Students, faculty to discuss CIT

BY KOH I Gill

The Ides of April are almost upon us—that means Tax Day, but more importantly, the Student/Faculty Conference. Yes, right after the ASCIT Budget Meeting (see ASCIT Announcements, lower right) and right before Refresh Weekend, ASCIT (with great help from Student Affairs) will attempt the amazing: inviting all members of the Caltech Community to join in discussion of the issues. Do you have a suggestion, a gripe, or a new idea about student life, the honor system, or the philosophy of undergrads at CIT? Then come address the Student Life, Honor System, and Undergraduate Pursuit Committees, presented to you for that reason!

What do you say? You don't know what the issues are? Well, then come on out anyway on Tuesday, 15 April and listen to the presentations of the committees first, chaired by Ellis Meng (smit@londo), Geoff Smith (gsmit@londo), and Seth Blumberg (blumberg@cco), respectively. What's that? You have class on the 15th? Well, watch for a scheduling change in your courses, to facilitate your attendance.

The only way this conference can be successful is with your help. Contact the chairs of the committees with your suggestions. I challenge every CIT member to attend and make a serious contribution to this effort to better our school. The discussions promise to be quite interesting. Please watch for further announcements in the Tech and elsewhere.

Eleven years of Mozart Concerts

BY MYANWY CALLAHAN

The time has arrived once again for Caltech's annual All Mozart Concert. For the eleventh year, Caltech singers and instrumentalists will join to perform some of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's most memorable works.

William Bing, the director of the Caltech Jazz Band and Concert Band, will perform the Trumpet Concerto in E-flat by Johann Nepomuk Hummel, a pupil of Mozart's. Four the last four years, William Bing has played in the trumpet section of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and the Los Angeles Opera Orchestra.

The Caltech Chamber Singers will sing Regina Coeli, Ave Verum Corpus, and the Coronation Mass, accompanied by a small orchestra. The Chamber Singers is a small group of only 12 graduate and undergraduate students, but their performance rivals that of a much larger choir.

Finally, members of the Chamber Music Program, directed by Delores Bing, will play the Quintet K.617 for flute, oboe, viola, cello, and piano. Delores Bing has worked with over 500 small groups of students in the Chamber Music Program and won the ASCIT teaching award with her husband William Bing for their skilled work in the Caltech Music Program.

The concert promises to be very enjoyable. Come and listen for free at Dabney Hall tomorrow (Saturday) at 8 p.m. or Sunday at 3 p.m. Space is limited, so please arrive early.

Dr. Ho to speak at commencement

Dr. David Ho has agreed to speak at this year's commencement. Dr. Ho, biology alum '74, has shot to the front of AIDS research by innovatingly combining treatment of RT, protease, and integrase inhibitors at the start of HIV infection, which in most patients lowers the level of virus to near nonexistence, and hopefully eliminates infection within months.

ASCIT Announcements

All clubs seeking ASCIT funding should pick up a Budget Proposal form from the SAC Copier Room. The completed budget proposals should be turned in by noon, April 11th.

Due to unforeseeable circumstances, Kara Swedlow, the ASCIT Secretary, is taking a voluntary leave and has given her resignation. Therefore, as per the ASCIT Bylaws, the ASCIT Executive Committee will appoint an interim secretary, and a new election will be held as soon as possible for a permanent secretary. Please watch for flyers and announcements if you are interested in this position, or email me at kohl@cco.

Also, sign-ups will be going up outside of Winnett shortly for ASCIT appointed offices. Here they are:

Executive Committee Chairman
ASCIT Movies Chairman
little t Editors and Business Manager
Big T Editors
Big T Business Manager
Totem Editors
California Tech Business Manager

Check pages 85 and 86 of your 96-97 Guide to all useful information. Sign up early, sign up often!

The Usual Stuff

Outside Works...3
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This Week's Features

Editors' Box 2
Pahohoe 3
DODGERS FANS OF CALTECH UNITE!

BY MASON A. PORTER

Sheets on which Juniors can suggest graduation speakers are now up in each of the undergraduate houses. There are a multitude of seemingly qualified candidates, but one's accomplishments should not be enough to justify one's selection as a commencement speaker. Indeed, the ability to speak well and entertain one's audience is perhaps equally important. With this in mind, my choice as an ideal commencement speaker would be new baseball Hall of Famer Tommy Lasorda.

Lasorda's selection to baseball's Hall of Fame is merely the crown on a career of stellar accomplishments. In addition to his excellent work on the baseball diamond, he has served as an ambassador for the game for over twenty years. He has preached about baseball as entertainment, rather than just a sport, in all matters of education. His work in earning one's degree lies in what one has learned and accomplished. Given that, one should strive to make such ceremonies as entertaining as possible.

Some people may suggest that it is inappropriate to have an entertainer give the commencement address. I disagree with this both because many entertainers have accomplished a great deal and because of the intended purpose of commencement ceremonies and participants feel about it. The testament to one's hard work in earning one's degree lies not in a pretentious ceremony but in what one has learned and accomplished. Tommy Lasorda's Hall of Fame and this week's commencement address will go to make the April 1st issue possible. A special thanks goes out to the editors at Tech.caltech.edu.

Kind comments are welcome. Send e-mail to editors@tech.caltech.edu.

P.S. More information on which Juniors can suggest graduation speakers is available on Tech's intranet. All suggestions should include the student's name, year in school, the name of the individual suggested as a commencement speaker, a brief description of why the individual was selected, and the student's name, year in school, and a contact telephone number. The suggestions will be compiled and distributed to the Tech editors for consideration.

[Ad for Caltech Operations Services]
**Pahohoe Diary: Six days in one page!**

**BY JOE TIELA**

Day 4 - Sunday, March 17th

**Mundo Fuego, No Es Bueno!**

Day Four began with greetings from the denizens of Camp Kilaeua, some other volcanic island from Saddam Hussein. Anyway, while we were kicking out the jams for the day's coming events, we noticed several people in campouflage running around amidst the low ridge not too far from our cabins. I quickly ran through the various goals of known active militia groups in my mind and came to the conclusion that while NSF money might not put us in league with the Trilateral Commission, we still stood a chance of being mistaken for either a) NSF agents or b) the New World Order and hence would be prime targets for the G. Gordon Liddy Maneuver. "We never should have rented those black helicopters back at Hilo," said lazily as I got ready to bring my Swiss army knife to bear at the first sign of gunfire. But, as it turned out, they were with the National Guard or some such organization and were on maneuvers. Everything was okay.

- Pu'o O'o - not for me, Hawaii Militia, Up Mauna Loa Road, bird sanctuary, view of Ka'u Desert through nine countries. Spent night at VNP.

Day 5 - Monday, March 18th

**If anyone Else's Throat Burning?**

Mauna Ulu active crater, Devil's Hole, covered freeway from H3 eruption, nearly passed on coast, samples of Pele's tears and reticulum (more lava tubes). Robbery! It turns out that Hawaiian Air lost $40 million dollars last year. Does this mean we have to swim home? Spent Night at VNP.

Idly, I wondered how fast I could run downhill anaerobically.

Day 6 - Tuesday, March 19th

**Sugar cane wases ripped my flesh**

Volcano House breakfast, more lava trees (pushing through the underbrush), Ka'u Desert & footprints, spent night at Whimington Point (black sand), didn't see turtle. Saw Alpha C? At last, breakfast at the famed Volcano House. The volcanic House was a shack made out of palm fronds for its visitors (missionaries, gawkers and the like) back in the 1840's, parently before the invention of wood. Its last incarnation, built in 1920, featured what was claimed to be the longest continuously burning fireplace in the world, and sure enough, the fireplace and half the lounge were on fire when we got there, with waiian Air lost all with the National Guard or Ka'u Desert through nene counts. But, as it turned out, they were a)) NSF agents or b) the New World Order and hence would be prime targets for the G. Gordon Liddy Maneuver. "We never should have rented those black helicopters back at Hilo," said lazily as I got ready to bring my Swiss army knife to bear at the first sign of gunfire. But, as it turned out, they were with the National Guard or some such organization and were on maneuvers. Everything was okay.

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Day 7 - Wednesday, March 20

**In Regards, An Unappealing Day**

Basalt "tongue" cave, Sick Cats, South Point & windmills, up Kealakekua, olivine roadside wall,"So where the heck are those darn birds?" Laura asked angrily.

"Bad Ass Coffee Company," ugly rock graffiti, swimming, spent night at State Beach cabins.

Day 8 - Thursday, March 21

**Hope Your Brakes Work, You Poor Dumb Bastard!**

Swimming, Dunite lava tube & such, Keck Building, cool wet cave, tourist trap, big hills + much rain. Pa'io! Spent night at "Oregon Coast."

And we got to see the Keck building, where the only graduate students there were working with the Keck telescope(s) way up on Mauna Kea (that's the pointy one, remember). We didn't actually get to go inside, but I was too busy being happy about finding an ATM to care.

Day 9 - Friday, March 22

**From the Clutches of One God to the Next?**

Shopping at Hilo Hattie's, flight back to LAX. Four cans of coconut-macadamia brittle, a volcanic-soil refrigerant magnet, a Pele book and T-shirt and some government-inspected sugar cane.

**AFTERMATH**

It is now eleven months since the group returned from Hawaii. Since then, all of the undergraduates but myself have been killed by freak lava surges, localized pycroclastic flows, suborbital basalt bombs and at least one meteorite which, while identified as originally coming from Mars, was definitely made of magmatic rock. As I write this, the lava dome that has formed on Mount Wilson is growing at a rate of 2 centimeters per day, while microquake frequency is up by almost 2000%. The entire San Andreas Fault also seems to be changing its geometry from long strike-slip segments to Gulf of California-type active rift zones. The only chance of survival for myself and southern California is for me to leave quickly and move to a crater with no nearby mantle-derived hot spots; hence I am accepting a position as assistant technical writer for the Department of Creation Science at Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, OK. May Pele have mercy on my soul.
DILBERT®

by Scott Adams

April 4, 1997

C'2

What is the root problem?

It's got to be those anti-management cartoons the employees hang on their cubicle walls!

And they aren't even funny.

In order to reduce expenses, only the employees in essential jobs may have business cards.

To better order some new business cards for me.

Carol, order some new business cards for me.

Ok, no can do, but you can borrow some of mine.

I'm banning the posting of anti-management cartoons in the office. They hurt morale.

You're banning humor to raise morale?

It's the subject of today's cartoon. See how it's not funny?

I hate to enterlift your loud conversation outside my cubicle...

But if you don't go away, I'll round your inconsiderate head so far into your torso that you have no drop your pants to say hello.

DID YOU JUST HEAR ME SAY, "HELLO?"

Must...control...fist...or...you might see something you shouldn't...

And they have vending machines if you get hungry.

Wally, I forgot to tell you that all of the module requirements have changed.

WHAT P!!! ALL MY WORK WAS FOR NOTHING?!

He actually believes you died work.

I think I'll get some homemade cookies out of this.

I'm sending you to a training course that runs at night so you won't miss any work.

It might seem like an "emporal abuse of my powers," but I like to call it a mutual investment in your career.

Must...control...fist...or...you might see something you shouldn't...

Hey, Dilbert! You'll never be hungry as long as you're working on this strip.

...causing you're sure of three squares every day!

Some of us have to keep going around in circles!

Security!

Company training.

Let's go around the room and see each say what we hope to learn.

I hope to learn whether that thing on your head is a bad toupee, a dead animal, or a hideous freak of nature.

Can I call that "general"?

GRADUATE SCHOOL WEEK APRIL 7-11, 1997

Take a Closer Look at Graduate School during Graduate School Week

Monday, April 7
Applying to Graduate School Workshop
7:30 - 9:00 PM, SAC Room 13
The CDC will host a panel of graduate students and graduating seniors who will share their experiences in choosing graduate programs, filling out applications, getting good letters of recommendation, and writing an effective personal statement.

Applying to Graduate School Workshop
7:30 - 9:00 PM, Winnett Club Room 1
The same information as in Monday night's workshop will be presented.

Wednesday, April 9
Decisions about Graduate School
7:30 - 9:00 PM, Winnett Lounge
A panel of Caltech alumni will discuss taking a break after your B.S., deciding which graduate school(small vs. large), should I get an MBA, and other questions you have.

Thursday, April 10
The Nuts and Bolts of Applying to Graduate School
7:30 - 9:00 PM, Beckman Institute Auditorium
A panel of university representatives will discuss the application process and what they look for in personal statements, letters of recommendation, and test scores. Panelists include representatives from Stanford, Princeton, Caltech, and USC CISE.

Friday, April 11
Grad Fair
11 am - 2 PM, Winnett Student Center
Representatives from premier graduate programs across the country will be on hand to answer your questions and distribute literature.

Sponsored by the CDC, the Graduate Office, and the Alumni Association.
As part of the establishment of the Caltech Women's Center in 1993, the Faculty Board provided for a periodic review of the Women's Center's accomplishments and benefits to the Caltech community. Accord­

ingly, Provost Steve Koonin has gathered a group of men and women including undergraduates, graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, faculty, and staff to serve on the Women's Center Review Committee. This committee will report its findings to the Faculty Board no later than June 1997.

In order to gather information for the review, the committee has set up a permanent e-mail address to solicit comments and opinions about the Caltech Women's Center from the entire Caltech community. (wcr-comments@gps.caltech.edu). We hope that community comments will address any relevant aspect of Women's Center performance, including which past activities have been most important to the various elements of the Institute community (students, faculty, and staff), ways in which service might be expanded, and ways in which Women's Center activities might better interact with other campus organizations, (i.e., Student Affairs, Human Resources, etc.). Those who wish to comment in person may contact one of the following committee members directly: Joann Stock (Chair), Joel Franklin, Elizabeth Holt, Rusty Lansford, David Levy, Maria Satterwhite, and Nai-Chang Yeh.

On Saturday, March 8, Caltech Public Events presented the delightful play Love Letters, by A. R. Gurney. Both poignant and humorous, this tale takes us on the life journey of two characters, Andrew Makepeace Ladd III, and Melissa Gardner. Andrew, played with great depth by Patrick Harrington, was near perfect throughout the show, from a lovable and hard working, if slightly pretentious boy, to the distinguished Senator he becomes. Filling the character with life and depth, Harrington became the boy forced to write the thank-you note, the adolescent writing about college life, the family man telling of his own fortunes and misfortunes in raising his children. Just by the simple act of reading his letters to his very good friend, for Melissa is most importantly that, Harrington is able to show us the life of his character in great detail.

Michael Learned also did a fine job as Melissa Gardner, the impetuous and headstrong woman and girl who could never quite face reality. When they write letters to each other as small children, their interplay shows both the good points and bad points of growing up in the rich society of the 1930's and '40s. From the over-the-top parties thrown for youngsters' birthdays, to the continual pressure put on Makepeace Ladd by his father, to the societal strains the rise of divorce has caused on its children (showed with great aplomb by Melissa Gardner), Love Letters shows this society in all its grandeur, and all its pettiness. As time goes on, society changes, and so do our characters. Makepeace Ladd III is transformed by Yale, the Navy, an Oriental romance, law school, and finally joining the government as he continues to do what his father taught him and help others; Gardner, on the other hand, with no steady parental hand, goes through marriages like fashions and continues to struggle with the temptations of alcohol and drugs until her life comes to its bitter end. A. R. Gurney draws a beautiful difference between the stable family life of Makepeace Ladd III and the results it brings and the disastrous results of the unstable and hideous early family that Gardner endured.

In sum, this is a wonderful play about what growing up means, how it affects us, and what it means to have a friend to whom we really can tell all our dark secrets. It treats both the light and dark subjects well, and with dignity. If this is representative of theatrical productions that Caltech presents, then I must heartily recommend them.
ADAM VILLANI: MEDIA GUY

BY ADAM VILLANI

Post-Oscar 1996 Movie Wrap-Up

During last term this column was so packed with both the new 1997 films and the tail-enders from last year that I never got around to showing you my top ten list for the year. Last week's Oscar ceremony pretty much sealed the door on the 1996 movie season, so I figure I'd better show it to you now. I saw about 80 1996 releases, but was able to be quite selective; there were only about 5 movies that I actively disliked. While I can of course make no claims on films I haven't seen, these are what I consider to be the best of last year's crop:

1. \textbf{The Frighteners} - Wryly funny crime and mystery against the backdrop of majestic white landscapes and down-home Midwestern charm. Acting kudos all around, too.

2. \textbf{Breaking the Waves} - Lars von Trier's breathtaking, challenging study of faith, love, devotion, and sacrifice. And that relentless attack scene, oh my.

3. \textbf{Fargo} - The highs and lows of drug use are vividly portrayed in this exhilarating British film. This should have won Best Editing.

4. \textbf{The Scent of Green Papaya} - A simple amazing film. This French documentary touched a nerve, even in this movie-drunk audience.

5. \textbf{Sling Blade} - Billy Bob Thornton's character of Karl Childers will be remembered for ages to come. A refreshing tale of a man trying to find his place in society.

6. \textbf{Hands Down} - Simply amazing film. This French documentary was sheer entertainment, with a wildly original plot, great special effects, and interesting cinematography. \textit{Wryly funny crime and mystery against the backdrop of majestic white landscapes and down-home Midwestern charm. Acting kudos all around, too.}

7. \textbf{Beavis and Butt-head Do America} - Also unjustly overlooked, this was one of the most maddeningly inconsistent movies of the year. It's not as bad as the B&B movies, but it's a lot less fun.

8. \textbf{Chungking Express} - Hands-down, a simply amazing film. This French documentary was sheer entertainment, with a wildly original plot, great special effects, and interesting cinematography.

9. \textbf{Heavenly Creatures} - Hands-down, a simply amazing film. This French documentary was sheer entertainment, with a wildly original plot, great special effects, and interesting cinematography.

10. \textbf{Microcosmos} - A refreshing tale of a man trying to find his place in society.

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Dean's Corner
Here comes the 3rd Therm

by Jean-Paul Revel

Whole life is here, I mean that.

And it is the first term on grades for the Frosh, who by now are expected to be ready for this change in life. Just to be sure, I want to repeat myself: a little and present several items for your consideration which I hope you can help do something about. One of these items has to do with the Honor Code, which we all know is the greatest thing since Caltech was founded. It is most surprising therefore to find that the same sermon has to be repeated. I say has to, because each term seems to bring anew problems that have already been visited, albeit with different people, but that just says the problem is common. Well here I go, repeat after me: "anything, any behavior which leads one person (or a group) to acquire unfair advantage over another is a violation of the Honor Code." As such

Admissions never make mistakes.

All of you are fantastic, and can do all the work that is demanded of you. Admissions never make mistakes.

These things are matters for the BoC. Please act on this premise. Behave so as to avoid taking advantage of others.

Note that the BoC is composed of students, your classmates and housemates, and that they are spending their time better than you do.

It will be a term of great things since Caltech.

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- **Five study abroad programs**
- **Overnight canoe trip on the Wisconsin River**
- **Days at Hills and in Wisconsin state parks**
- **Intramural sports**

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