The California Tech

212 Prefrosh visit this weekend

BY KENNETH KEOH

"The Admissions Office controls the weather!" After going through a few Prefrosh Weekends, any upperclassman can relate that no matter how bad the weather is in the days preceding (or after) Prefrosh Weekend, the sunshine for which Southern California is renowned always breaks through.

Yesterday was no exception as 221 cheery-eyed prefrosh (prospectus freshmen) representing 38 states and 2 foreign countries came to Caltech by way of the Ricketts-Fleming courtyard.

They arrived by car and plane at all hours of the day on Thursday and gathered all together for an orientation meeting at night.

Prefrosh Weekend is an event which upperclassmen view as a time to take a break from studies in order to help the prefrosh ascertain an impression of Caltech — the research opportunities available, the work and the classes.

One must not ignore, however, the difficult decisions which the Undergraduate Admissions office had to make in order to make Prefrosh Weekend 2000 possible to effect the ongoing replenishment of Caltech’s 900 undergraduate student body.

Caltech is experiencing a banner year with various notable events such as Professor Ahmed Zewail selected for the Nobel Prize in Chemistry and President David Baltimore chosen to receive the National Medal of Science.

Of more influence to high school seniors, however, was that U.S. News and World Report ranked Caltech as the number one national university in its 1999 ranking of colleges. This distinction bestowed upon Caltech may be the primary reason why the applicant pool dramatically jumped to 3514 this year.

When asked whether the jump should be attributed to the general increase of about 20% in applications to colleges around the nation, Director of Undergraduate Admissions Charlene Lauben indicated that it seemed unlikely as the quality of the applicants was uniformly high.

She elaborated by saying that the effect of our ranking in U.S. News probably made more already qualified students aware of the existence of Caltech. Whatever the reason for the increase in applications, one major concern of the Admissions Office was to ensure that only about 220 students decide to matriculate as students.

In the previous two years, larger than normal class sizes have entered Caltech — about 235 students for this year and about 260 students for the previous year.

A decision was made to offer acceptance to only 435 applicants which is down from last year’s 520.

This year’s accepted pool represents 417 high schools, 42 states, and 24 foreign countries.

BY JONG OH

Each term, when registration time comes around, there is a scamper to get into courses designated limited enrollment, which includes most laboratory classes.

This year, there was no scamper, not even a hurry, to register for Bi 10, although this class can only support 48 students. The reason was that on the course schedules, the course was not designated limited enrollment, and 63 students signed up for the course. The main cause of this overenrollment was no office or department, but rather an unfortunate consequence of working with unfamiliar systems.

The registrar’s office, in accordance with a campus-wide implementation of a new database system, switched over to the new system on September 1.

All the course information, including limits on class and section size, was stored within the old records.

Under the old system, this limit information for each course was transferred term to term and year to year as necessary, said Dr. Judith Goodstein, Registrar, and this left the registrar’s office only assignment of instructors, times, and locations.

When the new system was brought on-line, no one was aware that the records of limits would not automatically transfer over to the new database.

“ ‘No one knew, and we relied on the system for the last fifteen years,” said Dr. Goodstein. It was a shared confidence in the system. The registrar’s office filled out a form for Bi 10 which did not specify it as limited enrollment, and sent it to the biology department.

Because both sides were so accustomed to class limit records automatically rolling over from year to year, both sides assumed that the database records would limit enrollment in the course. Other limited enrollment classes, such as Chem 3a and freshmen humanities, are taught so often it was known right away that they would be limited enrollment.

However, Bi 10 is taught only once a year, and thus the specificity of that course was less familiar to the registrar’s office staff, who already had their hands full of getting the system to function. Fortunately, Dr. Ray Deshaies, instructor of Bi 10, was present.

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FAULTY BUILDING: SIEH EXPLAINS CONTRIBUTIONS TO EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE

BY JON FOSTER

“I spent a lot of time on strange web sites today,” said Dr. Kerry Sieh to a nearly full Beckman Auditorium, “and this is what I want you to remember.”

With that, he turned the slide to reveal a picture of “La Femme fatale” and a picture of a fault zone with the description, “Le Monde fatal.” Sieh, professor of Geology at Caltech, was presenting at the conclusion of the Watson Lecture series on April 12th.

His talk, entitled “Acts of God,” Acts of Man: How Humans Make Natural Hazards Into Disasters”, explained many of the major mistakes which people in the past have made when planning cities and designing buildings, and attempted to provide some guidance on what we should do when considering future buildings.

Sieh’s pictures of earthquakes (the natural disaster he talked most about) were particularly impressive, and his numerous jokes, though sometimes somewhat irrelevant, kept the audience thoroughly entertained throughout the talk.

He began by telling the “Tale of Two Countries,” Taiwan and Turkey. From Taiwan he showed a Mobius rail-road strip, the reason why you shouldn’t build walls across faults, and a graveyard that had been opened up in the September 21st, 1999 Taiwan quake.

The engineering problem, Sieh said, had been basically solved, pointing out how newer buildings had not been nearly as affected.

“Geologists are pretty much the high priests of the earth,” he quipped, “and this” (he showed a picture of a collapsed bridge on a nice even fault line) “is the hazard of not talking to the high priests.”

This point was simply that modern technology, and even modern knowledge about fault
It's unfair to sweep the broken glass under the rug

By Robert Eiright

I am outraged by some of Dean Rebel’s comments in his Dean’s Corner on April 7, 2000. He says that it is “indeed good to expose newcomers to all facets of life at Tech,” yet claims that some House’s web pages are “inappropriate” because they contain material that may be “downright repulsive and insulting to the sensibilities of many,” and should be taken down. It seems that he feels that we should present an idealized representation of Caltech that has been cleansed of any possible information which prospective students may find offensive or unpleasant. There is a word for this: it is called “lie.” This is one of the things which has irritated me every Prefrosh Weekend I have experienced. Nearly everyone who comes in contact with the prospective students glorifies and exaggerates the wonders of coming to Caltech, and candy-coats or omits everything unpleasant about attending here.

The House’s web pages contain material which is representative of the personalities and opinions of a number of their members. Should a prospective student decide to come here, there is no non-negligible chance that as a result of rotation and room picks, the student will find him- or herself in a house, or with a roommate, who offends or repulsed him or her. Such a student will not mesh well socially here, and will be unhappy, as might the current students who have to deal with them as well. I believe it is unfair to sweep the broken glass under the rug, so to speak, only to have the prefrosh step on it later when they become students. Had I been honestly informed about other unpleasant issues during Prefrosh Weekend, and realized just how much I would loathe many of my days as a student here, I might have reconsidered and been happier elsewhere.

I can, however, concede Dean Rebel’s comment that the school’s point of view should not be confused with the students’. However, all this requires is a simple disclaimer pointing out that house web pages are not the opinions of the Institute as a whole.

Indeed, many internet sites which offer free web page hosting specifically warn viewers that some of their hosted content may be found offensive or inappropriate.
EARTHQUAKE:

Continued from Page 1

lines, is only useful if that information and technology is taken to heart by the individuals who decide where people will actually live.

Why don’t people take the necessary precautions when building?

The problem, according to Sieh, is that “the Earth's metabolism is much less than ours.” Even along active fault lines, often many hundreds of years pass between major earthquakes.

After the devastating pictures of Taiwan, Sieh showed pictures of people rebuilding their businesses and lives... right back on the fault line.

“People were actually trying to dig the fault away to fool the geologists,” he related. Later he told one success story about how San Bernardino Valley College had gone to great effort to restructure their campus to avoid the fault line it was lying on.

This second example is what Sieh would like to see in the third millennium. “You don’t build on deltas,” he said as he showed up Turkish hotels now submerged in water, “you put a golf course there, or maybe a parkway, or someone you don’t like.”

Sieh ended with a picture of a Chinese city at risk from landslides, earthquakes, slumping, and several other natural disasters. “Before you get involved, please get advice from your geologist,” he gestured to the slide, “and if you pay him, he’ll tell you how to avoid all those things.”

The group has been planning for students who for whom the course was a requirement.

When asked about the various schedule conflicts that were present in the some students' schedules, Gloria Brewster, who works at the registrar's office said that because of the bugs in the software and unfamiliarity of the staff with the new system, the registrar's office was pressed for time to meet the deadline so that students would have schedules by the time next term started.

To meet the deadline, conflict checking of the schedules was overridden, in order to speed up the process, and thus some conflicts were not caught.

However, the system is into third term and is expected to perform much better next term.

PREFROSH:

Continued from Page 1

One curiosity is that only 25% of the people in the accepted pool are from California compared with the low 30% in previous years.

Liebau indicated that increases exist in several of the areas where Admissions keeps records.

For instance, there was an increase in the number of applicants who were actively engaged in math, science, and/or engineering activities in the form of science programs, research projects, etc.

More women applied, which Liebau attributes to the encouragement of women to go into science related fields during their junior high and high school years.

Preparation for Prefrosh Weekend was aided by representatives from all undergraduate houses, who comprised the Prefrosh Planning Committee. The group has been planning for the event since January.

In closing, Liebau said that “Prefrosh Weekend is planned to be your adventure at Caltech to help you make the best college decision.”

Events for Prefrosh Weekend run all through this weekend until Sunday morning.

Conrad's serves good food in friendly manner

BY DANA SADAVA AND TASHA VANESIAN

Conrad's is somewhat of an upscale Denny's with moderately good food and inexpensive prices.

Dress casual but the clientele range from shabby to suave (a la the semi-fancy lounge in the back). Expect to see lots of Techers there.

Service is prompt and friendly. If you get there around eight, you'll practically have the restaurant to yourself.

As for the salads, the advertisements are adequate and fresh. They'll let you mix and match toppings and side dishes. Breakfast is served all day. We sampled their yummy cheese blintzes and had them lathered in strawberries. Their meatloaf was excellent, but their vegetables are uninspired.

Conrad's has many daily specials. We recommend it as a nice break from TFM.

Conrad's Restaurant
Location: 861 East Walnut Street
Pasadena
Phone: (626) 577-7603
Price range: $6-15

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Welcome, Prefrosh, to sunny Los Angeles! The land of beaches, Hollywood, cell phones, cars, freeways, and (as a comic at the Improv pointed out) home to the demographic of people solely responsible for the phrase “what's

1st out of place in its surroundings.

Most of the eight different highways can be found for most of the year beneath the burden of our shoes. It's not true of the yearly Undergraduates, who typically know, students here work hard. Harder than students at any other university. And not only is there a large amount of work, but it's difficult. No, it's damn hard. This is no place for those with poor stamina and small brains. It's also not a place for those without standing how the world works. Without that, it's just not worth the effort. If you're here just because you

meant to be able to cat it here on grades (as opposed to not being able to eat it on passes). Some of them are real, and they leave, either out of choice or out of necessity. But mostly students remain, and do quite well, with varying degrees of work.

Then there's the social life. This is an old fashioned, made up of many parties this one weekend. Many Prefrosh don’t think about it. Do think about it. This is a very good time for all.

A good time for all, however, is not a very accurate description of undergraduate life at Caltech in general. To begin with, we are not miserable creatures laboring endlessly under the burden of our workload (not most of us, anyway), but undergraduate life here can be called sedated at best, hellish at worst. First off, as you probably know, students here work hard. Harder than students at any other university. And not only is there a large amount of work, but it's difficult. No, it's damn hard. This is no place for those with poor stamina and small brains. It's also not a place for those without standing how the world works. Without that, it's just not worth the effort. If you’re here just because you

for many of the things in their lives. Part of the reason is that the administration organizes fun events and runs things very smoothly. The students also get very involved, free up time, throw parties, and entertain their guests. Usually it's a good time for all.

A good time for all, however, is not a very accurate description of undergraduate life at Caltech in general. To begin with, we are not miserable creatures laboring endlessly under the burden of our workload (not most of us, anyway), but undergraduate life here can be called sedated at best, hellish at worst. First off, as you probably know, students here work hard. Harder than students at any other university. And not only is there a large amount of work, but it's difficult. No, it's damn hard. This is no place for those with poor stamina and small brains. It's also not a place for those without standing how the world works. Without that, it's just not worth the effort. If you’re here just because you

That, at least, was a truthful depiction of an aspect of Caltech life. It was a fairly representative party. In other words, it sucked. The carnival should be much more fun, but don’t expect to see it again for another twelve months! Finally there are all the people about. They’re out, willing to talk to you, friendly, choky, not doped up like this. Typically the people here are nice (nicer than at other schools I’ve visited, anyway), but it’s not the same. It’s not a bad atmosphere, but it’s no Magic Kingdom.

All of this sounds very bad, but I’m not here to tell you about the nice happy side of Caltech. You’ll see plenty of that this weekend as it is. I’m the cynic; the guy who’ll point out the flaws on the rope. So don’t take this as the whole picture, but do keep it in mind. And think about this, as well: knowing that any school’s Prefrosh weekend (or whatever theirs is called) is a show-off event, compare Caltech’s to other schools’. When I visited other places, I was very unimpressed. Most of the people were either mean or indifferent. In specific, I recall at Carnegie Mellon most of the Prefrosh weekend (or whatever theirs is called) is a show-off event, compare Caltech’s to other schools’. When I visited other places, I was very unimpressed. Most of the people were either mean or indifferent. In specific, I recall at Carnegie Mellon most of the Prefrosh weekend (or whatever theirs is called) is a show-off event, compare Caltech’s to other schools’. When I visited other places, I was very unimpressed. Most of the people were either mean or indifferent. In specific, I recall at Carnegie Mellon most of the Prefrosh weekend (or whatever theirs is called) is a show-off event, compare Caltech’s to other schools’. When I visited other places, I was very unimpressed. Most of the people were either mean or indifferent. In specific, I recall at Carnegie Mellon most of the Prefrosh weekend (or whatever theirs is called) is a show-off event, compare Caltech’s to other schools’. When I visited other places, I was very unimpressed. Most of the people were either mean or indifferent. In specific, I recall at Carnegie Mellon most of the Prefrosh weekend (or whatever theirs is called) is a show-off event, compare Caltech’s to other schools’. When I visited other places, I was very unimpressed. Most of the people were either mean or indifferent.
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(or do you know someone who does?)

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REMEMBER THE TIME YOU WENT SKYDIVING?

YOU WILL. I'M PLANTING FALSE MEMORIES IN YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS.

IT WON'T WORK.

BUT YOU BELIEVE YOU WENT TO COLLEGE, RIGHT?

NO.

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A FALSE MEMORY PLANTED BY DILBERT.

BAH!

MY PARACHUTE DIDN'T OPEN. LUCKILY, I LANDED ON A TRAMPOLINE AND BOUNCED BACK INTO THE PLANE.

I CAN'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME WE PLAYED GAMES TOGETHER, PAKE.

I'LL LET YOU CHOOSE RED OR BLACK THIS TIME.

THIS RED CLASHES WITH MY SWEATER. SO I'LL TAKE BLACK.

SUDDENLY THE MEMORIES RETURN. OK, SO THERE AREN'T ANY MEMORIES.

NOW THE MEMORIES ARE COMING BACK.

WHAT I WANT IS FOR YOU TO KNOW WHAT THEY WERE LIKE.

Technology Buddha

HOW DID YOU BECOME SO ENLIGHTENED?

I JUST EAT A LOT AND TELL THEM THEIR IDEAS STINK.

WHOSE SHOE DID YOU SCRAP THIS OFF OF?

AAAAAA MY PAIN KILLED THE KIDS! ALL WORRY! I WAS RUINING MY LIFE. GIVE ME A FEW WEEKS AND I'LL BE BETTER.

BUT TODAY IS THE FRESHMEN YEAR! I DON'T HAVE TO WEAR THIS BLOUSE! I'VE HAD PLANNING THIS YEAR! YOU'RE COMING TO MY LIFE AGAIN. MOTHER ARE YOU? YOU CAN TRY TO HELP ME SOMETHING?

IT WORKS.

MEMORIES IN GENERAL?

IF YOU GET AN EXTRA WEEK FOR EVERY TEN YEARS OF SERVICE...

...YOU'LL BE HAPPY IN 140 YEARS.

GOOD PLAN.

SHUT UP.

...IN OTHER NEWS TODAY, VARIOUS THOUGHTS AND EMOTIONS WERE ARRESTED TO FORM THE SUBSTANCE VERSUS SURFACE THINKING STRUCTURE.

ALL OF THE VICTIMS WERE FOUND LISTENING TO AN UNRECORDED TELEPHONE CALL BETWEEN THEIR BROADCAST STATIONS.

APPEARENTLY IT WAS A TRANCE FROM A SLEEPER, ALTHOUGH THE REASSURANCE WAS MENTALLY HARMLESS.

SALE.

JUST DINE. FIGHTING ANY CAUSE/ EVENT/ END.

CATHERDV H.R. DIRECTOR

WOULD YOU WORK HARDER IF WE OFFERED STOCK SNEEZE?

YES.

YOU ADMIT YOU'RE NOT WORKING HARD ENOUGH NOW?

LASTLY, ARE YOU STILL BEATING UP CUSTOMERS?

YOU SAYS...
The California Tech

April 14, 2000

The Dean of Students

Dean's Corner

Welcome to Caltech

by Jean-Paul Revel

ratio will be 37%! You have read about our 3 Crawford Prizes, and 28 Nobels (the last one, just last fall, was Ahmed Zewail, the Linus Pauling Professor of Chemical Physics and Professor of Physics), and how many of our professors are members of a National Academy. But what does that mean to you? A top researcher does not necessarily make a good teacher, although a lot of the professors are both. What's important about the professors is that they can be role models, that you can acquire attitudes and outlooks from them which will serve you well in your own careers. It also means that other bright and imaginative people like you will be attracted to the professor and this entourage will contribute to the exciting atmosphere. So we hope that you'll find Caltech a great environment in which to acquire the foundation on which you are going to build for the rest of your life.

You'll have great opportunities for trying your wings at research, real work in a real lab. Speak about it with anyone of your hosts on campus. Next summer there will be more than 300 SURFers, and SURFers are by no means the only way to do research. Some of you will even get to contribute sufficiently to have your name on published papers. Just ask Hugh Heffner, one of last year's frosh, who worked in Dr. Patterson's lab, and saw the work he helped with (dividing a means of inhibiting much warmth and happiness. These thoughts naturally lead me to think about where I am now and compare. The result of my inquiries: You are all the luckiest bastards on the face of the planet. Granted, I only go to school 3 days a week. Granted, I do about as much homework in one week as you all do on any given day after 1:30 in the morning. Granted, I haven't seen a problem set since I left all. I say unto you, I have never known a greater group of people than those I knew at XYZ Horse [Dean's Comment: They are all great houses!], and I miss you all like members of my own family. The next time you're working non-stop through the night to get that mid-term finished, just remember these few words of mine. You are the luckiest bastards on the face of the planet who have each other as you do. It is far better to be lucky with work but in good company than to have the best life in the world but have no one to inspire you to greatness.

So there you have it. Caltech is hard, very hard and very all work. You can succeed here if you follow some simple rules. The secret is: work, be organized, and don't let yourself be distracted from what you are here for. And what you are here for is to study and learn. If it is in a congenial environment, so much the better, but what counts in the end is work, a steady 4-year long push. If you find you're doing anything at all before coming here, and of course you'll all be coming, please take the time to learn HOW to study. Many of you have been able to coast up to now. Well, that comfortable period is over if you come, and whatever skills you can acquire to help you organize yourselves will be really important. So come here and experience life under the Caltech Honor Code. I know that many of you will be attracted by the benefits that are afforded by having such a system. It is indeed wonderful to have the trust and confidence of the faculty and of your peers. To be trusted to take your exams home. To be believed implicitly.

But don't for a minute however imagine that this comes without responsibilities. Each year there are people who fall short of the high expectations that our code implies. Many of these failures are due to a lack of appreciation of how difficult it truly is to uphold the code. The rewards only come in measure of the effort that you put in to sustain the Honor Code down to its smallest ramifications. Enough said for now. I hope you have a great visit, and that we are in your future. See you all soon, or as I say usually say in ending my column,

à bientôt!

Jean Paul Revel

(Student on my column from 4/17/98)

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To the potential members of the Class of 2004

Well, well, here you are, may be members of the Caltech class of 2004! Let me greet you from the Dean’s Corner, the spot I occupy right here, each week! Welcome all! We have tried to arrange a pleasant visit to our beautiful campus, but we have trouble predicting the weather, let alone controlling it. The chances of a clear day are pretty good, however, in spite of what you might have heard. They don’t make snog the way they used to anymore. As a result, a great view of the mountains (the San Gabriels) can be had from campus. For a breathtaking sight go to the 9th floor of Millikan library. You can see from JPL to Mt Wilson and if you hold your head just so, all the way to Mt Baldy, still covered with snow... and if the view is not as well advertised, at least you will have seen the inside of one of the libraries.

You have read our literature and know that we are small and that we pride ourselves in the advantages that state colleges. You also know how excellent we are or you would not be here today. You have read about our ratios, the good and the bad: the 3:1 student to faculty ratio and THE ratio, which is slowly approaching 50%. If all of you come, in the proportions in which you have applied, THE
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CIT Guitar Classes for the spring session will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting on April 4. Beginning 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Intermediate, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Advanced 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Contact: Dan. M. at (213) 651-9346 or email dmm@caltech.edu. For more information, contact Darryl Denning at (323) 651-0581 or by email at ddannin@caltech.edu. For more information, please visit the CIT website at www.cit.caltech.edu/musical/guitar.html.

**Scholarship**

**Political Internship** - The Beckman Internship will be available for the summer of 2000. The intern, supported by friends of Arnold Beckman, will pay a stipend of $4,000. It allows a selected intern to spend the summer working in the office of a politician and to see the inside process of government. The intern is expected to make arrangements with the appropriate political persons. It is open to any undergraduate who intends to be a Beckman student next year. Interested, submit a brief proposal describing where and how they intend to serve, to the Deans' Office, 102 Parsons-Gates, by Monday, April 17, 2000.

**The Collegiate Inventors Competition**, a program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, is funding many small- to medium-sized college and inventor teams and their advisors. Each student - student team - must receive a $20,000 cash prize. Faculty advisors each receive a $10,000 cash prize. The competition, open all full-time college students and judged by distinguished scientists and inventors from across the country, will award winners an opportunity to learn from the Hall of Fame of the level of awards in any given year. Applications are available in the Office of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, at 4-9425 at Caltech or 1-888-2CALTECH. For more information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

**Annual Hallett Literary Competition**, honoring Ole Smith, is open to all undergraduates who have a grade point average of 2.75 or higher (on a 4.0 scale). Winners will be awarded $1,500 for first place, $1,000 for second place, and $500 for third place. More information, contact Prof. LaBelle, x5605, or Barbara Estrada, x5609.

**The Jewish Loan Association** is offering interest-free student loans to qualified individuals for tuition, books and supplies, and living expenses. Applicants must have completed a minimum of one year of undergraduate study and have a 2.5 GPA or above. For further information, please contact the Jewish Free Loan Association at (213) 761-8830 or 818-464-3331.

**The JVS Jewish Community Scholarship Fund** announces the availability for applications for the 2000-01 academic year. The funds are intended to provide a limited amount of financial aid for needy Jewish students who are legal and permanent residents of Los Angeles County. Applicants must be full-time undergraduate students. For more information, contact the Jewish Free Loan Association at (213) 761-8830 or 818-464-3331.

**The California Tech SCHOLARSHIP**

**The California Tech Education Loan Program** is offering students a chance to receive up to $10,000 in scholarship for college. Any student enrolled in an accredited two- or four-year college or university is eligible to apply. Scholarships are merit-based and applicants must have a grade point average of 2.5, 3.0, or 4.0. Winners will be chosen by Citizens’ Scholarship Foundation (CSFSF) and a second independent third party, and scholarships will be awarded August 2000. All information and application materials can be accessed 24 hours a day at www.plato.org. Applications must be submitted by April 15, 2000.

**The P.L.A.T.O. Education Loan Program** is offering students a chance to receive up to $10,000 in scholarship for college. Any student enrolled in an accredited two- or four-year college or university is eligible to apply. Scholarships are merit-based and applicants must have a grade point average of 2.5, 3.0, or 4.0. Winners will be chosen by Citizens’ Scholarship Foundation (CSFSF) and a second independent third party, and scholarships will be awarded August 2000. All information and application materials can be accessed 24 hours a day at www.plato.org. Applications must be submitted by April 30, 2000.

**The John Gyles Education Fund** is offering scholarship awards up to $3,000 for the 2000-01 academic year. Applicants must be Canadian or U.S. citizens, have a 2.7 GPA or above, and demonstrate financial need. Criteria other than strictly academic ability and financial need are considered in the selection process. To request an application, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: The John Gyles Education Fund, Attn: The Secretary, P.O. Box 488, 712 Riverside Dr. Federal, New Brunswick, Canada E3H 2G4. For more information, contact the John Gyles Education Fund at 464-2511, or gmail@jgf.com.

**Information and applications for Summer Work-Study** are available in the Financial Aid Office. If you are interested in Summer Work-Study, please submit the re- quired application as soon as possible, but no later than June 1, 2000. Interested, work-study fund- ing will begin July 5, 2000.

The last date to request any change to your 1999-2000 Financial Aid Award in Monetary Support in May, 2000. Requests for 1999-2000 made after May 1, 2000 will not be considered. Financial aid advisors in the Financial Aid Office will be on leave if you have any questions.

Each year, the Faculty Commit­tee on Scholarships and Financial Aid grants a number of Upper Class Merit Awards to the most academi­cally-talented of the Institute's Sophomores, Juniors, and, occasion­ally, Freshmen. Upper Class Merit Awards are based on outstanding scholastic achievement as demon­strated by exceptional performance in formal classes and/or in independ­ent research, and not on financial aid. Last year, the committee recom­mended a total of 46 Upper Class Merit Awards, consisting of $4,625 full tuition; $19,260. The number and caliber of the applicants determining the degree of awards in any given year, and the Financial Aid Office at 515 S. Wilshire or online at www.finaid.caltech.edu. Electronic submissions will not be accepted.

The deadline for submitting completed paper applications to the Financial Aid Office is April 15, 2000. No exceptions will be made to this deadline.

Submit an event for the Mints, contact techgazette@caltech.edu or mail your announcement to Caltech, C17-58-At. Mints: Submissions should be brief and concise. Email is preferred. All text should be in a right to edit and abridge all material. Deadline is noon Wednesday. Unless specified, all mints will run for two weeks.

**Ride your bicycle to Caltech!** Register with Caltech’s CYCLE COMMITTEE: Users. Web site: http://www.its.caltech.edu/~cyclecom or email: cyclecom@caltech.edu. Monthly random drawing for a $50 gift certificate to a local bike store and free tune up and extra at the Com­muter Center. Also, free bicycle registration if you are a distance rider, log in your miles for an extra chance to win additional prizes every 6 months.

**Be a part of the earthquake team.** The U.S. Geological Survey (on-campus) is looking for a part-time intern for ongoing monitoring and programming of an automated, web-based system for gathering post- earthquake damage data and damage reports (see: http://pasadena.wr.usgs.gov/ cigm.htm). Summer work also pos­sible. More info thru Career Center. Email: jen@earthquake.usgs.gov.

**Events**

The Caltech/JPL flying club (AAC17) will hold its Spring genera­

— The California Tech —

Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91126

April 14, 2000

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