



The California Tech

VOLUME CIII, NUMBER 23

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 22, 2002

FRIDAY DONUTS SLASHED AFTER SURVEY RESULTS

REPLACED BY MIDNIGHT SESSION

Longtime Morning Treats Ended on Rolling Basis

By JON FOSTER

In the beginning there were donuts. And they were good.

The first taste of student government most Techers receive are the Midnight donuts annually hosted on the Olive Walk during Prefrosh weekend. Like much else during that weekend, prefrosh donuts had always been a bit misleading; students did not normally enjoy donuts served fresh at midnight during the rest of the year. In previous years though, prefrosh could be assured that while midnight donuts were, like carnivals, parties, and students playing frisbee on the grass, a fabrication designed to portray a positive image of Caltech, pastry confections of various were served faithfully every Friday morning at eight.

And this tradition, designed to provide nourishment for the hungry souls who have toiled all night Thursday doing a set, did a lot towards summing up the true state of life at Caltech. Yes, you will stay up at least one night a week slav-

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K. Fischer/The California Tech

ASCIT's Board of Directors listens to clubs' appeals for funding in preparation for last weekend's outing to Capra Ranch, where the BoD laid out and finalized its long-awaited 2002-2003 budget.

ASCIT Budget Rolled Out After Weekend BoD Retreat

By RYAN OLF

Last weekend ASCIT's Board of Directors renewed an ancient and valued tradition of disappearing to Capra Ranch in San Diego. Their purpose at this annual weekend retreat was to tie up loose ends regarding the budget for the coming year and to orient new as well as returning members to the intricacies of ASCIT's bylaws and their own roles in the organization. As far as the Caltech student body is concerned, the most salient and immediate result of the retreat is the final decision as to which clubs will be funded and how much money they will receive.

Of the approximately 90 clubs

registered with ASCIT, 41 requested funding from the organization and 40 had their requests granted. The money is distributed to the clubs over the course of a year on a term-by-term basis. One humorous side-effect to distributing funds in three installments is the granting of awkward amounts such as \$201, the extra dollar added to make the sum evenly divisible by three.

The money received from ASCIT is supposed to cover a portion of a club's predicted operation over the course of the next year. Clubs can apply for supplementary funds for specific events in addition to any money received term-by-term. ASCIT set aside \$1,500 for an "on campus events fund," from which money will be taken to finance club events that will involve much of the undergraduate community.

This year, in a change from previous years, the overall ASCIT Budget was not completed prior to

the club-funding meeting, which was held April 5, so ASCIT set aside approximately \$10,000 for clubs before the rest of the budget was dealt with. The reason for this flip flop in order was ASCIT's inability to reserve Capra for the first weekend of the term pushing back the retreat, at which the budget is traditionally decided upon, until the second weekend.

In the end, \$10,556 was allocated to clubs, including the \$1,500 for special events. This rise in club funding from last year's \$9,146 continues a trend started in 1999-2000 when money given to clubs jumped from \$5,000 to \$8,000 per year, along with corresponding cut backs in ASCIT movies. Minus the \$1,500, which was not included in last year's club budget but may have been spent out of other funds, the amount of money distributed this year is about on par with last year.

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YEAR'S STUDENT-FACULTY EVENT SET FOR MONDAY

MEETING FIRST IN FIVE YEARS

Spearheaded by Old BoD, Knouf, Stapleton

By RUMI CHUNARA

Before most current undergrads were even born, a group of Caltech students and faculty gathered in JPL's von Karman Auditorium for the first ever Student-Faculty Conference. The two-day marathon event in February 1980 sparked numerous reforms on campus, including course evaluations and an expanded humanities curriculum.

This year, the conference will be held next Monday starting at 11 a.m. in Ramo Auditorium and both faculty and students are hoping it will be just as productive.

The Student-Faculty Conference became a tradition for Caltech in the '80s and '90s, with students and faculty meeting every two or three years to discuss issues ranging from the core curriculum to an on-campus ATM. Due to a not-so successful conference in 1997, with low faculty and student turnout, this year's conference will be the first in five years. The idea to hold a conference once again was spearheaded by last year's BoD as part of its effort to create a forum for students and faculty to discuss "big-picture" issues at Caltech.

This year, however, almost did not see a conference due to a lack of sufficient advance planning. However a meeting between the

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Courtesy of R. Mayreis

The only living member of the Autoharp Hall of Fame, Bryan Bowers performs at last Saturday's folk concert in Dabney Lounge.

Autoharp in Hand, Folk Artist Delivers

By KEVIN BARTZ

Deft, elegant, his hands fly across the autoharp in a pattern so intricate it would a pianist wince. He performs alone, but a sweet sense of camaraderie still permeates songs like "Friend for Life" or the sad ballad about his old Aunt Bess. Sure, he can play—what do you expect from the sole living member of the Autoharp Hall of Fame?—but underneath it all, there's a warmth more profound emanating from Bryan Bowers and his autoharp.

"Others can play, maybe even better than me," he mused, with a wink. "But I feel like I've got a bigger heart; that's where I'm better. And I do music to show others my heart." Indeed, hospitality and affection are longtime motifs of the man who named his first album

"For You." And in a three-hour concert at Dabney Lounge last Saturday, an audience scattered with Bowers' friends and family had the chance to feel firsthand this "Friend for Life."

In a mix of gandy dance numbers and call-and-answer songs, Bowers showed off over 30 years of autoharp experience to a crowd of folk enthusiasts. The concert was the first since spring break in the Caltech Folk Music Society's string of performances, and the world-famous Bowers fit the bill.

"Bryan really developed this technique for the autoharp," said the coordinator of the "Folk Scene" feature on a local radio show. "It became a whole different instrument in his hands. He's the Jimi Hendrix of the autoharp."

Economics Prof. Wilkie Picked To Head Up Government FCC

By IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

In a move that will take him from Caltech to Washington next year, Assistant Economics Professor Simon Wilkie recently accepted a government post as the chief economist of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Dr. Wilkie will lead what has become one of the government's three main committees with hired economic advisors. Reserved for academic professors, the spot involves a trip to Washington, where he will work for a year as an unbiased observer and commentator.

Dr. Wilkie succeeds David Sappington from the University of Florida, who will step down this coming July, and his own term is slated to last until July 2003. He will not teach over the duration.

Dr. Wilkie explained that the FCC acts as a court that makes rules on the telecommunications policy and regulations. The current head of the Commission is Michael Powell, son of Secretary of State Colin Powell. It is he who is responsible for picking the chief economists. Said Dr. Wilkie, "The way it works is that the head of the commission picks the person formally. They usually pick people who have worked in telecommunications before."

Outside observers call the task fairly challenging, as the economist

has to solve the major issues revolving around telecommunications in the country at present. "There are five big policy issues that I am looking forward to," he said.

Broadband

How can engineers design a regulatory framework that enhances the rapid and efficient deployment of broadband technology? The design of such "incentive based regulations" is one of Caltech's strengths—and one of the many areas Dr.

Wilkie may be of help.

Universal Service

Narrowband networks were built under the requirements that basic phone service be ubiquitous and affordable which meant higher prices in urban areas and subsidized service in rural areas. But how relevant are these requirements in the Internet Age: should they be expanded to include information services, and at what level—basic ac-

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E. Adams/The California Tech

Wilkie will soon take on the new challenges of serving on the FCC.



K. Fischer/The California Tech

Budget time is a happy time for ASCIT's smiling Board of Directors. The nine-member crew spent a weekend at Capra Ranch finalizing club funding figures.

After Annual Capra Retreat, BoD Unveils Yearly Budget

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The amount of money given to specific clubs typically ranges from \$50 to \$650. This year the clubs slated to receive the most money are "Building Bridges" and "Brother's of Metal", receiving \$630 and \$600 respectively. Complete budget information is available on the donut website at <http://donut.caltech.edu/about/>.

There is no magic formula to determine how much money a club will receive, although a club must register on donut.caltech.edu to be considered for funds. Treasurer Janet Zhou '04 reminded students that requiring a club to register on donut assures that the club is accessible to the Caltech community, "that all clubs are active, that the contact information is up-to-date, and that clubs receive important updates."

Additionally, a club is asked to submit a funding proposal, a list of events, a budget for the coming year, if one exists, and a proposed list of events and corresponding budget for the coming year. Each club is also given a five minute time slot during the club budget meeting for an interview, in which a representative presents the proposal and answers any questions the BoD may have.

While many BoD members claim that they "cannot speak for everyone" regarding how they reach their decisions on who gets how much money, a comparison of individual methods at making the decision reveals that the members of the BoD in fact have very similar criteria in their evaluation of a club's proposal, although admittedly each member has different priorities. After some discussion, how much money a club receives is decided by a vote. "In almost all cases this vote is unanimous or near-unanimous," remarked ASCIT President Ted Jou '03. "but every once in a while, there will be a split decision."

The BoD evaluates a variety of factors when deciding how much money to give a club. Secretary Joe Jewell '04 says that, for him, "the most important thing is what they are going to do with the money. I like to see that a club has specific projects in mind." Clubs with more active undergrad members tend to get more money than those with less participation. The BoD also considers how money has been spent in previous years, how many sources of funding the club has, how well the club reaches out to the Caltech community, and whether the club promotes Caltech's image off campus. Ted Jou remarks that "there are no clubs that ASCIT specifically refuses to fund."

New clubs are treated a little differently than established clubs, and often receive more money than they would if they were continuing in order to cover initial expenses. One such club this year was the nascent forging club, "Brothers of Metal," who received \$600 dollars. Last year the club applied for funding to building a forge, but had no solid plans on how to do this and received no funding. Jewell remarked, "we wanted to know if they had talked to safety about having a forge on campus and where they were planning on putting it, and they weren't prepared to answer either question." This year however the club had plan and received generous funds to establish itself.

Although it plays only a minor role in determining how a particular club is funded, the club survey that was distributed to the student body earlier this year is a factor in the overall procedure. The results of the survey, which are not released at this time, are used mostly as a check of the information clubs submit in their proposals. For example, if a club claims to be really active on campus, but no one who filled out the survey had heard of them, then the BoD needs to consider the discrepancy.

The club funding and the budget in general is the first major task a newly elected BoD has to face. Particularly for newly elected FDAL Andrea Vasconcellos '05, who serves as the liaison between clubs and the BoD, arranging all interview times, this period is, as former FDAL Jewell calls it, "a baptism by fire." The club budget interview session of April 5 lasted a mammoth eight hours, beginning at 4:30 p.m. and ending half past midnight.

While the clubs weren't notified of what kind of funding they would receive until after the Capra retreat, the decisions regarding funding had been made at the eight-hour meeting. The BoD didn't publicize its decisions until after the retreat because the overall budget hadn't been finalized and changes were possible, but none were made.

Along with information about how much money the club received, each e-mail notifying how much money a club was awarded included a personal message containing the BoD's thoughts and suggestions regarding the club's proposal. Summarizing what the BoD likes to see in a proposal, Vasconcellos said, "What we really like to see is a reasonable, well thought-out proposal." Indeed, no percentage describes how much of a proposal ASCIT typically funds: some clubs even request more than ASCIT gives to all the other clubs combined.

Faculty to Take Questions at Student-Faculty Conference

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Deans, Professor Gary Lorden and the student organizers, Nick Knouf and Martha-Helene Stapleton, ended in an agreement to revise the conference format, making it shorter and more attractive to faculty and students.

Professor Lorden suggested the format of the first period, where a panel of administrators will answer questions from the students. Students will get immediate answers to any pressing questions they have about Caltech. Faculty planning to attend include Dr. Baltimore, Professor Lorden and Dr. Bill Jenkins. The first few questions will be solicited via e-mail, and the rest taken from students in the audience.

At 11:45 a.m., a panel of alumni faculty will answer questions and talk about their

experiences as undergrads at Caltech. From their unique perspective, they will compare their Caltech experience with how they view Caltech undergraduate life currently.

The House kitchens will be closed and Tom Mannion will be arrange for lunch to be served on the Court of Man at 12:15 p.m., where conversations can continue on informally.

At 1:00 p.m., the conference will reconvene with a presentation and discussion on Academic Advising led by a committee of students and faculty that has been meeting for over a month and recently surveyed student opinion on that issue. This will be followed at 1:45 p.m. by a similar presentation and discussion by a separate committee on the Honor Code. There will be time at the end for prepared questions, and questions from the audience.

The ASCIT-produced <http://sfc.caltech.edu> holds the most up-to-date information regarding the conference. In addition, it is also through this website that people can submit questions for the prepared question portion of the administration panel and the committee discussions.

The conference will provide a variety of methods for students to have questions answered and their voices heard. And although it will close promptly at 2:30 p.m., organizers see the event as but a starting point for discussion and reform.

AS FCC CHIEF, WILKIE PLANS TO FOCUS ON INTERNET GROWTH

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

cess or high-speed access--or are they simply a relic of the past?

Spectrum Allocation

The design of a more efficient way to allocate spectrum, including the complex issues of how to design spectrum auctions--another field of Caltech expertise where Dr. Wilkie aims to help.

Diversity of Voice

What is the role of media ownership rules in the Information Age? How can we come up with a model that puts these complex issues on a solid analytic foundation?

National Security

In addition, Dr. Wilkie plans also to help re-examine the role of the telecommunications infrastructure with regard to national security issues.

But whatever the question, Dr. Wilkie is well-equipped for the job. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Commerce from the University of New South Wales in 1982. Proceeding to an M.A. at the University of Rochester in 1988, he went on to earn his Ph.D. in 1990 and has been an assistant economics professor at Caltech since 1995. Prior to that, he worked for Bell, where he earned the telecommunications experience that ultimately won him this prestigious offer.

Naturally, then, Dr. Wilkie is excited and determined to do his best. "I am honored to have been chosen as the next FCC chief economist and excited," he said, "but awed by the challenges of putting research to use in the real world!"

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



K. Bartz/The California Tech

Marc Popkin-Paine '03, member of Fleming's PrefrOSH Committee, helps newly arrived prefrOSH find their ways to hosts in the Houses.

Question of the Week

Will Ted Jou '03 reinstitute Friday donuts after his term-long donut "experiment"?

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

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ISSN 0008-1582

VOLUME CIII, NUMBER 23
APRIL 22, 2002

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Printed by Shih's Printing, Monterey Park.

Donut Hole in the ASCIT BoD

Recent Friday Fiat: 'Experiment' in Donut Deception?

By ABE FETTERMAN

The Donut Man Donut: round. Imperfect. Delicious. Scarce, yet plentiful. All characteristics not only of the sweet cake-like breakfast dessert we crave, but of ourselves as well (except maybe the delicious part).



But why has the ASCIT Board of Directors decided to suddenly take away the only opportunity some people get for these scrumptious sugar-coated delectables? It is supposed to be just an experiment, a test to see whether we notice or not. It is also supposed to significantly reduce the costs for ASCIT. Lastly, it is supposed to reflect the results of the survey put out on the *donut.caltech.edu* Web site combined with the club information. I will address these issues in reverse order, because then I can use a pun on how this entire issue seems "backwards."

The survey, which supposedly found a sweeping 14-student majority in favor of ending the Friday donuts, was in fact inconclusive at best. Not only were students not informed that a section on donut policy would be included on the survey, the policy for marking preferences as well as the interpretation of the results are more esoteric than were used in Florida's butterfly ballots. The only way one could possibly interpret the results as point towards the removal of Friday donuts would be to only count the number of votes marked as 1 or 2, and then compare the results for the termination of Friday donuts to the same for the termination of midnight donuts. One can rationalize, however, that the purpose of the survey was to ensure that there would be no overwhelming opposition to a motion such as the one the BoD has made.

One of the things that was suggested by ASCIT President Ted Jou '03 as a reason for the decision was that the cost to Monday donuts is prohibitive. Although I have been unable to track down exact costs, I wonder how this could be. The midnight donut crowd is at least a factor of ten larger than that of the Friday morning crowd, and there are conventionally ten such Friday donut sessions. It's true that "Far

Foster's" is, indeed, "far," but what is ASCIT paying for gas these days? Fuel for the each of the ten round trips is not more than \$3, and by some simple arithmetic I'd estimate that somewhere between \$50 and \$120 is being saved by this change. This is clearly an insignificant savings, if it is even a "savings." The only thing it seems to be saving is someone from waking up and driving out every Friday morning to get the saccharine tasty treats our stomachs look forward to like Santa Claus.

Lastly, one of the reasons for an unusual breaking of tradition is that it is said to be an "experiment." Perhaps this is one of those experiments where they inject you with a virus and hope they find a cure by the time it festers, but probably not. Regardless, if we are to be deprived of our orgasmic creamy toroids, I would expect to be slowly weaned, such that the immediate withdrawal symptoms are not quite so bad. Kind of like a donut patch, only less creamy and it doesn't involve strapping bread products to oneself. So why this embroglio on this food-stuff of unbearable ecstasy? We could go and get them on our own, but that requires a car and time, two things that have a price tag at much higher than \$3 to any teacher. We could go to Winchells, but their donuts are less like Donut Man's Ambrosia-like disk and more like a sugared bagel; needless to say, strawberry donuts aren't even an option.

Remember, this does not just affect the regular Friday donut-goers. All those with problem sets, labs, social lives, work, et cetera that may cause them to be up until/at eight a.m. on Fridays should be thankful of the gift offered them of, the hallowed hollowed donut that could be the one guiding light at the end of the long, oppressive, never-ending night.

Post-Caltech Choices, Conflicts

After Graduation, Are We Prepared to Make Decisions?

By JIALAN WANG

As we slowly and somewhat painfully approach graduation, all Caltech students face a crossroad. On one hand, most of us have been ingrained with the idea that academia is the viable path for an honest science student to take. On the other hand, it is frustrating to see people of lesser talent and intellect get all of the money and power. Although the inertia to continue on the academic route is strong, the promise of easy money in business and industry is hard to resist.

Here at Caltech, the bias toward the academic route is very strong. Many of us even come from academic families, and most of our professors have single-mindedly pursued academic research since they were our age. Caltech itself is a monument of the greatness that

can be achieved through the pure pursuit of knowledge. Moreover, a deep and intense passion for science is essential for surviving Caltech, and with that passion comes the dream of uncovering the mysteries of the universe. How can we help but be enamored by this dream?

Unfortunately, it takes much more than a passion and a dream to succeed in academia. However, all of the people around us have achieved the highest level of success in academia, success that even most Caltech students cannot hope to achieve. Although being a Caltech professor may be the best job in the world, being a mid-level academic may not be so fantastic. World-class academics are able to keep the passion going because their institutions provide the necessary funds and support for their research. But most professors are not so pampered. On the flipside, many capable academics are relegated to the slow hell of working at obscure state schools and third-tier colleges where funding is short, the teaching workload is heavy, the students are dull, and the bureaucracy is maddening. As I have witnessed first hand, the dream can die hard at such places.

Despite all of the challenges of academia, the business world is perhaps even less forgiving. With the revelations of the Enron scandal in recent months, the business environment appears to be the very antithesis of the honest and trusting world of Caltech. In the business world, raw talent won't get us far if we can't sell ourselves. Most

of us, on the other hand, can't even socialize at a party, much less spin ourselves to corporate interviewers. Moreover, the vast majority of our classes put no emphasis on communication skills, leaving us hopelessly unprepared for a workplace where communication is everything. Workplace environments where promotions are obtained through backstabbing rather than studying may be even more frustrating than spending long years attaining professorship.

But does going into business necessarily mean selling out? Of course, in most instances, serious moral breaches are not necessary to succeed. However, it is not the sort of work that inspires the passion that all scientists share. Although serious businesspeople such as investment bankers and senior executives are definitely hardworking and dedicated, they don't seem to love what they do as much as they are obsessed with it and love the money that comes with. Thus, while chasing money isn't always a moral sell-out, it's a betrayal of the strict principles of honor and community that we adhere to here.

For most of us, the choice to pursue science in college was an obvious one, but the decision of whether to go to graduate school or get a job is much less clearcut — and much more important for the rest of our lives. As four years fly by, we have little time to think seriously about the future. But as graduation approaches and the future comes upon us, are we prepared to make the decision?



Herd of students and prefrish stampede ASCIT's Board of Directors at last Thursday's Midnight Donuts session.

Letter: Carlton Treads Dangerous Line

Bad Jokes Cloud Truth

Dear Editors,

When I noticed the article "Pontification on Objectification: A Male Cheerleader Dives into 'Female Psychology,'" I was initially pleasantly surprised to see the Tech address feminist issues. My initial happiness quickly faded when I realized that this article was at best a mockery of serious subjects. Before I further discuss my complaints about this article, I would like to assure you that I do in fact realize this article may have been "just a joke." I can assure you I don't find discriminatory remarks towards a minority population (at least at Caltech) acceptable simply because they were meant as jokes.

The author introduces his big joke as a piece on "female psychology." Scientists do in fact research the ramifications of a possibly separate and distinct female psychology and mindset. There have been papers supporting and refuting this idea; this paper was neither, as it hardly addressed any serious issue.

In addition to marginalizing real issues this article impressed the reader as being written only to male

students, the "scientist, mathematicians, and engineers" who "objectify pretty much everything." By writing to a male perspective under the guise of addressing all of the scientists of Caltech, the author effectively marginalizes the contributions and opinions of female scientists, excluding them from the academic community he addresses.

Not only does the article imply that its intended audience excludes females, it overtly accuses women of having a "preference for being indirect." The author does not stop at this rash generalization; he also posits that "women are less interested in science because they have evolved beyond the need for it. With all the men around, they feel smart enough already." While I do not see any way this could not be a direct insult, I will concede that it could either be incredibly insulting or simply so poorly phrased that its meaning is incomprehensible.

While I appreciate the necessity of comic relief, I maintain that articles in poor taste damage the Caltech community and the comfort of valuable female scientists, mathematicians and engineers at

this school. Let us all hope the author supports the cheerleader pictured more securely than he does the points of his latest article in the *Tech*.

Sarah Wilhoit '05



Cheerleader O.J. Carlton '03 opened a firestorm of controversy after his "Pontification on Objectification."

CALTECH CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH



Milking Wilkie: Suddenly, he won't be talking about beers and Coke in Ec 11 anymore. Kudos to Simon Wilkie on his prestigious FCC appointment.



Wild Ranchers: The BoD goes rodeo at Capra Ranch last weekend lassoing dollars for and from clubs. Remind me once more: how is this a "retreat"?



The Black Donut Hole: It doesn't take Stephen Hawking to prove that this "experiment" has Friday donuts headed straight for the BoD's black hole.

Morning Donuts Cut From Friday Docket

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

ing over impossible problems, but as the sun steals over the sleeping campus you will be rewarded with sugar and starch.

But while many Techers can wax eloquent about the joys of Friday donuts, many Techers chose not to make them a regular part of their lives. Friday morning donuts were attended by a small crowd rather than the mass of humanity that covers the Olive Walk during midnight donuts. Nonetheless, it came as a surprise to many Caltech students when Ted Jou '03, ASCIT president, sent out a short notice on April 8th which cancelled Friday morning donuts for this term, opting instead of provide midnight donuts twice this term, once for Prefrsh Weekend and once for midterm.

Tradition for tradition's sake is apparently worth something to Caltech students. Martha-Helene Stapleton '03, previous ASCIT president, recalled the furor when the suggestion to scrap Friday morning donuts arose first term. "I think it's amazing that Ted's getting away with it [eliminating Friday morning donuts]," she explained. "I raised the issue during my administration and there was a one-page article in the *Tech* attacking me for it."

Eric Tuttle, ASCIT president prior to Stapleton, lamented the proposal to eliminate ASCIT donuts back in the fall. "To scrap this tradition (of unknown and probably relatively short duration) out of laziness would be a sad, sad act, and an indicator of a government which has lost sight of its place in the system. Hasn't Caltech suffered enough from the loss of tradition through laziness and apathy? Witness the long-gone Big T on the mountain (for which the yearbook is named), or the fabled Caltech prank."

Not all Techers miss the "good old days" of Friday morning donuts. "Weren't morning donuts god-awful early? Who wakes up at eight a.m.?" asked Svanhild Simonson '03. And as Stapleton rightly pointed out, "From any perspective so many more people will benefit than the small number who used to show up on Friday mornings."

If the name of ASCIT's Web site (*donut.caltech.edu*) is any indication, providing donuts is perhaps ASCIT's most important function. But, nothing is yet cast in stone. Jou promises that the issue of Friday morning donuts will be reconsidered at the end of this term based on student opinion. In the meantime, enjoy midterm donuts and get some sleep Friday mornings.

A.S.C.I.T. Minutes

APRIL 19, 2002

Present

BoD: Ted, Vikram, Joe, Janet, Marcus, Basit, Jialan, Neda. Absent: Andrea (track)
Guests: Kevin Bartz (*Tech* editor), Tasha Vanesian, Dana Sadava, Vi Tran (Tech BM's), Abe Fetterman, Abe's prefrash Matt, Jessie Kneeland (CRC Chairman), Hall Daily (Caltech publications advisor)

Meeting called to order at 4:15 p.m.

Guests

The Business Managers want to talk about the 10% issue. In line with a directive issued from Martha-Helene's BoD a year ago (as noted in the March 8, 2002 minutes), the business managers were sent a letter this week after a BoD vote directing them to pay themselves only 10% until further notice (under the provisions of the ASCIT Bylaws, Article XIV, Sections 9 and 10). Some concern



K. Bartz/The California Tech

Two volunteers at last Saturday's ASCIT Carnival mix cotton candy for prefrash.

over amount paid had been raised by Janet and Neda, the *Tech* editors at that time, which is why the previous BoD took action. They do not remember hearing from M-H and feel it is unfair they worked on the most recent *Tech* believing they could pay themselves 10% each rather than 10% collectively. The BoD later votes 6-0 to extend the deadline by two *Tech* issues. Hopefully a totally new pay scheme (which Neda is working on and would have to be BoD-approved) will be in place by then, but if not the 10% will take effect at that time, to continue until the new pay scheme is approved.

Hall Daily came to talk about the *Big T*, but offered useful advice about the *Tech* issues as well. He doesn't want to create a *Big T* situation where there are disincentives to become the *Big T* editor. The *Big T* has had recent financial problems, and ASCIT allocated several thousand dollars this year to attempt to correct them. The cost of the *Big T* is generally \$34,000-38,000 according to Hall, which means the business manager of that publication has to come up with at least \$8,000 in ads. It is also very important to leave some seed money for the next year. Ideally, this would be 10% (\$3000-4000) of the total cost. For the *Tech*, a \$5000-6000 reserve at any time means they're in good shape. The *Tech*'s financial status is very good, and the *Big T* is "right on the edge" says Hall. He suggests that *Big T* BM's be appointed in the fall so that they'll have a better grasp of what the job entails.

Jessie came to request \$150 in funding for the upcoming CRC banquet. It is approved on a 5-1-1 vote and put under "TBA" in the budget. Some members believe the Dean's Office should fund it because the CRC is not an ASCIT body (unlike the BoC, whose banquet ASCIT also helps fund).

General Meeting

The annual Capra retreat was quite productive. We successfully budgeted \$67,106 (the entire budget breakdown is available on Donut),

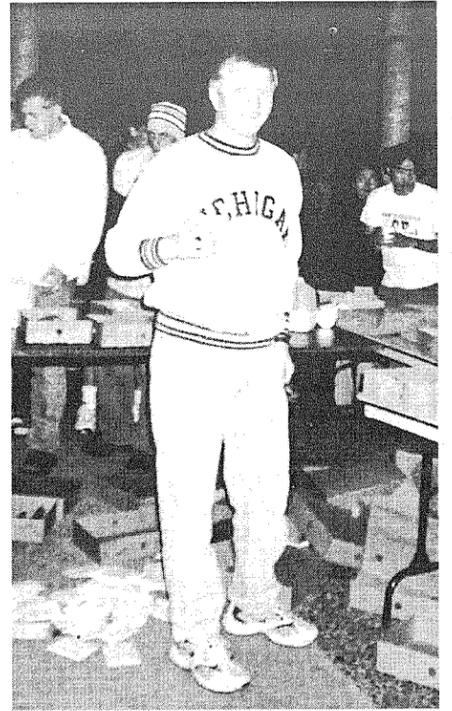
and passed amendments to Resolutions IV, XVIII, and XXV, as well as approving several Bylaw amendments for the ballot (statements should be running in this issue of the *Tech*).

Two clubs from last term, Shotokan Karate Club and Social Activism Speaker Series, didn't pick up any of their funding for last term and would like it now. Club officers changed and apparently the old officers didn't bother to do it, but this is the most common excuse and BoD Resolution XXIII is quite explicit on the issue (mostly for tax reasons). Since it fell under the last fiscal year and there are no unusual extenuating circumstances, the requests are declined without vote under the provisions of Section 3.

Vikram, who looks quite tired, is excused to go nap at 5:27.

We discuss the upcoming Student-Faculty Conference. Joe calls for more publicity by the BoD and especially the current ARC, since Nick and M-H are hard to get in touch with. Ted says he will write an article for the *Tech*. We have arranged for two public forums during the day, a slate of administrators (including David Baltimore and Steve Koonin) for 45 minutes to take student questions, and a panel of faculty undergraduate alumni for another 45 minutes. We hope that the second group will provide some interesting stories of "the good old days". There is some discussion over which faculty to invite, and no conclusions are reached other than "not Koonin, because he's already on the other panel". A list of all the faculty alumni will be sent out to the BoD and suggestions should be emailed to Ted. An enthusiastic debate ensues over whether or not to choose a few questions for the panels beforehand or simply open up the floor for 45 minutes. Eventually we decide that at least a couple questions will be preselected so that we have something to give the panels beforehand—hearing the responses will also get the audience's creative juices flowing. After that, however, we'll open it up to general questions from the floor for the bulk of the time.

Some discussion over the new ASCIT Bylaw amendments we are hoping to pass next



K. Bartz/The California Tech

In what has become a tradition, ASCIT Secretary Joe Jewell '04 raises a milk toast at last Thursday's Midnight Donuts session.

Tuesday, and also on an upcoming one clarifying roles in committee appointments. It will be important to pass the latter to bring our regulations in line with those of the Faculty Board and preserve student representation on faculty committees. We hope it will be non-controversial since the changes are fairly small.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Joe Jewell

ASCIT Secretary

The Changing Bylaws: Two Ballots Set for Tuesday Clarify Duties, Role of Executive Committee Loosen Monetary Demands

Repeal Article VI ("Executive Committee"), redesignate old Article VII as new Article VI, redesignate old Article XVI as new Article VII.

Replace all references to "Executive Committee" in Article VIII, Sections 8 and 9, with "Executive Election Committee."

Add new Section 4 ("Executive Election Committee") to Article XII, renumbering other sections accordingly:

SECTION 4—EXECUTIVE ELECTION COMMITTEE.

(a) MEMBERSHIP. The Executive Election Committee shall consist of the President of the Corporation and between six and eight

members appointed at the beginning of third term by the Board of Directors. The Chairman of the Committee shall not be a member of the Board of Directors. He shall have no vote unless a tie occurs.

(b) DUTIES. The Executive Election Committee shall have sole power to consider the validity of protests under the provisions of Article VIII, Section 8. It shall also have the sole power to consider protests over whether a petition or amendment concerns the Board of Control, and the power to reschedule invalidated elections. It shall have the power to appoint persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors, under the provisions of Article VIII, Section 9.

(c) MEETINGS. The Executive Election Committee shall meet at

the request of the Chairman of the Committee, the President of the Corporation, any two members of the Committee, or the Board of Directors. Five (5) members of the Executive Election Committee shall constitute a quorum.

For

The motivation for this amendment was confusion over the role of the ASCIT Executive Committee. The notion that they "have the power to interpret the bylaws" is extremely ambiguous. It seems to imply that the ExComm had the power to act as a judicial branch of the student government, but provides no procedure for bringing cases, initiating investigations, or handing down decisions. It is also not clear whether or not this power is actually needed, as the ExComm meets very rarely and has done very few things that the ASCIT Board of Directors could not handle itself. Some would argue that the ExComm is a check on the power of the BoD, but since it is generally appointed by the ASCIT President, the ExComm is not exactly in prime position to question the BoD. ASCIT is small enough so that a sufficient check on BoD members is the threat of a recall election. The student body itself can have significant sway over the actions of the Board without the assistance of a committee appointed by the President himself.

There is also a reference to a responsibility to "assist the President in coordinating activities of the Corporation." This capacity of the ExComm has not been employed in many years, and in fact, a "President's Staff" is defined separately in the ASCIT BoD Resolutions. Two references to a non-existent practice are more than enough, so one of them might as well be deleted.

However, there are several things that cannot be the responsibility of

Repeal Article XIV ("Publications"), Section 11, and Section 12 (Subsections (c) and (d)) only. Renumber other Sections accordingly.

For

The motivation for this amendment is simply to delete outdated parts of the ASCIT Bylaws. The *CLUE* and the *UROD* are no longer physical publications and are now presented only in online form at donut.caltech.edu. The ASCIT BoD has been including these amounts in the salaries of the ASCIT Web Development Team and there is no reason to have a separate line in the Bylaws for these publications any longer.

Part of Section 11 also pertains to the *Totem*, however; the decision was made to remove that entire section because it is the only place in the Bylaws outside the Article con-

cerning dues, Article XIII, where explicit monetary amounts are specified. Monetary amounts will fluctuate with inflation and it is cumbersome to have explicit numbers specified in the Bylaws. Also, having the amounts hidden in the Publications Bylaw promises a fraction of dues to a particular individual without making that fact very public to the entire ASCIT membership.

Passage of this Bylaw will not effectively change the way ASCIT does anything this year, as the salaries for the *Totem* editor and the Web Development Team have already been specified in the budget.

Against

Without this section in the Bylaws, the *Totem* editor would no longer be guaranteed a salary.

the ASCIT BoD because they would create a conflict of interest. Specifically, protests of the results of an election should not be decided by a body that likely will include several members who will be running for office. Also, in the event of "NO" winning an election or some other cause of a vacancy on the BoD, there must be some other body that appoints the replacements. The power to decide whether legislation concerns the Board of Control is also an important function, as it determines who is allowed to vote in a particular election.

In fact, all the duties that would create major conflicts of interest for the BoD are election-related. Thus, the committee charged with these duties should reflect that in its name, hence the title "Executive Election Committee." This new committee will be appointed by the Board of Directors as a whole rather than just by the President, since there is no longer a President-assisting responsibility. The new Bylaw also defines quorum clearly, which

is essential to any body that makes official rulings.

Overall, this Bylaw seeks to eliminate unnecessary responsibilities and clarify necessary ones. Along with the new Bylaw are several clerical changes. The Executive Election Committee will be defined in Article XII after the Election Committee. The new CRC Bylaw will be moved to right after the BoC Bylaw in the ASCIT Bylaws, and all references to "Executive Committee" will be changed to "Executive Election Committee."

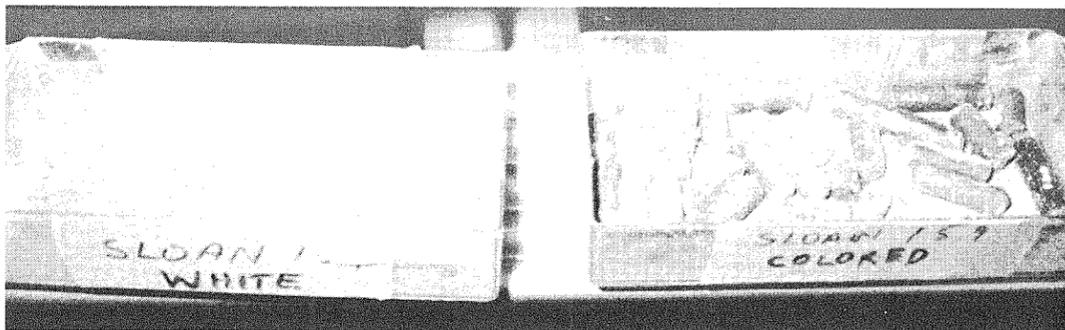
Against

The Executive Committee is an important check on the power of the ASCIT Board of Directors, and this amendment eliminates that balance of power. Without an ExComm, the only possible recourse for a BoD that is in violation of the Bylaws is a recall election or even the Board of Control, which would both be rather drastic actions.



K. Bartz/The California Tech

ASCIT President Ted Jou '03 takes to Ricketts House in promoting the BoD's latest set of proposed bylaw amendments.



L. Zhang/The California Tech

Recent investigation has shown that past "separate but equal" laws do not apply to segregated chalk.

Is All Chalk Created Equal?

Math Student Questions Discrimination Among Chalk

By LIBIN ZHANG

For years, Caltech has prided itself on being egalitarian, meritocratic, diverse. Sadly, beneath this perfect exterior lies a dark and hidden layer of prejudice and segregation. Much like the South of the Jim Crow era may appear to be a shining example of harmony to the casual modern Tocqueville, close examination of the Caltech system has revealed much to be desired in this century-old campus. Will our benevolent President feign ignorance of the issue about to be introduced?

The Sloan building is the bastion of mathematics and represents the conservative old regime that dominates the campus. In a daring move reminiscent of Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalists, I, Ruddock House pundit Libin Zhang '05, have discovered shocking signs of segregation in the prestigious building. Fearlessly outwitting the harem guards, death traps, and mathematics TAs, I breached the inner sanctum of the Sloan complex and discovered a most troubling and shocking secret. It appears that de-

spite landmark civil rights legislation, some things are still segregated merely by the colour of their skin. The divisive nature of the Old South has been exposed once again.

Ramakrishnan was about to arrive for another batch of ritual sacrifices to the mathematics gods, so time was running short. Taking a couple of snapshots, I silently and quickly made my escape from the complex. In my lab, the processed pictures showed more shocking and detailed examples of segregation at Caltech. Unfortunately, the censors overseeing the California Tech would not allow the more risqué pictures to be shown or discussed, so nobody now would ever know about what Barry Simon was doing with the can of whipped cream.

The censors did allow the publishing of a closeup picture of the segregated facilities. Notice how clean and new the chalk in the "white" box is, as compared to the short and dirty chalk in the "colored" box. It appears that the "white" box is infinitely more well maintained than the "colored" box has ever been. *Brown v. Board of Education* has claimed that "separate but equal" is

impossible, and these Sloan facilities are a premiere example of separation leading to inequality. Has Caltech sunk so low that chalks of all colors cannot coexist?

Let us think of the future and the children. Segregation shall not lead to a happy ending for this playground of science and technology. As domino world champion Travis Newsome once said: "This shall not stand." Let us rise in unison to fight the man, so that the dream of colored little chalk and white little chalk being used in unison will be a reality one day, albeit long after this generation. The trend towards separation shall not be allowed to continue. What's next, sending all the Asians away to a dorm-like concentration camp? Only time will tell.

THE OUTSIDE WORLD

By William Fong

Amtrak Train Derails In Florida

On Thursday, an Amtrak Auto Train derailed in the vicinity of Crescent City, Florida. The engineer had seen a misalignment in the rails and applied the emergency brakes; however no connection between this and the derailment has been found. More than 40 cars came off the tracks resulting in more than 150 injuries. Four people were killed by the accident. Investigation into the cause of the accident is under way.

Venezuelan President Regains Power

After a coup last week, supporters of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez led a successful counter-rebellion last Sunday to reinstate him as president. Although the coup was the result of unrest amongst the people of Venezuela, Chavez claimed that no change in his autocratic rule was needed and called the military coup a "flop".

Plane Crashes Into Milan Skyscraper

On Thursday, a small plane flew into the famous Pirelli building of Milan, Italy which housed government offices. The 67-year old Swiss

pilot, Luigi Fasulo, and two government lawyers were killed when the plane took out the 25th and 26th floors of the tower. Early speculation into the cause of the crash points at either a possible mechanical failure, an ill pilot, or a suicide mission.

Talks Fail To Produce Peace

Earlier in the week, Secretary of State Colin Powell met with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon but was unable to get the two sides to agree to a peaceful resolution. As a result, the violence has continued with a suicide bombing at an Israeli checkpoint and Israeli military action killing seven Palestinians on Friday. Also, there appears to be no withdrawal from Ramallah where the Israeli military has had Arafat's compound surrounded for the past few weeks.

Oklahoma City Anniversary

Friday marked the seventh anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing which had been the deadliest terrorist attack in the U.S. until the September 11 attacks. The remembrance ceremony featured 168 seconds of silence to mark the 168 people killed in the bombing.



Heavy Water Makes You Light

Losing Weight the Caltech Way: Scientific Rigor

By TONY LEE

A recent study (*Tech*, 2002) by resident physicist Billy Young concluded that bodily de-deuteration leads directly to weight loss. The paper's treatment of the topic, upon closer examination, turns out to be a first-order approximation to a non-linear system of many factors. The present study provides corrections to *Young* and proposes another candidate theory.

Deuterium oxide (D_2O) is a non-radioactive isotopic variant of light water (H_2O). There is one part deuterium for every 6000 parts of hydrogen (*CRC*, 2000). "Heavy water" canonically denotes water that is doubly deuterated (*OED*, 2002). Hence, there is one part D_2O for every 12 million parts of H_2O , instead of every 6000 parts of H_2O as stated in *Young*.

Calculations in *Young* exhibit similar bias. If the subject's natural water composition is 52.9076 kg, this corresponds to 0.003 mole of a mixture of natural isotopes. Substituting hydrogen for all the deuterium and tritium would eliminate 0.003 times 0.00797 grams. Instead of a whopping [sic] two thousandths of a pound, 51 millionths of a pound were lost.

Deuterium oxide is chemically equivalent to light water, but the two differ in thermodynamic kinetics. The 1 amu supplement to hydrogen's atomic mass slows metabolism, the conversion of glucose in particular, up to 30% (*Harris*, 1997). In fact, the biostability of D_2O medium (*Katz*, 1965), effectively equivalent to temperature reduction, is used to control microbial activity (*Crainic and Simpson*, 1994) and prevent protein denaturation (*Kushner et al.*, 1996). Recent studies also demonstrate deuteration to be an impediment to mitosis (*Dantus*, 1998).

Adoption of a totally deuterated diet would render the body unable to process ingested organic material. The body would subsequently deplete its non-deuterated energy supply. Initial measurements would indicate weight elevation, but after

a period of uniform absorption, 100% attenuation in the non-deuterated sector would dominate over the 11% mass increase in the water domain.

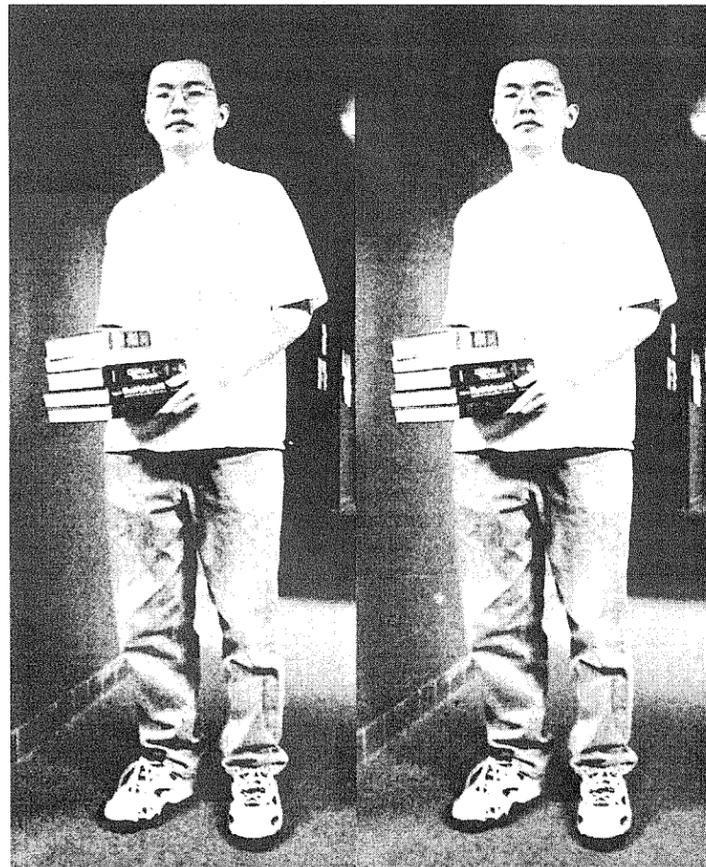
This begs the question: what is the effect of a light-water diet? It would enhance the body's ability to process digested food, resulting in weight gain by similar reasoning. The author estimates the magnitude to exceed 51 millionths of a pound.

Clinical tests on laboratory mammals show D_2O to be poisonous. Toxic effects, including kidney failure and sterility, appear when the D_2O content of fluids and tissue reaches 20% (*Thomson*, 1963). So a posteriori, the ideal hydration diet

would balance weight loss and health issues. Because the presence of deuterium in natural water is asymptotically asymptomatic, an increase of heavy water concentration by less than an order of magnitude may be appropriate.

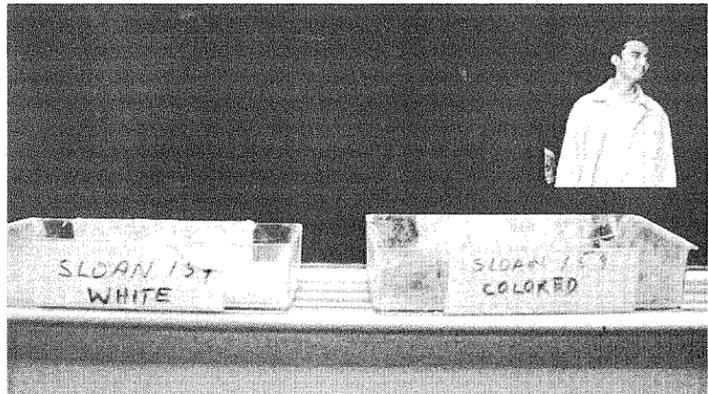
There are other effects yet to be considered. For instance, deuterated protein is generally less compact because of weakened hydrogen bonds (*Leitl*, 1996). D_2O also has higher viscosity than light water (*Kestin et al.*, 1985). Rigorous studies are needed to establish the central dogma of deuteration and the body.

Disclaimer: don't take this too seriously.



K. Barz/The California Tech

Subject Tony Lee '05 shows off the true before-and-after results of the uncanny "Heavy Water Diet" conceived by resident physicist Billy Young '05. Instead of two thousandths of a pound, Lee lost only 51 millionths of a pound after complete de-deuteration.



L. Zhang/The California Tech

Private investigator Libin Zhang '05 uncovered conspicuously labelled chalk boxes, presumed evidence of "lingering segregation" in Sloan.



by Abel Bourbois

Upcoming Events

Contact Greg (grefg@its) for additional info on any event.

Speaker (4/24, eight p.m., BIAudit.) Hunter Lovins, co-founder of the Rocky Mountain Institute, is a revolutionary thinker and activist for environmental issues. Sponsored by Social Activism Speaker Series.

Earth Day (4/26, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Outside Red Door) Come get food, a free t-shirt at the annual environmental fair. Featuring live music and earth-friendly club booths.

Sailing (4/27) Contact Jeffrey (jedlund@its)

Community Service (4/27, eight a.m. to five p.m., Pasadena) Help rebuild, refurbish, and restore houses of needy residents in the lo-

cal Pasadena area. No expertise is required. Tasks may include yardwork, cleaning, painting, and minor repair jobs. Contact David (armet@its)

Factoid

The Y has discount movie tickets for only \$5 available to various venues. Call the office for availability and updates.

Y Not Join Us?

There are many opportunities to help the Y continue to serve the CIT community. All meetings are open to students, staff, and faculty.

ExComm: every Monday, noon
Community Service Committee: every other Thursday, noon. Next meeting: 5/2

Outdoor Committee: for more information contact Katie (homann@its)

All meetings take place in the Y Lounge. The Y is located on the first floor of the Student Services Building, south of the Holliston parking structure.

If you are, in any way, interested in getting more involved with the Y or have questions about the Y, feel free to e-mail the Vice President (yveep@ugcs).

DILBERT® by Scott Adams

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

THE TRAINING BUDGET GOT SLASHED. YOU HAVE TO CANCEL YOUR CLASS.

WE ALREADY PAID FOR THE CLASS. WE'LL LOOK BAD IF YOU GO.

SO, OUR PLAN IS TO APPEAR SMART WHILE SECRETLY BEING STUPID? YOU CAN MAKE ANYTHING SOUND BAD.

IT'S CRITICAL THAT YOU FINISH THIS ENGINEERING ANALYSIS BY TUESDAY.

AAHH... IT HAS THE SWEET SMELL OF AN UNNECESSARY ASSIGNMENT. YES, I CAN SMELL IT FROM HERE.

STOP BEING YOU. FEASIBILITY OF USING NON-EXISTENT SOFTWARE. HEE HEE!

IT'S A NEW REALITY. IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, YOU CAN LEAVE!

QUESTION: HOW CAN WE LEAVE REALITY? AREN'T WE ALWAYS IN IT BY DEFINITION?

NEVER MIND... APPARENTLY EVERYONE ELSE KNEW WHAT YOU MEANT.

HOW'S YOUR HOMEWORK COMING, PETER? I'M STUCK ON A WORD PROBLEM. I'D OFFER TO HELP, BUT IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I TOOK MATH. MATH? THIS IS FOR HISTORY CLASS. OH, THAT SORT OF WORD PROBLEM. WOULD IT KILL MICROSOFT TO INCLUDE A MANUAL?!

WHAT A DAY I'M HAVING. FIRST MY KEY CARD DOESN'T WORK, SO I HAVE TO TAILGATE INTO THE BUILDING.

THEN MY NETWORK PASSWORD DOESN'T WORK. NOW MY VOICEMAIL DOESN'T WORK!

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ANYTHING ELSE TO STOP WORKING TODAY?!

MOM, CAN YOU READ MY BOOK REPORT? I'D BE HAPPY TO, PAIGE. Ernest Hemingway's "A Farewell to Arms" is about zgwqolm and opxnhjakdv. The central character is Dgejhp and the main themes are ygn-nezprk and thja nwkjd. FEEL FREE TO FIX ANY TYPOS, BY THE WAY. NICE TRY.

DO YOU HAVE A SECOND? WALK AND TALK.

SO, THE SUPPLIER WON'T... HI, PETE. HEY, TIM. HI, BARB. HOW ARE YOU? NOT BAD. HI.

UM... THOSE AREN'T THEIR NAMES. MY WAY IS EASIER. HI, TED.

GLUG GLUG GLUG

GLUG GLUG GLUG

THIS COULD COMPLETELY CHANGE SPITBALL WARFARE AS WE KNOW IT. EILEEN JACOBSON IN SIGHT. RANGE: 800 YARDS.

... AND THAT'S WHY I NEED A MANAGEMENT DECISION. HI, BILL!

BUT YOU ARE TOO DISTRACTED TO MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION, SO THIS WILL BE RANDOM. BOB!

AND HERE IT COMES. WOULD "NO" BE AN ANSWER TO ANYTHING YOU SAID?

CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET? MAYBE.

I BROKE DOWN AND BOUGHT THE NEW DYNADUFF PUTTER WITH QUADBALL™ ALIGNMENT. THIS BABY'S GOING TO REVOLUTIONIZE MY GOLF GAME.

JUST DON'T TELL YOUR MOTHER. IT COST ME \$160. AHEM.

JUST DON'T TELL YOUR MOTHER. IT COST ME \$165. AHEM.

THIS ISN'T MY STOCK PORTFOLIO. WHOOPS. MY BAD.

I OPENED PETER'S "STOCK CAR INSANITY EXTREME RACING 2002" VIDEO GAME BY MISTAKE.

HERE'S YOUR STOCK PORTFOLIO.

GO BACK TO THE SMASHING CARS. THAT WAS MORE CALMING. I CAN USE A DIFFERENT COLOR THAN RED IF YOU WANT.

JASON, WERE YOU THE ONE WHO TAPED THESE STUPID "KICK ME" SIGNS TO THE BACK OF EVERY SHIRT IN MY CLOSET?!

ME?? OF COURSE NOT. I KNOW YOU'RE LYING, YOU LITTLE GEEK!

I TOLD YOU NOT TO EAT CHEETOS BEFORE YOU DID THAT. YEAH, YEAH.

HOW'S YOUR HOMEWORK COMING, PETER? I'M STUCK ON A WORD PROBLEM. I'D OFFER TO HELP, BUT IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I TOOK MATH. MATH? THIS IS FOR HISTORY CLASS. OH, THAT SORT OF WORD PROBLEM. WOULD IT KILL MICROSOFT TO INCLUDE A MANUAL?!

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JUST DON'T TELL YOUR MOTHER. IT COST ME \$160. AHEM.

JUST DON'T TELL YOUR MOTHER. IT COST ME \$165. AHEM.

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& Crisp Salad

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Only one coupon per delivery

Dean's Corner

Smiling Monsters

by Jean-Paul Revel



On the walk between Baxter and Beckman Behavioral where students from various places which had been part of the British empire meet to play cricket some late afternoons, there appeared overnight a couple of skeletal monsters, Praying Mantis or Dinosaurs apparently ready to do battle. They stand with their knees flexed, claws at the ready, jaws hanging wide. One can imagine glistening viscous saliva dripping between flesh-tearing rows of shark like teeth. It turns out these were not knights commissioned by Baxterites and BBBites (sic) to do battle on their behalf, nor were they the remnants of aliens who had landed overnight and rusted stiff in our corrosive oxidizing atmosphere. They had a look which suggested that they were likely the work of Senior Nate Austin, whose welded figures have graced the campus before (remember the Dolphins in Millikan pond?). A quick email confirmed that it was indeed the work of Nate and his welder friends.

I am not sure why, but to me, the apparition of the sculptures, of this assemblage of rebar, cases of old electronic equipment and electrical conduits was a reaffirmation of some of the wonderful things that Caltech stands for, which somehow I, and amethinksä many others among us, also, have somehow forgotten as tensions have built up in the last few months. Just as the stock market is seemingly beginning to slowly creep upward again, and the forget-me-nots and other precious flowers are pushing their

noses out of the ground, so do things begin to look a bit brighter at Caltech, if not in the world (I hate to even watch the news these days as if not knowing what is happening meant that nothing unusual is going on in the world). After the President's April 5th letter to the students, Tech reporter Robert Li, quoting students and student leaders he interviewed averred that things were in fact looking better than they had for a long time.

All well and good, but there is much more to do. There always is much more to do. A problem so simple that it can be resolved by a few strokes of the pen (or pressings of a keyboard) just was not a problem to start with. Most problems are multi faceted and attention must be paid to a large number of factors even if only to soften their consequences, let alone solve them. The worst problems of course, are those which are not clearly visible. If they can't be recognized as problems, they are not soluble by definition. So the opportunity to identify problems is an important step in getting something done about them. Perhaps all that happens is a recognition that there is nothing that should or can be dealt with.

An opportunity to identify problems is now coming up fast and I do hope that everyone will participate in it. I am talking about the Student Faculty Conference, this New England town meeting a la sauce Caltech recognizing several major components that go into the Caltech puddingstone, the Students, the Faculty and this time the Administration as well.

Any opportunity for a dialog be-

tween students and administration is important.

There has been a beginning in the town meetings held in the houses by Cathy Jurca and her committee. The Student/Faculty Conference is another, aimed at a different set of problems. It is a nominally biennial affair, but it seems that the definition of a year has been left open. It has been more than two earth years for sure, if I am right may be two mars years (1 mars year is 687 of our days) since the last conference. Whatever the interval the Faculty Student Conference is a scheduled time at which to make your opinions heard, and also to get information straight from the highest authorities. And the meeting promises to be quite authoritative. It will open with a panel session featuring, I understand, President Baltimore, Provost Koonyn and Student Af-

fairs Vice President Lorden, may be others as well. They will be available for questions and presumably discuss further some of the issues already broached by the President in his letter to the students. After that, Caltech alums, some of which are now on the other side of the fence, professors at Caltech, will discuss life as they experienced it in their student days, and now. The blinders of history always limit our perspective, and their presentations may provide an opportunity to judge of the progress (if any) made since they were drinking at the hose, instead of (wo)manning it. After a Mannion lunch, which will supplant lunch in the houses, there will be discussions of the Honor system and of Advising. I guess the discussion will be based at least in part on the results of the surveys which were distributed recently. Did you fill out yours? Do so quickly if you have not. It would be great to be able to solidly document attitudes and beliefs about some of the most central Caltech Institutions. The data collected in the survey and the ideas aired as part of the discussion

will presumably help to analyze how effective our present modus operandi is, and what needs to be changed and what is best left alone. Meetings like the Student Faculty Conference play a major role in our local democracy, an exchange of information and ideas about how best to organize our society. However it is only by having the participation of everyone concerned that it can be a useful tool. As in an election, if too many people abstain from voting, if too many people stay away and do not participate, the outcome will not be representative. Schedule for the conference and other info can all be found in the Events Calendar @Caltech on our website.

See you April 29, 10:30am. A bientot!

Jean Paul Revel

Jean Paul Revel
Dean of Students

CRIPPLING DEPRESSION

www.CripplingDepression.com

By Ben Lee, Tim Wan and Mike Yeh

THIS COMIC WASN'T ORIGINALLY GOING TO BE THE STORY OF WHINING TEACHERS.

A LOT OF TERRIBLE IDEAS WERE THROWN OUT BEFORE SETTLING ON THIS MEDIOCRE ONE

ORIGINALLY, IT WAS GOING TO BE A THREE ACT MUSICAL!

ANYWAYS, SINCE WE'RE LAZY, HERE ARE SOME FAILED STORYLINES

QUIET, TIM, WE'RE NOT MENTIONING THAT AGAIN

Tim's Creek

A TOUCHING STORY ABOUT LUSTY TEENAGERS

I KNOW YOU'RE WITH ARIEL AND I ACCEPT THAT, I JUST DON'T RESPECT IT.

I DON'T MEAN THIS IN A SLUTTY SELF-DEGRADING WAY, BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW YOU'VE GOT OPTIONS...AND I'M ONE OF THEM.

I HOPE YOU CAN HANDLE ME, YOU'RE THE STARTING QUARTERBACK NOW

EEP!

orientation day

learn about the school that will drive a dedicated student over the edge all in the name of grades

YOU GOTTA KNOW THESE ALLEYS IF YOU'RE GOING TO SURVIVE HERE.

WHAT?

THE SHEEP RAISE THE CURVE, WOLVES RUIN 'EM - YOU GOTTA DECIDE - YOU A SHEEP OR A WOLF?

UH...WOLF SOUNDS GOOD.

MY TECHA!

THE BACHELOR

WHUH?

MEET MIKE, A STUDENT FROM ILLUSTRIOUS CALTECH.

IN THE NEXT FIVE WEEKS, MIKE WILL CHOOSE A WIFE...

I DON'T WANT TO PLAY!

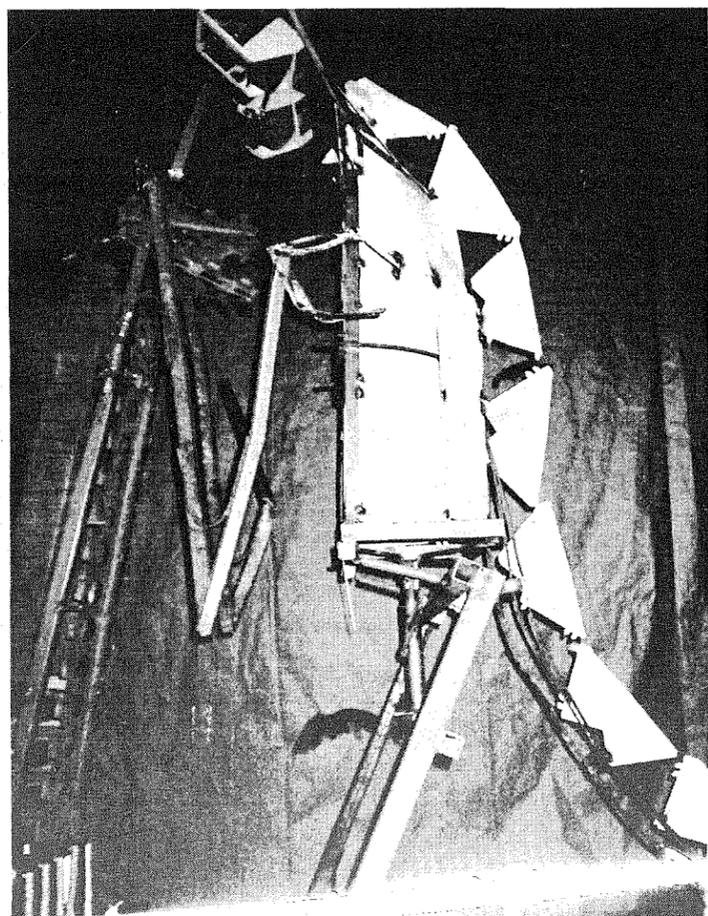
WE MUST PICK AMONGST THESE THIRTY WOMEN FROM CALTECH

NEON ROBOT BATTLE 5

THE FATE OF THE WORLD IS IN THE HANDS OF ONE BOY...

LUCKY!

MOLES, MUSIC AND METAL MONSTERS



K. Bartz/The California Tech

Handcrafted by the more creative Moles, metal monsters tower over Blacker's inter-House party the Saturday before last. An engineering marvel, feature attractions ran the gamut from art displays to milk shakes.

Announcements

The **Beckman Political Internship** will be available again this summer. The internship, supported by friends of Arnold O. Beckman, will pay a stipend of \$5,000. It allows a selected intern to spend the summer working in the office of a politician and to see from the inside the process of government. The intern is expected to make arrangements with the appropriate political persons. It is open to any Caltech undergraduate who intends to be a student next year. If interested, submit a proposal describing where and how you would use the stipend along with one faculty recommendation, to the Deans' Office, 102-31 or email to deansofc@caltech.edu by Monday, April 29, 2002.

Summer Work Study: Information and applications for 2002 Summer Work Study are available in the Financial Aid Office. If you are interested in Summer Work Study, please submit the required application as soon as possible, but no later than June 1, 2002. Your entire financial aid application must be complete by June 1st in order to be considered for Summer Work Study. If awarded, the work study funding will begin with the July 1st payroll.

Grant Announcement: The National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance is seeking proposals that support innovation, invention, and entrepreneurship programs in U.S. colleges and universities. Grants support student inventions and projects, and faculty course development. Deadline: May 15, 2002. Information and Application: <http://www.nciia.org>, 413-587-2172 or info@nciia.org.

Are you interested in working for this year's **Totem, Caltech's Annual Literary Anthology**? We are in the process of trying to recruit students to help assemble this year's magazine. If you produce any creative works (prose, poetry, short stories, photography, painting, computer art, original music, etc.) then please submit (either by e-mailing totem@its.caltech.edu or snail mailing to MSC # 920). You could also come to our weekly meetings and be a reader. All you'd have to do is read/look over the submissions and let us know what you think and in the process help us decide what makes it into the magazine and what doesn't. We strongly encourage any level of participation. We can also be reached at totem@its.caltech.edu.

Attention all **undergraduate students on Financial Aid:** The last date to request any change to your 2001-02 financial aid award is Wednesday, May 1, 2002. Requests for 2001-02 changes made after May 1 will not be considered. Please contact the Financial Aid Office at ext. 6280 if you have any questions.

The **E.T. Bell Undergraduate Mathematics Research Prize** - A cash prize of \$500 awarded for the best original mathematics paper written by a Caltech Junior or Senior. Contestants must be nominated by a faculty member familiar with the work. If the entry is sufficiently worthy, the faculty member will nominate the contestant and act as sponsor. Each student is entitled to only one entry. All contestants nominated must submit their papers in final form to their faculty sponsors by the end of the fourth week of the third term, (April 30). A faculty committee will judge the papers and announce its decision before the end of the third term. The committee may award duplicate prizes in case of more than one outstanding entry. The name of the winner (or winners) will appear in the commencement program.

The **Morgan Ward Competition** - Open to any Caltech freshman or sophomore. Entries may be individual or joint. Each student is entitled to three entries; two may be individual. An entry consists of a mathematical problem with a solution or significant contribution toward a solution. The problem may have any source which should be stated in the entry. The entries are judged on the basis of the nature of the problem, originality, and elegance of the solution. Indicate any outside references used. Entries from each contestant or group must be delivered to 253 Sloan by April 30. The names of the contestant, or contestants, must be written on the envelope only, not on the entry. The Judging Committee will consist of three undergraduates. The judges will select a group of finalists and submit their entries to the mathematics faculty who will make the awards. Prizes of \$75 will be awarded for the best entries. Prizes for individual entries will be limited to one per contestant; no group may receive more than one prize.

The EH&S Office in conjunction with the American Red Cross will be offering **First Aid/CPR training**. Adult First Aid/CPR classes will be held on Monday 6/17, Wednesday 6/19, and Friday 6/21 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the Brown Gym Classroom. Adult/Child/Infant First Aid/CPR training will be held on Thursday 5/9 and Tuesday 5/14 from 8 am - 5 pm, and also a separate class on Tuesday 6/18 and Thursday 6/20 from 5:30 pm - 10 pm in the Brown Gym Classroom. You will need to attend both nights of the class to be certified. The fee for the materials is \$15.00 and must be paid prior to taking the class. If you have questions or would like to register for the class, please contact the EH&S Office at ext. 6727. Class size is limited.

Come celebrate Earth Day with our 12th Annual **Earth Day Fair!** Food, music, and lots of environmentally related local organizations, businesses, and Caltech clubs. Friday, April 26, 11:30-1:30 on Winnett Quad. For more information, check out <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~cefers/edf02.html> or email knigh@its.caltech.edu. Sponsored by the Caltech Environmental Task Force and the Caltech Y.

The **Campaign For Old-Growth** will be collecting signatures at the Earth Day Fair to put the Heritage Tree Preservation Act on the March 2004 California ballot. This act would protect old-growth trees by prohibiting cutting and creating buffer zones. For more information, please see www.ancienttrees.org. To sign the petition, you must be a registered California voter; however, you may register and sign the petition at the same time. Please look for the CFOG Table at the Earth Day Fair on 4/26 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Campus Contact: Ameera Chowdhury (ameera@its.caltech.edu)

The **Ballroom Dance Club** is currently offering two class series: Merengue and Swing. Next week will be the 3rd of 5 lessons, but if you have any previous experience, come learn new moves! Merengue, taught by professional instructor Kristi Wirz, is held on Mondays through April 29. \$6/lesson for all Caltech students; \$8/lesson for others. Amateur-taught East Coast Swing is offered on Wednesdays through May 1; \$1/lesson (free for frosh). All lessons take place in Winnett Lounge from 7:30-9pm, followed by a half hour practice session. No partner necessary, refreshments provided. On Mondays after class, we have a free mini-ballroom dance party - open dancing, request or bring your own music!

Part of the **Caltech Dance Troupe** will be participating in a performance: "Form Follows Function: Spring Dance Concert" put on by the USC School of Theatre. Performances will be held April 25 and 26, 7pm, Bing Theatre, USC campus. General admission is \$10, non-USC students \$7, USC students \$5. We will have three dance classes for spring term. All classes meet in the Braun multipurpose room. Beginner's Hip Hop - back by popular demand! Instructor: Joey Dowdy; Mondays, 10-11:30pm starting April 8. Trial class fee: \$5; Caltech students full term fee: \$20; Non-Caltech students full term fee: \$30; (For those of you who like to schedule ahead, there will be no hip hop class on Monday, April 22.) Intermediate Jazz; Instructor: Collette Sibal; Tuesdays, 10-11pm starting April 9; Trial class fee: \$5; Caltech students full term fee: \$20; Non-Caltech students full term fee: \$30; Intermediate Ballet; Saturdays, 1-2:30pm starting April 13, free! For more information, see <http://troupe.caltech.edu>.

To submit a Mint, e-mail mints@tech.caltech.edu or mail your announcement to Caltech 40-58 Attn: Mints. Submissions should be no longer than 150 words. Email is preferred. No attachments, please. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all material. Deadline is noon Friday. Unless specified, all mints will run for two weeks.

Les-Bi-Gay-Trans Discussion Group

Whether you are out and proud, exploring your sexual identity, coming out, or anywhere in-between, we invite you to our Discussion Group, which meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 8:15 until 10:15 pm in the Health Center Lounge. The group is a great place to meet new friends and the atmosphere is generally very relaxed; at the same time, more personal and "serious" discussion topics can be addressed. This is a confidential meeting and attendance does not imply anything about a person's sexual orientation; supportive students and staff are welcome as well. And refreshments are served! For more information call ext. 8331. To find out about LBGT events on campus, please visit the Caltech Student Pride Association (CSPA) calendar at <http://rainbow.caltech.edu>.

Are you interested in discussing life at Caltech and in the United States? If so, the **Intercultural Discussion and Support Group** provides a forum for Caltech students to explore the process of cultural adjustment and relating across cultures. The group meets every Monday from 12-1 pm in the Women's Center Lounge. (265-86, 2nd floor of the Center for Student Services). This group is facilitated by the Counseling Center and International Student Programs, and is open to ALL Caltech students, graduate and undergraduate, American and international. Drop-ins welcome. Since lunch is provided, please contact Jim at endrizzi@caltech.edu if you plan on attending one of the meetings, this will guarantee that we have enough food!

Scholarships

The **Windstar Foundation**, a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization, co-founded by John Denver and Thomas Crum, and headquartered in Snowmass Colorado, has consistently sought ways "To inspire individuals to make responsible choices and take direct personal action to achieve a peaceful and sustainable future" is pleased to announce the Windstar Environmental Studies Scholarship Program for 2002. With this mission in mind, the Windstar Foundation is awarding three \$500 scholarships to qualified college students. Eligibility Criteria: The applicant must be enrolled as a student in an accredited college or university Environmental Studies or Environmental Engineering Program and be entering his or her junior or senior year in the fall of 2002. The applicant shall have a college GPA of 3.0 or better in his or her major field. Visit www.wstar.org for more information. Applications are due June 1, 2002.

For more information on available scholarships, please visit the Financial Aid web site at <http://www.finaid.caltech.edu/news.html>. All qualified students are encouraged to apply!

Upcoming Events

Caltech Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences continues its series, "**Seminar on Science, Ethics, and Public Policy.**" Dr. Michel Janssen, Assistant Professor in the Program in History of Science and Technology at the University of Minnesota will speak about "A Journey More Important Than Its Destination: Einstein's Quest for General Relativity, 1907-192." Room 25, Baxter Building, Thursday, April 25, 2002 at 4 pm. Seminars are on the Caltech campus and are open to the community at no charge. For information, contact Michelle Reinschmidt at (626) 395-3563 or michelle@hss.caltech.edu. For a complete list of SEPP Seminars and Harris Lectures scheduled for this academic year, visit our web site: <http://www.hss.caltech.edu/ses/SEPP.html>.

Pasadena Symphony Music Director Jorge Mester and sisters Ida and Ani Kavafian (who play violin and viola, respectively) are the featured guests at "Classical Conversations - Behind the Scenes with Jorge Mester and The Pasadena Symphony" on Friday, May 10, 2002, 4:30 P.M., at Vroman's in Pasadena. The free six-part series of events is presented by Vroman's Bookstore and The Pasadena Symphony. Mester and the two musicians will discuss the orchestra's May 11 all-Mozart concert (at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium) at which Mester will conduct and Ida Kavafian and Ani Kavafian will perform Sinfonia Concertante. The concert will also include Adagio and Fugue in C Minor and Posthorn Serenade. For information about "Classical Conversations," please call (626) 449-5320. For Pasadena Symphony concert tickets, please call (626) 584-8833; for group sales or season subscriptions, please call (626) 793-7172 or visit www.pasadenasympphony.org.

YWCA of Pasadena Foothill Valley presents **Women Think, Women Listen, WomenTalk**. Willow Bay, a CNN news anchor based in Los Angeles, will be the YWCA WomenTalk series speaker on Wednesday, May 1 at 7 p.m. in Gosney Hall, Polytechnic School, 1030 E. California Boulevard, Pasadena. Her subject will be "Navigating the News: The Winding Road of a Broadcast Journalist." Bay anchored CNN's Moneyline News Hour from both Los Angeles and New York and now hosts the network's "Business Unusual." Admission is free to YWCA members and students with current ID, \$10 to the public. Call the YWCA at (626) 793-5171 for reservations or information.

WEST (Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology) would like to invite the entire Caltech community to their upcoming art exhibit and social. The art exhibit, featuring the works of women students, staff, and faculty; is available for viewing from noon to 6pm on April 26 in Dabney Hall. Refreshments will be served from 3-6pm. WEST will be hosting another Lunch with Faculty for Women Students on April 24 from noon-1pm in 139 Moore. Guest faculty members will be Erin Schuman (Biology, Caltech) and Karen Parfitt (Biology, Pomona College). They will share their individual pathways to success, their current research projects, and their thoughts on women in science. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to westclub@caltech.edu.

Caltech Library System presents: The following sessions are approximately one hour of formal instruction followed by an optional hands-on practice. All classes begin at noon and meet in the Sherman Fairchild Library Multimedia Conference Room (Room 328). Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is preferred. Tuesday, April 23, Noon: "Chemistry Information Resources;" Tuesday, April 30, Noon: "GeoRef and other Earth and Environmental Science Databases." View details and register for these and other upcoming classes at: <http://library.caltech.edu/learning/default.htm>. For further information, please contact Kathleen McGregor at x6713 or kathleen@library.caltech.edu.

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91126