

ASCIT Elections Ballot

Dictator of the World

- Ryan Cox
- Rafi Rubin
- Gary Lorden
- Nicholas Breen



BD_ is tonight!

see Blacker courtyard

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

VOLUME XCVIII, NUMBER 30

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1997

More Busy Beavers Take Time to Give Back to Community

BY KAREN BLETZER

This year the Community Service and Volunteer Program, run by the Caltech Y, has seen remarkable growth this past year. The number of Caltech student volunteers has increased from approximately 75 last school year to over 110 this year. The number and variety of programs has increased accordingly. Community Service activities include weekly commitments, such as Project Angel Food and tutoring. Project Angel Food volunteers spend 2 hours each week delivering lunches to people living homebound with AIDS. Run by the Pasadena AIDS Service Center, Project Angel Food attracts volunteers from many communities, including Pasadena. Amy Herr, who has been an active participant and coordinator for Project Angel Food,

explained that the opportunity "to do something with other students in a different environment," is one of the best parts of her experience.

Caltech students tutor others in several tutoring programs. Some students travel to area high schools or to private homes to tutor. Twice a week Caltech offers on-campus tutoring to area high school students in physics, chemistry, and many different levels of math including trigonometry, algebra, and calculus. Dave Relyea, who has worked with the on-campus tutoring program for several years, noted that the program "has gotten a lot bigger. Three years ago there were times when only one student would show up." This year an average of 20 tutors show up each Tuesday and Thursday to help the 10-30 high school students who attend these sessions. On Sat-

SEE VOLUNTEER ON PAGE 2

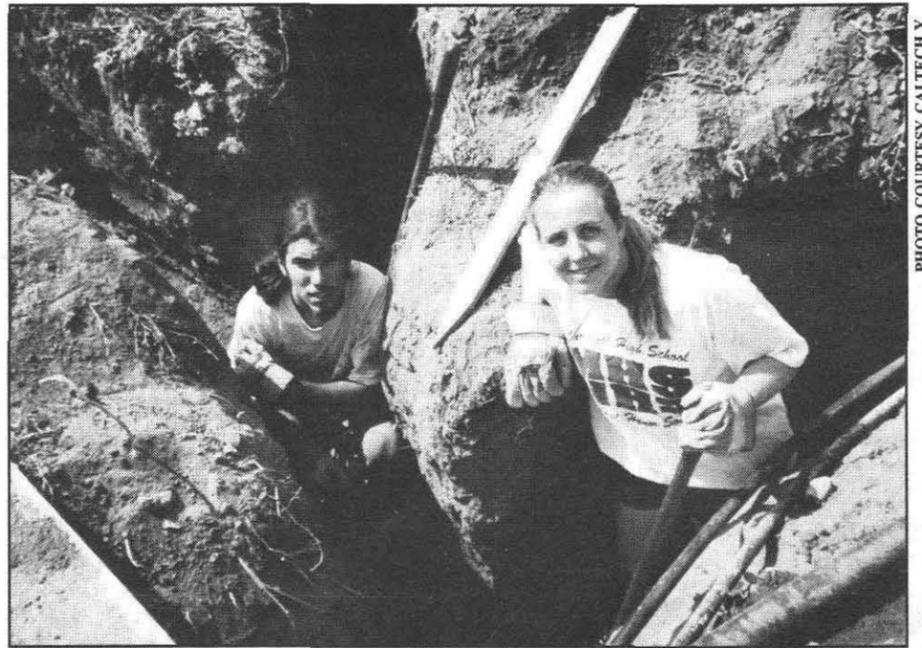


PHOTO COURTESY CALTECH Y

Miles Shuman and Heather Dean take a break from digging a foundation for Habitat for Humanity over spring break.

TACIT Tackles "Hell" of a Play

BY DAISY JAMES

The latest production of Theatre Arts at Caltech (TACIT) is "Don Juan in Hell", the third act of *Man, Superman* by George Bernard Shaw. As the title suggests, it is set in hell, but here hell is represented as being a place of love and beauty and the Devil is a jovial, friendly man and the perfect host. Heaven we never see, but it is described as a very philosophical place, where the inhabitants spend their time thinking and everything is real, as opposed to the illusions of hell. The play, an excerpt from a much longer play, focuses on a discussion of these differences, and their merits and drawbacks.

Lucifer, the Devil (Maneesh Sahani), Don Juan Tenorio (Phillip Rodriguez III), Dona Ana de Ulloa (Carrie Garner) and her father Don Gonzalo, the Statue (Richard Mason) are all in hell, where a masquerade party is being held. The version of the story used for the play casts Don Juan in a much more favorable light than others. In legend, Don Juan is a famous lover and scoundrel who has made more than a thousand sexual conquests. In this play, he is the hero, although condemned to hell for killing Dona Ana's father. Dona Ana has arrived in hell be-



PHOTO COURTESY TACIT

Carrie Garner as Dona Ana and Phillip Rodriguez III as Don Juan Tenorio in TACIT's "Don Juan in Hell."

cause she remained a virgin for 77 years.

The discussion of the relative merits of heaven and hell arises because Don Juan doesn't like hell, and wants to go to heaven. While Dona Ana tries to come to grips with this unsettling of her concepts of the afterlife, the devil and her father (who has recently left heaven due to boredom) attempt to convince Don Juan to stay in hell.

The play is well performed, with Rodriguez's ability to memorize and present enormous speeches matched by Garner's talent for staying in character for what must be pages of dialogue where she has no lines. Mason, as the fairly boorish statue of Dona Ana's father, provides

most of the humor, with Sahani providing some good one-liners.

The set is marvelous, a drawing room in hell complete with period furniture, rug, mirror and piano. Russ Litchfield is at the piano, proving music throughout the play that give some of the funniest moments and in a costume that must be seen to be believed. All of the costumes are to some degree gorgeous or absurd, with the partygoers tending to the absurd. Overall, it is a beautiful and well-composed production, and seats for this weekend's shows are already selling out, so you might want to reserve in advance.



PHOTO COURTESY DEAN'S OFFICE

Robert L. Noland Leadership Awardees storm Avery.

Even More Scholarships!

BY SUZETTE CUMMINGS

David Relyea, Phillip Rodriguez, and Maria Satterwhite were awarded Robert L. Noland Leadership Awards at a dinner presentation in the Avery Library on May 16, 1997. The Robert L. Noland Leadership Award is for outstanding Caltech students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership abilities.

The Green, Froehlich, and Haagen-Smit Awards were presented on May 15, 1997 at a luncheon in The Athenaeum. Alex Dunn, junior in chemistry and Ravi Ramamoorthi, junior in engineering and physics re-

ceived the George W. Green Prize. The Green Prize is awarded to an undergraduate student in any class for original research, an original paper or essay, or other evidence of creative scholarship beyond the normal requirements of specific courses. The Jack E. Froehlich Memorial Award is for outstanding juniors in the top 5% of the class. Brian D'Urso, physics and Adam Petrie, astronomy were selected this year. Saurabh Saha won the Arie J. Haagen-Smit Memorial Award, which is given to a chemist or biologist who has shown academic promise and has made recognized contributions to Caltech.

IN THIS ISSUE

THE USUAL STUFF

- ASCIT Minutes.....2
- IHC Minutes.....2
- The Outside World.....2
- Announcements.....8

THIS WEEK'S FEATURES

- Election Statements.....3
- Dean's Corner.....6
- Foxtrot.....7

The Outside World

by Myfanwy Callahan

KINSHASA, CONGO — Despite a ban against political protests until a new constitution has been drafted, 800 people marched on the capital in protest of the new President, Laurent Kabila. Riot police arrested and beat dozens of protestors.

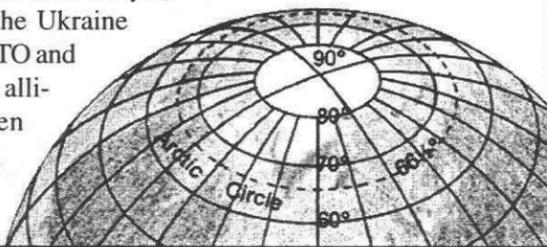
MAZAR-I-SHARIF, AFGHANISTAN — Afghan forces ousted the Taliban from the city in a long battle. This is the biggest setback the Taliban have faced since they won the capital, Kabul, last September.

MOSCOW, RUSSIA — Russia and the Ukraine have finally agreed on the future of the Black Sea Fleet after years of negotiations. Russia will keep the branch of the former Soviet Fleet at Sevastopol in the Ukraine for the next 20 yrs, encouraging the Ukraine not to join NATO and strengthening alliances between former soviet block countries.

PARIS, FRANCE — President Clinton and other NATO leaders signed a pact with Boris Yeltsin to promote mutual cooperation and security. The "Founding Act" establishes a new security council which includes Russia.

JARREL, TX — A tornado that struck central Texas on Tuesday killed at least 27 people and destroyed dozens of homes. Two dozen people in the city of Jarrel alone are still unaccounted for.

OAKLAND, CA — Pilot Linda Finch completed her round the world flight tracing Amelia Earhart's projected route. She travelled 26,000 miles in a two-engine 1935 Lockheed, the same model Earhart had flown.



VOLUNTEER: Students Help Out

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

weekly time commitment. Over spring break several volunteers helped to dig the foundation for Habitat for Humanity, an organization that helps low-income families acquire homes. Earlier this term students helped to do renovations in Pasadena for "Christmas in April". Volunteers have regularly served meals to the homeless, worked with the Red Cross, participated in trail maintenance, volunteered at Huntington Hospital, helped with AIDS Service Center activities, and worked with community groups, such as the Boy Scouts. These activities have allowed volunteers to get off campus and interact with new people.

Although many students receive work study compensation for their community service efforts, many others participate as unpaid volunteers. Graduate students and other Caltech personnel also participate. With the significant increase in volunteer numbers the Community Service and Volunteer Program has come closer to achieving one of its goals: helping Caltech students and staff become a more integral part of the community.

send a transfer to Avery, where they can buy mocha freezes and watch 90210 with Steve.

Helen Hassenfeld in the Ombuds Office wants to take us to lunch. Lori confirms the rumor that ASCIT got to go to the Ath last Wednesday. Don't administrators know where the real power is on campus? After Friday, they will... on that note, we adjourn to get some sleep in preparation for Judgement Day tomorrow.

Corrections from previous minutes:

- The houses getting new RA's next year will be Lloyd, Page, Dabney, and Fleming.
- Kim West has not indicated she is in favor of professional bartenders over students; she has only commented on the pro's and con's of each option.
- This secretary is in fact fallible.

Judy Green

I.H.C. MINUTES

Present: Lori (chair), Geoff (Dabney), Geoff (Ricketts), Shumway (Fleming), Marty (Blacker), Brett (Page), Jeremy (Ruddock) and Judy (secretary). Steve (Lloyd) shows up late.

We open up the meeting with a point of information from Shumway, who says, you can't spell "ASCIT Sucks" without ASCIT.

Shumway pulls out a stack of Fleming's BoC surveys, but Maria isn't here to collect them. Shumway

says it wasn't so bad filling all of them out, though he did have trouble finding so many different pens.

Lori gives us the final numbers for frosh: 157 men: 63 women. This is a 2 1/2 to 1 male-female ratio. Geoff (Ricketts) says that's cool 'cause house presidents always get laid. It's in the rules. Unfortunately, we may have to stick the extra frosh with Geoff (Ricketts), because we only set aside spots for 219.

Geoff (Dabney) says Dabney can turn the bar room into a room if a frosh doesn't decide to drop so we won't have to make one of them shack up with Geoff (Ricketts). Otherwise, we can

A.S.C.I.T. Minutes

MAY 26, 1997

Present (at some point): BoD (minus Lori), Kara Swedlow, Mic Westcoat

(This week Fat = Mike W. and Phat = Mike A.)

Meeting called to order at 10:35

Dealing With Guests: Mic - Presents a new Tech compensation schedule. The plan includes a bonus for exceptional work in the line of journalistic duty that would allow the Tech to give bonuses to the Tech staff (subject to unanimous approval by the editors). The BoD votes 3-3-1 to approve the proposal as is. Kohl breaks the tie and votes

no. The BoD votes 7-0-0 to approve the compensation schedule without the bonus clause.

Officer Reports:

Baldeep - No news on the Sherman/Fairchild hour extending front. Working diligently on a Tech article about the new ASCIT budget. Kohl suggests publishing the budget along with the article (or why not use the web? -http://www.cco.caltech.edu/~ascit/treasurer/budget.html). The ASCIT computer has a brand new monitor! Rock over Amsterdam! The ASCIT BoD will be dining soon in a house near you: Wednesday (28th) - Fleming, Thursday (29th) - Lloyd, Monday (2nd) - Page, Wednesday (4th) - Ruddock

Kiran - No one cares about the gimp...except Kiran! The old copier lease is no longer an issue of any importance at all so forget it ever existed. Kiran will post his article about the new van to the incredibly popular ASCIT newsgroups (caltech.ascit, caltech.ascit.announce). Copier ac-

count requests are being processed sort of slowly so if you have filled out the proper form, just hang tight for awhile

Adrienne - Working on determining how much the ASCIT formal cost. There is a small possibility of having gone over budget. The cost per ASCIT member ratio (and other statistics) are being formulated by Professor Makarov. The Graduate Student Council wants undergrads to participate in Gradiators because they like losing.

Fat - ARC meets 9:30 tomorrow (5/27/97). ASCIT teaching award nominations will be available soon. I'm not really that fat.

Lori (channeling through Phat) - It really is amazing how much the IHC sucks - especially Marty. Some of them have been locked in their rooms crying since last Friday's snowball slaughter on the Olive Walk. Geoff Smith was last seen screaming like a little girl and soiling himself as he fled into Lloyd. The cleaning staff is still trying to determine which parts are Shumway and which are

Jeremy. Brett "Ralph Wiggum" Tolman was even too chicken to show up.

Phat - The ASCIT office door (SAC 64) will soon be changed to reflect the actual occupants. Nominations will close Wednesday for class officers, BoC Secretary, and little t business manager. There will be an election early next week to fill those vacancies.

John - We need a little t business manager! This year, registration for new students will occur at frosh camp. These two things are unrelated.

Maria - Formally proposes a by-law change. It will increase BoC accountability by making the BoC publish statistics in the Tech twice a year. BoD votes 7-0-0 to present the proposal to the student body. The bylaw change will be on the forthcoming ballot. Look for pro and con articles in the Tech. Third term BoC talks are done. There will be a BoC business meeting tomorrow (5/28/97) at 9:30 at my place. Bring a bottle of wine and

some munchies. "The BoC is one big orgy."

Kohl - I've got nothing to say. I killed your baby today.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40.

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ASCIT BYLAW CHANGE

PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGE

Article VII: Section 3 (v)

The Board shall release a report to be published in The California Tech twice a year, once in the ninth week of third term and once in second term by the outgoing Board. This report shall contain attendance statistics of the voting members of the Board and the following information: the number of cases investigated by the Board, the number of cases dismissed by the chair and secretary, the number of cases referred to other offices, the number of cases dismissed by the full board, the number of convictions, the number of those convictions upheld by the Dean of Students, the amount of time spent in preliminary investigation and in hearing, and the average time period between the reporting of a case and its closure.

PRO

BY BRIGITTE
ROTH

We should clearly adopt the proposed bylaw changes and here are the reasons why:

1) The community would benefit by these statistics because they be better informed about the current state of the honor system and the Board of Control, and would therefore be better able to check that the BoC is acting responsibly. If any great inconsistencies were to appear from one year to the next, then the community could be aware of these red flags rather than just letting them pass.

2) No harm can come of these statistics. There is no personal information released, nor any case-specific information that might hurt people involved in specific cases in any way. These statistics are too general to possibly violate anonymity in the BoC's proceedings.

3) The benefit outweighs the cost. The amount of effort that would be put into publishing these statistics would really be minimal, as the secretary simply has to compile all the information already recorded. We have no need to worry that there will be wasted effort put into this. We are sure to profit.

Let's adopt this bylaw change.



CON

BY NOAH
MALMSTADT

Though the proposed by-law change appears, on the surface, to be a good idea, there is at least one serious problem that becomes evident upon closer reflection. Namely, there is a risk of defendant confidentiality being violated.

If a reporting period were to occur in which the Board convicted the defendant in 100 percent of the cases it heard, all witnesses who had been brought before the Board during that period would be aware that the case in which they testified resulted in a conviction.

Normally, defendant confidentiality is protected by keeping the results of the investigation from the witnesses. Hence, in a situation such as the one described above, the reporting of Board of Control statistics would result in a breach of confidentiality.

This serious flaw must be considered in evaluating the proposed bylaw change.

JUNIOR CLASS PRESIDENT

Mike Astle

Mike did not submit an election statement.

Aimee Pierce

Aimee did not submit a statement on time.

JUNIOR CLASS SECRETARY/TRESURER

Amy
Dullard

Hi, I'm Amy Dullard and I'm running for Junior Class Secretary/Treasurer. The Junior Class Sec/Tres' job is to assist the Junior Class President in starting the search for 1999 commencement speakers and organizing the freshman-sophomore event. Why should you vote for me? Well, I'd like the opportunity to help organize a fun and well attended freshman-sophomore event. If you don't know what that is, then all the more reason to vote for me. I'm hard working, dependable, and organized so you can be sure the job will be in good hands. Thanks for taking the time to read my statement, and don't forget to vote.



COURTESY AMY DULLARD

SENIOR CLASS SECRETARY/TRESURER

Amy
Zheng

Kiran
Shekar

Kazu
Nakada

Amy, Kiran, Kazu did not turn in election statements.

Hey, where's my election statement?

Some the candidates may have noticed that their statements did not get printed in the Tech. The reason lies in a miscommunication between the Tech Editors and ASCIT. We informed ASCIT about a week ago that our deadline is Tuesday night. However, ASCIT passed on the wrong deadline information (and sent it out very late). News-Type Service is not very forgiving if we do not meet their deadlines, so we occasionally need to be anal and enforce our deadlines. The following people submitted statements late which we were unable to print: Amy Pierce, Kazu Nakada, Irene Wong, and Richard Yeh. The Editors offer condolences for the unfortunate situation. -Eds

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by George Bernard Shaw

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SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT

The officers for the senior class shall be responsible for setting the date of Senior Ditch Day and for determining the form of each year's commencement exercises. They shall also coordinate the seniors to ensure that no irreplaceable items are damaged as tasks of Ditch Day stacks.

Myfanwy Callahan

Greetings all! You may know me as the dancing maniac or just that long-haired girl, but I'd like to offer my services as Senior Class President next year. I will work hard to make sure that our last days at Tech are pleasant ones. I have worked on Tech committees before and I am sure that I could work with Faculty and Staff to ensure that graduation is a great success and that the Senior Class offers a gift that the Administration will accept. Of course I will plan the vitally important Ditch Day far in advance so that everyone has a chance to finish their stacks before "tomorrow". I am open to suggestions. I would pursue the prank issue if there's some concern about that, since seniors lead the student body in many ways. But this is all stuff that I am sure all the candidates will promise. One thing I have to offer is teamwork. It's impor-



COURTESY MYFANWY CALLAHAN

tant for the President and Secretary to be comfortable working together. I know that I would work well with Amy Zheng as Senior Class Secretary. We hope that you will vote for both of us if you vote for either of us. But vote as you wish. Just remember, I have the biggest fish.

Katie Stofer

This is where I'm supposed to tell you why you should vote for me over the other candidates for Senior Class President. Well, honestly, I'd say we're all pretty equally qualified, and I don't see anything that really sets us apart from one another in ability to do the job. So why vote for me? Because I am the only person in the entire world who knows who we, the class of 1998, want for a graduation speaker. That's the one and only leg up on the competition that I claim to have. So vote for me, and I'll do my damndest to get Tommy Lasorda for our graduation speaker, or to keep Tommy Lasorda



from being our speaker.

Phil Rodriguez

Top Ten Reasons to Vote Phil Rodriguez for Senior Class President

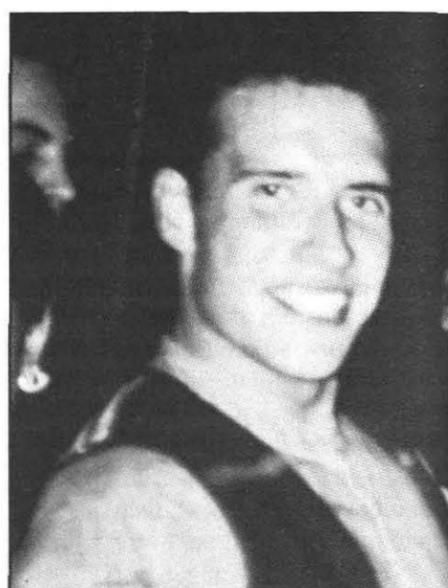
10) He's got Boffo Socko organizational skills — already this year I've helped put together the ACME Bonfire and ACME Spring Fling / Dive-In Movie. This coupled with experience as a former Social Team Member as well as former high school class pres. has given me a great opportunity to experience what its like to put together various events. Since much of what the senior class pres. has to do involves organizing things, I think I'd be the right person for the job.

9) He's going to be a senior next year . . . hey, SENIOR Phil Rodriguez, SENIOR Class Pres., has a nice ring to it!

8) Likes to talk — a lot! One of the skills that I would be bringing into this office would be some good communication skills. I've had much experience with public speaking whether it be for a panel presentation to the Board of Trustees, acting in a TACIT Production, or Speaking in front of a crowd of 800 at a West Texas Leadership Seminar. Still, to be a good communicator you have to be a good listener too, and if elected, I hope to get input from the class to try to get an overall opinion on various issues such as what the senior gift should be.

7) He's got BIG hair — how does he do it?!?!?

6) He's a pretty creative guy — I have a lot of ideas underneath that big hair that I'm just dying to let out.



COURTESY PHIL RODRIGUEZ

5) His Mom thinks he's cool!

4) He's a hard worker — If elected I'll do my best to make our senior year a memorable one — in a good way of course!

3) He's got connections! — Okay, so if elected he'll get connections, schmooze whoever it takes to get the job done! I'm a hard worker and will do my best to get a good speaker, banquet, senior gift, and of course I'll make Ditch Day on whatever tomorrow you want!!

2) He can count backwards from ten to one.

1) He's the right one for the job — so remember seniors, come election day Vote Phil Rodriguez for Senior Class President — He'll get the job done!

Irene Wong is also a candidate for the position of Senior Class President, but did not submit a statement on time.

Dazhi Chen

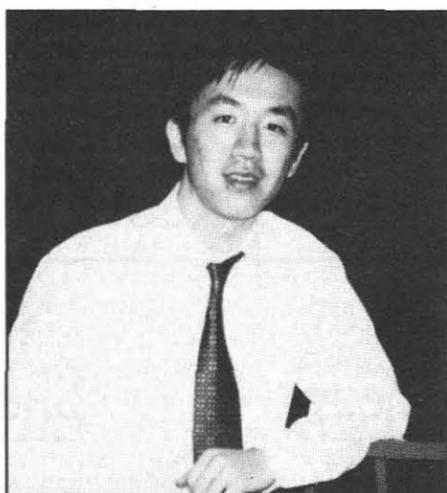
Fellow Seniors,

'Seniors', the word seems a little foreign. It wasn't so long ago that I, along with 250 other strangers, boarded a little ferry bound for Catalina. 250 strangers with whom I would experience undoubtedly the most testing 4 years of my life, among whom I would find dear friends for the rest of my life, and with whom I am set to graduate a year from now.

First of all, I would simply like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of us for making it this far. For many of us, the worst is already over and we are already starting to look forward and into the future — a future that has hopefully been made more promising by our experiences and endeavors here.

The past 3 years has definitely been a humbling experience to say the least. Many of us were the brightest and smartest from where we came, but now only one of us can really make that claim. However, I think being here has taught me that its all right to not be at the top of your class. It is because we are all different and have distinct qualities to offer; getting the highest grades is only one way among many to gauge ourselves.

I have chosen to spend my past 3 years here on a variety of activities. Academics aside, I have devoted much of my time to the Caltech Athletic Program (Oxymoron? No, we don't like to think



COURTESY DAZHI CHEN

so.), to leading student organizations and clubs (CCSA and Entrepreneur Club), to starting a debate program on campus, and to staying sane amidst all of this madness.

One of the nicest things anyone has ever said to me occurred first term when an old acquaintance from freshman year asked me if there was going to be another 'Frosh night out' this year. She also thanked me and said that 'Frosh night out' freshman year is still one of her fondest memories at Caltech. I am flattered to think that I was able to make someone's experience here a little more bearable.

On the doorstep of our final year, I ask you, classmate to classmate, friend to friend, senior to senior, to honor me with your support for the position of Senior Class President.

Summer Employment at The Athenaeum

Summer Waiter/Waitress positions are available at The Athenaeum. It's a great opportunity to practice your customer service skills, earn money and enjoy a delicious meal.

For more information call Roberto Hernandez at X2992, or Charles L'Episcopo at X8313.

✓ ASCIT Election 1997 ✓

BoC SECRETARY

The BoC Secretary investigates alleged violations of the honor code. The Secretary is also in charge of taking minutes at meetings and keeping the super-secret records of the BoC.

Kevin Bradley

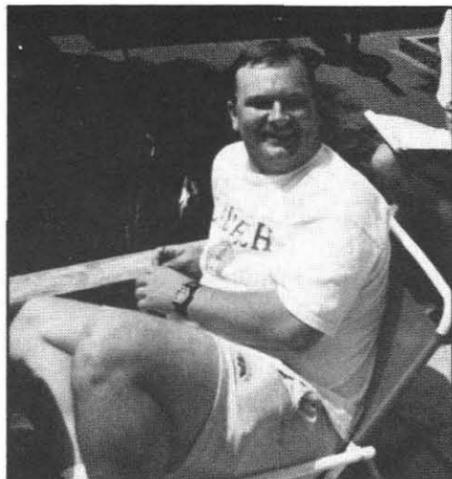


PHOTO COURTESY KEVIN BRADLEY

Hello everybody, remember me? I'm the guy with the dog, the old frosh, and that guy that was in the navy. Ohhh! That was my first introduction to Caltech. Since then, however, I've been through frosh camp, rotation, a couple of finals weeks (they're a lot different from other schools), House elections, and, of course, Ditch Day (now that was definitely different from other schools). With all of the things that have gone on during the year there are two things that I think really make Caltech stand out. They are the House System and the Honor Code. The House System is one of the things that make Caltech an enjoyable place for undergraduates to live but the Honor Code is what gives Caltech its truly remarkable character. Being trusted by the Staff, Faculty, and the Administration is, for me, what makes me want to stay at Caltech. Sure the course work is difficult but that is what being at one of the finest institution of higher learning in the world is all about. At Caltech you're treated as an adult. You don't require constant supervision in labs. You're given take home tests and trusted to abide by the restrictions the prof gives you. You can get a key to almost any building on campus. I've never lived in a place where you can leave your door unlocked or your backpack laying around in a common area because you trust the people you live with. Trust is the reason that I want to be the BoC secretary. I want to be a part of the group of people that are elected by their fellow students to look after the Honor Code. I want to help ensure that

the trust that makes Caltech stand out among schools is kept alive. I have some experience with non-judicial proceedings such as the BoC from my time in the Navy. In the Navy it was called Captain's Mast. The difference there is that you are judged guilty or innocent by one man whereas the BoC is made up of a group of elected students who require that a consensus be reached before determining guilt. In the Navy I saw what it was like to be both a witness and a defendant so I know what people go through when they have to come before the BoC. I know how frightening it can be to go before a group of people who have the ability to determine your fate. I believe that I can be sympathetic to a defendant's situation while still being both fair and impartial. I also strongly believe in keeping the BoC proceedings secret because I have personally seen the social stigma, from both sides, that comes from being accused of wrong doing. Not just convicted, but merely accused. I believe that I can be both empathetic and unbiased. I believe that I am the best choice for BoC secretary.

Alex Ihler



What is the BoC Secretary? Well, according to the signup, it's the office which assists in the preliminary investigations of the BoC, records the minutes of the cases and hearings, and is in charge of keeping the "super-secret records of the Board".

What it doesn't say is just how hard all of this really is. Most of you know how dedicated your own house rep. is, and how much time they put into the BoC—prelims about double that. Secondly, the Secretary is half of the preliminary decision of dismissal or sending a case to the full board. This means that the Secretary must have an excellent understanding of the Honor Code and its ramifications, in order to avoid mistakes in this early stage—the Board relies on their judgement. Also, the Secretary is a part of the investigative process—he or she tries to anticipate any information that the Board might ask for and make it available. Finally, the Secretary writes the Board's report to the Dean—he or she must be able to condense a 12-hour discussion into a comprehensible statement.

So if that's the job, why should you let me do it? I am currently the Blacker BoC rep, so I have experience with the Board, the Honor System, and hearings. I know what the office of Secretary will demand from me, and I know how to give it. As for the time commitment, I'll be a senior next year with very few requirements left—I know how much time I give to the BoC already, and I'm willing to do more.

Why do I want to do this? Basically, because I think that the Honor System is the

best thing Caltech has to offer. The Honor System is what allows us to do the things we enjoy—it allows us to expect and receive trust from others, and gives us a freedom which is enjoyed almost nowhere else. For those of us who were raised on the tenants of trust, the Honor System provides an environment under which we can flourish. The Honor System demands a considerable amount of forethought and self-control from each of us; and in return it gives us the freedom to do anything which does not harm others. The Honor System is the reason behind all the reasons I came to Caltech.

I want to do as much as I can for the Honor System. I think that I understand it very well—I've lived under it for three years, I've been a house representative, and overall I've spent a considerable amount of time thinking about the Honor System. I believe in the BoC; I've enjoyed being a part of it, and think that I would do well as Secretary.

Richard Yeh is also a candidate for the position of BoC Secretary, but did not submit a statement on time.

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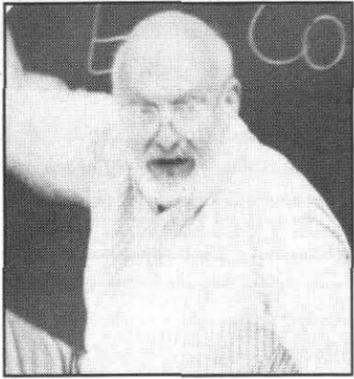
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Dean's Corner

What the Hell!

by Jean-Paul Revel

An alumnus, a while back, complained to me about all the time one had to spend in the Humanities while attending Caltech. After all, said he, this is an Institute of Technology, where one learns to be an engineer, a scientist, dealing with numbers and hard sciences, and knowledge that can be derived from previously known facts. Why waste time and money on frivolous enterprises, on fiction, on unbridled thoughts, bound neither to a palpable reality or a logical sequence of thought?

It is true, I agree, that there are different ways of dealing with the world around us. We can be rigorous, deductionist, as Math and Physics are often represented to be, or we can be more descriptive, as in Astronomy, Geology, Biology. Sorry, Chemists, you fall in between. However you should not feel offended by my words because in fact most of this classification is balderdash, I feel. None of these disciplines are "pure." They are all admixtures of each other.

Biology, which I know best,

is a case in point. It draws from physics and chemistry and mathematics. A "Renaissance Biologist," besides knowing biology should (ouch!) be at home in thermodynamics, electricity, probabilities, mechanics. He should (ouch! again) be a computer whiz. He may also have to be an expert in optics, material science, cryogenics, a minor inventor, an abstract thinker, a practical experimentalist. I'll stop here even though I have left many things out. Ah yes, of course, I have left out that he must be endowed of a solid dose of skepticism as well as being a keen observer.

This need for careful observation is illustrated by the story of the physician Ignaz Semmelweis of the Vienna General Hospital in 1844-48.

Once upon a time Semmelweis was distressed to find that his maternity ward, the first division, had a high mortality: 8.2% of women giving birth there died, due to what was called puerperal fever. The adjacent ward only had a mortality of 2.6%. Worse yet, elsewhere in

Vienna and in the surrounding countryside, the mortality was even lower. So much for Hospital care! He was crushed to observe that when women arrived in the first division, having given birth in the street, they fared better than those who gave birth in the Hospital.

He considered many possibilities including crowding in his ward, which was bad, but crowding was worse in the second division. One difference he noted was that midwives attended patients in the second division and professors and medical students in the first. Interesting, no? Maybe the medical students were too rough. The Profs being Profs were above all blame.

But when he went to observe how the midwives did it, he concluded that his students were no more brutal than the midwives. Another difference was that priests administering the last rites to dying patients walked through the 1st division (but not the second), preceded by a bell ringer, terrifying the patients. The mortality rate did not change, however, when the men of the cloth were convinced to take another route, and in silence.

"Luckily", a colleague died,

after puncturing his hand while dissecting a cadaver. Not only did the poor fellow die, but he displayed the same symptoms as women with puerperal fever. With that observation Semmelweis decided to have everyone wash their hands in a solution of chlorinated lime (sounds like bleach to me!) as they left the autopsy room before coming in contact with women in labor.

With that the mortality decreased in the first division to the same level as it was in the second. You see, the midwives did not perform autopsies...and women who arrived in the hospital with babies in arm after giving birth in the street fared better because they were usually not further examined. Mark one for the observational sciences.

My colleagues in other fields, such as Geology and so on, have their own salad of supporting sciences. The conclusion of course is that the wonderful *a priori* pigeon-holing of sciences, trying to arrive at a scale of holiness which matches a scale of "hardness" is not a profitable way of looking at things, except in a childish, I am better than you are, than you are, than you are, always one better than you are...kind of way. The one thing we have left out of this is the contribution of the Humanities, of History, of Philosophy, of the art of creative and critical thinking, which silently contribute to the sciences.

The performances of George Bernard Shaw's "Don Juan in Hell" in Dabney are a case in point. It is a wonderfully witty and thought-provoking play. But you'll have to hurry and go to see it. Millikan only has one copy and it is loaned out, and the Central Pasadena Public Library has none, but there is a copy in storage in Glendale, and one in Arcadia. The only Shaw anthology at Crown Books does not include the play, and the bookstore, our bookstore, is woefully deficient in any but science books, but that is another story. In any case no Shaw I could find.

One of the take home lessons of the play is that things often are not what they seem from the outside. Take poor Don Juan, the seducer of Seville, who finds himself in Hell as a murderer, having killed his beloved's father in a duel. His hell is that he is bored to desperation. Not as stiff a punishment as one might think, but so far so good for the logic; where should murderers go but to Hell?

It turns out, however, that the father had been expected to win the fight. After all, he was a military man, a general, proud of his prowess and of how many he had killed in the service of his country, which led him to recognition and to be remembered as a statue (as recounted in the Mozart opera). He died only because he slipped that fateful day; and since the deaths he caused were sanctioned by the state, he ended up

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in Heaven.

Now, is he the kind of person one expects in Heaven? Clearly, Heaven is not what one thinks, nor is Hell.

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The tale is a treat of mental gymnastics, a parable of life and of the search for the truth — in other words, precisely what Science and the Institute are all about — made accessible in a single evening, in a setting conducive to learning in spite of oneself.

It is not that the Humanities are useless. It is that my friend has too narrow a view of the world. Watch out, buddy, you might end up in the competing establishment

A bientôt

J. Revel

(actually I am in no rush . . .)



FOXTROT

by Bill Amend



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Events

♣ This week's ASCIT movie is **Total Recall** (not starring Woody Allen). Showing at Baxter Lecture Hall at 7:30pm and 10:00pm. Student admissions is \$2.00 and \$2.50 for all others.

♣ **Roger Blandford**, Richard Chace Tolman Professor of Theoretical Astrophysics at Caltech, will present the next Astronomy/Geology 0.1 Seminar concerning "**Black Holes: The Ultimate Energy Source**" on Friday, May 30th, at 4pm in the Baxter Lecture Hall. Black Holes, a most striking prediction of the general theory of relativity, have become an observational reality. In this lecture, Dr. Blandford will describe in simple terms some of the strange properties expected of black holes, as well as show how some of these properties may be expressed when black holes with stellar masses have regular stars as binary companions and when black holes with masses of a billion suns reside in the nuclei of galaxies.

TACIT will be presenting **Don Juan in Hell** by George Bernard Shaw in Dabney Hall on May 30th and 31st at 8pm and June 1st at 2:00pm. General admission is \$8 and student admission is \$5. For more information call x4652 or e-mail tickets@caltech.edu.

♣ There will be an **Open Forum on Alcohol Policy** on Thursday, June 5th, at 4pm in Winnett Lounge. The alcohol policy review committee will share its finding and answer questions.

♣ The Caltech Management Association and the JPL Space Flight Awareness Program will host a presentation by **astronaut Dr. James Newman** on Friday, June 6th, at 12:00pm in the von Karman Auditorium. Dr. Newman will show slides and discuss his past two shuttle flights (STS-51 launched September 13, 1993 and STS-69 launched September 7, 1995) and the upcoming STS-88 shuttle mission that will carry the first International Space Station hardware into space for the assembly. Launch is targeted for July 1998. All of the Caltech and JPL community are welcome and encouraged to attend.

♣ **Anthony Readhead**, professor of Astronomy, Caltech, and **Andrew Lange**, professor of physics, Caltech, will present a Astronomy/Geology

0.1 Seminar entitled "**How Did the Universe Form? The First 300,000 Years**" on June 6th at 4pm in the Baxter Lecture Hall. These lectures are designed as an interconnected series introducing some of the central problems and techniques in earth and planetary science and in astronomy. The seminars are aimed at a non-specialist scientific audience.

♣ The **Caltech/MIT Enterprise Forum** concerning "**Entrepreneurial Frontiers: Converging Internet, Multimedia, and Television Technologies**" will be held in the Caltech Baxter Lecture Hall on Saturday, June 7th, from 7:45am to 12:30pm. The keynote speaker this year will be Patrick Gilbert, cofounder of BleuMont Telecom and vice president of strategic business development, WavePhone, Inc. Admission is \$35 per person, \$10 for students. Reservations are essential for this program and can be made at x3916.

♣ The **Skeptics Society** will host John Horgan, Senior Writer of the Scientific American, in his talk considering "**The End of Science: Facing the Limits of Knowledge in the Twilight of the Scientific Age**" on Sunday, June 8th, at 2pm in Baxter Lecture Hall. The lecture is free to the Caltech/JPL community.

♣ The **Caltech Qigong Club (CQC)** is a new club for people who are interested in qigong, a traditional Chinese meditation method. They will hold a free introductory session on Sunday, June 8th, from 3pm till 5pm in Winnett Lounge. Everyone is welcome! For more information, please e-mail Chao-Ping Hsu at cqc@cco.caltech.edu or call her at x6085.

The Totem has extended its submission deadline and will now be accepting submissions until June 12th. You can contact *The Totem* by e-mailing totem@cco or by contacting individual editors (Mina Leung, Amanda Eckermann, Peter Wang, Mason Porter, and Andrew Strauss). The Totem editors look forward to seeing your submissions!

Mints

♣ denotes a new announcement.

fairs staff (for Institute purposes)! Its use must be approved by the Dean of Student Office, 102 Parsons-Gates. Individuals wishing to use the van must have an organization account number in order to receive approval to drive it. It is available to both ASCIT and GSC members. The Deans' Office is starting a sign-up for prospective drivers because a drive check and DMV check are necessary before approval to use the van. Any individual wishing become an approved driver, they should come in and get their name on the sign-up list. More details will be available at the Dean's.

♣ The **Memorial service for Robert Leighton**, Valentine Professor of Physics, Emeritus, will be held starting at 4:30pm at the Athenaeum. All members of the Caltech community are invited to attend. A reception will follow the program.

♣ Today, May 30th, is the last day for **undergraduate mail registration** for the '97 fall term. Overload, frosh!

The History and Social Science Division has announced the creation of two new H&SS classes for this coming fall: H 115a "**British History**" to be taught by Professor Johns, and Lit 148 "**Postwar Fiction and Film**" to be taught by Professor Jurca. The H&SS Division has also announced the following additional courses to be offered Fall, 1997: L 153a "**Intermediate Russian**"; L/Lit 156a "**Russian literature in Translation**"; and MU 134 "**Music of the Early Romantics**" (see catalog for course descriptions). Additionally, the H&SS Division has announced the following Selected Topic Courses to be offered this Fall, 1997: Mu 101, "**Advanced Music Analysis and Composition**" (Prerequisite: Mu 129 or by permission from the instructor) and BEM 110, "**Project Management**."

The **Student Services Process Engineering Group (STAR)** is soliciting participation in **Focus Group** sessions to share experiences with student services and ideas for ways that they may better serve students in the future. Student Services, for the purpose of this project, encompasses the following offices: **Admissions, Reg-**

istration, Financial Aid, Student and Employee Accounts, Housing, Fellowships, Career Development, Alumni Association, Residence Life, Counseling Center, Health Center, Graduate Office, Undergraduate Dean, and Athletics. They will be meeting with faculty, students, staff, and alumni through June 6th. If you are interested in participating in a Focus Group, please contact Ellen Harris via e-mail at ellen@finaid.caltech.edu.

An **Olympus Infinity Jr. camera** and **gray Olympus carrying case** were lost on Ditch Day, Friday, May 16th. The camera and case were last seen at 8am in the box outside of Fleming 51 along with other Ditch Day materials, but was discovered to be missing at 2pm. If you have seen this camera, please contact Winston at wcyang@cco or Jen at x1054.

The **John Paul Getty Museum in Malibu** (17985 Pacific Coast Highway), which was built by Mr. Getty himself in the art and style of the beach homes of the Pompeii ruins of the ancient Romans, will be closing permanently this coming July 6th, with the exhibits to be moved to the new Getty Center sight in construction near Westwood. Weekends through May are already heavily booked, but there are still opportunities on weekdays and through June for reservations. Getty reservations can be made via phone at (310) 230-7075.

The **Caltech Ballroom Dance Club** will be giving a free **East Coast Swing class** on Wednesday nights, 7:30-9:00pm, in Winnett Lounge. The club is also hosting **Rumba lessons** on Thursday nights, 7:30-9:00 in Winnett Lounge. Taught by Let's Dance LA, these classes will cost \$6 per session.

From the Counseling Center

Looking for a safe and supportive place to discuss issues such as coming out, being out, dealing with family, coping with a homophobic culture, and being GLB at Caltech? Want somewhere just to make new friends? You are invited to the **Gay/Lesbian/**

Bisexual Discussion Group, which meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 7:30pm till 10:00pm in the Health Center Lounge. This is a confidential meeting and attending does not imply anything about a person's sexual orientation—only that he or she is willing to be supportive in this setting. The group usually discusses a particular relevant topic and then moves on to the general discussion. Refreshments are served. If you would like more information, please call x8331.

Fellowships and Scholarships

Information and applications for **1997 Summer Work-Study** are available in the Financial Aid Office. If you are interested in Summer Work-Study, please submit the required application as soon as possible, but no later than June 2, 1997. Your entire financial aid application must be complete by June 2 to be considered. If awarded, the work-study funding will begin **July 14th, 1997.**

The **John Gyles Education Fund** is offering financial assistance to students who are Canadian or U.S. Citizens. A minimum G.P.A. of 2.7 is required for eligibility. Criteria other than academic ability and financial need are considered in the selection process. Selected students will receive up to \$3,000. To receive an application, send a stamped (U.S. \$.32), self-addressed, No. 10 envelope to: The John Gyles Education Fund, Attention: R. James Cogle, Administrator, P.O. Box 4808, 712 Riverside Drive, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada E3B 5G4. Filing dates for mailing applications in 1997 are **June 15, and November 15, 1997.**

The **Jewish Family and Children's Services** is pleased to announce the continued availability of financial support for Jewish individuals and their families. JFCS provides hundreds of students loans, grants, and scholarships to Jewish students. Individuals may apply for up to \$5,000. Special scholarships are available for study in Israel. To be eligible, students must have financial need, have at least a 3.0 GPA, and be residents of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin or Sonoma counties, or the Bay Area. There are no deadlines—applications are accepted throughout the year and are available in the Financial Aid Office.

Notices

♣ The **Student Affairs Van** is now available to students and Student Af-

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