Loram Ready To Take Office, Keep Promises

By KEVIN BARTZ

Galen Loram ’05 has always had a strong desire to serve others in his community. Just ask his God-buddies in Hollywood last Friday night. It is normal to see a Board of Control chair strutting and writing, clad in black and pasty white, pulling off classic Gothic moves like the Chicken Dance and the Spin Cycle?

Or from nine to five, you could turn to the faculty. Do buttoned-down administrators normally befriending, negotiate with, let alone listen to a Scrive sporting violet hair and a death metal T-shirt?

But somewhere between a 15-day streak of 105-degree yoga and MRI brain-scan sessions with people playing economic games, Loram has pulled together quite a coalition—a base of support spanning everyone from the regulars at Ricketts’ Thursday Night Drinking to top figures in the ASCT establishment.

“He got my vote,” said outgoing ASCIT President Tom Fletcher ’04. “I like the way he handles people. I’m very impressed at the friendships he manages to maintain across so many different lines, at how well he knows people across all of the seven houses while still being a hard-core Scrive while still managing to schmooze with faculty as well. I literally think of him as a coalition-builder.”

And that coalition came out in force last Monday, handing a surprising majority of votes in this year’s ASCIT presidential election to the outgoing RoC Chair who’d just dyed his hair bright blue.

Two-year BoD member Andrea Vasconcellos ’05 came in second with just under 30% of the votes cast; writer and talking head Libin Zhang ’05 placed third with a bit over 25%.

Continued on Page 2, Column 1

With his beacon like blue hair, Galen Loram is ready to accept the duties of ASCIT President and listen to student concerns.

World Record Broken By Local Teen During Cube Tournament

By MARK POLINOKOVSKY

On the evening of Saturday, January 24, history was made in Winnmet Lounge. The first-ever Caltech Rubik’s Cube Tournament pitted local cubers against each other in a competition for an official stack-em-out timer. The contest started at 7:00 pm and ended at 10:30 pm, after three exciting rounds of cube-solving.

From the minute the doors opened for registration, competitors and fans could be heard discussing strategies and algorithms. The sound of cubes (those little cubes that make up the Rubik’s cube) hitting the floor echoed throughout the room.

The competitors were a particularly varied group. They were of all different ages and occupations, but one thing brought them together: The Caltech tournament was the first local tournament and everyone was excited to have a chance to compete.

In all, twenty-six people competed: some of them seasoned veterans, while others had just learned to cube. In particular, Mark Sullivan and Kai Zhu, both Techers, learned to solve the cube the previous night from instructional videos by Tyson Mao, the tournament director.

Notable among the competitors were Lars Petrus, a world-famous cuber. He competed in the original World Championships in 1982, as the Swedish champion. Shotaro “Macky” Makumura, a 13-year-old from Arcadia, was expected to be his biggest competitor. Yet, the outcome of the tournament was improbable and exciting.

On his very first solve, Macky beat the official world record of 16.53 seconds with a time of 15.07 seconds. After this, it became clear who the winner would be. In all, Macky tested the official his five minutes to Stapp, a pivotal member of the experiment.

Continued on Page 6, Column 1

In a blur of hand movement, world famous cube solver Lars Petrus completes a Rubik’s cube during last Saturday’s tournament.

Ig Nobel Prize Recipients Induce Humor, Thought with Triumphs

By CHRISTINE CHANG

Each October, the dignified halls of Harvard University host a ceremony attended by multitudes of people, including Nobel Laureates, to honor people who advanced their respective fields with valuable achievements. Celebrating accomplishments such as Murphy’s Law and the creation of the Association of Dead People, the Ig Nobel Prizes, in a talk in Beckman Auditorium on Wednesday January 28.

The list of 2003 winners included Dr. John Paul Stapp, Edward A. Murphy, Jr. and George Nichols, the creators of Murphy’s Law which states, “If there are two or more ways to do something and one of those ways can result in a catastrophe, someone will do it.”

Continued on Page 8, Column 1

Ig Nobel Prize founder Marc Abrahams explains why he started the yearly prize, which honors accomplishments that “make people laugh, then make them think.”

During his speech, Abrahams invited two special guests onto the stage to talk about Murphy’s Law. The stickers had a 24 hr. expiration time because it had red ink stripes that would bleed through in an allotted time period.

Kyle inside, students and staff members were happily welcomed by breakfast and Jump committee members who told their story about how they went into science and engineering and came to work at JPL. Then they were led on a series of four half hour tours all presented by women.

At the Spacecraft Assembly Facility, visitors viewed from outside people dressed in white lab coats and plastic hair and beard covers assembling spacecraft in a clean environment. And boarding JPL’s bus, Caltech members were taken to another facility where Becky Castano presented the Rocky 8 Rover, a Mecanex rover analog.

In the Mars Yard, an enclosed sandy area about ninety square feet with many rocks, made to

Women’s Trip to JPL Sponsored by JUMP

By DIANA LIN

On Tuesday, January 6 approximately 15 female undergraduates including a few Caltech staff members went on a tour of the JPL organized by the JPL Undergraduate Mentoring Program (JUMP) for Caltech Women’s Center and staff from the Caltech Women’s Center. The tour is an annual event to encourage and aid more women in fostering their dreams to become scientists and engineers.

Most of the students were freshmen, but there was a small handful of upperclassmen. Some students were there eager to make connections to find a job, many were there just to explore and consider opportunities in the future.

Students had to go through a lot of security clearances before entering the JPL facilities. They had to give social security numbers and show two forms of ID before they were given JPL Tour stickers, which would permit their presence within JPL. The stickers had a 24 hr. expiration time because it had red ink stripes that would bleed through in an allotted time period.

Some inside, students and staff members were happily welcomed by breakfast and Jump committee members who told their story about how they went into science and engineering and came to work at JPL. Then they were led on a series of four half hour tours all presented by women.

At the Spacecraft Assembly Facility, visitors viewed from outside people dressed in white lab coats and plastic hair and beard covers assembling spacecraft in a clean environment. And boarding JPL’s bus, Caltech members were taken to another facility where Becky Castano presented the Rocky 8 Rover, a Mecanex rover analog.

In the Mars Yard, an enclosed sandy area about ninety square feet with many rocks, made to
Loram Sweeps Election; Plans To Bring Back Annual BoD Retreat

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

Loram plans to reinstitute the once-annual ASCIT Retreat, a tradition abandoned by Fletcher. "I've very much missed it," said elected directors leave campus one week-end to nail down budget decisions. "When you know people personally in addition to just the position, it's easier to respect their views and to see them in a more human sort of way," said Loram. He will also make permanent Fletcher's change of locale for weekly BoD meetings, from late nights in the basement of the SAC to noon Wednesdays out in the open on the Olives Walk.

Then he must bridge the larger sectors, like Caltech's virtual triumvirate of undergraduates, the faculty, and grad. students. It's a challenge, but one for which Loram hopes his prior relationships will come in handy. "I've managed to get along with a lot of people," he said, "a very diverse group of people, whether it's students from the various houses or whether it's faculty." You can say that again. With administrators, his qualifications are clear: he sat on the fire policy, financing, and financial aid committees, not to mention a new admissions director. He also collaborated with a range of faculty in investigations over his two years in the BoC. It all adds up to what Fletcher sees as a major advantage in making students' voices heard. "I think the faculty has gotten to know him over the year as BoC chair," said the departing ASCIT president. "They're probably coming around to appreciate the work he's done there. I think he's well-positioned to do the job."

Financial Aid Director David Levy, who sat with Loram on three committees, agreed that faculty will be receptive. "He's very good at listening," said Levy. "I've worked with him on the fire policy and have always found him to be very articulate, very conscientious, very skilled in expressing the student perspective on things."

Not a few students question whether Loram cares. Throughout two years on the BoC, he strove to set a softer tone, a tone more amicable to the mindset of the accu- cused and more inclined to lend the guilty a second chance. Teammate Steven Youra, for instance, he opened a workshop for students accusing plagiarism of ignorance rather than malice. He served two years and will serve a third at just over 10%; and Loram plans to reinstitute the once-annual ASCIT Retreat, a tradition abandoned by Fletcher. "I've very much missed it," said elected directors leave campus one week-end to nail down budget decisions. "When you know people personally in addition to just the position, it's easier to respect their views and to see them in a more human sort of way," said Loram. He will also make permanent Fletcher's change of locale for weekly BoD meetings, from late nights in the basement of the SAC to noon Wednesdays out in the open on the Olives Walk.

Then he must bridge the larger sectors, like Caltech's virtual triumvirate of undergraduates, the faculty, and grad. students. It's a challenge, but one for which Loram hopes his prior relationships will come in handy. "I've managed to get along with a lot of people," he said, "a very diverse group of people, whether it's students from the various houses or whether it's faculty." You can say that again. With administrators, his qualifications are clear: he sat on the fire policy, financing, and financial aid committees, not to mention a new admissions director. He also collaborated with a range of faculty in investigations over his two years in the BoC. It all adds up to what Fletcher sees as a major advantage in making students' voices heard. "I think the faculty has gotten to know him over the year as BoC chair," said the departing ASCIT president. "They're probably coming around to appreciate the work he's done there. I think he's well-positioned to do the job."

Financial Aid Director David Levy, who sat with Loram on three committees, agreed that faculty will be receptive. "He's very good at listening," said Levy. "I've worked with him on the fire policy and have always found him to be very articulate, very conscientious, very skilled in expressing the student perspective on things."

Not a few students question whether Loram cares. Throughout two years on the BoC, he strove to set a softer tone, a tone more amicable to the mindset of the accused and more inclined to lend the guilty a second chance. Teammate Steven Youra, for instance, he opened a workshop for students accusing plagiarism of ignorance rather than malice. He served two years and will serve a third at just over 10%; and Loram plans to reinstitute the once-annual ASCIT Retreat, a tradition abandoned by Fletcher. "I've very much missed it," said elected directors leave campus one week-end to nail down budget decisions. "When you know people personally in addition to just the position, it's easier to respect their views and to see them in a more human sort of way," said Loram. He will also make permanent Fletcher's change of locale for weekly BoD meetings, from late nights in the basement of the SAC to noon Wednesdays out in the open on the Olives Walk.

Then he must bridge the larger sectors, like Caltech's virtual triumvirate of undergraduates, the faculty, and grad. students. It's a challenge, but one for which Loram hopes his prior relationships will come in handy. "I've managed to get along with a lot of people," he said, "a very diverse group of people, whether it's students from the various houses or whether it's faculty." You can say that again. With administrators, his qualifications are clear: he sat on the fire policy, financing, and financial aid committees, not to mention a new admissions director. He also collaborated with a range of faculty in investigations over his two years in the BoC. It all adds up to what Fletcher sees as a major advantage in making students' voices heard. "I think the faculty has gotten to know him over the year as BoC chair," said the departing ASCIT president. "They're probably coming around to appreciate the work he's done there. I think he's well-positioned to do the job."

Financial Aid Director David Levy, who sat with Loram on three committees, agreed that faculty will be receptive. "He's very good at listening," said Levy. "I've worked with him on the fire policy and have always found him to be very articulate, very conscientious, very skilled in expressing the student perspective on things."

Not a few students question whether Loram cares. Throughout two years on the BoC, he strove to set a softer tone, a tone more amicable to the mindset of the accused and more inclined to lend the guilty a second chance. Teammate Steven Youra, for instance, he opened a workshop for students accusing plagiarism of ignorance rather than malice. He served two years and will serve a third at just over 10%; and Loram plans to reinstitute the once-annual ASCIT Retreat, a tradition abandoned by Fletcher. "I've very much missed it," said elected directors leave campus one week-end to nail down budget decisions. "When you know people personally in addition to just the position, it's easier to respect their views and to see them in a more human sort of way," said Loram. He will also make permanent Fletcher's change of locale for weekly BoD meetings, from late nights in the basement of the SAC to noon Wednesdays out in the open on the Olives Walk.

Then he must bridge the larger sectors, like Caltech's virtual triumvirate of undergraduates, the faculty, and grad. students. It's a challenge, but one for which Loram hopes his prior relationships will come in handy. "I've managed to get along with a lot of people," he said, "a very diverse group of people, whether it's students from the various houses or whether it's faculty." You can say that again. With administrators, his qualifications are clear: he sat on the fire policy, financing, and financial aid committees, not to mention a new admissions director. He also collaborated with a range of faculty in investigations over his two years in the BoC. It all adds up to what Fletcher sees as a major advantage in making students' voices heard. "I think the faculty has gotten to know him over the year as BoC chair," said the departing ASCIT president. "They're probably coming around to appreciate the work he's done there. I think he's well-positioned to do the job."

Financial Aid Director David Levy, who sat with Loram on three committees, agreed that faculty will be receptive. "He's very good at listening," said Levy. "I've worked with him on the fire policy and have always found him to be very articulate, very conscientious, very skilled in expressing the student perspective on things."

Not a few students question whether Loram cares. Throughout two years on the BoC, he strove to set a softer tone, a tone more amicable to the mindset of the accused and more inclined to lend the guilty a second chance. Teammate Steven Youra, for instance, he opened a workshop for students accusing plagiarism of ignorance rather than malice. He served two years and will serve a third at just over 10%; and Loram plans to reinstitute the once-annual ASCIT Retreat, a tradition abandoned by Fletcher. "I've very much missed it," said elected directors leave campus one week-end to nail down budget decisions. "When you know people personally in addition to just the position, it's easier to respect their views and to see them in a more human sort of way," said Loram. He will also make permanent Fletcher's change of locale for weekly BoD meetings, from late nights in the basement of the SAC to noon Wednesdays out in the open on the Olives Walk.

Then he must bridge the larger sectors, like Caltech's virtual triumvirate of undergraduates, the faculty, and grad. students. It's a challenge, but one for which Loram hopes his prior relationships will come in handy. "I've managed to get along with a lot of people," he said, "a very diverse group of people, whether it's students from the various houses or whether it's faculty." You can say that again. With administrators, his qualifications are clear: he sat on the fire policy, financing, and financial aid committees, not to mention a new admissions director. He also collaborated with a range of faculty in investigations over his two years in the BoC. It all adds up to what Fletcher sees as a major advantage in making students' voices heard. "I think the faculty has gotten to know him over the year as BoC chair," said the departing ASCIT president. "They're probably coming around to appreciate the work he's done there. I think he's well-positioned to do the job."

Financial Aid Director David Levy, who sat with Loram on three committees, agreed that faculty will be receptive. "He's very good at listening," said Levy. "I've worked with him on the fire policy and have always found him to be very articulate, very conscientious, very skilled in expressing the student perspective on things."

Not a few students question whether Loram cares. Throughout two years on the BoC, he strove to set a softer tone, a tone more amicable to the mindset of the
Bush Praises Military, Cuts Troops’ and Veterans’ Benefits

By PARAG BHAYANI

Near the end of his State of the Union Address, President Bush spoke of receiving a letter from a girl that expressed her heartfelt support for American soldiers and asked what she could do to help our nation. Bush responded by telling the girl to say “Thank you” when she sees a man or woman in uniform. Most Americans share this sentiment; the same thing cannot be definitively said about the White House. This administration, during its three years, consistently advocated spending cuts for military benefits and welfare. Perhaps the president may want to consider thanking troops in the future by taking care of them, rather than making cloying, sentimental statements.

The budget for the 2004 fiscal year was approved by the House of Representatives last March. Just a day after the U.S. launched the invasion of Iraq, and a few hours after Congress passed a resolution praising the soldiers for their commitment, the House approved Bush’s plan for federal spending, with all but one vote coming from Republicans. One goal of the proposal was to limit government spending; however, some of the major items targeted were, shockingly enough, benefits for war veterans. The budget cuts amounted to a massive $14.6 billion reduction in veterans’ programs, including money for disabilities caused by war injuries, rehabilitation, health care, pensions for low income veterans, education, and housing benefits. Also part of the plan was to charge premiums for health insurance to veterans making at least $25,000 a year. Additionally, the 2004 budget proposed a $1.5 billion reduction in funds to military family housing and medical facilities -- a 14% cut. Fortunately, after intense lobbying by the army veterans’ group The American Legion, most of the appropriations were reinstated with bipartisan support. Still, one must consider that once upon a time, Franklin D. Roosevelt and a thankful nation provided all veterans with free medical care; it is clear that these days are now behind us.

In October, Bush gave a speech to the National Guard and Army Reserves in New Hampshire, telling them, “Your lives can be changed with the sudden call to duty. I want to thank you for your willingness to heed that important call, and I want to thank your families who share in your sacrifice.” As it turns out, though, the soldiers were going to be sacrificing more than their bodies and lives in combat. Just two weeks after the President gave this address, the White House declared that it opposed a program to enroll guardsmen and reservists in the Pentagon’s health insurance system that is available to full-time soldiers. This came despite a General Accounting Office report published right before this announcement which estimated that nearly 20% of guardians and reservists do not have some form of health coverage.

The most galling part of this agenda is that the administration, many congressional Republicans, and most conservatives have repeatedly denounced antiwar liberals as unpatriotic. Opposing the war (which was fought irrationally) is sedition and tantamount to treason, they say. Of course, it was no problem when Republicans condemned President Clinton for sending troops to Kosovo in 1999 to prevent a genocide.) Liberals supposedly do not support the

Continued on Page 4, Column 3

MITCHELL MADISON GROUP

A Global Management Consulting Firm

Requests the pleasure of your company at a presentation describing our mission, our colleagues, and our assignments

February 4, 2004
Athenaeum Main Lounge
5:00 to 7:00 PM

Refreshments will be served

Please RSVP by email to Tania Davis -- tdavis@caltech.edu

Our clientele is made up of institutions of significant stature who are facing the challenges of transformational change, and emerging entities who seek to be the leading institutions of the future.

We welcome expressions of interest from seniors and graduate students in all disciplines.

If you have any questions, please contact Will Riordan at recruiting@mitchellmadison.com
Pasadena, Calif. -- From a new type of metallic glass to new clues about the origins of brain tumors, Caltech scientists announced at a conference in March that they have discovered that solves various limitations of fuel cell technology.

**Engineers Announce More Powerful Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles**

The quest for a cheap and robust fuel cell for future cars may be a bit closer now that Caltech scientists announced they've got promising results with a new fuel cell that solves various limitations of previously tested fuel cells. "It's a whole new way of doing fuel cells that opens up tremendous possibilities for system simplification," says Samuel Stiehle, a leading authority on fuel cell technology.

Caltech Geophysicists Gain New Insights on Earth's Core-Mantle Boundary

Earth's core-mantle boundary is a place none of us will ever go, but researchers using a special high-velocity cannon have produced results showing there may be molten rock at this interface at one and a half million miles. Further, this molten rock may have rested peacefully at the core-mantle boundary for eons.

**New Technique for Groundwater Monitoring**

Until it was recently banned, methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) was widely used as an oxygenate in gasoline. However, the benefits of MTBE came at a price. Later fundraising for his re-election. Nonetheless, the administration secretly planned a surprise trip to visit troops in Iraq on Thanksgiving Day. In the political climate of the latter part of the year, Bush triumphantly addressed the armed forces at Baghdad International Airport and then served up succulent turkey that was later revealed to be a prop for photo opportunities. In his 2-hour trip, Bush never set foot outside the airport to see what kind of progress was being made. Meanwhile, Democratic Senators Hillary Clinton of New York and Jack Reed of Rhode Island spent all of Thanksgiving weekend visiting soldiers and civilians at various bases and sites in both Afghanistan and Iraq, an event almost completely overshadowed by the President's visit.

I do not doubt that President Bush stands behind American armed forces. However, if he and the others in power really want to demonstrate their support, they must take serious action and stop paying so much lip service. A good way to start would be to build a legitimate international coalition to help rebuild Iraq so that our troops on over-extended deployment can finally come home.

Caltech Tip Sheet: Recent Advances

**Piled Higher and Deeper**

Photo-Op's Hide Uncaring Policies

Continued From Page 3

American armed forces. Common sense dictates otherwise. Aside from congressional Democrats fighting to restore soldiers' and veterans' pay and benefits, many liberals have helped our soldiers while maintaining an opposition to the war. For example, the website http://www.anysoldier. us, created to allow supportive citizens to send care packages to overseas troops, expressly thanks Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean, a staunch war opponent, for encouraging his campaign supporters to donate to soldiers over the holiday season. Also, the site http://www. hermione.org, started by Democratic congressman Dutch Ruppersberger, allows for people to donate unused infrequent flyer miles to soldiers so that they can fly home without incurring expenses. (As of January 1, 2004, the government now reimburses soldiers for flights. Hero Miles now allows for families of injured soldiers to visit their loved ones in military hospitals around the globe. Governor Dean and anti-war liberal advocacy group MoveOn.org urged their supporters to donate to this cause as well.

Since the war in Iraq started,
**COMMENTARY**

**February 4, 2002**

**Insights into the Origins of Human Brain Tumors**

By LANDESSANDERSON

Submit to the Totem? The Totem is now accepting submissions for the 2004 edition of the literary magazine. Anyone in the Caltech community, including faculty, staff, poet, short story, art, and/or photography to the Totem. The submission deadline is February 4, 2004, at 5:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served at 4:35 p.m. For more information, go to www.caltech.edu/~eltotem. Sponsored by the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, Caltech Graduate, Caltech, and Caltech.

**Beckman Political Internship Program**

The Beckman Political Internship program is available again this summer. The internship, supported by the Beckman Institute for Advanced Study, will pay a stipend of $5,000. It allows students to spend part of the summer working in the office of a politician or a government agency in Washington, D.C. or on Capitol Hill. The applicant is expected to make arrangements with the appropriate politicians or organizations for an internship experience in Washington, D.C. or on Capitol Hill. Applications will be accepted from Caltech undergraduate students who intend to be students next year. If interested, submit a proposal describing where and how you would like to spend your internship along with one faculty recommendation, to the attention of J. Macli, Director of Beckman Internships, by FEBRUARY 4, 2004.

**The California State Society is currently accepting applications for the Bono-Capps Congressio­ nal Internship Program for the Spring 2004 term (beginning in April). The internship is especially appropriate for students who are interested in working in a congressional office. The California State Society provides an opportunity to learn about the internship and consult with yourselves. The internship is open to undergraduate and/or graduate students in the California State Society. For more information, go to www.caltech.edu/~els.**

**Women Engineers Reach Out to Young Students**

By NATALIE KRU"K

At 7 a.m. on Monday, January 26, five Techies stealthily packed up at the east entrance of the Parking garage, onto the projector, laptops, dry ice, and various other magic ingredients into a deep white plastic bag. They left campus to participate in a volunteer project, presenting the different engineering fields and pure sciences at Qual Elementary School in Dublin, California.

They didn’t really know what to expect before their cook to their task with both excitement and a bit of trepidation. Megan Greenfield (CH), Lauren Warner (ME), Kim Poppendiek (EN), and Kristen Harris (EM) undertook the project. Honda, a parent of a child who was an Electrical Engineer, and Honda, a parent of a child who was an Electrical Engineer, work for us one day.” I always appreciated the game and didn’t think it was all about winning. That’s the same orientation all the instructors have. Keep at the core of the game, as you may know, a cheese often goes up as a point is lost: “That’s all right, that’s okay. You’re gonna work for us one day.” I always thought it was unfair to knock me on the edge of nay (since it is surely true). So I challenge the Teches to work with us, to come to a Tech with a cheese that says “Keep in mind, this is a game. We’re having fun, believe it or not. But we take our real dedication into the lab and here where do we things that count!”

I just read a great line of doggedness from a man who might deliver on that challenge (I am certain to won’t mind being quoted without attribution). On “Why Caltech?” he writes, “Because I would never have ended up in Massachusetts/I like the example of a 7 year old/ I set up/ and I loved winning the Beavers take the game into the face of the opposition last night – never mind the score.

So take a break from your schedule – 5 to 9 for work, 5 to 9 for play, 5 to 9 for work, and then 1 to 7 for class time. And get over to Braun to watch these amazing guys do their thing with that count!”

Whaddaya know. A game that really is fun.

**Athlete Admireable**

Even in Defeat, Tech Athletes Admireable

An Open Letter to Coach Dow

By DANIEL LANDALE

I never saw a basketball game worse than that one last Friday night. We lost 108 to 16. Of course, you have to know what I know to think that I occupy that position; otherwise it sounds ridiculous.

What do I know?

- The opposition has spent probably four hours a day for the last ten years tossing free-throws, launching thirty footers and pounding lay-ups.
- Our guys have spent six hours a day for the last ten years unlocking the mysterious chemistry, and mathematics toward the end of reducing the problems facing the market world, which before long, mean no one will be playing basketball at all.

What do I think?

- I think that the Teches have made the most of how to spend their time.
- I think everyone in the world should appreciate it.

The Techies court on the go last night took each moment as though they were down by one point, in the first quarter and in the second. They played with energy and enthusiasm, as though they appreciated every moment, and I think it was all about winning. That’s the same orientation all the instructors have. Keep at the core of the game, as you may know, a cheese often goes up as a point is lost: “That’s all right, that’s okay. You’re gonna work for us one day.” I always thought it was unfair to knock me on the edge of nay (since it is surely true). So I challenge the Teches to work with us, to come to a Tech with a cheese that says “Keep in mind, this is a game. We’re having fun, believe it or not. But we take our real dedication into the lab and here where do we things that count!”

I just read a great line of doggedness from a man who might deliver on that challenge (I am certain to won’t mind being quoted without attribution). On “Why Caltech?” he writes, “Because I would never have ended up in Massachusetts/I like the example of a 7 year old/ I set up/ and I loved winning the Beavers take the game into the face of the opposition last night – never mind the score.

So take a break from your schedule – 5 to 9 for work, 5 to 9 for play, 5 to 9 for work, and then 1 to 7 for class time. And get over to Braun to watch these amazing guys do their thing with that count!”

Whaddaya know. A game that really is fun.
By JIM PERRY

Provon Steve Koonin to Take Corporate Post at BP
Sees Change as Opportunity to Confront World Energy Problems

By WHEELER

NEW TRUSTEE, HEAD OF BIOTECH FUND, IS APPOINTED

MANAGING PARTNER OF 5AM VENTURES ADMIRLED CALTECH FROM YOUTH

By MERRICK

Caltech will miss Steve's leadership, but the people he leaves behind are well-placed to continue...
Campus Celebrates MLK During Weeklong Commemorating Event

By IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

Starting with a lecture by Dr. Wilmot James of Human Sciences Research Council in South Africa on how to achieve diversity in math, science and engineering and ending with an open discussion on King’s Vision for Today’s World, Caltech lined up a series of stimulating events for a commemoration week of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr.

Despite being a campus that has had challenging times in trying to reach the quasipolitical portfolio of a diverse institute, there was a good response to the activities and the need to realize King’s concept of freedom, equality and diversity.

After enjoying a three day long weekend owing to an Institute Holiday in honour of MLK, Caltech resumed its week on February 2nd and started off the celebrations with a video presentation of Dr King’s famous 1963 speech, “I have a dream” in the lobby of the center of student services. The nine-minute speech played in the lobby all throughout the day and there was also a poster display that featured the text of the speech for people who were interested in following along the video.

On Thursday, January 22, 2004, Caltech’s Peaceful Justice Coalition (PIC) and Caltech Public Speaking (CPS) did a combined presentation titled, “Common Struggles: Dr. King on Civil Rights, Peace and Justice.” While PIC did an audio presentation of Dr King’s speeches, members of CPS read a few of King’s famous speeches, including his Nobel Prize speech and his last speech, titled “I Have been to the Mountaintop.” The audio presentation explored his views on the connections between struggle for civil rights at home and the struggle for peace and justice abroad. CPS of Dr King’s speeches were also passed out.

While issues of racism and diversity were at hand, our very active International Student Programs office had a few events too.

The ISP sponsored two lunches commemorating Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. The man and the Dream” whereas the second lunch was a discussion led by Prof Morgan Kousser on “King’s Vision for Today’s World.”

The latter focused on what MLK had to say to scientists regarding their moral and ethical responsibilities in today’s world climate.

The discussion started with the reading of an excerpt from MLK’s “A Knock at Midnight” sermon. The piece focused on how scientists are responsible for the solution of problems regarding medicine, superstition and security and very recently, apparently national in the form of invention of WMDs.

Said Prof Kousser, “It is very interesting to note that Dr King starts his sermon with A Knock at Midnight but then ends it with a slight ray of hope by mentioning scientists and their possible role towards progress in society.”

The views that scientists are either morally responsible to a certain extent for the hazards created by science or that they are helpless about the out-of-control effects of their “innovative” inventions were thrown back and forth. The discussion ended with a consensus that scientists definitely do have a role to play in the safe use of their intellect. In fact, ways to implement ethics at Caltech was also proposed, for example, to have a course taught on ethics in at least every undergraduate core course.

The important thing to realize about corruption is that it seemed from observing most of these activities, was that even though his ideas were innovative, the road back and even though they seem like they were meant for that period, his ideas and his suggestions are very much relevant, especially in today’s world.

Issues of diversity, racism, peace and freedom have been and should be discussed continually in a campus where cutting-edge science and technology is the center of student services. The piece focused on how scientists are responsible for the solution of problems regarding medicine, superstition and security and very recently, apparently national in the form of invention of WMDs.

Rape of women, incest, female genital mutilation and battery, among the many forms of violence, are very much relevant, especially in today’s world.

The film had its world premiere at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival where it received the “Freedom Of Expression” award. In May 2003, she will receive an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree from her alma mater, Middlebury College.

V-Day is a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. V-Day is a catalyst that promotes creative events to increase awareness, raise money and revitalize the spirit of existing anti-violence organizations.

Through benefit performances of The Vagina Monologues, the V-Day College Campaign generated broader attention for the fight to stop worldwide violence against women and girls including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM) and sexual slavery. In its first six years, the V-Day movement has raised over $20 million. The V is standing for Victory, Valentine and Viagra.

For more information, please visit http://www.vday.org

Tickets go on sale February 2 and are available at the Caltech Y.

Three Year Losing Streak Against Rival Cal State Fullerton Ended

By ALEX PAPANDREW

Caltech was finally able to banish the memories of a forcing and scoring own try that led to a deficit for the Titans, and defeated Cal State Fullerton on Saturday, January 24 with a hard fought 24-22 win. In the past three wins, the Beavers had led the Titans late and succumbed to late loses. Fullerton continued the pattern with another try at full time, but this time around it was not enough and Caltech escaped with the win.

The match began with a low, tumbling kick by Jason Keith into CSUF’s forwards in the hopes of forcing them into an error. The ball was well taken, but Fullerton quickly committed a penalty and found themselves under heavy pressure deep in their own end.

Heavy forward charges by the Beavers were well defended, though Matt Hettermann was the first player that Caltech should have scored a try from the lineout, but the try line was ruled held up. The frustrated Beaver attack stalled and Fullerton was able to clear the ball.

Caltech marched the ball back inside the Beavers’ 25 yard line and benefitted by running lineouts. The Titans committed six penalties over 25 languages and running in theaters all over the world, including sold-out runs at both Off-Broadway’s Westside Theater and on London’s West End (2002 Olivier Award nomination, Best Entertainment).

The game appeared to be sealed minutes later, when Papandrew and Herrera again burst from the back of the scrum towards the blind side. After Herrera froze the defence, Papandrew was able to take it in on his own for the try. Keith added the points for a 24-15 win.

Caltech celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s ideas and accomplishments with a variety of events during the MLK Day week.

Vagina Monologues To Help Women’s Group

By RACHEL NIERME

V-Day is coming to Caltech on Friday February 13 with a production of Eve Ensler’s The Vagina Monologues. A diverse cast of students, staff, postdoctoral scholars, faculty and alumnae will give life to these poignant, funny and very moving monologues.

As organizer Rachael Vander Meer explains, “This is an opportunity for the Caltech community—women and men—to join together and take a stand against violence in all its forms.”

While this is the 6th year of the V-Day College Campaign, this is Caltech’s first time participating. According to one cast member, Security staff member Lorent Jankijian, participating in V-Day is an “exciting, ground breaking and inspiring experience.”

All proceeds will benefit the LA Commission on Assaults Against Women.

V-Day’s Obst-Bedazzling Monologues, and Eve Ensler’s Obie-Award-winning play, The Vagina Monologues, has been translated into over 25 languages and running in theaters all over the world, including sold-out runs at both Off-Broadway’s Westside Theater and on London’s West End (2002 Olivier Award nomination, Best Entertainment).

The play is based on Ensler’s interviews with more than 200 women. The piece celebrates women’s sexuality and strength and exposes the violations that women endure throughout the world.

Ms. Ensler is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship Award in Playwriting, the Berilla-Kerr Award for Playwriting, the Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Solo Performance and the Jury was a video presentation of “Mar­

Three Year Losing Streak Against Rival Cal State Fullerton Ended

By ALEX PAPANDREW

Caltech was finally able to banish the memories of a forcing and scoring own try that led to a deficit for the Titans, and defeated Cal State Fullerton on Saturday, January 24 with a hard fought 24-22 win. In the past three wins, the Beavers had led the Titans late and succumbed to late loses. Fullerton continued the pattern with another try at full time, but this time around it was not enough and Caltech escaped with the win.

The match began with a low, tumbling kick by Jason Keith into CSUF’s forwards in the hopes of forcing them into an error. The ball was well taken, but Fullerton quickly committed a penalty and found themselves under heavy pressure deep in their own end.

Heavy forward charges by the Beavers were well defended, though Matt Hettermann was the first player that Caltech should have scored a try from the lineout, but the try line was ruled held up. The frustrated Beaver attack stalled and Fullerton was able to clear the ball.

Caltech marched the ball back inside the Beavers’ 25 yard line and benefitted by running lineouts. The Titans committed six penalties over 25 languages and running in theaters all over the world, including sold-out runs at both Off-Broadway’s Westside Theater and on London’s West End (2002 Olivier Award nomination, Best Entertainment).

The game appeared to be sealed minutes later, when Papandrew and Herrera again burst from the back of the scrum towards the blind side. After Herrera froze the defence, Papandrew was able to take it in on his own for the try. Keith added the points for a 24-15 win.

Caltech celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s ideas and accomplishments with a variety of events during the MLK Day week.

Vagina Monologues To Help Women’s Group

By RACHEL NIERME

V-Day is coming to Caltech on Friday February 13 with a production of Eve Ensler’s The Vagina Monologues. A diverse cast of students, staff, postdoctoral scholars, faculty and alumnae will give life to these poignant, funny and very moving monologues.

As organizer Rachael Vander Meer explains, “This is an opportunity for the Caltech community—women and men—to join together and take a stand against violence in all its forms.”

While this is the 6th year of the V-Day College Campaign, this is Caltech’s first time participating. According to one cast member, Security staff member Lorent Jankijian, participating in V-Day is an “exciting, ground breaking and inspiring experience.”

All proceeds will benefit the LA Commission on Assaults Against Women.

V-Day’s Obst-Bedazzling Monologues, and Eve Ensler’s Obie-Award-winning play, The Vagina Monologues, has been translated into over 25 languages and running in theaters all over the world, including sold-out runs at both Off-Broadway’s Westside Theater and on London’s West End (2002 Olivier Award nomination, Best Entertainment).

The play is based on Ensler’s interviews with more than 200 women. The piece celebrates women’s sexuality and strength and exposes the violations that women endure throughout the world.

Ms. Ensler is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship Award in Playwriting, the Berilla-Kerr Award for Playwriting, the Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Solo Performance and the Jury was a video presentation of “Mar­
Murphy's Law: Creators, Legally Dead Activist Among Winners

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

amount of force a human body could withstand during extreme deceleration, a topic that scientists which included Nichols and Stapp performed experiments at Edwards Air Force Base in the 1940s.

Originally designed to use dummies as subjects, the experiments consisted of a “human deceleration” with a guided braking system and 1,000-pound-thrust rockets which propelled the dummies down a railroad track and then suddenly stopped.

Upon being designed on the project, Stapp said while putting a dummy, “We won’t be using this. We’re going to be using human subjects,” Nichols recalls.

Stapp volunteered to act as the subject, suffering multiple injuries, including hemorrhaged eyes from a run when the decelerator hurtled down the track at 630 miles per hour and was stopped in one-sixteenth of a second.

Throughout all the pain, however, Spark notes that Stapp never lost his sense of humor. “He always played up for ineptitude makes any human discovery a miracle,” he said, according to Nichols. Similarly, Murphy’s Law also arose from this project and the shrill observations of Stapp.

After both Spark and Nichols exhausted each of their five minutes, Abrahams once again took the audience through the 2003 winners of the Ig Nobel Prizes, eliciting peals of laughter from the audience.

Inventor of Technique For Solving Competes

Continued from Page 1, Column 3

The list included Yukio Hirose from Kanazawa University, who won the Ig Nobel Prize for Chemistry for his chemical investigation of a bronze statue which mysteriously did not attract pigeons.

The Ig Nobel Prize for Economics was awarded to Karl Schwarzer and the nation of Liechtenstein for making their currency disappear on purpose to get funding so we can hold a tournament every year for rent for corporate conventions, weddings, barbecues and other such gatherings.

Other winners were Lal Bihari, who captured the Ig Nobel Peace, for leading an active life though legally dead, campaigning posthumously against “bureaucratic inertia and greedy relatives,” and founding the Association of Dead People.

In rural regions of India, such as where Bihari resided, relatives gifting to inherit to bribe bureaucratic to declare an individual legally dead, which occurred to Bihari. However, he fought back, contacting others who had suffered the same fate and organizing them to protest.

“He was literally giving people their lives back. Few people have to do their best work after their death,” said Abrahams with a smile.

In accordance with the bizarre nature of the winners’ accomplishments, the Ig Nobel ceremony blends serious humor and internationality to provide a night of entertainment.

The 1200 person hall at Harvard is dripping with dignity, except on the night of the Ig Nobel Prizes,” said Abrahams.

Each year, the ceremony is given a theme, such as “Nan,” which was this year’s theme. Everything, from the awards, which this year feature a transparent plastic cube which, Abrahams said, “contained a solid gold bar one nanometer long,” to the annual opera revolves around this theme.

However, one aspect which remains constant from year to year is the involvement of real Nobel Prize winners in the ceremony as the presenters of the awards and singers or actors in the opera.

“Sometimes, the Nobel Prize winner is more excited to meet the Ig Nobel Prize winner. Each time they meet, it is a magical moment, like two opposites facing each other,” Abrahams said.

Abrahams began his career as an editor in 1990 with the “Journal of Irreproducible Results.” After the publisher decided to end the project in 1994, the founder and the editorial staff left the publisher to launch the “Annals of Improbable Research.”

On the editorial board, the magazine boasts more than fifty scientists, eight Nobel Laureates and the IQ record holder, as well as a community forum.

Abrahams graduated from Harvard, noting wryly that he was only one year behind Bill Gates. “Apparently my mistake was in graduation college,” he said.

Abrahams continued to speak with this wry humor until the end of his speech, which he ended as he always every Ig Nobel Prize ceremony.

“If you did not win an Ig Nobel Prize this year and especially if you did, good luck next year!”

By MIKE RUPP

Eason Leads Team To Upset Over La Verne

Athlete of the Week Rebekah Eason led the swimming team to a conference upset with two big wins in the 100 and 300 yard medley.

The California Tech

Caltech 40-58

Pasadena, CA 91126

was the best player overall for the week, averaging 12.5 points, 2 rebounds and 1.5 steals. He continued to lead the team in rebounding and steals and is second in scoring. The team plays next this Wednesday night at home against La Verne.

Women’s Basketball (6-14)

Head Coach: Sandra Malbratt

The Women’s Basketball team struggled with two tough losses this week, but continued to show flashes of improvement. Sophomore Center Shelby Montague lead the team against Claremont with four points, seven rebounds and four steals.

The Bearcats held Claremont to 48 points, their best defensive effort of the team. The team also had more difficulty with Whittier College.

Senior Daggy Looper lead the team in scoring with a season-high 16 points and four rebounds. For the fourth time in five games, Montague lead the team in rebounding with 7 boards. She’s now averaging a team-high 6.3 rebounds, good for ninth in the conference. The team plays next Tuesday night at home against Occidental.

Swimming / Diving

Head Coach: Cliff Dool

In a stunning upset, the Women’s Swimming & Diving team dethroned the Leopards from La Verne on Friday, by a score of 116-111. In addition to Rebekah Eason’s double victory and four more points, Senior Jacki Wilbur won the 50 Freestyle and 100 Butterfly and also anchored the winning 200 Medley Relay.

Sophomore Diver Ben Pelletier came up big for Caltech on both days, easily winning both the 300 yard and 100 meter medley competitions on both days. Senior Jim Rebeco turned in some excellent performances, coming out of the Claremont meet with wins in the 50 and 100 Freestyle and anchoring the 200 Medley Relay teams to wins on both days. The team competes this Wednesday evening at home against Chapman.

Baseball

Head Coach: John D’Auria

The Men’s Baseball team opened its season with a split in two exhibition games against Dowdertown West. Junior Isaac Gremmer lead the team to a dramatic 15-14 win in the first game. Gremmer was dominant at the mound, pitching a complete game giving up only 5 hits and no earned runs, while striking out 5. However, Caltech’s offense fell short in the bottom of the ninth, giving the Panthers a run to tie the game. Abrahams stuck around until the ninth, and the team lost the second game 6-0. They played their annual Alumni game this Saturday.

News Briefs

Both BC Race Ends with NO victory: With the no candidate competing in the BC Chair election, the BC received 374 votes. The petition for a second race received 372 signatures.

The California Tech