

Budget cuts meet financial goals, though removing staff

One year after announcement, Dean Currie has almost met his \$28 million mark

BY: ANNA HISZPANSKI

When Caltech announced plans last year to make up 28 million dollars in its budget in order to stabilize its growing deficits, the task appeared daunting. Now, nearly a year after Caltech's major financial reevaluation, The Tech sat down with representatives of several groups of Caltech to learn the scope of the budget cuts, their progress, and how they have affected Caltech on a larger basis.

"With the expense reductions, we've met [nearly] every goal we've had..." said Vice President for Business and Finance Dean Currie. "Ninety-five percent of what we wanted to achieve, we've achieved."

However, the success has, of course, come with a price. According to Currie, attrition, the process of not replacing staff as they leave and thus reducing the overall number of employees, has

been the primary method of budget reductions for many departments. He estimates that overall there are 150 fewer positions on campus today than there were last year.

Housing ultimately cut 20 custodian positions, mainly by retirements and transfers to other departments, according to Housing Director Tim Chang. Likewise, IMSS (Information Management Systems and Services), in an effort to cut its budget by roughly twenty percent, reduced its previously 147 person staff by 36 people, making it among the departments with the greatest loss of positions.

However, despite the decrease in staff, responsibilities of these departments largely remain the same.

"People obviously have a lot on their plates. We are pretty much doing everything we did before. Certain projects now take longer than before because fewer people are working on them," said IMSS

Chief Information Office Rich Fagen. "When we didn't replace people who left, those duties got shifted on those that stayed. We're trying to not let it affect the level of service that the rest of the campus sees."

"When we cut things, we made sure they weren't close to the Caltech core of genius and research."

-Dean Currie

Academics and research have also felt a similar, though less severe, impact, as the Division Chair of Physics, Mathematics, and Astronomy (PMA) Division, Professor Thomas A. Tombrello, explained:

"The amount of money for teaching assistants in [the PMA Division] has dropped slightly

in the last few years, but in addition we have needed to give cost-of-living raises; thus, there are fewer teaching assistants than in the past," wrote Tombrello in an email response. "Typically, this means the professors and the remaining TAs just work a bit harder."

Tombrello states that due to cuts over the past five years, the PMA Division has not been able to keep salary increases equal to the increase in cost of living—one year even freezing salaries entirely. He also states that one way the Division has been dealing with the reduced budget is by deferring improvements, such as painting and funding new experiments in teaching labs, which are typically done on a regular basis.

However, in deciding budget cuts, Currie says the reductions were structured in such a way as to minimize the effect on teaching and research.

"It's often a mistake that organizations make that they cut across

the board," said Currie. "When we cut things, we made sure they weren't close to the Caltech core of genius and research."

Most students agree that their academic lives have been for the most part unaffected, but are dissatisfied with some of the changes made to student life, as former ASCIT President Todd Gingrich relates:

"It's more the non-academic sides that have been hurt more. I think the major complaint in general has been the necessity for shift from this really strange way of operation and life to a more normal one. Even when from a business point of view some things Caltech did were really atypical, there were all these little perks that seemed so nice, like 'The school really cares about me—they do these weird things.'" said Gingrich, referring to such perks as free campus parking and room cleaning. "And

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Women's table tennis ranked 8th in nation



Photo by: Matthew Glassman

Jiaqui Guo returns a hit from Janet Sheung during a practice at Caltech. Guo, a freshman, is the top ranked female table tennis player in Southern California; the women's team is second in SoCal only to USC after a February 11 tournament. Full story on page 5.

CDS goes Creole on Mardi Gras

Peter Daily to continue fun dinner plans for undergraduates

BY: LEIGHLAND FEINMAN

After an administration which focused on serving customers outside the undergraduate community, new CDS General Manager Peter is planning a variety of new additions to the Board plan following the success of last week's Mardi Gras celebration.

Among the upcoming events for undergraduates is a "Midnight Madness" event in Chandler at the start of finals. Starting at 11:45 PM on March 13th, breakfast foods will be served by CDS personnel and even some well-known Housing Department administrators. The Housing Department has offered to pick up the bill for this event, making it free to students.

The old favorite of In n' Out dinner is staying in the CDS events list. A change of pace that students have often looked forward to, the In n' Out truck is scheduled to come to campus for dinner in early May.

The Mardi Gras dinner, which took place on the Olive Walk on Tuesday, February 20th, was hyped by CDS employees a week earlier with piñatas brought to each House dinner. The festivities, which replaced the normal house dinner for that evening, included over 2,000 beads and the popular fried alligator that was served. Daily told the Tech that the Food Committee went to the Raging Cajun restaurant before the event to select the most interesting entrees for the event.

Mardi Gras represents part of a new initiative by CDS to make

dinners more fun, and to improve customer service. Events like it were slated to replace the weekly Avery dinner provided by the Board plan under Andre Mallié; under the new scheme, CDS will provide occasional, more festive meals. Daily indicated,

"You guys are a very major part of customer service, and we need to build rapport." And from Peter Daily's perspective, building rapport means "new, fun, adventurous foods," and an emphasis on responding to student feedback.



Photo by: Matthew Glassman

Peter Daily, new CDS General Manager, engages in Mardi Gras festivities last Tuesday.

Sports Etiquette: cheering against teams is not attractive

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Managing the Honor Code: evolution of the BOC and CRC

BY: CRAIG MONTUORI

This is the first week of a new column continuing Yang Yang's work in starting a discussion about Caltech history as it relates to student life. However, over the next few weeks, the focus will be on providing information about the Honor Code and the history of the various enforcement mechanisms that students have developed.

As a full disclosure, the columns over the next few weeks will be in support of the new ASCIT VP/Board of Control (BoC) Chair's plan to revamp his position through several bylaw changes, creating an Honor Chair position. Additionally, the author was part of initial discussions that developed into the changes now being considered.

Potential Honor Code or school policy violations get sent to either the BoC, the Conduct Review Committee (CRC) or to the Deans directly through the Routing Committee, which both board chairs sit on, among other administrators. The decisions by the BoC are recommendations that are routinely followed by the Deans. Additionally, the Deans co-chaired the CRC up until recently, with one on the initial review and one handling the appeals. Although the student position is now called the Chair, as opposed to the Co-Chair, the Deans

still play a large role within the CRC.

Before the '97-'98 school year, there was no CRC, which deals with school policy violations as its primary job and non-academic violations of the Honor Code as its secondary job. In fact, it took a few years after that for the CRC to be created, but the impetus for the board's creation gathered steam following an incident in Ricketts courtyard late one night in January.

A freshman was badly burned following an accident with a Ricketts fireball (it involves fire and sawdust), in which an amount of sawdust was thrown through the fire, hitting this freshman in the face. He was fully bearded and also ended up inhaling some amount of the flaming sawdust. He was in the hospital for quite a while, but fortunately, he was okay in the long run. His parents decided that college students will be college students, and they also decided that since the school is not responsible for the poor decision making skills of many of the students here they wouldn't sue. However, this didn't stop administrators, specifically former Dean Revel, from taking an extremely hard line with the students who screwed up.

Prior to this event, Ricketts had agreed to no longer create any fireballs on campus. The kids involved broke this agreement and someone got hurt. They went to their house

president asking what they should do to accept responsibility for their actions, and the president recommended that under the Honor Code, they should turn themselves in. When they did, Dean Revel declared that under this situation, the Honor Code was not applicable to these students. As a result, these students were declared Persona Non Grata (PNG) in Ricketts by Dean Revel, and they were forced to move off campus. Charges against them were considered, as was expulsion from the school. There was a whole issue of the Tech following this incident devoted to editorials about it and about the mandated punishment for the students involved.

Students were extremely incensed by this decision. While no one argued that these kids didn't deserve some sort of punishment for their actions, in the past, we had always dealt with these situations on our own. The BoC dealt with everything related to the Honor Code, which over the decades has come to mean just about everything in student life.

It was only during the '90s that things started to change. First, it was decided that sexual harassment and then violations of the Drug and Alcohol policy did not fall under the BoC's jurisdiction. After the Ricketts incident, the Director of Residence Life, Kim West, declared that there should be a board comprised of "fac-

ulty, administrators, and students" that would oversee the Honor Code for non-academic issues. She said that she had brought up the issue when she first arrived on campus and was surprised to hear that the "response was less than favorable" from students.

During the '98-'99 school year, Professor Chris Brennen, who was VP of Student Affairs at the time, headed a committee, the Committee on Student Government and Administrative Action (COS-GAA), that eventually recommended setting up the CRC. This was done with student input, though it is unclear exactly how much support this process had among students at the time. Following this committee's report, in the fall of 1999, the members of COS-GAA presented their proposal to each of the undergraduate Houses. The first members of the CRC were appointed for the '00-'01 school year. Up until two years ago, student representatives were appointed by a joint interview from representatives from the ASCIT BoD and the IHC, as part of the transition to representatives being appointed by the Houses, today's process.

In 2004, the division between the BoC and the CRC was formalized under Galen Loram, BoC Chair at the time and later ASCIT President, who headed the BoC during a time when it was being overwhelmed with cases. The period from 2001-2004 had

increasing numbers of Honor Code violations (from 10-15 a year to over 20), which made it increasingly difficult for the BoC to deal with. Looking at a larger period of time, (thanks to Ted Jou's, '03, report) it is noted that the number of Honor Code violations has expanded from under five a year through 1955 to over twenty a year a few years back.

As a result of the events a few years back, today we have the BoC and the CRC covering cases formerly covered entirely by the BoC, but with the expansion of the Honor Code, as understood by students, a much wider array of issues has to be dealt with each year. Ted classifies this latest expansion of how the Honor Code works here as: "Rather than coming from the actions of motivated students, this most recent honor system reform came from the student affairs administration... The honor system, which grew from a rule governing only exams to become synonymous with the Board of Control, has now outgrown the BoC."

Following the Honor Code survey of the past year, it looks like some major changes are in the works for the Honor Code boards over the next few months, culminating at the Student-Faculty Conference.

Women's basketball fans lacking in sportsmanship

Fans need to show respect for opposing teams

BY: NATALYA KOSTANDOVA

In light of recent success of the Tech sports, the athletes are not the only ones who deserve all the spotlight. Basketball, more than any other sport, has been especially fortunate to have support of fans, who make up for their small number with loyalty and energy. The unusual Beaver cheerleaders come in different shapes and sizes, ranging from a group of half-naked guys who show their pride by parading in front of the teams and fans with "CALTECH" spelled out on their partially bare bodies to a group of students who, with their intensity and screaming can probably match, if not overwhelm, most fans of larger, more athletically driven schools.

The fans have certainly had their role in the recent basketball games. In fact, just last week The Tech published a letter from the women's coach Sandra Marbut, in which she thanked the fans for their support and dedicated to them the last win against Whittier.

Keeping this in mind, I was shocked and disappointed at the final game of our women against Redlands that took place last Thursday. The game itself was amazing, with incredible performances by individual players as well

as team as a whole. However, I was appalled by the way that the Beavers cheered. I understand the energy that filled the air, and I share the desire for our team to win, but the fans had crossed the line between excitement and indecency.

While the fans did cheer for the Beavers, they soon turned to personal comments directed toward the other team, its coach, and the referees. The Redlands team is unfortunate enough to have Bulldogs as their mascot. "Bulldogs" quickly evolved into "Lady Dogs," followed for call to "Roll. Sit down. Go home," which was, perhaps, the most positive suggestion directed toward the Bulldogs the entire night. Jim Ducey, the coach of the Bulldogs, had received an extensive list of insults involving his name, which, I have to admit, surprised me in its imagination and creativity. The referees did not escape the wrath of the fans - it was quickly pointed out that they were unfair, completely incompetent and, in case of one of them, bold.

While this was entertaining and fun for a little while, screams like "Bulldogs suck" eventually got to be quite a bit over the top. Perhaps the cheering helped; after all, it was much harder for the Pomona women to make a

basket when the fans yelled "You haven't made one yet, you know you're not going to make this one!" and "Good shot, big girl!" At one point, the comments led to such a high level of concern that the fans were warned by one of the refs against continuing their way of supporting the Techers.

Don't get me wrong - I'm all for cheering. Having even a few fans can make an immense difference in mentality and energy of the athletes, and can literally make or break a game. But at the same time, there are different style of supporting the athletes, and the style of the Beavers is not the one that should be embraced. It was particularly ironic to take in the screams of the fans in a gym covered with posters saying something in line of "Be proud! Be positive! Cheer for the team, not against the team!" The fans at the Redlands game were certainly proud and they did cheer for the team, but they did not restrain from slandering the opponents as strongly, though cleverly, as they could.

In her letter to The Tech, Coach Marbut wrote to the fans about their activity at the Whittier game, "you put pressure on [the other team], you made the place loud and crazy, and you were our 6th player. And best of all, you

did it without being mean and without name calling. You were just focused on your team. You were very loud, you were very proud, and you were a positively great part of the night." This time, however, the fans were definitely not the positively great part of the night, turning into a machine for churning out insults and demeaning comments.

If we want other colleges to start respecting our athletes, as they deserve to be, we must first show some common decency and respect. As cheesy as it sounds, it is time that we cheer for our team, not against the other.

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VOLUME CVIII, NUMBER 17

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The Outside World



BY: RADHIKA MARATHE

THE WORLD

Hundreds of civilians hurt as Somali government fights Insurgents

Hundreds have been hurt in the recent crossfire between Ethiopian-backed Somali Government and Islamic militants in the capital, Mogadishu, as quoted by the International Committee of the Red Cross on Saturday.

Overnight about ten people were killed in some of the heaviest fighting in weeks. Ethiopian troops used tanks and heavy artillery to combat gunmen attacking the soldier's base at Somalia's former defense ministry. Civilians were wounded as stray artillery hit nearby homes.

About 430 people have been admitted to hospitals since the beginning of the year with more than 200 people, including at least 30 women and 24 children have been brought in this month itself. Pascal Hundt, head of the ICRC Somali delegation, contended that these numbers are estimates and recording the exact numbers was difficult as the dead were often quickly buried rather than being taken to the hospitals manned by the ICRC staff.

Hundt noted that clashes in Mogadishu have increased in the month of February indicating a come-back by the Islamic militia fighters who initially put up little resistance when the Ethiopian-backed forces took over the gov-

ernment in January.

The fighting has prompted a vast majority of civilians to flee the coastal city.

On the international scene, Uganda has announced a troop deployment of 1500 soldiers to Somalia that is due to start within the next two weeks. The United Nations Council has also approved a 8000-strong force for the country but only about 4000 have been pledged so far.

Somalia has not had an effective national government since 1991 when warlords overthrew the dictator, Muhammad Siad Barre, and while establishing armed clan-based camps in the capital, left the rest of the country ungoverned.

Source: www.bbc.co.uk

TRAVEL

California top spot for culinary travel

California is the top destination for travelers whose interests include food festivals, wine tasting and other culinary pursuits, according to a study by the Travel Industry Association. In a survey conducted by the association, California was cited as the most preferred food-related travel destination by 14% of the respondents with Florida being second with ten percent on the list, followed by New York with seven percent.

California was also the destination for wine-related travel for

about 31% of those surveyed, followed by New York and Missouri.

The study, released during the previous week reported about 27 million travelers, which represent 14% of the US leisure travelers engaged in culinary or wine-related activities, including cooking classes, dining out for a unique experience, visiting farmers markets, gourmet food shopping, attending food festivals, touring wineries, driving a wine trail, tasting locally made wines and attending wine festivals.

The study also found that 60% of the respondents were considering culinary travel as a potential vacation activity for the future.

The survey was conducted online in partnership with Gourmet magazine and the International Culinary Tourism Association, among a representative sample of more than 2000 US leisure travelers.

Source: www.cnn.com

BUSINESS

Microsoft ordered to pay \$1.52 billion

Microsoft was ordered to pay \$1.52 billion in a patent dispute over the MP3 digital format, to Alcatel-Lucent, the networking equipment company, as per a ruling in a San Diego district court on Thursday. If upheld on appeal, this would be the largest patent

judgment on record, representing about six weeks of cash flow worth for Microsoft.

The issue at hand is the way the Microsoft software Windows Media Player plays audio files in MP3 format. If the ruling stands, Apple and many other companies that make portable media players, computers and hardware that play these files could face demands of royalties from Alcatel-Lucent.

Microsoft and the other companies had licensed the rights from a consortium held by the Fraunhofer Institute, a German research organization involved in the development of this format along with the French company Thomson and Bell labs. The case at hand held two patents that Alcatel claimed were developed by Bell labs before they joined with Bell labs to develop the MP3 format.

"Intellectual property is a core asset of the company," said Joan Campion, a spokeswoman for Alcatel-Lucent. "We will continue to protect and defend that asset."

Source: www.iht.com

POLITICS

Cheney arrives in Gulf for talks

US Vice President, Dick Cheney, arrived in Oman on Sunday and went directly for talks with its foreign minister, said Omani government officials. This sparsely populated oil producing Arab monarchy allows US the use of four air bases.

es.

No comment was received from US embassy officials regarding the purpose of the talks or the vice-president's plans in Oman, however an official from the Omani government, on the condition of anonymity, stated that Cheney was to discuss regional security issues, including the US standoff with Iran due to the latter's nuclear weapons program.

Little has been publicly revealed about Oman's military ties with the US as this is a sensitive topic within the country. However, it is of immense strategic importance as Oman sits across the Strait of Hormuz from Iran through which two-fifths of the world's oil passes. US is allowed to use the air bases, including one just 50 miles from Iran for refueling and stocking military supplies.

An Omani Foreign Ministry official said Foreign Minister Yousuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah was to urge U.S. support for an immediate revival of the Palestinian-Israeli peace process.

Cheney's visit may be seen as an attempt to increase pressures on Iran before the UN Security Council meeting that will discuss tightening sanctions on Iran due to its nuclear program.

Source: news.yahoo.com

ASCIT funds campus events

ASCIT Meeting 02/21/2007:

Officers Present: Chris Gonzales, Mike Grinolds, Andrea Dubin, Angela Zah, Mike Woods, Patrick Herring, Daryl Coleman, Zack Higbee

*Funding Requests

-Request for \$250 for the a cappella concert Love Sucks (for ushers, etc.). The BoD suggested asking for money from other places as well (GSC and Caltech Y). Gonzo suggested giving \$150

now, and \$100 later if they can't get funding elsewhere. Approved unanimously.

-Lloyd and Blacker requested multihouse funding for capture the flag on Friday. \$200 was (\$100 for each house) was suggested. Approved unanimously.

-ASCIT still has \$4000 from interhouse that was allotted to cover DJs that hasn't been claimed. Blacker asks for some.

-The Caltech C requested \$500 for the 2007 Chinese Spring Festival party. This event hap-

pens every year. It brings a lot of people from outside the campus, and there are performances by undergraduate students. In the past, ASCIT has given ~\$500 to cover this event. Approved unanimously.

-Ruddock is having its annual interhouse party, OPI, on March 3rd. They requested \$500 of interhouse funding. Approved unanimously.

-Ricketts should be asking for money for apache and Dabney still hasn't asked for money for

drop day.

*Budget meeting

-The budget meeting is scheduled for Sunday at 11am at Tom Mannion's house.

*DVD library

-Daryl will email people about having the DVD library in SFL today. Tom isn't too happy about DVDs stored in his office.

*Installations dinner

-Installations dinner is currently

scheduled to be on Saturday, March 3rd.

*Other news

-Gonzo hates this year's frosh class.

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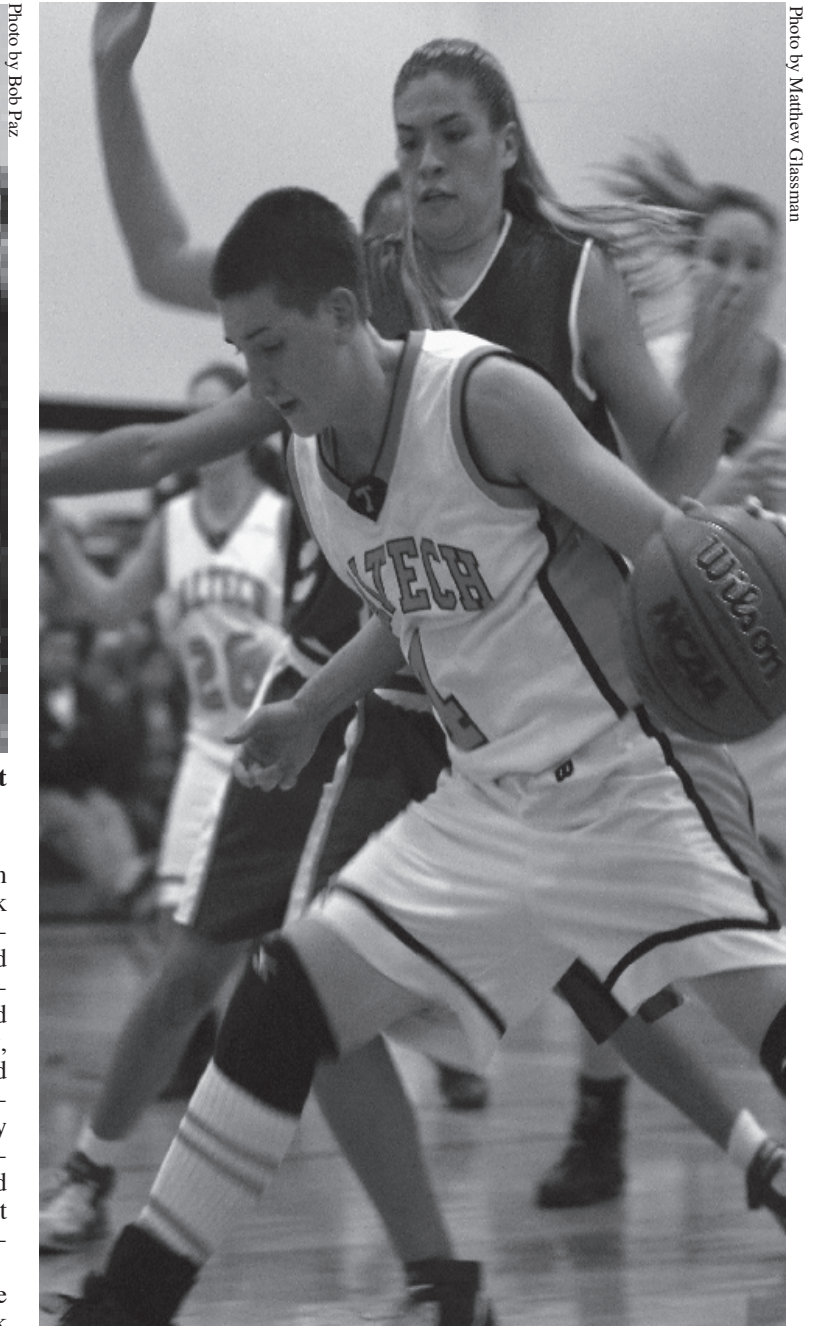
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Historic Seasons End for Basketball Teams



Coach Sandra Marbut celebrates with her team as they defeated Pomona-Pitzer 55-53 for their first ever Division III and SCIAC win.



Junior captain Rene Davis posts up a La Verne defender. Davis, who averages over ten rebounds a game, was the nation's 18th leading rebounder.

Conference Wins

Boost Morale

The women's basketball team enjoyed an unprecedented three wins this season, including their first Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SCIAC) victory since joining the conference in 2002. Led by junior captains Rene Davis and Lindsay King, the team defeated Pomona-Pitzer 55-53 to notch their first ever Division III and SCIAC victory. The lady Beavers were cheered on by a standing-room only Braun Athletic center filled with students and alumni visiting for Interhouse.

The team's second SCIAC victory was also a close affair throughout, with the Beavers edging out Whittier College 54-52. The game was not decided until a last second three-pointer by Whittier went begging.

Freshman guard Lisa Yee, who took on a huge role for the team this season, feels the

team can only get better from here. "Although we did so well this season, we didn't actually have any seniors on the roster, so all of us will be bale to return to play next year. I know we will get better, because on top of our all returning, we may also have a good class coming in, including a center."

Fans figure to be an integral part of their successes again, as both victories came at home with a full capacity Braun Gym. Women's team fan sophomore Robin Abraham thinks "they did really well this season. I think they have a lot of potential, because a lot of the people who played this year will stay on for next season. The crowd support helped swing the results in some games, so I think fans should show up more."

Ten-year streak comes to an end

The Caltech men's basketball team had a historic season as they secured a non-

conference Division III win against Bard College to break a 10-season Division III losing streak. The win garnered much attention from the media. The team was featured on ESPN's College Gameday, the Los Angeles Times and hundreds of other news publications. The documentary "Quantum Hoops", which followed last season's team and its five seniors, premiered at the Santa Barbara Film Festival this year.

The team almost broke the 22-year SCIAC losing streak at home versus La Verne. Up by two points with 11 seconds, the Beavers gave up a three-point play followed by an intercepted pass. Two free throws by La Verne pushed the Panthers' advantage to three points. Sophomore Travis Haussler's three pointer at the buzzer bounced on the rim before going out to give the Beaver's another disappointing defeat.

"I think the guys worked really hard this season, and I know we're only going to get better next season," said sophomore guard Matt Del-

latorre, whose 24 point performance led Caltech to their historic win against Bard.

"We've got a lot of great players coming back next season, and we're going to come out with a hunger to win from the very first game."

Sophomore guard Han Bin agrees. "There were glimpses of our great talent this season, and we know that we have to bring it against our

opponents next year again."

Whatever be the case, Caltech fans will always be there cheering on the beavers. Sophomore fan Karthik Balakrishnan believes "the team improved a lot from last year... I think they can take confidence from their one win and turn next year's season into another great one."

Sports and Scores

Men's Basketball

2/19 at Cal Lutheran University
L 26-93

2/22 vs Redlands University
L 42-125

Final Record:
1-24 Overall
0-14 SCIAC

Men's Tennis

2/24 at Redlands
L 0-9

3/17 vs. Colorado College

3/18 vs. University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh

3/19 vs Western New Mexico Univ

Women's Tennis

2/23 vs. Biola Univ.
L 0-9

2/24 vs. Redlands
L 1-8

3/3 vs Mills College

3/17 at Hope

3/18 vs Colorado College

Women's Basketball

2/20 at Cal Lutheran University
L 43-65

2/22 vs Redlands University
L 48-74

Final Record:
3-22 Overall
2-12 SCIAC

Baseball

2/23 at Redlands
L 4-30

2/24 vs Redlands
L 0-13
L 3-24

3/2 vs. Cal Lutheran University

3/3 at Cal Lutheran University
(double header)

Table tennis team ranks eighth in nation

BY: JERRY HOUSER

Women's Table Tennis has not only managed to secure an impressive national title and is ranked second in Southern California, but boasts the number one women's player in the region. Team member Janet Sheung attributed their success partly to player Jiaqi Guo and also to teacher Wei Wang, an Olympic Silver Medalist. "We have an awesome teacher," said Sheung. Sheung noted that while some players, like Guo, come in with past experience, many are also newcomers to the game, and Wang's teaching helps them get up to the point of tournament play.

A few dedicated students from table tennis PE classes have for two years now registered their own teams and competed for Caltech in National Collegiate Table Tennis Association (NCTTA) tournaments. This year, the Women's team placed just behind USC in the Southern California division, and #8 in the nation overall.

Current IHC Chair Michael Woods registered this year's team. In the NCTTA, teams can be coed or gender-specific, and generally have four members. Three members are allowed, but this requires the team to forfeit a required doubles match and one of their singles matches. For lack of team members, this year's

team from Caltech could only show three women and it is possible that they might have placed even higher had they had the fourth player they needed. "It'd be great if we had more people," Sheung said of both the coed and women's showing, "We only had six people; they were playing non-stop."

Matches are played for 3 out of 5 games, each played to 11 points, and during the recent tournament, Sheung told the Tech, "Jiaqi had some tough games; some matches went to 5." But Guo seems to have enjoyed the challenge; "The women's team competition was not that intense...certain matches where the opponents were equally matched were interesting, though - those often went into five games..." she told the Tech.

When asked about her success at the tournament, Guo stayed modest, saying with a laugh, "I'm not really awesome, but I did have six years, from grade 7-12, of intensive -10 hours a week or so- training back in Singapore as part of my high school's school team."

Though she said she liked the sport itself for its tactical nature, Guo's attraction to the team is because of the strong feeling of camaraderie.

"Outside of the game itself, I like the team spirit table tennis builds up - it makes me feel like I'm part of a family."

TACIT delivers convincing performance "The Winter's Tale"

BY: VALERIE SYVERSON

I must admit to some doubts when I first heard that director Shirley Marneus was planning on not only performing the classically difficult "problem play" *The Winter's Tale* this year, but on setting it in medieval Japan. Although I had no doubt that Shirley, with her Noh training, could do it as well as it could be done, the prospect seemed overall dubious to me. Well, I've been convinced.

The factor that consigns *The Winter's Tale* to the category of "problem plays" is its peculiar dramatic structure. The first three acts are tragedy, full of jealousy and death and psychodrama; then it turns abruptly into a comedy for the last two acts. In between, quite neatly delimiting the two sections, is a bear. Tying the halves together, obviously, is the chief difficulty confronting any theater company in the performance of this play.

Initially, I had planned to quiz Shirley after opening night on why she'd chosen this nonstandard setting; swapping Shikoku for Sicily and Hokkaido for Bohemia seemed a bold and unwarranted move. After watching the show, though, my questions were allayed. The extreme manifestations of honor, pride, and penitence fit remarkably well into the mold of Noh drama, as did the rigid observations of rank. The most convincingly Japanese aspect of the whole play, though, was that which TACIT's actors most emphasized: the pecu-

liarily intense and twisted relationships between the main characters. As those readers who have attended previous years' TACIT Shakespeare productions know, characterizations are the company's high point; this year is no exception.

As Leontes, king of Shikoku, Todd Brun bears the weight of the crown upon his shoulders quite convincingly, and the force of his delusional jealousy and kabuki eye-rolling is enough to blow away any but Cara King's honest, loyal, and fiercely vituperative lady physician Paulina. Between these two forceful characters Cecilia Yu balances the role of the long-suffering Hermione with tremendous grace, demonstrating a sense of the character's self-sacrifice which betrays both her own and the director's understanding of the role of high-born women in Japanese society. John Napolitano and Terry-Ann Suer, as the romantic leads Florizel and Perdita, do a remarkable job of not washing the characters out into ciphers or caricatures but rather making them personable and believable. It is Steve Collins of JPL, though, who most impresses with his deeply-considered, artistic, and thoroughly human performance as the near-saintly advisor Camillo.

The clowning of Dave Seal and Lee Feinman as the old shepherd and his son provides a good helping of much-needed levity. Dave once

again virtuosically pulls off an absurd comedic role. Lee gesticulates wildly and adopts an accent which wanders from Cockney to Brooklyn, but has enough innate stage presence that it works. Dylan Nieman's Autolycus is startlingly unlikable for a Shakespearian rogue. The assorted lords and ladies create an appropriate level of atmospheric clamor, and the Basu kids - all three of whom are in the show - are absolutely adorable. The only problem the show has, it seems, is slightly imprecise timing; the best moments in the show of the 16th were not the same as the best moments on the 23rd, entirely for reasons of dramatic timing. The make-up, though technically correct, can also be rather startlingly weird to those not familiar with the style. Similarly, the manners indicated in Shakespeare's words and directions do not match up precisely, and eye-contact and movement occasionally jar the sense of cultural appropriateness, as do the names.

All that aside, though, I think I'd have gone to see it just for the bear. And the ghost. And the living statue.

TACIT's *The Winter's Tale* delivers a healthy Noh-flavoured helping of old-fashioned Shakespearian weirdness twice more, on Friday 2 March at 8:00 PM and on Saturday 3 March at 2:00 PM. Doors open 30 minutes before the show.

I'm smart, so why don't they hire me?

BY: JERRY HOUSER

Some Caltech students get frustrated by the kinds of companies that do and don't recruit on campus. An undergraduate biology student doesn't find too many companies at Career Fairs or On-Campus Interviews seeking their option. The same goes for astronomy, undergraduate chemistry, or theoretical physics. Why is that?

First of all, most of the companies that "recruit" on campus need to hire many employees each year. These tend to be large companies who recruit at several schools and have full-time recruiters to source employees. A visit to Web pages of schools such as UCLA, Stanford, MIT, etc. reveals that many of the same companies recruit on several campuses. So the types of companies that recruit represent a skewed distribution of actual jobs out there.

Second, they tend to reflect market forces. There is a greater demand/shortage of workers in the labor market from engineering and computer science. There simply are not enough students graduating from those majors to fill the need in business and technology firms. Companies are forced to expend time and

energy to recruit people with those career or academic interests.

Third, Caltech's graduating class is small. Many companies have to justify their hiring efforts to headquarters by return on investment metrics. They might see 25 students in on-campus interviews at larger universities, whereas Caltech may only fill a half schedule of six interested students. So, they go to the schools where they are more likely to hire in greater volume. They may perfectly understand that the quality of Caltech students is at the top of the food chain, but if they are lucky to hire only one student per year, they opt to go to other schools with a higher yield.

So does that mean that Techers should all change their option to computer science? Absolutely not. Don't choose a career based solely on current market demands. Demands change. Careers should be crafted by one's passion and interest. One wouldn't marry someone simply because they are more available than others. It's better to commit to a relationship based on compatibility, mutual values, and passion rather than on convenience. Likewise, in careers, it's always best to follow one's motivations. And if the passion

is something weird like collecting moon rocks or playing the didgeridoo, then it's important to find an OK job that pays the bills but offers enough free time to pursue their passion part-time.

Those majoring in options that are less pursued need to do a little more work than their computer science or engineering friends (so what's new?). The single most effective strategy for landing a job is networking. It's best if dad owns the company, but short of that the old saying is true "it's WHO you know, not WHAT you know." Well, sort of. A Caltech degree means something out there. You already know, or can quickly learn the WHAT of a job. But it's important to focus on WHO. Techers really are only 6 degrees of separation away from a good job.

Caltech has an awesome Alumni Association willing to provide contacts. They have lists students and post-docs can access. Caltech faculty are world-class, and they all know a boat-load of other world-class people. Caltech launches more startups than any other campus in the country. Caltech's Board of Trustees, donors and supporters are the Who's Who in the world of science and

industry. Caltech staff and administrators are very well connected professionally. Techers need to start networking.

The Career Development Center provides workshops, appointments and has lists of people who can get students started. Students just need to get busy and learn how to use Caltech to launch their careers, regardless of option.

Don't wait for companies to knock down the door. Find a good job search strategy and take action. Check the Career Development Center website for programs and appointment scheduling.

Jerry Houser is the Director of the Caltech Career Development Center. For more information, email: jhouser@caltech.edu.

Prefrosh Weekend 2007

April 19-22

T-shirt Design Competition
Winning Prize: \$50



Guidelines:

- Shirt will be white with black font/graphics
- Any combination of front & back design is allowed
- "Prefrosh Weekend 2007" must be included in the design
- Please use any common sense you may have in judging the appropriateness of the design

Submit designs to your
House Prefrosh Rep by March 16

Scorsese Win Highlights a Successful Oscars

BY: HARRISON STEIN

Back in the day, winning an Oscar really meant something. Films that captured Best Picture would forever be remembered as Oscar winners. Debates would rage about how Citizen Kane lost to How Green Was My Valley, how Rocky managed to beat three of the top films of the 70s, Taxi Driver, Network, and All the President's Men and how Stanley Kubrick, Robert Altman and Alfred Hitchcock never captured Best Director awards. Oscar glory was something that never died.

While the luster has disappeared, perhaps this year was a step in the right direction. Before the show, the biggest suspense was whether my father would win a bet with my brother that Al Gore would touch the Oscar after The Inconvenient Truth won (he did). But Alan Arkin upset Eddie Murphy, Martin Scorsese finally won an Oscar and The Departed won a very close Best Picture race (along with three other awards). Here's a recap of what happened, as well as what should have happened.

Best Supporting Actor
Who Won: Alan Arkin
"Little Miss Sunshine"
Who Should've Won:
Eddie Murphy "Dreamgirls"

Eddie Murphy had the role of his life in the musical extravaganza Dreamgirls, playing a star-crossed soul singer in the James Brown/Marvin Gaye mold. After sweeping through most of the early awards, Murphy was considered a heavy favorite until the release of the putrid comedy Norbit. Ironically enough, that movie's tagline was, "Have You Ever Made a Really Big Mistake," and by starring in this garbage so close to Oscar season, Murphy made biggest mistake of his career.

Regardless, Alan Arkin was hilarious in Little Miss Sunshine as the dirty old grandpa with a heart of gold. The Academy decided to pay tribute to an elder statesman who had been grossly underappreciated for far too long. I thought Eddie Murphy was better but he dug his own grave, and Alan Arkin capitalized.

Best Supporting Actress
Who Won: Jennifer Hudson

"Dreamgirls"
Who Should've Won:
Adriana Barraza "Babel"

Jennifer Hudson won the whole world over with her touching rendition of "And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going," the unforgettable highlight of Dreamgirls. Nonetheless, I get the feeling that Oscar voters rewarded her mainly for this one scene, which is a song. Hudson is a fantastic singer and her work for the Dreamgirls soundtrack is riveting, but last time I checked the Best Supporting Actress Oscar was an award for acting. Hudson did a fine job as jilted singer Effie White, but the performance simply isn't Oscar material. Adriana Barraza played the wonderful Mexican housekeeper in Babel who makes one too many risky decisions. While the movie was a gigantic disappointment, Barraza was the one guiding light. Her story was easily the most captivating of the four and she played every note perfectly. Hopefully she will be a future force in American cinema.

Best Actor
Who Won: Forest Whitaker

"The Last King of Scotland"
Who Should've Won: ?

A good film critic admits when he makes a mistake. I somehow managed to avoid all five performances nominated for Best Actor, so I really have no grounds to criticize the Academy's very predictable decision. Forest Whitaker won pretty much ev-



Director Martin Scorsese, seen here accepting a Golden Globe, won Best Director for "The Departed"

ery possible award for The Last King of Scotland, so he probably deserved the award.

Best Actress
Who Won: Helen Mirren
"The Queen"
Who Should've Won: Meryl Streep
"The Devil Wears Prada"

For months, Helen Mirren was the obvious favorite for her

biting, yet sympathetic portrayal of Queen Elizabeth in The Queen. The performance was truly remarkable as she escaped into the role and commanded the spotlight with her mere presence. I can hardly fault the Academy with its decision, especially since Mirren was a highly respected actress who had never won, and Meryl Streep is nominated nearly every year. That being said Streep was astonishing as the wicked, meticulous, and irrational boss in the delightful The Devil Wears Prada. Miranda Priestly was a complete 180 from a typical Meryl Streep character, and she took a calculated risk by accepting a role outside her comfort zone. Nonetheless, she was deliciously evil, and I'm more likely to remember Priestly than Helen Mirren's Queen twenty years from now, so Streep gets my vote.

Best Director
Who Won: Martin Scorsese

"The Departed"
Who Should've Won:
Martin Scorsese

The ultimate highlight of this Oscar extravaganza was watching Martin Scorsese accept his belated, long-deserved Oscar award. One of the greatest directors of all time, Scorsese helmed three movies that are often considered the top films of the 70s (Taxi Driver), the 80s (Raging Bull), and the 90s (Goodfellas). Unfortunately, circumstances always left Scorsese the bridesmaid come Oscar time, and after a disap-

pointing loss two years ago, he nearly gave up hope. While his victory for The Departed feels like a lifetime achievement award, he actually is the best candidate in an extremely weak field. It is disappointing that he won the award for one of his lesser films, but because this is Martin Scorsese, this "lesser" film was still one of the great achievements of 2006. The film was very well paced, very well photographed, and the whole production had a very glossy feel. After making Oscar friendly films for ten years in a shameless ploy to win the award, Scorsese finally returned to the basics and won the Oscar anyway. Good for him.

Best Picture
Who Won: "The Departed"
Who Should've Won: "The Departed"

2006 was a truly disappointing year, as none of the Best Picture nominees really stood out, and to be honest, neither did most of the snubbed films. That being said, I enjoyed The Queen and Little Miss Sunshine and I especially liked the eventual winner, The Departed (I never got around to seeing Letters from Iwo Jima and Babel was an incoherent mess). Leonardo DiCaprio and Matt Damon were fantastic as dueling cops, and the supporting players like Jack Nicholson and Mark Wahlberg were perfectly cast. The film's screenplay was surprisingly clever, with a perfect mix of drama, action and comedy. The Departed is not your typical Oscar winner, but it's an immensely entertaining movie and is probably the only nominee that will be remembered. In a year when most Oscar races were decided months ago, the big suspense was worth it, as the best nominee won Oscar's ultimate award, Best Picture.

Lessons of integrity from a journalist

BY: MARK EICHENLAUB

I have long believed that the greatest thing to do with a life is to live it with integrity. Now, thanks to The California Tech Code of Ethics, I finally know what that means.

The "Little Yellow Book" (LYB), as I have affectionately come to call it over the past few days, came into my hands last Friday afternoon when newly-elected Tech editor Marissa Cevallos delivered it to me personally, free of charge! Imagine then the wondrous voyage of discovery that awaited me as I turned over each new page of this succinct yet deeply-powerful document.

The reader of the LYB will learn, for example, that they should never plagiarize. Plagiarism is the unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work. Unlike cases of forgery, in which the authenticity of the writing, document, or some other kind

of object, itself is in question, plagiarism is concerned with the issue of false attribution.

Because the goal of journalism is to be fair, accurate, and unbiased, journalists

or subjects, and show no bias against individuals simply due to their religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, gender, social status, physical appearance, or race.



This electronically-altered photograph of Scott Jordan's 400m hurdle performance, which uses uncredited images from the Internet, is not allowed.

such as myself ought to hide away their deeply-held prejudices against their godless, low-bred, queer, antiquated, wrong-gendered, bottom-feeding, ugly, racially-inferi-

can be put into practice. Allow me to give an example.

Mark Eichenlaub (hey, that's me!), who is a captain on the school track team, should under no circumstanc-

es report on the track team's Saturday afternoon meet at the Rossi Relays at Claremont College. Because of the clear conflict of interests involved, he should not discuss how Tencia Lee's 13.78 100m was the fifth-fastest ever by a female Caltech runner. He should not comment on Matt Kiesz' 4:21 1600m time, and certainly should not describe the performance with such opinionated terms as "blazing." He should not mention Elette Boyle's remarkably-springy high jump and triple jump performances, and ought to turn a blind eye to Yezdan Badrakan's lightning-fast 4x400m relay leg. But as a man of integrity, I know for sure that Mr. Eichenlaub would certainly refrain from such irresponsible journalistic practices.

"Private people," so the LYB informs me, "have a greater right to control information about themselves than do public officials and others who seek power, influence, or attention." Which reminds me, did you SEE what she was WEAR-

ING to chem lecture the other day?! OMG - what an attention whore!! OMG :-0 !! Journalists should refrain from unnecessary profanity. However, it would be far too obvious for me to insert a curse word at this point in the article. So Hold It There, buddy. Don't Abandon Me Now. Finally, Use Cool Hidden Sentences In Articles. The California Tech Code of Ethics clearly states at journalists should, "admit mistakes and correct them properly." In compliance with this rule, I freely admit that I made a significant mistake in writing this article, in that it was written in a flip-pant and irreverent tone. I am proud of this fact.

Now I must admit one further mistake, which is that I failed to correct the mistake mentioned in the previous paragraph. In order to correct this failure to supply a correction, I must defer to the editor's sound judgment to refrain from printing such as deeply-flawed article, and thereby bringing eternal shame on the great name of The California Tech.

MHF funds dish out cash

BY: CRAIG MONTUORI

Dabney House can look forward to a revamped sound system and Fleming House will be adding a foosball table to its lounge after receiving monies from the Moore-Hufstедler Fund (MHF), designed to improve student life. The Caltech Y, the Jazz Band, and Toastmasters are among the other recipients announced this month that will receive thousands of dollars.

The Caltech Y requested \$12,750 to purchase additional outdoors supplies, including information packets about local camping spots and trail maps for exploring Southern California. An "Avalanche Course" is to be made available to provide an introduction to people interested in mountaineering and backcountry skiing, using \$4200 from the MHF. The course is to take place

and \$200,000 unallocated from previous funding sessions gathering interest now."

The three students on the committee, comprised of two members and one alternate, are to be assigned through a joint group of ASCIT BoD members and IHC presidents. However, this past year, these students were appointed by only the ASCIT BoD. The committee is comprised of equal members of faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students. Alternates have an equal voice on the committee; generally the committee seeks verbal consensus before making a decision.

This past term's funding was unusual due to the Interhouse party, which had submitted a rejected proposal in the fall. Dean Hall agreed to see the updated proposal again before the Winter Term funding session, two days before the party. As a result, there was an extra funding ses-

Projects granted MHF funds

Dabney: sound system

Fleming: foosball table

North Houses: grills

Jazz Band: guest jazz bands for Prefrosh weekend

Caltech Y: outdoors equipment

Toastmasters Club: start-up funds

in March in Bishop, CA. The Jazz Festival is getting its requested \$1900 to bring two jazz ensembles to perform along with the Caltech Jazz Bands during the annual festival on Pre-Frosh Weekend. Additionally, the new Toastmasters Club received \$809 out of a requested \$1311 to set up and recognized by the official Toastmasters organization.

The Houses often make requests, too, both as individual Houses and as blocs. Dabney House received \$1500 to upgrade its sound system, including buying an amplifier, high capacity speakers, speaker cables, and a power surge protector. Fleming House is getting its foosball table replaced with \$2000 coming from the MHF. The North Houses requested and were given \$5100 to purchase gas grills for hosting House events such as barbecues and for use on the weekends when dining services are closed.

The Moore-Hufstедler Fund (MHF) was set up during the 2002-2003 school year to "have a positive impact on student life," according to the MHF website. The total grant to the school by the Moore's was \$600 million in Intel stocks, which depreciated to around \$400 million by the time they were all liquidated, due to financial rules of the gift determining how long the stocks had to be held before they could be sold.

The MHF is comprised of \$3 million out of that fund at 6% interest, providing the committee with around \$180,000 to give out each year. This total fund is divided up into four funding sessions a year, making \$45,000 available each term and during the summer. However, over the past few years, not all of the money available each term has been allocated, leaving the excess money to be reinvested. Michael Woods, one of three students on the committee, stated, "there is probably somewhere between \$100,000

and \$200,000 unallocated from previous funding sessions gathering interest now."

Interhouse had requested \$25,000 for the barbeque that started the day off, which was approved during this unique meeting. Additionally, the Fleming and Ruddock pairing submitted a request for buying scaffolding (\$7,771) to be used by their construction and for other parties in the future.

Recommendations of the MHF committee can be modified or changed by decision of the University President. For example, last year a proposal was submitted by the Coffeehouse to move to the Red Door. The committee rejected it, but former President Baltimore overturned the decision, giving them their requested money. The information used in this article was made available by the committee, so these are not necessarily final numbers.

The usual funding session for this term occurred on 12 January 2007. An unusually large number of funding requests were made for a total of \$140,489, of which \$28,259 was granted. Eighteen proposals were submitted this time, including a request from the Senior Class to help pay for the gift. Of these 18, six were approved and one was given partial funding. Most of the others were told to resubmit their proposal next term with additional details. Only two proposals were rejected with no additional details.

The next funding session meeting has a deadline of 27 April 2007 at 5 PM.

Budget cuts stabilizing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

some of those things have been eaten away... Caltech has had to become slightly more normal, and that's a shame in many respects."

Housing Director Tim Chang acknowledges that the budget cuts have forced him and others to change their perspective on their work:

"It was not easy to have a different outlook on the work we do here," wrote Chang in an email response.

"Without exception, all of my staff work here because we love working with and being around the students, but the cuts forced us to look at our jobs differently. We need to look at working here as all about the revenue, all about how much we needed to save and return to the Institute. While this may have been a good exercise to

get us to be more financially responsible as an Institute, it was not easy to make difficult choices."

Despite the difficult changes, Currie feels the Caltech administrators and staff have handled the

"When the students and faculty have a dream that is important... Caltech helps them with the finances to do it."

-Dean Currie

cuts well.

"One of the things that I found generally true was there wasn't this sense of people trying to protect their budget at the expense of someone else's," said Currie. "In

most institutes and universities, stabilizing a budget deficit can be a difficult thing to do and very divisive. I was just enormously impressed at how this community was able to do that without those side effects. There's a loyalty to the institute."

Currie says that the cuts have helped stabilize the budget and that he sees no need for drastic changes in the near future. However, as for when Caltech will no longer have a deficit?

"The true answer, without being factious, is when there are no more great ideas in teaching and research to pursue," said Currie. "The role of the Institute is that when the students and faculty have a dream that is important, not only to them but to society at large, Caltech helps with the finances to do it. So I see that as a never ending battle...as long as we're turning down really good ideas, I see that as a deficit."

CDS experiments with fun food

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Daily finds it "fun to be somewhat experimental and cutting-edge."

Daily has a few ideas in mind for the reopening of the South House kitchen for lunch on Thursday, March 1st. Planned service will include the old staples of Grill foods and the Pizza station, along with a salad bar offering 2 sizes of meals and soups. The bottled drink fridge is also slated to return. But a new plan is to include a carved sandwich station, and premade organic "to go"

sandwiches, a station inspired by Daily's experience with racetrack food services. These are only the options for the opening; in Daily's words, the kitchen is "...not going to be as full service as it will eventually be."

Other CDS venues are going to see a change in theme, with Thai food being dropped from Broad Café for a more festive, Mexican Cantina theme. Additionally, spice racks are scheduled for installation in all of the House dining rooms and CDS plans to implement a new meat alternative, Gardein™, in the vegetarian

food. Boasting a meatier texture and better nutrition, it is part of what Daily calls an attempt to "...do as much as we can to do healthier things." In addition to the new events, this initiative represents part of the changes at CDS.

Other changes of pace may be forthcoming. Currently, the Food Committee is running a recipe contest, which has just entered its semifinals. Daily intends to integrate the winning recipe into the CDS menu.

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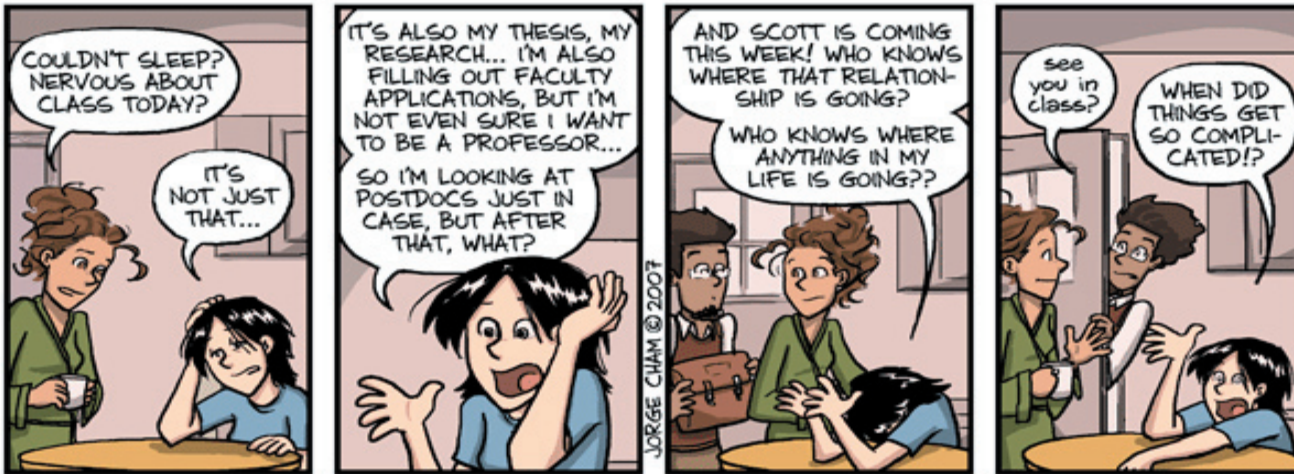


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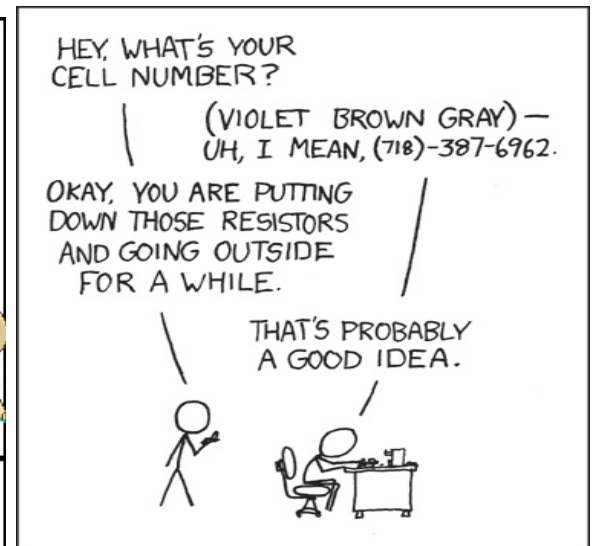
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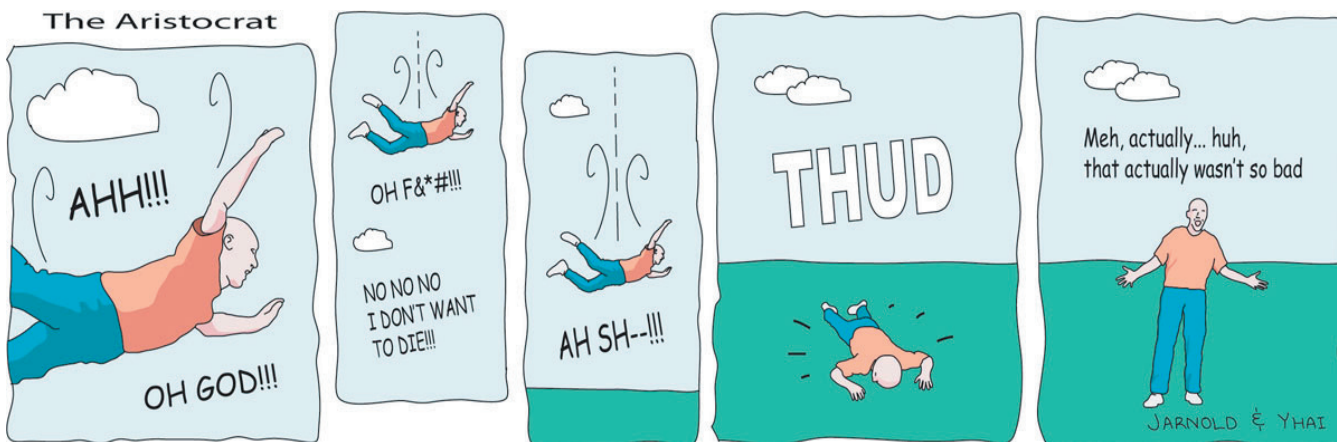
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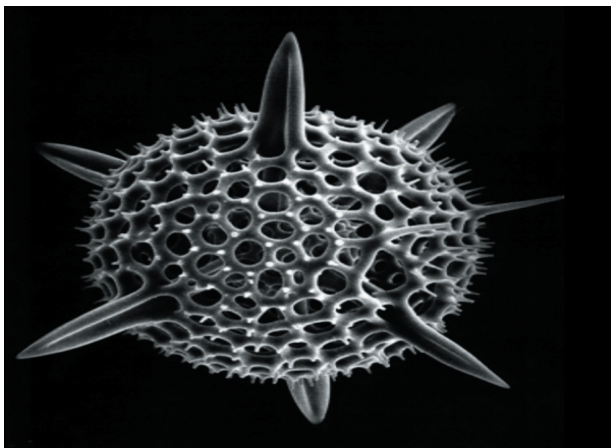


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