Grease wars: Avery Cafe & Grill vs. The Coffeehouse

BY ERIK STREED

The Avery House Cafe & Grill opened this Monday February 17. A coupon for a free slice of pizza, good only on the following Tuesday, was used to entice the undergrads into venturing north for a bite to eat. Students flocked to Avery that Tuesday responding to the sign calling of free food. The Avery House Cafe & Grill is run by TFM out of the Avery kitchen. The menu consists of typical fast food fare including burgers, fries, nachos, and pizza. In an interview with The Tech Thursday afternoon Head Chef Jesse Velez said that the intended clientele of the Avery Cafe & Grill would include not only Avertistes but also Caltech staff, faculty, and members of the community. He did not expect much competition with the SAC Coffeehouse, which primarily serves hungry undergrads and the occasional graduate student. In keeping with the policy that Avery Cafe & Grill does not accept cash but instead the new Campus Card System currently used for Avery dinner and lunch. People without the new Caltech IDs can purchase debit cards in the Avery lobby. The Zebra Coffee Company sells coffee, drinks and pastries at Avery and is not currently associated with the Avery Cafe & Grill but might be in the future. Meanwhile the SAC Coffeehouse is currently suffering from a staffing shortage. Unlike TFM which uses professional food service employees, the Coffeehouse uses student waiters (grill monkeys) and managers and therefore is subject to labor problems relating to increased academic stress and the graduation of experienced personnel. Currently when the Coffeehouse is open it only is half staffed, several managers have left and there are not enough waiters to promote to staff the Coffeehouse. Departing managers cited the changing decor of the Coffeehouse as well as discouraging encounters with management. The lack of personnel has caused inventory control problems, resulting in remaining managers not knowing where food was or how much was on hand.

Gina Armas, SAC Coordinator, claimed that the Coffeehouse's problems are not due to the new decor but a lack of student interest. A quick survey of South House residents provided evidence to the contrary. A current Coffeehouse employee found in Dabney Courtyard said that he thought the current decor is trying a little too hard to be post modern and that he wanted the old wooden booths back. His sentiments were echoed by the other students randomly surveyed Thursday night. An undergraduate in the Ricketts lounge, also a Coffeehouse employee, said that he could trace the decline of the Coffeehouse to when they stopped placing Nilla Wafers on top of shakes. He also mentioned that the removal of the Head Manager has caused the decline in the moral of the Coffeehouse staff. When asked about the new Avery Cafe & Grill he responded that the Coffeehouse sucks but it sucks less than Avery.

When asked about the Coffeehouse, a frosh in Blacker Courtyard responded in surprise "It’s open?" His commentary on the Coffeehouse's decor was: "It needs to be remodeled Blacker style, break everything and then add a few nails." The general student sentiment appears to be for the return of the Coffeehouse of old.

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

BY KOHL GILL

"For a few dollars more...

Howdy. A couple of nights ago, I found myself arguing until dawn about the Board of Control, and the Honor System in general. I came to the conclusion that, as far as discussion and criticism goes, the BoC is far too easy a target for now. So, to welcome our new IHC Chair, Lori Hsu, to power I’ve decided to toss a few questions your way regarding the InterHouse Committee. For starters, how is the number of freshman in each House determined? Seeing as how it’s a major factor in each House’s character, you would think everyone would know this off the top of his head. Most of the non-IHC people I asked about this guessed that the number of freshmen is proportional to the number of on-campus spots in each House. That’s not correct, by the way. It is, of course, proportional to the size (in number of students) of each House, but that should be obvious. If you’re still curious, you should talk to your House president!

Continuing with the frivolously theme, let’s talk about Rotation. You’ll notice that, in the 96-97 edition of the little t, the Rotation Rules tell you specifically what you can and can’t do with new students. So is it legal to say, “I really hate Ricketts House and I think they’re all big jerks,” (assuming that’s the case. Of course, I would never actually say I hated Ricketts, at least not in public.) or isn’t it? We all know the stock “fine houses” phrase, and most of us use it at one time or another, but do we have to?
African-Americans' right to vote cannot be taken away

Dear Editors,

While I firmly agree with Dean Cheryll Hawthorne's general point in her letter to the editor of Feb. 14, which was that racial discrimination against African-Americans and Latinos is still a very serious problem today. And early twentieth century Republicans, whose memories their current incarnations deface, made sure of that.

J. MORGAN KOWEN
PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Dear Editors:

Cheryll Hawthorne made an assertion in her letter in the February 14th Tech that is quite plain wrong. She asserted that Blacks were not given the right to vote until 1965, and that this right cannot be taken away when the Voting Rights Act extension expires in 2007. This is not true.

The 15th Amendment to the Constitution states:

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

This amendment was passed in 1870. Unfortunately, several southern states decided to try to find ways around this and to deny Blacks the vote through the use of poll taxes and literacy tests. This is the injustice that the 1965 Voting Rights Act was designed to stop.

In his 1965 State of the Union address, President Johnson mentioned this as one of his goals for the year, "Let a just nation open to them to Negro Americans, through enforcement of the civil rights law and elimination of barriers to the right to vote, " The Act was to remove the barriers that certain states had placed between Black people and their constitutional right to vote. If the Voting Rights Act is allowed to expire, this will not automatically remove the right of Black people to vote.

STAN SCHWARZ
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY STAFF

Health Care Articles Single Author Satire

Dear Editors:

I suspect that both columns of last week's purported debate on public health care were written by one person as satire. But for a serious, long, and quite complex analysis from an anarcho-capitalist perspective, see David D. Friedman's column at http://www.bost.com/800-ddfr/AcademicMedicine_ConsolidationMedicine_Commodity.html

D. R. SULLIVAN
PROP 187 misaimed effort

By Neil Stevens

Since it will be stifled by the courts for a long time to come, I feel it is still appropriate to discuss California’s Proposition 187. When it was passed by the voters, and when John Hattfield wrote about it last year, the subject evoked strong reactions from its opposition.

Now, I admire people who struggle for their cause, but in this case, the legal challenge to the initiative is a variant of the Fourteenth Amendment, and should be rejected, lest the amendment be weakened by such abuse.

The first clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, the “due process” clause, is a source of modern controversy. In attacking Proposition 187, and other similar initiatives, does not amount to Congress’ power to prohibit abridgment of the liberties or properties of persons within a State, or to prevent the States from infringing on citizens’ liberties or properties? This initiative does not deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. The first sentence of the same clause states that “All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside.”

Well, illegal immigrants are defeated by force or naturalized citizens, and are therefore not within the jurisdiction of the federal or state government, for the purposes of the Fourteenth

amendment. Thus, while illegal residents may not be deprived of “life, liberty, or property” by the government, they are not to be afforded wholly equal protection. To deny schooling, welfare, or free services to someone is certainly not to attack that person’s life, liberty, or property.

I am by no means anti-immigrant, I do not suggest rounding up militias to take care of the illegal immigrant dilemma. I do not call it a problem, because the staggering proportions of illegal immigration into this country are a symptom.

Perhaps the U.S. needs to alter its immigration policy, or its foreign policy with Mexico. If we help our neighbors grow a healthy economy, our neighbors will not need to rush across the border. To solve this worsening crisis, the root problem must be attacked. To fight Proposition 187 is to overlook the underlying problem, and miss an opportunity to work for a solution. This initiative may be drastic, but something must be done to alleviate the symptom, while a separate war is waged on the problem. I simply suggest that those who feel 187 will hurt people should work to encourage the people to leave, and to see that they never feel the need to return illegally.

ASCIT elects apathy

By John Hattfield

The recent election for the positions in ASCIT has shown that the Caltech undergraduate community is remarkably apathetic regarding student government. To quote last week’s Tech, a “frosh spotted in Fleming responded with ‘Eh?’ when asked about the elections.” With little over three hundred voting the Caltech community has shown a decided disinterest in the workings of ASCIT.

Most of the CS is the large number of positions in ASCIT which were run for unopposed (except by No). The very fact that we have no gains, large votes (primarily by people who think it is funny) is in itself very scary. One of these days, No is going to win. This remarkable amount of apathy has led me to the conclusion that one of two things is true. Either, one, we are a very apathetic student body, or two, ASCIT does not influence our everyday life enough for us to care who leads it (as long as they make sure donuts are there Friday morning). Neither of these options is very appealing.

It seems obvious to me that undergraduates at Caltech are intelligent enough to realize when something is important enough to affect their lives. They are certainly willing to vote and run in large numbers in the house elections, and this fact shows that the undergraduate community is not apathetic towards student government if it has a measurable impact on their existence.

Lloyd, Page, Ruddock, Ricketts, Blacker, Fleming and Dabney all have contested elections for positions such as President, Secretary, Social Director and such while contenders for those positions as President of ASCIT, BoC Chair, and other ASCIT offices went unopposed. Note that I am not saying the present or future holders of these positions have done a bad job. They have done a good job. But clearly the job they do does not register on the student body as a whole, not nearly as much as the houses do.

Why does ASCIT have such a disjoint relationship with the houses? Granted, it runs rotation, but it seems the house presidents and ASCIT interact very rarely outside of this time. Again, this is only perception, but if ASCIT does not show it has ties to the community, we will assume it has none. In short, in many ways, we do not know (and thus do not care) what ASCIT does.

What, for instance, does the upperclassmen director do? How do the people who run ASCIT affect our lives? Are they a place to take our grievances about Caltech?

If so, can we complain to them about Rotation, the core curriculum, etc.? Are they there to make the Administrations work easier?

The answers to these sorts of questions are something ASCIT needs to answer to the student body. Clearly, the student body does not know what ASCIT does, and not knowing, ceases to care. If ASCIT wishes to have a truly involved student community, in the same way the house communities are cohesive, it must show us what it does to bring us together.

Theatre Arts at Caltech presents

HUMBLE,

CABOT'S

MACBETH

by Tom Stoppard

8 pm Feb 20, 21, 22, 27, 28 & Mar 1
2 pm Feb 23 & Mar 2
Ramo Auditorium, Caltech, Pasadena

General Admission $10, Students $5
For tickets, call (800) 423-8849 or (818) 395-4652.
For more information, see the interactive poster at:
http://www.cco.caltech.edu/act/c/dhcm/ produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Photo: J. Fezaris

If you are, then the Office of Admissions needs your help in designing the T-shirts for Prefrosh Weekend 1997.

Please submit your T-shirt ideas to Dina Figueroa, Asst. Director of Admissions.

Mail Code 1-63, by March 17th. If your idea is selected, you will receive a gift certificate good for dinner for two at one of Pasadena’s finest restaurants.

Thanks for your help!

Last week’s ad incorrectly stated the submission due date as Feb. 17th. The actual submission deadline is March 17th.

Are you creative?
Are you artistic?
The Outside World

BY MYRIAM CALLAHAN

Beijing, China — Deng Xiaoping, who acted as General Secretary of the Communist Party in China for decades, died Wednesday at 92. No one has shown the same amount of authority to follow as his successor.

ABHAJAN, Ivory Coast — The Zairean Government is now arming Hutu guerrillas living among the Rwandan refugees. This has made the largest camp, Tmtgi, a primary target for the Tutsi rebel army.

Guadalajara, Mexico — General Jesus Gutierrez Rebollo, head of the national drug agency, has made the largest camp, Tmtgi, a primary target for the Tutsi rebel army.

Jerusalem, Israel — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faces another crisis with his right-wing allies demanding construction of a new housing project in East Jerusalem and Palestinian leaders warning of violence if work is started. Palestinians would like to see East Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian State.

London, U.K. — In an effort to pacify Russia's opposition to NATO's outward expansion, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright announced proposals to reduce weapons in Central and Eastern Europe. She will meet with President Yeltsin and his Foreign Minister later this week.

Beijing, South Korea — Either this week, a prominent North Korean defector, Lee Han Young, was shot by North Korean agents. He suffered brain death from the shot. The Government seems more accepting of the defections now with the Communist leader Kim Jung Il remarking that "cowards" are welcome to leave.

Philadelphia — Dr. Jose Castillo, a plastic surgeon commissioned by the White House in 1994 for his charity work, was accused of harboring a fugitive and obstructing justice. His transformation of Richie Ramos, convicted of drug trafficking, was so complete, that he almost evaded arrest.

Although there is another bridge available to reach Cape Coral, it is over twenty miles away from the location of the toll bridge. There is no other way to reach Sanibel. In fact, the original proposal for the Cape Coral bridge was pitched not on the obvious necessity for such a bridge, but rather on the profit it would turn. This is the same state in which it costs $450 to register an automobile. No joke — $450. This covers an "impact fee" which ideally represents the cost to the environment and the maintenance of the roads.

Take what happened in Fort Myers, Florida for example. It was time spent in this city that first illustrated to me the down side of toll bridges. In this city are two toll bridges that paid for their construction long ago... but unlike in Texas the tolls were not then eliminated. In fact, the tolls on both bridges have been consistently raised since the bridges paid for their initial construction!

These two toll bridges connect Fort Myers to the cities of Cape Coral, and Sanibel Island.

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### Official ASCIT Election Numerical Results

Absolute Majority is required to win. Absolute Majority in each election is: (1/2)Non Abstaining (1/2/2/Error Points) +1 [Note the definition of absolute majority in this year’s list is incorrect. The above is the correct formula.]

#### ASCIT Election Results for the February 10, 1997 election

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASCIT Secretary</th>
<th>Afsarman</th>
<th>Swedlow</th>
<th>Write-in</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Abstain</th>
<th>Abs. Majority</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>114</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>121</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BeC Secretary</td>
<td>Malmsrath</td>
<td>Sung</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Abstain</td>
<td>Abs. Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>171</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bylaw Proposal</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Abstain (2/3) Abs. Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>232</td>
<td>54</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RUNOFF ELECTION RESULTS for the February 17, 1997 election**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASCIT Athletics Manager</th>
<th>Chris Bisbee</th>
<th>Jim Kreil</th>
<th>Abstain</th>
<th>Abs. Majority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>72</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARC Secretary</th>
<th>Devi Thota</th>
<th>Write-in</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Abstain</th>
<th>Abs. Majority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>112</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Note:** The first line Kiran doesn’t have absolute majority. This wasn’t discovered till after the ballots were counted and the protest deadline. To satisfy himself, the Election Chairman looked through and found 6 of the NO votes that obtained after that. Redistributing this 6 gives enough for an absolute majority. The other candidates can change the outcome, regardless of what they are.

**Endnotes:**

1. Since the Election Chairman was running for ASCIT Upperclass Director, he was not allowed to count any votes in February 10, 1997. These numbers were given to him by the rest of the committee to type up for the Tech. He did not, however, count votes for the February 17 election.

2. *Since Cummings and Kuo are within error of each other, we have two parallel distributions again. Thus result in other candidate redistributing right away. Thus these parallel distributions merge (agree), and Saadhi wins.*

3. The room is silenced as it is time for Kiran to discuss the financial situation. Das have been obtained, there is some discrepancy about the amount. Money is owed to he Dean’s office, ASCIT’s payroll people, for publications. A bookkeeper will be obtained soon. Interviews are in progress.

4. *The bylaws do say how to count error for bylaw votes. The number used for Absolute Majority in this case is (2/3)Non-abstaining votes + Error, which is as stringent as you could possibly get (and probably more than necessary). Thus the bylaw passes.*
Pahoehe: day two of geology trip

BY JOSEPH TRELL

DAY 2 - Friday, March 15th Highway to Hilo

During the second day of the trip, we used the pace of activities that typified the field trip - drive around in the lush scenery for an hour or so, stop at a particular place, hop out of the minivan, climb around whatever we supposed to be looking at and hop back in. Our first stop was at the Tsunami Memorial, which was built for all victims of tsunamis everywhere. Due to the central location of the Hawaiian Islands in the Pacific and the fact that it faces "outward" from the rest of the islands, Hilo is especially vulnerable to the seismic sea waves generated by earthquakes. No warning systems were available when a 30-meter tsunami struck in 1946 and nearly washed Hilo off the map; needless to say, this encouraged everyone to be prepared for the worst. As we drove through the city, we observed the eighteenth-century houses that survived the event, possibly because of a "megapaque" or nearby asteroid impact. In the ocean, a large lava flow from a 1960 eruption of Kilauea was visible, and we could see some of the locals seem to be looking at it with some concern.

After this cheerful experience, we headed south from Hilo to the district of Puna on the southeast coast (Hawaii is shaped roughly like an isosceles triangle, with the apex pointing northeast). We drove past the Mauna Loa macadamia nut orchards (the only not in the world named after a Scotman, according to the guidebook) and made it to the geothermal power plant that was constructed during the energy crisis of the 70s. In the fast-moving lava, but what was most impressive was the flow that surrounded the lighthouse, just a small beard of sand. Waves generated by the power to the other islands. The area was also punctuated by nasty-looking cracks in the earth that go down several meters and some of the locals seem to be looking at them with some concern.

For interview consideration, please sign up at your Career Planning and Placement Office.

The飯食 in Your Court

The time has never been better than now to join an All-Star team of professionals setting league records at a consistent pace. The ball is in your court, but we will be interviewing on campus March 10. For interview consideration please sign up at your Career Planning and Placement Office.

Paciifies Available:
- Software Engineers
- Product/Test Engineers
- Design Engineers
- Applications Engineers
- Sales Engineers
- Technical Writers
- Finance, MIS...

2003
crude historical records exist before 1820 or so. Since most Hawaiian trees have a high water content, they didn't grow in flames like tinder but actually left impressions of their bark in hollow tubes up to ten feet high or so. The area was also punctuated by nasty-looking cracks in the earth that go down several meters and some of the locals seem to be looking at them with some concern.

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Positions Available:
- Software Engineers
- Product/Test Engineers
- Design Engineers
- Applications Engineers
- Sales Engineers
- Technical Writers
- Finance, MIS...

A LEADER in Programmable Logic.
Ernest Explains

By Ernest Tomlinson

Dear Ernest,

What's with this moss I see growing all over campus? It's really slippery. I've been sliding all over.

-Quinn Mallory

Dear Mr. Mallory,

First off, it's not really moss. I think it's something from those Martian meteorites that a JPL employee—who will remain nameless—got on his shoe and tracked all over campus. At least, that's the story. There is a persistent rumor that it was cultivated in BBB to be the South House version of the Pebbles of Death. At last estimate the Pebbles of Death had generated $46,800 in revenue for Huntington Memorial Hospital.

Dear Ernest,

Avery House is so nice and new; why does it seem so few people are living there?

-Abraham

Dear Abraham,

You know, Avery™ is really a fine house. Let's not think of it as being half-empty, but being half-full and full of opportunity.

Dear Ernest,

What do you think of Seattle?

-Ace

Dear Ace,

It looks like chuckling at any overt sign of the rural Southern setting, Thornton has a love for and a knack for evoking the South akin to less crowd-pleaser Shine.

Dear Ernest,

What do you think of Death?

-Brenda Blethyn

Dear Brenda Blethyn,

I think of Death had generated campus. At least, that's the story. There is a persistent rumour or that it was cultivated in BBB to be the South House version of the Pebbles of Death. At last estimate the Pebbles of Death had generated $46,800 in revenue for Huntington Memorial Hospital.

Definitely Ph 4. It is an optional lab filled with experiments that are considered by Skelton et al., to be too fun to be included in the required curriculum: lasers, electron guns, oil drops, sound waves, etc. If you do the oil drops you can really cool. More to the point, he needs the work.

Dear Ernest,

To the point, he needs the work.

-Dear Classless

Secrets and Lies

Nominated for five Oscars, this latest film from British director Mike Leigh (Naked, Life is Sweet) shows once again the extraordinaire talent Leigh has to work with actors to develop realistic, sympathetic, multilayered characters. Leigh writes his screenplays by presenting his actors with story and character outlines and working with them to develop scenes. The result is a consistent output of films with a special humanity to them; Secrets and Lies is no exception.

Marianne Jean-Baptiste plays an adopted black woman who seeks to find her birth mother and is startled to discover that she's white; Brenda Blethyn is equally surprised as the woman who finds out she is her child she gave up decades before is black. Complicating things are class differences we rarely speak of—the daughter is an optometrist while the mother is a poor factory worker. Blethyn's younger brother, meanwhile, is a successful photographer while her daughter works for the sanitation department. The secrets and lies that the family members have kept hidden from each other simmer under the surface of their skin until coming to a full boil at a family barbecue. I highly recommend this movie.
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

What about picks? In the same edition of the little t, you can see that part of the Rotation Rules regarding the picks procedure has been omitted. Do you know why this is the case? Most would say the omission prevents those new students or Houses with a better-under-

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Sun-Sat: Breakfast Matinee: 2:00 p.m.

Women's Gloo Club
25th Anniversary Concert
Friday, February 28
Saturday, March 1
8:00 p.m. • Doheny Lounge
Tickets are required. For your free ticket please contact the Caltech Women's Center, 164-24, Pasadena, CA 91125 • (818) 577-0521
Doheny Lounge seating is limited. Early arrival recommended.

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• 16-bit sound card, 2 speakers & mic
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• 256K EDO DRAM

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150 MHz, 1.66GB
P-120 MHz $1849
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P-150 MHz $1949

NEW!
SCEPTRE
Soundx 4000 SERIES
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• 512/1024 KB cache memory
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• PCCIA 12-bit graphic accelerator
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• TouchPad & Infrared port
• High-speed serial, Parallel and joystick ports
• Smart Lithium-ion battery built-in indicator
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GILL: A Fistful of Dollars... For a Few Dollars More

LAEMMLE THEATRES
 coloring the newspaper with a better understanding of political science from taking unfair advantage of the other students or Houses. Do you agree with this decision? Speaking of agreement, do you agree that alliance challenges and all the other prohibited activities should be so restricted? If you have questions or comments about the IHC, I would suggest going to (and reading!) the newspaper caltech.house. 

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In the same edition of the little t, you can see that part of the Rotation Rules regarding the picks procedure has been omitted. Do you know why this is the case? Most would say the omission prevents those new students or Houses with a better-understanding of political science from taking unfair advantage of the other students or Houses. Do you agree with this decision? Speaking of agreement, do you agree that alliance challenges and all the other prohibited activities should be so restricted? If you have questions or comments about the IHC, I would suggest going to (and reading!) the newspaper caltech.house. 

The Caltech Women's Center
Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs

LAEMMLE THEATRES

Friday, February 28
Saturday, March 1
8:00 p.m. • Doheny Lounge
Tickets are required. For your free ticket please contact the Caltech Women's Center, 164-24, Pasadena, CA 91125 • (818) 577-0521
Doheny Lounge seating is limited. Early arrival recommended.

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• 8X CD-ROM Drive (8X for Dual Scan)
• 14 MB floppy drive
• Removable HD (Up to 20 GB)
• 16-bit sound card, 2 speakers & mic
• Infrared port
• Enhanced 104 key keyboard
• 11.3" & Active RGBX6O display
• Touch pad & extra button port
• Windows 95 keyboard
• Rechargeable 5200 battery
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One of the things Caltech boasts about, no, let me start over again: One of the things Caltech is proud of is, how bright, how inventive, how perceptive are the members of its student body. La crème de la crème intellectually, that's what they are. Well, and good, and me.

Another of the things Caltech can be proud of is the insight of our founding fathers. That's made obvious to me when I look at the old issues of various publications which are squirreled away in my office. I periodically go on expeditions through my drawers and end up fascinated by the things I find.

Something I have noted is that, from the very start, our predecessors decided that to have the extraordinary school they wanted to build, it was necessary for it to excel not only in technical matters but also that it pay due respect to the humanities.

In the Bulletin of October 1909, President Scherer writes to the Board of Trustees of Throop Polytechnic Institute in a manner reminiscent of Julius Caesar: "Gentlemen: I have the honor to submit herewith my first annual report. I arrived in Pasadena and took charge of the Institute on the first day of the seventh annual session, September 23, 1908; was installed November 19; left for Europe by your direction March 26, 1909, and returned June 7, the day before commencement."

I come here under instructions to develop the Institute into a high-grade college of technology, teaching for the present electrical and mechanical engineering, and emphasizing the essential humanities so as to produce graduates of culture as well as technical skill.

How come then, I wondered as I read this, that even to this day it is often hard to find the easy touch of culture? Are a knowledge of history, a smarter sense of philosophy and refined manners ways to avoid conflict and foster pleasant interactions, even in difficult situations?

Why is it that each generation has to discover anew what Scherer calls the "Throop idea" which, he says, "the principal technical schools of the country will be forced [to follow] before many years have passed?" I wonder what Scherer would think if he were to come back today and see the student houses: their dining rooms, the behavior of students at meal time. How would he react to the forced coarseness of the Valenties published last week, when Valenties are supposed to be expressions of love, friendship and respect? Would he see realized his dream of students learning technical and daily living skills? Are we really doing all we can to expose our students to culture?

We have required Hums, easily accessible Music, Theater, organized and subsidized Socials, we have Art appreciation classes, work opportunities around the country and abroad, many avenues for cultural and self expression studies — and yet, there are still so many rough edges and seemingly ever rocky paths.

I do enjoy going to the various houses and having the opportunity to speak to students over a meal. I must say however that I do not enjoy the mayhem that so often arises. Although I do understand high spirits and appreciate the relaxation from the daily pressure afforded by high jinks, somehow I am embarrassed by the almost recherché grossness of the proceedings.

Of course, as a guest, I am aware that it is not mine to object. When in Rome, do as the Romans do.

Of course, as a guest, I am aware that it is not mine to object. When in Rome, do as the Romans do.

and the tricks which can be used to elicit the name which you have on the tip of your tongue, or actually never knew before. We learned how to shake hands with men or women, firmly. We had slipped vermicelli to practice how to eat them à l’italienne, delicately wrapped on one’s fork. We were told it was OK to do it with the help of a spoon (provided amid the cutlery as the outermost tool to the right). Actually I thought using a spoon for that purpose was "déclassé," not in good taste. My mother would certainly not have approved.

We were served Cornish hen, thankfully sufficiently deboned so they could be enjoyed without presenting too much of an extra challenge. An excellent salad, and dessert of poached pear with "Crème anglaise" and a delicately luscious chocolate leaf (an oblong lancet shaped leaf with a serrated margin and pineate venation) obviously gathered with care by the chef from the local chocolate tree) ended the meal, along with a toast raised with esrat champagne.

I thought right away, tout de suite, that it was too sweet, but apt nevertheless. And did you realize that the expression "to turn the tables" refers to the flow of conversation around the table, first clockwise, then counterclockwise? That, somehow, I don’t believe.

I do, however, believe that it is important to thank people for their invitation. The whole thing was made possible through the generosity of an Alumnus, Mr. James V. Crawford, Class of ’40, of Chicago, not that capital of culture, Paris. He deserves the warmest commendations for his thoughtfulness and unusual gift.

What a pleasant contrast to the usual treatment of the same theme (dinner) in the houses! This was an event right out of the hopes of those people in 1909, plotting for our futures 87 years ago.

Rise, ye cultured graduates and proudly spread the manners and knowledge you have acquired. Hopefully others among you will be able to share this experience in the future. A bientôt,
On February 1st, the Caltech Beavers played their first game of the season, hosting a double header with Dodgertown.

In the first game, both teams came away with two runs in the first inning. Dodgertown managed to come up with five more points by the 7th inning. Caltech started to rally in the seventh, but could not get quite enough and the game ended with Caltech down 7-5. Freshman Greg Fricke went 2 for 4 and hit a two-run home run in the seventh. Junior Jason Barnes (2nd base) went 3 for 4 and Junior Rob Tryon went 1 for 3, scoring once and getting one RBI. Freshman Alan Rosenwinkle pitched a strong five innings, giving up only five hits.

In the second game of the day, Dodgertown took the lead in the third with three runs. But Caltech battled back and with another two run homer from Fricke, the score was 2-3 after the third. In the fifth, Caltech answered with three runs. Fricke also went two for three, and first baseman Matt Dawson was 2 for 4, scoring twice.

On February 5th, Caltech hosted Pasadena Community College. Despite a galant effort by the Beavers, PCC came from behind, winning 12-3. Freshman Matt Sullivan made his pitching debut and gave a great effort. PCC only gave up two runs through seven innings. Fricke hit a single and Grant Williams hit a leadoff double in the fifth.

On February 8th, the Beavers traveled over to Whittier to play under the lights against Rio Hondo Academy.

After three, the opponents were up 3-2, with Alan Rosenwinkle pitching. Allen came in to pitch, but the Techers struggled, losing by a final score of 12-2.

On February 11th, Caltech traveled over to Citrus Community College to help tune up for the upcoming SCIAC season. The Beavers answered back with three runs. But Caltech managed to come up with five more points by the 7th inning. Fricke went 2 for 3, scoring once and getting one RBI. Freshman Alan Rosenwinkle pitching. Allen went 2 for 4 and hit a two-run homer from Fricke, the score was 2-3 after the third.

On February 14th, Caltech traveled over to Citrus Community College to help tune up for the upcoming SCIAC season. The Beavers answered back with three runs. But Caltech managed to come up with five more points by the 7th inning. Fricke went 2 for 3, scoring once and getting one RBI. Freshman Alan Rosenwinkle pitching. Allen went 2 for 4 and hit a two-run homer from Fricke, the score was 2-3 after the third.

In the second game of the day, Dodgertown took the lead in the third with three runs. But Caltech battled back and with another two run homer from Fricke, the score was 2-3 after the third. In the fifth, Caltech took the lead and never looked back. Caltech traveled over to Citrus Community College to help tune up for the upcoming SCIAC season. The Beavers came from behind, winning 12-3. Freshman Matt Sullivan made his pitching debut and gave a great effort. PCC only gave up two runs through seven innings. Fricke hit a single and Grant Williams hit a leadoff double in the fifth.

On February 8th, the Beavers traveled over to Whittier to play under the lights against Rio Hondo Academy.

After three, the opponents were up 3-2, with Alan Rosenwinkle pitching. Allen came in to pitch, but the Techers struggled, losing by a final score of 12-2.
Grand Canyon in the summer
Capitius (the second brightest
but it was created over
thousands of years. This however, happened
geologically speaking. I felt very small
someone's size and for a long moment I was glad I
deck not to take the phenocyst-studded rock I
lighthouse, a stream of liquid Fo-88 spurt from
the ground in vengeful and
ripe me on the spot.

After "Primal Terror Stop #7", we headed north through the small village of Pahoa and then turned southwest to climb up Kilauea itself towards our campsite on the grounds of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, where we would spend the best part of our trip. We had three small cabins, some barbecue grills and A SHOWER! With hot water and everything! We were living in style!

Later that night, I went for a walk to try and find some of the celestial objects that are not visible from most of the continental United States. I was able to see one of the brightest stars of the year and just on the horizon at Caltech's latitude) and Comet Hyakutake (then perusing on the front page of the Honolulu Courier) even though the clouds hampered a little. But, alas, passing seagull mistook my head for a seagull-covered rock and dropped a seagull on it, rendering me unconscious before I could take in any more of Hawaii's celestial wonders. Probably served me right.

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