Man Arrested for Burglaries; Campus Safety Confirmed by Security Report

By K. SZMYKOWSKA

Safety is not generally viewed as a major concern at Caltech. Many undergraduates leave their doors open when they leave their rooms or when they are asleep, without feeling much concern that any of their property might be stolen or damaged while left unattended. Similarly, crime directed at individuals such as robbery, assault and sex offenses are not issues that many students worry about at all.

Given that Caltech is located in a largely urban area and has a very small campus, the idea of anyone approaching a crime scene must be surprising. We are very much justified in asking ourselves what crime-reporting policies and crime-prevention measures evolved in the broad general Caltech attitude, that crime simply does not happen much on this campus.

The Caltech Annual Security Report was published at the end of October and is now available for general access online (it may be viewed at security.caltech.edu/report.htm).

There are usually only six Caltech students who do this every four years before Shen and Medwood took over, the most challenging part of being coordinator is having the meal ready and to be served on time. "Your job is to cook for 40 to 50 people," she explained. "Union Station residents have a very regimented schedule and they have to eat at 7 p.m., so if you're not ready then, there is a possibility that they won't eat." There are only usually six Caltech students who do this every four months. According to Niki Zacharias, who coordinated the program for the past three years, there are usually more replies from people who would like to go than they can actually take. For the people who do go, it's three hours of solid work: the process of cooking takes two hours and the serving dinner takes one. After serving, the Caltech students also eat the food they made, sometimes sitting with the residents. Despite that, however, usually not much of a chance to interact with the residents or have in-depth conversations.

Students Serve Homeless Dinner at Union Station

By JENNY HOFNOV and ARTHI SENGUMBA

The Caltech Y organizes several community service programs that happen regularly. One of these is the Union Station program, organized by Kai Shen and Rachel Medwood '04. Once a month, a group of Caltech students goes to Union Station, a homeless shelter and cooks dinner for the residents there.

The program is run entirely by students; it is not like most homeless shelters: the residents there must show that they are making a committed effort to regaining a stable and nutritious diet. For the students, the most challenging part of being coordinator is having the meal ready and to be served on time. "Your job is to cook for 40 to 50 people," she explained. "Union Station residents have a very regimented schedule and they have to eat at 7 p.m., so if you're not ready then, there is a possibility that they won't eat."

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None Injured By Falling Tree Friday

By WILLIAM FONG

On Wednesday evening, Professor Jean Ensminger gave a lecture in the continuing Watson Lecture Series titled "Experimenting With Social Norms". Ensminger, a professor of anthropology and the division chair of the humanities and social sciences at Caltech, discussed her field work and case study material from several decades of research with the Orma population in the East African country of Kenya.

The Orma have two economically distinct groups: the pastoral nomads, a heavily subsistence-oriented group who raise cattle, sheep and goats and migrate when the land's resources have been exhausted; and the sedentarists, a heavily market-oriented group that consists of artisans and merchants and tend to remain settled in one area.

Two of these groups were involved in the social experiments conducted by Prof. Ensminger that studied the effect of social norms on economic decisions. A social norm is in an informal rule that governs social behavior. One of the social norms tested in the Orma population was fairness. To test the fairness norm, Ensminger conducted two games. The first game was the ultimatum game where two players from the same community, identities withheld from each other, were given the opportunity to split one day of wages ($US21).

Professor Jean Ensminger, who is head of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division, explains her work at an Orma village in Kenya as part of her Watson Lecture "Experimenting with Social Norms."

Testing Rivals Connection Between Cultural Standards, Economic Status

By GRANT CHANG-CHIEN

Color Blind Affirmative Action

This past Tuesday, tucked away in the tiny Baxter 28 conference room, Professor Glenn C. Loury from Boston University's Department of Economics presented a Humanities and Social Science seminar.

So what? For starters, the seminar's topic was "The Economics of Color-Blind Affirmative Action." If the recent Supreme Court controversy (it is also interesting to note that Charlene Liebou, director of admissions, was among the audience.) After practicing a bit of yellow journalism to get your attention, I have to admit that the seminar and its accompanying paper took mere akin to a technical conference than an emotionally charged political debate.

It presented the results of a study that quantifies how much a color-blind affirmative action admissions policy (one that cannot know the race of individual applicants) would theoretically degrade an institution's ability to pick the best performing class.

Professor Loury opened with some legal and policy background. The recent Supreme Court ruling has affirmed the principle of affirmative action. However, knowing and using an individual's race during the selection process was struck down as unconstitutional.

What intuitions still can do is weigh certain applicant traits (grades, parental income, SAT scores, etc.) to more place greater emphasis on traits that have historically been more strongly correlated with underrepresented groups.

However, these admissions mechanisms force the institution to pick a sub-optimal class because they are selecting individuals whose trait-set deviates from the trait-set that predicts the best performance in higher education.

Continued on Page 2, Column 1

By K. SZMYKOWSKA

Safety is not generally viewed as a major concern at Caltech. Many undergraduates leave their doors open when they leave their rooms or when they are asleep, without feeling much concern that any of their property might be stolen or damaged while left unattended. Similarly, crime directed at individuals such as robbery, assault and sex offenses are not issues that many students worry about at all.

None Injured By Falling Tree Friday

Half of a tree in the loading zone behind Ruddock collapsed late Friday evening. Fortunately, no students were injured and nothing was damaged. The tree will be removed Monday.
Color-blind affirmative action policies would have no choice but to take into account trackings scores more strongly correlate with college performance than high school GPA, which has shown that underrepresented minorities are statistically more likely to have lower math SAT scores.

Color-blind affirmative action methodology would obviously result into a class that has a lower total predicted future performance than a class selected by a laissez-faire admissions process where no constraints are placed on what information is used in the admissions process and no representation proportions are required.

However, the punch-line of Dr. Lowry, et al.'s paper is that a color-blind affirmative action methodology would not result into a class that has a lower total predicted future performance than a class selected by a laissez-faire admissions process where no constraints are placed on what information is used in the admissions process and no representation proportions are required.

In the color-blind affirmative action methodology board can select the "best" underrepresented minority students until a certain representation is achieved and then select the students from the remaining pool. A color-blind affirmative action methodology, admissions may be admitting non-underrepresented minorities even though they possess the sub-optimal trait-set that has been statistically correlated to underrepresented groups; while rejecting underrepresented minorities even though they possess a more optimal trait-set that has been statistically correlated to underrepresented groups.

The difference is the "in-efficiency" or "cost" associated with color-blind affirmative action. The study involved seven highly selective universities, ranging from private research institutions to arts colleges to research institutes.

Column 2 has been historically underrepresented with overrepresented groups. The difference is the "in-efficiency" or "cost" associated with color-blind affirmative action. The study involved seven highly selective universities, ranging from private research institutions to arts colleges to research institutes.

Dr. Lowry, et al. had these seven universities pair up as a matched sample and try to determine what pre-admissions variables were correlated to cumulative GPA (a simple measure of performance) after four years on a class that had already graduated. These statistics were used to create a predicted performance for individual students and to determine the laissez-faire (optimal) weightings. It was then done to determine what traits more strongly correlate to underrepresented minority students.

Then the institutes were asked, hypothetically, to take a look at their entering class by one half using three different admissions methodology: color-blind affirmative action, color-blind affirmative action and color-blind affirmative action. The aggregate predicted performance of the newly reduced class using the laissez-faire method is considered optimal because the institution is not constrained in any way other than the economic incentives of students to pursue educational enhancing activities.

Admissions traits are endogenous to the admission decision process. Individuals are impacted by choices they make knowing what criteria they will be judged upon. Because of unanticipated time constraints, the results of this study of endogeneity were only semi-matized at the end of the seminar. As the representation of those underrepresented minorities increases, the incentive to acquire academically enhancing traits (such as math good scores, etc.) theorematically decreases.

Armed with this new quantitative understanding of color-blind affirmative action, I began to ponder some very serious questions. Merely a few years ago, projects such as Jones's seminar and listening to the passionate challenges to and defense of the methodology will be.

However, there does not appear to be a fairness norm in nomad societies that lack markets do not prove campus security, there have been several changes in the Security Department this year.

The contract Security service was eliminated, making the 7600 Officer Patrol even more sensitive questions. Merely a few years ago, projects such as Jones's seminar and listening to the passionate challenges to and defense of the methodologies will be. Hence, fairness was important to the nomad societies that lack markets do not prove campus security, there have been several changes in the Security Department this year.

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COMMENTARY

By GALEN LORAM

As midterms wind down and fi­inals still loom a couple of weeks away, our lives begin to return to some sort of normalcy: perhaps you’ll have the chance to look at yourself in the mirror. Perhaps you’re fixing your hair, perhaps you’re back home for the holidays or per­haps – god forbid – you’re doing one of those. I hope, however, that when you look at yourself you’ll be able to see beyond the veil of the fact that you know that you’ve made it through another set of ex­am week nightmares and narrow.

Caltech, as you no doubt know, is an anomaly. You can pick a techer out of a room in Pasadena (no figure you’ve giggled from groups of people wandering down the hall) and ask her what are the number of students in the aud; however, instead of a trivially different sort of most that make up the general community of the city. The average number of parties per week on cam­pus is less than one. Unless, of course, you count the ubiquitous house parties – in which case the number skyrocket to hundreds a week. These “parties,” as they are so famously called, are the heart of what makes Caltech Caltech – Cal­tech is an individual, not a team, and the symmetry of the city are ins­piring visuals.

Because The Cat in the Hat lacks a strong story, it relies on stunning visuals to carry it through its short runtime. The atmosphere is not as dizzying as Whoville from The Grinch, but the cat’s wacky, inven­tive gadgets (such as the muffin maker, house-cleaner-upper, and car with three steering wheels) are a sight to see. The non-human characters, the cat and fish, are hardly believ­able, but they aren’t meant to be. The wild backdrop of the house and the symmetry of the city are perfectly suitable for a Dr. Seuss tale. The story might not have made a clean transition from book to film, but there’s no doubt that Dr. Seuss would have approved of the awe­inspiring visuals.

All in all, The Cat in the Hat is a fun, spirited movie that won’t win Academy Awards, but it change anyone’s life, and won’t be remembered in twenty (or even five) years. The talent audience is ten and under, and frankly, there aren’t many jokes to make under­tain a Non-Seuss devotee. If you’re not in the mood for fine cinema, avoid this at all costs. However, if you’re a Mike Myers fan, Dr. Seuss aficionado, or a sucker for juvenile films, this is the perfect movie for you.

(1/2 out of ****)

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(1/2 out of ****)
Nurture Student, Faculty Bond at Special Luncheon

By TOM FLETCHER

I would like to encourage you all to attend the student-faculty lunch this Wednesday in the Avery Dining Hall. Whether your student invites you or not, faculty please attend. If you’re a student, invite your prof or just come and show up! The lunch will begin at noon, but if you’re pressed for time, you can show up at 11:30 without problems.

The idea behind the lunch is to nurture bonds between undergraduates and faculty. In recent times, it seems the relationship between these two groups has grown distant due to the time constraints that pressure both of them. Students lament that they have never talked to their professors; professors have talked to wish that students would make an effort to reach out to them. Well, this is your chance. If all goes as planned, it is hoped that we can expand this program and hold it on a weekly or bi-weekly basis!

I would like to thank one enterprising undergraduate, Alex Shim. Since the beginning of the year, he has toiled behind the scenes to help David Goodstein and the CUE with academic matters, served an undergraduate liaison to the graduate students’ Center for Effective Teaching and Learning, and faculty students who are innovative and faculty have to understand your student invites you or not, faculty please attend. If you’re a student, invite your prof or just come and show up! The lunch will begin at noon, but if you’re pressed for time, you can show up at 11:30 without problems.

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Winter quarter where the dancers for each piece will perform, their costumes will not be required at this stage. For more information, contact Robin Deis at: (626) 395-7951 or e-mail caltech.caltech.edu. For more information, see our website for more information: www.aesforg.com.

The American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society is holding workshops for juniors, seniors and graduate students who are interested in careers in surface finishing. All classes are taught by a local university professor in conjunction with the beginners. To attend classes, simply show up with a Caltech ID or membership card. RSVPs are needed for the beginning dancing class (Kathy.Kelly@caltech.edu). To be added to our mailing list, e-mail: caltech@caltech.edu. For more information, see our website: caltech.caltech.edu.

Caltech Ballroom Dance Club invites you to join us to learn the popular style, sexy American Salsa! (former) (interim) Director of Admissions On-duty. The first part of the process will be to get people to start working on the basic stuff. Then, we will focus on form and style, in dances that you're interested in. The second part of the process will be to do what you're interested in. The second part is an association, corporation of conventions, pretty well, after nearly 40 years of experience or partner necessary! Try Caltech Ballroom Dance Club.

Be A Hometown Hero

If you belong to an association, corporation or other group that holds meetings or conventions, why not bring them home to Pasadena? Pasadena’s accessibility, first-class meeting facilities and renowned location make it the ideal spot for any size gathering. With a special emphasis on service, we will be a hero for suggesting Pasadena to your group. Additionally, your meeting will generate tax revenues for our city’s general fund, which benefits everyone. But how can you get the ball rolling? Just call Matt Mouradian at (626) 795-9511 or e-mail him at mmouradian@pasadena-ca.gov. If your group decides to return to Pasadena, you will receive one of several fabulous prizes.

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Caltech President David Baltimore once mentioned that Caltech offer a more well rounded education, with a greater emphasis on liberal arts. While Caltech undergraduates have to take an average of one humanities or social science course per term, which it generally more than the number of mathematically or physically oriented courses majors at other schools tend to complete. A Caltech education, the President believes, is nothing to be admired. It would broaden the school's prestige and attract more diverse applicants. Since the number of undergraduate options that are not based on science or mathematics is limited, the following options should be added to the Caltech catalogue.

Commentary

Natalie Portman doesn't plan to major in film or drama at Harvard University, but rather something in the mathematical, veterinary, or astronomical sciences.

Communications option would be ideal for students disenchanted with science. Students who wish to focus on journalism, advertising, public relations, writing, and so on would be less likely to transfer. Communications will also prove invaluable if the student does become a scientist. Although communications has the reputation of being an easy major at other colleges, Caltech communications would be rigorous and offer classes like Rhetoric Game Theory and Feminist Approaches to Modern Humour. The above list is only a small portion of the list of choices that would attract a broader range of individuals to Caltech. Some members of the Caltech community may feel that Caltech should remain specialized and concentrate on its core strength. The 1929 Caltech Catalogue lists the following possible undergraduate options: Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Chemical, and Aeronautical Engineering; Chemistry; Physics; Geology; Paleontology; Biology; and Mathematics. Whether Caltech should expand or not is an interesting point of discussion.
**GALCIT Celebrates 75 Years With History Lesson, Tours, Symposium**

By MARK WHEELER

PASADENA, Calif. - It might seem a bit of a stretch to see what the flight control of a 747 and the way a boxfish maneuvers in very turbulent water have in common. But such thinking is all in a day's work within the walls of the California Institute of Technology's Graduate Aeronautical Laboratories (GALCIT), which last week celebrated its 75th anniversary.

It's fitting that GALCIT celebrated its 75th in the same year the world celebrates the 100th anniversary of flight. GALCIT's celebration spanned two days, Friday and Saturday, November 14 and 15. On Friday there was an all-day symposium on solid mechanics and laboratory tours in the afternoon. On Saturday there were presentations and a panel discussion on different aspects of aeronautical and astro-nautical research by various alumni and guests, followed by a banquet in the evening.

GALCIT was formally established in 1928 as the Guggenheim Aeronautical Laboratory by a donation from the Daniel Guggenheim Fund for the Promotion of Aeronautics. It was one of seven such donations made in the 1920s to advance the then-dismal state of aeronautical science in the United States.

Its first director was Theodore von Kármán, one of the early scientific leaders in rocket development. Under his leadership, GALCIT became the birthplace of aeronautical research in Southern California. This led to the rapid development of the area's aeronautics industry in the 1930s and ultimately to the modern aerospace industry. The original investment of the Guggenheim Foundation was the beginning of U.S. supremacy in aeronautics research, particularly for commercial and military aviation.

The most famous project of GALCIT was the establishment of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), which today is the lead NASA institute for planetary exploration. It grew out of a combination of scholarly and popular interest in rocket propulsion.

Beginning in 1935, GALCIT students and staff, including Frank Malina, A. M. O. Smith, H. S. Tien and W. Arnold, joined with two young explosives entrepreneurs, Jack Parsons and Ed Forman, to build and test rockets.

The first long-duration solid propellant rocket motors and spontaneously ignitable liquid propellants were developed by the group. The solid propellants enabled the development of jet-assisted take-off rockets used in World War II and the founding of Aerojet Engineer- ing Corporation, the first U.S. manufacturer of rocket engines.

Ultimately, the liquid propellants were used in the Apollo program and the Titan missile. JPL was established as a separate organization in 1943 and now plays a key role in robotic activities in deep space and planetary exploration.

The original concept of von Kármán was that GALCIT should be an institute in the European style that developed "... a tradition of research and teaching which stresses an appreciation for real applications in a very broad and deep base of fundamentals." Originally the application was strictly aeronautics, the development and operation of aircraft and many contributions were made to aircraft structures, aerodynamics and propulsion. But over the years the subject of aeronautics has been broadly interpreted to be "a wide discipline encompassing a broad spectrum of basic as well as applied problems in fluid dynamics and mechanics of materials."

These days that's led to research into the study of fluid and solid mechanics and the use of specialized large facilities like the Lucas Adaptive Wall Wind Tunnel, the supersonic shear layer facility, the free-surface shear flow tunnel, the T5 hypervelocity shock tunnel and the Ludwig tube.

In addition, there are smaller laboratories to study cardiovascular fluid dynamics, combustion and detonation. They also conduct numerical studies of vortex dynamics, turbulent mixing, fracture, the mechanics of materials and shock waves.

All of which leads to the boxfish and the 747. It is just one specific example of the kind of work that goes on at GALCIT and is part of the work of Morteza Gharib, the Hans W. Liepmann Professor of Aeronautics and Bioengineering at Caltech. Gharib believes the next wave of smart propulsion devices will be based on the biomechanics of flying and swimming.

The goal, then, is to learn how nature engineers these things, with the hope of gaining insight into the design of such aircraft as the 747. So one of the animals he studies is the humble boxfish, which is capable of staying within one millimeter of a sharp coral reef in highly turbulent water. It does this, Gharib notes, using "seven fins that are flapping and creating vortices here and there, keeping the fish right there, dead accurate." Seventy-five years and GALCIT is still learning.
Caltech Credit Union Expands Service With Travelers' Checks, Increased Staff

BY IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

Through over 50 years of its existence, the Caltech Credit Union has grown from 7 members and assets of $35 to almost 30,000 members and $650 million in assets. Membership has also been expanded to include every segment of the Caltech family, from students to faculty to members of the Alumni association to family members of the Caltech community.

The latest service expansion of the Credit Union is from its basic share account and loans to the new travelers’ checks. “We are very excited to be able to offer traveler’s checks. Especially with holidays coming, we are expecting an increase in membership due to this new service. We now have the special American Express gift checks.”

This service has been in planning for a while and was needed because of the limited amount of cash for disbursements out of accounts to members. With the addition of this service, CEFCU’s Caltech branch is now considered a “full service” branch as the other two branches, which are located at JPL and Foot hall, respectively.

The services that make CEFCU a full service branch include regular share/savings accounts, consumer loans/lines of credit, significant loans, auto loans, real-estate loans, home equity lines of credit and fixed rate mortgages. Home equity lines of credit and fixed rate mortgages are available to all and are all competitive in price.

In addition, they have the Visa program that includes all students, regardless of their college of enrollment. Also, the Union has doubled its staff since its relocation to Wilson. The staff at the Credit Union helps with advice and counseling in addition to regular transactional help. Branch manager, Brian Spritzer, who has been with Caltech since 1977, said, “We have a fully staffed loan department, which is helping us expedite our loan and funding process.”

The services to CEFCU are also helping with outreach by offering scholarships of $500 to five high school students yearly. This past year, one of the winners, Elizabeth Gilliam ’07, decided to come to Caltech for her higher studies.

In an effort to make members and potential members aware of the available services, marketing manager, Patryl Aposhian mentioned the newly started “e-services” package whereby members can make online transfers. She also mentioned the “star youth account” which is a program that enables children ranging from newborn to 17 years of age to have accounts.

With a vision of “a world of financial security for all,” CEFCU is working towards not only expanding its members’ pool but also its service package to qualify as a fully competent banking service for the Caltech community.

Happy Thanksgiving from The Tech

Soccer, Volleyball, Cross Country Seasons Close

By MIKE RUPP

Bon Solecki & Kai Sung
Men’s Water Polo

There were many outstanding performers for this year’s Men’s Water Polo team, who’s 10 wins were the most the program has had since the 1986-1987 season. Seniors Ben Solecki and Kai Sung were specifically cited by their coaches for their contributions not only at this past weekend’s SCIAC Championships, but also throughout the season. Solecki had 4 goals in three matches, and Sung’s rigorous defense kept the Beavers competitive at both ends of the pool. Congratulations to both Student-Athletes on an outstanding season.

Week in Review

Men’s Soccer

The Men’s Soccer team hosted its 2003 Alumni Match this past Saturday. The match resulted in a 2-1 tie as the current squad of Beavers met many of their predecessors on the playing field, with a party afterward. In other Soccer news, Sophomore Forward Stuart Ward was named to the SCIAC’s All-Conference 2nd Team for the second consecutive year. Ward tied for the lead in points for the Beavers, with 7 points in 17 starts. Congratulations to the entire team on the end of their season.

Men’s Water Polo (10-14)
Head Coach: Clint Dodd

To close the season, the Men’s Water Polo team had a 1-2 record at the SCIAC Conference Championships this past weekend, giving them an overall conference record of 2-8, good for 7th place in the conference. Top performances at the conference championships included Senior Ben Solecki and Freshman Tom Jurczak who each had four goals over the course of three matches.

Cross-Country

Head Coach: Scott Jung

The Men’s and Women’s Cross Country teams headed up to Portland, Oregon this past weekend for the NCAA West Regionals. Sophomore and two-time 2003-04 Caltech AOW Gustavo Olm finished 38th in the Men’s competition with a time of 27:18.0. Freshman Will Sladek finished second in Caltech, and in 67th place overall. On the Women’s side, Junior Kamaluh Chang finished in 68th place overall. Congratulations to the whole team on the end of their season.

Fencing

Head Coach: Randy Paffenroth

Check next week’s Weekly Re­lease for a recap of the fencing team’s trip to UC San Diego.

This Week In Caltech Athletics

Men’s Basketball - Colorado Col­lege/Radisson Thanksgiving Invita­tional

Women’s Basketball - Nov. 25 at 7:00 pm vs. Chapman University
Caltech Tournament - Nov. 28 at 8:00 pm vs. S.J. Christian
Caltech Tournament - Nov 29 Consolation Game at 12:00 pm, Championship at 2:00 pm

When the Caltech students first got involved with the Union Station program, they used to get leftovers from Chandler Dining Hall. Said Zacharias, “There was a pretty easy thing we would just grab the main dish from Chandler and take it there and heat it up. Now we literally cook dinner from scratch, which is a lot more challenging.” However, she added, “I definitely like it better that we cook from scratch, because it makes you feel like you’re really doing something.”

To Shen, the most rewarding aspect of this program is getting a different perspective of life from the typical college student aspect. “It’s different to see stuff you don’t normally see, especially as a Caltech student, where you can have a very sheltered experience,” he remarked. He also commented that the chance to do something besides schoolwork or hanging out with friends was valuable. While giving up a Saturday night to cook and serve food at a homeless shelter seems like a very noble use of time, Shen is quite modest: “I don’t think it’s a big deal at all, it’s really a very small thing.”

Shen, Medwood, Zacharias and all the other children they interact with at Union Station are enriching not only their own lives, but also the lives of others and should be very proud of the success of their efforts.

Veterans’ Advocate Addresses Crowd; Expresses Concern for Soldiers’ Health

By Joyce Riley

At this week’s Student-Athletes Performance Review, a half hour before the start of the Men’s Water Polo team’s game, Thomas Shen, a Caltech senior and a member of the Men’s Water Polo team, described his experience volunteering as a chef at an Oakland homeless shelter.

Shen, a philosophy major, the “We definitely like it better that we do something,” he said.

While Chronicles spokesman Mike Rupp wrote in his column, “heater it up. Now we literally cook dinner from scratch, which is a lot more challenging.” However, she added, “I definitely like it better that we cook from scratch, because it makes you feel like you’re really doing something.”

To Shen, the most rewarding aspect of this program is getting a different perspective of life from the typical college student aspect. “It’s different to see stuff you don’t normally see, especially as a Caltech student, where you can have a very sheltered experience,” he remarked. He also commented that the chance to do something besides schoolwork or hanging out with friends was valuable. While giving up a Saturday night to cook and serve food at a homeless shelter seems like a very noble use of time, Shen is quite modest: “I don’t think it’s a big deal at all, it’s really a very small thing.”

Shen, Medwood, Zacharias and all the other children they interact with at Union Station are enriching not only their own lives, but also the lives of others and should be very proud of the success of their efforts.