

Caltech mourns VA tragedy Super seniors to march

Students, security, counselors react to the campus shootings

BY YANG YANG

Some found out when they checked the morning news, only to be greeted with horror; others learned about it when concerned parents began calling. The rest discovered the gruesome news when fellow students began discussing it.

By lunchtime Monday, every student at Caltech was well aware of the two shootings which left 33 dead that occurred earlier that day at Virginia Tech.

"I first found out about this when my friend began talking about it at lunch," junior Henna Kermani said. "At first I couldn't believe it."

For Ricketts RA Amy Eastwood, a Virginia native, the shootings struck a little closer to home.

"My initial reaction was shock. I kept checking back [and] the number of casualties kept increasing and increasing. It was so sad,

an RA was killed. He was a triple major, member of the band, 4.0 kind of guy. Why?" she asked.

Inevitably, some began to wonder about whether such a massacre could happen at Caltech.

"Obviously, I imagined whether or not it could happen here," sophomore Cliff Chang said. "It's the same as the reaction to Columbine, [you wonder] if any of the other students you don't really talk to is thinking about [shooting everyone]."

To address potential concern, a campus-wide gathering was held on Tuesday. There, chief of security Gregg Henderson and director of counseling Kevin Austin addressed the handful of people who showed.

Security looks to expand immediate notification list

According to Henderson, Caltech is one of the safest schools in the U.S. The campus has rarely seen violence, much less deadly shootings. The last fatal incident on campus occurred in April 1994; no students were involved

For further reflections on the Virginia Tech campus shootings, see Opinion on p. 2:

Dr. Chameau speaks for Caltech

Editorial commentary on the news coverage of the events

or harmed in the event.

The Institute has emergency response plans for shooter situations, but Henderson could not disclose any details.

Coincidentally, Caltech emergency dispatchers underwent training two weeks ago for emergency conditions such as a shooter on campus.

"We just went through training with our dispatchers on those exact things, gathering information,

Please see VA TECH, Page 4

Seniors with one more term left will walk at this year's commencement

BY VALERIE SYVERSON

Seniors with one more term of study will be walking with their classmates at Commencement ceremonies this year, following a 13-1 vote at the Faculty Board Meeting last Monday.

Such students will not receive a diploma, but will march and will have their names read along with the graduating seniors. Their names will appear in the commencement program with an asterisk beside them, and again without the asterisk in the program for the year in which they actually graduate, since the Commencement program is a historical document which needs to indicate who graduates in a given year.

In the past, the Dean has denied all requests to march from students who have not finished their degree requirements. However, this year the Convocations Committee took up the matter and decided that it favoured changing the policy. Some reasons

given for this decision were the ceremonial, non-legal nature of Commencement; the goodwill it would generate from students and parents; the situation of students who cannot return for commencement the following year; and the fact that the policy of allowing students to walk prior to satisfying requirements is common at other universities.

The subject was then reviewed by UASH, the Curriculum Committee, and the Academic Policies Committee, as well as being put to an undergraduate vote. Of these, the first two had no strong feelings on the matter, the APC favoured tightly constraining possible policy change, and the undergraduates overwhelmingly supported change. Finally, at the open house discussion held in Blacker House last month, students again overwhelmingly expressed support for a change in policy.

Please see SENIORS, Page 4

Caltech pranks MIT newspaper

BY ANNA HISZPANSKI

Last Friday, students at MIT received a "special edition" of their institute newspaper, courtesy of Caltech newspaper staff. The unique issue was a prank orchestrated by Caltech students for MIT's campus preview weekend, when admitted students visit the school.

In the past, pranks have occurred between the two schools during their respective prefrash weekends, the last incident occurring a year ago when MIT stole the Caltech Fleming cannon and shipped it to Boston.

For the most recent prank, Tech staff created a sixteen page issue imitating MIT's biweekly newspaper, but filled it instead with fake articles and ads that mocked MIT and promoted Caltech. Among some of the headlines in the prank issue were "Architects Deem [MIT] Campus 'Unfortunate'" and "Math Dept. Hires Rising Star Matt Damon."

According to Marissa Cevallos, the Editor-in-Chief of Caltech's newspaper, the idea for the prank came up accidentally. Originally, The Tech thought to make the first page of its own April Fool's Day issue appear as MIT's newspaper. However, in speaking with Jerry Houser of the Caltech Career Center, Cevallos said the idea grew into something much bigger:

"I talked with [Houser], who used to work at USC, and he told me that USC used to publish a fake edition of the UCLA paper," said Cevallos. "He kind of planted the seed of 'Wouldn't that be cool if we did that as a prank against MIT' in my head... If he hadn't said anything, this prank wouldn't have happened."

Because the idea for the prank arose a mere two weeks before MIT's prefrash weekend, the staff of The Tech had to work quickly to organize themselves. According to senior humor columnist Tony Falk, most of the work was done in the few days before leaving for MIT, and the pranksters were still finishing the paper while at the airport.

A group of about ten newspaper staff worked on the issue, and three actually traveled to MIT to distribute the prank: Cevallos, Falk, and freshman photographer Jon Tsai.

The group flew out Wednesday morning and began scoping out the MIT campus on their arrival. In order to gain information about how and when MIT distributed its newspaper, Tsai posed as a prefrash and attended MIT's newspaper's informational meeting for interested incoming students.

"By the time I got there, the meeting was almost over, and I was the only 'prefrash' there," said Tsai. "I sat there and talked photography with them for a while to seem inconspicuous. I

slipped in questions about when, where, and how many newspapers they were distributing."

The trio, with the help of Caltech alums in the area, ended up distributing the next day most of the 15,000 prank issues that were printed. The group initially dropped the newspapers at MIT's distribution points but quickly aborted the plan when some MIT newspaper staffers found the pa-

pers.

"A few irate individuals started trashing our papers," said Cevallos.

The group then changed its strategy and began handing out newspapers individually, ultimately congregating in front of MIT's principal building, Building 7, on Massachusetts Avenue, which receives heavy traffic. However, the new distributing lo-

cation was not picked entirely by free choice.

"The campus police said that some people were complaining [about the newspaper], but they also said that if we stood on the street, there was nothing they could do since you are free to distribute papers on public prop

Please see PRANK, Page 4



Hamilton Falk hands a copy of the prank newspaper to a prefrash at MIT on Friday. The same issue was distributed at Caltech on Friday afternoon.

Photo by Jonathan Tsai



Student waiters return to the Ath

For the full story, please see Page 8

In This Issue

Chameau speaks on VA Tech tragedy
Legends III to be released
Matt Kiesz setting track records
Online gambling: a problem?

Page 2
Page 4
Page 7
Page 8

Caltech Dance Show fills Ramo

More details on Page 6



From the Editors

News ghouls hit all the wrong notes

As anyone used to following national news knows, there's nothing quite so tailor-made for TV news as a school massacre like last Monday's. All other news is immediately superseded for footage of the scene of the tragedy, speeches from every dignitary that can show up, and when there's no new footage, endless rounds of analysis from every pundit who isn't already booked somewhere else.

Naturally, opportunities abound for sensationalistic coverage, and to use words like "tragic", "senseless", "horrific" -- all of which, though of course applicable, have been diluted through decades of overuse and sadly no longer register as earnest sentiment. And, of course, there's the framing and the political football, and then the criticism of opponents for using a mass homicide as a football.

Sound familiar? It should -- to anyone else who wasn't living under a rock during the 2001 Littleton shootings.

So the editors of the Tech will, for this writing, refrain from adding one more to the long roster of responses expressing the obviously appropriate sentiments -- sympathy, concern, and grief. If you don't know the sort of thing I mean, you can read Dr. Chameau's article three columns to the right; his statement alone renders it superfluous to

say anything of the sort in this space.

Instead, the concern that motivates me is over the way the news media has covered the event and its repercussions. Although the majority of responses have, of course, been those of decent human beings, there is a certain subset of the responses that are rather horrifying. The first that comes to mind is the slew of columnists who have ghoulishly seized upon the opportunity to lambaste their favourite targets, be that violent video games for giving people ideas, atheists for not praying at memorial ceremonies, or foreign nationals for (apparently) existing at all. But, of course, these random hearse-chasing political creeps are just columnists, not Real News.

More problematic are those news outlets which have seized on what, no doubt, they thought was a new and refreshing angle on the story by focusing on the first of his victims. Here we find headlines like "Gunman's Love Spat Sparked Massacre". However, the problem here is that the woman in question was never romantically involved with the murderer -- he just stalked her. That's right, the reporters mistook a stalking victim for a disdainful lover. Of course, there's a bit of overlap between the two as presented in many cultural narratives, but it should be possible to disentangle

them in real life, when we can get different people's stories.

The most political spinning, though, has come in the area of gun control. (I assume this is because there's no way to restrict college students' access to violent music and games, so that usually-fruitful bit of blather is verboten.) And in fact, it has become apparent that the gunman got his guns quite legally and aboveboard. The bafflement at this from foreign news outlets is an amusing commentary on how bizarre the U.S. gun culture is from any outside point of view. But the gun rights advocates jumped on the story too; there are those who claim the tragedy would have been averted if more students were packing heat. The debate, of course, rages.

At least we can know that the world is the same old looney bin as always, because the Westboro Baptist Church is going to be picketing the funerals. Why? Unclear; their official releases say something about "the emissary of God's wrath". I assume it's just another chance for them to be on television. But I suppose the news media can rest assured that however inconsiderate, tasteless, and ghoulish they might be, they'll never outdo Fred Phelps.

Valerie Syverson
Co-Editor

From the President

Caltech grieves for VA Tech student victims

We live in a time when tragedies occur almost daily in the world. They trouble us; however, many of them seem so distant that they do not affect us deeply, although they should. The tragedy experienced yesterday on the Virginia Tech campus is one that is affecting all of us more deeply because it took place in a community we understand and cherish. Violence of young people against young people is tragic--impossible to truly comprehend, but especially shocking in a university environment. The university years provide a unique period in the lives of young people, a period when they can learn, ex-

perience, and interact with others in freedom and safety. Our thoughts today should be with the Virginia Tech community, and especially with the families of the victims. We grieve for them. As we learn to adjust to this event, our commitment and energy should remain focused on assuring that universities like Virginia Tech and Caltech remain safe, free environments where young people can prepare themselves for life.

Jean-Lou Chameau
Institute President

If you are interested in working for The Tech, feel free to attend our weekly meetings on Mondays and Fridays from 12 to 1 PM at the Broad Cafe.

We also accept free-lance submissions, but we always reserve the right to withhold submissions from publication.

If we print your material, we will pay you up to \$25 at our discretion.

Please email submissions to tech@caltech.edu.

SFC criticism is vital part of process

ARC chair responds to last issue's editorials on the efficacy of the SFC and its review process.

BY CALEB NG

I applaud Daniel Poon for submitting his opinion piece about Student-Faculty Conference (SFC) last week. Furthermore, I applaud the Tech for running Poon's piece as well as Marissa Cevallos's *From the Editor* column, both of which were critical of SFC.

In my opinion, both columns were very much in the spirit of SFC. In my opening statement at SFC, I noted that "we already know how SFC 2009 is going to be improved over today's Conference." This included revising the name of the Environmental Science and Engineering/Computation and Neural Systems/Civil Engineering/Material Science Committee. Honestly, it took far too much practice to learn to say that one. Now that the committee is also addressing bioengineering, it probably should just be renamed the "Grab Bag Committee."

In all seriousness, though, a guide for future chairs of the Academic and Research Committee (ARC) has been already in the works, because SFC 2007 was far from perfect.

It came to our attention a few weeks before SFC that some professors were unaware of Provost Jennings's e-mailed recommendation to reschedule classes on April 5. Just as it is in the spirit of SFC to bring problems to light, it is in the same spirit to propose changes and see them to fruition.

As a future remedy, some professors proposed that the recommendation be included on the subject line of the e-mail and be reiterated by the Registrar to all

faculty teaching classes on the Conference date. Furthermore, they suggested prominently posting the recommendation on the ARC SFC minisite and listing SFC on the Caltech Today master calendar. All of these changes were implemented immediately, if possible, and listed in the guide for future ARC Chairs.

On the student end, it should be clear that ARC has no power to mandate student attendance at SFC. I was pleased to read that Poon planned to attend for the food. Why else would ARC have publicized this aspect so heavily? More importantly, though, increased student attendance at SFC and similar events requires and reflects an underlying belief that we truly have an impact and can make a difference in our education, which needs to be conveyed to other campus groups.

Let's start holding up our end of the deal before we call the faculty out for not listening to us.

As I explained to Poon at the Coffeehouse the night after SFC, I have made it my personal goal to produce a better follow-up to SFC 2007 than has occurred following some previous SFCs. President Chameau's has expressed a similar interest in following up on the issues brought to light and the proposals from the Conference, as evidenced by his request for copies of the committees' presentations and reports.

A bit of history might be helpful at this point. The first SFC was held in 1980, and SFCs were held more or less biennially until the mid-1990s. For a few years, SFC was not held, due in part to a fairly major overhaul of the

Core Curriculum that included a decrease in the math and physics requirements and the creation of Bi 1 and the menu courses. It was not until 2002 that the tradition was revived by Ted Jou, former ASCIT President and Social Director; SFCs in 2003, 2005, and now 2007 are restarting the biennial tradition.

While SFC cannot boast a 100% success rate in addressing student concerns, it has certainly not been a failure by any measure. Among the most commonly cited successes of SFC are the recent Bi 1 revamp, new minors in the humanities, and the far-reaching overhaul of the Registrar's Office after SFC 2003. This year, we can look forward to the resolution of the issues surrounding Ch 3a, menu classes, the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Handbook, a proposed bioengineering option or concentration, the Honor Code, and exit survey results regarding quality of life and student morale.

Unfortunately, many of the records from SFC 2005 were lost, including organizational records and committee presentations and reports. As a result, much of the preparation for this year's Conference was done independently from previous SFCs.

To remedy this year's problem, ARC hopes to conduct a search for old SFC reports and obtain a laptop so that the ARC and SFC records stay with the committee, not the ARC Chairs. Furthermore, once the committees submit their final reports, ARC will investigate the possibility of publishing the reports. These reports will be forwarded to the appropriate groups around campus, including the divisions and options. Whether this is an online or physical publication depends on the availability of funds.

Most important is that students and faculty alike think that prob-

lems Caltech undergraduates face are worth fixing. This is music to my ears, because it means that we care and we do want to see change happen. SFC is not meant to be a biennial powwow that fades into the background for two years after the presentations and reports are completed. Instead, it is incumbent that the dialogue continue and proposals be implemented even as we continue into an SFC off year.

SFC is called Student-Faculty Conference for a very good reason. While it is entirely student-run with students setting the agendas, SFC is just as much about students as it is about faculty and the relationship between the two groups.

Let's start holding up our end of the deal before we call the faculty out for not listening to us. The majority of faculty members do seem to genuinely care about undergraduate life, education, and interaction with faculty. Get involved in SFC follow-up. Start thinking about SFC 2009.

Let's take the initiative to take advantage of that vaunted 3-to-1 ratio. Interact with faculty by signing up for the newly organized ARC/MOSH Student-Faculty Lunches on April 17, May 9, and May 24 this term. Take a professor out to lunch using the funding ASCIT provides. Talk to a professor for no good reason other than to chat.

Let's return the favor now that faculty members have sat on our committees. Let's sit on their committees and give them our input. IHC Chairman Mike Woods and I extended the sign-up deadline for "ARC and IHC Committees," or, more technically, interviewing with ARC or IHC to serve as undergraduate representatives to faculty committees. Sign up now on the Olive Walk--let's face it: you know you'll forget to sign up if you procrastinate.

The California Tech

Caltech 40-58, Pasadena, CA 91125
advertising e-mail: business@caltech.edu
editorial e-mail: tech@caltech.edu

VOLUME CVIII, NUMBER 24

Marissa Cevallos
Editor-in-Chief

Kimberley Ho
Business Manager

Chandra Barnett
Circulation

Matt Glassman
Photography Editor

Valerie Syverson
Sonia Tikoo
Yang Yang
Layout Editors

Evans Boney
Marissa Cevallos
Andrea Dubin
Mark Eichenlaub
Hamilton Falk
Leighland Feinman
Matt Glassman
Anna Hiszpanski
Robert Karl
Cindy Ko
Natalya Kostandova
Radhika Marathe
Harold Martin
Sara McBride
Craig Montuori
Vibha Laljani
Harrison Stein
Valerie Syverson
Sonia Tikoo
Jonathan Tsai
Staff

Dr. Gary Libman
Advisor

The Tech is published weekly except during vacation and examination periods by the Associated Students of the California Institute of Technology, Inc. The opinions expressed herein are strictly those of the authors and advertisers.

Letters and submissions are welcome; e-mail submissions to tech@caltech.edu as plain-text attachments, including the author's name, by Friday of the week before publication. *The Tech* does accept anonymous contributions. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all submissions for any reason. All written work remains property of its author. The advertising deadline is 5 PM Friday; all advertising should be submitted electronically or as camera-ready art, but *The Tech* can also do simple typesetting and arrangement. All advertising inquiries should be directed to the business manager at business@caltech.edu. For subscription information, please send mail to "Subscriptions."



BY: VIBHA LALJANI

ENTERTAINMENT

Don Imus fired after comments on Rutgers basketball team

Radio talk-show personality Don Imus has been fired by CBS, after widespread criticism of his comments last week on the appearance of the Rutgers women's basketball team. After calls for his resignation and public appearances by representatives of the team, Imus issued an apology; however, his show was cancelled and he was fired on April 11th. Imus's show "Imus in the Morning" has been aired since 1979. The show publicly embraced an ethos of all-embracing offensiveness during its run, but has particularly drawn allegations of racism, sexism, and homophobia, in addition to occasioning accusations of libel from multiple prominent public figures.

First "James Bond" dead at 87

Barry Nelson, the first actor to play James Bond on screen, has passed away. He was 89. His wife Nansi Nelson said on Friday that

he died on April 7 while traveling in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The cause of death was not immediately known. Barry was an MGM contract player during the 1940s. He was spotted by a talent scout after he graduated from University of California, Berkeley in 1941.

BUSINESS

Pound hits a 14-year high against American dollar

The pound has touched a 14-year high of \$1.9938 against the dollar. Experts forecast that it will rise above \$2 in the next few days. Sterling has been rising against the dollar. This trend has been great news for British visitors to the US. It has made things difficult for exporters though. The last time the pound was equal to \$2 was in 1992, after the UK was forced to leave the European Exchange Rate Mechanism.

TECHNOLOGY

Apple delays Leopard because of need for iPhone software

The release of Apple's next operating system, OS X --

codenamed Leopard --is being delayed by four months. It was scheduled to be released in June. It will be released in October instead.

The delay occurred because of critical need for software and resources for the iPhone which is to go on sale in late June as per schedule. Some of the engineers and testers working on OS X were diverted to the iPhone project. However, a trial (beta version) of the OS X will be available in June at the Apple developer conference.

WORLD

Nagasaki mayor shot dead in street by senior gang member

The mayor of Nagasaki, Ichio Ito, was shot twice in the back on Tuesday night at a train station and died early on Wednesday morning. Ito, a Nagasaki native, was born on August 23, 1945, two weeks after the city was bombed by the United States. The killer, Tetsuya Shiroy, was apprehended at the scene and confessed immediately. Tetsuya Shiroy is a senior member of Japan's largest organised crime operation, Yamaguchi-gumi.

Despite the long-standing political alliance between the yakuza and right-wing nationalist parties, it is not believed that the murder of Liberal Democratic party-backed Ito was politically motivated. Investigations point instead to a minor incident in 2003 between Shiroy and Nagasaki public authority after he drove his car into a hole at a construction site. The shooting, a rare incident under Japan's strict gun-control laws, has brought calls from citizens to crack down on gun ownership among organised crime outfits. The yakuza are responsible for a large percentage of Japan's violent crime, with two-thirds of last year's 53 shootings being gang-related.

Galapagos Islands threatened by tourism and introduced species

The Galapagos Islands, one of the most isolated ecosystems in the world, have been declared "at risk" due to tourist traffic, introduced species, and overpopulation. The UNESCO World Heritage site is under investigation by a UNESCO delegation to determine whether it should be officially classified as "in danger" of being lost. According to the Charles Darwin Foundation research group, most of the harmful changes have

accompanied a tripling in tourism and immigration over the last fifteen years. The islands currently hold 30,000 inhabitants and see a tourist traffic of 100,000 people per year. Among the dangers to the Galapagos Islands' unique ecosystem are 490 insect and 53 invertebrate introduced species, 55 of which are considered particularly invasive. The Galapagos have had a problem with introduced and invasive species since they were first discovered by humans, who introduced dogs, cats, goats, and donkeys to the islands. The Ecuadorean president has issued a decree calling for a temporary suspension of new tourist permits and air links into the Galapagos archipelago, as well as a deportation of the estimated 6,000 illegal residents and a halt on legal immigration into the islands. Experts presently think the damage to the archipelago is serious but not irreversible. The UNESCO delegation's findings will be reviewed at the end of June by an intergovernmental committee in New Zealand.

Compiled from BBC, CNN, AFP

ASCIT Minutes: April 11, 2007
ASCIT members will vote on establishing Honor Chair office

Officers present: Chris Gonzales, Mike Grinolds, Andrea Dubin, Angela Zah, Ekta Bhojwani, Caleb Ng, Patrick Herring, Daryl Coleman, Zack Higbee

*Social team
 -Ekta is visiting the Ritz Huntington today. They bumped down the cost for food, bringing the grand total to \$21000. for the hotel, not including DJ, etc. We want to charge \$35 per person to come to formal, so this means there will be \$8800 in expected revenue and \$3000 from ASCIT, leaving a deficit of about \$6000.
 Ekta doesn't know how it was funded in the past. Formal will cost more for non-ASCIT members. It was also suggested that we could open it up to grad students to increase revenue. Another problem is that there is only one ball room and it can't be split up - so it will be difficult to coordinate a jazz band and a DJ at the same time. Other hotels are possible, but they are all going to cost around the same amount. We need to figure out a more long term solution. In addition,

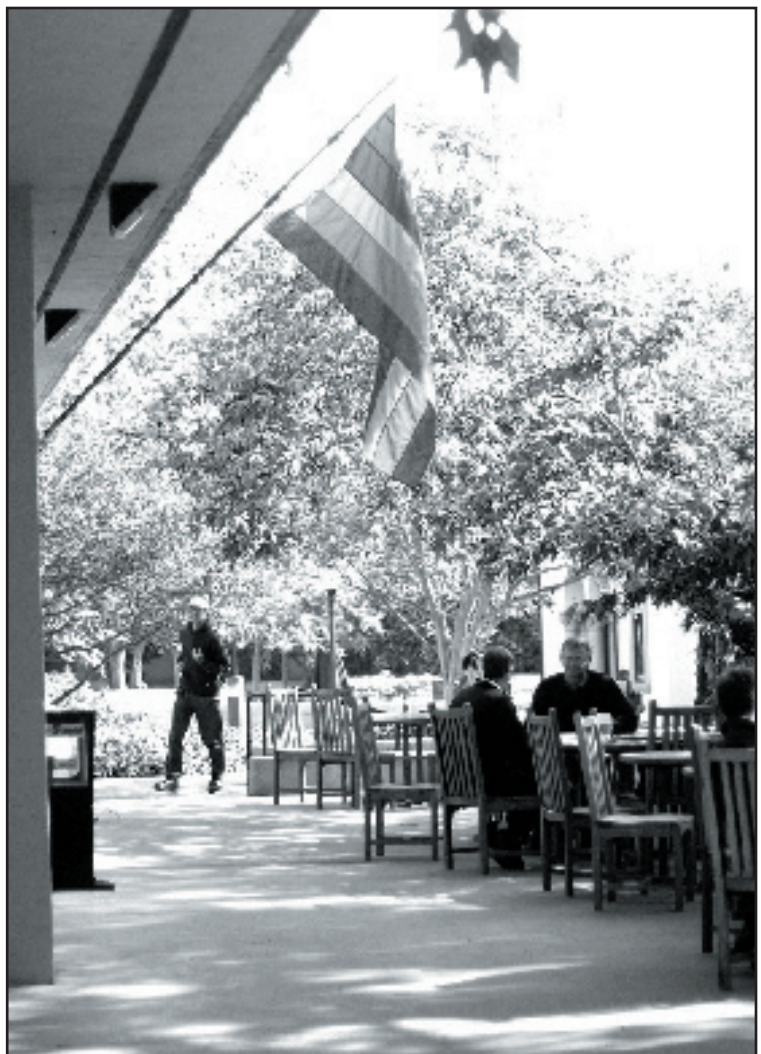
the ASCIT BoD will not get free tickets this year.
 -Ekta has 1000 tickets for Spiderman 3 for May 4. She suggested the possibility of 50 tickets for people for special admissions (this would mean that they won't have to stand in line, but the tickets will cost a little money). Non-ASCIT members also get charged a little.

*Bylaw changes
 -The proposed bylaw change is to split the BoC chair and ASCIT vice president (honor chair). The honor chair will be on the BoD, but neither the CRC or BoC chairs will be. The honor chair will also review BoC and CRC cases with the deans, as well as handle formal appeals. It was decided that it won't be necessary to require the person to have been a former BoC rep or CRC rep. We can trust the voters to elect a qualified person and having those experiences will help, but people shouldn't be automatically disqualified from the position if they haven't been BoC or CRC rep. The BoD should vote via email tomorrow (email Chris and Andrea). We

also want the text of the proposed changes to appear in the Tech on this coming Monday. There is no plan to change the quorum on the BoC. The proposed changes will be posted for 7 days, and on the following Monday, a vote will be opened up to the ASCIT members on proposed changes.

*Next year
 -Quorum for next year - since Caleb and Angela will be studying abroad, and 6 BoD members are needed to have quorum, officers can't miss meetings next year. The replacements for the positions can't vote.

The Tech publishes ASCIT BoD minutes every week as a service to the student body, as specified in the ASCIT constitution. The minutes are contributed by the ASCIT secretary (Andrea Dubin).



The rainbow flag on Chandler for Gay Pride month, now flying again, was removed over the past weekend by an unknown party. The administration has expressed concerns about vandalism.

Photo by Robert Karst

Learn to Fly!
Caltech/JPL Aero Club
 For more information go to: <http://ascit.caltech.edu>
 or email club VP and instructor Joe Areeda
 (joe@areeda.com)

Fire Up!
Fire-Roasted Gourmet Pizza™
 Free Internet Hot Spot!

345 S. Lake Ave #205
 Pasadena, CA 91101
 (626) 585-1600
 Next to Trader Joe's!
 10% discount with ID Card
 Call for fundraising and catering!
 Order online through MySpace!
<http://groups.myspace.com/redbrickpizza-pasadena>

Tired of CDS lunches and dinners?
\$2.00 Burger, Fries, and Drink EVERYDAY
 for all Caltech students, staff, and faculty
 Enjoy The Greatest Happy Hours in the Area.
 All Well Drinks, Beer & wine, Monday to Friday
 11am-7pm only \$1.99
Burger Continental
 535 S. Lake Ave.
 Pasadena
 (626) 792-6634
 Always 20% off for all Caltech students, staff, faculty

WWW.ELLENSILKSCREENING.COM
ellens
 Silkscreening • Embroidery & Promotional Products
 626.441.4415 1500 Mission St. South Pasadena
 T-Shirts, Sweats, Caps, and over 250,000 promotional items to grab their attention
 Bring your student I.D. to receive one FREE large set-up (\$25 Value)

Campus security, Counseling Center to provide extra services

VA TECH, FROM PAGE 1

making sure proper notifications [are made] to agencies outside of Caltech that we may need to bring in," Henderson said.

New mass notification system being put in place

A major concern raised by the Virginia Tech shootings is timely notification of crimes in hopes of preventing more harm.

The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990, better known as the Clery Act, mandates that universities "shall make timely reports to the campus community on crimes considered to be a threat to other students and employees ... that are reported to campus security or local law police agencies. Such reports shall be provided to students and employees in a manner that is timely and that will aid in the prevention of similar occurrences."

In the case of Virginia Tech, mass emails were sent to students

two hours after the first shooting, some argue that time gap was too long.

Caltech recently began subscribing to a mass notification system called ConnectEd, which is capable of sending alerts through email, phone and text message.

However, currently the system only sends notifications to members of the crisis management committee, a "representation from across the campus, from student affairs to faculty, to counseling," according to Henderson. Members include Dean John Hall, Assistant VP of student affairs Erica O'Neal, and Assistant VP of Campus Life Tom Mannion.

There has been talk of adding the rest of Caltech to the ConnectEd system.

"We anticipate beginning to populate ConnectEd with the entire campus, students, faculty, and staff in the near future," Henderson said. "[To do so] we will need community members to submit the various methods that ConnectEd uses for communication,

including e-mail, home and campus phones, cell phones, and text to us. More information about the system will be provided as we move forward with the project."

The best course of action when one suspects a shooter is to inform security, not trying to intervene, according to Henderson.

"We are a very secure campus, I can provide security," he said. "I can put people out there to patrol the grounds... [but] people need to communicate with us, if you have something that feels suspicious, [if] your initial reaction is [that] something's not right, call us immediately, let us come in and figure out what's going on."

Counseling center emphasizes help, not fear for mentally ill

Austin emphasized prevention at the campus gathering on Tuesday. By identifying troubled individuals and getting them counseling and professional help, he said,

violent incidents with trouble individuals can be prevented.

Changes in one's behavior may highlight deeper issues.

"It's easiest [to notice change] when you already have a relationship with a person, because you have a baseline of what's normal for them," Austin said. "Perhaps the person stopped going to class, stopped going to dinner, they seem much more pessimistic, quieter, less responsive [and] less interested than what they used to be."

The counseling center regularly handles students, 20% of the undergraduate population has been seen by the center, according to Austin. Most go to just talk about their issues, but three to 10 students a year are hospitalized for their own safety.

People with mental illnesses are not predisposed to violence and should not be treated like threats, Austin strongly stressed. These individuals need care, not fear.

"If you look at the Virginia Tech shooter, he was a loner and

had a mental illness," Austin said. "Those two things alone don't predispose people to violence... [Things which may cause violent tendencies] are extreme trauma: witnessing something horrific, being an object of abuse or [the person is] subjected to violence themselves."

To reach out to someone who may be having trouble, Austin recommended opening a friendly conversation. Rather than trying to evaluate the person's mindset, just describe the changes the person is undergoing and express concern about the shift in behavior. Although one might think it's meddling to do so, the conversation may help immensely.

"The strength of this place is that students look out for one another, they should continue to do so," he said. "But sometimes there is reluctance to draw attention to someone needing help, encourage them to take the next step."

More resources for the Counseling Center can be found at www.counseling.caltech.edu.



Photo by Jonathan Tsai

Michael Betancourt, first year MIT physics graduate student from Rud-dock, distributes copies of the prank paper. Five MIT graduate students with Caltech loyalties helped with the prank.

Prank 'hilarious'

PRANK, FROM PAGE 1

erty," said Falk. "[The campus police] were very friendly. The two that I talked to even asked for a paper."

Despite a few upset individuals, Cevallos and Falk said the prank was well received by most at MIT.

"Ninety-five percent of the reactions we got were positive," said Cevallos. "Quite a few people told us it was hilarious."

Added Falk, "A lot of people were seeking us out, saying that they had been looking for [the prank newspaper] all over."

According to Cevallos and the prefrish she spoke with, the newspaper was particularly well-received among the prospective students.

"I thought it was real at first," said MIT prefrish Scott McCrea-ry. "Then someone pointed to the page with the sperm donors, and I realized the whole newspaper was a prank," referring to a fake sperm donor advertisement in the paper which offered \$900 compensation for Caltech's male students and only \$400 for MIT's.

Most students at Caltech appeared to enjoy the prank as well.

"I think [the newspaper] was quite witty actually," said senior Neha Das. "It was nice that the whole paper was a prank, from the articles to the ads to the pic-

tures. It was also pretty impressive that such a small group of people could pull it off and that secrecy was maintained."

However, some Caltech students would have preferred that more Techers had been involved in the prank.

"I feel really out of the loop because it wasn't really well-publicized," said sophomore Tania Bandyopadhyay. "It was a Tech prank, but not that many people at Tech knew about it. I understand you have to be secretive, but it would be nice if more people could have been involved."

The day after distributing the newspapers, The Tech group made one final stop before preparing to leave back home for California, as Tsai related:

"Marissa and I went into [MIT's] Tech office and handed them a stack [of the prank issues]. They looked at me and had a very spiteful look on their faces," said Tsai with a smile. "I had told them before [while pretending to be a prefrish] that I was choosing between Dartmouth and MIT. So I told them, 'I'm sorry. I can't really go to MIT next year because I'll be starting my sophomore year at Caltech.'"

After finishing their mischief on the MIT campus Saturday morning, the group headed to the airport but ran into difficulties

with their return. Their Saturday afternoon flight back to Los Angeles was overbooked, and the next earliest flight that could accommodate all of them was Tuesday.

However, with the help of Techers back in California, the group was able to schedule a Sunday flight from Philadelphia. Cevallos, Falk, and Tsai endured a nearly seven hour Greyhound bus ride from Boston to The City of Brotherly Love in order to be back at Caltech by late Sunday night.

Despite the delay in their travels, the detour ended up as a blessing in disguise for Falk, whose family resides in Philadelphia. His brother is in the military and was to leave for Iraq in a couple of days. The chance detour gave Falk an opportunity to see his brother again before he deployed.

"We didn't mind being in Philadelphia for nine hours because it was definitely worth it that Tony could be with his family," said Cevallos.

Now, back at Caltech, the group is recuperating from their travels and catching up on missed class and work.

"I'm making up a lot of problem sets right now," said Cevallos.

But was the prank worth it? "It's totally worth it," said Cevallos. "I mean, is it more exciting to tell your grandkids that you pranked MIT for a weekend or that you did problem sets?"

Seniors needing 42 units or less will now walk

SENIORS, FROM PAGE 1

John Hall, Cathy Jurca, and Cindy Weinstein, on behalf of the Convocations Committee, brought it to the faculty board discussion, where it was overall favourably received. Students Cindy Ko and Emma Schmidgall also spoke for the change on behalf of the students.

"The faculty was supportive, with a few understandable requests for clarification," said Faculty Board chairman Henry Lester. "They were very impressed with the students' statement that [being allowed to walk] meant a lot in terms of the community's support for them."

The policy change, effective immediately and applying to the 2007 commencement ceremonies, will apply only to those seniors who have only one term's worth of work or less left to meet degree

requirements. Students wishing to do this will still need to petition the Dean, who will review their requirements and act on the petitions.

Other decisions made in the Faculty Board meeting this year, though less immediate in effect than the decision on superseniors, affect Study Abroad and TAs. It was decided that the Study Abroad program will be expanded over the next few years, the ultimate goal being a program which will allow any eligible student to participate in the exchange program rather than choosing a few, as with the present system. TA training classes, already offered at the beginning of the year but not well publicised or required, are also to be expanded such that all undergraduate and graduate TAs will be required to have formal training, beginning next year.

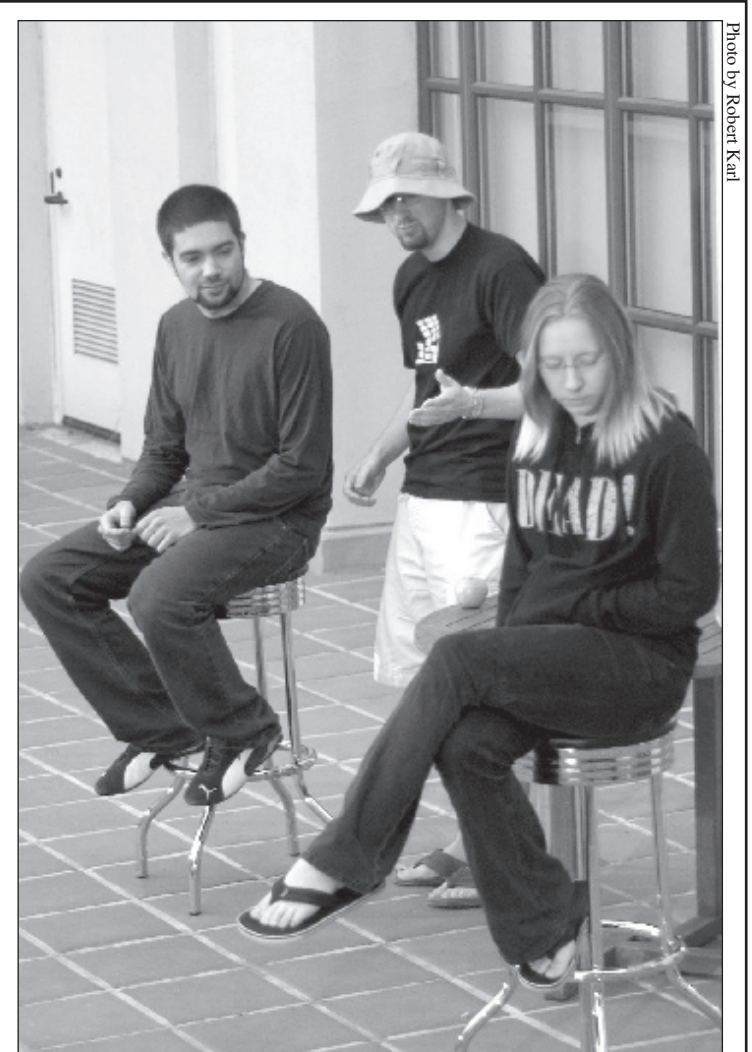


Photo by Robert Karl

Natalie Szweda, Eric Johlin, and Matt Grau performing "In the Beginning" at One Act Theatre.

Pranks immortalized

Dozens of extra toilets at Chandler, whales in Millikan Pond, and Hell freezing over: pranks, almost-pranks, myths, and mysteries from Caltech history fill the pages of the third installment of the Legends of Caltech series.

In an effort to ensure future volumes' existence, a percentage of the proceeds will go to benefit the Prank Fund.

Left: the readily-recognizable cover of the new Legends of Caltech book. Below: unidentified patrons on the scene of the classic grad-student-perpetuated "Chandler toilet bowl brigade" prank.



Photo courtesy of Mason Porter

Looijen herself. "We were getting an awful lot of security bulletins when I was a student, so a couple of us decided to see whether anyone was still reading them. The result is in the book. I think you'll like it."

Another prank in the book that is still gathering heat is the infamous

"Hell Freeze". "Blacker has an alley named 'Hell,'" said Porter. "One time in the early 90s, liquid nitrogen was used to make it freeze over. Lots of cool stuff ensued."

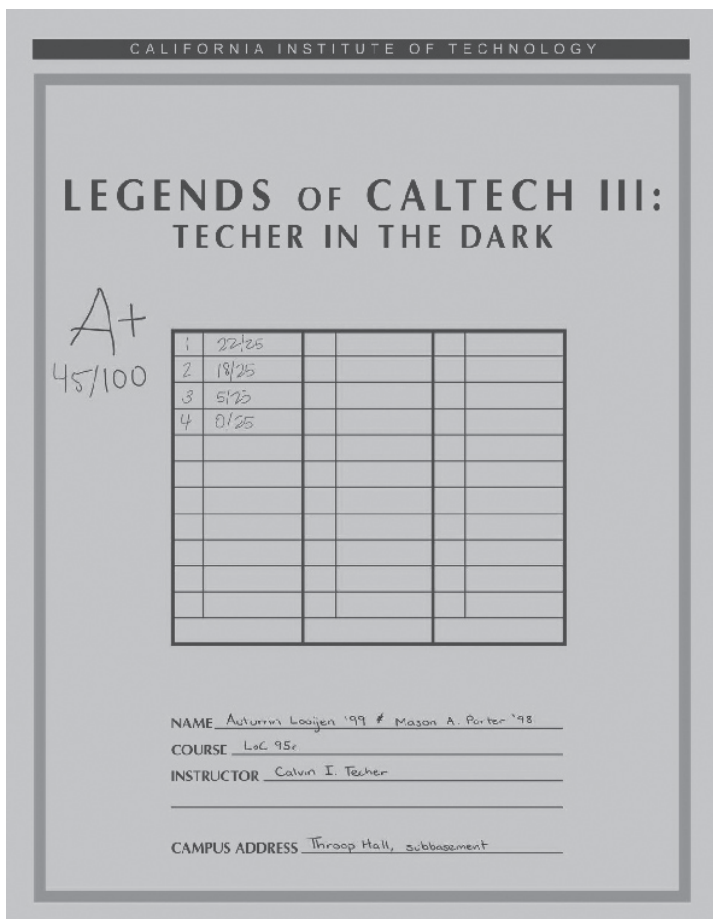
Unlike the first two Legends books, the new book includes a couple of pranks that didn't work out.

Said Looijen, "I read the first two books as a student, and was left with the impression that pranks are always well-received. Sometimes they aren't. It's ok; you won't be the first (or last) person with a misfire. Pick yourself up and try again – the

successful pranks are worth it!"

The editing duo enjoyed working on this book so much, they've already made plans for the next one, possibly due out in 2010. A portion of the proceeds from Legends III will go to a "Prank Fund" to help encourage the creation of material and stories for Legends IV.

Said Porter, "When you're working on Caltech's infamous combinatorics problem – 'Work, sleep, social life: choose two.' – keep in mind that instigating pranks are a very convenient form of stress relief, especially at odd hours of the night."



BY SARA MCBRIDE

A future Oxford mathematics professor and a computer guru of Silicon Valley have come together to produce the latest publication of Caltech's Legends. In order to gather Caltech pranks and stories, alumni Mason Porter ('98) and Autumn Looijen ('99) contacted hundreds of past housemates, classmates, instigators, student rebels and some of the best prankster planners to ever attend Caltech.

The collection was written by alumni and contains all pranks famous, not so famous, and outright foiled from 1989 to present, along with some older myths and mysteries from history that have been recently unearthed. Legends of Caltech III: Techer in the Dark is aptly planned for release during Alumni weekend, May 17 - 19.

"If you read the postscript of the first two books, you'll see comments about hoping those books to be the first and second in a continuing series," said Porter of his motivations to tackle such an endeavor. Looijen, who is currently planning her wedding and finding her Caltech sleep-deprivation training very useful, says that "the best pranks seem to happen under pressure, and Caltech provides a lot of pressure."

Some of the pranks detailed in the book are as famous as the Chandler toilet bowl brigade, when all the chairs in front of Chandler were replaced by toilet bowls. Exactly where or how the graduate student instigators were able to lay their hands on an exorbitant amount of free-roaming toilet bowls no longer remains an unanswered question.

One of the pranks was by

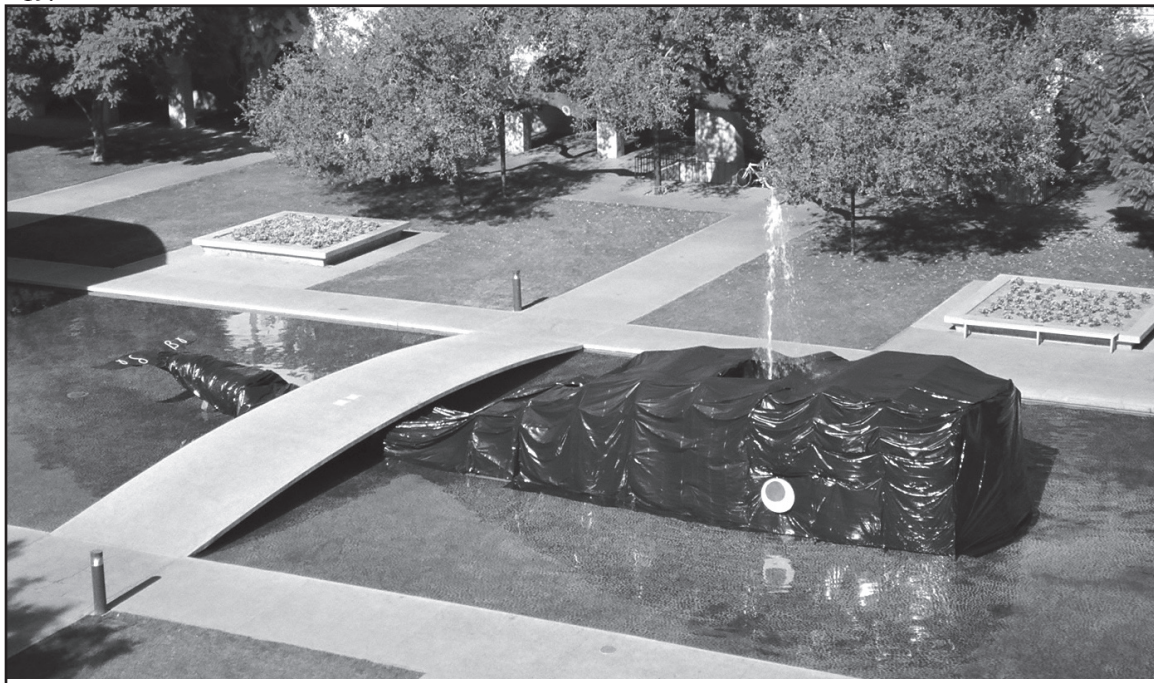


Photo courtesy of Mason Porter

The Millikan whale surfaces. A close inspection of the tail reveals "GDBG" in Greek letters, a trademark of Blacker House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jazz this week

This **Saturday, April 21**, is a big day for jazz fans at Caltech. The **Seventh Annual Jazz Festival** will take place from **2-6 PM**, in the Gates Patio area. Performers include the LA Mambo Combo, the Bruce Lofgren Big Band, and the Caltech Jazz Bands. The concert is free and open to the public.

Bringing blankets and food is recommended.

ARC: there exist free lunches

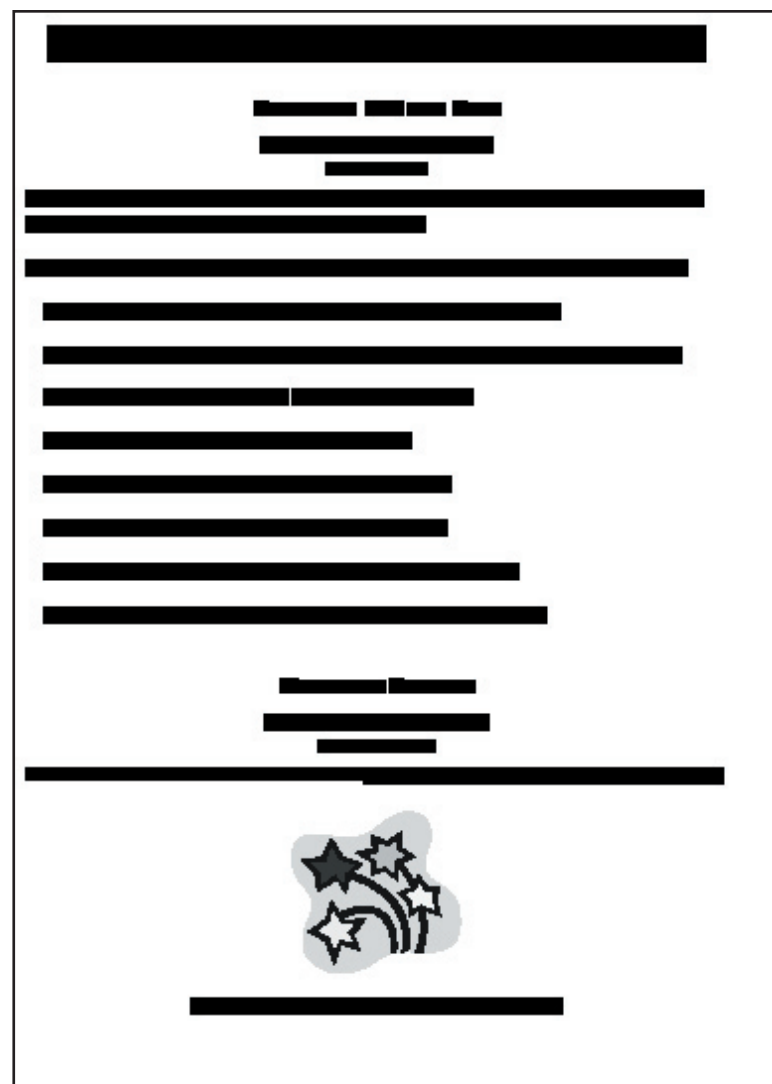
The ARC, with MOSH Cathy Jurca, will be holding a series of Student-Faculty Lunches in various South House Dining Halls. The lunches are paid for by the MOSH.

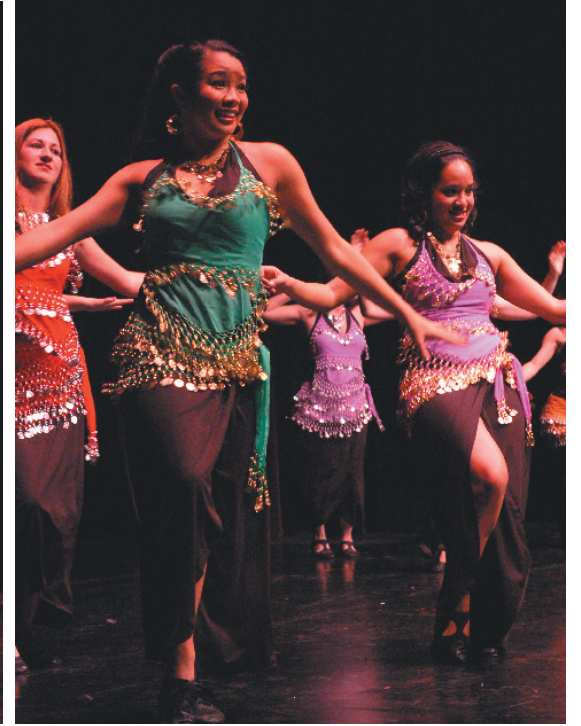
All the lunches this term will be attended by current Caltech professors who are also Caltech alums. The first lunch was held Tuesday in Fleming Dining Hall at noon. It featured four alum-faculty: Paul Asimow (Ge, Ph.D. '97), Judy Cohen (Astro, Ph.D.

'71), Joseph Kirschvink (Ge, B.S. '75), and Richard Murray (CDS, B.S. '85).

All undergrads were invited attend in an e-mail announcement last Friday, but only the first fourteen students were offered spots. There will be two other Student-Faculty Lunches this term on May 9, 2007 and May 24, 2007.

For more information, contact your ARC Rep or ARC Chair Caleb Ng (calebeng@caltech.edu).





This year's dance show featured a variety of pieces, including (clockwise from top left): *Deja Vu*, Elena Hartoonian in *Serpentina*, the Caltech Belly-dance Goddesses in *We'll Put a Spell on You*, Christie A. Canaria in *On the Edge*, Mehta, and *He Mele No Lilo/Kalakaua*.



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW GLASSMAN

Caltech Dance Show 2007

Modern and cultural performances pack auditorium over the weekend

BY NATALYA KOSTANDOVA

Last Friday and Saturday, Caltech once again showed that its interests are not entirely limited to academic pursuits. Over 50 dancers displayed their talent in the Caltech Dance Show.

The show presented a wide variety of dance styles, including Modern Jive, belly dancing, Korean hip hop, salsa, as well as other contemporary and classical styles.

"There were very impressive pieces" said Kelly Lin, who attended the show.

"They were really creative, especially with the way they used the props." Among such unusual

pieces was "On the Edge," performed by Christie Canaria, who danced with a 1 kg sword.

According to Kristina Barkume, a graduate student responsible for much of the organization of the show, the event is meant to "give an avenue for people who do dance and to show that we do have this very talented group of dancers on campus."

While there are several dance classes and groups on campus, the Dance Show is one of the only opportunities for Techers to display their abilities to the public.

Jessie Zhao, who performed in the show, said, "This is the one thing that I look forward to every year. You can really be a different person – you are on stage, you're

performing, the light is on you, it is just a completely different experience." Zhao performed in the show all four of her years at Caltech.

Lily Ni, who also danced in the show four years, agreed that dancing is a positive experience amidst the educational environment of Caltech.

Said Ni, "It keeps me interested and keeps my head clear of all the academics. I think it's a healthy

lifestyle to balance academics and physical activity."

"This is the one thing that I look forward to every year. You can really be a different person – you are on stage, you're performing, the light is on you, it is just a completely different experience."

- Jessie Zhao

affiliated with organized Caltech dance groups to gain access to the

stereo room in the Brown gym, which was used for practice. The gym is also closed to practices during the summer which, according to Barkume, is the time when "a lot of development and choreography take place."

While the show did involve many undergraduates, majority of the dancers who participated were graduate students. "It would have been nice to have more undergrads participate or watch," said Zhao and Ni.

The Caltech Dance Show is an annual endeavor and draws its audience both from Caltech as well as outside community.

Junior track standout breaking records

BY RAM KANDASAMY

Caltech junior Matthew Kiesz lives for thrills, and he has certainly thrilled Caltech Track and Field with blistering times. With this year's all-conference SCIAC meet coming up, the 2006 all-con-

ference runner is among Caltech's best in Track and Field. Among other things, he holds some of the fastest times in school history for the 800m, the 1500m, and the 4X400m races.

"The adrenaline rush before a race is something that you just can't experience anywhere else,"

said Kiesz.

But make no mistake, Kiesz is not your average adrenaline junkie. Kiesz plans his races thoroughly and sets the bar high for himself — two reasons for his success on the track. His constant drive to improve has given him what he calls "a break-out season".

It is not surprising that Kiesz would consider this season his best—he has already improved his personal record in the 1500 meters several times. Currently, his time of 4:00.61 is the fourth fastest in Caltech history.

In addition to the 1500m Kiesz has excelled in many other races, including the 4X400m, 800m, 1500m, 2-mile, and 5000m. About his versatility on the track, he modestly noted, "Well, I do not do any hurdling, but yes, I enjoy sprinting and long-distance running."

Aside from his affinity for competition, Kiesz—like many athletes—has other reasons for running. He began freshman year in high school because it provided an escape from the rest of his busy life.

"I can be in my own element and not have to think about any-

thing," Kiesz said.

Off the field, Kiesz relaxes with a variety of leisure activities: "I love hanging out with friends, playing Halo, beer ...I also bike a lot and, from time to time, play the piano." Kiesz appreciates the balance between the intense competition and recreation; he feels that this balance is crucial to his success.

Last month, the Caltech Track & Field Men's and Women's teams placed 5th of 6 teams in the SCIAC Lower Quad Meet. Kiesz is proud of his team's performance

this year, and he looks forward to watching the team continue to build over the next few years.

The key to Kiesz's achievements is his constant drive for self-improvement, and keeping careful note of exactly what he needs to work on.

"I am aiming to achieve personal records, and break the school record for the 800m and 1500m events. I am also shooting for nationals in those events."

Currently, Kiesz is about 5 seconds off the pace for nationals.



Matt Kiesz, 2006 all-conference runner, has the third fastest time in Caltech history in the 1500 m. He is 5 seconds short of qualifying for nationals.



Matt Kiesz gives a thumbs-up between the legs of teammate Tom Jurczak during the April 14 SCIAC Multi Dual meet at Pomona College. Kiesz placed third in the 1500 m.

Photo by Mark Eichenlaub

Photo by Mark Eichenlaub

Men's track finishes sixth



Sophomore Zack Higbee struggles to clear the bar in the high jump. He finished with a height of 1.53m, good for a 13th place finish.

Photo by Mark Eichenlaub

BY MARK EICHENLAUB

The Men's and Women's track teams competed at the SCIAC Multi-Dual meet at Pomona College last Saturday, April 14. The men took sixth place of eight teams; the women eighth of eight.

Elette Boyle broke school records in the high jump (5' 1/4", third place) and triple jump (34' 11", fourth place). Caltech also saw top 6 performances by Matt Kiesz (third, 1500m), Zack Higbee (fourth, pole vault), Mark Eichenlaub (fifth, 5000m), and Yezdan Badrakhan (sixth, 400m).

Right: Seth Hendrickson prepares before the 4 x 100 relay.

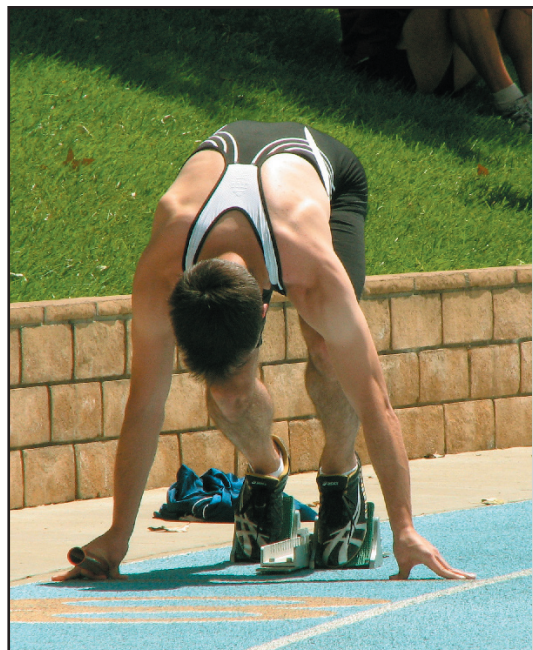


Photo by Mark Eichenlaub

ADVERTISEMENT



SIG
SUSQUEHANNA
INTERNATIONAL GROUP, LLP
www.sig.com
It's Your Move

		8		9			
	6				3		
	1			8		9	2
		2			5	4	9
1		7				2	5
	8	4	9			1	
8		1		6			4
			2				8
				4		5	

Caltech a full house of poker players

Counseling Center concerned about potential gambling addictions

BY VICTOR LI

Coming into Caltech, I couldn't help but be mesmerized by upperclassmen's success stories at online poker.

Students were paying tuition and buying cars with their winnings. Huck Seed, a member

of Fleming House, dropped out of Caltech in 1989 and went on to win the 1996 World Series of Poker.

But just how prevalent is gambling here at Caltech? How many Techers are problem gamblers who are losing money and unable to quit? How many are successful?

The Counseling Center has plans to find the statistics on this problem. Dr. Lee Coleman, who

is in charge of the gambling aspects of the Counseling Center, is currently devising a survey for the Caltech community to be given out in the future.

According to Coleman, 6% of college students nationally gamble at least once a week and 5.5% of those college students who gamble are problem gamblers.

But does this statistic apply to an elite college like Caltech, where everyone understands the odds and the math behind the game?

Coleman has spoken to Bruce Roberts, who heads the California Council for Problem Gambling on this subject. Roberts stated, "I have seen a lot of scientifically oriented, knowledgeable people run into problem gambling. For problem gambling, it's an emotional issue."

This is what poker players commonly call "going on tilt." After suffering losses someone who is on tilt will make plays that they normally wouldn't, trying to chase down their losses and usually ending up losing even more money.

Even expert players will change their playing style when they're losing. One Techer who wished to remain anonymous said, "When I'm down, I generally play longer sessions and more aggressively."

New prohibitions on online gambling have upped the ante for serious gamblers. The SAFE Port Act, which was passed in November 2006, prohibits financial institutions from transferring funds to online gambling sites. This means that new players wouldn't be able to simply use their credit cards to deposit money, making it harder for new players to get into the game. It does not actually make gambling online illegal.

The general sentiment among Caltech players is that this will increase the difficulty of the games because of the lack of new, inexperienced players.

Scott Jordan, a poker player in Fleming House, said, "When I first started playing \$15/\$30 Lim-

it Hold'em 2.5 years ago, I could destroy the game for 3 big bets per hour (\$90/hour). Now, I'm lucky if I can find a \$10/20 game I can beat for 1 big bet per hour (\$20/hour). There's little companionship, atmosphere, or jackpots with online poker, so the weaker players who are just looking to gamble prefer live poker. Online play is fast and efficient and thus is now attracting more and more elite competition."

The most obvious factor that makes online gambling a losing proposition is the rake that the house takes. Although the rake for online casinos is generally less than that at a brick and mortar casino, it still means that money is always flowing out of the system so that there will always be more losers than winners.

Using a computer program to watch over 300,000 hands of the lowest stakes No Limit Hold'em game at FullTilt Poker (an online poker site), I have found out that 67% of those who play lose money. Meanwhile FullTilt Poker has generated over \$50,000 in rake.

Then there are the non-financial costs of playing poker. Many students will play marathon sessions of several thousand hands in a day, which obviously takes a lot of time. This can lead to being anti-social as well as doing poorly in classes.

With all these negative factors, is it still a good idea to play? It certainly seems that if you were going to play, Caltech would be

the place to do it. If I ever had questions about whether or not I played a hand correctly, I could just shoot an e-mail to an upperclassman who would provide feedback.

Several generous upperclassmen offered to stake \$100 to any freshman who wanted to play, risk-free. Anybody accepting the stake who lost all \$100 would not have to pay any money back and there was no interest or any other strings attached. Upperclassmen have also loaned me books to read and critiqued my play. They've advised me on what stakes to play so that I won't play games where the variance would be too high for my bankroll to absorb.

Dr. Coleman advises that even with all this help, you only have a slight relative advantage compared to other players. The absolute advantage still stays with the house. As a beginner with a small bankroll, even if you can beat the other players and the house, you will be making less than minimum wage. The time it takes is just not worth it.

The Counseling Center, besides collecting survey results, is planning on advising students who have gambling problems. The Counseling Center is open 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon through Fri.

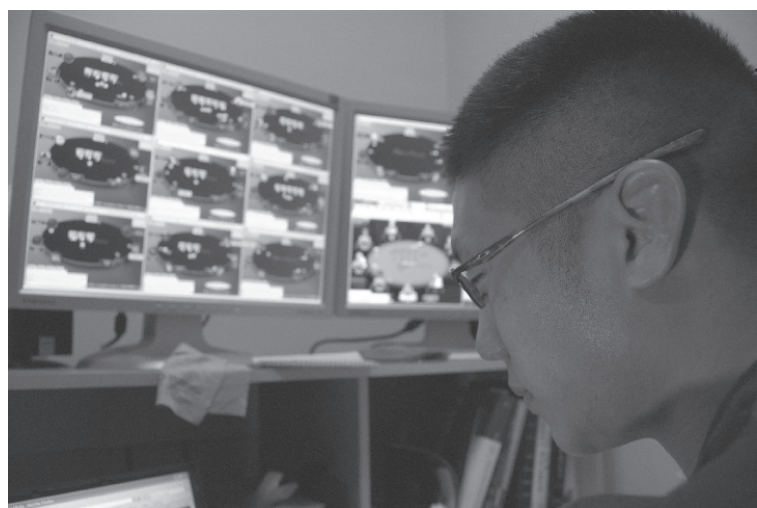


Photo by Matthew Glassman

Senior Daniel Yi plays thirteen poker tables on the internet while browsing videos on youtube.com.

of Fleming House, dropped out of Caltech in 1989 and went on to win the 1996 World Series of Poker.

I had always thought of gambling as a losing proposition, so I was reluctant to put the money I had made over the summer into poker. But weeks later, as I saw about half of the freshmen in my house starting up online poker accounts, I fell into the peer pressure and set up an account with \$75.

is in charge of the gambling aspects of the Counseling Center, is currently devising a survey for the Caltech community to be given out in the future.

According to Coleman, 6% of college students nationally gamble at least once a week and 5.5% of those college students who gamble are problem gamblers.

But does this statistic apply to an elite college like Caltech, where everyone understands the odds and the math behind the

Students join the Ath waiting staff

BY NATALYA KOSTANDOVA

Two years ago, student waiting at the Athenaeum fell by the wayside. However, this year, students once again have the opportunity to earn money and gourmet dinners by waiting the tables of such luminaries as Sally Ride and Stephen Hawking.

Waiting at the Ath, unlike many of the other on-campus jobs, has a few perks in addition to the \$11/hour salary (as opposed to the \$7.70 for waiting in the house).

"The best part about waiting at the Ath is taking your mind off school for a couple of hours while immersing yourself in a completely different environment than the daily lectures and homework," said Lauren Chu, a sophomore student waiter.

In addition to the non-academic environment of waiting, the job also requires interaction with people outside the typical Caltech circle.

"It's cool because you get to work with the group of people that you never usually get a chance to see," said Erin Hartman, a senior in political science.

Although there are a few students who are actively involved with waiting, the Ath is largely staffed with non-student employees.

"A lot of times when you're waiting and you happen to have a lot of people, some of the waiters will help you out," said Angela Zah, a sophomore in biology. "Everybody is very friendly and



Photo by Robert Kari

however, sometimes conflict with the job. According to Zah, while the staff of the Ath is very understanding about students' commitments, it is often difficult to balance the job with lunch meetings, classes, and other responsibilities. The lunch shift usually lasts from 11 am until 2 pm, and students tend to work three times a week.

The experience waiting at the Ath gives students a certain level of understanding about the outside world that is not necessarily taught in the classrooms. Hartman said about the job, "It's surprisingly stressful and much harder than you could imagine to deal with that many things at one time, trying to keep everybody happy."

Waiting at the Athenaeum can also create a special connection between the student and the Caltech community. Jimenez wrote, "Bob Helbing, a Caltech alum and former Ath waiter, knew he wanted to have his wedding only here at the Ath. He was married here a little more than a decade ago and continues to patronize the Ath."

The tradition of student waiters at the Athenaeum waned away in 2005, after student captains, who were responsible for training the waiters, graduated from Caltech. The tradition was restored this year, with Jerry Rodriguez, Food and Beverage Director, responsible for student recruitment.

Angela Zah, sophomore in biology, waits on astrophysicist Dr. George Helou, Executive Director of IPAC and Sr. Research Associate in Physics at the Athenaeum on Friday. Students are now allowed to work as waiters at the Ath after a two-year hiatus.

they show us how to do things, and if I have to leave early, they will take my leftover tables."

The clients of the Athenaeum also make up a group that not many students interact with on daily basis.

"On my first day of waiting at the Ath, I got to serve Stephen Hawking's table," said Chu.

Many professors, President Chameau, Dr. Carol Carmichael, as well as other distinguished persons, including Sally Ride, the

first American woman in space, also occasionally choose the Ath for dinners and lunches.

"The most interesting people I get to talk to are the nice Ath guests who see my nametag and notice that I am a student or a mechanical engineer, and then we strike up a conversation," said Chu. "There are so many interesting adults on campus that many undergrads just never get to meet or get to know."

Arguably the most tempting

part of the job, however, comes after the shift. "After you finish waiting, you get free Ath food and a free strawberry lemonade," said Zah.

The students, however, are not the only ones enjoying the job. Marisu Jimenez, General Manager of the Athenaeum, wrote in an e-mail, "Members love seeing [students] on the floor and talk to them regarding their academic pursuits."

The academic pursuits do,

GAYpril Events

Make a Difference Day:

Saturday, March 31st

All day

Sign Up through the Caltech Y

Dinner and a Movie: "Another Gay Movie"

Friday, April 13th

7:00pm

2nd Floor Center for Student Services

GAYpril Ice Cream Kick Off

Free Ice Cream, Ally pins and Resources

Monday, April 2nd

11:00-2:00pm

Near C-Store

Day Hike

Saturday, April 14th

10:00 am

Switzer Falls

RSVP required...limited spaces!

Friends for Life: A Night of Comedy

Tuesday, April 3rd

8:00pm

The Laugh Factory

LGBTQ Graduate Student Social Hour

Friday, April 20th

7:00-8:00pm

The Rathskeller

LGBTQ & Allies Discussion Group

Tuesday, April 3rd & 17th

7:30-9:30pm

Health and Counseling Center

Conference Room

Pre-frosh Club Fair

Saturday, April 21st

4:00-5:30pm

Olive Walk

Prism Coffee Hour

Wednesday, April 4, 11, 18 & 25th

3:00-4:00pm

The Red Door Café

Chubbing in West Hollywood

The Abbey & Here Lounge

Saturday, April 21st

9:00pm

Meet @ San Pasqual and Wilson

Please RSVP

"Genetics of Sex Determination and Sexual Orientation"

Keynote Lecture and Dinner with Eric Vilain M.D., Ph.D.,

UCLA Center for Society and Genetics

Tuesday, April 10th,

5:30pm, Guggenheim 101 (Lees-Kubota Hall)

RSVP for dinner to caltech.pride@gmail.com

LGBTQ Film Series:

"Saving Face"

Tuesday, April 24th

7:00pm

2nd Floor Center for Student Services



For Questions or RSVP please email PRISM
at caltech.pride@gmail.com

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



Friday Night Dinner

LEIGHLAND FEINMAN, IHC SECRETARY

This prefrish weekend, we have decided to do something a little new, and I think, very creative. Normally, the Caltech experience offers undergraduates a lot of interaction with professors, through a number of different venues.

Most noticeable is the SURF program, which puts many undergrads in research positions, working under Caltech's best and brightest faculty. Many students also do research during the year.

However, there are many other moments of faculty-student interaction that go unnoticed unless you have been at Caltech for a year or two. At a recent dinner, Professor Kip Thorne discussed everything from the true nature of spacetime to the intricacies of the Hollywood movie industry with Caltech undergraduates. President Chameau has been known to stop by cooking class events.

Our Professors and Administrators- often one and the same- become part of our social lives as well, and that is part of what makes Caltech so unique.

And so, the IHC decided that it would be a good idea to give the prefrish a taste of that interaction. The most frequent venue for this kind of social student-faculty get together would be at one of the house dress dinners, but we decided that adding a formal dinner to the already busy Caltech Prefrsh Weekend schedule would be a little taxing on the undergraduates, faculty, and prefrish alike.

So instead, we have combined a normal house dinner on Friday night with a 45-minute reception beforehand, much like those before dress dinners, at which these three groups will be able to mingle.

Afterwards, a traditional, family-style dinner will occur at each house, with faculty and administrators from the reception in attendance for a more laid-back experience.

We hope that everyone will enjoy this chance to see part of what makes Caltech awesome.

Below are the listings; I figured I'd let the "Z" names have an easy time for once.

House Dinner Times:

	Thursday	Friday
Avery	6:15	6:15
Blacker	6:05	5:35
Dabney	6:15	5:45
Fleming	6:30	6:00
Lloyd	6:15	5:45
Page	6:45	6:15
Ricketts	5:45	5:45
Ruddock	6:30	6:00

On Friday, receptions begin 45 minutes before dinner with refreshments for faculty, students, and prefrish.

Prefrsh Dinner Assignments, by Last Name, Reverse Alphabetical Order

Last Name	First Name	1st Night	2nd Night	Last Name	First Name	1st Night	2nd Night
Zhu	Kevin	Av	Ll	Sierra	Carlos	Ri	Ll
Zhao	Emily	Fl	Ll	Shar	Nathaniel	Da	Fl
Yu	Matt	Bl	Ru	Seo	DJ	Da	Pa
Yu	Wesley	Bl	Da	Sears	Jasmine	Bl	Pa
Yu	Alice	Da	Av	Scholz	Becky	Da	Pa
Yu	Rebecca	Da	Ru	Schneider	Ev	Ll	Fl
Yu	Rachel	Ll	Av	Schmitz	Joseph	Ll	Fl
Yin	Allen	Ru	Pa	Schmit	Stephanie	Pa	Bl
Yeung	Wing-Hin	Fl	Ll	Sato	Cameron	Pa	Ri
Yang	Lili	Bl	Av	Sanglimsuwan	Apiradee	Ru	Bl
Yang	Fei	Fl	Bl	Salinas	Gerry	Da	Av
Yang	Samuel	Ru	Ll	Saldana	Frank	Bl	Ru
Xu	Julia	Ru	Da	Rubinstein	Greg	Pa	Da
Xiong	Linda	Fl	Ri	Rousseau	Jacqueline	Pa	Da
Wuerth	Stephanie	Fl	Bl	Rossi	Chris	Fl	Ll
Wu	James	Da	Ll	Rosenberg	Robert	Fl	Bl
Wong	Christopher	Fl	Da	Rosenberg	Robert	Fl	Bl
Westerdale	Shawn	Da	Av	Ramesh	Pradeep	Fl	Pa
Weiss	Talia	Bl	Pa	Puglisi	Sylvia	Ru	Fl
Weber	Casey	Bl	Ri	Price	Nick	Fl	Av
Wang	Carol	Bl	Ll	Price	Andrew	Pa	Bl
Wang	Damon	Bl	Ri	Poppen	Keegan	Da	Fl
Wang	Richard	Da	Ri	Popova	Sophia	Pa	Fl
Wang	Ziying	Pa	Da	Poletayev	Andrey	Da	Ru
Wang	Lulu	Ri	Av	Piatt	Suzanna	Pa	Ri
Walker	Hillary	Ri	Av	Pezeshki	Alan	Ru	Ll
Wahl	Sean	Av	Da	Peng	Yiwen	Da	Bl
Vinegar	Zandra	Ru	Da	Patton	Russell	Ri	Fl
Villalva	Nicholas	Fl	Ll	Patel	Neil	Ri	Av
Ventura	Brian	Ru	Ll	Parkinson	Laura	Da	Ri
Valdez	Juan	Pa	Ll	Pandey	Saurabh	Bl	Fl
Tsao	David	Ru	Fl	Palatnik	Alex	Ll	Av
Tran	Gloria	Fl	Ru	Ngo	Peter	Av	Ri
Tran	Ying-Ying	Ru	Ri	Ng	Albert	Ll	Bl
Tang	Michael	Pa	Bl	Newton	Ryan	Pa	Av
Talovikova	Val	Ll	Bl	Narsimhan	Karthik	Pa	Av
Szust	Jeremias	Da	Bl	Mustoe	Chantal	Pa	Av
Sun	Yuxiao	Pa	Ru	Mount	Chris	Bl	Ru
Suh	William	Av	Ll	Moryl	Luke	Ll	Fl
Sugel	Ian	Fl	Ri	Montana Fernandez	Dan	Pa	Bl
Steinhardt	Will	Ru	Bl	Mok	Brian	Bl	Av
Stam	Melanie	Da	Ll	Mendoza	Gabriel	Ll	Da
Smith	Alex	Bl	Da	Menchaca	Maximo	Da	Bl
Smiley	Samantha	Fl	Bl	Melia	Adrian	Pa	Ri
				Melchor	Raz	Ll	Da
				McSwiggen	Colin	Ll	Pa

Last Name	First Name	1st Night	2nd Night	Last Name	First Name	1st Night	2nd Night
McManus	Kimberly	Ll	Bl	Kaufman	Julie	Ri	Bl
Mazrooei	Maral	Ll	Ru	Karkare	Kirit	Bl	Ll
Masterman	Mary	Ll	Ru	Johnston	Ann	Av	Ru
Mason	Lee	Ru	Da	Jiang	Alex	Fl	Ll
Maseda	Michael	Ri	Ll	Jiang	Daniel	Ru	Ll
Mak	Elizabeth	Ll	Fl	Jiang	Michelle	Ru	Av
Madsen	Erik	Av	Fl	Jester	Jamey	Av	Bl
Macdonald	Graham	Ll	Bl	Jao	Casey	Ll	Av
Ma	Jimmy	Ri	Pa	Jansen	Trenton	Av	Bl
Luo	Helen	Bl	Fl	Jan	Antony	Ri	Pa
Lu	John	Fl	Da	Iwatate	John	Av	Ri
Lu	Dingchao	Ll	Ru	I'anson	Laurence	Fl	Av
Loukianov	Anton	Ri	Da	Huber	Ray	Fl	Pa
Logan	Colin	Av	Da	Howland	Steve	Bl	Ll
Lofgren	Peter	Av	Fl	Howell	Sarah	Ri	Fl
Liu	Tony	Ru	Av	Hossain	Semonti	Ri	Da
Litsch	Kurt	Bl	Pa	Hong	Augustus	Av	Da
Lin	Joy	Av	Ru	Ho	Albert	Ri	Ll
Lin	Allen	Ll	Da	Heavey	Tommy	Pa	Fl
Lim	Dongkook	Pa	Ru	He	Temple	Av	Bl
Lichtblau	Sarah	Ri	Ru	Hartsough	Lucas	Ri	Da
Li	Lily	Av	Ri	Hannasch	Tyler	Ri	Ru
Li	Flora	Da	Fl	Haas	Daniel	Ll	Bl
Li	Lisha	Ri	Ru	Ha Lee	Kyung	Av	Ri
Lewis	Garrett	Da	Av	Gross	Cam	Ri	Av
Levine	Stacy	Fl	Bl	Griffis	Sarah	Pa	Fl
Levina	Mariya	Ri	Pa	Gottlieb	Michael	Bl	Da
Lenoach	Jordan	Fl	Pa	Gonzalez	Eduardo	Da	Ru
Lenoach	Jordan	Fl	Pa	Goel	Prakhar	Bl	Ru
Lee	Christina	Av	Da	Glick	Casey	Fl	Ru
Lee	Dylan	Av	Ru	Geiger	Theresa	Ll	Fl
Lawson	Chelsea	Pa	Av	Fuller	Christine	Bl	Ll
Lawrence	Brian	Bl	Ri	Fong	Linda	Av	Pa
Lan	Justin	Bl	Da	Filiba	Michelle	Fl	Pa
Lam	Anson	Pa	Ll	Figgatt	Caroline	Fl	Da
Lagang	Manuel	Da	Ll	Erenrich	Daniel	Ru	Ri
Lafer-Sousa	Luis	Ll	Pa	Elmquist	Ryan	Fl	Ri
Lachtman	Andy	Da	Fl	Elguea	Carlos	Fl	Pa
Kurtz	Ben	Ri	Bl	El-Gabalawy	Fady	Ru	Fl
Kuo	Calvin	Av	Pa	Ek	Lauriston	Pa	Da
Kuo	Sharon	Da	Ri	Durnford	Andrew	Bl	Fl
Ku	Jessie	Av	Fl	Dunatunga	Sachith	Ll	Av
Kolodrubetz	Daniel	Av	Ll	Doss	Mark	Ll	Ri
Kim	Emily	Av	Bl	DiRe	Alexander	Da	Ri
Khan	Asif	Bl	Pa	Ding	Tina	Fl	Bl
Kennelly	Chris	Da	Ll	Diab	Kenan	Ru	Da
Chadwick	Gray	Ri	Fl	Denlinger	Ryan	Bl	Av
Ceballos	Pablo	Pa	Ru	Davis	Jeremy	Ri	Fl
Cai	Warren	Ru	Fl	Cussen	Dan	Ll	Bl
Burns	Vanessa	Bl	Ri	Coss	George	Ll	Ri
Burkert	Jeffrey	Av	Ll	Considine	Perrin	Ll	Ri
Brown	Tristan	Da	Ll	Cohen	Emma	Pa	Ll
Brady	Zeb	Ll	Fl	Cleary	Emmet	Fl	Av
Bland	Jason	Ri	Bl	Chuang	Alice	Av	Ll
Blakestad	Cliff	Pa	Fl	Chivukula	Abhiram	Ru	Bl
Blakesley	Brianne	Bl	Fl	Chintapalli	Mahati	Ru	Pa
Black	Tim	Fl	Av	Chin	Justin	Ru	Ri
Binder	Gary	Fl	Ru	Chia	Justine	Ll	Da
Berchenko-Kogan	Yasha	Da	Bl	Cherian	Ben	Ru	Fl
Bellone	Donatela	Da	Pa	Chen	Fei	Av	Fl
Bauer	James	Bl	Ll	Chen	Alvin	Da	Pa
Balibanu	Ana	Bl	Pa	Chen	JC	Ru	Av
Avila	Tom	Ll	Ru	Chandy	Rishi	Fl	Da
Arockiam	Nicole	Ll	Pa	Chakravarti	Deboki	Ru	Pa
Anson	Erik	Bl	Av				
Allyn-Feuer	Ari	Av	Pa				
Allen	Peggy	Ri	Bl				
Aisen	Adam	Ru	Bl				
Aguilar	Kiefer	Bl	Fl				

Sorry, those of you from midway through D last names to A last names; I had five pages that needed to fit into two pages and so I had to chop things up. You got into Caltech; you'll be able to find out where to eat/ -IHC Secretary

Saboteur recalls four wrenching days in Boston

BY: HAMILTONY FALK

As you may have discovered, some members of the Tech staff traveled to Boston this weekend to take in the sights and get a feel for what it might be like to repeatedly lie to MIT profrosh, instead of lying to Caltech profrosh. I was lucky enough to be one of these travelers. To help you understand what happened, I've decided to publish the journal I would have kept during the trip had I felt like it at the time.

WEDNESDAY: We left early in the week, although this caused much stress to our various humors, but was necessary to avoid traffic¹. We had a pleasant ride by aeroplane across the entire United States of America from sea to shining sea. Unfortunately some error seemed to have occurred as the pilot of the vessel had failed to deliver us to the city of Boston, and instead had delivered us to Atlanta, a land of southern charms too great for a vile technical institute such as MIT. As pleased as we would have been to enjoy the Georgian hospitality, I was forced to lash the aeroplane driver and beat him about the head until he agreed to deliver us to Boston as we had agreed.

We arrived in the city and were shocked by the stunning cold.

The winds whipped around our exposed flesh, used to the warm California sun, threatening us with death and wolves², but we made our way to a train and it allowed us to make it to the campus of MIT with little trouble. Our journey was finished for now, but I feared that greater trials would occur in the future.

THURSDAY: Exhausted from our journey and our creation of the journalistic masterpiece we were going to unleash on the unsuspecting students of MIT, we slept until past the noon hour. When we finally awoke, the weather had turned from cold to cold and damp with hail and some homeless people³ attempting to peer in the windows. We remained inside for some time, afraid to venture out and risk an icy death or mauling by the creatures that roam Massachusetts night and day, but finally ventured out to discover what secrets we could about the plans for our rival newspaper.

We donned clever disguises (one of us posed as a sea captain, another as a mermaid, and another as an Asian profrosh) and snuck into the buildings of MIT. We found the location of the newspapers secret meeting, using a schedule and a map marked with the location of the meeting, in some sort of code⁴. One of us infiltrated the organization and discovered

their secrets. This accomplished, we retired back to our domicile for rest.

FRIDAY: We awoke with the sun, presumably, although in Boston it is said the sun never wakes before June, and loaded our vehicle with more newspapers than could be counted by a single man, and again traveled to the more populated portions of the MIT campus. Our papers in hand, we traveled the campus

"We remained inside for some time, afraid to venture out and risk an icy death or mauling by the creatures that roam Massachusetts night and day..."

by foot, leaving papers in many locations frequented by the MIT students as well as the newly arrived profrosh.

Our sabotage was soon discovered, leading us to change our behavior. We instead began to distribute papers using our very hands, showing all that received the bounty that we believed in us, which was quite a bit, I do believe.

Once we had delivered the good news to all that could hear it, we celebrated with food and drink and pastries with crême in them and dancing and rejoicing. Finally, tired by our celebrations, we returned to our quarters for a well deserved rest.

SATURDAY: We awoke again on Saturday to discover that the weather was cold and windy, a discovery that was not all too surprising, as the icy chills of the arctic are often found in the Boston area. After a jaunt around the city, we traveled back to the land grounds, only to find our aeroplane was full of bees⁵, and would not be allowing us to travel in the comfort and security we expected. We argued with the man who was the keeper of the planes, but even a large number of blows struck about his person could not convince him to remove the bees, forcing us to travel by way of automobile.

We arrived at another fine landing place for aeroplanes, and boarded on for our flight back to sunny California. The flight went well, but unfortunately the pilot was a man of much age and grace,

and did not survive the trip. My heroic deeds in piloting the plane and saving the orphanage will be recounted in a latter writing, as there is little space for them here.

¹ Since I was flying I was worried about air traffic, giant eagles and zeppelins and such.

² Wolves are one of the most dangerous predators in the Boston area, after lobsters and David Wells.

³ It must be noted that the Homeless of the Boston area are not kindly soft spoken folk that live in Southern California, but are large and hairy and aggressive and will eat your kidneys as soon as looking at you.

⁴ The buildings are all designated with numbers, but luckily our map had a decoder portion in which each number was shown to represent the name of some buildings as well as its location.

⁵ Although many aeroplanes are powered by wing-ed insect such as bees, these were passengers, and being an upper class sort of bee were very picky about with whom they were willing to travel.

Ask Professor Joobs:

How to filter the interweb



BY PROFESSOR JOOBS

Q: What percent of internet is pornography? How do I filter out the rest?

Ah yes, a very good question. Studies have shown that 47% of the interWEB is full of porn, and to be honest there simply is not much of a demand for the remaining 53%. To cater to these preferences we have created a new utility used for the express purpose of filtering out useless "non-porn" information. We call this the "Info-Filter." We here at MIT understand that the only sector of the World Wide Net that doesn't have long-term limitations is, obviously, the pornography and illegal downloads sector, so we have essentially chosen to ignore and – if at all possible – destroy everything else.

The Info-Filter is something that can be turned on or off but we expect that within three years, all registered computers will have some sort of Info-Filter embedded into their "house pages" which is the page that a person "lives in" on the interweb. These measures will permanently increase bandwidth, reduce the risk of catching non-porn related viruses and most importantly, will help our children get exposed to the real, sexy, world faster than ever.

Q: How can I talk to another computer?

Well, for one, you can take the obvious measures of walking up to another computer and physically talking to it. I personally have a very good relationship with my neighbor's Dell laptop because I find time every morning to sneak into his house and have a nice long chat with his device. However, some societies frown on "breaking and entering" and it is for this reason that the interweb was created.

All computers equipped with the interweb have a "talk" function where you press a giant button called talk and the computer immediately enters the "web of conversation". From here, other computers that have already entered the web of conversation have the option to directly connect to new computers entering the web. The results have been dramatic, as nerdy MIT students have been socializing more than ever, via this new functionality.

Unfortunately, a rift has permeated through society via the interweb. The more you talk, the higher your "talk rating" increases, and it has reached a point that the users with high talk ratings simply don't want to speak with those who have just now experienced the greatness of the interweb talk system. We have created a new set of social classes, where the higher class does not want to converse with members of the lower class, and the lower class wants nothing more than to be in the higher class.

Surprisingly, a person's interweb talk circle tends to be the complete opposite of the social circle he used to be in before the interweb, since this new circle includes human beings.

Q: Why is my computer running slowly?

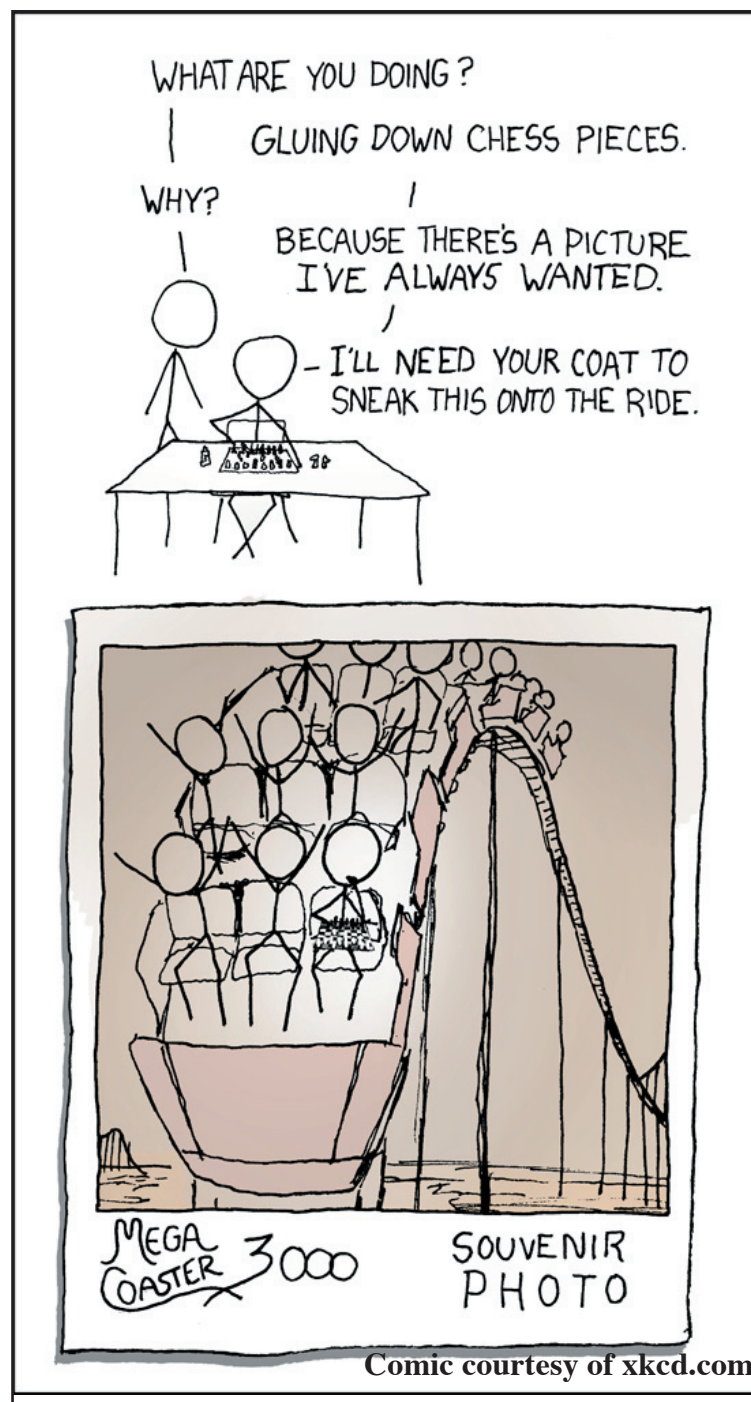
Many computers still "run" slowly because they are using

older transportation systems, such as legs, instead of the new Wheels 4.769 which will allow your computer to move at speeds approaching those of a Segway. If your computer is processing slowly, you probably haven't installed the Info-Filter yet, so your computer is overrun with useless emails such as "Register for classes by Friday or you will not be considered a Full-Time Student" or "Hey, Football at 4".

Another issue is that you probably haven't upgraded our Interweb Explorer. If you are still using IWE 5.0, I would expect some problems because we have greatly enhanced the system for our new release IWE 4.0.

I can't think of any other issues offhand, but if all else fails, I'd recommend downloading some more illegal songs. Those websites tend to have interesting software that sends out information about your computer to others...so that they can find ways to improve the speed.

Q: Is my computer running? Yes, and you better go catch it.



Comic courtesy of xkcd.com

The California Tech
Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91125