The California Tech

tech@caltech.edu

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Attendees of TEDxCaltech 2011, "Feynman's Vision", line up to enter the Beckman Auditorium. Tickets for TEDxCaltech 2013, "The Brain", are currently on sale.

-tedx.caltech.edu

TEDxCaltech comes back for second year

MORIAH BISCHANN
Staff Writer

Mark your calendars – on January 18, TEDx is coming back to Caltech. In a few months, Beckman Auditorium will be filled with hundreds of distinguished speakers and guests, drawn together from the fields of science, business, and art to discuss "The Brain." Over the course of nine fast-paced hours, each presenter will receive a short speaking window in which to "deconstruct, decipher and explore some of the great challenges, innovations, concepts and possibilities related to the brain." The 2011 TEDxCaltech program, "Feynman's Vision: The Next 50 Years" drew crowds from across the country looking to engage in "a forward-looking celebration of the spirit, curiosity, and broad scientific vision of Dr. Richard Feynman." Forty-two orators converged on the stage to present at the event, including Caltech professor Sean Carroll; undergraduate Jordan Theriot; the granddaughter of Feynman, Michelle Feynman; and even a master of Tuvan throat singing, Kongar-Ol Ondar.

In 2011, Dennis Callahan, now a fifth year graduate student at Caltech in Material Science, discussed "A Portrait of the Scientist as an Artist." His talk emphasized that "science can be beautiful" and that it is our duty to "recognize these images" so that we preserve them from the thief of time. He challenged the audience to look at their data, whether they be numbers or microscopic life forms, and find an image that they could keep "strictly for visual appeal." In doing so, Callahan argues that we will develop as artists as well as scientist, which makes us better able to "recognize all of the value" in every hidden corner of our world.

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Helping readers burst out of the Caltech bubble

Need to know < **100** words about the world this week – topics sorted from good to bad

by *The Tech* Eds

First chemo-bath used	**60** –minute treatment only targets cancerous organ	[BBC]
Paraguay seizes cocaine	**3,724** pounds of drugs taken, Bolivian drug lord arrested	[ABC News]
Record foreign students	**764,495** international students enrolled last year in US uni's	[USA Today]
New Greek budget	**57%** of MPs approve spending cuts despite large protests	[BBC]
Recount in Florida	**2,442** votes put Murphy (D) ahead of West (R), who won't concede	[Fox]
NJ inmates escape	**15** flee private halfway house during Sandy, 14 apprehended	[NYT]
House explodes	**2** dead after unexplained blast levels Indianapolis homes	[Detroit Free Press]

Food with Mannion!

Do you like eating food?
How about free food at nice restaurants?
Ever want to tell the world exactly what you think of said food?
The Tech will be beginning a new column to chronicle the foodie experiences of new writers every other week...The Catch: They'll be going head-to-head with Tom Mannion who will be reviewing the same restaurant. If you have ever thought you were more of a gourmand than our resident master chef, now's your chance to prove it!
Email us for a spot on the list at tech@caltech.edu

The California Tech

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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."

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get paid up to $30

ASCIT Minutes

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes for November 1st and 8th, 2012. Taken by Allika Walvekar

Officers present: Diego Caporale, Misha Raffiee & Alan Menezes in lieu of Christian Rivas, Pushpa Neppala, Mario Zubia, Michelle Tang, Allika Walvekar, Puikei Cheng (by Skype)

Call to Order: 8:34 pm

BoC Bylaws were approved by the BoD and will now be released to the student body for their approval. The ASCIT meet and greet will be held on December 2nd.

President's Report (Diego): Diego would like to stress the importance of increasing the Big T dues to ensure that it can be published regularly. Also, Diego encourages everyone to keep working on Big I so that we can have a great party this year.

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair: Pushpa): The ARC made a few bylaw amendments during their retreat that defined new roles. They also would like to expand undergraduate research and improve the course complaint system. Ray Gonzalez is doing a presentation on how to make unbiased surveys. Mike Vanier is Prof of Month. There is an SFL this Tuesday.. Avin is presenting at the next faculty meeting about the current state of the Honor Code. Melany Hunt is talking to President Chameau about speaking at the beginning of the SFC.

V.P. of Non-Academic Affairs (IHC Chair: Mischa, Allen): Each of the house pairings will get a $2,000 check in the bank account, yet should turn in all receipts for reimbursement.The full budget per party is $3,500.

Director of Operations (Mario): The Big T is waiting on a few pages to be approved and then will publish. Aditya started setting up in the club storage room. Mario needs to set up an inventory. The clubs will be approved soon by the Club Steering Committee and then we will release details on funding.

Treasurer (Puikei): Puikei would like to stress that the house treasurers need to talk to the reps so that everyone is informed. Each party is definitely receiving $3500 from funding sources like the Alumni Assocation, Student Affairs, GSC, Mannion, and the MOSH. Puikei is still talking to other sources to increase the budget.

Social Director (Michelle): Olive Harvest got pushed back to next friday. Michelle met with Tom and the Big I reps and created the registration forms for all guests. She also organized hiring the custodians, planning wristband distribution, and spoke with PR about alerting the neighbors. She is starting to plan ASCIT formal.

Secretary (Allika): Updated the BoD resolutions updated with SFC date. Looking into making ascit thank you cards.

Looking forward to TEDxCaltech: The Brain

Continued from page 1

Also taking time to appreciate the event, Callahan mentioned that his own favorite speaker was Drew Berry. As a MacArthur Fellow and a biologist-animator, Berry creates "scientifically accurate and aesthetically rich visualizations [to] elucidate cellular and molecular processes," which find appreciation from a wide range of people. Callahan was draw-in by Berry's work, mentioning that he would have considered becoming a biologist himself had he seen such testaments of beauty at a younger age. Additionally, Callahan enjoyed the synergy of the crowd and the intensity created by the listeners. Caltech's TEDx, "where x = independently organized TED event," is an offshoot of the larger TED program. Beginning in 1984 as a conference for the "Technology, Entertainment, [and] Design" industry, TED has grown to become a global community of entrepreneurs, thinkers, and visionaries drawing across all disciplines. The non-profit's goal is to make "riveting talks by remarkable people, free to the world." TED fulfills its mission by inviting inspiring people to share their stories and give the "talk of their lifetime" on the world stage. These speakers have "ideas worth spreading," and their thoughts inspire others to drive the human race forward. Growing demand and an expanding audiences have caused TED to incorporate a number of other programs, including the TED Conference, TED Active, TED Global, TED India, TED Women, TED Talk, and TEDx. Additionally, TED funds the TED Prize and TED Fellowship, and hosts an Open Translation Project. In preparation for the upcoming event, TED Talk Tuesdays @ Two are held every week in 125 Steel. At each meeting a new Caltech "celeb" will be sharing their personal favorite TED talks, followed by a short discussion and refreshments. Students, faculty, and the public are encouraged to attend.

New information regarding option changes

SANDHYA CHANDRASEKARAN
News Editor

Given the upcoming Student Faculty Conference (SFC), the ARC and the Tech plan to begin a column updating the student body on ongoing discussions surrounding curriculum changes.

Approximately every month up until the SFC, updates from the option committees (comprised of both students and faculty) will be published here.

Please feel free to email Pushpa Neppala (pneppala@caltech.edu) or the contact person listed alongside the option.

Option surveys will be sent out to undergrads in December, so all of these updates are pending survey data.

ACM (Michael Zhang, zhang.michael.y@gmail.com)

- CS 1 major requirement
- ACM 10 pizza class winter or spring term - more in depth and different topics
- Resolve big jump between core math and upper level ACM classes
- Standardize class curriculum so more consistent across years and for quality control
- Communication between classes like Ma 2a and ACM 95b to reduce overlap
- Encourage communication with professors to get research

Ay (Gregory Simonian, gsimonia@caltech.edu)

- Better advertising of senior thesis
- Have the option rep be the senior thesis coordinator
- Ph12 still recommended

BEM (Misha Raffiee, mishars2001@yahoo.com)

- Expansion of research opportunities and faculty-student communication about research
- Initial discussions about course scheduling and elective graduation requirements
- Faculty and student perspectives on the strength of the BEM curriculum

Bio (Stephanie Kwan, skwan@caltech.edu)

- Keep some sort of version of Ma2 and Ph2
- More seminar classes?
- Hire another microscopy professor
- Implement BioMail option for undergrads

BioE (Malvika Verma, mverma@caltech.edu)

- Possibly requiring 9 units of coding
- Bring out differences between Bio and BioE classes
- Evaluate whether or not Bi1x was beneficial or not

Chem (Luis Navarro, lnavarro@caltech.edu)

- Other substitutions for Ch21 sequence?
- Reform Ch14
- Still discussing usefulness of Ma2 and Ph2

ChemE (Sabrina Sun, ssun@caltech.edu)

- Post senior thesis guidelines and sample track schedules on department website
- Increase student:TA ratio in ChemE classes
- Recommend/require CS1 and/or ACM11
- Propose coding course catered to ChemE curriculum
- Still considering importance of Ma2 and Ph2

EAS (Matthew Voss, stericinterference@gmail.com)

- Listing the sub-options on the admissions form for undergraduates
- More pizza classes
- Keeping Ma2 and Ph2 content but possibility of flexibility concerning timing and classes
- Look into additional lab and restricted elective replacements for courses not currently offered

EE (Jomya Lei, jlei@caltech.edu)

- Keeping Ma2 and Ph2/Ph12
- Looking at alternatives for classes such as APh109 instead of APh9 if and only if you take EE40 first and if there is revising of ACM116.
- Seeking a place to add in teaching PCB making, a team-based class, and more available classes such as optoelectronics.

MechE (Sebastian Mata Rojas, srrojas@caltech.edu)

- Possibility of a unified MechE class
- Consider the applicability and timing of ACM95 and Ma2b
- Expand Research Opportunities

Phys (Valere Lambert, valerelambert@gmail.com)

- Considering alternatives to Ph 3 requirement
- Determining methods for increasing prof/student interaction and research opportunities

Nominate your favorite professor for the Feynman Teaching Prize!

Here's your chance to nominate your favorite professor for the 2012-13 Richard P. Feynman Prize for Excellence in Teaching! You have from now until January 2, 2013 to submit your nomination package to the Provost's Office to honor a professor who demonstrates, in the broadest sense, unusual ability, creativity, and innovation in undergraduate and graduate classroom or laboratory teaching.

The Feynman Prize is made possible through the generosity of Ione and Robert E. Paradise, with additional contributions from an anonymous local couple. Nominations for the Feynman Teaching Prize are welcome from faculty, students, postdoctoral scholars, staff, and alumni.

All professorial faculty of the Institute are eligible. The prize consists of a cash award of $3,500, matched by an equivalent raise in the annual salary of the awardee. A letter of nomination and detailed supporting material, including, but not limited to, a curriculum vitae, course syllabus or description, and supporting recommendation letters
should be directed to the Feynman Prize Selection Committee, Office of the Provost, Mail Code 206-31, at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, 91125. Nomination packages are due by January 2, 2013.

Additional information including guidelines for the prize and FAQ may be found at http://provost.caltech.edu/FeynmanTeachingPrize. Further information can also be obtained from Karen Kerbs (626-395-6039; kkerbs@caltech.edu) in the Provost's Office.

Caltech Couture: Friends, formal dinner woes

NINA BUDAEVA
Staff Writer

I haven't seen Joe in a while. He seems to have disappeared and his slim figure always seen on a roller-surfer headed either to class, the library, lab, or Lake Avenue has become a ghost. I hope his studies are going well.

However, I did see more of Victoria, the sweet girl who kept Joe company on that memorable night when Joe found the C-store closed. She was walking to one of the houses dressed quite nicely. It turned out that she was going to a formal dinner. She had been invited to the dinner by one of her friends with whom she studied every week for a class that they were both taking.

They studied in a group of five or six people and Victoria found them fairly agreeable although most of their conversations were related to the class.

She thought this was fairly odd since even when she ran into one of them during the day, they would blurp out "Have you done number two yet? I'm a bit stuck on 2b and the TA said …", sometimes without even saying a proper "hello"! This puzzled her bit it but didn't bother her too much. They were brought together by the class so it made sense that they would only talk about class, right? True friendships aren't based on two people taking the same courses, living in the same house, or even going to the same school.

This is why she didn't think much of the invitation Patrick gave her after one of the study sessions. She didn't think that Patrick was physically able to say more than five words in a row. Therefore, when he said twenty words to her, every other one of which was either "so", "umm", or "hey", she felt that she had discovered a new friend and was happy to give him company at his house's formal dinner.

Victoria had several other friends in Patrick's house, some of which were girls. The day before the dinner, she asked two of them what they were wearing, because they seemed rather excited about the meal. The girls immediately got very serious and very fussy.

One said that she was still deciding between three dresses, all of which looked fairly similar to Victoria.

The other said that she already knew exactly what she was wearing and pulled out a super short, super shiny one-shoulder bright blue satin dress with an enormous flower on its one shoulder. Then she pulled out incredibly high red suede heels with an unbelievable platform and a red clutch purse. She also showed her jewelry: a ridiculously shiny rhinestone necklace and huge silver cascading earrings. Victoria bit her tongue hard not to comment.

Wasn't the girl a bit too chubby for that dress, and wasn't she a bit too short to wear such shoes? Wasn't the jewelry too flashy and too cheesy? It looked like something from a third-grader's Halloween costume.

The color combination bas beyond comprehension, but the chubby girl explained that she saw this in a magazine. Moreover, more importantly than the cut of the dress, the form of the shoes, and the colors, wasn't this completely the wrong style? Victoria had been to dinner parties, operas, and receptions and she thought that a formal dinner would have a similar dress code to those events. However, the outfit the chubby girl had chosen was Snooki-style.

In disbelief that a Caltech formal required Jersey-shore clubbing attire, Victoria chose to wear a simple long-sleeved light-gray dress that had a defined waist and flared out to the knees.

She wore a simple pearl necklace that her parents had given her before she left for college and she clipped her brushed hair carefully at her temples. She chose a simple black purse with matching simple black leather pumps. She thought she looked modest and could have dressed the looked up a bit by choosing say, a red purse and matching red shoes. However, Victoria recalled her mother's wisdom, and as a guest at the dinner, she knew it was better to be more modest than flashy.

Victoria went out to the Olive Walk where she had promised to meet Patrick. He was already there, and when she saw him, she gave a silent sigh of grief. He was wearing a suit, but how was he wearing it?

The suit was much too large for him, he wore the pants too low, the shoulders of the jacket sagged, and he himself was slouching as usual. With his neck sticking forward as though he were trying to smell what CDS had prepared for such a special dinner, he looked anxiously at the clock overlooking the Olive Walk between Page and Lloyd.

Victoria left the dinner as soon as she could after it was over. She felt so uncomfortable. Now she knew. Patrick, that silly Patrick who had never spoken a word solely to her before the day he invited her, had decided that her acceptance of the invitation was virtually an acceptance of a formal date. The "sneak-a-date" tactic that her guy friends told her about was actually true! The worst part that everyone seemed to be in on this and they were all watching her curiously as dinner progressed.

She knew all along that although he was a fine study-buddy, she could never like him enough to share any emotions with him.

Now she couldn't even respect him. Had he asked her out on a real date, say to the Huntington or to a nice dinner in Old Town, or to the movies, or for a burger (which she loves!) or really anything at all, she would have rejected him nicely but would have respected him for the bluntness and courage.

As she walked back to her house, she caught sight of Christian who was returning from a recitation section. She caught his glimpse but continued walking because she had never talked to him before. Christian was thunderstruck.

After his first few weeks at Caltech, he had gotten used to being surprised by the level of casual dress and casual manners, so when he saw a beautiful, tastefully-dressed girl elegantly walking in her sleek heels, he couldn't believe his eyes.

So he was proven wrong: there are different people at Caltech and he just needed to keep his eyes open to find the ones he liked.

CONGRATULATIONS

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Grant Remmen
Physics/Astrophysics

The Fannie and John Hertz Foundation
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ACT Today! has event

AMOL KAMAT
Sports Editor

Last Saturday, The Tech attended ACT Today's (Autism Care and Treatment Today!) 7th annual Diamonds and Denim for Autism event in Malibu. ACT Today! is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness and providing treatment services and support to families of children with autism. Diamonds and Denim is one of their biggest fundraising events and doubles as an award ceremony for those activists who contribute most to the cause. This year, actor Joe Mantegna and television executive Steve Mauldin received the 2012 ACTivist Award, and community activist Kathleen Sternbach received the 2012 Golden Cowgirl Award for their efforts in raising autism awareness.

Christopher Lawrence (Big Mike from "Chuck") smiles for The Tech.
- Vishnu Manoranjan

The event was attended by a fairly wide range of celebrities, including singer Brian McKnight, Shemar Moore and AJ Cook of "Criminal Minds" (who were there to support Mantegna), Bonnie Hunt ("Jerry Maguire") and Mark Christopher Lawrence (Big Mike from "Chuck"). There were also several soap opera actors in attendance. Ariel Winters and Nolan Gould of "Modern Family" and David Hasselhoff were slated to attend, but they never showed up. Bummer.

The night began with a red carpet followed by a silent auction and reception. Then, the dinner buffet began (no, the press were not allowed to eat, but I did have the best cup of coffee in my life), which included a live auction of some pretty ridiculous stuff. Diamond encrusted pens, VIP tickets to "Dancing with the Stars," and a puppy were among the items up for sale. Finally, there were some speeches and the awards were handed out.

ACT Today! does a wonderful job raising awareness and providing resources for families dealing with autism, and their Diamonds and Denim fundraiser has become a very popular and effective event in Southern California. Mark Christopher Lawrence, whose nephew's children have been diagnosed with autism, told us "Diamonds and Denim is a fun party. People come out and enjoy themselves, donate, and bring awareness and support to ACT Today!" He also shook my hand and put his arm around my photographer, Vishnu Manoranjan, so our lives are complete. To find out more about ACT Today! or to donate, visit www.act-today.org.

THANK YOU

to all whose enthusiastic support and many votes helped Caltech to win the

Chegg for good + Taylor Swift Contest

Chamber Music
Delores Bing

Concert and Jazz Bands
William Bing

Guitar
Matthew Elgart

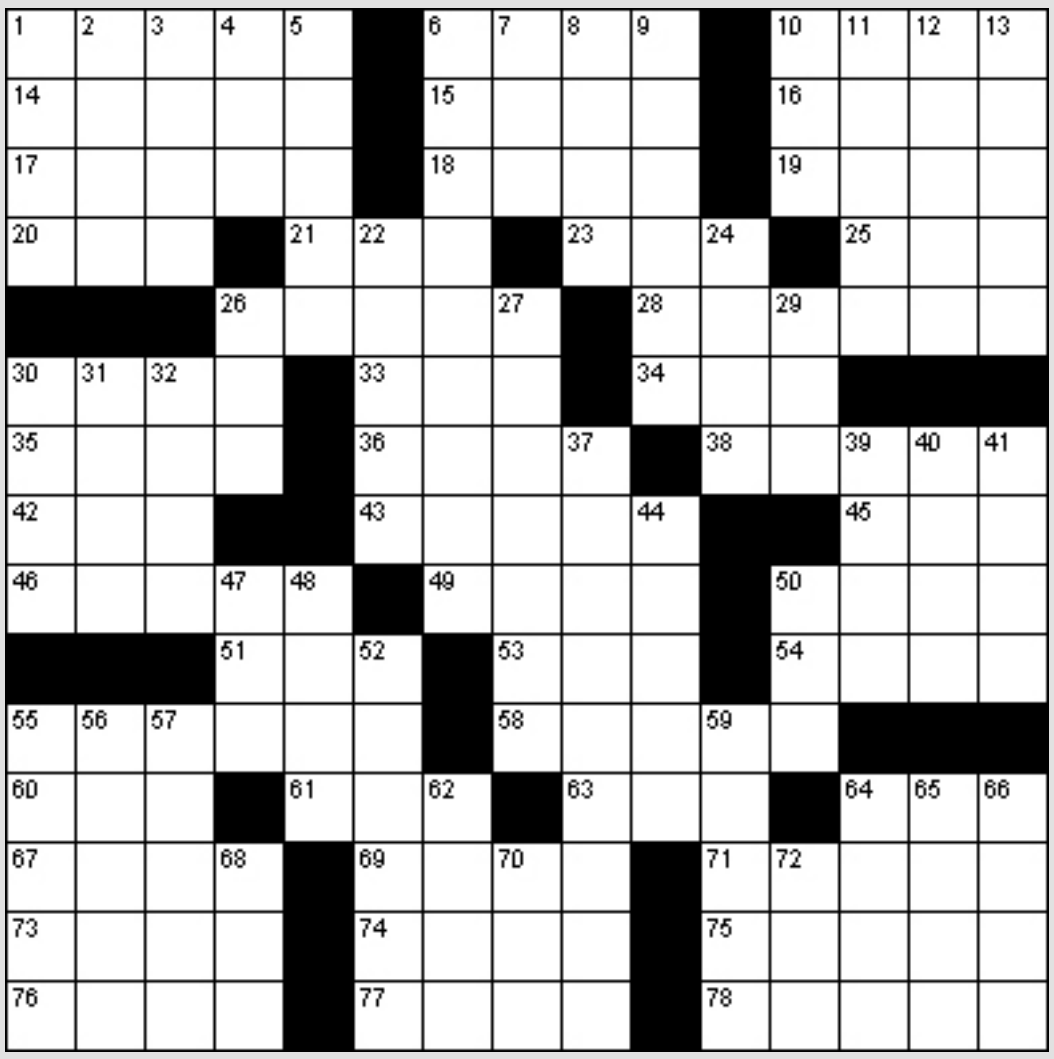
Orchestra
Allen Gross

Glee Club
Nancy Sulahian

Chamber Music
Robert Ward

Performing & Visual ARTS
California Institute of Technology

Today's Puzzle: Crossword



[http://www.puzzlechoice.com/]

Across

1. Keyboard instrument
6. Military bugle call
10. Large musical instrument
14. Improvise
15. Redact
16. Jug
17. Incline
18. Musical symbol
19. Rant
20. Observe
21. Was seated
23. Possessed
25. Regret
26. Marinated meat on a skewer
28. Muffle
30. Rim
33. Consumed
34. Swerve
35. Soreness
36. Prong
38. High-pitched musical instrument
42. Unwell
43. Occurrence
45. Seed case
46. Stringed instrument
49. Apiece
50. Exchanged goods for money
51. Appropriate
53. Digit
54. Merely
55. Backchat
58. Hasten
60. Historic period
61. Part of the neck of a guitar
63. Indicating maiden name
64. Separates musical notes on a stave
67. Kind of star
69. Sodium chloride
71. Freight
73. Fresh
74. Genealogical diagram
75. Headdress
76. Musical instrument of Ancient Greece
77. Belonging to you
78. Church instrument

Down

1. Route between mountains
2. Not in active use
3. Succulent plant
4. Pinch
5. Corpulent
6. Provisional
7. Fuss
8. Spongy tissue is plants
9. Firm
10. Possessive pronoun
11. Prize
12. Variety show
13. Clean with the bill
22. Let up
24. Lacking hearing
26. Knowledge and understanding
27. Below
29. Hole punching tool
30. Long narrative poem
31. Open river valley in the hills
32. Part of a fish
37. Meet
39. Once __ a time
40. Peal
41. Miniature whirlpool
44. In that place
47. Back muscle
48. Sports tournament
50. A source of oil
52. Faithful
55. Hackneyed
56. Acute pain
57. Not at all
59. Right-hand page
62. Edible root
64. Boast
65. City, site of the Taj Mahal
66. Horse's coat color
68. Wonderment
70. Romanian currency
72. Melody

Caltech Public Events is now hiring student ushers.
$15 per hour to work concerts, performances, lectures, films and parties.
No experience needed, no hard labor, flexible schedules.
**Requirements: Caltech student, Positive attitude, Friendly personality*

To apply email Adam Jacobo (ajacobo@caltech.edu) or call (626)395-5907

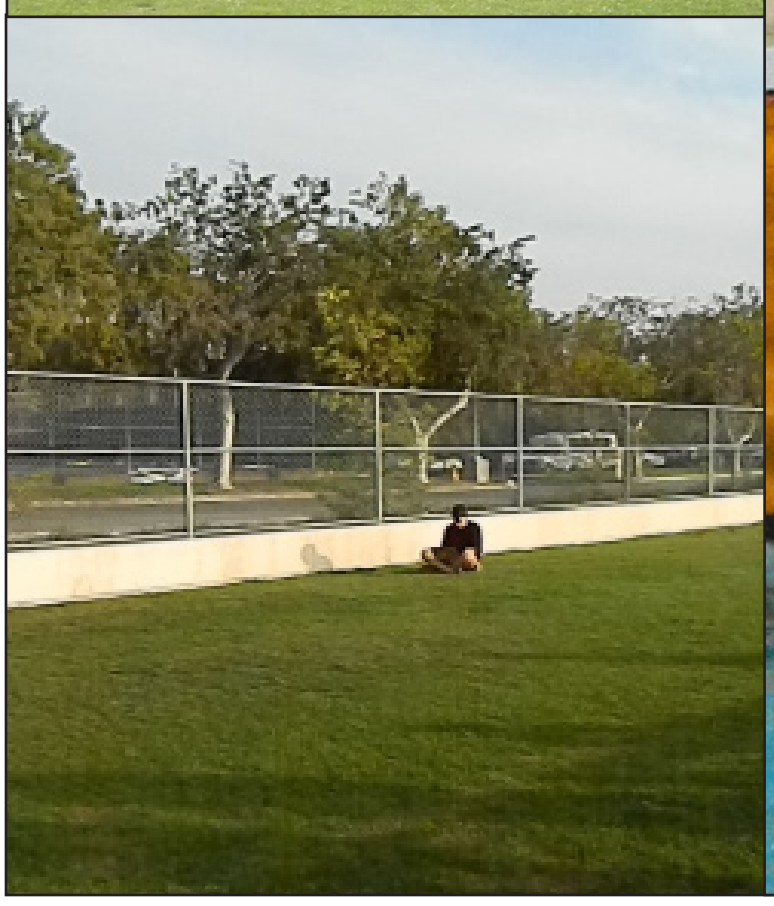
For info on Caltech Public Events visit: www.caltech.edu/content/public-events

Clockwise from top: Brice Nzeukou takes a sexy header off of a corner. Nzeukou was named 2nd team all conference on Monday; Rhongxiao "Nicky" Zhang kicks the ball. Although, for all you know, he whiffed hard. The inherent problem with still shots; Kunmi Jeje does his best velociraptor impression after scoring a goal against SOKA while teammate Vishnu Manoranjan does more of a pterodactyl thing; Jack Blackwood takes a shot against Redlands. Check out the goalie's face, then imagine he's doing jazz hands; graduate student Chris Kempes sadly working on his thesis; The seniors on the soccer team say hello, except for Sarah Wright who's still running to meet them; Tommy Kwong passes the ball despite being drowned; Ben Grabowski attempts to fly out of the pool.

Congratulations to all the seniors from Caltech fall sports. These pictures were taken at Water Polo's home finale and senior night (Redlands won 17-7) and Soccer's season finale and senior night (SOKA won 3-2 with a goal in the final 2 mintues). Special thanks to the soccer seniors who entertained me for 4 years.

Skyfall was just an alright movie.

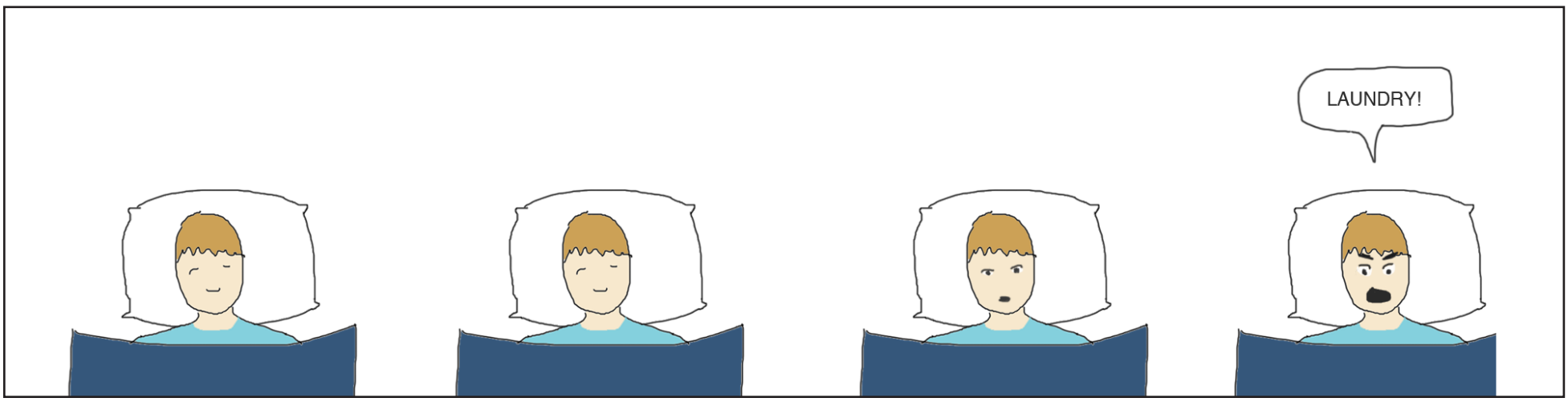
-Amol Kamat



STATUS REPORT BY ANTONI GIULASU

THINGS THIS COMIC IS FUNNIER THAN:	THINGS THAT ARE FUNNIER THAN THIS COMIC:	THINGS THAT ARE AS FUNNY AS THIS COMIC:
VANCOUVER	OVERSIZED TELEPHONES	ZINC PRODUCTS
ACCOUNTING	THE MUMPS	SEASON 7 OF MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE
ACQUIRED TASTE	THE WORD "DOO-DOO"	KNITTING
MOST FUNERALS	GRAVEL	DMV EMPLOYEES
NEXT WEEK'S COMIC	LAST WEEK'S COMIC	FAMILY CIRCUS

Acquired Taste



For more photos, videos, and archives of previous issues, check out the Tech website!

tech.caltech.edu

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