More women applying to Caltech

Admissions upping recruitment

By Chris Kennelly
Staff Writer

More females are clamoring to get into Caltech than ever before—this year, 34% more females applied via Early Action, an increase Director of Admissions Rick Bischoff calls “very substantial.” The total Early Action pool surged 16% from 683 applicants to 795.

Bischoff says that the increase in applicants parallels the stronger applicant pool from last year. The admissions committee is making its final decisions this week before sending out acceptance letters.

This year marks the one-year experiment without “The Box” on Caltech’s application, a square experiment without “The Box” admissions committee is making an increase for the student pool from last year. The admissions pool surged 16% from 683 applicants to 795.

Bischoff was accepted to Caltech and chose to stay on campus fires, the question is not how fast the actual fire spreads, but how fast the smoke spreads. “Your books, clothes, bedding… generate the toxic smoke that injures and kills people,” says Bischoff. “A vast majority of the fire fatalities are from smoke inhalation, not from burns. Smoke travels far and wide, and within seconds and minutes you can be trapped.”

False alarms can be fatal

By Sarah Marzen
Staff Writer

In the past, at other universities, students ignored fire alarms and were injured or killed due to a delayed response to real fires. The South Houses have had over a dozen false alarms in the last year.

The most notorious of these incidents was in 2000 at Seton Hall University. Students didn’t respond immediately to a real fire alarm, thinking it was another false fire alarm. Three students were killed and 58 students were injured.

Fire extinguishers and fire alarms were all working properly, and firefighters responded within minutes. However, Seton Hall did not have sprinklers installed in 2000, because the law requiring sprinklers was enacted after the dorms were built.

Accounting for data from the latest version of the Campus Fire Safety Information Sheet, 83% of campus fires occur in off-campus housing, and 8% of all campus fires occur in residence halls. The most common causes of fire fatalities include missing or broken smoke detectors or sprinklers. Caltech dorms have sprinklers and fire alarms in the South Houses, but Marks, Braun, and the North Houses only have fire alarms.

More recent college fires include fires at South Adventist University in 2005 and a fire at an off-campus house in Rochester, New York this year. The South Adventist University student was faced by a wall of smoke when the fire alarm was turned off. In the Rochester fire, the two house occupants didn’t react until after the second alarm, leading to a fatal eight-minute delay in action.

Fires in the Caltech dorms will probably spread on similarly short time scales. According to Ed Comeau of Campus Firewatch, an organization that tracks college campus fires, the question is not how fast the actual fire spreads, but how fast the smoke spreads. “Your books, clothes, bedding… generate the toxic smoke that injures and kills people,” says Bischoff. “A vast majority of the fire fatalities are from smoke inhalation, not from burns. Smoke travels far and wide, and within seconds and minutes you can be trapped.”

Although some Caltech students deride false alarms as “Everything’s Okay” alarms, more cautious authorities question the premise of that phrase.

“I have never heard an alarm..."
Put a price on teaching, then see if we can afford it

By Andrew Kositsky

If undergrads want better teaching, the undergrads will have to show the dough. It’s difficult to convince Caltech to invest resources into teaching reforms if the undergrads aren’t willing to spend any of their own money.

How much is necessary? That depends on how big a change the undergrads want to see.

Let’s try an experiment. Survey the undergraduate/graduate student population on teaching quality: how much would you pay in order to have some additional professors or other teaching reforms? Do you want to improve teaching quality yourself, then survey the professors. Apply the null hypothesis. And if we reject it, we can investigate the area(s) of teaching need and the most effective way to spend money on teaching reform or we may find that teaching reforms are important to everyone.

Since not hiring teaching professors and not providing more monetary inducements to encourage excellence in teaching is cheaper than adding to Caltech’s budget, we’ll start with the null hypothesis that students and faculty don’t want teaching reform badly enough to pay for it.

This is probably what Caltech’s administration assumes; why spend money on trying out an expensive new teaching technique when it’s not clear that more than a few people care? This is a great chance to determine whether or not we can pay for teaching reform.

We’re in a position to petition Caltech (whatever that means) to increase student fees and have matching (or surpassing) contributions from Caltech and its alumni. If the students vote to increase their fees in order to get that (perhaps contingent on receiving matching funds), it’s a very strong message. If they’re not willing to pay for it, does the message that they want this additional service without spending money carry weight?

If that’s the case, where should the money come from?

With the professors, make an option for them to “buy out” their teaching by contributing from some fund (grants?) to the “teaching budget” in their area? There are many details we need to work out, but we should head toward making strong, quantitative statements about the impact of each teaching reform at Caltech.

There’s no reason to leave rational arguments in the lab!

Make us think

Engaging problems, not grueling ones, are the best way to excite eager minds

By Jonathan Senn

Last year I was taught MA19b, Differential Topology, by Professor McReynolds. At the first lecture he announced that each of the problems are to be attempted to solve. He also said that some of the problems are so significant headway.

These problems wouldn’t be labeled as such, and of course we were encouraged to attempt to solve all problems.

On occasion he would even intentionally ask us to prove statements which were false, and he assigned a series of open problems as extra credit.

**“On occasion he would even intentionally ask us to prove statements which were false...this was my most enjoyable class while at Caltech.”**

Despite the weekly double-digit number of hours required to be able to grasp the material, this was my most enjoyable class while at Caltech.

For most students, understanding the material taught in Caltech courses tends to require large amounts of time, and for me this time felt most useful as I struggled to apply the concepts I learned to novel and difficult problems, the sort which I’m not sure we can solve at all. The large majority of Techers choose to attend Caltech to be trained as scientists, or at least out of a fascination with scientific thought. In my opinion, the best courses are those which ask us to think (and work) like scientists, challenging us to (re)invent difficult or elegant solutions, while the not so rewarding ones require us to in some sense mimic examples performed in class or in the text.

Most classes have exams which performed in class or in the text.

This culture shift, though an ambiguous, abstract notion, already seems to demand more from busy Caltech professors while students can plead for better teaching quality.
Apathy's roots in Tech culture: a supersenior's perspective

By Daniel Poon
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Continuing the recent rash of articles discussing the apathy which pervades Caltech, I’d like to offer my two cents on how the “nurturing” environment of Tech molds our attitudes concerning community over our Tech years. It’s my belief that the real value of a university to not just learn the techniques of their future trade, but to forge independent thinkers, responsible adults as people as adults. Caltech may provide one of the best educations in the world with respect to the former aim, but in the latter respect, Caltech often provides a weak experience.

I’m sure even the freshest have noticed by now that Caltech is a very unset- tling place. One could argue that popular mythology is, gener- ally neither the teachers nor the students are particularly concerned with this happen. For all the talk about “learning how to learn at Caltech”, it is a skill that very few first year students really set about to manage their time. Instead, freshmen are often overwhelmed by everything, from issues that actually matter to the most minor and unreasonable inconveniences. All of this happens while we are still on pass-fail.

Consider the traditional first- term freshman schedule. Math 1a is meant to be a weed class for the physics department, and is legally idiotically difficult. The rest is not a great class either. It’s meant to be an easy class. Phys 1a is a joke; so was APH 9a, although I hear that is changing. That all CS I requires is minimal time manage- ment, enough to get the week in. Compared to upperclass workshops, a typical first-term freshman schedule is minimally strenuous even before considering that the entire term is on pass-fail, yet even with a minimal work- load, much of the apathy at Tech seems in fine form by the end of the year. The case is therefore strong for an untrammelled society of students, who are actu- ally caring about what transpires in the campus community is tan- tamount to denying the paradigm of constant struggle with academ- ics; therefore, a lack of apathy is socially harmful.

“We students have a social interest in portraying ourselves as struggling with our coursework in order to elicit sympathy from our peers. I’m sure you know what I’m talking about.”

It’s easy to pick and choose passages of the day’s Notre Dame versus UCLA debate on “Can Good Exist Without God?”, and was mediated by Shermer responded “We’ll settle it.”

Atheism’s roots in Tech culture: a supersenior’s perspective

By Daniel Poon

Continuing the recent rash of articles discussing the apathy which pervades Caltech, I’d like to offer my two cents on how the “nurturing” environment of Tech molds our attitudes concerning community over our Tech years. It’s my belief that the real value of a university to not just learn the techniques of their future trade, but to forge independent thinkers, responsible adults as people as adults. Caltech may provide one of the best educations in the world with respect to the former aim, but in the latter respect, Caltech often provides a weak experience.

I’m sure even the freshest have noticed by now that Caltech is a very unset- tling place. One could argue that popular mythology is, gener- ally neither the teachers nor the students are particularly concerned with this happen. For all the talk about “learning how to learn at Caltech”, it is a skill that very few first year students really set about to manage their time. Instead, freshmen are often overwhelmed by everything, from issues that actually matter to the most minor and unreasonable inconveniences. All of this happens while we are still on pass-fail.

Consider the traditional first- term freshman schedule. Math 1a is meant to be a weed class for the physics department, and is legally idiotically difficult. The rest is not a great class either. It’s meant to be an easy class. Phys 1a is a joke; so was APH 9a, although I hear that is changing. That all CS I requires is minimal time manage- ment, enough to get the week in. Compared to upperclass workshops, a typical first-term freshman schedule is minimally strenuous even before considering that the entire term is on pass-fail, yet even with a minimal work- load, much of the apathy at Tech seems in fine form by the end of the year. The case is therefore strong for an untrammelled society of students, who are actu- actually caring about what transpires in the campus community is tan- tamount to denying the paradigm of constant struggle with academ- ics; therefore, a lack of apathy is socially harmful.

“We students have a social interest in portraying ourselves as struggling with our coursework in order to elicit sympathy from our peers. I’m sure you know what I’m talking about.”

It’s easy to pick and choose passages of the day’s Notre Dame versus UCLA debate on “Can Good Exist Without God?”, and was mediated by Shermer responded “We’ll settle it.”
**TOP 10 HOLIDAY COFFEES**

by Andrew Freddo and Dannah Almasco

Introducing: As the holiday season comes upon us, we get bombarded from every angle with holiday cheer. The nearby coffee shops try to put us in that homey holiday mood with specialty drinks. We decided to trek out and drink up at the nearby spots. Here’s 10 flavors you may (or may not) want to try while finishing up your exams.

1. Eggnog Latte (Peet’s, $3.30): Even though we didn’t know much about eggnog going in, we found this very sweet and milky, but still with a solid coffee taste.

2. Blended Peppermint Mocha Trio (SBC, $3.65): Besides being beautifully presented, this (cold) drink was very refreshing, with a strong (but not overpowering) peppermint taste over the coffee and chocolate.

3. Peppermint Hot Cocoa (Peet’s, $2.90): This drink smelled exactly like melted Andes mints, and was very rich. The mint wasn’t too strong, but complemented the sweet chocolate well.

4. Maple White Chocolate Mocha (SBC, $3.60): Want a change of pace from the traditional holiday offerings? Try this drink, which smells and tastes like maple syrup, with the creamy smoothness of white chocolate in the background.

5. Caramel Apple Spice (Starbucks, $2.60): Only have this (non-coffee) drink if you are a true apple cider fan. It’s very sweet with a rich spice aroma, but a bit overpowering if you’re not expecting it.

6. Peppermint Latte (Red Door): The peppermint flavor is subtle, with a milk aftertaste. You can drink this one faster than the other offerings, because it had a thinner texture.

7. Peppermint Mocha Frappuccino (Starbucks, $3.75): Only for the die-hard mint and chocolate fans, this drink will blow you away with mint flavor. The coffee flavor definitely takes a backseat on this one.

8. Holly Jolly Mocha (Red Door): This drink has a distinct coffee aroma, but with a definite chocolate taste. The mint is much more subtle in this, but overall it’s a bit too sweet.

9. Peppermint Latte (Coffee Bean, $3.50): Essentially, the only time the flavor of peppermint and white chocolate came through was on the very last sip. The drink had a very silky texture, but it basically tasted like hot chocolate milk with a hint of mint.

10. Gingerbread Latte (Coffee Bean, $3.50): This drink evolved from being way too hot and frothy to lukewarm, watery milk. Only at the very end did any gingerbread flavor come in, but then it was too much; there was no happy medium.

---

**Don Giovanni AT THE L.A. OPERA**

Mozart’s classic opera Don Giovanni received a fresh new face at the LA Opera during its run this season at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in LA, which began on November 24 and will continue to run through December 15. The popular story about history’s greatest playboy and miscreant is back with a vengeance and well worth the viewing. LA Opera’s stark, minimalist sets speak much louder than words, putting a chilly emphasis on the phrase “dark comedy” and providing a visual and auditory tour de force that is both beautiful and terrifying.

The stage crackles with intensity even as the curtain opens, we are treated to a somber, haunting visual and musical prelude during the overture and the rest is an incredible palette of stimulating and sensual scenes, interspersed with light comedy and lots of highly enjoyable ruggings. Erwin Schrott shins as the eternally sexy and irresistibly charismatic Don Giovanni, a hedonistic nobleman with an eye for the ladies. In fact, as is revealed in the comic aria “Madama, il catalogo è questo” (My little lady, this is the catalogue), Don Giovanni has had no less than 2,065 lovers: 640 in Italy, 231 in Germany, 100 in France, 91 in Turkey, and 1,003 in Spain.

In fact, as revealed in the comic aria “Madama, il catalogo è questo” (My little lady, this is the catalogue), Don Giovanni has had no less than 2,065 lovers: 640 in Italy, 231 in Germany, 100 in France, 91 in Turkey, and 1,003 in Spain.

---

Evelyn Chou
Relax!

How to Survive Finals

Try these easy beginner yoga positions to help center and calm yourself:

Downward Facing Dog: This pose stretches and strengthens the body, it is usually the first pose done in the practice, and is done throughout as a transitional/resting pose. Keep your hands and feet shoulder length apart, engage your forearms and spread the fingers. Bring your shoulder blades more onto your back in the direction of your hips rather than your ears; try to sink your heels to the floor.

Standing Forward Bend: A standing pose that lengthens hamstrings. Some tips: fold from your hips forward, not so much bending with your back; almost shift your weight forward over the balls of your feet (keeps your hips over your ankles); use your fingertips or palms to keep your balance; bend your knees if you need to.

Child’s Pose: Resting pose that gently stretches the hips, thighs and ankles. From downward facing dog, drop your knees to the floor as wide as your mat, your big toes touching. Rest your belly between your thighs as close to the ground as you can, and your forehead on the floor. Outstretch your arms in front of you, your palms facing the floor.

Finals Week Checklist:
- Sleep! All-nighters are a no-no
- Eat! See the list of foods to help you destress and exam on a full stomach
- Organize! Cluttered spaces are distracting and uncomfortable to work in
- Plan! Schedule your time so you don’t waste it
- Be Prepared! Have all your materials, notes, etc. at hand, and all the exam instructions clarified

Adapted from: http://www.askmen.com/sports/fitness_top_ten/45_fitness_list.html

Food for Thought

Almonds
With vitamin B2, E, magnesium, and zinc, they can regulate mood and stress. They help in the production of serotonin, while also destroying free radicals.

Sushi
In addition to the fish (which is also helpful for de-stressing!), seaweed has magnesium, pantothentic acid, and vitamin B2. Never heard of pantothenic acid? If you’re deficient in times of stress, you’ll feel even more anxious, so eat up!

Milk
Drink at least 3 servings a day so you can keep up with vitamins B2 and B12 along with antioxidants.

Fortified Breakfast Cereals
These serve as another great way to get B vitamins, folic acid, vitamin C, and fiber and get you off to a great start to your day.

Blueberries
Now it’s just getting repetitive...but these are full of antioxidants and vitamin C. They’re also easy to incorporate into a midday (or midnight!) snack.

Avoid fried and fatty foods. Even though they may taste good going down, these may actually increase your anxiety level.

Adapted from: http://www.askmen.com/sports/fitness_top_ten/45_fitness_list.html
**Crime sees a spike around campus**

By Andrea Dubin  
**STAFF WRITER**

Crime around Caltech has been increasing recently—within the last 3 weeks, 2 robberies were reported on the perimeter of campus. In one, a non-student member of the Caltech community was struck on Amber Road and his wallet stolen. Six days later, a victim was stopped by two men at Chester and Colorado and told to hand over his backpack. The suspects returned the bag, but were last seen walking off-campus. In fact, they give over 5000 escorts each year anywhere on campus and in some off-campus locations like 150 S. Chester. Escorts can be called 24/7 by calling Caltech security at extension 4701.

While this and a few other incidents have recently occurred, many students feel that self-defense is emphasized enough, especially for the male students. “I would say the self-defense classes were available to men as well as women,” said Curendolo.

**Caltech devoting more to stem cell research**

**STEM CELLS. FROM PAGE 1**

Caltech is taking an active role in educating people about stem cells. Patterson is training 10 post-doctorate fellows in Caltech labs for future work in the USC facilities. A course that is taught in conjunction with USC and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles will offer this year to students and undergraduates. Furthermore, Caltech held an annual symposium regional all month.

SC1 and stem cell research in general faces many barriers. Particularly, this will be one of the most common issues for research and proceeding of how to do it.

**ASCIT minutes: 12-05-07**

**Student Center in the works; WASC accreditation; DVD library used by grad students**

Present: Chris Gonzales, Mike Grinfelds, Andrea Dubin, Mike Woods, Eka Bhogwani, Daryl Coleman, Patrick Herring, Zack Higbee, Dan Lee  
**Absent:** Mike Forte  
**Guests:** Joel Nikolau, Craig Montour

*Student Center Planning*

Mike brings the idea up again of getting a student committee for helping to plan the student center. Mike suggests having this committee go before the next BoD takes over. There is a time limit—within the last 3 weeks, 2 robberies were reported on the perimeter of campus. In one, a non-student member of the Caltech community was struck on Amber Road and his wallet stolen. Six days later, a victim was stopped by two men at Chester and Colorado and told to hand over his backpack. The suspects returned the bag, but were last seen walking off-campus. In fact, they give over 5000 escorts each year anywhere on campus and in some off-campus locations like 150 S. Chester. Escorts can be called 24/7 by calling Caltech security at extension 4701.

### Join the Tech for lunch next term! Meetings are from 12-1 PM at the Broad

**Fire from page 1**

referred to as an “Everything’s Okay” alarm, said Comeau. “They are going off for a real fire.”

Some other top-tier college dorms don’t have fire alarms. Menyoung Lee, an undergraduate at Harvard University, can only remember one fire alarm in his dorm this term, and says that everyone evacuated. Students at Yale, Stanford, and Princeton say similar things. On the other hand, MIT undergraduates Caroline Bogdan and Cornell undergraduate Svetlana Ionova report that fire alarms go off frequently in response to kitchen smoke, but most of the students that are awake enough to hear the alarms evacuate.

### False alarms absent at other schools

**FIRE FROM PAGE 1**

Some other top-tier college dorms don’t have fire alarms. Menyoung Lee, an undergraduate at Harvard University, can only remember one fire alarm in his dorm this term, and says that everyone evacuated. Students at Yale, Stanford, and Princeton say similar things. On the other hand, MIT undergraduates Caroline Bogdan and Cornell undergraduate Svetlana Ionova report that fire alarms go off frequently in response to kitchen smoke, but most of the students that are awake enough to hear the alarms evacuate.

---

*Honor Keys*

Craig reports that the list is still changing. Craig will talk to Tom about the budget and will come to us about it. We need to settle on a final point system and send off an order shortly after winter break. We will have a separate meeting to discuss the point system.

*Other stuff*

The CUE is meeting on Friday to talk about outcomes and objectives relating to the WASC accreditation. Carol Carmichael and President Chameau will be there.

*Finance seminars will start next term.*
Women’s bball suffers blowout loss to La Sierra

By Yang Yang  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Caltech women’s basketball team suffered its second straight road loss 90-57 at La Sierra on Sunday.

Three Beavers broke double digits in scoring, led by senior captain Lindsay King with 24. Senior co-captain Rene Davis scored 12 points and sophomore Lisa Yee contributed 10.

Both King and Yee gathered a team-high nine rebounds for the Beavers, but Caltech was still outrebounded 46-27 by a taller La Sierra squad.

Caltech put up 27 fewer shots than La Sierra, partially due to 16 offensive rebounds. The Golden Eagles had multiple looks on offensive possessions.

Poor free throw shooting plagued the Beavers again – Caltech shot better from the field (34.6 percent) than from the line (33.3 percent) in the first half. The team did manage to get to the free throw line with regularity, shooting 37 free throws compared to La Sierra’s 10.

The lopsided loss was extremely frustrating for the Beavers, who had scrimmaged against La Sierra in the preseason and lost by only three points.

“We’re really not worse than them,” King said. “We were playing almost scared at some points. We get down by a little bit [and become] a bit frenzies and unproductive. They made a couple of baskets and we’d get down on ourselves.”

The contest was never close as the Golden Eagles jumped out to an early 14-2 lead and never looked back. The lead bulged to 20 points by halftime. La Sierra extended its lead in the second half on 7-of-12 shooting from beyond the three-point arc.

“We got off to a slow start again,” Yee said. “That’s one of our biggest problems, we’re usually a second-half time and dig ourselves out of the hole. But this game the hole just kept getting deeper. They hit the first few shots and that boosted their confidence, which made it easier for them to shoot later.”

The team will have a week to build on the lessons learned from two consecutive road games at Southwestern and La Sierra. Caltech is scheduled to play Montana State Northern on Sunday. The Skylights come in with an 8-3 record and a three-game winning streak.

“We understand what we did wrong and what we have to do,” Yee said. “We just have to go out and do it.”

Happy Holidays!  
from the Tech Staff

Tired of CDS lunches and dinners?

$2.00 Burger, Fries, and Drink  
EVERYDAY

for all Caltech students, staff, and faculty

Enjoy The Greatest Happy Hours in the Area.

All Well Drinks, Beer & wine, Monday to Friday

10am-7pm only $1.99

Burger Continental

558 S. Lake Ave.

Pasadena (626) 792-6034

Always 20% off for all Caltech students, staff, faculty

By the numbers:

Caltech | La Sierra
---|---
Total Points: | 57 | 90
3-pointers made: | 0/2 | 12/25
Total Rebounds: | 27 | 46
Free Throws: | 19/37 | 2/10

The contest was never close as the Golden Eagles jumped out to an early 14-2 lead and never looked back. The lead bulged to 20 points by halftime. La Sierra extended its lead in the second half on 7-of-12 shooting from beyond the three-point arc.

“We got off to a slow start again,” Yee said. “That’s one of our biggest problems, we’re usually a second-half time and dig ourselves out of the hole. But this game the hole just kept getting deeper. They hit the first few shots and that boosted their confidence, which made it easier for them to shoot later.”

The team will have a week to build on the lessons learned from two consecutive road games at Southwestern and La Sierra. Caltech is scheduled to play Montana State Northern on Sunday. The Skylights come in with an 8-3 record and a three-game winning streak.

“We understand what we did wrong and what we have to do,” Yee said. “We just have to go out and do it.”

Upcoming Games

December 16, 2007  
Women’s Basketball vs. Montana State Northern

December 17, 2007  
Men’s Basketball vs. Gallaudet
HUMOR

DECEMBER 10, 2007

Natalya says: things only idiots would buy

By Natalya Kostandova

Last week, Japanese scientists conducted a series of memory tests on both chimpanses and college students, only to find that the apes performed significantly better. The smartest of the chimps, Ayuma, had almost twice the accuracy and more of a speed than the human subjects in one of the tests. This result, challenging the belief that chimpanzees are inferior to humans in all cognitive functions, leads to a natural conclusion – people are dumb.

Not that we need the reminder, of course. The obvious stupidity present in political, economical, and formal circles of our lives aside, let’s consider some of the less obvious and well-known examples of human incompetence.

For instance, making money always seems to be an issue. As aside, let’s consider some of the and formal circles of our lives present in political, economical, and social contexts. (I assume this is the cause)

I say to the students, we have had enough! We must design a system marginally better than yours and thus undercut your market in all thirteen colonies and several small countries, while feeding the entire populace of Africa on the bloated remains of your marketing department. Thank you and good night.

The entire undergraduate population of the California Institute of Technology.

I say to the students, we have had enough! We must unite against the administration and demand that housing mend this barbarous imposition upon our safety and comfort! If Tim Chang’s house had a fire alarm every time the South house fire alarms went off, there would immediately be a redress of the company which manufactured the fire alarms:

For the low, low price of $19,999.95, you could have either 40,000 Krispy Kreme glazed donuts... or this junkyard reject

Letters to the Editor

Revolt against the fire alarms

Dear Editor,

You are not fucking kidding about the fire alarms! This is utter insanity, I can’t believe how long this has gone on. Two weeks ago I remember having two of them in one day!

The problem is aggravated by Housing’s refusal to bring us our due time each the alarm goes off. When I was a freshman I remember each house receiving several boxes of donuts with each alarm. It was great! No matter what you were doing, the alarms went off and you had to go out for a donut break. As I recall, Douglas Hanley would begin salvaging whenever the donut alarm would go off, because he had been so thoroughly trained:

This was the implicit agreement between the students and housing, which now has been breached in the extreme. By my count, Housing now owes each of the south houses about 34 boxes of fresh donuts.

To truly illustrate the moral outrage of housings continuing negligence to fix the fire alarms, please read this email from January 29th of last year, which I and my roommate Michael Rylee sent to the company which manufactured the fire alarms:

So, this is it? Are we a couple now?

I don’t know. I like this. But... I don’t know.

Will you be my 'TITUS'? (Please?)

Hello,

We believe this company to be primarily responsible for the fire alarm/security system implemented in our place of residence. Based on this assumption, we hold you personally responsible for the near constant stream of ear piercing loud and obnoxious alarms that plague us day and night.

We are university students, half crazed and mostly dead as it is...this alarm system is making us all feel fines and want to kill ourselves.

This is also your fault.

Every time it goes off we are filled with unquenchable rage and begin punching the walls until we bleed.

It’s as though you are torturing a dying panda.

A sad and lonely panda with no prospects for maturing, trapped in a foreign land.

(Caltech students)

We take small consolation in that the alarms indicate no real fire danger. Every alarm thus far has been a false one.

I understand that the tone of this message might lead you to disregard our plea for help;

I assure you that we wish to mend this barbarous imposition, trapped in a foreign land.

We are university students, half crazed and mostly dead as it is...this alarm system is making us all feel fines and want to kill ourselves.

This is also your fault.

Every time it goes off we are filled with unquenchable rage and begin punching the walls until we bleed.

It’s as though you are torturing a dying panda.

A sad and lonely panda with no prospects for maturing, trapped in a foreign land.

(Caltech students)

We take small consolation in that the alarms indicate no real fire danger. Every alarm thus far has been a false one.

I understand that the tone of this message might lead you to disregard our plea for help;

I assure you that we wish to launch a legitimate complaint about real design flaws, but are actually quite mad and incapable of normal communication.

My one-eyed grandma could fire off a bazooka in all thirteen colonies and several small countries, while feeding the entire populace of Africa on the bloated remains of your marketing department. Thank you and good night.

Viva La Revolucion!

Chris Beck