January 16, 2006 was "A day on, not a day off" as the corporation of national and community service put it. It marked the 20th anniversary of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Various events were held at Caltech and other communities around America between January 17, 2006 and January 21, 2006 to commemorate Dr. King's birthday and honor his "dream" of freedom, justice, and opportunity.

The MLK day celebration launched off at Caltech with a keynote breakfast on January 17 with Reverend Inman Moore, who described his journey in the United States Civil Rights Movement. In 1963 Rev. Inman Moore, a white United Methodist pastor in Mississippi, joined 27 other pastors from the United Methodist Church to sign a controversial statement, "Born of Conflict," that challenged racism. The state's superintendent in Mississippi, joined 27 other pastors from the United Methodist Church to sign a controversial statement, "Born of Conflict," that challenged racism.

Yet, Rev. Moore continues to be highly enthusiastic about it like it again because statements like it "made a difference." A train of events inspired Rev. Inman Moore to take up and fight for the cause of the African-Americans in Mississippi. Though his parents and his extended family were segregationists who did not support his cause then, they are more accepting and supportive of the same, now, because times have changed.

Moore’s only regret is that he was accepting of this segregation as a child. He says that if he could change something he did in the past, he would have been more aware and less accepting of segregation earlier in his life. Moreover, he would have tried to be a little bolder in promoting the case for equality.

As an ardent admirer of Dr. Martin Luther King, Rev. Moore strongly believes that the war for equal civil rights is a never ending one. His message to the Techers is that the civil rights movement is not over. Discrimination is still practiced in many other ways. The civil rights movement is more than just the relationship between blacks and whites. He stated that the society is still not free of gender discrimination. Men and women are not on the same platform yet. His main message to the youth is that they should continue this struggle to obtain equal civil rights for all regardless of gender or race. Overall, judging by the enthusiasm of the audience who attended that breakfast, Reverend Inman Moore left everyone highly inspired.

The issue lunch on Wednesday, January 18 was an emotional one. Dr. Percy Clark Jr., an African-American planetary scientist who currently serves as the superintendent of the Pasadena Unified School District, touched many hearts with his highly motivating speech. The man with 41 years of experience as an educator was motivated by his mother, who gave education a lot of importance, as well as by his high school English teacher who showed faith is his abilities and encouraged him. Although, he is content with his past and the work he has done to enhance the quality of academe at public schools, he is not yet ready to leave. His speech inspired the Techers present at the lunch. They all were very inquisitive about ways in which they too could get involved so that people of all races would have an opportunity to receive a fine education.

When a student asked Dr. Percy Clark Jr. if he should contribute his earnings or he should help teach, Dr. Clark replied, that money was fine but "...we need you!".

On January 17, between 10 am and 5 pm, Dr. King's famous speech "I Have a Dream," was screened at various locations on campus to emphasize its significance even today. CRASH (2005) was screened on the evening of January 19 at the Beckman auditorium. The movie, which looks at the complexities of racial tolerance in contemporary America blended well with the mood of the week, where there were serious discussions about how issues of race still continue to have a serious impact on life in the United States. As a continuing tribute to the Civil Rights Movement, the first of six videos was screened on campus. The videos, known as Eyes on the Prize, are to be shown each Friday until the end of Black History Month. Through these activities and more, Caltech is getting into the spirit of things. It is trying to make a difference in the community, playing its role in the ongoing struggle for civil rights, and helping to realize the dreams of Dr. Martin Luther King. One hopes that the students at Caltech will be inspired by these leaders and try and get involved in this important movement. They have the perfect opportunity to join the MLK service project coordinated by the Caltech Y. Hopefully, Techers will realize the need for continued support in this ongoing struggle for equality.

In a new study that provides a novel way of looking at our solar system's past, a group of planetary scientists and geochemists announce that they have found evidence on Earth of an asteroid breakup or collision that occurred 8.2 million years ago.

"The helium 3 spike found in these sediments is the smoking gun that something quite dramatic happened to the interplanetary dust population 8.2 million years ago," says Farley, the Keck Foundation Professor of Geochemistry at Caltech and chair of the Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences. "It’s one of the biggest dust events of the last 80 million years. Interplanetary dust is composed of bits of rock from a few to several hundred microns in diameter produced by asteroid collisions or ejected from comets. Interplanetary dust migrates toward the sun, and en route some of this dust is captured by the Earth’s gravitational field and deposited on its surface.

Presently, more than 20,000 tons of this material accumulates on Earth each year, but the accretion rate should fluctuate with the level of asteroid collisions and changes in the number of active comets. By looking at ancient sediments that include both interplanetary dust and ordinary terrestrial sediment, the researchers for the first time have been able to detect major dust-producing solar system events of the past.

Because interplanetary dust particles are so small and rare in sediment-significantly less than a part per million-they are difficult to detect using direct measurements. However, these particles are extremely rich in helium 3, in comparison with terrestrial materials. Over the last decade, Ken Farley has measured helium 3 concentrations in sediments formed over the last 80 million years to create a record of the interplanetary dust flux.

To assure that the peak was not a fluke present at only one site on the seafloor, Farley

Continued on Page 2, Column 1
Caltech Offers Alternative Spring Break Opportunities

By EVA MURDOCK

us all, emotionally and economi-
cally, and this is your opportu-
nity to participate in the disaster relief
efforts. So if you are going away on
your spring break trip, you’ll probably end up meet-
ing thousands of people. If you are interested in being, apply to attend the Caltech restaurants on
Friday, January 27 at noon in the
Winnett Lounge. If you have any
questions before then or if you
can’t make it to the meet-
ing, email Greg Fletcher at the
Y at greg@caltech.edu, or call the
Y at x6165. And don’t forget, if you have federal work study, you can earn $20/hour for community services like these trips through the Y.

Spring break is right around the corner, and you have options. You can spend thousands of dollars to fly to some remote-side resort in Mexico and live only on margarita-
s, sangria, and tequila chips for a
week, but I can tell you from experience that just might feel a little bit like a waste. So some-
ting meaningful this year with
your community.

I encourage you to look into Al-
teen’s Spring Break trip this
year, especially if you’re never
done one. The Caltech Y is offer-
ing a set of student-led trips with
a community service and intercul-
tural focus. There will be a trip to
the Owens Valley in California to
see first-hand the environmental
impact of LA’s water use practic-
es and get our hands a little dirty
on the trail. There’s also a special trip to
Biloxi, Mississippi. The devasta-

tion this region experienced from Hurricane Katrina has affected

Lloydies. The final frontier. These are the articles of Bitches is Hoes. Its four-plus-year mission: to educate and empower black women, against all odds, this place has become less Caltechy. The BoD website should be changed to reflect the new name of the column. Those of you who are interested in the future of the Caltech experience for an
currently serving as a director, and have no idea what the goal is.
It isn’t always clear to people at first that they’re right for the D. E. Shaw group. Like the poet we hired to head an automated block trading unit. Or the woman who designs solar-powered race cars; we hired her to help launch a new venture in computational chemistry. They didn’t think of themselves as “financial types,” and neither did we. We thought of them as people with extraordinary talent.

The D. E. Shaw group is a highly successful investment and technology development firm with an international reputation for financial innovation and technological leadership. Since 1988 we’ve grown into a number of closely related entities with approximately US $19 billion in aggregate capital by hiring unusually smart people from a wide range of backgrounds. A robotics guru. A nationally ranked blackjack player. An operatic mezzo-soprano. And a lot of people who are just exceptionally strong in CS, EE, math, and finance.

The firm currently has openings in quantitative analysis, software development, information technology, computer architecture, business development, computational chemistry, accounting, finance, and trading. We’re looking for creative but pragmatic people: articulate, curious, and driven. Our working environment is intense but surprisingly casual. We provide unusual opportunities for growth. And we compensate extraordinary people extraordinarily well.

Please stop by our booth at the CalTech Career Fair in the Brown Gymnasium on January 26 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Members of the D. E. Shaw group do not discriminate in employment matters on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, military service eligibility, veteran status, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or any other protected class.
One of the most vital and distinctive features of the Caltech education is the Arthurian equality between all members of the Caltech community, whether student, faculty, staff, or administrator. Not only do our honor code enjoins students from copying off each other’s homework or stealing from each other’s rooms, it also prohibits the administration from taking unfair advantage of students and faculty. Now, while there are dedicated bodies such as the CRC, BoC, and the Deans’ office to adjudicate disputes between certain groups of people, there is no specific body tasked with deterring and remedying honor code violations on the part of the administration. Naturally, this leads to problems when, as at present, the administration decides to place itself above the law.

We all know the issues involved -- the seven-day board plan we don’t want, the athletic fields we pay for and can’t use, or the trimming of extracurricular (and even curricular) activities, for some examples. Of course, each candidate for this office will of course promise to deal with these issues in some manner or another. What’s really up for grabs in this election is the manner of action that is going to be taken to remedy the problems. In my case, I plan to learn from history; this is not the first time this sort of thing has happened at Caltech.

Some of you may have heard of Kim West by reputation. She was brought as the “Director of Residence Life,” a newly created office designed to take some of the burden off of the MOSH. But unlike the friendly MOSH you’re used to dealing with nowadays, she immediately began trying to implement sweeping changes with little or no cooperation with the students, among other things, she demolished off-campus houses in the middle of a housing crunch, attempted to ban the Ricketts firepot, and sent a multitudes of students before the CRC for little or no reason.

You may have noticed that she does not work here anymore. In her case, the solution was not negotiation but a restructuring brought on in part by the omnipresent Tom Mannion and in part by creative student protest, such as the Blacker “Shantytown” stunt. Not to imply that the solution to administrative problems is to fire everyone, but when negotiations have broken down more extreme action is required. Since there is no board to overseeing the administration, I want to make the BoD function as such a body. Students, after all, are the alumni of the future; we carry quite a bit of weight, especially when well-organized. If elected I will devote a good deal of my term to buying the undergraduate community leverage at the bargaining table.

By now it is no secret that significant budgetary changes will be looming around campus. The student affairs budget is being slashed; tuition is increasing drastically; health care is being cut; financial aid is being scaled back, and a seven-day board plan is being implemented. This latest round of budget cuts reflects the continuing trend of Caltech’s move toward running the school more like a business. I personally am greatly disturbed by this trend.

As FDAL, I was able to participate in several meetings with administrators. These meetings gave me some idea of the depth of the problems with Caltech, but I do not think that the solution lies there. The student body. Like several ASCIT presidents of the past, I will write a regular article in the Tech to provide updates about the issues occurring around campus. I will also welcome administrators to write their own frequent columns to explain their actions. It is impossible for us as students to constructively complain when we do not fully understand the issues, so this communication is essential. In addition to increasing communication with the student body, ASCIT’s communication with the faculty must also be greatly improved. The ASCIT president has a standing invitation to the monthly faculty board meetings. As president, I fully intend to make use of this invitation in order to ensure that the faculty members understand the undergraduate’s concerns. I feel that many faculty members would be stronger student advocates if they knew more about the upcoming changes. Finally, as ASCIT president I will increase contact with perhaps our strongest advocates, the alumni.

The issues brought up before ASCIT this next year will be significant. I know that many Caltech students believe that ASCIT has no influence, but the administrators really do keep in contact with ASCIT. It is important that the next ASCIT president care deeply about working with the administration and the students to help facilitate communication. It is going to be essential that the students, alumni, and faculty are all well-informed since I believe the vast majority of people at Caltech will oppose the financial changes when they really understand what is happening. It is my primary goal to facilitate the open communication of grievances in order to prevent the conversion of Caltech from “the world’s best playground for math, science, and engineering” into a bland technical school that struggles to attract talented undergraduates.
Meghan Crowley

After having served as a BoC Rep this past year, I am deeply committed to upholding the Honor Code and would like the opportunity to serve as BoC Chair. The Honor Code is an integral part of Caltech life. Specifically, the Honor Code expects students to be responsible and accountable for their actions. It's much more than a set of rules; rather, it defines the spirit of Caltech life. Specifically, the Honor Code is espoused in name by many home town where my dad worked, such as BoC. I believe in seeing the code's enforcement often fail. This and other observations and conversations of and about the behavior policies of other schools have strengthened my conviction that the honor code is vital to that external concept of what Caltech is and may be one of the few such signs of Caltech's tradition that still remain. It is a privilege to uphold it.

George Hines

What most of you are probably wondering is this: What kind of misguided, self-hating, masochist would run for BoC Chair after being Secretary for a year? After cooperating with Michelle for this long, I know exactly what I'm getting myself into. I've worked with BoC reps, the Deans, administrators, faculty, and students from all over campus. I've prepared and sat on almost every case that has come before the Board in the past year. I've been a witness for a CRC case, a dismissed defendant for a BoC case, and a liaison with the OAR, the grad students' version of the BoC. I've given countless talks about the Honor Code, both on public panels and committees and in private conferences. With this sort of experience, I fully understand the breadth of the commitment, i.e., I'm not just doing this because Tech broke my brain. But more importantly, I understand what more can be and needs to be done, both for the BoC and for ASCIT.

The Board of Control runs based on a tried-and-true system that has churned out cases since what seems like the beginning of time. The solidity and repetitiveness of BoC procedures make it easy to get comfortable, ease into the routine of trying case after case, and lose a sense of perspective. Most people think that being BoC Chair is about heading the Board. While that's certainly not a trivial job, it's also not what the ASCIT Vice President is all about. I mean, let's face it: I'm not just doing this because Tech broke my brain. But more importantly, I understand what more can be and needs to be done, both for the BoC and for ASCIT.

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Things need to get done and get done well, both on the BoC and ASCIT. That’s the bottom line. And if it takes a misguided, self-hating masochist to do that, then so be it: I’m up for the challenge.

I regard the spirit of the law as more important than its letter, and Caltech's one-sentence honor code embodies the "spirit of the law" philosophy. The honor system is enshrined in name by many schools, but is most often a nice euphemism for the rule book. Such is the case at a college in my hometown where my dad worked, and he scoffed at the idea, having seen the code's enforcement often fail.
G.L.O.M. - Greg’s Life of Misery

Apparently the artist ran out of time this week.

He only had time to draw a dancing monkey.

All I have to say for myself is that Chem 4 sucks. - Nathan

I have the door shut from the inside ...

By Nathan Lau

Irrational Exuberance

What are you doing to your door? Perfecting the delivery system!

This slot will enable us to order pizza without ever having to leave our rooms or make human contact. It's perfect!

Let me out of here!! I have to use the bathroom!

By Zhiyun Guan

Magic Relief #15: The source of anger.

There are so many papers I haven't published yet. So many cute girls I haven't dated yet. So many Caltech courses I haven't failed yet...

Damn, Dave! You just urinated in the soup dish?

By Dave Zhang

Magic Relief #16: The Meaning of It All

DreamTeam by Squid Fued

There's Dave, working on his laptop. Maybe he'll have some ideas.

By Dave Zhang
Discover the mechanism of the nuclear binding force:
- A neutrino making up a nucleon has a sink inflow at velocity $v_m$ (the mean speed of the background ether gas).
- Two nucleons at short range interact only as two "fluid mechanic" sinks and this is the mechanism of the nuclear binding force.
- The nuclear binding force is proportional to the square of the background mean speed, $v_m$.

For more information and to access the book, visit [www.physicsunifiedtheory.com](http://www.physicsunifiedtheory.com).
Tech’s basketball teams played host to SCIAC rival Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Saturday. In the afternoon session, the Lady Beavers took on the Athenas. Led by point guard Corey Kunsell, who scored 9 points in the first half, Caltech drove to the hoop early, getting to the line 8 times. Tech shot well from the floor, hitting 8 of 13, but turned the ball over 16 times in the half. CMS led 20-20 at the break. The Athenas built a solid cushion in the second half, and would not let up their full court pressure. The Beavers continued to pound the ball inside, however, taking a 22-12 advantage over the visitors in the paint. CMS was too strong on the glass, scoring 21 of their 24 points. They would win by a margin of 64-38. Kunsell finished with 17 points and 6 rebounds. Sophomore Lindsay King collected 4 assists and 3 blocks. In the night-cap the Beavers were led the entire way by Senior Jordan Carlson. Carlson thrilled the crowd when he threw down a thunderous jam on a breakaway. The Beavers played solid defense, but seemed out of rhythm on the offensive end. They trailed by 7 at halftime. The second half featured a barrage of fouls on both sides of the floor. Neither team advantage, though. The Beavers shot 10-18 from the line in the 2nd half as well as the Stags were no better at 16-33. Tech couldn’t chip away at Claremont’s 10-point margin the entire half. Freshman Cay Delortaire’s 3-pointer with 27 seconds to play brought the game within 8, but as close as it would be. CMS took it 59-49. Carlson finished with a game high 24 points. Bryan Hires chipped in 10 points, and a game low 8 points and 5 rebounds.

Both Beaver teams hit the road this week to face La Verne.

Veritas Rocks

Continued from Page 1

studied two different localities: one in the Indian Ocean and one in the Atlantic. The events recorded clearly at both sites. To find the source of these particular xenoliths, William F. Fouch, and David Nesvorny of the SwRI Space Studies Department in Boulder, Colorado, along with David Vokrouhlicky of Charles University, studied clusters of asteroidal orbits that are likely the consequence of asteroidal collisions. "While asteroids are constantly crashing into one another in the main asteroid belt," says Bottke, "only once in a great while does an extremely large one shatter." The scientists identified one cluster of asteroidal fragments whose size, age, and remarkably similar orbits made it a likely candidate for an Earth-dusting event. Tracking the orbits of the cluster backwars in time, using these models, they found that, 8.2 million years ago, all of its fragments shared an identical orbital orientation in space. This event defines when the 100-mile-wide asteroid Veritas was blown apart by impact and coincides with the spike in the interplanetary stony-sideral belt.

The California Tech Caltech 40-58 Pasadena, CA 91125

It May Be A House, but it's Still Our Home

Continued from Page 2

tell, this has only been said about things which I can only identify with being a frat, and I can hardly think of a way to justify having all freshmen at a school being forced to live in a frat. After all, they're not pets or slaves; they're highly intelligent people who are fully qualified to choose where they wish to live, not just in theory but in practice. "I like living in Avery" is something that I've heard before, said by multiple people, including Avery Frosh. Yes, Avery is probably less united, less cohesive, but a different environment doesn't mean one that's any less friendly or supportive. Was it really that bad to offer such a choice to people one year earlier? When I came to Caltech, I was nervous, not stupid. I moved across the country, away from everyone I knew, and the first thing I wanted to do was make friends. I got lucky and formed a small group of friends during frosh camp and the beginning of rotation. Then, the end of rotation came along, and, since no part of the rotation process seemed to consider pre-formed friendships, only interactions with upperclassmen, we all got into different houses. Consequently, a lot of us got put into the position of having to choose between a house and our friendships. But, even though we chose to stay close, we wanted to be involved in the same activities and did not want to live completely off campus. A lot of us didn't want to go to interhouse sporting events. Lamentably, the inter-house interactions I've seen so far are unlikely to do much to help better their view of the houses. I like the other houses, but a lot of the actions that I've seen so far have been so hateful that they've made me want to cry. I've seen people coming through behaving in ways they wouldn't to any other house or any other human being. When complaints are raised and they're asked to stop, claim the people in Avery are bad and that putting frosh in Avery was just one more case of the administration's exercising its power or listening to a small and vocal minority. After all, when people first opposed putting frosh here, many raised the valid concern that there were already seven houses and that another identical house wouldn't add much. So the brilliant idea occurred to me that it might just work to let people in Avery start over differently. Of course, because of the way undergrad life works, we need a house for them to have any sort of representation, including ombuds, government, etc. and to be able to participate in a lot of activities, but that does not necessarily mean that Avery should participate in the intense rivalry or in the push to first and foremost be friends with those people that live in the same house and abandon or at least push aside all other friendships. Forcing that on Avery will destroy what it is, destroy the foundation upon which it was built. Just because the Administration appeared to side with Avery on this frosh issue, the house is being consistently slandered as a scapegoat for everything that goes wrong at Tech. It's not a coincidence that, when they announced paid parking and 7 day board, tensions with Avery seemed to become a whole lot more serious. This is incredibly unproductive. If you ask people who know me, they'll tell you I hate the man as much as does the next girl. But, the way things are going, increasingly people in Avery are being pushed to side with the nameless, budget-cutting authority figures. After the last time people went through yelling "Avery! Hahaha! Avery sucks!" [drunk smashing of things]," I had a chat with someone, and he said that he wouldn't rather side with the administration, because the houses are acting like complete idiots.

If you want to cry, I'm sorry. I can hardly think of a way to describe the overwhelming majority of undergrads are rational, intelligent human beings who should be able to direct their own lives without being dictated to by someone in absolute power. This scapegoat method only wastes very useful riotous energy while driving away potential supporters. After all, even if you don't believe me about the overwhelming majority of Averyites' actually being mature and reasonable, and even if you still think we're a bunch of whiners, wouldn't it be better to have us whining on your side?