Jean-Lou Chameau Named
Next Institute President

BY: CHANDRA BARNETT

The word of the day was "charming" as, on Friday morn­
ing, the next President of the California Institute of Technol­ogy was introduced to the public. As of September 1st, Georgia Tech Provost Jean-Lou Chameau will join the Institute as Caltech's President. However, at Friday's afternoon barbecue on San Pasqual Mall, it was evident that Dr. Chameau has no intention of waiting until 10 AM to start meet­
ing and greeting his new compa­trons.

First morning, speaking to a packed house at Beckman Auditorium, Kent Kresa, Chairman of the Caltech Board of Trustees, first introduced those assembled to Dr. Chameau, whose face smiled at everyone from a large projection screen. He went on to name all members of the Search Committee, who have worked since last October to identify and select the best candidates for the presidential position. "We owe them a debt of gratitude," he stated, "for their dedication and ser­vice," which frequently included last-minute plane rides and time away from families for the sake of the search process.

Prof. David Stevenson, who chaired the Search Committee over the past eight months, was called the first President. His tenure was lauded for the long and difficult selection process. From an initial field of over 150 candidates, the search committee devoted six months of interviewing to carefully research and produce a "short list" of the strongest candidates. During this time, the committee consulted with groups from all parts of the Caltech community; graduate and undergraduate students, faculty, staff, and even alumni.

From this smaller candidate pool, the committee solicited information from the candi­dates' home institutions, working to build a complete picture of each one. Stevenson noted that although it is very easy for individu­als in leadership positions to attract negative reviews, Chameau's associates painted an unfail­ingly positive portrait. While this was no doubt a major factor in his selection, the provost himself also proved personally engaging. [Chameau] impressed the search committee with his intelligence, his vision, his personality, and his extensive administrative and fundraising experience and suc­cess," said Stevenson, voicing the hope that he will be "an engaging and energizing presence" in the Caltech and JPL communities.

Outgoing Institute President David Baltimore (right) shakes the hand of his successor, Jean-Lou Chameau (middle). On the right is Kent Kresa, Chairman of the Caltech Board of Trustees. Chameau's Presidency begins on September 1st.

Students, Administrators Discuss Caltech Policies at Open House

BY: MARISSA CEVALLOS

Students challenged a handful of administrators to answer for, amongst other issues, the mural policy, security into the South Houses, and the mod gate repairs at last week's Open House.

Students found the least com­mon ground with administrators discussing Housing's mandate to remove certain murals from the houses. Tim Chang, Director of Housing, emphasized the neces­sity of placating temporary visi­tors like summer students who provide income; he also cited the many complaints he has fielded from non-Caltech students about the houses being unclear of of­ensive murals.

Students responded that the offensive murals were just one complaint in a list of many, the majority of which would be moot with the South House repairs. Leightland Feinman, a sophomore in Blacker, said, "If the houses are in fact mostly, don't, dark, falling apart, etc., then Housing should focus on that and let the students handle the murals, as the commu­nity rejects murals which are not liked by the house." Chang emphasized the number of complaints he has received on account of the murals, from truste­es to alums. In addition, he said pre-frosh and their parents have complained about the murals, and said, "You can ask admissions if you don't believe me" that par­ents said their children were not coming to Caltech because of how the Houses looked.

When students responded that some of the murals were "pieces of art," Chang conceded that there were quite a few murals that were obviously inoffensive and should be left untouched. Students were also concerned about the security for the newly renovated South Houses. Said Tim Chang, the most viable op­tions are "card access or room key, though we are trying to get the cost of a thumbprint scan­ner to come down—it's about $35,000 to install card swipes, but $100,000 for a thumbprint scanner.

Feinman also brought up the possibility of religious discrimi­nation if the card swipes were in­stalled, since Orthodox Jews cannot use electricity on the Sabbath. If they use card access security, then I'm going to sue for discrim­i­nation," said Feinman.

Students also wanted to know why so much money was spent on student safety and inter­disciplinary research, and he also noted that the provost has demonstrated remarkable accomplishments towards pro­moting diversity in the scientific world. After once again thanking the members of the Search and Trustee Selection Committees, he yielded the floor to outgoing President David Baltimore.

Continued on page 3
More Than 3,000 Dead After Indonesian Quake

March 29, 2006

More than 3,000 people have been killed and up to 150,000 injured after a magnitude 6.3 earthquake struck central Java, Indonesia on Sunday. The quake affected a large area, causing critical medical supplies threatens to increase the death toll, and lack of emergency.response facilities make it difficult for many people to receive medical treatments Requests for assistance are on the streets. UNICEF, the American Red Cross and the Indonesian Red Cross Society have responded by sending medical supplies, water purification equipment, ten-person healing units and other relief supplies.

The hardest hit on the heavily populated west coast of Java was Bantul, where an estimated 80% of the district was completely flattened by the quake. The earthquake, like the 2004 tsunami that killed 130,000 people, was caused by tectonic activity on the Asia-Pacific's "ring of fire," which runs along the Pacific coast of Southeast Asia.

The second day’s earthquakes hit two other Pacific nations, Papua New Guinea and Tonga. A 7.5 magnitude earthquake struck Papua New Guinea, in the New Britain region of the nation, several hundred miles northwest of the first quake in Indonesia. A 6.7 magnitude earthquake struck Tonga, a small island nation with a population of approximately 110,000.

Top Justice Department and Military Officials Threaten Resignation

General Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, FBI Director Robert Mueller and Pentagon officials have said they would resign if the White House seeks to purify the documents not be used in the investigation for possible war crimes, and three officers from the unit involved have been removed from their posts.

Internet Bandwidth Reduction and Change Internet Pricing

A new law that would prevent telecommunications companies from charging extra fees for higher bandwidth use was rejected in the early days of the fight against terrorism. Congress has rejected nearly all other reasonable methods of obtaining the documents. President Bush has said that he will defer to judicial matters and seal the documents for 45 days while the legal battle is fought. Once it is determined that the officials may step down have not been stated as threats, but rather for indication of several situations, but were not directed at the White House. A vote sealing of the documents, it is estimated that the legal action will occur before the documents are returned or used in the investigations.

ASCIT Board of Directors Minutes from the Side Room in Chandler Wednesday, May 24, 2006

Present Officers: Todd Gingrich, Jessica Smith, Chad Thomas, Chris Gonzales, Craig Revson, RJ Krom

Absent Officers: RJ Krom

1. Funding Requests

* Volunteers: Receive funding for Neil Miller, Adam Green, and herself to take Professor Richard Elleman's class on June 1 at the Ath. A vote approved this funding (7Y/0N/0A).

* Student: Receive funding for Sara Peak, Alex Roper, and herself to take Professor Dr. D-Kennedy Krum at the National Governor's lunch at the Ath. A vote approved this funding (8Y/0N/0A).

2. ASCIT Formal (Sat. May 27)

* ASCIT Formal is this upcoming week. ASCU will be serving food at the door for the same price as usual.

* The BoD is expected to help out the Social Team at the Formal.

3. Happy Hour (Fri. June 2)

* ASCIT Hous will be next Friday, June 2! Come drink, socialize, and be merry.

4. ASCIT Staff Awards

* Chris W. found nice gift baskets for the ASCIT Staff Awards, in time for giving the awards by the end of the school year.

5. Money Matters

* Jon worked with Lynne Caver to compile a list of all outstanding balances that need to be cleared. Two years that were never closed, which totalled about to $2,800. Jon cancelled all these checks. He has been issuing new checks to clubs who ask for their old checks if they had not received the checks. For any of the past three years.

6. Revel Elephant Bench

* The Elephant Bench for students in the Humanities and Social Sciences department are pre-approved by the Curriculum Committee. This Saturday, the Caltech Y plans a campus-wide wine Tasting event. Everyone is invited to take a vote to grant this event $500. Vote approved (7Y/0N/0A).

* A new proposal, requesting $300 to fund the Shake- speare Reading, a 24-hour event where all written works by Shakespeare are read by members from many different humanities. A vote was taken to grant this event $300: Vote approved (7Y/0N/0A). A vote approved this funding (7Y/0N/0A).

* Gina also asked for Dima Ker- nasovsky and herself to take Professor Shelly Tormey to the Ath. A vote approved this funding (8Y/0N/0A).

* ASCIT will be serving food at the campus-wide Wine Tasting event. Everyone is invited to take a vote to grant this event $500. Vote approved (7Y/0N/0A).

* Gina with friends, requesting $300 to fund the Shake- speare Reading, a 24-hour event where all written works by Shakespeare are read by members from many different humanities. A vote was taken to grant this event $300: Vote approved (7Y/0N/0A).

Jefferson, D.-Louisiana, is under investigation for corruption due to fraud, bribery, and kickbacks. A Kentucky businessman who has been investigating Jefferson is charging him with $400,000. Because Jefferson is a congressman and is under the FBI and other departments, part of the executive branch, the search was an uncontitutional violation of the separation of powers. The stakes demanded that the documents not be used in the investigation and be returned to the President.

Justice department officials say they are investigating all other reasonable methods of obtaining the documents. President Bush has said that he will defer to judicial matters and seal the documents for 45 days while the legal battle is fought. Once it is determined that the officials may step down have not been stated as threats, but rather for indication of several situations, but were not directed at the White House. A vote sealing of the documents, it is estimated that the legal action will occur before the documents are returned or used in the investigations.

* Floors: Remove all paper, and Additional Shelves: Remove all personal belongings, and TAKE THEM WITH YOU. in the end of the school year.

* Balcony/Patio: Remove all personal belongings, and TAKE THEM WITH YOU.

* Shelves: Remove all personal belongings, and TAKE THEM WITH YOU.

* Close all closet doors and throwaway any trash.

* Floor: Remove all personal belongings, and throw away any trash.

* Desk: Remove all personal belongings and throw away any trash.

* Closets: Empty your closet of all personal belongings (including books, and bottles.

* Rooms: Remove all personal belongings, including books, and bottles.

* Please clean up after them, and take them away with you.

If you have any questions about the above procedures, please feel free to contact us at housing.caltech.edu or s6176.

Housing Contracts End June 10th

Please keep in mind that your contracts End June 10th. If you have already signed your contract, you may stop by the Housing Office to pick one up. Our office will be open on Saturday June 10th & 11th from 9:00am to 12:00pm and 1:00pm to 3:00pm on both days. If you live in a room that is not fully vacated room or fully vacate room or room move form at the housing.caltech.edu/unergrad/. Respectfully submitted, ASCU Secretary.
Chameau Assimilating Into Caltech Culture

continued from page 1

"We should get together like this more often," said Caltech President Jean-Lou Chameau, as he took the stage, prompting chatter from the crowded lecture hall. Quickly turning serious, he began by discussing the job he has had for more than a year, "The job al...
Greetings to the New President from the ASCIT President

The ASCIT President reflects on the importance of communications between undergraduates and the President and asks that he help acquant our new President to Caltech.

BY TODD GINGRICH

As everyone has likely heard by now, Caltech has recently announced that Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau will be the new President. I am hopeful that Dr. Chameau will be able to help the gradual revival of student life at Caltech.

He will be in a position to significantly improve the Caltech undergraduate experience, but he will clearly have many demands on his time. I ask that the undergraduates warmly welcome Dr. Chameau into our culture so that he can become fully informed about undergraduate life on campus before he needs to make any major decisions.

When I came to Caltech nearly two years ago I had never met President Baltimore, yet a few Depressing comic strips had already convinced me that Baltimore was not a champion of undergraduate life.

Even though I have been involved with student leadership at Caltech, my contact with Dr. Baltimore has been minimal. I understand that the President of a school such as Caltech is extraordinarily busy, so I do not wish to overly criticize Dr. Baltimore. Nevertheless, I have heard that a few past presidents have been significantly more influential at remaining involved with undergraduates.

It is quite possible that Dr. Baltimore would not have changed even if he had frequently communicated with undergraduates, but I feel that frequent informal contact with undergraduates can be expected of the President. In my short time at Caltech, I have had the perception that Dr. Baltimore was removed from student issues. Whether or not this was actually true, the perception itself has led to significant conflict between students and "the administration."

I strongly encourage President Chameau to actively enter some aspects of undergraduate culture. I am the first to admit that some of the student traditions and house cultures can be intimidating, but I think that I can trust the students to go out of their way to make our new President feel at home.

Through informal lines of communication he will interact with students on a meaningful level, helping to greatly reduce the perception that there is a struggle between "us" and "them."

This past year has revealed that Caltech is not immune from budgetary problems, so Dr. Chameau will undoubtedly have to make some hard decisions.

After countless delays and overhauled as since Windows 95 (when operating on old computers, Microsoft seems to have exploded the system requirements for Vista this time around.

According to official release notes, the bare minimum computer configuration for running Windows Vista includes at least an 800 MHz X86 CPU, 512 MB of system RAM, 15 GB of free hard disk space, a SVGA 800x600 monitor, and a DirectX 9 compatible video card. Doesn’t sound too bad, right? Wrong.

While these numbers sound standard issue by today’s standards, they will only manage to allow you to eek by and run Vista with minimal features, without any of the eye candy that the new GUI delivers.

Anyone who desires to run Vista with the Aero Glass interface turned on will need a 1 GHz X86 -32 bit or -64 bit processor, 1 GB of RAM (that can deliver at least 1,800 MB/s of bandwidth, however that is calculated), 64 MB of graphics memory to drive a single monitor of less than 1,310,720 pixels, 128 MB to support resolutions between 1,310,720 and 2,304,000 pixels, and 256 MB of GPU memory to display at resolutions greater than 2,304,000 pixels.

Confusing enough for you yet? Maybe not. But add in the fact that this DirectX 9 compatible video card of yours also would require support for the new Windows Display Driver Model, Pixel Shader 2.0 support, and have 32 bits of precision per pixel, not to mention that your WDDM driver requires monitors that support HDCP for DRM control of high definition multimedia content, and you have an upgrade crisis in your hands.

People that are not going to buy new computers will definitely need several hundred dollars of upgrades to their current systems to have any kind of decent Vista experience.

On top of all this you’ll have to decide which Vista is right for you. I emphasize this because there are going to be so many versions of Vista it’ll send your head spinning into outer orbit.

There’s Home Basic, Home Premium, Business, Enterprise, etc. the list goes on and on. Vista Ultimate Edition, which includes all the new added features and bundled software, will most likely retail for $799 or more, while Vista Home Basic, likely to be bundled with most entry-level mainstream OEM manufactured PCs, lacks some key features including the highly touted new Aero Glass interface, selling most consumers short on value.

Vista Home Premium will likely be the most popular version sold, yet will still lack some of the premium software that was designed for Vista to compete with the bundled product set of Apple’s OSX. Microsoft claims that the different platforms to suit different user budgets and needs, but who wants only half an operating system?

Windows Vista is going to be a plague to the budget-conscious computer user, but the computer industry probably couldn’t care less. In fact, most companies will probably be laughing all the way to the bank, because Vista is going to generate billions in revenue for more than just Microsoft, but hardware manufacturers and software developers alike.

Simply put, despite all the progress that both Apple and Linux have made, Windows still dictates the flow of the computer market. Intel is waiting until the third quarter of this year to release its next generation desktop and mobile CPU chips, the Core 2. Both ATI and nVidia are also waiting until the end of the year to introduce their line of DirectX 10 compatible graphics units. Everyone is waiting for the massive onslaught on the consumers’ bank accounts that is Windows Vista.

Questions? Comments? Requests for future articles? Please contact the author at tomtsa@caltech.edu.

Technology Review

Windows Vista Will Suck... The Money Out of Your Wallet

BY TOM TSAI

Now that the vast majority of consumers have finally went 32-bit), precision computing has vastly improved significantly more success-
Library Purchases
Books for Recreation

BY: MENG-MENG FU

Last year, undergraduate members of the Library Committee (Meng-meng Fu, Arjun Bonsal, and Piyas Thongthum) along with University Librarian Kimberley Thomas, directed the funds from the Moore-Hufstedler Foundation (MHF) to purchase more recreational materials for the Caltech Library.

The students on the library committee were responsible for addressing the dearth of non-academic, leisurely reading materials for the Caltech Library. The proposed $20,000 was successful and funding has been used to purchase a variety of modern and classic literature, sci-fi, special interest books, and even comics.

The collection is easily accessible and browse-able. On the Caltech Library webpage (http://library.caltech.edu), there is a direct link to "The Moore-Hufstedler Leisure Reading Collection".

For the more old-fashioned, all MHF-funded books are housed on the third floor of the Sherman Fairchild Library.

The Disorder to Cure ASAP

Josh Cornell, M.A.
Intern at the counseling center, explains symptoms, causes, and how to get help for sexual disorders.

BY: JOSH CORDNELL

Sexual problems are common among college students. According to the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction, more than half of young adults report experiencing sexual problems at some point.

Sources of Sexual Dysfunction

While factors contributing to sexual problems will be described individually, it is important to remember that most sexual problems have several causes that are often interrelated. For example, depression can cause sexual dysfunction. Many depressed people are treated using antidepressant medications that often affect sexual functioning.

Inadequate information and stress are the two most common causes of sexual dysfunction. More than half of sexual problems result from a lack of sexual education. Other causes include physical, mental, and emotional stressors.

Conditions

- Neutropathy
- Diabetes
- Chronic disease
- Cardiopulmonary disease
- Metabolic Problems
- Anorexia
- Sexual transmitted infections
- Multiple sclerosis
- Various psychological problems
- Irritability, sensitivity, or damaged structure of genitals
- and many others

Possible factors that contribute to sexual dysfunction.

A long delay or lack of orgasm among young women is often due to excitation and stimulation is common among women and sometimes occurs among men. The same is true of Dyspareunia, the experience of chronic painful intercourse. Erection disorder, also known as impotence, is the inability to gain and/or maintain an erection and is the most common sexual problem that young men face.

Many men experience premature ejaculation, which is ejaculation with minimal sexual stimulation that usually occurs near the beginning of intercourse.

Sexual arousal disorder and vaginismus are common sexual problems that women face. Vaginismus is involuntary contractions of the muscles in the outer third of the vagina, usually in response to attempted insertion of a penis or other object.

Features

Food Review

Cheap and Easy Enough to Cook

BY: BRIAN HANLEY

You’ll find me at the back of the soup aisle, sitting near the floor in a box. Right next to a bag of Noodles, I exist, longing to be put in pot of boiling wa­­ter so that I may be enjoyed. I’m Ramen. Delicious Ramen. And you should buy me. Buy me before the person sitting in front of you does. Buy a stockpile for just a few dollars. Imagine it, Ramen stew. Buy me and celebrate. Have a party in your honor because I’m awesome. I’m Ramen. Eat me.

The DNA

BY: JOSHUA GUTMAN

No, I’m not suggesting you drink a man made protein smoothie. The DNA is a drink you probably never even thought to try as it has been available to you in so many varieties during your time here at Tech.

This particular beverage is incredibly smooth mostly because the bananas keep it well mixed. Unfortunately, the drink can only be made in 11,000 gallon portions, but as it is an instant party maker you’ll probably get more people joining in to help you finish it.

The drink is made as follows:

- 1 1/2 cups of water
- 2 scoops of DNA powder
- 1 packet (mmmmm, salty), stir and wait three minutes, add the flavor of your choice
- Two cups of water and toss me in

As you can see it has available in two flavors, one flavor was available only on ditch day, but I’m sure if you look around you can find photos of people enjoying protein shake one of the most exclusive beverages available on the market today in "red" form, out the classic "blanco" flavor can be made yours for absolutely no cost today.

You might find that this instant party maker might be too much drink to handle and not enable to get that buzz you were looking for. I suggest you serve it with a bottle of Samuel Smith’s Oatmeal Stout followed by a bottle of Peroni and call me Ramen stew. If you do not allow the drink to happen to older people.

The Gene Pool at Caltech obtained a red hine on Ditch Day this year (left).

Due to the diffuiculties of figuring out the color of a pond in a black and white photo, we have excluded a picture of the Gene Pool in its normal state for contrast (below).

Drink o’ the Week

The Gene Pool at Caltech obtained a red hine on Ditch Day this year (left).

Due to the difficulties of figuring out the color of a pond in a black and white photo, we have excluded a picture of the Gene Pool in its normal state for contrast (below).
In the May 8 issue of this paper, Michael Salem wrote an article titled “Gas Can’t Be Regulated by the Free Market,” in response to my article on high gas prices the week before. Mr. Salem’s objection to the free market in gasoline seems to be built on grounds of fairness. He states that “there is a sense that it is unfair for a few people to profit enormously due to the deprivation of a natural resource” and that there ought to be a tax on gas profits that “allows prices to rise in accordance with the increased demand and scarcity of gas, but prevents a few people from benefiting disproportionally.”

Those who own natural resources profit from their use, and there is nothing wrong with that. Resources should be used to improve the lives of the people. And they can often be renewed—forests can be cut, fish can be grown in fish farms, et cetera. To the extent that renewal is not possible, consumers would use less of it once it became scarce and prices went up, and entrepreneurs would develop more resources and substitutes. More importantly, there is a sense that everyone, not just as belonging to the earth but to the people and organizations that consider it as property. Private ownership in the free market makes “price-system conservation” possible.

A tax on gas profits would thus not be necessary to preserve resources. Moreover, it is mistaken to assume that only a few people benefit from the sale of gas and that they should be taxed for it. In reality, everyone who is involved in the exchange benefits. In a sense, profits are simply a reward that buyers give suppliers for having risked time and money on making products that people value available. If these profits were reduced by a gas profits tax, there would be fewer willing investors in the oil industry, as there is less gain for the same amount of risk. Some investors would seek out other markets, and gasoline would be less abundant and thus more costly for consumers. This becomes even more important in cases of sudden reduction in the availability of oil. Contrary to what a simple supply-demand graph shows, sellers stock up on goods not just for sale in the present but also in anticipation of future sales and profits. This is why when the supply of gas is restricted, companies can still sell gasoline at all, having prepared for the possibility of such a scenario. If a tax reduced their profits, they would not have been as willing to invest in extra gasoline, and would have sought out other markets for investment.

The gas tax would not reflect some sort of “public admission” about the gas market at all. Like all government interventions, it is really just an effort by those in the government to run society the way they think it should be run. Even with a democratically elected government, the wishes of a majority will override those who disagree. Moreover, politicians can always buy off those who disagree with other benefits, and thus would be re-elected in spite of, not because of, imposing an unpopular gas tax. Mr. Salem also warns that as gas prices rise, it “allows only those with the most money to obtain gasoline. Everyone who has a car wants gasoline, but such a notion is vague and ambiguous apart from considering what people are willing to give up in exchange for it, which is in this price system tells us. To restrict market prices would result in economic chaos as gas would be sold arbitrarily. If someone was sick and needed to drive to a hospital, he could offer a large sum of money and buy some gas in a free market. But if there were a shortage due to price restrictions, he might have to wait in line, no matter how much he was willing to give up. A free market in gasoline does not simply allow the rich outbid middle- and lower-class people. There exist different levels of products corresponding to different levels of wealth. For instance, there are used cars and new cars in the automobile market and condos, single-family homes, and rentals in the housing market. In the case of gasoline, gas stations sell gasoline at different quality levels. If you have high-quality super unleaded gas, and the rest of us can have regular gas, even more so if you pay for the privilege to be used by the way that people actually value, as individuals voting with their feet in a collective mass at the ballot box.

And contrary to what Mr. Salem fears, these revenues ultimately reflect how much people value the land and are willing to pay for the benefits gained from these lands—goods and services that they would not have under continued government occupation of land, and thus would be willing to pay. The auction of public lands should be turned into the way people actually value, as individuals voting with their feet in a collective mass at the ballot box.

Write for The Tech
If you are interested in working for The Tech, feel free to attend our weekly meetings on Fridays from noon to 1PM at the Broad Cafe. If we print your material, we will pay you up to the amounts listed below (at our discretion). Email submissions to tech@caltech.edu.


The California Tech
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www.caltech.edu/tech

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Editors:
President Baltimore:

free food and Beverages. If there’s one thing I’ve learned since coming to Caltech, it’s that those two components are necessary to successfully hosting any type of social event at Caltech. Last Sunday, Fleming decided to violate this golden rule, and hosted the interhouse party with a minimal amount of drinks and no food at all. I arrived around 11 PM and waited patiently in line for 10 minutes at the bar. When I entered Caltech during pre-weekend, I was completely shocked at the amount of alcohol that flowed freely but after a term in Page, I started to enjoy a couple drinks at each event I attended, especially since they would cost a fair amount of money at an out-side bar.

While I waited in line, I eagerly thought about what drink I would sample that night, but after saying my request, I was carded by the bartender, which is not a good thing for me. So I looked the right and noticed that Fleming had placed some non-alcoholic drinks at a table beside the bar. I meandered over there and to my utter disappointment, all I saw were 2-liter bottles of soda.

Perhaps I’ve been spoiled by the milkshakes provided at previous parties (Thanks to Blacker and Ruddock especially), but I definitely expected more than just soda and water. At the least, maybe they would have some fruits or cookies to enjoy, but I didn’t see any food placed out there.

Lacking any decorations that caught my attention, I left the party immediately afterwards.

To be fair, Fleming cannot be fully blamed since Caltech has been much more strict about its Alcohol policy since the Apache incident last fall. Nonetheless, the point of this article is that there should be some type of consolation prize for those who can’t drink—and I mean something other than soda and water.

Fleming Party a Failure?

The California Tech, May 16, 2006

By Anonymous

What role should the government have in setting gasoline prices?

Whether or not the government should be the one to determine the price of gasoline is a topic of much debate. Some argue that the government should intervene in the market to protect consumers from unfair prices, while others believe that the market should be left to its own devices.

In the present, gasoline is still a commodity that is generated by many factors. The government can play a role in regulating the price of gasoline by providing information about the market and by setting laws and regulations to protect consumers. However, the government should not be the sole determinant of the price of gasoline. The market, in conjunction with the government, can work to ensure that the price of gasoline is fair and reasonable.

In the future, as technology advances and more efficient methods of generating energy are discovered, the price of gasoline may change. However, the government should not be the sole determinant of the price of gasoline. The market, with government oversight, can work to ensure that the price of gasoline is fair and reasonable.
In celebration of a new Caltech era to be ushered in by President Chameau, we rebaptize an ex-
ccerpt from Richard Feynman’s popular 1974 Caltech commen-
tation address in which he discuss-
er timesless issues in scientific eth-
ics through his trademark quiry stories.

BY: DR. FEYNMAN

...In summary, the idea is to give all of the information to help others to judge the value of your contribution; not just the information that leads to judge-
ment in one particular direction or another.

Last night I heard that Wes-
son oil doesn’t soak through food. Well, that’s true. It’s not dishonest; but the thing I’m talking about is not just a mat-
ter of not being dishonest; it’s a mat-
ter of scientific integrity, which is another level. The fact that should be added to that ad-
vertising statement is that no oils soak through food, if oper-
at ed at a certain temperature. If operated at another temperature, then they do soak through oil. So it’s the implication which has been conveyed, not the fact, which was the truth.

We’ve learned from experi-
ence that the truth will come out. Other experimenters will repeat your experiment and find out whether you were wrong or right. Nature’s phenomena will agree or they’ll disagree with your theory. And, although you may gain some temporary fame and excitement, you will not gain a good reputation as a scien-
tist if you haven’t tried to be very careful in this kind of work. And it’s this type of integrity, this kind of care not to fool yourself, that is missing to a large extent in much of the research in cargo cult science.

We have learned a lot from experience about how to handle some of the ways we fool our-
selves. One example: Millikan measured the charge on an electron by an experiment with falling oil drops, and we an-
swer which has now come to know not to believe. It’s a little bit off because he had the incorrect value for the viscosity of air. It’s

interesting to look at the history of measurements of the charge of an electron, after Millikan. If you plot them as a function of time, you find that one is a little bit bigger than Millikan’s, and the next one is a little bit bigger than that, and the next one’s a little bit bigger than that, until finally you settle down to a number which is higher.

Why didn’t they discover the new number was higher right away? It’s a thing that scientists claim to have understood. This history is because it’s apparent that people did things like this. When they got it a number that was too high above Millikan’s, they thought some-
things must be wrong--and they would look for and find a reason why something might be wrong. When they got a number close to Millikan’s value they didn’t look so hard. And so they eliminated the numbers that were too far off, and did other things like that. We’ve learned those tricks nowa-
days, and not to have that kind of disease.

There was a certain danger of the same thing happening, even in the famous field of physics. I was shocked to hear of an experiment being done at a big accelerator at the National Accelerator Laboratory, where a person used deuterium. In order to compare his heavy hydrogen results to what might happen with light hydrogen, he had to use data from someone else’s experi-
ment on light hydrogen, which was done on different apparatus. When asked why, he said it was because he couldn’t get time on the program (because there’s so little time and it’s such expensive apparatus) to do the experiment with light hydrogen on this ap-
paratus because there wouldn’t be any new result. And so the man in charge of programs at NAL are so anxious for new results, in or-
der to get more money to keep the thing going for public relations purposes, they are destroying--possibly--the value of the experi-
ments themselves, which is the whole purpose of the thing. It is often hard for the experimenters to have their work be considered their scientific integrity demands.

All experiments in psychol-
ogy are of this type, however. For example, in the United States, many experiments running rats through all kinds of mazes, and so on--with little clear result. But in 1937 a man named Young did a very interesting one. He had a long corridor with doors all along one side where the rats came in, and doors along the other side where the food was. He wanted to see if he could train the rats to go in at the third door from down wherever he started them off. No. The rats went immediately to the door where the food had been the time before.

The question was, how did the rats know, because the corridor was so beautifully built and so uniform, that this was the same door as before? Obviously there

was something about the door that was different from the other doors. So he painted the doors different colors, different textures, and he put marks on the faces of the doors exactly the same. Still the rats could tell. Then he thought maybe the rats were smelling the food, so he covered the corridor, and still the rats could tell.

He finally found that they could tell by the way the floor sounded when they ran over it. And he could only fix that by putting his corridor in sand. So he covered one after another of all possible clays and finally was able to fool the rats so that they had to learn to go in the third door. If he re-
ased any of his conditions, the rats could tell.

Now, from a scientific stand-
point, that is an A-number-one experiment. That is the experi-
ment that makes rats-running ex-
periments sensible, because it uncovers that false that the rat is something about the door-- not what you think it’s using. And that is the experi-
ment that tells exactly what con-
siderations you have to use in order to be careful and control everything about the setting of the experiment with rat-run-
ning.

I looked up the subsequent his-
ory of this experiment. The next experiment, and the one after that, never referred to Mr. Young. They never used any of his criter-
a for putting the corridor on sand, or being very careful. They just went right on running the rats in the same old way, and paid no at-
tention to the great discoveries of psychologists who had his papers not referred to, because he didn’t dis-
cover anything within the rats. In fact, he discovered all the things you have to do to discover some-
thing, and that he paid no attention to the rats like that is a characteristic example of cargo cult science...
BY: TONY FALK

If you've read other stories in this very newspaper, it is likely you are aware that Caltech has chosen a new President. Like the one in charge of the U.S., this one was not voted for by the majority of the people he will rule over, but claims he will act on behalf of everyone.

He also may claim that God chose him to be President, although there is no evidence he has ever made such a statement, except that any person with great responsibility should logically claim to have been endorsed by an all-powerful creator, as this adds considerably to their authority and credibility.

But as much as the new President of Caltech resembles George W. Bush, in many ways he is different. For one thing, one is from Texas, and the other France (although I don't believe either is "technically" part of the United States, so they have that in common), and those two nation-states have been on the brink of war ever since I imagined them to both be nations.

Another difference is that I've heard one rumored to be less intelligent than average ape-man while sources have suggested the other is some sort of super-intelligent black and toothed whale. The point is, the new President has a name that is easily made into a bad pun.

All this talk of new Presidents got me thinking about how I would go about picking a new leader. Which got me to assuming that repeatedly until someone unplugged it. So the committee had to replace the computer with a magic eight ball, which predicted that they would choose "Concentrate and Ask Again."

The committee decided to go in a different direction for their final decision, and so interviewed a number of people. The first person brought in for an interview was David Baltimore, who pointed out that he already had the job, and no longer wanted it.

Next they brought in Mr. T, who they found hiding in the Los Angeles underground after escaping from a military prison where he had been placed for a crime he didn't commit.

The main qualifications Mr. T had (besides having beaten Rocky at one point) were his immense wealth (represented by hundreds of pounds of gold chains), thought to be worth approximately the same amount as David Baltimore's sacks of cash (and his firm yet compassionate treatment of those not academically qualified for Caltech, since it is well known that he pities fools."

Unfortunately the computer predicted that it would predict that it would predict that... (It just kept doing this repeatedly until someone unplugged it). So the committee had to replace the computer with a magic eight ball, which predicted that they would choose "Concentrate and Ask Again."

Unfortunately for Caltech, Mr. T turned down their offer, instead accepting an offer to become the Dean of Students at the University of Chicago. Other possibilities considered were former Harvard University President Lawrence Summers, the brainy Krang of Ninja Turtle fame, and John Kerry.

They were rejected due to certain statements that may have offended women, being a supervillain intent on conquering the earth, and flip-flopping on issues, respectively.

After trying Baltimore again and receiving another polite explanation that he was the one being replaced, the committee was down to two final candidates. One was Dr. Chameau of Georgia Tech, and the other Mr. Willy of ITT Tech.

After an interview revealed that Mr. "Free" Willy was not in fact a real person, but rather a lame attempt by a Tech columnist to make another killer whale joke, the decision by the committee was an easy one, and they contacted David Baltimore with the job offer that very day.

After another explanation by Baltimore that he was the outgoing President, and therefore shouldn't be considered for the job of replacing himself, the committee met and after several hours of intense debate decided to hire Dr. Chameau, who accepted, on the condition that no one make any more whale jokes.

1 After hours of extensive research, I've discovered that people don't vote for the President of universities at all. I must have been thinking of American Idol.

2 These sources being my imaginary friends, two rats named Hippo and Rhino. And to be politically balanced, they told me John Kerry was a reverse-centaur whose intelligence was known to flip-flop.

3 I'm leaving the "division chairs and tables" and "and also the people who sit in the division chairs" puns out, due to the strong correlation between including bad puns in my columns and death threats I receive.

4 The drug of choice for this operation was a large bottle of cheap vodka and a well placed blow with a sock full of quarters.

An Inside Look at How the New President was Selected