The California Tech

Third Term:
Pass/Fail?

BY MONI KUMAR

It is an issue that has left seniors and Sophomores complaining over unfairness. Freshman wishing they deferred effect in the 1998-1999 academic year, only a possibility, is the new hot pass/fail for Freshman, though still remarkably freshman, if the mission for a year, andRubin "asever, grades that students under the pass/fail system to take as many classes as possible.

BY KAY TASSACS

For the first time this year many Caltech students saw the sun. This was not because it was a truly beautiful spring day on Caltech's garden-like campus, but because 300+ prefrash were arriving. Actually, the prefrash have been slowly trickling in since earlier this week. The minority students had a banquet Wednesday night. However, it was nothing like Thursday when waves of second semester high school seniors started arriving via Pasadena shuttle. Identifiable by their prefrash weekend name tags, t-shirts, and information packets, or maybe by their camera-carrying parents, many of whom were here from the parents program in the morning, the Caltech acceptees were just starting to get a feel for the campus into the afternoon. Many could only remark on the scenery.

"The campus is really pretty. It's really great here," said Silas Wang of Toronto.

Karen Daugherty of Simi Valley, California thought much the same, given one exception. "I like the campus," she said. "But the library is ugly. I took the tour here and saw all the ivy and the vines—and then the library."

Other prefrash who had been around slightly longer were beginning to note which of their preconceptions about Caltech were real and which were illusions.

"Truthfully," started Melissa Chen of Ann Arbor, Michigan. "I expected to find lots of nerds and computers, I mean, it's not a bad thing." "I knew there were a lot of famous people from here, I just didn't know there were so many," remarked Dana Muilen of Dallas, Texas. "Also, I thought everyone here would be studying really hard, being really competitive, but people are a lot nicer than that."

"I think it's a lot like MIT."

The
Prefrosh Cometh!!!

The Prefrosh Cometh!!!

Sunday, April 12 — Children enjoy the return of sunshine and typical Southern California weather as they hunt for Easter Eggs on the Athenaum Lawn. The event was part of Easter Sunday lunch at the Athenaum.

Caltech to lose pianist

BY MICHAEL VANIER

James Boyk, Caltech's pianist-in-residence and faculty member in electrical engineering, is scheduled to lose his position as pianist in residence at the end of this term. Dr. Boyk has been with Caltech since 1974, and organizes an informal weekly Music and Talk session in Dabney Lounge every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

He also gives private piano lessons to Caltech students, performs recitals, and gives master classes. The decision was made by the former Vice-President for Student Affairs, Gary Lorden, as a cost-cutting measure. The end will most Dr. Boyk's activities on campus, with the main exception being his course in music and science, EE/Mu 107, which will continue. The course involves independent projects which investigate the connection between music and science.

In particular, the Music and Talk sessions, private piano lessons, and recitals in Dabney Hall will end. Dr. Boyk's students, friends and colleagues have expressed concern over the decision, and are actively seeking to have him reinstated.

Dr. Boyk has also served as a consultant and recording engineer on a number of projects, and has recently started organizing internet forums on audio and on music teaching.

He has written a book, "To

Caltech Jazz and Jokes

BY WILLIAM BING

The Caltech Jazz Bands, directed by William Bing, will make their first appearance in more than ten years at the world famous comedy club, "The Ice House," 24 N. Mentor in Pasadena, on Sunday, April 19, with two shows, starting at 7:30 p.m. There will be a $5 cover charge for students and an $8 general admission fee for this special evening. There is also a two drink minimum. During each set, members of the audience and band will tell a joke, and the best joke of each set will win a $25 gift certificate to a local CD store. Vocal soloists with the jazz bands will be Cheryl Forrest and Brigitte Roth. Many other members of the Jazz bands will also be featured. The guest artist for the evening will be comedian Steve Altman, who uses a sampling keyboard as his "gateway to madness." Rolling Stone called Steve's digital comedy "a dizzying display of man
Overseas fellowships
A great option for next year's seniors
by Lauren Stolper

Denver, Ireland - Nine members of the Irish Republican Army were released from an Irish prison in the first step to ease tensions when the prison agreement was signed last Friday. A new political structure for Northern Ireland will give the Catholic minority more power while preventing unionism with the rest of Ireland without the approval of the Protestant majority.

El Bireh, West Bank - Wednesday Israel freed Ahmad Qazamah, a Palestinian prisoner who had been held without trial for five years and seven months. Israeli human rights groups lobbied for his release along with that of some 200 other Palestinians held without trial. This signals a softening of Israeli policy which has come under attack from human rights activists around the world.

Nairobi, Kenya - Somali militants kidnapped nine foreign Red Cross workers in Mogadishu. The gunmen have made no statement, but they may have intended to sabotage the Nairobi peace talks. The talks are hoped to find a reconciliation between the competing warlords in an effort to build some sort of government in the region.

Vienna, Austria - Cardinal Hans Hermann Groer has relinquished all his duties at the request of John Paul II in the face of charges from such distinguished musicians as violinist Yehudi Menuhin and pianist Andre Watts. When asked about the decision, current Caltech VP for Student Affairs Christopher Brennen said in a letter: "It is my present (and perhaps incomplete) understanding that my predecessor was required to make budget cuts and the judgment was made that the termination of Jim’s role in Student Affairs would involve fewer students than any other cuts in our music program." For his part, Dr. Boyk expressed his gratitude towards those students, colleagues and friends who have written letters of support on his behalf.

Pianist...
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Pass/Fail...
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The California Tech
Prefrosh...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said Helena Fu from New York City. "Not on the outside, but the inside.

"The houses have been a lot different from what I thought they would be," said Rachel Wenskloff of Tempi, Arizona. "I didn't expect all the wall paintings."

A few even had time to visit a cello.

David Marcus of Annadale Virginia had a discussion with Master of Student Houses and Physics Iceta. Steve Frustuchi over an E & M problem left on the blackboard.

"I like the way they teach Calculus, I went to a T.A. session. It's a lot more substantial than the calculus in high school," commented Loren Barlow of Easton Maryland. Ven Maria Education didn't take all of her short time here though, she also talked to many undergraduates.

"I like the freaks," she said.

"If you're interested in yourself undergraders were having fun as they enjoyed meeting new people and setting up for the weekend. Chairs and tables were being moved in the library for dinner. Many students volunteered their time to man the registration tables in front of the Ricketts-Fleming courtyard or run prefresh to their host's room. Many hosts could be seen giving extensive campus tours.

"I took a more light-hearted approach to showing the prefresh around. Games like Ultimate, Disc Golf, Tray Ball and Four Square were easy to run into. Two hundred hooligans were dropping water balloons on innocent bystanders, remembering "A wet frosh is a happy frosh." "Freshman" Kohl Gill was discussing his opinions of Gourmet with the prefresh.

"What's up with Tray Ball?" Nathan Brown of Corona, New York asked rhetorically after playing a few rounds.

"No one seems to be willing to see after experiencing the fine institution that is house dining. Dinner rules in all houses were strictly enforced, yet often broken. Some areas by both housemates also greatly lengthened by an abundance of important dinner announcements and prefresh introductions.

"It's full of tradition and rich history," began Nate Austin of Newberry Park, California.

Now I know that you really, really want to know what your new student government is up to these days. Okay, well maybe you're only interested in the doughnuts, but maybe if you read the entire article I'll let you have a strawberry doughnut.

Anyway, we recently held a joint OFRD -新区 (that's Board of Directors for all you uneducated philanthropists) retreat at Capra Ranch.

Much to our disappointment, the retreat was a total washout. Instead, we quenched our thirst for discussion by scheduling a weekend of house meetings.

This "Publications Manager" will not have the power to direct the publications, but rather would report to the BOD. He will track the progress of publications, deal with weekly deadlines for increased efficiency, arbitrate disputes between publications, and work with the Treasurer to track the finances of ASCIT Publications. He will report the publications' progress to the BOD, make recommendations to increase the publications' efficiency, arbitrate disputes between publications, and work with the Treasurer to track the publications' finances.


Rob (the Treasurer) wants to have the Business Committee, which will consist of himself and the business managers of the corporation. The way things stand right now, there is little communication between the treasurer and the many financial managers of the Corporation. This committee may eventually facilitate a common accounting system for the entire corporation. The individual parts of ASCIT will remain financially distinct, though.

5. Bylaws and Resolutions.

At Capra, we split into groups and reviewed the bylaws, making note of places they could stand to be changed. Several areas that were in need of update were identified, so expect massive bylaw revisions soon.

In other news, ASCIT is selling the ASCIT van and purchasing an electric cart. The party lights and fog machine are rented out on a semi-consistent basis. The Big T is finally out of sacahuastats. I swear the CLUE will be coming out soon, too (thanks, Devi). I also have this strange itching to start an ASCIT endorsement, but know that I'll stumble upon someone who has a few million dollars sitting around and doesn't mind giving it to a student government.

And you thought all we did was doughnuts.

Baldepp's Corporate Capra Retreat

The California Tech

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

April 17, 1998

FOOD DLUDE

BY DAVE TYTTEL

Hello prefrsh! Let me first begin by welcoming you all to Caltech. Hopefully you will enjoy yourself this weekend and have all your questions answered! I am writing to you as the Chairman of the Food Committee. This committee acts as a liaison between the board of directors and the students. Many changes requested by the students are implemented by us.

During prefresh weekend, the Food program is usually underrepresented, and many prospectiveTechers have left without their food concerns addressed. I hope to put an end to that this year. If this synopsis of the Tech board program doesn't answer all of your questions, please contact me personally. I live in Blacker 1 and my extension is 1277.

Caltech's board program is unique in many ways. The largest difference is the size. Caltech is a small school so many individual concerns are addressed easier than at large universities. We have a full vegan bar every night with a rotating menu of entrees. There is also a vegetarian (non-vegan) option served with the main meal of the evening. In addition, each dinner has two main courses, side dishes, desserts, bread, and beverages. Lunches also have two main courses, along with hamburgers/cheeseburgers, chicken/fish sandwiches, and of course fries! There is also a salad bar open at all meals, and the main meal is also bar available (with peanut butter and jelly). Oh, and I almost forgot the ice cream chews and soft serve stations.

Special circumstances are dealt with on an individual basis. Some students on board...

Baldepp's Corporate Capra Retreat

The California Tech
Minutes of the ASCIT BoD Meeting, April 14 1998

Present: BoD (minus Steve), Adrienne Bourque, Xavier Fan, Brian Frazier, Audrey Lee, Corey Loomis, Diana King, Brigitte Roth, Damian Sullivan

Meeting called to order at 22:04.

Dealing With Guests Athletics—A whole bunch of people are here because they are concerned that ASCIT won’t be able to subsidize letter jackets this fiscal year. Audrey (the IHC Athletics Manager) reveals that expenditures will be $1000 less than expected because ASCIT will recoup its loss on the Caltech patches that are purchased in cabots with the jackets. This still leaves at least a $1000 shortfall between what has been allocated for athletics, and what will be required to maintain the traditional ASCIT subsidies. Jackets apparently haven’t been ordered for the last two years. It is possible that this year represents a larger than normal order because of the backlog. Why doesn’t the Athletic Department help pay for these athletics? Letters are a traditional function of ASCIT. Still, there is general agreement among the BoD that we would be willing to pass the financial responsibility along to the Athletics folks. If ASCIT is going to continue paying for awards and subsidizing jackets, we need to set the policy so that there is some cap on our contribution. This simplifies the budgeting process. The immediate issue is whether ASCIT is willing or able to pay for the current crop of jacket orders. The issue will be put on hold while Audrey talks to the Athletics Department. If they are unwilling to contribute, the BoD may be able to reallocate money within the budget. There is also the possibility that the total ASCIT budget will be larger than expected. Rob keeps finding money everywhere.

Lee—Diana is concerned that a plaque is not a fitting gift for such a man as Lee Reavis. Jaideep explains that it is just an immediate measure while the Houses get their gifts together.

Brigitte—Jaideep moves that the BoD approve Brigitte as the new Executive Committee Chair. Rob seconds and the BoD votes 5-1-0 (Mike votes no) to approve.

There is some sort of talking or something while Mike goes and breaks the copier.

Officer Reports Steve—Channeled by Adrienne. Taking care of Fresh Director stuff for next year. Helping Jasmine with the prefrsh party. Baldeep tells us that every year the Zwick family gives ASCIT $1000 to publish the CLUE. They did not receive a copy of the 95-96 edition. The responsibility of getting the text off the form is dropped on Steve.

Autumn—Has a flyer from the Taylor-Dunn people. She is scheduling a time where they will come out and show us their full line of electric vehicles.

Jasmine—There will be early morning donuts Thursday night/Friday morning at 01:00. Some professors and graduate students may be joining in the frenzy. The prefrsh party will be rad. A preliminary design for the forthcoming ASCIT business cards is complete. Apparently somebody complained that our new ASCIT logo is a negative portrayal of women. Whether.

The BoD will be eating with Tom Mannion some weekend in the future. Mike will decide what we want to eat. Baldeep encourages everyone to show up on Thursday so that there is maximum crowd control.

Dev—The CLUE is on the way. Almost all of the programming is done. Requests for course reviews from last term will go out next week. Midterm class surveys will be out soon. There may be a web form setup for electronic submission. The ombudsman training session happened. The Sherman Fauchild Library will be open until 4 AM during midterms. There is some possibility that PA units may be given Hum credit. The ARC does not have enough people to warrant weekly meetings. Baldeep encourages Devi to take up more of an activist role.

Jaideep—Everyone is invited to come and use Lloyd radio. Mike suggests an on air BoD meeting. Jaideep is looking into improving the quality of the music programs. Some folks have told him that the jam room is not being administrated very effectively. Lloyds have expressed an interest in sailing. Jaideep is talking to past IHC Chairs to get a feel for some Caltech history. He wants Interhouse back. Kim West has told him that she encourages us to invite people from other schools to Caltech parties. An Athletics Committee is being organized. The IHC will be busy selecting UCC’s at their next meeting. The plaque for Lee may have already been ordered. Rob—is almost ready to start operating under the new budget. He needs to organize a time to change signaging power on the ASCIT accounts. We may be getting 2 dues checks this time ‘round. It is unclear whether the last check was picked up. Rob and Jaideep presented a document to Tom to formalize our agreement about administration of the Coffee House.

He gave them a copy of the agreement governing the Red Door. Rob will merge the language of the two and get back to Tom. The publications seem to be ok, except that we may not have enough Big T’s to go around.

Mike—Compiled a list of proposed amendments. It will be sent out to the BoD and discussed at the next meeting. A new roster is out and on the web but not yet distributed. The Film Chair wants a key to the ASCIT kiosk.

The Annual Report is getting up there near done.

Alan—Had a meeting with Kim West to discuss the jurisdiction of the BoC. It was agreed that Kevin Bradley (BoC Secretary) and Alan would meet with Dr. West periodically to discuss happenings. The BoC will be meeting with the UCC’s.

Food dude…

Continued from page 2

have religious/medical food restrictions that require Caltech Dining Services to prepare separate meals specifically for them. The kitchen staff works with the students very closely, (to the extreme that chicken soup has appeared for students who were under the weather), and the staff always try to accommodate all requests.

As for next year, there has been much talk on the food committee about expanding the vegetarian/vegan options, introducing more lighter cuisine, and perhaps implementing a kosher board plan. These changes are in the works as we speak, and quite possibly will be in effect when you begin classes in September.

Again, please contact me if you have any questions at all. Enjoy the festivities and hopefully I will see you in the fall. Till next time,

Dave

The California Tech Coffeehouse

"Eat Me..."

Open this Pre-Frosh weekend from Friday 8 p.m. to Monday 2 a.m.

The Coffeehouse

Burgers - Shakes - Fries Espresso - Sandwiches

New Hours!
m-f: 9pm-2am
sat-s: 8pm-2am

Employment Opportunities email gina@coo

Located in the Student Activities Center (South Houses)

Know the combo!
After a long hiatus known as EE52, I'm here with another music review column. This is a pretty stunning album. It's a great CD from top to bottom, but of course, I'm pretty prejudiced towards soundtracks. The intro song is a version of U2's "If You're Going to Live Forever, I'm Here with Another Tom," but of course, I'm pretty prejudiced towards soundtracks.

I'm going to start off with the soundtrack to the movie City of Angels. This is the second of her books starring Superintendent Adam Dangliesh as an embittered Scotland Yard detective in London in the early sixties and the first one in which he really takes center stage. In her first book he was more of a black box into which the facts entered and from which the solution proceeded. His character has deepened here, as I hope it will do in subsequent books.

The album is called Feeling Strangely Fine and I think it's refreshingly different from the other cookie cutter bands of the time to make another jab at it's dying from overexposure. There are still some great acts out there, like the Bouncing Souls, The Butcher, and the Counting Crows.

For the R&B fans out there, you'll be glad to hear that tonight is right for love. K-Ci & JoJo's new album, Love Always, is just dripping with love gravy. His new favorite ska band, Old Man On (OMB), Dance Hall Crashers and their new CD, Honey I'm Homely just doesn't fall in that category.

James is a master of the psychological murder mystery and what better setting for her talents than a mental clinic. The minds of all her characters, even the murderer, are displayed for the reader, and yet she manages to keep the surprise and tension until the end. Part of her skill is in red herrings, making the reader believe that the answer is perfectly clear and really a little bit too simple when in fact it is something else entirely. The device is used repeatedly but with enough variation to keep it fresh. The mystery reader accustomed to intricate and convoluted plots is caught off guard by the eventual simplicity of it all. Her writing is superb, with every word chosen carefully and no sense of things being tossed in for cheap effect. If I have any complaint it is the dark tone of the book; the hopeless world in which the characters live can become oppressive and it doesn't seem like allowing at least one person to end up happy would be too much to ask.

James is a master of the psychological murder mystery and what better setting for her talents than a mental clinic. The minds of all her characters, even the murderer, are displayed for the reader, and yet she manages to keep the surprise and tension until the end. Part of her skill is in red herrings, making the reader believe that the answer is perfectly clear and really a little bit too simple when in fact it is something else entirely. The device is used repeatedly but with enough variation to keep it fresh. The mystery reader accustomed to intricate and convoluted plots is caught off guard by the eventual simplicity of it all. Her writing is superb, with every word chosen carefully and no sense of things being tossed in for cheap effect. If I have any complaint it is the dark tone of the book; the hopeless world in which the characters live can become oppressive and it doesn't seem like allowing at least one person to end up happy would be too much to ask.

This new album has your typical slew of R&B grooves: you got your baby-I'm-sorry-songs, baby-you're-treating-me-wrong, and baby-you're-my-world-songs. Of course, the crown jewel is the song, "All My Life," whose grandeur has managed to find its way to the top of the charts.

I was going to mention something about the new Dance Hall Crashers' CD, but there's nothing striking about it, except maybe "Whisky & Gin" and "Cold Shower." The whole ska/punk scene is starting to get old, and I think it's dying from overexposure. Too many of the same old garage bands are coming out. There are still some great acts out there, like the Bouncing Souls, The Butcher, and the Counting Crows.

For the R&B fans out there, you'll be glad to hear that tonight is right for love. K-Ci & JoJo's new album, Love Always, is just dripping with love gravy. His new favorite ska band, Old Man On (OMB), Dance Hall Crashers and their new CD, Honey I'm Homely just doesn't fall in that category.
I JUST GAVE MY TWO-WEEK NOTICE.  

NO! NO!  
THE ARROGANT, OBFUSCATED, PARASITE IS GONE TO HISTORY!  

EVERYONE SEEMS TO BE TAKING THIS RATHER WELL.  
COUNT ME IN FOR THE GOODBYE LUNCH!  

I'M GLAD HE QUIT.  
HE WAS SUCH AN OBNOXIOUS, USELESS CO-WORKER.  

HE SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN HIS COOPERATOR TO DO THE DECK!  

WE HAD TO BE NICE TO HIM BECAUSE WE NEEDED HIS COOPERATION FOR THE BIG BOOK. \( \text{**Colog®**} \)  

I'M COLLECTING FOR EO'S FAREWELL FUND.  

ED, YOU TREATED ME LIKE DIRT. I FIND YOU GUILTY AND I FINES YOU FIVE DOLLARS.  

I'LL WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW TO TELL HIM HE'S CHAIRMAN OF THE "QUALITY FESTIVAL."  

I JUST PUT THAT IN THERE.  
COME BACK IF YOU GET MORE.  

I Fought TO GET YOUR PROTEST CLASSIFIED AS OUR TOP PRIORITY.  

I'M COLLECTING FOR ED'S FAREWELL FUND.  

I JUST GAVE MY TWO-WEEK NOTICE.  

I'M COLLECTING FOR EO'S FAREWELL FUND.  

ALICE IS GOING TO BEE MIFFED THAT SHE'S TOO LATE FOR THE GOOD STUFF.  

YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE A PROFESSIONAL E-MAILER, BUT EVERY TIME I TALK TO YOU IT'S "WHAT'S UP?"  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

THE SIGNING OF BEARS, THE RISING OF BEES.  

AND THEN THERE'S MY FAVORITE.  

GUESS WHAT?  
I'M GUESSING THAT STRIPS IN A BOWL, \( \text{**Flawless®**} \).  

THE SCAVENGING WAS GOOD TODAY.  

I HAD FAR BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN TO SPEND ALL DAY WITH YOU IN THE OFFICE.  

I'M COLLECTING FOR ED'S FAREWELL FUND.  

EO, YOU TREATED ME LIKE DIRT. I FIND YOU GUILTY AND I FINES YOU FIVE DOLLARS.  

THE SCAVENGING WAS GOOD TODAY.  

I'LL WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW TO TELL HIM HE'S CHAIRMAN OF THE "QUALITY FESTIVAL."  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

I FINISHED READING THE ODD SORES.  

THE SIGNING OF BEARS, THE RISING OF BEES.  

AND THEN THERE'S MY FAVORITE.  

GUESS WHAT?  
I'M GUESSING THAT STRIPS IN A BOWL, \( \text{**Flawless®**} \).  

THE SCAVENGING WAS GOOD TODAY.  

I HAD FAR BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN TO SPEND ALL DAY WITH YOU IN THE OFFICE.  

THE SCAVENGING WAS GOOD TODAY.  

I HAD FAR BETTER THINGS TO DO THAN TO SPEND ALL DAY WITH YOU IN THE OFFICE.  

THE SCAVENGING WAS GOOD TODAY.
Dean's Corner

Honor the system

by Jean-Paul Revel

Well, well, here you are, may be future Caltech graduates of 2020! And let me greet you from my corner, the spot I occupy once a week! What a glorious moment! We have tried to arrange that you could see the mountains, but we are not very good at predicting, let alone controlling the weather. You see, our department of Meteorology was dissolved after WWII. It had distinguished itself by forecasting long ahead of time the right day for the Invasion of Normandy (D-Day), but without their help we are lost. On a clear day there is a breathtaking view from Campus. Go to the biology floor of Millikan library (9th floor) and you’ll see what I mean. Not only is it hard to predict future weather, but it also is difficult to predict plain vanilla futures. As a result, although you may not know it, we are just as anxious about you as you are about us, oh you may-be-future Techers, intent on figuring out whether Caltech is the place for you. So ask questions, examine, ponder, talk to the students, professors and administrators, and see what you will become part of, if you come here. You have read our literature and know that we are small and that we pride ourselves in that and in how excellent we are. You have read about our ratings, the good and the bad. The 3:1 student to faculty ratio and THE ratio, which if all of you, will be improved, thanks to you, is the ratio of the applicant pool has improved! You have read about our Nobel Prizes (although you may not know that our penultimate prize was won by a Master in Meteorology, for his seminal research in Genetics) and how many of our professors are members of the National Academy. But what does that mean to you? A top researcher does not necessarily make a good teacher, although a lot of the professors are both. And that is what you are here for, to learn, to acquire the foundation on which you are going to build for the rest of your life. What’s important about top pros is that they can be role models for you, that you can acquire attitudes and outlooks which will serve you well in your own careers. It also means that many other bright and imaginative people will converge and assemble around the Prof, and that too will provide an atmosphere conducive to new ways of doing things. They will be able to appreciate your flights of imagination and interest. You’ll also have great opportunities for trying your wings at research, real work in a real lab. Some of you will even get excellent letters sufficiently to have your name on published papers. I know, I know, all that is great but the people that you will be in contact most are your peers, the other Fresh and the Frosh of last year, and of 2 and 3 years ago. They too will form a cohort conducive to learn and to grow, and to mature. How good? I can do better than to quote a letter written by an ex student, who left Caltech last year, because at the end of his Fresh year, he decided that he did not want to be a scientist after all, after being away for 6 months he wrote back to his friends here. (I quote him with his permission but I have changed the names and some details, to avoid legal troubles with all kinds of people and organizations): "Help me here. Phillip Smith. The one with the big ears. Yeah, that one. In any case, I decided to e-mail you all en masse with a few pearls of wisdom I have garnered from my days over here at the Big, Lame, Boring School, et. I mean, UXXY. You see, hardly a day passes without my reflecting upon my short time at Caltech, recalling a flurry of memories from which I derive much warmth and happiness. These thoughts naturally leads (dean’s comment: sic) me to think about at home and now to compare. The result of my inquiries: You are all the luckiest bastards on the face of the planet."

Granted, I only go to school 3 days a week. Granted, I do about as much homework in one week as I would do on any given day before 1:00 in the morning. Granted, I haven’t seen a problem set since I left you all. I say unto you, I have never known a greater group of people than those I knew at XYZ House, and I miss you all like members of my own family. The next time you’re working non-stop through the night to get that mid-term, I could not help remembering these few words of mine. You are the luckiest bastards on the face of the planet to have each other as you do. I speak from experience, it is far better to be in good company than to work in good company than to have a life of leisure with none to inspire you to greatness. So there you have it. Caltech is hard, very hard and very work but it can succeed here especially if you follow some simple rules. The silent... work... be organized, and don’t let yourself be distracted from what you are here for. And what you are here for is to study and learn. If it is in a congenial environment, so much the better, but what counts in the end is work, a steady long pull. So if you have any chance to do anything at all before coming here, and of course you’ll all be coming, please take time to learn HOW to study. Many of you have been able to coast up to now. Well that comfortable period is over, and whatever skills you can acquire to help you organize and motivate yourselves will be really important. And then there is the Honor Code. I know from experience that many of you will be attracted by the benefits that are afforded by having such a system. It is indeed wonderful to have the trust and confidence of the faculty and your peers. To be trusted and to have your exams home. To be included in your group. That is respected by all. But definitely beyond, no matter how much you imagine that this comes without responsibilities. Each year there are people who realize that the benefits are expected more than earned only come in measure of the effort one makes to sustain the Honor Code to its smallest ramifications. Nough said for now. I hope you have a great and instructive visit, and that we are in your future.

See you all soon, or as I say in ending my column, a bientot.
**The Prefrosh Are Here!** (for more information on prefrosh-related events, see related story)

* Nominations are now open for the offices of 98-99 Big T Editor and Business Manager. Interested individuals can nomi-

nate themselves by signing up on the door of the ASCIT/THC office (SAC 33). The non-profit, Caltech/JPL Flight-

ing Club, which provides low-cost, high-reliability aircraft rental, instruction, and insurance to students, has just expanded its fleet. Rates range from $38-$87/hour, depending on the air-

craft. Caltech students get a discount on the monthly dues. More information is at http://www.cotc.caltech.edu/actx or by calling Peter Gluck at (818)354-9425. General mem-

bership meetings are held semi-

annually; the next one will be on April 22nd at 7:30 p.m. in 269 Lauritsen.

Free anonymous HIV testing, using an oral HIV antibody test, is available each Monday evening from 6-8 p.m. at the AIDS Service Center, 1030 S. Arroyo Parkway in Pasadena. Persons wishing to be tested must make an appointment by calling, toll-free, (888)448-9242, or (626)441-8495. Walk-

ins are also accepted. Both pre-

and post-test counseling is pro-

vided, and results will be given the following Monday.

The Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Discussion Group looking for a way to help each other Monday to discuss issues such as coming out, being out, dealing with fam-

ily, coping with a homophobic culture, and being GLB at Caltech? We invite you to the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Discus-

sion group, which meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. in the Health Center lounge. This is a confidential meeting and does not imply any-

thing about a person's sexual orientation—only that she is interested in participating in this setting. The group usually dis-

cusses a particular relevant topic and then moves on to the gen-

eral discussion. Refreshments will be served. If you would like more information, please call x8331.

**The California Tech**

Caltech 40-58
Passadena, CA 91125

CIP is seeking entries for this year’s challenge. The program recognizes and rewards full-time college students (undergraduate, graduate, and postdocs) and fa-

dulty whose innovations, discoveries and research are deemed the year’s most outstanding. Up to six student/advisor teams are awarded cash prizes totaling up to $42,000. Students may enter as individuals or teams. The inven-

tion, idea or process submitted must be an original idea and the work of a student or team or his/ her advisor. There is a June 2, 1998 deadline. For more infor-

mation, call (303)849-6887 or email pioneernet@invent.org. Applications are available on the web at http://www.intent.org/tip-home.html.

The Jewish Family and Children’s Services offers financial support for Jewish individu-

als and their families. Individu-

als may apply for up to $5,000. Special scholarships are available to study in Israel. Eligible stu-

dents must have financial need, have at least a 3.0 GPA, 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.

Mints

* denotes a new announcement.

**Fellowships and Scholarships**

There will be an informational meeting on the Marshall, Fulbright, Rhodes, Churchill, and Luce Fellowships for juniors and “early bird” sophomores on April 22, 1998. Former fellow-

ship winners will speak, and there will be some special handouts provided. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP to fellowships@ caltech.edu. The meeting will take place at noon in Chandler Private Dining Room (room in Chandler next to the Red Door Cafe - enter through Chandler). Questions can be directed to x2150, or to the Fellowships Ad-

vising and Resources office in SAC 25.

The National Institutes of Health’s Undergraduate Scholar-

ship Program (UGSP) is pleased to announce the availability of up to 15 competitive scholarships to support top undergraduate stu-

dents who are committed to pur-

sue careers in biomedical re-

search. Awards are up to $20,000 per year. To qualify, a student must be a U.S. citizen, national or permanent resident, be enrolled in or accepted by an accredited un-

dergraduate institution, and carry a GPA of 3.5 or better or be in the top 5% of their class. In addition, the applicant must demon-

strate extreme economic need or come from a disadvantaged back-

ground. For each year of schol-

arship, the student will fulfill a 10-

week summer research/internship program and after graduation, fulfill one year of full-time employ-

ment, both at NIH in Bethesda, Maryland.

Working or studying in New York City this summer? Educational Housing is a non-profit group that helps students find safe, reasonab-

lly priced New York housing. For more information, visit www.studenthousing.org.

The John Gyles Education Fund offers financial assistance to full-

time students in Canada and the United States. Full Canadian or American citizenship is required. Awards are available for all areas of post-secondary study. Applicants must have at least a GPA of 3.7. Crite-

ria 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, please send a stamped, self-addressed, standard letter size (No. 10) en-

tvelope to: The John Gyles Educa-

tion Fund, Attention: R. James Cougle, Administrator, P.O. Box 4808, 712 Riverside Drive, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada E3B 4G4. Filing dates for 1998 are June 1st and November 15th.

The 1998 BF Goodrich Colle-

giate Inventors Program (BFG-

CIP) is seeking entries for this year’s challenge. The program recognizes and rewards full-time college students (undergraduate, graduate, and postdocs) and fa-

dulty whose innovations, discoveries and research are deemed the year’s most outstanding. Up to six student/advisor teams are awarded cash prizes totaling up to $42,000. Students may enter as individuals or teams. The inven-

tion, idea or process submitted must be an original idea and the work of a student or team or his/ her advisor. There is a June 2, 1998 deadline. For more infor-

mation, call (303)849-6887 or email pioneernet@invent.org. Applications are available on the web at http://www.intent.org/tip-home.html.

**Events**

* World-renowned Flamenco dance La Tania will be per-

forming on April 17th at 8:00 p.m. in Beckman Auditorium, accompanied by guitarists and singers. Tickets cost between $20-$26; tickets for Caltech stu-

dents cost $5.

* The Lula Washington Dance Theatre will be performing their unique blend of African, modern, and ballet dance tech-

ques on April 18th at 8:00 p.m. in Ramo Auditorium. All seats cost $20 or $5 with Caltech student ID.

* ITS is holding a Caltech Li-

brary System Web class on “Using the Web for Selected Resources in Aeronautics and Mechanical Engineering.” The class, which will be held on April 21 from 1:30-3 p.m. in 313 Stee1, will be presented by Lourra Toit, Caltech librarian. For more information, contact Nancy Zachariasen, x3417.

* A Fire extinguisher class will be held on April 24th at 10 a.m. on the room of the Wilson park-

ing garage. To register, call the Safety office, at x6727.

* Caltech’s seventh annual Earth Day Celebration will be held on April 24th from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Olive Walk. The celebration will include booths featuring campus, local, and national environmental or-

ganizations, and music by singer and acoustic guitarist, David Harris. Chandler Dining Hall will provide free food. Food will be available for a donation of $1. For more information, call Athena Castro at x6163.

* “Does Speed Exist,” a William Bennett Munro Memorial seminar featuring Frank Arntzen, University President, is a session of philosophy at USC, will be held on April 24th at 4 p.m. in the Judy Library in Baxter. Refresh-

ments will be provided.

* Capitated Steps, a group of cur-

rent and former congressional staff will present political satir-

e through parodies on both April 24th and 25th in Beckman Auditorium at 8 p.m.

The Distinguished Speaker Se-

ries of Southern California is an annual series with its second season. The events will be held at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium on five remaining dates, at 8 p.m. May Angela young will be speaking on May 13th, and Mark Victor Hansen on June 10th. For more information, contact (808) 908-

9301.

For more Caltech events listed, further information can be ob-

tained by calling 395-4522 or (888) 2-CALTECH, or through the Caltech website, http://www.caltech.edu. Special dis-

counts are available for most shows for Caltech/JPL students, staff, and faculty.

**For information on the listed fellowships, assistance with essays, or clarification of questions, contact:**

FAR - The Fellowships Advising and Resources Office. For information, please contact lauren_kolper@caltech.edu. To make an appointment, call x2150.

UFA - The Undergraduate Financial Aid Office. For information, call 6280, or stop by 515 S. Wilson for an appoint-

ment.

To submit an event for the Mints, contact mints@tech.caltech.edu. Mail Code 040-058 by noon on the Monday prior to its inclusion. Sub-

missions must be brief and concise, and the editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all material.

*The prefrosh are way too young this year!*

-Cheryl Forest