New South House Gate Vandalized

BY: ANNA HIZEPANSKI

In the first week most undergrads began moving into the newly renovated South Houses, a Ricketts gate facing the Olive Walk was vandalized, costing thousands of dollars to repair. According to Housing Director Tim Chang, some person or persons removed the panic bar from the door Tuesday afternoon some time between 5:30 and 7:30 pm. The panic bars are necessary for the gates to properly lock.

An initial estimate for the repair was $12,000 to replace the custom-made gate. However, after workers from the Lock Shop on campus evaluated the damage, they were able to salvage the door and repair the panic bar Friday morning using materials totaling $2,050 and labor summing $1,130.

“This gate is expensive because it was custom-made for the South Houses. We wanted something that matched the décor and style [of the buildings] and that fitted the doorway,” said Chang.

In addition to the cost of fixing the gate, security was forced to guard the unlocked gate between 5pm and 6am, resulting in $1,870 of additional costs. The Stewardship Committee has yet to determine how much of the estimated cost to repair was covered by the residence halls.

Chang believes students most likely removed the panic bar from frustration at having to use an ID card to enter, but no one has come forward yet to claim responsibility.

“A lot of students don’t understand why the permanent security is there in the first place… since the gates weren’t there [before the renovation]” said Chang. “We have had a number of incidents where we had to remove a homeless person who had parked themselves [in a house] over the weekend. This past summer we had a registered sex offender who was found in the house. We want to protect our students… the students’ property… and Caltech’s property.”

However, Interhouse Chair Craig Montoari believes that the bar may have been removed for other reasons than simply to save students time when entering the South Houses:

“The removal was done in such a crude manner and there were other, simpler methods to prevent the door from locking,” said Montoari. “Perhaps the obvious motivation is not the correct one. There’s just so much that we don’t know in this situation.”

Despite the vandalism, Chang says that no other major damage has occurred since the undergraduates moved into the South Houses.

“There are some small incidents of graffiti that have happened, but beyond that, there hasn’t been much,” said Chang. “With the exception of this one thing, there hasn’t been anything big.”

Friends of Caltech alum Steven Song Gao gathered at Beckman Institute yesterday to honor their friend and classmate who passed away in early December.

They were to honor this Class of 2006 graduate known for his kindness and compassion towards his friends.

Friends remembered Gao as a “wielded and admired [in] Lloyd House and for his compassion and kindness.”

“He was always patient, very kind, always helpful and looking out for other people,” said Derek Chang, friend and former roommate.

Gao passed away in early December while attending his first year of graduate school at Stanford in biomechanical engineering. His two roommates at Stanford, Derek Chang and Aki Srivivasan, were friends of his from Lloyd House, and all were also members of the recent class of Caltech graduates.

Since Stanford roommates Srivivasan and Chang had the difficult task of individually calling and informing friends and classmates about Gao, alumni Martin Peek and James Yoon offered to take charge of organizing the event. From before winter vacation, Peek and Yoon were in contact with Associate Dean Barbara Green to discuss arranging the memorial.

“Caltech really helped us out a lot in organizing the memorial,” said Yoon. “Steve was a really great friend. The least we could do was put this together, and when we had that in mind, it was really easy.”

Peek said, “We wanted it to be low-key and let people just get together and chat about what they remembered about him. It turned out pretty much the way we wanted.”

Friends flew in from as far as northern California, Seattle, and New York to share an afternoon to remember Steve Gao.

Milo Lin, a former classmate, met Gao as a freshman in the summer before freshmen year as Axiom scholars.

“Honestly, I can only remember positive things about him. Steve was the nicest and most considerate person that was one of my close friends,” said Lin. “He was generally kind of quiet, but when you cut to the bone, he was kind of funny, and very warm.”

When choosing a location for the memorial, Peek decided on Beckman Institute because “Steve played a lot of Ultimate Frisbee on Broad lawn.”

Gao was known to be so fond of Ultimate Frisbee that even a torn ACL in his junior year couldn’t keep him away from the disc.

“He busted his knee several times, and each time he kept playing,” said Srivivasan.

Gao was remembered in Lloyd House for being an excellent athlete in all sports, not just Ultimate Frisbee.

“Ping pong—Steve Gao loved ping pong. I would play with him for four hours at a time, literally like a machine,” said Derrek Chang.

A stellar student and efficient time manager, Gao double-majored in mechanical engineering and business, economics, and management (BEM). Even more impressively, Gao was notorious for being no less than one week ahead of schedule in all of his class work.

Said Kim Poppendorf, classmate, “Steve worked ahead in his classwork. He was the nicest and most considerate person that was one of my close friends.”

Friends of Caltech alum Steve Gao gathered at Beckman Institute yesterday to honor their friend and classmate who passed away in early December.

About eighty current students and alumni bonded over large photos capturing fond memories of Gao. The images show the handsome face of a smiling Steve Gao visiting Arthur Ashe Stadium and Niagara Falls, enjoying a formal dinner with friends, and smiling while during his recovery from ACL surgery.

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Said Kim Poppendorf, classmate, “Steve worked ahead in his classes when he knew he was going to have knee surgery. He was out on codeine for three weeks,

continued on page 5

Full story of Tech’s triumph on page 6
The Tech Office Vandalized, Many Back-Issues Unsalvageable

BY: JON SENN

On behalf of the entire staff of The Tech, I apologize to our readers. Due to an act of vandalism which occurred over winter break, we will be unable to provide back-issues to many of our on-campus subscribers.

Approximately 1000 subscriptions of our first eight issues of the year were collated, addressed, and bound by our distribution team, but before they were delivered to their appropriate campus locations, they were haphazardly strewn about, as shown in the low photograph.

Our subscribers who paid before the printing of our Sept. 22 issue have received mailed copies of these eight issues, as have the remaining of our on-campus and JPL subscribers.

Those subscribers who paid after the beginning of this academic year have yet to receive these issues; however, we hope to salvage enough copies from our pile to provide these back-issues.

After this act of vandalism, all of our copies in issue nine are entirely missing, and our supply of issue ten was relocated outside and rained upon before our team retrieved it. In the coming week we will decide on a course of action regarding those last two issues.

The reason that issues one through eight had not been distributed earlier in the year is that our mailing label printer was broken when we returned from our summer vacation. By the time we received our replacement printer, our distribution team had eight weeks of work to accomplish, and they were unable to distribute all 4000 copies of each issue before finals. They returned to our office at the start of winter break to finish the job, ultimately to discover the mess displayed below.

We sincerely apologize to all our readers who are missing these issues, and will do our best to supply a limited number of paper back-issues to those readers who request them by email (tech@caltech.edu). Additionally, PDF copies of The Tech are available on our website at tech.caltech.edu. The PDF copies are for non-commercial use and may not be used for Caltech IP addresses, but we can supply them by email to our subscribers.

Write for The Tech

If you are interested in working for The Tech, feel free to attend our weekly meetings on Mondays and Fridays from noon to 1PM at the Broad Center.

If we print your material, we will pay you up to the amounts listed below (at our discretion). Email submissions to tech@caltech.edu.

Maximum Pay

News $25
Features $20
Sports $20
Commentary $20
Humour $20
Good Comics $14
Comics $7
Photos $5

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Letters and submissions are welcome; e-mail submissions to tech@caltech.edu or send a hardcopy to the Tech offices in 40-58. All submissions must be submitted electronically. Email submissions to tech@caltech.edu or submit hard copy to the Tech offices in 40-58. The Tech will pay for all accepted submissions. Submissions are limited to 300 words, and should be submitted at least two weeks before publication. The Tech reserves the right to refuse submissions. The Tech is self-supporting through sales and advertising. All advertising deadlines are published in the Tech. The Tech is available free only on campus, at The Tech and The Student Counseling Center. All other inquiries should be directed to the business manager at admin@caltech.edu

For submission information, please refer to our "Instruction for Submissions."
**The Outside World**

**Florida and California: Half Capital Punishment**

The two states independently demand that the difference in treatment be breached. In Florida, Governor Jeb Bush called for the death penalty to be reinstated. In California, the Governor of the State, Jerry Brown, has vetoed capital punishment.

President Gerald Ford Dies

President Gerald Ford, died Dec. 26 at the age of 93. The late president was first vice president in Washington, D.C., and died in his hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Hussein Execution Takes Place

On Saturday, Dec. 30, Saddam Hussein was hanged in Qadisiya, Iraq. Prior to the execution, Hussein refused to wear a black hood that traditionally covers the face of the condemned person, and carried a copy of the Qur’an. The execution was announced on national television. Hussein was sentenced to death by hanging for his role in the deaths of 148 Iraqis who died in the Dujail massacre that took place in 1982. The mas- sacre was a failed assassination attempt on Hussein.

Andwar Badud and Barzan Hassan, who are also to be hanged, in relation to the 1982 massacre, were expected to be hung alongside Hussein. However, their executions were postponed to separate Hussein’s death from all others.

Nurses and Doctor to Face Death in AIDS Case

Five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor were sen- tenced to death in Libya for alleg- edly injecting HIV to more than forty children in the children’s hospital in 1999. They plan to file an appeal before the Libyan Sup- reme Court.

The sentence has already caused much disagreement. Bulgaria, the U.S., and the European Union demand that it is repealed. Libya and its supporters argue that the demands “of which he remained conscious” are not justifiable.

Diaz 34 minutes to die, during 24 hour term.

Death in AIDS Case

FDA Says Cloned Animals

The Food and Drug Adminis- tration (FDA) declared cloned animals to be as safe to eat as naturally-produced animals. There are some that disagree with the FDA decision, in particular if there are no labels that differentiate the ordinary product from the cloned one.

Some consumer groups critici- zed the agency for only looking at fewer than 100 case studies for short time periods.

While FDA scientists stated that after the cloned animal has reached the age of 6 to 18 months, it is indistinguishable from its par- ent animal, others argue that there may be long-term issues that have not yet been evaluated.

Although the final approval of cloned animals is far from being official, experts insist the products from cloned livestock enter the mar- ket in several months.

Video Game Causes Con- troversy

The new game, “Left Behind: Eternal Forces,” is currently un- legally promoting religious hatred.

Several groups, led by the activist faction “Campaign to Defend the Constitution,” demand that the game be pulled back from distribution.

The groups argue that the game promotes religious violence in the name of religion. The makers of the game, the Left Behind Games, Inc., disagree and say that the game only encour- ages religious freedom.

The plot of the game takes place in the future, after Christians have been transported to the heavens. The players take a role of characters left behind in New York City, and must experience a war that will fight and defeat the anti- Christ and his followers.

Caltech Researchers Reveal Dark Matter Structure

A new paper from Caltech revealed the first three- dimensional look of dark matter structure at the American Astro- nomyal Society conference this weekend in Seattle, Washington.

Massey used gravitational lens- ing, the distortion of light due to gravity, to observe 600 galaxies of dark matter in a cross-section of galaxies that dates back 6.5 bil- lion years.

The new map demonstrates that dark matter is present everywhere, at all times, which Massey refers to as a “cosmic scaffolding” about which stars and planets are formed.

Dark matter makes up about one fourth of the mass in the uni- verse, has no direct “massic” matter–like the stars and plan- et that makes up galaxies–only weighs in at about four percent.

Summer Internship Deadlines Approach

The Deans’ Office is accepting proposals for the Monson Foun- dation Fellowships and the Alpha Noland Summer Internships. Applicants are required to be undegrada- te students (current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors) who have graduated from research projects outside the Caltech-JPL community, for ten weeks during the summer. Each student will receive a $6,000 stipend.

Applicants are required to iden- tify the projects in which they wish to participate. All arrangements with the principal investigator will be the responsibility of the student.

Interested students should iden- tify, in writing, their ten-weeks experience at a research facility. Ap- plications should consist of a short (three to five pages) research project, along with two faculty rec- ommendations.

Proposals are due to the Deans’ Office by Thursday, Feb. 22.

SFL Open 24/7

The library staff coetically in- vites the Caltech community to an open house in celebration of the 10 year anniversary of the Sherman Fairchild Library to be held on Jan. 12, from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm in the Sherman Fairchild Library.

Two New ARC Reps Selected

BY: CALEB NG

This week, Avery and Blacker selected new representatives to the Academic Student Council (ASC) for the new term.

The new representatives will be freshman Ryan Hamerly, and the new Blacker rep- resentative will be freshman Sunny Chun.

Currently, the main project for ARC is to prepare for the Student- Faculty Conference (SFC), which is scheduled for April 5, 2007. Tra-ditionally, there are no deadlines on the date of the SFC.

The SFC will present representa- tions from each of 14 committees covering each option as well as other aspects of university life, including student morale, core cur-riculum, and honor code. Committee chairs were selected in October and are scheduled to have their first meeting. Contact any com- mittee member (listed on the ARC website at www.surf.caltech.edu) to participate or to discuss any of these topics.

Other ARC projects on the agenda for 2007 include: the addition of ARC to the Student Assembly’s list of approved student services, and the formation of an ARC website.

For more information, contact your ARC Rep, ARC Chair (caleb-ng@caltech.edu) or ARC Chair (avery-blacker@caltech.edu), or visit the ARC website (www.surf.caltech.edu/~arc).
By: RADIKA MARATHE

Introduction
AACIT’s website explains that the club owns a Cessna 152, a Cessna 172, and leases five others.

Joining the Club
The club webpage has detailed information regarding getting a membership to the club. The membership is mainly restricted to those affiliated with the Caltech/JPL communities (including students, faculty, alumni, employee or retiree of Caltech/JPL or those with immediate family members satisfying this requirement) but a limited number of Associate Member positions are available for those unaffiliated to these communities.

Dues and Costs
Club dues pay for the insurance and aircraft tie-down costs. Discounted rates are offered to CIT students to promote general aviation among the student community.

Technology Review

Wii Wiiwii: New Console is a Winner

By: JON MALMAUD

After waiting in line eight hours outside BestBuy for my Wii as FSJ fanboys droved by and shouted profanities at us (i.e. “I hope you guys have fun playing with your Wiis,” “your mom played with my Wii last night,” “your console has the same name as urination although spelled differently,” etc., etc.), I played it for the following two weeks and was thoroughly impressed with the motion-sensing controller.

After going through a five-second calibration phrase, it worked flawlessly. I tested it with Wii Sports and found that my skills in tennis, bowling, golf, baseball, and boxing skills carry over into the videogame world (just joking—i own).

Also played through most of Zelda: Twilight Princess, has to capture gorillas, emerge from your dungeon lair for the GameCube due to the console store, you can spend $5-$8 on a limited selection of old Nintendo and Genesis games such as Super Monkey Ball: Banana Blitz, for $8 on the Wii’s Virtual Console store, you can find all the old Zelda staples, as urination although spelled differently, etc., etc., I played it for the following two weeks and was thoroughly impressed with the motion-sensing controller.

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January is National Mentoring Month. In honor of this special month, the Career Development Office (CDO), Women’s Center, and NOGLSTP (National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals) are partnering to put on Caltech Mentoring Day – January 11, 2007 at noon in Winnet Lounge.

Panelists will discuss mentoring, tell their stories as protégés and mentors, and explain how to get started. If that’s not incentive enough, we will also provide free pizza and drinks. Happy New Year, now make a resolution. Don’t worry about losing weight or exercising more (nobody sticks with it anyway, right?). It’s time to work on career options by getting a mentor.

And it just got easy. MentorNet is a great program that matches students (protégés) with academic and industry mentors for one-on-one adverse, encouragement, and information.

The relationship is developed through email. Only a few exclusive universities participate, and Caltech is one of them. Caltech has been a part of MentorNet since 1998. Some of the mentors came from companies such as 3M, Hewlett Packard, IBM, Intel, Motorola, and Texas Instruments.

The majority of participants found it quite helpful. In fact, one student stated in his/her evaluation – “Mostly, it was really helpful for me to have someone to talk about my experiences with, and to hear their experiences in a similar situation. It was helpful to understand things in a larger career context, and just to get a sense of how my experiences fit into the normal range of activities.”

MentorNet also has other resources aside from the mentor-protégé relationship: a MentorNet E-forum (web-based discussion groups to exchange ideas and advice), resources (helpful weblinks), as well as a resume database (where students can post their resume for MentorNet sponsors to review).

Large mentoring is a resolution. Every mentor, whether they are a fresher, senior, grad student, or postdoc, should check out MentorNet. In addition to mentors in industry, they have mentors in academia for those considering that career path.

For more info, students may visit www.mentornet.net. But don’t forget – come to Caltech Mentoring Day – January 11, 2007 at noon – Winnet Lounge – free pizza and drinks! So join in the fun, resolve to get a mentor this year!
Men's Basketball Team Ends 10-Year NCAA Losing Streak

BY: MATTHEW GLASSMAN

While the Higgs particle remains undetected and the intricacies of protein folding are still a mystery, last Saturday evening, 15 Techers achieved something that seemed almost as difficult. For the first time in just over a decade, the men's basketball team pulled off an NCAA win, defeating Bard College from New York, for a final score of 81-52.

Although the score makes this look like an easy win for Caltech, the game wraps up an NCAA losing streak of 207 games, which was preceded by a 1996 victory over Pricipia.

Among the top scorers in the most recent win were sophomore forward Travis Haussler with 29 points and sophomore guard Matt Dellatorre with 24 points.

"We expected to win a game, but not like this," said Head Coach Roy Dow, referring to the blowout, in an article by the Associated Press. The story has been picked up by several papers and some of the players were interviewed by a radio station.

Sophomore guard Han Bin Man said, "We are excited and relieved that it finally happened. We really wanted to win a game sooner or later."

Walking off the court at halftime with a lead of seven points was definitely not something that happens every game, but Coach Dow remained serious and kept on the men until they finally pulled away late in the second half.

"When we went to the locker room, everyone was pretty pumped," said Dellatorre. "But overall we were playing kind of messy. Still, before we knew it, we were up by 15 with less than ten minutes to go."

"I'm sure that there are plenty of other good [Caltech] teams that have never won a game," said Bin Man. "It's special that we're the guys that finally got to win."

Last year's team, led by captains Jordan Carlson and Day Ivy, got national media coverage for their efforts to break the team's SCIAC losing streak, which spans over 20 years and has yet to be broken. Despite a close game against Whittier that went into overtime, the team was unable to pull off a victory.

While the game marks one of a few hard-fought wins in the history of the men's team, only a handful of Techers, which included the women's basketball team and President Chameau and his wife Dr. Carmichael, were there to see it happen. The players hope that more fans will make it out to games as they prepare to open the regular season against Occidental on Wednesday.

Saturday's win launched the Men's Basketball team into the national spotlight, featured above on CNN.com's frontpage.

Fleming and Ruddock Interhouse

Never Never Land

January 13th, 2007

In Soviet Russia, girl gets you!

Comrades, come to the South House Reopening Party!
The Lions beat the New York Knicks in 1967 and the Cardinals were the only team with a defense. However, they did make mistakes and so did not make any mistakes as we have during other games, and that really was a competitive joke.

Bill Parcells' decision to keep the ball and go for field goals and extra points will hurt them, as a bad hold on the game winning field goal will cause T.O. to call a press conference and reveal that he has decided to cut Parcells and fire Parcells and owner Jerry Jones.

The final wildcard weekend game will pit the New York Giants against the Philadelphia Eagles in an NFC East division rivalry that will be the last NFL game played by TiKo Barber and will also feature Tiki as the Fox color commentator for the second half. Giants QB Eli Manning will live up to his billing as “not as bad as Rex Grossman” while Eagles safety Brian Dawkins will use his dark powers to get Tom Coughlin fired, and eventually a David Akers field goal will give Philadelphia a win to keep their playoff run alive.

Next week the San Diego Chargers will play the Patriots by a score of 38-7 despite an 11/26 with two interceptions and no touchdowns passed by Phillip Rivers as NFL MVP LaDainian Tomlinson rushes for 170, throws two TDs (including one to himself), intercepts two passes, sacks Rivers twice from Brady and recovers a fumble which he returns for a touchdown. The Baltimore Ravens will beat the Indianapolis Colts with a passable offensive day by shutting out the Colts and forcing Peyton Manning into four turnovers for a final score of 24-6. After the game, the Ravens Twe Tu will reveal that intensive study of Manning’s different coverage schemes to predict what the all-pro quarterback would do throughout the game.

The Seattle Seahawks will nearly upset the Chicago Bears only to lose in overtime 24-21. The only offensive score of the day will be the Bears overtime field goal, as Rex Grossman throws four interceptions, two returns for touchdowns, and has one fumble run into the end zone as well. The Bears kick return man Devin Hester will score on one kick return, linebacker Brian Urlacher will score on a fumble recovery and the Seahawks fly fumble another ball into the end zone to allow the bears a defensive score after former Chicago Coach Mike Ditka tells Matt Hasselbeck that “the bears want the ball and they’re going to score” while giving him a very intimidating look.

(Footnotes)
1 In case you’ve forgotten I picked KFC to win the Super Bowl, using the logic from one of my sources that reasoned “AFC? NFC? What about KFC?”
2 I mean, awful, really bad just horrific. It just isn’t very good at all.
3 The Lions beat the New York Knicks in 1967 and the Cardinals were the only team with a defense. However, they did make mistakes and so did not make any mistakes as we have during other games, and that really was a competitive joke.

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Team management will make up for his interceptions by completing almost all of the rest of his passes (too his own players) and making a really hilarious commercial. Joseph “Live Action” Addai will also have a large impact but won’t have any commercialism in which a coach has been fired for teaching players about rock and roll. After the game everyone will agree that the old saying “Too many Chiefs and not enough Indians makes for a team that can’t play well on the road” is truer than ever.

The Patriots will beat the Jets to win the most talent free NFL game since the Lions and/or Arizona won a playoff game[3] but the big story will be that not only will New England coach Bill Belichick approach his former coordinator and current Jets coach Eric Mangini after the game, he will give him a big hug and then quickly walk away.

Belichick will also give up one of his trademark shoves to a camera man in his urgency to reach Mangini, but this will be deemed a good decision by the fans. During the actual game the only notable events will be Tom Brady’s every studly action, including a roughing the passer penalty called after Brady claimed a left tackle, a large fumble which will fumble out of the end zone for a safety, give up a their first long drive of the game to go down by one point.

This is where the biggest coaching mistake of the season,
SSEL and School on Wheels would like to thank the following Caltech volunteers for their volunteering during the fall '06 term:

Adam Craig (89 min)
Micha Fireman (40 min)
Misha Imtiaz (60 min)
Morteza Mayhari (90 min)
Mikita Panasenko (42 min)
Laura Panattoni (45 min)
Xin Xu (90 min)
David Ye (60 min)