Caltech Students Plant Fake Palm Trees, Seeds of Rebellion at MIT’s Prefrosh Weekend

By ADAM CRAIG and SARAH WADSWORTH

Page House also is eagerly awaiting Prefrosh Weekend. An especially large fraction of the prefrosh with a strong interest in sports will stay with hosts in Page House. The coach of each Caltech sports team received the names of prefrosh who had indicated interest in her or his sport. Each coach, in turn, told his or her current students to host these sporty prefrosh.

Page’s Prefrosh Representative, Sarah Wadsworth, then matched a few of the prefrosh with Pageboys who looked like especially good matches. The remaining hosts then chose their prefrosh. Every host in Page received a prefrosh, and every prefrosh received a host. Regarding events, Sarah had put up a sheet soliciting ideas, and her fellow Pageboys offered many amusing suggestions. The first item on the list, “Practice Abstinence,” drew some chuckles. Although the following items were similarly humorous, they missed the original purpose of the list. Thus, Sarah decided that Page would use the traditional fun events that prefrosh enjoyed in the past. The remaining hosts were her, what opinions do you have about the current crop of prefrosh?

I think the prefrosh filled out their interest sheets to some extent in accordance with their perceptions of what people who go to Caltech are like. They seem rather well-read and I think that once they get here and see how nice everyone here is, they will open up to us more. Continued on Page 8, Column 1
Caltech has always had a tradition of pranks on its Eastern counterpart, MIT. Few MIT students, however, feel a similar sense of pranking. Last weekend, MIT’s official “campus preview” weekend for first- and second-years was met with a long chain of pranks that got even the most-experienced pranksters by surprise. "MIT pranksters have never been more植树, so we felt they were in for a real surprise," said one of the pranksters.

Caltech pranksters were spread across the campus in different spots on the weekend, and they evaded police. "We didn’t want to be caught, so we kept moving around," said a prankster. "We didn’t want to let on that we were there." The pranksters were spread out throughout the campus, and they had a few different tricks up their sleeves.

One of the pranks involved painting a T-shirt with a fake logo that looked just like MIT’s official T-shirt. The pranksters put the shirts in a box and hid it on the MIT campus. That night, the pranksters put on fake MIT IDs and walked around the campus, laughing at the reaction of the MIT students. "We knew they would get excited about the prank," said a prankster. "It was a good one." The pranksters also painted a fake MIT building on the campus.

Another prank involved painting a fake MIT sign on the side of a building. The pranksters put the sign up on the side of a building and waited to see the reaction. "We knew the pranksters would be excited about it," said a prankster. "They were surprised to see the pranksters doing something like this." The pranksters also painted a fake MIT satellite dish on the top of a building.

The pranksters also put fake MIT dorms in front of the dorms on the MIT campus. The pranksters painted fake dorm doors and windows, and they put fake MIT signs on the doors. "We knew the pranksters would be excited about this," said a prankster. "They were surprised to see the pranksters doing something like this." The pranksters also painted fake MIT dorms on the sides of buildings.

The pranksters also put fake MIT signs on the side of the MIT library. The pranksters painted fake MIT signs on the side of the library, and they put fake MIT signs on the windows. "We knew the pranksters would be excited about this," said a prankster. "They were surprised to see the pranksters doing something like this." The pranksters also painted fake MIT signs on the sides of buildings.

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To All Prefrosh,

By MENG-MENG FU

You have undoubtedly met your prefrosh host, your host's roommate, that weird guy from across the hall, and an innumerable other people to offer their opinions on Caltech. Often, the most radical views, such as, "Caltech is as super-duper fun as Disneyland!" or, "Caltech is hell!" have the most vociferous proponents. Take all these comments and mine with a grain of salt. But just to make them a little more believable, here is your fact or fiction guide to Caltech:

"Caltech is HARD!"

Do not expect to plug and chug your way through the material. Expect lots of thinking, deriving, proving, and maybe hair-pulling. Do not expect the best football players to pad the curve for you, but do expect that hard work and understanding will result in a good grade.

"I'm lucky if I get more than four hours of sleep per night."

While some people do not need as much sleep, I cannot function coherently without at least five hours. Now that I am a junior, I can reasonably get seven hours on a weekday night. I have had my share of all-nighters, but I have always caught up on sleep on the weekends. And, as cliché as it may sound, how much sleep you get depends on how effectively you manage your time. Mainly, do not start to worry your sets until the night before they are due.

"Sure you can graduate ... in five to six years."

Some people take extra time to graduate; it does not mean that they are slackers or that they are less intelligent. Most often, people decide to take some time off for reasons of personal fulfillment or responsibility, such as visiting other countries or helping their parents run a business. Caltech does not try to push you out the door with a diploma just so our stats look better.

That said, most people graduate in four years. Some people graduate after ten or eleven terms; lots of seniors anticipate an easy senior year because they are done with most of their requirements. The key is planning. Your high school counselor will not tell you what classes to take, so you must make sure you are taking all of your required classes. However, unlike big state schools, Caltech facilitates this by almost never capping enrollment, especially not for required classes.

"Caltech destroys your GPA."

Professors do not inflate our grades, but you can still do well by developing good study habits and time management skills. Even here at Caltech, some students have near-perfect or even 4.0+ GPAs.

COMMENTARY

APRIL 11, 2005

Gradually Getting Better

By ADAM CRAIG

I hereby apologize for once again sending the Tech out late. Although I finally have a working knowledge of the layout software, the final drafts of several articles did not arrive until Saturday night or even Sunday afternoon.

Furthermore, a sudden dearth of students' polemics about how atrocious life is at Caltech has left our commentary pages a mint-strewed desert. Only time will tell whether responsibility lies with long-term improvements in student life, such as higher tuition, modular housing, and more random sculptures around campus, or with excitement over the arrival of another shipment of delicious prefrosh.

In either case, I take this space now to thank our advertiser: With you, very little of this would be possible.

Please send complaints to tech@ugcs.caltech.edu.

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**Irrational Exuberance**

Here, kitty! Eat up!

You're feeding a cat two-day-old CDS food?

It just threw up on your carpet.

Now it's eating your math set.

The cat ate my homework!

Hahaha! That's a good one! "The cat ate my homework!" Haha! Hahaha... hey, where are you going?

Later... The cat ate my homework!

...WHAT?!

You say this cat ate your set?

Yes, Professor!

See, it even absorbed the math!

Mu!

Get out.

On second thought, you can have that extension.

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**We Love Coquetish Kahlitech Bread Life**

By ADAM CRAIG

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If you can draw better than this, you can draw comics for the California Tech. Please send all comics to tech@ugcs.caltech.edu as JPEGs the Friday of the week before the publication of the Tech in which you would like your comic to appear.
Jeffrey Phillips

Every few terms, around exam time, I talk with someone who must endure the most severe burden a gentle Techer can bear. Neither ACM 95, nor flaming out, nor being Crazed or BoC'd, nor even being dumped by the only girlfriend he will ever have at this god-and-girl-forsaken hell of an institute can match the anguish of an unlimited time final. I first experienced this particularly twisted torture in CS 1 my frosh year. Faced with the prospect of drawing more environment diagrams and slapping together more code than I would in two weeks’ worth of problem sets, I rushed through my other finals and spent three days coding before collapsing in a defeated heap on the deadline day. I am a CS major no longer.

I do not take issue with final research papers, final projects, presentations, or anything of that ilk. Profs have good reason to leave the timing of these to the students’ discretion. They involve tasks that take a highly variable amount of time, from several hours to several days and that students can do most effectively by splitting them across multiple work periods. Building a device, gathering references, researching a topic and coordinating the efforts of several people, I rail against the unlimited time final, which a prof hands out during finals week for each student to solve alone, rationalizing that, since each student has about as hard an entire problem set and the final counts for a large chunk of each student’s grade, giving no time constraint constitutes an act of mercy.

A reasonable person would simply work through the problems at his leisure, to his satisfaction, and turn in his blue book content with the knowledge that he has done his best and his conferees will act similarly. But this is Tech, and the few reasonable people are under constant threat from those trolls to whom, in the name of a few more points, unlimited time is a license to neglect sleep, food, all forms of social interaction and bathing, which, while not sufficient for, is a necessary precursor to that interaction. [My editor notes this last point does not necessarily apply to citizens of France nor members of Dubsey House. However, in these exceptions, bathing may be a social interaction unto itself.] Invariably, these trolls shift the curve far enough that the aforementioned reasonable people must likewise troll away or flame trying.

Aside from matters of poor hygiene, sleep deprivation and student morale in general, unlimited time finals also infringe on professional courtesy. When a prof hands out an unlimited time final, (s)he usually says something like, “Don’t spend too long on this. I could do it in about two hours, so just use your intuition.” What this actually means is, “Pack your other finals and their pathetic time constraints, you may try in vain to squeeze them into exam week, but know now that your mind and soul belong to my class for an inadequately specified, unlimited, quite possibly infinite span of time.” If profs said what its importance in his own mind, has no right to an indefinite portion of your exam period.

It lets them break when they want. It allows them to research to their hearts’ content. But these excuses treat the students’ time as an infinite commodity. During the exam crunch, time is what we Techers most desperately lack. A firm time guideline, a reasonable allowance for breaks and, as necessary, a generous overtime policy are in all cases better than no deadline at all. Exams should not be twelve hour, multiple-day endurance tests. Techers should feel guilty for that ninth hour they spend on their three hour final; make them write their time down so that the TAs, the profs and, most importantly, the students themselves realize just how much time went into each of those trivial problems, to use a prof’s favorite word.

No one can stop students from studying to unhealthy extremes before a test, but good test writing can help: an exam that rewards reading every book on a subject is not a test of comprehension but a regurgitation. The details of proper test writing exceed the scope of this column, but giving students unlimited time after they see the exam to read through every book on the subject is not appropriate. Profs, don’t give us that option; students revolt against it. When your prof passes out the syllabus and mentions an unlimited time final, tell that prof that three or four hours in Purgatory is better than unlimited time in the Inferno, even with Virgil. If (s)he has not read Dante, skip the allegories and tell him his infinite class, no matter how infinite its importance in his own mind, has no right to an indefinite portion of your exam period.

If it is true that all y’all really, truly can be writing in ways that there are that are egregiously better than the way that this person who I am is “writing” (right here, right now, yeah!!!!!!!), then the publication that we like to think that we call the California Teq could, like, totally be written for be some people. And, maybe, I guess, people who really are people who are you.

Please send submissions as single-spaced plain text files and JPEGs to tech@ugcs.caltech.edu. Please leave only one space between sentences and type in standard American English.

First drafts of features and opinion pieces on ongoing topics are due Wednesday of the week before publication. Final drafts are due Thurs­day. First drafts of articles pertaining to events of the week of publication are due on the Thursday of that week. Final drafts are due Friday, unless the editor grants an extension due to the nature of the event.
Scholarships

The Financial Aid Office has applications and/or information on the following as well as additional undergraduate scholarships. All qualified students are encouraged to apply. Our office is located in the Center for Student Services M/C 110-47. Please see our website for more information: www.finaid.caltech.edu/news.html

Sallie Mae Fund applications are now available for four different scholarships. These scholarships are available to low income and minority students to increase access to higher education. Please visit their website for requirements, deadlines and application forms: www.salliemae.org

Key Bank’s Take 5 Scholarship is now available. There are five $5000 scholarships available from February to June 2005. Please visit their website for requirements and application forms: http://www.Key.com/scholar

The 2005 Olive W. Garvey Fellowships are now available. This fellowship is available to both full-time and undergraduate students, is awarded based on the best essay on the topic: "The great aim of the struggle for liberty has been equality before the law." The deadline is May 1, 2005. For further information visit: http://www.independent.org/students/perservy

American Public Power Association “APPA” has DEED Student Research Grants and Internships available. Each year up to ten, $4000 student research grants and internships are awarded to students conducting research on an energy-related project. Students in energy-related disciplines are eligible. Students can either obtain a DEED mentor/sponsor for their student research grant or internship. Applications are accepted January 15 and July 15 each year. For more information visit: http://www.appaus.com/res
The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society “TMS” offers a variety of scholarships. The deadline to apply is May 1, 2005. To preview scholarship eligibility information visit: www.tms.org/Students/Award-Programs/Scholarships.html

The Excellence in 3D Animation Award is a $1,000 cash gift awarded quarterly by Troy Studio to encourage students to pursue Graphics Arts and Animation. Award winners are chosen based on their entries in a contest. The contest is open to all students of all nations, and the field of study. To enter the contest, students should download free software from the www. Please visit their website for more detailed information. There are four quarterly deadlines each year (Feb 28, May 31, Aug 31, and Nov 30).

Educause is offering their “DoubleTake” Sweepstakes. Win two $3,500 scholarships - One for you and one for your school. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office, or on Educause’s website: http://www.educause.com/doubletake

If you are a college student, who is interested in becoming a naval officer when you graduate, you could apply for the Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program (BDCP). This program pays future naval officers a monthly salary while they are attending college. Qualified technical majors can receive a salary of approximately $1,500 per month for up to 3 years prior to graduation and qualified non-technical majors can receive this salary for up to 2 years prior to graduation. Additional information is available at www.navy.com.

The National Council of Jewish Women/Los Angeles provides a variety of scholarships year-round for women, regardless of religious belief or ethnic background, who reside in Los Angeles County. The organization focuses on each applicant’s dedication to her chosen path and her financial need. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. For more information visit: www.ncjwla.org.

The Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) offers 2 years to 3.5 year scholarships in all majors. The scholarships are generally capped at $15,000 per academic year towards tuition and fees, with an annual book allowance of $480 and $200/month stipend during the school year. Full-time student status, AFROTC program involvement, and a minimum of 2.5 cumulative GPA is required to be eligible. For more information visit www.afrotc.com.

Folk Music

On Saturday, April 13, at 8:00 PM, Mary Z. Cox and her husband Scott Adams, will perform in the main Hall. This will be a night of traditional American folk music. Mary plays clawhammer banjo and mountain dulcimer and has won numerous contests around the Southeast. The mother of Caltech student Scott Adams, she is a professional musician and in accompaniment with Bob on guitar. Student tickets are $5 and available from the Caltech ticket office, 395-4652.

TACTIC Auditions

All members of the Caltech Community are invited to participate in the TACTIC production of Murder in the Cathedral by T. S. Eliot. Auditions will be held in Dahney Lounge on Tue., Apr. 19, 8:00-10:00 p.m. and Sat., Apr. 23, 9:00-11:00 p.m. See http://tactic.caltech.edu/audition.html for related information as it becomes available. The play will be performed during full term on three consecutive weekends beginning Nov. 4.

Women’s Center Events

Limited times slots available! Linger Massage April 12th, 3-5pm. Please email wcenter@staff.caltech.edu to sign up. 3-4pm only, 4-5pm open. The Women’s Center is pleased to be able to provide complimentary chair massages every other Tuesday afternoon. This service is open to students, staff and faculty—both women and men. We hope that this service will give you a time to relax and rest, as well as an opportunity to meet our staff and learn more about the Center. Because of limited time slots available, we ask that participants do not sign up for consecutive weeks. Instead we will ask that you place your name on a waitlist and you will be notified a few days in advance if there are open slots. This way we are able to fit everyone a chance to experience the relaxation of chair massage.

Women and War

Date: Thursday, April 14, 2005 Time: 12-1pm Location: Women’s Center Interwoven with gripping footage from recent conflicts in the Middle East, Bosnia, northern Uganda, and South Africa, this film captures women’s personal experiences of military violence, explains how they survived and reflects on their growing resistance to war. Co-sponsored with the Caltech Y. NO RSVP required!

April 21 - Gynecology 101 Time: 2:15-3pm Location: Women’s Center Interwoven with gripping footage from recent conflicts in the Middle East, Bosnia, northern Uganda, and South Africa, this film captures women’s personal experiences of military violence, explains how they survived and reflects on their growing resistance to war. Co-sponsored with the Caltech Y. NO RSVP required!
Baltimore Taps Tsing Loh as First Alumna Commencement Speaker

By JILL PERRY

PASADENA, Calif. - Writer/performer/musician/humorist Sandra Tsing Loh will be the guest speaker at the 111th annual California Institute of Technology commencement ceremony at 10 a.m., June 10, on Beckman Mall on the Pasadena campus.

Loh is a graduate of Caltech, where she received a bachelor's degree in physics in 1983 and where she was awarded the Institute's highest honor bestowed upon alumni, the Distinguished Alumni Award, in 2001.

"We are pleased that Sandra is the first alumna to give the Caltech commencement address," said Caltech president David Baltimore. "She will no doubt bring a refreshing sense of humor and unique perspective to the ceremony. As a graduate of the Institute she can relate to the great accomplishments of our students when they reach this milestone. The talent and perseverance that helped her graduate from Caltech has obviously held her in good stead in her diverse and successful career."

In her profession, Loh has offered insightful radio commentary locally and nationally, has written and performed one-woman shows, composes and performs music for film, has created some outstanding performance art, and has written for the New York Times, Elle, Harper's Bazaar, and Vogue.

Loh has a national monthly radio commentary on the public radio business program Marketplace. She has been a regular commentator on NPR's Morning Edition and on Ira Glass's This American Life. She also does a weekly commentary, The Loh Life, that has aired in Southern California on KCAC since 1992. She was hired by the station manager, and the resulting flurry of media coverage kept the story in the public eye for several months. Although the station offered to rehire her, she chose to work at KCPC instead.

Apropos of that experience, she acted in a recent stage performance, Fire!, a series of comic monologues about losing her job at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles. It is being produced by L.A. Theater Works and will air on National Public Radio at a later date.

Loh has also been a solo performer and writer. Her first one-woman show was Sugar Plum Fairy, performed in Los Angeles, San Jose, and Seattle in 2004. She also performed I Worry at the Kennedy Center. Her poetry was named a contributing editor to the Atlantic Monthly.

She is the author of the books A Year in Van Nuys, Depth Takes a Holiday: Essays from Lesser Los Angeles, Aliens in America, and If You Lived Here, You'd Be Home By Now. The last is based on Loh's solo off-Broadway show that ran at Second Stage Theatre in New York in summer 1996. She re- served the stage position for Sandra Tsing Loh, another solo show, in 1999. Loh has also been featured at the U.S. Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen, and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. She composed and performed on the score for Jessica Yu's 1997 Oscar-winning documentary Breathing Lessons: The Life and Work of Mark O'Brien, and scored Yu's documentary about the Living Museum on HBO.

Loh also has appeared on tour in Aliens in America, her darkly comic semi-autobiographical tale of growing up middle-class Chinese-German in Southern California.

Loh began her career in the mid-1980s as a performance artist. Her piano concert "spec­ tacles" was covered by People magazine, the Wall Street Journal, CNN, and even in Johnny Carson's Tonight Show monologue. Nearby 1,000 people attended "Night of the Grunion" (March 1989), in which Loh and the Trojan Symphonic Band played a concerto for spawning fish on a Malibu beach at midnight.

"Self Promotion" (March 1988), an assistant flung $1,000 in auto­ graphed $1 bills around as she performed before a stampeding crowd. "Spontaneous Demo­ graphic" (September 1987) featured Loh playing a piano aloner a flamed-out truck in a concert for rush hour commuters on the Har­ bor Freeway in Los Angeles.

Loh's family has been associated with Caltech for many years. Her father, Eugene Loh, received a master's degree in physics in 1953 and a PhD in mechanical engineering in 1954, and her brother Eugene Loh received a bachelor's degree in physics in 1980.

"Caltech is a wonderfully unique academic institution whose legacy, aside from outstanding achievement in science, is a rich cultural history with more than its share of quirks and surprises . . . and I intend my comments to fully reflect that," said Loh.

PASADENA, Calif. - The Caltech community can take comfort in knowing that the fuel used to generate electricity is spent wisely and is environmen­ tally friendly.

That's what the Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Partnership, a division of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), concluded last month when it be­ troved, on behalf of the EPA and the Department of Energy, the 2004 Energy Star CHP Award to Caltech.

"Through the recovery of other­ wise waste heat for campus cooling and heating, Caltech has demonstrated leadership in en­ ergy use and management," the award's announcement noted. "Caltech's CHP system is a great example for other facilities across the nation."

Caltech's CHP system can boast an efficiency of 71 percent, which means that the system uses approximately 30 percent less fuel than equivalent separate heat and power systems.

The Institute's aging 6 mega­ watt CHP system was replaced in 2003 with a highly efficient, natural-gas-burning 12.5 mega­ watt system that not only reduces polluting emissions by 15 percent but is also able to generate up to 90 percent of the energy con­ sumed on campus.

The new system will help the City of Pasadena avoid the dread­ ed rolling blackouts and brown­ outs California has seen in prior years.

After School Program Needs Graduate Student To Teach Math
From April 30th
3:30-6:30 MON-FRI
220-16008
Health Insurance available.
Contact 626 232-3480
Krisenn@vtms.net

PUSD School Board Candidate Scott Phillips Caltech Class of 1989

Only ONE candidate has the relevant professional experience and training to make an immediate positive impact in our public schools...Scott Phillips!

Experience
A veteran of fifteen years of teaching in the PUSD
A Pasadena Rotary Club Teacher of Excellence
Caltech Graduate
Former Director of the Science, Engineering and Technology Academy at Muir High School, which places students in science-related internships with local businesses while in high school
Faculty advisor to new teachers at Claremont Graduate University
Teaching and training program evaluator in the nationwide California Math & Science Partnership program
A parent with a three-year-old son and another child on the way, both headed for a new PUSD!

Beliefs
✓ Support innovation and choice in public schools by giving school sites more decision-making power
✓ Support innovation and choice in public schools by giving school sites more decision-making power
✓ Support assistance and intervention for low-performing schools before they reach state audit and intervention levels
✓ Concerned about PUSD's management of Measure
✓ Talent-support and inspired improvements. I've seen the frustration of teachers, parents and students with the long delays at Longfellows, Noyes, Altadena, Washington, Muir and Sierra Madre
✓ Support much stronger transparency. The increased attendance incentive income will help PUSD cover infrastructure investments

RENTING

Rental big Rooms Temple City
$550mine-1-year lease move in ASAP
Downtown preferred, non-smokers, include utilities, laundry, whole house, quiet neighborhood, nice big backyard, pool Annie 626) 712-4770 after 7pm

Generator Receives Energy Star Award

By MARK WHEELER

PASADENA, Calif. - The Caltech community can take comfort in knowing that the fuel used to generate electricity is spent wisely and is environmen­ tally friendly.

That's what the Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Partnership, a division of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), concluded last month when it be­ troved, on behalf of the EPA and the Department of Energy, the 2004 Energy Star CHP Award to Caltech.

"Through the recovery of other­ wise waste heat for campus cooling and heating, Caltech has demonstrated leadership in en­ ergy use and management," the award's announcement noted. "Caltech's CHP system is a
THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Parvathy Menon

Parvathy Menon, a freshman E & S AS major and member of both Fleming and Lloyd Houses, is also the ambitious new ASCIT secretary. We, the students, have elected her not only to take minutes and hold elections but also to organize, approve and distribute funds to Caltech’s numerous clubs, for which the BoD recently made the office of Secretary responsible. Parvathy plans to continue the meticulous compilation of BoD meeting minutes and online cataloging that the previous secretary, Corinna Zygourakis, demonstrated and strengthening Caltech’s clubs by improving upon the resources allotment and organization system that Kelly Lin helped put in place. Parvathy wants to take an active part in the decision making processes that impact student life at Caltech, which is why she ran for an ASCIT office as a freshman, and, as Secretary, she will get her chance.

By MAYRA H. SHEIKH

Fleming

By RACHEL YOHAY and NIHA Das

Editor’s Note: Ms. Yohay did not send in her half of the interview, so the Ages have forever lost the wisdom it contained.

Niha Das: For prefrosh weekend, Fleming will be hosting Ca Tantra! The people who come over enjoy some black jack, craps, roulette, and Texas hold ‘em...we’ll be serving shakes.

Avery

By DAVID CHEN and SARAH WADSWORTH

Avery House will be offering a few events during Prefrosh Weekend. Thursday night from 9 to 11 will be Mafia and Game Night. Avery will also be offering a party from 9-11 Saturday on Friday. Finally, Saturday will be Twister Night. Sarah Wadsworth noted, “Avery is trying to be really creative.”

Fleming

By ADAM CRAIG and GINO GHRiH

Friday, April 8th, approximately 00:00. Gino, prefrosh representative of Ricketts House, obligingly answered some questions about his outlook on the coming collision.

Editor’s Note: We have taken the liberty of translating this interview into English from the original drunken ramblings.

1. Craig: What impression do you have of this new crop of prefrosh?

Gino: I used my best judgement in choosing most of them among their qualities they noted on their interest sheets, but some of them might not fit in here in Ricketts House. Most of the responses were generic: interest in math, research, mathematics, and science.

2. Craig: How do you feel about Avery’s first year hosting prefrosh?

Gino: On the record, we tried to distribute the prefrosh fairly, but, off the record, most of the prefrosh we selected for Avery were the ones who were allergic to cats, because Avery does not allow cats.

3. Craig: What is Ricketts House planning for the prefrosh?

Gino: We will have rock TND with virgin drinks, open microphone night, and a four-square tournament.

ASCIT Minutes for April 5, 2005

Present: Warner Leedy, Kelly Lin, Peter Foley, Todd Gingrich, Dima Khairuzz, Parvathy Menon, Meng-Meng Fu, Michelle Wyatt

Absent: Ryan Farmer

Guests: Lisa Lyons, Chris Gonzales, Rocky Velez, Boris Chen, Galen Loram

Introduction:

1. Call to Order, 12:11 PM

Money Requests:

1. Galen requests $300 for Senior Prank.

Vote: 6-0-0 (approved)

3. Boris requests $500 for Lloyd interhouse party.

Vote: 6-0-0 (approved)

4. Warner brings up Yuri’s party—a party held off-campus to celebrate Yuri Gagarin’s flight into space! In previous years, ASCIT has helped out undergrads who want to attend with a $1 subsidy (so students pay only $12). After very lively discussion, ASCIT has decided that we’ll make a deal with the party-holders: ASCIT will subsidize $5 student (up to 50 students) and the students will pay $5 each to get in to the party! Yee-ha.

Other Business:

5. Social Director Dima introduces his eX Comm—Lisa Lyons, Rocky Velez, Chris Gonzales. Promises to be an awe-inspiring and all around marvellous team. Das right.

6. Meng-Meng requests discussion of budget for SFC.

7. Warner wants to do teacher awards after budget meeting is done.

8. Meng-meng reminds BoD that appointments of various committee members need to be done by May.

9. Warner notifies BoD that changes to ByLaws and Resolutions need to be done early in order to have the changes included in the Honor Code handbook sent to Prefrosh. Wohoo, Honor Code handbook!!

10. Dima is working on ASCIT formal—a booking venue, deciding on final ticket price (right now, range is $25-$35/person, etc.

11. Athletic BBQ this Saturday to honor all campus event, fliers will be posted within the next few days—register your club!

15. Planning to hold ASCIT Budget Meeting on Saturday after Prefrosh weekend (April 23rd) 10 am, tentatively at Mannion’s.

16. Future ASCIT meetings to be held on Thursdays at 5pm...to an Olive Walk near you.

Also—Prefrosh are coming Thursday, April 14th. Everyone should let them into your hearts and bear-hug at least 7 of them. Squash a Prefrosh...with love.

Meeting adjourned 12:55 PM.

Forevah Yours,

Parvathy Menon

The California Tech
Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91125

Parvathy Menon Es­pouses Student Unity Amid Turmoil

Parvathy Menon has an amazing number of clubs for its size, one of the characteristics that originally attracted Parvathy to Caltech. She maintains that the enthusiasm and passion for myriad and various hobbies, from meat eating to juggling, that she encountered at Club Fair during prefrosh weekend helped persuade her that Caltech was more than a math and science school. A member of a Capella group, Fluid Dynamics, she understands the commitment necessary to keep a club running. As the ASCIT member in charge of provided funding for clubs and approving the formation of new clubs, she will be looking for dedication amongst those applying for funding.

Though Caltech has great clubs of all sorts, Parvathy would like to see clubs that bring the campus community together, clubs that have events open to non-members, just to be able to share interests and educate people about a topic or craft. She also likes culture-oriented clubs, because they can help broaden students’ views and provide much-needed diversity on campus. Ideally, everyone could find a club with whom to share their own interests.

Parvathy feels that bringing students together through clubs is only one of many ways the BoD will help unite students during the renovations of the South Houses and, eventually, the North Houses. She encourages other students to maintain house traditions and house culture even in the midst of upheaval from traditional housing. She feels the current IFC chair, Peter Foley, will do a “great job building us together” through the renovation process. All students and RAs should help efforts to keep school and house culture intact according to Parvathy. She hopes upperclassmen live in the modular housing or at least visit and hang out there to instruct a new freshman, who must live there, about house traditions.

We as students should show unity at prefrosh week, April 11th & 12th. Despite disagreement over the decision to let Avery participate in rotation and house culture once the time for squabbling has passed, Parvathy says, “We should all be supportive.” Avery should get the chance to give further thought to the decision and figure out action to take, for it may prove to be the 8th fine house. Students should also strictly discuss on the decision and emphasize the importance of a house as a social support system, not just a place to live. Avery, North House and South House students should convince prefrosh that neither a year in trailers newness of house status justifies preferring one house to another.

With a new job and new responsibility for the club budget, the new “un-phished freshman” secretary is happy to begin actively making a difference in the Caltech community. She hopes to simultaneously diversifying and uniting the campus. We wish her the best of luck for her term as ASCIT secretary.

Parvathy Menon is trying to put together a special event for Senior Prank. A great teacher awards event is also being planned. Dima is working on ASCIT formal-booking a venue, deciding on final ticket price (right now, range is $25-$35/person), etc.

Early in her meteoric rise to power, Parvathy Menon looks over her underlings.

-Also starting efforts to book a “real band” (real = radio-played).

Important Dates

13. Staff Appreciation awards to be done Thursday night before Prefrosh weekend (April 14th) at 9pm.

14. Club budget meeting—Saturday April 17th (Sunday of Prefrosh weekend). Paperwork due the Thursday before (April 14th). Fliers to be posted within the next few days—register your club!

15. Planning to hold ASCIT Budget Meeting on Saturday after Prefrosh weekend (April 23rd) 10 am, tentatively at Mannion’s.

16. Future ASCIT meetings to be held on Thursdays at 5pm...to an Olive Walk near you.

Also—Prefrosh are coming Thursday, April 14th. Everyone should let them into your hearts and bear-hug at least 7 of them. Squash a Prefrosh...with love.

Meeting adjourned 12:55 PM.

Forevah Yours,

Parvathy Menon

The California Tech

Caltech 40-58

Pasadena, CA 91125

- Happy Hour planned for May 6th from 4-6pm in RF Courtyard to be followed by a NonAlcoholic-Dancing-Event in Wimnet Center.