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Different Reactions to Departure

By: VBHA LAJANI

On the occasion of International Women’s Day, Malalai Joya, an Afghan woman and freelance journalist, interviewed the Office of Student Affairs and the Beckman Political Internship.

By: Shabnam Bazar

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE NEWS MARCH 13, 2006

Joey Speaks for Women in Afghanistan

By: VBHA LAJANI

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The Outside World

BY: MARISSA CEVALLOS

SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC DIES AT 64

Slobodan Milosevic died in his cell at The Hague on Saturday, just months before the end of his trial for war crimes in the Balkans.

An eight-hour autopsy revealed that the former Yugoslavian president, who had had heart problems, died suddenly of a massive heart attack, according to Serbian officials. Rumors that he had been poisoned are rampant, since Milosevic wrote in a letter to Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov "They would like to poison me. I'm seriously concerned and worried."

Milosevic was on trial for 66 war crimes committed during the wars in Croatia, Kosovo, and Bosnia in the 1990's. He was known as the "Butcher of the Balkans" for his ethnic cleansing campaign in which Bosnian Serbs killed Bosnian Muslims.

FLU SPREADING IN AFRICA

The deadly bird flu H5N1 has spread to Cameroon, after being reported in Nigeria, Egypt, and Niger. Ninety-seven people have been reported dead worldwide, mostly in Vietnam and Indonesia. The bird flu has killed or forced the slaughter of some 140 million birds and ducks in Asia since 2003.

CHILE INAUGURATES FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT

Michelle Bachelet, 54, was sworn in as Chile's first female president after a large win in January's polls. Bachelet was tortured by the former military junta in Chile which governed Chile more than 16 years ago. Bachelet now wishes to build a more equitable society by giving women and indigineous people a greater voice, as well as closing the gap between the rich and the poor.

Convicted Nurse Gagged With Duct Tape at Sentencing

Charles Cullen, former nurse who claimed to kill 40 patients during his career, was gagged with duct tape in the courtroom when he refused to cease repeating the phrase "Your honor, you need to step down." The hearing went on anyway, and new sentence brought his total punishment to 18 life sentences.

TORNADES KILL 2 IN MISSOURI

Twisters in southern Missouri and Illinois destroyed homes late Saturday night and blew a car off the road, killing a married couple.

IRAQ REFUSES RUSSIAN COMPROMISE

Moscow's compromise on Iran's nuclear program is "off the agenda" for Iran, as reported to the UN Security Council. Russia sought to move Iran's nuclear program to Russian soil where the UN could closely monitor it. Foreign ministry spokesman Mikhail Zurabov qualified the statement, saying that Iran was still willing to negotiate provided Iran could still conduct nuclear research on its own soil.

Karaoke Contest!

Can you sing? Sign up for the 3rd annual Caltech Idol Contest on March 15th at noon at the Tech Express.

The Grand Unified Theory of Physics

by Joseph M. Brown

Discover the mechanism of the fundamental structure constant

- Basically the fundamental constant is the ratio of the electromagnetic force to the nuclear force.
- In the grand unified theory of physics, all forces are due to the square of velocity.
- The electromagnetic force is due to a wave propagating at v electromagnetic, while the nuclear force is due to a wave propagating at v nuclear.
- The number of the structure constant is the electromagnetic force speed and the denominator is the nuclear binding force speed v, the background mean speed.
- The electromagnetic force is due to a wave propagating at v electromagnetic, followed by wave propagating at the background rms speed v, which has the mean speed of 180° plus the small lag angle d due to the time required for the background to pass through the confined core of the proton.
- The electromagnetic speed thus is v electromagnetic cos d - v nuclear, instead of (v electromagnetic - v nuclear) which is the speed of light.
- If the travel distance through the proton's neutrino is 0.013866 times the proton radius, then the fine structure constant is related to the Maxwell-Boltzmann gas parameters within experimental error.

For more information and to access the book, visit www.physicstheoryunified.com

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The Grand Unified Theory of Physics

Joseph M. Brown

Fifty students have submitted their year's cover letters and official scores to jobs@testmasters.net. More info at: www.testmasterssat.com

Planning Prefrosh Weekend

MARCH 13, 2006

Continued from page 1 and the search for a new president. Bischoff says that applicants received up thirty-five percent this year from last year.

"We're making fifty fewer offers of admission this year than last year," said Bischoff. "Last year's plan was the larger size. This year, we're trying to have the top thirty percent of students to don't want to have that happen again." However, while figures suggest that prospective students are not bothered by the changes, admission officers are slightly concerned about current students' opinions about the changes occurring on campus and the students' effect on the prefrosh when they visit.

"I think that our own students are fair during Prefrosh Weekend. I hear rumblings about some elements wanting to sabotage/convince prefrosh not to come," said Bischoff. "On the other hand, I don't think our students should be anything but honest. They should honestly help students figure out if this is a good place for them." Due to budget cuts, the Office of Admissions was forced to reduce Prefrosh Weekend from its traditional three days to only two-a decision highly unpopular with undergraduates. Usually students arrive on a Thursday for three days of planned activities. The current plan is to only have one day shorter. Saturday, April 22nd.

The current plan was forced because providing meals for three days on Saturday is significantly more costly when Caltech Dining is not fully operational. Due to budget cuts, the Admissions Office is unable to fund the Saturday meal.


When the seven day board was first tried, Bischoff said that next year's Prefrosh Weekend would last for six days again. However, with the cost of feeding the prefrosh would be reduced to a minimum. Any cancellations of the plan, the duration of the 2007 Prefrosh Weekend—whether it be two or three days—is uncertain.

"I very much want to move back to a three day Prefrosh Weekend. After this, we'll sit down and figure out how to get back to a three day Prefrosh Weekend," said Bischoff.

The logistics of orchestrating an event such as Prefrosh Weekend can become overwhelming when the size is reduced. As Bischoff pointed out, even sending prospective students to Chandler Dining Hall for a Friday night meal could overwhelm the large number of prefrosh. According to Bischoff, MIT, one of Caltech's most significant competitors for prospective students, has admissions budget for recruitment in the hundreds of millions of dollars at times the size of Caltech's. Nevertheless, he believes that the difference in funds will not make a significant impact on the finances of these prep activities.

"Would I like more money? Sure," said Bischoff. "However, throwing a huge extravagant weekend to compete with MIT does not make sense. You're not choosing a Prefrosh Weekend; you're choosing a university. MIT and Caltech are fundamentally different places and after Prefrosh Weekend prospective students should walk away understanding what MIT is about and what Caltech is about. We have to compete on the things that make Caltech, Caltech." Though shortened by a day, most of the events from previous years are preserved.

"There will be academic sessions (e.g. SURF, and lab tours). Student Affairs staff will also present other opportunities at CIT (Women's Center, Study Abroad, Pre-med, etc.) There will be a variety of tours, an athletics open house, a music concert, theater show in the Loewis Rehearsal Hall," said Geneva Ko, an Assistant Director of the Administrative Office.

An email was sent to prospective students and will continue to run the evening activities, and there will also be both a music concert and theater show in the Loewis Rehearsal Hall.

Current students play a significant role in organizing and running events during Prefrosh Weekend. Prefrosh Weekend provides more students to help during the weekend. Any undergraduates interested in volunteering to help with activities or to host a prospective student should apply to the Admission Office. A representative or stop by the Admissions Office, Shoe House, 355 Holiston Ave.

GRE or GMAT Instructors Wanted. $40/hr FT. Requires 99th percentile on College Board administered test. E-mail resume, cover letter, and official score report to jobs@testmasters.net. More info at: www.testmasterssat.com

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THE CALIFORNIA TECH
By: MENG-MENG FU

Everyone has their secret food indulgence. For others it might be runt- ern food. As a rule, soul food or Cajun food cannot be any good if it’s healthy. So heap on the butter, the sugar, and the calo- ries. If you’re looking for au- thentic Southern cooking, do not head to the typical yuppiefied locale of Gulf. Look norh, look Big Mama’s Rib Shack and Soul Food. You can’t go wrong with a name like that! Located on Oak, it is north of the 210 and just past Washington Blvd. on the left side of the street. There is ample parking right next to the restaurant. On the outside, the restaurant is non-descript, with the excep- tion of the large “Big Mama’s” sign. Inside, the restaurant is surprisingly chic and modern. On the right side of the restaur- ant are several cozy booths. On the left side, there is a more traditional atmosphere. The room is offset by the small bar and a big-screen TV (they were showing Sunday football when I went). My favorite part of the décor is the ginormous life-sized portrait of Big Mama.

At Big Mama’s, Scarlett O’Hara would never go hungry again! From the moment you sit down, a heaping bowl full of corn bread muffins is slapped in front of you and constantly re- filled. Eat these with butter and money, but be careful—it’s very filling! From a personal belief, the huge por- tions are a trademark of Big Ma- ma’s. As my friend exclaimed, “There’s more meat hidden in the BBQ sauce!” Each entree is reasonably priced at about $8–$13 and comes with your choice of 2 side dishes. If you’re feel- ing generous, go for the combo specials, which also include the 2 sides. The BBQ Combo ($16) comes with 2 pork ribs, 2 pieces of chicken, 1 hot link (a cross be- tween a sausage and a hot dog), and 2 pieces of sliced pork or beef. The Cajun Combo ($17) includes jambalaya and chicken/shrimp creole. In my experience, the combo is more than enough to feed 2 people.

Big Mama’s BBQ sauce is first and foremost sweet, but it is also spicy and tangy, and has a hint of Hickory. The meats are savory because they are infused with the BBQ sauce and then doused in even more sauce. The consistency of the meat is just right; for example, the chicken is browned on the outside, but tender on the inside. The meat on the ribs literally falls off the bone. While the BBQ may be described by some as overpow- ering, the jambalaya and other creole dishes are more subdued. There is just enough seasoning and spices in the jambalaya, with delicate flavors of red rice, collard greens, and a hint of seafood. Big Mama’s does not go overboard with the cayenne or chili, which is sometimes a problem in Cajun cooking.

Every week, I make an ef- fort to try something “interest- ing.” This week: PIG’S FEET! Having previously consumed “PO’COW,” I must say that Big Mama’s swine appendages leave something to be desired. The ears are served 2 hooves, which are over-boiled in a bland broth to the extent that even the barest bits are unfinished and no longer in tact. The skin and tendons are ren- dered soggy and taste just like fat; this is unfortunate, because any joy that I’ve remotely garnered in eating pig’s feet was derived from their chewiness. For those who are still feeling adventur- ous, Big Mama’s also offers ham hocks, ox tails, and chitterlings. The beauty of Big Mama’s is variety. With each entree, you get to try 2 different side dishes, including black-eyed peas, candied yams, cole slaw, collard greens, dirty rice, fried okra, hush puppies, collard greens, potato salad, mashed potatoes and gravy, and much more. I recom- mend the fried okra and hush puppies (little balls of fried sea- side cornmeal). Big Mama’s fried foods have just enough of the thin, crispy, cornmeal coating, and the inside is soft and warm. The fried okra is amaz- ing; it crunches, then nearly melts in your mouth. The candied yams are also good; they are sinfully sweet—each spoon- ful is like a dose of diabetes.

Big Mama’s gets a 6 out of 7 from me. Though the BBQ is delicious, the simplicity of Big Mama’s sauce would not hold up the names of taste in sauces from pros like Tom Manion. Pro’s: huge portions with free side dishes, traditional side dishes done right (e.g. fried okra and hush puppies). Con’s: avoid the “exotic” dishes, sometimes you have to ask for refills (like with combread). PC: you curious, check out the menu and the history of the restaurant at www.bigmamas-ribshack.com.

Todd’s Paperides Chat

In addition to having the op- portunity to fetch donuts and meet with administrators, the ASCIT BoD has the great honor to set the ASCIT budget. See the following budget for March 2006-March 2007 was approved by the BoD, so I want to quickly summarize what I believe to be the most notable changes to the budget. Funds from past years can be found at donut.caltech.edu about/budget for comparison.

The most notable change in the budget is the shift of $1000 from the donut web development team’s salary into bonuses for the BoD. While the BoD’s salary was paid $3000, but currently the development team is much smaller than before. By transferring the money into bonuses, we can more accurately pay donut editors and members of publica-
nons extra if they perform excep- tions.

Most of the operational budget was similar to last year’s budget. Small increases in budgets for Jamroom Maintenance, BoC, ARC, and the Coffeehouse Party were all made. There will be a reduction in the amount of money allotted for athletics letter subsidies and ASCIT audiovisual equipment. Last year’s audiovisu- al budget was abnormally high because ASCIT purchased new lights, but this year’s budget only included maintenance. In recent years some of the athletics subsi- dies money that has been budgeted has not been used, so the BoD decided to give less money up front. If it becomes apparent that more than $200 is necessary for this year because more people are lettering then the BoD can approve additional funds from discretionary funds.

In general, the BoD feels that putting more money into the "Project Reserves" fund will al- low the Board to give money to organizations who are still feeling adventur- ous. By transferring the money into the "Project Reserves" fund will allow the Board to give money to organizations who are still feeling adventur- ous. By transferring the money into the "Project Reserves" fund will allow the Board to give money to organizations who are still feeling adventurous.

The ASCIT Budget

Publications $7900
California Tech $6750
Circles $600
Little T $400

Salaries $4900
Big T $500
Little T $300
Totem $250

Donut Web Development $2000
Bonnus $1850

Operations $8400
DVD Library $2000
ASCIT Teaching Awards $1500
Jamroom Maintenance $300
Athletic Letter Subsidies $200
IRC $200
BIC $250
ARC $350

Coffeehouse Party $400
ASCIT BoD $250
Student-Faculty Lunches $1000
ASCIT Speakers and Lights $200
Staff Awards $300

Special Projects $6950
Screening Room $150
Project Reserves $600

Special Events $1850
Pranks $750
Caltech Y $500
Student-Faculty Conference $500
Student-Faculty Conference this year

Sema fm $150
Senior Class Gift $100

Social Events $2400
Donuts $4200
Hoggs $750
ASCIT Formal $300
Multihouse Events Fund $2400
Interhouse Events Fund $400
Athletics BBQ’s $2250
Happy Hours $1250
Social Events $3250
Other Social Events $300

Clubs $1400

The BBQ Combo with fried okra and hush puppies

Prank o’ the Week

Have you pulled or been witnessed to any Caltech pranks, great or small? Email the Tech to share your pranks and they may get published in Legends of Caltech: Volume IV in addition to being The Wrink of the Week.

The Engineering Building Elevator

By: RICHARD ALVAREZ (~7)

From Legends of Caltech III: Techer in the Dark

One of my classmates was intrigued by the logic circuitry of automat- ical elevators. In those days, the logic circuitry consisted of switches, relays and a lot of wires. Somehow we found a circuit diagram for the engineering building elevator.

That building had five floors: three floors above ground, and two basements. We probably picked the lock into the eleva- tor machinery room, and then we rewire it so that the eleva- tor always went two floors be- low the floor where the pas- senger wanted to go, complete with floor-sway, so that if you pushed the button for the first basement, you want to floor the second floor, how would you get to the second basement? We got the schematics of the sub-baseMENT, you went to floor two.

Then, the rest of the elevator every day to see how long it would take for somebody to get to floor five. We never did quite the same on the second floor.

The California Tech would like to wish everyone good luck on finals and remind fresh that It’s not too late to transfer. Wherever you find yourself this spring, we hope The Tech continues to hold a spe- cial place in your heart.

MARCH 13, 2006

4 THE CALIFORNIA TECH FEATURES

Restaurants

Food on Food: Big Meng-meng on Big Mama’s BBQ
BY: GUSTAVO OLMI

While stories on the Caltech men's basketball team have filled newspapers this season, team members that have interviewer are more deserving of the spotlight than senior team captain Jordan Carlson. Carlson and his teammates love every minute of time on the court, and loving every minute of it is what drives them to con­

Heading into the end of the season, Coach Roy Dow felt that there was a lock for 1st Team All-SCI­AC. Voted on by the coaches, each "team" consists of six players. Jordan narrowly missed selection into the 1st Team, and instead settled into 2nd Team, as he was remarked, "It's now time to con­

Along with the All-SCIAC honors, Carlson was the recipient of the 2006 Ted Ducey Award, named after the legendary Coach of the 60s and 70s. Ducey's team was a fundamentally sound, sportsman­like team that always drifted effortlessly a bit out of the way. The significance of the Ducey Award is highlighted by the fact that Coach Dow named himself and voted on by the conference's players.

According to Coach Dow, "No other player in the conference does have the fire that Carlson has for us. Jordan constantly handles the ball well against pres­sure and guards the opponent's best players, but is most effective in the post. Jordan is replace­able—none of the other MVP candidates would be as effective if they played for Carlson." Carlson's biggest strength this season, has led the team in nearly every statistical category this season. Carlson was ranked SCIAC's Top-10 list in six cat­egories: 3rd in scoring with an average of 13.4 points per game (335.3 per contest), 6th in total rebounding at 6.2 rpg, 9th in field goal percentage at 50.8%, and 10th in free-throw shooting with a 73% success rate. Arguably the impetus immediate is that Carlson's SCIAC-high in free throws attempted (193) and made (144). Only one other player in the conference attempted over 125 foul shots. Despite playing only three seas­ons of intercollegiate basketball and Carlson personal average 1000 points. He is the first to acc­

The training of a distance run­ner is principally composed of drudgery. I've run more than 6000 miles since my first day of reach. I run almost every day, sometimes two, up to a hundred miles a week of hard work, mostly alone. I endure maladies from chafing and blisters to recurrent hailstorms and mud pits, to the heavy black cloak of weariness that soaks itself deep into a distance runner's muscles, bones, and mind, but, we hope, not his heart.

I do it all in hopes of growing an ounce of running a second faster, placing a spot higher, pushing myself an inch further. I seek only to earn a bit closer to some elusive specter of an ultimate goal that floats far out before me, an hour, obliging to my every wish and fears and doubts could all go away. But it is this way no matter how hard and unrelent­ing I run. I run to a distant magical childhood, and our eye, and are remembered like the perfect moment, of superiority.

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Dear Editors:

Who Wants Traditional Conservatism

In a previous edition of The California Tech, Brian Hanley decried the actions of President Bush and his administration—led by Karl Rove as chief of staff—and called for a return to what he calls a "traditional" conservatism. I wholeheartedly would like to explain why I think this position is far less conservative than it appears to be.

If conservatives like to identify their political roots with the "fear of dislocation," they also like to testify as to whether or not this is appropriate, but if it is I do not feel that it is. In fact, if anything, the leaders of two centuries ago lived with abundant land in which almost anyone (more precisely any farmer) could be self-sufficient. That is, in such an environment one can often see a significant portion of his or her consumption directly to his or her labor. In today's world, the case could be developed by labor were widely available. In such a world, a meddling government appears as an encroachment upon personal wealth, and we would also expect it to profit in the meantime. The expansion and growth of such a society has made almost all members of society dependent upon government to ensure that they or their labor go into goods or services for consumption. In addition, the institution of the private corporation has risen to a position of equal importance, which is the basis of social and economic power. The effect of this is that the sufficiency and economic power of individuals has been severely compromised by the social development. The person's consumption is directly related to that of government. The person's income is in the form of wages that are distinct from one's personal effort or labor. In a modern society most individuals are paid to negotiate their wages, which are set by market forces and policies that are shaped by the decisions of a relatively small population of affluent and powerful leaders. Therefore, although it is true that an expanded government may be a help or a hindrance to one's personal employment, the modern society is in the absence of strong government individuals will lose power to the small number of business leaders whose institutions dominate most modern markets. Whereas the traditional conservatism is built and is held accountable for its actions, in this case the government is a strong government the individuals who run private institutions of traditional conservatives are not held nor accountable for their behavior.

In a traditional society, there is a stronger, more active government may be a source of individual empowerment for most members of society. Whereas new "fear of dislocation" is not a problem, for example, the terms of a lease with a large property or the government's standards for a good produced are normally negotiated by involvement within an active government. Regarding traditional society, I imagine a great many more people feel most is a stable source of income that they feel appropriate. This perspective is to recognize that without social organization, the consumption of any individual would be limited to the consumption of typical civilized peoples. Thus, traditional conservatism, which is more of an idea, is a more limited government as it is a desirable end to be sought.

Furthermore, I know that the consumption of any individual would be limited to the consumption of typical civilized peoples. Thus, traditional conservatism, which is more of an idea, is a more limited government as it is a desirable end to be sought.

Best,
Noah Rahman
Caltech '09, Ruddock

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Dear Editors:

Who Wants Traditional Conservatism

Jacob King was largely correct in deeming the cartoon controversy a freedom of speech issue. But I think some subtleties here have been ignored. The only people who have the right to make the freedom of speech argument in this case are Americans, certainly not Europeans, who censor to within an inch of its life anything associated with Nazis or the Holocaust. Meanwhile, Muslims are left baffled as offensive cartoons to them are construed as free speech while anti-Semitic hate speech is redacted.

I certainly am not justifying the violence that resulted from this cartoon controversy; that was the work of Muslim governments and political parties looking to gain power. Nor am I anti-Semitic nor in favor of Holocaust denial; most of these revisionists are blithering idiots. But when one censors all their literature, it just adds credence to their lunatic ravings about conspiracy theories. (The same goes for Muslim countries and censoring anti-Islamic writings; regrettably, they still have far to go down the road of public tolerance.) It is Europe's job to set an example and not stoop to tit-for-tat tactics.

Furthermore, Jyllands-Posten, the Danish newspaper responsible for all this, rejected a submission of cartoons treating Jesus in much the same manner two years ago for fear of offending its readership. It is a strongly right-wing paper in Denmark, sort of like the New York Post, and definitely had no qualms about offending its Muslim readers' sensibilities. Not for nothing did one of the cartoons consist of a little Danish-Iranian boy who had written on a chalkboard in Farsi, "Jyllands-Posten's editors are a bunch of reactionary provocateurs." I just ask that people take time to consider the complexities of the situation and not dismiss it as a one-dimensional "Muslims hate freedom of speech" affair. They only have problems when it is applied differentially.

A Report on Women at Caltech: President Bush in 1990 documents the difficulties women face in science and engineering. "The foremost task in front of us, then, is to eliminate such discrimination." There were only 11.7 percent of female students in science and engineering in 1990. This number has only increased by a small amount since then. However, the number of women who are pursuing careers in science and engineering has significantly increased.

A woman who is successful in science and engineering is often criticized for being as if she is not a woman. This is because she is out of place and does not fit into the stereotype of a woman. However, this is not the case. Women have the same capabilities as men and can be successful in science and engineering. The only difference is that they are often not taken seriously and are not given the same opportunities as men.

Sincerely,
Michael Salem
Caltech graduate student

BY: JOSEPH SUH

When soon to be ex-Harvard President Lawrence Summers said that there were "issues of intelligence" when it comes to women, it caused a big uproar in academia and the wider world. His defenders claimed that there was a perfectly valid explanation that women's representation in science and engineering was due to disparities in performance between men and women, that Summers did not intend to imply negative stereotypes, and that he was simply offering an explanation for why women are not more represented in science and engineering.

But to many, his comments were a slap in the face. In 2001, Caltech president Shirley Ann Jackson addressed a group of female students and said, "We have had some very good women in this field. I have had to deal with people who are very much afraid of their work." She also spoke about the importance of mentorship and the need for more female leaders in science and engineering.

As a result, the Caltech alumnae in New York City formed the Caltech alumnae association to support and promote women in science and engineering. They hold events, such as panels and lectures, to highlight the achievements of women in these fields and to encourage others to pursue careers in science and engineering.

Sincerely,
Jocelyn Caltech '09, Ruddock
Bites is Hoes

Infidels is Bitches

Author's Note: I am not a terrorist. Although this country is bitches, I don’t want (nor endorse) its destruction—leave me alone at airports. On a more serious note, I spent the days after 9/11 with friends who lost one or both parents in the towers, and it does suck. I’m not completely heartless.

So let me start where any rational individual would, with the four greatest events in modern American history—9/11. Now for most of the people that died, that sucks. But as unfortunate as that may be, America certainly did have it coming—it was our turn. And now everyone is going on about “The War Against Terror” (or incidentally, TWAT)—which is complete bullshit. If this was the first large scale terrorist attack, maybe I’d be okay with this so-called “war”—but alas, thousands of people have died before—just not Americans. But as soon as this country gets attacked, it needs everyone to help—if they don’t, it protests them. What if every country we attacked, it needed everyone to help?—but this country has taken several different ethnic groups and reduced them to less than 2% of a human.

And when terrorism finally came around to this country, America sat around for a full two weeks, tail between its legs, licking its wounds. At the same time, the U.S. is one of the countries best equipped to deal with such attacks—a strong infrastructure, large (if overextended) military—yet things just came to a halt. Why? Now 9/11 has a special name—Patriot Day. Who the fuck names a date because of an act of terror? (Iraqis don’t go around shouting “Allah aleik Allah” after a bombing, but here it’s all “God Bless America” this, and “TWAT” that. But for the other 364 days of the year, who really cares about 9/11, other than those unfortunate enough to have lost loved ones in the attacks?)

Then there’s Osama—the most brilliant and charismatic leader on the face of the planet. He who, with a series of attacks and television broadcasts consisted of entirely news, and brought the infrastructure of “the world’s most powerful nation” to a screeching halt. Yes, the first couple of days not seeing the towers over Manhattan were strange, perhaps even filled with terror. But after that, once the country still refused to get over itself, I began to see the true genius of that man. Not that I agree with al-Qaeda’s jihad by any means—much I do not agree with America’s TWAT. Both are extremely selfish and thoughtless ideals of destruction. Yet this brilliant artist, whose latest releases always top the 10 at al Jazeera, noted that 9/11 cost al-Qaeda around $500 000, while the US pumped $500 billion into Bush’s TWAT. Morally correct? No. But certainly efficient, which is much better than can be said for this country.

The point is, terrorism has always been a global problem which the US has barely acknowledged—until it affected us at home. And it’s not even that it affected us at home—it’s that it was done by foreigners—by brownish people. Remember Oklahoma City? Did we start persecuting white people at Ryder rental locations? I didn’t start calling my white friends terrorists after “4/19” maybe you did.

And even now, it is not a truly global issue—the first thing we hear about bombings in Karachi or elsewhere is how many Americans were killed. Does that number really matter more than the hundreds of other people killed? The events we do hear about where zero Americans were killed—the tsunami, the earthquake in Pakistan, Darfur, Rwanda—involve hundreds of thousands of deaths. 9/11? Less than 3000 people. Even slaves were 60% of a person—but this country has taken several different ethnic groups and reduced them to less than 2% of a human.

And when terrorism finally came around to this country, America sat around for a full two weeks, tail between its legs, licking its wounds. At the same time, the U.S. is one of the countries best equipped to deal with such attacks—a strong infrastructure, large (if overextended) military—yet things just came to a halt. Why? Now 9/11 has a special name—Patriot Day. Who the fuck names a date because of an act of terror? (Iraqis don’t go around shouting “Allah aleik Allah” after a bombing, but here it’s all “God Bless America” this, and “TWAT” that. But for the other 364 days of the year, who really cares about 9/11, other than those unfortunate enough to have lost loved ones in the attacks?)

Then there’s Osama—the most brilliant and charismatic leader on the face of the planet. He who, with a single series of air strikes (how many did the US need in Baghdad?) brought his wrath upon us. And what a wrath it was—for almost an entire month, radio and television broadcasts consisted of entirely news, and brought the infrastructure of “the world’s most powerful nation” to a screeching halt. Yes, the first couple of days not seeing the towers over Manhattan were strange, perhaps even filled with terror. But after that, once the country still refused to get over itself, I began to see the true genius of that man. Not that I agree with al-Qaeda’s jihad by any means—much I do not agree with America’s TWAT. Both are extremely selfish and thoughtless ideals of destruction. Yet this brilliant artist, whose latest releases always top the 10 at al Jazeera, noted that 9/11 cost al-Qaeda around $500 000, while the US pumped $500 billion into Bush’s TWAT. Morally correct? No. But certainly efficient, which is much better than can be said for this country.
Represent, Beaver Style

BY: HAMILTONY FALK

What do you think are the most pressing needs Caltech has right now? Is it several million dollars to fix the budget, or more female students, or more pictures of Tech humor columnists not wearing a shirt? No, no, and that's very flattering, but no. What we really need is to upgrade our mascot to something we can take pride in, something with a little more confidence, a tad more panache, and significantly more razor sharp teeth. Our current mascot, the beaver, may be one of the best animal engineers, but the list of other mascots it could beat in a fight is slim: smaller beavers, trees and sometimes poisons, assuming they're the Walt Whitman ("Clear and sweet is my soul, but the only sport I do is bowls") type, not the William Blake ("Tyger! Tyger! burning bright.

We MUST PROTECT THIS HOUSE") kind.

Unfortunately many people think the beaver accurately represents Caltech, since it builds dams, eats something that no other living creature considers food and is required to take five terms of physics even if it is majoring in biology. Another problem with changing the mascot is that most of the good ones are already taken by other schools, and we don't want to copy cats.

Surprisingly, the Delta State Fighting Okra is also in use, by Delta State in fact. I considered the platypus, since it is similar to a beaver, except it can shoot lightning out of it's tail and is similar to a beaver, except it can shoot lightning out of it's tail and use 'psychic' attacks to defeat its enemies, but would you want to be represented by a mammal that lays eggs?

I also thought of the noble Bear as a possible mascot, especially since I already own a bear skin. This idea also turned out to be unacceptable because negotiations with the bear union stalled. You just can't negotiate with those bears, with their socialist closed shop policy; all they care about are profits, profits and delicious beers.

Clearly our options are very limited. This is why I was pleased to see CNN.com mention a "Russian Beaver" which I assume was much more like a dinosaur that the current version, although due to time constraints I only read the headline.

While this version of the beaver no longer exists, it is clearly okay to use prehistoric or imaginary beasts that don't exist anywhere near where the team represent plays, like the Toronto Raptors, the L.A. Lakers or the Utah Jazz.

Dinosaurs have been extinct in Canada for a long time, L.A. is in fact a desert, and lacks lakes, and people it Utah say Jazz makes them uncomfortable. Clearly a creature that existed millions of years ago is perfectly acceptable as a mascot. Let me describe this "mega-beaver" as CNN would have called it if I'd written the article.

It is approximately 25 feet in length, and weighs about 900 pounds (which is roughly equivalent to 25 meters long and weighing about 900 kilograms). It has razor sharp fangs, claws that can disembowel a stegosaurus with a single swipe, and it can knock enemies over with a shock wave by slapping its tail on the ground.

These mega-beavers are still engineering animals, except that the dams they build are hydroelectric, to supply electricity to their giant

Dystopia Minutes

BY: PARVATHY MENON

1. Ricketts held their second annual UCLA-A-Thon this weekend. Alex Sheive wins first place with his original "Mr. And Mr. Buttercup's Q-T Glee Club (veggie losher?)."

2. Page-Lloyd tensions have continued. God appeared in the RF公开发行, here is an excerpt:

3. The Rudds declare that Dr. Candi was thwarted. The headline.

4. In an effort to boost their image as the Inter-Friendship House, Fleming has decided to abandon their characteristic Red and will change their Col or to Poopy Brown-Black: "the color that absorbs, the color that accepts, the color that loves."

5. Avery President Erik declares that being a hoVse sucks.

And that hoVses should no longer exist. Expect to be mailed next week. The SAC can fit 800. Reverse pick order: fresh and attractive Techers get first bid.

6. Announcement from the BoC Chair: a special bylaw states that the Honor Code does not apply on non-prime days and during nuclear winter - go wild next week, guys!

7. The newly confirmed Force is strong at Caltech. It appears that we are the dark side but whatever. Training in use of this Force has been charged to the Moles. All Padawan applicants should turn in their forms to Hell.

8. Please welcome our new President of Caltech, "Dr. of Hof" Ciindi B. In case you missed her inaugural address, here is an excerpt: "C is for Tech, C is for Cheerleading. Trust in Jesus."

9. Science has been discontinued. It has appeared in the courtyard last night. Declared that Science was a Practical Joke that He doesn't feel like doing anymore. In response, Dr. Ciindi has to rename the Institute to the CalGod Devotional Seminary.

10. The assassination attempt on Dr. Ciindi by a教室 of druids wasn't. The assassin appears to be a member of the underground "Sloan/Bridge Guard-ang."

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