

THE CALIFORNIA TECH



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President Interacts With Undergraduates

BY: KIMBERLY HO

Since beginning his role as Caltech President, Jean-Lou Chameau has made his presence quite known through his interactions with various segments of Caltech's undergraduate community.

He was present at this year's New Student Orientation Camp at Lake Arrowhead, where he made a speech to the incoming freshman class about how he was also new to the Caltech environment and was therefore a frosh as well. At the lunch and dinners, he sat with the freshman and talked with them about a variety of subjects. At the Talent Show, he sat in the audience and enjoyed the performances by all.

Additionally, like all pre-frosh, President Chameau participated in Rotation. He became an official Flem when he allowed Fleming House members to toss him into a swimming pool. Students remarked that he appeared to enjoy all the activities and even posed for pictures while still dripping wet.

President Chameau was also present at the Caltech Pre-Med Association Social Dinner at Tom Mannion's house. After the activities were over, he and his wife, Dr. Carol Carmichael, stayed after and chatted intimately with students about their college workload and future plans.

President Chameau also took time to visit with the undergraduates in each of Caltech divisions and learn about the programs in each of them. Although he has been here only for a short while, students say that he has been a very pleasant and affable person. An individual wishing to remain anonymous said, "He is a very open person, which is surprising and nice given the amount of authority he holds, I am sure that many Techers hold this view, too."

Chameau officially became Caltech's eighth president on Sept. 1, succeeding Dr. David Baltimore. Previously, Chameau held positions at the Georgia Institute of Technology as provost and as dean of engineering.

Blowing off Steam



Students take a break from academics with music. Story on Page 4

Techers get in free!
Entrepreneurs Present Ideas

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Page House Parties Medieval Style Pageboys Worked Overtime to Construct Party



Page House hosted the first Interhouse Party of the year last Saturday night. Senior Ryan Sinnet helped design the floorplan using Google Sketchup, and freshmen in Page House helped construct the party with the encouragement of Work Frosh David Kratz.

Ruddock House Gets New Furniture



Ruddock House recently obtained new furniture, including the couches in their lounge.

By: Radhika MArathe

Ruddock House members have a reason to rejoice this term as Housing provided them with brand new furniture at the beginning of the year. As of August, the Ruddock House Lounge now has six new couches, a \$2000 plasma TV, crystal coasters, around

ten \$200 computer lab chairs and new library tables as well as improved lighting throughout the house.

Ricky Jones, the Ruddock House president, on being asked about the circumstances under which this furniture was requested said, "In response to the renovation of the South Houses, I thought it was reasonable for me to request that

Tim Chang [Senior Director of Institute Housing] purchase a few amenities for Ruddock House's lounge."

He stated that this request was valid as, "The space was previously underused, and full of

very ugly, dilapidated furniture. It did not reflect well on

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Down the Well

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The Outside World

BY: RADHIKA MARATHE

National

NYC bans cell phones in schools

Parents opposing the cell phone ban in New York City Schools have sent innumerable emails to authorities ranting that the policy is unreasonable, irresponsible and 'hints at fascism'.

NYC Mayor Bloomberg's spokesman, Stu Loeser, dismissed the emails as a publicity stunt and stated that no change would be made in the policy. The Mayor argues against the opinions of the parents advocating the use of cell phones for keeping tabs on their kids during long commutes from home to school.

Mayor Bloomberg worries that cell phones are a major cause of distraction in the classroom and encourage students to cheat and waste time in class by playing games and sending text messages. On the more sinister side, he believes that they lead to organized criminal gang activity.

The mayor says schools have many ways to let parents reach their kids during the day if needed. He shrugs at whether it might be more convenient for kids to have phones on their way to and from school, but says the only way to ensure they are not abused during school hours is to ban them outright.

Health

A Chocolate a Day Keeps the Doctor Away!

Chocolate lovers who flunked out of a study on aspirin and heart-attacks based at the John Hopkins University helped researchers discover why a little chocolate a day can cut the risk of a heart attack.

Diane Becker and her colleagues discovered that the

chemical in cocoa beans have an effect similar to aspirin on platelets, reducing clumping and thus preventing them from clogging heart vessels that leads to a heart attack.

Researchers ran platelet samples from people who did and did not consume chocolate through a mechanical blood vessel system designed to time how long it takes for the platelets to clump together in a hair-thin plastic tube.

The blood of the chocolate eaters was slower to clot than the blood of the volunteers who resisted chocolate, and in a urine test, the chocolate lovers had lower levels of a platelet waste product called thromboxane.

Other studies have suggested that dark chocolate contains more of the beneficial compounds linked with heart health, and experts note that the high sugar and fat content of most chocolate candy might cancel out some of the benefits.

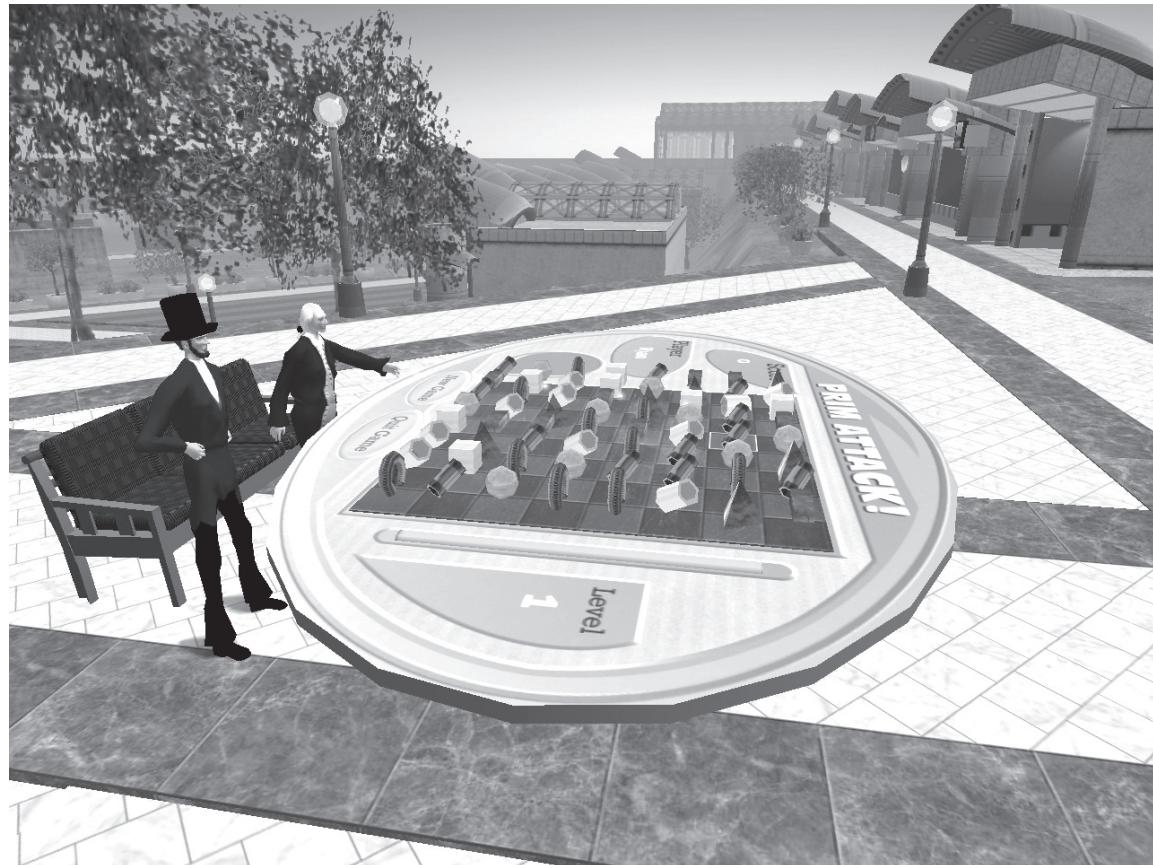
World

Most officials from mass kidnapping in Baghdad freed

Most of the officials kidnapped last Tuesday from a research institute in Baghdad have now been freed, an Iraqi Interior Ministry official stated earlier this week.

About 80 gunmen clad in Iraqi National Police uniforms kidnapped employees from senior managers to cleaners and regular citizens at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research/Scholarships and Cultural Relations Directorate building in central Baghdad, according to Higher Education Minister Abed Dhiyab al-Ajili.

No one was killed or tortured. However, the Iraqi interior minister ordered the



Students can learn in the rich 3-D environments provided by "Second Life."

arrests and interrogations of several high-ranking police officers over their handling of security in the area.

Al-Ajili said he was closing universities until security improves, saying he was "not ready to see more professors get killed." "I have no choice but to stop the teaching in the universities in Baghdad," he said.

Ashraf Qazi, the U.N. secretary-general's special representative in Iraq, called the action "a nefarious crime that could dangerously and negatively" affect "progress and development in Iraq, a country long known for its literary and scientific tradition."

Tech

Educators explore Virtual Reality

More than 60 schools and educational organizations in NYC are looking at ways in which the virtual world may be incorporated into learning.

In this particular interactive package called "Second Life," virtual residents or avatars, cartoonish-looking characters controlled via keyboard and mouse, do anything from starting up businesses, staging their own concerts, selling real estate and designing fashion lines.

The three-dimensional virtual world makes it possible for students taking a distance course to develop a real sense of community, said Rebecca Nesson, who leads a class

jointly offered by Harvard Law School and Harvard Extension School in the world of "Second Life."

"Students interact with each other and there's a regular sense of classroom interaction. It feels like a college campus," she said. It can be distracting to have people "flying" above you while you're trying to concentrate on a classroom discussion though, said Brien Walton, 40, a master's degree student in educational technology at Harvard who is taking Nesson's course.

Since opening in 2003, "Second Life" has experienced strong growth and now has some 1.3 million subscribers.

Source : www.cnn.com

Ruddock House Gets New Furniture from Housing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

our house during formal dinners or other official events. House members Zack Ramadan and Derek Goto worked with Housing over the summer to select appropriate furniture, and it arrived at the beginning of Rotation."

A list was submitted to Chang based on asking house members for furniture preferences and Housing basically provided the items requested. Speaking on behalf of his

Housing Provided Ruddock with some new amenities for the lounge and computer room as a thank you for working with us.. in providing a safe and clean environment in Ruddock House."

-Timothy Chang,
Housing Director

House members, Jones commented that the Rudds are very happy with the comfortable new furniture and especially the Lounge is much more useful now.

Does this mean that other Houses will receive new furniture on request as well? "Housing has not declared that we will accept 'such demands' from other houses" responded Chang.

Housing provided Ruddock with some new amenities for the lounge and computer room as a thank you for working with us over the course of the year in providing a safe and clean environment in Ruddock House as well as not having much damage."

Chang also spoke about similar things been done for other Houses. Housing has "installed courtyard lights and the piano room card swipe in Avery last year and installed an electric awning for the Lloyd deck two years ago." He stated that Housing is cur-



Another view of the new furniture in Ruddock House's lounge

rently "working with Lloyd again to look at their shed and how we can improve that space for students."

Change indicated that Housing seems to have found an

effective way of encouraging Houses to take good care of their furniture in this recently implemented reward system. "All houses are welcome to make proposals for items and

we will consider them. All we ask in return is that the houses respond to our requests to keep the house clean and safe and not cause damage in the house," said Chang.

Entrepreneurs Near Caltech Share Advice and Ideals

BY: ANNA HISZPANSKI

With the research-oriented and creative environment that Caltech provides, good ideas are abundant and not too difficult to find. However, often times taking a good idea to the next step, a product, can be a challenge, but the Caltech/MIT Enterprise Forum can help with that process.

According to its website, the aim of the Caltech/MIT Enterprise Forum is to "encourage the growth and success of technology-based entrepreneurial ventures in Southern California."

Started in 1984, the Caltech/MIT Enterprise Forum began as a joint venture between Caltech's Industrial Relations Center and Alumni Association and the MIT Alumni Association.

Nick Nichols, the Director of the Caltech Industrial Relations Center, said the Forum's main service is the monthly programs it offers "for large audiences that examine opportunities for technology based innovation and entrepreneurial business development."

The most recent program held Saturday, November 11th, was entitled "Entrepreneurship in the Energy Sector—Beyond Transportation," which focused on the developing technologies and market for clean energy.

"Government tends to hire experts in old technology, and they tend to be adverse, even threatened, to new technology.... Our best hope for a sustainable shift [in energy] is with entrepreneurial firms,"

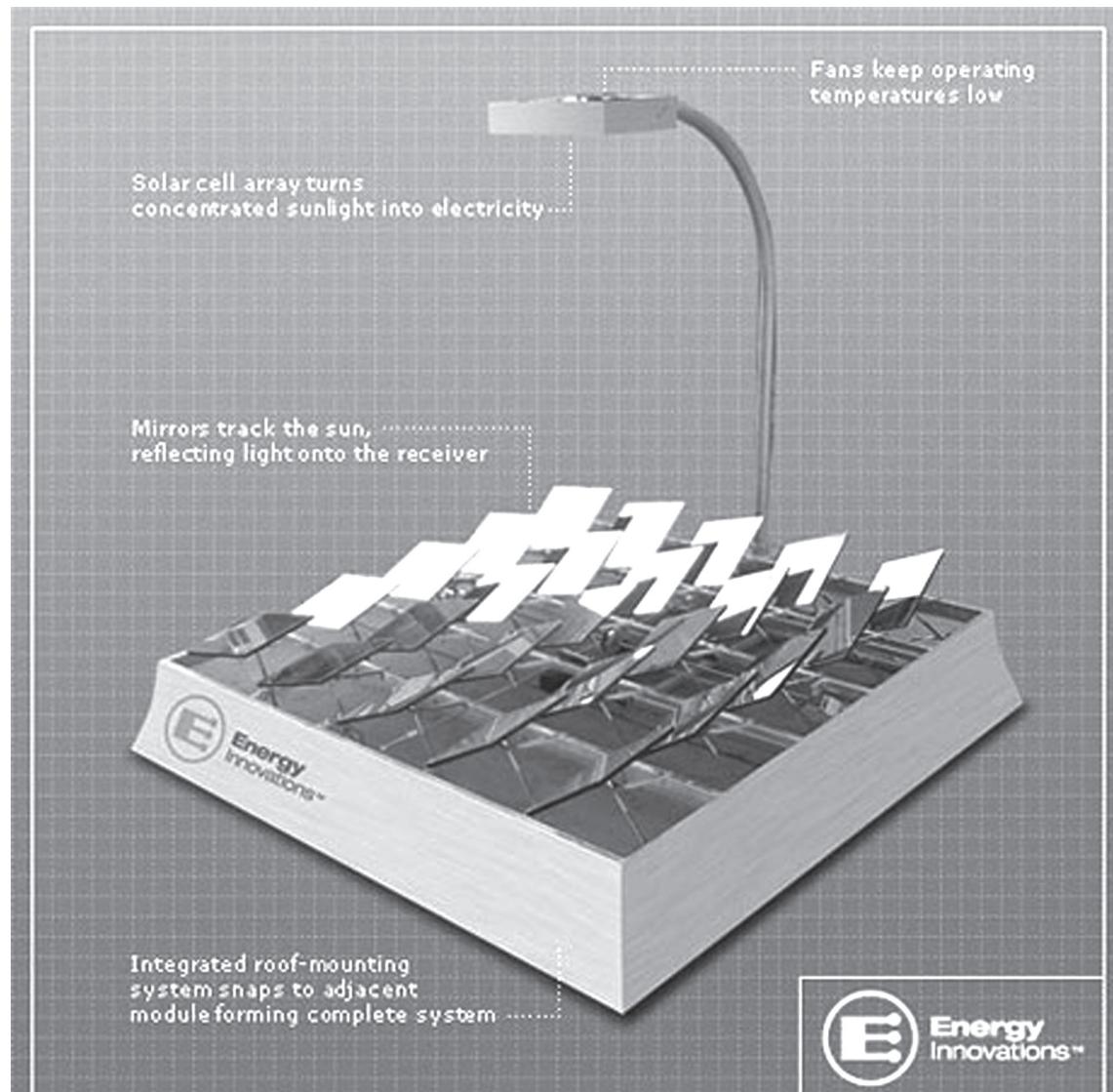
said keynote speaker and co-founder of the Enterprise Forum, John Preston.

Ghryn Loveness, a Caltech senior and President of the Entrepreneurs' Club who attended the program, said he was surprised by some of the information he learned from the talks.

"China is building a new 500 megawatt coal fired power plant every week, and India is doing it every ten days. Power plants in the United States take decades to permit, plan, and build. It really speaks to both the rapid growth rate... and to the energy policies of the two governments," said Loveness. "They recognize the demand for power and this is the cheapest way to get it. Unfortunately, it's also the dirtiest."

As part of the program, Andrew Beebe, entrepreneur and President of Energy Innovations, discussed the renewable energy sector from an entrepreneur's perspective. Additionally, a panel of four venture capitalists and investors were on-hand to discuss what venture firms are looking for and interested in. Following the presentations, there was a question and answer period with the panel and a networking hour.

Similarly structured programs are held each month in a variety of fields. Prior programs this year have included examining entrepreneurial opportunities in nanotechnology, stem cells, semi-autonomous systems, and mobile electronic devices. Among program topics planned for the upcoming year are medical devices, electronic marketplaces, and per-



Energy Innovations, a Pasadena-based company, designed this device to harness solar energy.

sonal electronic devices (for a full list of programs, visit the Enterprise Forum's website: www.entform.caltech.edu).

While being centered at Caltech and MIT, the Enterprise Forum is not exclusive for those associated with the two schools. According to Nichols, the Forum is for "people from across Southern California who are entrepreneurs (or hope to be) or members of the entrepreneurial support community," like investors,

consultants, attorneys, and accountants.

"Every meeting the Forum has a number of students from universities from across southern California who participate in the discussion and networking and can avail themselves of the services represented by attendees by making contacts at the Forum," said Nichols.

The monthly programs are free for Caltech students, and students from other universities receive a special discount-

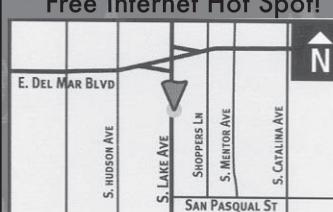
ed rate.

The next program the Caltech/MIT Enterprise Forum is offering is titled "Entertainment In Transition: What Place for the Entrepreneur?" and will examine the technological shift in the industry with such additions as YouTube and MySpace. The session will be held Saturday, December 9th; more information can be found on the Caltech/MIT Enterprise Forum's website (www.entform.caltech.edu).

Happy Thanksgiving

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Techers Pursue Music in Time Off from Math and Science

BY: NATALYA KOSTANDOVA

As the Caltech-Occidental Concert Band filled Ramo Auditorium with the powerful chords of Shostakovich's Waltz #2, no trace of academic-related thoughts lingered with the students. As much as Techers seem to enjoy science and math, they also find it essential to once in a while escape the endless sets and think of something else.

There are many alternatives to studying, ranging from drinking and partying to playing poker, battling each other in video games, simply hanging out, or catching up on much-needed sleep. However, many students are choosing music as their escape and Caltech provides many opportunities for students to pursue musical interests.

With fourteen music courses offered this year, students have a chance to learn about general as well as specific areas of music. The classes cover not only history of music, but also the fundamentals of music theory and even ear training.

The bulk of CIT's music

"One thing that I think is really cool is that you can come with no experience at all and be welcome in the Glee Club and actually learn how to get better."

-Yuliya Kuznetsova,
Glee Club member



Photo by Jonathan Tsai

The combined Caltech-Occidental Band played from Shotakovitch's Waltz #2 on November 10th.

program, however, lies in the performance groups. The Caltech-Occidental Concert Band, which had its first performance of the school year on Nov. 10, and the Caltech-Occidental Orchestra, which performed this Saturday, are special in that they are comprised not only of students, faculty, and alumni affiliated with Caltech but also with Occidental College.

Caltech also emphasizes instrumental music on a smaller scale through its Jazz Bands and the Chamber Music division, which consists of piano four-hands groups and small ensembles. However, it is not necessary to play an instrument to take

a part in the music programs – Women's and Men's Glee Clubs are active on campus.

One of the main advantages of the Caltech music programs is their availability to the students. Unlike the music departments at many of the larger colleges, almost anybody can participate in both vocal and instrumental groups.

Yuliya Kuznetsova, a member of Glee Club who never sung before coming to Caltech, said, "One thing that I think is really cool is that you can come with no experience at all and be welcome in the Glee Club and actually learn how to get better."

For others who have had

prior musical experience, knowing that Caltech does offer a chance to develop one's skills is a comfort. "Music was a very important part of my life in High School. I came to Prefrosh Weekend and heard the Thursday Night Jazz Band and I was very impressed," said Dalina Thrift-Viveros, a member of both the Concert Band and the Jazz Band.

Balancing academics and music can be a challenge, yet many find the extra load bearable. "Attending band practice has always been a part of my routine in High School, so there's no problem doing it in college," explained freshman Ed Chen.

By participating in one of the many music activities, students can catch a breath away from their work. "I love music and I also love not thinking about math or science for a few hours every week," said Nathan Donnellan, member of the Concert Band.

Through its wide variety of courses and performing groups, Caltech offers an outlet accessible to just about anybody who wants to participate. Students who do not wish to be a part of the programs can also enjoy the music during the many performances that are given on campus.

Another Solid Week in Finance Experiment

On Tuesday, November 14, portfolio managers and investors (32 managers and 67 investors, all of them Caltech students) participated in the fifth round of the financial-markets experiment conducted by CLEF. The table summarizes the funds' performance in this round; fund managers are identified by names of minerals; all funds were active. The DowTech is a fixed portfolio of assets and cash, and provides the measure of return if managers started with that portfolio and held on to it. The next round will be on Tuesday, November 21. For more details, if you want to participate in the experiment as an investor, or if you would like to see how the managers performed in the previous rounds, see the CLEF webpage at <http://clef.caltech.edu/exp/dp/index.html>

Fund##	Returns*	Volume**	Residual (\$)***	Risky*#
DowTech	0.57	NA	NA	86.92%
Albite	0.66	2.42%	71.12	113.42%
Alexandrite	-0.22	20.34%	177.48	82.65%
Allanite	1.05	2.91%	110.61	26.77%
Alunite	1.34	1.78%	78.94	99.33%
Amazonite	1.39	5.65%	258.46	76.35%
Amblygonite	1.56	5.48%	276.77	82.67%
Amosite	0.08	0.77%	11.98	113.63%
Andalusite	0.50	2.27%	57.78	120.57%
Anthophyllite	-0.22	0.86%	7.64	104.15%
Atacamite	0.72	1.74%	52.83	60.86%
Barite	0.28	0.84%	16.88	39.22%
Bassanite	0.69	5.66%	169.05	96.06%
Beidellite	0.09	0.89%	14.38	11.08%
Bementite	1.77	2.23%	122.24	54.40%
Bentonite	0.62	0.78%	22.03	90.66%
Bertrandite	1.45	4.54%	215.5	70.92%
Biotite	0.59	1.36%	37.52	93.41%
Birnessite	-0.46	0.58%	1.84	7.45%
Bloedite	-0.99	0.79%	-7.15	-174.07%

Fund##	Returns*	Volume**	Residual (\$)***	Risky*#
Boracite	0.66	3.77%	109.79	66.86%
Calcite	-0.17	1.41%	14.14	-42.74%
Carnallite	2.06	6.53%	403.01	119.08%
Celestite	-0.12	0.89%	9.66	56.31%
Chalcopyrite	1.03	0.49%	18.37	-0.49%
Chlorite	0.71	2.09%	63.7	96.46%
Colemanite	0.52	4.82%	125.06	77.81%
Cornadite	1.49	9.08%	435.21	114.19%
Cristobalite	0.02	2.22%	31.73	83.43%
Cryolite	0.37	1.13%	25.18	99.74%
Dolomite	-0.65	1.97%	-2.42	35.92%
Dumortierite	0.48	0.91%	22.95	93.61%
Dunite	-0.03	2.80%	37.17	-2.33%

* Returns = (final value portfolio - initial value portfolio)/initial value portfolio

** Volume = initial value portfolio/(total value of all portfolios)*100

*** Residual = final value portfolio - manager's fee

*# Risky = (value of final holdings of risky assets)/(value of final portfolio)*100, portfolio values at trading prices, not at return levels

All funds participated actively in this round

Mark's Track Prattle

Senior recalls last race of Caltech cross-country career

BY: MARK EICHENLAUB

"If you think you will win, you will lose. If you think you will lose, you will also lose." - Kiyoshi Nakamura

and then we were running

But no I'm not ready for this, not ready for this ending, not ready to leave it behind, to let go of what this is. It's slipping away. Grasp this last moment, and hold it like hot burning coal.

We are the hollow men
We are the stuffed men

This is a race – the last race. A last shot and a last hoorah, a last memory, a last supper. Wasn't I just standing on the line? Everything is so real now, and so crass. This is an ending. It needs to feel like a fairy tale, not an obituary. I have watched myself run this race over and over from behind a thick crystal wall in my imagination. But here is a real sky, vapidly pale and uncaring. What happened to the blue so broad and deep it would pull you away to infinity? Here is real air, not the cool crisp air that heroes breathe but the stagnant air of a desert in denial. Fans' real cheers that fail to ring and real runners around me who don't seem to understand what's wrong. The suddenness of this crude reality crashes down on my head like tsunami at Disney World. A story from the fabled future now thrust roughly in my own unprepared hands. I have never been more scared.

Leaning together

Headpiece filled with straw.

There are so many other runners around me. A crush of jerseys and spikes, flowing out ahead of me snaking across the land in a sinuous, color-specked column. A hundred different runners coursing through the same path, each one obsessed with his own goal, each one suffering. Each is his own man, but our paths cross and mingle here, intertwined a thousand ways. Every runner striving against each other but somehow a harmony climbs out, an emergent behavior - we have one voice. All of it together is the race.

quiet and meaningless

As wind in dry grass

At last the transient psychological response dies and I am finally racing, locked in to my task. I begin the march up through the field. My breath is controlled, my legs strong. I am cruising on past legions, but I look up ahead, and there are so so many. I go and go and go my name is... I want to be in the top 35 because then they will give me a little bit of paper and tell me what a good job I did.

Shape without form, shade without colour,

Paralysed force, gesture without motion;

Time rolls like an unsteady heartbeat. Coming down off the hill, back into the dust and the final push but my legs are giving up on me here, at the end, as they always have. At last the harshness of the run turns on me and I see what this last bit will be, see what we are reduced to here, animals as much as gods. This race is so long. Coming up around the corner and around this green field the first one passes. All that I will do now is try to hold on. Go gentle into those last miles.

Circles and circles that drop

us off right where we began. You must run twice as fast as that. Swimming in air and noise and sweat, all sucked off into the void.

Here we go round the prickly pear

I hear voices screaming my name. I hear everything they say. The words percolate down to me with perfect precision. But that means nothing as I just plod on until one word, one name falls out and something snaps and I go all out at last letting the legs loose and bursting forth for the last time but it's too late now, much to late to make up for that lapse and there's nothing to be done but just to go and fight with the mud.

The ground here is soft and hungry. The finish line sits just up ahead, indifferent to my approach, but the whole earth here is sucking me down into its cold center and I am just fighting to stay on my feet, which is maybe all I've ever really done.

Pushing and fighting now at the end, silent screams racking my body and tremors roiling in the turbulence around me just going on and on through this fog. Somewhere buried beneath me is a stride, and churning, but all I know is just this mess of holes in the shaky world around me and the finish line oh it passed already but the winning post was no end to it and the only time you stopped really was when...oh just go away. The pain is nothing compared with what I know now, what I just learned about myself, and so just leave me alone.

Eyes I dare not meet in dreams

Just leave me
leave me

That is what it is like to run a cross country race. Of course, when the race was over I neither found myself yanked down to the underworld, nor stayed long a self-pitying misanthrope. Within seconds of regaining my senses I watched my teammate Matt crossed the line, and everyone else followed. There were friends to congratulate, and excited, breathless stories to trade. Results to check – who got the awards and who qualified for the big show. We babbled and jogged and cheered on the women, and then in the end we went home.

I wanted there to be some sort of grand event at the end of everything. There ought to be closure, something to mark the end so I would know it happened right – a glorious final bang.

The night before the race, it finally hit me that I was about to enter my final collegiate cross country race. I wanted to pump my team up, and somehow impress upon them just how important all this was. But I couldn't get a grip on it, and didn't know what to say. So instead I told them not about the race coming up, but about

what running has been.

My college cross country career is a series of moments. The four years here form a continuum of training and gradual improvement. But interspersed there are brief glimpses of running's greatest merit – simplicity. There have been moments, sometimes more of them and sometimes less, where we run

A race is nothing like that. It is a long, painful struggle, and it is done alone. I train for racing, fantasize about racing, obsess about racing. When the day comes and I run and at last it's at an abrupt end, I am never satisfied.

It was my best race ever, and the fastest a Techer had run at Prado since my mentor Ian's

last campaign in 2001. The entire team had stepped up and performed at a level we couldn't have imagined at the beginning of the season. Just two weeks ago, we had fallen to eighth place, last place, in the conference championships. That last race at regionals we moved all the way up to fourth. Each of us had run our greatest races at just the right time. Despite that, I know in retrospect that even if that last race was my best one ever, still I held myself back, and could have done more.

To run a perfect race is impossible, but that is the whole reason why we try. We do not race against each other, or against a clock. We race for ourselves, against chaos and confusion, against ignorance, evil, apathy, against

everything we cannot accept. A race is our statement that we know where we stand, we will fight, and gasp, and hurt, and if we do it right collapse in the end with mud oozing up our nostrils. Then we will know that for once, we've really done something.

For ours is the kingdom

I stepped off the van back at Caltech's gym and understood there would be no spectacular ending. Nor should there. A chapter of my life was over, but that was immaterial. Everything that had made cross country what it was – the never-ending struggle against mortality, the quest to forcefully inject some clear meaning in the inscrutable convolutions of life, was mine for as long as I cared to continue striving ahead.

This is the way the world ends

I sat, still and quiet, on a hard wooden bench in the men's locker room, white light slanting in from high windows, highlighting the dust floating silently above my head. I could hear the shower dripping from across the room. My fingers carefully removed the safety pins from my thin synthetic uniform, stacking them in a neat pile beside me. The bare soles of my feet padded softly on the cool gym floor and I watched as the jersey, still damp with sweat, disappeared through a dark, blue hole in the laundry bin, and came to rest, at last, in an unseen hamper below.



Senior Mark Eichenlaub pushes through the pain as freshman Garrett Drayna cheers for his teammates during the NCAA West Regionals on Nov. 11

together and I realize that everything has melded into a simple, pure harmony, and my arms stretch across the universe, and I am in love with everything. That is the legacy of my time with the team.

Photo by Ryan Ogle

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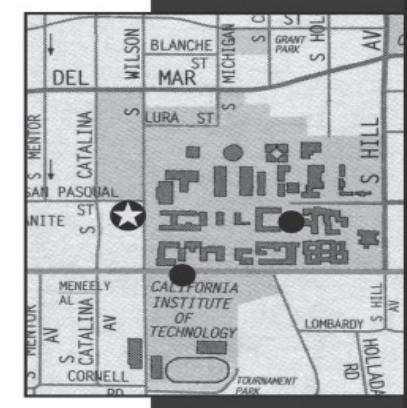
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Women's bball Gives Promising Performance in Season Opener



Junior guard Lindsey King shoots over St. Catherine's defense (Left)

photo by Karen Wang



photo by Karen Wang

Junior guard Rene Davis goes up for a rebound in traffic as teammates junior Lindsey King (15), sophomore Lea Kunesh (20), freshmen Lisa Yee (25) and Christine Woodin (24) look on. The women's basketball team fell to College of St. Catherine's 40-88 on Saturday. Davis attributed the performance to fatigue.

"A lot of it was just being tired," she said. "We were mentally tired and none of us really pushed passed that. We were pumped up about the game, but as soon as we stepped on the floor we just slowed way down."

The game was the tail end of a double header, with the Lady Beavers losing a hard-fought game 40-56 against CSU East Bay on Friday. Despite getting only two points from last year's scoring leader King, the team trailed East Bay by only one point at halftime.

"They were a stronger, faster team than we were, but we just played really hard," Davis said of the game on Friday. "We rattled them, none of their shots were falling because they were surprised how hard we stepped up."

Sports Update

Men's Basketball
University of Dubuque
L 40-81

West Coast Baptist
College L 68-81

Women's Basketball
CSU East Bay L 40-
56

College of St. Cath-
erine (MN) L 40-88

Men's Fencing
UC Irvine W 16-11
UC San Diego L 6-21
CSU Fullerton L 11-
16

Women's Fencing
UC Irvine W 18-9
UC San Diego L 5-22
CSU Fullerton 11-16

Upcoming Athletic Events

Wednesday, November 22nd

7:00PM - Men's Basketball vs. Chapman University

Friday, November 24th

8:00 P.M. - Women's Basketball vs. South-
western (AZ)

Saturday, November 25th

2:00 P.M. - Women's Basketball vs. Maca-
laster (MN)

7:00 P.M. - Men's Basketball vs. La Sierra

Write for The Tech

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

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

Maximum Pay

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Features \$20

Sports \$20

Commentary \$20

Humour \$20

Good Comics \$14

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Photos \$5

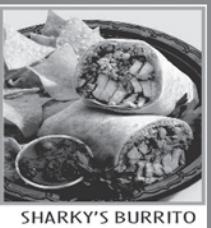
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Borat: Lessons from Kazakhstan

BY: EVANS BONEY

I know, the movie actually had the subtitle "Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan", but, while the movie was hilarious and everyone should see it for that reason, it was comedy with a purpose: to teach Americans lessons about discrimination. Sacha Cohen himself has been very quiet before, during, and after the movie, allowing only his Borat persona to be interviewed.

For those of you who haven't seen it, Borat purports to be a Kazakh reporter, and everyone in the movie is unaware that they're being filmed for something that would air in the US (lesson #1: read the contract before you sign). Also, SPOILER ALERT, I will make specific references to scenes from the movie.

There is still ample bigotry in the US. As a first example, while Borat is on a bus with frat boys from South Carolina, one of them volunteers "In our country, the minorities actually have more power", as well as voicing the opinion that our country would be better off if we reinstated slavery (of women was the implication). Also, to



"I hope you kill every man, woman and child in Iraq, down to the lizards, and may George W. Bush drink the blood of every man, woman and child in Iraq." -Borat (aka the comedian Sacha Cohen) at a Virginian rodeo in his new movie, "Borat".

make it clear, neither of these things was said in jest, as is evidenced by the recently filed lawsuit by two of the frat boys. Drunkenness is no excuse for that.

Next, Borat commiserates with a rodeo-goer about all the homosexuals. He suggests putting all homosexuals in jail like they do in Kazakhstan, and his mark replies with "that's what we're trying to get done here". Interesting, I thought the debate was over whether or not homosexuals should be granted

equal rights as heterosexuals (i.e. civil unions), not over whether or not they should be thrown in jail. That attitude sounds a little too Leviticus (circa 1000BC) and not enough Matthew (circa 0 AD), not to mention James Madison (circa 1791 AD).

Finally, Borat asked what gun would best kill a jew, and got a response. He also asked a car dealer how fast he would have to drive an H3 to make sure he killed a gypsy. The answer? About 30 or 40 mph. While both of these forms are more

passive acceptances of bigotry, they're still symptomatic of the overarching problem presented in the movie. Eliminating bigotry starts first with you, and then with every bigot you meet.

While this movie wasn't exactly a documentary in the traditional sense, I think this is, if not shocking, certainly a sobering view of our "progressive" country. I like a good joke, but some parts of the movie stick with you even when you've stopped laughing.

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It's Your Move

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Thank You Tim Chang

BY: JON SENN

I'd like to personally thank Tim Chang, Senior Director of Housing, for continually granting student interviews to reporters from *The Tech*.

Over our months as Editors, we've printed some scathing commentary and run several quotes from students angry with Tim. I feel that it's important to pull back and make sure to remind our readers that Housing policy is rarely determined solely by Tim, and many of the larger issues students have raised against him may not be his fault.

I won't use this space to discuss individual issues in depth, but I would like to point out that sometimes *The Tech* is unable to obtain the complete scoop on intra-administrative workings, and we are not always able to report on the full story behind Housing policy. Additionally, Tim is on occasion unable to fully speak on his own behalf when his job requires confidentiality.

Whether student anger towards Tim concerning Housing policy is misplaced, many students are especially concerned by Tim's attitude towards students in general.

Some students suggest that Tim's approach towards student interaction is anticipatory of general student-administration animosity, and these students purport that such animosity need not exist within

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Caltech's exceptional community. In particular, some students argue that Tim's approach is not conducive to student-administration communication which could, in many cases, alleviate student concerns with little difficulty – especially when issues are tackled before they develop into large-scale problems.

And this brings me back to thanking Tim for continually granting *The Tech* interviews. Even if the reader blames him for many of the student-unfriendly Housing policies, one cannot hold that Tim has the disdain for communication with students sometimes attributed to him. Each time we investigate an unpopular Housing policy, Tim promptly grants us an interview, and is entirely forthcoming with Housing's reasons for implementing the policy.

Such accessibility seems uniformly held by Caltech administrators, and the worst that can be said of Tim – or of any administrator – is that he should take a more proactive role in communicating with student leaders. Such a goal has become a common theme of student discussions over the past year, and we have indeed seen a great deal of improvement. I hope that Tim and other administrators continue to work towards formulating and maintaining policies in conjunction with student leaders to the greatest extent possible.

Website Review: MadBurgers.com

BY: HAMILTONY FALK

Now with a wider wheelbase and race inspired suspension for a smoother ride.

A friend recently recommended that I look into this hip new website called Mad Burgers dot Com. At first I thought they were joking, since I have little use for an angry slab of ground beef with various perturbed condiments surrounded by two pissed off buns with may or may not be covered with down right enraged sesame seeds. And don't get me started about my fear of emotionally unstable special sauce that can't stand the very sight of me.

You can guess how pleased I

was to find out that the burgers in question were not mad in the sense of upset, but rather mad in the sense of "mad hot" which can be translated to "hella cool," "wicked cool" or "snarkily fantabulous!" depending on which region you are from (Northern California, New England and the Post-apocalyptic landscape the Teletubbies live in, respectively). So before you judge this website based on its URL, maybe you should take a look.

I should describe some of the website in order to further whet your appetite for the metaphorical burgers being discussed. When you first type the name into your browser all you see is an empty field with various shades of red

on it. This is when the magic starts. Like a bald eagle swooping in to save various elves and freedom fighters from nazi-orcs suddenly there is the word Mad and a pictograph that undeniably represents burgers, although it is in fact merely only a portion of one burger.

Then the real genius strikes you. Many websites emphasize the words before the dot com, ignoring the com for the most part, and rarely paying homage to the dot that separates the two sides. MadBurgers.com does no such thing, showing the dot itself beautifully, in the form of what appears to be a large green olive, and then dropping the com in just when you were thinking "there is

no way a com is going to show up." And you're not even done. Rather than give away any more I'll just say that at this point in the Madburgers.com experience you won't be wanted to 'exit' anything anytime soon.

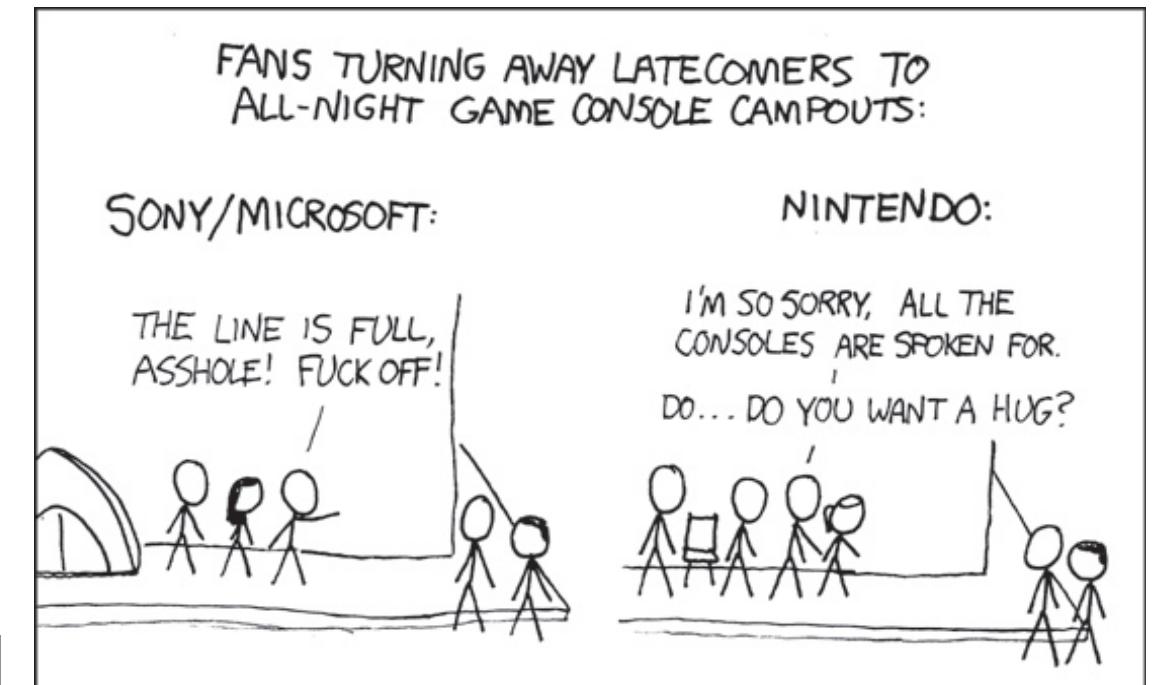
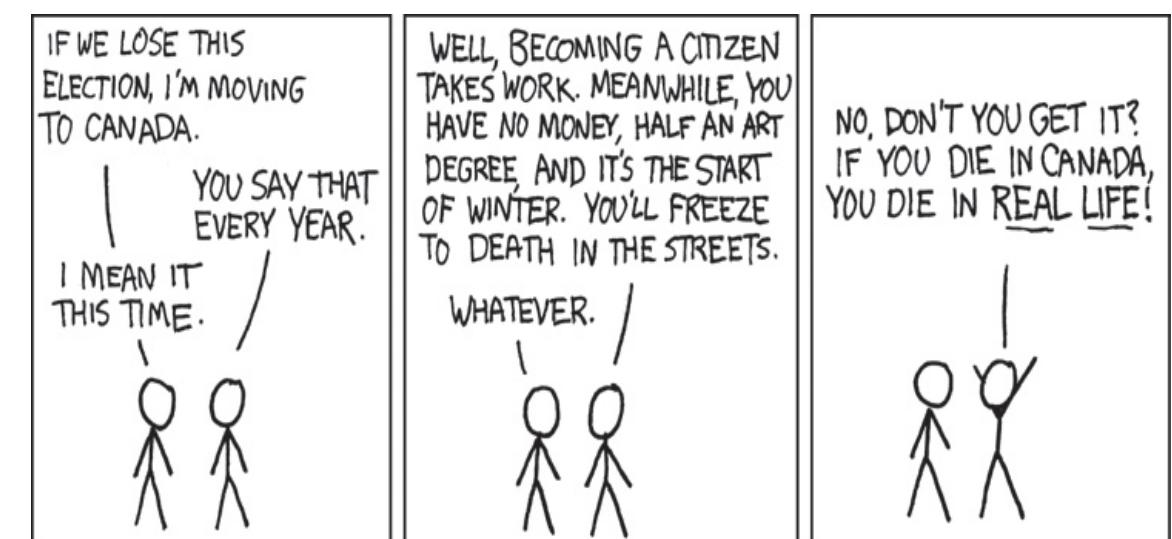
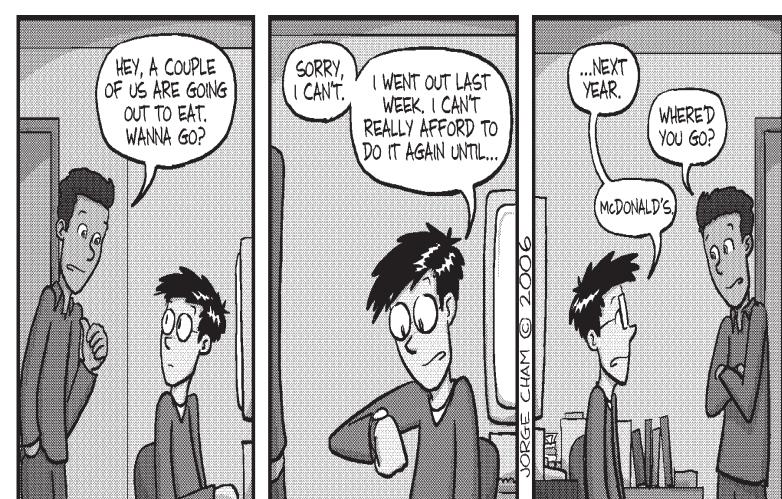
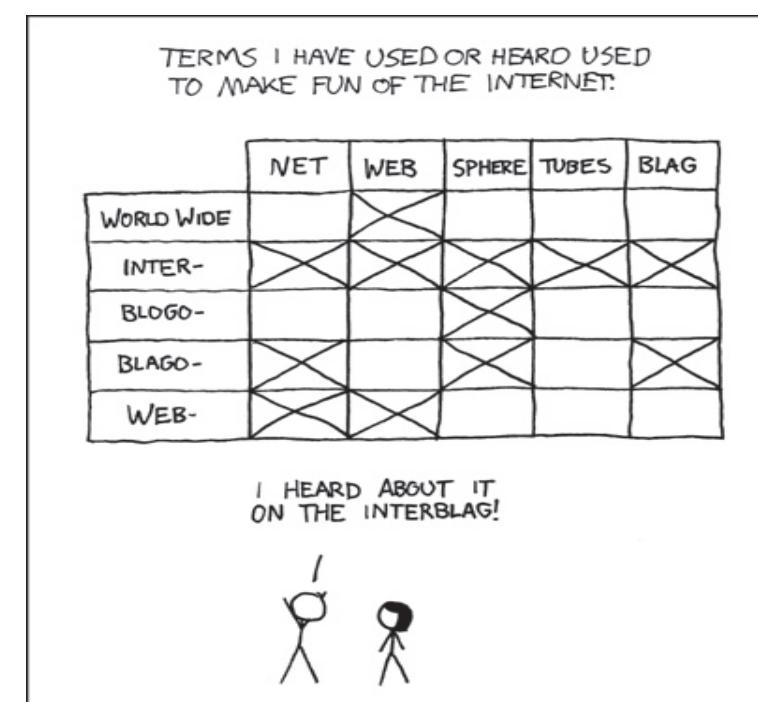
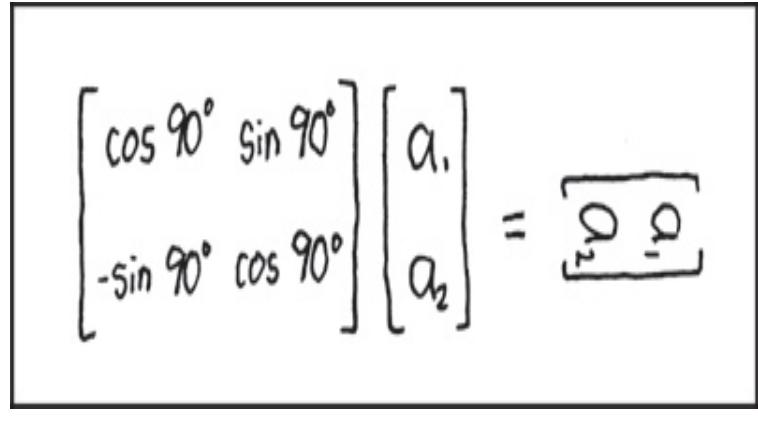
The Tech was recently granted an exclusive interview with the creator of MadBurgers.com, William Z. William Z. informed me that the dot was not in fact an olive, but a pickle, which may or may not be a metaphor for an olive. He also revealed that the site was mostly an attempt to spread his passion for burgers, especially to children who might see very little besides vegetable propaganda when taking a journey through the Internet.

The site is run on a business model based on the famous

Google, and William Z. hopes to achieve similar exposure and success. He did promise that the site was evolving and would contain more content in the future, provided his data was not deleted by communists again. In closing, William Z. had a suggestion for a new visitor: "Don't race through the site too quickly. Sometimes in life, when you enter something too quickly, you're really exiting your opportunities."

So try out MadBurgers.com and if you're not 100% satisfied then you should probably talk to a doctor. Remember, Hitler never visited MadBurgers.com, and see how it turned out for him (Hitler was the guy who couldn't get into art school because he hadn't been to MadBurgers.com).

XKCD Comics by Randall Munroe



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