RUSSIAN PROGRAM AT CALTECH UNDER FIRE

by Jon Foster

At the beginning of February, Professor Cheron, currently the sole member of the Russian department at Caltech, received a letter saying that the Russian program at Caltech was being phased out.

This sudden announcement shocked Cheron, who has taught at Caltech since 1982 and had just recently submitted a proposal to restructure the Russian program after the retirement of Valentine Lindholm last year. Caltech always provides one year notice to faculty members who are being let go, so Cheron will be teaching Russian classes next year, but not beyond.

One of Cheron’s classes, “Russian Literature in Translation,” is one of the most popular classes offered at Caltech. It is currently capped at around 20 students, but the last time it was taught without a cap it attracted 91 students.

The language program has also proved popular. Despite the retirement of Lindholm no beginning Russian was taught this year, but the last time it was taught the student body, a petition with the student body, a petition

The following was found on Feynman’s blackboard at the time of his death: “What I can not create I can not understand.”

Richard Feynman, one of this century’s most revered and respected scientists.

Caltech seeks new beaver to replace aging mascot

Caltech's Department of Athletics has initiated a design competition for a new image of our mascot, the beaver. Students and faculty alike might question the need for a new mascot.

The beaver has been the Caltech mascot since the early 1900's, although it was probably more widely used and recognized in the school's early days. It is, of course, those traits of hard-work and diligence that the beaver embodies that make it the animal of choice for Caltech's mascot.

The ad running in today's paper pictures an image of the mascot taken from a photograph of Caltech's 1929 baseball team. But where is the mascot today, and talked to scientists, including Steven Koonin, Rochus Vogt and Kip Thorne, who have worked or are working in Feynman's major fields, namely Quantum Electrodynamics and Quantum Chromo-Dynamics. They also discussed relevant matters with the President, David Baltimore.

Rehearsals for the play have begun. It is inspired by the writings of Richard Feynman and Ralph Leighton's book, Tava or Bzzt? Alan Alda, who plays the lead, is a famous actor who has appeared in popular TV shows like MASH.

Richard Feynman, one of this century’s most revered and respected scientists.

While many students are unaware of the mascot’s presence and even indifferent towards its future, some may object to this shift from tradition. According to Tim Downes, the Director of Athletics and Physical Education, the contest idea is in fact student driven, coming from the Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

The Department of Athletics hopes that a fresh look will affect the student body in a positive way, stressing a unified atmosphere. It is questionable whether or not a new mascot image will increase spirit and unity within the student body, however it certainly will increase the size of one creative student’s wallet.

The California Tech

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of the USSR), and thus it would be a shame to put Caltech students at a disadvantage by cutting Russian from the program. The petition also notes the popularity of Cheron's classes and states that "Cheron is one of the most enthusiastic lecturers at Caltech, and is extremely familiar with the sizeable proportion of Russian and Slavic students at Caltech is further evidence that we, as scientists, cannot afford to ignore this area of the world. Beyond this, the manner in which Cheron was informed of this cut, and his subsequent failure to obtain an explanation for this cut are disturbing. "The most hurtful thing was that I was notified through the mail," said Cheron, as he spoke of his 1995-1996 class. "This is shocking to realize, it can happen to anyone under the same circumstances. Overruling can lead to pretty unpleasant consequences. Taking drugs, yes even seeming anodynes such as Aspirin or Tylenol should be used only when really needed; they can have serious effects, can even kill. Mixing booze and drugs, or taking different drugs at the same time (to enhance particular effects, or to neutralize some unwanted sensations) is incredibly dangerous. It is not always possible to predict the outcome of such experiments, and the gamble is one that just not yourself, might loose. Take good care, get help, don't play chemical roulette.

A bientot

Jean-Paul Revel

2 More

UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE GUADALAJARA
School of Medicine

- Bilingual education during the first two years
- Direct clinical experience with patients beginning in the first semester (PM)
- Humanitarian education focused on bioethics
- New York State Education Department Approval
- Visiting Professors' Program with UAG graduates and other U.S. doctors
- USMLE Step 1 review course integrated into studies
- Rolling Admissions Policy
- Financial Aid and Alternative Loans Available
- Tuition remains level through course of uninterrupted studies
- Off-Campus Programs and Fifth Pathway Option

THE INTERNATIONAL CHOICE

Access: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

- no ads in the webpages.
- Hostfiles that are updated frequently are available online at http://www.ledgerlabs.com/aftermath.
- Other websites.

In future columns of Random Access we will be looking at reviews of some very cool products including the Intrigo Lapstation (winner of best of show at CES 2001), Windows XP beta (aka Codename Whistler) and a sneak preview of the future of gaming consoles (Xbox, Gamecube etc).

Until a later random meeting, Ciao!

Dean: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

someone's behavior. In this case it may have helped change a reasonably normal young man into a brutal killer. Don't think for a moment that it is the kind of thing that only happens to someone else. It is shocking to realize, it can happen to anyone under the same circumstances. Overruling can lead to pretty unpleasant consequences. Taking drugs, yes even seeming anodynes such as Aspirin or Tylenol should be used only when really needed; they can have serious effects, can even kill. Mixing booze and drugs, or taking different drugs at the same time (to enhance particular effects, or to neutralize some unwanted sensations) is incredibly dangerous. It is not always possible to predict the outcome of such experiments, and the gamble is one that just not yourselves, might loose. Take good care, get help, don't play chemical roulette.

A bientot

Jean-Paul Revel
Review: Othello meets with approval

BY SPENCER MORTENSEN

Imagine you could escape from the rain and worry and work of the daily routine, and discover yourself suddenly transported to a far-off land of excitement and romance. There's a sword at your side, in the darkened streets of Venice, brave the fury of an ocean tempest, fall in love on the Mediterranean island of Cyprus, and wind up so deeply entranced in the malevolent plots around you that your very life is in utmost peril.

Impossible? Not so. The adventure is "Othello" and it embarks three more times before its closing night. All you have to do is bring five dollars and a friend, and come to the Ramo Auditorium tonight at 7:30 pm, Saturday at 7:30 pm, or Sunday at 2:00 pm.

How good can the Caltech theater be? Ask everyone who swore the Moor was black... Under all the layers of painstakingly applied makeup, Georgios Zannakos is Greek. There are thunder storms with lightning, badges ripped off, sword fights, blood-stained bandages. The actors sing, tease one another, dance, and boil with rage. The world of Shakespeare seems to come alive, and its easy to be caught up in the realism and fast-paced action.

There is, of course, the occasional problem: a smudge left on Desdemona's cheek from the Othello's makeup, a touch of histrionics, a badge stitched too tightly or that falls off on its own, a hair clasp tangled up in the malevolent plots...

So, why not come to the Ramo Auditorium tonight at 7:30 pm, Saturday at 7:30 pm, or Sunday at 2:00 pm.

The Yoghurt competition resumes! Look at the names of this week's Yoghurt column writers. Send explanations of the clues to the Tech editors at: tech@ugcs.caltech.edu

This is opera seria and does suffer from the things that composers like Mozart turned away from. It is a numbers opera. The basic pattern is: recitative (the speech-like part) that moves the action forward, solo da capo ariaa where a character reflects on what has happened so far, applause, repeat. It gets kind of old after a couple of hours. The plot is excellent but it becomes choppily feeling because every character must have a certain number of arias. There are a few good duets, but don't expect to see wonderful ensembles like the one in Mozart's Marriage of Figaro last month. By the way, a da capo aria is in ABA' form. The B section is similar to the A section but at a slower tempo and usually in the dominant key. The A' section returns to the tempo and tune of the first section, but is heavily ornamented. These coloratura passages are simply amazing. I guarantee you will be wowed by the vocal acrobatics, which really are the best feature of baroque opera.

The Outside World

One liners: (sorry—but this will have to be short and sweet!)
-Seattle Earthquake: At 10:54 am a 6.8 magnitude earthquake hit Seattle (epicenter 35 miles SW of Seattle). Around 200 people were injured.
-Bush's fiscal policy: released this week: the gist of the thing: a $5.7 billion increase for military spend-

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WOMEN NEEDED

A physician is assisting a couple wanting to start a family. Can you help? Website: www.physiciam.yournmd.com, or call toll free (800)862-5158. Inquire about “donor program.”

Yoghurt

by Ben and Jerry

Where else but opera can you have women dressed as men, men singing like women, scenes with a gorgeous naked woman in a bath and still have it be called serious?

That's right we went and saw the L.A. Opera's production of Giulio Cesare (Julius Caesar) for those of us who speak American (by Handel (yes, the Halle­lujah Chorus guy). The highlight of the production is the gathering of three of the world's greatest counter tenors to sing the castrati roles.

Okay, now you may be confused so here's a break for defini­tions. Castrati were UNIX, doh, 1 mean eunuchs. Though it was never actually legal to castrate a human male "boys with beautiful voices became—at least officially—so accident­ prone in these years that few Italian churches or theaters lacked neutered adult male sopranos or alto—ouch. Obvi­ously, there are no castrati at present, so music of the Baroque period that was written for castrati voices has fallen by the wayside. Sometimes produc­tions are made casting female mezzo-sopranos for the castrati roles, but their voices lack the spark of a castrati and could you possibly in­terest anyone? Perhaps not. What is that compared to the sound? The sound is very different from a woman's voice. In Giulio Cesare, you will hear three wonderful examples of counter tenor voices (and per­sonally, I think counter tenors are very sexy). Any woman who saw Chanticleer perform here two years ago will agree.

The performance was excel­lent. The sets were simple, but interesting. Almost everyone is in whiteface with skullcaps, which gives the people a somewhat demonic presence. The singing was wonderful. Cleopatra was especially fun. Gorgeous (in an absolute, not just relative sense), her voice was as good as her appearance. The best part of the opera comes when she removes her towel and sings naked from a bath set into the floor. You can have the thrill of knowing that your $20 student ticket goes towards the rose petals that decorate her bathwater.

A word of warning, however.
You’ve heard their catchy de- 
but single all over the radio. 
You saw the cute, pink video on 
it. Well, I toyed with the idea of buying 
selling them to any willing 
record company. That is how 
finally before you act. 

They have a pop group on Bad Boy 
Records is so oh my gosh. 
People are gonna check just be- 
cause,” one group member said 
Admittedly, the lead singer, 
Holly, has a strong singing voice. 
The other girls take the 
role of background dancers who 
carried out in extra harmon- 
ies. The album is a typical 
overworked pop album. In an 
tempt to set Dream apart from 
other groups, this album 
crosses over into light R&B, though 
true R&B fans might balk at this 
gesture. A few spoken 
interludes and 
breakdowns intermix with the music. 
The digitized 
songs have a harsh sound and 
lyres that span the usual topics of 
love, loss and lover-

For all their effort, very 

easy groups apart from 
every other group looking for 
and glory. These girls 
girls are band mates and 
and they are signed to a rap 
label. In every other way Dream 
follows the typical pop formula. 
Puffy writes several songs for 
this album, as do the songwriter-

of Christina Aguilera and N 
Syreeta Wright covers 
Dream’s hit song “Mr. Telephone Man”. 
I would not recommend 
buying this album. For fans of “He 
Loves Me, He Loves You Now”, 
I suggest waiting for a hits 
compilation which contains it. 

Long exposure to this album 
may cause nausea or even sud-
dden death.

You should buy this album if: 
1. You are a teenybopper 
searching for the next fab group. 
2. You are a male who was 
more attracted to Britney 
before she got too popular. 
3. You feel the urge to support 
Puffy’s gun-purchasing habit.

Next time: Dave Matthews’ Band: Everyday
Hi all!

This week's Random Access will focus on some excellent software utilities. There are very few annoyances on the web that compare to pop-up windows. Banner ads that have rotating animations come a close second. Here are a few utilities that will make your life much easier... and most of them are free!

Webwasher:
Webwasher is a browser add-on that simplifies and accelerates the navigation on the Web. It runs as a local proxy server. The software filters many kinds of advertising extremely well. Webwasher runs on PCs or on servers. Filtering is fully customizable. Webwasher goes beyond the traditional Internet filters that are designed to stop any surfing for unsuitable material. Instead, the software is billed as actually filtering out "unwanted material," including advertisements and banner images. Free for personal, home usage and for educational institutions. A lot of privacy issues (webbugs, which are transparent images embedded into webpages that track your behavior online) can be easily removed using this software. The software is intended to track and filter out the advertising you wish to see.

Webwasher comes with an optional add-on that is not free, but is quite useful for the paranoid. Secretmaker is an add-on to webwasher that protects your identity online. It is similar to Freedom a much hyped service that was launched last year. This column will cover privacy issues and related software and services at a later date. Webwasher is available at www.webwasher.com.

The Internet Junkbusters have been in news a lot lately, as an organization committed to protecting people's privacy and right to choose whether they want advertising or not. The Junkbuster proxy software that they make available at www.junkbusters.com. The software and its source code is released on GPL and is completely free. It is not as user-friendly as webwasher, but with a little configuration you can achieve a lot of functionality. Junkbuster proxy works on many different operating systems.

The junkbusters website also has a plethora of useful information on how to stop telemarketers, bulkmail issues and so forth. It's a good book-mark to maintain.

Guidescope:
That brings us to Guidescope, which is a software compatible with junkbuster, which is a little easier to use. It uses a central database of ads and tools itself to be more accurate and up-to-date than a local proxy like junkbuster on the downside, its not available for as many platforms yet.

Atguard and NIS (Norton Internet Security): Atguard is a perennial favorite of the power user for its simplicity and excellent functionality as a firewall AND an ad remover. Although it is now no longer available from wrg which originally made it people still find some of its last versions online and use them. The software adds itself at the system level and monitors all packets of network data, and has an interactive learning system that allows the user to configure rules for different network protocols and ports. This also helps in removing web advertising, making webpages load faster than ever. For those who want a product that is well supported, Norton Internet Security is nothing but a more customized version of atguard. Although I personally feel that there is too much bloat in that software, it does offer much functionality that atguard offers. A trial edition is available at www.symantec.com. For those who have atguard, an excellent support forum is available at http://www.homepages.at/atguard/ for Proxmimenton:
We've heard of shareware, freeware and even postcardware... ever heard of Shonenware? Here is what the proxmimenton webpage says about its being Shonenware: ShonenWare is a concept dedicated to the support of the one-and-only world famous female power-trio from Osaka Japan: Shonen Knife - kawaii creators of the very best music in the world. Anyway, inspire of that strange characteristic of this free software, proxmimenton is extremely powerful and useful in controlling the advertising you wish to see and the information you browse. It turns the browser into a firewall and it works only on windows by the way. You can get it at http://members.tripod.com/ Proxmimenton />

FAQ:

**What:** Design-a- Beaver Contest

**Why:**
The contest has been the main event since the 1970's. The Design-a- Beaver Contest is an opportunity for today's Caltech students to select an image that reflects the innovative spirit and unity within the campus.

**Rules:**
- Entries may be submitted by individuals, Student External Affairs, or the Student-Athlete Privacy Committee.
- Each contestant must be an active member of the Student-Athlete Privacy Committee.
- Entries must be submitted by the end of the contest.
- Judges will review entries for image, concept, design, and overall personality; the winner will receive a $250.00 cash prize.
- The winner will be credited with the copyright of the design. If upon review by the judges, there are no outstanding entries, there will be no winner.

**Keep in mind:**
- The Beaver portrays:
- Work hard/play hard attitude
- Technology
- Ingenuity
- Intelligence
- The symbol of the university
- Please use attached design as a reference.

Any questions, please contact the Department of Athletics at 626-395-6148.
March 2, 2001

Comics

DILBERT® by Scott Adams

IF NO ONE KNOWS WHERE IT IS, HOW DO WE GET THERE?

THIS PART CAN GET LOUD.

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU MADE A HUGE, INCREDIBLY STUPID MISTAKE?

I WOULD TRY TO LEARN FROM IT.

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

THERE ARE TWO ESSENTIAL RULES OF MANAGEMENT.

ONE: THE CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS RIGHT.

TWO: THEY MUST BE PUNISHED FOR THEIR ARROGANCE.

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

YOU MUST THE EARS TO UNLOCK THE SKULL.

FIND THE MORAL COMPASS AND DEACTIVATE IT.

THE RESULT IS SOMETHING CALLED LEADERSHIP.

NOT WORKING WEEKENDS!

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

TIP WILL DEMONSTRATE THE MANAGEMENT CLOAK OF INVISIBILITY.

I ADMIT IT DOESN'T SEEM VERY SPECIAL WHEN YOU KNOW HOW IT'S DONE.

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

HOW DO YOU LIKE BEING A MANAGER, ALICE?

DO ME A BIG FAVOR, SNEAK INTO MY HOUSE TONIGHT AND ADVERTISE ME WITH A PILLOW.

I THINK SHE WAS KIDDING. I'LL SEE IF SHE PUTS UP A STRUGGLE.

By Bill Amend

FoxTrot

NO ONE KNOWS THE SECRET LOCATION OF THE MANAGEMENT TRAINING FACILITY.

IF NO ONE KNOWS WHERE IT IS, HOW DO WE GET THERE?

THIS PART CAN GET LOUD.

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I THINK SHE WAS KIDDING. I'LL SEE IF SHE PUTS UP A STRUGGLE.

And, relatively speaking, this is one of the most affordable credit cards in the nation!

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THE FORMULA FOR LOW-COST CREDIT!

We figure, if you’re smart enough to be a full-time student at the best school in the country, you’re smart enough to carry our low-cost Visa card. It’s a brilliant solution for an infinite number of purposes. And, it’s yours for the taking.

No annual fee

A low introductory rate of just 12.95% APR

A 25-day grace period

No cash advance fee.

Multiply these advantages by a square factor, and you’ve got a credit card you can count on for light years.

Call (626) 395-6300 for an application and put our theory to the test.

Visit us online at www.cefcu.org or in person.

Consider these factors:

No annual fee

A low rate

Not yet a member?

Visit our on-campus branch, join and apply for your low-cost Visa at the same time. CEFCU is an equal opportunity lender.
Today we celebrate one of Caltech’s greats. Come and attend Linus Pauling’s 100th birthday celebration at the Beckman Auditorium. Come and join in. Even as I encourage you to attend this exciting festival of ideas and remembrances I have twinges of discomfort. What gives me pause is the terrible accident involving college students, which took place last weekend in Isla Vista, next to UC Santa Barbara. Not much is known of the root causes of this catastrophe, so what I write is speculative and may not turn out to be accurate. The take home news must have brought to the horizon that he was responsible for the death of nine cars and five people? How could he come to be driving at high speed on a narrow, heavily congested street, slamming into parked vehicles, and was mowing down pedestrians?

Not the David they knew, it could not be! It is unimaginable that the impacts were so violent that people were ripped out of their shoes, out of their socks as reported on TV news. It is unimaginable that all those young people who were run down had been on the way to party, laughing and kidding one second and the next, well, gone, bags of crushed bones thrown through the air, landing limp and bloody on the pavement, leaking out their lives. At least one can hope that it all happened so fast that the victims had no time to realize what was happening to them.

It is incredible to watch the video made by a bystander right after the impact. The driver, far from being shocked at what he has just done, is struggling with people standing around. Witnesses are trying to hold him, to make him stop from punching and pushing, and he is there, running, wildly landing blows on people standing around. What was happening to them?

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The Caltech Alumni Association has funding available for student organizations. We give preference to organizations that encourage interaction between students and alumni. To be considered for funding, an application must be completed and returned to the Association/ASAP. The form can be found on the web at http://www.caltech.edu/mtg/fair_funding.html. If you wish to receive an application in hardcopy form, please contact Michelle Reischmidt at 626/395-3817 or via email at mreisch@caltech.edu.

Make plans to join the Y for an alternative spring break trip to Tepoztlan, Mexico from March 15-22. Please join us as we travel as a group and volunteer at the local community center to do various service projects that will include tutoring, teaching, house cleaning, and general labor. For more information, check in at the community center facilities. Registration deadline is March 5.

The Caltech Alumni Association will host a spring break trip to Tepoztlan, Mexico for students who are interested in participating in community service. The trip will run from March 15-22 and will include volunteer work at the local community center, as well as opportunities for cultural exploration. For more information, please contact Michelle Reischmidt at 626/395-3817 or via email at mreisch@caltech.edu.

The Biomedical Engineering Seminar Series will be held during the Winter Term on Fridays afternoons at 4:00 p.m. in the Baxter Lecture Hall.

The California Tech

Pasadena, CA 91126

March 2, 2001