Huge, dark blue lake, surrounded beyond comparison. Imagine a referred to it as "Nor-way's Grand never heard of Trolltunga. Another Norwegians I encountered had ("Trolltunga juts out hundreds of meters above Lake Ringedalsvatnet."

Another highlight of my trip was seeing the midnight sun. Because Norway is at such a high latitude, the summer days are extremely long, and even in the southernmost portion of the country, I never saw darkness. For the majority of my trip, the hours between 11 p.m. and 1 a.m. served as a prolonged dusk/dawn. Once I venn-tured far enough north (69 degrees 7 minutes) to the town of Tromsø, though, the sun never touched the horizon. On my final evening in Norway, I took a cable car into the local mountains above the town of Tromsø, where I hiked for a few hours to a peak. At midnight, I was rewarded with a spectacular view of the midnight sun above a sea of clouds. It was a glorious end to a marvelous trip!

The midnight sun sits over a sea of clouds in Tromsø, Norway.

SanPietro Travel Prize: A month under the Norwegian sun

In the This Issue
The Caltech Y Column serves to inform students of upcoming events and recent opportunities. The list is compiled by Neera Shah from the Division of Student Affairs and is distributed weekly.

More information about the Caltech Y and its programs can be found at https://caltechy.ore. The office is located at 505 S. Wilson Avenue.

Upcoming Events:

1. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Week
   Monday, January 20th - Friday, January 24th
   The 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Week celebrates the 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer, the voter registration movement that ignited racial tension across the South. The speakers, musical performances, documentary screenings, and discussions throughout the week will shed light on this historical event and its importance in American history. MLK Week is coordinated by the Caltech Center for Diversity (CCD) and The Caltech Y with support from the Division of Student Affairs.

2. MLK Service Day: “A Day On, Not Off”
   Saturday | January 17th | 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM | Washington STEAM Magnet Middle School, 1305 North Marengo Avenue, Pasadena
   Volunteers will plant flowers, clean up, and do several maintenance tasks, followed by lunch and entertainment provided by the students from the second floor of the middle school. Transportation is provided. Please RSVP at: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/middle-school-mlk-service-day.

3. Eyes on the Prize Documentary Screening: “Mississippi: Is this America?”
   Tuesday | January 20th | 12:00 PM | Washington STEAM Magnet Middle School, 1305 North Marengo Avenue, Pasadena
   The documentary is presented by the Caltech Y. The office is located at 505 S. Wilson Avenue. Pasadena
   Volunteers will plant flowers, clean up, and do several maintenance tasks, followed by lunch and entertainment provided by the students from the second floor of the middle school. Transportation is provided. Please RSVP at: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/middle-school-mlk-service-day.

4. Courage and Resistance Tour
   Tuesday | January 27th | Beckman Institute Auditorium
   Film Screening (1975): 6:00 PM Discussion: 7:30 PM
   - Betty Medsger - Author, The Burglary: The Discovery of J. Edgar Hoover’s Secret FBI
   - Bonnie Raitt - Co-Producer, The Burglary: The Discovery of J. Edgar Hoover’s Secret FBI
   - Director John C. Rainey & Bonnie Raitt - Co-Producer of “The Burglary: The Discovery of J. Edgar Hoover’s Secret FBI”

5. Pasadena LEARNS
   Friday | 3:00 - 5:00pm | Madison and Jackson Elementary Schools, Pasadena
   RSVP to vikumm@caltech.edu.

6. Hathaway Sycamores Tour
   Thursday | 5:30-8:00pm | Highland Park
   RSVP to Sherwood Richers at striches@tapr.caltech.edu.

Other Announcements - Beyond the Caltech Y

- Girls on the Run - Coach - Mentor Girls in 3rd-8th Grade
   February 23rd - May 22nd | Pasadena and other locations
   For more information contact Katie Braddock at volunteer@gotrla.org or 626.808.7719.

- The Caltech Y is looking for a group of 8-15 girls over the course of 12 weeks (Feb-May), culminating in a celebratory 5k event on May 7th. If you’re interested, please contact Prime Minister David Cameron to discuss possible options.

Legislative opportunities require creative backdoor Algeria in all electronic communications, but the fact that the existing blanket

Continued from page 1

“Initially, they had no idea just how significant their haul was, although they immediately found the expected evidence of FBI burglary, harassment and blackmail. Betty Medsger was the first journalist to receive some of the liberated documents and publish them. One document stated that agents were to increase rates of interviews with dissenters ‘for the purpose of weakening their resolve’ which is to enhance the paranoia endemic in these circles and will further serve to get the point across that there is an FBI agent behind every mailbox.”

The mother lode was still to come. Bonnie explained: “The crucial document was the ‘COINTELPRO’ (Counter Intelligence Program) document. A program completely unknown to the press, to Congress, and probably even to [the] White House.”

Carl Stern eventually obtained a court order to force the FBI to hand over relevant documents under the Freedom of Information Act. They revealed a covert program that systematically spied on and repressed constitutionally protected political activity focused on students, “hippie looking people,” blacks, and Vietnam protesters. Betty added, “As the COINTELPRO had dossiers on thousands of people and went as far as political assassination. Reportedly never even ultimately led to the creation of the Church Committee and the subsequent investigative reform, including permanent congressional oversight.

Last week there was extensive press coverage on a proposal by UK communications software, despite legislation that currently requires encryption backdoors in all electronic communications, which is believed to be the fact that the existing blanket early warning system of the International Communist Wilson Avenue.

Attacks and when that was

The technology that was used by the communists was used [for political ends]. Anyone who opposes is a subversive. Today, the nation is still ruled by fear, this time of terrorism. Most of us do not act in our daily lives in fear. But both terrorists and anti- terrorists run on the same conservative, they are right to the point about life possible. Where does the fear and paranoia come from? At what degree to which our culture is saturated with violence in and removal of files and budgets and ambitions depend on making American people fear.

They need us to be afraid. It’s probably compelling. Why is it so easy to scare people? Why is the politics of fear so successful? We depend on our own feelings of life safe with each other, and almost always thus this is a contradiction to everyday life. The real contradiction for us—we the people—why do we put our lives and the lives of people who profit from increasing fear?”

I wondered about their thoughts on the intersection of rapidly growing surveillance technology and government accountability, and the morphing legislative process. Bonnie stated: “I think the technology has been bad in some way, but for the right kind of people. I think it can be used for good or for harm. I don’t think the technology is of itself bad. It’s still to come. Bonnie explained: “The crucial document was the ‘COINTELPRO’ (Counter Intelligence Program) document. A program completely unknown to the press, to Congress, and probably even to [the] White House.”

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Continued from page 1

“Initially, they had no idea just how significant their haul was, although they immediately found the expected evidence of FBI burglary, harassment and blackmail.”

In 1970, John got involved in a plot to burglar an FBI office and remove files they had a lunch would reveal wrongdoing, among other things. Investigating normal people planned meticulously for months, consistently surprised at how expendable they were, “They didn’t anticipate a break in,” Bonnie told me.

John added, “Arrogance of power. Could it be possible that we would become a target of their own practices. Even during the height of the Cold War, it’s possible for agents kept pursuing the normal people. We were one of thousands of suspects in the Philadelphia area. When you become politically active, it’s important to have a movement, so you can hide in plain sight.”

Initially, they had no idea just how significant their haul was, although they immediately found the expected evidence of FBI burglary, harassment and blackmail. Betty Medsger was the first journalist to receive some of the liberated documents and publish them. One document stated that agents were to increase rates of interviews with dissenters “for the purpose of weakening their resolve” which is to enhance the paranoia endemic in these circles and will further serve to get the point across that there is an FBI agent behind every mailbox.”

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Last week there was extensive press coverage on a proposal by UK communications software, despite legislation that currently requires encryption backdoors in all electronic communications, which is believed to be the fact that the existing blanket
Is the problem rotation rules? Is the problem that old habits die hard? Is this the problem the six-year graduation rate? Evidence shows that Caltech is one of the candidates for the problem at hand. As students, though, we know that Caltech is known for having a high drop-off rate, and some of the candidates for the problem appear. Hence, how do I finish all these sets in one how do I finish all my sets, do research, attend student leadership opportunities, and the like. Some will attend to their personal lives, and some will find time to shower and eat. How do I help my peers thrive here? These are questions that Caltech students, in my opinion, has faced at some point or another.

Dean Dabiri sees the institutional statistics, but she doesn’t know the individual circumstances of each house that affected those statistics. Being that a class of students is only 270 people means that individuals can greatly affect statistics, unlike UCLA which admits approximately 5,700 freshmen every year. Again, now is the time to simply come forward stating that they have stepped on the toes and touched a nerve of many members of the Caltech community, including myself, he is tasking students to provide concrete evidence about why the House System should or should not exist in its current state. This opportunity should not be taken lightly as it has in the past. My own experience in student leadership, and other opinions have the opportunity to shape the future of what the House System at Caltech is to become. This year we welcomed Dr. Rosenbaum as Caltech’s new institute president. Dean Dabiri’s article has spark a discussion that undergraduates can use to highlight some issues that they find important and to bring to light some issues that may be overlooked currently. It is important that students recognize the importance of the concerns the students understand why the students are objecting to the House System and other institutions that are held close to our hearts. I can recall my own experience in student leadership, and when the question “Why should student self-governance remain in place?” was asked, the other student leaders at Caltech had a struggle of the words to justify it. Now is the perfect opportunity for anyone in support of the House System to find the words to justify it.

I agree with Dean Dabiri in the opening of his piece when he says that “the first step to affecting change at Caltech is a clear and concise answer”. To the question, “What problem are you trying to solve?” I, however, am unclear as to what he believes his problem is. Is the problem that the House System as a whole? Is the problem House Y? Does the House System violate the Honor Code? This inflammatory question was posed in the Caltech community last week when Dean of Undergraduate Students John O. Dabiri published an article in The California Tech that showed a statistically significant correlation between measures of academic Honor Code violations and house membership. Whether or not this correlation is a problem depends principally on the decision of whether correlation means causation is causal. If there are causal effects of any sort, it is worth examining them to determine whether they could be improved. The question of whether the correlation results from an Honor Code violation derailed the I’m sure any undergraduates who believed that the Honor Code violations. A conversation with the potential to enhance student experience at Caltech is a conversation worth having. Past academic grading often came up—while others are collective, including certain house cultures attracting underserved students, understanding the distribution of majors across houses.

In even these short conversations, we have already brainstormed potential ways to use the House System to better serve students. We can emphasize to new freshmen that the House System is an opportunity to get to know others without worrying about grades, and not as an “opportunity” to learn nothing in one’s classes. We can set up house-based learning communities for students who have trouble collaborating due to the option distribution in their house can be beneficial. Students can come together to discuss if we can improve UCC systems across campus. Some of these solutions can be implemented on a large scale to relieve a dog, a clock watching others can be made house-specific.

The California Tech gives us a unique way of targeting resources to those who need it the most. Past efforts in the formation we can serve as an advantage. Getting to these productive conversation took us: we had to look past our immediate concerns and think objectively about things we hold dear. One of our biggest fears—and one of the worst likely outcomes of this conversation—was that Tech will take a step back to Caltech to improve our community. We can emphasize to new freshmen that the House System is an opportunity to get to know others without worrying about grades, and not as an “opportunity” to learn nothing in one’s classes. We can set up house-based learning communities for students who have trouble collaborating due to the option distribution in their house can be beneficial.

Academics and the House System: Moving the conversation forward.

ADAM JERMYN NICHOLAS SCHIEFER Contributing Writers

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I’m dying, just like you.

Tale as old as time.

Acting like it.
Henry Baer sweeps events, pool left clean

GOCALTECH.COM Actual Sports Content Editor

PASADENA, Calif. (Jan. 17, 2015) – Freshman Henry Baer (LaFayette, Calif. / Arcadia) swam a personal best of 2:12.92 in the 200 IM to post the fastest leadoff leg in the pool, but Oxy’s “A” relay pulled ahead by a body length on the second leg despite freshman Avikar Periwal (Potomac, Md. / Montgomery Blair) slapping down a 52.09. Bradley fought back into the hips of the Tigers relay, leaving Baer with nearly a second to make up. The rookie did that and more, blazing through a 22.17 first 50 to regain the lead by the second turn and brought it home in a career-best 47.26.

“The Beavers were determined not to leave with their heads down, though, and with the Free Relay remaining prepared to defend what has been their strongest event of the season at both 200 and 400 yards. Eck earned his team a one-second lead with the fastest leadoff leg in the pool, but Oxy’s “A” relay pulled ahead by a body length on the second leg despite freshman Avikar Periwal (Potomac, Md. / Montgomery Blair) slapping down a 52.09. Bradley fought back into the hips of the Tigers relay, leaving Baer with nearly a second to make up. The rookie did that and more, blazing through a 22.17 first 50 to regain the lead by the second turn and brought it home in a career-best 47.26.

“Oxy immediately erased the margin with a 1-2 finish in the 200 Medley Relay and added 13 points in a hotly contested 1000 Free, with senior C.J. Culpepper (Leonardtown, Md. / Leonardtown) breaking the 9:00 barrier for the first time in his career to take second. The Tigers extended their lead to 16 with a big haul in the 200 Free as junior Patrick Eck (Fullerton, Calif. / Troy), narrow touched out one of two Oxy swimmers for second but sophomore Chris Bradley (Half Moon Bay, Calif. / Terra Nova) was out-touched out himself to place fifth.

Baer quickly got Caltech back into the mix with a first-place finish in the 50 Free and Yu just missed second place by .02, trimming the deficit to 11. Oxy briefly stretched the lead back out to 18 with another win in the 100 IM, though a big time drop by Culpepper came up just short of third place.

The Beavers recovered from the bump to take place first in the next three straight events, rocketing up to within a second point heading into the final four events. Grabowski and Bourzutschky earned points for the Beavers when they placed second and third in the 1-meter, with the rookie topping the 500-point mark for the second straight meet, and Yu broke his own record in the 100 Fly before Baer completed his individual double with a victory in the 100 IM.

“Diving spotted us some huge points, both to start the meet and heading into Backstroke to give us an opportunity to go ahead,” Leavitt said. “Kevin setting the school record and Henry winning the 100 were obviously big too, and great to see.”

The momentum would stop there, however, as Oxy posted a 2-3-5 finish in a tight 100 Backstroke and took the top two spots in the 500 Free and 100 Breast to surge ahead and put the meet out of reach.

Women are wonderful

GOCALTECH.COM Actual Sports Content Editor

PASADENA, Calif. (Jan. 17, 2015) – Junior Alexandra Ilic (Austin, Texas / Westlake) picked up a pair of wins over Mills College and sophomore Zoe Kaczmarek (New York, N.Y. / Snuyevans) took first on both boards as the Caltech women’s swimming and diving team dropped a double-dual meet against Mills (117-68) and Occidental College (213-110) on Saturday.

“Alex was the highlight today with a couple of big wins against Mills,” Head Coach Jack Leavitt said. “I’m really impressed with the work our divers and Ute have done too – they keep us in it early and are a huge part of this team.”

Kaczmarek earned the Beavers’ points as the only competitor on the 3-meter board to start the day, nailing her backslide straight for a high score of 33.25. The 200 Medley Relay team took third against Oxy and second vs. Mills, and sophomore Kate Evans (Sowamane, Ga. / Lambert) added a couple points with a sixth-place overall finish in the 500 Free.

Senior Shalini Majumdar (Orinda, Calif. / Miramar) beat out two Mills swimmers in the 100 Free and Lee and Evans followed with scores in the 100 Back and 500 Free. Majumdar and Guo rounded out the Beavers’ entries with points in the 100 Breast.

Senior Sheila Lo (Leonardtown, Md. / Leonardtown) broke the school record and beat multiple competitors in the weapon last season, junior Katie Fisher (Chapel Hill, N.C. / East Chapel Hill). Fisher recorded team-best win percentages in both NCAA (98) and overall (92) competition and beat multiple national “A” rated fencers in the NCAA West Regional. She will pair with classmate Constance Robinson (Cupertino, Calif. / Monta Vista), who also posted respectable win percentages of 20% and 21% despite entering the year without any fencing experience. Junior Sheila Lo (Arcadia, Calif. / Arcadia) can be expected to fill out the lineup and have her work cut out for her as well as just three bouts last season, but has shown well thus far as the team matched foil in winning all six matchups in November.

Saber

The saber team may return just one fencer, but fortunately for the Beavers it is their top competitor in the weapon last season, junior Shi En Kim (Malaysia / Anderson Junior Coll.), who won 28 percent of her NCAA bouts and 38 percent overall.

Fencers go wild

GOCALTECH.COM Actual Sports Content Editor

PASADENA, Calif. (Jan. 16, 2015) – With six of its nine top fencers returning after a wildly successful 2013-14 campaign, the Caltech women’s fencing team is primed to build on a brilliant fall performance, including a perfect 6-0 mark at the November Mini Mega Meet and three impressive individual efforts well at the Elite BladeRunner USFSA ROC.

Foil

Unquestionably the team’s strongest weapon, all three members of the foil squad returned, led by last year’s top unranked competitor at the NCAA West Regional senior Katie Fisher (Chapel Hill, N.C. / East Chapel Hill). Fisher recorded team-best win percentages in NCAA (41) and overall (53) competition last year and started this season a perfect 15-0 before placing a respectable 23rd at the BladeRunner. Junior Emily Hernandez (Fairfield, Conn. / Hopkins School) and sophomore Stephanie Moon (Lilburn, Ga. / Gwinnett School of Math, Science and Tech) will team with Fisher to form the NCAA win percentages of 22 and 14, respectively, to form a potent squad which did not drop a match at the Mini Mega Meet.

Epée

Sophomore Christina Meyer (Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. / Hackley School) will front the épée squad after becoming Caltech’s first female at-large NCAA candidate in the épée as just a rookie. Meyer posted impressive win percentages in both NCAA (38) and overall (52) competition and beat multiple national “A” rated fencers in the NCAA West Regional. She will pair with classmate Constance Robinson (Cupertino, Calif. / Monta Vista), who also posted respectable win percentages of 20% and 21% despite entering the year without any fencing experience.

Sabre

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ASCIT Minutes

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes for 14 January 2015. Taken by Sean McKenna.

Officers Present: Cat Jamshidi, Connor Rosen, Annie Chen, Patrick Nikong, Sean McKenna

Guests: Margaret Lee, Chris Dosen

Call to Order: 11:10

President’s Report (Cat):
- Library hours debate is still being sorted out. Cat, Connor, and Nima will be meeting with the relevant people next week, such as Cindy Weinstein, to discuss the merits of the plan to close SFL on weekends.
- Further debate regarding Dean Dabiri’s article will, of course, be ongoing. ASCIT is hoping for a productive conversation. ASCIT trusts the Tech’s judgment in printing responses to the article.
- Bylaw amendment voting will be happening on Thursday the 22nd. Announcement will go out on Thursday the 15th.

Officer’s Reports:
- V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair: Nima): Absent
- V.P. of Non-Academic Affairs (IHC Chair: Connor):
  - By the next BOD meeting, Blacker President will be elected!
  - IHC will conduct a short survey regarding house GPA/graduation rates.
  - Reminder: Tech Express late hours are open. This is a pilot program, so if no one uses it, it may be shut down.
- Director of Operations (Connie): Absent
- Treasurer (Patrick):
  - Reimbursements are happening. Hold tight.
  - Big I expenses are all collected and being processed.
  - January 23rd will be an ASCIT budget meeting for second term.
- Social Director (Annie):
  - Annie sent out a survey about ASCIT Formal.
  - Magic Mountain trip will be happening soon.
- Secretary (Sean):
  - Sent an email earlier regarding resolution changes and proposed bylaw amendments.

If anyone has any questions or concerns about a section of the minutes please email the appropriate officer. We are happy to answer any questions. The next meeting will take place on January 23rd at 8pm in SAC 15.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:10

REMINDER FROM THE COUNSELING CENTER:

Meditation Mob
(drop-in mindfulness meditation group)
meets every Tuesday
Bottom floor of Winnett
from 12:00-12:50 pm

Caltech Jazz Band Announces Performance
The Caltech Jazz Band, directed by Barb Catlin, presents its Guest Artist Concert on Saturday, January 31st at 8:00 pm in Beckman Auditorium.

Featured guest artist is Los Angeles native, Pete Christlieb, who is regarded as one of the true living legends of the tenor saxophone. His identifiable sound has been featured on iconic recordings from Natalie Cole’s “Unforgettable” and Steely Dan’s “Deacon Blues,” to his years with Doc Severinson’s Band on The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson.

Admission is $10 for the general public and $5 for Caltech staff, students and faculty.

For more information, please visit bands.caltech.edu or call (626) 395-3295.

CALTECH THEATER offers several chances to branch out and take chances, have fun and expand your social network this year!

WANTED: Actors, singers, musicians, technical personnel, and designers for new, original Caltech musical Alice Through the Wormhole! This musical is currently in the development phase with a world premiere run February 20-March 1, 2015!

If you are interested in any facet of production, including script development, contact Brian Brophy directly (brophy@caltech.edu).

Editors’ Note on this week’s “Opinion” Section:

Last week The California Tech was asked by John Dabiri, dean of undergraduate students, to run an article in order to get as many student eyes on a particular subject as possible. Not only did students respond to this article, but alumni and faculty also joined the discussion. The summary of this article boils down to the question in the title: Does the House System violate the Honor Code? This week The Tech received numerous responses to Dean Dabiri’s article, and we have been diligently reading over the concerns and opinions of members of the Caltech community. The responses chosen to be published were selected based on the content of the argument presented. As the editorial staff of The Tech, we were prudent in the responses we chose to publish this week. The views expressed in these responses and in Dean Dabiri’s initial article do not reflect the views of The Tech staff. We are students who are often faced with presenting issues much bigger than ourselves, and appreciate your understanding in that we cannot always run every view due to space concerns. We value the use of journalism as an avenue of public discussion, and would like to thank the Caltech community for respecting our paper.

Caltech Jazz Band

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Caltech Students

No experience needed.
Outgoing Personality.
Pay Rate: $15 per hour

Contact: Adam Jacobo
626.395.5907
ajacobo@caltech.edu

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(drop-in mindfulness meditation group)
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Brad/Chad

Business Tutorial: Business Strategy

Part I

BRAD CHATTERGOON
Contributing Writer

Hey, Trenchers. I’m a senior and it’s still hard to believe that it’s week 3 already. We’re about a quarter of the way done with the term. Hope you got some rest over the MLK weekend. Feels like campus has been pretty dead these last couple weeks. Host some parties fresh. PF and all that.

This week I will be formalizing and defining some ideas related to business strategy. These are terms that get thrown around fairly frequently, and I think that students taking BEM 106 might find this article helpful for analyzing those case studies.

Fixed and Variable Costs: Every company, especially manufacturing, has two types of costs in general. Fixed costs are ones which do not scale with production. Examples of these are rent for the facility, assuming the same facility and some absolute unit of time like per year or per quarter, and the cost of the equipment for the business. Variable costs increase as production increases. Examples are electricity costs and salaries, assuming that more man-hours are required for the increased production.

Economies of Scale: The average cost of output decreases as the number of units produced increases. Note that this is a relative decrease in cost and not an absolute one, e.g., the total cost to produce 100 units is not more than the total cost to produce 500 units. This phenomenon shows up for various potential reasons. Some possibilities are as follows: the increase in production will correspond to an increase in raw materials purchased and this can produce a discounted price from the supplier for the larger order; as the number of the units increases, the fixed costs of the business get averaged over a larger number of products, which in turn means each product bears less cost and on average is cheaper to produce.

Economics of Scope: The production of more than one type of product by the same manufacturing facility allows for benefits to both units that would not be achieved by producing the two products separately. An example of what this would look like is a company which produces both televisions and blu-ray players sharing the same marketing or sales team. The cost of sales for both products is therefore distributed over just one sales division and there can even be benefits from bundling these two products together into the same sales team.

Value Chain: This refers to the chain of activities that a firm must pursue in order to produce a valuable service or product for the market. This is a very high level view of a firm’s operations and can be divided into primary activities and secondary or supporting activities. The primary activities relate directly to the product or service and are ordered as follows: Inbound Logistics → Operations → Outbound Logistics → Marketing and Sales → Service. The second activities are designed to support the firm’s primary activities and are listed as follows: Firm Infrastructure → Human Resource Management → Technology → Procurement (of raw materials or services).

That should give you some insight into how a firm works, but there is more to come. Next week I will be continuing with topics in business strategy.

Brad/Chad

Crossword

Across
1. Limited in size or scope
6. Zeal
10. Deselected
14. Kind of fairy
15. Stem of a tree
16. Impersonate
17. Assumed name
18. Item of footwear
19. Compass direction
20. Withstand
22. Nocturnal insect
24. Librate
25. Helot
27. Blandish
29. Relating to heraldry
30. Song for solo voice
31. Psyche
32. Ashen
33. Epoch
34. Precipitation
35. Similar or related
36. Tournament for amateurs and professionals
37. Three note major or minor chord
38. Large woody perennial
39. Smaller in size, amount or channel
40. Shower with love
41. Lodge
42. Singing pair
43. Summarize briefly
44. Evil spirit (folklore)
45. Mix up or confuse
46. Rend
47. Redact
48. Fuss
49. Portable shelter
50. Fuss
51. Public speaker
52. Embellish
53. Seer
54. Circuit
55. Fruit of the oak
56. Noisy riotous fight
57. Run off secretly to marry
58. Uncommon
59. Frozen water
60. Utter
61. Leg joint
62. Pale
63. Geographically
64. Small island
65. Cervid
66. Dispose of to a purchaser
67. Condensation
68. Quality of voice
69. Finish
70. Large wooly plant
71. Tournament for amateurs
72. Festival for weaving yarn
73. Tightly twisted cotton thread
74. Afresh
75. Tall woody perennial grass
76. Organic compound

Down
1. Box lightly
2. 1,760 yards
3. Center point of rotation
4. Communication channel
5. Smaller in size, amount or value
6. Flow out
7. Textile machine for weaving yarn
8. Remote in manner
9. Stinging plant
10. Simian
11. Cook with dry heat
12. Publish
13. Discourage
14. Litigate
15. Assumed name
16. Male red deer
17. Test
18. Item of footwear
19. Song for solo voice
20. Male red deer
21. Holy person
22. Withstand
23. Male red deer
24. Holy person
25. Male red deer
26. Hold
27. Perform
28. Mariner
29. Song for solo voice
30. Currency of South Africa
31. Drink
32. Café
33. Watch tower
34. Judge
35. Publishers
36. Public speaker
37. Inside
38. Marriage
39. Female relative
40. Shower with love
41. Devotee
42. Mural
43. Summarize briefly
44. Evil spirit (folklore)
45. Fuss
46. Rend
47. Redact
48. Fuss
49. Portable shelter
50. Fuss
51. Public speaker
52. Embellish
53. Seer
54. Circuit
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73. Tightly twisted cotton thread
74. Afresh
75. Tall woody perennial grass
76. Organic compound

Answers to previous Sudoku

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

Answers to previous crossword

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
...
Dear Students of Hogwarts,

In recent years I have served as your Potions master, as your Defense Against the Dark Arts professor, and now as your Headmaster. In these roles, I have learned that effecting change at Hogwarts typically requires a clear answer to the question, “Professor Snape, why are you doing this to us?”

Alumni of Hogwarts occupy prominent positions throughout the wizarding community and often become alarmed when changes to time honored traditions of our institutions are proposed, even if these are the traditions most likely to be taken advantage of by miscreants. However, after deep consideration, I have realized that important questions need to be raised regarding the houses of Hogwarts. As you all know, the sorting into houses is carried out by the sorting hat using the spell of Gail and Shapley to access the magical powers of initiates to Hogwarts before they have become full members of the institution. We must ask whether this is a violation of the Decree for the Reasonable Restriction of Underage sorcery and we must ask whether it causes harm to the students to which it is applied. Such a suggestion should not be made without evidence.

Therefore consider this. There are two houses of Hogwarts which we shall from now on refer to as X house and Y house. You might ask why we must refer to these houses as X house and Y house. It is because of MERPA, the Magical Education Rights And Propriety Act. MERPA which has recently been passed by the Ministry of Magic requires that whenever we discuss the happenings at institutions of magical learning, whatever we say does not convey any useful information. The beauty of referring to these houses as the X house and the Y house, is that whatever I say, it will not be possible for you to determine which houses I am referring to.

Students in X House are highly likely to have a proper appreciation for the dark arts. They are more likely than students in other houses to have an aptitude for potion making. Their careers often turn to positions of serious responsibility within the ministry of magic. Students at Y House are unlikely to possess any practical magical skills preferring to leave their marks on Hogwarts on the quidditch pitch. If they go on to serve in the ministry at all, it is in insignificant postings like the muggle artifact department, and they’re just as likely to take jobs in joke shops. A member of such a muggle institution as the UCLA football team is just as likely to have a significant impact on the future of magic as a member of the Y house.

The impact of belonging to X house and Y house is disparate and the available data do not indicate that this is caused by any other demographic factor. It is not because of differing proportion of muggle-born or pure-born in X house and Y house. It is not because the students in Y house all like to party while the students in X house spend all their spare hours reading arcane tomes in the Hogwarts library.

I have often said to my introductory potions classes, “Few of you will ever come to appreciate the gentle art and subtle science which is potion making.” What I always meant was that students would not come to appreciate it because of their own failings, but now I see it is because the insidious sorting hat has placed them in Y house. Is it fair for us to do this to underage witches and wizards through no fault of their own?

If you have constructive ideas about how to stop the sorting hat from destroying the art of potion-making, please drop me a line at snape@hogwarts.edu.