

MIT Students and Prefrosh Discover the Cannon

BY: JOHN MCNAMARA

The score was 6 to 1 as of March. But as of April 6, MIT struck back "That's gotta be worth at least 10 points - not really for originality, but more for execution," according to



Photo courtesy of www.howevander.com

This plaque explains the cannon's trip

<http://www.caltechvsmit.com/> a site keeping track on the ongoing prank war. MIT made it known to the world that they were responsible for the March 28 disappearance last Thursday

and launched their own website, <http://www.mitcannon.com/>.

According to Caltech Media Relations, "the Caltech campus is taking the prank with much good humor." But why not? The cannon does not, according to some, belong to Caltech. "For all the planning that they must have done, they made one flaw," remarked Fleming frosh Deepak Mishra, "that they took the Fleming cannon, not a Caltech cannon."

The cannon sits now by the Green building which was pranked last year by a laser show displaying the letters "C" "A" "L" "T" "E" "C" "H." MIT added "a large Brass Rat made of gold-plated aluminum" to the barrel of the cannon, according to a plaque commemorating the transport of the cannon.

Despite being away from Fleming house, the cannon is



Photo courtesy of <http://web.mit.edu/ce/www/cannoncoeds/index2.html>

MIT students enjoy Fleming's fine cannon. The cannon is now located at East Campus, an MIT dorm.

being put to use. Photographs are being posted on MIT's website of bikini-clad coeds posing with the cannon. They can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/ce/www/cannoncoeds/>. Reactions are mixed. "I say take 'em back

with the cannon. In fact, forget the cannon," remarked senior Jeff Phillips. Those who have been here for a shorter period of time reacted differently. Those quotes are not printable.

MIT, taking a cue from

Caltech's policy, is selling T-shirts to commemorate the event. Expect this prank war to escalate.

Note: Caltech's Prefrosh Weekend starts the 20th.

Partying Italian Style at Lloyd



Photo by Glenn Wagner

This statue cautions revelers against drinking too much.

Victory and Defeat

BY: ZEB ROCKLIN

Last Sunday, the first of the month, Caltech almost won the US Amateur Team National Championship for the third time in four years. Caltech qualified for this final championship, which it competed in and won two and three years ago, when it won the US Amateur Team West Chess Championship. That Sunday was their opportunity to earn a third championship and with all four

members of the team seniors, this would be their last chance.

Patrick Hummel, President of the Caltech Chess Club and master player, represented Caltech on board one. His fellow master, Eugene Yanayt, was on board two. Experts Zhihao (Howard) Liu and Josh Gutman were on boards three and four, respectively.

Players began with ninety minutes to make all of their moves,

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Hawking Brings the Crowds

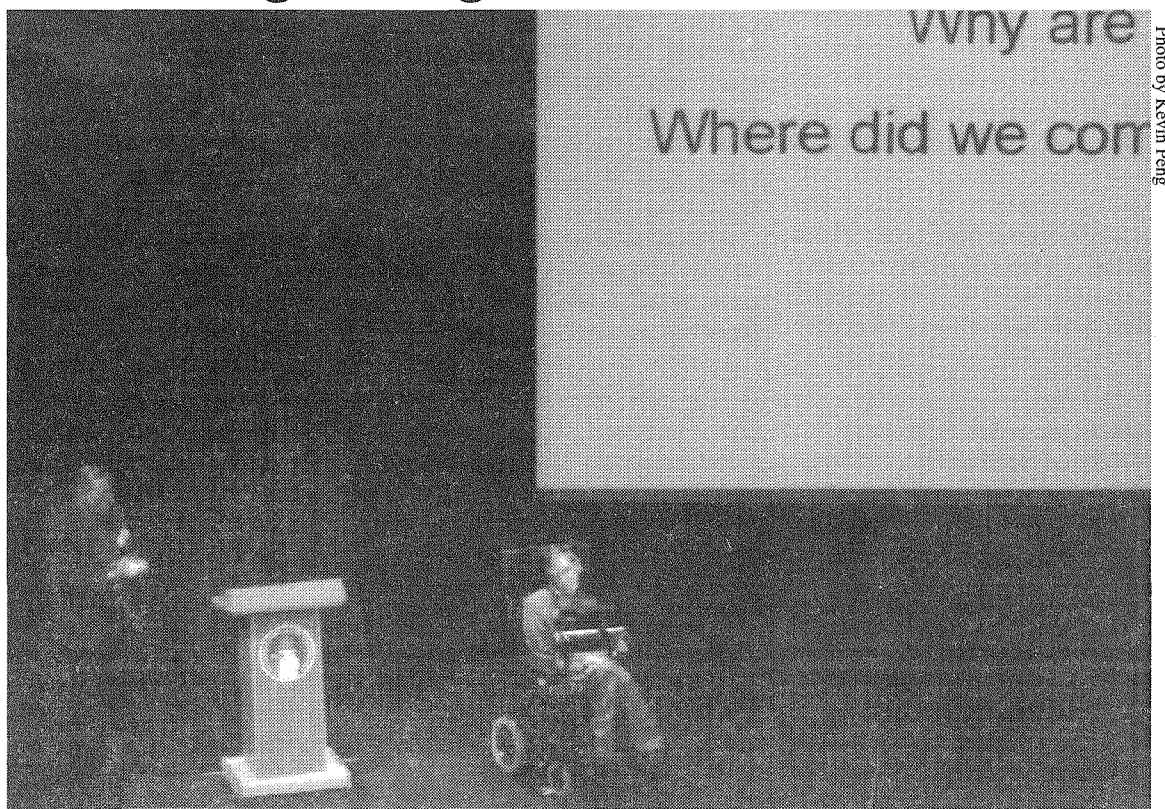


Photo by Kevin Peng

Professor Kip Thorne introduces Stephen Hawking. The talk was on "The Origin of the Universe."

BY: MARISSA CEVALLOS

As part of his annual visit to Caltech, Stephen Hawking gave a lecture on the origins of the universe to a packed Beckman auditorium last Tuesday.

Instead of discussing the detailed points of the Big Bang theory or inflation, Hawking showed

a humorous slideshow that was colloquial, yet emphasized how cosmology has grown to understand so much about the beginning of the universe.

In addition to giving an hour-long presentation, Hawking fielded four questions from the audience. Three graduate students asked questions ranging from cosmology to the philosophy of

positivism. The fourth question came from Sean Marney, a frosh in Ruddock.

"If you're British, then why don't you have an accent?"

After the laughter from the audience died down, Hawking replied, "Of course, I would say it is you Americans who have the accent. I don't have any accent."

Gorbachev Speaks Freely

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The Outside World

BY: MARENA LIN

Brazil's First Astronaut

Brazilian Marcos Ponte became the first astronaut in space when he made the 250 mile trip to the international space station, arriving on April 1st. Ponte had made the weeklong journey with an American and a Russian, both of whom were embarking on a six month mission orbiting the Earth. He landed in safely Kazakhstan on April 8th.

Iraqis Angered by Egypt's President

Egypt's President Mubarak made the statement that civil war was imminent in Iraq, which invited much criticism from Iraqi leaders. Many others are up in arms about whether Iraq is in fact already embroiled in a civil war.

Iraq Mosque Attack Leaves Dozens Dead

79 people are left dead after a triple-suicide bombing, which occurred as worshippers were leaving Buratha after Friday prayers.

Pakistani Stampede Leaves Trail of Dead

The stampede was triggered when people rushed to help a single girl who had tripped at the

staircase. This left nearly 70 injured and 29 dead.

More Photos from Mars Processed

Scientists at NASA's JPL have processed photographs from Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, revealing more information about the influence of meteor impacts, water, and wind in shaping the landscape.

Early Christian Manuscript Found

After 1,700 years, this manuscript was found in the Egyptian desert in a papyrus manuscript. This version details how Judas was told by Jesus that he would exceed his fellow disciples by giving Jesus to the authorities.

Lymphatic Filariasis: Unspoken Pain

In Haiti, a parasite-induced condition commonly known for causing Elephantiasis plagues victims whose systems come to have trouble draining lymph fluids. Few surgeons are able to treat the illness, which also causes scrotums to enlarge to the size of basketballs. The hope is that future distribution of de-worming medication will treat the widespread nature of this disease in

tropical regions.

Disaster After Tornadoes

Residents of Gallatin, Tennessee sort through the wreckage left in the wake of fierce storms for the second time in the last week.

Bush's Credibility Taking Dive

Back in 2003, former Vice President's chief of staff Libby leaked classified information to a New York Times reporter hoping to encourage an article that U.S. intelligence firmly believed that Saddam Hussein sought nuclear weapons. This information has only recently surfaced, possibly leading Bush's credibility and reputation as a "straight-shooter" to take dives.

Routine Rescue Turned Awry

Two ski patrol officers at Mammoth Lakes died Saturday after falling into a crevasse created by a volcanic vent. Rescuers had originally treated this as a traumatic injury accident, not realizing that the victims were immersed in a toxic carbon dioxide environment.

Composed from BBC news, NY Times, LA times, and CNN.

Avery House's Council Dissolves

BY: JOHN MCNAMARA

A shakeup in the student government of Avery House has many wondering about the future of the mysterious neighbor of the displaced South Houses. According to sources within the house, residents of Avery voted Friday on sweeping changes to the structure of their student government. The most significant change includes the dissolution of the Avery Council, which has handled the general function of Avery

such as events and dealings with the rest of the Caltech community.

The power formerly vested in the Avery Council has been consolidated into the Executive Committee, consisting of five officers and headed by the Avery Chancellor. Both the current Chancellor, sophomore Harold Hsu, and Vice-Chancellor, senior Qing Liu were unavailable for comment.

"There seemed to be a consensus that the system needed to be replaced," remarked John Sadowski, an Avery

Council member.

The amendment to dissolve the Avery Council passed with a landslide 57 votes for, 3 against and 9 abstains. The vote total of 69 votes does reach quorum.

Other changes in the amendment include removing residency requirements of officers, room pick revision and changing instances of the word "shall" in the constitution to "will." In addition, the Vice Chancellor is in charge of the house finances instead of the Social Director.

ASCIT Board of Directors Minutes from the Olive Walk Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Present - Officers: Todd Gingrich, Chris Watson, Vickie Pon, Csilla Felsen, Chris Gonzales, Nathan Donnellan, RJ Krom, Craig Montuori
Guests: Alex Siegel, Rob Hunter, Xin Ye, Chris Klein, Xan Sonn, John Shen, Jeremy Ehrhardt

Absent: Jean Sun, Jonathan Senn

- Funding Requests
 - Xin Ye requested funding to take Professor Smolke and 4 undergrads to lunch at the Ath. Vote: A vote was taken to grant Xin funding for one professor and 4 undergrads to lunch at the Ath. Vote passed (6Y/0N/0A).
 - Xan Sonn requested funding for Out of Context for hosting the Hook Slide concert. Hook Slide is a professional a cappella group. It was suggested that OoC look at additional places on campus for funding as well as asking ASCIT. Vote: A vote was taken to give OoC \$300 to cover part of the cost of the concert. Vote passed (6Y/0N/0N).
 - Alex Siegel and Rob Hunter asked for Multihouse funding for

both Lloyd and Fleming to help subsidize about 40 tickets to the upcoming LA Giants baseball game.

Vote: A vote was taken to issue Multihouse funding for the Fleming-Lloyd baseball game tickets. Vote passed (6Y/0N/0A).

2. Price Trout

* Jeremy came to discuss putting Price Trout on donut. He will talk with Jed and Todd later to figure out the differences and benefits of Price Trout vs. Bookmart, the latter of which is currently on donut.

3. Club Funding Meeting (Sunday, April 9th)

* The Club Funding Meeting is coming up this Sunday, April 9th, from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. About 40 clubs have prepared budget proposals and will present their proposals to the BoD at the meeting.
* Nate and Chris W. will take care of beverages and lunch for the BoD.

4. Donut Handbook

* Craig dug up an old "Donut Handbook" which used to be passed down from BoD to BoD every year. It details how to use the donut website.

* Jed will update the handbook so it can be used by this year's BoD as well as future years' Boards.

5. House Social Director Meeting (Thursday, April 10th)

* Social Directors from all the Houses will have a meeting on Thursday, April 6th, to discuss and plan upcoming social events.
* Soon, the Houses will be better directed as to how to apply for GSC funding, since it is different from ASCIT funding, just to get every House up to speed.

6. CRC Sign-ups

* RJ will be having CRC Reps sign-ups in each of the Houses to get a rep from all 8 houses. Then, the list of reps will be presented to the BoD for appointment.

7. ASCIT Staff Awards

* The ASCIT Staff Awards survey is already up on donut. Fill out a survey!
* Gifts for awardees will be something like a \$75 gift basket.

8. UDaL Report - Committees

* Nate updated the BoD on his progress with meeting with all the committees.
* Nate's goal is to have undergrad reps on all committees and to improve the level of commu-

Close Chess Match

Continued from page 1

with an additional 5 seconds per move. Unlike the regional championships, the National Championship is played by computer, with only electronic communication connecting each competitor to his opponent. Caltech's first opponents were the winners of the Midwest's regional championship. As play was scheduled to begin at 10 AM, a serious problem became evident. Play on boards three and four proceeded normally, but neither of the Midwest's top two boards was present. Was it possible that they had forgotten about daylight savings time?

Tournament directors were present at each tournament site to ensure that no cheating occurred. This requirement was expressed in the copious amounts of emails that went into organizing the event. However, the Midwest's two best players had apparently planned to compete from a non-approved site. By the time they were informed that this was illegal, there was too little time to reach the site in time to compete. Hummel and Yanayt were favored in both their games. Since the winner of the match was the team with the most wins, this prevented them from winning the match in the initial time. However, if both boards three and four won, they would force a playoff.

However, Caltech was more than up to the task before them. Liu lost on board three, but Gutman forced a draw in a winning position to clinch the match. In the other semifinal, the East beat the South 3-1.

At 3 PM, play began again. Like their 2004 finals, this was a classic East Coast-West Coast battle. Tension was high. While the mood of their opponents could only be guessed at, the Caltech team wanted to win.

Play progressed slowly. Some two hours into the match, Yanayt achieved a draw on board two. As play continued into the final few minutes, all three other matches continued. Finally Hummel, who had been steadily grinding down his lower-rated opponent, announced a win, putting Caltech in the lead.

Shortly after, Liu lost. While 90 minutes may seem like plenty

of time, chess players typically enjoy as much as three hours in tournaments, and often use every minute. Pressured by the clock, Liu had lost a piece, and narrowly missed a win. He was finally checkmated with only six seconds on his clock.

It was almost unbelievable. After three hours—no, after four years—the championship would be decided in seconds. The tournament director was hovering over Gutman's shoulder, as caught up in the game as everyone else, and each member of the Caltech team was evaluating Gutman's position, trying to determine what hope they had.

The mood was grim. Gutman had played well, achieving strong positions, but had missed some chances to convert his advantage. Now, the game was coming down to how well the players could play with those few minutes remaining to them, a situation known as blitz. Advantage rocketed back and forth, as the careful position Gutman had built up was transfigured, and moves became wild and strange. Ultimately, his invisible opponent marched his pieces across the board, and Caltech had lost.

When Gutman finally resigned and stood up from the computer, he looked like he had just run to the east coast and back. The physical and mental toll chess takes on a player was evident on his face. "I hate blitz," he exhaled.

Afterwards, the team spoke quietly and went over their games. While practically any other team would have regarded finishing second in the nation as a success, this one clearly did not. The mood was sad, but Hummel pointed out that their career as a team had to be viewed as a success. This is of course an enormous understatement.

When these seniors were freshman, no one would have thought Caltech would become the National Amateur Champions. They did. No team won the tournament twice in a row. They did. Even after finishing third the previous year, no one doubted that they would win the Western Amateur Team Championships. They did. After being defeated by the East, no one could have said they weren't champions. They were.

nication between members on each committee, and communication between the committees and BoD so the BoD can let the student body know of everything the committees are accomplishing.

* Sign-ups to be appointed to committees will occur this term (Spring term) in a couple weeks! New committee members will become active at the beginning of Fall term.

* The BoD's "Appointing Appointment" or meeting will tentatively be on Sunday, April 23rd, from 7 pm onward.

9. FDaL Report - Movie Library and Bulletin Board

* Chris W. is almost ready to commence the reincarnation of the ASCIT Movie Library. He will be configuring the old BoC laptop for the job as soon as it is available.

* The Bulletin Board will be updated and decorated (finally) right after the club funding meeting on Sunday, April 9th. Chris W. and Jean are in charge of decorations.

10. New Meeting Location!

* To make the BoD meetings more visible and accessible while the South Houses are still under construction, the ASCIT BoD

meetings will hopefully be held in a side room of Chandler, adjacent to the C-Store with the huge windows so everyone can see us!

Respectfully Submitted,
Vickie Pon
ASCIT Secretary

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Former USSR President Speaks to Audience at Pasadena

BY: ANNA HISZPANSKI

On Wednesday, March 5th, a small group of Caltech undergrads had the opportunity to hear the former President of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, speak at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium as part of the 2005-2006 Distinguished Speakers Series of Southern California.

Gorbachev was President of the Soviet Union from 1985 to 1991, a critical period during Russian and world history during which he restructured the Soviet Union with his "glasnost" (openness) and "perestroika" (economic) reforms. He furthermore stabilized global relations by playing a major role in ending the Cold War for which he won the 1990 Noble Peace Prize.

"I saw the development of the Cold War, and then, when I became the Soviet leader, I helped bury it," said Gorbachev in his speech.

For one of the twelve students who attended the speech, the event was particularly momentous and personal. Senior Mark Polinkovsky lived under Communist rule in the then Soviet Union's Republic of Moldova for seven years.

"You couldn't buy milk. You had to wait in line for hours for a

bottle, and even then you weren't guaranteed a bottle of milk," recounts Polinkovsky. "The only people who were guaranteed milk were mothers with infants—and even then they didn't always get it. There was a huge lack of consumer goods. That was one of the problems Gorbachev tried to fix."

Under Communism prior to Gorbachev, travel across Soviet Union borders was nearly impossible and life for the average Soviet citizen was difficult.

"My family was able to come to America because of Gorbachev," said Polinkovsky.

Gorbachev broke with many of his Communist Party's previous policies in reforming the Soviet Union.

"[We] came to the understanding that the system which we lived in needed to not just be remodeled but needed to be replaced since the old system did not allow for innovation and democracy..." said Gorbachev in his speech.

"[Under the previous system,] all the potential [of Russians and their country] was not properly used.... We were a country rich in natural resources, rich in intellectual resources, but could not provide for the citizens.... The need for perestroika was knocking at our door and windows."

One key reform Gorbachev instituted was lightening the severe

restrictions on speech and the dogmatism of the government; he tried to involve the people in governing.

"I am still convinced that without glasnost, freedom, and democracy, any attempt to reform Soviet society would have failed.... It never would have succeeded had the people not been able to speak out, be involved, and make decisions..." said Gorbachev. "And I believe that's the most important lesson [from perestroika and the changes the Soviet Union made]: when some politicians try to change things while ignoring the people, they are doomed to fail."

The topic of Gorbachev's talk was "Perestroika Twenty Years Since," and though he spoke about the past and how perestroika was developed, he devoted a large part of his hour-long speech to current political events, particularly his views on America's war in Iraq and its role in world politics.

"I believe the leaders of today should learn from the Soviet leaders of that time to not interfere in other countries..." said Gorbachev to the applause of the audience. "Democracy only works when

it's home-grown.... [We] need to respect other nations."

Though never mentioning President Bush or his administration by name, many of his criticisms were clearly made with regards to Washington.

"People should not think that democracy by itself will solve problems without addressing the social and economic issues.... [We] have to go to the roots of terrorism—talk about the problems

that cause terrorism," said Gorbachev. "Once again [as during the Cold War] we are being told that war is a way to solve problems. Some leaders, particularly in this country, say that we are fighting a war on terrorism.

The word war is being implanted in our lives. It would seem that we cannot live without war."

Though critical of the United States' leadership on the world scene, Gorbachev stated that he would like to see the relationship between Russia and the United States strengthened. His words came amid recent tensions in the

Russian-US relationship.

Current relations between Russia and the US have been strained since Russia openly disagreed with America's war in Iraq. The two countries also differ in their foreign policy approach of Iran and its nuclear weapons program. Russia was in favor of a diplomatic solution and avoiding taking the matter to the UN Security Council which the US was in support of.

"If we [US and Russia] work together, we can only benefit from that," said Gorbachev. "Russia is ready to be a partner and cooperate with the US. The remaining question is if the US is ready to be an equal partner and cooperate with Russia."

Gorbachev was interrupted a number of times with applause from the audience and left the stage to a standing ovation. Polinkovsky himself was moved by the experience.

"[Gorbachev] is one of my biggest heroes. I think he's amazing. He really went against the party line, and he was brave enough to actually see the problem and confront it..." said Polinkovsky of Gorbachev. "He had the foresight and ability and took on the responsibility of making these significant changes, and that, to me, is very inspiring."

COMMENTARY

The Ratio... of Doom

BY: SONIA TIKOO

Being a woman at Caltech is an interesting experience.

Not that they didn't warn us about it. I remember when I was a prospective student, I got dozens of little fliers, booklets, and whatnot from the esteemed California Institute of Technology. In just about every piece of literature, they mentioned "the ratio," with a tone that just begged to be followed up with "OF DOOM!"

A few of my friends from high school were concerned about this disproportion. I must admit, I was a bit nervous myself. It's not that I didn't know that there were more men than women pursuing scientific careers. It was a blatantly obvious fact, to me at least, from observing my AP Biology class senior year which had 17 guys and 5 girls in it.

To say the men in the class misbehaved would be an understatement. Every day, all the guys would start making incessant sexual references during class, dry-hump each other, or trick a girl into bending over to pick up a dropped item so one of them could grab her from behind and well... one can imagine the reaction there. I could only imagine what the guys at Caltech could be like.

Suffice to say, when I appeared on campus, I was relieved. Granted, there were always random crude jokes being cracked, but I didn't really mind. It was nothing compared to what I was used to. The jokes generally made fun of both genders (though I will not deny most targeted women). I was amused some of the time. The rest, I simply rolled my eyes and pondered the question of how I ever came to be surrounded by this much testosterone.

I had a close female friend, however, who was not amused at all. She was so disgusted by the testosterone-backed humor that she effectively moved out of her House and was seriously considering dropping membership at the time. I suppose the experience is different for everyone.

I was never really glommed. In fact, thanks to my having really,

really, short hair at the beginning of my frosh year, I experienced quite the opposite. The guys tended to think of me as being one of them—even to the point where a group of them wanted me to watch Old School with them one day "because it's got boobs in it!" I wasn't too happy about that proposal. That was disrespectful, and I should have retaliated, but I was too stunned to do anything about it at the time.

There are many girls who get glommed, though. I've seen it. Some girls seem to enjoy the extra attention, beginning to put on makeup and dress up a little to bring on extra attention. Many others are frightened and creeped out. I have found out, by observation over my time here, that yelling "get the hell away from me" at the top of one's lungs is a fairly effective technique to get rid of glommers.

Glomming and its related behaviors are just one example of sexual harassment. It can be argued that sexual harassment abounds just about everywhere in the undergraduate community in one form or another. There are explicit or innuendo-ridden murals in several Houses. For example, Page has an image of Richard "Dick" Nixon, and Dabney used to have random scribbles on its walls, some referring to sexual topics or encounters. My house, Ruddock, has the BFD, which is a satirical newsletter full of off-color humor that is published every other week, and (before my time) used to contain some level of pornography.

It is ironic to see such images and words coming from guys who at all other times are, in my experience, genuinely respectful towards women. I've never seen guys at this school actually berate a woman, outside of friendly humor (in which case the girl gets them back). I've never seen Tech guys grabbing women in a forcible manner with intents of a sexual nature. We even have fairly good "rules" to support women, such as the one-man-rule when trying to shower a girl. Most and foremost, though, we are bound by and adhere to the Honor Code—our sacred code of con-

duct: "No member of the Caltech community shall take unfair advantage of any other member of the Caltech community."

Of course, just because I haven't seen it doesn't mean violations of women don't happen. According to the 2005 Caltech Annual Security Report, there were two reported "forcible sexual encounters," one of which occurred on campus. It not disclosed whether the offenders were Caltech community members, but nevertheless the heinousness of such crimes cannot be ignored.

I guess I could say we are relatively lucky at Caltech, though. Last year, a self-defense instructor from the Women's Center came to speak to the Ruddock women. She told us that one in three women our age in Los Angeles county experiences an assault at one point or another. We're beating the odds.

As much as I wish we lived in a world that completely respects women, the fact is that society still has quite a ways to go before this dream can be a reality. In the meantime, all I can say to my fellow Caltech women is stand up and take proactive action.

For those girls who are feeling overwhelmed by the number of men, or feel like they don't have enough female friends, there are many opportunities to hang out with other girls. Participate in Women's Center programs, get together the girls in your House, or join a women's sports team if you are so inclined. These are just a few of the activities that encourage "girl time," and can be saving graces in an otherwise tough environment.

Caltech's academics torture us enough. We don't have to put up with harassment. If a guy is making you uncomfortable, let him know it. If you're offended by something you see in the Houses, take it up with Excomm. If you're out late at night, call for a security escort. They're probably so bored from the lack of disturbances on campus, they'll love it when you call.

We're talented, hard-working women, and we deserve nothing less than the best.

Censorship is Bitches

BY: BRIAN HANLEY

So apparently, I am too vulgar when I review porn. I try to be honest and tell readers about blank blanking and then this blank blanking is too vulgar for some editors to publish. So instead of using vulgar words in this article, I will use blanks to not offend people with my crudeness.

This is ridiculous. There is no reason to censor me in the paper because I am just explaining the facts of porn. I mean how could you have porn without blank blanking, blank blanking, or blank blanking. Seriously, without blank blanking, porn wouldn't even be porn. So let me review porn and be offensive, because I have freedom of speech, you don't have freedom not to be offended, that would be retarded.

It isn't even just the newspaper, the administration seems to have blankified too. Look at the "scandal" involving the pentagram of Ricketts. Someone was offended because Christianity was not king and because atheism is evil and they blanked to the administration and the administration decided that they have no reason to stand up for traditions of the past, so they

can give in and made Ricketts get rid of a symbol of their house.

Really, it seems like the administration likes to bend over and say, "Hey trustees! Why don't you come over here and fill our blanks with your blanks? We are ready and willing to accept hot streams of your blank." The blankification of the administration cannot be directly traced to any individual in the administration, but since they love to be blanked in their blanks, it really isn't so surprising that we lose the things we have come to cherish in our years at Caltech.

The moral of the story is that the administration likes it in their blanks, so if you don't like that, leave. Transfer out of Caltech, don't come here, whatever, just go to a university that actually deserves the exorbitant amount of money that you have to pay them in tuition because they don't need you here, they don't want you here. Every time the administration gives in to the trustees, they prove to you, me, and anyone else watching, that they don't want us here, they don't need happy students, because they can always find people just like them who just love to get fucked in the ass.

Editorial Response

You have freedom of speech but we have the freedom, nay, the obligation to carefully choose which articles we publish for the benefit of our entire readership.

We have no problem offending people by presenting unpopular beliefs or controversial cartoons. We do have a problem using pointless vulgarity in an article that provides little real value to the vast majority of our readership. I, for one, can find porn well enough on my own, thank you very much.

Indeed, I hereby declare that your articles will never be published in *The Tech* for as long as

I am an editor. You will certainly not find your article on page 8 of this week's Tech so don't even bother looking.

Thanks kindly,
Jon Malmaud
Features and humour editor

Bitches is Hoes

Senator Feingold is NOT Bitches

BY: JOSHUA GUTMAN

Lately I've come to the conclusion that the senate is inherently flawed. This is not to say that I know how to fix it, but due to the disproportionate representation of the middle of the country in comparison with the actual population from this region, the senate has a lot of problems with pork. No I'm not talking about that thing men in Oklahoma men like to give to their daughters, I'm talking about wasteful spending that is caused by the desire of senators to get money for their state whether or not this money is being reasonably spent. But in this wasteland of uselessness there is one light. His name is Russ Feingold.

Unfortunately for Russ Feingold, no matter how much he tries to take lead, the rest of the senate refuses to follow him. Recently Feingold tried to censure the president for his illegal domestic spying, but not a single senator on

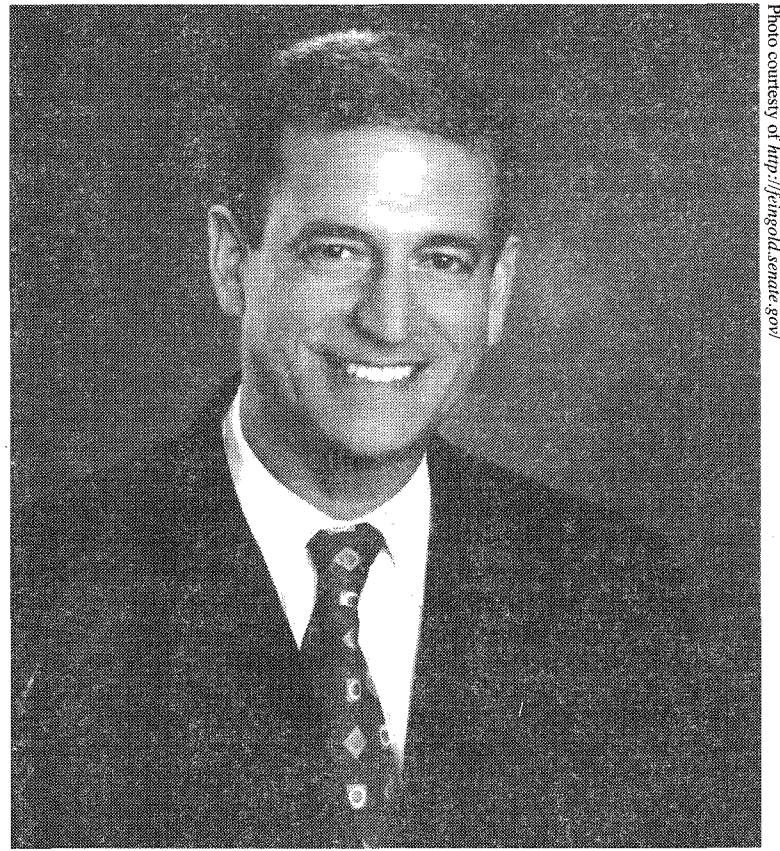
either party was willing to support his motion. In fact, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist called his action a "political stunt" somehow hinting that he had no merit in his claim. This claim of Frist is absolutely typical of the bullshit senators, and particularly a republican senators, try to shove down your throat and tell you it tastes good. However, Feingold obviously isn't looking for political gain from this; he is looking to protect the American people.

Immediately after September 11th, the Senate passed a now controversial bill called the Patriot Act in a 98-1 vote. Who do you ask was the only person with the testicles (sorry Sen. Clinton) to vote against the rest of the senate? Sure enough it was Senator Russ Feingold. Apparently he actually read the bill and realized it was his "patriotic" duty to vote against it, he is clearly not one looking to ride political propaganda. After the holocaust

many questions were raised as to why people were so willing to sit back and watch the Jews die. The reason for this is that most people are afraid of making waves. It is absolutely worthless to have a person in power that is unwilling to stand up for American values, especially to the presidency.

A few more things are worth mentioning to show just how awesome Feingold is. Feingold made a few campaign promises when he was running for office, one of which is that he would not take a single pay raise beyond his salary at the time of his election. He has given already over \$50,000 back to the treasury from money they have paid him. He also has promised to hold a meeting, yes a real meeting not one of Bush's town hall meetings, in each county in Wisconsin which he has kept.

It has become alarmingly apparent that other than Feingold, the Senate is bitches.

Photo courtesy of <http://feingold.senate.gov/>

My War on the War on Drugs

BY: RYAN TSUKAMOTO

Disclaimer: the views of the author may be skewed due to extreme intoxication, but probably are relevant. The author is a fifth-generation Japanese American, and is (however unfortunately) allied with the United States of America, as well as the State of Hawaii.

Okay... Seriously... We have lost the war on drugs. It's high time we realized this fact. I am a Libertarian, but don't think that my choice to join this party has caused me to realize this fact, but rather, this fact has been a main reason why I don't endorse either the Democratic or Republican party. Granted, there are several issues I have with the emphasis of Libertarian ideals with regards to the practicality of immediate implementation of Libertarian ideas such as the legalization of all controlled substances (though I advocate the legalization of Cannabis, a substance that has been given an unwarranted bad rep since the 1920's, when the drug was renamed "Marijuana", whose Hispanic sound made White Americans feel that the drug was the choice drug of Black Jazz artists and led to the same violence attributed to drugs such as cocaine and crystal methamphetamine (a serious problem in my home state of Hawaii, mind you)).

What funded 9/11? Heroin. (<-Period). 90% of the Taliban economy was based on the production of Heroin: a physically addicting substance that is MUCH WORSE than Cannabis. The demand for Heroin is basically constant since the substance itself is very physically addictive, thus, the cutting off the supply of heroin (via policies associated with Nixon's War on Drugs) effectively creates a black market wherein a supplier may manipulate the price (eventually in human lives) to whatever he wants. Since the United States is supposedly a role model for the world, the drug problem in Europe (the majority of Al Qae-

da's revenue as of 9/11), can be blamed on the US lawmakers, as we as a nation have failed at providing an effective method for the reduction of drug abuse. I say we legalize at least the very drug that grows best in the so-called enemy territory: Hashish. Hashish was the drug of choice of the original assassins (so it must be sweet!); it grows in places that are dry (unlike my homeland). It is a joy to smoke, and no study has shown it to be physically addictive (studies have also shown that the vapor containing THC may or may not have a positive effect on cancer. I as a believer in God believe that this is a God-send anti-cancer drug). If there is black-market in the US, then we are to blame for the so-called terrorists who sell the drug to US college students (and professors and ANYBODY, of course) being able to operate in a demand-inelastic black market.

At any rate, the legalization of these controlled substances only means that those who have otherwise toiled to produce crops not ideally suited to their land will be able to produce life-enhancing narcotics such as Cannabis (especially my home state), a drug medically shown to provide aid to those in need of effective pain-reducing drugs. A prime example of this is available online; the first time I read about how Marijuana-dependent victims of chronic diseases grow sativa in a cooperative made me cry in tears of joy at the spirit of the operation. This particular cooperative exists solely because the local police choose to ignore the fact that cultivating Cannabis is a federal crime. I say it's high time to recognize that America's addiction to recreational drug use is both real and problematic under today's legislative position of illegalization. We should be spending these taxpayer dollars on effective treatment programs and research into the effects of these drugs. Once we abandon our idyllic notion of a drug-free America, we will be able to combat the abuse of now-controlled substances in a much more efficient way.

Let me be your Guinea Pig

BY: JEFFREY PHILLIPS

We all know about the budget crisis. Town hall meetings, committees, discussions, contingencies; student programs are experiencing severe cutbacks across the board, and Board and tuition fees are skyrocketing. All the while, Caltech is sitting on a wad of cash big enough to fund research through the next century.

The administration has stated again and again, that that money is earmarked for research. But with all the Nobel laureates at Tech surely someone can devise an experiment which enhances the volume of scientific research put forth by this fine Institute while concurrently enhancing the quality of life experienced by its downtrodden undergraduates.

Consider a Tech where undergraduates participate in experi-

ments to evaluate the effect of gourmet food on the test performance during finals week. Consider a study on how finishing construction on time effects student moral. Consider a new world of creative graft and blessed corruption in which busses filled with bikini-clad models and kegs show up at our parties in the name of science.

I can only guess how the few faculty members might react to such a proposition, but I can safely say that the student response would be overwhelming. As most of these experiments stray away from the hardened sciences, it is clear that a new building be constructed to facilitate the further enrichment of science and its beneficiaries (read Guinea pigs). This building should host a bank of offices filled with well trained accountants, lawyers and sociologists to devise and evaluate new

ways of chipping away at the billions vaulted up for Science. To harbor controlled experiments on student well-being, we should consider adding screening rooms, activity rooms, and a load of other luxuries that were planned for the new student center which, as I understand it, has been scrapped for plans to build a new engineering building.

Siphoning research dollars away from the sciences to enhance student life is wrong, some might say, even disHonorable. So BoC me. Today's students are tomorrows donors, and I can't see students the administration robs today from giving a whole hell of a lot ten or twenty years down the line. If Caltech wants to be the well-endowed institution it hankers to be, we have to start spending with balls.



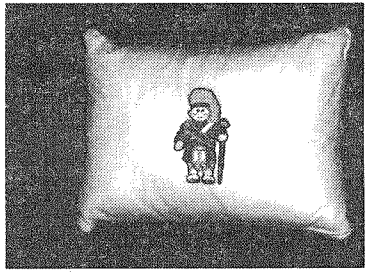
Some beauticians enjoying a festive "Tanning Invitational," in *Real Genius*. If Jeffrey had his way Caltech would be like this.

Photo from *Real Genius*, taken by Jon Seann

Counseling Center

Pillow Talk

BY: Lee H. Coleman, Ph.D.



If there's a common bond that all Techers share, it's probably insomnia. Before your sleep gets too far out of sync this term, here are some tips for better sleep, courtesy of the Counseling Center.

Your mom was right — you really do need between 7 1/2 and 8 hours of sleep each night. Less sleep than that can diminish your concentration and focus, which can ultimately impair your work. Instead of thinking about sleep as time better spent catching up on your work, come to think of sleep as an investment in yourself that will help you do the best work you can.

Theoretically, it's good to try to go to bed at around the same time each night, but we all know that's just not possible most of the time. What's much more practical is to try to get up at around the same time each morning. (Yes, even on weekends...) Getting your body used to a routine can help you sleep more consistently and more restfully.

Try not to nap during the day. If you must, try to do it in the early afternoon, and don't nap for more than 45 minutes. Napping for longer than that can interfere with falling asleep later that night.

Don't read, study, or watch TV in bed. By using your bed only for sleeping, you condition yourself to associate your bed with a restful state instead of being mentally alert.

Try not to eat anything a few hours before bed, and try to avoid caffeine or alcohol a few hours before bed.

Finally, even though it seems intuitive to tire yourself out by exercising before bed, this can actually interfere with falling asleep quickly. If you do exercise, schedule it for at least 4-5 hours before getting in bed.

Lee H. Coleman is a clinical psychologist at the Counseling Center, located in the Health Center on Arden Road.

Interesting in writing a rebuttal or counterpoint to this article? E-mail thetech@caltech.edu and we will ask the counseling center to address your points.

Drink o'the Week

Perchance to Dream

BY: DAN MCLAURY

Regular readers, you brave few, will by now have noted the absence of your usual author. Fear not; Mr. McNamara is alive and well, and shall return his... unique style to this column within an issue or two, sparing of course the unforeseen. In the mean time, I will attempt to provide you with cocktail recipes of similar quality for all your entertainment needs.

Supposing that you are unfamiliar with previous Drinks of the Week, or are simply remarkably unobservant, McNamara's cocktails generally have a few things in common -- a long list of obscure and/or expensive ingredients, mini-

mal regard for actual flavor, and the potential to bestow an acute case of food poisoning on anyone bold enough to consume one. To be sure, raw eggs have been a component of everything from the Prohibition era's Mae West to the Whiskey Sour of the 1960's; in such cases, however, there seemed to be a reason to be putting such a thing into something you planned on drinking raw.

Sometime last week, while listening to him expound on his most recent invention, it came to me -- John McNamara is trying to kill us all. I don't know if he's hoping to blow the curve by getting rid of the competition, or just trying to free up enough housing that he

can knock down the walls of his current single and have an entire hallway to himself, but the sort of things he prints in the paper lead naturally to this and only this conclusion.

But never to fear, gentle reader, for I would never let you come to harm at Mr. McNamara's hands. Not by a long shot. No, if I've got anything to say about it, I'm going to kill you first.

3 oz Noilly Prat Dry Vermouth
3 oz Clorox (R) Regular Bleach
3 oz Ammonia
2 tsp Creme de Menthe
Angostura Bitters
Soda Water

Shake vermouth over ice; discard liquid. Add Clorox, ammonia, and creme de menthe to shaker, shake well with multiple inversions. Strain into an old-fashioned glass,

fill with soda, and add one to three dashes bitters to taste. Garnish with a pufferfish liver.

The next time your study group stays up to the point of delusions without completing anything past the first question on the set, make up a cool pitcher-full or two for your subsequent suicide pact. If the distinctive chloramine aroma doesn't put you right out of this world, the tetrodotoxin packs quite a bit of a punch itself. Chase with a glass of strychnine to avoid any messy convulsions. Best of all, ladies, you don't have to worry about watching your weight; not only a zero-calorie cocktail, it reduces your appetite for the rest of the day to boot!

Editor: Not safe for human consumption

Gay Rocket Scientists!

By: Zack Ramadan '08

This is the second in a series of four articles committed to showcasing LGBTQ issues at Caltech during the month of GAYpril.

I like boys. So what? Okay, who am I kidding? It took me a long time to be able to act so nonchalantly about this part of myself, this secret that I had kept hidden from the world all my life. For three years of high school, I heard the announcements and saw the posters for PULSE, our Gay-Straight Alliance; but I never dared appear interested, much less attend a meeting.

It wasn't until my senior year that I gathered the courage. I came out to one of my teachers, who himself was gay, and together we attended our first PULSE meeting. And it was amazing. Nothing special happened, no twinkly lights or rainbow confetti. No one even knew my name; I was just "kid in the orange sweater". But I felt at home, and accepted, and one hundred percent myself.

Naturally, it wasn't long before I became very involved in PULSE. I helped plan events, made brochures, wrote plays, edited videos, to the point where academics became a second priority.

Soon enough, I was visiting colleges. Like any good queer activist, I paid especial attention to how active each school's GSA was; they all had them. As it turned out, all I was really looking for was an accepting environment; because, as college GSAs went, Caltech's was second-rate.

There is no shortage of queer undergrads here. They just don't seem to be interested in involving themselves in any social or activist capacity with other LGBTQ techers.

Even though it took me almost two terms to do it, I thought coming out at Caltech was rather painless. Maybe I'm wrong, maybe I've just been lucky, but I would venture to credit the House System for this phenomenon.

The family-like support engen-

dered by the House System is such that LGBTQ undergrads don't feel excluded or unaccepted. Quite the contrary, we feel so comfortable and so accepted that we feel little need for an active GSA, and therefore don't get involved. That, and we're insanely busy all the time.

Nevertheless, I made an immediate effort during my freshman year to get involved. I went to the Tuesday night discussions and the Wednesday coffee hours. Eventually, I found that many queer grad students, who during their undergraduate years had been much more active, were just as displeased as I was with the lack of activity on campus.

Remnants of the Caltech Student Pride Association still existed; but apart from a dusty box of pamphlets and a few pride flags, the group had pretty much fizzled.

The ball finally started rolling again when Miriam Feldblum from the Office of the President contacted us about signing on to the MHF proposal for the LGBTQ Lending Library. Suddenly, we were establishing relationships with administrators. We were being referred to by our new name, PRISM. We got noticed, and then we got money.

This year started off wonderfully. After a week of well attended orientation events, and a Coming Out Week that enlisted several undergraduate volunteers, things were looking up. We organized a trip to see RENT, and there were more straight allies there than there were gay bois!

And then it stopped. Finals rolled around, winter break arrived, and in the new year involvement slowed. In January we started a monthly film series, but attendance has been slim. That's why GAYpril is happening. We want to raise awareness and stir up the al-

GAYpril Events

LGBT & Allies Discussion Group
Tuesday, April 11th
7:30 - 9:30pm
Health and Counseling Center
Conference Room

PRISM Coffee Hour
Wednesdays, April 12th & 19th
3:00 - 4:00pm
The Red Door Café

Dinner and a Movie: "Adam and Steve"
Friday, April 14th
6:00 - 11:00pm
Meet at Holliston and San Pasteral

Lunch Discussion: LGBT Activism and Advocacy
Monday, April 17th
12:00 - 1:00pm
LGBTQ Lending Library
2nd Floor Center for Student Services

What's the T for?: Discussion of Transgender Issues
Tuesday, April 18th
7:30 - 9:30pm
Health and Counseling Center
Conference Room

LGBTQ Graduate Student Social Hour
Thursday, April 20th
7:00 - 8:00pm
The Rathskeller

LGBT Film Series: "Licensed to Kill"
Tuesday, April 25th
7:00 - 9:00pm
LGBTQ Lending Library
2nd Floor of Center for Student Services

Prefresh Club Fair
Friday, April 21st
4:00 - 5:30pm
The Moore Walk

National Day of Silence
Wednesday, April 26th
Sign up with your RA or at a PRISM Coffee Hour; or email us.
More info at www.daysofsilence.org.

Breaking the Silence Dinner & Rev. Susan Russell to Speak on Same-Sex Marriage
Wednesday, April 26th
6:00 - 8:00pm
Avery Library

Healthy Relationship Series: "Out and About"
Thursday, April 27th
5:30 - 6:30pm
LGBTQ Lending Library
2nd Floor Center for Student Services

Women's Social and Barbecue
Friday, April 28th
5:00 - 8:00pm
E-mail PRISM to learn more.



Any Questions? E-mail PRISM at caltech.pride@gmail.com

To subscribe to our anonymous e-mail lists, please visit rainbow.caltech.edu

lies. We want to celebrate being LGBT, and we want you to bear witness.

We might not be able to keep the programming as dense as it will be this month, but we'd like to try. To be successful, we need help. So visit our website, come to our events, show your support, and maybe lend a hand. Help us regain our visibility.

Last year, PRISM marched in the LA Pride Parade. We had undergrads, grad students, staff, and even some JPL folks. As we marched down Santa Monica Boulevard behind the Trojan van, we heard some rather amusing shouts from the crowds that lined the sidewalk. My absolute favorite was "Yay! Gay rocket scientists!" Supporters were actually excited to see us. They always knew we were out there somewhere, but suddenly we were involved. We're marching again this year. Join us.

Visit PRISM's website at <http://rainbow.caltech.edu> to learn more about upcoming events in GAYpril.

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Board Costs Explained

BY: DAVID CHEN

The reason that the 7-day board plan was proposed was for Caltech Dining Services to produce more profits. CDS, however, has consistently been losing money on the dining services in Avery. Avery was started eight years ago as an experiment, combining undergraduates with graduate students and faculty.

The dining facility was not designed in a self-sufficient manner, given the occupancy of 125 undergraduates, 25 graduate students, and a few faculty members. "It's a large dining room... the physical layout requires a certain number of bodies."

Mr. Mallie cited a need for greater attendance. He estimates that roughly 200 people need to regularly eat at Avery for it to break even.

Adding to the financial difficulties at Avery, the building was never fully paid for, so a loan was needed. The interest for this loan costs roughly \$50,000 per year.

Further decisions have also made the situation worse. For example, the undergraduates and graduate students wanted declining balance, so that they could have more flexibility about when and where they ate. In another example, the graduate students received a 50% discount on the board rate last year, after lobbying that they felt Avery was too expensive for them. Mr. Mallie felt that "it was a mistake to do

that because... it creates a deeper hole."

For this academic year, Mr. Mallier wanted Avery to use the same board plan as the rest of the houses. This would include open kitchen, which would have allowed students living in the mods to also have convenient access to open kitchen. "I felt like this would have been a win-win for everybody," with one effect of keeping more money in Avery.

Mr. Mallier emphasized that CDS as attempted numerous ways to encourage more people to eat in Avery. For example, they've tried a mini-Chandler and an Asian concept in attempts to appeal to people's desires. In fact, an outside company asked focus groups for their opinions on possible food choices. They reported a desire for "a moderately-priced bistro environment with California cuisine" so Citrus Bistro was created.

Currently, students on the normal board plan are allowed two meals per week at Avery. Occasionally, 130-140 people may eat at Avery on a given night, possibly alleviating the lack of customers at Avery, but this option mainly exists to give students flexibility.

The cost of food at Avery is actually quite low, at only 32% of the overall costs. The problem is that the facility design requires high labor costs. While CDS has minimized the number of people required to operate Avery, many

costs are unavoidable. For example, there are two separate dish-washing rooms with incompatible equipment, one for only plates and the other for pots. "We've taken everything to the bare minimum. There's no fat in our organization in terms of bodies."

Mr. Mallier has suggested shutting down Avery on a financial basis, "but the campus has made a decision to have a certain program and it comes with a cost." Reflecting on his prior experience at large schools such as Stanford, Mr. Mallier noted that the structure of Caltech's board program makes it inherently expensive. Estimating that about 700 students are on the board program, he stated, "Any other school would feed 700 undergrads with one facility, with one kitchen. I could serve 700 undergrads with

three cooks, for example; I could serve everybody. But here, we have 700 undergrads in three facilities: the South Kitchen, the North Kitchen, and Avery."

The missed meals actually have negligible impact on the profits of the board program because CDS must cook enough food for all students paying for the program. While a certain number of students may be expected to miss each meal, the smaller size of Caltech makes this too difficult.

"We tried this in the past. We tried to run this tighter" but Page House, which gets its dinner last, would sometimes not get enough food. "I felt it was too many battles, and it was not worth it."

Mr. Mallier wanted to emphasize that board programs across colleges around the nation are pressured to raise money for their schools. For example, the average private institution returns 15.1% of its revenues as profits.

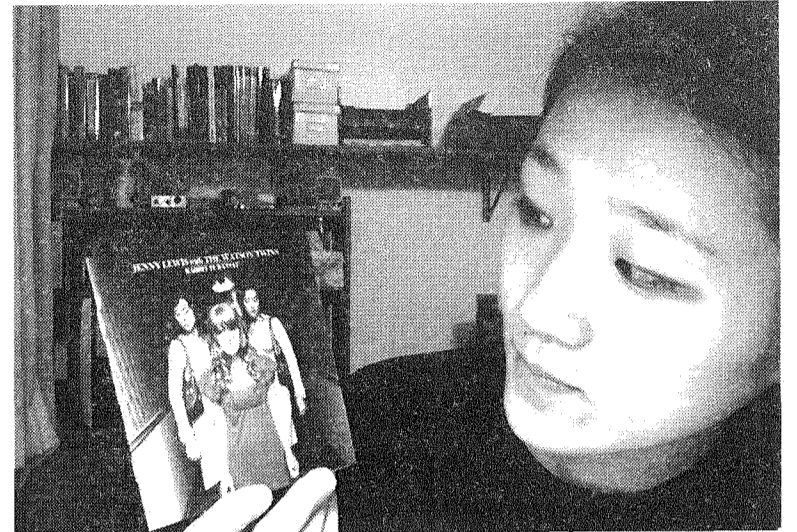
Prefrosh Weekend

BY: TODD GINGRICH

As we have known for some time now Prefrosh Weekend will only be two days this year. While I'm looking forward to these two days of fun, I'm obviously a little frustrated that the event has been shortened due to budget cuts. I have faith that this is not the direct fault of Caltech admissions, which promises to restore Prefrosh Weekend to its proper length in the future. Nevertheless this is another of a string of obnoxious changes that have annoyed students this year. With all of these changes I could understand why a current student might not be terribly pleased with Caltech. It is not unheard of for such displeasure to be conveyed to prefrosh during Prefrosh Weekend. While swaying prefrosh away from Caltech may sometimes seem like the only leverage we have against administrators, I strongly discourage the practice.

Personally I feel that I would have preferred to have come to Caltech when I did two years ago rather than entering the institution during this upcoming year. I believe that the recent changes are making Caltech a less desirable place for undergraduates. However, despite preferring the Caltech of the past, I feel that I still would prefer the Caltech of today over any other school. I think that this is an important distinction for undergraduates to consider before talking with prefrosh. I realize that some students really do wish they were at another school, in which case they should feel free to honestly share those sentiments, but I encourage you to make a concerted effort to accurately express your feelings. We will gain nothing from skewing our opinions to unnecessarily scare people away from Caltech.

The lines of communication during this past year have left something to be desired, but communication is improving drastically as of late. As we saw with the ending of the 7 day board plan, several of the initial decisions were reconsidered and reversed. Administrators have been soliciting information from ASCIT and the IHC on a regular basis, and I have every reason to believe that we will continue to see positive changes in the near future.



Jenny Lewis and the Watson Twins: Rabbit Fur Coat

BY: CINDY KO

Side projects are the new band. No joke—think of all the bands you like, and a good number of them I assure you, have side projects. (Greenday has Pinhead Gunpowder, Death Cab for Cutie has the Postal Service. Weezer has three: the Space Twins, the Special Goodness, and Homie.) Usually, it's a drummer/side guitarist/bassist thing, but sometimes the odd lead singer will decide that he or she wants another band of his/her own. At some point, it does get a little ridiculous. Musician friends will switcharoo in an incestuous mess in hopes that a winning combination exists. When things get dull, musically, breaking solo is also a popular thing to do.

Jenny Lewis and the Watson Twins fit in somewhere in the middle. Lewis is the frontman of the celebrated indie rock band, Rilo Kiley, who has gone on tours opening for the Postal Service and Bright Eyes. Lewis also lent her vocals to these bands' albums, as well. Rabbit Fur Coat is the answer to all the times she sung someone else's side project.

The album is an old-time folk record made in modern times. Lewis sings with a southern drawl, wailing about her troubles and loves, God, and her "momma"'s advice. Kind of like Patsy Cline or something. It's completely different from her vocals on Postal Service and Bright Eyes tracks. On tracks like, "Melt Your Heart," her sweet vocals make mediocre songs sound great. It's close to being a break-out solo project, but it's nowhere near the level of Patsy Cline, if that's what she's aiming for. One of the weakpoints is its lack of edge; to me, she still sounds like she's trying to sound like someone else, instead of concentrating on her own sound. Another weakpoint is that the best song on the record is actually the

song that she didn't write and she shares the lead vocals for. (Not a good thing on your solo album.) It's the hit, "Handle With Care," by the Traveling Wilburys-- not surprisingly a side project of George Harrison, Tom Petty and Bob Dylan, among others. Ben Gibbard from the Postal Service and Conor Oberst from Bright Eyes provide wonderfully sung vocals to the old favorite. I like playing this song on repeat, a lot. The song has a lot of dimensions; simple, but cute lyrics paired with a melody featuring well-constructed bridges between parts. Ugh, isn't it terrible that I review one band and I end up praising another? Well, part of the reason why Lewis' album can't stand on its own is probably because Lewis still has a relatively young career in music. When she gets as old as Bob Dylan or Tom Petty, things will probably have shaped up by then.

Anyway, through all this, I don't know what the Watson Twins have anything to do with anything. They just provide backup-- church-choir style harmony-- and stand creepily behind Lewis on the CD cover.

The verdict stands that Rabbit Fur Coat is a commendable first solo effort on Lewis's part, but not enough for her to quit Rilo Kiley completely. I would stand by the opinion that it's sort of a boring record, and unless you absolutely love Jenny Lewis, don't get it. -- Remember when I mentioned the 'winning combination' earlier? That's the Traveling Wilburys. If you haven't already, you should give them a listen because you pretty much can't lose with this so-called, 'superband.'

See you next week. I freaking finally have music to review again: Morrissey's and the Yeah Yeah Yeahs' new records, and the Arctic Monkeys.

Grade: B+



Ming & Ping Reviewed

BY: JAVIER SOLIZ

Concert Date: Friday 24 March 2006

Ming & Ping is a New Wave outfit that knows how to throw a "spicy party." They are originally from Hong Kong and have been living in San Francisco for the past few years. The Ming & Ping Dynasty came to LA straight from San Francisco to play in The Knitting Factory (in Hollywood) and they didn't come alone. With them was a team of hot dancing girls, a hip-hopping Sun Wokong (the Monkey King from Journey to the West) playing the cymbals and people in full Chinese Opera regalia.

The show started out innocent enough -- Ming was carried to the stage in a traditional jiaozhi (or palanquin) and was followed by the imperial guard, Ping was out of sight but projected onto a large screen where he mixed the tracks for the show. Ming of course led the entire party

and incited the crowd into a steamy, spicy, swarm of dancing goodness. The show was loaded with tracks from their newest album, MP2, which is a must buy if you are at all interested in music that doesn't suck.

At some point during the show I was pulled on stage, stripped and changed into a Ming & Ping t-shirt and told to play the cowbell. Who's going to argue with that? I started off o.k. in keeping the rhythm, but suddenly I was attacked by Ming's imperial guard of hotties. Needless to say, this gave me a bit of "assistance" in my cowbell playing. A few songs later I was walking though the crowd having a great time.

If you ever get the chance, catch Ming & Ping live and be sure to buy their album. If you don't go for the music, go for the people. After the show the group is glad to hang around and sign albums. The best way to purchase their music is by going to <http://www.mingping.com>.

Fencers Compete in Regional Championship

BY: VANESSA HECKMAN

Four techers competed in the NCAA Western Region Fencing Championship, held on March 4th at Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs: Senior Team Captain Vanessa Heckman placed 5th of 12 in Women's Sabre, Park Cram placed 9th of 12 in Men's Foil, and David Romney and Tony Gross placed 11th and 12th, respectively, in Men's Sabre.

To qualify for the Western Championship, fencers had to have fenced a minimum of 15 NCAA bouts during the season with a winning record of at least 20%.

John McNamara also qualified for the event in Men's Epee but was not able to attend.

Caltech, Air Force, Stanford, UCSD, and CSU Fullerton competed at the meet.

The format of the regional

tournament was rounds of pools followed by direct elimination (DE) bouts with each place fenced out. Performance in pools was used to eliminate 20% of the fencers and to do the seeding for the DE bouts.

Park made it out of pools with one victory, but lost his first DE. Vanessa had three victories and two defeats in her first round of pools, and one victory and three defeats in her second round of pools. She lost her first DE, and won the next two DEs. Despite a victory by David, neither David nor Tony made it out of pools.

Western regionals were used as a qualifier for NCAA Nationals. To qualify, fencers were ranked based on a combination of their tournament performance and season record. From the Western NCAA Division, two fencers were selected from each of the following weapons: Men's and Women's

Sabre, Men's and Women's Foil, and Women's Epee. Four fencers were selected from Men's Epee. Caltech did not qualify any fencers for nationals this year.

Nationals were held at Rice University in Houston, Texas. 24 fencers from NCAA colleges competed in each of the six events (Men's and Women's Sabre, Foil and Epee). Harvard finished first, followed closely by Penn State and Ohio.

During the past season, Caltech competed in the Southern California Intercollegiate Fencing Conference and fenced against teams from UCSD, USC, CSUF, UCI, UCLA, UCSB and ASU.

The Men's Sabre team finished third in the conference, while the Women's Epee team finished fourth. Individually, Vanessa placed first in Women's Sabre,

and David placed fourth in Men's Sabre

According to Assistant Coach Cedric Anen, the team showed a lot of improvement in the tactical understanding of fencing this season, and they managed to upset strong schools such as USC and UCLA. As only a few people on the team are seniors, he is looking forward to another strong season next year.



Park William Cram makes his opponent look retarded.

Photo by Glenn Wagner

Recent Results

* = Conference Matches

Baseball:

4/7: La Sierra Univ. (Home): L, 7-15

Women's Tennis:

4/7: Univ. of LaVerne* (Home): L, 4-5

4/8: Occidental* (Home): L, 1-8

Men's Tennis:

4/7: Concordia Univ. (Home): L, 0-7

4/8: Occidental* (Home): L, 1-6

Women's Water Polo:

4/5: Occidental* (Home): L, 4-16

4/8: Pomona-Pitzer* (Home): L, 3-15

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, April 11th

3:00PM - Baseball @ Occidental

Wednesday, April 12th

5:00PM - Women's Water Polo @ Whittier

Friday, April 14th

9:00AM - M/W Track & Field @ Pomona-Pitzer Invitational

All-Day - SCIAC Women's Tennis Championships @ La Verne

All-Day - SCIAC Men's Tennis Championships @ Caltech

Saturday, April 15th

All-Day - SCIAC Women's Tennis Championships @ La Verne

All-Day - SCIAC Men's Tennis Championships @ Caltech

11:00AM - Women's Water Polo @ La Verne

1:00PM - Baseball @ Whittier

Sunday, April 16th

All Athletic Facilities Closed - Easter

HOUSING OFFICE CORNER

Undergraduate Fall Housing Lottery Information Important Dates to Remember

Tuesday April 4	5:00 p.m. Cards must be returned to the Housing Office
Friday April 7	Housing Office posts Lottery Numbers for Unaffiliated room picks
Thursday April 13	1:30 p.m. Marks Early Lottery (Housing Office - Center for Student Services)
Monday April 24	Seven Houses room pick results and Avery early lottery results are due to the Housing Office
Friday April 28	Re-post lottery numbers for unaffiliated room picks
Thursday May 4	1:30 p.m. Unaffiliated Lottery (Housing Office - Center for Student Services)
Friday May 26	5:00 p.m. Contracts due to Housing Office.

If you have questions please contact us or stop by our office.

Housing Office

Building 86, 1st Floor

Ext. 6176 / Email: housing@caltech.edu

<http://housing.caltech.edu/undergrad/>

Tired of CDS lunches and dinners?

\$2.00 Burger, Fries, and Drink

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Porn Review

Cramped Hands

BY: BRIAN HANLEY

Everyone has their own tastes. Some like it missionary, some like it doggie, some need a dark red handkerchief worth of nasty. I have my slightly askew tastes as well, but what I really like is just run-of-the-mill slender, well-rounded babes in a little sapphic action, maybe a bit of solo fun, and all kinds of standard hide the sausage action. I want to see the ladies. Their makeup covered faces, their probably fake fun bags, and preferably a neat and trim playing field because the only time a chick is naturally bare, they're probably 10, and unlike some people, I'm no pedophile. So seriously, if you're going to shave down there, just neat and trim. give the baby maker a light

residence hidden away from the normal hustle and bustle of urban living. Even in the middle of nowhere, the most indecent acts are not far from these cameramen.

The Villa starts out with the main character helping a young starlet learn the tricks of the trade. "Seduce the camera" she says and so begins the first scene. We watch as this eager fresh meat with her small pancakes starts to dance. The scene continues as the other people in the scene (the cameraman and the main character) join in to give the skirts the old slippery Pete. Two dudes and two chicks in an all around boner-biting, jiggly wiggly-thrusting, hymen-busting, bowel-tickling fun fest.

The film goes on with more knob-bobbing and pink-punching goodness. Released during Janine Lindemulder's short-lived return to porn, this is a film to see. If she isn't what you're looking for, Tianna Lynn, Jassie, or Haley Page fill out the rest of the cast nicely. You can look forward to some FFM (two girls, one guy), some individual pleasure, some lesbian tomfoolery, and many positions you might find in the Kama Sutra. And for those of you who thought it wasn't possible, there is even some vagina rain.

There are all kinds of reason to go pick this one up.

With hot women and serious grind, there is little reason to turn down The Villa. The plot is a little simple and the scene splicing is a bit obvious, but it doesn't take much away from this one. I give The Villa 8 specimen cups, definitely something to see, but probably not a movie to be the workhorse of your collection.



Photo from Bink181 CD cover

beard. Ms. Janine Lindemulder

But I digress. You are probably looking for a title at the top and specimen cups somewhere near the bottom. Should you run out to Penny Lane and rent Transsexual Slaves? Well, I don't know, that's not what I saw this week, and really, that's kind of nasty. No, this week's selection is The Villa, about a woman who leaves the big city to get away from distractions only to find that her writer's block continues even at a

Quitting Coke, Like Michael Irvin Didn't

BY: HAMILTONY FALK

Apparently Vanilla Coke has been discontinued, replaced by the nasty (I know, I've tried it) Black cherry-Vanilla flavor (*Editor: I like the new flavor*). This seems to have been done for several reasons:

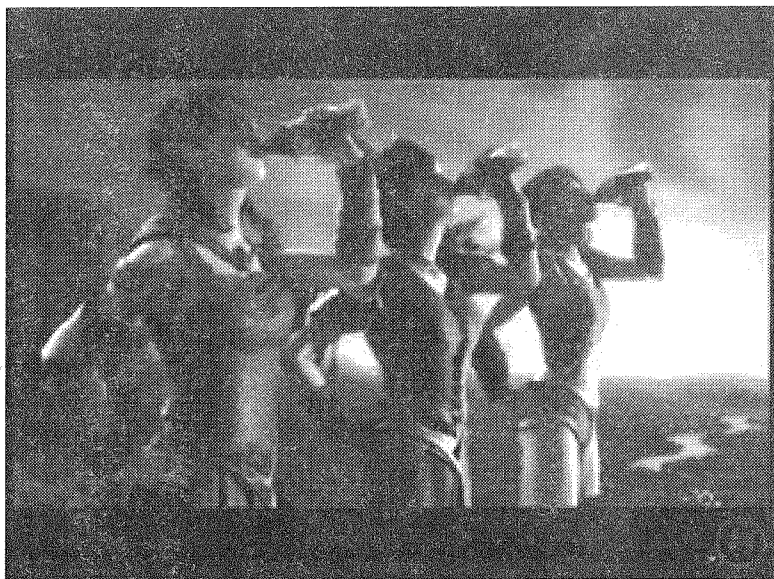
1) Coke's whole promotion of Vanilla Coke was "hey, try it, it's different. Come on, try it, please? Just try it, or there will be problems, aite?" Which is good to get people started, but they never tried anything else. Sure it's a better strategy than Diet Pepsi's using the term 'brown and bubbly' since it rates much better in the key category of not having a slogan that reminds people of untreated sewage, but perhaps Coke could have attempted a little bit of a better marketing campaign? Perhaps a slogan like 'Vanilla Coke: Hitler didn't drink it, maybe you should' would help keep sales up.

2) Some people (I am not one of them, I LOVE Vanilla Coke.) think Vanilla Coke tastes somewhat mediciney. Maybe those people have had better tasting medicine than I have, or maybe they shot a bottle rocket up their nose as a child and ruined their taste buds. Regardless, there is no accounting for taste, by which I mean literally no accounting department can make a profit selling to people who don't

like the product. Except maybe Microsoft(1).

3) Coke hates me, despite the fact that I genuinely like Coke, and hate Pepsi, even though many people think they taste the same (those people are liars, Pepsi tastes

includes that nasty after-taste you get from the caffeine free Diet Coke my mom always buys tons of, but no one drinks any of it, and then it sits in our basement forever and eventually someone decides, eh, it's soda, and drinks one sip, then leaves the mostly full can by the sink for a while). If you're going to discontinue a drink flavor, don't follow up with one that is the same idea (except



Even tightly-clad World of Warcraft avatars enjoy a long, refreshing drought of Coca-Cola branded products.

like rat piss that is past it's sell by date, while Coke, especially Coke from a can in a tall glass with ice, is like heaven on crack). This may be because I got picked before Coke for a game of kickball in 4th grade, but that's just speculation(2). 4) Coke hates America.

Now, I don't know what the sales figures were for Vanilla Coke, but I can't believe that it was so much more expensive to make than regular Coke. And the fact that some people (like me) would go out of their ways to find and drink it should justify any additional cost. I believe that the formula was to take some Coke, add some vanilla flavoring, and sell it. This is the same strategy used with Cherry Coke and Cherry Coke has been continued for all these years, right? It's not as if this is fruit flavored Pepsi, or a soda that is based on the taste of grapefruit. Vanilla Coke has got to sell better than Fresca.

nasty) but stronger. That's like a diet that replaces eating candy with eating bacon and onion rings, one step forward and two steps back.

At least I can hate Coke back, and for now at least I'm quitting soda, and you should too. I do this every once and a while, because soda is like candy, it's just good tasting empty calories and that is no good for you. But it does taste oh-so-good. Regardless, because Coke doesn't think I'm good enough for it, I quit3. If Coke has a problem with that, it can suck on a lemon. But please, don't put that lemon into a Coke flavor, because there is lemon-lime soda, and there is cola, and if you mix them, it tastes nasty. I know, I've tried it.

(Footnotes)

- 1 Burn.
- 2 In this context, speculation = a lie.
- 3 For now. Unless the soda is free. I'm cheaper than I am vindictive or health conscious.

In addition, the replacement novelty style Coke flavor is even more mediciney (and

Comics

G.L.O.M. - Greg's Life of Misery

	<p>This exercise will train your reaction time, trigger response time, attention to detail and cognitive speed.</p>
--	---

Greg: WHAT??? This is the training program?

Like regular solitaire except with more mafia.

Loading.....10%

Mafia Guy: We sort of ran out of funding...

By Nathan Lau

Irrational Exuberance

<p>This week I am trying to write a poem for the writing contest.</p> <p>Comic shoddiness may result.</p>		<p>...</p>	<p>"I like oranges?"</p> <p>Clearly, lack visi...</p>
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Brief News

BY: JON MALMAUD

Presidential search committee results announced: Congratulations Todd Gingrich and Imperial probe droid x5437

Fleming retaliates, fires cannon into MIT dorm;

Spanish-American war reignited

Scientists study transformers, find more than meets the eye, less than meets the tunnelling electron microscope

Highlander like fermions per energy level: There can only be one

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