



ASCIT Newsgroup Nears Completion

By KEVIN BARTZ and IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

Implementation plans for an ASCIT-operated newsgroup, long dormant due to lack of interest, are finally resurfacing, with sources pegging the release date before the year's end.

ASCIT President Ted Jou '03 originally requested that the project be completed prior to the Student-Faculty Conference the Monday before last, with an eye towards opening the floor for pre-conference question-posing and discussion.

But after that goal proved unreachable, plans shifted to keeping communication lines open after the conference, so faculty and students could continue to interact. To this end, regularity is key to Jou's plans.

The newsgroup would operate off *donut.caltech.edu*, ASCIT's Web site. The Donut Development Team, headed by Jonathan Dama '03, Dylan Simon '03 and Rob Christy '03, first tossed around plans to manage it via genuine NNTP protocol--the back-end powering most of the Internet's so-

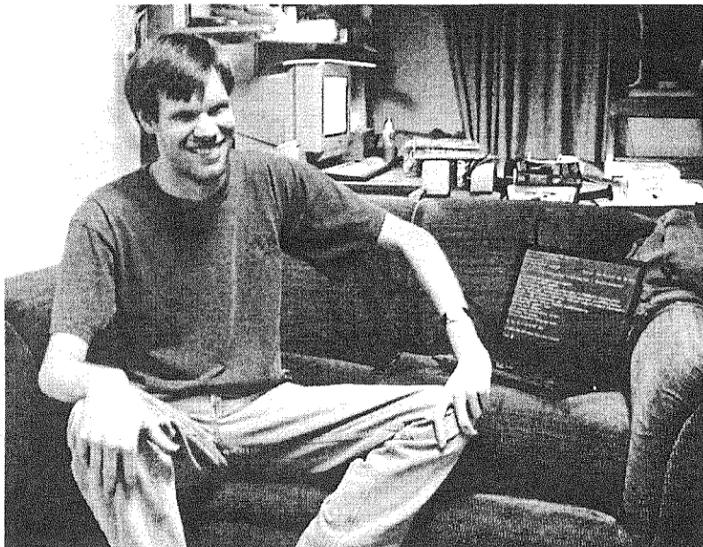
called "newsgroups"--but ultimately decided on a more traditional Web-based discussion board.

The team is now in the meticulous process of scripting the newsgroup's code base, a task made all the more difficult by the team's abject refusal to use and adapt freely available packaged scripts. Though tedious, ground-up coding has long been the Donut developers' trademark.

For Jou, however, it's simply a matter of students' voices being heard.

"I see a newsgroup or discussion group application as a way for students to discuss important issues throughout the school year rather than waiting for a conference to roll around," he said.

"This should be a way for the members of various important committees to disseminate information to the undergraduate population. It seems as if students have a lot to say and a strong desire to be informed, and I see this as an opportunity to fill both those needs."



K. Bartz/The California Tech

Donut Development Team co-chief Jonathan Dama '03 labors away at the source code behind the planned ASCIT newsgroup.

Anime Club Prepares for Expo

By GEOFFREY HAM and KENNETH KUO

Japanese animation, or anime, seems to increase in popularity in the U.S. every year. Shows like "Gundam," "Pokemon," "Cowboy Bebop," and "Cardcaptors" can be seen on TV and at Toys 'R' Us. The advent of DVDs has no doubt helped anime more than traditional genres: per episode, anime on DVD can be 25% to 40% cheaper than anime on VHS, and a single DVD can satisfy fans of subtitled anime, fans of dubbed anime, and fans who insist on high-quality audio and video. Anime conventions, long a gathering place for niche "otaku," are also becoming more mainstream.

This year, so inclined students and anime-lovers alike are already making plans for the three-day Anime Expo 2002 at the Long Beach Convention Center (LBCC) in early July.

The rising awareness of and desire for anime in America can be seen each year at Anime Expo, the largest anime convention in North America. Last year, over 13,000 anime fans descended on the Long Beach Convention Center to cel-

brate the ten-year anniversary of Anime Expo (AX). AX had 24% overall annual growth up to this year, and the increase in attendance for AX2001 versus AX2000 was a whopping 42%.

Members of the Caltech Anime Society (CAS) were naturally at AX to take part in the four-day festivities. Featuring "Guests of Honor" from Japan, panels moderated by anime fans, panels for each American anime company, an exhibit hall packed with various anime merchandisers, an art show, an anime game show, an anime costume/skit contest, an anime music video contest, anime karaoke and more, Anime Expo--and most U.S. anime conventions--invariably offers more than just the opportunity to watch scores of hours of anime on a big screen.

However, the video rooms themselves were impressive. AX 2001 featured four video rooms and one film room showing altogether a vast array of anime: comedy; sci-fi; horror; romance; fantasy; "hentai"; children's; drama; TV episodes; straight-to-video shows; full-feature films; dubs; subs; Japanese-only; and combinations of all of the above. Each room, akin to a small



Courtesy of B. Khan

OASIS members join children for a traditional storytelling demonstration at last Thursday's Utsav Indian cultural show, which ran the gamut from mock weddings to traditional Subcontinental dances.

OASIS Presents a Medley of Music, Color In Cultural Show

By MICHELLE GIRON

Iram Parveen Bilal '04 made her directorial debut last Thursday night at the annual Utsav--meaning "Festival"--organized by the Organization of Associated Students from the Indian Subcontinent (OASIS). Bilal wrote and directed the piece "Scenes from a 'Subcontinental Wedding,'" which featured South Asian music and dancing. The performance was meant to illustrate South Asian wedding customs as well as describe the emotions involved in them that are a part of the culture.

Bilal, as one of the cultural coordinators for OASIS, had the task alongwith Harish Manorahan of JPL, of directing this year's Utsav. Since she had always been very interested in performing arts and classical South Asian dance, Bilal took this opportunity to direct her very first play. She fused together a performance of sights and sounds borrowed from movies that had inspired her to create a "window for the audience" with which to view Indian culture. The dances were choreographed by her and the per-

formers, and rather than being purely classical, the dances had elements of the artists' preference.

"Scenes from a 'Subcontinental Wedding'" begins with two friends meeting before the wedding of a friend. They begin to discuss wedding traditions, and they move from the Mehndi ceremony, which is a celebration for the bride and groom before the marriage, and the Rukhsathi, which marks the end of a bride's period with her own family. Bilal chose to cover the wedding ceremony, which would happen between these two ceremonies, by showing a video of various wedding traditions in each of the cultures of the Indian subcontinent. She did this so that the audience could become acquainted with weddings in different cultures as opposed to just one specific culture.

Also featured at Utsav was the

play "The Signet Ring," which is based on the classic Sanskrit play *Mudrarakshas*, by the ancient playwright Vishakhadutta. The director, Harish Manohara, adapted the play from two English translations of the Sanskrit original. The setting of the play is the Indian empire during the fourth century B.C. at a time when the Indian empire was changing dynasties.

Manohara directed members of the Caltech community in this intriguing play that weaves through the conceits of the prime minister Chanakya, played by Vijay Gupta. The significance of the signet ring mentioned in the title of the play was that Chanakya used this ring, which one of his spies had taken from the important minister Rakshasa, to seal letters and thus use this man's identity to carry out schemes.

Singer Aims for 'Poetry, Melody, Composition'

By KEVIN BARTZ

With an almost grandfatherly gaze, he rattles off jokes one after another. Humor, stories, his secret late-night trips to the beach with his girlfriend in her dad's Corvette--"those were the days," he muses, smiling sharply.

There's something methodical about his speech, a marked and almost machine-like friendliness. Ask him to explain some lyrics and you'd open a fountain of his deepest ponderings. Mention love to him

and you'd trigger an avalanche of tales from his long-haired, motorcycle-driving past. Or ask him to come out and play for a crowd of but 17 on a blizzard-torn Chicago night--and he'd still drive out there and do it.

And still, he'd laugh about why Northerners put up with the snow.

An L.A. native himself, Singer, guitarist and folk artist James Lee Stanley drew a modest crowd last

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K. Bartz/The California Tech

Famed folk artist James Lee Stanley strums his guitar at his concert last Saturday before a modest crowd of students and local residents.

Continued on Page 2, Column 1



Courtesy of S. Yost

Attendees dressed as "Derringer" Meryl Stryfe, left, and "Stungun" Millie Thompson emulate characters from the popular animated show "Trigun."

Karaoke, Costumes, Video On Slate for Anime Expo

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an autograph or even a sketch from some Guests of Honor!

Fan panels at AX range from benign ("10 Years of Anime & Manga in America") to esoteric ("Bishounen Lovers Anonymous," "Shitajiki Boards," "Music Video Creators"). Industry panels give the attendee the chance to get the inside scoop on upcoming anime releases in the U.S. Fans may also implore their favorite anime company, in person, to release "Title A" sooner or put "Extra B" on DVD.

One of the most popular events at AX is the masquerade/skit contest. Throughout AX, dozens if not hundreds of attendees dress as their favorite anime characters and thus pro-

vide numerous photo-ops. Some costumes are the result of buying the proper attire and accessories, but a great proportion of costumes feature painstakingly handcrafted accouterments. To complete the role, these "cosplayers" frequently choose to perform a skit in the masquerade. For those afraid of the spotlight but not the flashbulb, there's also the fashion show.

It's worth noting that AX is an immense drain on one's equilibrium. In addition to often forgoing the recommended hours of sleep, attendees may find themselves rushing across the convention center to see a twenty-five minute anime show, then hurrying to the exhibit hall to spend an hour spending a month's paycheck, then sprinting to a Guest of Honor panel which lasts for an hour, and then rushing to stand in line for twenty minutes for the start of the masquerade. It's quite impossible to see all the panels, watch all the anime, participate in all the events, and hang out with friends you may only see at the 'con.' This reporter missed, among other events, the anime game show ("The Weakest Otaku"), the many video game tournaments, and the karaoke contest. Nevertheless, anime karaoke may be the best-kept "secret" of AX. Apparently the best entrants are quite good, and some attendees mix in both choreography and humor for a rousing experience.

One event that this reporter couldn't afford to miss was the anime music video contest. Perhaps one of those must-be-seen-to-be-understood experiences, the music video contest features fan-edited anime clips with (usually) American songs as the soundtrack. With categories for action/adventure, drama, and comedy, the music video contest features an annual recipe of "memorable anime scenes + apropos tunes + exquisite timing + creative editing + theater-quality audio/video setup + exuberant audience = casserole of fun." Three of the most popular videos were "Memories Dance" by Vlad Pohnert (a melange of Hayao Miyazaki's films set to "Mummer's Dance" by Loreena McKennitt), "Tainted Donuts" by Eric Kobet (meshing of "Cowboy Bebop" and "Trigun" set to "Siroi Yami No Naka" by Shakkazombie), and "One Day More" by Otaku Outpost ("Macross/Robotech" set to "One Day More" from Les Miserables).

Anime Expo is run by a large group of unpaid volunteers and by the nonprofit Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation. In that vein, AX always concludes with a charity auction for the City of Hope National Medical Center. Although the elite items are perhaps beyond the bankrolls of most of us—CAS member Sander Granat paid \$850 for a Fushigi Yuugi banner, and a Belldandy sketch by Mr. Matsubara sold for \$10,000—the thrills and uncertainty of the auction are an exciting way to end the convention.

Overall, most gave favorable reviews to last year's Anime Expo. Despite some logistical walking nightmares, some rain, and mediocre security—several cars were burglarized in the LBCC parking structure—anime fan-dom was evident throughout the convention and will likely continue through this year's show.

Many say it is this sense of community, this commonality, that drives the continued success of American anime conventions. If last year was any indication, Anime Expo 2002 should draw record-breaking crowds.

WELL-TUNED VOICE, GENTLE HEART MARK STANLEY FOLK SHOW

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

Saturday in the Caltech Folk Music Society's third concert since spring break.

Stanley opened with a slate of old favorites, laced with acerbic commentary on everything from Communism to the September 11 bombings. "If I were God we would grow into some perfectly balanced form for 80 years," he deadpanned, a glow in his eyes.

Stanley's biggest devotees call him the type who remembers everyone's name, whether it's co-singers Michael Smith and Peter Tork, of "Monkees" fame, or the old college friend who asks him to play "My Daddy's Eyes."

The attitude reflects his dual mission as an artist: "to enrich and to entertain." And despite his self-crafted reputation as a "freelance human being," he takes a fundamentals-oriented, carefully planned artistic approach. "In every song I write I make sure that the words work as a poem without music; that the melody works without words; and that the song stands alone as a guitar composition," he explained.

But as he practically vibrates to life, guitar in hand, you'd never suspect such formality. From the outside, it's just the music, the man and one powerful melody.



Courtesy of R. Mayreis

With ties to Peter Tork, James Lee Stanley is a nationally renowned folk artist.

THE OUTSIDE WORLD

By William Fong

Pipe Bomb Suspect In Custody

Beginning last weekend, Luke Helder planted pipe bombs in the mailboxes of unsuspecting people in Iowa and Illinois. Continuing through the start of the week, Helder set up a total of eighteen pipe bombs in five states including Nebraska, Colorado, and Texas. After being captured by authorities on Tuesday in Nevada, Helder admitted that he wanted to make a smiley face pattern in the Midwest. Helder is a 21 year-old student at the University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie, Wisconsin and faces the possibility of life in prison. In all, six bombs exploded which injured four mail carriers and two others.

Standoff At Church of Nativity Ends

After 38 days, the standoff in Bethlehem ended on Friday with thirteen Palestinians being exiled and 26 others being expelled from the West Bank. Mediated by a European-brokered deal, those exiled were flown to Cyprus on Friday where they await further extradition. The Church of Nativity was left in shambles as a stench and blood permeated the Church. Left behind by the Palestinians were mattresses, food scraps, trash, and at least forty explosive devices. After the evacuation of the Palestinians, the Israeli military withdrew from Bethlehem, the last city held by Israel in its latest offensive which began on March 29.

Suicide Bombing Kills Fifteen

On Tuesday, a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up in the city of Rishon Letzion killing fifteen Israelis. In apparent retaliation, Israeli tanks have amassed at the Gaza border on Friday awaiting another incursion into a Palestinian city. This comes on the heels of the withdrawal from Bethlehem earlier Friday marking the first time in over a month that the Israeli military has not been in occupation of a Palestinian territory. At least 1346 Palestinians and 473 Israelis have died in the violence since September 2000.

International Students To Be Tracked

Attorney General John Ashcroft announced on Friday that a system will be in place by January of the upcoming year to monitor the estimated 1 million foreign students studying in the United States. The program would require schools to report to the Immigration and Naturalization Service within 24 hours if a student drops or does not show up. Also, students will not be able to study in the U.S. until they have a student visa. This system is the result of the September 11 attacks where three of the nineteen hijackers possessed student visas.

Foot-and-mouth Disease In South Korea

After two more pigs were tested positive for foot and mouth disease, an illness which can be fatal for animals but harmless to humans, livestock farms in the vicinity of the outbreak have begun culling their pigs. In all, over 12,000 pigs have been slaughtered in an attempt to ease concerns for the upcoming tourist and soccer attraction, the World Cup. Pork exports, mainly to Japan, have been halted until the disease has been eliminated. So far, this disease has not affected other livestock such as cows.

Where in the World are You?



Question of the Week

Would *Spider-Man* have been a better choice for the long-anticipated ASCIT Movie?

AFTER LONG DELAY, MANNION-FUNDED ASCIT MOVIE BACK

STAR WARS SHOWING SET FOR FRIDAY

Culmination of Lengthy *Star Wars*, *Spider-Man* Debate in BoD

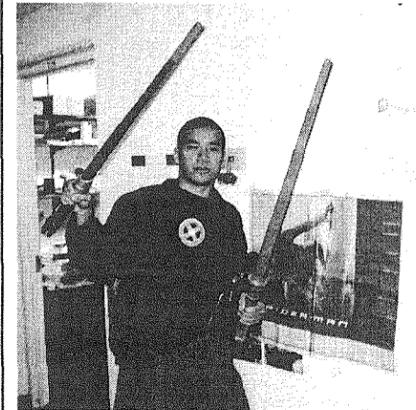
By KEVIN BARTZ and TED JOU

After what ASCIT President Ted Jou '03 termed a "long absence," the first ASCIT-sponsored movie showing in over a year is slated for this Friday night.

In a purchase said to be funded by Director of Campus and Auxiliary Business Services Tom Mannion, ASCIT bought all the tickets to the 10:45 p.m. showing of *Star Wars: Episode II* at Pacific Hastings next Friday. The tickets are free for ASCIT members and \$3 apiece for non-members. Movies Chair Tim Wan '03 orchestrated the buyout.

The decision to sponsor *Star Wars* proved a tortuous road. But after Wan, who had long lobbied for the popular *Spider-Man*, failed to find a full-volume seller for the Marvel Comics adaptation, the Board of Directors approved *Star Wars* by a five-to-two vote.

The showing will be followed by the grand re-opening of the DVD Library on Saturday.



K. Bartz/The California Tech

He may prefer *Spider-Man* at heart, but ASCIT Movies Chair Tim Wan '03 is still well-equipped for next Friday's long-awaited *Star Wars* showing.

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To wrap up Latina Semana the Saturday before last, people from all over campus and the community came out to celebrate their friendships and have a little fun with a live band and the Salsa Party.

Helping Out: That's What Friends Are For

Assisting Those Companions in Need

By ANNA MORITA

Most of us have had the experience of seeing that a friend may be in trouble, but not being sure how to help. Often, the most helpful thing we can do is give our friends our undivided attention and encourage them to talk about whatever is bothering them. At other times, helping a friend may mean getting them connected with resources or professionals who can help. This article is meant to help you identify signs that your friends may be in trouble and provide you with ways to help them.

Trust Your Instincts

Friends don't always come right out and tell us when they need our help. Often, we have to rely on our instincts (and what we know about our friends) to help us identify when they are in distress. A general gage for distress is a noticeable change in our friends' behavior, personality, or mood. It's common to exhibit multiple symptoms because our emotions can affect us physically, cognitively, and behaviorally.

Listen and Attend

When talking to your friend about a problem, one of the most effective ways of helping is to try to understand his/her situation. Let your friend know that you care and that you want to help. It is important to find a private place free of interruptions to talk with your friend, and give your undivided attention. If your friend feels it is "safe" to talk, they will be more apt to open up to you.

Start by asking questions that will help you and your friend get a clear picture of what is going on. Try to put your feelings aside for now and focus on what your friend is telling you before you jump in with advice. Although you may want to normalize what your friend is feeling ("It seems like lots of people feel the way that you do..."), people often shut down if they feel that their problems are being minimized or the focus is on you telling your story instead of listening to theirs ("I remember when a similar thing hap-

pened to me").

Setting and Recognizing Limits

It is important to recognize when a problem is more than you can handle. If you are feeling overwhelmed, depleted, or even resentful, the support your friend needs may be beyond what you can provide. Also, if you have tried to help, but the problem has not improved or has gotten worse, it is probably time to consider other options.

Getting Help

You can help a friend by getting them connected with resources. For example, you might offer to escort your friend to the Counseling Center or tell him/her more about the tutoring available at the Dean's office. Sometimes when a person is in distress, the easiest tasks (e.g., finding phone numbers or making appointments) can be overwhelming. There are a lot of people on campus who assist students.

Sometimes, helping a friend can be a challenge. Trust your instincts about signs or signals that your friend may be in trouble. Also, pay attention to your own limits and your sense that a problem is too much for you to tackle. If you are trying to help a friend and you need additional support or have questions, feel free to contact us at the Counseling Center. Helping your friend doesn't have to be something you struggle with on your own.

Religion, Hatred and Intolerance

Global Community Threatened by Faith-Based Divisions

By JIALAN WANG

Take a look at the news today: Some of the biggest stories include the scandal in the Catholic Church, war between Israel and Palestine, and the September 11 attacks. As usual, most of the major news stories have one thing in common: religion. As a non-religious person, I often wonder how religious doctrines that center around love and kindness toward fellow man could cause such conflict. Philosophically, it is a significant question as to why a benevolent God would let evil exist in the world. But even as a practical matter that only concerns the people who practice religion, the question remains that if religion is supposed to encompass love and goodness, why does it seem to foster so much hatred, violence and prejudice? This is just one of the many burning questions many atheists and agnostics have about religion that has never been adequately answered. Well, at least no one has ever given me a straight answer. Like all of the contradictions in the Bible, these questions are simply ignored by people. But if there has ever been a time when these questions needed to be answered, the time is now.

While news commentators detail each all of the scandals and conflicts that center around religion, no one ever asks whether it is religion itself (or at least its current implementation and organization) that is at fault. Although most major religions include noble principles, the de facto beliefs of followers do not reflect these principles. For example, Christianity is supposed to teach tolerance and fairness. But in fact, people use it to justify all manners of intolerance and injustice. For example, although America professes to be a modern nation, homosexuals are still routinely and blatantly discriminated against, and religious opposition is a major obstacle to their fight for equality.

As a most flagrant example of hypocrisy, members of the Catholic priesthood itself have now been revealed as child-molesters. What is holy, when your holymen molest children? Worse yet, investigations are revealing that these criminals have been protected for years by higher-ups in the Church. It is dangerous for any group of people to operate with their activities unquestioned and their power unchecked, but the clergy is one of the few such groups. Based on the nature of faith, there seems to be few ways around

this. However, it is becoming very clear that something must be done to stem the corruption.

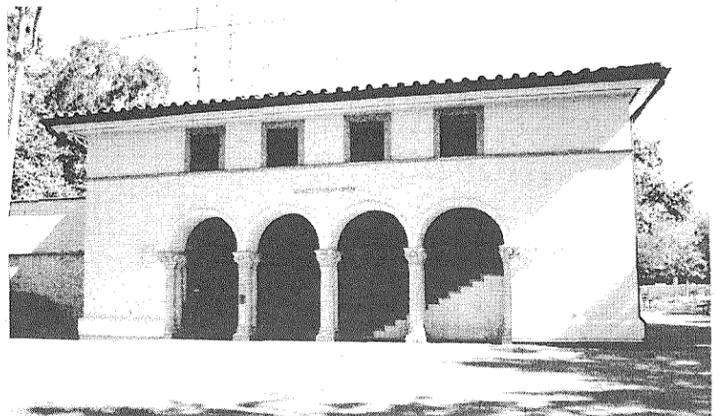
Of course, the Catholic Church is far from the only religious organization that engages in hypocrisy. Growing up in the south, I experienced many negative effects of religion on society. People used reli-

same kids who breathed God in every breath also were first to have premarital sex and drunken car accidents. Whether the hypocrisy of followers was the result of personal choices or something more cultural, the churches are doing nothing to address these problems.

Although religious faith may seem like a personal choice, this choice deeply affects everyone in the community. In America, religion has been an obstacle of egalitarianism and scientific discovery and education. Just as the Catholic Church has long turned a blind eye toward sexual abuse by clergymen, organized religion in general has neglected the rampant hypocrisy of its followers. Of course, many religious believers are sincere in their belief, but they should be more concerned than anyone about these issues. Hatred of whole categories of people is unacceptable if we are to live as a global community. But as long as religious lines divide us, neither peace of mind nor peace of body will ever be attained.

"Religion has been an obstacle of egalitarianism and scientific discovery."

gion to justify racism, xenophobia, homophobia, and misogyny, and the most adamant believers were often the worst hypocrites. Where I came from, teachers still got fired for teaching evolution, and Baptists and Methodists couldn't even get along, much less Christians and those of other religions. Many of the



K. Bartz/The California Tech

Winnett Student Center is home to several religious student organizations, which are instruments of "hatred" in the eyes of some.

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Letter: Gender Analysis

Massey Test 'Inconclusive'

Dear Editors,

I would like to reply to the letter from Donald Massey which you published on May 6th. In the letter, Mr. Massey presents his theory regarding the cognitive differences between men and women. The concept that "women respond more according to how they feel at the moment than to facts or logic" is supported in this letter by the ob-

ervation that Mr. Massey found it easier to work with women after he "stopped expecting them to think and act rationally."

This evidence is inconclusive at best. The experiment lacks any control group and is conducted over a limited population (Massey's wife and co-workers).

There are a number of alternative hypothesis which fit the data. For example, perhaps Mr. Massey was so overwhelmingly arrogant in his youth that the only women who could tolerate his presence were those with severe emotional and psychological problems. This hypothesis could be tested by examining historical data, comparing Mr. Massey's actions and beliefs from seven years ago (before he had to work with women) to the social norm at the time. I haven't examined the data in detail, but I can easily imagine that, in 1995 a man who would make comments about "certain times of the month" might not attract rational and logical women.

Robin Mayes '03, Dabney House President, woman



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CALTECH CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH



Star Wars: Episode II: ASCIT buys me a movie ticket to see *Star Wars* with my fellow Techers this Friday. Is there anything closer to heaven?



What Spidey Senses?: So what if Spider-Man can climb up walls and defeat The Green Goblin. Some say the movie was 'Amazing,' others think he's dumb for giving up the girl.



MOSH will never be the same: Now that Professor Frautschi's term is over as Master of Student Houses, who will the Inter-house Committee be able to find that can fill Frautschi's shoes?

ASCIT Minutes

MAY 10, 2002

Present

BoD: Ted, Vikram, Joe, Janet, Jialan, Neda, Andrea. Absent: Marcus, Basit.

Guests: Kevin Bartz (*Tech* editor), Mona Sheikh and Julia Greissl (next year's senior class co-presidents), Melissa Soriano (Coffeehouse manager), Kristen Shantz (SWE).

Meeting called to order at 4:26 p.m.

Guests

Julie and Mona, taking a cue from Dinkar last week, have come to request money, mostly for food, for several planned events for the class of 2003. They want \$700, which all agree sounds a little high, especially since the budget has already been set for the year. We later vote (5-0-1) to give them \$200 to spend as they see fit through the end of second term next year.

SWE has come to pick up a check, but Janet isn't here yet. We promise Kristen that "the check is in the mail."

Melissa has come to request money for the upcoming Coffeehouse party, recently shifted to Saturday, May 18 so as not to conflict with the ASCIT movie (*Star Wars*) on Friday. It's the same day as the Ruddock frosh party, but Melissa has been in communication with them. GSC has contributed some money already (about half of the estimated 500 attendees last year were grad students), and Tom Mannion is covering the bartenders. We later approve the requested \$250 (6-0). Melissa also checks on money for comic book and magazine subscriptions for the Coffeehouse. We tell her that \$200 has al-



K. Bartz/The California Tech

From left, Upperclass Director-at-large Neda Afsarmanesh '04, Social Director Jialan Wang '04 and Freshman Director-at-large Andrea Vasconcellos '05 spar over health insurance policy at last Friday's meeting of the ASCIT Board of Directors.

ready been budgeted for that purpose. She wants to let Aaron Esser-Kahn (one of our two CHUG members. The other is, of course, the ever-intrepid Eric Tuttle) spend it, and we say that's fine as long as she approves and we get receipts.

General Meeting

Janet arrives and informs us that we can't do direct deposits into club accounts as planned (it may still be possible to do it with houses). Their Bursar accounts are for some reason on a different computer system than our Financial Services account. Checks will be somewhat more automatic now, though. When we approve a check for a club, it will be mailed directly to their representative's box.

Joe wants formal approval for a novel DVD selection system we've recently been tossing around (we're going to unveil it during the re-opening of the DVD library, which we're attempting to time with the Coffeehouse party). This is approved (5-0).

At 4:54 p.m. a fire alarm sounds. The daring BoD closes the door and presses on.

Jialan reports on the health insurance committee she sits on. We've

all received copies of their report, and while we like some aspects (including the possibility of Caltech providing full coverage up to a certain amount, after which parental insurance plans take over if available—if not available, Caltech would still have a secondary policy to ensure that students are covered). However, the faculty members of the committee are not so much on our side and seem enamored of copays and deductibles, literally to discourage students from using health care (apparently this is considered necessary in the insurance industry and lowers Caltech's costs). We point out that Caltech students are very unlikely to visit the doctor already unless they really need to, given what our schedules are like. And shouldn't the Institute want to encourage us to seek health care if necessary, regardless of what insurance companies say? Jialan says she will bring up these points with the committee, but is not too hopeful on the final results.

There's a huge freshman class next year. Admissions really dropped the ball on this one, and it's causing problems all over campus. There won't be many spots available in on-campus housing, and humanities professors will have

to teach more frosh hum classes than they've anticipated. There's nothing we can do about this though, except express our wish for more accountability from Admissions. Joe has written an e-mail to Gary Lorden, Charlene Liebau, and Kim West.

We take a brief look at freshman interest sheets. Andrea is going to update the list of clubs and organizations on the bottom half of each. Beyond that we're leaving it up to the IHC.

More potential ExComm names are put up, discussed, crossed out, with all sorts of little stars and check marks and asterisks. We're getting closer, honest. Ted says he will talk to some of the more promising candidates. These are not strictly BoD appointments, but rather BoD-approved presidential appointments, so we can't approve anyone Ted doesn't choose. He hopes to have a more-or-less final list of names by next week.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ASCIT Secretary

FROM THE IHC: HUNT FOR NEW MOSH UNDERWAY

SEARCH COMMITTEE FORMED

Prof. Frautschi to Depart After Year's End

Now that Professor Frautschi is finishing his last year as Master of Student Houses, the search is on for his successor. Based on advice from a student-faculty-staff advisory committee formed by Student Affairs Vice President Chris Brennen last fall and also on the views of the current IHC, we are searching for a faculty member to serve as MOSH, live in Steele House and be a close friend of undergraduates and of the student houses. Hosting dinners and dessert nights to bring together students and faculty, as Dr. Frautschi has done with great success, is a much appreciated part of the job, as is the organizing of cultural events and support for student-initiated activities that promote student-faculty interaction.

Continued on Page 5, Column 1

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Courtesy of A. Fetterman

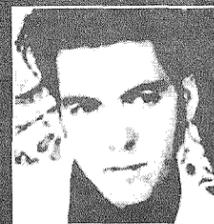
Pro-donut activist Chad Kishimoto '03 sounds a trumpet before the makeshift gravestone commemorating ASCIT's Friday morning donut tradition, axed earlier this term at the hands of a term-long "experiment" by President Ted Jou '03.

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Spider-Man: The Great Debate



A group of Spider-Man action figures sits atop a counter in Lloyd House, where enthusiast and ASCIT Movie Chair Tim Wan '03 maintains a thorough toy collection.

True to Comic, Spider-Man Proven as 'Best Movie Ever'

Marvel, \$130 Million Make for 'Amazing' Film

By TIM WAN

A++.

For those of you who've been living under a rock for the past sixty-years, *Spider-Man* is based on the popular Marvel Comic created by the legendary Stan Lee and Steve Ditko. While *Spider-Man* contains the standard comic fisticuffs and spandex clad heroes, it excels by concentrating on the Man instead of the Spider. Peter Parker, played by Tobey Maguire, is the reluctant hero. He represents the typical American kid. He's not some alien from another planet or a rich playboy with fancy toys. He's someone who gets picked on by bullies, helps out at home with chores and most importantly, someone who's too nervous to ask out the girl-next-door. Spider-Man is just like you and me, except he has the proportional strength of a spider, possesses spidey-senses, and shoots web fluid from his wrists. He spends most of the movie fighting Norman Osborn/The Green Goblin (Willem Dafoe), while trying to woo his love interest Mary Jane (Kirsten Dunst).

A hero is nothing without a villain, and Dafoe masterfully acts out two roles. As Norman Osborn, he's perfect as a father who's always disappointed in his under-achieving son, while as the Goblin he plays an insane super-powered freak bent on revenge. The roles are so different it's frightening, and one of the best dialogues in the movie is the first one between Norman and The Goblin, which Dafoe manipulates perfectly with the help of a mirror.

Dunst plays a convincing damsel in distress, and is involved in a "love-triangle" between

Parker's friend Harry Osborn, and Peter. A sweet and moving romance tale, it is genuinely entertaining and reaches a humorous peak when Parker finds out he's actually competing with Spider-Man. When Parker realizes that the people he loves are getting hurt and that his powers are a curse as much as a gift, he's forced to break MJ's heart. Sure the lines are corny, but they're entertainingly corny, and aren't anything better than what I would say... (guess that's not saying much)

The action and special effects are perfect and the \$130 million budget was obviously well spent. Peter literally crawls like a spider, and not some actor clad in spandex on a blue screen. The action is fast and mixes in Spider-Man's unique fighting skills such as his web fluid and spidey-sense. The Goblin uses his trademark Goblin Glider and Pumpkin Bombs, with murderous accuracy. The fighting is

paced well, and there's never an extended "down time" which keeps the movie exciting. In some cases, the use of computers is obvious, but not so that they detract from the movie.

For the comic buff, it's clear that director Sam Rami is an active comic reader. Putting in classic spider-man motifs such as the upside-down kiss, Green Goblin's impaling, Goblin dragging Spidey through the air, MJ's use of the word "tiger," and gratuitous use of the word "Amazing." He throws in a few tributes to other heroes as well, such as Superman, when Parker rips open his shirt revealing the Spider-Man logo beneath. All in all, *Spider-Man* remains true to the spirit of the comic while still being accessible to any moviegoer.

The movie is filled with scenes that send chills down your spine. I cringed when I saw the Goblin blow off half of Spidey's face. I cheered when Peter saved Mary Jane from certain death. I grinned when I saw Peter grab his color markers to design his costume. No black leather for this superhero. This is one of those movies that lets you escape the pains of Tech. It's like for two hours, you're there with Peter. You feel his joy when he discovers his powers, and feel his pain when he discovers his uncle's killer. How often does a comic book movie capture you with its plot and characters, rather than with its special effects and powers?

I don't cry--I'm a guy. The first time I saw *Spider-Man*, I cried, because this movie was beautiful. Not just beautiful but perfect. This is one movie that everyone should see at least once. *Spider-Man* has something for everyone from the romantic tension to breakneck action. It's by far the best comic to movie adaptation ever. I rarely see a movie multiple times in the theater, reserving it only for the best of the best, mainly because I'm a cheap bastard. I have never seen a movie twice in the same day...at least not until *Spider-Man*.

Spidey: No More Than a Powered-up Prepubescent Wimpy Hero, Bad Acting and Overdone Drama

By ABE FETTERMAN

Spider-Man, the movie, was a bit disappointing in my eyes (warning, spoilers ahead). I mean, come on; it's Spider-Man, superhero extraordinaire. Spider-Man, one of the main staples of our childhood. How could the movie be anything but world-rocking? With so much great content to choose from, how could they go wrong?

The first thing they could do would be to hire Kirsten Dunst. Right, the lead in the ever-popular *Bring it On!* Way to pick a winner.

Seriously, though, besides the fact that I would rather be bludgeoned with a wood rasp than hear her voice for two hours, her character never felt quite right. She goes from the girlfriend of "cool guy" Flash Thomson to girlfriend of "rich daddy" Harry to suddenly in love with Peter, first nerd of the twenty-first century. What is with this woman? How

can we possibly sympathize with such classic white trash? Okay, so she wants to be an actress--but the only thing she does is pretend to be someone else and be abused by her father?

Perhaps the key to the story's flaw is the entire lack of compatibility of anyone with anyone else. There is waaay too much dramatic conflict for my tastes. There were conflicts between MJ and Harry, MJ and Flash, MJ and her dad, MJ and Peter, Peter and Harry, Harry and his dad, Peter and his uncle, Flash and Peter, Peter and the head newspaper editor, the head newspaper editor and everyone else, Harry's dad and the board of

trustees. Spider-Man and the Green Goblin and so on and so on. There was a spider-web of unresolved conflicts that clogged my mind and bogged down the characters. Not that the characters were too complex -- in fact I would argue that they were too one-dimensional. Yes, they're comic book characters, but if you're going to put them into non-comic-book conditions, they need the extra dimension.

Another lacking point in *Spider-Man* is the pubescent angle. For one thing, the guy is supposed to be like 18, and he's still afraid of talking to girls. Secondly, he completely misses the thing that (according to some research someone did once maybe) goes through every teenage male's mind once every ten seconds: sex. Especially considering the uncalled for anti-homosexual undertones, it is

hard to believe that there is so little heterosexual emotion. The only good part is that I don't have to see (or hear) Dunst in that role.

Especially missed were the wittiness of a comic book and the well-reasoned plot of science fiction. Not that science fiction is always thought out well, but usually, when you look back, you can see where a story has been. After watching the entire movie, and reading several reviews on it, I have to wonder what they were thinking. It is as if they thought up an action movie (the script, in its original form, was indeed more action-packed), threw in some dramatic moral plot

Continued on Page 7, Column 1

POINT

"Spider-Man has something for everyone from the romantic tension to breakneck action."

Is there a scientific basis for tapping the incredible power of your mind?

The answer is Yes, and you don't have to "take it on faith" says physicist Russell Targ in a Remote Viewing and Spiritual Healing workshop coming to Pasadena on May 25th.

Not content to rest on his laurels as a pioneer in the development of the laser, physicist **Russell Targ** co-founded the Stanford Research Institute (SRI) program of research into psychic abilities. The previously secret program was supported by the CIA in the 1970's and 80's especially to develop so-called "Remote Viewing," the gathering of information about specific people or places despite separation in space or time.

In a workshop entitled *Remote Viewing and Spiritual Healing: Experiencing Expanded Awareness*, Targ will summarize the long history of evidence for extrasensory perception and precognition, and will lead participants in the process of learning to detect a psychic

"signal" and separate it from the "noise" of imagination, memory, and analysis.

Co-leading the workshop will be **Dr. Jane Katra**, holder of a doctorate in health education, who has been a spiritual healer for over twenty-five years and who has co-authored two books with Targ.

For growing numbers of thoughtful people, the central quest today is to cultivate a deep and connected spiritual life while at the same time remaining a discerning participant in the Twenty-First century.

Affirming this, Targ and Katra invite participants to come to the workshop not looking to take anything "on faith," but to participate in a day of exciting discussion and personal experiment.



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IHC SEEKS NEW MOSH

Continued from Page 4, Column 5

But we also hope to broaden the MOSH's involvement as a liaison between students, faculty, and administration. As a faculty member who has the opportunity to really get to know students and what their lives are like outside of classes and laboratories, the MOSH can play a valuable role in improving communication and relationships between students and others at Caltech.

We hope to see the next MOSH actively involved in the planning for the future renovation and reconstruction of the student houses, in the efforts to get more faculty involved in the houses, and in bringing on-campus houses, Avery, and off-campus residences together in a mutually supportive community.

We have set up a search committee co-chaired by Tory Sturgeon and Math Professor David Wales. The other members are Kim Kelsey, Tim Crosby, Justin Fox, Professors Melany Hunt and Brian Stoltz, and Sue Friedman from the Residence Life department. The committee is currently garnering names and suggestions from students.

From Inter-House Committee

Dean's Corner

An Itch to Ditch

by Jean-Paul Revel



On the spur of the moment the other day I decided to test the idea that Ditch Day was a unique Caltech phenomenon. So I went on the Internet, that modern living encyclopedia, all the facts you need to know and many that you don't, to see how many entries I would recover by using the query "Ditch Day." The short answer (I tried only one search engine) is 325, including Ditch Day for the Fallbrook class of '64, and Barre Ludvigsen's pictures of Ditch Day in Lebanon. The idea of ditching classes for a day is far from unique, but the way in which it is implemented here is certainly unusual. It was surprising how many of the Ditch Day entries had to do with Caltech. They seem to have been placed on the web by grads who included their adventures, well, some of their adventures at Caltech, as part of personal pages published after they have left the nest. Many sites also have pictures, and most are surprisingly (oh! dean of little faith) in good taste. Now why is it that I should be surprised at that? Techers are known to be gentler than you think, if one discounts the few troublemakers. Speaking of which just now a highly irate neighbor of Caltech burst into my office, with a cut on her arm, saying she had been hit by, she thought, a Caltech student riding his bike at high speed on the sidewalk. If true, it is a rather disturbing thing. Hit

Run is certainly not part of a Caltech gentlemen's, in this case gentleman's, repertory. I was reminded of my own encounter a few weeks ago with another (could it be the same?) cyclist, that time on the Olive Walk. An abomination on you sir(s), and I hope that the neighbor was wrong about you being a Techer, one of yours as she told me. If she is right, all my ratiocinations about the Honor Code etc. are for naught. Whoever and wherever you are, reading this issue of the Tech, I hope you blush to the very roots of your hair and break into a cold clammy sweat. You have been breaking The Code, spreading ill will about all Techers by your uncivilized ways. Hit and Run, while it may allow escape from immediate consequences for your careless riding (having to give your name, being bashed with your victim's umbrella etc.), will not release you from being haunted by guilty and uncomfortable recollections of your deed.

But back to tomorrows past (sorry, Dickens). "Tomorrows" have been a tradition at Caltech since 1921 if one is to believe the article on Ditch Day on the "Campus Life" page of the Caltech Website. That's when Seniors began the tradition of skipping off Campus, leaving the great unwashed, the lower classes, to solve problems and puzzles, and so gain access to a cache of goodies in the stack builder's rooms. A great tradition which has attracted much at-

ten-tion even from outside Caltech because of the cleverness of many of the stacks. Yeah, there are brute force stacks which bear to finesse stacks the same relationship that ballet bears to professional wrestling. But even brute force stacks often have some ingenious twist as part of the game, something I fail to detect in Hulk Hogan moves. While the seniors plot and plan for weeks beforehand, they are off-campus on Ditch Day itself, a move preferable to being tied to a tree. They enjoy the day at the beach (assuming they don't forget the sun cream) and the idea is for you, the underclasses, to have fun, and nothing should come between you and that goal.

It is one of peculiar things that even as one have fun, one cannot let yourself go altogether, one must remain on guard, lest the fun turn unenjoyable. That's no difference from driving a car (riding a bi-

cycle?, see above) of course, or rock climbing or hang gliding. In all of these activities one must maintain a self-discipline, a watchfulness for what is OK to do and what is not, lest the fun be the last that one you will ever have. So whatever the seniors have suggested you do, do it only if you feel safe and comfortable to do so. There may well be occasions when something will seem dangerous or inappropriate from your perspective: don't do it, don't. I will even suggest that you take matters in your own hands and express your displeasure in the customary way. Whatever the seniors have planned for their stack, the responsibility for personal safety, in the end, rests on the students who take on their challenge. You will suffer the consequences of acting foolishly even you follow someone else's suggestions. Keep your wits so you, three years or two, or even next year, can eat sand coated hot dogs on a windy beach, while wondering what's happening "at home."

Ditch Day is a day of license, but it is not a Mardi Gras when even extremes that are otherwise frowned upon are mostly condoned. On this day you are allowed to skip the serious business of going to

School in this "Marine Corps of Intellectual Institutions" (sorry, Kip Thorne), but that does not give license to excesses. Even on that special day you cannot break the Institute's policies or state and federal laws. You will, I am sure, recollect that the directives dealing with alcohol and substance abuse specifically forbid the use of either as a reward for solving a stack or as part of a stack.

This school has great confidence in its students, partly because they are such a select bunch of gifted people. This is reflected in the high degree of autonomy that students have here. But such confidence is only possible if the laws and customs which govern us are indeed respected. May you all have a great tomorrow, whenever that is. May you Ditch without a Hitch!

A bientot!

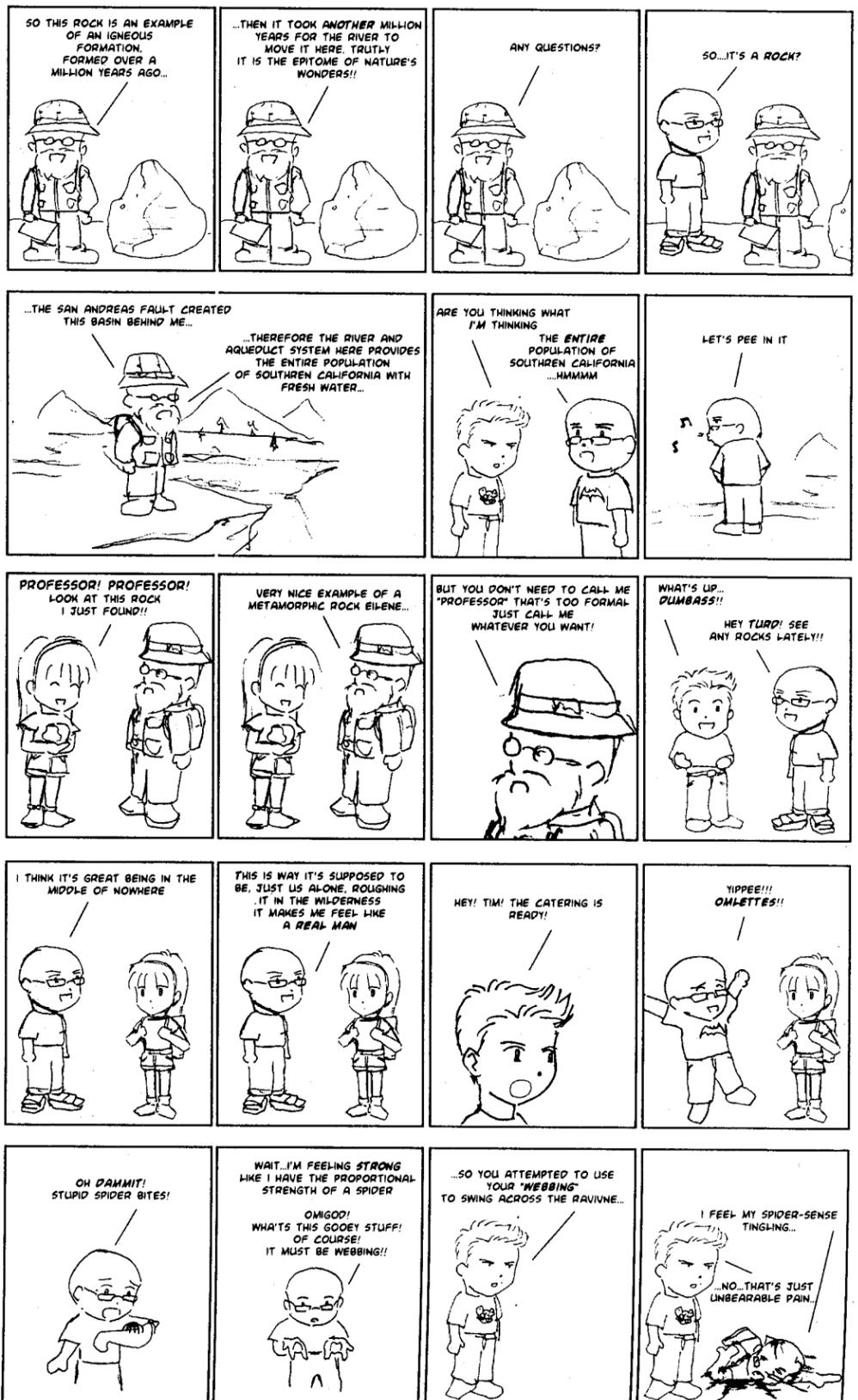
Jean-Paul Revel

Dean of Students

by Tim Wan, Mike Yeh, Ben Lee

CRIBBLING DEPRESSION FIELD TRIP

any persons living or dead is confidential. The views expressed are those of the authors, not those of the newspaper staff or Caltech.



'Pubescent' Spider-Man

Continued from Page 5, Column 4
twists, and then decided to make it a kids' movie.

Lastly, Spidey is supposed to be a hero. So why is he such a wimp? He doesn't kill one person throughout the entire story. Not only that, but he keeps the Green Goblin's identity a secret (the fact that allows them to make a sequel), despite the fact that the Goblin tried to kill him and everyone he loved. Right, some hero. He doesn't even get the girl. He gives her up so that he can be more heroic and not be "bogged down," as if the next evil villain will not be able to figure out the connection.

I have to give the story special effects, and excellent directing, but neither of those are really worth writing home about. We'll see better special effects this week in *Star Wars Episode II*, and saw better directing in *The Man Who Wasn't There*.

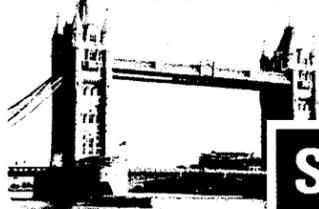
All in all, the movie left me with significant disappointment. There was so much potential for this cool-cat superhero, all that seemed to be in vain, as the scriptwriters decided the movie would be a much more dramatic (as noted earlier) and kidsy (note the bright colors) movie. Hopefully, the sequel will be better...

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Announcements

Summer Work Study: Information and applications for 2002 Summer Work Study are available in the Financial Aid Office. If you are interested in Summer Work Study, please submit the required application as soon as possible, but no later than June 1, 2002. Your entire financial aid application must be complete by June 1st in order to be considered for Summer Work Study. If awarded, the work study funding will begin with the July 1st payroll.

Grant Announcement: The National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance is seeking proposals that support innovation, invention, and entrepreneurship programs in U.S. colleges and universities. Grants support student inventions and projects, and faculty course development. Deadline: May 15, 2002. Information and Application: <http://www.nciia.org>, 413-587-2172 or info@nciia.org.

Caltech Opera Club ... at last! Please join us for the first meeting of the Caltech Opera Club on Thursday, May 16, noon to 1 pm, in the Christopher Brennen Conference Room (Center for Student Services, 3rd floor, adjacent to the Career Center). This newly forming club is open to the entire Caltech community - students, postdocs, staff, faculty. Bring your lunch ... and bring a friend. Everyone is welcome as we launch the newest club on campus. R.S.V.P or direct all questions to Angela Wood at auwood@caltech.edu.

The EH&S Office in conjunction with the American Red Cross will be offering **First Aid/CPR training**. Adult First Aid/CPR classes will be held on Monday 6/17, Wednesday 6/19, and Friday 6/21 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in the Brown Gym Classroom. Adult/Child/Infant First Aid/CPR training will be held on Thursday 5/9 and Tuesday 5/14 from 8 am - 5 pm, and also a separate class on Tuesday 6/18 and Thursday 6/20 from 5:30 pm - 10 pm in the Brown Gym Classroom. You will need to attend both nights of the class to be certified. The fee for the materials is \$15.00 and must be paid prior to taking the class. If you have questions or would like to register for the class, please contact the EH&S Office at ext. 6727. Class size is limited.

The **Ballroom Dance club** is offering two new class series starting next week: Foxtrot and Argentine Tango. Foxtrot, taught by professional instructor Melissa Atkinson, is held on Mondays from May 6 - June 3. \$25 for the 5 week series or \$6/lesson for all Caltech students; \$35(series)/\$8(lesson) for others. Amateur-taught Argentine Tango is offered on Wednesdays from May 8-June 5; \$1/lesson (free for frosh). All lessons take place in Winnett Lounge from 7:30-9pm, followed by a half hour practice session. No partner necessary, refreshments provided. On Mondays after class, we have a free mini-ballroom dance party - open dancing, request or bring your own music!

The **Caltech Dance Troupe** will have three dance classes for spring term. All classes meet in the Braun multipurpose room. Beginner's Hip Hop - back by popular demand! Instructor: Joey Dowdy; Mondays, 10-11:30pm starting April 8. Trial class fee: \$5; Caltech students full term fee: \$20; Non-Caltech students full term fee: \$30; (For those of you who like to schedule ahead, there will be no hip hop class on Monday, April 22.) Intermediate Jazz; Instructor: Collette Sibal; Tuesdays, 10-11pm starting April 9; Trial class fee: \$5 Caltech students full term fee: \$20; Non-Caltech students full term fee: \$30; Intermediate Ballet; Saturdays, 1-2:30pm starting April 13, free! For more information, see <http://troupe.caltech.edu>.

Would you like a sounding board for an essay or report that you're writing? Need help with a statement for a research proposal or a grad school application? Visit the **Hixon Writing Center**. The Center's Consultants Service offers free and confidential writing conferences with an English instructor or peer writing tutor. A writing consultation can benefit writers at all levels of ability. Consultants provide supportive, informed feedback at any stage of the writing process - from brainstorming and drafting, to editing and revising. They can also help with writer's block or second-language issues. Consultants do not merely proofread papers or provide remedial grammar instruction, but help writers develop methods for improving their own work. For more information, go to <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~writing/>.

Les-Bi-Gay-Trans Discussion Group

Whether you are out and proud, exploring your sexual identity, coming out, or anywhere in-between, we invite you to our Discussion Group, which meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 8:15 until 10:15 pm in the Health Center Lounge. The group is a great place to meet new friends and the atmosphere is generally very relaxed; at the same time, more personal and "serious" discussion topics can be addressed. This is a confidential meeting and attendance does not imply anything about a person's sexual orientation; supportive students and staff are welcome as well. And refreshments are served! For more information call ext. 8331. To find out about LGBT events on campus, please visit the Caltech Student Pride Association (CSPA) calendar at <http://rainbow.caltech.edu>.

Are you interested in discussing life at Caltech and in the United States? If so, the **Intercultural Discussion and Support Group** provides a forum for Caltech students to explore the process of cultural adjustment and relating across cultures. The group meets every Monday from 12-1 pm in the Women's Center Lounge. (265-86, 2nd floor of the Center for Student Services). This group is facilitated by the Counseling Center and International Student Programs, and is open to ALL Caltech students, graduate and undergraduate, American and international. Drop-ins welcome. Since lunch is provided, please contact Jim at endrizzi@caltech.edu if you plan on attending one of the meetings, this will guarantee that we have enough food!

Scholarships

The **Windstar Foundation**, a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization, co-founded by John Denver and Thomas Crum, and headquartered in Snowmass Colorado, has consistently sought ways "To inspire individuals to make responsible choices and take direct personal action to achieve a peaceful and sustainable future" is pleased to announce the Windstar Environmental Studies Scholarship Program for 2002. With this mission in mind, the Windstar Foundation is awarding three \$500 scholarships to qualified college students. Eligibility Criteria: The applicant must be enrolled as a student in an accredited college or university Environmental Studies or Environmental Engineering Program and be entering his or her junior or senior year in the

fall of 2002. The applicant shall have a college GPA of 3.0 or better in his or her major field. Visit www.wstar.org for more information. Applications are due June 1, 2002.

The **John Gyles Education Awards** are available each year to students in both Canada and the United States. Full Canadian or American citizenship is a requirement. Awards are available to both male and female students for all areas of post secondary study. A minimum GPA of 2.7 is required. Criteria other than strictly academic ability and financial need are considered in the selection process. Selected students will receive up to \$3000. Filing dates for mailing applications for 2002 are April 1, June 1 and November 15. Students can receive an application by sending only a stamped *** (US.34), self-addressed standard letter size (No. 10) envelope to the following address:

John Gyles Education Awards
P.O. Box 4808, 712 Riverside Drive
Fredericton, New Brunswick
Canada E3B 5G4

Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations. As you may know, the Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations (COHEAO) offers annual scholarships to qualifying students at COHEAO member schools. (Caltech is a member.) The eligibility criteria and the application procedure have been changed for this academic year. The eligibility requirements for applicants are as follows: Applicants must be U.S. citizens; Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale; Applicants must be attending a COHEAO member school; Only undergraduate students, who are entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year, are eligible to apply; freshmen are not eligible; Only one scholarship per family per academic year will be awarded. COHEAO members and their immediate family members are not eligible for COHEAO scholarships. Further information about the scholarship is only available via the Web at: www.coheao.com.

For more information on available scholarships, please visit the Financial Aid web site at <http://www.finaid.caltech.edu/news.html>. All qualified students are encouraged to apply!

Upcoming Events

Asian Pacific Heritage Week will be held May 19-24. Join the Asian Pacific Student Union (APSU) for a week in celebration of Asian Pacific culture. The week starts off on Sunday, May 19 with the Iron Chef cooking contest from 4:30-6:00 p.m. and Chinese cultural performances on Monday, May 20 during lunch.

Theater Arts at Caltech presents the final weekend of workshop presentations of David Mamet's strongly-worded play about men and maleness, *Lakeboat*. A discussion with the actors follows each workshop. *Lakeboat* is being staged on the loading dock of Central Receiving (Bldg. 85), 391 S. Holliston, at 8 p.m., on May 17, 18, and 19. Dress comfortably. There is limited seating (50). Strong language, adult themes. Tickets \$3 (general admission, including students).

It's that time of year again... **KELROF**. 8 am Saturday, May 18th - 8 am Sunday, May 19th at the Caltech Track. KELROF is a 24-hour relay run open to all members of the Caltech community. Team members take turns running or walking around the track. The key is to have one person from your team going around the track at all times. Form teams of one (not recommended) to 10, then come down to the track to have some fun. You can also join a team when you get there. Food and health services will be provided. Come take part in a 25 year-old tradition! Contact Zach Medin at zachary@its or Steve Berardi at stephen@its if you have any questions. Also, so that we can get an idea of how many people will be participating, please email us your team list (or your name, if you want to join a team). Sponsored by ASCIT, the Caltech Y, the GSC, and Student Affairs

Everhart Lecture Series: The spring 2001-2002 Everhart Lecture, "Catching Molecules in the Act: Ultrafast Diffraction of Transient Structures in Real Time," will be given by Ramesh Srinivasan, a graduate student in Chemical Engineering, on Thursday, May 16, 2002 at 4:00p.m. in Beckman Institute Auditorium. Refreshments will be served at 3:45p.m. Each year, the Everhart Lecture Series (formerly known as the Distinguished Graduate Student Lecture Series) presents three lectures by outstanding Caltech graduate students, in which they describe their research and its relationship to recent developments, problems and controversies in their fields of study. Everhart Lecturers are chosen by a committee of their peers for research excellence and their ability to communicate to a wide Caltech audience. Each speaker is awarded a \$500 honorarium and recognition at Commencement. Visit the ELS webpage (<http://www.its.caltech.edu/~els>) for more information, lecture abstracts and schedules. The Everhart Lectures are sponsored by the Graduate Office and the GSC.

California Institute of Technology Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences presents their **Seminar on Science, Ethics, and Public Policy**. Dr. Evelyn Fox Keller, Professor of the History and Philosophy of Science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Moore Distinguished Scholar, Caltech will speak on: "Between Two Cultures: Differences of 'Understanding' in the Mathematical and Biological Sciences." Room 25, Baxter Building, Thursday, May 16, 2002, 4:00 pm. Seminars are on the Caltech campus and are open to the community at no charge. For information, contact Michelle Reinschmidt at (626) 395-3563 or michelle@hss.caltech.edu. For a complete list of SEPP Seminars and Harris Lectures scheduled for this academic year, visit our web site: <http://www.hss.caltech.edu/ses/SEPP.html>.

Caltech Library System presents: The following sessions are approximately one hour of formal instruction followed by an optional hands-on practice. All classes begin at noon and meet in the Sherman Fairchild Library Multimedia Conference Room (Room 328). Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is preferred. Tuesday, May 14, Noon: "Copyright for Researchers in Academia." Tuesday, May 21, Noon: "Patents." View details and register for these and other upcoming classes at: <http://library.caltech.edu/learning/default.htm>. For further information, please contact Kathleen McGregor at x6713 or kathleen@library.caltech.edu.

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To submit a Mint, e-mail mints@tech.caltech.edu or mail your announcement to Caltech 40-58 Attn: Mints. Submissions should be no longer than 150 words. Email is preferred. No attachments, please. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all material. Deadline is noon Friday.

Unless specified, all mints will run for two weeks.