Friends and family remember Brian Go

Page President was friend to many students

By Marissa Cevallos  
Staff Writer

Page House president Brian Go passed away on campus on May 17. Brian was a junior double-majoring in applied math and computer science, was a TA for CS 2 and CS 36, played ultimate Frisbee, and befriended many students. Brian has two younger siblings, a brother and a sister, and went to Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School in Bethesda, Maryland.

Friends marveled at how Brian, known to his House as BGo, was so in tune with his friends’ opinions: “I always felt like he was on my side even if he didn’t agree with me,” said friend and former Page president Mason Smith.

BGo was active in Boy Scouts, reaching the highest honor of Eagle Scout. His scout masters would always greet his parents with big smiles and stories of how when BGo was done with a task, he wouldn’t stop—he’d find younger scouts and help them with their tasks.

Because he cared so much about others around him, say BGo could never sit idly and watch unjust situations. Last school year, he rallied classmates who were drowning in the graduate-level course load of Math 6a. A class supposed to just be an introduction to discrete mathematics, to demand more reasonable problem sets. Through working with the Academics and Research Committee, BGo helped change the scope of the problems and the requirement that it could not be taken as a pass/fail course.

Brian’s mother said he displayed the same zeal for fighting injustice in middle school. In 7th grade, he fomented an uprising against the 8th graders who ruled the back of the bus by organizing his classmates to sit where they pleased, in defiance of the 8th grade rules. The “rebellion” didn’t last that long, according to his mom, but was a perfect example of how BGo rallied people to causes he believed in.

Friends say BGo had a seeming-invisibility. “But for me, for everything from his House, his friends, his classes, and his research—He’d pull all-nighters to finish the math problem everyone else gave up on, according to his freshman and sophomore year roommate Noah Tanabe.

When his girlfriend was feeling down one day, he went to Michaels and made her a neck-lace with Swarovski crystals, all before she came back from her 90 minute Spanish class.

Please see BRIAN GO, Page 6

Students may see more loans, smaller merit awards

By Joel Nikolas  
Staff Writer

With the recent decrease in the endowment, many students came to see a change in what they are awarded in financial aid for the upcoming year.

As part of an effort to make ends meet, the Caltech Financial Aid Office will likely issue students loans where they would have previously received gifts.

“We will continue to meet 100%,” said Don Crewell, the director of the Financial Aid Office, but “When people petitioned for increased funding we used to give grant money. Now we will have to give some loan money.” He added that they “probably have to do that with continuing students [as well].”

Following the removal of freshman merit awards earlier this year, the Financial Aid Office has also reallocated funds that were until recently set aside for upper class merit awards. The office is “moving a good part of the upperclass merit program,” said Crewell, because the funds are needed for need based aid.

He said that while there would probably be no change in the same number of awards as in previous years, that would mean “probably smaller awards to those who do win.”

All of these efforts are part of a short-term plan to balance the current year’s budget and make sure the Financial Aid Office does not run a deficit. When asked about dipping into the general budget, Crewell said “[It had] Never happened in the past. Not the Caltech way.”

Although the changes are only aimed at rectifying the situation for this next year, how long these changes last depends largely on how the endowment performs. “Temporarily might be 2 or 3 years,” said Crewell. The goal is that “until the endowment pay out can bounce back, to avoid running deficit in scholarship.”

Next year he said “[We] see if we will need to do the same thing again.” Unless gifts increase that may be the case and students will continue to see more loans and smaller merit awards.

While Crewell said the Financial Aid Office remains committed to meeting student needs, the big question they will be asking in the future is “Do we have the funds?”

The estimated budget for this next year is projected at somewhat between 14.5 and 15.5 million. So far there has not been a substantial increase in financial aid in current students, but there is an increase in the aid given to the incoming class. This pattern is normal, but is still exerting pressure on the Financial Aid resources. If the trend continues it may become a bigger problem.

Gary Lorden to Retire After 40 Years as a Statistics Professor

By Casey Jao  
Staff Writer

His name is synonymous around Caltech with the show Numb3rs. "I'm a kidndergaduate, all know him from Math 2b, the Core probability and statistics course," said Professor Barry Simon, his successor has not yet been named.

“Caltech will miss him,” said senior Po-Ling Loh, who TA’d Math 2b last year. “Even for non-math majors, he was a gentle introduction to Caltech life.”

“At his courses were a big influence in my choice to go to grad school in statistics,” said senior Max Grazier Guell, also a former Math 2b TA.

“Gary has been an incredibly valuable resource for the Caltech community,” said Professor Barry Simon in a phone interview, remarking that finding a suitable replacement has been difficult. Competing institutions like Princeton and UC Berkeley have dedicated statistics departments to woo high-calibre statisticians.

Moreover said Simon, “There are restrictions on hires imposed by the administration because of the economic crunch.” The math department has several hiring goals but only “one bullet” to spend this year.

“I do expect to be [involved]...but every year is a new ballgame,” said Lorden, who has been advising the show since it debuted in 2004.

Lorden arrived at Caltech as a freshman in 1958, one of seven students to matriculate from his Los Angeles high school. “I was so turned off by the MIT alum who interviewed me that I didn’t finish my application,” he recalled.

Debating initially whether to major in math or chemistry, he quickly ruled out the latter because he soon discovered that he had, in his words, “essentially zero physical intuition.” But the dealmaker was Tom Apostol, his freshman calculus teacher, who helped him realize that math was
C-Store Schedule

Sunday, June 7: C-Store open until 2am
Monday, June 8: Snake Kits 8-10pm North Kitchen
C-Store open until 2am
Tuesday, June 9: Midnight Madness 11:30pm – 1am Chandler
C-Store open until 2am
Wednesday, June 10: South Kitchen closed for lunch
Snake Kits 8-10pm North Kitchen
C-Store open until 2am
Thursday, June 11: South Kitchen closed for lunch
Snake Kits 8-10pm North Kitchen
C-Store open until 2am
Friday, June 12: South Kitchen closed for lunch and dinner
C-Store open until 2am
Saturday, June 13: C-Store open until 10pm
Sunday, June 14: C-Store open until 10pm
End of declining balance

Return of a Caltech Tradition
Mudeo is good ol’ wrestlin’

By Tom Lampo

Mudeo is one of Caltech’s oldest traditions. If you look thorough enough of your Big T’s there’s usually several pages devoted to photographs of Techers coated head to toe in mud. There are pictures of people wrestling, playing tackle football, wheelbarrow and sack races, and the infamous freshman vs. sophomore tug of war.

One year, the media coverage of Mudeo gave Caltech more exposure than any other event at Caltech, making it to the top ten plays of the day on ESPNS Sports Center. At its heart, Mudeo is exactly what its name suggests; having fun playing games in a giant pit of mud.

Mudeo has changed over the years. In fact, I have never attended Mudeo before. The tradition is to enter a contest between the sophomore and freshman classes, where the score was often kept for events such as sack racing, tire spree, horse and rider, wheelbarrow racing, and tug of war. As John Gee, class of ‘53 and former ASCPT president and organizer of Mudeo recalls, “The rivalry and competition were strong”. In more recent years, Mudeo has tended toward team events, such as ultimate frisbee, soccer, and football, while tug of war seems to have survived the test of time.

Over the last decade the tradition waned and the turnout fell dramatically due mainly to the renovation of the North field and the fields north of Avery playing host to the mods during the South House Renovation. This resulted in no field being consistently available for creating the requisite giant pit of mud, and there were several years where there was no Mudeo. With the renovations done, field space has opened up again.

But this year, Mudeo is back! After the renovations, the area north of Avery was designed to be used in Mudeo in mind. A giant dirt rectangle, planted with easy to remove and to replant wildflowers, has given Mudeo a permanent residence in a location on campus which during the year will be home to beautiful gardens, but for one day a week will be converted to an epic mud pit for all to enjoy.

This year, Mudeo is set to take place on that field north of Avery, from 2pm to 5pm. Be prepared to get very dirty and to smile for pretty the news cameras. Pizza will be provided afterward by Tom Mannion, and there should be plenty of time for everyone to get ready for Mashup Massive later that evening. If you want more info or are interested in participating, contact Tom Lampo or Alan Pezeshki.

We Need McCain’s Spending Freeze...
...And a “Sheriff” to Stop the Spending Frenzy

By Daniel Alvarez

We Need McCain’s Spending Freeze...
...And a “Sheriff” to Stop the Spending Frenzy

With the rejection of Proposition 1A-1e, some in Sacramento are asking Washington to help with the state’s $21 billion deficit. Think of a teenager who maxed out his or her credit card and asks his or her parents for a bail out. The problem is that the parents also purchased a million dollar home off of a $70,000 salary. Of course this refers to Washington’s own financial mess.

In February of this year, it was predicted that the national deficit would hit an enormous $1 trillion. This deficit was said to be “inherited” by the Bush administration, yet the Obama administration upped the ante by going on a spending binge from the likes the world has never seen. In its first 100 days, the Obama administration spent $2.2 trillion more than the combined total of every president in history within the same time frame. What is even more amazing is how much of this spending has been wasted. Within the $787 billion stimulus bill plans to build a state park in Idaho and bike racks in Washington D.C. Also cloaked under the banner of economic stimulus were $5.8 billion in health prevention and wellness programs like smoking cessation. These programs are a slap in the face of present and future taxpayers American, but did not stop there.

We then had the $410 billion omnibus bill, laden with nearly 9000 earmarks. Among these were $6.6 million to study termites in New Orleans, $2.5 million for the Center for Grape Genetics in Genica, $1.7 million to study why pig waste smells so bad, the list goes on and on. Unsurprisingly, the projected deficit has steadily ballooned to the current value of $1.8 trillion. Some will undoubtedly call me a fiscal fear-monger for making a big deal of changes in a decimal point, but I think too many people do not realize that the difference ($400 billion) is in and of itself about twice the largest federal deficit of all time prior to 2009. With Obama’s proposed $3.4 trillion budget, the binge sees no end in sight. TARP money is flowing out of the treasure like water and the administration wants to allocate $600 billion to unnecessarily nationalize healthcare. At this rate, we will see billions per person being wasted.

So how can we confront the colossal deficits that we have been presented with? First and foremost, one option is to put the treasury on overdrive and print our way out of debt, but of course this would make you break the trust from the dollar in value to the point that it might start giving the peso a run for its money. Some will undoubtedly call me a fiscal fear-monger for making a big deal of changes in a decimal point, but I think too many people do not realize that the difference ($400 billion) is in and of itself about twice the largest federal deficit of all time prior to 2009. With Obama’s proposed $3.4 trillion budget, the binge sees no end in sight. TARP money is flowing out of the treasure like water and the administration wants to allocate $600 billion to unnecessarily nationalize healthcare. At this rate, we will see billions per person being wasted.

With the passage of the TEA parties around the country, it was being created; namely, the passing of unprecedented federal spending. There was one man, however, who proposed an extreme solution to an extreme problem. This man, often referred to as “The Sheriff” for his tough stances on federal spending, is John McCain. During the debates he was ridiculed for proposing a freeze on federal spending with the exception of national defense. Obama cleverly responded by saying that McCain’s approach was like hanging the budget with a hatchet, whereas he would use a scalpel. Of course what he really meant was that we need to cut the budget.

McCain – “Sherrif” – never was the president of the United States, but his spending freeze may be the only way to keep out of the fiscal red zone. We Americans need to rally together and do the extreme, because we cannot be left with a trillion dollar deficit. McCain – “Sherrif” – never was the president of the United States, but his spending freeze may be the only way to keep out of the fiscal red zone. We Americans need to rally together and do the extreme, because we cannot be left with a trillion dollar deficit. The burden can no longer be put on the next generation of taxpayers.

Congratulations
Class of 2009!

The California Tech

The California Tech wishes you the best of luck.
Niles Pierce Gives Watson Lecture on “programmable chemistry”

By June Zhang

Two weeks ago, Niles Pierce delivered the final Watson Lecture of the year titled, “In Pursuit of Programmable Molecule Technologies,” which described his method of “programming” polymers like DNA to act in a predictable manner.

Pierce, assistant professor of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Bioengineering, conducts research in a relatively new field that has to potentially Has Possible Implications for Cancer

a new type of drug design, which targets the genes of unhealthy cells to cause cell death. This research has applications in drugs for cancer treatment.

The lecture drew a full crowd and he began the lecture with a vivid real-time animation of the inner workings of the cell and discussed the nature of his research, that his work could be described as taking advantage of “programmable chemistry.”

Following the introduction, Pierce spoke about the ability to assemble and disassemble DNA or RNA polymers into specific structures. Hairpin RNA molecules with specific toehold sequence and multiple domains can be predictably assembled by a downstream reaction given a particular trigger sequence. Professor Scott Fraser described his work as taking the “junk box method” of putting things together and making it rational. As Pierce, himself, put it, his work is like studying or making sense of a Jackson Pollock piece of art.

In addition to describing his work with “programmable chemistry,” Pierce discussed his developments of multiplexed bio-imaging. He showed pictures of zebrafish embryos with multicolor and simultaneous imaging. His work allowed for a five dimensional analysis documenting spatial components, time, and gene.

ASCIT BoD Minutes

ASCIT BoD Minutes for May 22

Officers Present: Anthony Chong, Andrey Poletayev, Michael Maseda, Maral Mazrooei, Nadia Iqbal, Laura Conwill

Officers Absent: Pallavi Gunalan

Guests: Perrin Considine, Sarah Marzen, Lisa Zhang, Brian Merlob, Gloria Tran, Peter Sadowski, Stephen Wilke

Call to order: 12:13 PM

Funding requests:

• Baskets: CCF has been making gift baskets for staff members who have been laid off. They would like to make more, but this will require additional money to fund them.
  o Motion to approve $100 for staff gift baskets. VOTE: Passed (4-0-0)

• Mashup Massive: MHF will not fund alcohol, so Lisa requests $600 in addition to ASCIT’s previously pledged $300 for the party.
  o Motion to approve $600 for Mashup Massive. VOTE: Passed (4-0-0)

• Ricketts Lighting: A few years ago, Ricketts and Lloyd bought lights for parties; many of these are no longer in good enough condition to be used. Peter requests $300 to buy additional lights in time for tomorrow’s GNG party. The lifespan of these lights is 1-2 years, and the lights could be lent out to other houses for their parties.
  o Motion to approve $300 for lighting. VOTE: Passed (4-0-0)

• Boba Party: The deans decided that 250 people are coming to the party, and 75 of these will be drinkers. Perrin has received funding from MHF and the GSC, but needs additional funding to cover the cost of alcohol.
  o Motion to approve $150 for the boba party. VOTE: Passed (4-0-0)

• BFP: Gloria came to request funding; Maral brought the happy news that Fleming automatically gets $500 for interhouse.

President’s Report:

• Staff: Members of the BoD should make sure they are working closely with their staff members.

Officer Reports:

• V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair): The ARC is working on their longstanding projects, including compiling course reviews and dealing with complaints. They are discussing whether to have subsequent student-faculty lunches at the AIA. Andrey submitted an article on the ARC’s activities to last Monday’s Tech. The ARC has also been working on logistics for ASCIT teaching awards; the date for the ceremony is Wednesday, June 3, at 5 PM in Danby Gardens. Committee interviews will be tomorrow. The Core Curriculum Task Force will be encouraged to put out a survey to gather student feedback.

• V.P. of Nonacademic Affairs (IHC Chair): The IHC is in a period of mourning. They have also been working on housing issues.

• Operations Director: Sign-ups have been posted for appointed positions (Big T editors, little t editors, etc).

Treasurer: Maral got in touch with the person who sets up club The ARC did committee Andrey requests $350 for food ASCIT Formal is tonight! The cost was slightly CCF has been making gift baskets for staff members Members of the BoD should make sure they are working Andrey and Mike me with Rick Bischoff Laura emailed campus security regarding Jeddy Chen’s A few years ago, Rickets and Lloyd bought There’s a boba party in the RF courtyard tonight! The IHC is in a MHF will not fund alcohol, so Lisa requests Gloria came to request funding; Maral brought the happy

Meeting adjourned: 12:51 PM

Submitted by Laura Conwill
ASCIT Secretary

ASCIT BoD Minutes for May 29

Officers Present: Anthony Chong, Andrey Poletayev, Michael Maseda, Maral Mazrooei, Nadia Iqbal, Laura Conwill, Pallavi Gunalan

Officers Absent:

Guests: Tim Black, Brian Merlob

Call to order: 12:18 PM

Funding requests:

• ASCIT Awards Refreshments: Andrey requests $350 for food at ASCIT awards. Good food will help to make the event a more pleasant experience for everyone involved. Maral will send out funding awards with Chris.

• Social Director: ASCIT Formal is tonight! The cost was slightly more than anticipated.

• Secretary: Laura emailed campus security regarding Jeddy Chen’s suggestions for decreasing the number of bike thefts by installing decoy video cameras.

Meeting adjourned: 12:51 PM

Submitted by Laura Conwill
ASCIT Secretary

ASCIT BoD Minutes

• V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair): The ARC did committee interviews. Andrey is expecting a survey from Mike Brown for students from the Core Curriculum Task Force. Plans are being made for the upcoming ASCIT awards. The ARC has also been working on option wikis.

• V.P. of Nonacademic Affairs (IHC Chair): The IHC gave Housing the list of summer room assignments for each house. They began their discussion of this fall’s Rotation, which they will continue at their next meeting. Over the summer, Pallavi wants to work on developing the career center.

• Operations Director: Andrey and Mike met with Rick Bischoff yesterday regarding Prefrosh Weekend. Mike plans to meet with Devin next week regarding the donut website.

• Treasurer: Maral is waiting on information from Financial Services before she can go ahead with club funding awards.

• Social Director: There’s a boba party in the RF courtyard tonight! Mashup Massive is tomorrow!

Meeting adjourned: 12:43 PM

Submitted by Laura Conwill
ASCIT Secretary
Over the past two weekends, Theatre Arts at Caltech (TACIT) has given six performances of Bertolt Brecht’s Life of Galileo. The performances, directed by Brian Brophy, were outside at the Gates Annex Patio. The audience sat in chairs on the grass and bundled up to see the show that was performed at nighttime. This year marks the four hundredth anniversary of Galileo Galilei turning his telescope towards the heavens.

The play was cut extensively, but still had a running time of slightly less than two and a half hours. Before each performance, Caltech’s madrigal group sang a few songs. Each scene began with a description and a short song. Matthew Elgart, a Caltech guitar instructor, composed the original music specifically for Caltech’s run of the play. The cast and crew was made up of over thirty drawn from all parts of the Caltech community, including undergraduates, alumni, and JPL employees. A different prominent scientist performed the cameo part of the Vatican head astronomers Christopher Clavius each night, including Mike Brown, infamously known for discrediting Pluto.

Having the play outside presented unique problems, but it gave the audience a feeling of being more involved in the action. When Galileo looked through the telescope, he was actually viewing the night sky. In fact, the actors made entrances from behind and to the side of the audience members. Set designer Janne Larson built the set around the Annex Patio, the audience, and the audience itself.

Audience turnout was high, despite some cool temperatures. The first Saturday of the run included a performance for alumni only during Alumni Weekend. On Saturday, May 23, there was a Galileo discussion, GalCon, preceding the show led by visiting Professor of History Noel Swerdlow.

The play’s theme of conflict between scientific discovery and established institutions still holds much relevance in our society today.

Pixar takes it UP another level

by Zeman Chang

Balloons, light, and fun party favors can bring out the child in all of us. Pixar’s “Up” has no shortage of party balloons and may be the first movie to offer them such an enormous amount of screen time. And so there is a little bit of foreshadowing in “Up,” a story of Mr. Fredericksen, an old man discontent with the ways of the modern world. Into his life barges a young and eager boy, Russell, on his way to completing his badge collection as a Wilderness Explorer. Russell needs one more, the elderly-assistance merit badge, and so our characters are brought together in a fantastical adventure involving a house lifted by thousands of balloons, talking dogs in the South American jungle, dreams to be fulfilled, and promises to be kept.

The movie begins with a prologue depicting the camaraderie of two children, Carl and Ellie, brought together by a common excitement for the daring adventures of an explorer named Charles Muntz. “Up” then follows this friendship as it blossoms into a sweet romance through a brief but beautiful sequence that captures the turns and emotions of life as the characters progress into old age. These few lyrical minutes, dialogue-free in a manner reminiscent of Wall-E, leave you at the beginning of the story with an aged Carl, now a balloon salesman called Mr. Fredericksen.

Most unique about “Up” is the interesting dynamic between the old and grumpy Mr. Fredericksen, with his box-shaped head, and the round, chubby, and earnest Russell. The difference in their outlooks on life brought about by the gap in their life experience makes for plenty of comic relief, but also brings up some thought provoking issues on senior life and the place they are sometimes relegated in society. With the aging population, such issues are sure to become more and more relevant.

Pixar’s recent track record has been quite impressive, with the movies Wall-E, Ratatouille, Cars, The Incredibles, and Finding Nemo coming out the past five years. Save for Cars, all have had a 96% or higher rating on Rotten Tomatoes and won the Best Animated Feature award at the Oscars.

As an experience, Up promises to add to the ranks of its predecessors as an enjoyable and uniquely endearing masterpiece.

Semana Latina

by Helen C. Kondos

Brazilian Samba dancers perform in front of Chandler in celebration of Semana Latina, sponsored by the Caltech Latino Association of Students in Engineering and Science (CLASES)
Since our first review two years ago, Broad Café has been known for serving Mexican food. Before that it was Thai. Now, Broad has undergone another transformation, this time serving up sandwiches, deli style. Walking into Broad during lunch hour, the first thing we noticed was the chaos! It was crowded, and there was a large mass of people waiting for their sandwiches. There definitely was not any organization, as the menu was posted around the counter, not really in any one conveniently located place. So, to make our decisions, we had to walk around the Café a few times amongst those waiting for their food.

Once we did order, the wait was a good 15 minutes, more than it takes for a fresh Mongol Bowl! It seemed that Broad was unprepared for the load of people grabbing lunch, and it was definitely understaffed. Though there are some issues right now, many are probably simply new-restaurant kinks – a lot of trouble could be alleviated by making a clearer, take-away menu and adding another staff member at lunchtime.

We ordered two different sandwiches – the New York, New York and the Submarine Sandwich. Both were served on a hoagie roll, which was better than the bread from Chandler’s sandwich station but could have had a crunchier crust. The New York was stacked full of ham, turkey, and Swiss cheese, though there was too much compared to the condiments on it. Overall, the sandwich needed more moisture, but all the ingredients tasted fresh.

The Submarine had ham, salami, and Swiss – again all piled very high. This one retained more moisture than the New York, possibly because of the Russian dressing (put on in error instead of the oil and vinegar). The salami was nice and sharp, but the cheese lacked some punch. Still, the sandwich was very good, though nothing out of the ordinary.

The revamped Broad Café, as a whole, is a nice change. It’s good to pop in if you feel like some pastrami or another specialty meat, or if you’re just on that side of campus. Otherwise, it’s just not something you really crave (like you may a pizza or Mongol Bowl). Still, it may be worth it to check it out and avoid the hustle and bustle of Chandler, since they do make a good, filling sandwich at Broad!
**Brian Go liked “work hard, play hard” culture of Page House**

**RYAN DENLINGER — Sophomore, Non-Fiction Prize**
**SYLVIA SULLIVAN — Freshman, Poetry Prize**
**HILLARY WALKER — Sophomore, Fiction Prize**

**Based on nominations from the humanities faculty, this prize is awarded annually to one or more undergraduate students for the best writing in a freshman humanities course. The prize is administered by the Writing Center and judged by a committee from the Humanities division.**

**Department will need to find a new statistics professor; Math 2b not the same**

**Garry Lorden, from Page 1**

**so beautiful.**

The North houses went up during his undergraduate years. As a freshman and sophomore Lorden belonged to Ricketts but lived off-campus. Back then, he recalled, students hailing from more than one thousand miles away were given priority for on-campus housing. When the new houses were completed, he and some Ricketts friends moved into them. “It was the slab,” said Lorden. “And I hope that, if all his friends do the same, then maybe, in some way, he’ll live a much longer life than he was able to, and the world will be a better place for it.”

**Two More Students Win Fellowships Abroad**

By Joel Nikolaus

**Ila Varma and Benji Lin**

For both the time abroad will point in this process is it just an opportunity to show the deans and the House that they shouldn’t expect the alcohol ban to be lifted overnight, but to take the opportunity to show the deans why they felt a dry environment would affect Page negatively.”

“He held himself to much higher standards than everyone else,” said Chris Urmans, who taught BGo a handful of classes and was his research mentor this term.

BGo’s summer research mentor Mani Chandy was not only impressed with his ability to solve problems—the two wrote a paper together on distributed software—but also with the balance BGo struck with work and academics, a balance Urmans thought was “everyone would agree he was an amazing president,” said Mason. Anna Beck said that the forum was so successful because BGo made sure everyone felt welcome.

When the deans first told BGo about the alcohol ban, he gave an impassioned speech about the value of retaining Page House as a “hotspot” for socializing. BGo, who’d been named one of the best student leaders in the nation, was watching YouTube previews when Rock Band was released. BGo’s friends point to his “work hard, play hard” attitude of Page House because he loved it with his heart and soul into improving Page House, “to have the deans see us as a group of people who just put our thumbs up. “It was the school he went to the best of his ability,” said Mason.

**More than one thousand miles away were given priority for on-campus housing. He bought new clothes, got a haircut, and started wearing contact lenses.

The result, as some of his friends put it, was “BGo got hot.”

His friends said he was dedicated through the entire transformation. For example, he spent four hours in front of the mirror trying to get his first contact lens in.

“Everybody tried, he did it to the best of his ability,” said Mason. Before the videogame Rock Band was released, BGo was watching YouTube previews of the game to figure out how to play it. While most everyone else finally came out, BGo was already an expert. For the party to pick up the real rock stars, and instrumental videos of the band’s YouTube playing covers of rock songs including “What’s My Age Again?” by Blink 182 and “Bullet with Butterfly Wings.” Strangers congratulated him for becoming such a good drummer in only six months.

BGo’s drive extended to his academic life. When he entered Caltech, he said he excelled. He was one of the most engaging students in his computer science classes, where his professors said he wouldn’t let anything slip by.

“He held himself to much higher standards than everyone else,” said Chris Urmans, who taught BGo a handful of classes and was his research mentor this term.

BGo’s summer research mentor Mani Chandy was not only impressed with his ability to solve problems—the two wrote a paper together on distributed software—but also with the balance BGo struck with work and academics, a balance Urmans thought was "everyone would agree he was an amazing president," said Mason. Anna Beck said that the forum was so successful because BGo made sure everyone felt welcome. When the deans first told BGo about the alcohol ban, he gave an impassioned speech about the value of retaining Page House as a “hotspot” for socializing. BGo, who’d been named one of the best student leaders in the nation, was watching YouTube previews when Rock Band was released. BGo’s friends point to his “work hard, play hard” attitude of Page House because he loved it with his heart and soul into improving Page House, “to have the deans see us as a group of people who just put our thumbs up. “It was the school he went to the best of his ability,” said Mason. It was really nice to see everyone support him. Many of BGo’s relationships were built through school and were in some way, part of his BGo’s personality. “And I hope that, if all his friends do the same, then maybe, in some way, he’ll live a much longer life than he was able to, and the world will be a better place for it.”

“Everything he tried, he did it to the best of his ability.”

**Mason Smith, close friend**

BGo wasn’t the obvious candidate for Page presidency because he hadn’t run for an office sophomore more year, but as soon as someone suggested his name, the decision was a no-brainer.

“Everyone was like ‘duh’, of course,” said Noah Tanabe. When the House met to talk and vote on the candidates, people were overwhelmingly in support of BGo, according to RA Anna Beck. “Everybody would agree he was an amazing president,” said Mason. Smith, the Page president before BGo.

**Gary Lorden teaching Math 2b, a class that he taught since first coming to Caltech as a member of the faculty.**

**BGo organized a forum with his best friend Mason. Anna Beck said that the forum was so successful because BGo made sure everyone felt welcome. When the deans first told BGo about the alcohol ban, he gave an impassioned speech about the value of retaining Page House as a “hotspot” for socializing. BGo, who’d been named one of the best student leaders in the nation, was watching YouTube previews when Rock Band was released. BGo’s friends point to his “work hard, play hard” attitude of Page House because he loved it with his heart and soul into improving Page House, “to have the deans see us as a group of people who just put our thumbs up. “It was the school he went to the best of his ability,” said Mason. It was really nice to see everyone support him. Many of BGo’s relationships were built through school and were in some way, part of his BGo’s personality. “And I hope that, if all his friends do the same, then maybe, in some way, he’ll live a much longer life than he was able to, and the world will be a better place for it.”

**Two More Students Win Fellowships Abroad**

By Joel Nikolaus

Ila Varma and Benji Lin

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Groundbreaking Party Brings DJ Earworm to Campus

By Hillary Walker

It is rare to find Britney Spears and the Beatles on the same play list; it is even rarer to find them within the same song, but Caltech students had the opportunity to personally taste such unexpected, heady blends at Mashup Massive, a unique, student-planned party this last weekend. The event took place on Saturday evening in the Glanville Courtyard at the Beckman Institute with a heavy turnout from both undergraduates and grad students.

The innovative event featured San Francisco-based DJ Earworm (Jordan Roseman), an artist famous for his stylish, technically advanced concoctions. Mashups, also known as mashups, blends, bootlegs, and bastard pop, are created by merging two or more songs; most commonly, the vocals of one song are superimposed on the instrumentation of another. Although the reconstruction of songs with borrowed pieces has been in practice since the beginning of recorded music, the true blossoming of electronic mashups began in the 1980’s, and bastard pop has only recently gained its footing as a valid form of artistic expression, thanks in part to artists such as Girl Talk (Gregg Gillis) and DJ Earworm.

Jordan Roseman spent his early years on a hippie commune and then went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in computer science and music at the University of Illinois. After moving to San Francisco, Roseman learned the art of blending music, adopted his pseudonym, and rose to prominence within the mashup scene. Roseman even wrote an instructional book titled “Audio Mashup Construction Kit,” which was published in 2006.

DJ Earworm is notable for the sophistication and complexity of his pieces, some of which combine over twenty songs. Earworm’s “United State of Pop 2008” blends the top 25 hits of the year, including songs by Coldplay, Rihanna, T. I., and Usher, and peaked at #58 on Billboard’s Top 100 Airplay chart. “DJ Earworm is the epitome of pop,” said Anton Karrman of Lloyd, one of the party’s organizers. “It’s like bringing MTV to Caltech.” Mashup Massive was planned by a committee composed of undergraduates from every house and the former GSC Social Chair. In designing the party, the group hoped to invigorate the Caltech social atmosphere and escape the expectations and traditions that guide typical interhouse parties. “We don’t normally see things like this. It’s something different,” said Lisa Zang of Fleming. The Mashup Massive committee also seeks to bring undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni together—a fitting goal for a party centered on blended music—and hopes that Graduates, a graduate event taking place earlier on the day of the party, will help boost graduate student attendance.

Funding was provided by the Moore-Hufstedler Fund, ASCIT, and the Caltech Alumni Association.

Ditch Day Offers Students a Break From Classes

By Natalya Kostandova

This Wednesday, most Caltech students were involved in stranger things than usual. Whether it was rescuing Princess Zelda, whacking each other with giant blue balls, or riding around in a shopping cart covered with tiger fur, at least for most students the day was spent in anything but routine activities.

Like many of the other years, this Ditch Day attracted some increment in stranger things than usual. Whether it was rescuing Princess Zelda, whacking each other with giant blue balls, or riding around in a shopping cart covered with tiger fur, at least for most students the day was spent in anything but routine activities. Although most of the underclassmen participated in the stacks, some chose to spend their day in other ways, whether it was catching up on sleep, working on some sets, biking to the beach, or simply taking a day off to be lazy.

“The idea of ditch day is appealing in that it gives people the opportunity to have a day to not think about work, sets and classes,” said an underclassman who did not participate in a stack. “It’s good to take a day off to not think about these things sometimes.”

Ditch Day, while not devoid of mind-boggling, thinking-intensive, brain-hurting tasks, does give some relief from problem sets and daily grunge of Caltech. And, at least as far as my knowledge goes, unlike the claim of the ABC7 video, which portrays Ditch Day as the ultimate nerdy undertaking, none of the classes required a slide rule. These things are outdated anyway.

Seniors say Ditch Day “definitely rewarding”

Although most of the underclassmen involved in the stacks, some chose to spend their day in other ways, whether it was catching up on sleep, working on some sets, biking to the beach, or simply taking a day off to be lazy. According to many seniors, the day was rewarding and filled with fun. While some seniors were involved in stranger things than usual, others spent their day in creative and unusual ways.

For many seniors, building stacks or overall organizing Ditch Day was a significant time sink, yet for some it was definitely worth it. “Creating puzzles and trying to come up with some storyline to get the underclassmen engaged in the stack was definitely worth it when you can see how much fun they’re having,” said Calvin Ting, who built a Pokemon stack with three other seniors.

Although most of the stacks involved tasks that were located on campus, some stacks got underclassmen away from Caltech. Whether it was Los Angeles, Venice Beach, or Las Vegas, a portion of the participants got to a chance to explore a little bit of the world quite literally outside the classrooms.