

Would You Buy A Used Starship From This Man? Photo by Owens

Three Ring Circus

Y Sponsors Conferences

by Schroedlu

This weekend is the Y 'Three-Ring Circus', with the all-day conferences on "The Impact of Genetic Engineering on Society" and the Planning and Conservation League's "Design for Public Lobbying." If for some reason you have not received a brochure for either of those events and are interested, get in touch with the Caltech Y (X2163). Advance registration is encouraged for both events; there may be large enough crowds for these events that you cannot get in at the door.

Three Rings?

The Genetics conference opens at 10:20 Saturday in the Humanities Lecture Hall, and Caltech's Dr. Robert Sinsheimer and California Senator John Tunney will give keynote speeches on the overall issues of genetic engineering. After lunch in the Athenaeum, Dr. Sinsheimer and Senator Tunney will engage in a dialogue with each other and the audience, also in the Athenaeum. At 2:30 p.m., the seminars will begin in the seminar rooms in Baxter Hall, loosely guided by scenarios devised by Caltech biologists. (Who gets cloned? Is a National Genetic Register an invasion of privacy? Who decides which genetic abnormalities will be 'corrected,' and how?) The subject is an explosive political issue, and the Y expects a great deal of public interest in this conference, one of the first public efforts to face the situation.

Would You Believe Two?

The Design for Public Lobbying features former HEW Secretary and Common Cause Chair-

man John W. Gardner in a keynote talk in Beckman at 9:30 a.m. Later discussions include various California environmental issues, and the discussants [sic?] include a large group of California state legislators and environmentalists, 'the largest such group ever put together under one roof,' one planner put it.

Other upcoming Y events include a Winnett Seminar next Tuesday, at 4:00 p.m., in which Suzanne Woolsey from HEW will talk on educational issues and job opportunities for women. Olive Walk concerts the next three Fridays will feature Steve Gillette, Lizzy Tish, and Chuck Mitchell, in that order, all at 12:25 p.m.

News Briefs

Professor Gomez In Accident

Techers will be happy to know that Professor Ricardo Gomez is now out of the hospital.

Last Wednesday night, while riding his motorcycle along Orange Grove, Dr. Gomez struck a tar bag that had been left in the street. He was thrown through the air and suffered skull injuries that caused him to lose consciousness for over five hours. He also fractured several ribs and received numerous cuts and scratches.

Dr. Gomez is expected to be able to return to the Institute within a few weeks.

Amateur Radio Club Elections

The Radio Club will hold its elections on Monday, May 8 at

IHC-BOC Proposal

Food Service & The Honor System

The most desirable characteristic of the Honor System is that it does not include a long list of rules and regulations — it consists of a single simple principle: no member of the Caltech community shall take unfair advantage of another member of that community. As a result, situations have arisen, particularly in the student houses, in which the administration through the Master of Student Houses has handled the enforcement of regulations which do not properly fall under the Honor System. The BOC and the IHC, therefore, have been seeking alternative ways to restore the process of peer-group judgement in these cases.

The BOC has long felt that "handed down" policy statements are unsatisfactory substitutes for the reliance on the trust that prevails in most areas

of campus life. Because of this, the Board is cautious when contemplating policy changes, and every effort is made to accurately reflect the opinion of the students. As a result of a recent examination of the relationship between food service and the Honor System, for example, the Board has decided that the Canteen food service will continue to fall under the "outside company" policy in the Honor System booklet. Important factors in arriving at this decision are that Canteen is engaged in making a profit from the students and that they are not bound by the Honor System themselves. The Board is not condoning ripoffs from food service, however; if services become more expensive as a result, we are the losers.

Because of this decision not to place Canteen under the

Honor System, the BOC and the IHC have looked at alternatives in which peer-group judgement will replace direct intervention by the Master of Student Houses in many other matters. As a result of these discussions the BOC and IHC would like to propose the following mechanism: The IHC will establish guidelines for enforcement of regulations which currently fall under the jurisdiction of the Master, and will be empowered to hear cases of misconduct which fall in these areas and make recommendations to the Master (in the same spirit as the BOC makes recommendations to the Deans in Honor System cases). If a person feels he has been treated unfairly, he will have the option of appealing to the BOC which will determine if any unfair advantage has been

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The CALIFORNIA Tech

Volume LXXIII

Pasadena, California, Thursday, May 4, 1972

Number 27

Frosh Snake But Orientation Goes On

by Ted Michon

Frosh Orientation, Part II came as scheduled last Saturday, but caught half of the frosh class snaking for unscheduled midterms gratuitously provided by Drs. Dickerson and Fuller. The event was similar to the first one held last year and its purpose was to provide frosh with information about the variety of options offered by the Institute's six divisions. The program got off promptly at 11:12:05 in Dabney Lounge with a few words from Director of the Office of Student Relations, Dr. Lyman Bonner, who then introduced representatives from each of the divisions. Speaking for Biology was Dr. Norman Horowitz, for Chemistry & Chemical

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Leonard Nimoy Speaks at Winnett On George McGovern, Star Trek

by Gavin Claypool

"What do you want to talk about, politics or *Star Trek*?" asked Leonard Nimoy — Mr. Spock to Star Trekkers — as he greeted an audience of two hundred eager listeners last Friday in an Olive Walk Talk. Nimoy was at Caltech as one of the many entertainment professionals who have set aside their personal ambitions for a common one: the election of Senator George McGovern.

During his fifteen-minute presentation, Nimoy spoke mostly about McGovern's campaign and his past primary successes. He described the senator as being the one candidate who has been forthright and consistent on the issues, citing his long-term opposition to the war.

"Muskie had the endorsers,

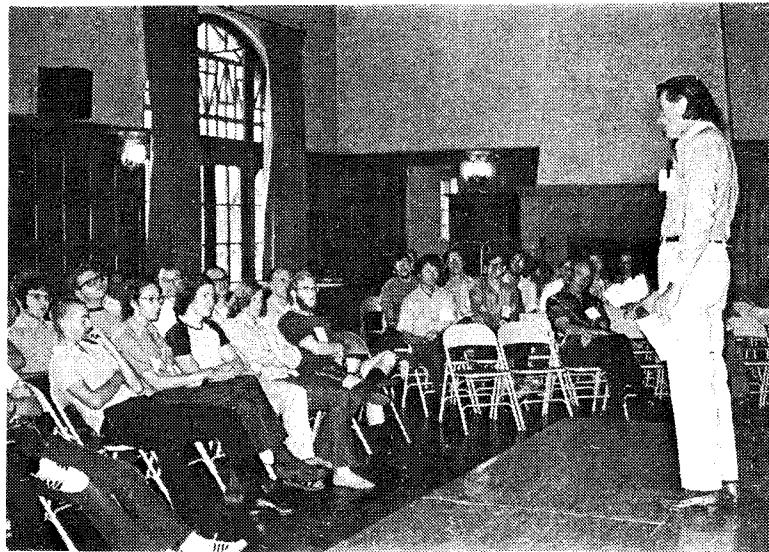
and McGovern had the workers," said the actor, explaining McGovern's upset victories over the "deceased" Muskie. He called the McGovern campaign a "grass roots" movement, and gave the example of a young worker he had ridden with in Illinois. The young man had receipts for campaign expenses marked clear back to New Hampshire, the site of the February primary — he was waiting until the money situation became easier before he asked for reimbursement.

Operation: Annihilate!

One of Nimoy's personal reasons for entering the battle was to get President Nixon out of office in January. He felt that McGovern has the best chance of any Democratic Party candidate to defeat the incumbent. When

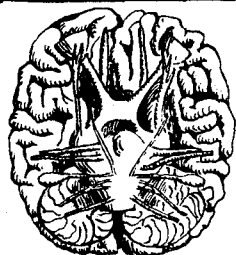
Continued on Page Six

11:12:05 A.M.



Dr. Bonner's Problem: How many frosh will fall asleep before they can eat their Stottlemeyers sandwiches? Answer: Don't bother to ask. Photo by Peisner.

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from the cerebrum

by Schroedlu

There seems to have been some confusion about my last 'Cerebrum' article. My arguments on lack of freedom were meant to refer to the entire field of science, not merely the environment of the Caltech undergraduate, although of course some of the circumstances I cited impinge upon the student sphere. In fact, it is obvious that Caltech undergrads are much more free now than they were six years ago, say. Anyone doubting this is invited to consider an Institute Bulletin from that time or earlier. (I am speaking here of academics, although the trend happens to be true in other areas as well.)

All this is not to say that undergrads are free enough. In fact, it is the claim of the student government leaders that Techers should be less restricted and more able to structure new and varied educational systems for themselves, and I agree. Caltech is a small place, and presumably will never be able to offer formal instruction in a large number of esoteric and relatively obscure (from the scientific point of view, anyway) fields, but above and beyond this constraint, there is still ample room for improvement.

One Man,

It seems odd that Techers are not trusted to structure programs for themselves. After all, if we cannot be trusted to make basic decisions for ourselves now, it's not clear why we should be suddenly considered competent to do so later. For that matter, non-college youth of our own age tend to be 'on their own,' if living away from their old families. It is hard to see why the 'future leaders of America' don't rate as well.

Apparently the more conser-

vative faculty members here feel that Techers, given a choice, will ignore the recommendations of their advisors and options. (After all, if Techers choose to follow the recommendations, there's no problem, is there?) Perhaps these faculty are right; after all, they should know how much their recommendations are worth. In practice, however,

It is difficult to generalize about experience with advisors. In three different options over three different divisions at Caltech, I have had almost no trouble with advisors whatever. They either accepted my program or had cogent suggestions if asked for advice. In only one single case did an advisor 'overrule' me; subsequent evidence indicated that we were both right. Other students have reported poorer interactions with advisors.

One Program

More to the point, perhaps, is the claim that Techers would use a less restrictive system to try to graduate from here by doing less work. It has been claimed that half of the Techers trying to get into the Independent Studies Program were doing so in order to escape Physics 2. Perhaps these charges are true, but I am inclined rather to blame poorly taught courses than difficult courses. Techers frequently take difficult electives, if the course is worthwhile or inspiring taught. Perhaps if the level of instruction were improved, there would be less complaint. This is especially true of Math 1 and 2 and Physics 1 and 2, which are frequently abominably badly taught. For some students, replacing these courses with Underwater Basket Weaving would result in little academic loss; replacement with good courses would result in far

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The opinions expressed in all by-lined articles are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the editors or staff. Only signed editorials at the left of this page contain the editors' opinions. (The first signer of each editorial is its author.) The Tech welcomes letters but reserves the right to cut those over three hundred words if such cuts will preserve the original meaning of the letter.

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NEXT WEEK:

OLIVER

the caltech forum

Dear Sir:

There has been considerable stir lately about the official opening next fall of the Pasadena School System's "Alternative School." Many people, however, are unaware that Pasadena already boasts one of the West's most exciting and successful such alternatives in the Sequoyah School.

In its recent series on innovative schools in this area, the L.A. Times (View, March 20th) described Sequoyah as a relatively structured "free school." The following passage from Charles Silberman's discussion of the new English primary schools (Crisis in the Classroom, Random House, 1970, Chapter 6) sums up pretty well what Sequoyah is trying to do:

Schools can be humane and still educate well. They can be genuinely concerned with gaiety and joy and individual growth and fulfillment without sacrificing concern for intellectual discipline and development. They can be simultaneously child-centered and subject- or knowledge-centered. They can stress esthetic and moral education without weakening the 3 R's. They can do all these things if — but only if — their structure, content, and objectives are transformed.

These assertions represent a statement of fact, not a mere expression of hope. Schools of this sort exist in the United States on a small but rapidly growing scale. . . . Sequoyah is one of them.

Sequoyah is not an experiment; it has been an on-going and successful school for the past ten years. It is changing, as its

community of children, staff and parents changes, simply because this community is the school. Sequoyah has no governing board; it is run by the parents together with an extremely able staff of 4 teachers and the Director, Stan Rich. The school includes about 50 kids, ranging from kindergarten through grade 7 levels, in two ungraded classes. The children acquire good academic training, but they get a lot more from Sequoyah as well — they tend to become out-going, enthusiastic, self-confident and good at handling new situations. A local junior high school math teacher told us recently she tries to arrange her classes with at least one Sequoyah graduate in each, because their life and enthusiasm make class more rewarding for her and the other pupils. It is this spark that the kids have, as well as the spirit of community among children, parents, and staff, that make Sequoyah unique in our experience.

Most of the people involved in Sequoyah, including ourselves, are pretty excited about it. We would like to see more interaction between the school and Caltech, because we feel that this would benefit both the Sequoyah and Caltech communities. Sequoyah can benefit those parents at Caltech who feel, as we did, that other Pasadena schools provide neither the kind of educational experience they want for their children nor adequate opportunity for parent involvement. Also, Sequoyah could be an outlet for Caltech students and staff who want to contribute constructively to the Pasadena community, and who would enjoy the stimulation of teaching

turned-on kids in an open environment.

The teachers and children at Sequoyah welcome help from outsiders in the classroom. Teaching children can be tremendously rewarding, as many Caltech undergraduates have found in the past few years through the ASCIT education project and the current secondary school program. This is one way that Caltech can contribute to Sequoyah: the school wants resource people to help teach math, physics, biology, geology, art, music, you-name-it, either in the classroom, at Caltech, or on field trips.

A number of Caltech people were introduced to Sequoyah last Saturday through the school's annual Spring Fair, put on each year by the parents and children as a benefit to help meet operative expenses. We'd like to thank the Dabney Band, Steve Watkins, and all those who attended for helping to make the fair a success. We also invite anyone who is interested in trying some teaching or just learning more about the school to give one of us a call — ext. 1902 or 793-9853.

—Bill and Renate Wood
Kerchhoff

[More Letters on Page Four]

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FRANKLY SPEAKING

by Phil Frank



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MISTRESS SOME OTHER TIME, SON!'

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Reporter's Notebook

Paul Gets Endowed Chair

by millikan j. troll

Dr. Rodman Paul has been invested with the Edward S. Harkness chair of history. He is the third to hold that endowed professorship, the only endowed chair in Humanities and Social Sciences.

The chair has a rather interesting history: until Dr. Paul's appointment, the post had been moribund for almost 20 years. The most recent holder before Dr. Paul was Wallace Sterling, who recently retired as President of Stanford. The original holder, William B. Munro, had been a professor of history and government at Harvard, and came to Caltech along with Noyes.

Enrollment: It Figures

Our most recent reports show that of 325 offers of admission Caltech sent out, 172 have accepted. Not all have replied, however, and the Admissions Office expects about 192 to accept when all of the returns are in. In the meantime, admission has been offered to 30 on the waiting list.

Caltech traditionally has a 70% acceptance rate; this year's figure is just under 60%. Speaking before the Faculty Board, Dr. Brown called the drop "significant," but did not speculate on what caused it. (Apparently, the phenomenon is not peculiar to Caltech: UCLA has actually been

recruiting students; the whole U.C. system has suffered a drop in enrollment of 4000 students. The California State colleges report even more drastic drops).

Hot off the Presses

The Faculty Board endorsed and sent on to the Faculty a proposal to create a Bachelor's Thesis. It would entail a minimum of 54 units of research, and would enable a student to graduate "with recognition for research." The proposal, if ap-

proved by the Faculty, would have to be implemented by action of the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Huttenback's last Genial Dean's Beer Blast will disturb the peace sometime in May. Will Margie the Elephant be invited? ... Quick stats on the attrition rate: of 208 matriculants in fall 1969, 67 have left for a total to date of 32% attrition (and that's not counting those taking more than 4 years).

ASCIT of Hugg

Class Offices Open

by Jim Hugg
ASCIT Secretary

Nominations for 1972-73 class officers are open. Elections will be held Thursday, 18 May, for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer for the upper classes. Also open for nomination is the office of ASCIT Social Chairman. Nominations may be submitted in Louise Hood's office in Winnett Center. Nominations will close Tuesday, 16 May, at 6 p.m.

Bylaws Change

Also appearing on the ballot will be the following Bylaws changes proposed by the ASCIT Excom:

(i) Replace ARTICLE IV,

Section 7 with "DUTIES OF THE ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN. The Activities Chairman shall manage the ASCIT movies program."

(ii) Delete ARTICLE XII, Section 3 (Honor Point Committee).

(iii) Delete ARTICLE XII, Section 5 (Activities Committee).

\$\$\$ for Frosh Camp

The student subcommittee for financing frosh camp at Catalina has found \$3K toward the \$3.9K needed to make up the deficiency created by the administration's budget cutting. Morin reports that the additional \$900 is forthcoming within the week.

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Down The Tubes

Down The Times

by Etaoin Schroedlu

Caltech has frequently been on page one of various newspapers for feats of scientific know-how, or whatever, but last Sunday's *Los Angeles Times* may have been the first paper in some time to carry Caltech on page one of the sports page. (Other than *The California Tech*, of course.) The article itself, on alley challenges, showed somewhat more publicity sense than accuracy (a prize to the person noting the largest number of errors, as n approaches height of millikan), but it was a good try.

The ice-block sliding idea was originated several years ago by the Apocalypse; in the original contest, the rider was permitted to wear only a bathing suit, and was not allowed to touch anything but the ice block. Note to Dale Dalrymple: the Millikan-walker was Ken Higgins, Fleming '70. Rumors had it that he circled the top of Millikan in 18 seconds one night. You can believe it or not, but if you should ever happen to meet Mr. Higgins, I'd advise that you not argue about it with him.

Anyone with a quick eye might have noticed by now that President Harold Brown is back on campus; he was sighted last Thursday. It is reliably reported that he will not be leaving campus again, except for occasional trips to Helsinki or Washington. How this differs from the past few years is beyond us. (It has not been reliably reported that he may accept a Cabinet position in November if the Democrats win the Presidential election, but

we've heard it, all the same.) I seem to recall a meeting of two years ago in which President Brown told student leaders that he would be leaving the SALT talk team as soon as a replacement could be found, and that he would try not to be away from campus as much in the future. Let us hope that this promise is finally being redeemed.

So They Tell Me Dept.

A typewriter is sitting silently in the P.R. Office these days. Janet Lansburgh has been in the hospital for an operation. Her friends hope her recovery will be swift and complete...

The Leonard Nimoy talk for McGovern drew quite a crowd last Friday, many of whom actually asked questions about McGovern. Still, *Star Trek* is not entirely forgotten, it seems. On the political side, it was refreshing to find someone who was not afraid to say 'I don't know' publicly when asked a question about a political issue, or in this case, about Senator McGovern's stand on a political issue. Apparently the talk helped to recruit quite a few McGovern workers...

Incidentally, last week my article on the candidates failed to mention that McGovern's people have a local address, 324 E. Colorado, phone 793-1151. Equal time demands that I mention that there is a Re-Elect the President campaign center on East Green east of Lake, although they never say which President... A postcard received by the Y indicates that Ctein is alive & well in Ann Arbor.



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Letters

Fay On FH

Dear Editors:

Up until a point five or six years ago, incoming Techers were obliged to take English and European History their first year, more history their second, still more English their third. The courses were prescribed and unvarying; over at the Registrar's they were actually *printed* right on course transcripts. And a course flunked had to be made up.

Everything is very different now. It is sweet of Jim Hugg to tell us we have "heavily structured Institute Humanities requirements", but in fact we have almost nothing left at all. 27 units of English, in any course you please — against the old 45 that had to be En I and En 7; a total of 54 units of "Humanities" (the 27 units of English are included) out of the constant and unvarying 108 from his Division that have always been required for the B.S., and still are. *And*, to be sure, what Jeff Mallory once called the "infamous Freshman Humanities."

It is about these last that I want to say a few words, if the *Tech* has the space. For they are quite new, the catalogue does not yet reflect fully what we are trying to do with them — and I happen to have the job of administering them.

Let me explain what "Freshman Humanities" are.

They are, of course, part of the 108. Further, they are part of the "Humanities" 54: the courses (marked "H" in the catalogue, with some accidental omissions) deemed "humanistic", which in practice means English, history, philosophy, things like that. Further, those among them that happen to be English courses satisfy the 27-unit English requirement. Most important, however, *they are prerequisites for upperclass "Humanities" courses.* (You have to take 27 units of "FH" before you can take "H".) So "Freshman Humanities" do for further work in "Humanities" what Math 1 and 2 and Physics 1 and 2 are supposed to do for further work in math, science, and engineering. Here indeed is a little surviving piece

of structure. Perhaps it is because it survives at all that Mallory calls it "infamous."

And what is the rationale for "Freshman Humanities?"

In our opinion "Humanities" work absolutely requires the ability to handle prose: to read it, ask questions of it, argue cogently and persuasively from it *and in it* — which is to say, write it.

Prose ability, particularly the ability to write prose, is not God-given. Nor is it the natural reflection of a Math Level Two score of 800. Some entering freshmen have this ability in high degree. But notwithstanding the self-adulatory crap that has been floating around the columns of the *Tech* lately, most entering freshmen do not. Put them in competition with good non-science students at other good schools, and this would become immediately apparent. I am not talking about spelling, fair accuracy in hitting typewriter keys, and a certain generosity with bull. I am talking about prose writing. Entering Techers are *not* as a group, very good at it. No Humanities faculty member who has ever taught freshmen elsewhere, and remembers it, will argue otherwise.

The old freshman English and history that I mentioned at the beginning of this letter were intended, of course, to cultivate prose ability. They were also intended to give freshmen some *subject* background, to which the compulsory sophomore and junior courses would add. We have dropped the subject element. It would be nice to have subject prerequisites — to say, for example, that you have to have general European history before you take Ellersieck's H 117 — but except in English courses (where the 27-unit special requirement makes a difference) we don't see how to do it without putting most students (who have very little time for "Humanities" anyway) in terrible binds.

So all we are keeping in our "Freshman Humanities" is what you might call a common *technique*. Prose, and particularly prose writing — 4,000 words a term. Not in a single long term paper but in a number of short pieces. 4,000 is supposed to be the one thing common to the offerings.

A Grandfather Clockwork

Violence Is Golden

by Phil Neches

Violence, the contemporary cliché goes, has become a part of our daily lives. We find it all over page one of the daily paper in the form of an abstract, impersonal, but bloody war "over there." We see it in the financial pages: stock in lock and burglar alarm companies has been soaring of late. Depending on where one lives, one can see a live performance of some violent crime (or its after effects) almost daily.

We even let it follow us into the cinema, for our supposed entertainment.

The rock-um sock-um Western has been standard Hollywood fare for years. If anything, that sort of violence has been as antiseptic and detached as the news reports from Vietnam. Someone else dies; the hero is always back next week, right?

Wrong.

Since the days of Batman and the Lone Ranger and John Wayne the two-fisted Marine, Hollywood has become decidedly more realistic. When people love, they kiss; when they die, they bleed. Consequently, the consumption of catsup has increased in certain studios.

In a few cases, the film makers have gone beyond the dictates of strict realism, plumbing the violent depth of the human soul. Anyone willing to stroll down Hollywood Boulevard

These offerings are various and will remain so. Freshmen last term had three kinds of history and five kinds of English (plus one PS) to choose from; though, I'm sorry to say, we goofed and did not make it plain there was any choice. Freshmen this term have nine courses to choose from, and many did shop around; next autumn's incoming frosh will have ten; and so it goes. The accident of history (see my opening paragraph) leaves us

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can find a good sampling of such flicks.

Maybe?

Someone once said that successive shocks have decreasing effects. The audience I saw *Clockwork Orange* with was revolted: several walked out on it and many more were sorry they did not. Perhaps Kubrick's technical virtuosity held them in their seats (or perhaps it was the three dollar admission).

The audience at *The Godfather* proved to tell an entirely different story. *The Godfather*, if anything, depicts more violence in more detail than Kubrick's futuristic assault on human kindness. Violent death by gunfire, knifing, strangulation, explosion, *et al*, crossed the screen enough times, it would seem, to provoke a reaction from even the most jaded big-city cop.

The audience laughed at it.

Really?

Some wiseacre (G. B. Shaw, to be precise) said that a sense of humor is really a sense of

proportion. When we see a situation presented in either an understated or wildly overstated manner, we find it amusing.

But *The Godfather* can hardly be called understated or overstated: it is an incredibly well acted, highly believable, compellingly realistic movie. It is by no means comic: it has some comic relief lines, but the main action is deadly serious.

Why the laughter?

Why Not?

Perhaps our sense of proportion has been stretched all out of proportion. Perhaps we have seen so much of the seamy side of human nature that we have come to accept it without protest, or even comment. Perhaps the nihilists have won after all. Or perhaps this reporter saw the film on a bad night.

But I fear that rather than arousing us against the violence man does to his fellow man, the media have anesthetized us against feeling the pain of the harsh world of human reality. We have seen so much violent death on the late show that we cannot accept it seriously, even in a serious artistic endeavor.

It would also seem increasingly true that we cannot take it seriously in real life either.

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More Letters

Ay-fay

Continued from Page Four

with lots of faculty in English and history, not enough in philosophy, none at all in comparative religion or descriptive political science. Too bad! Time and attrition will redress the balance. You will notice, too, that we do not offer economics or psychology or analytical political science as "Freshman Humanities". This is because these are not "Humanities" — there is a real difference and distinction, though it gets fuzzy at the edges.

Notice, too, that "Freshman Humanities" are *not* a prerequisite for economics, psychology, etc. You do not have to have taken and passed "FH" in order to register for Ec 4 or Psy 5 or PS 115. Freshmen with time on their hands can take these and other non-H courses at once.

And there is a further wrinkle to be observed. Because the reason for "Freshmen Humanities" is the prose ability, it is only sensible to excuse freshmen who already have that ability, or who acquire it in marked degree as they go along. So we have an arrangement for excusing: it is done at any time, simply on the recommendation of the instructor. (Naturally you will not get unit credit for an "FH" course if, upon being excused at mid-term, you don't finish the course. But the excuse remains valid.) By Christmas time this year, 34 freshmen had been excused. By the beginning of the third term, that number had risen to 55. Some of those thus excused have remained in "Freshman Humanities". Others have entered upperclass "Humanities" courses, or have gone off into a social science or a science elective.

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So there it is. You have to have 54 units of "Humanities" to graduate. 27 units of "Freshman Humanities" (they count as part of the 54, notice!), or excuse therefrom, is the prerequisite for upperclass "Humanities." The normal minimal route, then, is 27 "FH" followed sometime in the upperclass years by 27 more "H". And of these, 27 (in any combination) must be English.

Each year, I suppose, a few sophomores will find themselves taking "Frosh Hum" again, just as a few retake Math I or Physics I. Given the variety of the offerings (flunking one "FH" can be made up by taking *any* "FH" except one you have already passed), there can hardly be much hardship in this. But for the few to whom "structure" of any sort is abhorrent, there is always the consolation that nobody in Baxter (or over at the Registrar's either) is going to grab his gun and go hunting defectors. If you want to beat this system, you probably can — the system hasn't been designed that can't be beaten if only you're willing to drop everything else and try.

—Peter W. Fay
Baxter

Cerebrum--

Continued from Page Two

more learning.

Power to the . . .

Still, it concerns many people around here that Techers might use eased restrictions to graduate from Caltech without undergoing sufficient suffering, so let us consider this problem. The obvious fact may be noted that any student deemed not to have accomplished enough may be denied his degree at any time up to Commencement Day. (Here accomplishment replaces suffering, since a sufficiently intelligent person may meet Caltech's graduation requirements without doing much work at all.) In theory, you see, degrees from Caltech are conferred by the vote of the faculty, not by successful completion of n-plus-one requirements to be found listed in the Registrar's Office. The original idea is that faculties, alone, were considered competent to judge the merits of their prospective peers, without recourse to artificial standards. In practice, of

More Grime and Filth from Our Beloved BOD

Continued from Page Three

Also, reactions to the proposed use of these systems at Caltech are to be gathered from graduate schools and businesses hiring our graduates. The information collected this summer will form the basis for the ASCIT Academic Reforms Package which will be brought before the faculty for approval this fall.

The Secretary has been charged with the responsibility for reviewing the ASCIT Resolutions to the Bylaws and proposing all necessary changes.

Summer Job Anyone?

ASCIT is considering a plan to hire a Caltech undergrad to work forty hours a week for ten weeks this summer. The job would consist of data collection and letter writing. The goal of the job would be to compile all available data concerning the contract system and ABC — No Credit grading system (currently used on other campuses).

course, faculties have chosen to cop out on this responsibility, and Requirements rule supreme. All the same, it is clear that mechanisms exist for avoiding adulteration of a Caltech degree. Presumably the real objection is that the faculty would have to pay attention to who is qualified to graduate and who isn't if Independent Studies were to become more general, rather than simply relying on three-minute perusals of the Registrar's records.

As Joe Morin has pointed out, Caltech can afford to experiment. If you don't want to join in, don't; if you do and you don't get the job done, OK, go straighten it up; if it works out, great. This system would, indeed, consume more faculty time than the standard bullshit instruction, but some professors, at least, are willing to devote this time, and others would do so, too, over a period of time. It's not clear to me that this is an unreasonable demand.



European Tour Benefit

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Think Tank

Abolish Options

by Jim Hugg

(Second of a series of hopefully constructive critiques of varied topics.)

In January 1968 the Educational Policies Committee examined the function of the options system. It was determined that the "major function of an option is to provide a handle by which a person can be easily identified."

As an administrative convenience it is simpler to label someone as a physics major than to list his undergraduate courses, which might include mathematics, biology, economics, Russian, and English as well as physics.

Sacred Cow

The options system has become a sacred cow which, in many cases, stands in the way of Caltech students seeking the most effective and interesting educational programs.

The student with a deep interest in two different fields must presently choose between three courses of action: (i) Discard one field of interest; (ii) Fulfill the requirements for both fields by "double majoring"; or (iii) Attempt to gain admission to the Independent Studies Program.

Exclusion Principle

When a student is forced as a freshmen to choose between two options he has had at most an opportunity to take two or three introductory courses and is probably relying on his high school background as a basis for making this crucial decision. If the student changes his mind, as many do, late in the sophomore year, he is forced to overload his class schedule to meet the requirements of the new option.

If the student attempts to double-major he is inevitably confronted with overloads, or at least the exclusion of courses not in one of his two major fields, which might make his educational experience at Caltech more effective and interesting.

Bureaucratic Barrier

The third possible course of action is the most frustrating and least possible. Not only is the applicant for ISP subjected to a barrage of paperwork, but his proposal is certain to be refused if the committee can find any way to twist his program to look like a current option.

Because of the enormous investment of faculty and student time required by ISP, most

applicants are rejected on short order and even more potential candidates never apply. Only six students are currently participating in ISP.

No Interest Accrued

A student's performance in any class is primarily a function of his interest. In many cases a student has little or no interest in the courses required by the present options system, and as a result his motivation to learn is at a minimum.

Graduates with a solid background in two fields are of special value to the progress of science, but rather than encourage such diversity, the present options system all but prohibits it.

Abolish Options System

The options system should be abolished. Students who plan to attend graduate school in a specific field should be informed of the general requirements in a manner similar to that used by chemistry (see page 226 of the catalog).

One method of designing a tailor-made program of studies for each student is the "contract system." Each student, working with three faculty advisors, contracts with the Institute to complete a specified program courses and research and independent studies. Upon completion of the contract the student is granted the Bachelor's degree.

Responsible Students

It is commonly argued that the students are not responsible enough to decide wisely on a plan of study. Certainly the Institute can find ways to make known which courses are prerequisite to particular fields of study and if not, the student government can publish such a list.


If a person could manage to pick "soft" advisors and loaf through Caltech, he could fool no one: his record would clearly show his undergraduate strategy. Without the cognomen of the option, the outside world would be forced to consult the student's record and look deeper than to classify him as "a Caltech geology major with a 3.2 GPA."

Small School, Big Name

Caltech should be able to educate unique and diversified scientists, each man pursuing his interests regardless of artificial

Continued on Page Eight

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The show at the Ice House this week is a particularly good one, starring Steve Gillette. For those of you who do not know who he is, Steve Gillette is one of those writers and singers whose songs are recorded by everyone else. A few years ago, Ian and Sylvia recorded one of his songs, "Darcy Farrow," a country-western sort of ballad. Later, a group called the Sunshine Company made a hit out of Steve Gillette's song, "Back on the Street Again."

Steve Gillette is not only a talented writer, but also an extremely good guitarist and singer. His show features more than just his own material. He surprised me very much by doing a Cat Stevens song, "Wild World," in a way that somewhat surpasses the original arrangement. In addition, a song from one of James Taylor's albums, "The Blues is Just a Bad Dream," was included. Even more unusual was a Doc Watson flat-picking guitar instrumental, "Beaumont Rag," a really fine piece of music. Steve Gillette is an excellent entertainer who has simply not received the recognition one of his talent deserves.

The other acts on the show at the Ice House this week are good. The show-opener is a folk singer named Terrea Lea, who has been a performer for a good while. She has owned her own club, and performed at other clubs and in the various media

for at least 13 years, from the bio data I have. Terrea sings and plays guitar on both traditional and original material. She sang songs I've heard done by Buffy Saint-Marie, Judy Collins, and Richie Havens, and sang them well. Her versions of "Anathea" and "The Klan" were very well done. Her own compositions, such as "Ask a Child," were also good. Her voice is flexible enough to do a song she says she dislikes, a two-part rendition of the humorous folk song, "Buffalo Boy." The audience warmed quickly to her opening song, "Come On In." For that point on, it was simply a case of a performer and an audience enjoying themselves together. I hope she plays locally often.

The middle act on the bill is the Moon Dogg and Mule Deer Medicine Show. The closest to a description that I can give is that they are somewhat similar to early Cheech and Chong played at high speed, with piano music added. Moon Dogg plays piano and does strange things right in front of your eyes, while his partner, presumably Mule Deer, does other strange things in sort of a counterpoint of peculiarity. Their humor is difficult to describe, and at times they seemed to be moving too fast for the audience to have time to laugh, but their act is very funny. They are a good comedy team. Go see the show.

-Nick Smith

Nimoy/Spock

Continued from Page One

asked for his predictions, he named McGovern to win in California, in Miami at the convention, and in November against the President. With typically-Spock exactness, he forecast the margin of victory to be 2.73 percent.

"There are some people in the country who like Richard Nixon," the actor continued. "It's amazing." As an example of Nixon's failures as President, he recalled the '68 campaign promise of a "secret plan" to end the Vietnamese conflict. Obviously, Nixon is fantastically trustworthy for having kept that secret so long.

A Private Little War

Nimoy made only one definite platform statement in his speech, preferring, it appeared, to let the audience bring up the issues for discussion. The one exception was McGovern's withdrawal promise. If elected, McGovern would set a date that fell within 90 days after his inauguration to have all U.S. forces out of Viet Nam.

Before the question-and-answer period began, Nimoy was hailed by the signal a *Star Trek* communicator makes when opened, broadcasted over the P.A. system. He glanced up and replied, "I'll be right there," and then complained to the gathering, "He's always rushing me."

Tomorrow Is Yesterday

Although questions were not limited to politics, the majority asked dealt with McGovern, his proposals, and his policies. When asked what the senator's view on space was, Nimoy answered frankly, "Not very good. He was not in favor of going to the moon." Later he added, "Being a spaceman myself, I shouldn't talk like that. But that's his [McGovern's] view."

McGovern favors lessening the criminal penalties on marijuana, and while he has not said he favors legalization, he thinks more research on the causes and effects should be done. He is very tough, though, Nimoy stated, on hard drugs.

Unlike the Spock character, Nimoy did not have all the


answers. When questions on wage and price controls, and on capital punishment were brought up, Nimoy simply replied that he didn't know McGovern's views.

Journey to Babel

The *Star Trek* fanatics had their opportunities, too. Nimoy stifled a rumor that BBC was negotiating to start production of the show again. The show is very popular in England, he said, but the rumors are not true. He did reveal that a spokesman for NBC, seeing the great interest in the show *three* years after its demise has said, "They [the network] took the show off too soon."

In reference to Mr. Spock, the half-Vulcan science officer he portrayed for three years, Nimoy said he had great respect for the character. In contrast, the role he played on *Mission: Impossible* had no depth; he was pretty much confined to being a quick-change artist and nothing more. He would pick Spock as the character he would want to play among all others, the veteran actor said.

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THE CRITICAL EAR

Every once in a while you run across an album that is really hard to evaluate on a musical level. The new Lee Michaels album, "Space and First Takes," is one of these for the simple reason that I got two conflicting feelings while listening to the album. The first was that it had some very good music on it, that in fact each cut was enjoyable. The second feeling was that I did not like the album.

Lee Michaels is a good musician, and he has a good group on this album. His lyrics are not spectacular, but the overall music is quite good. He plays guitar and keyboards, with his band playing guitar, bass and drums, and they all do a technically competent job. For these reasons I liked the songs.

There are only four cuts on the album, two short and two long (one long cut is 13½ minutes, the other is 16½). If you listen to the album all in one sitting, the songs tend to blend, for there are very few really distinguishing features between the songs. In short, if you can listen to one or two songs at a time, the album is good. An overdose, however, gets a little boring. For that reason, this album rates only a MAYBE. (A&M, SP 4336)

-Nick Smith

Sweat and Tears — and their performances generally live up to their reputations.

Baez starts the album off slowly with "Oh Happy Day," but more than makes up for it with "Love is Just a Four Letter Word," and "Song of the French Partisan" where she reaches the emotional intensity that characterizes the best of her work. Kristofferson follows with four forceful compositions including "The Pilgrim" and "Bobby McGee."

On the reverse side Taj Mahal gives his drug message with "Nobody's Business But My Own," Mickey Newbury comes across with two of his own compositions, and BS&T does a very powerful "Lucretia Mac-Evil."

The performances on the album are all quite personal. Baez does a Bob Dylan imitation in "Love is a Four Letter Word," Kristofferson thanks everybody in the entire world for random things, and Blood, Sweat and Tears goes into a impromptu jam at the end of "Lucretia Mac-

Evil."

These touches more than make up for the lack of recording quality. Although it is all but impossible for recordings of live performances to equal the flawless master tapes that come out of studio sessions, it is just plain ridiculous for Joan Baez to drown out Kris Kristofferson as she does in "Bobby McGee," especially when everyone else at the festival is supposedly singing and you can hardly hear them.

Another YES goes to "We've Got To Get It On Again" (KC 31296) by the Addrissi Brothers. Although all of their fame seems to be in the field of writing songs, Dick and Don Addrissi turn out to be pretty fair singers. None of the songs on this disc contain great messages; in fact, they're all on one subject — love. They range from the title song, "We've Got To Get It On Again," which has been getting a fair amount of AM airplay lately, to their old favorite "Never My Love." While this album will never be a million seller, I can think of nothing better to listen to while alone with someone I care for.

-Peter W. Beckman

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Beckman, Ramo, & Dabney

Three Upcoming Concerts

by Jeff Mallory

Dabney Hall of Humanities will host its seventh *Dabney Lounge Concert* this Sunday at 8:15 p.m. Roger Bobo on tuba and Ralph Grierson on piano, along with Group II, will be performing Gaillard's *Sonata No. 1, Hymn for piano solo* by Dahl, *Sonata for Bass tuba and Piano* by Kraft, and a new piece by Fred Tackett for tuba and rock band. Admission is free.

The presentation of the *Masters and Masterworks* series this week will be the Academy award winning film, *The Titan: Story*

After an all-too-brief visit of forty-five minutes, Nimoy left to keep other appointments, leaving behind a group of well-informed, but late-to-class ("Who goes to classes?") trolls.

of Michelangelo. This remarkable chronicle of Michelangelo's life story will be shown in Ramo Auditorium next Tuesday and Wednesday, May 9 and 10, at 8:00 p.m. This is the second in the four part series of Robert Snyder films. Tickets are \$2.00 for students, \$1.00 for Techers, and \$2.50 for the rest of humanity.

The *Caltech Glee Club's* Annual Home Concert will be in Beckman May 12 and 13 at 8:30 p.m. The concert will help raise funds for the Glee Club's European tour this summer. Works planned to be sung include music by Byrd, Gelineau, Greig and Dvorak.

—NOTE: *Caltech Band Concert* will be in Beckman Saturday, May 6, at 8:00 p.m. ASCITEers free, students \$.75, everyone else \$1.50.

News Briefs

Continued from Page One

Caltech GDG Planning Session

The Caltech Gay Discussion Group will meet Thursday, May 4, at 8:00 p.m. in the Y lounge to discuss plans for next year.

International Desk Changes Locale

The International Desk has moved to Room 14 in the basement of Dabney. Telephone extension is the same (2330). The new mail code is 14-40.

Red Chinese Movie In Baxter Sunday

The East Is Red, a filmed version of a popular Chinese ballad-opera which traces the history of the Chinese revolution

since the turn of the century through songs and dances of each period, is the feature movie to be shown this Sunday, May 7, on the Chinese Students Association's China-films series. This film has English-dubbed narration, and songs are subtitled. There will be two screenings, at 1:00 p.m. and 3:15 p.m., in the Baxter Humanities Lecture Hall. Donation: fifty cents.

Medical School Seminar Next Week

"Medical School Admissions Policies and Curricula" will be presented in a seminar by Dr. Martin A. Pops, M.D., of the UCLA School of Medicine. Dr. Pops is chairman of the Committee on Admissions and Assistant Dean for Students Affairs. The seminar, to be held Tuesday, May 9, will begin at 4:00 p.m. in 153 Noyes.

Fuller's Postulates

The World of Fuller

by Etaoin Schroedlu

"He seems to understand it all so well, but I just can't follow it all."

"He postulates a man-centered universe, and that's just not right."

"Fantastic!"

Those were samplings of audience comments from the Ramo Auditorium audience watching Robert Snyder's film portrait of R. Buckminster Fuller. Fuller, described as a comprehensive designer and world-Man, has spent his life seeking and applying general principles of design to world problems. The Snyder film catches Fuller in the process of explaining his ideas and demonstrating his designs to various

audiences.

Since 1927, Fuller has attempted to devise alternatives to methods of education and worldview which he regards as erroneous, such as teaching geometry in terms of infinite planes. "We are all on a spaceship earth," says Fuller, and the materials we have to hand are finite, and misused. "If you get the most you can with little, and make it economic enough to be used, it will be beautiful," Fuller told a class of architect students.

Utopia or Oblivion

Fuller himself has developed a startling number of radically different designs, including a paperboard house ("It lasts as long as any other kind of house

you can think of"), the famed geodesic dome, and a three-wheeled automotive vehicle whose miniscule turning radius neatly solved the parallel parking problem, to the delight of the audience. Fuller's concept of dymaxion (dynamic maximum) promises to be one of the most influential design concepts devised by modern man.

Snyder's portrayal, described by one critic as 'doggedly anti-cinematic,' caught a pleasing combination of Fuller and his creations. Snyder's efforts to catch the essence of Fuller were no doubt aided by his being Fuller's son-in-law.

Proposition 9 Debate

A debate on Proposition 9, the "Environment Initiative," will be one of the events of the all-day conference of the Planning and Conservation League Saturday, May 6, at Beckman Auditorium. Conference registration begins at the door at 8:30 a.m.

Classified Ads

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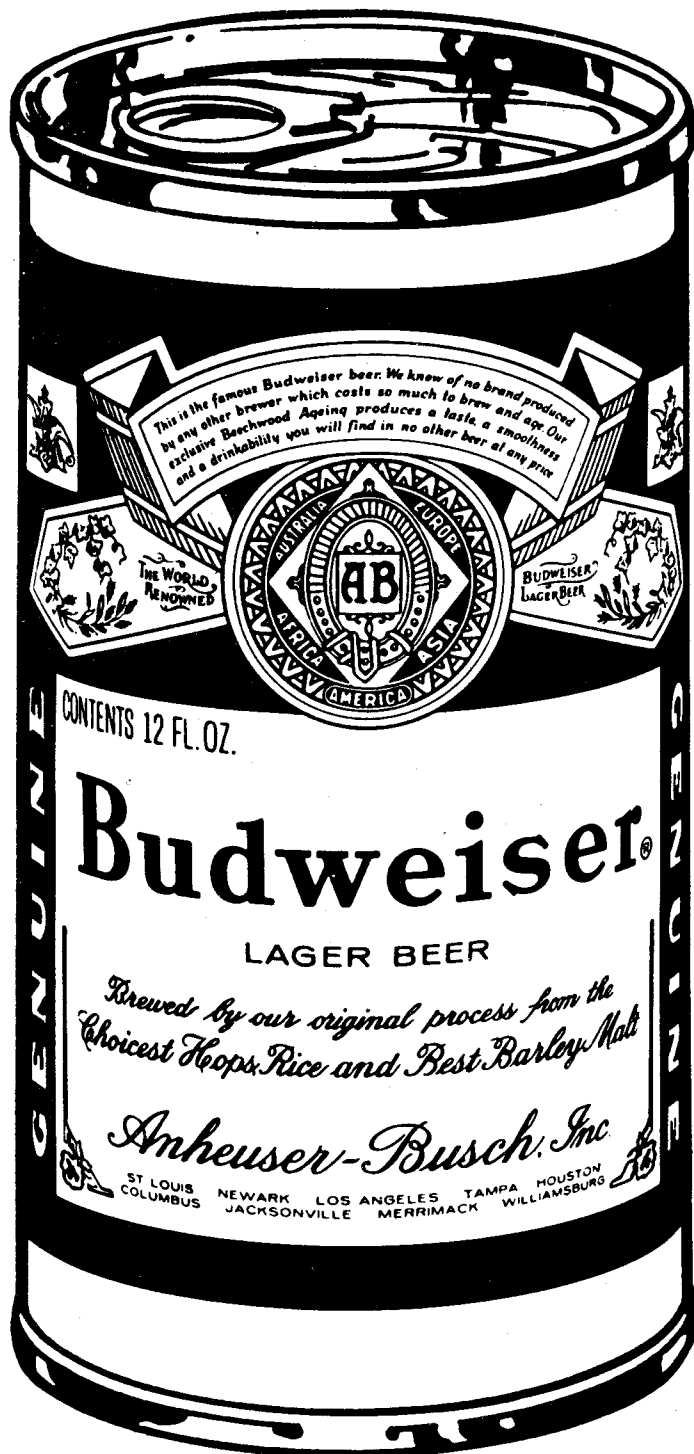
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T.G.I.B.



(Think about it)

TECH Sports

Baseball Team Swamped By Opponents; Final Doubleheader This Saturday

by Gavin Claypool

The Beavers lost three more games by margins of ten or more runs in the past week, as their season record slid to 1-22.

In a doubleheader Saturday, the Techers were trounced 13-1 and 23-1 by the Claremont/Harvey Mudd Stags. Tech led the first game for 1½ innings on a game-starting triple by Tom Howell and a sacrifice fly by Walt Smanski. Howell's hit was the only one for the Beaver that game, as the CHM ace struck out twelve.

Smanski picked up two hits in the second game. The Stags picked up 22.

Final Approach

Tuesday the Redlands Bulldogs jumped Smanski for nine runs in the first inning, only one of which was earned. A total of

five errors by the Keystone Kops—Bob Pleva and Jack Stemple—helped keep the Tech hurler's ERA down. Smanski and Rich Mitchell had two hits each, as Redlands went on to win 12-2.

This Saturday the 1972 season ends mercifully with a doubleheader at Redlands. The current streak of 18 losses is the fourth longest in Tech baseball history. Just beyond this year's range are two 22-loss strings, over the 1968-9 and 1971-2 seasons. The latter ended this year with the victory over L.I.F.E. College. But these are insignificant compared to the longest: 47 straight, over 1961-3. The 1962 season was a complete whitewash, 0-25. (We did tie for conference champs with Oxy in 1956, though.)

'Ye Finale Sportse Menu

Thursday, May 4			
3:00 p.m.	Varsity Tennis	Pasadena College	Away
Friday, May 5			
1:00 p.m.	S.C.I.A.C. Tennis Tournament Preliminaries		at Whittier
3:00 p.m.	S.C.I.A.C. All-Conference Track Preliminaries		at Claremont/Harvey Mudd
Saturday, May 6			
9:00 a.m.	S.C.I.A.C. Tennis Tournament		at Whittier
12:01 p.m.	Baseball	Redlands (doubleheader)	Away
1:30 p.m.	S.C.I.A.C. All-Conference Track Meet		at Claremont/Harvey Mudd
Monday, May 8			
12:30 p.m.	Golf	La Verne	Home
Friday, May 12			
7:00 a.m.	NAIA District III Golf Tournament		at Soboda Springs
May 12, 13			
NAIA District III Track Meet at Balboa Stadium, San Diego			

Phase II

Continued from Page One

Engineering, Dr. George Hammond, for Engineering and Applied Science, Dr. Francis Clauser and for Geological and Planetary Sciences, Dr. Walter Kamb. Dr. Robert Huttenback, chairman of the Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences, sent a nervous titter through the audience and retired smiling. Drs. Robert Christy, Richard Dean, and Jesse Greenstein talked about their respective interests in the Division of Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy.

The speakers addressed themselves primarily to the nature of the work in their fields, to the various options and combinations of options available, and particularly to the outlook for future employment. While effects of the current slump in science and

technological funding varied from option to option, all conceded a definite impact but most predicted a favorable change in the future.

Following the brief talks, the assembly moved into Dabney garden where box lunches were provided and students and the 30 or so faculty members participating broke into smaller groups by division for discussion sessions. Final portion of program were evening parties given by faculty members who included Drs. Max Delbruck, Jim Morgan, Kip Thorne, Richard Dean and Rolf Sabersky. The event was sponsored by the Y and organized by Dave Collier and Y president Pete Anzaldo.

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Less than 100 points

Whittier Downs Tech Track

by Bob Kieckhefer

Whittier's track team was held to less than 100 points Saturday, but that was about all Tech's runners could do, as the Poets won 12 of the 17 events en route to a 96-47 win. Their sprinters were especially impressive, with two men breaking 10.1 in the 100-yard dash.

It wasn't all gloomy for the Techers, however, as Greg Griffin's time of 9:42.0 in the 2-mile run broke the Caltech freshman record by 7.5 seconds. (But then, he had only 10 minutes between Pinafore rehearsals, so he had to run fast.) Whittier had a couple of speedsters in the events, however, so Greg only placed third.

Alan Kleinsasser almost lowered his own Caltech record in the 880-yard run, as he won in 1:52.4, only two tenths of a second off his best. He also anchored Tech's victorious mile relay team, almost doubling the lead that Gary Stormo, Greg Hoit, and Charlie Almquist had built up on the first three legs. This trio also did well in the individual events, as Almquist and Stormo placed first and second in the 440-yard dash and Hoit won the 440-yard inter-



Junro Hiramatsu vaulting to second-place glory.

Photo by Peisner.

mediate hurdles.

Monte Ragland was Tech's only other victor, with a first place in the discus throw. He also placed second in the shot put. Other second places went to Bob Ellgas in the long jump and triple jump and to Junro Hiramatsu in the pole vault.

This meet was the final dual meet of the season for Tech's runners, jumpers, and throwers; they posted a 2-7 dual-meet record this year. The track team's last meet will be the SCIAC All-Conference meet, to

be held tomorrow and Saturday at Claremont. A few members of the team will stay in shape to compete in the NAIA meet, however, to be held in San Diego later this month.

After performing in their final meet of the season, the timers were commended by both Coach LaBrucherie and Trainer Bud Barthel for the exceptionally accurate and consistent times they turned in. All are urged to keep their fingers in shape for the first cross-country meet in September!

Hugg

Continued from Page Five

boundaries drawn between disciplines. Our small size should allow us to abandon the administrative convenience of majors and devote our energy to creating truly custom-designed programs of study for each student in order to maximize the effectiveness of a Caltech education.

Both our students and our

faculty are of sufficiently high calibre to allow the extra freedom of a contract system and the concomitant responsibility would not be abused or shirked. Adoption of a contract system would renew Caltech's reputation as an educational innovator and leader. It would make real our presently exorbitant claims regarding individualized education here.

Next week: The ABC-no credit and pass-no credit grading system.

Ripoff?

Continued from Page One

taken. The IHC's jurisdiction will be limited to those areas which are related to the student houses (including off-campus students inside the student houses). The question of membership on both the BOC and the IHC has been raised and it was felt that the present restriction that "no member of the Board shall sit in judgement of his own case" will be adequate. It is the intent of the proposal that findings of the IHC in such cases will be public and therefore the proposal includes a recommendation that, in cases in which the BOC is reviewing an action of the IHC, the Board be allowed to make its findings public.

Of course, this plan will not become effective unless accepted by the student body via the appropriate By-Laws changes, etc. We encourage you to make your views known on this issue by talking with any House President or BOC rep. —Bruce Seaman, Mark Johnson, Steven Matthews, Steven A. Shaman, Michael R. Muskin, Jr., Paul Thomas, Greg Simay, Steven P. Moritsugu, Robert K. Lewis, Bryan Jack, Russel McDuff, Richard B. Martin, Joseph F. Morin III, John F. Rogers, John R. Schroeter, Lorne H. Schachter, Thomas D. Howell, Andrew Dowsett, Jim Bonomo, Dale B. Dalrymple, Dan Sinema, Matt Fluster, Dwight Carey, Rusty Pinnizzotto, Tom Coates, Gary Spivak, and Bob Shelby

Free Fall Flowing

J. Waluk, 94 seconds.

AEC Says

Dr. James R. Schlesinger, Chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission says that the U.S. is "planning to phase out at Amchitka," the site of last November's controversial nuclear test.

The A.E.C. chairman discussed the problems of disposing of radioactive wastes. He said that we may someday have to load these materials aboard spacecraft and shoot them into the sun, where they would disintegrate.

What's Fair Is Fair

"Some people have thought of placing them (the radioactive wastes) on the moon," Schlesinger said, "but that's not fair to the moon. The sun can take it, I reckon."

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