



Disney will sponsor Tron-themed Big Interhouse

By Stanford Schor

STAFF WRITER

Campus has recently been abuzz about the prospect of Disney sponsoring this year's Big Interhouse, which will be held November 20. Unfortunately, this hype also incited a rash of rumors that has made it difficult to separate speculation from reality, including a rumor that Disney had pledged upwards of \$20,000 to the party.

The rumor of boatloads of money was just that—a rumor. Thus far Disney has formally agreed to provide assistance in any way that it can, but this will more likely involve donation of props, costumes, and maybe an early release of the Tron soundtrack.

According to Ricketts House President Will Steinhardt, Disney is more likely to use its financial stake in a way that allows it to track exactly where the money is going, making unrestricted blank checks less attractive to the media conglomerate. Steinhardt originally thought of the idea of Disney sponsorship and is one of the few heavily involved in Disney-

Caltech negotiations.

Vice President of Student Affairs Tom Mannion, who helped arrange Disney-Caltech negotiations on Steinhardt's suggestion, hopes that costumes, light cycles (the vehicles of the Tron), and maybe even an early release of the soundtrack are in the realm of possibility. "We just need to pin down what we need to do to help them help us," he said.

"Everything's in turmoil right now," said Steinhardt. "We have to wait for Disney." Early next week, Disney will meet with Caltech representatives to further discuss the arrangement.

Caltech gains financial assistance from partnering with Disney, but Caltech's Tron party offers Disney a chance for movie publicity, though Steinhardt and Mannion stress that Caltech is not "selling out". "The most important thing Disney has to offer is media exposure," said Steinhardt.

Mannion arranged Disney-Caltech negotiations using the

SEE PAGE 6, DISNEY

Four years of Big T are completely distributed

By Tina Ding

STAFF WRITER

All the past four years of yearbook content has been released to upperclassmen students and alumni in the form of two yearbooks, or Big Ts. The three-year compilation 2006-2009 yearbook

was distributed to juniors and seniors at the Club Fair in late September and at Chandler Hall, and mailed to alumni of the graduating class of 2007-2010. Late October, the other issue of the past school year 2009-2010, has been handed out to House secretaries to be distributed to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

"Seniors and recent alums, especially, are completely incredulous and really grateful that we managed to finish these books," said Big T co-editor Mythili Iyer.

SEE PAGE 6, BIG T



Photo from USAtoday.com

New Governor Jerry Brown celebrates his win in the gubernatorial race against Republican candidate Meg Whitman. Brown, previously CA governor, will begin his third term. See PAGE 5 for ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

Individual House damage funds becomes one collective fund

By Stone Jiang

STAFF WRITER

Last spring, the House Damage Funds, which had granted approximately \$1,000 a year to each undergraduate house for the fixing and replacing of damaged property, was removed from House budgets. Now, Housing pays for damage to House property out of a collective fund, but may ask students or Houses to pay for damage instead.

Removing House damage funds had always been recurring idea coming in and out every few years. However, according to Stewardship Committee chair and junior Brad Saund, this time House-specific damage funds are not coming back.

Historically, every year, \$10 from each student's housing fees went toward supplying the Fund, which averaged about \$1,000 per house. These funds most often covered broken windows, and any other damage a house might cause on the house itself or elsewhere on campus. All unused money was returned to the House at the end of the year.

The removal of the House damage fund was prompted by a dispute over who would pay for

the extensive damage to Avery's roof. According to Peter Daily, Assistant Vice President of Student Housing, when Housing came to investigate the source of the damage, fingers pointed in all directions-- at Dabney House or at summer SURF students-- but Daily didn't believe summer SURF students would go on top of the roof and other people didn't believe the damage was caused by Dabney members, according to Saund.

Because no one entity took responsibility, Daily paid for the damage out of Housing's pocket to the tune of a cool \$2,500. "Housing went in and painted everything, cleaned it up," said Daily.

The new collective, eight-House damage fund will be used generously, according to Saund. "Housing got rid of the fund, but they are trying to pick up more of the damage," Saund said. "If a student breaks something and it's malicious, they will be charged. Otherwise, now Housing agreed to cover more things."

According to Daily, "wanton [unprovoked] destruction" will "get students or houses into trouble". Wanton destruction is not necessarily intentional or

conscious destruction.

"There were students playing pool in Ricketts and a billiard went through the window," Daily said. "They come to me all nervous, but I said, I'll take care it. Things happen."

According to Saund, a member of Blacker House, a side effect of the Fund's removal is the new lack of incentive to fix things themselves. "Before, unused money from the [Funds] was returned to the house at the end of the year, so we took care of any damage on our own," said Saund.

Replacing the House-specific funds by a collective fund also makes less clear which types of damage should be paid for by Housing.

"[The removal] is probably fair, but annoying," said Saund. "There's always been a fine line between when a student should pay for something and when Housing should pay for something."

The switch from eight House-specific damage funds to one collective damage fund makes sense to Daily. "[Students] call their houses 'our house,' but really it's Caltech-owned property," said Daily. "It's right to have the funds removed."

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Prohibiting students on Admissions from reading might be a huge mistake

By Sarah Marzen
COPY EDITOR

Last year, I was one of the undergraduates on Caltech's Admissions Committee. So as I read through the minutes of the faculty board's discussion of student readers on Admissions, I felt like I was getting punched in the stomach.

There are two parts to this story, it seems. First, the faculty board doesn't like that students are more involved in choosing the incoming class than they are. Second, based on the informal poll on pg. 16 of the minutes, a strong majority of the faculty board doesn't like that students are reading applications at all.

In fact, the three undergradu-

ate representatives to the Admissions Committee might not even read any applications this year unless they are given borderline case files with redacted names, according to two of the students appointed as student readers.

When adopting a particular policy leads to an additional burden, it's worth debating the merits of the underlying policy.... If the Admissions staff still wants student readers, then perhaps the faculty board should consider more seriously the proposed solutions to privacy concerns highlighted in this piece and in the faculty board discussion.

At this point, we're putting a nontrivial and possibly unnecessary additional burden on Caltech's staff. According to the faculty board meeting minutes, last year, students read roughly 1,000 applications and faculty read roughly 500 applications out of the 4,000 total applications. This year, the number of applications has increased to 5,000 total applications, and it doesn't seem like the faculty are going to read significantly more applications this year than last year. (Faculty board members laughed at the suggestion that they would increase their own involvement, according to page 13 of the minutes.)

When adopting a particular policy leads to an additional burden, it's worth debating the merits of the underlying policy. In this case, let's talk about why students should or should not be reading applications.

Different faculty board members seemed to have different reasons as to why they disliked the high level of student involvement. Many are concerned about privacy: "If that applicant came to campus, it would be immediately obvious that he or she was the author of that application." Alternatively, "...the point is not that we suspect that student committee members would reveal personal information; it's rather that applicants would not be expecting that even one or a few of their peers would have access to it."

Privacy concerns could be alleviated by: blacking out personal information (at the very least, names); letting only seniors onto the Admissions Committee; or allowing applicants to opt-out of letting students read their application. All of these points were made at the meeting, to apparently little avail. If the faculty board is unwilling to consider any of these relatively easy alternatives, then it is clear they don't really see much benefit to having students on the committee in the

first place.

One professor didn't seem to think that students made very good application readers: "Prof. Katz objected that what the students are good at is replicating themselves – this may or may not be what we want to do."

I certainly hope that Prof. Katz doesn't mean that undergraduate representatives look for younger versions of themselves or their friends. We don't if we can avoid it. If we do, someone else can easily call us on our bullshit, since Admissions Committee meetings typically involve at least two students from completely different social groups on campus.

If Prof. Katz means instead that undergraduate representatives tend to look for someone who would fit into the current Caltech student body, then yes, he's right. Caltech is not for everyone. Still, the student body here is surprisingly diverse given that each student must: have high aptitude and interest in STEM, willingly forgo hobbies and playtime for schoolwork if needed, and recover gracefully from failure. We respect this diversity when we read applications.

That's why I smiled when I read Prof. Calegari's comment in the minutes: "Prof. Calegari said that he takes the point about the seriousness of the confidentiality issue, but that judging from his experiences on the Upper-class Admissions Committee, it would be a shame to lose the expertise of the undergraduates. They seem to have a better idea of what constitutes a good applicant for Caltech."

Thank you! Admissions reading was incredibly time consuming and certainly not pleasurable. I got no pleasure from denying some of my favorite applicants, nor did I get pleasure from choosing between two perfectly qualified candidates on something as tiny as one or two lines in a teacher recommendation. I'm glad that the hard work of student representatives did not go unnoticed by those with first-hand Admissions committee experience.

If the current Admissions staff also sees very little benefit to including student readers, then fine-keep students on in an "advisory role" that pays lip service to the idea that students understand what types of students will do best at Caltech. However, if the Admissions staff still wants student readers, then perhaps the faculty board should consider more seriously the proposed solutions to privacy concerns highlighted in this piece and in the faculty board discussion.

BIG Friends SHAGGY Forever?

By Hank Charlotte

It was the first day of Kindergarten, and I didn't know anyone. All the kids were sitting on the carpet while the teacher took attendance. I found an empty spot and crouched down behind a tousle-headed boy in the middle of the crowd. Then this girl beside me tapped me on the shoulder and said,

"Hi, I'm Jaqueline, what's your name?"

"Wesley," I replied timidly.

"Wanna be friends?"

"Sure," I said.

"Ok, then stick out your pinky, like this." She held out a fist with her pinky up, and I did the same. Then she wrapped her pinky around mine and asked, "Friends forever?"

"Friends forever," I said. And just like that, I found my first friend.

Most of us at Caltech don't codify friendships with pinky promises now that we're older. Instead we rely on unspoken mutual understandings and subtler communications. But I think we lose something by dismissing explicit vows of friendship. Yes, they may seem a bit juvenile, but oaths have intrinsic value and we see examples of that value in literature. Jonathan and David in the Bible, Gurgi and Taran in *The Chronicles of Prydain*, and George Milton and Lennie Small in *Of Mice and Men* are all good examples of friendships based on explicit affirmations of trust.

One of my favorite examples is from the *Lord of the Rings*. There's a reason members of the Fellowship of the Ring pledged their allegiance to each other before they set out from Rivendell. Doing so made it possible for them to be certain of each other's loyalty and to hold each other accountable to that pledge. We see how powerful that friendship is

when Sam carries Frodo on his back up Mount Doom. We also see the other side of that pledge, it's moral weight, in Boromir's betrayal. What made Boromir's betrayal so horrific was not his temptation to take the ring, but the fact that he had given his word to resist that temptation. Any mortal who had not made an oath could not be blamed for wanting the ring, but Boromir had made a promise. He made a promise and broke it. Boromir was accountable.

The moral weight of a pinky promise is valuable because it adds accountability to a friendship. But that accountability is also the reason we shy away from promises. If we make a promise to be friends, then there is a definite responsibility to be loyal and to make difficult choices in times of tribulation. I think responsibility is something we don't like. We'd rather not commit to acting a certain way in the unknown future. So we don't make any promises of friendship, and we reserve the right to act in our own best interests. The result is brokenness and a lack of complete trust in our relationships.

The better alternative is to develop strong friendships based on loyalty and trust. You may have to give up some of that freedom and independence, but what you get in exchange is worth so much more. Of course, friendships take time to build and shaking pinkies is not really the basis of a real relationship. But variations on that explicit vow do add value to an already established friendship. There's a lot of power in telling someone how valuable they are to you as a friend and recognizing the mutual trust you have for each other. It's a commitment to being trustworthy, loyal, and faithful.

So stick out your pinky, like this. Friends forever?

Clarifications

Last week's article on the new recycling bins around campus didn't address the fact that Caltech pays a private company to sort through Caltech's trash to find recyclables and non-recyclables. A follow-up email with Jelena Culic-Viskota, Sustainability Advocate on the Graduate Student Council (GSC) clarified the following:

"Yes, Caltech does hire a private company, however, since Caltech sells their recyclables, there is a price difference to each type of materials we sell. For example, mixed paper is cheaper than white paper.

The reason why GSC, ESW [Engineers for a Sustainable World] and facilities are working on this project is for educational and more user friendly bins (it would be nice if everybody took this idea of sorting their trash so that we all contribute to less landfills)."

Corrections

From last issue: 10/28/10: The feature on the *Parallel Play* on page 4 depicted the wrong picture of an aged Tim Page.

Typos: Hion on page 2 title is suppose to be Hixon; Metal on the front page news teasers is suppose to be Medal.

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Comedians argue for political sanity ... but by and large, the media just doesn't get it

By Brandon Cornella
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In this election season where the media is increasingly taken over by left and right wing extremists, it is a relief to see someone advocating some civility and reasonableness. The hosts, Jon Stewart from "The Daily Show" and Stephen Colbert of "The Colbert Report", joined together for the "Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear" held at the National Mall in Washington, DC. A crowd of around 215,000 people, from 7 year olds to septuagenarians, showed up to watch Stewart and Colbert pit sanity against fear. Guests included John Legend and The Roots, Mythbusters Adam Savage and Jaime Hyneman, Sheryl Crow, Kid Rock, Yusuf Islam (formerly known as Cat Stevens), Ozzy Osbourne, The O'Jays, Sam Waterson (from Law & Order), Father Guido Sarducci (SNL) and Tony Bennet.

The media had varying views on the rally. CNN was utterly confused, repeatedly asking "what is this thing?" and acknowledging that "this rally seems a little hard to define". Trying to find some political connection, they mentioned how the timing was just before the midterm elections. Using the infamously vague "many people have asked" phrase, CNN asked if Stewart and Colbert are moving from comedy to political activism, despite repeated statements that the rally is non-political. Fox News continued insisting there was some political statement behind the rally, as every person they interviewed said they were there to tell the government to put aside their differences and

work together to help the country out. The media has no one to blame but itself for its confusion. In an effort to improve ratings, the stories and guests have become more and more polarized and focused on fringe movements. A movement that was focused on the middle, not the left or right, not liberal or conservative, did not fit into their model where every news story is a battle for the future of America.

Stewart and Colbert were not without their critics. *The Baltimore Sun* questioned how Stewart could criticize the media when he himself is part of the "media elite", or how they could perform a comedy show on the "sacred ground" of our nation's capital. *The Sun* passes over the fact that those who died for our country were protecting our freedoms, including those that include having a good laugh. While Stewart and Colbert are not fighting for the same rights Lincoln and Dr. Martin Luther King did, they are just asking we respect their sacrifices and acknowledge we are all Americans, and no one has a monopoly on being a patriot.

The musical dueling duet between the former Cat Stevens performing "Peace Train" and Ozzy Osbourne "Crazy Train" perfectly exemplified what the rally was about. With both musicians trying to drown each other other



Above, Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert head the Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear on Washington, D.C. On the top right corner is a picture hanging from a screen for the event.

out with their songs, all the audience got was a loud, cacophonous noise instead of music. Luckily the O'Jays stepped in with a compromise, and everyone agreed to relax and listen to "Love Train".

Initially vague on the motivations behind the rally, in his closing speech Jon Stewart clarified the reasons why he decided to hold this rally.

"This was not a rally to ridicule people of faith or people of activism or to look down our noses at the heartland or passionate argument or to suggest that times are not difficult and that we have nothing to fear. They are and

we do. But we live now in hard times, not end times. And we can have animus and not be enemies.

The image of Americans that is reflected back to us by our political and media process is false. [Americans hear] how fragile our country is, on the brink of catastrophe, torn by polarizing hate, and how it's a shame that we can't work together to get things done. The truth is, we do. We work together to get things done every damn day. The only place we don't is here or on cable TV."

Hopefully with the new Congress politicians can cool down from this election season fe-

ver and begin to work together, because with all this yelling is drowning out the answers to our problems.

Sources:
Video-Comedy Central, Fox, CNN Channels
www.telegraph.co.uk
content.usatoday.com
weblogs.baltimoresun.com
www.examiner.com

ASCIT Minutes

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes
October 29, 2010

Officers Present: Adam Khan, Brian Merlob, Addie Rice, Prakriti Gaba, Karthik Sarma, Chris Hallacy, Tim Black

Guests Present: Dorea Chin, Filip Taneski

Call to order: 12:05 pm

President's report:
-Freshman Admissions Committee: Adam is meeting with Anneila Sargent (VP Student Affairs), Jarrid Whitney (Admissions Director), and other ASCIT members to talk about changes occurring within the committee.

Officer Reports:
- Operations Director: Merlob is half-way done with the Big T distribution and will continue handing them out for the rest this week.

- Treasurer: Hallacy is continuing to look into the salaries for committees and clubs on campus.

- Social director: Tron is sponsoring many of the inter-house parties for big inter-house.

Discussion:
-Euro Party: Taneski and Chin, representatives of the European students, discussed the budget for the party on Nov. 13th. ASCIT approves the budget (6-0-0).

-Big Interhouse: One guest is allowed per student; however, ASCIT is talking about finding venues to allow more than one guest per student.

-Midnight donuts: will take place in the following weeks.

Meeting adjourned: 12:25 pm

Submitted by Prakriti Gaba
ASCIT Secretary

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Spotlight on *PETER*

South Kitchen pizza chef extraordinaire

As small, helpless freshmen, my roommate Nadine and I would constantly find ourselves waiting in ridiculously long lines during the lunch hour rush at Chandler Dining Hall. One day, in an attempt to sidestep this chaos, we decided to try South Kitchen out for a change, and that was when we met Peter.

We stopped by the kitchen one afternoon as we were heading back from physics lecture. We scanned the menu – I ordered the farmer’s market, and Nadine ordered the margherita.

Delicious.

So we ordered it again. And again. And again. So many times in fact, that we’d find ourselves at South Kitchen about three times a week. Eating the same pizzas, with the same satisfied grins on our faces.

But who was this guy making these scrumptious creations? At this point, we didn’t even know his name. Nadine and I decided that we would ask him the next time we visited. But we kept forgetting in our eager anticipation of the tasty delights awaiting us.

It took us two terms before we finally discovered that his name was Peter. Although we just discovered him, he is actually extremely well known to the most of the undergrads. Just ask anyone who commonly go to South Kitchen for lunch. It’s hard to visit the kitchen often and not have spoken to Peter. His friendliness and eagerness to strike up a casual conversation are his most striking and beloved traits.

Here are some things you may not know about Peter:

Full name:

Pedro Antonio Robles

Where are you from?

I was born in Mexico.

How long have you worked here?

I’ve worked at CDS for eleven years. For five years, I was actually at the all girls’ school, Westridge, which is nearby. And for the past six years I’ve been at South Kitchen.

If you could go back in time and change anything, what would it be?

Staying in school. I actually went to John Muir High School right here in Pasadena.

What are some of your fondest childhood memories?

Playing sports with brother. We were really close.

Do (or did) you have any pets?

I used to have a pitbull, but he passed away because he was too old.

Do you have any hobbies?

Besides TV and video gaming? I like sports. I love football because I’m surprisingly good at it. Although I’m not crazy intense about the Superbowl all the time, I am when my team’s playing. Go Kansas City Chiefs!

Who in your life has most influenced you?

Definitely my mom.

If you were an animal what kind would you be?

A horse. I like horses.

If Hollywood made a movie about your life, who would you want to play the lead role (as you)?

That’s a hard one. Probably the “Rock” – Dwayne Johnson.

Craziest pizza ever ordered?

Someone ordered a Bronco pizza once, which was basically a huge pile of meat: sausage, ham, bacon, and pepperoni. Just a LOT of meat.

Can you hand toss pizza?

Yeah! I mean I’m not great but I’m good enough that it doesn’t fall on my head or anything. (He even showed me, which was total awesomeness).

Favorite book?

The Last Days of Krypton.

Wait. So are you a Superman fan?

Uhh, yes. Superman is awesome.

Favorite singer/rapper/musician?

2pac

Favorite TV show?



Picture from Caltech Dining website

The Source of Anarchy. It’s a biker show.

Favorite video game?

Gears of War 2. I love my Xbox.

Favorite movie?

When I was a kid? Back to the Future.

Favorite pizza?

Pepperoni and pineapple.

Fruits on pizza? Really?...

Pineapples are good. I don’t get how people can put apples on pizza though.

Favorite customers?

;))

By Sandhya Chandrasekaran

Caltech Olive Harvest Festival

Friday, Nov. 5

There will be games (tug-o-war) and prizes! The House that collects the most olives will win a dinner with the President!

Sign up to help pick olives (get a free T-shirt!) at <http://olives.caltech.edu/participate>



Photo from Flickr account caltechalummi

America Hit by Red

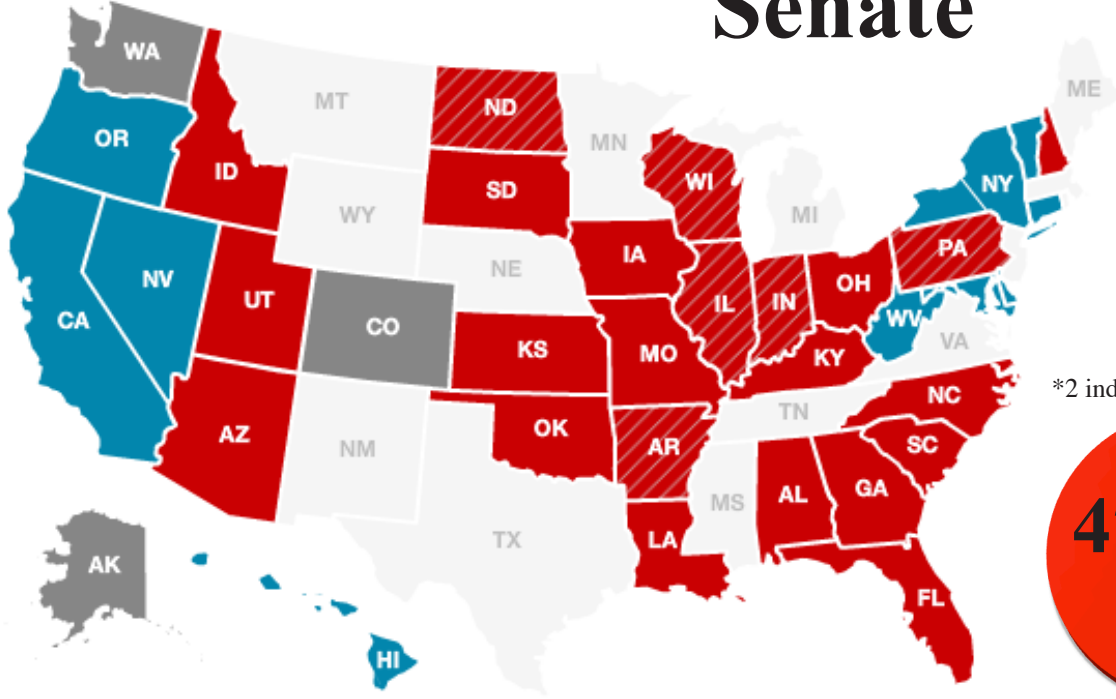
Results as of Wednesday 4:05am

■ Democratic
 ■ Republican
 ■ Independent
 ■ Still voting
 ■ Processing results
 ■ No Race

Note: Stripes indicate party change

Compiled by Tina Ding

Senate



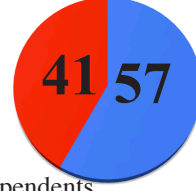
Major Tea Party winners

- Rand Paul: Kentucky Senate
- Marco Rubio: Florida Senate

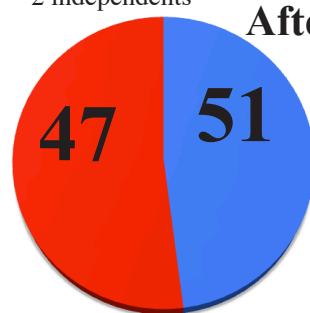
Major Tea Party losers

- Christine O'Donnell: Delaware Senate
- Sharron Angle: Nevada Senate

Before



After



*2 independents

States switch to red

Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Arkansas, North Dakota, and Pennsylvania votes

*Alaska and Colorado are too close to call

■ Democratic
 ■ Republican
 ■ Independent
 ■ Still voting
 ■ Processing results

-CNN projects that the GOP will pick up at least 60 House seats. This is the largest number of House pickups since Democrats picked up 75 seats in 1948

-SC elects first black GOP congressman since 2003

-Alabama elects 1st black woman

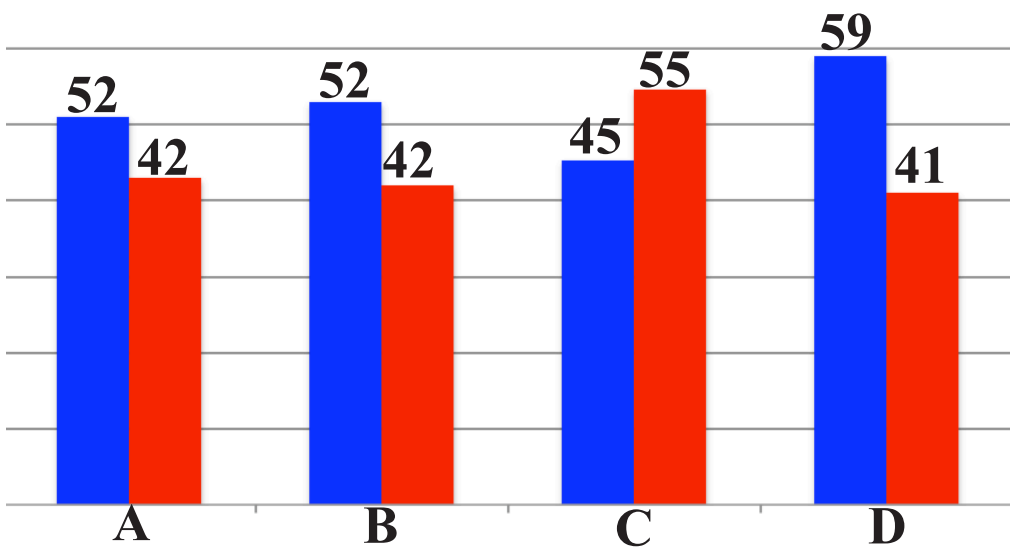
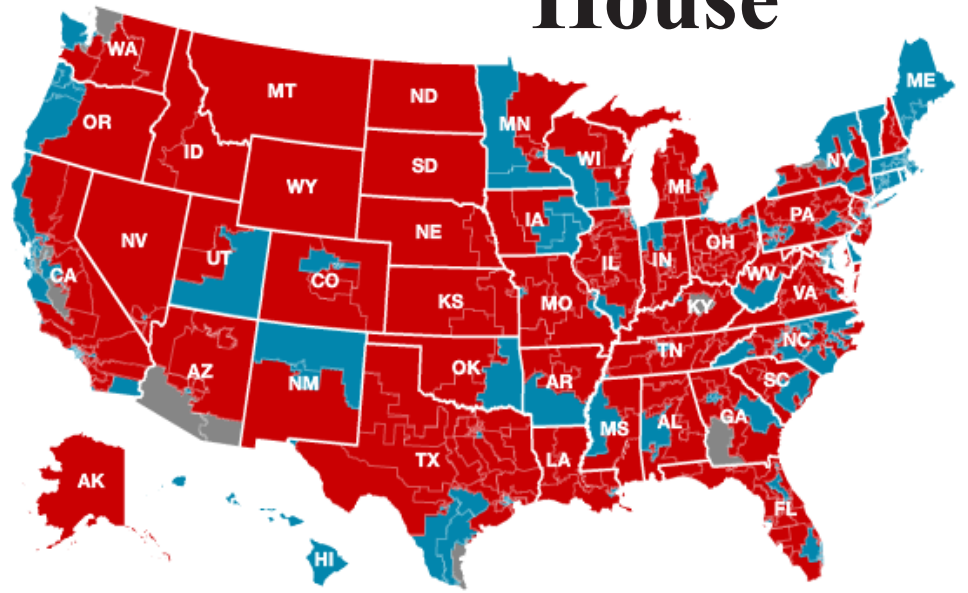
Before



After



House



: Blue(Dem stance) vs. Red(Rep Stance)

A : Barbara Boxer(Dem) vs. Carly Fiorina(Rep)

B: Jerry Brown(Dem) vs. Meg Whitman(Rep)

C. Prop 19 legalize marijuana: Yes vs. No

D. Prop 23: Suspends implementation of air pollution control law: Yes vs. No

*Results as of Tuesday 11:40 pm

By the numbers...

9,869,396

Total CA voters(approximately)

55%

CA voter turnout

53%

Female voters

\$4 billion

record total projected spendings on 2010 midterm elections

\$2.85 billion

total spendings on 2006 midterm elections

1,773

Number of political ads that will have aired during ABC's "Dancing with the Stars" over the course of the election

No rush to pick up Big Ts

continued from page 1

However, despite the long-awaited release, Iyer said that many students seem reluctant to pick them up despite having paid for them.

Current juniors only experienced one of the three years in the 2006-2009 Big T issue while the senior experienced two. According to ASCIT bylaws, all undergraduate students pay \$12 per term of Big T dues. This means that technically, juniors and seniors received two and three years of “unpaid” Big T, respectively. “The only way to have enough money to publish those books was to combine the years, and thus eliminate the two cover designs,” said Iyer.

The staff is working to make sure that future yearbooks are published and distributed on time. Iyer reveals that the staff has been covering the two major sections of the Big T: Campus Life and Athletics. “We’re trying to stay on top of things, so that we don’t have a huge backlog of work at the start of the summer,” said Iyer. “We have a small staff, but we’re not Class of 2012-heavy, so we shouldn’t have the issue of there being no staff once [Class of 2010] leaves.”

“I believe strongly that there’s value in ensuring [the yearbook] continues,” said Iyer. “Our campus is small enough that a yearbook is a meaningful publication.”

Disney funds cause party themes to switch midway

continued from page 1

same friend that helped him bring Keanu Reeves to Caltech before the opening of *The Day the Earth Stood Still*. According to Mannion, when presented with the idea, the friend replied that Disney would be more than willing to help. “Disney really wants to jump in on Caltech TRON and make it a fun, highly publicized night!” He wrote in an e-mail to Mannion, “What type of materials and props could we bring to the table[?] We’ll try to roll them out.” Mannion’s contact also suggested the possibility of a Siren fashion runway event and major news-network coverage. “Let’s go beyond panels on this and go for the party!” he concluded.

Theme change

Long before Disney had entered the scene, most houses had plans for Big Interhouse that did not involve Tron. Since there will be four individual parties connected in some way to Tron, Steinhardt also worries that “...it’ll be this set of bland, identical parties.” How houses will structure their themes to get around this problem will depend largely on how soon Disney gets involved and the scope of its involvement.

In the interlude, most houses have begun to build the framework for each of their parties. Speaking for Ricketts’ and Ruddock’s joint party, Steinhardt said “We’re building a lot of the outside so the inside can house Tron décor.” Until final decisions are made in next week’s meeting, not much else can be done. Still, as Steinhardt noted, “We’ll do what-

ever it takes to make this a great experience for everyone, even if it means saying ‘no’ to Disney and being happy with the connection we made.”

A rich history

Big Interhouse used to be a yearly staple on the Caltech campus, once even making it to *Playboy*’s list of Top Ten College Parties. It became so popular that it attracted droves of students from other schools and soon spiraled out of control. In 1988 a stabbing incident between two non-Caltech individuals prompted the administration to install a chain-link fence and to deny admission to anyone without a Caltech ID or guest pass. When the party had reached full capacity and the gates were shut, chaos erupted among students still outside, resulting in property damage and the banning of Interhouse.

Three years ago, Tom Mannion began to push for the return of Big Interhouse. “The first year I felt like I had to use a crowbar to get it back...and it turned out to be really good,” noted Mannion. Big Interhouse was held the year after as well, but last year student interest was not strong enough to keep it going. Part of the reason that Big Interhouse has resurfaced is due not only to resurgence in student interest, but also because of alum pressure to bring back the event that defined their experience at Caltech. All the better, noted Mannion, as the party has the potential “to link alums with current students,” and all alums will be invited to attend.



Tr2n, the remake of the Tron movie, has different aspects that could lead to very different Tron-themed parties. Above: the shiny, sleek racer from the video game part of the Tron movie could be used as the starting point for an electronic-themed dance party. Right: the beginning of the Tron movie is set in an arcade, which could be used as the basis for a lower-key Tron-themed party, closer to Dabney/Lloyd’s originally planned Interfaust party. The Tron remake is not expected to redo the arcade scene.



Olive Harvest

Caltech’s Olive Harvest is scheduled for this Friday between 11 AM-3 PM, during which time students that have signed up will pick olives that will be made into Caltech’s own olive oil. If you haven’t signed up but would like to help with picking, send a House President an email. Pickers receive free t-shirts.

While some students pick olives off of the olive trees on campus, Tom Mannion will be doing legit cooking demonstrations, and Tom Apostol (writer of the *MaLa* textbook) will show interested Caltech community members how to brine olives. Let a House President know if you want to help out with either of those demonstrations. Teams from each House will participate in an “oil tug-of-war”.

All students will receive a free Mediterranean-themed lunch at noon. The House whose members collectively pick the most olives gets a free dinner at President Chameau’s house.

Caltech undergrads leave with very low debt, says Kiplinger’s

This year, the Institute again ranked among the top private universities in the country in Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine’s “Best Values in Private Colleges” survey.

With a total annual undergraduate attendance cost of \$49,002, Caltech maintains one of the lowest student debt ratios: average debt at graduation is \$8,218.

-- from *Caltech Today*



Caltech Electrical Engineering’s Centennial Celebration

Join the Electrical Engineering faculty, alumni, students, and staff as we celebrate 100 years of EE at the California Institute of Technology on November 5th & 6th, 2010. Register for the event today at www.ee2.caltech.edu/centennial.

Below: Moore, Caltech’s EE building. Picture taken from www.ee2.caltech.edu/centennial.

Caltech represented at National Mall’s Science celebration

For two weeks in October, the National Mall and surrounding areas in Washington, D.C., were transformed into a city-size laboratory for exploration and education as part of the inaugural USA Science & Engineering Festival—the nation’s first national science festival.

Two Caltech-led projects—the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) Science Education Center and the Thirty Meter Telescope project—hosted interactive science exhibits during the expo and helped inspire visitors young and old to think scientifically.

Over 500 of the nation’s leading science and engineering organizations hosted more than 1,500 free, interactive exhibits that drew about 500,000 people to downtown Washington to learn about science, technology, engineering, and math. For those who couldn’t make it to the capital, over 50 satellite events were sponsored throughout the nation.

-- from *Caltech Today*

News Briefs

Becker Leads Caltech Harriers at SCIAC Championships

CHINO, Calif. – At the season ending SCIAC Championships on Saturday morning at Prado Park, first-year harrier Juliette Becker led all Caltech runners by finishing 13th overall to earn second-team all-conference honors. The native of Mill Creek, Wash. ran the 6K course in 24:10.4 in the field of 112 runners.

The second scoring runner for the Beavers was Stephanie Wuerth with a time of 24:44.5 in finishing 28th. A trio of underclassmen were the final three scorers for Caltech. Sophomore Clara Eng was the third Beaver to cross the finish with a time of 26:33.1. First year runners Katja Luxem (26:39.6) and Marlyn Moore (28:39.8) rounded out the top Beaver harriers.

On the men's side, Andy Zucker led the Caltech charge with a time of 28:36.7 on the 8K course in finishing 53rd out of 113 runners. Anton Bongio Karma (61st) and Alan Menezes (62nd) both cross the finish line with nearly identical times of 28:53.1 and 28:53.2 respectively.

Dennis Lam was the fourth finisher for Caltech with a time of 29:22.3 while Sachith Dunatunga (29:31.6) was the final scorer on the men's side for the Beavers. They placed 68th and 73rd overall respectively.

Both teams finished eighth overall.

-- Story and picture taken from Caltech Athletics website



First year Juliette Becker races to 13th overall, earning second team all-conference honors.

Senior Night soccer game against CMS results in 7-0 loss

By Amol Kamat
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, October 30th, the Caltech Beavers took on Claremont Mudd-Scripps in their last home game of the season. CMS dominated control of the ball in the first half, with the Beavers offense rarely crossing midfield. Despite CMS' crushing offense, the Beavers defense held tight, allowing only one goal in the first half on a breakaway in the twentieth minute.

The beavers, befitting of Seniors Day, returned to typical form in the second half, allowing five goals, while scoring none.

The classic tale of David vs. Goliath teaches us one important lesson: the underdog should not be underestimated. While this may not always hold true for Caltech soccer, there were

certainly some positive notes to Caltech's game against CMS. For example, Caltech's starting goalie Marcus Lucas had seven saves, while the CMS goalie only had one. Even Beaver Wesley Swank had one save, and he only played for eight minutes! Also, the game set a season high for attendance at 89. That is two more than the previous high at the Pomona and LaVerne games. There were also seven shirtless Tech fans in the stands, as many as there had been at any previous game.

These may seem like small things, but remember that the Beavers had a great soccer season and lost some very close games. Recently, they lost hard-fought battles to Soka (1-0) and La Verne (also 1-0 off a highly questionable penalty kick and bad offsides call).



Pictured at right: David (the little boy) and Goliath (the giant).

Upcoming Schedule

November 2, 2010	November 6, 2010	November 20, 2010
Women's Volleyball vs. Pomona-Pitzer 7:30 PM	Fencing at Ohio State 9:00 AM	Cross Country at NCAA Championships at Wartburg 11:00 AM
November 3, 2010	Men's Water Polo vs. Whittier 11:00 AM	Men's Basketball at Milwaukee Engr. 5:00 PM MSOE Tip-Off
Men's Water Polo vs. Claremont-M-S 4:00 PM	November 13, 2010	
November 5, 2010	Cross Country at NCAA Regionals at Willamette 9:00 AM	November 21, 2010
Men's Soccer vs. Wis.-Whitewater @ Chapman University, Orange, CA 11:00 AM		Men's Basketball vs. TBA @ MSOE TBA MSOE Tip-Off

Weekly Scoreboard

October 30, 2010

Cross country at SCIAC Championships at Prado Park, Chino

Men's Water Polo at Occidental
L, 21-13

Women's Volleyball at Occidental
L, 3-0

October 30, 2010

Men's Soccer vs. Claremont-M-S
L, 6-0

November 1, 2010

Men's Soccer at Soka
L, 1-0



Pictured above, sophomore Kunmi Jeje prepares for a header in Caltech's 1-0 loss to Soka. Despite seven shots at the Soka's goal, one from Jeje, Caltech failed to score a goal. After Soka scored a goal in the fourteenth minute, senior co-captain Grayson Chadwick stepped in goal and kept Soka from netting any of its twenty shots.

-- Information and photo taken from Caltech Athletics website

People you see at Caltech athletic events

by James Wu

Boyfriend/Girlfriend/Parent

She or he is dating one of the players. Everytime her significant other gets in, she claps her hand and bobs up and down excitedly. Then he turns the ball over three times and gets subbed out. You can also find this person shouting the one phrase they know.

during setup

"Let's go Caltech. Side Out!"

after the play

"You got this Caltech. Side Out!"

during a timeout

"Side Out!"

while their significant other is getting water

"Yeah [Inset Name Here]. Side Out!"

The buddy

He's there because he's friends with some of the players, and they've been bothering him for days about coming to their game where they promise "we're gonna get a W and break that streak."

"YEAH LET'S GO BEAVERS!"

"NICE JOB BOB! GREAT HUSTLE!"

after bob makes a mistake

"Don't worry about it Bob, you got this."

after bob makes another 5 mistakes in a row

"Wow, that dude sucks. It would suck to be his friend right? Lucky I'm not. I'm Charlie's friend. He's the guy that's playing well."

Mr. Inebriated

These are the guys having the best time. The score doesn't really matter to them since the game is just another excuse to drink. Many times, the inebriated is also the buddy.

after the inebriated enters the game a quarter of the way in

"YEAAAAAAAAAH!"

after a play

"YEAAAAAHHH!"

after a call by the ref on Caltech

"AWW COME ON REF, THAT WAS CLEARLY IN."

after a call by the ref on the other team

"YEAH THAT'S RIGHT, YOU GUYS SUCK! HAAAAHA."

after another call by the ref on Caltech

"WHO'S PAYING YOU, REF? THAT'S RIGHT. WE ARE!"

at the end of the game

"YEAAAAAAAAAH!"

The other team's supporters

They make up half of the audience.

Public Service Announcement

Beware! Midterms can cause dehydration, intense smelliness, and general uncleanliness. At these points in time, standing outside and feeling California's breeze can feel very refreshing. However, if you do so, please be considerate and stand at least two feet from the closest animal with the ability to smell.

-- Illustration by
Alexandra Souverneva



Chess Club Problem of the Week



White to play and win. From last year's Australian Junior Championships

Solution to last week's problem: 1. Rxc7 Bxc7 2. Qc4 Rg6 3. Nh6

The California
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