar and a potential survey of the undergraduates should facilitate this process. The Core Curriculum Steering Committee, chaired by Professor Scott Fraser, has continued to work with graduate and undergraduate students on implementing an online

teaching quality feedback form. A pilot version to be used for core courses is in the process of being created.

Dr. David Goodstein, CUE Chairman, reported receiving student complaints concerning the Regis registration system, which does not allow students to register for two classes taught at the same time. Although this conforms with institute policy, in past years it has not been enforced. Faculty members on the CUE are unresponsive to this concern and are in general pleased with the enforcement of the policy the Regis system provides.

Another student concern presented by Dr. Goodstein was the problem of multiple midterms being due on the same day. Under the direction of Professor Andrew Ingersoll, the Academic Policies Committee will look into making a proposal that prevents classes from assigning both midterms and homework during the mid-term period. Dr. Goodstein will also work with the Upperclass Admissions Committee to look into the idea of allowing one term of pass-fail for transfer students.

or Sherry Suyu (suyu@its.caltech.edu) for any questions or concerns.

Caltech Shooting Club presents: Free firearms training at Front Sight in Las Vegas. An alumnus has donated passes good for four days of gun training, good for anyone who didn't go last year. Courses are available in rifle, pistol, or shotgun, and normally cost \$1200. Cost to you will probably be less than \$100. Possible dates are April 23-26 or May 7-10. Contact coxj@its.caltech.edu for more information.

Interested in Applied Math in a broad sense? What is research in graduate school? And where does it lead outside of academia? **Join the new student chapter of SIAM! (Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics).** We organize events to bring together undergraduate and graduate students, from all departments, to come and hear cool talks and vital career advice. Here's a sample of our activities:

- The "Meetings on Mathematics in Industry" are big, quarterly events, where we get top mathematicians to come and talk about their work in the Industry.

- In addition to these quarterly meetings we organize a weekly student seminar with speakers mostly from the ACM, CDS and CS departments. Undergrads are welcome to participate and present their work. This year several talks focused on the IEEE's Top 10 algorithms of the 20th century - this Friday is on the Fast Fourier Transform. Come and join us at noon in room 200 Guggenheim. Lunch is provided.

Sign up for free student membership to SIAM during the Google event, and receive a free subscription to 'SIAM News' and 'SIAM Review'. Stay informed on the upcoming chapter activities by joining our mailing list. For more info and to sign up, visit www.its.caltech.edu/~siam.

Racquetball Challenge Court. Wednesdays, 5:30 - 8 PM, Braun Gym. Show up to the Racquetball club's challenge court and take on anyone here. We usually have two reserved courts, and we play winner stays on. Challenge yourself and a worthy opponent! Everyone is welcome and we normally have all skill levels show up (including beginners). And if you don't know how to play, look for our next monthly club sponsored lesson. You can borrow the necessary equipment from the front desk. See you there!

We need the help of the entire Caltech community to identify the bests of every academic year. Please fill out a nomination form available at the red door cafe or online at: <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~gscacad/awardinfo.html>

In particular, the mentoring award nominees need not be faculty members or TAs. The nomination deadline for this term is on Friday, March 19th. Please do not hesitate to contact Amir Sadjadpour (amirs@its.caltech.edu)

Submit to the Totem! The Totem

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Track and Field Defeats Three Conference Teams in Men's Dual Meet, Women's Tennis Close Loss

By MIKE RUPP

March 8, 2004

Athlete of the Week

Jeremy Leibs
Men's Track and Field

The Sophomore from San Mateo, CA led Caltech to a 5th place finish at the SCIAAC Track & Field Multi-duals this past weekend. Leibs won the Men's 110 Meter Hurdles with a time of :15.08. He had a 6th place finish in the Men's 100 Meter dash. Leibs represents Caltech's best hope at a conference championship this season. He and the rest of the team will host the Caltech Track and Field Invitational this Saturday.

Week in Review

Women's Tennis (2-7)

Head Coach: Mandy Gamble

Women's Tennis

Caltech.....	0
LA VERNE.....	9
CMS.....	0
Caltech.....	9

The Women's Tennis team took two losses this past week, dropping their conference record to 1-5 and their season record to 2-7. The La Verne match was a resumption of a match that had begun February 21st and been suspended due to rain. Against Claremont, undefeated in conference play and one of the top teams in the country, the Beavers gave the Athenas all they could handle at the #1 doubles spot as Sophomores Maria Nomanbhoy and Jenny Hsaio nearly pulled off the upset before falling 6-8. The team plays its next match March 24th at home against MIT.

Track & Field

Head Coach: Julie Levesque
Caltech Track & Field had another tremendous weekend. On

the Men's side, the team defeated three conference teams at the SCIAAC Men's Multi-Duals hosted by Claremont Mudd-Scripps. In addition to Jeremy Lieb's performances, several other athletes stood out. Sophomore Stuart Ward's personal best time of :51.92 in the 400 Meter was good enough for 7th place. Sophomore Patrick Boyle finished in the top 20 in the 200 Meter dash, the 110 Meter Hurdles and the 400 Meter Hurdles. Both Ward and Boyle were also part of both Relay teams. Freshman Will Sladek finished 6th in the 1500 Meter,

9th in the 800 Meter and 16th in the 5000 Meter. On the Women's side at the SCIAAC Women Multi-Meet, the Lady Beavers defeated teams from Cal Lutheran and host Whittier College, and finished tied with Redlands. Top performers for Caltech included Senior Sarah Horst, who finished 9th in the 400 Meter Dash and competed in five events. Senior Tamara Becher finished 4th in the 1500 Meter Run and 6th in the 800 Meter Run. Both were part of the 4x100 relay team that once again set a new school record with a time of :52.11. Both teams will take the field again as they host the Caltech Track & Field Invitational this Saturday at the south field.

Women's Water Polo (3-5)

Head Coach: Calla Allison

The Women's Water Polo team bounced back from some tough losses to win two matches at the CSU Hayward Invitational this past weekend. Sophomore Ashley Grant has emerged as the team's scoring leader, scoring 20 goals in



courtesy of donut.caltech.edu

Sophomore and Athlete of the Week Jeremy Leibs is Caltech's best hope at a Track conference championship this season.

last week's six matches, with 26 on the season. Her goal against UC Davis's A team let Caltech avoid being shutout. Caltech has yet to begin conference play, where they'll face most of the top schools in Division III. The team resumes its schedule March 18th at home against Macalester College.

Women's Waterpolo

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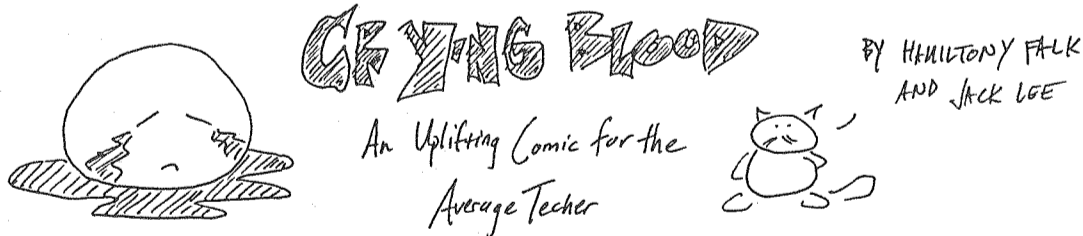
Caltech Hillel has invited Ishmael Khaldi to speak about his experience of Israel's culture, society, and politics from the perspective of a Bedouin minority in a Jewish state. He will be presenting in Beckman Institute Auditorium on Wednesday, March 31, at 7:30 pm. Email hillel@caltech.edu for more information.

Attention: Current Freshmen, Sophomores & Juniors: **2004-2005 Upper Class Merit Awards.** Each year, the Faculty Committee on Scholarships and Financial Aid grants a number of Upper Class Merit Awards to the most academically-talented of the Institute's Sophomores, Juniors, and, occasionally, Freshmen. Upper Class Merit Awards are based on outstanding scholastic achievement as demonstrated by exceptional performance in formal classes, in independent research, and extracurricular activities since beginning academic studies at Caltech. They are not based on financial need. Last year, 56 students were awarded Upper Class Merit Awards in amounts ranging from \$17,925 to \$31,461. The number and caliber of the applicants determine the level of awards in any year. Applications and recommendation forms are available online at: www.finaid.caltech.edu/UpperClassMeritAwardMarch2004.html or in the Financial Aid Office at 414 South Holliston Avenue, Room 110. Electronic submissions will not be accepted. **THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING COMPLETED PAPER APPLICATIONS TO THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE IS 5:00 PM, April 9, 2004.** No exceptions will be made to this deadline.

GSC Teaching and Mentoring Awards. Each year the GSC recognizes professors for their excellence in teaching. GSC also recognizes members of the Caltech community for their outstanding mentorship, and shows appreciation to teaching assistants who put in extra effort to guide students through a class.

We need the help of the entire Caltech community to identify the bests of every academic year. Please fill out a nomination form available at the red door cafe or online at: <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~gscacad/awardinfo.html>

In particular, the mentoring award nominees need not be faculty members or TAs. The nomination deadline for this term is on Friday, March 19th. Please do not hesitate to contact Amir Sadjadpour (amirs@its.caltech.edu)



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I heard he's a...

Yup, downloading music from the Internet!

Yeah, now he's become a...

Gogh-Argh! I be a Pirate! Har Har Har!

March Madness Returns in Full Force and Full Frenzy

By HARRISON STEIN

It's the most wonderful month of the year. After eleven excruciating months, March Madness is back with a vengeance and if the last few months are any indication, this NCAA Tournament promises to be wild as ever. This year, not one, but two college basketball teams entered the final week of the year undefeated--and both crashed and burned on the highest stage. Nonetheless, Stanford and St Joseph's overcame their humiliating losses to become #1 seeds in the Phoenix and East Rutherford regions, respectively. While I can't foresee either team reaching the April 3 Final Four in San Antonio, Stanford and St. Joseph's can be very proud of their historic seasons.

This NCAA Tournament is particularly interesting because for the first time in many years, a number of small 'Mid-Major' schools from historically inferior conferences are threatening to impact the National Championship race. In addition to tiny St Joseph's, which hails from the unheralded Atlantic-10 conference, perennial March Cinderella Gonzaga is ready to prove that it belongs at the Queen's table at the ball. The Bulldogs, from Spokane, Washington, have made the NCAA Tournament in each of the last six years, starting with an incredible run to the Elite Eight round in 1999. They made the Sweet Sixteen in the two subsequent years and nearly upset top-ranked Arizona in last year's Big Dance. Now, they are the #2 seed in the St. Louis and unlike St. Joe's, I see Gonzaga finally breaking through, reaching the elusive Final Four. To make it, they probably have to beat Kentucky, the proclaimed #1 team in America. Nonetheless, I think that in 2004, Gonzaga's pumpkin will remain

intact after midnight and the Zags will exit St. Louis unscathed.

Because there are so different types of teams in this tournament, it's practically impossible to guess the results of all 63 games (or 64 if you consider the titanic struggle between Lehigh and Florida A&M an NCAA Tournament game). However, I will give some pointers about how to pick a bracket that's guaranteed to be competitive.

1. *Pick a fair amount of upsets, but don't go overboard.* In my bracket, I have Illinois-Chicago beating Kansas and Charlotte beating St. Joseph's. I don't, however, have Vermont beating Connecticut or Eastern Washington beating Oklahoma State.
2. *You can always count on a #12 seed beating a #5 and eventually making the Sweet Sixteen.* Last year was a rare exception, as the favorite won every 5-12 game, but in the past, at least one, and sometimes two or three #12 seeds have sprung an upset. This year, Murray State and Pacific

Watch For This New Band: "Winter of Spanish Too" Eclectic, Unique

By HAMILTONY FALK

As the lights came up the band was still setting up, with nothing but an acoustic guitar, some drums and a makeshift sound system. Winter of Spanish Too is nothing much to look at, but as they warmed up the audience was captured in the duo's unique sound. Although they play mostly covers, the band tends to change lyrics and musical stylings to create something different, and often better, from the original.

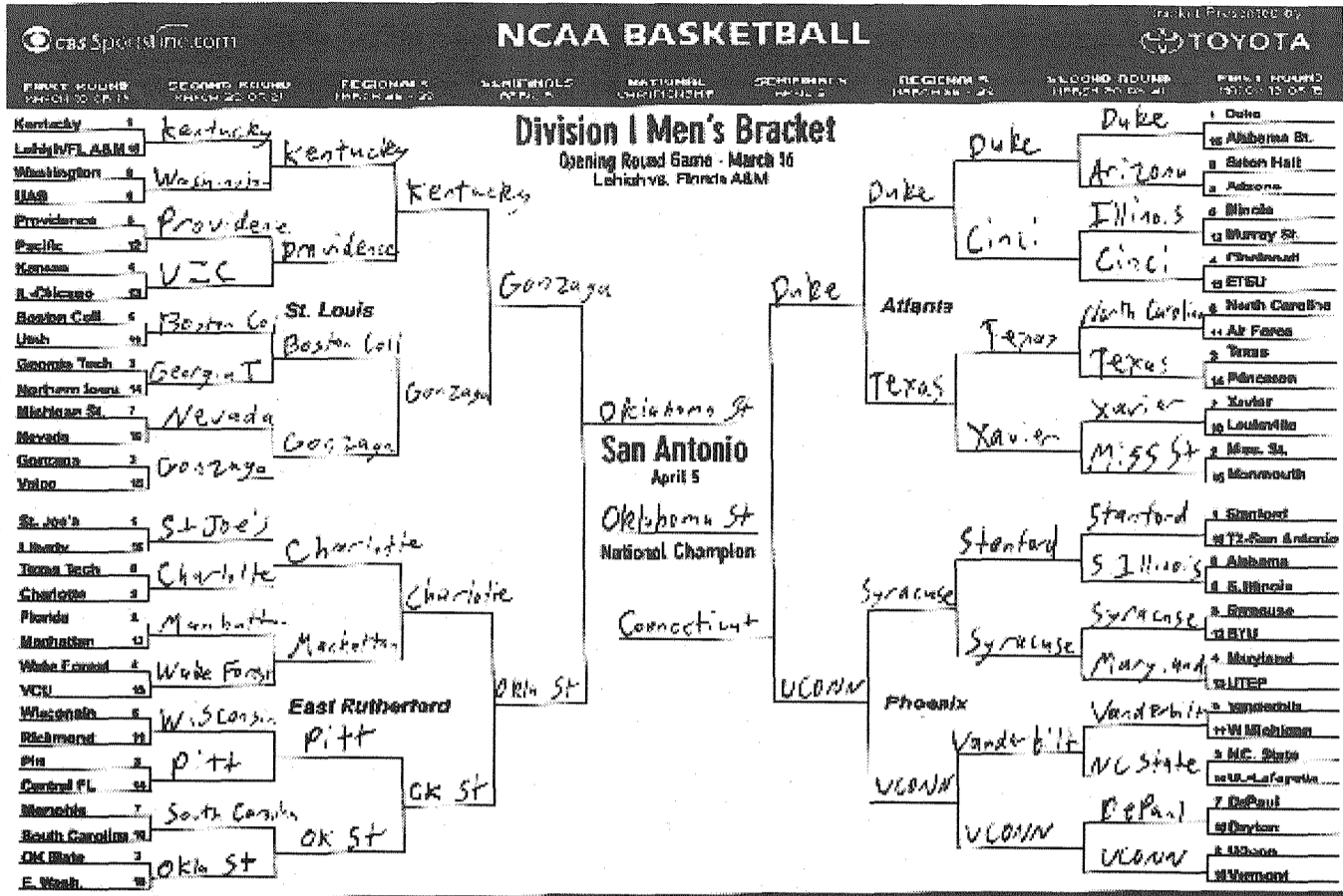
The band wouldn't tell me when their album "hmm... i'm thinking" would come out, but they've been working on it for some time now, and if their studio tracks are even half as good as their live songs it should be well worth the wait. With the singles "Don't Wake Me" and "Ya" due to be released soon, the band was in high spirits.

I talked to the eclectic members about their music, and they seemed much more interested in the art of it than making a profit. "I like musics because they lift me above the earth, into the clouds, particularly winter clouds... and there, i find heaven, and Spanish" says the lead singer, and the drummer commented "yeah, some people think we're retarded, but it's more a state of mind that has to do with our music, our art. And maybe he (the lead singer) is

retarded, but its about the music, you know?"

I then asked the band about their influences, and the lead singer said the beer, while the drummer just rolled his eyes. When I questioned the pair on the spelling of the "Too" in their band's name they became angry and one threatened to cut me. I guess this is just one more mystery to add to the enigma known as "Winter of Spanish Too." This is a band that goes for a sort of 'acoustic techno' style, a wonderful combination of Led Zeppelin, Rage Against the Machine and The Postal Service.

I was much impressed but the performance, and I wasn't the only one. After their concert I talked to some Caltech students to get their opinions of the band. "Winter of? Spanish two? Was there a winter of Spanish one?" said one frosh. Another student, who missed the concert (it was on the same night as the big Rubik's cube competition) said "missing it may have been one of the biggest mistakes of my life." Still a third raving fan laughed and said "No comment." Clearly the average Caltech student loves this band, so maybe you should look into their new album. And remember, the lead singer is playing not for himself, but for you, "I play for the children."



Harrison shares his bracket picks for NCAA Basketball. For your own March Madness fun, follow his advice in picking teams to advance.

seem like prime candidates to surprise Illinois and Providence but my upset pick is Manhattan over Florida, and then Wake Forest.

3. *Pick at least one #1 seed to make the Final Four, but don't pick any more than two or three.* Also, one or two of the #1 seeds will lose before the Elite Eight round. This year, Duke will be the only #1 seed to make the Final Four while Stanford and St. Joseph's will both lose within the first three rounds.

4. *At least one #2 seed will lose in Round 2.* While I chose three #2 seeds to make the Final Four (Gonzaga, Oklahoma State, and Connecticut), I think Mississippi State will lose to red-hot Xavier in Round 2.

5. *Defending champions do not want to relinquish their throne.* In the past, teams like Arkansas, Kentucky, and Maryland have beaten far-superior teams in the quest to defend their championship. Sure, Syracuse doesn't have All-American Carmelo Anthony anymore, but they are the most dangerous #5 seed in the tourna-

ment, and if they win their first two games, they will probably face the least intimidating of the top teams, Stanford. Expect an upset.

6. *Never underestimate teams that underachieved during the season after immense pre-season expectations.* Three years ago, Arizona was proclaimed the best NCAA team ever before the season. After the Wildcats wandered aimlessly through a lost season, they focused on a long NCAA Tournament run. Arizona beat two top seeds and amazingly reached the finals before losing to Duke. This year's analog to the 2001 Wildcats is Connecticut because the preseason #1 team has overcome a sluggish season to finish strong. I expect them to make a great run through the tournament and reach the National Championship game.

7. *Don't let your judgment cloud your ability to fill out a proper bracket.* As much as I would adore a Final Four with Illinois, DePaul and Illinois-Chicago, it simply isn't realistic. I don't have

any Chicago team making it past the second round, and unless you live in Washington, Connecticut, North Carolina or Oklahoma, don't have any unreasonable expectations about your hometown team.

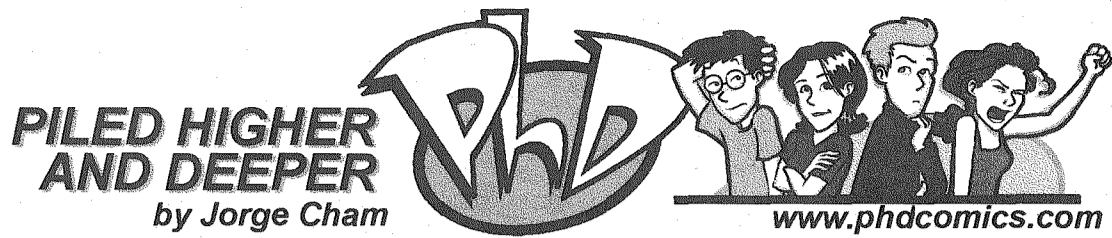
8. *Nothing ever turns out as planned.* I think my bracket looks pretty good right now, but in a week or so, I will be ecstatic if I correctly guess ten of the final sixteen or six of the final eight. It's nice to get a lot of picks right, but it doesn't happen often.

This year promises to be exciting, as the difference between the 1, 2 and 3 seeds is as small as ever. I have three #2 seeds and one #1 seed making the Final Four, but those numbers could very easily be reversed. Regardless, I honestly believe Oklahoma State, Gonzaga, Connecticut, and Duke will reach the Final Four with the OSU Cowboys winning a hard-fought 76-70 battle over the UConn Huskies to win an unexpected National Championship. Let the good times roll.

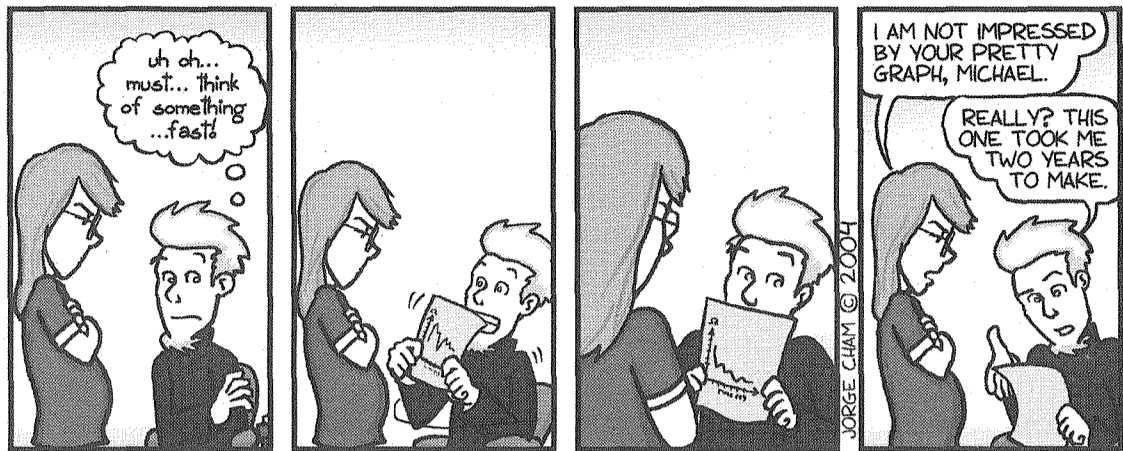


The duo of Winter of Spanish Too performs their debut show to a sold-out crowd at the Fleming Talent Show. Their undeniable charm and partial inebriation contribute to their soulful songs and catchy tunes.

T. Ma/The California Tech



PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER
by Jorge Cham



Letter to the Editor:
Please Report on More Relevant Issues to the Student Body

Dear Editor,

While the issue of housing frosh in Avery is undoubtedly an important topic to consider, has *the Tech* completely neglected recent developments of the South House renovations? If only a few of this year's frosh would have wanted to live in Avery anyway, the renovations affect a far greater percentage of the student body, namely the hundreds of south house residents who would be displaced for the 15 months needed to gut and redo the interiors.

There have been brief mentions in recent articles that this year's IHC will have to deal with the renovations but where has *the Tech* been in the last two weeks with decisions being made and rumors evidently originating from Galen, Tom Mannion, and other authorities that it's highly probable that this will happen during the 2005-2006 school year?

What of the temporary housing? Will it be the Catalinas or will be placed in modular housing in the parking lots? Even if there is no kernel of truth in these rumors I believe it is the job of the paper to address these concerns which are more relevant to more students than even issues such as frosh in Avery or last year's Ricketts fire debacle?

I may be one of the few optimistic, happy upperclassmen left at this school, but conversations turn only half-jokingly to phrases such as "Hi prefrosh, welcome to Blacker Trailer Park, care for some stewed possum?" I wonder if this should only be the material of student speculation. Can we see some more relevant reporting besides election results and the Avery debate?

Kate Magary '06, Blacker House



Continued from Page 4, Column 2

is now accepting submissions for the 2004 edition of 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) Health & Wellness Series: Humor Your Stress
March 18, 2004; Time: 12-1pm; Location: Women's Center located in room 265 of the Center for Student Services.

Building on "The Joy of Stress," comedian and therapist Loretta LaRoche uses her irreverent, unconventional, wacky and just plain funny style in this video, to show us how to "lighten our ways." Find humor in everyday situations and rediscover the joys of simple pleasures to help conquer the stress of life. RSVP required! To sign-up please call ext. 3221 or email: wcenter@studaff.caltech.edu

2) Reel Women - Dying to Be Thin

April 8, 12:00-1:00pm. 2nd floor common area, Center for Student Services. An epidemic of eating disorders is spreading through America's youth, a contagion fanned by the media's obsession with wafer-thin celebrities. For millions of young Americans, the conflict between real and fashionable images of the body can be a matter of life or death. This video takes viewers behind the scenes at laboratories and hospitals where specialists are experimenting with new approaches to eating disorders. Lunch and drinks provided!

3) Women's Intermediate Self-Defense

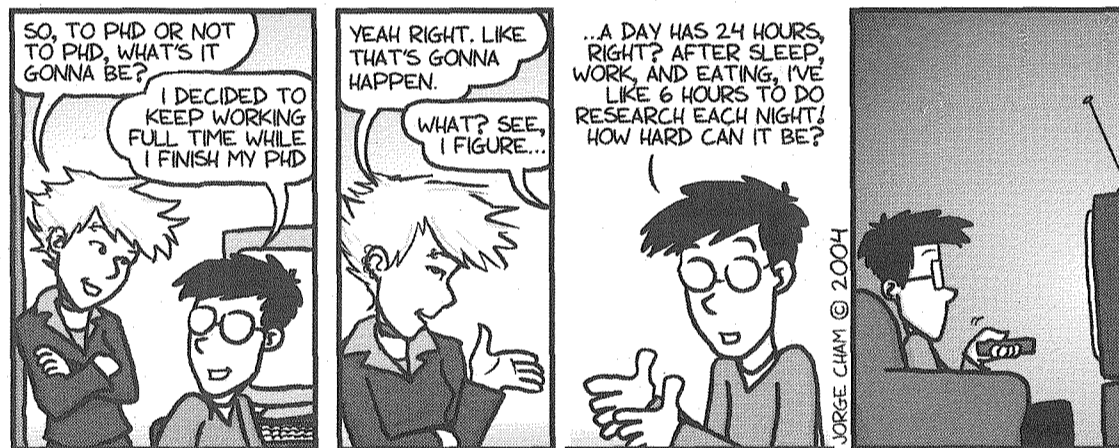
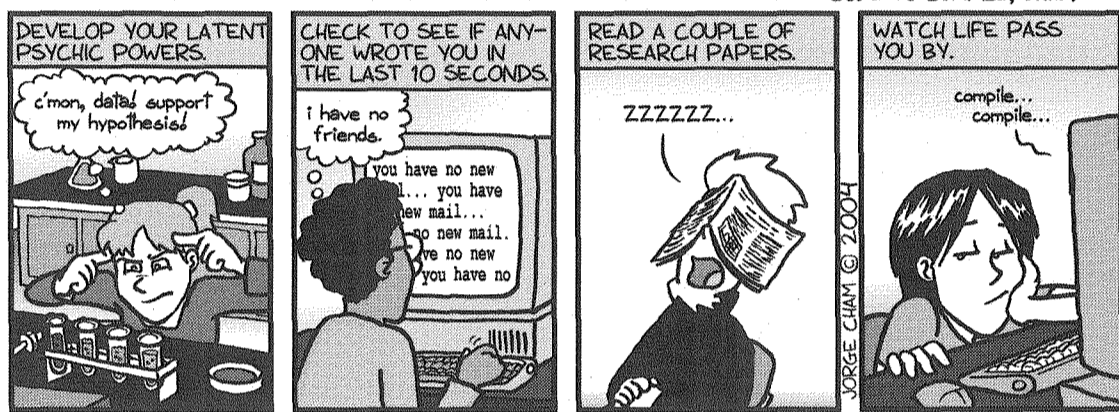
Sunday, April 18, 1-5pm. This class is for those women who have participated in the introductory workshop and would like the opportunity to deliver full force, debilitating blows to a padded assailant in a variety of simulated scenarios. Registration required! Class size is limited. All classes are taught at the Women's Center, Center for Student Services, Bldg. #86. Please contact the Women's Center for more information or to register, 395-3221 or 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.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Award Corporation "HENAAC" is proud to announce that the 2004 HENAAC Scholarship Program is officially underway. This scholarship is available for undergraduate and graduate students majoring in Engineering, Math, Computer Science, or Material Science. There are fourteen \$5,000 Engineering, Math or Science Scholarships available. The deadline to apply is April 23, 2004. For application and other information, please visit their website: <http://www.henaac.org>.

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Avery Proposal Gains Support in Committee

Continued from Page 1, Column 3

"I think we presented our side as well as we possibly could have," said council member and campus pundit Alex Shim '05.

Admissions, which as Prefrosh Weekend's coordinator holds the final trump card in any decisions regarding admitted candidates in Avery, is "generally in support of the idea," said Herrera. History has indicated, however, that the recommendation likely to hold the most weight is the SHC's, expected March 31.

A poll of SHC members indicated generally positive response to Avery's Monday presentation. "I am impressed by the Avery House Council's presentation," said Chemistry Professor John Bercaw, who has not yet made up on his mind on the matter. Math Professor David Wales, also the former master of student houses, gave similar praise. "I found their arguments quite persuasive and I have been impressed with the intensity of their feelings and how cogently they have presented the material," he said of the council.

Previous reporting has suggested that sole undergraduate appointee Manuel Garcia '05 may support the IHC's stance, while

in particular. With that charge, everyone from Wales to Shim to IHC Chair Kim Pependorf '06 backed the effort. "The addition of two more faculty would allow an extra student member, which would be a good thing," held Wales. This year, he said, the SHC faces "many issues and that is likely to be true next year. A larger committee might be better able to deal with these."

But whether it's a nine- or a 12-member SHC that votes on the Avery measure, the next step for advocates, said Shim, is a public campaign to correct misconceptions about Avery. Highlights include an array of inter-house gatherings--barbecues, parties, games--aimed at drumming up student support ahead of an anticipated IHC survey on the matter.

"If someone asked me whether I wanted freshmen in, say, Chester," said Shim, "I would be skeptical too. But Avery does have a strong community and if people knew about Avery, they wouldn't be as skeptical."

Herrera expressed similar sentiment. "Not many people know what Avery is," he held. "The perception is not the reality. Right



Courtesy of www.ryanplace.com

Junior Ryan Witt, a proponent of freshman in Avery, offers an argument to support the proposal, saying that freshman will help uphold the sense of community that has recently grasped the house.

times," he maintained. "However, I must say the new IHC is significantly more tame and I have high hopes in working with them." Pependorf added that the minutes' sentiment "do not reflect the current state of discussions in the IHC."

In fact, the new culture of compromise was evident all week as IHC members met with Avery leaders to discuss some of the points laid out in Avery's Monday talk.

Perhaps foremost among these was Avery's assertion that their measure would reduce overcrowding, which hinged on a table drawn up by the council enumerating displaced students. Under the status quo, 120 students would be displaced this year; with 50 extra beds, only 70; but with 20 freshmen in Avery for each of four years, only 40. Undisplaced, the differential would call Avery home, which supporters say would enrich the community.

"Overall, I think you see a bunch of people who didn't enjoy their stay in the houses," said key proponent Ryan Witt '05, widely thought to be a candidate for Avery's next chancellor. "With freshmen, we'd have a group of people who will be there, who will move into the leadership and who will perpetuate the community."

Underpinning Avery's empirical evidence was a recent survey that pegged over 60% of the house in favor of the freshmen measure--and dissected the mere 14 who considered it "a horrible idea" down to eight who were forced out of their on-campus houses due to overcrowding and likely discontent as a result. Even then, said council members, two of these 14 in-house adversaries were willing to be UCCs in an Avery with freshmen.

But following a roundtable discussion Friday, Pependorf had questions about Avery's response rate. With only 80 of over 120 residents responding, she said, there may be an enthusiasm gap in Avery's efforts. The "idea that there would be 20 people running the house," said Ricketts President Lionel Jingles '05, would naturally make the IHC uneasy.

In response, Tiwari pointed to a survey result showing that 14 of 19 strong supporters of the idea made firm commitments to sustain an Avery community. He also resurrected old Tech articles suggesting that the late-1950s incarnation of the IHC was considerably more receptive to incorporating the three new North Houses

than it was to incorporating Avery at its 1996 opening.

"When the North Houses were built, the question was what to do with four existing houses plus three new ones. The answer of the IHC and the student body was seven," he explained. In contrast, with Avery, "the question of seven plus one was not eight; Avery had a second-class treatment from the beginning and it is long overdue to be treated equally."

Pependorf applauded the council's historical research, but cautioned that modern circumstances call for modern solutions. "It's always good to have those perspectives," she said, "but it's also always critical to look at what's happening now. The status quo, while it's what we're used to, can change."

Despite Avery's survey, there are visible cracks in support among Avery's residents. Shim plans to publish a minority report outlining the views of those who, like Stephanie Chan '06, have expressed doubts. "After living in the houses for a year," she recalled, "I feel as though I've learned a lot. I would've missed out on that if I had lived in Avery--on things like learning to be tolerant of other people."

Corinna Zygourakis '06, who as a dual member ASCIT's board of directors and of Avery has two feet in the door, said she's torn. "Honestly, I don't know what to think," she said. "The more I hear from both sides, the more confused I become and the more I vacillate back and forth."

A more philosophical side of Avery's argument is the added choice it would offer freshmen. "I don't think that more choice

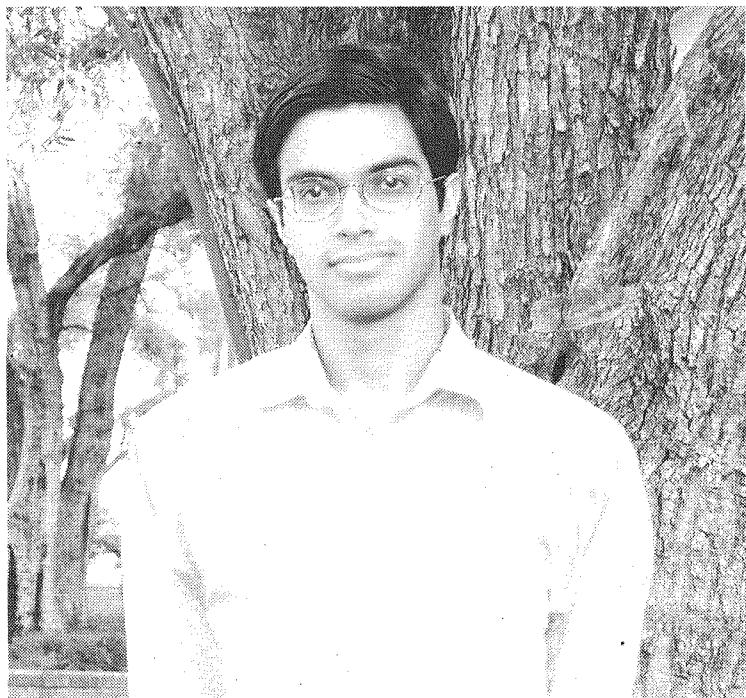
would hurt people," held Border. Still, Dabney President Hesper Rego '05 pointed out that a paucity of freshmen ranking Avery in Rotation could lead to some being systematically forced into the house. "How do we know that freshmen who didn't rank Avery won't end up there?" she asked.

Avery supporters turned to Campus Life Director Tom Mannion, who reiterated that there has never been a statistical problem filling the present seven houses. "We've gone for 30 years without it happening," exclaimed Avery resident associate and physics professor Ken Libbrecht, "so why can't we go another 30 years without it happening?"

By the same token, Libbrecht argued that Avery's measure would be best implemented sooner rather than later. "You shouldn't wait on good ideas," he said. "You should enact them! We've got a group of people now who are solidly behind the idea and are ready to make it work."

But those on the IHC side of talks hinted that such a rush may be rash. "Next year would be a real time crunch to put freshmen in Avery, a time crunch for admissions, a time crunch for housing," said Pependorf. "There should really be some thinking beforehand, so that we're aware of the concerns of everyone who's involved."

While she wouldn't promise fireworks, Pependorf said the IHC will take its March 31 presentation to organize and outline its concerns. From there, all eyes turn to the SHC, expected to hand down a recommendation soon after.



The California Tech Archives

Neil Tiwari, former IHC candidate, has become a major supporter of the plan to have frosh in Avery.

graduate student Karen Smith may still harbor questions. Border and Geology Professor Geoffrey Blake are said to be open to Avery's measure and Athletics Director Tim Downes, while he's waiting to hear from all sides, said that he generally believes "choice is a very good thing." MOSH Cathy Jurca has thus far declined comment and Geology Professor Paul Asimow said two weeks ago that he was not yet convinced of Avery's argument.

A potential wild card in the March 31 vote is Border's ongoing effort to expand the SHC by a student and two faculty to achieve the three-to-one ratio recommended by faculty bylaws. Although there were some early concerns among undergraduate leaders that adding two faculty members to the committee may shake up the committee's balance on the Avery question, most were assuaged after Border assured students that selections would be left to an independent nominating committee. "This is not anything like Franklin Delano Roosevelt packing the Supreme Court," he said.

Instead, Border said he simply wants a ratio more favorable to students and to undergraduates

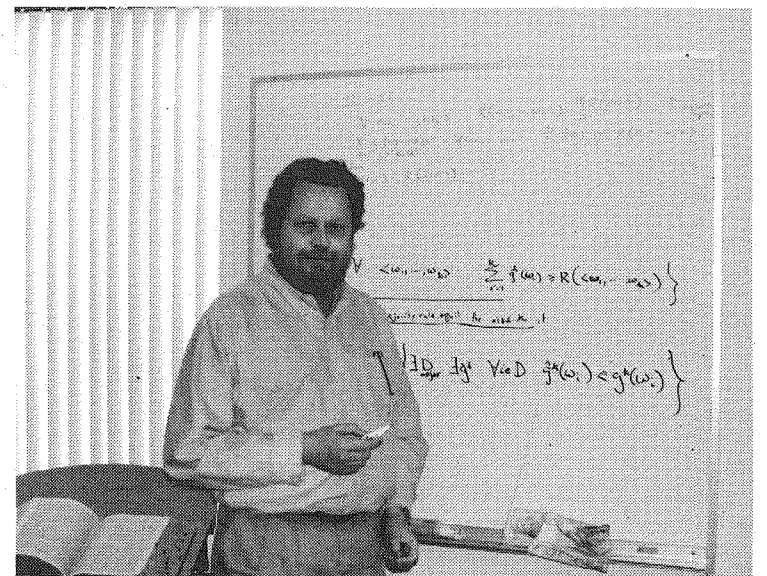
now there is a PR issue here, a marketing issue."

Pependorf said the survey, which has yet to enter the planning stage, is at least a month off.

Meanwhile, buttressing Avery's overtures for public sympathy is a slate of just-released minutes from the former IHC. Previously hidden, the minutes included potentially offensive commentary on the Avery measure that supporters say illuminates their struggle.

At the heart of the controversy is the nonchalant derision of SHC head Border as "Kimmy Boy" and as a derivative of a four-letter word, as well as a passage suggesting that Avery's reputation is more important than its community. "Like it or not Avery has a sterile reputation and so until they can change that, the people in Avery aren't going to have a good community," read the minutes.

While Avery advocate Neil Tiwari '05 bootstrapped the remarks onto an overall culture of arrogance, he also praised IHC newcomers for their willingness to come to the table. "I think the minutes capture the essence of the narrow-mindedness, arrogance and ignorance of the previous IHC and should be an eye-opener to the difficulty Avery faces at



The California Tech Archives

Professor Kim Border, perhaps the staunchest faculty supporter of freshman in Avery, recently postponed a vote on the issue.

FBI Arrests Graduate Student in Arson Case

**FBI Press Release
Los Angeles Field Office
March 9, 2004**

A Pasadena man was arrested this morning in connection with the arson and vandalism of sport utility vehicles (SUVs) in the San Gabriel Valley in August 2003.

FBI Assistant Director Richard T. Garcia announced today the arrest of William Jensen Cottrell, 23, on federal charges of arson and vandalism. Cottrell is currently enrolled as a graduate student in the physics department at California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.

According to the criminal complaint, approximately one month after the attacks, Cottrell, using the alias Tony Marsden, sent several emails to the Los Angeles Times claiming responsibility for the SUV firebombings and confirming his affiliation with the Earth Liberation Front. In the messages, Cottrell offered specific details of the attacks to prove his involvement and emphasize his support of ELF actions.

On August 22, 2003, a spree of vandalism and arson attacks targeting sport utility vehicles occurred in the early morning in San Gabriel Valley. Between 2:00 a.m. and 4:30 a.m., vandals struck four car dealerships and several privately owned vehicles. Approximately 125 vehicles and one commercial building were damaged or destroyed by paint and fire. The following partial list

of words were repeatedly spray painted, in either red or blue spray paint, randomly on the vandalized vehicles: "ELF," "I ___ Pollution," "Polluter," and "SUV = Terrorism."

The "ELF" marking and other markings are consistent with acts committed in support of the Earth Liberation Front. Individuals who affiliate themselves with the ELF movement are staunch proponents of the preservation of the environment and oppose the use of petroleum fuel in vehicles.

Assistant Director Richard Garcia stated, "Those who set fires, like those at the Hummer dealership in West Covina, are misguided zealots. The FBI respects, encourages and protects people who peacefully exercise their right to free speech. However, when extremists resort to arson attacks, which inevitably will lead to a loss of life, they have gone too far and the FBI will investigate aggressively and relentlessly to bring those who set such fires to justice."

Cottrell will be afforded an initial appearance before a U.S. Magistrate in U.S. District Court today. If convicted of the federal charges, Cottrell faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison for each act.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the West Covina Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Institute Founded With Grant To Study Nanotechnology Frontiers

By **ROBERT TINDOL**

PASADENA, Calif.-A \$7.5 million grant has been awarded by Fred Kavli and the Kavli Foundation to create a new institute at the California Institute of Technology for research in the emerging field of nanoscience.

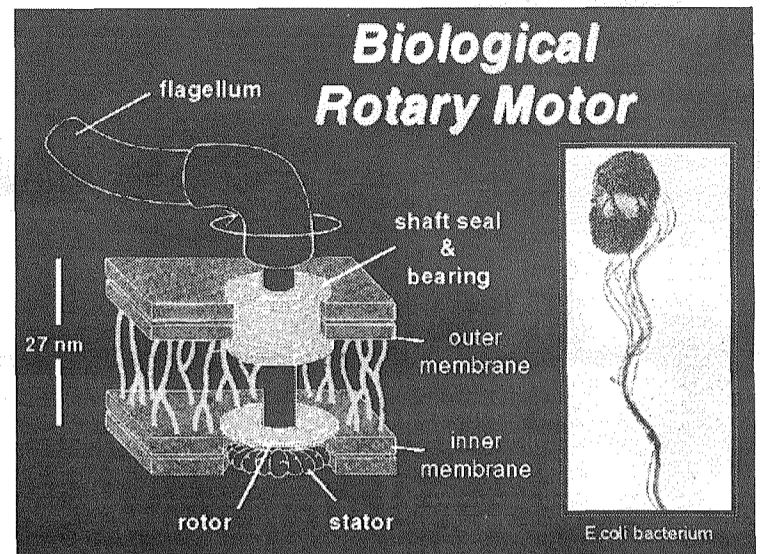
Caltech's Kavli Nanoscience Institute (KNI) is being founded as a "lasting center dedicated to defining research frontiers and establishing new scientific directions in nanoscience," according to David Baltimore, president of Caltech. "This generous award allows us to solidify a plan that we have been considering for some time--one based on our strengths and on the future direction of science."

The purpose of the KNI will be to foster innovative research at the frontiers of nanoscale science and engineering, with special emphasis on efforts transcending traditional disciplinary boundaries; to create new research opportunities to attract the best researchers and students worldwide; and to support the cross-disciplinary community through significant infrastructure investment and renewal.

Michael Roukes, Caltech professor of physics, applied physics and bioengineering, has been named the founding director of the institute. "The primary emphases of the KNI will be on nanobiotechnology, which merges

nanodevice engineering with the molecular and cellular machinery of living systems and nanophotonics, which employs new materials technology and nanofabrication processes to develop novel devices such as optically active waveguides and microlasers," says Roukes. "Central to both of

Mathematics and Astronomy). Its governing board consists of academic faculty drawn inclusively from this community. The KNI's physical facilities will include centralized nanofabrication clean rooms, a suite of "research incubation" laboratories for new, highly interactive, cross-disci-



This biological motor represents the type of device that nanotechnology hopes to produce as easily and efficiently as nature can already. The Kavli Institute has funded several groups to conduct research in nanotechnology.

these endeavors is large-scale integration of nanosystems, which will be enabled by the new facilities that we are constructing."

Nanoscience, in its broadest definition, involves the underlying physical principles that govern the function of devices measuring less than a billionth of a meter. Caltech has had an ongoing interest and presence in nanoscience and nanotechnology--or the engineering of such devices--and, in fact, one of the Institute's most renowned researchers is credited with the origin of the concept.

In 1959, Caltech physicist Richard Feynman gave a now-famous lecture titled "There's Plenty of Room at the Bottom," in which he mapped out possibilities for extremely small devices, consistent with the principles of quantum mechanics. Since that time, research at the Caltech campus and other institutions has led to discoveries that are, step by step, bringing about a realization of Feynman's early vision.

In January 2000, President Clinton visited the Caltech campus and announced his administration's launch of the "National Nanotechnology Initiative," which has since led to a huge upsurge of activity nationally. A number of major universities and research institutions have embarked upon their own "nano" initiatives.

The KNI will involve many researchers, spanning five of Caltech's six academic divisions (Biology; Chemistry and Chemical Engineering; Engineering and Applied Science; Geological and Planetary Sciences; and Physics,

and an integrated cluster of offices and conferencing facilities.

The nanofabrication facilities will include a nanofluidics foundry, state-of-the-art nanolithography systems, nanofabrication processing facilities and laboratories for metrology, imaging and novel instrument development.

An external advisory board of distinguished scientists, prominent members of the business community and funding agencies and the Caltech trustees will be appointed to provide guidance to the governing board of the KNI.

Based in Oxnard, California, the Kavli Foundation was created in December 2000 by Fred Kavli to advance science for the benefit of humanity and to promote increased public understanding of and support for scientists and their work. The foundation focuses its efforts on the areas of cosmology, life sciences (emphasizing the nature and evolution of life and the human being) and nanotechnology (with initial emphasis on nanobiotechnology).

Fred Kavli is the founder, former chairman and CEO of the Moorpark, California-based Kavlico Corporation, one of the world's largest suppliers of sensors for aeronautics, automotive and industrial applications. He led the company to prominence before selling it in 2001. Subsequently he established two philanthropic entities, the Kavli Foundation and its sister organization, the Kavli Operating Institute, committed to supporting research to benefit humanity.



ACM team members Jacob Burmin, Adam D'Angelo and Po-Shen Loh will compete for the international title on March 31 in the Czech Republic.

Competition Date Nears as Team Struggles to Find Time to Practice

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path through the maze," said D'Angelo. "They always add embellishments to make it harder, like the walls of the maze change over time," added Burnim.

The solutions to the problems can be found independent of language, but the languages used at the competition are Java and C++. The Caltech team generally uses C++.

All three of the team members have attended the competition before. Burnim and D'Angelo competed last year as freshman and Loh participated two years ago during his sophomore year.

"I don't know how well we will do this year. It helps that all three of us have gone before," said Burnim. The team members believe that together, they can answer any of the questions given to them. "Between the three of us, there is usually somebody who can do it," said D'Angelo. However, time could limit their ability to finish all ten questions.

Because of recent budget cuts

for the school, the team searched for and found a couple of sponsors. Symantec, the makers of the Norton Antivirus software, agreed to sponsor the team's travel. The ACM contest will fund lodging, food and some activities.

Last year, the team came in 13th in the international competition, placing first among the teams from North America. The winner was a school from Warsaw.

Both D'Angelo and Burnim have been programming since elementary and middle school. D'Angelo learned a little programming in fourth grade, using LOGO and in sixth grade learned how to code in BASIC. Burnim was also exposed to programming in first grade by a fifth grader and then began exploring programming more in depth in middle school.

"I wrote a couple of big silly games that in retrospect were not that interesting," said Burnim.

In high school, both D'Angelo and Burnim participated in the USA Computing Olympiad and

were members of the USA team to the International Olympiad in Informatics during their senior years in high school. Po, though not on the national team, did compete in the Math Olympiad.

Though facing tough competition in the international arena, the Caltech team has the potential to rise up against these challenges and perform well at the competition.

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