ASCIT Formal to be Held at Portofino Hotel

BY: ANNA HISZPANSKI

As tickets for the annual ASCIT Formal go on sale today, the ASCIT Social Committee is finalizing plans for the dance which will be held Saturday, May 27th, 7-12 am. Recently the committee announced the location for the dance, the Portofino Hotel in Redondo Beach.

The Social Committee spent weeks researching potential sites for the formal and ultimately decided on the beach location. "A lot of people mentioned that they’d like to have a formal near the beach," said ASCIT Social Director, Chris Gonzales. "We thought it would be cool to be at a place where you can look out and see incredible views of the ocean and Redondo Beach. There are a lot of hotels with ballrooms, but we’re trying to do something that adds another dimension to the party."

ASCIT is planning to use the ocean-side venue to its fullest potential. Prior to the dance, starting at 11:00pm, ASCIT will be hosting a party on the beach, open and free to all Caltech students, including those not attending the formal. "People have been asking for a beach party for quite some time so this way we combine two events into one," said Gonzales. "We hope that the beach party gets a large attendance."

Gonzales and his social team organized the events so that the transition from the beach party to the formal is smooth for students who wish to attend both events.

"The Portofino Hotel is providing changing rooms for us," said Gonzales. "There’s also enough time between events that people can go home to change if they want." ASCIT is expecting about 250 to 300 Techers to attend the dance, a slightly smaller number than last year. Gonzales attributes this decrease to the reduction in publicity for this year’s formal. "The Portofino Hotel is a slightly more expensive venue than last year and much less expensive so we don’t have to reach out this year quite as much as did last year," said Gonzales. "Last year we had to spend a lot of money on advertising to get enough people to the event."

Last year's formal was held at the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles. Like the previous year’s formal, this year's dance will feature two dance floors—one with a live jazz band and the other with a live DJ—and an outdoor area set aside for mingling.

"We tried to take what worked best from last year's formal and use it again," said Gonzales.

Dinner is not provided; however, beverages and hors d’oeuvres will be served. Alcoholic beverages will also be available from the bar for purchase. Students will also need to make their own transportation to the event.

Tickets are being sold beginning today and may be purchased online from the ASCIT website. The price of the tickets is $25 for ASCIT members and $35 for non-members.

CDS: Taking Care of Business

BY: VIBHA LALJANI

Caltech Dining Services (CDS) stocks the C-Store on a more regular basis. CDS promised a separate In-N-Out night for those observing Passover, a Jewish holiday, during the regular In-N-Out night. CDS agreed to Ruddock’s request of orange soda instead of lemonade and Ricketts’ special food request. CDS has made many more improvements.

CDS also takes care of student complaints in a short span of time. Former food chair, Ryan Farmer said, "CDS is very responsive to student opinions. Rita Bastian, the Board Manager, is always on top of all student complaints. It is because of her that the changes are implemented so quickly. In fact, they will do almost anything that the committee would like (within reason)."

During an average week the food committee receives anywhere between 5 and 20 complaints. Usually only one or two remain for a while before they are resolved. However, generally these are issues that CDS cannot affect directly. An instance is the fork and knife shortage during dinner. With regards to this matter Ruddock House food rep, Anton Shuster said, "CDS is trying their best to have all the knives and forks they have available for dinner, but somehow, many of these still go missing around lunch time. There’s very little CDS can do about this other than continuously spending money on buying new silverware."
The Food Committee has a significant role in bringing about these improvements. First of all, they convey student opinions and complaints to CDS. Ryan Farmer gave the Tech an account of other roles of the Food Committee. He said, "We track the progress of those comments and make sure a satisfactory solution is found. We also sift through complaints and weigh each action... Deciding what comments are worth action is the key part of committee meetings. For example, several years ago, there were several larger groups of people that really wanted the fried chicken dinner once per week. However, there was also a significant faction that wanted that dinner completely removed from the menu."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Research Funding

BY: SARA PEEK

This is the third in a series of articles covering Dean Currie’s seminar on Caltech finances. Caltech does a lot of research. The majority of funding for this research is federal, largely NSF or NIH, and many of these dollars arrive at Caltech through the Office of Sponsored Research (OSR). At OSR, seven staff members review and submit grant proposals for much of Caltech’s externally-funded research. According to Richard Seligman, the Director of Sponsored Research, this is smaller than most comparable institutions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Lloydies Relocate Fleming Cannon’s Chain

By: SARA PEEK

Photo by: Ethan Pook

Lloyd pranksters removed the chain from the Fleming cannon early Friday morning. The chain now adorns the Lloyd Courtyard; a plaque explaining Lloyd’s prank has since been removed. See page 8 for a Flem’s perspective.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
In addition to food comments the Food Committee deals with health-related issues. Its agenda sets dates for certain events organized by CDS like In-N-Out night. Rod Fontenot, the food rep conveyed information from CDS to the houses because as Farmer said, “...emails are almost always ignored.” He said that, “the current committee will decide the configuration and offerings of the South Kitchen (when it is opened), as well.” For dinner menu issues one may try reaching the food rep of the respective house because the food committee also decides the menu and in the past year it also test- tasted the food.

**The Food Committee**

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Donald Rumsfeld Speech Interrupted by Hecklers

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was interrupted during a speech by anti-war protesters on Thursday in Atlanta. One woman stood up and shouted, “This man needs to be in prison for the finest essay devoted to Shakespeare.” The congressman was not given a soapbox to speak, prompting the police union to investigate whether Kennedy got special treatment.

Iraq Cities Hit With Violence

Car bomb attacks killed at least 24 people in Karbala and Baghdad on Monday. The bodies of 43 men were found in Baghdad from what is believed to be sectarian killings. Karbala holds what is the most important Shia shrines; Monday’s murders are believed to be connected to the string of violence after a Shia shrine was bombed three months ago.

Cheney Supports Balkan Mission to the Cultural Show is Open to Public

This year’s cultural show is aptly named Parichaya, literally translated “introduction.” The performers and organizers hope to give the audience a glimpse of Indian culture and social norms. The most awaited part of the evening is the showing of the movie “Made in Heaven... Arranged in Mumbai.” The movie has been acted, produced, and directed by a Caltech alum who journeyed to follow the journey of a Caltech graduate student back to India as he has to deal with an impeding arranged marriage. The movie, as well as all the performances, promises a night of cultural enrichment as well high-powered entertainment.

Those in attendance will also be able to enjoy classical music, a dance performance, and an impromptu performance. For more information, please visit http://oasis.caltech.edu/parichaya.

**The Outside World**

**BY: MARISSA CEVALLOS**

Trapped Miners Near Rescue

Rescuers were a few feet away on Sunday from freeing two Australian gold miners from where they were trapped after an April 25th earthquake in Tasmania. Though the men are trapped 3,000 feet underground, rescuers have been sending the mining team water, magazines, and iPods through a tunnel, and have been communicating with them through a loudspeaker system. Since rescuers fear that small explosives will trigger a cave-in, men have chipping away at rock five times as hard to rescue as concrete.

AIA Board Boss a “Disappointment”

Former AIA chief Porter Goss unexpectingly resigned on Friday, offering no further explanation than it is “just one of those mysteries.” Senior administration officials said that Bush will nominate Air Force Gen. Michael Hayden on Monday to replace Goss as director of the CIA.

ASCIT Board of Directors Minutes from the Side Room in Chandler

May 3rd, 2006

Present - Officers: Todd Gingrich, Jean Sun, RJ Kron, Vickie Pon, Ciilla Felsen, Chris Gonzales, Jonathan Senn, Nathan Donellam, Craig Montouri, Chris Watson

1. Treasurer’s Update
   * Jon updated the BoD on ASCIT’s current spending and remaining balance
   * To allow for more requests for funding from clubs, the BoD discussed making direct moves from “Project Reserves” to “Club Reserves,” since Project Reserves has not been used as frequently in the past whereas there have been substantially more funding requests for money from Club Reserves.
   * Vote: A vote was taken to move $2,000 from Project Reserves to Club Reserves: Vote approved ($2,000/-)

2. The total remaining dollars in each of the three Reserves categories are as follows (rounded to the nearest dollar):
   - Project Reserves: $4,550
   - Social Reserves: $2,825
   - Club Reserves: $1,353

3. **The major planning for ASCIT Formal is complete. Tickets will be $25 each for ASCIT members, $35 each for non-ASCIT members.
   * Tickets go on sale MONDAY, MAY 8TH
   * The event will be a Beach Party before Formal, during the afternoon. The BoD discussed different options for transportation, and Chris W. will look into what will be most feasible with the Social Team. Major publicity for the Beach Party will happen to get as many people to the beach as possible (the more the merrier!).
   * 3. ASCIT Staff Awards
   * Chris W. has polled the results from the staff awards survey, and there are 5 people who stand out as the most popular with the members. Chris W. will look into purchasing nice gift baskets online for the award winners.
   * 4. Publication Interviews
   * The BoD will have interviews with people interested in working on the Big T and little t very soon.
   * 5. ASCIT Wiki Website
   * The BoD members will start updating and using the ASCIT wiki website that Jed Yang has been creating. The website looks very useful, and Todd thinks it will help the BoD stay top on their tasks with its public “To-Do List” for each of the officers.

**Announcements**

Parichaya: An Introduction to India

**BY: EKTA BHUJWANI**

This year’s OASIS annual cultural show will take place on Thursday, May 11, 2006 at Ramee Auditorium, 6 PM. Permission to address the cultural show is free and it will be followed by a traditional Indian dinner and an auction for a mere $5.00 per person. The evening full of entertainment is provided by the Organizational Committee and Associated Students from the Indian diaspora. OASIS has been planned for a couple of months as a collaborative effort between undergrads and grad students.

This year’s cultural show is aptly named Parichaya, literally meaning, “introduction.” The performers and organizers hope to...
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Public universities have lower indirect costs than private institutions; we’re on the high side of the private universities, because we invest relatively much in buildings and facilities, according to Selgman. While Caltech faculty are submitting grant proposals than ever, government funding is decreasing, both in general and at Caltech. Currently at Caltech, one of every 1.5 proposals wins a government grant, compared to an average among other institutions of about one in four.

However, Caltech does not participate in one category of government research. Caltech policy does not permit classified research. It is intended that researchers here at Tech can publish everything that they find. Currie’s opinion is that Caltech stands for the free flow of information, and so, as a policy decision made by the faculty and the Board of Trustees, Caltech rejects classification of research. Currie finds it likely, as well, that if Caltech were to allow one now-classified project, the government would likely want some preexisting projects to be classified.

The United States government always has the right to decide what information is classified; however, Caltech researchers start every project with the assumption that the subject is free to pursue. If the government wishes to classify an existing project, Caltech would not allow the project to continue as Caltech-affiliated research, but if the faculty member wanted to pursue the project, he or she would likely take a sabbatical or start a private company, JPL, as a government research and development center, has a classification policy slightly different from that of Caltech. While no basic research is classified, it fits into government projects may be. Currie gives an example of basic, publishable research in optics vs. specific plans for a satellite utilizing the technology.

So how does this affect you, the undergraduate? Research is one of Caltech’s priorities, and research costs make up most of Caltech’s operating budget. Understanding how research is funded and conducted is an integral part of understanding the Institute as a whole.

Sieh Wins 2006 NOGLSTP Scientist of the Year Award

BY: NARON MELTZNER

Caltech’s very own Professor of Geology Kerry Sieh has been selected by the National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals (NOGLSTP) as this year’s recipient of its GLBT Scientist of the Year Award, which was presented to Sieh at a ceremony during the NOGLSTP Reception at the 2006 AAAS Annual Meeting in St. Louis in February.

The NOGLSTP GLBT Scientist of the Year Award is made to the GLBT Scientist who has made outstanding contributions in their field, recognizing sustained contributions in research and education as well as the societal significance of these contributions and achievements. Sieh has been chosen to receive this award because of his outstanding achievements in earth science as well as his leadership in the GLBT community.

His research in earthquake geology (neotectonics and paleoseismology) documenting ancient earthquakes and slip rates along California, Sumatra, and Taiwan faults has set the standard for understanding the Institute as a research and development center, has a classification policy slightly different from that of Caltech.

Tired of CDS lunches and dinners?

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The Fannie and John Foundation takes great pleasure in announcing Fall 2006 Fellowship Awards to California Institute of Technology students:

Elena Fabrikant Quantitative Biology
David Zhang Biotechnology

Ms. Fabrikant and Mr. Zhang are two of 15 Herz Foundation Fellows chosen from a field of 688 applicants to receive a five year Graduate Fellowship Award of up to $240,000 while earning their doctorates in the Applied Physical, Biological or Engineering Sciences.

The Herz Foundation would like to extend its congratulations to the California Institute of Technology for its role in educating these exceptional students.

See www.hertzfoundation.org for more details.
Ditch Day Feature
A Look at How Ditch Day Has Evolved Over the Decades

This photo from 1962 is captioned, "Rundock senior’s room is filled with assorted boxes, barrels (leaky), and paper in honor of senior ditch day." In 1962, stacks only involved the underclassmen trying to break into the seniors’ rooms and then re-decorating them. Not all seniors went to the trouble of stacking their rooms as the accompanying article explains, "Ricketts' traditionally lazy seniors again bought off the corrupt underclassmen with a soda and burger party. Page, too, had troubles, as most of the seniors not only refused to stack their rooms, but even refused to leave campus for the day. The lone senior who did stack his room was awarded with a six pack by the grateful underclassmen."

In 1971, Ditch Day still occurred in only the seniors' rooms. In fact, The Tech gave only this small blurb to cover the event. The caption reads, "'We've tried everything else, maybe this magnet will work.' And it did! Thirty seconds later, Page's enterprising underclassmen were inside, happily doing their dirty work."

This photo from 1979 shows that the stacks already involved activities outside just the seniors’ rooms. This stack even features a computer in a hallway!

By 1992, Ditch Day stacks resembled today's, with participants role-playing in elaborate plots. The caption reads, "Galactic Adventurers pilot the Enterprise through a horde of unruly scurves in Brian Kurkoski and Jennifer Wright's 'Star Trek: the Stack'." Driving Daihatus is no longer allowed.

In 2003, this photo shows how technology has allowed for new types of stacks. This robot was controlled remotely by underclassmen to complete the stack "Who Done Her?"

Photos scanned and arranged by David Chen
The Money Job - How to Make Easy Money at Caltech

BY: TONY FALK

Recently people have been approaching me and asking how they can make some money. Oh, they do not want to make money in a legitimate way, no, not at all. They want to make money in a way that they can get paid for doing something that they cannot do at work. You know, they want to get paid for things that they cannot do at work. For instance, they want to get paid for being a rocket car made of solid gold. They also want to be paid for being a rocket car made of solid gold. Nothing is worth more than a rocket car made of solid gold. Nothing is worth more than a rocket car made of solid gold.

There are the obvious jobs, like being a BoC Ninja Assassin, or a guy who shakes down phys majors for their lunch money, or being David Baltimore's pool boy, but these jobs all require special skills, like a ruthless willingness to use violence to get your way, deadpan humor, and pretending not to see people getting drunk on the weekend, grudgingly to make the sawdust for CDS dinners and telling people that they need their ID cards to get into the gym even though you see them every day as they walk to their half an hour. But the end result is that those people are just as happy to have you there as they are to have you there. This is the kind of job that doesn't require any special skills, just a willingness to put up with people who are just as happy to have you there as they are to have you there. This is the kind of job that doesn't require any special skills, just a willingness to put up with people who are just as happy to have you there as they are to have you there.

Another money making scheme is getting paid to be a huge alligator after being flushed down the toilet. Or somewhere. Another money making scheme is getting paid to be a huge alligator after being flushed down the toilet. Or somewhere. Nothing is worth more than getting paid to be a huge alligator after being flushed down the toilet. Or somewhere. Nothing is worth more than getting paid to be a huge alligator after being flushed down the toilet. Or somewhere.

The kind of job that you might find if you are looking for a job that doesn't involve all the pesky· thinking that plagues people such as these and anyone willing to waste their time by helping people such as these is to help out with putting together the faculty lunch program. This is a job that doesn't require any special skills, just a willingness to help out with putting together the faculty lunch program. This is a job that doesn't require any special skills, just a willingness to help out with putting together the faculty lunch program.

Another way people will pay to screw with your brain is SSEL or EED. If you turn your boredom into money, but there are a few perks beyond the cognitive challenge. You can get into shows you'd have to pay for otherwise, and make some money, you get free lunch twice a week, plus the opportunity to spend two weeks of the spring semester in the Los Angeles area, then you need to go to a career center. If it is the middle of the night and you want something absolutely delicious, then you can pay to go to Canter's. You can go to Canter's. Go at least once. You'll thank me. Not just an A, but an A+, maybe even an A++ or A+++ it's like a P+ in a pass/fail class. Go now. To hell with CDS, eat at Canter's.

HUMOR

Food Review

The Money Job - How to Make Easy Money at Caltech

Deli Done Right

BY: BRIAN HANLEY

Oh, I like food alright. I like pizza. I like bagels. I like hot dogs with mustard and beer. I'll eat eggplant. I could even eat a baby deer! La-La-La-La-La! Who's that baby deer on the lawn there? Oh. Sorry. I kind of got carried away, but I did eat it at a really deli-ous restaurant that I wish I had found much earlier in my time here at Caltech. For a long time, I have wanted to eat at a real deli: a deli with delicious corned beef, pastrami and smoked turkey, a deli with fresh bread and confections, a deli with crisp pickles the server brings right to your table. The kind of deli where you might find maybe one or two of in any major city (except New York City). Canter's Deli is a real deli, a real Jewish deli, with corned beef, pastrami, turkey, fresh bread and those won't quit pickles. Right in the heart of Kosher Canyon in Fairfax, Canter's is open 24 hours a day. It is the kind of deli I have only been to on very few occasions. It can be crowded. These are the greatest delis in the country, like New York's own Katz's Deli or the Avenue Deli—absolutely delicious. The first time I went to Canter's Deli I had high expectations for the food. I was not disappointed: it easily compares to the best made deli food that I have ever eaten. I had a cornered beef Reuben sandwich with a side of coleslaw. Every bite was tasty. The cornered beef melted in my mouth and the sauerkraut was luxuriously sour. The rye bread was soft and toasted and the Russian dressing perfectly balanced the flavor of the sandwich. The coleslaw was finely shredded and it had a mild tang. If for some reason you don't want a Reuben and coleslaw, the menu has many other items: Matzah ball soup, pastrami, tongue, brisket, all that you could want. You can put on Canter's has every-thing that a proper deli should have. Some nights, Canter's even serves live music in their lounge. Good food and good music—you can't go wrong.

If you have been never been to a real deli, then you need to go to Canter's. If you have been never been to a real deli, then you need to go to Canter's. If you have been never been to a real deli, then you need to go to Canter's. If you have been never been to a real deli, then you need to go to Canter's. If you have been never been to a real deli, then you need to go to Canter's.

Another way to make money at Tech is to write for a distinguished professor. And sometimes, you can get paid for that. Another way to make money at Tech is to write for a distinguished professor. And sometimes, you can get paid for that. Another way to make money at Tech is to write for a distinguished professor. And sometimes, you can get paid for that.

The kind of deli you might find in New York City is not the way Maxim won't either. Oh. Sorry. I kind of got carried away, but I did eat it at a really deli-ous restaurant that I wish I had found much earlier in my time here at Caltech. For a long time, I have wanted to eat at a real deli: a deli with delicious corned beef, pastrami and smoked turkey, a deli with fresh bread and confections, a deli with crisp pickles the server brings right to your table. The kind of deli where you might find maybe one or two of in any major city (except New York City). Canter's Deli is a real deli, a real Jewish deli, with corned beef, pastrami, turkey, fresh bread and those won't quit pickles. Right in the heart of Kosher Canyon in Fairfax, Canter's is open 24 hours a day. It is the kind of deli I have only been to on very few occasions. It can be crowded. These are the greatest delis in the country, like New York's own Katz's Deli or the Avenue Deli—absolutely delicious.
No, really, I will eat your god-damned cat. The administration is preparing to give you the South Hovses of your traditions when we move back next year, and the most important thing to think of is how your precious kiten will end up. Whatever the cat name you’ve yodged from the Hallmark-soaked depths of your juvenile owner memory, won’t be able to relieve everyone’s stress.

So, should I, take note of the Rickets can’t display its pugent garments. It’s a symbol because it might offend someone, or the fact that Dalney’s bathroom graf­fiti is裔 and then the moribund, student-ex­ecuted punk. You’re too busy arguing because your little bastards are superior to ac­tual humans and because, I quote, “House cats are far less de­structive and certainly much more hygienic than Techers.” Yes, I’m calling you out, Lisa Streit. I’ll eat your cat first.

But how can ow cats will ramble on and on about how cute and well-behaved their animal is, and then continue around to swear at it for knocking over their stack of textbooks, bottle of soda, and/or freshly made bed because this can be connected to the same impulse that made you cry more than the frequency of expres­sion of the non-“feline residents” of the South Hovses.

Maybe it’s some sort of brain parasitic thing. Toxoplasmosis?

No matter. Cat owners, I will help you set your priorities straight. I will not rest until every cat on this campus has been eaten. Like Churchill, I shall eat them in the beachies, I shall eat them in the landing grounds, I shall eat them in the fields and in the streets, I shall eat them in the hills, and I will never surrender, although I may occasionally stop to eat.

How will I eat your cat? That’s a good question. My Caltech Iron Chef team, the Fighting Hellfish, came in second in last year’s com­petition, so you can rest assured that the feline residents of campus will be completely and con­sumed with competency and good taste. Although cat recipes are uncom­mon, I have had a cow can be adapted for cat; rabbits don’t complains if you keep them in a small cage and feed them pet food. Try that with a cat. So Rabbit on a Stick becomes Cat on a Stick, Shenandoah Valley Rabbit Casserole becomes Shenandoah Valley Cat Casseroles, and Rabbit Meat­can Style becomes Cat Meat­style, which many of you have no doubt already sampled at Del Tech.

Please don’t misunderstand me. I am no friend of the Man, and my main crusade in culinary behavior mod­ification are not inspired by Tim Chang (remember, Mr. Chang is Chinese, and cat-eating is tradi­tionally blamed on the Koreans), nor do I harbor any pathological deep-seated resentment of cats just because a cat once tried to eat my dad. But you cat people, and you cat-allergy people, and most of you, my friends who have made this course of action necessary. It is not only my will but also my sacred duty. I will eat your cat. I will eat every single one.

But if, if you ask nicely, I’ll share.

By: Jeremy Ehrhardt

Cute Cats Can Kill

BY: PO KU

Being not only a confessed cat hater or wannabe cat-slaughterer, but also a confessed dog lover, I imagine my surprise at encountering two articles in the most recent Tech lamenting this new change in cat policy. Now Cindy Ko’s news article was informative and impartial, but Lisa Streit consciously digest Lisa Streit’s commentary for good reason.

I, like Lisa, am also allergic to cats among other things. I also take allergy medication daily, but as our allergy medication doesn’t work so well. I think I may have just a slightly more severe allergy. So why do classmates ignore these issues? And then some perhaps she finds it difficult to empathize with my sentiments on those furry little creatures that now are all everyone’s pet. I know those brave new raves, the cats.

To help with this lack of un­derstanding, I propose hosting a rather involved sensitivity session with Lisa or anyone else who may be interested. In this said session I plan on rubbing poison ivy or the equivalent all over your body (yes, I do realize this is a bad idea) so you can see what it’s like for me to breathe a notch around your neck, and strangle you while photog­raphing it all. This is the most obvious counterpart to those oh so cute pictures of the most uselessly glamorous cat pictures of the last week’s Tech.

But that perhaps would be too obvious. I suggest wearing all black private coats, so instead I will try to do my part to break the vicious cycles of both sides. I really mean it. I want to see why I so strongly oppose Li­sa’s opinion that cats really aren’t that great.

I’ve gone to the hospital three times so far because of sneezing or itchy watery eyes but because I go into anaphylactic shock, something I’m quite cer­tain you don’t have. My tongue, face, mouth, and throat, hands, ears, and much of my body other thing I appear to be severely allergic to. I’m breathing through a straw. The room dimns and my hearing changes or oxygen levels decrease in my brain. It takes conscious effort to breathe and my chest and

“It appears that a vast number of Techers care more about cats than my life...”

I’ve repeatedly been afraid to go Benadryl, an over-the-counter antihistamine that also serves as a prescription for pre­cious, a potent corticosteroid. But these steroids cause much worse side effects than any anti­histamine. They can cause osteo­porosis and other complications rather than an entire series of side effects while leaving my body more vul­nerable and less-equipped to han­dle infections of any kind.

No drug can enable me to pet a cat. My allergies are comparable to food allergies or ones for people. They cannot satisfactori­ly be controlled with medication not even if I became addicted to it. Currently, the best I can do is to avoid them, but that’s kind of hard when surrounded by cat­ers and sympathizers. It appears that my number one fear of Techers is more about cats than my life, a perfectly reasonable conclusion considering that owning cats is a time-honored tradition here.

My ability to live where I want to was already limited earlier this year by my roommate’s cat. Developing this allergy dur­ing the time this school year was not a happy experience; it has left me bitter and perhaps unnec­essarily angry, but I do not wish to reciprocate these harsh limita­tions on South House cat own­ers, even though their lives don’t depend on it. They would be able to at least physically live without their cats, whereas I cannot physi­cally live with them.

“While it’s true that cat aller­gists make a perfectly reasonable, the Caltech workload makes students far more miserable than an aller­gic reaction,” is a clearly subjec­tive opinion, but clearly wrong when the author (Lisa Streit) has clearly not experienced allergic reactions in the same way I have. I may die someday from a mere discombobulating allergic reaction to cats, and then perhaps, I won’t be able to get over my twisted cat-owner memory.

Anyone interested in my above mentioned sensitivity session can email me at plw@caltech.edu. That is all. I envy your ability to breathe but not your ability to empathize.

Letter

Right on, Andromeda! The typing cat in Lisa Streit’s May story “Feline Residents to Be Barred from South Hovses” could take a vacation when my staying-at-home cat of my daughter, alma mater Sarah Hendrick­son, of the South. Sarah was a student at Caltech (with her other cat, Ganzo, for company in Blacker House) who not only composed a letter; she also sent a letter to Alma Mater Vikram Den­di as an IM from my computer without help from anyone. Amy borrowed my screen name, so Vik­ram was a little confused by the message, which went something like this: “Dear Ms. Hendrickson, your cats are lovely soupss.

It is sad that cats won’t be re­stricted in South Houses. It is now­able to want to protect students with allergies that anyone consult undergraduate students to see whether cats are an actual problem before or whether strategies to keep cats out of certain rooms and off certain laps are sufficient? A registration requirement (for al­ready spayed or neutered cats), a time of day when Techers can be kept out of slow cookers. (Strange that my Dad, I’ve spayed or neutered the oddities of Caltech housing, including the cats. We hope that you Techers will someday be able to breathe without allergic reactions to cats and never surrender, although I may occasionally stop to eat my dad. But you cat people, and you cat-allergy people, and most of you, we, my friends who have made a course of action necessary. It is not only my will but also my sacred duty. I will eat your cat. I will eat every single one.

But if, if you ask nicely, I’ll share.

By: PO KU

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.

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KELROF: No Rest for the Weary

BY: MARK EICHENLAUB

For 24 hours beginning at 8pm last Friday, ten teams of Techers ran in the annual KELROF relay on the Caltech Track. This year’s participants included teams from Page, Ruddock, Blacker, dabney, Ricketts and Avery House. Also present were several graduate student and faculty teams including “Fast and Easy,” “Team Party,” and others on whose reporter on the scene did not deem it necessary to record. Two Techers, Billy Zdon and Scott Jordan, ran the event solo, completing 52.4 miles, or two full marathons, each. Gion- tavo Olm organized the event with funding from the Alumni Association, ASCIT, the Caltech Y, Campus Life, and the GSC.

Techers sleep on the track during KELROF, a team relay competition that lasts a continuous twenty-four hours.

Stop Complaining

BY: ANONYMOUS

I have noticed that there has been a lot of complaint from students about the actions of Caltech. It is lately, especially in this paper. I can understand some of the an- ger but I am afraid that some of these comments from outside reading the previous pieces might think that we are spoiled. Not every student thinks this way and I feel that I looked out when I was accepted.

As a graduate student so my experiences may be a bit different. Granted the lab work and classes are difficult but none of us are there to pay for a diploma; any- way, learning is fun. I agree that some research is available but many are. Even though the stipend is not high, it is few enough for us to live. Even textbooks and even save a little; and if we add to it the tuition, it is a very reasonable pay.

Feeding the anger of students against the administration is risky. We all have a stake in this place and I disagree with some of the actions by the union. For ex- ample, the boycott of the dining services almost got people fired for the perk of free parking. I also noticed that undergrad students will be losing healthcare coverage (the only benefit that I think is important) but this time our union is silent. These acts strike me as selfish.

I think there are a few things that could be fixed, especially the way I feel that I looked out when I was accepted.

Gas Can’t be Regulated by the Free Market

BY: MICHAEL SALEM

In his editorial “U.S. Gasoline Hypocrisy,” Simon Que rightly identifies the source of high gas prices: market shortage. However, his commentary on the present options appears short-sighted. First of all, imposing an oil pollu- tion tax and eliminating possible market manipulations are two different things. Whether or not the market is being manipulated, there is a second way to help a few people to profit enormously due to the deprivation of a natural resource.

An oil-profits tax is an inter- esting proposal to deal with this dilemma; it allows prices to rise in accordance to the increased de- mand and scarcity of gas, but pre- vents a few people from benefitting inordinately from this situation. Although this policy would be an intrusion upon free- market economics, I do not find it compelling that free-market econo- nomics can or should describe the trade of a scarce and irreplaceable resource.

Finally, regarding social life, whining or being negative is not very attractive. Overall, these are one of the best times of my life and right now, my main worry is people discovering that I do not really deserve to be here...

The California Tech
Caltech 40-55
Pasadena, CA 91125

CommenTARY

On Pranking Fleming House

BY: ANDREW KWOK

These past weeks, members of the community have brought up the questions over Fleming House and how we seem to waste money and don’t take too well to pranks. Although it may seem that we have noticed a few non-RF-able items, if you take a look at the Little T, THC Resolution 1, Section 4, “RF-able items shall not damage or deface property. Specifi- cally exempted from RF’s are…” the Fleming House bell, the Fleming cannon, the wall-sized Fleming Flag… due to their irre- placeable nature. As much as you would like the shower cur- tains and lounge furniture to be non RF-able, they are not on this list.

The resolution clearly states why such items are non-RF-able. The cannon and the bell are prime examples. Where can you find an 1896 howitzer cannon? Is there another bell on this planet with the names of past Fleming presidents on it? Such items are truly irre- placeable and any prank, whether malicious or benign, could threaten the condition of those items. The loss of such items only hurts the House that owned them, it hurts the Community at large. You should genuinely respect it because it is a non-RF-able item instead of wishing that you were the one that pulled the prank.

Some may think that the recent return of the cannon amounted to an abused waste of money. The fact of the matter is that we re- ally do care deeply about our ir- replaceable items. Although the only benefit that I think is important is the return of the cannon amounted to an abused waste of money. However, his commentary on the present options appears short-sighted. First of all, imposing an oil pollu-

The answer the original ques- tion lies in the experiences that we as a house have witnessed over the years. There is nothing more over-sensitive than the least bit annoyed by the others. As well, pranks have been performed: dumping garbage on pool table, theft of the Interhouse and disco trophies, squirting mustard into our pool table and the free- ing the revisionist message with house paint, dumping eggs down the cannon the day of Com- mencement, and taping the letters “A” and “G” onto our flag last week for the pre-frosh.

Oh, and not to be condescend- ing, but the sink is not a place to relieve yourself… try the room right around the corner with all the toilets. Not all of these events have gone without someone ad- mitting to it; I would like to thank Ricketts for taking responsibility of one of the pool table incidents. If only the rest of the community would be so thoughtful.

This is certainly not a an- t工地 on oil drilling. There are many well- founded arguments and criticisms to this sug- gestion and I do not want to enter that debate.

Nevertheless, his suggestion that the rights to the land be open to the highest bidder completely misses the point of the political process to decide how that land should be used. Through the decisions of democratically ac- commodative representatives is how the public decides the relative value of maintaining or drilling those lands. To open the lands to purchase is not to let the public decide how much it values preservation of to let only the wealthiest members of society to decide. This is contrary to the principle that this na- tion holds dear.

Gas Can’t be Regulated by the Free Market