April Fools: egg drop  Lee Reavis: Resignation update

This information was provided by Lee Reavis. Caltech administrators are prohibited by California law from commenting on the matter, as it involves employee records.

On Thursday, March 12, Lee Reavis resigned his position as head of Caltech Food Services. Apparently, an unidentified individual filed a complaint that illegal aliens were working in food services and that Reavis both had knowledge of their immigration status and helped them to procure false documentation.

AVERY LOTTERY CHANGES

BY JAIREEF SINGH

Spring Lottery are the room picks that determine who lives in Avery. Marks, 150 South Chester, and 1170 Del Mar. These places are considered Institute affiliated off-campus housing. Some Houses have special House affiliated off-campus housing. These spots as well as on-campus housing are dealt with by the Houses during their respective House roompicks.

In the past Houses would hold their roompick first. Anyone that did not get a room or did not choose to select a room in those picks entered into the off-campus roompicks. This roompick was held after the House roompicks. This procedure needed to be changed to accommodate for Avery.

This year the idea is to give people who have decided for sure that they want to live in Avery a better chance to pick into Avery. By now, everyone should have gotten a pink lottery card in the mail titled "Caltech Residence Life Office 1998-1999 Lottery Participation Card." Along with the card, there is a pamphlet with information about the Spring Lottery.

On the lottery card, there are two deadlines and two checkboxes.

The Dean has been receiving comments on whether or not Frosh should be graded in the third term. Please keep the comments coming, because there are several committees paying attention to this topic. However it needs to be clear that any changes that might result will not affect this year's third term. To repeat, this year's frosh are on grades third term.
**Meaningless poetry**

They will be available to people who were registered for all three terms last year. If you flamed third term last year, yes, you only registered one or two terms shouldn’t weep over that you should keep in mind. First, you are under no obligation to pick a room in the Avery roompick. Second, you will enter the Avery roompick not knowing your Off-Campus Lottery Number. Also some people will not know exactly where they stand in their House roompick. Historically this has been an issue for freshmen becoming sophomores. If you pick a room in the Avery roompick, then you will sign a contract on the spot, meaning you are now obligated to live there next year. If you don’t pick a room in the Avery roompick, you then will sign a contract for that room and are expected not to pick a room in any other roompick. By picking a room, I do not mean getting a lottery number or entering a roompick. I mean actually selecting a room. You can enter into as many roompicks as you are eligible for, however, you can only pick one room. I hope this makes things a little clearer. I strongly encourage everyone to read the literature that is sent to them regarding the lottery process and to respond to the deadlines on time. If you have any questions, please contact the Residence Life Office in Steelhouse (65419).

**OMBUDS TRAINING/ANSWER SESSION Avery Library**

**Thursday, April 9th**

12:15-12:45 pm

Bring your lunch

**Tips:** how to approach professors how to gain peer opinions

**Discussion:** How to be a more effective Ombuds What are appropriate channels for action What is being done with the complaints

**Surveys:**

Hans Hausen, Helen Hastedt, the Caltech Ombudsperson

Please bring your questions! For further information e-mail devl@ecoc.

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**Big T’s Arrive!**

It was a long winter. A sad, sad time of the year. With the end of the wispys days of autumn, the clemency of the weather disappeared in the fury of the cold November rain, and later the frighteningly sudden gush of rain in December. With fresh hope, and other, personal undergraduate frustrations, we have fresh news! The yearbooks are here! (Actual info here!)

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**AVERY LOTTERY**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

The card has the following on it:

I wish to be assigned an Avery Lottery number and will participate in this early lottery process. Please return this card to the Residence Life Office by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 23, 1998, in order to participate in the Off Campus lottery and be guaranteed housing.

If you know that you want to live in Avery, then you should check the first box and return the card as is. If you do this, you will receive an Avery Lottery Number. There are some things that you should keep in mind. First, you are under NO OBLIGATION to pick a room in the Avery roompick. Second, you will enter the Avery roompick not knowing your Off-Campus Lottery Number. Also some people will not know exactly where they stand in their House roompick. Historically this has been an issue for freshmen becoming sophomores. If you pick a room in the Avery roompick, then you will sign a contract on the spot, meaning you are now obligated to live there next year. If you don’t pick a room in the Avery roompick, you then will sign a contract for that room and are expected not to pick a room in any other roompick. By picking a room, I do not mean getting a lottery number or entering a roompick. I mean actually selecting a room. You can enter into as many roompicks as you are eligible for, however, you can only pick one room.

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Prefmore Weekend Rules

I. Preamble

The intent of these rules is not to provide a complete set of guidelines as is done for rotation. Rather, the rules are intended to provide a framework for planning and executing events.

II. Regulations

1. Events shall be in effect for any contact with a student that has been accepted by Caltech until the deadline for acceptance, after which rotation rules apply. These rules more specifically apply to the four day period when all prospective students are invited, by admissions office, to visit the campus. Throughout these rules the term "House" refers to both the organization as a whole and any of its members.

3. Houses are authorized to do the following during prefresh weekend:

a. have receptions and refreshments when prospective students arrive.

b. have planned social events anywhere available with the consent of the Admissions Office and the approval of the IHC. c. serve refreshments at events without the restrictions of a small charity d. fairly bias a student toward Caltech.

5. Houses are prohibited from doing the following during prefresh weekend:

a. inviting any public events without the approval of the IHC. c. releasing any publication without the approval of the IHC. c. spending money on an individual, prospective student, or providing goods or services on credit or for no charge.

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THE CALIFORNIA TECH

A Toast to TAs

Have you thanked your Teaching Assistant lately?

I have used the Internet recently and remembered that it was developed, in large part, by moderate student research-

ers. 

1. Are the authors in the image named Rebecca Shvey and Shawn Llkat PhD? 

The authors of the text are not named in the image. The text does not provide any indication of the authors' names. 

2. What are the rules for attending prefresh weekend at Caltech?

The rules for attending prefresh weekend at Caltech are outlined in the text. These rules include:

- Invitation to all prospective students
- Arrangement of events
- Conduct of events
- Use of facilities
- Compliance with regulations and policies

3. How can prospective students get involved in events on campus?

Prospective students can get involved in events on campus by contacting the admissions office, attending events arranged by the admissions office, or participating in activities organized by the student organizations. The text encourages prospective students to take advantage of the opportunities available on campus.

4. What is the purpose of the California Tech TAs?

The purpose of the California Tech TAs is to provide support and resources for teaching assistants. The text highlights the contributions of TAs to the development of the Internet and emphasizes the importance of acknowledging their work.

5. How does the text relate to the TAs?

The text relates to the TAs by acknowledging their contributions to the development of the Internet and emphasizing the importance of thanking them for their work. The text also recognizes the role of TAs in supporting students and improving the educational experience.
From the Editors' Desk

On Wednesday, I heard the words that make journalists wake up nights screaming about going into obscure branches of abstract math: "You can't print that." This was before I even knew what it was that I couldn't print. Unfortunately, this being a school of science and engineering, the person making this statement obviously was ignorant of a rather obscure government statute. For convenience, I shall quote it: "Congress shall make no law...abridging freedom of speech, or of the press." Obviously, this is a bit outdated, and does not begin to summarize the state and local laws regarding suitable material for print media. However, newspapers still retain the duty to report events and information which are pertinent and necessary elements of public knowledge. The legislation quoted, commonly known as The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America, embodies the spirit of freedom which makes exercising this duty possible.

As an editor of the California Tech, I was elected, along with the rest of the editorial team, to provide the Caltech community with information vital to its survival. One of the unique, special things about this school is the potential for true community: a social group bound by common interests and concerns, rather than just proximity. Note the elements of common interests and concerns: both arise from knowledge of the joy and pain, triumph and defeat, of the whole community. Individuals come to Caltech because of an interest in pursuing science and engineering. Members of the community are born when they realize that having a stake in the collective life of people at Caltech benefits everyone. That means accepting the school for what it is, deciding whether that state is most appropriate, and assuming an active role in its improvement. Information is vital to this transformation. Obviously, academic pursuits are the focus of Caltech life. This supreme intellectual dominance necessitates a convergence of accessible, accurate source of information. Independence of journalism remains the best venue for procuring and presenting this information. This ensures that information, both positive and negative, which is relevant to members of the community, is made widely available, in a form that is factual, accurate, and unbiased. When individuals state, "You cannot print that," I am obligated to reply, "No, I must print that," with the condition that it is relevant and necessary for the community to know. In my short experience, the administration, and often students as well, tend to overpolish Caltech's "Ivy Tower." Certainly there are infinite positive elements to extol. However, we must be even more rigorous about excising the blotches and stains. Without examining our negatives, it is impossible to improve. Especially when events affect a broad segment of the community, they must be brought forth so that everyone may evaluate the consequences and work toward betterment. This sort of open dialogue is not facilitated by closed mouths and closed doors. Part of the purpose of a newspaper is to investigate events. Only after this investigation can the right of the community to know and the rights of involved individuals to privacy be ascertained.

When I decided to become involved with the Tech, I committed to journalism, not cheerleading. The difficult, controversial stories which are vital to the integrity of the community will be printed. Those who truly value this community will ensure that information is available to make these issues fair, accurate and coherent. Anything less would be irresponsible.

Lee: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lee: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Based on this information, on Wednesday the 11th, Reavis was given one day to resign or face termination. Reavis denies having any knowledge of employee immigration status. He did, however, realize that Caltech was very strict with illegal aliens, and during the transition of Total Food Management to Caltech advised all employees to either get their papers in order or remain with TFM. However, while he submitted a list of TFM employees to be hired by Caltech, he was not responsible for hiring under either organization. Currently, Reavis is attempting to regain his position.

ATTN: Seniors

Dinner with the MOSH

If you have never been to Dinner with the MOSH at Steele House and would like to go before you graduate, sign up ASAP in the office. If you have been to a dinner with the MOSH and would like to go one last time, you too can sign up.

Email (reslife@caltech.edu), call us (6194), or walk on by to reserve your spot.

The dinners will be held Tuesday, April 14 & 21.

YESS '98

Positions for the Young Engineering and Science Scholars (YESS) Program are available for Summer '98:

- 2 head counselors
- 6 program counselors
- 3 lab assistants/resource persons

YESS is a five-week residential program that exposes 40 high school students to the joys of intensive scientific investigation. The program runs from June 28th to July 31st.

There will be an informational meeting on Thursday, April 9th at 5 pm in the CAPSI Office (287 S. Hill). All students interested in applying should plan on attending this meeting. Dinner will be served.

Contact Athena at x3180 or email castroa@caltech.edu for more information.
Excomm Minutes

The ExComm meets once again to discuss the results of the election. It seems that during the recent election for VP/BOC chair, the ballots disappeared from Page House sometime before 11 a.m. Only 1 vote was cast in the Page House box.

At 11:14 p.m. the meeting is called to order with Myfanwy, Brandon, Baldeep, and Joe present. The meeting was unfairly disrupted by voting, and should be given the same attention as any other. Myfanwy agrees. Baldeep explains that Page was no more disadvantaged than any other campus body. Page members could have voted (and possibly did) voted in another house.

Brandon notes that ASCIT did everything in its power to run a smooth election. He also mentions that since the incident happened so early in the day, it could have easily been remedied. If anyone in Page had cared enough, they could have contacted the election chair for more ballots, or even taken a few from another house. The bylaws do not require ASCIT to provide ballots anyway.

An initial vote is taken and ties 2:2. After some convincing, Myfanwy changes her vote, but notes that stealing ballots is certainly an honor code violation, though it may not have been reason enough in this case to uphold the protest.

Final vote: 3-1 to dismiss the protest.
Meeting adjourns 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brandon Vandella

In search of terrible, horrible, no good, very bad books

It’s a lot more fun to write the reviews of the bad books than the good ones. There’s so much more to say.

You can’t just catalogue every aspect of the writing and examine the virtues of the author without having your readers slipping into coma. You need a pattern to make it interesting; vicious jabs to add spice to dull sweetness. If you ever want to be convinced of this, read the reviews of just about any bestseller on amazon.com.

Readers of stuff that advertisers would be embarrassed to use as copy seem to pour out of people who can barely spell and have no idea of what the punctuation marks key in their keyboards are for.

Besides, there’s really nothing like finding out about the most awful things to say about people who can never get back at you and probably don’t even know that you said it. Which brings me to my point. In the world, I’ve noticed that other columnists can get easy columns by asking people to tell them what ad, song, etc. they hate the most, so I’m going to try it too. Namely, I want to know what is the worst book you have ever read, voluntarily or not. After some consideration I have decided that there should be two categories; Worst Book: Literature and Worst Book: Trash.

My pick for the second category is a book that I never managed to finish because it was so bad. Message From 'Nam by Danielle Steel does not, in my opinion even count as a book. I stopped reading after 200 pages because I had yet to encounter a coherent plot.

I stopped reading after 200 pages because I had yet to encounter a coherent plot.

Hello,

For those of you who do not know me, my name is David Tytell and I am the HCI Food Committee Chairman. The purpose of this committee is to act as a liaison between the students and Caltech Dining Services (CDS). It consists of the houses’ food reps, Tom Mannion, Andre Mallie, and other staff members of CDS. The issues brought before the committee include off board requests, new menu ideas, changes to the existing menu, and most Caltech food concerns.

As chairman, I felt that it was necessary to have more student involvement and input in our board program. This column will discuss food concerns and questions. Specifically, if you have any question about CDS, the board program, or food at Caltech in general, please ask me. I will address one or two questions every week.

Please send all questions by e-mail to tytell@cco.

Till next time.

Food Committee meetings are in SAC 33 at 4:00 on Wednesdays. Come on by if you have any concerns! Food committee minutes may be obtained by e-mailing tytell@cco with your request.

Earn $500 - $1000 weekly stuffing envelopes. For details - RUSH $1.00 with SASE to:
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Weekend Bargain 12:00, also 2:30

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The California Tech
Hope Springs Eternal in New Baseball Season

**Mason Porter's 1998 Baseball Forecast**

### Title Winners
- NL East—Atlanta
- NL Central—St. Louis
- NL West—Los Angeles
- NL Wild Card—San Diego
- AL East—New York
- AL Central—Cleveland
- AL West—Seattle
- AL Wild Card—Baltimore
- NL Champion—New York
- NL Champion—Atlanta
- World Series Champion—Atlanta

### Standings
- NL East
- Atlanta Braves
- New York Mets
- Florida Marlins
- Montreal Expos
- Philadelphia Phillies
- NL Central
- St. Louis Cardinals
- Houston Astros
- Chicago Cubs
- Milwaukee Brewers
- Pittsburgh Pirates
- Cincinnati Reds
- NL West
- Los Angeles Dodgers
- San Diego Padres
- Colorado Rockies
- San Francisco Giants
- Arizona Diamondbacks

### More Predictions
- Teams on the Rise
  - NL - San Diego Padres
  - AL - Minnesota Twins
- Teams on the Slide
  - NL - Florida Marlins
  - AL - Chicago White Sox
- NL Manager of the Year
  - Bobby Valentine, New York
- NL Manager of the Year
  - Lou Piniella, Seattle
- First Manager Fired
  - NL - Jim Riggleman, Chicago
  - AL - Johnny Oates, Texas
- NL MVP
  - Mike Piazza, Los Angeles
- NL MVP
  - Chuck Knoblauch, New York
- NL Cy Young Award
  - Greg Maddux, Atlanta
- NL Cy Young Award
  - Pedro Martinez, Boston
- NL Rookie of the Year
  - Travis Lee, Arizona
- NL Rookie of the Year
  - Ben Grieve, Oakland
- NL Rookie Pitcher of the Year
  - Carl Pavano, Minnesota
- NL Rookie Pitcher of the Year
  - Pedro Martinez, Boston
- AL Manager of the Year
  - Tony La Russa, Oakland
- AL Manager of the Year
  - Lou Piniella, Seattle
- AL Manager of the Year
  - Bobby Valentine, New York
- AL MVP
  - Mike Piazza, Los Angeles
- AL MVP
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- AL Rookie Pitcher of the Year
  - Pedro Martinez, Boston

### Teams on the Rise
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### Teams on the Slide
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### More Predictions
- NL East—Atlanta
- NL Central—St. Louis
- NL West—Los Angeles
- NL Wild Card—San Diego
- AL East—New York
- AL Central—Cleveland
- AL West—Seattle
- AL Wild Card—Baltimore
- NL Champion—New York
- NL Champion—Atlanta
- World Series Champion—Atlanta

### Hot Stove League
- NL East—Atlanta Braves
- NL Central—St. Louis Cardinals
- NL West—Los Angeles Dodgers
- NL Wild Card—San Diego Padres
- AL East—New York Yankees
- AL Central—Chicago Indians
- AL West—Seattle Mariners

### Changes
- The Tigers moved from the East to the Central Division, and were replaced in the East by the expansion Tampa Bay Devil Rays. See the accompanying article for a prediction of how the season will turn out.

### Baseball Salary Structure
- Baseball’s salary structure was again jolted. Pedro Martinez was traded from the Padres to the Red Sox and received a six-year, $75 million contract. Other contracts also neared that price range. That, however, is just the beginning of another huge wave of increases in player salaries.

**Dodger catcher Mike Piazza may become the first $100 million dollar player.**

**It takes two to tango... or play volleyball**

BY MASON A. PORTER

The 1998 Major League Baseball season began on Tuesday. At this stage of the year, every team (even the Cubs!) still has a chance to go all the way and win the World Series. The offseason brought a flurry of activity, as the structure of the game again experienced drastic changes.

The National League grew to 16 teams, the expansion Arizona Diamondbacks were added to the NL West, and the Milwaukee Brewers switched over from the American League to create a six-team Central Division. In the AL, the Tigers moved from the East to the Central Division, and were replaced in the East by the expansion Tampa Bay Devil Rays. See the accompanying article for a prediction of how the season will turn out.

Baseball’s salary structure was again jolted. Pedro Martinez was traded from the Padres to the Red Sox and received a six-year, $75 million contract. Other contracts also neared that price range. That, however, is just the beginning of another huge wave of increases in player salaries. Dodger catcher Mike Piazza may become the first $100 million dollar player.

Several teams experienced some change as well. Arizona and Tampa Bay received new franchises, and Peter O’Malley sold the Dodgers for $311 million. Expect new Dodger owner Rupert Murdoch to spend lavishly to improve the team. The sale of the Rangers (for a projected $250 million) and Blue Jays both await approval, and more team transactions may be in the works.

Baseball spent another offseason without a commissioner. A recommendation was supposed to be made at the owners’ meetings, but such an announcement was delayed until June. Do not expect Bud Selig to step down from his perch as interim commissioner any time soon. Indeed, he has the longest tenure of any “commissioner” since Bowie Kuhn.

The game of baseball experienced changes on a more individual level as well. Roger McDowell, Greg Gagne, Todd Worrell, Bret Butler, and Chris Bosio were among the players who retired. Dennis Martinez came out of retirement to earn a spot on Atlanta’s opening day roster, and Lee Smith is still out there somewhere wanting to pitch. He refused a minor league assignment by the Royals and is attempting to hook on elsewhere. On a sadder note, baseball experienced a deep loss when longtime Cub announcer Harry Carey passed away.

This season should prove to be an exciting one. Though wild cards, interleague play, and a dilated talent pool taint baseball’s sacred pasture, the game is always above such trivialities. The crack of the bat will be heard for another six months. Hope springs eternal: another season of baseball has finally arrived!

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April 3, 1998

The California Tech
Caltech tennis team seeks victory (and love) in Hawaii

BY BRIAN WATKINS

Early last Monday morning, the athletic juggernaut that is the Caltech men's tennis team boarded a flight to Hawaii, ready to obliterate all competition en route to proving to the world that Tech is a tennis force to be reckoned with. Leading the team were fearless senior co-captains Ronak Bhatt and Jason Jenkin. Sophomore Matt Biber was added with. Leading the team were fearless senior co-captains Ronak Bhatt and Jason Jenkin. Sophomore Matt Biber was added

Stefan Kazaichki, who had the dual role of coaching his team and acting as a liaison between the team and the hotel staff. The team was eagerly awaited their chance to

...but the results were unforfulat with the unfortunate result but we could n't close the deal.

Saturday saw us pitched against Hawaii-Hilo, another of the strongest teams on the islands. A quick 9-0 beating awaited us. We never really had a chance.

Feigning interest in buying lots of expensive merchandise, Stefan tried his luck with a pretty department store clerk. When he subtly turned the conversation from watches to his desire to have coffee with her, she said in broken English that she was married. He never really had a chance.
I know, I know these verses are really about “summer,” not spring, but I love the poem and it evokes what spring feels like in this heavy we live in. The unknown author must have lived at the northern limit of the cucca’s range for the cuccus to start singing only in summer! Here spring has arrived, the tulips are out and the narcissus has already lost its blooms, and if we had cuccus, they would indeed sing lullu. This year in particular, with El Nino boosting the greenery, spring is more spring-like this February.

The last term of the school year, paradoxically the spring term, is about to begin. In this time of renewal, of fresh beginnings, I have been thinking about the difference between Us and Cucus. In addition to the information passed on as DNA, which specifies the body structure of the next generation(s), and is a trait we share with cucus, we also have to transmit to our followers whatever knowledge we have accumulated about the world.

Now bird song is also partially learned, but without extensive schooling, we would not be able to maintain our civilisations and our understanding of the world. Besides our parents and peers who show us how to behave, we also need teachers, whose special understanding of the world we use to build ours.

In fact, in many civilisations parents are held in great honor, but teachers are seen as Gods (say Confucius) or emissaries of Gods (say Moses or Jesus Christ). They are mostly masters to be revered (Aristotle and all of the above for example) but if their ideas are threatening to the establishment, they can become feared and may even have to be eliminated (Socrates).

Ideally, of course, our teachers, wise and understanding in the model of the paragons just mentioned, know how to instruct us. That is the ideal, but it sometimes does not work that way. In our modern world, we have become less and less blindly accepting of our Professors, we have become more critical of not only what they teach, always a bone of discussion, but also how they teach.

Commenting about teaching effectiveness is often difficult to do, because it rarely is perempting with a recommendation made at a recent student-faculty conference: that of obtaining feedback early in the term.

As it stands now, questionnaires are handed out at the end of courses and end up as grist for the . This may be useful for next year’s students, but does not address immediate concerns that could be remedied if brought to someone’s attention. The goal is to get statistically representative (to the extent possible considering the small class size common at Caltech) current, and informative data.

Our pilot last term was fairly successful, but the “Pen- cil and Paper” process turned out to be slower than we had hoped. One problem was that the penciled-in responses had to be retyped to be both legible and anonymous, a time consuming and awkward affair.

Next term we are experimenting with another approach. We have computed a questionnaire, similar to the paper distributed previously, but this time, to be placed on the web. We imagine that students, when instructed by the ombudpeople for the course, would fill out the questionnaire and e-mail it back.

The responses will be sorted, any data identifying the sender removed, and the information sent back to the instructors. If comments are solicited after the first two or three weeks of the course, so that some history has been established, feedback could reach faculty well before midterms.

If needed, a second set of feedbacks could be arranged to reach the faculty a couple of weeks after midterms. Another advantage would be that there could be very rapid information flow at any time during the term, since important comments could be sent on the spot.

And if it works, then Lhude sing cucca! A bientot,

Jean-Paul Revel

Dean’s Corner

Spring has icumen in, Lhude sing cucca

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About Pasadena Computer Center.

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

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- 32MB 4x4 Bus RAM
- 286 MB Hard Drive
- 128MB CD-ROM
- 12.1" Monitor
- Windows 95/98
- Microsoft Works
- Internet Explorer
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Deluxe Word
- Deluxe Math
- The New York Times
- USA Today
- Wall Street Journal
- 3.5" Floppy Drive
- 12V Battery Backup
- 12V Power Supply
- 56K Modem with line
- 1 Year Warranty
- Under $400

INTERNET READY TO GO!!

- AMD K6 100
- 32MB 4x4 Bus RAM
- 286 MB Hard Drive
- 128MB CD-ROM
- 15" LCD Monitor
- Windows 95/98
- Microsoft Works
- Internet Explorer
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Deluxe Word
- Deluxe Math
- The New York Times
- USA Today
- Wall Street Journal
- 3.5" Floppy Drive
- 12V Battery Backup
- 12V Power Supply
- 56K Modem with line
- 1 Year Warranty
- $500

3D GAME STATION

- AMD K6 100
- 32MB 4x4 Bus RAM
- 286 MB Hard Drive
- 128MB CD-ROM
- 15" LCD Monitor
- Windows 95/98
- Microsoft Works
- Internet Explorer
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Deluxe Word
- Deluxe Math
- The New York Times
- USA Today
- Wall Street Journal
- 3.5" Floppy Drive
- 12V Battery Backup
- 12V Power Supply
- 56K Modem with line
- 1 Year Warranty
- $600

MOBILE MULTIMEDIA

- Pentium 200MMX
- Pentium 300MMX
- Pentium 400MMX
- Pentium 500MMX
- Pentium 600MMX
- Pentium 700MMX
- Pentium 800MMX
- Pentium 900MMX
- Pentium 1000MMX
- Pentium 1200MMX

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GENERAL (818)568-0588
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Dear Student:

DON'T YOU JUST HATE TO BE GRADED? Well, by their shrill protests about U.S. News & World Report law school rankings, so do most of the deans of the law schools you are considering. However, as a law school graduate with both a J.D. and a L.L.M. degree, I can tell you that those same deans will subject you to rigorous grading. You will be required to endure lectures from tenured professors who have not changed their class notes since the Battle of Hastings. Then, after attending class for a full semester, you will be given one exam to determine your grade. One exam, one semester, one grade. One roll of the dice to measure your performance.

At U.S. News & World Report we are far more equitable (to use a legal term). We have a multi-faceted, multi-dimensional, sophisticated ranking system developed and evolved over many years to give you guidance on what may be one of your largest financial investments and certainly one of the most important choices for your career in law and perhaps beyond. While our law school rankings should not be the only criteria in your choice of a law school, they should certainly be an important part of the analysis.

Get your copy of U.S. News & World Report’s Best Graduate Schools guide on newsstands now. Or, to make it easier for you to see the book that 164 law school deans would prefer you not see (notwithstanding their commitment to the First Amendment), call 1-800-836-6397 (ask for extension 5105) and I will arrange for a copy of the book to be sent directly to you at $1 off the newstand price.* This will also ensure that you have a copy of these important rankings because, as a result of publicity surrounding the deans’ determination to have you ignore the rankings, they are a very hot item.

These law school rankings are a small part of our philosophy of News You Can Use®: information we bring you in each issue of the magazine to help you manage your life.

Good luck in law school and good luck on making the right choice.

Kindest Regards.

Sincerely,

Fred Drasner
Chief Executive Officer

An Open Letter to Students Planning to Attend Law School from U.S. News & World Report

* Shipping and handling charges additional.

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www.usnews.com
The California Tech  

COMICS  
April 3, 1998  

11  

DILBERT®  
by Scott Adams  

MY NEW PRODUCT IS A DATABASE OF FAMOUS SERIAL KILLERS.  

YOU CAN SEARCH THE DATABASE BY NAME, WEAPON OR TATTOO.  

WELL, THIS STARTED HER WHEN ALICE BECAME A Bmaid. SHE DISCOVERED SHE AND ALL THESE RayONs EXPECTED TO BE IN THE TRENCHES.  

I'M NOT RAVING BECAUSE YOU'RE ABOVE THE SALARY MINDSET, BUT AT LEAST YOUR STOCK OPTIONS ARE DOING GREAT!  

I CAN'T GIVE YOU A RAISE, BECAUSE YOU'RE ABOVE THE SALARY MINDSET, BUT AT LEAST YOUR ENGINEER OPTIONS ARE DOING GREAT!  

I DON'T HAVE ANY TO THINK OF ME.  

NEXT, IT SAYS I SHOULD COACH YOU ON YOUR INTERPERSONAL SKILLS.  

THE LABEL SAYS IT MAY CAUSE 'UNGUARANTEED OPTIMISM ABOUT YOUR DEAD-END JOB.'  

LOOK AT THE WARNING LABEL ON ALICE'S ANTIDEPRESSANTS.  

ALICE IS OVERDOING ON ANTIDEPRESSANTS. WE MUST INDUCE VOMITING.  

I HATE BEING ON AN UNFUNDERMINDED PROJECT.  

CAN YOU SPARE SOME RESOURCES, LADY? HOW ABOUT THAT INTERNET ARE YOU USING HIM?  

I CAN'T GIVE YOU A RAISE, BECAUSE YOU'RE ABOVE THE SALARY MINDSET, BUT AT LEAST YOUR STOCK OPTIONS ARE DOING GREAT!  

I DON'T HAVE ANY TO THINK OF ME.  

EVERYONE NOTICE WHEN YOU WENT BALD.  

I'M BALD?  

YOU SAVAGE INQUISITION PEOPLE, IS YOUR 5K5 THEosophical?  

I'LL PULL INTO THE BACKGROUND AND LET YOU GET BACK TO YOUR PALACE AND YOUR FANCY COFFEE.  

I'LL PULL INTO THE BACKGROUND AND LET YOU GET BACK TO YOUR PALACE AND YOUR FANCY COFFEE.  

THE PLAN WORKED PERFEKTLY, UP TO THE POINT WHERE ALL THREE OF US WERE HEAVING AND ALICE WAS PUNCHING US.  

I WOnder HOW LONG WE'VE BEEN TAKING THEM.  

THERE'S NO WAY TO KNOW.  

I'D HAVE TO LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE THAT WAS ILLEGAL.  

I DIDN'T KNOW HER COULD PRESCRIBE DRUGS.  

THE LABEL SAYS IT MAY CAUSE 'UNGUARANTEED OPTIMISM ABOUT YOUR DEAD-END JOB.'  

I'LL RAISE YOU TO THE POISON AGAINST YOUR WILL.  

I MEAN, HOW CAN I SAY IT TO YOU?  

YOU SAVAGE INQUISITION PEOPLE, IS YOUR 5K5 THEosophical?  

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**Announcements**

- **Beginner fly casting lessons** are being conducted every Thursday. This class would be open to all students, faculty, and staff. The classes will be held on Wednesdays from 5:15-6:15 p.m. beginning the second week in April. A limited number of rods and reels will be available. Bring your own if you are interested. If you're interested, please contact Tom Perry, x7405.

- Caltech’s spring term Green Clubs begin April 7th and run on Tuesdays. The beginning class is for those who have never been to a Green Club and the advanced class from 3:00-4:00 p.m., and the advanced class from 5:30-6:30 p.m. All classes are in SAC 1C and 1D, respectively. For more information, contact either dleuning@email.caltech.edu or call 253-4658-0881.

The PreFrosh are coming! The PreFrosh are coming! PreFrosh Weekend 1998 will be held from April 16-19, 1998. If you have comments or suggestions for PreFrosh Weekend, or your club or organization would like to be involved with PreFrosh Weekend activities, please contact Gina Figueroa at dina@admissions.caltech.edu.

Free anonymous HIV testing, using the rapid test, is available each Monday evening from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the AIDS Service Center, 1030 S. Arroyo Parkway in Pasadena. Persons wishing to be tested may make an appointment by calling (888)488-9528 (888) HOtHEAT. Both pre- and post-test counseling is provided, and results will be given the following Monday.

The Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Discussion Group 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 GL at Caltech? Come and invite you to The GayLesbian/Bisexual Discussion group, which meets on the first and third Friday 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 anything about you, though there is a youth detox — only that she/will be supporting in this setting. The group usually discusses a particular relevant topic and then moves on to the general discussion. Refreshments will be served. If you would like more information, please call x8331.

**Events**

- **Southland and the Scottish Isles:** A dinner dance to be narrated by Joe and Mary Liz Adair, will be presented this evening at 8:00 p.m. in Beckman Auditorium. Tickets are $7-9.

- **The Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats:** On April 4th at 8:00 p.m. Student tickets are $5; all other tickets are between $20-25, though there is a youth discount, and student and senior rush tickets may be purchased 30 minutes before the performance for $10.

- **The twelfth annual All Mozart Concert** will be held on April 4th at 8:00 p.m. and April 5th at 3 p.m. in Dubney Lounge. Among the featured performers are a Piano Quartet in C minor, a Mass in C Major, and a Quartet in C Major for flute and strings. Admission is free.

- **The Ernest C. Watson Caltech Lecture Series presents “Can we Save the World?” Do we have the means to save our fellow man?” on April 8th at 8 p.m. in Beckman Auditorium. Admission is free.

- **The first movie to screen in the German Film Series for the spring, 1998 term is “Romanze in Mal” (Romanza in a Minor Key), 1943. It will screen on April 8th in Baxter Lecture Hall at 7:30 p.m. This film features English subtitles. Admission is free. For more information, call x5610.

- **Caltech is sponsoring a two-day blood drive which will be held in the Student Union on Saturday, April 9th and 10th. Appointment times on the 9th are between 12:15 and 5:30 p.m., and on the 10th from 9:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please contact Villa Zunildaiz, either at Villa.Zunildaiz@caltech.edu or x6001 for an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.**

- **The Ersten Pediatric Club** is sponsoring a movie for children on Saturday morning, April 11th at 10 a.m. in the Health Center. The film is rated G. Please contact Dr. P. B. H. Young at (888) 990-5977 for more information.

- **The National Institutes of Health’s Undergraduate Scholarship Program (UGSP) is pleased to announce the availability of up to 15 competitive scholarships to support top undergraduate students who are committed to pursue careers in biomedical research. Awards are up to $20,000 per year. To qualify, a student must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, be enrolled in or accepted as an accredited undergraduate institution and have a GPA of 3.5 or better or be in the top 5% of his/her class. In addition, the applicant must demonstrate extreme economic need or come from a disadvantaged background. For each year of scholarship, the student will fulfill a summer research/summer research mentoring program and after graduation, fulfill one full-time year of employment, both at NIH in Bethesda, Maryland.**

- **Workings or studying in New York City this summer? The Housing is a non-profit group that helps students locate safe, reasonably priced New York housing. For more information, visit their website: www.studenthousing.org/FAR.**

- **Work in Britain this summer or next fall? The British Universities North America Club (BUNC) offers a special student work permit for $225, so jobs can just go to Britain and find jobs (most students find work within a week of arrival). BUNC’s program also provides participants with a helpful manual and a job hunting center in London. BUNC can also prearrange your first 3 nights of lodging in London. Applications and further information are available in Fellowships and Scholarships Advising. Visit BUNC’s Work in Britain site at http://www.BUNC.org.**

- **The American Association of University Women will be offering scholarships ($500-$1,000) to sophomore and junior female college students who are in good standing as of September 1998 and have lived in the San Ramon Valley, or have attended high school there. Applicants will be evaluated based on the basis of scholarship, achievement, educational goals, financial need, and campus or community involvement. For more information and an application package, please send your request with a $5.64 stamped, self-addressed large envelope (9” x 12”) to: Mary Ann Osborne, 2350 Roundhill Road, Atara, CA 94507. Applications must be postmarked by April 6, 1998.**

- **The Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations (COHEAO) is pleased to present the opportunity for six individual scholarships for the 1998-99 academic year. There will be three (3) $1,000 scholarships, one (1) $500 scholarship, and three (3) $250 scholarship awards granted. Applicants must: complete and return the 1998 COHEAO Scholarship application, 2) be attending, or plan to enroll as an undergraduate or graduate student in a COHEAO member institution. 3) Include a 300-word essay on “The COHEAO scholarship will help me...”, 4) Include a cover letter that describes how COHEAO Scholarship, application 2), is or will be attending, or plan to enroll as an undergraduate or graduate student in a COHEAO member institution. 3) Include a 300-word essay on “The COHEAO scholarship will help me...”, 4) Include a cover letter that describes how you can be of service to COHEAO. For more information contact Tom Perry, x7405.**

- **The California Tech Mints**—denotes a new announcement.

For more information on the listed fellowships, assistantships with essays, in clarification of questions, contact lauren_stoler@starbaul.caltech.edu

For information, please contact lauren_stoler@starbaul.caltech.edu

- **The California Tech Fellowship and Resources Office.**

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Is NASA Defacing Mars?

By TED J. RIVETTE

New photos of the Cydonia region of Mars were released this Tuesday by NASA from its Mars Global Surveyor spacecraft. These photographs have provoked a stir in both the halls of academia and the lay press, some controversy still surrounds the peculiar feature affectionately known to some as the Cydonia sculpture.

The original photo of this region, taken by the Viking Orbiter mission in 1976, displayed a remarkable likeness to that of a face. The new, "higher resolution photo seems to portray an uncanny likeness to a non-descript landform."

Resident Inside World analysts are divided on the issue. However, both factions appear to be gloating, with the pro-Alien visionaries claiming interstellar deception and the pro-NASA methodologists claiming indisputable scientific disproof. Outside sources fall into similar camps. Though NASA's press release doesn't address the issue, and NASA's scientists were unavailable for comment, their position was made frighteningly clear in our correspondent for the Understanding of Planetary Entities (D.U.P.E.) states that his organization is "officially stunned" by the pictures released this week by NASA. "I can't believe they [NASA] would have destroyed a major work of interplanetary art like [the face]... to comman­deer the U.N.'s orbiting particle beam weapons platforms, transport them to Mars, and obliterate the Cydonia Sculpture is an act of unspeakable vandalism!"

Deep sources within Caltech's Department of External Affairs, requesting anonymity, could only say "That's pre­posterous! We can't get access to those orbiting weapons platforms! We'd have to go through Blacker for that!" When questioned about the possibility of the currently operational seismic destabilization devices on the space shuttle, our source only stuttered "Where do you get your information? That's highly classified!"

 Damn it! I want my donuts!
Fire, security, and the preferred bribe

By TED S. RIVETTE

I don't care if they're glazed or sugared, fried or baked. I want the donuts that are coming to me. It seems to happen all the time... somewhere in the South Hounces, there's a fire crisis.

Maybe it's faulty wiring this time. Last time it was a Blacker social event. Maybe next time it'll rain and set the Daubney one off, but any way it happens, the result is the same. People wake up, roll over, mumble something about Blacker, and try to go back to sleep.

Now I know that Caltech has a pretty study legal depart­ment, but it seems to me that they surely have to understand the legal quandary they'd be in if there ever was an authentic fire.

We're not talking about a single frosh getting scorched here. No, it's real flaming. Not exactly the kind of thing Caltech would want on the front page of the L.A. Times, or even the California Tech. It's a damned shame that we, as undergraduates, have become so immune to safety measures around campus. And the reason is that Caltech won't fix the alarms.

The scenario even gets worse. We're so immune to these raging klaxons that we not only block it out, but also we get severely annoyed whenever a member of security tries to usher us to safety.

Which brings me to the true point of my editorial: the infil­tration of the administration into our lives. It's no longer stick-and-carrot diplomacy. They used to bribe us to come out on the days of specially scheduled fire drills.

No long are we treated as such. It's now Big Brother's weathered hands reaching down to soothe our fears with none other than the Officer Milam­type security guards banging on our doors, rushing through our halls, and acting as if they owned the place. It's like they're actually serious: there might be a real fire. Now, as undergraduates, that's actually the least of our problems. We could actually do with some second or third degree burns. What if you've got an AMa 95 midterm due tomorrow and still have to read at least three chapters, struggling to stay awake even through your cafeine induced coma? A trip to the hospital and a nice 'I might just fit the bill.

Serious, though, it's time the administration fixed the fire alarms and our wonderful rent-a-cops started helping, rather than acting like they're significan­t.

I know I'd certainly sleep better knowing I'd be safe from fire, and I'd surely sleep better without a raging false alarm in my ear at four in the morning. Some might consider it a healthy, routine drill. I think it's a wolf that's cried one too many times.

From special correspondent Andy...

(Clipping from a Boston pa­per) Beginning next month, and effective every second Tuesday of the month thereafter, the street will run with the blood of the non-believers between 1 a.m. and 4 a.m. The Boston transportation department has announced that no con­­crete parking will be permit­ted during the affected hours. Failure to comply could result in towing, fines, and clotting in and about the wheel-wells.

Another one bites the dust?

In a surprising move, Ricketts broke his two year losing streak in a basketball game against Danby House this Thursday. Peanut McCoy, the Ricketts Ath Man, was promptly showed. He blames the game, whose final score was 58-38, on Michael Smulski.

This year's first Inside World Contest

Sitting around the proverbial Student Publications office campfire, we found ourselves pondering philosophy. So we'd like to put this one to a con­test... how many flaming corpses could fit in Millikan pond. Packing them in with a backhoe is perfectly accept­able.

Spankingly new courses!

We've received some new Caltech catalogue entries from an unusual location. Read about them on page 3!

A word about Fresh Meat

Tanya Tickel has been reported giving this valuable Prefrosh Weekend advice: "Don't perk the Prefrosh!" Thank you, Tanya.

Inside World Correction

Regrettably, the Inside World made a mistake last issue on its scoreboard. We listed Fleming as having a 0 score. In fact, Fleming did not have a 0 score. It had a -1 score. Apologies.
SUBMISSIONS
ASCIT does IW?

<DOUGHNUTS, Washington, D.C.> In a statement from the Secretary of Defence, it was announced that Pasadena, CA, plans to remove Caltech from the city.

"The time has come," says Bill Paparian, the city's mayor, "for our fine law enforcement officers to have access to good DONUTS around the clock. Given Caltech's proximity to Old Pas. and valued residences, it's the perfect location for a DONUTS shop palace."

Baltimore was appalled, "it was my understanding that Caltech is well known for its work in Biology, right?"

Jean-Paul Revel, Dean of Undergraduates Students, added, "Heh heh! Butthead! You have rocks in your head! I need T.P. for my bunghole!...are you threatening me? Stick with me, Techies! Hey Butthead, did you know 'bunghole' has the Old English root, 'hole,' prefixed by 'bung'?"

In an interview with Kim West, Director of Residence Life, she admits, "It's a shame to see this happen, just when I was ready for a DONUTS."

Why Do People Hate Me?
What is Your Personality?

1. Do you
   a) dump your emotional baggage on other people?
   b) go out with people no one else speaks to?
   c) have a different sexual orientation to deal with the ratio?

2. Have you ever
   a) publicly played loud, bad music and sung along?
   b) made out in public with your skanky significant other?
   c) invited yourself to an activity that people "forgot" to tell you about?

3. Do you still believe that
   a) your Tech education is supposed to be easy?
   b) you are (and always will be) the smartest one here?
   c) if you hang around enough, people will like you?

4. To you, the ratio means
   a) more sex.
   b) nasty sex.
   c) alternative sex.

5. When people see you they
   a) roll their eyes and walk off.
   b) suddenly stop talking and leave the room.
   c) scream and run.

6. You are known as
   a) the Crotch Tracker 2000<sup>TM</sup>
   b) the Glenn-o-Matic
   c) no one ever talks to me. I don't know.

7. Do you believe it's appropriate to
   a) have sex in public showers?
   b) grope (yourself/other's) in public?
   c) wear a towel as your only garment?

8. You make friends by
   a) complimenting the RA.
   b) stalking.
   c) gloomring every member of your ally in turn.

9. Your mother would describe you as
   a) "sensitive and easily perturbed."
   b) "accustomed to getting your own way."
   c) "completely lacking in social skills."

10. Your favorite topic of conversation is
    a) your SAT score.
    b) your computer.
    c) your lack of a social life.

Scoring
So, you've read this far, and you still don't have a clue what your problem is? If you scored anything, you're pretty much guaranteed to be a source of pain for your house. If you answered more than 5 questions, the next house complik will be rigged so you'll be guaranteed to live off campus. We promise. If you're mostly A's, or B's as C's, we know who you are, and we hate you. Everyone else hates you too. Take a large dose of anti-obsession and submit to be beaten by large sticks. Trust us, your house members will enjoy it. Then, take a living in the steam tunnels. From afar, watch the actions of the people around you, and emulate them. Try to fit into the next graduating class. If it fails, which it probably will, sell your parents about this issue and get yourself transferred. It's for the best. Believe us, we know.