Elachi Elaborates On Recent Space Success

By ROBERT LI

Last Wednesday, JPL Director and Caltech professor Charles Elachi gave a Watson lecture titled "Challenges and Excitement of Space Exploration". In the hour-and-a-half talk, Dr. Elachi discussed recent JPL missions including the Mars mission as well as the plan for space exploration in the next decade.

After beginning the talk with a video of the launch of the two Mars rovers, Dr. Elachi showed a vision quote from Teddy Roosevelt who said, "Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checked by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat."

Dr. Elachi then got into the gist of his talk which dealt with the Mars missions. Introducing the topic by asking how common life is in the universe, Dr. Elachi described the many similarities between Earth and Mars.

The planets have approximately the same day length, the same land surface area and similar geography. Moreover, Mars has landscape features that strongly suggest that there had been at one point liquid water flowing on the planet. Today, there are two rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, successfully landed on Mars to investigate the geography and to look for concrete signs of liquid water. The first rover to land, Spirit, came down in a deep, wide crater called Gusev crater while the second rover, Opportunity, landed three weeks later in an area known as Meridiani Planum. As we all know, Gusev crater did not turn out to be as interesting as many scientists had thought while at Meridiani, Opportunity found certain sulfate salts that indicated that Mars at one point was drenched with water.

According to Dr. Elachi, the Mars missions were a huge success. In the two days after each rover landed, "Mars was the most searched word on the web."

In the hour and a half talk, Dr. Elachi showed a Mars "mock press conference" routine, "Lirty Dies." One of the Capitol Steps performed as a waffler, a "mock scientist," complete with high-heel boots and a "suit," and "big hair" almost falling off his head. A twist on Joni Mitchell's "Both Sides Now.", "I've been thinking," he insists. "I've been thinking..."

The California Tech

Robins, a member of the San Diego Real World cast, gives her presentation Monday after the cast spent the weekend learning public speaking skills.

Real World Cast Practices Public Speaking Skills with Presentation

By TAMMY MA

Caltech played host to an uncharacteristic group last Monday when the cast of MTV’s Real World San Diego visited Caltech to give a talk. Real World, one of MTV’s long-running hit reality shows, is the true story of seven strangers, picked to live in a house to find out what happens when people stop being polite and start getting real. The Real World!"

The weekend previous, the cast of seven college students were trained at Avery House on public speaking and presentations by an East Coast consulting firm in preparation for an upcoming Real World educational tour. In return to Caltech for providing the training venue and support, Real World held an all-student program in Avery dining hall on Monday. The cast talked about some of the real life challenges they’ve faced and are facing and shared some of their experiences.

As the production opened to a fairly good Caltech crowd, Kevin Lee, a producer of Real World San Diego explained the motives behind their launching a national tour with the Real World cast. Since 1997 and Real World Boston, each cast has received training in public speaking since they realized that people from the cast were being invited to different colleges to share their life experiences. Each cast member showcased a different topic they considered important to college students and showed a brief video and conveyed their thoughts on the topic.

Cameran, aged 19 and labeled the “southern belle” kicked off the talk by speaking about sex. She certainly caught the audience’s attention when she started by asking “Who here is a virgin? If you are, raise your hand.” She went on to commend waiting on sex and noted that in America, it’s “cool again to wait.” She also shared with the crowd how she personally lost her virginity and expressed her regret that it hadn’t been a very special experience.

Cameran stressed the importance of safe sex, by commenting, “Women should not be embarrassed to carry a condom in their purse, or men to carry one in their wallet. There’s no excuse. Wear condoms. It’s the cool thing to do.”

Continued on Page 8, Column 1

Politicians, Celebrities Parodied By Steps Regardless of Affiliation

By KEVIN BARTZ

President George W. Bush is struggling to find fraq on a map. "Don’t give me any hints this time, Dick," he insists.

"Something that’s been bug­ gering me is the fact that every­ one’s been talking about the one country that we did bomb, but no one’s talking about the bunches of other countries that we could’ve bombed but did not. Like...uh, Korea," Perplexed, he stammers, "Which is the bad one again, Dick?"

And the audience bursts out in an all-too-common fit of laughter.

This “George W. Bush" is Andy Clemence’s side-splitting caricature for the Capitol Steps, 23-year Washington parody artists and longtime Hill favorites, performing last Friday and Satur­ day to sold-out Beckman Auditorium crowds of students and local residents.

"I try to just capture what’s unique about a politician," said cast member Janet Gordon, who played everyone from Condo­ leezza Rice to Hillary Clinton, including a number as porn star Mary Carey. "You really look for those interesting nuances and personalities.

"The group parodies anything and anyone in the public eye... with a focus, of course, on govern­ ment, pop culture and political psychosis. Their numbers run the gamut from song and dance and mock press conferences to Mike Loomis’s signature “backwards感谢” routine, "Lirty Dies."

"Anyone’s fair game, left or right. For his part, Clemence plays not only a chortling and bumbling Bush but also a tee­ tering and stilted John Kerry, complete with high-heel boots and "big hair" almost falling off his head. A twist on Joni Mitch­ ell, Kerry’s refrain is true to his image as a waffler: “I've taken stands on both sides now."

The Mars rovers Spirit and Opportunity have outlined their planned lifetime and both are in the middle of long treks.

Continued on Page 2, Column 4
Steps Have Easy Time Poking at Republicans

By D. WILLIAMS-HEDGES

PASADENA, Calif. Human rights advocate and actor Mike Farrell will come to Caltech to present the final address in the California Institute of Technology’s Activism Speaker Series at the Pasadena Playhouse at 10 p.m. Friday, May 7.

Farrell was a founding member of the anti-war group, Code Pink, and has also been involved with Human Rights Watch in helping to secure the release of prisoners. A visit to death row left him with a strong desire to learn more about the death penalty, and he accepted an invitation to present the final address in the Activism Speaker Series at the Pasadena Playhouse.

Farrell’s appearance is a part of the Activism Speaker Series at Caltech, which is a series of events that bring together speakers from a variety of fields to discuss issues related to social justice and activism.

As a human rights advocate, Farrell has worked on a variety of issues, including the death penalty, and he is committed to using his platform to bring attention to these issues. He is an active member of the California-based group, Code Pink, which was founded in 1993 to support a nonviolent approach to foreign policy.

Farrell is also a member of the board of directors of the Human Rights Watch, an international human rights organization. He has worked with the organization to help secure the release of prisoners from around the world.

In addition to his work as a human rights advocate, Farrell is also an actor, and he has appeared in numerous films and television shows. He is perhaps best known for his role as B.J. Hunnicutt on the television series, M*A*S*H.

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Farrell’s presentation will be followed by a Q&A session, and the event is free and open to the public.

The California Tech

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VOLUME CV, NUMBER 25
Tannym Yeung Wong, Managing Editor
Matthew H. Walker, Circulation Manager
Norah J. Delgado

The Capstone Steps formed in 1981 and have been performing their songs and sketches around the country ever since.

Former M.A.S.H. Star to Speak In Opposition to Death Penalty

By Tammy Yeung Wong

Mike Farrell, shown here in his M.A.S.H. role as B.J. Hunnicutt, is the President of Death Penalty Focus, a human rights group.

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ASCIT Minutes: New Sign-Ups Posted, IHC Makes Committee Appointments

ASCIT Minutes
April 27, 2004
12:05 PM

Absent: Claire Walton
Guests: Jeremy Pitts, Nora DeDonney

Introduction:
1. Call to Order
New/Open Positions:
2. Kim Popendorf notes that the survey about the proposal to allow freshmen in Avery is posted on the donut website. Its results are very important, so please take it!
3. More sign-ups? If you’re interested, sign-up for the following committees: Academic Policies, Committee on Exchange Programs and Study Abroad, Core Curriculum, Steering, Curricula, Educational Outreach, Libraries, and the Council for Undergraduate Education. Sign-ups are posted outside SAC 33 and come down on the evening of Sunday, May 2. Interviews will be held on Monday, May 3, starting at 8 PM. To find out more information about any of these, visit http://www.its.caltech.edu/~offoffice/committees/index.html

Popendorf, Corinna Zygourakis

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Certified shaker
Certified no more mac & cheese
Certified acceleration
Certified rush
Certified freedom
Certified bring it on

Certified only at an authorized BMW center.

Get warranty protection! up to 6 years or 100,000 miles. Get flexible leasing and financing options. Get pure BMW.

ASCIT Minutes: New Sign-Ups Posted, IHC Makes Committee Appointments

Big T business manager, little t editor, little r business manager, and Totem editor, as well as the following committees: Institute Art, Institute Programs, Institute Size, and REGIS. Sign-ups for these committees are now posted outside of SAC 33 and will come down the afternoon of Monday, May 10. Interviews will be held on Tuesday, May 11 starting at 10 PM.

Congratulations to the new-elected members of the following committees. Thanks to everyone who interviewed!

Athletics & Physical Education: Kamal Shah Chang, Jason Quimby, Tim Boyd (alt).
Freshmen Admissions: Tim Boyd, Meng-meng Fu, Ben Goldub, Warner Leedy, Peter Foley, Katie Richardson, Vicki Loewer (alt), Wendy Xu (alt), Jeewen Choi (reader), Wei Dang (r), Kayte Fischer (r), Lisa Fukui (r), Elizabeth Montague (r), Royal Reinecke (r), Mayra Sheikh (r), Sarah Wilhoit (r).
Foreign Students: Jonathan So, Jan Lu (alt).
Health: Angelina Crans, Shuhua Zhang, Francesca Colomme (alt), Meng-meng Fu (alt).
Student Housing: Angelina Crans, Lizz Felthagle, Lionel Jingles (alt).
UASH: Manny Garcia, Vicki Loewer, Randy Nover and sophomores Irene Ying and Parag Bhayani finished in 16th place overall, an improvement from 24th place taken by last year’s D-I team. Additionally, Caltech finished 4th among the fourteen graduate teams playing in D-I, and Boyd-Graber finished in the top 30 individually out of over 120 players. UC-Berkeley finished as the overall champion, and University of Illinois was the undergraduate champion.

Meanwhile, in Division II (D-II), which has teams consisting of undergraduates in their first year of quiz bowl and community colleges, the Caltech team of junior Xiao Peng, sophomores Grace Chuang and Eric Kwek, and freshmen Eddie-Truong Cao finished 18th overall after difficult opening-round matches on Friday; Peng was one of the top fifteen scorers. The D-II tournament was won by UCLA, with Valencia (Fla.) Community College taking the community college championship.

1. Call to Order
2. Kim Popendorf notes that the survey about the proposal to allow freshmen in Avery is posted on the donut website. Its results are very important, so please take it!
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4. Sign-ups for the following IHC-appointed committees have also been re-posted: Grievances, Parking, Computer Advisory, and Undergraduate Education. Sign-ups are posted outside SAC 33 and come down on the evening of Sunday, May 2. Interviews will be held on Monday, May 3, starting at 8 PM. To find out more information about any of these, visit http://www.its.caltech.edu/~offoffice/committees/index.html or email are@donut.caltech.edu.
5. Get involved in Caltech publications and additional institute committees! You can sign up to interview for: California Tech Business Manager, Big T editor, and Veena Sok ask to take Professor Grote out to lunch at the Ath. Vote: 6-0-0 (approved). Other Business: 8. BoD ratifies IHC committee appointments. Vote: 7-0-0 (approved).

Certified mover
Certified shaker
Certified no more mac & cheese
Certified acceleration
Certified rush
Certified freedom
Certified bring it on

To Dean Revel:
The students of Caltech would like to offer our condolences in your time of grief. Our hearts and sympathies go out to you. We love you, Dean Revel!

Caltech Quiz Bowl Team Places 16th and 18th in National Championship

By PARAG BHAYANI
On April 2nd and 3rd, the Caltech Quiz Bowl team participated in the Intercollegiate Championship Tournament at Washington University in St. Louis. The national tournament, sanctioned by National Academic Quiz Tournaments (NAQT), saw two divisions of thirty-two teams each compete in a day and a half of academic buzzzer competition.

In Division I (D-I), which has teams consisting of undergraduates in their first year of quiz bowl and community colleges, the Caltech team of junior Xiao Peng, sophomores Grace Chuang and Eric Kwek, and freshmen Eddie-Truong Cao finished 18th overall after difficult opening-round matches on Friday; Peng was one of the top fifteen scorers. The D-II tournament was won by UCLA, with Valencia (Fla.) Community College taking the community college championship.

“‘All in all, the trip was a success,’” commented Ying. “We could have done better in some of the rounds, but it ended up pretty good.” Expressing her satisfaction with the trip, Peng exclaimed, "Quiz Bowl rocks my world!"

The Quiz Bowl team also sent two teams to the Otter Tail tournament at USC on April 17, taking 5th and 6th places. The team will also be playing in the Berkeley Spring Tournament on May 22. Practices are held on Sunday and Thursday nights from 7:30 to around midnight, and all are welcome. Finally, the team would like to thank ASCIT and the Caltech Y for providing funding for this trip.

The Quiz Bowl team places 16th and 18th in national championship. The quiz bowl team consists of undergraduates in their first year of quiz bowl and community colleges. The Caltech team placed 16th overall and 18th in Division II (D-II). The team competed in a day and a half of academic buzzzer competition. The D-II tournament was won by UCLA, with Valencia (Fla.) Community College taking the community college championship. "All in all, the trip was a success," commented Ying. "We could have done better in some of the rounds, but it ended up pretty good." Expressing her satisfaction with the trip, Peng exclaimed, "Quiz Bowl rocks my world!"

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Bush or Kerry--Who Wears the Flip-Flops?

BY PARAG BHAVANI

The Republican campaign has gone so far as to create a “Kerry vs. Kerry” animation, which puts some of Kerry’s conflicting views on policy side by side. But while Bush or Kerry is technologically sound, many of Kerry’s reversals are due to his dissatisfaction with the administration’s execution of policies: for example, Attorney General John Ashcroft’s questionable use of the broad powers granted him by the PATRIOT Act, and the lack of any substantive post-war planning for Iraq.

According to recent polling, the issue has been somewhat effective. Undecided voters associate Kerry with the term “flip-flop” more than any other word, and Kerry’s unfavorable ratings have risen considerably since his win on March 2nd that effectively sealed his nomination.

However, while Kerry has changed his position on several issues due to political expediency, the President is undoubtedly at least as big a flip-flopper as the Democrat, and perhaps even more so. This is significant because a dominant theme in the Bush campaign is to portray the President as a steady leader, a stark contrast to his opponent. In fact, the campaign slogan is “Strong leadership in times of change.”

Former top White House advisor Karen Hughes has suggested that she does not know of any instances when he has shifted positions to temper public demand. But here is a list of examples of the contrary (largely in part from the Center for American Progress). This list is not meant to be all-inclusive; in fact, only a few big flip-flops are mentioned. For a more detailed list, visit the “Media” section of www.americanprogress.org, look for the 5/3/04 press release.

Flip: Bush opposes the creation of a commission to investigate September 11
For one year after the attacks, the administration publicly opposed a panel charged with identifying the problems leading up to the fateful day.

Flop: Bush will allow a 9/11 commission
In addition, only after Congressional pressure was the commission given a time extension to finish its work in the face of Bush stonewalling. Now, many on the right are trying to discredit the work done by the panel due to the partisanship arising with the testimony of figures like Richard Clarke and Condoleezza Rice.

Flip: Bush will not testify in front of September 11 commission
Citing executive privilege, the George Bush and Dick Cheney repeatedly declined requests by the Members of the 9/11 commission to testify about the situation leading up to the disaster.

Flop: Bush will testify for commission
Relenting to public pressure upon the first anniversary of the attacks, the commission is expected to investigate all causes and propose solutions. Its initial chairman is Henry Kissinger, who has been party to many government-sanctioned human rights violations and is known for conducting business in secrecy. The Bush administration has also withheld many documents and much funding, preventing a lot of commissioners from taking notes. This meeting took place on Thursday, April 29, but was later cancelled.

Flip:布什反对对萨达姆•侯赛因的审判
Bush played up WMD threat and equated al-Qaeda and Saddam Hussein as much as possible.

Flop:布什支持对萨达姆•侯赛因的审判
In February, 2004, Bush was able to layout his own message to American voters before Kerry was even nominated for President, George W. Bush’s campaign launched a campaign slogan “The state can do what they want to do. Don’t try to trap me in this state’s issue like you’re trying to get me into.”

Flip:布什面对现实后支持对萨达姆•侯赛因的审判
Faced with reality after the invasion of Iraq, Bush changed his tune.

“David Kay goes in and says we haven’t found stockpiles yet, and there’s these things as if the weapons went,” Bush on April 29, 2004. However, Saddam apparently had weapons of mass destruction produced by the Pentagon. We’ve had no evidence that Saddam Hussein was involved in Sept. 11, Bush says in September of 2003.

...and that’s just one President from Texas.

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Letters to the Editor: Readers Share Their Own Definitions of Diversity

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to both the article by K. Szwaykowska titled “Students Argue Segregation Issue Before Lunch Crowd” (April 19th, 2004) and the letter to the editor in last week’s Tech (April 26th, 2004) by Dr. Morgan Kousner. Both of these addressed diversity and self-segregation within the undergraduate student houses. I would like to clear up an apparent misconception regarding Ricketts House.

According to the 2002 under­graduate statistics (these are the most recent ones I could find on the Caltech website), the undergraduate population breakdown is as follows:

- African-American: 1.28%
- Native American: 0.33%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 27.16%
- Hispanic/Latino: 6.50%
- Caucasian: 50.44%
- Non-resident alien: 7.67%
- Undisclosed: 0.85%

It is clear that those who are bi-racial (for instance, one Caucasian and one African-American) are categorized: I suspect the “one-drop” rule is in use in which those who are African-American are considered to be African-American. Thus, where is it that I have applied when determining my statistics. In any case, the most multicultural members that Caltech is not the most diverse campus around; however, that is not the issue at hand. The issue at hand appears to be how to make the living environments of those students who share a primary language other than English, share certain religious beliefs, or share family ties. In response to recent ethnic or national conflict, certain groups of students may be uncomfortable living together, which would also tend to generate segregation. Nu­merous other hypotheses, includ­ing the null hypothesis, are possi­ble, but the reader cannot assay the validity of any of these ideas without better data. Regards,

Natalia Dolgeno
Ricketts 104

By JENNY FISHER

The Council on Undergraduate Education convened for the first meeting of the term on April 16th.

The main issue on the agenda was Core 1. There is a general agreement among CUE members, students, and faculty that in its current form, Core 1 is not useful for our students. The CUE discussed a variety of possible ways to change Core 1, including propos­als from the Division of Humani­ties and Social Sciences, the Core Curriculum Steering Committee, and the Hixon Writing Center. Dr. Carol Fraser, chair of the Core Curriculum Steering Committee, will write a proposal for a revised version of Core 1 that will be submitted at the May 10th Faculty Board Meeting. Dr. David Goodstein, Chair­man of the CUE, reported that be­ginning next year, students will be able to register for morning and afternoon sections of Ch3a on different days, rather than hav­ing to take the two sections on the same day.

The Curriculum Committee, chaired by Dr. Alan Weinstein, is considering a proposal for a new philosophy option. The option has 30 units, much fewer than many of the other options. The Academic Policies Commis­sion will be asked to look into how to address the lack of uniformity in the requirements of different options.

CUE Discusses Changes to Core 1, Ch3a Sections to be Split Morning, Afternoon

CUE Board Meeting

Dr. David Goodstein, Chairman of the Council on Undergraduate Education, convened the first meeting of the term on April 16th.

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Caltech Sports Wrap Up Their Seasons with SCIACS

By MIKE RUPP
April 26, 2004

Athlete of the Week
Jacci Wilbur - Women's Water Polo
The senior from Hopewell, New Jersey and defending Caltech Athlete of the Year ended her college Women's Water Polo career having guided the program to a solid start in only its second year of existence this past week at the conference championships. All told, Wilbur had eight goals, seven steals, five steals and three errors drawn over the course of the regular season finale at Cal Lutheran and the three-match Championships. For the season in Water Polo, Wilbur was second on the team in goals (34), first in assists (40) and first in goals off of errors drawn (10). Wilbur's athletic career at Caltech includes holding an astounding 10 Women's Swimming records, having become a mainstay of the aquatics program for all four years, and winning Caltech Athlete of the Year honors last year. Congratulations to Jacki on an outstanding career!

Week in Review
Track & Field
Head Coach: Julie Levesque
The Caltech Track and Field finished its regular season last week at the SCIAC Championships. The Caltech Women finished in 6th place behind performances from the top SCIAC teams. Junior Kristen Zortman and Senior Tamara Becher, who were all part of both the 4x100m and 4x400m relay teams in addition to their individual events. The Men's team was lead by Sophomore Jeremy Leibs, who had top-five finishes in two different events. For most of the team, the conference championships represent the season's end. Jeremy Leibs, meanwhile, continues his quest to qualify for the NCAA Championships in the Men's 110 Meter Hurdles. He'll be competing on his own at several prominent open invitationals throughout California in the hopes of making the cut. Good luck to Jeremy, and congratulations to the entire team!

Men's Baseball
Head Coach: John D'Auria
The Men's Baseball team suffered another difficult loss this past Friday against La Verne. On the upside, Junior Isaac Gremmer hit his first home run of the season, and the team finally scored against a SCIAC team.

Women's Water Polo
Head Coach: John Suarez
The Men's Golf team competed in two 18-hole SCIAC championships this past week, scoring a total of 3 points towards overall conference standings. The team will wrap up its season with a 36-hole championship round on Wednesday. Tune in to next week's edition of the Caltech Weekly All-Sports Release for a wrap-up of the season.

Women's Water Polo (5-20)

Caltech..................7
CAL LUTHERAN.............3
SCIAC Championships
Caltech..................5
CMS........................15
Caltech..................4
ACCIDENTAL.................14
Caltech..................9
CAL LUTHERAN.............5

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Congratulations to all 2004 Degree Candidates!!

The Bursar's Office will be scheduling your In-Person Exit Interview soon. This process is designed to inform you of the status of your student account and furnish you with loan related information. This interview will be conducted in our office, which is located in the Center for Student Services Building, room 120.

To find out more about this procedure please visit our website:
www.bursar.caltech.edu/checkout_grad.htm

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Brain Tumors Could Form From Stem Cells Gone Bad

By ROBERT TINDOL

PASADENA, Calif.—Researchers in the Division of Biology at the California Institute of Technology, in collaboration with the UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center, have discovered that brain tumors may be derived from the cells that form the nervous system. These cells, called neural stem cells, may help researchers understand how this cancer begins, which could one day lead to improved diagnosis and treatment.

The study, published this week in the online edition of the peer-reviewed journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, suggests that pediatric brain tumors develop from cells that have many of the same characteristics as neural stem cells. However, these cells also have an abnormal ability to grow and change.

“We want to understand the transformation process from a normal stem cell to a cancer cell,” said Howard Hemmati, the lead author and an MD/PhD student at the UCLA-Caltech Medical Scientist Training Program. “Recent work has shown that some cancers can arise from abnormal cells that are like stem cells in that they self-renew and produce the different kinds of cells that make up a tumor.”

“This is a new way of thinking about the fundamental origin of cancer that promises to lead to better diagnostic tests and improved cancer-specific treatments in the future,” said Hemmati.

“This study makes an important advance by demonstrating a previously unrecognized connection between stem cells and pediatric brain tumor-derived cells. By viewing tumors as a type of embryonic cell gone awry, this opens up new possibilities for diagnosis and treatment,” said Marianne Bronner-Fraser, a developmental biologist and the Albert Billings Ruddock Professor of Biology at the California Institute of Technology.

“We believe that neural stem cells, found normally within our brain and spinal cords, could transform into cancer cells,” said Harley Kornblum, a pediatric neurologist, member of UCLA's Jonsson Cancer Center and an associate professor of molecular and medical pharmacology and pediatrics at UCLA.

“This work also demonstrates that major advances can be made by combining different scientific perspectives — tumor biology, stem cell and developmental biology. The joint UCLACaltech program fosters this important and cross-disciplinary discovery,” said Bronner-Fraser.
Robot Base on Mars Among Elachi Goals

Google, beating out that other well known search word. The JPL mission website has had 10 billion hits in three months, a record in the history of the Internet.

For the upcoming decade, Dr. Elachi laid out a concrete mission plan for explorer Mars. This includes sending more rovers, launching a orbiter with an imaging spectrometer of capable of sub meter resolution and establishing a robotic base on Mars.

In the nearer time frame, many exciting things will happen. The Cassini probe is fast approaching Saturn and will enter orbit on June 30th. Next January 14th, Cassini will send a lander to Titan, which has an atmosphere of the same density as our own and is a possible place for life. The Stardust mission, which flew by a comet on January 2nd, will be coming back with a sample in less than 2 years. Finally, the Genesis spacecraft, which has been collecting samples of the solar wind, will be coming back on September 8th.

The past year has also seen the successful launch of two space telescopes, GALEX and the Spitzer Infrared telescope. They have already generated impressive data about the universe.

In his conclusion to the lecture, Dr. Elachi told the audience what he achieve in the next 10 years. These are:

- robotic on the step
- launched in the base
- continued/rom Page 1, Column 5

Cast Discusses Issues Important in College

Jacquese, age 19, was the next to talk. His video showed Jacquese having to deal with a great amount of prejudice and how he handled those situations. In his introduction, he described his definition of diversity and through it helped to promote tolerance and inclusion. As he said, “Everyone in this room has treated someone wrong or has been treated wrong.”

He encouraged everyone to step out of their comfort zones and thanked the Real World cast for sharing their lives with him and teaching him about different types of people.

Jaime added to Jacquese’s definition of diversity with her own experience of dealing with growing up Korean with first generation, traditional parents in San Francisco. Her parents came to the U.S. 23 years ago, but are still coping with American etiquette.

She recalled how when she was younger she was embarrassed of her parents’ handicap, but has since come to accept and value her heritage. Said Jaime, “It’s cool to be different.”

21 year old Frankie from Kansas spoke on what the MTV crew called “cutting,” or self-mutilation. Self-injury is the highest with college-age females, who generally deal with it with cover-ups and secrecy. She herself had the fact that she would cut herself from family and friends for eight years. To her it was a coping mechanism in a way to stay alive and not a suicide attempt, but simply to release pressure. People who cut often have self-worth issues, that are exacerbated when other reject them further because they are “cutters.”

In her most recent episode, she cut herself so badly she had to go to the ER and get stitches. And when the doctors looked at her as someone who wasn’t as worthy of care as the others there, she realized that she had to stop. Frankie had this bit of advice for us: “If you want to help someone they’re not going to stop unless they want to. The attempt should be based on their desire to control it. Talk to them, it removes the shame. Be supportive, available and compassionate.”

Robin, 23, faced seven years of bulimia. It began in high school when she was a cheerleader and each week was weighed and on a scale. As she was one of the heaviest on the squad, she soon discovered she could get thinner if she vomited everyday after lunch. When she got to college and made the JV and later on varsity cheering squad, she believed it was because she had lost so much weight. Robin had become psychologically and physically dependent on purging. When she realized she had acquired heart palpitations due to her eating habits, she talked to a school psychologist and realized that it wasn’t a food problem, it was an image problem and has since been healing.

Randy, one of the oldest in the group at the age of 24, spoke on conflict resolution and how he had to deal with conflicts, especially during the four months spent taping Real World. It’s often stress that causes conflict and Randy encouraged everyone to be realistic with our demands on ourselves and on others, to budget our time and to have a positive mental attitude to relieve stress.

Brad, 22, spoke about drugs and alcohol. Although previously a fairly heavy drinker, since Real World has aired and has seen himself on TV drunk and with his judgment impaired, has slowed down on the drinking. Commented Brad, “You want to go away to school, have a good time and drink on weekends, but you have to know your limits.” He noted that it’s important to point out to friends and family if they have a problem.

A question and answer session followed. On the event, Tom Mannion, Senior Director of Campus Life, stated, “It is a real opportunity to hold an open discussion (with a very visible group) about many non-academic issues facing college students today.”

The Cassini spacecraft was launched on October 15, 1997 and is expected to arrive in orbit around Saturn in July. A probe will be launched in December to land on Saturn’s moon Titan.