Caltech student wins $20,000 invention award

By Tech staff

Caltech undergraduate Garn Gurn Gupta received a $20,000 grant, the highest possible, from the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance early this summer.

"They're very excited to work with Caltech," said Gupta. "The organization is fairly new. We were one of the first Caltech students to apply for this grant." This is not the first grant for Gupta, a senior Engineering and Applied Science major from Towson, who has won the $5,000 Grubb State Award last year.

Gupta is joined by Phylloph Tu, a Mathematics and Computer Science major at UC Berkeley and Maxen Fernando, an Electrical Engineering major at UC Berkeley.

The three students have known each other since they attended the California Academy of Math and Science for high school. As there is no title to their company as of yet, they refer to it as 'The Project.' The product they will create is a secret for now. "We're going to automate a previously unautomated industry," said Gupta. Caltech owns a part of the company. Additionally, the group is negotiating with another small company who may invest.

Gupta says he had the original idea several years before. The summer after his freshman year, he discussed the idea with Professor Slobodan Cuk. Cuk liked the idea and helped by providing resources. Cuk is currently a Technical Advisor on the project.

Last year, Gupta met Professor Kenneth Cuk, who is currently a Faculty and Technical Advisor on the project. Gupta says he has helped greatly, including aiding them in making connections. "We're hoping to enter production by the end of 2000," said Gupta.

The grant was brought to the group's attention by Larry Gilbert, Director of the Office of Technology Transfer and Financial Advisor for the project.

Professor Emeritus Dies

William T. Jones, professor emeritus of philosophy at Caltech from 1973 until his retirement in 1986, died Wednesday, September 30th, 1998, at his home in Claremont. He was 88.

A native of Natchez, Mississippi, Jones was educated at Pomona College, Oxford University, and Princeton University. After earning his doctorate at Princeton, he joined the faculty of Pomona College. After a three-year break during World War II, he returned to Pomona as an associate professor in 1945 and remained until 1972.

He first came to Caltech in 1972 as a visiting professor. He served as the Andrew W. Mellon Professor during 1972-73, and was appointed professor in 1973. Jones was a specialist in ethics and the works of Immanuel Kant. His books included Morality and Freedom in the Philosophy of Kant (1946), Masters of Political Thought: Machiavelli to Bentham (1947), A History of (1961), The Romantic Syndrome: Toward a New Method in Cultural Anthropology and History of Ideas (1961), and The Sciences and the Humanities (1965). Jones was President of the American Philosophical Association Pacific Division in 1969-70, and a member of the Pomona College board of trustees for many years. His awards and fellowships included the Rhodes Scholarship, the Nimitz Professorship of Social and Political Philosophy at the U.S. Navy War College, and the Guggenheim Fellowship.

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**CITnet...**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

because of the availability of space and their separate power connections: Sherman Fairchild is on south power and Booth is on north power.

A similar theory of redundancy is found throughout the CITnet 2000 project. Every secondary connection site has connections to both primary sites, and every end user site is connected to two better connected sites, which may be either secondary or primary sites.

Each building will be equipped with a Cisco Catalyst 5500 switch. Buildings which are primary or secondary routing sites will have router/switch modules installed into the Catalyst ports, as well buildings with more than one subnet. Smaller Cisco switches will handle traffic between the Catalyst and desktop ethernet ports.

In addition to the improvements to Caltech's internal infrastructure, Lawrence Begay, and John Van Deusen. The group has been staying at Caltech for the summer. They thank Tom Mannion and Biff Yamazaki in the housing office for providing them with lab and housing space.

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**THE OUTSIDE WORLD**

by Cheryl Forest

WASHINGTON: The United States warned Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic Thursday that NATO would strike "soon" unless Serb attacks in Kosovo against ethnic Albanians stopped. This warning comes in the wake of Saturday's massacre of at least sixteen members of the Delaj clan and of the killing of another eighteen civilians. While President Milosevic has stated that attacks against separatist guerrillas in Kosovo have ended, visiting ambassadors have reported no withdrawal of Serbian troops.

BONN, GERMANY: Gerhard Schroder, a Social Democrat, defeated Helmut Kohl Monday in the race to become Chancellor. Under Kohl's sixteen year administration, Germany was unified and the Cold War ended. However, Kohl lost this campaign by focusing on the past while his opponent, the younger Schroder, stressed economic issues and joblessness.

MIAMI: Hurricane Georges hit the Gulf Coast this past Monday. The storm claimed more than 300 lives as it crossed through the Caribbean, but only two Georgias-related fatalities occurred in the United States. The storm blew ashore with winds gusting up to 172 mph and with 110 sustained winds, but by Tuesday morning the winds had calmed to 40 mph.

ST. LOUIS: Mark McGwire finished his season by crushing his 70th home run during his final at-bat. McGwire, of the St. Louis Cardinals, and Sammy Sosa, of the Chicago Cubs, have spent this summer battling for the title of baseball's single-season home run king. Sosa finished up at 66 home runs. The previous record was 62 runs, set by Roger Maris of the New York Yankees in 1961.

NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks continued to fall Thursday as investors reacted to fears of a global economic slowdown. Stocks have been unusually quiet recently due to economic woes in Asia, Latin America, and Russia, but this latest change was in reaction to last week's near-collapse of the Long-Term Capital Management investment fund. Thursday's fall still leaves the Dow about 200 points above lows reached in August.

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Presentation/Case Interview Workshop: November 10, 1998

Associate Resume Deadline: November 14, 1998

Associate First Round Interviews: January 14, 1999

Associate Second Round Interviews: January 22, 1999

Associate Final Interviews: Date varies by office

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Events
October 2, 1998

People You Should Talk to if You Really, Really want to be in their House:

Blacker: Eric Hall
Dabney: Miles Shuman
Fleming: Joanne Jang
Page: Lisa Biswal
Ricketts: Mike Astle
Ruddock: Jeremiah Smith
Lloyd: Andy Laucius

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If there were justice in the world...

by Tim Raub

In the spirit of Pi, this summer's blockbuster mathematical saga, the editors of the Tech have discovered within the decimal expansion of pi a unique 162-digit sequence which contains within it the number "70," the number "157," and the number "100." As any Sports Fan knows, there are 162 games in the Major League Baseball Season; Mark McGwire hit a record 70 home runs this year, Sammy Sosa knocked in a National League-record 157 RBIs; and Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa have a combined IQ of about 100. Clearly, we have discovered the secret code with which the Big Unipire in the sky encrypted all the results of this memorable Summer of '98. Since, as anyone who saw Pi knows, keeping the sequence a secret only ensures that we will be driven to shave our heads and drill holes in our brain, we enthusiastically share some of our revelations for this postseason.

Houston Astros vs San Diego Padres

Sorry, California fans. There's a definite Caltech Connection in The Code, and although San Diego is just a baseball team's throw down the beach, the Astros have the Big Unit. My roommate is carrying 50 units, and he's a chick magnet. I'm carrying 51, and I have 10 hours of Chemistry left to do tonight. The difference? Only one unit—but it's a Big Unit. Randy Johnson pitches Houston past the Padres in five.

Atlanta Braves vs Chicago Cubs

The Cubbies haven't won the World Series since 1908. Caltech hasn't won an SCIAC baseball game since April 10, 1987. This year, the Cubs are goin' all the way, and Caltech will win the Conference Championship. You heard it here first.

New York Yankees vs Texas Rangers

George Steinbrenner has put together the best team that baseball has ever seen. Expansion or not, plus, it is a little-known fact that Hideki Irabu passed up a Caltech Academic Scholarship to pitch for the Kyoto Buffaloes. Yanks sweep the Rangers.

Boston Red Sox vs Cleveland Indians

The last three digits of The Sequence are the Number of the Beast. Mo Vaughn is a beast, Boston in four.

Division Championships

Houston Astros vs Chicago Cubs
Harry plus Sammy plus Wrigley = World Series, baby.

New York Yankees vs Boston Red Sox

Hideki Irabu fans Mo Vaughn to send the Sox back to a cold winter in Beantown.

World Series

New York Yankees vs Chicago Cubs
Can there be any doubt?

Caltech Sports gains new certified athletic trainer: April Reed

by Tim Raub

It's been one of those days. You slept through your alarm, missed your Phi Rho, and then fell asleep in Ec I while the T.A. explained how to solve nonlinear supply-side economic diophantine equations. You forgot to grab your Rotation Tag at lunch, and now you just spanned your ankle trying to do a somersault banana-kick during soccer practice. Disgusted, you limp into Braun and head toward the Trainer's Room.

"April Reed, A.T.C.", April Reed, Caltech's new certified athletic trainer, has spent more than six years practicing Sports Medicine and Injury Studies in a variety of environments. After an undergraduate Psychology major, she took a Master's Degree in kinesiology from Long Beach State and then spent two years working in a physical therapy clinic. After completing 1500 hours of internship training, she spent two more years at Mount San Antonio Junior College as an A.T.C. before coming to Caltech this summer. She welcomes the unique Caltech athletic scene. "Athletes here have much more refined language skills than at Mount San Antonio," she notes. "They are more adept and courteous." They had better be. As the yellow sign outside the Training Room warns, cussing is one of several offenses that carry a hefty fine. April also sells Gatorade and Tiger Milk bars for $1 apiece, and she and assistant trainer Kenny Ritchie hope to raise enough money to buy a television monitor to place in the corner of the room.

April has also adopted long-standing Caltech traditions, such as instituting a pizza-penalty for leaving the Training Room door open after entering. Already, three hapless soccer players owe April and Kenny pizza (the trainers get to pick the topping), the first scheduled delivery was yesterday after practice.

Don't be misled by the pizza rule, though—April Reed means business. "Coming from a physical therapy clinic, I really view any injury in light of its wholeness," she says. A soccer and basketball athlete herself, April focuses on rehabilitation as well as injury treatment, and this holistic approach to work is sure to put injured Caltech athletes back on the soccer field, volleyball court, swimming pool, and cross country course.

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For additional information, please contact Patricia Fitzsimons at 415-981-5101.

McKinsey is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity in the workplace.
Chilton, Clinton, Clinton, I were home (a colloquial term for my parents’ residence in New York; I largely consider Caltech to be “home”) for a week and all I heard about the entire time was what Clinton did with Monica Lewinsky. For a week and a half I heard about the entire time was what Clinton did with Monica Lewinsky. For a week and a half all I heard about the news is which positions and sex Clinton used. The President of the United States is being asked whether he used “objects” in his sexual encounters with Lewinsky? Does that seem ridiculous to anyone else? How dare Ken Starr and his supporters forcefully and without remorse pry into a man’s private life, then use that information in pursuit of political agendas? What business is it of the Senate, or the Republican party, or yours or mine to know what Clinton does in his private life? And this is not “private” life in his diet or his sleeping pattern: this is his sex life. If your neighbor found out that you were paying in on his sexual liaison and telling everyone about it, he’d probably try to beat the crap out of you! But it’s okay to do it to the President.

And now for Part Three of the Fiasco that has become our nation, the reason all of this is happening in the first place: the public. What a bunch of backward, ignorant, uninformed zombies the American public has become. I said earlier that many allegations of misconduct on Clinton’s part (all of which were more important and illegitimate than current charges) were largely ignored by the public. In fact, every time you get away with something, Clinton’s ratings actually went up. Why is that? The simple truth is that the public just wasn’t interested in any of those “scandals” – they were boring and confusing. Most of our citizens are apparently just too simple-minded or apathetic to understand all of that. But they understand sex alright! They understand that Clinton is a womanizing pervert and that he lied about it. It’s crude, sappy, and basic – a level of deceit and misconduct that they can relate to. And it sells great. The media prints it, and the public eats it up like it were manna laced with the waters from the fountain of youth! It was the People that allowed a distraught like Starr to dig up and expose the personal life of the President. Thomas Jefferson is quoted as saying, loosely: “People get pretty much the government they deserve.” This is exactly what we deserve (if we deserve a Democracy at all, but that’s a topic of another column). At the heart of this issue is this fact: the American public has become so desensitized to the corruption of a government that they helped shape that they have retreated to considering it another form of entertainment. Entertainment that the drier the better. They don’t care about important issues like crime, education, foreign affairs, the economy (oops, forget that one! Everycare talks about the economy), except when it affects them personally, of course, but they do care about getting their daily dose of political mudslinging and life-exposing. They don’t care if their politi­cians are statesmen, with vision and courage and integrity, and they cer­tainly don’t want someone who is bet­ter than themselves (so, that would be too insinuating to their fragile self-esteem). Instead, they want someone they feel they can “relate to,” someone who has human problems that can be ripped from behind the veil of privacy and thrown stark naked into the arena of public scrutiny. But they also want someone they can trust, someone who can make fine campaign speeches and promises that they know cannot be kept. Someone who is a politician.

It is no wonder people look back and admire the statesmen of our country’s youth – Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, in a few; True, they were not perfect human beings, but they were people of vision and integrity. When one studies the American Revolution, it is difficult to come away without this realization. It would have been easy for the new na­tion to slip into civil war led by fac­tions and self-serving demagogues. And at many times, any of these men could have easily appealed to the People’s understanding of a monarchical and raise himself to a king. These men, however, did not abandon their prin­ciples, their vision. Even through dis­agreement and compromise, the idea remained and was not abandoned, though it would have been far a easier and more profitable route to do so. These were leaders and statesmen, and I often wonder what the people we call our leaders would have done in their places.

With that thought, I will end our excursion into the world of politics. Next time, I’ll talk about something more pertinent to our smaller, happier world of Caltech. And if you’re inter­ested enough, send an e-mail to Judge@matt.house.gov expressing your opinion, whatever it may be.

Jason Meltzer is a Sophomore living in Berry House. Write here with questions, comments, suggestions or complaints at JasonM1@its.caltech.edu.

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Frank Camp, it can be argued, is part of a "New Year" exercise, a time for reflection and self analysis, with Upper Class students, Faculty and Staff getting together with Freshmen to consider what makes Caltech tick, and how to get the most out of the university experience. And a memorable Camp has it been. We traveled out of the gloomy overcast of a thick marine layer caught on the rocks of the San Gabriel Mountains, into the placid waters of the Santa Catalina channel and the sunny eastern slope of the island itself. One disappointment of course was the paucity of flying fish (there were a few apparently, ally made their appearance at the windy prow of the boat) and the absence of a dolphin show. I am told that the flying fish actually made their appearance at the end of the Camp Fox pier on that early morning, surprising a few early risers on lawns and pathways. The talks and presentations were generally excellent. I very much enjoyed the thoughtful Honor Code Presentations and the Challenges and Choices. The Science talk was given by President Baltimore, who managed to deftly describe the incredibly complex mechanisms by which specific genes are selected for expression, exciting excellent questions from the audience.

For me, however, there was a very sad undercurrent in spite of all the wonderful adventures. We didn't much about an event weighing on many of the non-frash minds. We did not talk much about David Rosefield, the sophomore who had been killed by a bomb he had built and was trying out while visiting a friend at Rose-Hulman Institute, en route to Caltech. There was not much to say to the Frosh about David (Alex as he was called at Tech), as they did not know him, and he was therefore only a name in the death, disappeared never to come back again, because he did one of the things that one should not do, or else you'll die. What a waste of a superb intellect, what a waste of a budding intellectual, of a future researcher, teacher, philosopher, a searcher after the truth, who now will forever be denied the chance of finding it, of feeling the joy of discovery, and of knowing the love of his family and friends. What a shock to realize that there are now ideas unthought, thoughts unfinished, enthusiasms tied to the post never to soar again. Along with the intelligence which characterizes so many of our community there comes often a lack of hybrids, of intellectual modesty, a feeling fueled by a sort of youth and an abundance of brains, that one is invincible. Please, dear readers, please, allow your brains the humility of understanding that physics and biology apply to all of us, without exception, to the fool and the genius. Let be the fate of the genius to exercise caution, to appreciate that what could be dangerous for the fool will also be for the genius. We have rules and regulations and honor codes and legal codes. They all come to naught unless one uses common sense. Yes, the turtle only moves forward when it sticks its neck out. Yes, risk taking is the only way to advance. But Darwinian selection will undoubtedly take care of the turtle that extends a neck too far, so far as to allow to be grabbed by the next soaring eagle in search of breakfast. Please think of the consequences of anything you do...or else you'll die. Fires are fun to watch, but should stay in the chimneys, explosions are exciting, but the forces released can crush bones and flesh, and no, your intelligence is not a shield. Save yourself so you may contribute to our understanding of the world. There will be magnificent vistas and understandings that will come in the future. Be sure you live long enough to participate and witness all of it. If any good is to come from Alex's death, it will be, I fervently hope, to prevent other such catastrophes.

May my "A bient" be a reality...see you soon again.

Jean-Paul Revel