Mannion gets ACS, Archives, and the Athenaeum

BY ERIK STREED

The Tech has learned that as part of Caltech's reorganization, the Athenaeum will be transferred to Campus Auxiliary and Business Services on April 11. Control of Administrative Computing Services (ACS) and the Caltech Archives will also be transferred at the end of April. The announcement regarding the Athenaeum was scheduled to be issued by John Curry, Caltech's Vice President for Business and Finance, this Friday, April 4. However, a misplaced dot caused an email draft to be issued by John Curry, putting part of Caltech's reorganization, Business Services on April the 4th.

Tip: Don't believe everything you read.

The California Tech

Lauritsen excavation unearths rare metal

BY RON DOLLSTE

The excavation and construction work that have been going on behind Lauritsen for the past 4 months are finally over after a two month delay involving the discovery of a chunk of carbonadium, a rare but naturally occurring alloy of iron, titanium, and other industrial ores.

Carbonadium, probably formed during the collapse of metallic byproducts and other architectural debris in the vicinity, has only occasionally been produced synthetically. Dr. Lois Palyof, a visiting professor from the University of Minnesota, along with some colleagues from nearby Wisconsin, is among the few people in the country conducting research on this metal.

"The chances of this happening are one in a few thousand, especially in an already developed area of Los Angeles," she said.

Carbonadium was first discovered in the late 1960's in South Africa by a team of Italian and French scientists led by Otto Ditali. Ditali hoped that the alloy would play an important role in the future of computing and semi-conducting. "The metal is just too expensive to produce and not nearly as reliable as silicon," explains Palyof.

"Carbonadium research was referred to a similar fate for ACS and the Archives coming before May. Campus Auxiliary and Business Services is Caltech's fastest growing division, consuming and creating new departments at record pace. Directed by Tom Mannion, Campus Auxiliary and Business Services currently includes the Housing Office, Food Service, Child Care, Campus Card Systems, Caltech Bookstore and recent additions Mail Services and Graphics Arts. The latter two represent Mannion's first move in what is expected to be a complete takeover of the Keith Spalding Business Services Building. ACS lies directly over Mail Services and would be an easy target for vertical integration. With the impending takeover of ACS, Mannion will control half of Keith Spalding and be well positioned to take over the rest. After assimilation of the Athenaeum, Tom Mannion will control the entire southeastern corner of campus, providing a solid base from which to launch an attack for either the City of San Marino or Physical Plant. Blocker Construction Company is rumored to be a possible low cost replacement for Physical Plant. Mannion has gained the backing of the undergraduate community though his habit of hiring anyone who enters his office with a complaint. Mannion currently employs the largest single block of students on campus and can control them through the offices in Campus Auxiliary and Business services. Mannion's Minnions, as they are known, eat and sleep within his domain. With the Campus Card System controlling a growing number of buildings, Mannion can lock out former student employees from both home and work. In addition Mannion controls the undergraduate food supply through TFM, adding fluoride much like the Communists did during the Cold War. One of the cost cutting measures used by Mannion is to replace Caltech staffers with undergraduates on Federal Work Study. This reduces payroll expenses to near third world levels and ensures that no employee has more than 4 or 5 years of experience. An excerpt from the memo: "This reorganization is taking too long. Doing things by department is taking forever. We've got to start doing things by the book, and that means the A's come first. The Athenaeum takes up half a page so there must be something he can do with it. ACS and the Archives could both use some well tightening by Mannion but they'll be done by the end of the quarter. I'll be look at the next page of the directory sometime tomorrow and figure out what we can cut from there."

Caltech alums among cult suicide victims

BY ANDY NORRAN

The tragedy at Rancho Santa Fe unfortunately included four Caltech alumni among the 39 cult-related suicides. The former students were among the members of Heaven's Gate that took their own lives last week in San Diego County with a deadly mixture of barbiturates followed by vodka.

The names of Scott Townsend (1992 CS), Jason Quarter (1978 Math), Jack Bates (1975 CS), and Phil Sutton (1997 CS) were released from Scripps Memorial Hospital last Saturday, Computer files recovered by the San Diego Police Department were analyzed and cross-referenced with other Heaven's Gate records in Oregon, Texas, and New Mexico, and it was discovered that Quarter and Bates, both formerly of Lloyd House, were recruited into Heaven's Gate after its co-founder and leader, Marshall Applewhite, visited Oregon in the late 1970's. Recent graduates Townsend and Sutton from Ricketts House later joined the cult after the group began using HTML design to fund their activities. Heaven's Gate, under the label Higher Source, interviewed many computer science students from the greater LA and San Diego area.

The cult Heaven's Gate, according to former member Jeffrey Bennatts (who now goes by the name Balance), described the group's purpose as "totally overcoming the physical, mammalian behavior of this level, the level of the animal kingdom." Recruited in Anaheim, Balance said he eventually became disillusioned when the group kept returning to the same cities to recruit new members with minimal success.

Cult-related mass suicide is not a recent news breaking event. Members of the Solar Temple, a European UFO-Neo-Christian cult underwent their final "journey" last month in Switzerland. The mass suicide in Rancho Santa Fe was supposedly an effort by the group to rendezvous with a spaceship trailing Hale Bopp.

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Recently declassified photograph of the Carbonadium, obtained at heavy cost by the Tech staff.
OPINIONS

Lotteries should be used to stop population growth
Dear Editors,
In the old days, people used to keep their populations under control and everything in the hands of the church using a marvelous system called a lottery. The lottery would have a single "winner" who would be sacrificed for the good of the community. They were stoned to death by the villagers. This method of population control should be put forth in the United States. People should be randomly taken out of their homes and shot to decrease the population, if they hide they are standing in the way of progress and should be hunted down years when people will start eating each other and other barbaric things.

An institutionalized thinning of the population would be a boon to the society and to everyone involved. A person who is chosen should be glad to be taken away, as it will help those around him. God is on the side of the righteous.

Ned Flanders

In all my years of reading the California Tech I have never come upon a writer whose employment was so deeply entangled with his writing. Writing about the opening of a new library and managing such half the artical glossing over the Card System, of which he is an employee, is truly the sign of a good journalist. I look forward to seeing more articles by Mr. Streed as I continue as one of the Tech Editors proper.

Erik Streed

Please send submissions for letters to the editor to:
The California Tech
Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91125
or by electronic mail to editors@tech.caltech.edu.
Deadline for submissions is Monday at 5 p.m. on the week of publication.

The editors reserve the right to edit or refuse to print any letter for any reason.

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ATTENTION!
All Photocopy users in the SHERMAN FAIRCHILD LIBRARY

The new Mag-striped Ids will be needed for photocopying after March 9th. The Card Office will be in SFL to issue Ids & setup accounts.

Debit Accounts must be set up to use research & departmental funds for photocopying.

SFL Room #129
Tuesdays & Wednesdays, March 11th and 12th, 1:00-5:00 P.M.
(For morning appointments sign up in Rm. 129)

Caltech Administrators...
Curious about your place in Tech history?
Want to measure student opinion?
Come read the writing on the walls during a Caltech Steam Tunnel Tour.

I am...
[] Tom Everhart, Caltech President
[] Gary Lorden, VP of Student Affairs
[] David Wales, Master of Student Houses
[] Kim West, Director of Residence Life
[] Jean-Paul Revel, Dean of Students

and I would like to take a party of on a whirlwind tunnel tour guided by the friendly Tech Editors.

Please clip and return to The California Tech, Caltech 40-58 or directly to SAC Room 40.

Caltech Administrator...
Administration declares frost on pass/fail

BY SAMSON T'MONER

In a dramatic turnaround, the administration announced yesterday that freshmen courses would no longer be graded third term this year.

"We never really wanted them to be on grades," said an anonymous source in the Residence Life Office. "The freshmen are under so much pressure just to adjust to the Caltech environment. Pass/fail just makes the transition easier. We were under pressure from someone higher up to put freshmen on grades again, originally — now we have been able to correct the situation."

Last year was the first year in a decade that freshmen were on grades third term. The move was intended to prevent freshmen from developing poor habits. However, Lorry Allen, a sophomore from Denver, said that freshmen are more likely to subscribe to such habits on their own.

"We never really thought that grades would make any difference, we just went along the idea because of the pressure that was there," remarked Allen. Allen declined to say who was applying that pressure.

The Student Affairs Office seemed happy with the move.

"We represent the best interests of the students," said Gary Lorden, Dean of Students. "Anything that makes them happier is a good thing." The Dean's Office also seemed pleased with the move, as did Kim West in the Residence Life Office.

With so many administrators happy with the switch back to pass/fail, the question remained: who was behind the original decision to put the freshmen on grades? Named sources told the Tech that Dr. Le Emet was originally behind the decision. The Tech was told that Dr. Emet has talked with members of the faculty for years, trying to convince them that freshmen don't need pass/fail. However, the Tech has not been able to confirm this statement, and Dr. Emet was unavailable for comment yesterday.

A quick search through the undergraduate Houses found positive response. A freshman in Page House celebrated by drinking several beers.

"I'm on pass/fail," he exclaimed between hiccups. "Woo hoo!"

Caltech admits 94% women for next year

BY AUTUMN LOOIJEN

The ASCIT van was returned to Caltech undergraduates Monday, after nearly a year of sitting unused in the parking lot behind Jorgenson. Former Dean Rod Kiewiet had confiscated the van last year, when a minor accident on Dick Day led to the discovery that the van was not discovered to be.

ASCIT Upperclass Director Kiran Shekar, who is in charge of the van, was not available for comment.

Undergraduates were excited to see that the van was available again.

"It's great to know that students can once again enjoy life off campus. Getting the van back opens many more possibilities for the Social Team of each house," said L.A. Philharmonic, watch out!" said Myfanwy Callahan of Dabney House.

Under the guidelines adopted by the ASCIT Van Committee, the van will be available only to undergraduates who show current proof of insurance. The van itself will not be insured for collision damage. If it is wrecked in an accident, the van will not be replaced until the ASCIT can afford a new one. This could be four or five years, according to Shekar. Students involved in minor accidents would need to pay the repair costs themselves.

The Sports department "has mixed emotions" about the new freshman class.

The Tech's freshman class will be Caltech's first mostly-female class, the Admissions Office announced Friday. The class will be 94% female. Though some students are crying reverse discrimination, sources in the Admissions Office claim there "just weren't many qualified men this year." Caltech, which currently has a male : female ratio of 3.1, is in for some changes.

"We're practically a babe-a-rama," said an anonymous source in the Admissions Office.

In fact, Playboy has just contacted us looking for a Caltech student to be their Computer Science Playmate this year.

The Caltech Counseling Center expects glomming to decrease markedly this year, and told the Tech that depression, bitterness, and other common problems should virtually disappear.

The Caltech Women's Center could not be reached for comment.

Some students, however, see sinister forces at work behind the new freshman class."Who do they think they're fooling?" said Dusan Misevic, an undergraduate in Page House.

"Do they really expect us to believe that so few qualified men applied? It's ridiculous! They're trying to fix the ratio, but Caltech's reputation is going to suffer for it."

The sports department "has mixed emotions" about the new freshman class. For the first time since Caltech opened its doors, there will be only a handful of male freshmen to shore up existing teams. ([The] frosh class will be a great shot for our women's sports teams, but it could prove to be a major set-back for the men's teams.

All in all, it is probably a good move and will allow us to compete right away for a conference championship in many of our women's sports. GO LADY BEAVERS!!!" said Wendell P. Jack, Assistant Director of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Women's Tennis Coach Karen Nelson said, "This is big news for our women's athletic teams. Our numbers on the tennis team should increase significantly with this incoming freshman class."

Women's Lacrosse Coach Bill Forester foresaw a shortage of players for the next few years.

Organizing Prefrosh Weekend may also prove difficult, since all of the prefrosh will need female hosts. The Admissions Office is confident, however, that this will not be much of a difficulty.
This former staple of Caltech existence was recently shot down by the fact that the author no longer teaches the class. Still, one look inside either imposing tome and the reader is immediately struck by rumors of people capable of out your hot pants and start swinging to "argain; I want to look up any joke that Prof. Goodstein has ever told.

The Mechanical Universe By David L. Goodstein, Tom M. Apostol and a bunch of other people

I haven't taken this class or read the book and I have no intention of ever doing either. I'd guess it weighs about ten pounds and it has a seventies-looking dust jacket. It would probably be overkill to use this as a doorstop; I would suggest you set your TV on it.

The Art of Electronics By Paul Horowitz and Winifred Hill

I haven't taken this class or read the book and I have no intention of ever doing either. I'd guess it weighs about ten pounds and it has a seventies-looking dust jacket. It would probably be overkill to use this as a doorstop; I would suggest you set your TV on it.

Critic Anthology, Vol. 1

Menuo is back on the scene with an anthology of their illusive career. Whip out your hot pants and start swinging to such Latin pop tunes as "El Chupacabra Dance," a flamenco dance version of Arturo Sandovál's, "La Guarapachanga" and "That Gringo's Goin' Down." They've also included a live recording of my personal favorite, "Tiene Pantalones De Quezo." The Anthology includes a few new songs as well, and the band seems to be headed in the hip-hop direction, with new rap songs and the addition of a DJ in their recent concert shown over the Internet in RealAudio. (Webmasters estimate that four, maybe five thousand people logged onto the site and frantically tried to exit.) There's also a mall-in coupon for a free bandana and also a slap bracelet, so this one is going to be hot. Henry Rollins is helping Adam Sandler produce a new comedy album, as of yet untitled. The CD is due out in June, and some singles already hearing airplay on the Dr. Demento radio show is "Crafty Macarena and Jizz." Rollins' political influence can be seen in the new Sandler material, notably "Scottish People Doing Funny Things With Sheep Ain't So Mischief" and "I'm Sorry 2Pac, Don't Kill Me." Due to popular demand, Sandler decided to increase the number of excited Southerners skits just to piss everybody off. Rollins himself makes a guest vocal appearance playing the goat in "Run The Old Man Over With The Pickup Truck" and also the disgruntled lover in "I'd Write You A Poem, Baby, But Nothing Rhymes With Fuck You."

In the spirit of the three tenors comes a trio of the most soulful, artful, and beautiful musical composers of our time. John Tesh and his orchestra are joining Yanni's troupe along with Kenny G to form a monumental, symphonic menage of musicians. The lead song, "Prancing" is a perfect melodious mix of soft and easy rhythm with a hint of sexual spice. Kenny G, as usual, is playing his saxophone while Tesh and Yanni skilfully enrapture the soul with mesmerizing synthesized wind shears and a faint whale song in the background. The masterful instrumental, "Heartbreak In A Flower Shop" is a wonderful tale of two young people trapped in their work as students of horticulture and botany. The song switches to a more ambient, trip-hop type of flair, with whimsical undertones of Yanni making funny fop sounds on his keyboard and Tesh going down on a chocolate pie with two backup singers. If you listen closely to "Making Love In Reykjavik," you can hear the surprise guest background vocals of Als Rose and Barry Manilow.

Dick Wagner is also re-releasing his hit single 'The Ride Of The Valkyries.' A wild and popular piece, this symphonic masterpiece has been used in various places including almost every Warner Bros. cartoon. Alongside "Carmina Burana," it has been considered one of the most often played classical works of all time. Emphatic undertones and wonderfully expressive scales give "The Ride Of The Valkyries" a rich and colorful flair and should be played as often and as loud as possible. Hey, it's better than Alanis Morissette and Oasis.

Also new is David Hasselhoff's Greatest Hits. It caught me off guard when I heard the CD was coming out. So I barned a copy of Diablo and haven't gone to lecture since. AFD Records is also releasing a CD called Milli Vanilli Unplugged. Actually, this one wasn't empty (which also caught me off guard) but it did have about three and a half hours of what sounds like a stealth bomber flying overhead.
Dean's Corner

Commence!

by Jean-Paul Revel

should take place when where the plan of sights, that the end of...
Were you there? The Tech photographers were!

In a surprise turn of events, The California Tech is somewhat bemused to report that Ditch Day was yesterday. A crack team of photographers managed to capture the event on film.

This year's stacking seniors were especially stealthy in their preparations: so stealthy, in fact, that even the faculty were surprised.

"Ditch Day? I thought Ditch Day was tomorrow," said Professor Nate Lewis.

Local news, too, was caught off guard. The event, which is usually popular with print and broadcast journalists, received little attention this year. Gretchen Larson said that the seniors had hoped Ditch Day would be quiet this year.
With all the local and national basketball teams have received, Caltech teams have felt left out. Having this list is the Caltech football team, which has not lost a single game since the end of the 1994 season.

The coach attributed an extremely strong defense to the continuing success of the Caltech football team. Regrettably, most undergraduates haven't even attended a Caltech football home game.

One of the reasons Caltech's football program has remained relatively unknown for so long is the lack of a star player to catch the attention of Beaver fans and sportswriters everywhere.

The Caltech Beavers have a surprisingly successful history. With more trips to the Rose Bowl than any other team in history, the Beavers have not received the accolades that other teams get for just a single trip to the Rose Bowl.

The Caltech football team has won more games at the Rose Bowl than any team in recorded history, including USC, Northwestern, and the University of Wisconsin combined.

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Pasadena Computer Center is located in Pasadena, CA with branches in New York. With almost ten years in the industry, Pasadena Computer Center learned how to serve its customers well. Some of our recent customers include the Jet Propulsion Laboratories (JPL), GTE, U.S. Postal Service, Rockwell, Pacific Bell, UCLA, USC, Los Angeles Unified School District, Caltech, Edwards Air Force Base, Kaiser Permanente, Cal State LA and many community colleges. No matter if you're looking for a computer to use at home or a hundred computers for the office you'll get the quality and service you expect.

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1756 E. Colorado Bl., Pasadena, CA. 91106 (West of Allen Ave)
The Athenaeum will be holding smug tasting classes this Wednesday, April 2. Air from Mexico City, Beijing, Calcutta, Gary, Ind., and Sullivansville will be served. Tap water from these locations will also be available for reference purposes. Medics will be present for the light of heart.

The Caltech Womens Chamber Ensemble will be performing in Dabney Hall this Saturday. Songs by unknown sisters of Beeethoven, Bach, and Mozart will be performed, in addition to a special medley of the last N.O.W. board meeting minutes. All female members of the Caltech/JPL community are encouraged to attend for an evening of sisterhood and song. Reception to be held afterwards in the Women's Center.

The Family Pet Expo will be held Wednesday from 11 AM to 2 PM in the residential sections of Avery House. Pets on display will include shedding putty tats, spitting cobras, sheep, bouncy wabbots, and 100 different kinds of insects.

The Athenaeum will be holding a 50's Sock Hop on Friday, April 25 in the Main Dining Room. A 50's costume contest and a dance contest will be held. Gift certificate prizes will be awarded. If you have a photo of yourself during the 50's send it to Barbara Buckley, c/o The Athenaeum. Please no classified photos. Remove your reservations in the Main Dining Room.

The Coltech Peeping Toms Club is looking for new members. Who knows what fun things will happen when we set out to watch Master of Student Housing David Wales do dishes at Steele House followed by observations of President Everharts TV preferences this Wednesday evening. BYOB (bring your own binoculars) and be prepared to show Caltech ID to pesky security officers.

**Mints**

Tite for the week's new dyslexia columns. Short pay and high hours. Run with spoonerisms. Meet lots of nice Moles, Darbs, and one Pageboy, two if you count Neil, while we all laugh at the Lloydies (actually just Maris, but she's not down here anyway).

Physical Plant and Pasadena Power & Water will be causing an unscheduled power outage on Thursday, April 3 at 1:23 PM. Caltech staff should shutdown their computers and provide backup power for any critical applications. The unscheduled outage will last exactly 5 minutes and is to remind the Caltech community of who really has the power on this campus.

On a similar note, the Physics department will be halting gravity for an undetermined length of time next month.

The Procrastinators Workshop has denoted a new announcement. It has been postponed yet again. The rest of this announcement will get finished later.

The Chandler Dining Hall will be serving something called Steak Bomb this Wednesday. This food substance does not have The California Tech's seal of approval.

The Blacker Frosh are looking for donations of scrap steel, old tires, ready mix cement, rebars, aceton, and rubber bands for Hell Ride '97? [Remember upperclassmen, Hell Ryde is Tonyte]. Regrettably 150 lb metal plates cannot be accepted. Please make sure that any metal plates either exceed this weight or are cut in half. Donations should be delivered to Nathan Schara, Blacker 5'8" or Ryan Cox Blacker 2x3x3.

The Red Cross of Pasadena out for your blood. Get to them before you fail at least 3 classes in your bare hands? Join the Caltech Acceleration Club and vent in a nondestructive manner.

We'll be dropping modern computer hardware, the latest in spectrographic equipment, English romance literature, and several hundred laboratory mice from nine stories above the ground. Watch your stress level drop with some of the most hated hardware on campus. Milikan roof, 10 p.m., Friday.

The Los Angeles Branch of American Society of Handicapped, female Astrophysicists of Iceland, descent will be giving 5 scholarships for sophomores of $1000, plus universal medical insurance. Applicants should be of Icelandic heritage (no Norwegians please), majoring in Physics or Astronomy with intent to participate in a crippling accident before graduation. While students who are not severely disabled may apply, the successfully applicant should demonstrate a history of attempting to injure herself in a life-threatening manner. Requests for applications and medical extensions should be sent to Professor Marge Svennsson, c/o Happy Gopher Rehabilitation Center, 13 Radiation Lane, Three Mile Island, PA.

The American Generalists Society will be awarding scholarships to students. Please contact John Smith, 4312 Pine St., Altown, MI for more information. Applicants will be due and should be postmarked.

**From the Mental Health Maintenance Center**

Is your girlfriend or wife bossy? Does she make decisions on her own without consulting you? Mental Health is currently offering de-assertiveness and co-dependency training sessions at Caltech. Learn how to hide your significant other to you in a meaningless cycle of self destructiveness.

Is stress getting to you? Did you push the button on a two billion dollar project just because someone didn't say please? Destroy a lifesaving vaccine vial by crushing it in your bare hands? Join the Caltech Acceleration Club and vent in a nondestructive manner.

We'll be dropping modern computer hardware, the latest in spectrographic equipment, English romance literature, and several hundred laboratory mice from nine stories above the ground. Watch your stress level drop with some of the most hated hardware on campus. Milikan roof, 10 p.m., Friday.

**APPLICATIONS**

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The Los Angeles Branch of the American Society of Handicapped, female Astrophysicists of Iceland, descent will be giving 5 scholarships for sophomores of $1000, plus universal medical insurance. Applicants should be of Icelandic heritage (no Norwegians please), majoring in Physics or Astronomy with intent to participate in a crippling accident before graduation. While students who are not severely disabled may apply, the successfully applicant should demonstrate a history of attempting to injure herself in a life-threatening manner. Requests for applications and medical extensions should be sent to Professor Marge Svennsson, c/o Happy Gopher Rehabilitation Center, 13 Radiation Lane, Three Mile Island, PA.

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