Writer-in-residence and renowned Irish author Seamus Deane joined with Instructor in Humanities Steven Yura and other members of the Words Matter team.

Renowned Irish Author Deane Leads Seminar, Visits Classes

By WEIDANG

The Words Matter program officially got underway last week when the program's writer-in-residence, renowned Irish author Seamus Deane, arrived on campus for a one-week visit.

Seamus Deane, instructor at University College, Dublin and Keough Professor of Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame, toured campus last week as the first Words Matter writer-in-residence. His stay was filled with numerous activities from meeting with faculty to visiting classes to giving lectures and seminars.

During his stay, Professor Deane held discussions with students who last year had taken “The Irish Voice”—a course on Irish literature and history—and spoke on his novel, Reading in the Dark, with students from Dubney. He also met with tutors from the Hixon Writing Center, discussing methods of editing and revision. Later, he paid a visit to “Writing Fiction: The Imaginary,” taught by Instructor in Humanities Judith Hall.

Asked about his impression of Caltech undergraduates, Deane remarked that he was somewhat surprised at the timidity of most students, but marvelled at the intellectual prowess they demonstrated in the topics they discussed. This marked Professor Deane’s first visit to Caltech, though he had previously lectured at the University of California at Berkeley and visited nearby Huntington Library.

Deane also addressed the longstanding perception that Caltech humanities, as many students believe, often take a backseat to scientific pursuits. “The difficulties in uniting the humanities and science are legion,” he said. “It would be very useful to explore how science was originally represented by the literary people...both are deforming in the sense that each one is marginalizing the other. They need to recognize each other’s importance.”

What message does Deane want to impress upon the Caltech community by his visit? “People should know,” he asserted, “that the study of humanities involves a serious intellectual effort.”

The next Words Matter event is slated for 8 p.m. on Thursday in Keck 1 at 1200 East California Boulevard, Pasadena, 91125.

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Lights, Streamers Decorate Beckman in Diwali Festival

By RUMI CHUNARA

King Hima was doomed to die on the fourth stage of his marriage, according to his astrological chart. So on that day his worried wife lighted countless lamps and laid piles of ornaments and gold and silver coins at the entrance of her husband’s room. When Yama, the god of death, arrived there in the guise of a Serpent, the dazzle of the brilliant lights blinded his eyes and he could not enter the Prince’s chamber.

Similar bright lights, along with colorful streamers and flowers adorned Beckman Institute for the evening event. The guests were called to the Beckman Institute courtyard Friday night, as the Organization of Associated Students from the Indian Subcontinent (OASIS) celebrated the Hindu festival of lights: Diwali.

Hindu festival of lights: Diwali.

By MARK POLINKOVSKY

In the backdrop of higher-than-expected turnout, last Tuesday’s midterm elections saw Democrats triumph in the state of California while Republicans gained seats nation-ally to take over Congress in returns that toppled scores of long-term incumbents on election night.

For the first time since 1934, the President’s party gained seats in Congress in the off-year contests. Voter turnout was much higher than anticipated in many parts of the nation and precincts struggled to accommodate the many voters. In contrast to predictions, there were no major surprises in polling problems. Alabama’s gubernatorial race remains in flux after Mobile County reported a 7,000-vote mistake that would swing the outcome of the election.

Now swelled to 226 seats in the House and 51 thus far in the Senate, the Republicans’ Congressional pickups are especially significant because of the tendency for the President’s party to lose seats in the House in midterm elections. Then President Bill Clinton managed to buck that trend once before in 1998 with Democratic House and Senate pickups, but he had Eisenhower to find the last example of a midterm gain for the adminis-trative party.

With a majority in Congress and control of the White House, the Administration faces a critical test in the midterm elections. However, Republicans foresee few problems in pushing their agenda. Among agenda items are approving back-logged judicial nominations and revising congressional budget ap-propriations. The mandate was a hard-fought

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Master Plan Construction Phase Kicks Into High Gear

By MATTHEW WALKER

From Avery to Braun, renovations, new buildings and destruction of old buildings have changed campus greatly in the last 13 years. In response, Baltimore in conjunction with administrators has begun tak-ing a hard look at revising the most stringent construction requirements mandated by the 1989 Master Plan:

“Footprinting” Revised

Broad Center, Avery House, Braun Gym, the Physical Plant, parking structures, scores of new academic buildings and a fire station are among the many building projects 1989 admin­istrators couldn’t have anticipated when they drafted the Master Plan.

As a result, certain stringencies, such as footprinting and open-space requirements, have been abandoned. President David Bait­tine more emphasizes that it is important to have flexibility and since the “guided thinking” of the Master Plan is somewhat restrictive, re­visions are needed to reflect the needs. For instance, the footprint—the ground level space occupied by a building—of the North Houses was extended so that there would be more space when the Houses are rehabilitated.

Another example of revisions is that the site of the Physical Plant was originally des­ignated to be open space, but it was traded for a building envelope sized where the

Broad lawn is and where Victor is pro­posed to be built. The reason that the space needed to be traded is that one of the City’s conditions for the Master Plan was that buildings maintain a “footprint ra­tio” with open space.

The new fire station, for its part, was not required by the city or the Master Plan, but Caltech made provisions for the possibility. In addition, more than 30 of the 40 houses on campus have been relo­cated out of building envelopes and of 13 properties on campus not owned by Caltech, 11 have been purchased.

Another condition that the city set for the Plan is that a building over a certain height has to set aside some percentage of the cost to public artwork. Changes to the Master Plan must be reviewed by three city bodies, though the City Council has the final say.

Communication with Pasadena

The Master Plan first received approval in 1989 after four years of development. Stren­thening from a City of Pasadena ordinance in the early 1990s called the General Plan, Caltech was required by the city to lay out a plan for 10 years of growth, along with other major landowners.

Pasadena prompted Caltech to estimate the expected growth of the contiguous Pasadena Campus, which extends from Catalina to Hill

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Parkingspace, NewAstrophysics Building HighlightMaster Plan’s Construction Goals

Continued From Page 1, Column 4

in the west-to-east direction and from Del Mar to Tournament Park (south of the athletic complex) in the north-to-south direction. In response, they propose to encompass what it hoped would define growth and to “name parking structures” to designate building envelopes in current open areas where buildings could be constructed rather than designating parcels of land. Caltech was able to designate 1.5 million square feet for development of parking, residence, administration and academe.

Of that space, “the lion’s share will be going to academic [buildings],” emphasized Vice President of Administration and Community Relations Hall Daily.

Mr. Daily suggested that a “grant who plays the plan to the city” as a member of the Caltech administration for almost 15 years, he also represents Caltech’s interests in the community. He lobbies for increased appropriations for the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Health at the national level and StateCal grants at the state level, but he said his “most important mission is convincing the City of Pasadena to agree with Caltech’s planned campus development.” Before coming to Caltech, Mr. Daily spent 15 years working for newspaper and wire services.

Said Mr. Daily of revisions, “we propose and they disapprove”—meaning that the new drafts the proposals so that both sides can agree on the changes. Mr. Daily added that Caltech has“a very good relationship with the City and that “Pasadena really cares what gets built here.” Caltech is a “very small player,” being the number one employer, having a beautiful campus and, of course, being one of the world’s premier research universities.

SCIENCE FAIR TO FOCUS ON FEMALE CONTRIBUTIONS

WEST SPONSORS UPCOMING SYMPOSIUM

Forty Women Scientists Take Spotlight in Two-day Event

By MAG BAK, CYNTHIA COLLINS,
SARAH HEISLORN and
PATRICIA PERSAUD

On November 12 and 13, the Caltech Women’s Science Symposium will feature the stories of 40 female scientists at Caltech. This event, sponsored by WEST (Women in Engineering, Science and Technology), will include scientific lectures by Caltech faculty, professional development seminars, scientific poster sessions by students and panelists and social events.

The goals of this symposium are to foster interdisciplinary scientific discussion on campus and to encourage a sense of community and support for women scientists at Caltech. While few would question the importance of women’s lack of involvement in the science and engineering workforce, this symposium will provide an important opportunity to discuss the issue.

In 1991, women earned 44% of the science and engineering degrees, 28% of the science and engineering masters degrees, 28% of the science and engineering doctoral degrees and they represented 19% of the science and engineering workforce. Women hold 11% of the faculty positions at Caltech. These numbers briefly demonstrate the well-documented trend of women dropping out of graduate and undergraduate programs at all levels of the academic pipeline.

Why are women leaving these professions? A comprehensive study sponsored by the National Science Foundation found that this drop out rate is not due to the lack of academic success. Among the acquire academic climate and women’s lack of the feeling of being part of a larger community. Loss of self-esteem, lack of encouragement and misconceptions about the lifestyle of a scientist, together in one building, considerable space will be freed in Bridge for the rest of the physics department. Progress on the astrophysics building is good, with one donor already re-committed to pay half of the planned cost of the building.

However, the construction of the astrophysics building will complicate another of Caltech’s problems: parking. The Master Plan requires Caltech to deal with the parking problem before the new building is constructed.

There are several plans involving both underground and above-ground parking structures, but according to Mr. Daily, “the costs are really prohibitive.” Costs for the proposed above-ground Holliston Parking structure range from $10,000 to $12,000 per space and costs for underground parking structures start at $18,000 per space.

The problem is compounded by the fact that “nobody wants their name on a parking structure,” in the words of Mr. Daily, making it hard to find donors. The result: Caltech will most likely have to issue a bond to pay for parking structures, but Caltech’s good credit rating makes this a viable solution.

Caltech’s women’s volleyball team takes the floor against Redlands this week. Poised for its upcoming final match, the squad posted another two losses last week.

Soccer, Volleyball, Water Polo Teams Post Six Straight Losses

By BRENTON REGER

Athlete of the Week

Gustavo Olm ’06, of the cross country team, is this week’s Athlete of the Week. Having availed a great freshman season Olm finished 14th at the SCIAC Championships with a time of 27:39, a personal best for Olm. This finish was good enough for second team All-Conference honors in the SCIAC.

Men’s Soccer

Caltech 0-14 Occidental

The Beavers dropped two this week with narrow losses to La Verne and Pomona-Pitzer. Despite several chances to claim victory, Caltech fell short in the end. The squad finished the season against Claremont-Mudd-Scripps on the road.

Women’s Volleyball

Caltech 0-2 Caltech

The Lady Beavers hung tough against very strong conference opponents last week. The lady Beavers had 45 digs against Redlands and an unbelievable 94 digs against Whittier. Top performers for the week: Megan Kennedy ’04, with two kills, 26 assists and 27 digs; Kelly Klima ’03, with five kills and 29 digs; Kristen Zortman ’05, with seven digs, six kills and two blocks; and Vl Tran ’05, with three kills and 25 digs. The women played their last home match November 5th in Braun.

The Caltech polo team played the best four-quarters of the year, but they were spread over two games. The Trojans traveled to the small shallow-ponded pond of Occidental College. This proved to be the difference in the game as two goals on the “good” side went wide to the home team resulting in a Caltech loss, 12 to 14.

Jim Rebesco ’05 was the star popping in three goals and controlling the set position. Logan Linderman ‘05 also chipped in two outside shots to get Caltech close. “If we had not played such a poor second quarter the outcome would have different,” said Linderman.

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“Noboy wants his name on a parking structure.”

Hall Daily Community Relations
EARLY LEAD CRUMBLES IN 20TH POLO LOSS
ONLY ONE GOAL AFTER HALF
Claremont Stags Too Much for Wali,
Beavers
Continued from Page 2, Column 3

Two, Ben Solecki '03 with two, Grandstedt with one and Sasaki Byerly '03 with one.

The next match was at Caltech Saturday morning against Claremont. Home cooking seemed to help as the Beavers jumped all over the Stags two-to-one on the strength of Solecki's two goals early in the first quarter. Grandstedt followed with a outside shot early in the second to extend the lead to three-one and Paul Wali '05 continued his outstanding play with another penalty shot blocked and a number of nice tip-ins to frustrate Claremont.

Then, a few miscues let Claremont back in the game and to a five-to-three lead at the half. Claremont dominated the rest of the match, with only Isaac Hilburn '04 answering with a goal of his own late in the 15:4 loss. "The game needed more effort in the second half but in the fourth quarter I played a lot of our subs and most looked really good," said Coach Dodd.

Cross Country

In the men's SCIAC championship, Olm placed 14th in the individual round at 27:59; Eric Anderson '03, 25th at 29:01; JR Heberle '04, 33rd at 29:45; Matthew Ng '06, 34th at 29:51; Marcus Ng '06, 39th at 30:09; David Gutzchick '06, 45th at 30:45; John Yao '04, 56th at 32:15; and Japeck Tang '04, 60th at 32:34.

In the women's SCIAC championships, Andrea Vasconcellos '05 placed 22nd in the individual round at 25:01; Tamara Becker '04, 31st at 25:36; Kamilah Chung '05, 41st at 26:10; Kim Pedemoor '06, 48th at 27:44; Tracy Janov '05, 62nd at 28:04; Rachel Yohay '06, 72nd at 28:48; Grace Chuang '06, 84th at 31:22; and Michelle Gerin '06, 85th at 32:20.

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There will be a kosher dinner this Wednesday, November 13 at 6 p.m. in Thome Hall, to be followed by a talk/discussion with a guest speaker. The cost of dinner will be subsidized by HSPV to Caltech kosher cook, Joel Weinberger, at kosher@caltech.edu.

What I Love About Caltech. November 16, 2-4 pm on the Oval Walk. Caltech is probably the only university where so many students have a desire to move or to not move on when they graduate. This event aims at celebrating the good things about Caltech. Various speakers from throughout the community will share what they love about Caltech and there will be an open microphone session for students to share their stories. ASCTD Domains will sponsor refreshments, which will be served. This event is the first in an attempt to increase the communication between students and faculty, staff, and alumni.


AIM Addiction: Causes, Symptoms and Remedies

Admitted Alumnae Advises Community

By YE LI

AIM. This seems to be one acronym that just about every computer user recognizes these days. For the few that don't, it stands for AOL Instant Messenger, the most popular of a handful of free programs made for the express purpose of having online conversations. Along with its siblings ICQ, MSN Messenger and Yahoo! Messenger, it has created a revolution in communication. Email was the natural evolution of "snail mail." Instant messaging is simply the next step in removing obstacles from the flow of words.

In hindsight, the basic concept behind instant messaging doesn't seem so all that innovative. Effectively, you can think of it as a chat room with only two people, or a system in which e-mails are immediately read and replied to. Yet, the culture that instant messengers have spawned is truly novel.

From the day a user first registers for his or her "screen name," a whole new world is opened. Suddenly, friends attending schools across the world are as close as a double click. Computer-savvy parents can pester without worry of double click. Computer-savvy parents can pester without worry of double click. Computer-savvy parents can pester without worry of double click. Computer-savvy parents can pester without worry of double click.

DILBERT® by Scott Adams

FROM NOON ON I HOPE THE HEADPHONES IN THE OFFICE ARE WORKING.

I'LL BE DRIVING AND HUMMING ALL DAY. DON'T TOUCH MY WHISTLE.

WINDOW WAS OPEN ON THE STREET. I HOPE THE HEADPHONES IN THE OFFICE ARE WORKING.

Optimists are the ones that are happy when they are unhappy. Pessimists are the ones that are happy when they are happy.

YOU MIGHT NOT CLICK A LINK OR CLICK ON A FILE WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE DOING, BUT... WHAT IF YOU CLICKED THE "DELETE" BUTTON ON YOUR COMPUTER?

IF YOU ARE A Windows user, you should know that it is possible to delete your entire computer system completely.

If you are a Mac user, you should know that it is possible to erase your entire computer system completely.

IF YOU ARE A Linux user, you should know that it is possible to delete your entire computer system completely.

I DON'T HEAR YOU. BUT I KNOW YOU'RE LISTENING TO ME. I HOPE THE HEADPHONES IN THE OFFICE ARE WORKING.

I SPANNED MY EXPANSION KIT TO A REMOTE COMPUTER.

THAT PART OF THE SCHOOL IS OK, BUT THAT PART IS TOTALLY DESTROYED. I HOPE THE HEADPHONES IN THE OFFICE ARE WORKING.

IF I DON'T HAVE ALL MY WINDOWS OPEN, I FEEL NERVOUS.
If you are in-between jobs, have just gotten married, had a child, or experienced another significant life change, make sure you have the health coverage that fits the new you. With Blue Shield of California's Deductible PPO Plans you can choose from among four annual deductible levels, so you're certain to find a plan that meets your needs and budget. Call today to compare coverage and see how affordable a Blue Shield Deductible PPO Plan can be:

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Your Life. Your Shield.

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The place: Yorkshire, England. The year: 1812. A rash of destroyed textile machines by a secret society of skilled workers in the wool industry leads to the death of a mill owner who swore to defend his machinery. A reward for information leading to convictions in the case reveals the culprits. The secret society is the Luddites, a group of croppers angered by the development of a machine that did their job in one fifth the time and that threatened their livelihood. They systematically smashed the machines all across the countryside, often leaving other machines untouched. The assassinated mill owner, William Horsfall, was killed after declaring, "he would ride 'up to his saddle girths in Luddite blood,'" rather than have his machine destroyed. After one Luddite confessed, twenty-four more were convicted in the murder, and seventeen were executed, effectively crushing the Luddite movement. The machine that they were destroying was eventually phased in all over the country, eliminating the need for their skill.

Nowadays, the term Luddite refers to a technophile. Generally, this group believes that any technology that would cause somebody to lose their job, such as email could cause postal workers to lose their jobs, is bad, but jobs that supplement human work and create work, such as cars, are acceptable. The modern Luddites also have green views. They oppose the creation of roads, power plants, toxic chemicals, and open cast mining. They purport to support tight-knit communities and other green ideals. These Luddites, however, are not the only modern Luddites. The second, more secretive sect is much more aggressive. This 95 year old foundation has been actively sabotaging technology since its inception by 19-year-old Jim Casey in 1907 in Seattle. By the 1930s, the group had spread to all major West Coast cities with a branch in New York City. It was not until 1975, though, that this militant group had

Continued on Page 6, Column 4
Abuse Education Mandated for Priests

By LINIBZHANG

Pope John Paul II issued the enoncible “Osum Overy Exam” to-day, requiring that all Catholic priests in the United States attend abuse prevention classes similar to those for middle school students. The priests are to study in the same classroom with the young boys and girls until personal sex education classes are fortified. The Pope was impressed by the high rate of success of the abuse-only program in schools and decided that mandatory sex education classes would appease the Catholic child abuse scandal.

The abuse-only sex education program is familiar to all Americans, but for those who skip through them, it is a series of middle school seminars that taught that absence or, no sex, is the only option for safe sex education. This program focused on the negative consequences of using contraceptives, such as the astronomically high failure rate, long-term complications and scientifically- proven facts, like the fact that all sexually-transmitted diseases are immediately fatal.

The program has been a huge success, with surveys showing that the teen sex rate has fallen from 35% in 1968 to 17% in the past year. The surveys have a margin of error of 3%. The Catholic church hierarchy is:: the priest sex rate will fall as dramatically once the priests start to believe in only abstinence.

Since the 12th century, Catholic priests have been celibate, so they would not get anything close to property to their children. They were, therefore, the ones who much feared death, and those who dared not risk being blinded by a marriage, there were very few outlets for the repressed sexual energy. One outlet was molesting little boys and girls. The clients who had knowledge of pedophile priests until the embarrassment factor went public a few years ago. After much soul searching and consultation with God, the 85-year old Pope concluded that abuse-only education was such a bad idea that he was urging his sexual urges more than allowing them to marry, or allowing women to become priests. The Pope, who unlike some of his predecessors has no known illegitimate children, is, of course, fallible.

In other news, the Catholic church recommends that people stay indoors at all times, preferably inside churches, to reduce the chances of being struck by lightning.

Canter’s Diner: Expense Tame

By JOE ESCALADA

Escalada Critiques Hollywood’s ‘Classic Hip, Jewish Restaurant’

You’ve finished your problem set, it’s 4:00 a.m., you’re hungry and you want to get far away from Caltech. Whatever you do, don’t go to Canter’s.

Canter’s is described both as “classic” and "hipster". These words have practical meaning. The packages are in same good English, but are often difficult to understand in Hollywood. Perhaps there is some wisdom in avoiding these contradictory terms to describe this restaurant: I did find myself wondering if the classic elderly servers had prosopitic hips. Unfortunately, I didn’t have the courage to ask.

If the cuisine proved excellent I would not be writing this piece. The ‘classic hip’, I’m not sure if it’s a good culinary experience. Let us go back to the “classic hip” train, but unfortunately the food wasn’t good. Every time I’ve eaten at Canter’s—twice on weekdays and once on a Friday night—there were few customers and less servers. Canter’s is the only place in Hollywood where you can get a perfectly prepared sandwich. In many cases you can’t buy a drink. The waitresses looked as though they had been serving coffee since the place opened up in the thirties. The clientele was so bad. The man I ate at Canter’s two old men sitting at different tables were muttering gibberish. It was impossible to tell if they were mumbled to each other or they were talking to the waiter, a conversation until one of them belched and they both started speaking.

Why, not only for the belching and old age but for simple reasons, do people continue to eat at Canter’s? Perhaps people are attracted to its hipness, its hipness, the hipness, because it is hipness. I think it’s the hype. Canter’s is another second-rate restaurant that would persuade even John Belushi to go on a diet. There are far better places to eat, such as Fat Comedian.

(Alcohol Rating: 3; Soda, Dead; Fat Comedians; Medium Rating; Happily, Dead; Fat Comedians.)

Hundreds of Nations

In Grasp of Luddites

spread to all 48 contiguous states, forging the “Golden Link.” The group established divisions in Ha­waii and Alaska within a year of the same arm of the Luddites had gone international after it had spread to six European nations. Currently, the Luddite group has spread to 200 countries, and in the past year, the Luddites have sold 3 million “packages” everyday, sabotag­ ing all technologically advanced items in the country.

New insights into how the Luddite saboteurs operate have been provided by a former Luddite strongman. Everyday Bytes of driv­ ers pick up the “packages” from central collection locations. From there, the packages are transferred to processing hubs, whose location is undisclosed at this time. Using code phrases, such as “Fragment”, “This side up” “Handle with care”, “Do Not Eat”, “Double Stack,” and worst of all, “Com­ pulsory Abstinence”, the saboteurs will sabotage the technologically ad­ vanced “packages” while letting everything else through safely. To limit suspicion, the handlers use complicated hand and dropping techniques to damage the packages without obvious physical signs. It is uncommon for the case of a computer to come through un­ scathed and even more rare for a day or a few days before the effects of the sabotages set in. Conservative estimates have them sabotaging over $300 million worth of technol­ ogy in the United States.

When presented to the student body, many reacted with outrage. They had no idea that the sabotaging problem had gotten so bad. One student said “I think it’s disgusting, ruined it! They broke my computer!” “You’re asking me to use and test stories about destroyed computers and other damaged property. This is not a joke!” “Another Luddistic net­ work is an increasing problem. With their current level of success, this group is obviously a real danger. More commonly known as LPS, they intend to continue their work far into the future with overnight processing in 109 countries and have it returned to your door by 8:30 a.m.

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New insights into how the Luddite saboteurs operate have been provided by a former Luddite strongman. Everyday Bytes of driv­ ers pick up the “packages” from central collection locations. From there, the packages are transferred to processing hubs, whose location is undisclosed at this time. Using code phrases, such as “Fragment”, “This side up” “Handle with care”, “Do Not Eat”, “Double Stack,” and worst of all, “Com­ pulsory Abstinence”, the saboteurs will sabotage the technologically ad­ vanced “packages” while letting everything else through safely. To limit suspicion, the handlers use complicated hand and dropping techniques to damage the packages without obvious physical signs. It is uncommon for the case of a computer to come through un­ scathed and even more rare for a day or a few days before the effects of the sabotages set in. Conservative estimates have them sabotaging over $300 million worth of technol­ ogy in the United States.

When presented to the student body, many reacted with outrage. They had no idea that the sabotaging problem had gotten so bad. One student said “I think it’s disgusting, ruined it! They broke my computer!” “You’re asking me to use and test stories about destroyed computers and other damaged property. This is not a joke!” “Another Luddistic net­ work is an increasing problem. With their current level of success, this group is obviously a real danger. More commonly known as LPS, they intend to continue their work far into the future with overnight processing in 109 countries and have it returned to your door by 8:30 a.m.
Letters: Web Site Art, Kern Apology, Posters

Keri: Ruddock Apology

Dear editors,

I would like to take this opportu­nity to apologize to Danby House for the mistake made against me by one of my freshmen, Matthew Walker ’06. Although he may not be able to take a joke, I certainly enjoyed your company on the night of your visit. We’ll try to keep Mr. Walker safely penned up until the next Tech submission deadline has passed.

Robert Kern ’03
Ruddock House President

Web Site’s ‘Composite’ Art

Dear editors,

Like many people at this school, my browser’s home page is set to caltech.edu and I was shocked to see the picture shown below as the first image that loaded. To anybody who has been near the south houses, this picture is an obvious forgery. It is an assembly of two images: one of the side of Ricketts House in the background and a second of a student sitting on the columns in the front side of Fleming. This image is a truly bold move for Caltech. First allowing a post-modern post-ab­stract visionary such as Richard Serra to build a sculpture on Beckman lawn and now allowing Surrealist artwork on the front page of the Caltech Web site.

No one needs me to explain how this picture brilliantly subverts your perception of Caltech as a physical concept, by combining two con­trasting images seamlessly. My fa­vorite part is how the Olive Walk is no a straight line, but rather is slowly overcome by shrubs as it fades to the vanishing point. Every time I see this picture, I think, “Huh? How’s that happening?” It totally blows my mind. I lose what­ever I am doing to spend 5-10 hours to think about how my understand­ing of the physical world is filtered through my perception.

I think this picture shows how Caltech is not a bunch of boring stuff start scientists, but the scient­ific and cultural epicenter of the 20th century. If only there were more surrealistic and post-modern things on the rest of campus, I think students would find this a much more enjoyable school. I earnestly petition the board of trustees to ap­prove what I call, “The Plan de Sur­realism.” Instead of raising more funds for new buildings and labo­ratory space, we should just spend all of Gordon Moore’s money on supporting student performance art. People at this school are not going to walk around draped in human and do pile drivers onto beds of nails, just to point out the futility and bleakness of modern existence.

This picture is the beginning of a new day for the California Institute of Technology. I boldly suggest we follow this path wherever it may lead us. For the first time since I have been here I am proud to say that I go to Caltech.

Your Humble Servant,

Jimmy Corrigan
Poster Mockery Offensive

Dear editors,

Last Sunday flyers began appear­ing on campus that “mocked” the upcoming student program, “What I Love About Caltech.” These fli­ers ranged from being in poor taste to being disrespectful and offensive. Over the past year our commun­ity has engaged in a number of conversations aimed at improving the student experience, encour­aging more dialogue and communi­cation between various groups, and defining the role of the honor code in our daily life. If we are to truly address these issues then it is criti­cal that we begin to understand how our words affect others and how our actions help create the campus cli­mate. As we continue to discuss and debate issues that are important for all members of our community, we need to do so in a manner that is respectful to others.

Caltech Women’s Center
Caltech Y
International Student Programs
Multicultural Education and Mi­nority Student Affairs

Undergraduate Dean’s Office
Vice President for Student Affairs

Caltech’s Web site features “surrealist artwork,” apparently a com­posite of the front of Ricketts House and the columns of Fleming.

What Students Love About Caltech

Continued from Page 6, Column 3

causes to the rest of the administr­ation. Ms. Marshak has already taken measures to better understand our concerns. Last Wednesday she held an open house for students to drop in and I was shocked to see the picture shown below as the first image that loaded.

For this week I leave you with this question. I am merely at the tip of the iceberg. A glimpse below the water offers some horrific sights. I have seen people carry on conversations via away messages, compete to see who can stay online the longest and message next-door neighbors or even their own roommates. With AIM, you can order pizza, make requests to radio stations and even carry on conversations with an au­tomated program known as “mumbling.”

Is this the price we pay for instant messaging? Communication has become so effortless that it is pos­sible to never leave the front of your computer except to perform your normal functions and pay the pizza boy. Does that seem right? Hon­estly, how many hours have you wasted coming up with clever away messages and profiles? How much efficiency have you lost because you couldn’t bring yourself to sign off while doing homework or study­ing? Is the improvement in commu­nicational efficiency worth it for an­other student morale problem, we need to do so in a manner that is respectful to others.

Caltech’s Web site features “surrealist artwork,” apparently a com­posite of the front of Ricketts House and the columns of Fleming.

The Price We Pay: ‘AIM’ Steals Time

Continued from Page 4, Column 2

What, if anything, do you love about Caltech?

Quiz

QUIZ

If the answer is not B, or you tend to prefer A or C, go to page 10.

If the answer is B, go to page 11.

If you choose C, go to page 12.

Crippling Depression

http://www.CripplingDepression.com

WHY HAVE I SEEN YOU BEING A

QUIZ

AM I THE ONLY ONE?

WHAT CAN I DO?

IF YOU THINK THAT WAY

I'M HERE TO HELP YOU WHERE YOU ARE.

WHAT TO DO

1. CALL SOMEBODY IN THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OR FRIENDS YOU CAN TRUST.
2. CALL THE STAFF AT CRIPPLINGDEPRESSION.COM.
3. CALL A CRISIS LINE.

I'M HERE TO HELP YOU WHERE YOU ARE.
Upcoming WEST Symposium Brings Gender Issues to Forefront

Continued from Page 2, Column 1

that is, same in gender and ethnicity. Unfortunately, the numbers of fe­
male and minority faculty rarely matches the number of students of similar backgrounds looking to be mentored and therefore women have more difficulty finding men­
tors than men. In short, as Trower

“Research shows that both students and mentors feel most comfortable with someone like themselves.”

and Chait once said, “who teaches

students the most accurate predictor of subsequent success for female

undergraduates is the percentage of women among faculty members at their college.”

At Caltech, having recently released statements that they are committed to increasing the number of female faculty and studying potential gen­
der bias among faculty members.

MIT released a landmark report in 1997 that showed women faculty from all parts of that institution suf­

fereed multiple disadvantages that compounded over time.

At Caltech, it was recently re­

to that when female faculty were “more markedly less satisfied than their male peers with many aspects of Caltech.” Furthermore, the mean of the normalized residuals for the 29 Caltech female faculty mem­

 bers, salaries 2.08 times the standard deviation expected for a random population of 29 out of a total sample of 239 faculty mem­

 bers, there were no systematic dif­

ference between male and female faculty members in terms of accom­

plishment and value to the Institute, there would be only about a one in twenty chance of the non-replicability be­ing

a random result.

Due to the low number of women faculty and the fact that the women often have diffi­
culty finding mentors. The Caltech Women’s Science Symposiar

hopes to “being together a cross­

section of women scientists from many disciplines and at various stages of their careers, a building process of confidence, and encour­

aging the formation of mentoring relation­

ships and support networks.”

February, a science writing sym­

posium will be held, featuring David

Goodstein, vice provost and in­

structor in physics, and various writers from The Los Angeles Times and The New York Times. Core writ­

ing students will be among the at­

tendees to the conference, which will focus on the communication of specialized science to the general

public.

“Words Matter really began with that simple phrase,” said Steven Youra, Director of the Hoover Writ­

 ing Center and chair of the Words Matter committee. Dr. Youra pointed out that part of the program includes small grants to bring local writers to campus for class visits, the purchase of books and expense re­

quests. Last year, the program sup­

ported a student literary pub­

lication.

Words Matter is a new presiden­

tial initiative involving some of the university’s most valuable writers—authors to campus for lectures, readings, class visits and other in­

teractions with students and mem­

bers of the Caltech community. It is guided by a committee made up of students, faculty and administra­

tive officials. Words Matter is funded by the Office of the Provost.

While Caltech is undoubtedly one of the university’s most valuable writers, for math, science and engineering, many have often overlooked as­

sociated literary events that have taken

place on campus. However, with the recent opening of the Hoover Writing Center and the initiation of the Words Matter program, aware­

ness for the humanities is being spread throughout the Caltech com­

munity.

The Words Matter program is a brand new, three-year program that seeks to foster interaction between Caltech students and distinguished writers. Initiated by President Bal­

timore, the project’s primary goal is to encourage and support liter­

ary activity on campus. The project is made up of three aspects: writ­

ers-in-residence, a symposium on science writing and a small grants program. Words Matter will invite an accomplished writer to campus each term for a visit lasting three to five days.

The program’s first resident, Seamus Deane was born in North­

ern Ireland and is now at the University of Cambridge. He is a No­

Velist and leading historian of mod­

ern Irish literature. His international­

ally acclaimed first novel, Reading in the Dark, won the Guardian Prize for Fiction. Deane also won the Irish Times Profile Award and was short-listed for the Booker Prize. Professor Deane is a

fellow at Magdalene College, Cam­

bridge and editor of the monumental three-volume Anthology of Irish Writing.

Democrats Pick Up Seats in State Legislature, Republicans in Nation

Continued from Page 1, Column 2

victory for Republicans, who

gained a House seat to bring them to a total of 33 of 53 seats, while the Republicans gained two seats in the California State Assembly. Gov­

or Gray Davis was re-elected with 48% of the vote, versus 42% for Republican challenger Bill Simon. Although Davis has only a 5% favor rating, he stayed ahead of Simon throughout the campaign due to the controversy involving Simon’s refusal to disclose tax documents in the wake of the cor­

porate scandals.

Additionally, several important measures won the ballot in Cali­

fornia. Proposition 49, the widely popular Schwarzenegger-crafted initiative which calls for increased funding for educational programs, was approved with 57% of the vote. On the contrary, Proposition 52 which would have increased Education Day vote registration was rejected with 59%.

The Democrats cited President Bush’s favor ratings in explaining why they were defeated by the Re­

publicans. In the future, Demo­

crats will try to regroup under new leadership so that they can mount a stronger challenge against the Republicans in 2004.

It’s Over: The election season has gone, a more moder­

ate era awaits. Thurmond is leaving the 21st century to people under the age of 100. And with his protege de­

feated, wrestler-governor Ventura is headed for a bodybag.

Role Model? Schwarzenegger returns to champion his $450 million initiative for “after-school programs.” So Mr. Kin­

nison’s lines are about as good as his last appearance in the 2000 gubernatorial campaign. He’s now to terminate his 2006 gubernatorial campaign.

Grayed Out: A guy with 45% approval runs for re-elec­tion for a millionaire who won’t release his tax returns and a radio-show host on radio hosts. In short, the Cali­

fornia: Schwarzenegger’s looking pretty good just now.

Diwali Welcomes Lakshmi to Caltech

Continued from Page 1, Column 4

widely observed event on the Hindu religious calendar. For some, it is a

five-day festival on which lamps are lit to keep alive the memory of Prince Rama’s return to Ayodhya.

In Hindu Mythology, Rama is the seventh incarnation of the Lord

Vishnu, and his heroic deeds make

him a hero to people under the age of 100. And with his protege de­

feated, wrestler-governor Ventura is headed for a bodybag.

Diwali is a festival that unites all creeds at Caltech this past Friday.

Many universities, including

Caltech, have recently released statements that they are committed to increasing the number of female

students among faculty members at

their college.

Ingeborg R. Chunara/The


THE CALIFORNIA TECH

continued from Page 1

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM: ELECTIONED

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