Lower crime rates this year, but bike thieves get smarter

By Sarah Marzen

This fiscal year, nobody’s personal property has been stolen, and bike thefts on campus has dropped by roughly 80%, based on Caltech Security data collected to satisfy the federal Clery Act. The Clery Act, updated in 2008, requires college security departments to publish and distribute their Annual Campus Security Report by October 1 of each year, among other provisions.

Crime at Caltech for this reporting year includes burglaries, arson of the Dubney piano, and auto thefts. According to former Dubney House President Kee Scholten went out for lunch, and when he came back, his wallet and phone were gone. Initially, he thought he might have lost it. “By the time I realized I must have stolen it, I was in Texas and it slipped my mind,” wrote Scholten in an email.

No layoffs for Security

By Sarah Marzen

According to Security Chief Gregg Henderson, Security isn’t seeing any layoffs from Caltech’s budget cuts. However, Security will now have to be “extremely cautious” about paying for overtime. According to Henderson, Security employees typically work overtime to fill vacancies caused by a sick or missing employee. “We’ll be running a little bit lighter sometimes with safety and security,” said Henderson. “We’ll have to prioritize.”

One other pending Security program—replacing all outdoor access to buildings with card access technology—will be put on the backburner. Card access technology would be “easier maintenance” than keys, said Henderson.

Henderson estimates that key-based perimeter entrances will be replaced with cardswipes in three to five years, although there’s “no real timeline.”

“The lack of funding” doesn’t mean it’s dead,” said Henderson. “We’re just not pushing it… The question is, are there available funding sources?” Installing one card reader costs roughly $8,000, although card readers cost $18,000 in packs of four. The recently passed national economic stimulus package budgets over twenty billion dollars for research and education, and Security might be able to piggyback a request for card readers onto research grants. For example, the security might argue that card swipe technology would secure the safety of the expensive research equipment inside certain buildings.

Bike thefts

Despite the lower overall crime rates, bike thieves are getting smarter. U-locks, typically the safest way to lock up bikes, are being cut in random locations on random times all over Pasadena—including at Caltech. “There are some leads there,” said Henderson. Caltech Security is working with the Pasadena Police Department to find the stolen bikes. “It’s an external crime,” he said.

When the stolen bikes are found, the Caltech-registered bikes will be returned to their owners, and the other bikes will be put up for auction. Exactly how the thief or thieves cut the U-locks without anyone noticing is still a little mysterious. According to Henderson, a U-lock with brute force would require bolt cutters four feet long or a battery-operated saw. “The U-lock is the best method of securing a bike,” said Henderson. “I still recommend it.”

Until 2004, most U-locks could be opened by using a ballpoint pen on the pin tumbler lock mechanism. Kryptonite changed their U-lock’s locking mechanism to a disc-style cylinder soon after a ballpoint pen trick was publicized on YouTube. Henderson’s reaction

Caltech students, known for their no-work, party-heavy lifestyles, will apparently have to bring off-campus fun indoors. The Deans have tentatively decided to introduce a new off-campus party policy, although the policy has not been officially amended. The new policy requires that off-campus parties be moved indoors and limited to no more than 25 guests.

According to IHC Chair Pallavi Gunalan, Dean Hall said that the new policy is meant to prevent Pasadenas from crashing down on Caltech about the noise complaints by neighbors of Caltech’s off-campus housing. The administration will still approve of barbecues during the day, said Gunalan—the chief problem with off-campus parties is the loud music late at night. According to former ASCIT Social Director Eknath Bhojwani, there have been noise complaints for daytime events as well. Gunalan thinks that the new policy is reasonable, but she and the IHC have not officially accepted the changes. She said that she still “plans to ask the IHC if they think it is reasonable and what issues they have with it,” and then will meet with the Deans again to iron out the final details.

New off-campus party policy pushing through

Page’s traditional second-term party might be mixed

By Joel Nikolaus

Page’s traditional second-term party, he was surprised to have it rejected by the Deans because of the size of the guest list.

Fleming House senior Pauline Fleiner submitted an application for the approval of Page House’s traditional second-term party, he was surprised to have it rejected by the Deans because of the size of the guest list. Fleiner said the new policy will “take a large part of social life out of the mix” by confining students to campus. Still, he does not expect the policy to change, and “hopes we can get this last Page tradition in before closing down off-campus parties.”

Page’s party is traditionally supposed to be this coming weekend, and Page House President Brain Go is talking to the Deans to try to push the party through.
Beware the 26th floor

By Professor Bradford Cornell

CONTRIBUTOR

There is a story that I tell my students in BEM 107 that has such relevance today to the current financial crisis, but also to the career aspirations of Caltech students who are more sharing than worth hearing.

In 2002, I was contacted by a major institutional investor at the California Institute of Technology who said yes, I wanted to understand this derivative. They looked at the models that the institution had purchased the product alleged to be involved in the financial meltdown was the failure of mathematical models of financial products. That allegation is both unfair and inaccurate. Once again, the institution had used internally to assess the risk of the derivative. They looked at the models that the institution had used internally and the math was beyond the limits of the currently used tools. It is surely not a call to blind faith.

The problem, in short, was not a failure of financial technology, but the failure of financial management. The main point of your years at Caltech is to acquire scientific talent, but it is worth spending a few moments thinking about how you will put that knowledge to work lest you end up on the 26th floor.

By Daniel Haas

CONTRIBUTOR

A few days ago, I was reminded of an issue that more directly annoys me than any of those. Let me run through a familiar scenario for you:

7:45 AM - My alarm goes off. I groggily shake myself awake and then panic and figure out which classes to take next term. 7:55 AM - I look at which classes I'm going to go for first. 7:58 AM - I'm compulsively hitting the refresh on my browser.

7:59 AM - The refresh time grows exponentially from -2 seconds up to around ~15 seconds over the next minute.

8:00 AM - A tiny button appears on the page. I've missed seeing this button before because it's so unnoticeable, at my own expense. I click the button.

8:05 AM - Frosh Hums fill up 8:10 AM - Chem 3a afternoon sections fill up 8:18 AM - Maximum enrollment classes fill up 8:19 AM - Hit "Submit to Advisor" and crawl back into bed, setting my alarm for 3 more hours.

Not one student past first term can't relate to the above. Some have their academic schedule planned out months in advance, but they find their class offerings are not available online, and they need to muscle their way into courses. Some have their academic schedule planned out months in advance, but they find their class offerings are not available online, and they need to muscle their way into courses. Some have their academic schedule planned out months in advance, but they find their class offerings are not available online, and they need to muscle their way into courses.

Registration: True inconvenience

By Nick Mui

CONTRIBUTOR

For all people of faith

By John Liu and Wesley Yu

CONTRIBUTOR

We are all people of faith—a belief in the truth of a person, idea, or thing. From the monk who prays from sunset to sundown, to the physicist who assumes that the universe is a waste of their time, every one of us uses a splash of faith in our lives.

Yes, on its own, faith can be dangerous. Faith without an effort to critically examine basic assumptions can cause irrevocable harm. Examples from history tell us that whether faith has not written off this article as a waste of their time, every one of us uses a splash of faith in our lives.

"And if science is restricted in its ability to address the world, perhaps there are other ways, and conditions, to reach the truth that complements science in its verity and intellectual integrity."
Officer Present: Anthony Chong, Andrey Poletayev, Pallavi Gunalan, Maral Marzooci, Nadia Iqbal, Michael Maseda, Laura Conwill

Call to order: 12:16 PM

Funding:
- **Multihouse Funding Request:** Page will play Fleming in dodgeball on Sunday at 3 PM and would like to use their portion of the Multihouse funding.
- **Motion to approve:** the use of Page’s Multihouse funding for dodgeball, as mentioned above. VOTE: Passed (5-0-0)
- **Bonuses:** Mike suggests that ASCIT should meet with the Dev Team before handing out bonuses. In addition, maybe they should be invited to the next meeting to ensure everyone is on the same page regarding expectations.

President's Report:
- **ASCIT BoD Retreat:** Meet at Tom’s house at 4:15. We will discuss our goals for the coming year on Saturday morning. We will also discuss staff member positions.

Officer Reports:
- **V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair):** Meetings with division chairs have been started. The ARC is working on updating TQFR.
- **V.P. of Nonacademic Affairs (IHC Chair):** The IHC is dealing with the off-campus party policy, as they have had issues with people not getting parties registered. Pallavi says they are going to discuss this with deans. The IHC is revising the mural policy. They have met with student housing chair and plan to meet Anneila. The fire marshal has been conducting inspections and objects to Lloyd’s Lower Crotch area; a compromise is being discussed.
- **Operations Director:** Mike is trying to track down SAC 15 keys; some house presidents might have one. It is important to know the number of SAC 15 keys in existence, and who is in charge of each. Fresh lunches at the Atrium could be held somewhere else, as eating at the Atrium once a week eats up a large portion of ASCIT’s budget. Pallavi, Mike, and Maral will meet to come up with a better alternative.
- **Treasurer:** Funding is not required for food for Social D meetings. Murral and Nadia will meet soon to discuss social team budget, as Nadia wants to plan an event for the end of term. ASCIT has an alcohol budget which used to be used for ASCIT Happy Hour, but in the past two years has gone towards end of term parties, which is a good use of the money.
- **Social Director:** Nadia talked to Cameron this week about PFW. There will be two social hours: one right when the profesh arrive, and another some evening during the weekend. The carnival will still happen, but will not be as elaborate as last year’s. Anthony says the dunk tank, cotton candy and popcorn, and obstacle course are the most popular carnival events from last year, so we should make it a priority to include those.
- **Secretary:** Laura is going to update the display board on the Olive Walk with the new BoD. Murral suggests covering the bulletin board with colored paper first to increase its aesthetic appeal.
- **RevComm:** The RevComm has talked about resolutions; much of it needed updating even before the new bylaws were implemented. Joel will schedule a meeting with Anthony to discuss this.

Scheduling:
- **Installations Dinner:** The Installations Dinner will be Thursday, March 5, at Tom Mannion’s house. Details to come.

Other:
- **ASCIT Formal:** The ASCIT Formal may be eliminated, and replaced with another event such as a concert. Anthony and Pallavi will talk to each of the house presidents and ask them to get feedback from their house.

Meeting adjourned: 12:53 PM

Submitted by Laura Conwill

ASCIT Secretary

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**Weekly Meeting - Lloyd - February 26, 2009**

**Present:** Sly, Max, Nick, David, Pallavi, Benji, Brian, Daryl, Robbie, Dvin

**Guests:** Nadia, Kolodrubetz, Kiril, Marzen

**Staff From Last Week:**
- Off Campus Parties:
  - Apparently Dean Green is implementing the new OCA party policy already.
  - Committee Rollover:
    - Interviews for IHC Secretary and RevComm Chair will be this weekend
- Mural Policy:
  - The Student Housing Committee may be done evaluating the policy
  - Pallavi will go talk to Anneila and Joe Shepherd and get it signed.
- Prefrosh in Lloyd:
  - Robbie does not know who the “prefrosh” was that DanO talked to at Lloyd interhouse. Someone probably just lied to DanO.

**Darb Snowball Attack**
- The IHC liked the cupcakes from Max, so no resolution will be passed to punish Davey. Instead, a new gelatin cupcake policy should be implemented in case any house hurts another’s feelings.
  - Max would like to note that the baked goods from Davey are delicious.
  - Max would also like to note that at the last IHC meeting he did not retreat. He boldly advanced in a backwards direction.
  - Dvin inquired about the whereabouts of everyone’s boxes, in particular Max’s, as both of their boxes may or may not have been stolen by Pallavi. Max later commented he thought it was funny Dvin brought this up, as he had not yet had a chance to wash his boxes...

**Faculty/Alumni lists**
- The presidents got the faculty lists from Dvin, but didn’t get the lists with the names of people interested in visiting the houses from Mosh. Dvin will email the lists of faculty alumni to the house presidents and a spreadsheet of the faculty.
  - Benji said he emailed the list of interested faculty that he got from Dvin to Tom, but hasn’t heard back.

**Grad Student/Faculty In Houses**
- Pallavi says that Anneila mentioned in passing at the BoD meeting that the administration was considering having two RA grad students in the houses. Our plan to interact more with the faculty and the grad students is to show the administration we can interact with them without having them live in the House and so that they back us up.
  - Benji says it’s harder to interact with the grad students - it’s not free to invite them to dinner.
  - Dvin: The IHC only interacts with Student Affairs, not the faculty (only the MOSH), and we don’t get a chance to talk with about bigger issues.

**Bon stuff**
- SexComm Reps. - Nadia said she heard people might not come and may send food instead. It’s important that all the social reps attend. The meeting will be Tuesday during lunch. Reps should email Nadia if they can’t show up.

**Other Stuff**
- The IHC has a new mascot/bling. Bigli, Pallavi’s cat. In related super important news, Robby named his black cat Blackie.
- Visiting: Benji wants to visit other houses during next week’s dinners because of DPI. Later in the week would be best for Ricketts/Davey, everyday but Tuesday would work for Blacker.
  - It was agreed that the presidents and a few people from every house should visit other houses.
  - New IHC Meeting days: Tuesday works for everyone.
- Fire Safety: Robbie says that lower crotch is dismantled because it is not a fire hazard (Nick thinks the shoes are a “fire convenience”).
- Dvin inquired about the whereabouts of everyone’s boxers, in particular Max’s, as both of their boxes may or may not have been stolen by Pallavi. Max later commented he thought it was funny Dvin brought this up, as he had not yet had a chance to wash his boxes...
- Dvin to Tom, but hasn’t heard back.
  - Dvin: The IHC only interacts with Student Affairs, not the faculty (only the MOSH), and we don’t get a chance to talk with about bigger issues.
- Housing also is complaining about Lloyd and Avery’s shoes outside their doors as a fire hazard (Nick thinks the shoes are a “fire convenience”).
  - Benji says they’ll try to stall, and Pallavi will talk to Peter Daily and Tom Mannion.
- Some presidents wanted to know who was paying for Page’s new stuff. Brian said he thinks housing is paying for it, but he’d ask the deans where the money is coming from. He would like to point out that page has not gotten new things for their lounge or beer room in a while.
- Dvin says the new IHC should stay on top of the fresh camp and new bookstore issues so we can make sure they become something students want.
- Dvin talked to Tom, who wants to do Mudeo during alumni weekend. Daryl said Tom Lampo was in charge of it last year.
- Benji asked who ran Kelrof last year, Marzen said that Eichenlaub did.
- Dvin will ask Tom what’s going on with House endowments and the IHC should keep on top of the faculty board committees. Some of the committees haven’t met this year.
Introduction: Whenever driving to 110, we always pass Doña Rosa on the corner of Arroyo Parkway. It looked interesting, and we wanted to try its Mexican food.

Goal: Is it more worthwhile to walk 25 minutes to Doña Rosa or just down to Lake for Chipotle?

Stockroom Options: Doña Rosa has a wide sortment of Mexican specialties, including tacos, burritos, and baked goods. They dub themselves a “taquería and bakery,” so we were especially looking forward to try some-thing sweet.

Materials and Cost: We ordered beef taquitos ($7.85) to split as an appetizer. For our main courses, we ate the carne asada quesadilla ($7.75) and the torta cubana ($7.85). We wrapped up our meal with a pumpkin empanada ($1.35).

Observations:

One order of beef taquitos came with three, which is a good amount to split between two or three people. It also comes with rice, beans, and guacamole on the side. They were crispy on the edges, but a bit too soggy in the middle. They were stuffed full of juicy beef.

The carne asada quesadilla sure came with a lot of carne! The grilled beef was mixed with hot melted monterey jack cheese, and this quesadilla was not a standard thin take on the dish – it was very thick and very filling. Unfortunately, it was a bit messy and greasy, but still enjoyable and full of flavor.

The torta cubana also had a lot of meat – this time, with pulled pork, beef, and some ham. We were a bit disappointed that there was not more ham, but otherwise the sandwich came out very hot and crispy. Don’t expect any condiments, save some guacamole, on this sandwich. There was no lettuce or other veggies to counter the dense meat. So be prepared to eat!

Finally, so we could try something sweet from this Mexican bakery, we settled on the pumpkin empanada. The pumpkin tasted very different from pumpkin pie – though it was still sweet, it was not overly sugary and tasted like pureed pumpkin before it’s made into a pie. The filling itself was not evenly distributed through the empanada; it all was on one side. The shell and filling both were very fragrant with cinnamon.

Atmosphere: To our surprise, Doña Rosa is a counter-service restaurant. They both have inside seating and a heated, enclosed patio on the street that you can enjoy your meal on. The tables are a bit close together, and overall it is a very casual restaurant, with a focus on the food.

Conclusion: For a more authentic take on Mexican food, take the trek down California Boulevard to Doña Rosa. It’ll be a welcomed break from Chipotle burritos, and you may try some new delicacies you haven’t had the opportunity to taste before! For more information, visit their website at http://www.do-na-rosa.com.

Overall: B+
Every time the word “Mardi Gras” or “Fat Tuesday” is mentioned, I immediately think of New Orleans – the music, the purple-green-gold costumes, the parties, the sporadic flashing, and the scores of colored beads and other trinkets being tossed into crowds of hooting revelers screaming those four infamous words “Throw me something mister!” I think of families and friends enjoying the rhythms of “Nawlins” music and feasting on Cajun and Creole food and I think of elaborate floats depicting scenes from children’s stories and mythological events.

With this bold representation of Mardi Gras in the United States, it is easy to forget the roots of this international celebration. How and when did this huge mid-winter party get started?

Mardi Gras is thought to have kicked off long before Europeans set foot in the New World. Ancient Romans and Greeks celebrated a circus like festival, with days of feasting and drinking, not entirely unlike the Mardi Gras we are familiar with today. This festival related to their gods of agriculture, pastoral shepherds and even fertility. In fact, the term “Carnival”, which is often used synonymously with Mardi Gras, is derived from a Latin phrase that means “farewell to the flesh”.

When these cultures began to embrace Christianity, this pagan tradition was converted to a Christian celebration, with the feasts and festivals becoming symbolic of a period of merriment that precedes the penance of Lent. During Lent, the religiously faithful refrain from a number of indulgences of the “flesh”, including eating meat. However, even today, pagan gods are often honored at the parades – many floats still don the regalia of the Greek god of wine, Bacchus, during Carnival celebrations.

The party crossed the Atlantic and came to America on March 3, 1699 with the French explorer Iberville, who camped on the Mississippi River about 50 miles south of the present location of New Orleans. Realizing that his date of entry coincided with the Mardi Gras in Paris, where it had been celebrated since the middle ages, he reasonably named the site Point du Mardi Gras. By the mid 1820s, Mardi Gras became firmly rooted in New Orleans culture and today, the city’s celebrations are considered one of America’s biggest parties, with towns and cities around the world joining into the fun.

I would like to thank Thimal de Alwis for providing useful insights to Mardi Gras celebrations after having experienced them first hand in Louisiana.

The Concise Dictionary of Principal Mardi Gras Terms:

- **Krewe** – a general term used to describe all the non-profit organizations that take part in Carnival festivities.
- **Captain** – the leader of each Mardi Gras organization
- **Court** – the king, queen, maids and dukes of a Mardi Gras organization
- **Dubloons** – coin-like objects that are often thrown from floats to members of the crowd. They contain the krewe’s insignia on one side and the parade’s theme on the reverse.
- **Invitation** – a printed request for attendance at a Mardi Gras masquerade, however, to be eligible to enter, these invitations must be referred to as “tickets”
- **King Cake** – an oval, sugared cake with a plastic baby doll hidden inside. The person who gets the slice of the cake with the doll inside it becomes the crowned “king” and is responsible for buying the next colorful cake.
- **Throws** – Inexpensive souvenirs that are tossed from floats by krewe members in response to calls of “Throw me something, mister!”. These souvenirs can be beaded necklaces, dubloons and even cups.
Informatics prof wins teaching prize

Informatics professor Jehoshua “Shuki” Bruck is the latest recipient of the Feynman Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Caltech’s most prestigious teaching award that comes with a $3,500 cash prize and an equivalent raise in annual salary.

Last year, Bruck taught the menu class IST 4, which introduces Boolean algebra and relates it to programming, computability, logic, and information theory. Bruck, who joined the Caltech faculty in 1994 and was the founding director of the Information Science and Technology IST program in 2003, was a resident professor in Avery last year.

Saving energy: a town hall meeting

The Caltech Facilities Department will host two Town Hall meetings to discuss savings through energy conservation on Tuesday, March 3, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., and noon to 1:30 p.m., in the Beckman Institute auditorium. All members of the Caltech community are invited to attend to learn what is being done on campus to save energy and participate in a discussion on energy conservation.

From Caltech Today

Student funding gets a fresh look

ASCIT may cut the spring formal

By Joel Nikolaus

ASCIT is looking to trim its own waistline—and not by abstaining from Friday morning donuts.

Like the administration, current ASCIT president Anthony Chong wants to reevaluate just where ASCIT is putting its money.

In the process he said he plans to have the BoD “reevaluate every event funded by ASCIT,” not allocating money simply based upon “historical precedent.”

The biggest item currently on the table is ASCIT formal. Even with only a portion of the formal funds coming from ASCIT itself, last year the BoD budgeted $6,000 for an event whose total cost ended adding up to something over $20,000. While ticket sales made up for some of the difference, the rest came from a variety of sources around campus.

With the current economic situation, some of those funds may no longer available.

The high cost, a subject of criticism in the past, has prompted the BoD to decide whether the formal is worth the high sticker price. Chong said he would like to see something cheaper.

And since the rental of the venue forms the largest portion of the cost, around $20,000-$30,000, that may be a possibility.

If ASCIT could work out a deal with another venue, perhaps on campus, it would bring substantial savings, according to Angela Zah, former ASCIT Treasurer.

Assuming that the venue was covered, she said that the $6,000 budgeted for the last year could run formal. Unlike Caltech as a whole, the current economic situation has not had a direct impact on the funds available to ASCIT.

But the issue of ASCIT formal is just not about funding. The same issue about the event itself and the possibility of changing the event entirely. And not just something cheaper.

Chong said he thinks “ASCIT has the potential to put on at least one major event a year,” he said that ASCIT formal may not be the best way to do that. He said he does not have a good feel for what the students think about the event but is considering other options, like a concert.

Although a concert might cost more money than ASCIT formal, Chong said he thinks there might be alternative funding available for such an event. In December total reductions in cost may be the best way to do that.

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Track and field compete in Rossi Relays

By Yang Yang  
STAFF WRITER

Quick quiz: Sixteen Beavers are running in four separate distance medley relay teams of four runners each. Each runner on a team will run a different distance – either one, two, three, or four laps. How many different complete team orderings are possible if two teams are women’s teams, two are men’s, and one particular team member must run either a 400m or 800m? Also, the race is about to start and everyone is asking where that one guy is. Nobody has seen him since he said he was “going to a better place” and took off jogging thirty minutes ago.

Answer: One. From where I am sitting, the word “relay” is the last of the info I have about the race. Should I interpret Lapides’ pained facial contortions during this reiterative lap as a noble battle against fatigue for the sake of his team’s glory? Instead, or maybe, open your mind to the possibilities – perhaps he was dealing with the effort of laying an egg halfway through the race. He was certainly clucking a lot just before. (By ‘clucking’, I mean ‘whining’. Also, I am hoping this egg-laying theory accurately explains that bulge in his speedsuit.)

Also, I really hope this egg-laying ritual? Instead, open yourself against fatigue for the sake of their team’s glory? They were standing on a hill at the far side of the stadium, Techers were playing with themselves or each other, but whatever they were doing it was obviously right.

Quick quiz: What, not satisfied with a literal interpretation to the quiz question? If you want a deeper one, just peel back the letters ‘r-e-l-a-y’. What should a ‘layer upon layer’ be?

Answer: Forget it, and replay your memories of the word “relay”.

Quick quiz: What, not satisfied with a literal interpretation to the quiz question? If you want a deeper one, just peel back the letters ‘r-e-l-a-y’.

Baseball

The Caltech baseball team finished its three-game series with Whittier on Saturday with a high note. Their best defensive effort this season, taking the second game of the weekend doubleheader to nine innings before losing 9-0. Normal NCAA mercy rules calls for a game to be discontinued when one team is leading by 10 runs or more after the sixth inning; before Saturday seven of Caltech’s first eight games were terminated by the mercy rule before the ninth inning.

It is the first time this season that the Beavers have held an opponent to single digits in scoring. Caltech held the Poets to a scoreless inning to end the game.

Water Polo

The women’s water polo program will return to full NCAA competition this year. Although the team was forced cede from SCIAC due to a lack of undergraduate players, the squad will have enough players this season. The Beavers will start their season against Gannon on Friday at 5:00 p.m.

The Weekly Scoreboard

Feb. 24

Men’s Basketball v. Claremont-M-S  L 89-55

Feb. 27

Baseball at Whittier L 15-2

Feb. 28

Baseball at Whittier L 15-4

Baseball at Whittier L 9-0

Men’s Tennis v. Redlands L 9-0

Women’s Tennis v. Redlands L 9-0

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Dear Dr. Irrelevant,
I think my boyfriend may be cheating on me. He keeps acting distant, he forgot my birthday, plus I've seen him making out with another girl multiple times. What should I do?

Suspicious

Dear Suspicious,
I’ve heard countless complaints like yours before, and I’ll tell you what I’ve told them.
The key difference between the alligator and the crocodile is the snout. An alligator has a pointed snout, while the crocodile’s is more rounded (Note: if you’re close enough to see this, you’re probably too close!)

You’re more likely to encounter an alligator than a crocodile in North America, though there have been cases to the contrary. In the water, there’s very little you can do against alligators, so I would recommend not falling in. On land, you should remember to run in a zig-zag pattern, because alligators are surprisingly fast, but cannot turn well.

I hope this helps, and good luck!

Dr. Irrelevant

Dear Dr. Irrelevant,
I’ve heard countless complaints like yours before, and I’ll tell you what I’ve told them.
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I hope this helps, and good luck!

Dr. Irrelevant

Dear Dr. Irrelevant,
I came to Tech to major in Chemistry, but now I’m having second thoughts. I think I want to become a writer now, even though it would pay much less. Should I follow my heart, or should I go for career success?

Unsure

Dear Unsure,
I too have wondered about my intended career path many times. When I was a child, I wanted to be an astronaut so much. We lived on a small farm, where there was an old train track that bordered between us and the neighbors. Every New Year’s, since we were too poor to afford fireworks, and since they would have no doubt lit the field on fire, my father and I would go to the train tracks and lay a penny for every year I’d been alive.

When I was seven, one of the pennies was knocked off and hit my father in the eye. He collapsed and I had to run back to the house to fetch my mother. We were too poor to take him to the hospital, so he became blind in one eye. I know it wasn’t my fault, but I still blame myself sometimes.

So you see, things will work out.

Dr. Irrelevant

Dear Dr. Irrelevant,
I think I’m a woman trapped in a man’s body. What should I do?

Living a lie

Dear Living,
There’s an ancient Russian proverb that reads, “Do not search the fields for potatoes, because when you return a bear will have ransacked your house and eaten your first-born child.”

Dr. Irrelevant

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