Caltech to host "A Conversation with Walter Cronkite"

by CALTECH MEDIA RELATIONS

Veteran CBS anchorman Walter Cronkite will be the speaker at the California Institute of Technology's first annual Lee A. DuBridge Distinguished Lecture. The event is set for Monday, November 18, at Beckman Auditorium on the Caltech campus.

Cronkite has been called "the most trusted man in America," and is one of the towering figures in the history of broadcast news. Anchor of the CBS Evening News from 1962 to 1981, he is a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, as well as every major honor in broadcast journalism.

The theme of the event will be "A Conversation with Walter Cronkite." It will focus on an informal exchange between Cronkite and Jass Marlow, who is anchor at NBC 4 in Los Angeles. Cronkite will then take questions from the audience.

Cronkite's appearance is the inaugural Lee A. DuBridge Distinguished Lecture, in honor of the longtime Caltech scientist and former science adviser to President Nixon. DuBridge, who died in 1994, was president of Caltech from 1946 to 1969.

DuBridge was once named America's "senior statesman of science" by TIME magazine, and was considered an exemplary research-university president in an era of vast scientific, societal, and educational change. He guided the growth of the modern Caltech, while maintaining a breadth of view, an understanding of, and an interest in national affairs that was rare among university presidents.

He was also a first-rate nuclear physicist and a leader in research that was of immense importance to the Allied victory in World War II.

The Lee A. DuBridge Distinguished Lecture Series has been created by Caltech to honor DuBridge and his contributions to the Institute, Southern California, and the nation. Each year, the lecture series will bring prominent speakers of national and/or international importance to campus.

This year's lecture is co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Times, the Avery Dennison Corporation, the Parsons Corporation, and Southern California Edison.

The lecture is free and open to the public. At least 500 tickets will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call (818)395-4652 or (800)423-8849.

Neurobiologist Patterson talks to KPCC listeners

by RON DOLLETTE

On Wednesday, October 23, researcher at Caltech discussed new advances in neurobiology on Pasadena City College's talk radio, 89.3 FM, for the station's monthly Caltech hour installment. Prof. Paul Patterson, professor of biology and executive officer of neurobiology, talked about neuro-immune interaction, and how mental outlook can affect the immune system directly.

A study involving medical students, taken throughout their school year, has shown that they become more susceptible to illness after a death in the family (or any mentally depressing events, such as final exams). Patterson explained how immune function diminishes during stressful times, and conversely, mental function diminishes while the body is busy fighting illness. Cytokines found in the blood help to regulate the immune system, and are strong mediators of the nervous system, as well as the immune system. Disturbance of your ability to think and react while you are ill allows you to withdraw or sleep so that you can rest and heal.

Patterson also discussed the issue of harvesting cells in embryonic tissue (the fetal tissue) for transplant. Tests involving embryo of rats and mice have shown that there are clear medical benefits. For example, brain cells can be transplanted to replace degenerated cells. Issues which still need to be sorted out include finding the best embryo age and the best surgical approach. Ideally, see RADIO SHOW ON PAGE 9
 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

You can't get there from here: Caltech steps on First Amendment rights

Dear Editor,

I learned recently that practically nobody had heard of, let alone read, Common Cause's amazing letter to the Department of Justice. So I wrote up a flyer which described that important document and its consequences, and provided references so that others could find and read the letter. Then I went to try to distribute this flyer on campus, and ended up living out Xenos's paradoxe instead.

(These quotes are not exact; I wasn't taking notes.) First thing Thursday morning, I called security: "Hi, what do I have to do to get clearance to hand out this flyer on the quad?" "Call Hu­man Resources," they said. So I called Human Resources. "What do I have to do to hand out this flyer on the quad?" "Send us a written request and a copy of the flyer," they said. So I did. A whole day went by; nothing happened.

Lunch came and went. I was still before lunch — maybe I could get clearance that way. No such luck. The afternoon passed without results, and now it is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, with no possible way to obtain Caltech clearance to dis­tribute this material before the election. (How­ever, on the bright side, someone apparently put a cattle prod to Human Re­sources, and I've had several contrite calls from those folks apologizing for their role in this mess — apparently they are only supposed to handle mass mailings, which any and all of the staff I spoke with should have known.)

Lunch came and went. I was still before lunch — maybe I could get clearance that way. No such luck. The afternoon passed without results, and now it is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, with no possible way to obtain Caltech clearance to dis­tribute this material before the election. (How­ever, on the bright side, someone apparently put a cattle prod to Human Re­sources, and I've had several contrite calls from those folks apologizing for their role in this mess — apparently they are only supposed to handle mass mailings, which any and all of the staff I spoke with should have known.)

This whole sad affair shows that Caltech is incapable of fielding a simple re­quest for political access in a competent and timely man­ner. I suggest that Caltech badly needs to implement a plan to handle such requests, because, intentionally or not, this week Caltech stomped all over the First Amendment.

David Mathog
Biology Division

Uninformed voters should pick candidates at random

Dear Editor,

I have to take exception to Rob Rossi's contention that voters should abstain from voting on issues and candidates where they do not have personal knowledge. While this sounds good at first, it can lead to situations where a small group can control elections. A good example of this is how reli­gious fundamentalists have taken over many school boards across the country. School board elections tend to be low-key affairs that do not attract much attention. As a result, many people do not vote in them, and a small segment of the population with marching orders from their church can elect their own candidates.

Ideally, voters should choose candidates and issues, but in the absence of any clear choice, pick one at random. This will not ensure that the best candidate wins, but it will almost certainly prevent a small group of fanatics from having their way.

Stan Schwarz

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US News: Are college rankings a good thing?

Every day someone compares Caltech with MIT. It's inevitable. Caltech's environment is better, MIT's courses are broader…The argument wages endlessly. But, wait. Off on the horizon, blazing with the white light of pure truth, there it is. U.S. News and World Report has ranked Caltech No. 5. Caltech is number 9. There. Now the issue is settled, and we can go back to work.

How were these numbers determined, you ask? U.S. News publishes the specific methodology, but the bottom line is simple. The magazine compiles a set of statistics, and calculates a score for each school based on the statistics. A variety of numbers are used, including Academic Reputation, Student Selectivity, and Financial Resources. The schools are then ranked according to the scores. It sounds simple, but its simplicity is a weakness. Why is it calculated? U.S. News was first in Academic Reputation, and Caltech was first in Faculty Resources. Each is important, but the difference is subjective. Someone looking for better qualifications, faculty, smaller classes, and a better student/faculty ratio should consider Caltech. However, MIT's reputation is an asset when applying for jobs and graduate programs. U.S. News weightings: Reputation 25%, Faculty Resources 20%

Another category is Retention Rate, also worth 20% of the total score. MIT ranked 11th, Caltech was 28th. Retention rate is a measure of how many students graduate in 6 years, and of how many stay after the first year. Clearly, more students leave Caltech than MIT. We at Caltech even have a phrase to describe this phenomenon: "You flock, you flame, UASH." Why do people fail to graduate? Usually, it is because the workload is too difficult, or the temptations of recreation are too much. Either way, a lower retention rate would make me do a good thing. I came to Caltech for a demanding education, and that is what I expect.

Yet U.S. News ranks Caltech lower for this reason. Clearly, this is not an isolated problem. Everyone has a unique personality and set of goals, so different aspects of college life are accordingly different. But U.S. News rankings are looked upon by some as the final word in college comparison.

Because of its popularity, U.S. News has an obligation to reform the system, and make the publication more accurate, focusing on the individual categories, rather than an overall rank. Over the years, though, U.S. News has been focused on modifying the statistical procedure, rather than analyzing the premise of the charting.

High school students and their parents have few resources to compare colleges, and have no way of knowing whether U.S. News is accurate or not.

It is in every ranked school's best interest to see this ranking system abolished, because it steers applicants away from some schools, and toward others. This year, Yale is ranked first, and MIT is ranked lower. Future college students will look at these numbers, and some of the best minds will overlook Caltech, simply because of U.S. News. Yale and MIT stand to benefit this year, but what does the future hold? What if Yale drops back to third, as it was in the past. What if U.S. News changes its weightings, and Caltech zooms ahead of MIT?

U.S. News latched onto a compelling idea when it began to rank the nation's colleges. Now that it has the nation's attention, U.S. News must serve its readers by providing information, without manipulating them. Thus, the annual rankings must be revamped, or ended entirely.
A Long, Long Time Ago...

by Vidya Bhalsodia

History of the Pumpkin Drop

At midnight, on Halloween, for the past 24 years, a very strange event has taken place. It is an event that draws huge crowds, waiting for the much-acclaimed pumpkin-luminescence. Like many strange events around the world, this one is well known, and yet few are really sure how it started. However, courtesy of DarbNet, three former Darbs now take us back in time for a behind-the-scenes exclusive to uncover the shockingly true story behind the Pumpkin Drop. Cover-up or conspiracy: you decide.

Larry West: Actually I am surprised this story isn’t more widely known, perhaps only because it didn’t start out as a pumpkin drop. I don’t recall how it started, but in the fall of 1971, a couple of us were talking late at night in the hallways of the library. Larry West: Actually I am surprised this story isn’t more widely known, perhaps only because it didn’t start out as a pumpkin drop. I don’t recall how it started, but in the fall of 1971, a couple of us were talking late at night in Hall 4 about the physics of pumpkins, and we estimated that the strength of the “skin” of a small, fresh pumpkin, coated with acrylic, would be sufficient to withstand a 95% vacuum for at least 5 minutes. And a pumpkin of sufficient size would, once evacuated of air, float, given that “skin” volume doesn’t increase nearly as fast as the internal volume.

This was before 24-hour grocery stores, at least in Pasadena, so we had to wait until the next day to go out and buy a variety of pumpkins; we got about a dozen as I recall, as round as we could find. We dipped them all in acrylic and let them dry, and then again a couple more times, drying at different angles for even coverage. The next day was Saturday... or at least we felt comfortable about borrowing someone’s vacuum pump, so we tried out our idea, using a basketball needle, and some chewing gum to cover the needle hole. We improvised about half of them, the really large ones, and found that the smaller ones became peculiarly light and cool, but didn’t float. But two of the medium ones did float. One got stuck in the rafters of Hall 4.

The other, though, floated out of the courtyard. We followed it along as it rose, and watched it float along until it hit the side of Millikan Library, about halfway up, appeared to crack or somehow lose containment, and fell to the concrete. By sheer luck, it missed a wandering family.

We decided this was no time for finger-pointing or recriminations and just wandered away. Later, we heard that someone else had fabricated a story about a “pumpkin drop” just to rile the administration. But of course the funny thing is, next year it became a reality.

Charles Nichols: Back when men were men and wild pumpkins strode the earth, I recall co-instigating the first Pumpkin Drop. Other co-instigators probably include Dave Levy, Fred Harris, Mark Parisi, Channon Price, and many others.

I think the idea came in two parts. The first was, “What happens when you freeze a pumpkin?” The answer turned out to be, “It cracks from thermal stress.” It took several tries to learn the advantages of precooling pumpkins in a refrigerator, transferring them to a freezer for a week, and then introducing them to the joys of dry ice and/or liquid nitrogen, both of which were available via honor system cash boxes. Fortunately no one was injured.

Once you have mastered the freezing process, you need to find something worth doing with a frozen pumpkin. This was the second part. So far as I know, the first was an accomplished lock troll on Halloween of 1972, and had a Millikan Library master key in my collection, it seemed natural to go to the highest spot on campus and drop it from the library roof, especially given the irresistible pun of the Millikan oil drop experiment (which measured the charge of the electron, and which I had performed in high school).

Thus was born the great Millikan Pumpkin Drop Experiment.

We gathered a bunch of Darbs, situated them in a casually milling crowd at street level, clued in the library sitter (then a Millikan House squire (look it up)), and took a collection of pumpkins filled with dry ice (the liquid nitrogen kept dribbling out of the cracks) up to the roof. We waited for the stroke of midnight, then began releasing pumpkins over the side. The result was spectacular. The pumpkins hit the concrete below with an explosive report, an inexplicable flash of light, and a shower of deadly shrapnel worthy of a fragmentation grenade. Fortunately no one was injured. The pieces made nice souvenirs, shaped like fragments of shattered spherical glass shell.

I participated in several more, before younger Darbs took over, so they all ended up blurring together in my so-called memory. I particularly remember that one year the ground was saturated by heavy rains. One small pumpkin missed the concrete and landed in a rose bed with a memorable “schlook” sound. It left in its wake a cylindrical hole, with a hint of orange about four feet down. We left it for B&G to ponder.

C. P. Price: How about a word from someone who was on the roof of Millikan for the first two Pumpkin Drops (Fall ’72, possibly late October, sorta in conjunction with Halloween, natch and Fall ’73)?

The genesis of the idea, as so many great ideas, does not have a simple explanation. Suffice it to say that:

1. A sizeable portion of the sophomores in Fall ’72 had done a little experiment called the Millikan oil drop the previous spring;
2. As seen by the events of the previous spring (q.v.), things involving the roof of the then new library were terribly exciting;
3. Much craziness was in the air (gracious: sometimes it just has to be stated explicitly);
4. Also, it gave us a huge challenge: prior to the opening of the library, the entire campus was accessible through just two master keys. The new library was keyed with the flendishly clever Medeco system, completely unpickable. So: how to gain access, short of taking the roof off the library. For the previous spring, the security guards were just as interested as we were . . .

Someone suggested the obvious: screwing in a Loch Ness monster in the LN3 would make for an even more interesting event. Someone else developed, in a (dare I say brilliant) leap of intuition, the theory that a small oil drops of sufficient size would, when dropped, cause the pumpkins to produce a brief but intense flash of light.

Now you had a genuine scientific purpose, an undeniable legitimacy in the place where pure research is now all too often held as the goal of greatest good: to see the flash of the pumpkin. (I regret now that we did not seek to assemble spectrographic equipment in order to fully record the process.)

The subterfuge was set in motion, the door was propped (sometime the low tech solution is the best . . .) and the research team assembled after dinner. Shortly afterwards the fatigued research team conveyed to the top, and dispatched it (the pumpkin) to its glorious fate.

None of those assembled, a rather involved one either, just saw the flash (We there was this one freshman who actually saw the flash, but when we asked him subsequently, this person was always saying the flash was there. . . .) We didn’t see it again the following year, either, from fresh or frozen pumpkins.

We did learn three salient facts:

1. The pieces from a frozen pumpkin travel a hell of a lot further than the fragments from a fresh pumpkin.
2. It is a hell of a lot easier to clean up after a frozen pumpkin (except for that little mound of really high density ice that pears right at ground zero)
3. The frozen pumpkins make really solid whump when hit, and the fresh pumpkin make a split when hit.
Features

by Daisy James

A Wonderful Work of Art

Slightly imperfect

Well written but not enjoyable

Fan to read, poorly written

Bad writing, no fun

Birdcage liner

The Fran Lebowitz Reader
Fran Lebowitz

This is actually a compilation of two of Lebowitz’s books, Metropolitan Life and Social Studies. It is a mixture of straight humor and social commentary, with the emphasis on the commentary. While I found it pretty funny, I will admit that I didn’t get all of the jokes, as she wrote in and about New York in the Seventies, so that it is both out of my region and before my time (what the heck is est anyway?) Another thing to bear in mind is that she uses a lot of stereotypes, especially about homosexuals, which could be found offensive. The best parts of the book are the ones where Lebowitz doesn’t really have a point to make. Just take a topic and stretches and twists it to ridiculous proportions.

Passenger to Frankfurt
Agatha Christie

I was very disappointed by this book. I am a great fan of Christie’s writing (I named my cat Jane Marple) and I could not be more ready to enjoy something that she wrote. In this case, however, I repeatedly put the book down and walked away from it, only finishing it because I wanted to see how it ended. Christie wrote it late in her career and the best explanation that I can come up with is that she was coasting on her success and not putting as much effort into this as in her earlier books. Passenger to Frankfurt is a spy novel rather than a murder mystery. It bears a strong resemblance to The Big Four, a very successful earlier novel. Both plots center on a sinister organization bent on world domination, a threadbare idea at best. It works in Four because of the obvious care that Christie put into creating the intricate plot which, while complicated, can be easily followed; and into the characters, the hero being Hercule Poirot who was already a well-developed personality. No such effort was spent on this book. Passenger opens in an airport where Sir Stafford Nye, a minor diplomat is petitioned for help by a young woman who says that she will be killed if he doesn’t lend her his cape and passport. He does, and the action moves from there.

The book is not doomed from the start. As I said, Christie can make this sort of thing work and she leaves her self some excellent openings. The main trouble with the book is that it tries to cover too much and tell too little. Christie seems so unwilling to give anything away that large segments of the action are left out and throughout most of the book the reader has no idea who the good guys and the bad guys really are, even down to the heroes. By the middle of the book the plot has gotten fairly absurd. This secret society has instigated a youth movement worldwide, spearheaded by a handsome young man who they claim to be the son of Hitler. That in itself might not be so bad, if she hadn’t pushed it on to have these youth take over all of South America, force Chicago under martial law, et cetera.

There are also long paragraphs in which the author goes on and on, philosophizing about the young. Since the book is copyrighted 1970, it occurred to me that this might at least in part be inspired by the popularity of public protest among young people at that time.

I know better than to give away the ending but I will say that I found it very contrived and I didn’t feel that she had given the reader enough information to make it really fair.

The saving grace of this book is the characters. While some are woefully undeveloped, others make excellent proof of Christie’s talent in this area. The best by far is Sir Nye’s Great-Aunt Matilda. Sharp old maids have always been this author’s specialty and the parts in which she appears seem more like genuine Christie than anything else in the book.

Theater Shoes
Noel Streatfeild

I admit that I have never quite outgrown children’s books, of which this is definitely one. It is set in England in 1942-43 and is about three children named Sorrel, Mark and Holly. Their mother is dead and their father missing when the grandfather that they were living with dies. They are sent to live with their maternal grandmother, about whom they know nothing because their mother eloped and was never forgiven. It turns out that their mother was a member of a very famous stage family; so they are sent to the Children’s Academy of Dancing and Stage Training so that they can carry on the tradition.

This book serves as a sequel to Ballet Shoes, but it manages to be more unsuccessful than most sequels in that it doesn’t follow the original characters’ lives after they have resolved their primary drama, but it keeps them as peripheral to the main plot. This way, the reader knows what happened to them but is not disappointed by the fact that they have become so much less interesting. There really isn’t too much commentary that can be given on this book. It’s very nice if you like this sort of thing but would probably be very annoying if you don’t.
Pick of the Flicks

A rose by any other name is a rose, just the same

by KANNWAR KARLON

Shakespearean remakes in film are not an uncommon sight these days. Shakespeare's plays possess a timelessness that can be attributed to themes that are universal in scope, such as lust for power, unadulterated adoration, insatiable desire for vengeance, and realization of the righteousness of humanity, which play vital roles in each and every one of his compositions. Yet, to date, with few exceptions, most notably last year's Richard III, the exhuming of the Shakespearean tale has been true to its original character: set in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries in the appropriate places, with of course the requisite British accent, an attempt to recreate Shakespeare for the sake of recreating Shakespeare. However, Romeo and Juliet captures all of passion and pathos of the written play itself while set in the context of the hypothetical modern day.

The film, which stars Leonardo DiCaprio (Basketball Diaries, What's Eating Gilbert Grape) and Claire Danes (My So-Called Life), is a refreshing approach to Shakespeare, fusing fast-paced action with the come-liness of the adolescent romance of the two protagonists. It keeps its viewers on the edge of their seats with quick camera angles and changes of pace that are true to the roller-coaster histrionics that is life. Moreover, the acting is superb, especially in the much developed roles of Benvolio and Mercutio, Romeo's friends and supporters in his supplication of Cupid. The renowned animosity between the Capulets and Montagues is given form by the encounters between Tybalt and Mercutio, which provide the movie with much of its suspense and illustrate the potency of the factions which would bring Romeo and Juliet apart.

Of course, the crux of the plot is the star-crossed and ill-fated love of Juliet and her Romeo. It is sincere and perfect (everyone wants to find his Juliet, and every woman, her Romeo), chronicling their meeting and the look in their eyes upon seeing each other, from hopeless despair to hope and longing. They run from everyone else, and about each other, their meetings a good-natured sigh at the fact that there are still things that are simply beautiful and should remain untouched. If only this were the case; the ensuing miscommunication (don't that defeat most relationships today) are the events in the downward spiral towards the denouement (a pitiful resolution of the Capulet and Montague feud), which will pluck at the heartstrings of all those who see it. Though, one may leave the theater shaking one's head, there is still that hope, that gleam in the eyes that is always wary, seeking and searching for the "one."

Battlefield Band plays at Beckman

Recorded in a house on a hill like their hit debut album, Counting Crows returns to the music scene with their second release, Recovering The Satellite. The album can be considered "prototypical" Counting Crows, and fans will not be dis-appointed at all with Recovering. This sophomore release doesn't come close to the success in keeping the music scene with their second release, Recovering The Satellite. The album can be considered "prototypical" Counting Crows, and fans will not be disappointed at all with Recovering. This sophomore release doesn't come close to the

BY PUBLIC RELATIONS

Saturday, November 16, 1996 / 8 p.m. Beckman Auditorium $25.00 - 22.00 - 19.00 Some twenty-five years ago, four young musical wizards found the magic formula for distilling Celtic spirit and bottling it on record. Since the founding musical experiment took place in a Glasgow suburb called Battlefield, this intoxicating blend of bagpipes, synthesizer, guitar, cittern, fiddle and vocals was named Battlefield Band.

The four gentlemen soon revealed themselves as master smugglers of the real Scotland. They have been caught more than once trying to hook thousands of innocent world citizens on this intoxicating brew. Streamers of critical praise and wildly enthusiastic audiences afforded proof of their potency.

A quarter century is a long time, but the lads' enthusiasm has not flagged. Perhaps one reason for their success in keeping the music fresh has been the remarkably smooth and organic way in which new personnel have joined the band. For example, the current lineup, while featuring two members who have been with Battlefield since Saint Andrew was a baby (keyboardist/vocalist Alan Reid and guitarist/vocalist Alistair Russell), also includes two fairly recent additions. Veteran guitarist Ian MacDonald joined after years at the top of his field including an extended stint with the well-known group Ossian. On the other hand, teenage fiddle prodigy John McCusker graduated to the band directly from high school, with a major in attending local Battlefield gig and a minor in leading his own rock group Pastel's Rock Roogee. This year all of us join Battlefield in a silver anniversary toast. Drink deeply and let yourself be drawn toward With Scotland Past.

Caltech Ticket Office

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Ph11, the Second Hurdle

It has become quite fashionable in the financial community to reduce the chance of loss on investments by "hedging." Evolution by natural selection may have already devised such schemes. For example, squirrels hide bury far more acorns than they retrieve to eat. This represents a loss of efficiency, because the squirrel expends extra energy in searching for acorns with a loss of immediate consumption. However, the misplaced acorns are eaten by other animals, thus improving the long-term supply of future acorns.

Choose a reasonable set of parameters (and state your reasons for choosing them) to describe this situation and estimate the optimal degree of inefficiency that natural selection should create in your idealized evolving squirrels. Does evolution always lead to the same optimum? (You may want to consider a concept called "the selfish gene.")

Also discuss the effects produced by periods of abundance/scarcity of acorns. What effect might the behavior of the squirrels have on the evolution of the oak trees? (For example, the reproduction strategy of flowers has been dramatically affected by bees.)

Rules:
- Clearly state all assumptions made.
- You may use any reference you like, but you cannot collaborate. The use of computers, etc. is OK.
- The hurdles are due by Monday, November 25, 1996 by 5 PM in 201 Sloan Annex. (You will be told whether you have won a place in Ph11 by early December.)
- If you still don't know what Ph11 is all about, read the Clue reviews for Ph11. On the basis of your performance on the two hurdles, you may be offered admission to Ph11, which includes pay for summer (1997) research at Caltech at the current SURF rate ($4000 for ten weeks). You can win a place in Ph11 even if you haven't worked on the first hurdle, and you do not have to be enrolled in Ph10 to be in Ph11. Start early, and good luck!

Caltech Womens' Center holds luncheon

by Amanda Schaffer

The Caltech Women's Center kicked off its series of lunchtime discussions about women's health issues on Monday, October 28. USC student health educator Paula Swinford led the discussion on sexual intimacy.

Swinford started by asking participants to compare messages about sexuality from various media groups, religious organizations, family, and peers. She then discussed the differences in sexual attitudes in men and women and the importance of sexual self-identity. Swinford concluded by answering questions from participants on topics ranging from birth control to maintaining sexual intimacy in a long term relationship.

The Women's Center will hold more lunchtime discussions throughout the year, each dealing with a different topic or health concern.

For more information about the program, contact Kathleen Schulweis, director of the Women's Center, at 395-3221.

Avery House and the Entrepeneur Club Present...

The First Ever
Avery BBQ
And Fireside Chat
with Special Guest Speaker
Bill Gross

Wednesday, November 13
5:00 - 7:00 PM  BBQ - Avery Courtyard
7:00 - 8:00 PM  Bill Gross Talk - Avery Library

Look for more information at the BBQ about breakfast and lunch with Bill Gross on Thursday!
CASE INTERVIEW WORKSHOP

Are you a graduating senior or a PhD graduate interested in learning how a "case interview" works? If so, please join us for an informal session given by The Boston Consulting Group on the "case interview" experience.

Monday, November 18
4:00-6:00pm

Beckman Institute Auditorium
Hosted by Susan Moffet (BCG Los Angeles)
What is an Ombuds person and why is there one at Caltech? The Ombuds position was in
vented in 1969 by Caltech to provide
a neutral person who works
outside of normal institutional hi-
eracy to seek fair solutions to
concerns brought for-
ward by students, faculty and
staff. My role is to advocate for
fairness, not for any particular
person's point of view.

What Role Does The Ombuds
Office Play on Campus? The Ombuds office is avail-
able to the entire Caltech com-
unity, providing an alternative path
to fair issues or have concerns ad-
dressed quietly and in a manner
that enables each visitor the op-
portunity to retain control of the
resolution process. The office is
completely confidential; no action
will be taken without your ex-
pressed written permission. Even
in matters of sexual harassment
discrimination, your confi-
dence is held and no action will
be taken without your permission.
The Ombuds office is the one
place on campus where this level
of confidentiality is accessible. In
addition, I have the ability to ac-
cess records and files on campus,
even those protected by
privacy law.

No records are kept in the
Ombuds office, nor does the of-
fice report anything back to Ad-
ministration other than demo-
graphic information, such as how
many people have used the office.
If there is anything that can be
released that is identifiable, it is
left out of the report.

What will the Ombuds person do?
When you come to the office,
you may remain in charge of what
happens. I will help you analyze
your situation, help identify/
evaluate your options, and help
you pursue them according to a
plan of action that is developed. I
will also facilitate informal con-
flict resolution process through
discussion, mediation, shuttle di-
pomacy and informal fact-find-
ing. I will not, however, partici-
pate in any formal grievance pro-
cess, should the problem end up
in that arena.

On a broader scale, I recom-
mend changes in policy and pro-
cedures when those currently in
place seem abusive, outmoded,
arbitrary, or do not serve the popu-
lation well. I also provide unfil-
tered, anonymous feedback to any
and all members of the Institute.
I will further the confidential na-	ure of the office, it is located off
the beaten path in the basement
of Dabney Hall. Appointments are
made by calling X6990 and walk-
in appointments are often avail-
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ment to meet me even if there is
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**TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS BY GM RESEARCHERS:**

- *Bringing the EVl to Market*
  2:00-2:30pm

- *Automobile Exhaust Emission Control: Current Issues*
  2:30-3:00pm

- *Changing Role of Manufacturing in Global Vehicle Development Process*
  3:00-3:30pm

- *Smart Cars*
  3:30-4:00pm

**CARS OF THE FUTURE ON DISPLAY FROM NOON - 5:30 PM**

**OPEN RECEPTION FROM 4:00 - 5:30 PM**

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Caltech fencers named 1996 SCIAC Cross Country MVP

BY CALTECH SPORTS DEPARTMENT

On October 26th, the Caltech harriers went up against the rest of the SCIAC schools to compete in the Cross Country meet held at Prado Park in Chino. The men moved up from 6th place at the Multi-Dual meet to 5th in the SCIAC meet. Brian Barkis had a noticeable improvement moving up from 30th place at the dual meet to 17th place and taking an All-Conference spot. The highlight for the men came with Dan Kleinman winning the race in a time of 25:50. This win combined with the win at the dual meet, makes Dan the SCIAC Cross Country MVP for 1996.

Congratulations, Dan!!!

The Caltech fencers are gearing up for another strong year.

For the second year, they are under the guidance of Head Coach George Clovis. Key returners for the Beavers include senior Austin Collins. He is a 4 year member of Caltech’s IFCSC championship saber team.

Last year, he took first place in individual saber in the conference and took fifth in Western Regions. Austin is expected to win both IFCSC and WRIFC individual title this year.

Junior returnees include Andrew Laucius, who is expected to finish in the top four individual sabers. Daniel Hennessey and Wesley Salzillo also return with hopes of finishing in the top five or six.

Sophomores returning include Xavier Fan, Juan Carlos Chan, Adrienne Bourque, and Joe Cook. The Beavers also have several promising new members who have a positive attitude that will greatly aid the team.

On October 26th, Caltech hosted the inaugural collegiate fencing tournament. It was an open meet with 95 competitors in 5 events: Men’s, Foil, Epee, & Saber, and Women’s Foil and Epee.

The Beavers came away with 2 medals. Austin Collins won the gold medal in saber, defeating a UCLA fencer 15-4. Adrienne Bourque won the other medal with a bronze in foil. Dan Hennessey, Kristie Armentrout, Cory Loomis, and Xavier Fan all made the final round of eight, giving the team a solid start for the season.
it's happening

SOON

Corporate Presentation

Day: Monday

Month: November

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: Student Activity Center

Interviews for Engineers

Day: Tuesday

Month: November

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