The faces of Caltech

If you took a look at the student body picture taken yesterday, you would see many types of people among the crowd of faces. Among the students you would see several from minority groups, but on the whole, it cannot be denied that the "typical" Caltech student is a white or Asian male. Over the years, Caltech has tried to create a more diverse population through outreach programs, recruitment, and colorful brochures. The open forum held in Winnett Lounge two weeks ago gave the Caltech community a chance to hear about the challenges and successes associated with the struggle towards diversity.

The meeting was in the form of a panel discussion with representatives from the undergraduate and graduate student body, the admissions office, and faculty. The crowd was packed, filling the chairs and spilling over onto the floor. Soon we heard the good news. Next year's freshman class has a higher proportion of underrepresented minorities than in the recent past. The class will include 31% women, four Native Americans, two African Americans, and ten Hispanics. Statistically, we still have fewer minorities than other schools of the same caliber, but the trend shows improvement. The admittance rate for the class of 2000 was lower than last year, so standards have certainly remained the same. Though the numbers of minority students are not large, they show the success of our recruiting over the last year.

The diversity of next year's freshman class reflects the amount of work put in by faculty, students, alumni, and of course, the Admissions Office.

Kiewiet will remember years as Dean fondly

Rod Kiewiet has been Dean for as long as most of us have been here, but around July 31 a new faculty member will step in. While we can only anticipate who the new Dean will be, Dr. Kiewiet is readily accessible, so the Tech arranged for me to interview him about his experiences in the office.

Of the Dean's many actions over the last four years, perhaps one of the most visible has been the overhaul of the core curriculum and freshman grading scheme. In Dr. Kiewiet's words, "It could be that the new curriculum we came up with is not radically different than the old one, but I think we have a better sense of why we're doing what we're doing, why we're teaching what we're teaching." He also expressed a great deal of hope that the Curriculum Committee will continue to act as a steering and advisory force for the core so that students get the most benefit from the core classes.

Dr. Kiewiet also feels that the "grading reforms are playing out... along the lines I had anticipated." Shadow grades second term seem to have given freshmen a much better idea of what areas they needed to improve. Perhaps third term, the Dean says that he has seen fewer overload petitions than in the past, and overall freshmen seem to be taking fewer units and concentrating more on those classes they do take. This is actually the main thrust of his changes in this area, since he feels that many freshmen saw their first year of Caltech as an opportunity to take as many units as possible on Pass/Fail, and then arrived for their sophomore year with a poor understanding of the material they had been exposed to.

The Dean has been involved in undergraduate life during his tenure in more than a strictly academic sense. This year he was asked to judge a slip-n-slide contest as part of Jason Trevor's Ditch Day stack. Along similar lines, he judged a lip-synching contest as part of Pasadena's fine local law enforcement organs; Dr. Kiewiet readily accessible, so the student body picture taken yesterday, you would see many types of people among the crowd of faces. Among the students you would see several from minority groups, but on the whole, it cannot be denied that the "typical" Caltech student is a white or Asian male. Over the years, Caltech has tried to create a more diverse population through outreach programs, recruitment, and colorful brochures. The open forum held in Winnett Lounge two weeks ago gave the Caltech community a chance to hear about the challenges and successes associated with the struggle towards diversity.

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The diversity of next year's freshman class reflects the amount of work put in by faculty, students, alumni, and of course, the Admissions Office.
It's Volleyballeo time

BY DAVE BACON

So, frosh, you think you've finally conquered your first year. You think that with all the work you've put in, all of the Chem/Phys/Math you've hammered out, you're perfectly ready to become a sophomore. In fact, you probably think that you're a sophomore already. Guess again, lowly frosh! The sophomores have something to say to you... VOLLEYBALLEO FROS!

Yes, it's that forever recurring Caltech tradition MUDEO reincarnated in the new and improved tradition VOLLEYBALLEO! Gone are the days of the five man MUDEO contest!

Gone are the days of useless mud-soaked clothes!

That's right, come a frosh, join your fellow classmates in the Court O'Mann for a volleyball game like none you've seen before.

That's right, come see a frosh (aided by the juniors) versus sophomore (aided by the seniors) battle. Come out to participate, come out to root your class to victory, or just come out to soak up some Southern California sun rays and munch on some of the free food (Eerf Doof!), but just make sure you're there, or forever face your freshman year, over and over and over and over...

...students to come to Caltech.

Some difficulties still stand in the way of further increases in the numbers of minority students and women at Caltech. First, is the obvious dearth of minority students and women in the current student body. Many potential applicants turn away from the prospect of being part of a very small group in the student body. Because of our sheer size certain programs are barely able to keep going. Last year when no African Americans enrolled, our chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers almost dissolved for lack of members. Some applying students seriously wondered what kind of support the Caltech community can offer them.

Secondly, minority students are disproportionately represented in school districts that may not supply the same opportunities as private schools or schools in a wealthier area. Many schools may never have had a student attend Caltech, so it is of great importance to inform college counselors and prospective students of the chance to come to Caltech. Simply dispensing mis-conceptions about Caltech is very important.

What does Caltech offer to minority students? Throughout the year there are a number of events sponsored by Minority Student Affairs, the Multi-Cultural Task Force, and other organizations to focus on diversity at Caltech. During Black History Month, a number of speakers were brought to Caltech, including Mae Jamison among others. More recently, there was Semana Latina that brought together most of the people in the

MINORITIES: Caltech’s freshman class more diverse

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

CLASS OF 2000 STATISTICS

Ethnicity

Native American 4
African American 1
Latino/Hispanic 10
Caucasian 18
Other/No Response 1
International 3

Year Admitted

0
100
200
300
400
500
600
700
800
900
1000

The Ratio Over the Years

This year, this year each admitted student was called by an alumus, each admitted woman by a current woman student, and each underrepresented minority student by a current minority student. Some students were visited personally by current faculty members. Students working with Minority Affairs went to local schools in an outreach program to encourage applicants. Pre-fresh weekend was a resounding success. All this convinced many of the admittingly distinct from the Institute itself. By taking that van from the Corporation of students, the administration has committed an act on par with confiscating a student’s car if that student had been in an accident. The Institute has no financial responsibility for the van; therefore, it should have no jurisdiction over it.

Why were the keys confiscated? During Ditch Day a stack took out the van. One person, who will remain unnamed to protect his identity, goofed up and crushed the tail light of another vehicle. Then there was an exchange of information and the owner of the stick offered to pay the damages incurred. This is where the administration stepped in and removed the van from circulation.

Concerned students should contact the Dean as well as your house Presidents and the President of ASCIT. As always, comments are solicited for publication in The California Tech.

Ted Lockwood

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OPINION

Why there are no donuts with your Tech

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Caltech 40-50 SIC, Pasadena, CA 91125 Phone: (818) 395-6152 Fax: (818) 395-6153 e-mail: tech@caltech.edu

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Volume XCVIII, Number 29
May 31, 1996

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
Los ANGELES State Assembly­woman Paula Boland has pro­posed to state legislature that the San Fernando Val­ley be allowed to vote whether to form their own city. The bill has met approval in the Assembly now awaits decision in the Senate.

If the Valley se­cedes from L.A. it would become one of the six larg­est cities in the United States.

international observers say the elections were fraught with voting violations.

LITTLE ROCK — In the first White-wa­ter trial this Tues­day, President Clinton’s former business partners were convicted of fraud and other crimes in association with a savings and loan scandal in Arkansas. Clinton’s former partners include the current gover­nor of Arkansas, who prom­ises to resign.

TIRANA, ALBANIA — Opposition pro­testers were beaten by riot police just a day after elections for a new president. Many

PASO DE CORTES, MEXICO — The volcano Popocatepetl, that awakened from dormancy in January 1994, has shown renewed activity. The clouds of smoke and occa­sional minor explosions has led the Mexican Center for Disaster Protection to close the peak to tourists and re­quest that residents rein­force their roofs.

Jose Hurtado, left, and Dave Bacon, right, winners of the George W. Green Prize, with Dean Kiewiet, center.
DITCH DAY  
THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Page House Ditch Day stacks: fun in the sun and the sewer

BY HEATHER DEAN

Well, it's third term, and school is getting pretty stressful, so when tomorrow finally came, it was time to relax and enjoy life for a while. The Enjoy Life stack by Laura Verhoff and Jason Iverson let underclassmen accomplish just that. It began with breakfast and BEVERages and watching cartoons with friends. The cans were then used to build pyramids, and the number of cans on each tier was used to find the combination to a locked compartment. By following the clues given and finding the keys or combinations to each compartment, we were led first to an office, where we were stuffed with more food, and then to the gym to work it off in a weight-lifting contest with Vince and Larry. We enjoyed these trips around campus by taking a Daihatsu rather than walking. At the gym, we were given a quiz about that enjoyable part of life called sex and the clue given led us to a boat race with the Waiters' Stack in Page. It was here at Page when I was left to guard the Daihatsu that some Scavens stole it with me still inside and gave me a wild tour of the campus that I will never forget. I guess everyone was enjoying life that day. After the boat race, we were told to enjoy the hot day by playing on a slip-n-slide with Rod Kiewiet as one of our judges. The scores of the judges allowed us to obtain from the gym the sound equipment needed for us to give a noon concert in the quad.

Luckily, we didn't have to do this alone since Fleming's Stack Fiction joined us for our concert after we joined their twist contest. Next it was time for pizza and more BEVERages for lunch. We were supposed to be able to sit on the Lloyd-Page bridge and throw water balloons onto the Olive Walk, but after finding other Pageboys streaking up there, we decided it was best to just eat on the other side of Page. After lunch, we used clues about ultimate frisbee and The Little Mermaid to find the combination to another shelf which contained a tape of old Saturday Night Live skits, engraved shot glasses, and two liters of the bomb, a popular Page drink, and instructions as to how to play the game. This led us to a clue for a dog race with shopping carts with the Waiters' Stack. Unfortunately, they were not available and we did not have enough people, so we skipped this step and ice cream with Denise at the gym, and making paint prints of body parts and just went to the residence life office for our next clue. Here we were given noodles and instructions to beat people with them as a stress reliever. In particular, we had to find Gina and beat the final key out of her. Once we opened the last compartment, we found hammer and screwdrivers and were able to take down the stack and get into the room, where we found plenty of snacks and beverages. Even though we had to skip some steps and finish early, the day was very enjoyable for each of us, and ended by sharing a keg with the Waiters' Stack in the Beer Room in Page.

Some other interesting stacks in Page included a Terminator stack in which the underclassmen had to go back in time and stop a murder and an Egyptian stack with a 20-foot pyramid which had to be entered through the sewer.

Thank You!

The Editors and Business Manager of the California Tech would like to acknowledge those who have helped make this publication possible for the 1995-96 school year. We would like to thank our advertisers, writers, staff, and everyone else who otherwise might have gone unnoticed! We hope you have a great summer, we'll see you next year!
Dean

feels that one of the most memorable events he has had to deal with was the Dabney bonfire incident, and the ensuing effort to prevent felony charges being filed. He says that he was quite pleased with the student participation in the fire safety class which resulted from this, even though it was held at 8:30 Saturday mornings.

Dr. Kiewiet has also played a large role at Frosh Camp for the last four years. Actually, one of the few concrete bits of advice that he has for the new Dean is to not underestimate the amount of effort involved with new student orientation Caltech style. Whereas many other schools have an entire segment of their Student Affairs department devoted to preparing orientation activities, much of the work here is done by Suzette Cummings. Frosh Camp is therefore a year-round concern, and since the new Dean will take over very shortly before it begins it is easy to be caught off guard.

He has also volunteered to be one of about twenty Avery Associates drawn from the Institute faculty. In this capacity he will have lunch at Avery Center a few times each month, and so will remain involved in student life. Although he has little idea of how Avery will turn out in the long run, he anticipates interesting times. “A year from now, people in Avery House will have traditions... but we don’t know what they are yet.”

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www.msn.com/tech.htm

Our cool site is your Custom Start Page.
Sports

KELROF: Records fall as Techers run around the clock

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The battle among the proliferation of 1-man teams this year was won by Brad Nakatani. Nakatani and Tom Dmukauskas were engaged in a fierce competition for much of the day which pushed them over the edge. The two were never separated by more than a lap for the first 25 miles. Each passed through the marathon mark below 3:45. Nakatani bolted to a 6 lap lead by the 38 mile mark but fell nearly a full mile behind by mile 43 when Dmukauskas found a second wind. Shortly after Dmukauskas and Nakatani passed through the 50-mile mark in 8:07:17 and 8:16:00 respectively, they mutually decided to work together for the remainder of the race.

After Nakatani unlinked himself, the two walked together for a dozen miles taking them to the 12-hour mark with 6:35. At this point, Dmukauskas claimed to be physically and emotionally unable to continue and solicited massages from any sympathetic bystanders. Nakatani trudged onwards for another 6 hours and covered another 12 miles, setting a new KELROF individual record of 75 miles 136 yards.

Three other 10-person teams and three individuals put on a good show as well. Team ABBA (146 miles 94 yards), Lucky Strike (131 miles 241 yards) and All Fleming, All Women (112 miles 1523 yards, with help from non-Flemms, but still women, Eve Andersson and Sara Beaber) had some notable and memorable performances. Jim Keel blasted his first 6 miles in sub-6:00. Dave Zito ran 10 of his miles sub-6:33, including a 6:07 final mile. Chari really smoked up the track, sometimes even running, too.

Anil Roopnarine and Kara Swedlow both dribbled basketballs for a mile. Qin juggled a mile and perhaps the oddest mile of the day was Travis Maron playing violin while walking to a 15:42 mile.

Thanks and congratulations go out to all who participated in KELROF this year. Special thanks to those of you who pitched in to make the event a success, especially Seth Blumberg, Chris Cary, Kumar Raman, Matt McAdams, Donna Ebenstein, Dave Richard, Greg Sierert and Janis Chang. Even though I am graduating, I will be back for KELROF next year. Will you?

Corinne Gilliam, of the All-Women, All-Fleming Team

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Biosphere 2 Center is a mini-campus, world renowned for its 3.15-acre research facility enclosing a collection of diverse ecosystems, from rainforest to desert. On Jan 1, 1996, Columbia University joined Biosphere 2 Center to build and guide its research, education and visitor programs. New undergraduate programs in the earth and environmental sciences are now offered that immerse students in the multidisciplinary study of the environment and provide a base of environmental knowledge for future decision makers.

A few spaces are still available for this four-and-a-half month, 16-credit course of study, beginning Sept. 3, 1996. The Earth Semester will offer an integrated approach to the physical, biological and human aspects of our environment. Studying with Earth scientists, biologists, anthropologists, economists and political scientists, students will receive a multi-faceted view of the natural world and of human society as an agent of environmental change. The program is designed to foster a sense of how to "manage" human activity to maintain or improve quality of life for all species on the planet.

For more information, contact:
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Website: http://www.oetospace.org/biosphere2
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KELROF 1996 TEAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRASH &amp; BURN</th>
<th>ABBA</th>
<th>LUCKY STRIKE</th>
<th>ALL FLEMING, ALL WOMEN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dan Kleiman</td>
<td>Jim Keel</td>
<td>Miles Shuman</td>
<td>Katie Stoter</td>
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<td>Harness Lad</td>
<td>Travis Maron</td>
<td>Rory McKenna</td>
<td>Keely Walker</td>
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<td>Tom Meyer</td>
<td>Chiri</td>
<td>Juan Carlos Chan</td>
<td>Amy Dullard</td>
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<td>Ben Simon</td>
<td>Steven Skovran</td>
<td>Eric Fisher</td>
<td>Diana King</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leonard Sang</td>
<td>Laurent Stadler</td>
<td>Seth LaForge</td>
<td>Libby Mosier</td>
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<td>Brianarris</td>
<td>Anil Roopnarine</td>
<td>Nimace Wong</td>
<td>Cathy Vargas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conrad Ziesler</td>
<td>Lori Hsu</td>
<td>Kai Hsu Tai</td>
<td>Kara Swedlow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Collier</td>
<td>Geoff M.</td>
<td>Cliff Elgen</td>
<td>Corinne Gilliam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seth Blumberg</td>
<td>Wesley Tanaka</td>
<td>Ollie Wild</td>
<td>Eve Andersson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caitlin Henderson</td>
<td>(264 mi. 1730 yds.)</td>
<td>(131 mi. 241 yds.)</td>
<td>Sara Beaber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>909 mi.</td>
<td>2126 yds.</td>
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</tbody>
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SOPS

| INDIVIDUALS | | |
|------------|-------------|
| Dave Pochol | Brad Nakatani (75 mi. 136 yds.) |
| Bill Goodwine | Tom Dmukauskas (63 mi. 94 yds.) |
| Tom Dmukauskas | (30 mi.) |
| Miles Shuman | (146 mi. 94 yds.) |
| Jim Krehl | (96 mi. 121 yds.) |
| Seth LaForge | (146 mi. 94 yds.) |
| Diana King | (50 mi.) |
| Walter Brisken | (12 mi.) |

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Ship It Home
MINORIES: Incoming class reflects a wealth of cultures

FEATURES

The success of the activities such as Semana Latina comes as somewhat of a surprise when you realize the few people attending behind the scenes. Although hundreds of people came to listen to the bands and eat the food, only a handful of freshman and graduate students with staff were the driving force behind the events that week. The Office of Minority Affairs has been running without a full-time director for a full year. Sue Bunker, Director of the Caltech Y, has taken over as Acting Director, but the need for a full-time director cannot be denied.

One of the best moments of the meeting on Friday was brought by a student who questioned faculty interest in the issue of diversity at Caltech. Thereafter came an outpouring of support from administration and faculty, including a letter which was read aloud describing one professor's empathy with minority students on campus. It seems there has always been significant support of diversification efforts among faculty, yet there has been relatively little interaction with students' efforts once they get to Caltech. If we want Caltech to be more diverse, all members of the Caltech community need to work towards it. Faculty and students who are working towards the same goal should do just that, work together. Also, there is no reason why non-minority students should not get involved in the organization of multi-cultural events. Nonetheless, the statistics for the incoming freshman class give some hope that Caltech will be a more diverse population in the future.

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