IS COVID-19 A PLOT TO END THE HOUSE SYSTEM AS WE KNOW IT?
Giuseppe Cowherder | Featured Story

In a word, yes. Think about it. What else, thinking critically here, could COVID-19 stand for other than the obvious sinister acronym: “eradication Of Vibrant Isn’t-a-Dorm culture”-1? The 19, of course, symbolizes not only the average age of a Techer (according to our poll taken by students in the randomly selected course Ma 002), but also the collision of digital beginning (i) and end (9). COVID-19 marks the last gasp of the IHC, and the start of the all-powerful reign of the force known only in hushed tones between Techers as an exclusive and email-communicatively elusive group with an ominous name: BOOTY HOUSE.

As coronavirus sends us all cowering in our homes in obedience of social distancing, our real homes – the Houses – sit empty and forgotten. Even the lucky few granted permission to stay on campus have been shuttled from their colorfully muralized abodes to the white-walled, looming concrete Residence in the Far North.

THE CALIFORNIA TECH BURNS DOWN IN A BLAZE OF GLORY
Kenny Thai | News

Two weeks ago on March 17, a true tragedy hit Caltech’s campus. In the process of being delivered across campus, hundreds of issues of The California Tech independently spontaneously combusted in the hands of our staff. Fortunately, no one was harmed as a result of the standard-issue fireproof gloves each distributor was issued the night before. Curiously, the lighters and highly flammable oil packets that were issued at the same time were nowhere to be seen following the event.

In the following minutes, page editor Kenny Thai ran downstairs to the editors’ room with the goal of re-submitting the issue to the printer in an attempt to ensure that the biweekly publication deadline would be met. Unfortunately, this attempt was in vain because when he arrived, he saw smoke coming out of the editing computer, slowly filling the entire room with high levels of psychoactive substances that dispersed through the South Hovses’ ventilation system and set off the fire alarm, awakening a number of students. Further investigation of the California Tech room revealed that the source of the smoke was a small piece of metal lodged inside one of the computers. "We don’t know how and we don’t know why, but we know for sure it was that hot rivet that caused all of this," fire officials reported following the investigation.

RECORD NUMBER OF STUDENTS SPEND TIME OFF CAMPUS
Michael Rose | News

Despite the term beginning a week ago, an unusual behavior has been seen among Caltech students this weekend. The once busy libraries are now almost entirely empty. The courtyards and dining halls are desolate. No students can be overheard discussing sets or how long they have spent on said sets. So, naturally one must ask, what is the cause of this sudden change in behavior?

Upon interviewing the turtles in the turtle pond, we have uncovered that almost everyone is off campus. This represents a new record in the number of students who have been off campus in one weekend during term. One can only wonder what they are up to with so many off campus. Presumably, they are out in LA socializing and enjoying a nice weekend before classes on Monday. What a wonderful picture.

I think you should click this Not Suspicious Survey Link™: https://tinyurl.com/wewouldnevertrytotrickyou
You’ve packed up all of your stuff, and it has been moved off campus. You’ve said goodbye to your friends and RA’s, and are now off to new places and new adventures. But you have forgotten someone; someone who has been there for you no matter what. On the darkest of nights, they were still there for you: the opossum. And guess what, they miss you.

At the end of the day though, they will grow bored of what they have made of your room. Fitness plans only last so long. Eventually, they will make it into a home theater, and the gremlins will join in. Even those trees are not as spacious as they look.

WHAT THE OPOSSUM HAS DONE WITH YOUR ROOM

Michael Rose | News

With the recent transition to virtual schooling thanks to the unfortunate COVID-19 Pandemic, the Institute is fighting more than just technical difficulties along the way.

“With everyone stressing over coronavirus, it’s all the worse that our lovely, talented, amazing, kind-hearted, cool PA’s are miles away. Who else am I going to complain to at 2 in the morning?” complained one distressed PA in training, remarking on the fact that physical visits to Caltech Health and Wellness Center and Peer Advocates are no longer possible.

To combat this sudden lack of mental health resources, the Institute has decided to formally endorse a convenient replacement that is immediately accessible to both undergraduate and graduate students.

Formerly known as “Caltech Confessions,” the newly minted “Caltech Virtual Community Counseling Service” allows students to anonymously vent about whatever their heart (or lack thereof) desires.

With over 5000 statuses already posted, it seems an excellent system is already in place.

“There is no reason why this won’t work,” comments one student on the renaming, “Several people find this [Caltech Confessions] a perfectly acceptable platform for counseling: some already use it as therapy.”

The added benefits of this formal transition include no longer having to speak to an actual human being, not having to move from in front of a comforting computer screen, as well as being able to air your dirty laundry in view of the rest of the student body. Combine this with the newfound ability to rant with the purpose of that certain someone being able to read it, and suddenly you’re Jay Gatsby in the middle of the roaring 20s.

There will be absolutely no added features to the website itself, with the conspicuous exception of “Welcome to the Shit Show” superimposed on the page’s banner.

Administrators were unavailable for comment.

*Disclaimer - While this entire newspaper is satiric, this article especially should not be believed. Your PAs and Wellness services are still there for you.
CHEM LABS TO MOVE TO INTERACTIVE TWITCH PLATFORM
Robert Goldberg | News

The onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting nationwide shift to distance learning have forced Caltech professors to adapt on the fly, and nowhere is this more evident than in courses with a laboratory component.

Consider the cases of Chem 3a and Chem 3x, introductory chemistry labs required as part of Caltech’s core curriculum. Taught by Prof. Jeff Mendez, both rely heavily on in-person interaction — working in the chemistry lab is an experience all Caltech students share. “Some aspects of this experience simply can’t be recreated this term,” lamented Mendez. “Because of time zone differences, we won’t be able to ensure that all students in morning lab sections will experience the sleep deprivation that is so integral to this course.”

Despite these setbacks, Ch3g TA Ty Treyson says they have finally found a good virtual substitute: Twitch Plays Chemlab. The concept was inspired by “Twitch Plays Pokémon,” an interactive Twitch stream launched in February 2014 that allowed users to interact with a game of Pokémon Red by typing commands in the chat. Ch3g students will be able to control the actions of a TA in real time with commands not unlike those used in Pokémon, such as “select” to toggle spectrometers on and off or “start” to pause and check lab drawer inventory. “My personal favorite command,” confessed Mendez, “is ‘q,’ which just automatically drops the class.”

The new platform comes with new concerns, however. “I’m aware that there is the potential for trolling to occur,” admitted Treyson. “On the other hand, this kind of conflict in chat is a pretty good representation of the uncertainty and confusion that have always been part of the Ch3x experience.”

Thanks to the tireless work of Mendez and the TAs, other aspects of the courses have been preserved as well. “The original Twitch Pokémon stream ran 24 hours a day, but that’s not feasible in our case,” explained Mendez. Instead, he has decided to require attendance in the stream past the end of the 3 hour block, so that students can still have the experience of arriving late to any lectures they may have immediately afterwards.

As for students who are concerned that the actions of their peers will drag down their technique grades, Treyson says not to worry. “Technique scores have always been randomly generated, so nothing’s changing there.”

THE CALIFORNIA TECH BURNS DOWN IN A BLAZE OF GLORY
Kenny Thai | News

| From Page 1 |

When Thai was allowed to return to the room, he was shocked to find that the final version of the week’s paper was nowhere to be found. In fact, all documents pertaining to that issue of the Tech had vanished without a trace from the computer. Even the online copies of the stories used for the issue had disappeared from the file sharing service Google Drive. The issue notably shared the findings pertaining to that issue of the

MIT ALUM THOMAS MASSIE DELAYS VOTE ON COVID-19 RELIEF BILL
Devin Hartzell | Politics

Notable MIT Alum and Kentucky Congressman Thomas Massie incited outrage over his refusal to submit to a voice vote during the passage of the $2 trillion stimulus bill, forcing lawmakers from all over the country to reconvene in order to reach quorum.

Massie famously earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering and a Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the esteemed Massachusetts Institute of Technology. According to The Tech, Massie participated in the MIT Solar Car Club during his time at MIT, and later won the famous 2.70 Design Competition, led by Prof. Woodie Flowers, one of the founders of FIRST.

While at MIT, Massie founded SensAble Technologies, a start-up company which marketed a touch interface for computers, kickstarting his political appeal. He was elected to congress in 2012.

Massie’s move to force a roll-call vote forced lawmakers from all over the country to rush back to Washington after initially going home for a recess. His actions were widely condemned by high-profile figures on both sides of the aisle. Former Secretary of State John Kerry (D) tweeted, “Breaking news: Congressman Massie has tested positive for being an [expletive],” while President Trump called the Congressman a “Third-Rate Grandstander” in a tweet.

This isn’t the first time Massie has shown the Value Of An MIT Education. Last April, he taunted Kerry for receiving a Political Science degree from Yale, calling it a “pseudoscience.” According to an NBC News headline, this led to his “genius rep tak[ing] a hit.”

This time, others complained that his action not only wasted taxpayer dollars, but put their safety on the line. Rep. Dean Phillips noted that $200,000 in taxpayer money would be spent to send the House back to Washington. However, Massie may have a point: his constituents elected him to fight for a certain philosophy of governance; he deeply believes what he’s doing is right. Besides, in an ideal world, the stimulus is significant enough to warrant a roll-call vote.

COMMENCEMENT TO BE HELD IN MINECRAFT
John Robertson-Mollaard | News

In an email sent to students over the weekend, President Rosenbaum announced that this year’s commencement ceremony would be held in the popular multiplayer sandbox game Minecraft.

“Under these circumstances, it is necessary for the Institute to do all it can to recognize the accomplishments of our graduating seniors,” the email said. “The infinite possibilities in Minecraft reflect the high ambitions and creativity of our graduating class. Furthermore, as a scientific institution, the technical aspects of the platform are similarly fitting for the occasion.”

“While human injuries resulting from the event were minimal, all contributors to the issue had vanished without a trace from the file sharing service Google Drive. The issue notably shared the findings pertaining to that issue of the..."
**The Gamer's Guide to Social Distancing**

Norman Chung | Health and Safety

If you're living through the same trying times that I'm living through, you've undoubtedly heard of social distancing measures. Staying at least 6 feet away from other people, self-quarantining at home, having an online third term – all of these things are to ensure that COVID-19 doesn't allow our health-care systems to be overwhelmed at any given point in time. Social distancing is hard for a lot of us, and a lot of the time it's nothing but a burden to work with. Enter the masters of social distancing, with their tried-and-true expertise: gamers. In this article of the Tech, I would like to impart the gamer's social distancing wisdom to you, dear readers, in the hopes that we can all effectively be socially distant.

If you want to be a top-tier, socially distanced gamer, you need an appropriate gaming lair. From the social distancing point-of-view, if you're going stuck at home in a self-quarantine, you have to have a place where you can comfortably spend hours of your time gaming the day away, right? From the gamer point-of-view, if you can create for yourself a place where you can get in the zone, then spending hours flexing on the enemy team with your pristine gaming mechanics in a MOBA/EPS, finishing a building project in a sandbox game, or solving that one difficult puzzle in an action-adventure game will be a breeze. It sounds like what goes into making the perfect gaming lair? Well, with the wide variety of gamers out there, there's no one-size-fits-all definition for “perfect.” Maybe you’re a minimalist. Maybe you’re on a budget. Maybe you’re hardcore. Whatever the case may be, here are some pro-gamer tips to make your perfect gaming lair:

- **Your room’s an awesome place to game!** That being said, if you want a separate gaming lair, ask yourself what you like/dislike about your room and try to emulate that in the environment where you want to game.
- **Adjustable lighting.** Sometimes, you want to game in the darkness like the edgelord you are, and sometimes, you want to game like you work: in a well-lit, peaceful environment. Changing between the two won’t be a problem if you’ve got the adjustable lighting to boot.
- **A comfy gamer chair.** Ease your lower back and make yourself comfy so that whatever you decide to play, you can play optimally.
- **Decor.** Whether it’s your favorite video game characters immortalized on posters and figurines, cute plushies adorning your desk, or no decor at all, customizing your lair is sure to get you deeper into the zone faster.
- **Decent hardware.** It’s all the more satisfying to be a gamer you’re truly immersed in!

With a decent gaming lair, staying in one place all day and getting away from people will be as easy as finishing a tutorial!**

PROPOSAL: 8 PAGES, 8 HOUSES

Kenny Thai | Editorial

Since its inception, The California Tech has always prided itself on being a publication by the students, for the students. In recent years, however, the truth of this statement has diminished, as the number of contributors has declined in recent years. The editors constantly struggle to find enough content to fill eight pages, even with the new biweekly deadline. With even the most recent term of editors spending less and less time in the submission window despite their unprecedented large numbers, it is clear that the current model of The Tech is not sustainable. Additionally, even readership is at a low. A recent report by Joshua Pawlak demonstrated an extremely low click-through rate for a QR code embedded in the paper.

To solve these problems, I am proposing an overhaul of the content sourcing. The California Tech is a simple “8 Pages, 8 Houses” plan. Under this plan, each of eight 11-inch by 17-inch pages would be allotted to each of Caltech’s eight main houses. Each house would be required to provide the layout and curate the content of their respective page by a set biweekly deadline. The houses will be paid for their work similarly to how community articles are paid out under the current system, but they could also be fined for late or nonexistent submissions.

Additional pages would be added for The Tech’s required printing material, including ARC and ASCIT minutes, sports content, and advertisements. One or more “unaffiliated and other submissions” pages could also be added to continue submissions under the current system and for those that would prefer to distance themselves from the house system. In total, it would allow the possibility of creating more page papers.

This plan has the potential to greatly increase student involvement with The Tech, curb the editors’ problem of extremely late submissions, provide a new income source for the houses, and make each of the houses less insular. As a current Tech Editor, I personally endorse this solution.

Kenny Thai is totally not just writing this to reduce his workload

**You can help make a change by filling out this anonymous survey:**

https://tinyurl.com/8pages8houses

(No, this isn't an abuse of my pow-er as page editor. Why do you ask?)
WHIPPANY, NJ -- A study published Monday in The Journal of The American Statistical Society found that world leaders’ hair is just regular men.

The study, which was made up of publicly available data, concluded that in the vast majority of cases, world leaders’ hair is nothing more than vanity.

“The fact that the world leaders’ heads are littered with hair is no indication that they are anything other than ordinary men,” said lead author Dr. Thomas Cooke, adding that the evidence suggests they spend most of their time looking at their own faces and nodding, and their hair is used as a decoration, not a reason to bother. “In fact, it’s quite likely that they’re just regular men trying to look as good as possible in front of the mirror, trying to make themselves appear more attractive and human, and their hair does not in any way alter their basic human nature.”

According to the report, the only occasions in which world leaders’ hair is mentioned in connection with the subject of hygiene are in a context of supporting small talk, such as the frequency with which they mention the importance of brushing one’s teeth, or the fact that they have a dog that follows them around.

“It’s not like they’re short or anything—they’re just regular, everyday men,” Cooke said. “They don’t have any more needs to be cleansed or shampoo’d or anything like that.”

The authors of the study, which are based at Princeton University, told reporters that the data indicates they are more than 80 percent confident that the remaining 20 percent of world leaders are in fact just regular men.

This data clearly indicates that the world leaders are just ordinary people, who don’t have any special needs to be cleansed or sprayed or anything of the sort,” said lead author David Hickey, who noted that the majority of the world leaders did not have a different haircut or body hair in the apartment they shared with their families. “In fact, even the most obsessively hair-obsessed countries, like Saudi Arabia and, on and on so on, Iraq, probably don’t even have any hair.”

In fact, this data strongly suggests that the only real reason for the hair is that it’s hair,” Hickey added.

The data also suggest that most of the hair is actually part of a man’s head, and that the rest of the head is dust. The authors were unable to determine the source of the hair, however, due to the world leaders being covered in a thick layer of hair that obscures their faces.

**AMAZON SKYMALL**

Kenny Thai | Columnist

It’s been a while, but we’re finally back even bigger and better than ever before! And we mean that quite literally with this week’s selection of items! For the uninitiated, every time we publish this column, there will be a raffle for one lucky reader to get an item of their choice from the three listed here. Enter this week’s raffle using this QR Code:

![QR Code](image)

1) **Tosnail Non-stick Giant Cupcake Pan**, $14.99

Ever find yourself pondering what to bake? Got all your ingredients but don’t know what to do with them? Well is this the product for you! This pan is a simple solution to making bite-sized snacks for the whole family! (That is, if your family can consume a seven inch wide cupcake in a single chomping...) You might even feel guilty enough about having us buy this for you that you’ll give my fellow Tech Editors some free cupcakes! (*nudge* *nudge*)

2) **Fun Inc Giant Toothbrush**, 15 Inch Red - Wonderful Comedy Item, Gag, or Plain Old Novelty, $7.20

With the world in full panic in the midst of the coronavirus outbreak, we here at The California Tech would like to make sure that all our readers stay sanitized. We know this can sometimes be a struggle, so we’re giving away this great time saving measure! With bristles taking up well over twice the surface area than that of a normal toothbrush, you’ll find that you can spend less of your life brushing and more time writing for The California Tech!

3) **SOTOGO 12 Pieces Large Giant Wiggle Eyes with Self Adhesive for Craft Making, 6 Sizes, $9.99**

Are you trying to J U M P S C A R E your friends with a new prop? Wanna make people second-guess themselves before stealing from your stash of eggs? Trying to discourage people from using that sex dungeon you just so happen to share a wall with? All these problems and more can be solved with a pair of googly eyes! Why settle for just one pair when you can have six? Also one of the pairs of eyes are seven inches in diameter cuz why not?

4) None of the above, $0.00

Want to support the writer of this column? Pick this option to let me pocket the money I get from writing it instead of having to re-invest it every week!

**Write for the Tech!**

And maybe next time we won’t just have submissions from Moles and Darbs!

TECH@CALTECH.EDU
In this episode of South Park (“Make Love, Not Warcraft”), the
teachers try to think that you, Charles E Cheese, are the one who
makes children be kids? Are you really implying
Chuck? Do you really have the complete arrogance
that children cannot have a childhood without you,
DACTED\] does that even mean? Are you implying
ENTERTAINMENT CHEESE
REGARDING CHARLES ENTERTAINMENT CHEESE
That One Darks™️ | Opinion
Alright, current thoughts on Charles Entertainment Cheese.
This son of a [REDACTED]dude, stage cap-
italism mother [REDACTED]er is really out here
free, that is how the charcoal or black tar, and
crude children who don’t know any better and who will spend
all their tokens playing that one goddamn Wheel of
Fortune game that doesn’t even [REDACTED]ing
ever. I can see you, I’m [REDACTED]a kid
[REDACTED]. Tired of looking at these tall mfs look down at me. I
wish I was like the trees, tall and mighty over every-
thing and everyone else. But if I was a tree, I would
not be so arrogant like the trees are. Look at them.

They are looking down on you. And the worst part?
I know for a fact that we can’t kill all these trees.
We NEED them. We need them for oxygen and they
know this and it adds to their ego. They scoff at our
reliance on them. They laugh at our pathetic attacks
to destroy some of them with forest fires because
they know they are essential to our livelihood! I hate
it and there really is no good solution! I just [RE-
DACTED]ing hate trees.

The roots of this discrimination run deep, and
cannot be tied to any one factor. Part of it is likely a
spillover from the antiquated discrimination against
“nerds” as a group, but it is not the whole sto-
y.

The Hollywood elite смараки players by portraying them with Adam
Sandler (Pixels, 2015).

To research this piece, I have hours in gamer
gatherings, known colloquially in the community as
“LAN parties.” Though I was not an adherent, mere-
ly sitting and listening was a profoundly moving
experience. (There is some truth in the argument
that we pundits spend too much time speaking
and not enough listening.) I saw sharp communi-
cation between the teammates in the room, infor-
mation-dense gaming terms leaving their mouths
like bullets. I witnessed their hands sweep across
the keys, mouses moving in swift circles. Contrary
to the stereotypical image of the uncoordinated
people, these reflexes seemed heightened to almost
superhuman levels when they were in the zone.
When they got kills and cheered in triumph
I felt obligated to cheer with them, pulled along
in the tide of triumph. When they suffered losses and
raged I found myself yelling. When they lost I had
to choke back tears.

It is our responsibility to understand gamers not
as some monolithic outsider, but as humans who
simply share in a different culture. It is our respon-
sibility to create a more fair and accurate portrayal
of gamers in media and entertainment instead of
simply indulging in twisted caricatures. Perhaps
we do not do this out of malice, but out of ignorance.
But then we have a responsibility to educate our
selves; ignorance is not acceptable when it results
in the oppression of others. I do not claim that we
must join their culture or go on some cultural im-
vasion quest, but we should at least strive to un-
derstand. We need to break the cycle of hatred. It is
what we owe each other as fellow humans.
2. Unnamed Dreamworks Live-Action Adaptation

After the success of Disney's stunning live-action adaptations of classic films, it was only natural that DreamWorks would come around in due time. But it was still a surprise to everyone when DreamWorks Animation president Margie Cohn announced production had begun on a live-action version of one of their properties. "Live-action is the way of the future," Cohn said. "We have the technology, we have the audience; we just need the film."

Cohn, and the studio as a whole, have so far been mum on what film is being adapted. Some have theorized that they will start with more human-centric films such as *The Prince of Egypt* (1998) or *The Road to El Dorado* (2000), allowing them to lean less on excessive computer graphics. Others have argued that an adaptation of Shrek could be a new dawn for the old franchise, similar to the effect of *Shrek The Musical*.

However, photos leaked in the past week of Jerry Seinfeld in motion capture shots have hinted that Dreamworks might be planning something bolder, and adapting one of their most inventive and controversial films: *Bee Movie* (2007). If this comes to pass, we can't say it's the wrong move, as it has been this reviewer's long-held belief that *Bee Movie* is, paradoxically, DreamWorks' most human and relatable film. But regardless of what movie they adapt, this is an undeniable step forward, and I can't wait to find out how much brighter the future of DreamWorks might beccum.

3. Shrek 5: The Revelation

After the brilliance of *Shrek Forever After* (2010), the fans yearned for a sequel. Now, after nearly a decade, it seems that the light of our Savior has finally breached the clouds. *Shrek 5: The Revelation* is the culmination of DreamWorks' longest and most beloved franchise. Envisioned as a swan song to Shrek's tale, Jeffrey Katzenberg has revealed the movie will answer, "how Shrek came to be in that swamp," a question that has burned in viewers' minds since the first movie was released.

Early reports have drawn comparison to the recent *Avengers: Endgame* (2019), mainly due to its over-three-hour runtime. The film will not only tackle Shrek's origin story, but will also include time travel, alternate universes, and cameos by characters across the DreamWorks canon (most notably *The Boss Baby*). Director Cohn has stated that he was interested in a more psychological and philosophical approach, explicitly calling it "the Beautiful Dreamer of the Shrek franchise." He has hinted that the death of some major characters is not off the table.

All of the main cast will be returning, barring the late Eddie Murphy, who will be replaced by Samuel L. Jackson (*Coming to America, Shaft*).

4. The Emoji Movie 2: Eggplant Peach

I'm not one to beat a dead horse, but it has to be said: *The Emoji Movie* (2017) was a singular event, a once-in-a-generation occurrence. Very few animated films have made such a large impact on the industry, and we're still feeling the vibes it created today. It is no exaggeration to say that this film is what established Sony Pictures Animation as a worthy competitor to the powerhouses of Disney and DreamWorks. (Its snubbing at the Academy Awards is also one of the biggest insults in film—but that's a topic for another day.)

So you can understand that the hype for the sequel is at a fever pitch. Featuring the return of all past cast members and director/writer Tony Leon-dis, we could be seeing an event for the ages. While information so far has been scarce, reportedly the film will focus on the emoji characters entering the Internet, providing a much-needed commentary on the modern web-based culture. For those yearning for more of Patrick Stewart's Poop character, never fear—his role (and, of course, the toilet humor!) have been doubled in the new film.

Of course, all this hype runs the risk of leading up to a severe disappointment. Just look at the *Star Wars* prequels. We can only hope that this will, once again, prove to be a welcome surprise in an otherwise uninspired age.

5. The Last Airbender: Book 2: Earth

Visionary director M. Night Shyamalan made waves recently after announcing the long-awaited sequel to his visionary 2010 adaptation of Nickelodeon's *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. Coming off hits like *The Happening* (2008) and *Lady in the Water* (2004), The Last Airbender was an instant hit among fans and newcomers alike for its awe-inspiring special effects, brilliant choreography, and bold approach to the source material.

All of the main actors will be returning for the sequel, along with some new faces. Most notably, the cast will now include critically-acclaimed actors Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson and Meryl Streep in the roles of Toph Beifong and Azula, respectively. Hopes are high that Shyamalan will once again find that perfect balance of humor, drama, and artistry that made the original show so acclaimed.

When asked about his plans for handling the main character Aang's heavier arc in his adaptation, Shyamalan responded, “You’re pronouncing his name wrong.”
JESUS CHRIST Vampire Hunter: An Unexpected Masterpiece

Kenny Thai | Movies

Jesus Christ Vampire Hunter (2001) is an experience unlike anything else you will witness in your lifetime. This 2001 action film pits Jesus and his followers against a horde of bloodthirsty vampires, who have devised countermeasures for the quantum mechanical properties of light which would normally keep them at bay. The vampires of this movie are unusually selective with their victims, exclusively targeting lesbians for reasons that initially elude even the omniscient Jesus. Will Jesus survive the onslaught of vampires that are after him? Can he save an entire city’s worth of lesbians? Will the romantic subplot end happily? Well, of course everything’s going to be resolved! This is a literal god thing we’re talking about.

This movie’s titular hero, the re-reborn Jesus Christ, is not above divine intervention in this new era of his second coming. In fact, he performs a number of feats which are arguably more impressive than his initial miracles throughout the course of the film’s first musical number. (Yes, you read that right. This film is also a musical.) The Lord is also quick to adapt to the much different modern situation of sexual politics, which the film addresses at length. He even dismisses the homophbic practices of a local Christian church, declaring that “the church should learn to leave judgement to higher powers.” The version of Jesus this movie presents exemplifies the traits which allowed him to grow his following to the billions across the world.

Despite the divinity of the film’s protagonist, the vampires still pose a major threat to both his life and his standing as a religious figure. “You really haven’t done anything they haven’t, m’lord. You rose from the dead, so did they. You promised eternal life, so did they. But they offer so much more power!” claims one of the vampires. The conflict of the movie boils down a battle of ideals as Jesus must answer some of the deep philosophical questions surrounding his religion, addressing what it truly means to be worth worshipping what it means to hold the divine rights he obtained... nah, just kidding! This movie is first and foremost a kung-fu movie, providing a much needed spotlight on an aspect of Jesus’s life that went ignored in the Bible: his spectacular martial arts prowess. His dexterity, strength, and ingenuity are more than adequate to take down the hordes of vampires that want him defeated. He takes this same common sense approach to dispatch the atheists which independently challenge him. Throughout the course of the film, he demonstrates that his combat abilities rival or even exceed that of his strongest follower, the legendary undead Mexican luchador El Santo. And yes, El Santo does appear prominently in the film as well. It’s only natural for the man that named himself the saint to be a loyal follower of the man he worshiped.

All in all, Jesus Christ Vampire Hunter’s top-down cameo is not as its title suggests the stardom and stellar production value all combine to make it a must-watch for anyone looking for a good time. The film is full of surprises, and its many twists will not leave you disappointed.

What’s your favorite food? My favorite food is always tomato sauce. I’m pretty much omnivorous.

What do you do for fun? I just started seeing a movie about a young girl who was captivated by the world of science and by the fact that she was being raised by an American family. It was really moving to her family, the movie was about what it was like being raised in a German family. It was really moving to see that she had choices, choices that were free from the economic fears of being a girl and no longer being a slave. I think that many girls are raised with a lot of cultural hatred against being a girl. There are still not enough girls who are acceptingly being treated as a second class person. As a whole, I think that women are feeling more marginalized than ever.

A CHAT WITH WAYNE DINUNZIO

Joshua Pawlak | Interview

Have you read the Letter to the Editors thanking you for your contributions?

Yes of course, and thank you for the kind words, Timothy. The reason why I continue to dedicate as much time I do to writing for the Tech is to inspire young minds like you, so hearing back from you has given me all the assurance I need to continue writing for the foreseeable future.

And... how exactly did you get access to our email account to do that?

(...)

[No comment]

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Timothy Honda

To the Editors of the California Tech,

I would like to praise you for another printing of this most esteemed newspaper. As mentioned in the “Letter from the Editors” section, “A college campus newspaper plays a crucial role in fueling student culture.” I couldn’t agree more, J. Pawlak and D. Hartzell. I would go so far as to say that the Tech is the cornerstone of our democracy. You are the eternal watchdog of the glorious California Institute of Technology, and your continued existence is one of the only things that gives my life meaning.

Enough with the effusive praise. The column I would most like to be linked to my attention to is the undisputed gem of the California Tech. I speak of no other than “Creative Writing” with Wayne Dinunzio, a man whom I have come to believe is no less than a literary genius. Few will deny that newspapers serve an important function in our communities. Well-written newspapers serve to inform and educate the populace on important issues and events; well-written newspapers also serve an important function in our communities. Well-written newspapers serve to inform and educate the populace on important issues and events;

consequently we rarely see any inkling of truly artistic writing in news publications. Dinunzio’s column is a breath of fresh air in this medium—it not only informs the reader, it makes the reader think.

From the moment I read Dinunzio’s first piece, “New Insights,” I knew I was witnessing something special. “Is it valid to question the legitimacy of something that has been thought to be illegitimate? What if the author intended it to be immoral? Should we have a right to our opinion, what if the object of our opinion is immoral or shameful? What if the object of our opinion is wrong?” These are some of the most powerful words I have ever witnessed, I am not ashamed to say I almost cried upon seeing them.

For this reason, Dinunzio’s column was the one I awaited the most in the second publication of the Tech under the new editor team. As soon as I got my hands on a copy, I flipped through the pages until my eyes fell upon the form of his name. I am glad to say that my anticipation was amply rewarded. If anything, his second column, “My Life,” was even more profound than the last. In contrast to the philosophical musings of “New Insights,” this piece used its introspective stream of consciousness to create an emotional narrative.

Wayne Dinunzio’s writing skills make him as a puppeteer, pulling my mind along on strings made of words and metaphor. How else can one characterize the swerves of emotion one feels when reading the lines, “My children were a major role in my life, but they were also a huge disappointment. They were no different from any other child I had.” So many contrasts and contradictions; how could they be different from “any other children [he] had” if these were his first children? Dinunzio leaves these questions open, enticing readers to dig deeper into his rich well of storytelling.

Dinunzio is a writer of such high caliber that he can casually drop ideas that could occupy entire books for lesser writers. “We are nominalists. We believe that there are six senses, but there are actually seven.” Any lesser writer would be content to explore this idea. For Dinunzio, this is merely one pretty shell on the endless shore available to him. He ends of course by giving us a sampler of queries that give us, the humble readers of the California Tech, food for thought until he is able to display his next shell. I eagerly await further issues of the Tech.

What is your favorite food? My favorite food is always tomato sauce. I’m pretty much omnivorous.

What do you do for fun? I just started seeing a movie about a young girl who was captivated by the world of science and by the fact that she was being raised by an American family. It was really moving to her family, the movie was about what it was like being raised in a German family. It was really moving to see that she had choices, choices that were free from the economic fears of being a girl and no longer being a slave. I think that many girls are raised with a lot of cultural hatred against being a girl. There are still not enough girls who are acceptingly being treated as a second class person. As a whole, I think that women are feeling more marginalized than ever.

What do you do in your job? I’m also an engineer and have been since I was a kid. I definitely have an interest in the environment and the ways that people can communicate. I’m constantly developing new ways to think about environmentally responsible markets, and how we can actually grow food without using more humane farming practices.

How do the animals in your care communicate? They all communicate through the same mechanisms that we understand. It is very clear-cut and very interesting.

A CHAT WITH W AYNE DINUNZIO

Joshua Pawlak | Interview

Have you read the Letter to the Editors thanking you for your contributions?

Yes of course, and thank you for the kind words, Timothy. The reason why I continue to dedicate as much time I do to writing for the Tech is to inspire young minds like you, so hearing back from you has given me all the assurance I need to continue writing for the foreseeable future.

And... how exactly did you get access to our email account to do that?

(...)

[No comment]