

Limits on Free Speech: The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

NEZIR ALIC
Contributing Writer

A troubling pattern in U.S. political discourse has once again bubbled into immediate view, manifesting itself in recent weeks through the proposal of a controversial new legislative measure and the dismissal of a recurring CNN contributor. These events, among others, should deeply concern all members of society who like to think they share the values of free expression and access to accurate information.

The U.S. has long maintained a close relationship with the State of Israel. This alliance has allowed for the development of pro-Israel lobby groups including the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, and for such organizations to amass significant influence in U.S. politics, ranging from domestic to foreign policy. In fact, the National Journal at one point determined AIPAC to be the second most effective lobbying group in Washington, D.C.

This influence is what led, in mid-December, to the appearance of the Israel Anti-Boycott Act, a bill that several lawmakers attempted to add into the end-of-year omnibus spending bill that needed to pass to avoid a government shutdown. This bill would punish American companies that choose to participate in the Boycott, Divestment,

Sanctions movement. The BDS movement is a Palestinian-led call to boycott products made in Israel or that support the Israeli government, divest from Israel, and call upon elected officials to place sanctions on Israel until it ends the occupation of the West Bank, Gaza, and the Syrian Golan Heights, gives its Arab-Palestinian citizens full equality under the law, and recognizes the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes.

Civil rights organizations including the ACLU raised vehement objections to this sort of censure on political advocacy. American politicians are quick to pride themselves in supporting the freedom of speech and the right to voice grievances. However, the Israel Anti-Boycott Act, which enjoys widespread bipartisan support in the House and Senate, is an attempt to quash peaceful expressions of discontent, flying in the face of the aforementioned democratic ideals. For this reason, the fact that this bill reached a stage where it was seriously discussed by lawmakers, and nearly came to pass, is not only alarming but also indicative of the increasingly dangerous and self-destructive extent of our country's support for Israel.

A second, perhaps even more startling occurrence, is that of the recent firing of CNN commentator

Marc Lamont Hill. At the annual United Nations event observing the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, he delivered a speech in which he criticized various aspects of Israeli policy with regards to its treatment of the Palestinians. Specifically, he lamented Israel's systematic use of military violence towards civilians in Gaza, decried the state's liberal use of physical torture on detained Palestinians — detainees that are denied fair and impartial trials — and condemned 60-plus Israeli laws that deny equal rights to Palestinian citizens. Above all, his speech emphasized the urgent need for immediate action in order to bring an end to Israel's glaring, atrocious human rights violations, violations that, as he stated, "are well-known and have been well-documented by every credible human rights organization in the world."

Within 24 hours, Marc Lamont Hill was no longer under contract with CNN. Although the major media network declined to comment further on the reason behind their decision, the ensuing uproar from various pro-Israel organizations preceding the announcement of his firing seems to imply that the news channel felt pressured to dismiss an employee who voiced disapproval and criticism of Israel. Examples of

the sorts of objections that constituted this outcry include the Anti-Defamation League's statement, "Those calling for [a free Palestine] 'from the river to the sea' are calling for an end to the state of Israel," and that of the National Council of Young Israel: "With his racist views and unabashed denigration of Israel, Dr. Hill does not deserve to be given any sort of platform that facilitates the dissemination of his bigotry.... We call upon CNN... to fire him immediately."

The content of such exclamations is not only entirely and incontrovertibly factually inaccurate, but it is also presented in an incendiary manner with the express purpose of forcibly shutting down and silencing one side of the argument. This is accomplished, and sadly, has been accomplished in the past, by defaming and demonizing any individual that dares critique the state of Israel. Anything short of unflinching support for Israel is routinely conflated with anti-Semitism in a mass campaign to manipulate the information absorbed by the American public and thereby fog its view of the true nature of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. These efforts create a warped narrative in which the plight of the Palestinians is ignored, and conjured in its place is the concept of a victimized Israel. The

result is a normalization of colonialism and apartheid from a country that sees Israel as its proxy or mirror image in the Middle East.

What does this mean, for mere university students who appear to have no direct means of alleviating the situation? It means joining the BDS movement. It means that we must use our education and awareness to inform others, to fight this stream of misinformation. It means using our privileged positions to speak out for those who do not have a voice, and it means choosing our political representatives accordingly. It means recognizing and calling out the conflation of anti-Zionism with anti-Semitism for what it is, an aggressive attempt at invalidating support for Palestine, while acknowledging that anti-Semitism is on the rise globally and allying with anti-Zionist Jews. As difficult as it may be to be optimistic about this issue, there is hope if people realize the unacceptable nature of the status-quo and take action. In our lifetimes, Palestine will be free, from the river to the sea.

E/N: This article has been modified from its original form to fit this newspaper's stylistic, journalistic and ethical standards. In particular, a common anti-Semitic conspiracy theory was removed.

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ARC Minutes

Meetings are every week in SAC 13

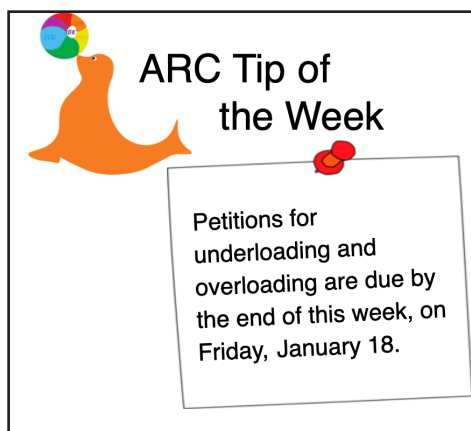
ARC Meeting Minutes – 1/13/19

Present: Erika Salzman, Kavya Sreedhar, Arushi Gupta, Tanvi Gupta, LC Chen, Shubh Agarwal, Noah Yared, Alex Reeves, Daniel Neamati, Michael Yao, Alejandro Lopez, Alice Jin, Nathan Suri

Submitted by: Arushi Gupta

1. New design for the ARC website!
2. Course Capture
 - a. Trying to capture Ma 121b this term
3. Ombuds Training
 - a. Will be scheduled soon
4. Course Compliments
 - a. Continue submitting compliments for professors
5. Software seminar
 - a. Will probably be on Mathematica this term
6. Retreat recap
 - a. Introduction to Research page on ARC website
 - b. List of grad students' projects
 - c. Will decorate olive walk bulletin board soon – giant QR code
7. SFC
 - a. Special committee topics have been announced
 - b. Sign-ups for special committees are out now – deadline to sign up is Wednesday at midnight

The ARC website at arc.caltech.edu has more information about what the ARC does if you are interested. We meet every Sunday at 2pm in SAC13 and our meetings are open to everyone! If you have any questions, please feel free to email esalzman@caltech.edu.



ASCIT Minutes

Meetings are every week in SAC 13

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes for 13 January 2018. Taken by Rachel Sun.

Officers Present: Sakthi Vetrivel, Erika Salzman, Sarah Crucilla, Varun Shanker, Irene Chang, David Berger Maneiro, Rachel Sun

Guests: Alejandro Lopez

Call to Order: 8:13 PM

President's Report (Sakthi):

- Midnight doughnuts will happen on the 7th week of term. We will be filling strawberry doughnuts.

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Erika):

- SFC special committee topics were sent out today. If anyone would like to join a committee, fill out the form sent in the email by 1/16 at 11:59 PM. If anyone has any questions or comments, email Erika.

V.P. of Non-Academic Affairs (Sarah):

- Transition is coming up for presidents. IHC is focusing on wrapping up old issues from last year and internally evaluating rotation to give the new IHC a good basis for discussion.
- Still working with Orange Watch; discussing an incentive structure for the program and making sure the program is better than last term.
- IHC had a VPSA meeting last week.

Director of Operations (Varun):

- Will be buying new equipment and furniture for the ASCIT screening room this coming weekend.

Treasurer (Irene):

- Working on reimbursements.

Social Director (David):

- Ice skating event (at the Pasadena Ice Rink) is happening at the end of January.

Secretary (Rachel):

- Nothing to report.

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.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:44 PM

Upcoming Events

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

The Upcoming Events column serves to inform students of upcoming events. The list is compiled by the Editors-in-Chief from information available around campus.

How Learning Works: Creating Inclusive Environments in STEM (and Everywhere)

Monday, January 14th | 12-2 PM | Beckman Institute Auditorium

Decades of higher education literature have documented how the classroom climate can be "chilly" for various groups of students. We now have evidence that a chilly climate has an adverse impact on learning and other outcomes. In this workshop, we will use the principles of learning from the book *How Learning Works: 7 Research-Based Principles for Smart Teaching* as a lens of analysis, focusing on how climate can impact the major determinants of learning. We will explore the research behind these claims, use the theories to ground our discussion of classroom case studies from STEM and other fields, and develop ways of creating an inclusive and productive climate for all students.

PART OF TeachWeek Caltech, a campus-wide celebration of teaching and learning, featuring events and discussions with Caltech faculty and students, as well as distinguished guest presenters. All events are open to the entire Caltech community.

Book Lovers' Soiree

Monday, January 14th | 7:30 PM | Athenaeum

The evening book group meets on the second Monday of the month. We gather for a casual, informal discussion of the selected book from 7:30 to 9:00 pm at the Rath al Fresco during the summer months or the Rathskellar during the school year. Feel free to join us on a regular basis or just drop in occasionally for a particular book discussion.

January 14 - A Piece of the World by Christina Baker Kline

Contact Sonya Wierman sonyawierman@gmail.com

Off Campus and SURF Exchanges Information Sessions

Tuesday, January 15 | 12 PM | Noyes 153

Lunch provided.

This sessions will provide information on how to obtain an off-campus or international SURF and review the application process for the SURF Exchange programs at the University of Iceland and Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology. The same information will be shared at each session.

Contact Student-Faculty Programs sfp@caltech.edu

Caltech Library Workshop: You and Your Thesis

Wednesday, January 16 | 2 PM | Sherman Fairchild Library 328

This class will give a brief overview of techniques useful in the production and publication of Caltech electronic

theses, including tips on formatting and submitting. It will also touch on intellectual property considerations and access, as well as thesis dissemination policies. Additional topics may include author identification (ORCID) and preservation of thesis-related research data.

Register: <https://libcal.caltech.edu/event/4845070>

JPL SURF Information Session

Wednesday, January 16 | 7 PM | Noyes 147

Come and meet scientists and engineers from JPL who are looking for SURF students! This is a great opportunity to hear about their research and get some one-on-one time with a possible mentor. Reminder: Only U.S. citizens and U.S. permanent residents are eligible to SURF at JPL. Dessert provided.

Contact Maria Manzanares mmanzan@caltech.edu at 626-395-2885

SURF Perpall Speaking Finals

Thursday, January 17 | 1:30-4:30 PM | Cahill, Hameetman Auditorium

Join us as our finalists compete for the final prizes in the Perpall Speaking Competition - a competition for students who have participated in the SURF program. Our finalists were selected based on their presentations at Seminar Day and a previous round of semi-final competitions. Caltech faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend.

Schedule and speakers:

The schedule is as follows:

Time Schedule
 1:30PM WELCOME
 1:35PM Logan Apple
 1:55PM Ben Cassese
 2:15PM Kriti Devasenapathy
 2:35PM Luke Finnerty
 2:55PM BREAK
 3:10PM Sara Fish
 3:30PM Gokul Gowri
 3:50PM Lily Kitagawa
 4:10PM Eric Moreno
 4:30PM RECEPTION & ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

For more information, please phone 626-395-2885 or email sfp@caltech.edu

Contact Maria Manzanares mmanzan@caltech.edu at 626-395-2885

Let's Talk

Friday, January 18 | 3 PM | Jorgensen 126

Let's Talk is a chance for students to have brief, informal, and confidential chats with Counseling Services staff. You can ask questions, troubleshoot concerns, find advocacy opportunities, and learn about campus resources. It's not a substitute for formal counseling and is not considered mental health treatment. Let's Talk staff can listen to your specific concerns, help you problem-solve, and connect to resources both on- and off-campus that could be helpful to you.

Fridays 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM from January 11th - March 15th, 126 Jorgensen.

A Trip to Scandinavia

ANUSHKA RAU
Contributing Writer

Last year, I applied for and received Caltech's San Pietro fellowship to travel abroad. I chose to visit Scandinavia for its natural beauty and reportedly laid back culture. I visited Oslo, Haugesund, Bergen, Hellesylt, and Alesund in Norway; Stockholm and Gothenburg in Sweden; and Copenhagen in Denmark.

I thought Oslo was beautiful when I got there for its mix of modern glass and concrete buildings and older brick ones, but it ended up being the most similar place to America on my itinerary. One highlight was the Munch museum — the famous "Scream" wasn't on display, but many of his other works were, and there was some uniquely Scandinavian furniture inside to sit and recline on while you looked at the art. I also liked the museum of architecture — it discussed urban planning in Oslo and how their architecture was tied to the need for affordable and environmentally sustainable housing.

Haugesund was a very sleepy city, but I visited to take a day trip to the Karmoy beaches — white sand beaches in Norway! When I went, it was cloudy and rainy, but that made the walk more picturesque — and there was almost no one there. I did meet some sheep, though!



The Karmoy beaches. Photo courtesy of Anushka Rau.

Bergen was the opposite of Haugesund — it was crowded with tourists. I went to the iconic fish market and harbor, and walked around the city to see its street art. I also went on a glacier hike a few hours from it — this was probably my favorite part of the trip! We clipped in about ten people to a rope (so no one falls into a crevasse) and walked up and down the ice — we could see a fjord from it and I got my first sunburn because

the reflection off the ice was so powerful.

I visited Hellesylt next — the town had a population of about 2,000 but it had a beautiful old church and a waterfall and it was right on a fjord, which made for an amazing view to sit and have picnics. I took a day trip to the Geirangerfjord to hike up for the view of the whole fjord — it was stunning to watch the clouds roll in over



A view of Bergen from the top of Mt. Floyen. Photo courtesy of Anushka Rau.

the water.

Alesund is known for its art nouveau buildings — they were all brightly colored and it was fun to walk around the street and look at them. I only stayed a day, as I was passing through on my way to Stockholm.

Stockholm had very interesting history, and both its old and new towns were pretty. I visited the original H&M and Ikea, and the Vasa museum — it was a 17th century warship that sank in the harbor on its maiden voyage and was salvaged, almost intact, 300 years later. It was amazing to see such a well preserved and large ship from that long ago — the sculptures and details were still obvious. I went to the "hipster" neighborhood, Sodermalm, which had, among other eclectic stores, a combined barbershop and bookstore.

Gothenburg felt more residential than the other places

I visited, but I went to a bustling shopping and dining street in the old town. It was fun to feel like a local and window shop. Then, I took a ferry to Styrso island — a small picturesque island off its coast. I did a hike there and enjoyed the views of the forest and other islands.

Copenhagen was my favorite stop of the trip — the city felt vibrant and, although there were a lot of tourists, still retained its charm. I swam in the harbor and went to the Glyptoteket art museum — the museum had a courtyard and its architecture was almost as beautiful as the art inside. I also went to Tivoli Gardens — the inspiration for Disney world! I loved seeing the old amusement park attractions and lights, which made the atmosphere magical.

Thanks so much to the SanPietro family and the FASA office for making this trip possible.



The Karmoy beaches. Photo courtesy of Anushka Rau.

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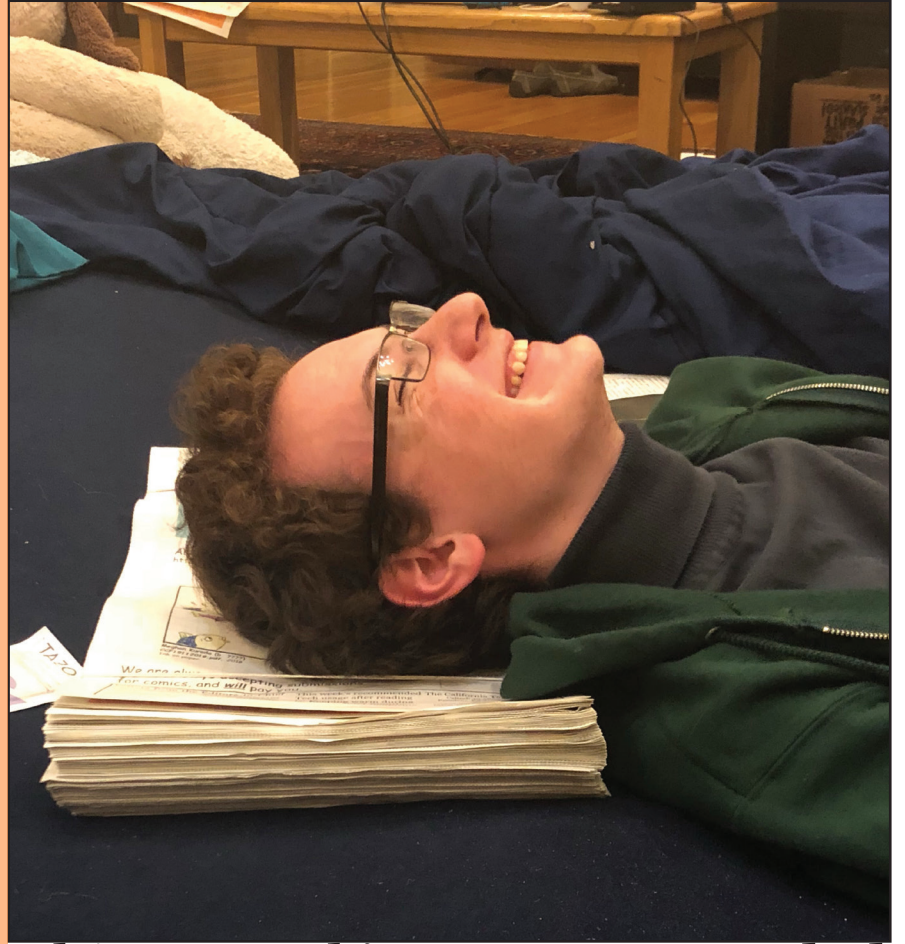
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To apply contact: Ed Brown at edbrown@caltech.edu



This week's recommended Tech usage after reading was brought to you by a dedicated reader.

Photo courtesy of Logan Apple.

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Peng's 25 Nearly Puts Caltech Over La Verne

GOCALTECH.COM
Actual Sports Content Editor

LA VERNE, Calif. (Jan. 9, 2019) – A big game from junior guard Grace Peng (San Ramon, Calif. / California) brought the Caltech women's basketball team within two points of winning its first SCIAC game of the season for a third-straight time at the University of La Verne on Wednesday evening.

Peng lit the Leopards up from all spots on the floor with 25 points on 11-of-19 shooting and a 3-for-4 night from beyond the arc. The total is the highest single-game number for a Caltech women's basketball player this season. The junior played the entire game and added three rebounds and a pair of assists to help the cause. Peng's final scoring play brought the Beavers within two points and came on a steal she took coast-to-coast for an easy two points. The point guard particularly began to heat up in the second half where she scored 15 points.

Caltech improved tremendously in the turnover department, committing just 10 giveaways, less than half of the prior game's total. Thanks to its dynamic backcourt and senior center Elizabeth Eiden (White Plains, N.Y. / Holy Child) in the middle, the Beavers outscored the Leopards by 20 points in the paint. Eiden had a strong game with 14 points and eight rebounds and junior guard Samantha D'Costa (San Jose, Calif. / St. Francis) came off the bench to provide the Beavers with eight points, 11 rebounds and four assists in 25 minutes. Caltech countered La Verne's system-based approach with some quick possessions of its own, which led to an explosive third-quarter, vaulting the visitors back within two points of the lead.

Head Coach Bridgette Reyes and the Beavers will be seeking their first SCIAC victory of the season when they travel to Whittier College this Saturday at 5 p.m

Schneider's Big Shot Puts Caltech in SCIAC Win Column



High five!

Photo by Bob Paz.

GOCALTECH.COM
Actual Sports Content Editor

PASADENA (Jan. 9, 2019) – A pair of late three-pointers from sophomores Spencer Schneider (Houston, Texas / Clearbrook) and Gokul Srinivasaragavan (San Ramon, Calif. / Dougherty Valley) gave the Caltech men's basketball team its first SCIAC win of the season over the University of La Verne on Wednesday evening.

The Beavers trailed the Leopards by five points with just 80 seconds remaining in regulation. In need of some quick baskets, Caltech turned to Srinivasaragavan to create his own shot. The sophomore put a great move on his defender and connected on a three-pointer from near the top-of-the-key to cut the deficit to two. The Beavers then picked up one of its biggest stops of the season when junior Ross Carter (Sudbury, Mass. / The Rivers School) got his third and final block of the game to put the home team back on offense. Eight seconds later, Schneider drilled the game-winning shot off a great pass from freshman Noah Barnes (Springfield, Va. / Jefferson), prompting the Caltech defense to come up strong one more time in a situation very familiar to this year's team.

"My shot was in transition," Schneider said. "Both sides were kind of scrambling and with Noah having the great game tonight gravity shifted toward him and I was able to hit the shot. This is why we practice and play the games and I think the pressure moments are the most fun part about this."

The familiarity with the end game situation ultimately put the Beavers over the top against a talented, though inexperienced La Verne squad. So far, all of Caltech's wins have come by four points or less and the Beavers remain unbeaten in games decided by three points or less. The end-game stop came naturally, almost like clockwork to Barnes and the Beavers, with the freshman heading up the home team's scoring with 17 points to go with three rebounds and three assists. Sophomore guard Marcus Gee (Santa Monica, Calif. / Santa Monica) seconded Barnes with 15 points and a standout defensive

game with six rebounds and four steals. Srinivasaragavan scored seven points off the bench and has become as seasoned to the end-game moment as any of his teammates with a trio of crucial end-game baskets under his belt a year-and-a-half into his Division III career.

"I was on the left wing and Ross set a great pick that led to me getting open," Srinivasaragavan said. "I practice that shot all the time and happened to make it this time. I also want to thank Coach for playing me and knowing he has confidence in me only instills more confidence in me too."

While the team has been more accustomed to high-scoring affairs, the Beavers tweaked their offensive approach after going into the locker room with a first-half deficit, becoming more selective and opting for high-percentage plays and leaning on its defense to carry them. Wednesday marked Caltech's lowest-scoring win of the season, and the Beavers managed to find a way to win despite being outshot and outrebounded. Careful attention to detail with the basketball contributed to the win, as the Beavers committed just nine turnovers to the Leopards' 16. Just as importantly, Caltech made its SCIAC foe pay with 15 points off turnovers, good for more than one-quarter of its winning point total.

Caltech's repeated experiences with late-game situations have quickly given a young team an added experience edge against similar teams and could continue to aid them throughout the rest of its conference schedule.

"What the team is learning is that by sticking together good things can happen," Eslinger said. "Each game may not always go how we think it will, but if we keep doing the right stuff daily then good things will happen. It can be something as simple as a subtle action at a particular time. Everything matters to the whole."

Eslinger and the Beavers will hit the road on Saturday, Jan. 12 when they will look to get a winning streak going at Whittier College.

SCORES

January 9, 2019

Women's Basketball at La Verne

L 54-56

Men's Basketball vs. La Verne

W 52-51

Emotional Well-being Series

2019

FEBRUARY 6
GET MOVING WITH
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FEBRUARY 13
EMOTION REGULATION
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FEBRUARY 20
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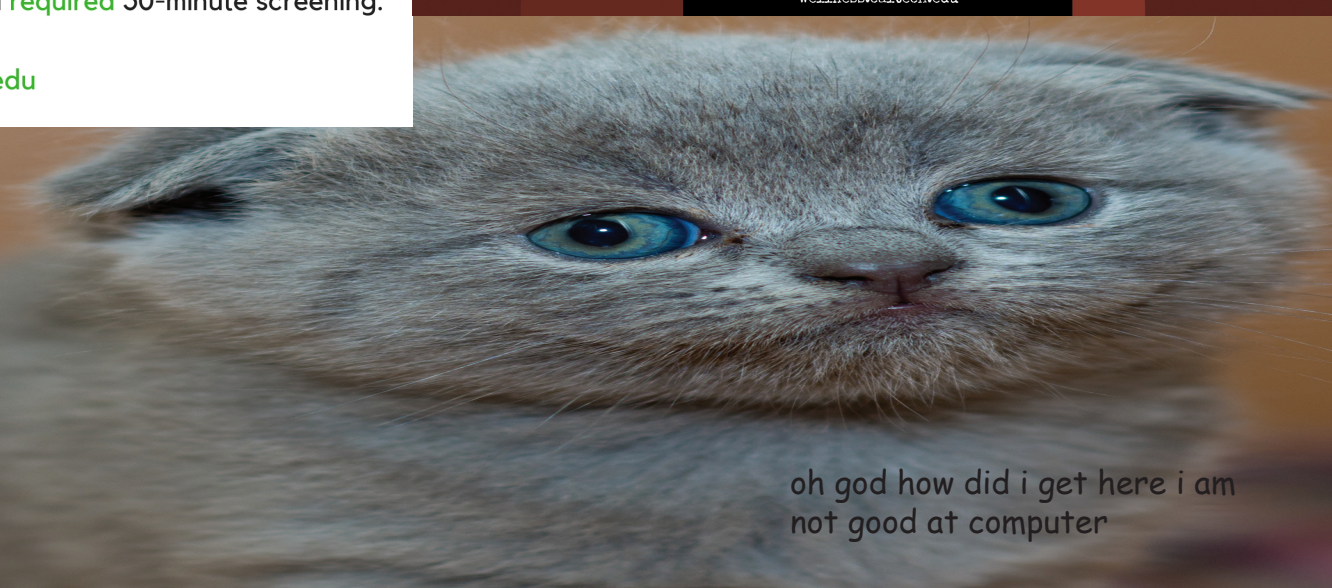
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Mathdoku (KenKen®)

How to play Mathdoku (KenKen®):

1. Each box contains an integer from one to the number of boxes on a size. (4 for a 4x4 puzzle and 6 for a 6x6 puzzle)
2. Every row and column must contain exactly one of each integer.
3. The integers inside each cage (enclosed by bolded lines) must give the target number when combined with the operation shown.
4. Single box cages have no operation and just give the integer inside the cage.

Puzzles from Caleb Sander. Thanks!

| | | | | | |
|-----|----|------|-----|-----|----|
| 2+ | | 240× | | | 2+ |
| 9+ | | | 12+ | 30× | |
| 7+ | | 5- | | | |
| 60× | 2- | | | | 4 |
| | | 24× | 2- | | 1- |
| | 6 | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|------|----|----|------|-----|----|
| 30× | | | 36× | | 4 |
| 120× | | 3- | | | 1- |
| | 9+ | | 120× | | |
| | | | | 10+ | |
| | | 6 | 3× | | |
| 13+ | | | | 7+ | |

Diagramless Crossword

The diagramless crossword is similar to a standard US style crossword except in this puzzle there are five main differences:

1. You start with an empty 17x17 grid and are required to block out the unused cells yourself.
2. The clue numbers in the upper left corners are not filled in, so you have to figure out which cells are the correct ones and write in the clue numbers in small print.
3. The word lengths are not given, but all are at least three letters long.
4. The completed grid will form a pattern with rotational symmetry.
5. Every white cell forms part of an Across and a Down answer.

I'm back and ready for action!

Hint: 1 Across starts at Row 1, Column 8

Across

1. Watch pocket
4. Aromatic wood
6. Confined to an enlightened inner circle
9. Man, in short
10. Ooze
11. Primitive marine animal
13. In the past
14. Litigate
15. Mariner
16. Irritate
17. Belonging to him
20. Public transport
22. Apprehend
23. Colony insect
24. Fruit seed
25. Mischievous fairy
28. Around-the-clock
31. Make a mistake
32. Automobile
33. Female deer
34. Wrath
35. Pull a face
37. ___ out
38. Chart
39. Country, initially
40. The night before
42. Haul
44. Animal companion

45. Male sheep

46. Part of a play
49. Consumed
50. Mountain
51. Farm
53. Beverage
54. In good health
55. Way in
57. The items there
58. So far

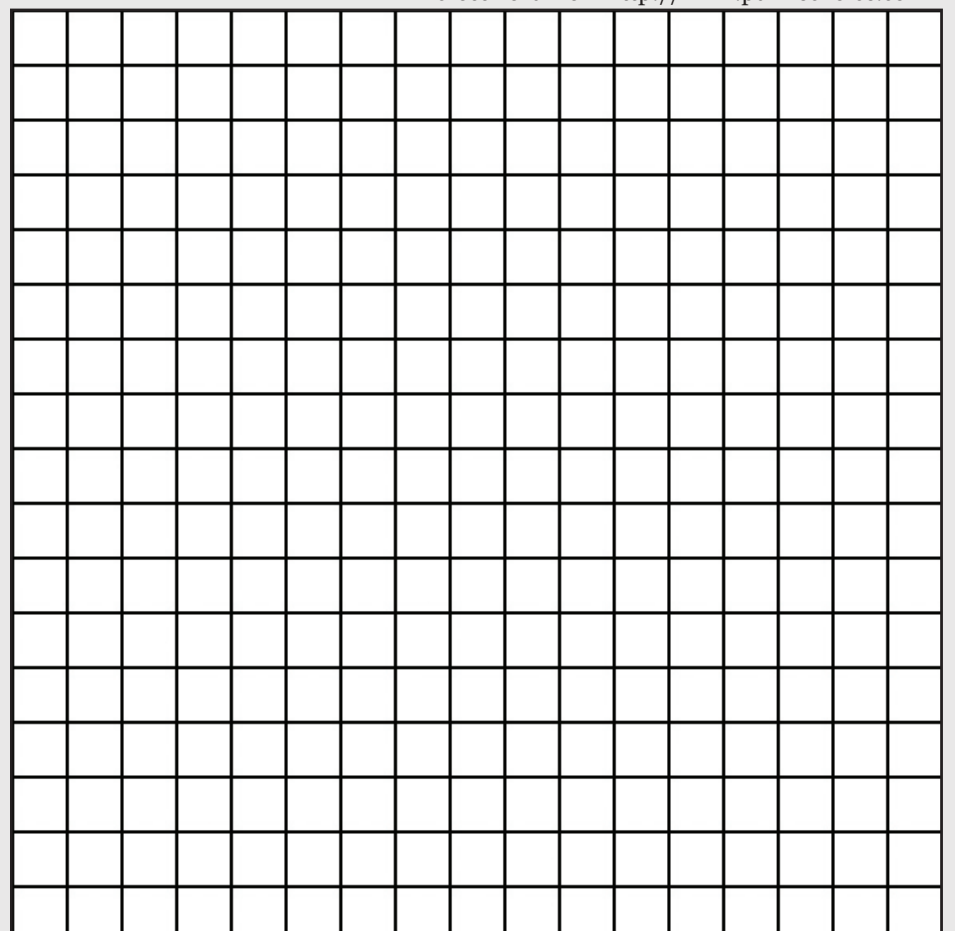
Down

1. Shackle
2. Poem
3. A good buy
4. Latin American dance
5. River boundary between the US and Mexico
6. Self
7. Transmitted
8. Collection of recipes and directions
11. Sudden unexpected event
12. Leguminous plant
14. Rider's foot support
17. Possesses
18. Imply as a possibility
19. Retention
21. Mineral
24. Wooden pin
26. Separate by soaking
27. Rife
29. Requirement
30. Liveliness and energy
36. Floor covering

41. Fellow feeling

43. Small piece of cloth
46. Shocked
47. Lifting equipment
48. Mineral used as a powder, in short
52. Indicating maiden name
56. Fish eggs

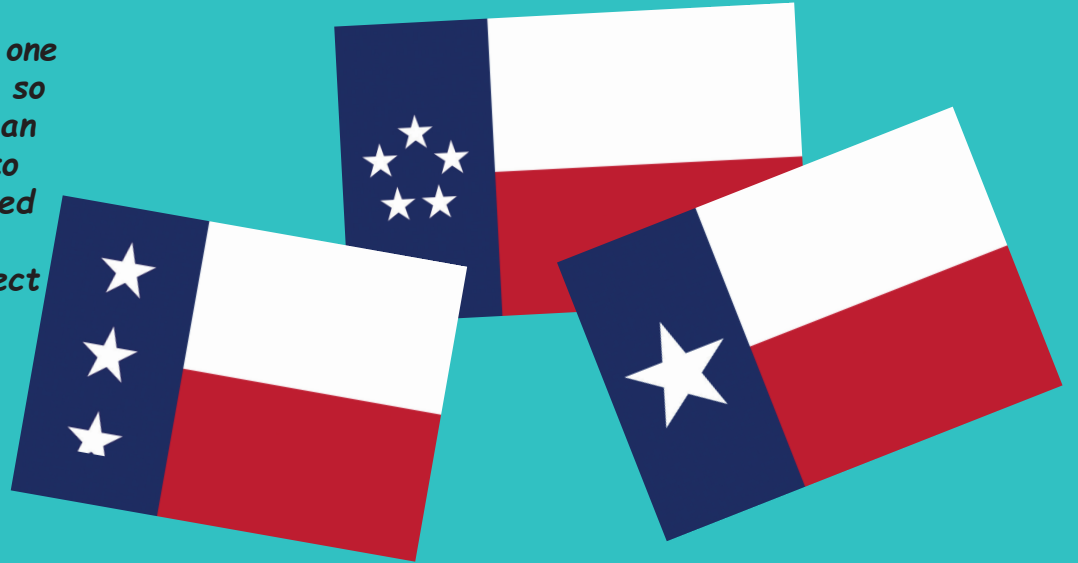
crossword from <http://www.puzzlechoice.com>



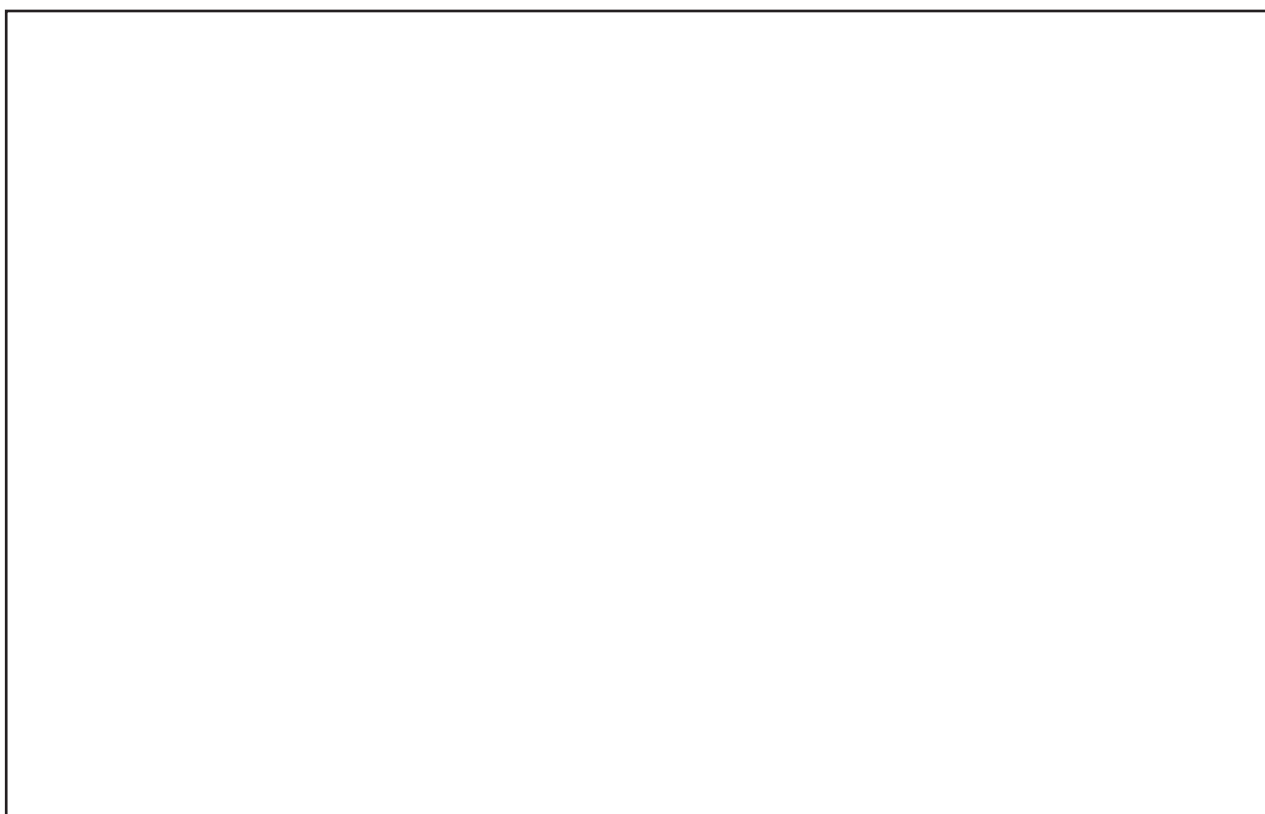
Former Five-Star Republic Turns Lone Star State

C. Dozen

Texas used to be a 5-star republic, but one hotel critic was robbed while staying there, so they downgraded Texas to a Lone Star. In an effort to convince the hotel ratings board to reinstate its other stars, it joined the United States, but Congress has refused repeated requests to allow a nickname change to reflect its current rating of 2.87 stars.



Answers to Puzzles and Crossword:
<http://bit.ly/2FwtLVF>



???? (b. ????)
 Error 404, Null
 Ink not on paper.

The California Tech

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We are always accepting submissions
 for comics, and will pay you.

Letters from the Editors-in-Chief

Amrita Rhoads: Sleep is a blessing.

Sophie Piao:

Milan Roberson: in the words of my favorite anti-Zionist Jew: jesus christ

Dan Xu: I was under the impression that Senior year was supposed to be more relaxed...

This week's recommended The California Tech usage after reading is: pillow!

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