Approved by UASH, New ‘W’ Grade Sparks Debate
By ROBERT LI

The ‘W’ grade of “withdrawn,” unused for several years, has been reinstated by the UASH Committee for students who drop their courses.

According to Humanities Professor Fiona Chino, faculty chair of the UASH Committee, the ‘W’ grade was reinstated because of the recent “exponential increases” in late-drop petitions. For instance, there were over 30 petitions just since January of this year with one person wanting to simultaneously late-drop three courses. Dr. Cowie stated that “it is very often hard for the committee to distinguish cases where there is a genuine need for a late-drop...from those in which students are trying to game the system.”

Grade-shopping is the practice of obtaining a lower grade for a course after it has been finalized and then filing late-drop petitions to remove any poor grades. Such behavior, according to the committee, is “grossly unfair and is further complicated by making it easy for students to drop courses, circumventing the important duty of staying in their courses.”

The other reason behind the ‘W’ grade is to discourage the practice of “transcript sanitization” whereby students graduating from the school’s policies more in line with those of other universities.

Athletic Dept. Welcomes New Sturtevant Spa
By IBAH BILAL

On May 2, Caltech formally inaugurated its first public spa, the Sturtevant Memorial Spa. The spa, under construction since February, commemorates the late leperman Professor of Aerosol- ronics, Bradford Sturtevant, who died in October of 2002.

Sturtevant, a legendary swimmer, was active for many years on the Athletic Committee, where he helped plan the Braun Athletic Center. Director of Athletic Facilities Timothy Downes remarked, “Brad was a member of a number of athletic committees and was extremely active in Caltech’s athletics program.”

The idea of building this spa actually came several years ago from Dr. Sturtevant himself. “I wanted the option of warm-up areas and other facilities that could be used by everyone,” he said.

Located near the diving boards, the spa makes for a convenient warm-down area for intercollegiate events. Downes remarked, “We are very excited about this new facility.”

The spa’s design features a large pool, a Jacuzzi, and a sauna. The water temperature ranges from 82 to 86 degrees Fahrenheit. Guests can purchase day passes or join as members.”

The spa is open to members and guests, with guest passes available for purchase. Downes commented, “We are looking forward to welcoming people of all ages to enjoy the spa’s amenities.”
- Cucumbers in Hand, ‘Iron Chef’ Teams Cook Up Creative Cuisine

-chec dessert won them the majority of judges’ votes for not only the best overall fish specially ordered from Japan into thin slices, as if he were carving a sculpture. The fillets mixed with shrimp, jellyfish and the only team that was able to get to below 140 calories. They did not have any fancy curry chicken, with cucumber mixed into the low-calorie cucumbers stuffed with paneer. Hirani’s team. The Doggie was made of canned carrots, mint and cilantro and topped with avocado, mint and cilantro and black pepper that made up the Sinhalese face.

- The team led by Hermes Huang, “Doge” was the only team that was able to create the best out of a limited budget, part of the underwater techer spirit. They did not have any fancy tooth-sticks. The courtyard was a great success and everyone had fun cooking, tasting, smelling and even watching. The dishes were made of premium quality ingredients. One example of a dish, as if he were expressing a senior, was that “cooking is more than just cooking, it’s about creating art. If people can pass Ch3a, they can surely master the culinary science.”

- Last term the Student Housing Committee held a series of town hall meetings in each of the seven Houses, Avery and an off-campus venue to discuss the Rotation process. At the time, it was a bit unclear as to what the outcome of those meetings would be or how many changes would be implemented. Even over the course of the last six months and what had come out of the meetings. The official word changed on what people could expect. On Thursday the Student Housing Committee met with the Interhouse Council to discuss what had come out over the course of the last six months and what would be happening in September once the freshmen arrived. Finally, there is a decree being handed down from the administration as to how Rotation should be run: the process will remain student-administered and the undergraduates will decide how to affect changes. That said, there are concerns that were raised at the town hall meetings that the IHC has decided to address for next year’s rotation.

- First, there was concern that freshmen students often didn’t know their rankings aren’t the only determining factor in deciding what house they get assigned. In many people have expressed that when they were rotating they did not know that the upperclassmen would have a say in where the freshmen end up. Next year the freshmen will be divided into a part of their pre-Rotation talk at Freshman Orientation. As a matter of a wised affair. While the freshmen do have a right to express preferences as to where they want to go, the upperclassmen also should have a say in the process.

- Second, many concerns were raised about the secrecy of the picks process, specifically the secrecy of the process and the ability to govern rotation. This is an issue that is faced every year and every year the IHC decides on necessary rules and what about the process should be kept secret. As I mentioned above, next year we will be more open with the freshmen and the rules and secrecy are under review every year by the IHC. Third, the freshmen don’t always know that the interest sheets they hand in will be shown to many of the upperclassmen. The interest sheets that go out to this incoming class will make that they are available to upperclass students. Fourth, many questions were raised regarding the timing of rotation, both in its duration and placement relative to the start of classes. Due to the lack of time between now and Rotation, and the logistical changes it would take to move the structure, the structure will probably no change in the timing for this coming year. It is a subjective matter that is still very much under discussion and will be under consideration for rotation in 2003. Fifth, the issue was also raised at most, if not all, of the meetings as to whether or not freshmen students should continue to be made to live in the seven Houses for the first two years. Again, this is still under debate, but the status quo will remain for next year.

- Finally, many people voiced concerns over the negative tone that many of the post-deadline house meetings took on. The presidents of the Houses were supportive of the committees but felt that meetings should be as constructive as possible, but implementation of this idea will come from the Houses themselves.

- It should also be emphasized that the idea of regional rotation is a student-run operation, anybody can put forth a suggestion as to how they would like to see the process changed. We can change Rotation every year and students already do. The discussion about bettering Rotation is not by any means over and the IHC is still in the process of gathering suggestions from students.

- Campus Auxiliary and Business Services Director Tom Munion and his team serve their eight-dish course to judges.

- Chandra Levy’s Remains Found

- Transfers Admissions

- IHC SELECTS STUDENT FACULTY COMMITTEES

- P.E. and Athletics

- Sarah Horst SI Kn Yanagah ALTERNATE: K Chao ALTERNATE: G Gudfred

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Donuts, Donuts, More Donuts Three Simple Arguments for a Better Perspective

By JOE OLIIVER

These are my reasons and my argument for voting against the proposed bylaw amendment that would require Friday Morning Donuts. I hope they provide discussion and thought about the issue.

Introductory Economics

Modern economic theory shows that governments should only provide goods and services where a market does not exist. One classic example of this is the public provision of a common good—such as the lights, which makes us all far better off. There are many public goods, student-faculty committees, club funding, publications, and more. Here’s the plan. First organize and then vote. From your pocket, you can pay a full $20 per term, which goes to all the student services we enjoy. Meanwhile, you can stop spending your $2 per term and ASCIT can either spend it on more valuable things or lower dues.

Donut Bylaw Pro/Con

For

The donuts need to be reinstated as an important ASCIT tradition. This tradition is beneficial to many students in the future. Amsterdam does not define what any undergraduates would need to be told, should he or she hear this. It stands to taste the sweetness that life has to offer. It stands to the ASCIT President, willing to run the ASCIT in the following terms: first, to organize and run the ASCIT; second, to have a better solution for you. If student government positions don’t provide donuts for you, you may be interested in knowing how much money you’re wasting on this inefficient system.

From the ASCIT budget, we can see that donuts (listed under social events, oddly enough) only occupy a small, unsatisfying 2% of the calculation was done considering only the costs (not the surpluses from the previous two years). That means only about $2 of your $20 per term goes towards Friday donuts. So, $18 goes to wasteful things like clubs, publications and pranks.

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Ditch Day 2002: Wednesday, May 22

“Haven’t you always wanted to carry an elephant?”

“The South wasn’t drunk; that’s not why they lost.”

“Smaug,” a dragon hand-crafted for a stack, lurks in anticipation inside his lair.

After some effort, a sprinkler powered by baking soda and vinegar comes to life.
Meeting called to order at 4:22 p.m.

Guests
Rick from Ricketts has come to request funding for lunch with a professor (as announced later approved). This is a new program for this year. He's a senior and his program for this year). He's a senior and his

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Today in ASCIT History

The 1995 ASCIT Board of Directors decided that the 1996 Caltech Y, was more appropriate than the ASCIT President's in this case, but Neda and Janet (former Tech editors) state that they feel it was "unsuitable" and perhaps even illegal to remove and make the changes to Ted's words, since they substantially altered the meaning of the statement as a whole.

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BOD takes one more shot with defeated publications bylaw

To be placed on Wednesday ballot

Repeal Article XIV ("Publications"), Section 11 and Section 12 (Subsections (a) and (d) only). Renumber other Sections accordingly.

For
The motivation for this amendment is simply to delete outdated parts of the ASCIT Bylaws. The OUCS and the UROH are no longer physically published and are now presented only in online form at almacaltech.edu. The ASCIT Bylaws have been including these elements in the salaries of the ASCIT Web Development Team and there is no reason to have a separate line in the Bylaws for these publications any longer.

Part of Section 11 also pertains to the Totem; however, the decision was made to remove that entire section because it is the only part of the Bylaws outside the Archive (XIII) which is ever censored. Article XIII contains all the Bylaw references in the Tech that BOD has been working to revise the finances of student publications, but has not attempted to affect editorial freedom. This should be rather clearly evidenced in the opinions reflected in many different issues of the Tech.

D: Why do feature writers like Jialan and Abe Ferentman who write incredible columns get paid? Why do editors who write "Their columns are the best..." get nothing? This is a huge waste of money. I like reading a few things in the Tech but why is my money paying these people?

Jialan: These are mostly internal Tech issues, and I have no control over them. I would like to note that after the "Their" headline, the former editors hired a copy editor, whom they paid out of their own salaries, to proofread the paper.
I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET OUR NEW SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CYRUS THE VIRUS.

LIKE AN INFECTION, HE WILL SOON ATTACK THE MANAGERS IN THIS COMPANY AND REPLACE US WITH HIS OLD CRONIES.

I'M DEMOTING YOU TO ENGINEER SO I CAN GIVE YOUR CURRENT JOB TO ONE OF MY CRONIES.

I WON'T SURVIVE. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO REAL WORK!

WALLY, CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO PRETEND TO BE WORKING?

HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR NEW LOSER CRUSHER?

I PLAN TO SPREAD RUMORS ABOUT OUR NEW BOSS UNTIL I GET HIM FIRED.

I'LL TELL EVERYONE THAT HE'S THE MOST GULLIBLE HUMAN THAT EVER LIVED. HEE HEE!

BELIEVE ME, THAT DOESN'T WORK.

I HAVE GAINED A VALUABLE EMPATHY THAT WILL SERVE ME WELL IF I EVER BECOME A MANAGER AGAIN.

I'M DEMOTED TO WORK AMONG YOU NOBLE LITTLE PEOPLE.

Tired of posting flyers all over campus? Looking for a home for the summer, or looking to sublet? Trying to get rid of furniture, books, computers, etc? Just advertise in the Tech! It's so much easier and it's really really really cheap. So contact us immediately at business@tech.caltech.edu!
Finaly, finally, tomorrow has come. I've been dreaming of being one of the first to see the statue. In a lackluster reality, like many other tinman of mine, it was easiest hoping that it would materialize soon. It promised a day of fun, a moment of respite, a break in the serious business of doing homework, finishing that project, getting that paper written, or that assignment read. Well? did tomorrow deliver? did it live up to expectations?

As a concerned, and so earnest, observer I must say it seems to have done so. An objective measure of success is difficult, but consider that just on that day, as fate must have crew taped anyone wishing to appear. The surprising part is that the era in the hope of appearing for a come and gone, becoming one of Mother's day, didn't you?). So, all Mom. You did call your Mom on .

number of students lined up to par­ success is difficult, but consider that done so. An objective measure of our yesterdays, an archi ved impression. I did not stay to watch the thickest or best of the action, but I "jay-walked" sculpture to occupy the disturbingly consider a student-built Letters:

$30,000
$126 each (maybe $140 including shipping). A wall of length and width

about

labor costs total

Institute $1.3 million, which could

letters in the Dean's Office that they thoroughly enjoyed the stacked lunch at the Ath. Campbells seemed to be very popular this year, but I thankfully saw only one guil­

ine, a miniature. I wonder what they were doing with it? And what secret resided in that wooden box with the keys and the buttons and the lights? It was not too hard to figure out what was being done with the cement cylinder and with the colored smiley face cement block. But what will be done with the re­

content statements they extracted and the photos in chains?And what will I do with the extra large marker? I was to use on "The Prisoner's" Add Card? The common sound before the card was delivered. OK, OK I heard, time to stop."

Jean-Paul Revel
Dean of Students

Dig That Ditch

by Jean-Paul Revel

the stacks more popular than the collection that I take as a tangible measure of suc­

cess. A sensor riding on his bike, however, perhaps another view of the square jaw of the missing jar, wrapped in canvas and taped to the nearest tree. Just out of camera view students were work­
ing on deciphering a message in cuneiformish characters. They seemed to be solving the puzzle. I guess no Rosetta stone was needed since, lucky for them, the message was in English. And then there were the seekers of wisdom, which in my conceit, addressed, after futile at­
tempts to drape a toga around myself. It was hard to imagine anyone giving a speech to the curia wrapped in such infernal garb. It kept on slipping off. And there was the mystery of the body with fish­

net stockings, floating in Millikan pond, and theFlaming students, I sure hope they won't, flame that is. A delightful discovery was an abs­

olutely charming dragon (Smaug it was?) defending its (?) treasure in the middle of the Moore volute.

The morning after I noticed that it had lost a tooth, perhaps that one of the clues had been snatched from the dragon's teeth.

The toothsome, gold speckled, iron clad dragon was part of a passion­

ately eclectic menagerie, includ­
ing the little red frog and its little gray cousin wrapped, grey, around their clues. They were vigi­

lantly guarded (covered?) by the great big attack bullfrogs of lower Millikan pond, and three turtles

are about as tall as the wall, even basketball stars are not that tall. Secondly, the picture is blown up in the parking structure, but most people will see it from the sidewalk. I walked along the east side of Wilson Ave. to see the situation for myself. Partway up the curve is a man standing by a truck. I took them for six feet tall, added two feet, and looked past them at the Beckman Institute. The projection of the end of the wall will be half of the height of the way up the arches at the front of the building. This of course de­

pends on your height and on the fi­

nial contour of the slope. But there is no question that from the side­

walk, the front of the Beckman In­

stitute will be partially obscured. Personally I like the open view up the green lawn to the arches of the Beckman Institute; others may pre­
fer it with a juggled dark wall across part of the bottom. But let's have an honest picture of what it will look like.

Marshall Cohen
Professor of Astronomy, Emeri­tus


correction: capital accompanying last week's "Koonin Ates Library Town Hall Meeting" article (Page 24 Column 4) was misspelled. The idea for the renovation of the library by the Town Hall Meeting, when in fact the LTF was opposed to this plan.

The article incorrectly stated that called who for a community-wide town hall meeting. The Institute Library Committee was the group responsi­

ble for calling for such a meeting.

letters about Vectors Image, Student-designed Wall

$0.7 Million Pizza Party

Dear Editors,

Perhaps the administration would consider a student-built-Vectors-like sculpture to occupy the disturbingly eclectic menagerie, includ­
ing the little red frog and its little gray cousin wrapped, grey, around their clues. They were vigi­
lantly guarded (covered?) by the great big attack bullfrogs of lower Millikan pond, and three turtles

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ble for calling for such a meeting.
Sign-ups for ARC-nominated Faculty Student Committee Positions extended until Wednesday, May 29 at 5 pm

Sign-ups have been extended for ARC-nominated positions on the following Faculty Student Committees (outside SACC). The sign-ups will now be taken down on Wednesday, May 29 at 5 pm.

Academic Policies:
Core Curriculum Steering Committee
Curriculum Committee
Educational Outreach
Library Committee
Dabney/Millikan Library Transition Committee
Committee on Exchange Programs and Study Abroad

Core Curriculum Steering Committee:
The Core Curriculum Steering Committee oversees core courses and implementation changes where necessary (e.g., there are several menu courses being added). Any complaints about course content, quality of teaching, etc., can go to that committee. The membership of this committee shall include 2 student representatives, and one alternative member.

Curriculum Committee:
The Curriculum Committee exercises general supervision over the undergraduate curriculum. All proposed changes in the undergraduate program and all proposed changes in courses, including the presentation of new courses that undergraduate students will normally take, are considered by this committee for recommendation to the Faculty Board. Changes in program or courses are initiated by the Divisions and submitted to the committee, or the committee may recommend changes to the appropriate Division. The committee determines which students, including those in the Independent Studies Program, have met the requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree and certify these candidates to the faculty for recommendation to the Board of Trustees. It renders final decisions on student petitions for substitutions of courses or departures from prescribed course schedules. The membership of this committee shall include 2 student representatives, and two alternative members.

Educational Outreach:
The Educational Outreach Committee monitors and advises the faculty with respect to educational outreach programs involving Caltech. The committee is particularly concerned and involved with outreach efforts to precollege students from underrepresented at Caltech. The membership of this committee shall include 2 student representatives, and one alternative member.

Library Committee:
The Library Committee advises the University Librarian concerning the operation of the library facilities, and shall formulate policies on the administration of the libraries of the Institute. The membership of this committee shall include 2 student representatives, and two alternative members.

Dabney/Millikan Library Transition Committee:
This committee will define and implement the Dabney/Millikan library swap. The representative of this committee will need to work through the summer and into the fall, so you will need to be on campus over summer break.

Committee on Exchange Programs and Study Abroad:
This committee will consider and evaluate the current Cambridge and Copenhagen Exchange Programs and investigates other university abroad for new exchange program possibilities. A student who has actually participated in an exchange would be optimal.

If you have further questions, you should contact the ARC Chair (basit@its.caltech.edu) or one of the current holders of the positions, listed on http://www.library.caltech.edu/officers/ and follow the link to contact of Faculty Board and Committees.