The primary goal of the Caltech Security Department is to provide a stable educational, research and work environment in which security concerns are balanced with freedom of movement and an open campus. Security provides protection of life and property for the Caltech community, which consists of students, employees, faculty, and visitors to the campus. In fact, for people who do not know, there is a security guard patrolling 24-7 all over campus and even on the off-campus properties like the Catalina Honeymoon Apartments. However, the numbers of these cadets varies immensely throughout the year and depends on the time and availability of the students in general. It is indeed a very demanding job. Security: What is the most highly-anticipated time in Caltech? GH: (laughing at my apparent ignorance) Of course, bicycle theft! How can these thefts be reduced and the event of recovery be increased? GH: The first answer is U-locks, as most of you know already, but are still determined not to get. For the second goal, I request vehicle owners in general to get their vehicles registered.

**LIGO facility achieves first lock**

**BY TECH STAFF**

Officials and scientists from the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory will announce today that they have achieved “first lock,” similar to the “first light” of a new telescope.

For the first time, the LIGO detector at Hanford, Washington, will have simultaneously sent laser light back and forth along both of its one and a quarter mile long arms, thereby achieving an optical interference that will make the detection of gravitational waves possible.

A joint project of Caltech and MIT, LIGO has three national research facilities in the US - two in Hanford and one in Livingston, Louisiana. They are designed to detect gravitational waves, which are the exceedingly small distortions of space-time caused by accelerating masses, such as exploding stars or vibrating black holes. Gravitational waves are predicted by Einstein’s theory of general relativity.

Since the waves which LIGO is designed to detect are so small, the arms are set up so that the very slight distortions of space-time in their vicinity will cause perpendicularly laser beams to go out of phase. The two observatory sites must be located hundreds of miles apart so they can get a direction for cause of the gravitational waves; they also ascertain that

The Hanford facility in Washington

Steve Forbes kicks off Distinguished Speaker series

**BY ELISABETH ADAMS**

The fifth season of the Pasadena Distinguished Speaker series opened Wednesday, Oct. 14, with an address by well-known businessman Steve Forbes. A Republican presidential candidate until he withdrew from the race in February of this year, Forbes is the CEO and President of Malin Space Science Systems, in his talk Monday, October 16, through the weekly GPS Division Seminar. Describing Mars, “The primary goal of the the ‘first light’ of a new tele-

Steve Forbes kicks off Distinguished Speaker series

The Usual

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Forbes also derided economists who approach problems with economic models and the attitude that “it’s the world’s fault, not the theory’s.” Throughout his talk, Forbes repeatedly applied simple (and sometimes simplistic) common sense arguments to dispove...
A Review of Peter Grimes

BY SIEGFRED AND BRUNHILDE

This week we are bringing you an honest-to-God review. We went to the opening night performance of the L.A. Opera's production of Peter Grimes by Benjamin Britten. It is an opera about alienation and gossip. Peter Grimes' apprentice dies while they are out fishing, after he strikes her in an argument and his new boy apprentice falls off a cliff and dies. Peter Grimes becomes completely insane. He commits suicide by sinking his fishing boat, but the gossips don't seem to care. The manner in which the townspeople interact, however, often gives one the feeling that they are about ready to all riot and kill Grimes.

The really neat part about the entire fishing village is the way in which each character seems to have a bit of flavor. They are not cardboard cutouts. For example, the apothecary is a kind, gentle man who is able to help all the townpeople - and a drug dealer on the side. Britten was drawn to complex characters such as Peter Grimes. Grimes is an antithero, a man who abuses children, strikes a woman, and yet remains a sympathetic character. Some have argued that Peter Grimes, like Benjamin Britten, was a troubled homosexual. The director, John Schlesinger, says this is ambitious and can be left to individual interpretation.

Britten composed the opera near the end of WWII and that influence can be seen. The townspeople fall a banner a drum and march two by to two to Grimes's house in a manner that is very reminiscent of Nazi soldiers. The sets for this opera are stark, in keeping with the mood, but we both enjoyed the lighting very much. There are come very cool musical moments in the piece. Examples include the female quartet in the middle of Act II, and the Act III ensemble of about 60 people who shout for Peter Grimes in a way that scare the heck out of patrons. Almost all the ensemble pieces are highly enjoyable. You can spend the rest of the night singing to yourself that "Old Joe has gone fishing." The orchestra, however, is sometimes rather predictable. Listen for the evil B-flat key throughout the opera - it always indicates that something bad is happening, and starts far enough in advance to destroy all suspense. Furthermore, the opera's theme is at times so blatant that the show is painful to watch. It is not nearly as bad as last season's Billy Budd, whose Christ archetype was obvious to anyone who was not blind and deaf, but Peter Grimes still pounds its theme home rather relentlessly.

Peter Grimes is playing at 1 p.m. on Oct. 21 and Nov. 4, and at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 24, 27, and 29, and Nov. 1. There is a preconcert lecture one hour before each performance. Tickets ($20) also go on sale one hour before the show. Yes, twenty dollars seems like a lot, but half the time when we get them, we are seated in the Founder's Circle. Given that those seats cost $148, $20 is quite a bargain.

"Siegfried" and "Brunhilde" are columnists who write the semi-regular column, 'VII.
**Random Access...**

So, since this is as random a time as any, I am back with the next issue of Random Access, your guide to everything cool.

**********

What do a sewing machine and a Game Boy have in common? "A taste for good stitching" is the Singer company’s answer. The Singer Sewing Company has teamed up with Nintendo to create a new sewing machine system using Game Boy technology. The system, called Izeck, automatically sews stitch patterns that are transported into the immersive space. The user can look in any direction to see the virtual world surrounding them, and can move through the scene.

Imagine your everyday book, which is printed on normal paper, doesn’t have any sensors or transceivers, and can be bought in any book store. Now imagine opening this book to three-dimensional illustrations that can be rotated, scaled, moved, and so on. Simply turning the book around can change the view of the images. While staying in physical reality, you can interact with a virtual one, becoming a part of a new world.

This idea was supported by the researchers at the University of Washington who are showcasing technology called the MagicBook, which is said to work just like that. This “magic” system currently has two components: the head-mounted display (HMD) and the physical book. A small color camera on one page is attached to the computer’s video-in port. The video-out port is connected to the HMD, so when users look into the HMD they see a virtual world.

The computer is used for image processing of video from the head-mounted camera and for generating the virtual images. The books used in this system are normal books with text and pictures on each page. With these books, the user can see 3D virtual models overlaid on the real pages, or can experience the virtual scenes in immersive shy.

This leaves four possibilities: that craters are for some reason not protected in that region; that the region can’t be hit, so no craters can form; that there is excessive erosion on the surface which quickly removes all evidence of cratering; or that the surface has been eroded, and protection from being hit.

The first possibility seems plausible as many other landforms are well preserved in these regions. Less implausible is the second possibility as there is evidence of cratering very close to these topological levels.

Finally, Malin talked about the phenomena that seems the most intriguing to him. On Mars, he could find surfaces with “normal” cratering. For instance, he compared one picture of the martian surface with a picture of the lunar surface and the cratering was almost identical.

However, Malin could also find large surfaces without any visual evidence of cratering. By pressing on the pad in the handle of the HMD makes users fly through the virtual world in the direction in which they’re looking. The harder they press, the faster they move. If there are several users in the same virtual world, they will see each other as virtual avatars. A user viewing the virtual scene in “Augmented Reality” mode will also see miniature avatars of everyone immersed in the world.

The “finger” phone is one of the latest wearable devices to come "zap" away, earning points for state-to-state long distance calls. You get points for looking at some websites and clicking on some stuff. Pretty simple. Anyhow, it sounds good because there is no contract (if you don’t like it, you can cancel immediately) and it uses a normal phone line (it’s not routed through the internet). So check it out at http://www.bigredwire.com/.

When the users see a virtual scene they wish to explore, they can use their fingers in their ears. The caller’s voice is converted into gray-scale images, which travel through the hand, the fingers, and into the ear canal. The wearer talks back via the wristband’s microphone.

The development of the MagicBook prototype proved that good design and clever programming can "zap" away, earning points for state-to-state long distance calls. You get points for looking at some websites and clicking on some stuff. Pretty simple. Anyhow, it sounds good because there is no contract (if you don’t like it, you can cancel immediately) and it uses a normal phone line (it’s not routed through the internet). So check it out at http://www.bigredwire.com/.


NOTES

1. A glossary of some of the terms, websites and companies in this article is forthcoming as part of Random Access. In addition, an online resource cen- ter will be developed at http://randomaccess.geekguru.com.

2. I will be off to do random things (like home work) and will see you at the next random time.

**MARS:**

**continued from page 1**

plans in the words of the plans for future missions to Mars, especially those involving humans.

However, Malin does admit that as encouraging as the photos are, they are nowhere near conclusive. Many other researchers are looking at alterna- tive explanations. As the prim- ary mission plans of MGS draw to a close, Malin hopes to be able to re-focus MOC on the youngest looking guil- lies to get more images and do more analy- sis.

The second change in perspec- tive that Malin discussed had to do with the plains of the Northem Hemis- phere. It has long been thought that these plains are the dry remnants of an ancient sea that encompassed most of the Northern Hemisphere. This idea was supported by the uniform negative altitude of the plains and a visual change in morphology along what would be the shoreline. However, the images from MOC do not find any of the assumed landforms (e.g. marine terraces) that would con- clusively indicate a sea ex- isted there. In actuality, MOC images show that there are more small craters visible on the side of the “shoreline” that would be in the sea than on the side that would be land - the exact oppo- site of what was expected.

This leaves four possibilities:

- That craters are for some reason not protected in that region; that the region can’t be hit, so no craters can form; that there is excessive erosion on the surface which quickly removes all evidence of cratering; or that the surface has been eroded, and protection from being hit.

The first possibility seems plausible as many other landforms are well preserved in these regions. Less implausible is the second possibility as there is evidence of cratering very close to these topological levels.

For example, the floor of Can- der Chasma (a part of the Valles Marineris), is very smooth and has no evidence of cratering. However, whenever the walls of the Chasm contain craters. The possibility of erosion is plausi- ble. However, the lack of chan- nels or deposits on points to away from this reason for the absence of craters.

The fourth possibility seems to be the most viable, according to Malin. This idea is supported by the morphology of the Valles Marineris. The walls of this valley system have a layer of ma- terial that is absent from the floor. This could explain the lack of cratering as if the valley floor was exhumed from this layer. It would have been protected and thus no evidence of cratering.

However, Malin could also find large surfaces without any visual evidence of cratering. By pressing on the pad in the handle of the HMD makes users fly through the virtual world in the direction in which they’re looking. The harder they press, the faster they move. If there are several users in the same virtual world, they will see each other as virtual avatars. A user viewing the virtual scene in “Augmented Reality” mode will also see miniature avatars of every- one immersed in the world. Flipping the switch again transports the users back into the real world.

As is typical, the technology is very impressive in theory, but hard to realize. Right now, very simple models (for instance, the table in the picture above) are rendered in 263x234 resolution and the performance speed is typically 15-20 fps. The project is in its early stages, and it is ex- pected that this will improve with time.

http://www.hitl.washington.edu/ magicbook/

The “finger” phone is one of the latest wearable devices to come "zap" away, earning points for state-to-state long distance calls. You get points for looking at some websites and clicking on some stuff. Pretty simple. Anyhow, it sounds good because there is no contract (if you don’t like it, you can cancel immediately) and it uses a normal phone line (it’s not routed through the internet). So check it out at http://www.bigredwire.com/.

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**LIGO:**

**continued from page 1**

signs the signals come from space and not some local phenomenon.

The challenge is that the predicted motions of the mirrors due to even the strongest gravita- tional waves are incredibly small—about ten billions of the diameter of an atom,” explains Rainer Weiss, a physics professor at MIT who originally proposed the construction of the instrument. LIGO uses computer-based control systems to hold mirrors at the ends of its two arms, with subatomic pre- cision, while sending a laser beam between the mirrors. This test is the first full test of one of three detectors made.

“As important as this mile- stone is, there is still a great deal more to do,” emphasized Stan Whitcomb, director of commis- sioning for LIGO. “The detec- tor control systems must be care- fully characterized and tuned to achieve maximum sensitivity and reliable operation.”

by: Vikram Dendi
vikram@caltech.edu

http://www.scienceline.org
A Fresh Perspective
by Jan Hatcher

Four weeks later and the honeymoon is over. Catered week-end meals and orientation programs are finished. In their place, problems and programming sets are starting to accumulate like mold in an alley fridge. At first it was just one or two shooting stars, but now the once-invincible freshmen are falling back to earth like a meteor shower.

Welcome to Tech, fellow frosh, hopefully you’ll hit ground zero gently.

One of the most important things I learned over the summer was how to cope when life becomes impossible. I’m very glad I learned that lesson, it’s coming in handy now. Be between problem sets and quizzes and midterms and hum papers and sleep and dinner and hygiene and gags! The outside world, it’s easy to start losing control, like the juggler who took on too many knives in the air and is now faced with a swift and sharp end.

On that pointed note, I can’t tell you how to turn in all your homework, ace your quizzes, and look like Brad Pitt. I can’t tell you how long to study so you’ll have the energy to dodge. They’ve all felt pangs of homesickness. The can help you.

Most of the advice I’ve gotten came from upperclassmen all too eager to help us lost frosh find our way. In the event that you’re too busy to track down one of these legendary oracles of wisdom, I’ll just repeat some nuggets I’m very grateful to have picked up here and there.

"Work hard, play hard." You used to be able to do your math while you were on the phone or watching TV. Well, not anymore. If you have homework to do, do your homework. Don’t try and watch the Simpsons at the same time. Does this mean don’t do your homework with friends? Of course not. That would turn you into a troll that gets through everything in perspective. Actually, this is probably a lesson you have to learn on your own, but you don’t say I didn’t warn you.

"Don’t take everything so seriously." Aside from one or two of you out there, most people cannot spend all week thinking about numbers and formulas without cracking. You need to make time for yourself to relax. Watch thirty minutes of TV, sketch, dance, sing, anything. Brains do not completely determine success at Tech; your ability to deal with the work, retain your sanity, and stay healthy mentally, emotionally, and physically play a huge role in your success.

There are also a few one-liners that shouldn’t need much explanation.

"Take off that science shirt. Everyone has one." “Get some exercise, even if it’s just running to class.” “Call your parents. You may not miss them yet, but you will.” And “You don’t have time for every social event, pick the ones you’ll enjoy.” Hopefully, you can understand what I’m trying to convey here, or maybe your curiosity has been piqued enough to actually go ask some upperclassmen for advice. It’s worth it.

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While TIAA-CREF invests for the long term, it’s nice to see performance like this.

TIAA-CREF invests for the long term, it’s nice to see performance like this.
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Schiff: First, the FDA must ensure that these food products are indeed safe. Currently, all foods, whether naturally processed, genetically-modified, or otherwise, must meet the standards of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Second, even if the FDA determines that a modified food is safe, the public should have the right to know if they are consuming a food product that has been genetically-modified. This, in and of itself, is an interesting challenge and one would be hard pressed to find a food product in a supermarket that has not been modified in one form or another. Under current regulations, the FDA requires labeling on genetically-modified foods that contain genes transferred from a food that could cause an allergic reaction or if the genetic modification significantly changes a food's composition. Such labeling helps inform consumers and allows them to decide whether to purchase genetically-modified food products.

Tech: In the long-run, should the United States pursue a Strategic Defense Initiative using ground-based anti-missile technology? If so, on what time schedule?

Schiff: Although the Cold War is over, rogue nations still threaten the United States. A National Missile Defense system would allow the military to defend us against ballistic-missile attacks. In order to protect American interests, the military should continue research and development on missile defense technology. Prior to the deployment of this system, it must be confident that the system is indeed effective against all targets. At the same time, we must negotiate an amendment to the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty so the development of such a system does not result in destabilization.

Tech: Again, if so, how would you react to constituents in the scientific community who are skeptical of the feasibility or effectiveness of such a system, especially when these same engineers might be critical to planning and building such a system?

Schiff: Given some of the unsatisfactory tests of the missile defense system, some skepticism is natural. But the American scientific community has overcome more significant challenges in the past, and can do so again. Coordinating with the scientific community to pursue the best potential system, and building it, will be integral to its success.

Tech: Several NASA missions have failed to accomplish their objectives. What are the short-and-long term roles and goals of our national space program?

Schiff: One of my top priorities as a Congressman is to strengthen the nation's confidence in our nation's space exploration program. The 27th District is the home of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the California Institute of Technology. A reduction in space science funding would not only be detrimental to our local economy, but to our national interest as well. As a State Senator, I authored a resolution urging Congress to provide full funding for science and research, and have sought state funding for Caltech and JPL to supplement the federal effort. As part of my long term plan, I will work to increase the amount of resources we invest in space exploration. The scientific research that is conducted in our nation's space program spurs new technologies and advances in medicine that have real and realizable benefits here on earth. As a member of Congress, I will continue to work for full funding of JPL, and the National Science Foundation and would be very proud to follow in the footsteps of leaders like the late George Brown.

Tech: Do you support the federal taxation of Internet sales?

Schiff: Electronic commerce is one of the fastest growing sectors of the New Economy and will provide numerous jobs an unimaginable opportunities for the future. For these reasons, I fully support the growth of e-commerce. Information should flow freely across the Internet, just as with a moratorium on Internet taxes. As a State Senator, I was one of the few members of my party to vote against placing any tax on Internet commerce. Recent debates on the Internet Tax Freedom Act of 1998, which states that the Internet should remain a tax-free zone while the issues surrounding the Internet are explored in greater detail.

Tech: How has science affected your own life?

Schiff: I have a great interest and fascination with science and while my undergraduate focus was biological chemistry, I also have years of Physics, Biology and Chemistry. This has been the subject of lifelong learning, however, and I just completed listening to Professor Richard Feynman's [sic] lectures on CD. I passionately believe in science's ability to improve the quality of people's lives, to tap the depths of human potential, and I intend to be a champion of the sciences in Congress.
Perspective on partisan politics

“Go ahead, throw your vote away!”

I always chuckle when I think of the Simpsons episode where Ross Perot loses the presidential election to alien monsters running for office. But are there really more options than the traditional two parties? I’ve long held the political affiliation of being a Democrat with a Republican streak. I like (some) liberal domestic policies, but I much prefer conservative economics. So let’s begin with me, then, since I’m the guy with your attention at the moment. I’m a minority that doesn’t believe in affirmative action. I am pro-choice. I choose to be pro-life. Yet I believe in the death sentence. But I also, maybe sentimentally, believe that we live in an enlightened society, where individuals are smart enough to think for themselves.

Not enough credit is given to individuals and their intelligence. Consider: if you stopped reading the article before this point, you’ll never know that I’m about to insult you. That’s because you didn’t care what I had to say. You just went ahead and let me say it. Because of those who stopped caring, the people who kept talking became very, very dangerous.

When I was a student, I hated the fact that even if I slept through lunch, I would be charged for it. The mere fact of 11:30am occurring meant that $7 of my personal wealth disappeared. Complaining is step zero. Fixing it is step one. There is no step two. So I moved off campus, and ate at the random hours when I was hungry. I may have decided to pay $7, but I did it on my own terms. Personal freedom was once again restored.

This is the basis of Libertarianism. The government has grown beyond its intended scope. Constitutional rights represent the basics of what is allowed in our society, and the government should exist to maintain those rights.

Everything else is none of its business. Both Republicans and Democrats want censorship to a certain degree, even though nowhere in the Constitution is there an amendment saying that I have to wear my Sunday best. They both want to wage a war on drugs, even though the only jurisdiction the federal government has is over forgery, treason, and piracy. And they also want to take a chunk of my wages to pay for someone else’s retirement. Pat Buchanan wants life to be like a 1960’s family show, and Ralph Nader is full of nothing but soy-bean hugging crap. All these men think they know what’s best for me.

Watch this: I think Kim West is a moron and is out of touch with the people she’s meant to unify. Abortions, the purchase of guns, and homosexual marriage should all be legal and hassle-free; the war on drugs is just projectionism. I’m a bigot who doesn’t like the color of your skin, so I don’t have to hire you if I don’t want to.

Too much of society relies on someone else taking the blame. Look at all the controversial things I just said. Is it now the Tech’s responsibility to censor me? No, it is now on the reader to agree or disagree.

Libertarianism promotes the ability for people to make decisions on their own. Accountability is what I’m after. What I said earlier may incur the wrath of Residence Life. I’m prepared to accept that. My lack of parenting ability is turning my kid into a criminal hoodlum. I’m prepared to accept that, too. My medical expenses are running high because of complications with my abortion. I’m prepared to accept that.

Every insult I spit out, every needle I stick in me, every incompetent employee I hire, it’s all my fault. I won’t complain when the liberal suit arrives or when my liver stops working. If a competing business makes more money because they hired a smart white guy, and I’m stuck here with my bigoted “Filipino Guy’s Named Ron Only” policy, guess how much sympathy I’ll be looking for when I go out of business.

The closest that any of the beltway candidates come to Libertarian policy is the Republican school voucher program, also known as Prop 38 here in California. Liberal opposition cites it as saying that we don’t know what these teachers are teaching, we don’t know if they’re qualified, we don’t know blah blah blah these areas.

The Democrats are playing into your ignorance! If I had a voucher that allowed my kids to attend a private school, you bet that I would give each school due diligence before finally deciding which one Junior would attend. The Democrats are missing taking for an idiot. They think that they need a social security backbone for when I retire. To the Democratic party, I’m retiring at age 25. No more contributions from me, meaning that a flawed system is in an even deeper hole without my support.

All the non-constitutional government programs, like health care, retirement or education, would be fully privatized. But if you sit down and imagine what the country would be like under a Libertarian system, you would come to the realization that privatization would increase costs in all areas of life.

But government wouldn’t need to be this big. All the programs that told you what to do, they would no longer need funding. Taxes would be dramatically slashed. Don’t say that I just don’t want to pay taxes. I will gladly pay the city taxes to pay for cops to keep the streets safe. I will gladly pay the state taxes to pay for road maintenance. But why should I pay the federal government when part of me is paying for someone else’s pills?

I believe in your right to get medical treatment if you want, but do you think that I’d give you some money so that it can happen? Does it say idiot on my shirt?

On the flip side, privatization could promote streamlining and increased efficiency would result on lower costs. Business aren’t scared of stupid consumers. They’re scared of smart consumers who come to the realization that their product is inferior. That’s why Sun and Netscape are scared of Microsoft, but Linux isn’t. AMD could have filed a suit against Intel, but it decided instead to make better products. In that respect, innovation would occur in all realms of life.

I could go on and on about what the Libertarians believe for our country, but I trust that if this is something that intrigues you, that you’ll look it into yourself. If you’ve read this far and haven’t moved by any of my words, I still thank you for your time. The Libertarian candidate this year is Harry Browne, along with running-mate Art Olivier. I’m not trying to be the bobble head. And they’re not here to babysit you, either. I’m not telling for whom you should vote. You should be smart enough to figure that one out.

Ron Dollette
Hardware Engineer
IXIA Communications
Meeting of October 9, 2000

Present: BoD; Guests: Dave Guskin; Pep Band - Chad Kishimoto, Justin Kao

Meeting called to order at 10:06 pm.

We have the same agenda as last week, but with more things to say. We will attempt to make this our "shortest meeting ever!"

Our friend Dave Guskin, the little t editor, says that he expects the books to come back from the publisher on Thursday or Friday of this week. He'll enter those into his computer and will bring the budget to our next meeting for our financial edification.

Martha-Helene reports that the Big T has been having some publication problems. Laura volunteers to help post and get the ever-eevile Erik Dill to come to our next meeting. Martha-Helene will also ask Erik about the ASCIT page in the Big T.

New development in the Screening Room - we've picked out a TV! Sean will check prices on the web since the best buys are not always at Fry's. Eric will talk to Tom Mannion about security issues for the Screening Room.

Martha-Helene will update the club mailing list. She'll email the donut people for a list of clubs that have registered on their site, since that's a new requirement for clubs to receive funding. It will also be important for clubs to post their events on the main calendar on the donut page, since, in the future, that info will be used by ASCIT to decide how much to fund each club.

Eric recently went to an Alumni Association meeting. They put him on their committee for club funding. On a side note, he informs Chris that the alums are talking to the ASCIT about having each house's alumni event on the same day. Eric also talked to their treasurer about the ASCIT endowment and is very confident about investing money in it. The rate of return was 30% last year. We should start the endowment as soon as possible, because every minute we wait is a minute we're not earning interest. Eric also reports that the alums would like more student input this year for their honorary alumni awards. The BoD will think of some people to nominate (suggestions are welcome).

We've found a pair of pliers and a blowtorch. Eric will send the donut people CLUE data to put up on the web page. Their priority right now is to get the main ASCIT site moved over to donut.caltech.edu. Chris agrees to be their "supervisor." Though they don't seem to need one, we just like the extra bureaucracy.

Eric apologizes for missing Friday morning donuts last week. Marsha will go with Eric this Friday and donuts will be there at 8 am sharp, we promise.

Rama gives a report on the ARC. They are doing a survey about CS 1, to see if students approve of the current curriculum. Eric suggests that the ARC should interview the current CS 1 TA's about what they think about this year compared with previous years. Also, the ARC decided that the option books, though they were a good idea, require too much time and energy and instead freshmen should be encouraged to talk to their student option advisers. They are also thinking about adding professors to the advisor list.

The IRS office, currently located next to Lloyd, will not be moving this year. Someday, they will move to the new student center (formerly known as Keck).

Meeting adjourns at 11:04 pm.

November 16, 2000

Present: BoD; Guests: Nate Austin; Pep Club - Chad Kishimoto, Justin Kao

Meeting called to order at 10:05 pm.

The Pep Club guys are back with a written proposal. They need $1000, mostly for instruments and music, and are planning to perform at Caltech basketball games and other athletic events. Their repertoire includes the Caltech fight song and they currently practice once a week.

Nate Austin, the little t business manager, has talked to the publisher who now says the little t should be ready by next Wednesday instead of this week as originally thought, though the little t was submitted to him back in August. The contract said that the book should have been ready 15-20 days from the receipt of "camera ready art" and it has definitely been longer than that. Nate will call the printer and (nicely) demand late- ness compensation. Also, the little t is over budget by $400, which the BoD assures will not come out of Nate's pocket. On a side note, Nate says that the Student Shop is asking for funding, though they did not request at the Budget Meeting. Eric tells them to email Martha-Helene.

Sean shows us our current balance sheet. A few people have picked up checks, but have still not cashed them, which brings up the question of how to recognize the revenue. Sean will compare how our budget matches what we've currently spent. He also has a list of clubs who never requested funding for third term last year.

Melinda received a call from the Huntington saying that we still owe $14,000 for the formal last year. We definitely do not and Sean has the checked checks to prove it. Melinda is still working on the formal's financial situation. There are still people out there who have not paid her yet. The BoD thinks about sending Sean to give them an offer they can't refuse. Somebody mentions bringing along a pair of pliers and a blowtorch.

We decide to fund the Pep Club up to $500 for the purchase of the instrument. Martha-Helene will help them pick one out. We also recommend that they charge member dues to cover the rest of the costs. The BoD worries about how long the club will last. In the event that the club dissbands early, the instrument will go to the Jammen.

Eric has been making process on the Screening Room. He met with Tom Mannion to talk about modifications to SAC 35, which include adding a card reader on the door, installing a new carpet, adding tiers and coaches.

Contact the Career Development Center at ext 6361 for more information.
ASCIT:

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and installing a lockable equipment cabinet, all of which will be funded by Tom. The bookshelves currently in SAC 35 will be moved to the old arcade room, which is going to be turned into a student lounge/community area. The old jukebox from the Coffeehouse will be moved to the study room as well.

Marcel says that the Coffeehouse will be opening soon. Melinda suggests having an open mike/Bohemian night again, since it was very popular last year. Chris has already purchased the SNES for the back room. The shelves for the DVD library have been built and the computerized check out system is still being developed.

The BoD wonders what is going on with the Big T, since we still can’t get Erik Dill to come to our meetings, Meghan will try contacting him again. She will also ask the new Big T editor like West to help out.

Eric talked to the donut web designers about adding a message of the day feature to the web page. They are really doing a great job, so the BoD approves $1000 for their salary.

Vanilla

by Jason Mitchell

1. A LOT OF COMIC STRIPS STARTED AS DOODLES FOR STORY HUNGRY COLLEGE NEWSPAPERS.

2. MOST OF THE EARLY STRIPS OF COMICS ARE NEVER FUNNY OR WELL DRAWN.

3. SOME COMIC STRIPS AND I’VE NOTICED SOMETHING...

HI, SUMMER. WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

SOME COMIC STRIPS AND I’VE NOTICED SOMETHING...

AND 3. MOST STRIPS RESORT TO SELF REFERENTIAL HUMOR AT SOME TIME OR ANOTHER...

According to Barbara Green, there will be a leadership conference in November for college students in the LA area. The BoD compiles a possible list of student leaders. We will also keep thinking of people to recommend as honorary alumni.

Meeting adjourns at 12:06 am.
In my last article, I introduced you to the broad array of outdoor and community service activities the Caltech Y sponsors. This week, I will inform you of some specific events we have planned.

Today, we will feature the band “Snotty Scotty and the Hankies” as part of our continuing Noon Concert series. The band will be at the north end of Winnett Student Center from 12 - 1 p.m.

In addition, community service activities abound. The events listed are one-time events which will occupy about one-half of one’s day. So if you feel you have nothing to do on a particular date, please help out.

**Service activities: (1) Sunday, 10/29/2000 - Avon Breast Cancer Awareness - Help staff the finish line of the three-day walk at Zuma Beach in Malibu. (2) Saturday, 11/04/2000 - L.A. River Clean Up. (3) Saturday, 11/19/2000 - Habitat for Humanity - Travel to an El Monte site to help with the current housing project, and (4) Saturday, 11/19/2000 - Union Station project**

For more information regarding any of the above activities, and/or to sign up, please contact Kristin Abbott at kabbott@its.caltech.edu or x8665.

As a reminder, the Caltech Y Executive Committee meetings are open to all undergraduate and graduate students. They are held on the first floor of the former Keck House (now the Center for Student Services). Meetings start at 12:15 p.m. on Mondays.
In the Oct. 10 Los Angeles Times, columnist Melissa Lambert commented on the Senate passage of a bill establishing “Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park” in Richmond, California. It seems that during World War II, several large shipyards were located in Richmond and many locals worked there as part of the war effort. Hence the Park. It might seem odd, however, that Rosie, the person after whom the Park is named, did not work there. That’s because, like Smoky the bear, she is a fictitious character. But there were many local women working at the shipyard, a few of them as welders. Among these was Ludie Mitchell, an 18-year-old, who signed up as a riveter. Ludie recently gave some talks at the local high school, recounting her wartime experiences. She recalled that, surprise!, “Welding got to be really pretty,” she says, “and after a while they let me weld on the outside [of the ship].” And our students also quickly get to the point where their work can be shown “outside.”

The sad part is that self-doubt is essentially different from those of many incoming students who also express feelings of inadequacy. It doesn’t seem possible to them that they’ll ever be able to rise to the challenge and do well at Caltech. The naive riveter herself, after taking some instruction, found that she could in fact hold her own with the cream of weldingdom: “My welding got to be really pretty,” she says, “and after a while they let me weld on the outside [of the ship].” And our students also quickly get to the point where their work can be shown “outside.”

The sad part is that self-doubt is a common plague of high achievers. Perhaps they are driven to work hard because they question their abilities and so, as a result of applying themselves, do especially well. Eventually they come to expect that their performance will always be superior. On arriving here, in a new environment, it gets more important than ever for them to demonstrate that they are indeed at the top of the heap. If they don’t succeed at this, they become convinced that they are about to fail. Along with feeling inadequate, there can also be a sometimes paralyzing fear of not being seen by others as top dog. It is an embarrassment, a shame, they feel, to be seen wanting.

I will repeat here what you have already heard many times: “Admissions does not make mistakes.” We feel quite sanguine about this. Your record has been examined by several Admissions professionals and by upperclass student volunteers, and you have been vetted by a gaggle of dedicated professors. All of these people independently read your applications, evaluated the things your teachers wrote about you, and considered the results of the various tests you took. After that, a subset of the same people discussed each applicant individually before a decision was made about your coming here. So, however you feel inside, we are quite confident that you are the kind of person who can prosper here.

Comforting as this knowledge should be, I doubt that it will be sufficient to cure your butterflies. You need to take other steps. One is to do just what Ludie seems to have done. After her initial panic, she worked systematically to overcome her shortcomings. She took welding classes and kept going till her work could be displayed for all to see. You may have to swallow your pride and seek help from others, perhaps your classmates, or your TA. Talk things out with the RA in your House, consult your advisor, or see us in the Dean’s Office. You might even consider going to see the professor or getting help from a tutor. All you have to do to see a tutor is to come to our office on Friday from 3-5. We have a coffee and a soft drink, and sign up. Remember, your greater goal is to acquire the knowledge on which to base your future, your exciting career. You should feel no shame in asking for help or doing whatever else you must to profit from your Caltech experience. Sometimes all that stands between you and stellar success is a “detail” which is essential to understanding. Things will go much more smoothly once you, with the help of others, identify the source of the problem. Sometimes the difficulty will just be unrealistic expectations of yourself. You might want to talk to someone in the Counseling Center to better understand yourself, and learn how to catch and neutralize the butterflies in your stomach. The students who do not do well are generally those who, instead of systematically buckling down and concentrating on what needs to be done, despair and give up. If they cannot be the best, what is the point?

They don’t do the homework, they skip the lectures. Oh, I know, you have been up late, the lectures are too much early in the morning, you need more sleep, you may even think it’s cool to skip. The homework can wait till tomorrow when you’ll feel better. You may dull your feelings by playing games, surfing the net, reading novels, or spending hours schmoozing. There are many more ways in which to waste your time, but I am sure you get the idea without me going on. Remember that whatever your character standing right now, you are still the cream of the cream. Every last one of you has shown great promise, and just about every last one of you will graduate with a wide choice of careers open to you. We know that you’ll make us proud. Please avail yourself of one of the many butterfly nets that are within your reach. If you can’t do it on your own, don’t hesitate to come and talk. A bientôt!

Jean Paul Revel
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CIT Guitar Classes for the spring quarter will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting on October 3 as follows: Beginner Guitar Class: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM, Intermediate Guitar Class: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Advanced Guitar Class: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM. Classical and flamenco repertoires are explored, but techniques transfer to other styles of guitar. The Beginning Class includes items in the syllabus. Classes are free to Caltech students and other members of the Caltech community (space permitting). Undergraduates can receive 3 units of credit. The instructor, Darryl Denning, has an international background in performance, teaching, and composition. More details are available in the Bookstore. Mr. Denning can be reached at (323) 465-0881 or by email at ddennning@caltech.edu. The Guitar Home Page is at: www.coc.caltech.edu/~musc/guitar/guitar.html

The Caltech Ballroom Dance Club (CBDC) continues its offerings of dance classes and parties for the new term. Beginning West Coast Swing - taught by a professional dance instructor, five weeks starting Wed 4 Oct - 4:00 pm, free for undergraduates, $1.00/lesson for others. The lessons will be held from 7:30 to 9:00 pm on Mon in the Winnnet Lounge with a 1/2 hr. practice period after each lesson. Refreshments will be provided, and no partner is required. Beginning Argentine Tango - “Amateur” taught, four week series starting Wed 4 Oct - free, for undergraduates, $1.00/lesson for others. The lessons will be held from 7:30 to 9:00 pm on Wed in the Winnnet Lounge with a 1/2 hr. practice period after each lesson. Refreshments will be provided, and no partner is required. For last minute changes see its.caltech.edu/ballroom, or call Don at 626-791-3103

Events

The Caltech Ballroom Dance Club hosts a series of weekly “mini-parties”, i.e., no lesson/demonstration or theme as done for the “regular” parties. The parties are free and take place in Winnnet Lounge after each pro-taught class (West Coast Swing for the first half of the Fall’00 term and probably the Lindy for the second half) on Mon from 9:00-11:00 pm. Refreshments will be provided and no partner is required. From 9:00 to 9:30 pm music pertaining to the previous class will be played, but after 9:30 pm feel free to make requests or bring your own music. A Milonga [Argentine Dance Party] will be held 8:00-11:00 pm on Thurs in Dabney Lounge Fri 20 Oct. The party is free, refreshments will be provided, and no partner is required. For last minute changes see its.caltech.edu/ballroom, or call Don at 626-791-3103

Science, Ethics, and Public Policy Lecture Series for Fall Quarter 2000:

Dr. Andrew Scull, Professor of Sociology and Science Studies, The University of California, San Diego, Comparing the Perils of Pus Infection: A Cautionary Tale from the History of Psychiatry, Wedsday, October 18, 2000, 4:00 p.m. Room 25 Baxter Building

Dr. Myles W. Jackson, Assistant Professor of the History of Science, Willamette University, The Standardization of Aesthetic Qualities: Physics and Music in Nineteenth-Century Germany, Thursday, November 9, 2000, 4:00 p.m. Room 25 Baxter Building

The William and Myrtle Harris Distinguished Lecture in Science and Civilizaiton presents Dr. Peter Galison, Professor of the History of Science and of Physics, Harvard University, Maps and Maps: Cohort and Einstein’s Clocks, Friday, December 1, 2000, 4:00 p.m. Beckman Institute Auditorium

Seminars are on the Caltech campus and are open to the community at no charge. For information, contact Michelle Reinschmidt at (626) 395-4087 or michelle@hss.caltech.edu. For a complete list of SEPP Seminars and Harris Lectures scheduled for this academic year visit our Website: http://www.hss.caltech.edu/conferences/SEPP.html

Ballroom Dance Party, from 9:30 to 11:30 pm Mon 6 Mar’00 in Winnnet Lounge. On a trial basis the Caltech Ballroom Dance Club has started a series of weekly mini-parties after our regular lesson on Mondays. The Viennese Waltz lesson ends at 9:00pm. You are welcome to join in the practice session which lasts until 9:30pm followed by the party and open dancing until 11:30pm. Refreshments will be provided and you need not bring a partner.

Music of the late 20th century to be featured in April 12 Dabney Lounge Concert The Division of the Humanities and Social Science will offer a free concert, open to the Caltech community, on Wednesday, April 12, 8:00 PM, in Dabney Lounge, as part of the division’s music offerings for benefit of students enrolled in music courses and the community that follow the offering Matthew’s Chamber Orchestra, Thomas Neenan, Music Director and Conductor (and Lecturer in Music at Caltech) will be accompanied by William Kraft and John M. Kennedy for an informal look at music at the turn of the new century. Featured will be new works by composers and Neenan about the music to be performed which will include Kraft’s “Concerto for Percussion and Chamber Ensemble” and works by Kennedy, Tan Dun, and others.

The Financial Aid Office has applications and information of additional undergraduate scholarships. All qualified students are encouraged to apply. Our office is located at 515 S. Wilson, second floor:

* The Measurement Science Conference (MSC) has established scholarships to students in an Engineering or Science degree program. The award for the junior year consists of a $2,500 scholarship. The award for the senior year may consist of either a $2,500 or $5,000 scholarship. In addition, one or two applicants are invited to become Green Hills Fellows. Applications should be received by the Financial Aid Office. For further information, contact Norma Corrales at (705) 631-6149, or email scholarship@afcea.org, or visit their web site at www.afcea.org. Entries must be submitted to AFCEA Educational Foundation by November 1, 2001.

* The National Academy for Nuclear Training is offering $2,500 scholarships to eligible students majoring in nuclear engineering, power generation health physics, electrical or mechanical engineering, or chemical engineering with nuclear or power option. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, enrolled full-time in a four-year accredited institution, minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher, and interested in nuclear power careers. Additionally, scholarships will be renewed for current Academy scholars who maintain their eligibility. For further information on the National Academy Educational Assistance programs, please visit www.nei.org. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Please complete application materials to: National Academy for Nuclear Training, Scholarship Review Committee, P.O. Box 6302, Princeton, NJ 08541-6302. Entries must be submitted to the National Academy for Nuclear Training by February 1, 2001.