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Admissions Cut Prefrosh Weekend By a Day, IHC **Provide Alternative Activities**

By Deboki Chakravarti

STAFF WRITER

For prefrosh who are sorting through their college options, Prefrosh Weekend and the pseudo-vision of Caltech life that it offers play a role in determining if Caltech is the right place to matriculate to. This year, several changes to Prefrosh Wekend mean that prefrosh will only have two nights worth of Caltech life instead of the usual three. Traditionally, prefrosh arrives on Thursday and—after having spent Thursday, Friday, and Saturday sitting in on classes, attending various panels, meeting their fellow prefrosh, and talking to Caltech students, checks out on Sunday. This year, prefrosh will have to check out on Saturday morning, eliminating the Saturday night stay from the official program. However, students can stay unofficially on Saturday night if they have already made arrangements with a stu-

Admissions runs Prefrosh Weekend; when students check out on Saturday morning, Admissions is no longer responsible for them. In order to allow prefrosh a chance to experience more of Caltech than two full days would allow, Student Affairs is sponsoring a day of activities on Saturday that will include a barbeque, events thrown by the houses, and a concert featuring Grand Buffet, the band that opened for the Third Eye Blind concert. However, this third day will not be advertised by Admissions outside of a link to the website for the Saturday events on the Prefrosh Weekend website.

Talk of dropping the third night had started over the summer. According to IHC chair Tim Black, Admissions told the students working with Admissions on Prefrosh Weekend that the reason for cutting a day was that"they were struggling with budget," a theme of many of the changes that have taken place around campus this past year.

Part of the reason that the budget is tight is because Admissions is planning to arrange a Prefrosh Friday the week after Prefrosh Weekend takes place in order to accommodate students who are not able to make it due to conflicts with

See PREFROSH on pg. 6



Aric Fitz-Coy is one of the new workers hired after approximately seven quit

Coffeehouse Employees Quit, Working Atmosphere to Blame

By Tina Ding

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Coffeehouse is up and running again, but not without many changes to its student employee atmosphere. Due to conflicts with the new supervising of Caltech Dining, about seven Coffeehouse student employees, mostly consisted of Darbs, have resigned in the last few weeks, leaving the night café short staffed. The resigned students have been part of the Coffeehouse student worker staff prior to this term, with some who have worked there for up to four years. Amongst the students, the predominant reason for leaving the Coffeehouse is that the "fun student-friendly atmosphere" that the workers value has diminished.

"Working at the coffeehouse has never been about the money," said Max Jones, ex-Coffeehouse student manager. "The Darbs were willing to run it because we enjoyed working with each other, having the freedom to run the coffeehouse as we saw fit (playing music we enjoyed or putting interesting movies on), and because we were able to work on homework."

Many complaints are also personally directed at the new Coffeehouse supervisor John-Michael Sanchez, who is also the assistant basketball coach.

"He was too confrontational," said Sylvia Puglisa, Junior Dabney and Ruddock member who is still working at the Coffeehouse., addressing the worker supervisor interactions. According to Puglisa, many complaints from the workers are that he is unreasonable, impolite, and overly controlling.

"He does not work well with the students, does not do the work of a normal coffeehbouse employee, and destroys the atmosphere which I used to enjoy about coffeehouse," said Jones.

Workers felt that there were certain policy changes that seem to have no mo-

See COFFEEHOUSE on pg. 6

Dean Hall Steps Down

By Yang Hu

STAFF WRITER

John F Hall, current dean of students, officially announced his decision to step down as dean this summer. During his term as dean, Hall made contributions to Caltech and its students for years to come. Hall's accomplishments include initiatives such as the new freshman advising system and improved reference materials for all advisors;

student-taught courses; and allowing students who still have a few units unfinished to walk in commencement. With the help of donors, Hall also helped to establish the Housner Fund, which supports scholarly activities and a Student Emergency Fund, a travel fund open to non-student sponsors of student travel.

Hall has been in Caltech for close to 30 years. Hall is a professor of civil engineering. He went to graduate school at University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana

followed by U.C. Berkeley. Prior to becoming Dean of Students, Hall explains that he had a satisfying career here in teaching and research with the earthquake engineering group. Some of the professional highlights were directing the national reconnaissance effort into the effects of the 1993 Northridge earthquake (a 2-year effort), serving on the seismic advisory boards for Caltrans and the dam safety group in the California Department of Water Resources, and consulting on seismic safety evaluations for many large dams in the western U.S.

Hall became dean of students in 2005. He

was asked to chair the search committee to replace the previous dean, Jean Paul Revel. Hall adds, "Unbeknownst to me, the committee put my name on the list. The reality is that after 25 years as a postdoc and professor (this was 2005), I was ready to try something different, and going from a professor to a dean of students certainly qualified in this respect."

When asked to describe his work, Hall responds, "The Dean's office is a hectic one and sometimes it is hard to get to a

finish point at the end of the day. Although some of the work can seem repetitive, such as considering whether to recommend extensions for students on their assignments and deciding on overload petitions, every situation is unique. Some of the most important work involves Board of Control decisions and situations of mental health, and these can be quite interesting. Being a Dean involves

complications, "whereas the primary role is to support students and help them reach their potential, there is also the disciplinary role when students behave inappropriately, and going back and forth between these is not easy," said

Despite these heavy commitments, Hall rates his experience positively: "It has been really rewarding, both personally and professionally, and I will miss all of the interactions. Working with

See DEAN HALL on pg. 6

Caltech, Harvey Mudd Kick Off **Math Competition for High Schools**

By Monorina Mukhopadhyay

STAFF WRITER

"The mission of the California Institute of Technology is to expand human knowledge and benefit society through research integrated with education." This mission statement reinforces the idea that one of the integral aims of any institute of higher learning is information dissemination, not only to the enrolled students, but also to the general community at large. All too often, in the quest for learning—complete homework on time—we, the students, forget that we, too, need to help fulfill this aim.

On Saturday, February 20th, , the Caltech Harvey Mudd Math Competition, organized

for high school students in southern California by the Math Clubs of Caltech, Pasadena and Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, took a step forward in encouraging science and mathematics among high school students through its initiative.

The event, held throughout the Caltech campus, involved the participation of 153 high school students in 27 teams from the Los Angeles and San Diego area, under the directorship of Yakov Berchenko Kogan, a Caltech undergraduate junior. Students from Caltech and Harvey Mudd had the help of the organizer of another math contest at the California State University at Long Beach. Awards included, in addition to medals and trophies, 45 Mathemat-

See MATH Competition on pg. 6

In This Issue

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Party?

page 2

Get your decibel meters ready, Interhouse DJs

By Sarah Marzen

STAFF WRITER

I wasn't happy when Avery's Interhouse was shut down half an hour early because (from what I heard) someone on Cordova complained about the noise. It's not just Avery-- several Interhouse parties have been forced to shut

down early or turn down the music this year.

This seem like a very petty thing to be concerned about. Amidst budget cuts, why would I write about par-

ties being shut down early?

Interhouse parties are not like parties at other colleges. Students spend sweaty hour after sweaty hour building dance floors,

painting murals, choosing music, sometimes setting up lights to accompany the sound or flooding the courtyard. They also take care of the refreshments, which is what most other college parties seem to survive on. Caltech Interhouse parties require a lot of money and, more to the point, a

I appreciate Interhouse parties

In just two phone calls from a neighbor two

blocks away, there goes half an hour of the five-

hour party that your friends have lost sleep and

because so much work is involved

in putting them together. I also

like Interhouse parties because

sometimes, I like taking a break

long on a party, it hurts to see

it shut down early. Even if you

yourself haven't worked for more

than one or two hours (a.k.a. me),

it still hurts to see your own In-

terhouse shut down early. In just

two phone calls from a neighbor two blocks away, there goes half

When you've worked for so

taken a week's worth of extensions for.

from my work.

an hour of the five-hour party that your friends have lost sleep and taken a week's worth of exten-

Admittedly, I know almost nothing about the rules and regulations concerning the noise level at parties. But I hope that the current system-- which, I hear, is two noise complaints and the party's done-- will be improved, be-

cause right now, some neighbor could call complaining about Interhouse party noise regardless of what

they are actually hearing. Maybe DJ's need a decibel meter. Worst comes to worst, maybe the talented engineers here can figure out how to contain the sound within the campus.

And if some students do make a nice soundproofing cage, maybe they can use it to stifle the loud music coming from the Ath.

Apologies if some of the allegations in this opinion article are



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Remember the best decision you ever made: "I'll Go to Caltech! Now thats an experience I'd never

You had the grades, the ethic, the sacrifice The drive, desire, and admission price "I just can't wait!" Thats what you said, "To change the world that lies ahead" But, never in life had you been so glad And ended up somewhere so terribly sad

Prefrosh weekend came, and you were the first to arrive At a place where your love for science could truly thrive "Caltech" Your host said, "is about work and dedication, But mostly it was just one big celebration" And with hope, and dreams welled in your eyes He fed you a series of unflinching lies

Beer rooms, dances parties, and In-N-Out Burger What about that all girls school with whom we were going to merger?

Rebellion, tie-dye shirts, and chocolate strawberries The 5 star food is imported in from buenos aires

You ate it all up, they made you their fool You didn't notice them laugh, when you said Caltech was

but now you know why, you've lived through their pain To feel stupid and lonely, but here you remain To pay it forward, to the next generation So cheers prefrosh, to four years of sexual frustration

Letters to the Editor

Andrew Lange's Contributions Overlooked

I was saddened to hear of Professor Andrew Lange's passing, recently. I was also disappointed to see that his obituary in the Tech omitted his work with students of Caltech, and undergraduates in particular. More than 10 years on, I recall Prof. Lange's interest and involvement with the student body, through mentoring, student government and the House system. I'm sure that he would have wanted this mentioned, even in your abbreviated listing of his contributions to the Caltech community. One online collection of folks remembering Prof. Lange through testimonials and photos is located here:

http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=297676654852 or by searching Facebook for "Andrew Lange".

Prefrosh Weekend

Kohl S. Gill B.S. '98

By Joshua Hardenbrook **C**ONTRIBUTOR

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes: February 25, 2010

Officers Present: Adam Khan, Karthik Sarma, Tim Black, Brian Merlob, Chris Hallacy, Addie Rice, Laura Conwill Officers Absent: Maral Mazronei

Guests: Christina Weng, June Zhang, Fred Zhao, Shyam Srinivasan, Will Tsay

Funding Requests:

- Love Sucks: Out of Context and Fluid Dynamics a capella are hosting their annual Love Sucks concert on March 6 and are requesting \$250. For the past few years, ASCIT has approved around this amount for this concert. VOTE: Approved (5-0-1)
- Lloyd/Avery Capture the Flag: Fred requests funding for refreshments after a Lloyd-Avery CTF game this
 weekend. This will come out of the multihouse funding budget.

President's Report:

- Career Development Center: The Career Development Center is looking to hire a new assistant director
 to focus on helping students get into industry. They would like a couple of students to be on the selection
 committee. Karthik will send out a ug-list email announcing this opportunity.
- Muslim Students Association: The short-term issue involving the prayer room has been taking care of; we
 are still looking for a permanent SAC room for interfaith prayer and mediation.

Officer Reports:

- V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair): There is a Student-Faculty lunch on Tuesday. The last new ARC rep will be elected this weekend. There was a conflict between Ph1c prac and Chem 3a, which has been resolved. There was a myth circulating during parents' weekend about freshman having difficulty getting SURFs due to budget issues, but this is not true. Karthik is meeting soon with people from Stanford Center for Teaching and Learning. There is a blood drive on Tuesday and Wednesday; Karthik will include this in his ug-list email.
- V.P. of Nonacademic Affairs (IHC Chair): The IHC has been working on Prefrosh Weekend. The plan is for PFW to officially end Saturday morning. Student Affairs, clubs, and the houses will sponsor activities things all day Saturday. Prefrosh can stay unofficially Saturday night. The In-n-Out dinner will be Friday night. That evening, there will be a dessert night in each of the houses. The IHC is also talking about Prefrosh Friday, a one-day program. Sign-ups for IHC Secretary are up till Sunday night at 10 PM.
- Treasurer: Ruddock, Avery, and Dabney have requested Interhouse funding. Totem and OoC has requested
 their money. Hallacy has met with several administrators about managing the budget, and Adam and Hallacy
 are meeting with Anthony and Maral this afternoon to discuss how the budget works.
- Social Director: Addie looking into having an ASCIT-sponsored event on the Saturday of Prefrosh Weekend.
- Operations Director: Brain talked to Tom Mannion about Big Ts and Honor Keys. The Honor Keys are given
 to people who did outstanding things. It is based off a point system—students gain points by becoming an
 elected official or the captain of a sports team. Craig Montuori ordered four years' worth of keys but only one
 year has been distributed. Will thought possibly only one year of keys was ordered. Brian has been thinking
 about possible rooms to be the designated meditation room.

Scheduling:

- Meetings: The March 5 and 12 meetings are going to be rescheduled.
- Secretary interviews: Interviews for ASCIT Secretary will occur early next week.
- Midnight Donuts: March 8! Adam is contemplating a change of location.
- **ASCIT Retreat:** The BoD retreat will be April 9-11.

Other:

- Leadership training: The deans have allocated funding for leadership development workshops for a small group of students. They are looking for one representative from every major group on campus to join. Christina would like a BoD member to be part of this group; Merlob is interested and will get in contact with Christina.
- **Devteam:** It is important to have a strong donut website that is a stable source for information. One way to accomplish this is to increase Devteam funding.
- Staff Members: BoD members are asked to find staff members within the next week so these appointments can be approved by the Review Committee at its March 9 meeting.

Submitted by Laura Conwill, ASCIT Secretary

IHC Weekly Meeting – February 23, 2010

Ruddoc

Present: Tim Black (Chair), Chris Whelan (Blacker), Andrew Price (Dabney), Daniel Kolodrubetz (Ruddock), Will Steinhardt (Ricketts), Alex Lapides (Fleming), Llucas Hartsough (Lloyd), DK Lim (Avery)

Absent: Paul Fleiner(Page)

Guests: Adam Khan, Aarti Minisandram

Will Steinhardt is the new Ricketts House president.

Committee Sign-ups

- Sign-ups for IHC Secretary are now on the Olive Walk, and will come down Sunday at 10 pm. The presidents are most free to do interviews on Monday, so we will probably have them then. Presidents should think about questions they want to ask candidates.
- Sign-ups for BoD Secretary are up until Friday
- Andrew: BoC rep-at-large sign-ups will soon. Dano will send an email about off-campus BoC reps. Rep-at-large is appointed; off-campus reps are elected.

Prefrosh Weekend

- Admissions used to give houses \$300 for a reception before the Friday house dinner. Since there's no Friday house dinner, they're not offering us this funding this year. Will: No funding means no fun.
- House presidents can get the list of emails of prefrosh going to Prefrosh Weekend as soon as the prefrosh gives Admissions permission to give them out. That happens when the prefrosh turn in their forms for finding hosts, which happens about April 9, about week before Prefrosh Weekend.
- Friday night of Prefrosh Weekend there used to be dinner in the houses. This year, they'll have the In-N-Out truck for dinner, then prefrosh and students will go back to their houses for elaborate "dinner-style" elaborate dessert. Update 2/24: Prefrosh parents will be invited to dessert at Steele House during that time
- After prefrosh check out from Prefrosh Weekend Saturday morning, they'll be invited to stay for the day for concert with Grand Buffet, club events, and house events. House events will last two hours each, with about two house events going on at a time, except during the concert. This day might be called "Student Life Saturday," unless someone has a better idea.

Other Stuff

- There have been some changes in the CDC. ASCIT and ARC are looking into why they happened and what they can do to help.
- John Hall is stepping down as Dean after commencement, and someone else will become Dean. Tim will look into how the IHC can be involved with this process.
- DK: Some of the Ruddock seniors came to Avery to do a fake stack and I'm cool with it, but he emailed me at 1am, can they email sooner? I know that's when the best ideas come up? Kolodrubetz: I will tell them. They didn't actually vandalize Avery guys. They printed out pictures of broken glass and taped them to windows.

Minutes by Pallavi Gunalan and Tim Black

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FEATURES

Barnett Tops Prestigious Tennis Tournament

by Rick Paul



Kelly Gullett and Sam Barnett after the Rose Bowl

Thile most of us were busy gorging on junk food and watching the Super Bowl, sophomore Sam Barnett was playing in the doubles final of the 58th Annual Rose Bowl, a prestigious tournament in men's open tennis. Three of Barnett's close friends attended the tournament to provide moral support. "Before today I never thought tennis was worth watching, but it turns out I had never seen tennis worth watching," said Flora Li of Sam's performance. Barnett and his partner Kelly Gullett, a former All-American at Pepperdine, made it look easy as they blew past Peter Barrowclough and Cezhan Ambrose 6-2/6-0 in the semifinals round. In the next round, they went on to defeat firstseeded and heavily favored opponents Maximillian Licona and Luis Perez in the doubles final 6-3/6-4. Licona had won the men's open singles tournament earlier that day, pocketing \$1,000 in prize money. For Barnett, the victory was a pleasant surprise, "No matter how many times you win, the feeling never gets

Winning is something Barnett has grown accustomed to over the course of his tennis career. He started playing tennis competitively at the age of ten. It was around this time that Barnett began to concentrate his efforts on tennis and started training with a coach. By 2008, Barnett had achieved his childhood goal of being one of the best tennis players in the state of Illinois, winning the Illinois State High School Doubles Championship with his

partner Michael Benson. In that same year, he became a finalist at the National Men's Open Grass Court Doubles Championship. He was highly recruited coming out of high school, obtaining offers from a number of top programs. He eventually decided to come play tennis for Caltech under the tutelage of Mandy Gamble. Barnett played number one singles and doubles last year, becoming one of the leaders of the squad as a freshman.

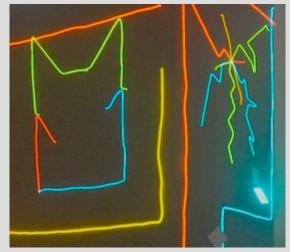
When asked about what drives him to continue playing tennis year after year, Barnett says, "I look forward to competing." In fact, Barnett is lucky to be competing in tennis at all. At the age of eleven, he was diagnosed with Crohn's disease, a rare autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system attacks the gastrointestinal tract. He still takes medicine for the condition, which has no cure. In the future, he would like to donate some of his winnings to research dedicated to Crohn's disease.

Barnett hopes to continue playing tennis after college. He has pondered the possibility of taking a year off after finishing his undergraduate studies to pursue his dream of playing professionally. Besides tennis, Barnett also enjoys participating in karate. On the academic front, he is an ACM major with an interest in finance. Barnett hopes to attend graduate school after he finishes his Caltech degree. If Barnett's past is any indication of his future, he will be successful in whatever endeavor he decides to put his mind to.

DROP DAY: DABNEY INTERHOVSE

Photos by Laainam Chaipornkaew











FEATURES

Shutter Island, Not One of Scorcese's Best

by Rick Paul

hutter Island is Scorcese's homage to the film noir movies of the Golden Age of Hollywood. In Shutter Island, he creates a deeply stylistic, dark crime drama based on the novel of the same name by Dennis Lehane. Although the production quality is excellent and the acting talent is top notch, most viewers will come away with the feeling that they've seen this

movie before (or something very similar to it). Much of the viewer's enjoyment of the movie will depend on how early on (if at all) he determines the course the plot will take, but it is still possible to enjoy the ambience and emotion of the film without paying scrutinizing attention to the shallowness of the plot.

Shutter Island is set in the 1950's and takes place on a forbidding island about 11 miles off the coast of Boston. The island is the home of an old Civil War fort that has been transformed into an asylum for criminally insane

offenders. Edward "Teddy" Daniels (Leonardo Di Caprio) and his partner Chuck Aule (Mark Ruffalo) are federal marshals assigned to investigate the disappearance of multiple murderess Rachel Solando. Upon arriving at Shutter Island, Teddy immediately butts heads with the psychiatrist in charge, Dr. Cawley (Ben Kingsley), who Teddy views as overly sympathetic to the hardened criminals that inhabit Ashecliffe. Like other Scorcese protagonists, Daniels is a tortured soul who is haunted daily by

the death of his wife in a fire and his experiences in World War II. Teddy feels guilt that he was not able to save people in his life (his wife and the prisoners at Dachau), and this guilt gives immediacy to his need to save the missing patient. As the movie progresses, Teddy appears less and less sane, eventually spiraling into a fit of apparent madness at the end. There is an important

symbolic element to the film. Most notable are the roles of water and fire, which delineate the bounds of reality and delusion.

To reveal much more of the plot would ruin the viewing experience of Shutter Island. The movie requires multiple viewings in order to fully appreciate. Some of the logical inconsistencies in Teddy's dreams take on a starkly different meaning once the viewer has seen the movie once. For what it's worth, there is never really a dull moment in the movie, although some of the flashback se-

quences could have been made shorter without affecting the story. The primary draw of the film lies is in its surreal portrayal of a basic twist that has been exploited time and time again in film and literature. The emotional weight and atmosphere of the film, along with Scorcese's acute attention to detail make this a movie that is worth seeing in theaters.

Rating: B



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by Dannah Almasco and Andrew Freddo

A-

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hen talking with Jon in CDS about new or noteworthy restaurants in the area, he recommended that we try out The Slaw Dogs, located on North Lake Avenue. After getting a Zip Car to drive up there (though it's the same distance as Old Pas) and parking in the tiny lot, we were a bit overwhelmed once we walked inside because it was so packed! There were many choices of pre-built "slaw dogs" with the toppings already chosen and infinite possibilities of custom combinations (just like The Counter has for hamburgers!), so it definitely took a while to decide what we wanted to eat. In the end, we settled on the Green Monster (\$5.59), the TNT Super Dog (\$8.88), the Chile Cheese Bowl (\$3.99), and Fries

The Green Monster definitely is very green! It was topped with a roasted green chile, chipotle mayo, grilled onion, pepperjack cheese, and garlic salsa. We were expecting it to be extremely spicy, but the chipotle mayo lent more of a smoky flavor to the dish (which was a pleasant surprise), and the chile was sweet because it was roasted. The hot dog itself was also delicious, very meaty and

definitely high quality. The only problem we had with the dog was that it was hard to pick up, so be prepared for a mess!

The TNT Super Dog (also known as "The Good Timer") actually looks more like a burrito than a hot dog! Instead of being served on a bun, it's served in a tortilla with chili, cheese, pastrami, fries, grilled onion, and a fried egg. It tastes like a cross between a chili dog and burrito, and, like the Green Monster, it is also very hard to eat! Since there are a lot of different flavors (and the chili dominates the dish), it is hard to discern all of them. It probably would be better without the fried egg. Overall, it's a very indulgent and over-the-top hot dog, definitely a good treat!

The Chile Cheese Bowl had the same chili that was on the hot dogs, and was very smooth (not a chunky chili) and delicious. It was smoky, not too spicy, and was also not watered down. It was very filling and good to complement the hot dog (instead of fries). If you do want to indulge in fries, you can do that too (adding fries, drink, and fudge to your hot dog costs \$3.49).

Want to try a different take on a hot dog than our normal biweekly grill night?

Head over to The Slaw Dogs for delicious fare in a unique environment. Even though it just opened up a month ago, there already seems to be a large young, hip group of regulars who flock there. There is definitely a danger of a food coma after eating here, so beware! You'll probably feel a bit lethargic afterwards, but it's definitely worth it to enjoy these delicious hot dogs!



Prefrosh Weekend Cut Short

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other university's campus visits. The Friday event appears to be similar to the "Caltech in a Day" program that is already in place for prefrosh as an alternative to Prefrosh Weekend: prefrosh will be able to sit in on classes, though they will also have the chance to attend panels. However, prefrosh will check out at 5 pm, and there is nothing planned yet for the houses.

In an attempt to keep the schedule as it has been, students outlined a proposal to cut costs in several ways. In the past, houses had received \$300 to arrange the reception before their Friday night dinner. Several presidents were willing to give this up. In addition, it was suggested that t-shirts would not be made this year. Both of these cuts were made, but the Saturday night stay was still cut out. Students had also hoped to

keep the two house dinners that have been standard in the past, but because of plans to have the In-N-Out truck serve Friday dinner, dessert will be served in the houses instead. It will be up to the houses to decide how they want to "run" dessert.

"A lot of this year is an experiment," says Black, and as Prefrosh Weekend approaches, there are several concerns about this new schedule. The IHC and prefrosh reps are worried that the new Prefrosh Weekend will not be long enough. According to Black, "The feeling has been that two days is a short time, especially for people flying across country." In addition, there are fears that there will not be enough interaction between prefrosh and students, so upperclassmen are being encouraged to go out with prefrosh on Saturday and maybe take them to dinner so that they can learn more about student life and Pasadena.

Dean Hall Resigns

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Dean Green has been terrific. Of course, helping a student successfully deal with a problem is very satisfying, and there have been lots of these types of experiences." Hall continues, "I have enjoyed meeting students and working with many of them on all kinds of situations. I have also enjoyed working with numerous professional and dedicated staff members, not only in Student Affairs, but in other departments as well."

Hall also has memorable experiences to take away. Hall recalls, "Reading the names at commencement is pretty memorable, and acknowledging each student as he or she comes up on the platform. Seeing students deal with significant personal obstacles and persevere. The construction at the big interhouse party a few years back was unforgettable, as a demonstration of what our students are capable of pulling off. Talk-

ing a student out of an overload and have he or she actually agree that not overloading is a good idea – that's truly memorable."

Hall's future plans are still taking shape: "I plan to apply soon for a sabbatical next year and then return to Caltech and resume being a professor. However, I am going to try something different again by changing my academic interest to water resources and related environmental engineering. In fact, I recently accepted an invitation to serve on an engineering review committee for the so-called peripheral canal (which might turn out to be a tunnel), and I attended a conference on water and environmental modeling last week. Both of these experiences were fascinating.'

When asked if he can give readers a heads up of which courses he will teach in the upcoming years, Hall responds, "I suppose I will still be in the ME 35 rotation;

that is a course I like to teach. But I also want to develop a new course around water issues based on information I gather during the sabbatical. I imagine it might include topics like water delivery and treatment infrastructure, hydraulic engineering, hydrology, estuary and river modeling, fish dynamics, ground water, agriculture, planning for the effects of climate change, and water politics.

Hall leaves the following message to students: The student experience at Caltech can be improved in many ways, and even though things have been changing for the better, it is important that students stay involved and make their views known in thoughtful and constructive ways. Caltech is unique in the degree to which students can affect policy, so take advantage of this situation.

Caltech Harvey Mudd Math Competition

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ica licenses, 40 Matlab licenses, eight books from Springer, six T-shirts and gift certificates from the Math Zoom Academy, five gift certificates from Art of Problem Solving, and four games of SET, a visual perception card game that stimulates pattern recognition.

The event, which was partly funded by the Moore Hufst-edler Fund, has been in the offing since the fall term, and largely went as planned. The event was well received by the participants and their coaches, and was carried out to the satisfaction of the organizers.

"It went really well", says grading coordinator and Caltech freshman Megan Cutrofello,. Her sentiments were also echoed by the other volunteers. "It was great being able to have hand in organizing something of the kind I'd participated in while I was in high school," said Freshman Christina Lee. "It felt like I was doing something to promote the cause of math and science, which is

an amazing feeling.", , who helped prepare the food,

Director Kogan thought it was "an amazing experience" and expressed enthusiasm for being able to be a part of this event next year.

A high school student quoted in the MHF impact statement said "I enjoyed my time here and the experience I gained, and I hope more people will know about this soon-to-be prestigious competition."

Food was organized by Tom Mannion, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs and Campus Life at Caltech, and was prepared with the help of the volunteers.

The math competition is going to be a regular annual feature, and will be held alternately at Caltech and Harvey Mudd College. The next edition of the competition, to be held in winter 2011 at Harvey Mudd, is already currently being planned by the college.

Coffeehouse Employees Quit

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tivations, such as workers not on shift may not be behind the counter, make their own food, and customer must wear shoes.

"On my night, he loosened up after a few weeks," said Puglisa, "But that might not be true for others."

"Before, Coffeehouse was a place we could go be with friends, hang out, and have a good time," said Pallvi Gunalan, ex-Coffeehouse employee. "it was a huge change to have supervising, and when he came in, he didn't know how to interact with the employees. We felt a lot more restrictions on how we catered to the student customers."

Although the employees have problems with Sanchez,'s attitude, student customers see him as friendly . "He knows people's names, and jokes around with us," said sophomore Sam Nayak, frequent customer of the Coffeehouse, "I think he's a good guy overall."

Amongst the changes, the workers also noticed more emphasis placed on comparing revenue from night to night. When Coffeehouse was run without a supervisor, the nights consisted of breaking even on their costs. Under Caltech Dining, the Coffeehouse is making a decent revenue every week, according to Gunalan.

"It's a tradeoff," said Gunalan,
"They decreased the fun worker
atmosphere to create a more efficient Coffeehouse that increases
the happiness of the student body."
According to Jonathan Webster,
Administrative Manager of the
Coffeehouse, customer counts
have doubled since last year.

"The employees are generally happy about Coffeehouse being opened more reliably, having better and more reliably stocking, and having more efficient methods," said Puglisa. The Coffeehouse is now consistently open every night except Friday and Saturday. "Having a placement of the supervisor every open night guarantees that the Coffeehouse will be opened," said Webster, "It's not fair to drop the responsibility on a student." Student customers also show positive response to more reasonable portion size, and the lower cost of the sold food, which according to Webster is subsidized.

"We subsidize some costs because we made the decision to sponsor this opportunity in which students can come at night to hang out and socialize," said Webster.

Amongst the improvements, increase in salary also been made, with raise from about eight dollars an hour to fifteen.

Caltech Dining Services (CDS) made the decision to hire a su-

pervisor over the summer, when campus lawyers informed CDS that there may be liability issues if the Coffeehouse is completely student-run. First term, the Coffeehouse was closed because CDS was still in the hiring process. When it opened second term, Sanchez was the supervisor that

The Coffeehouse has a reputation for being staffed by Darbs. Currently, three remain: Nadia Iqbal , David Lu, and Sylvia Puglisa, with some of the vacant spots recently filled by students from Fleming and Lloyd. However, according to Webster, only in the last two years had the Coffeehouse had the Dabney worker tradition. The manager was once Anton Shuster from Ruddock, and a student from Fleming.

Furthermore, the supervising system is also not novel. Prior to the five recent years in which Coffeehouse has been studentrun, it did have a supervisor.

The Coffeehouse is currently short-staffed and is hiring new workers.

"I believe overall we're heading in a positive direction," said Webster. "We're making it into a more enjoyable place." The Coffeehouse has featured special nights with guest chefs including Tom Mannion, and will continue having special nights featuring crepes and southern dishes.

Upcoming Games

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

March 1, 2010 Women's Water Polo vs. Gannon 7:00 PM

> March 5, 2010 Baseball at Whittier 2:30 PM

Men's Tennis vs. Claremont-M-S 4:00 PM

March 6, 2010 Men's/Women's Track SCIAC 4-Way 10:30 AM

Baseball vs. Whittier 11:00 AM

Baseball vs. Whittier 2:00 PM



The Weekly Scoreboard

February 23, 2010 Men's Basketball vs. Whittier L 61-93

February 25, 2010
Men's Swimming & Diving 8th place SCIAC
Women's Swimming & Diving 6th place SCIAC

February 26, 2010 Men's Baseball vs. Occidental L 4-11

February 28, 2010
Men's Baseball vs. Occidental L 1-14
Men's Baseball vs. Occidental L 1-11
Men's Tennis vs. Whittier L 0-9



Caltech All-Comers/Alumni Meet

Anton Karrman runs the 4X1600M relay.



Alex Lapides sprinting the 4X100 M relay



Tales of Caltech by E.A. Blair

Mole Freshman Can't Remember What Day of the Week It Is

BLACKER HOUSE, CALTECH -- A local freshman is having difficulty remembering what day of the week it is after falling asleep working on homework sets.

"I just dozed off at my desk and when I woke up, it was dark outside," said the confused freshman. He added, "This is crazy!"

When he fell asleep, the student had been working on Ma1b and Ch1b simultaneously, making day identification impossible on the basis of the set. Upon realizing this, the freshman insisted on not looking up the day of the week on his computer, calendar, or being told it by his friends. Instead, he cited the challenge behind figuring out the day of the week without using conventional means.

"I think it'll be fun!" proclaimed the exuberant frosh. "I could go days without knowing what day it is!"

While the freshman is excited about that possibility, experts are unsure if he will figure out what day of the week it is before next Saturday. However, experts agree that because the freshman doesn't have a date anyway, there's no rush.

Basketball Team Quits After Captain's Comment

BRAUN CENTER, CALTECH -- The Caltech Men's Basketball Team has reportedly quit after being told by a team captain that he "knows they can win this one."

"I was sitting on the bench, listening to him talk, when suddenly I realized that by believing what he was saying, I was ignoring all of my scientific training," said a player after the team's most recent defeat. "To keep trying for something against all the evidence that says you can't do it; what does that make you?" The player then watched an imaginary object float by in the air before whispering, "Insane."

The team recently wrapped up a disappointing 0-25 season with a home loss to Whittier, but coaches and captains are optimistic about next year.

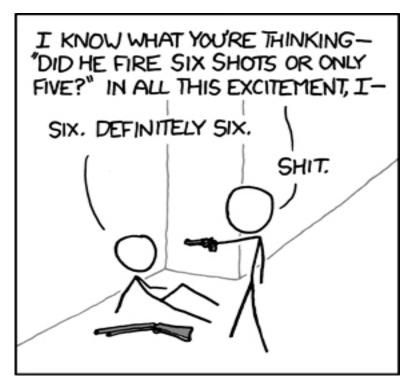
"Next year will be different," said a team captain. "I know it."

apples and oranges









DIRTY HARRY MEETS RAIN MAN

xkcd by Randall Munroe

The California Tech Caltech 40-58

Pasadena, CA 91125