



the rotation **EXPERIMENT**

Faculty fought against ranking all houses

BY SONIA TIKOO

Faculty members on the Student Housing Committee (SHC) attempted to reinstate the old Rotation Rules—where freshmen could guarantee their exclusion from up to three Houses—just days before school started.

This ruling was subsequently overturned by Acting Vice President of Student Affairs John Hall, allowing for Rotation to proceed as planned.

The SHC said they acted in response of the request of several upperclassmen that sent emails citing concerns with the new House rating system. Their June 5 email to the SHC warned that pre-fresh would feel “backed into a corner” by the new rules, and might try to game the system to have some semblance of control.

Not only did the SHC argue that the rules were unfair to frosh, but Caltech risked breaking a promise Admissions made to several pre-fresh and parents before matriculating to Caltech—that they could definitely avoid any three houses.

“We formally apologized to Admissions for not having informed them about our changes,” said Ruddock House president Richard Jones.

These combined concerns prompted the 12-member SHC to call a meeting to discuss and vote on the changes. In the Aug 30 resulting meeting, the SHC voted against the IHC’s new changes eight to four, with one abstention.

“I thought a reasonable compromise would have



GRAPHIC BY HAROLD MARTIN

been to postpone the Rotation changes until next year, so there could be more discussion,” said physics professor and former Caltech undergraduate Kenneth Libbrecht, “but the IHC wanted to implement the new policy this fall. Various people were persistent.”

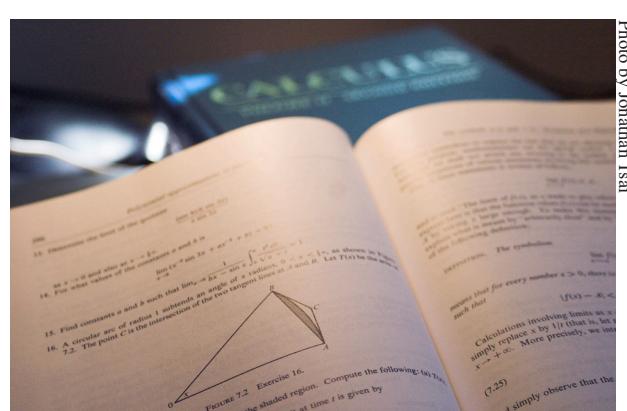
Libbrecht, a former Caltech undergraduate, said he appreciated that his “opinions mattered in an absolute sense, not just as input to decisions made by upperclass students.”

Members of the IHC said they were greatly disappointed by the result of the SHC proceedings. “I actually thought that they would be completely convinced,” said Ricketts House president Chris Moody. “Once we started talking, and I saw everyone on the committee, I had a change of heart.”

Overall, the IHC felt that their positions were insufficiently represented due to numerous factors, claiming the presentation of misinformation. “[Professor Libbrecht’s] information was partially incorrect,” said Jones. “He had the opportunity to exclude houses when he was here [as an undergraduate in the late 1970’s]. We have evidence that it had not always been that way. Rotation had been changed in the interim to accommodate the needs of Rotation.”

The IHC was surprised at the end of the meeting, when it was revealed that proxy votes had been cast

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The Caltech bookstore can no longer match web prices after losing thousands to the policy.

Price-matching capped at bookstore

BY NATALYA KOSTANDOVA

Students won’t be able to get the same textbook bargains this fall after the bookstore implemented a new policy that sets a lower bound on the price.

Prompted by an annual loss of \$30,000 due to price matching, the change sets the minimum to be the price for which the bookstore purchased the textbook from the seller, not including shipping costs.

Although Caltech remains one of the few institutes in the country that price matches textbooks, some students find the change frustrating.

“I understand why the bookstore does this,” said Ben Zax, a sophomore, “but if they can’t consistently get new books as cheaply as the students can, then they aren’t really providing a service to the students by stocking the books.”

The change in the policy is not one that they wanted to implement, according to Judi Capron, Manager of the bookstore, and Linwood Tabata, the Senior Buyer.

“Our mission is service, and we’re not here to make

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‘Curious’ stars
Caltech profs

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Letter to the Editor

Don't tax smokers

BY MICHAEL FORTE

On October 3rd "President" Bush vetoed a bill called the State Children's Health Insurance Program or SCHIP. This was only Bush's fourth veto and unsurprisingly it has caused a general uproar from the Democrats who have threatened to override it.

The popular and often spoken about portion of this bill is that it would provide health insurance to 6 million of the 9 million uninsured children in America. In doing this, it requires an increase of about \$35 billion. Obviously this money has to come from somewhere and the proposed plan is to put the charge on tobacco users.

The increase in the tobacco taxes would be extreme to say the least. The Cigarette tax would increase over %100. But the most detrimental effect would be from the increases in the cigar tax. The proposed tax would be \$3 per cigar. For an industry which already suffers from steep prices, this kind of increase in price across

the board could be fatal.

It appears as though this was the Democrats' way of trying to fund a popular support bill without actually having any money. There thinking goes: "No one likes smokers so let's make them pay for everything". Many things pass Congress when people know they will get vetoed. It is so that they can go back to their states full of uneducated dolts and tell them that they voted to help children. It was Bush's responsibility to these ill intentioned congressmen to veto this bill, because they never intended it to be law anyway. But honestly, why are people so happy to tax the hell out of a small group of people. I realize that the idea is to drive people away from a given thing and to make money off of them all at the same time, but it seems more responsible to fight the health effects of tobacco with that money instead of just using it for something mostly unrelated.



I am often asked what exactly the \$25/term ASCIT dues go toward. The truth is, most of this money goes right back into student hands in form of funding for clubs and social events; these combined make up 58% of the student budget or a little over \$14.50 per person per term. Out of the social fund comes money for everything from midnight donuts to Interhouse to athletic barbecues.

Although there are some independently-organized parties such as the Euro Party last year, most of the social budget goes to events orchestrated by the ASCIT Social Team, a group I am rather partial to from having served on it for two years. If you want to be involved in spending the social team money, there are two openings for the fall term. Email esc@caltech.edu if interested.

Club funding is mostly distributed during a day-long meeting Spring term. Each ASCIT-registered club fills out a request

President's Column

Chris Gonzales answers: Where Does the Money Go?

form and their officers are briefly interviewed; these interviews are very low-key and serve to make sure that our money is spent effectively. The exact amount of money and restrictions on its spending vary by club, but most clubs get the entire amount they request; this money is then used for anything from buying food for meetings to investing in new equipment.

After social and club funding, the next major expenditures are for operations and salaries. Operations includes purchasing new DVDs for the DVD library (3rd floor of SFL), maintaining equipment for the Jam Room, keeping the lights and speakers intact, and other expenses. The editors and business managers of ASCIT publications are paid salaries along with the website development team. In order to leverage this money more effectively, ASCIT has been moving money from fixed salaries to bonuses. This way, editors and business managers are rewarded for their

hard work to get a publication put out on time and under budget.

The Tech is an exception to this norm; rather than ASCIT prescribing a salary for its officers, its funding is set by the bylaws at 10% of ASCIT's operating budget, or about \$6750. The Tech then combines this money with subscription and advertising revenues and from this pot comes both operating expenses and salaries. This allows for greater journalistic independence; we cannot dock the Tech editor's salary if she were to write a critical article about us [Editor's note: That wouldn't stop her].

ASCIT's membership fee allows for greater student autonomy. Clubs are able to operate with very little supervision or control from the school administration. Parties and fun social events can happen without denting an individual's or house's pocketbook. ASCIT's dues, although a measly \$25/term, go a long way toward improving student life at Tech.

The evolution of Rotation at Caltech

Why women, Kim West, and people from LA have hated Rotation

BY CRAIG MONTUORI

The Fleming cannon was fired Sunday afternoon, and the frosh have been Rotated. Welcome to the Houses, frosh. Over the next term, the Houses have activities planned to welcome the frosh and make them full members, well versed in the lore and tradition of their new House.

Rotation is one of those traditions at Caltech where the details are shrouded in secrecy. Certainly, it's changed over the years, as circumstances have demanded it. We do not rotate frosh the same way they did in 1931, the first year of the South Houses, 1964, the first year that Rotation came back after the North Houses were built, 1970, the first year that women were here, or even 2006, when the process was strikingly different in some important ways.

We know for a fact that Rotation Rules began in the 1951-52 school year, after the "Great Dabney Debacle," where members of the House of Captains (note the difference between that and the Darbs) arranged for dates for prefrosh that they were interested in as well as cars for the weekend. After this situation, which was found to violate "the spirit of Rotation" and the members of Dabney were fined, though this account was debated the next week by members of Dabney in the Tech.

On May 23, 1952, the Tech ran an editorial saying, "This fall, for the first time, conduct during frosh rotation will be governed by a written set of rules. Put into writing by the IHC, the rules attempt to eliminate the confusion existing in other years and to clarify the distinction between proper and improper rotation practices." These rules ranged from not overly pressuring prefrosh to making

sure that frosh weren't set up with blind dates.

To quote one paragraph titled "Choice based on knowledge," David Tilles writes "Frosh rotation has three principal purposes: first, it enables upper classmen to meet and evaluate the freshman; secondly, it permits frosh to get to know the differences between the houses, their customs and traditions, and the men who constitute each house; thirdly, it enables the frosh to make a free, independent, and intelligent choice of House. The last of these purposes is the ultimate aim of the entire system of rotation, and at the same time is the most difficult of the three to achieve completely."

I'd argue that what David wrote in 1952 remains true today. Any changes that are made to Rotation are made in the spirit as written above.

Another interesting point about Rotation is that up until the mid-1970s, a good portion of the frosh didn't even end up in the Houses after Rotation, though about 85% did end up in the Houses. At that time, the senior class had preference and frosh were not guaranteed on-campus housing. By 1980, frosh were guaranteed on-campus housing and the scramble for living in the Houses by upper-classmen began.

In the 1950s, before the North Houses were built and since the opening of the South Houses, only 50% of frosh Rotated, based on how close they lived to Caltech. There was a line somewhere in California that if you lived closer to Tech than that, you had to find off-campus housing. This created an interesting effect where many student leaders and many social, classy guys weren't part of the Houses. Did they just stay off campus and never show their faces socially? No way!

There was an organization

called Throop Club which was an old Great War army barracks located where Winnett is today. Throop Club represented the 'off-campus Techman,' and elected House officers and participated in the IHC, which was primarily a social scheduling organization up until the 1970s. Throop Club was where all the off-campus guys gathered to be social, though it was often a goal to be allowed to join one of the Houses, like Professor Lorden did as a sophomore when he joined Ricketts. He was also one of the original settlers of Page when it opened in the fall of 1959.

Even women, when they first arrived on campus, had an interesting experience with Rotation. Special rooms were renovated for them in Blacker and Dabney, so if your room has a transom that is nailed shut, you might be in one of the rooms used by the first group of women in the class of 1973 or 1974, as there were some female sophomore transfers.

Unfortunately for the conservative planners, more women than expected were interested in Tech so some rooms in Ricketts had to be hastily prepared for them. Everything turned out alright, and the first woman ASCIT President took office in 1974, Elizabeth McLeod. A few years later, in the mid-70's, women demanded and won the right to be considered like Techmen in terms of Rotation.

If you're interested in Tech history, published Rotation Rules are another good way to track changes to Rotation. If you flip through old little t's, you'll see that every time a new Rule gets added, you can be sure that something bad happened at Rotation the year before. It's interesting to flip through the little t's and watch the Rules grow. Note that this only goes back to the mid 80s. Prior to

this, it appears that they weren't published in the little t, and I'm not sure where they can be found now.

For Ben Smith, I want to jump to almost modern times to finish up this brief discussion on Rotation. From the early 90s until 2003, a Dr. Kim West was the DRL, or Director of Residence Life, at Caltech. The position no longer exists, as it has been absorbed into Tom Mannion's department of Campus Life. Dr. West was formerly of and is once again of USC, and there were quite a few frictions between students and Dr. West over the years about what student life should be like.

In the mid-90s, I was told that Dr. West was the one that instituted the "gag rules of Rotation," including 'in the past' and 'in my opinion,' as well as forbidding students from speaking about how they themselves ranked the Houses as frosh. Most of these rules disappeared, but 'in the past' has lingered on, though hopefully it's finally dead this year. We've certainly tried to get rid of the phrase for long enough.

Certainly, even in the past decade, Rotation has changed.

The year before I came to Caltech in 2003, freshmen were expected to rank the Houses one through five instead of today's rating system. Rotation is changing even today, as last week's article noted, but now that's Rotation's over for this year, the discussion about how to best match up frosh with the Houses and maximize everyone's happiness can start again as we try to figure out how to improve a system that really demonstrates how unique Caltech is.

Check out Sunday's LA Times article on Rotation as an example.

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Profs voted 8-4 for old rules

FACULTY, FROM PAGE 1

by SHC members who had not shown up at the meeting. Fleming president Rob Hunter said, "During the meeting I thought we had okay dialogue, and it seemed like we had a shot. And then suddenly [Professor Libbrecht] says we also have these email votes: four for keeping the old ranking system, one for the new one, and one abstain." IHC Secretary Leighland Feinman said, "It felt like somewhat of an affront to me that people who had not spoken to us at all had sent in absentee votes."

The 12th and absent SHC member, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Campus Life Tom Mannion, did not cast a vote of any form.

"I wasn't going to vote because I wasn't there in the debate," Mannion said. "I've been a part of the process that led to the changes for two years. I fully supported what [the IHC] did, and I made that known to fellow [SHC] committee members."

According to the IHC, the older system of eliminating three houses had been accepted for years until last fall, when a rumor propagated amongst prefrosh that if they rated Ricketts House at all, they would for sure be placed there. As a result, so few students rated Ricketts—including those that had previously expressed interest to the upperclassmen—that the House did not fill the number of spaces that it had reserved for new students.

"As we observed last year, 'self-fulfilling rumors' like 'Everybody who ranks Ricketts will

get into Ricketts'" have a disproportionate influence on the system," said IHC Chairman Mike Woods.

However, Woods remained adamant that this had not been the case last year, claiming that regardless of rumors, "not every frosh who ranked Ricketts was placed into Ricketts."

The IHC argued to the SHC in an email that "the change to the rating system both quells any possibility of damaging rumors being spread as well as encourages all new freshmen to give a fair chance to, and to seriously consider all of the Houses,

this procedure are not public.

According to the IHC, Rotation this year has gone remarkably well—no instances of worried freshmen have come up.

"A few students have asked me why this change occurred, but we're feeling very positive from the impressions we're getting," said Feinman. "I am 100 percent convinced that this is more fair."

"This year, Rotation's been going well, and we have an excellent group of prefrosh. We've been trying to focus on Rotation as a positive experience [...] It's always possible when we're trying to put people where they want to go that not everybody's going to end up where they want to be. Our statistic is 90 percent get into their top three choices, and there are still 10 percent that are not served at the highest level possible. We'll see how it goes this year," said Jones.

Several upperclassmen still remain unconvinced. Senior Sami Zerrade said, "I really wish we'd seen more debate between the IHC and other students and less between IHC and faculty on this. At this point, it I guess all we can do is make sure that there's an open and sincere evaluation of how this year's rotation turns out. Going from 'you can rule out three' to 'you can maybe rule out one if you ask nicely' still represents a pretty significant decrease in the amount of guaranteed control frosh have over their fate. I know it'll only end up affecting a small minority of people, but that minority is really getting cheated."

"Going from 'you can rule out three' to 'you can maybe rule out one if you ask nicely' still represents a pretty significant decrease in the amount of guaranteed control frosh have over their fate."

Senior Sami Zerrade

bringing the attitude in which they go through Rotation more in line with the spirit of Rotation." The IHC has also tried to compensate for the withdrawal of freshman blackballing rights by opening the opportunity for students to inform House presidents and the Deans if there are any Houses that they absolutely cannot stand.

The IHC assured that this information would be taken into account during 'picks' procedures, though specifics regarding

Bookstore losing money on textbooks

BOOKSTORE, FROM PAGE 1

money, but we have to sustain ourselves," said Capron. Last fall, the bookstore was down \$15,000, and the unlimited price matching was causing additional losses.

Before implementing the change in policy, Capron and Tabata considered other options, including renting textbooks and ordering them from overseas. Such options, however, had significant flaws. Renting books

would only benefit if professors agreed to use the same book for at least three years and if the classes themselves had over a hundred students. Ordering overseas, while significantly reducing the cost of the textbook itself, would involve high shipping costs and, in some cases, legal concerns.

To Tabata and Capron, putting a limit on price matching was the best option, although Tabata does not expect the change to fix all the problems. She said, "We will continue to lose money, but this

pushes further how long we can keep doing price matching." So far, the new policy has not significantly impacted the number of textbooks sold, as the number of students who attempt to price match textbooks below the minimum price is not high.

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From the lab to the living room: Caltech's Mark Davis is one of several professors starring in the new PBS documentary "Curious."



Photo from thirteen.org/curious

BY VIBHA LALJANI

For more than a year, the Caltech labs were transformed into movie sets and Caltech researchers into Hollywood stars with television cameras hot on their trails. As Caltech scientists developed cancer-fighting drugs and solar energy savers, documentary makers at Thirteen/WNET New York captured the best and the brilliant for their new release "CURIOS".

The two-hour documentary features the avant-garde research at Caltech and the scientists who conduct it. It began airing in different parts of the country this fall, starting with Boston on Friday.

"The idea was to make a stylized science show so that people who are usually intimidated by science would be fascinated by it," said Mark Mannucci, the series' director, writer and producer.

Who's in it

The interviewees include Mark Davis, who spear-headed clinical trials on a low-side-effect alternative to chemotherapy; Lynn Paul studies how learning and personality are affected in the rare situations when the two hemispheres of the brain aren't connected; Nate Lewis and Sossina Haile, who are trying to find a practical way to harness solar energy and reduce our dependence on oil; Michael Dickinson, who studies how flies fly, which might lead to the creation of safer airplanes; Steve Quartz, Colin Camerer and Cedric Anen, who use fMRI to study the role that emotion and reason play during moral and economic decision making; Richard Murray, who is creating a car that can drive itself, and JPL researchers Norman Ahmad, Andrew Howard, Mark Maimon, and Ashley Stroupe.

"The faculty who were chosen had an ability to explain their work in lay language and be creative about it, and they had an infectious enthusiasm that comes across on your TV screen," said Jill Perry. The researchers did not get paid. They did the interviewing voluntarily, like they do for all documentaries and news interviews.

How they were chosen

Caltech is widely regarded as a temple for brilliant research in all spheres of science and technology, so making a choice about the works to be highlighted in CURIOS was not easy, according to the producer.

"We had to see what stories could be gorged into scenes," said Mannucci. "We decided to work on two concepts that would be meaningful to the public – survival and the brain and artificial intelligence, which is a very timely subject."

In 2005, Mannucci and Tara Thomas pre-interviewed 40 scientists via video conference calls.

"Mark Mannucci and Tara Thomas and we [Caltech] discussed topics and people who might be covered," said Jill Perry, director of Caltech PR.

"We shared with them the projects that we thought might be interesting to television viewers and they looked at them in terms of the visual possibilities, what were the ultimate goals of the researchers, and how could these stories be translated and comprehended by the average public television viewer."

Birth of CURIOUS

Caltech approached the former head of WNET with the idea of doing a feature on science and research in America and the role Caltech plays internationally.

"The initial idea was to do an interview-based talk show," said Mannucci.

"However, it was not visual enough to convey the concept. Many TV shows use a narrator or a host. But we wanted to let the scientists and the people whose lives had been changed by their research, be in the show. We really wanted their stories to come to the forefront. It is a very human character driven show, not a technical one."

Although initially the interviews were supposed to be only a couple hours, the project soon became very extensive. "As Mark and Tara started learning more and more about the research projects, they decided they didn't want to shortchange these stories

that deserved much more delving, much more footage, many more voices," said Perry.

"So, for example, it just wasn't going to be ample to interview Mark Davis in his lab about the human trials he's involved in at City of Hope. That would have done an injustice to him, the patients, and all the individuals at City

Mark Mannucci believes that being an outsider to the scientific research culture helped a

lot with the production. "It was really important for these stories to be clear to the general public."

Producer Mark Mannucci

"It would have been harmful to be an insider because when you are so deep inside sometimes it is hard to step back and see how to get it out there. I used myself as a filter and to represent people elsewhere."

CURIOS is a co-production of Thirteen/WNET New York and Caltech and will air in Los Angeles on KCET on Thursday, November 15, from 9 to 11 pm.

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'Avoid Boring People' a bit boring

BY MARK EICHENLAUB

James Watson's title for his newly-released autobiography, *Avoid Boring People*, turned out to have nearly as many twists as does the double helix structure of DNA he co-discovered more than fifty years ago.

Watson sat, his pleated right pant leg folded comfortably over the left, on the stage of Ramo Auditorium last Tuesday, Sept. 25. That same day marked the release of his book, a didactic recounting of his life story. Sharing the stage was a Caltech colleague, placed there so Watson would have someone with whom to converse, and a single plant on a table, placed there for reasons not explained.

Watson was far from the intimidating image his scientific, and public, reputation might suggest. But although Dr. Watson may have looked completely ordinary to me, I was sure that if I could only peer a bit more closely through the densely-packed crowd I would see tiny, radiant double helices parading around Watson's head like a crown of laurels.

Near the beginning of his conversation, Watson explained that *Avoid Boring People* has a double meaning. If "boring" is an adjective, the title becomes a brash implicit condemnation of a (presumably large) portion of humanity. If "boring" is a verb, the title becomes either a much-humbler

admonition to make yourself interesting, or possibly advice to refrain from perpetrating horror-movie-like assaults on your fellows with a cordless drill.

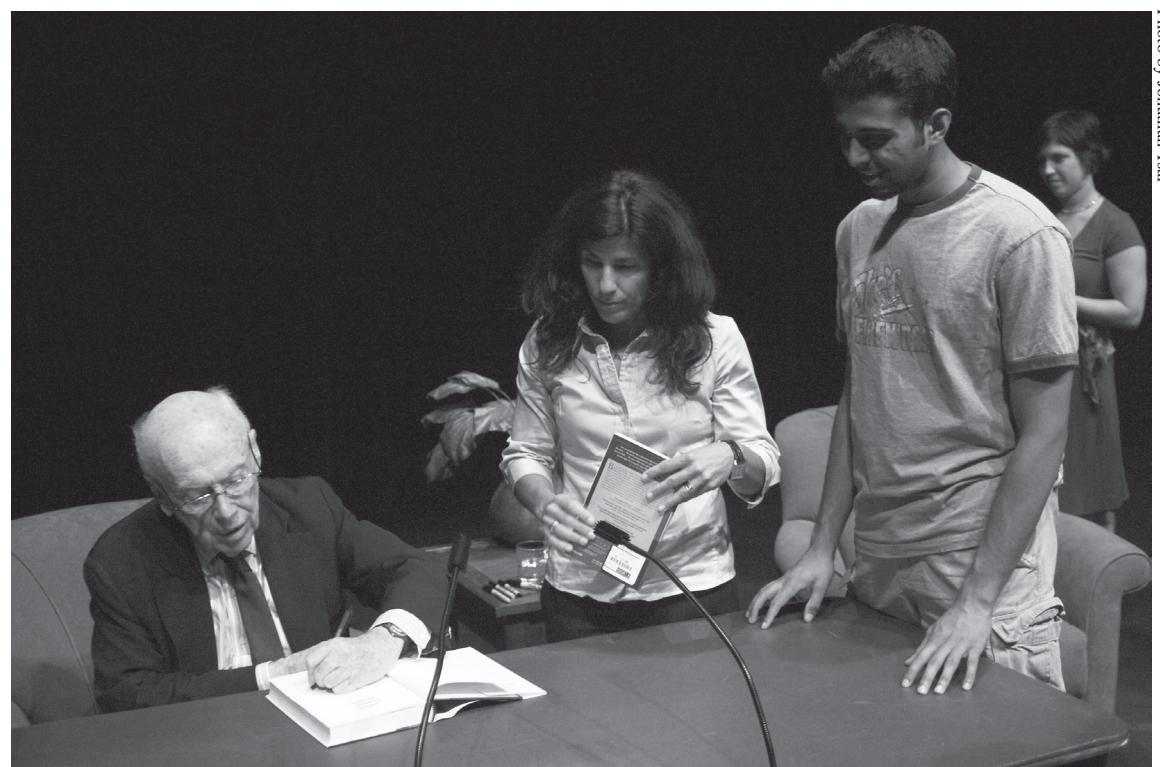
The full irony of Watson's title only struck me later, while wading through the volume's text and reaching my hand up to cover yet another yawn.

How could I be bored by a book about a life as rich as Watson's? For starters, in 347 pages and nearly eighty years of life, there is not one giant explosion in the entire book (although there is almost an atomic bomb, but not quite). Second, here is the book's hottest sex scene, copied word for word:

"...I asked Liz to stay with me for supper at the Continental. I did not want to be alone. It would be our first dinner together by ourselves. Afterward she did not go back to her dorm, telling me she did not want me to be alone that evening any more than I did."

If that's really the best way you can describe the night you hooked a girl less than half your age who would soon elope with you to California, you've got something to learn about 'avoid boring people'.

Much of the material was extraneous, such as the list of all Watson's college grades, or later the lists of all the nice things he bought with his money. Watson's early-twentieth-century sensibilities are on clear display: he describes men with a short list



James Watson signs his new book at his promotion two weeks ago in Ramo Auditorium.

of their intelligence, occupation, and tennis game, and women the color of their hair.

Watson's life was a varied and fulfilling one. He moved through the academic career circle from ingenuous student madly in love with first ornithology, then genetics, to an idealistic, enterprising young scientist forging ahead on ideas other still thought crazy, to a mature Harvard professor and

finally administrator and leader of the Cold Spring Harbor laboratories.

Watson's book doesn't hide any aspects of his life in science. He discusses the science he and his colleagues advanced, but just as much the politics of how it was made to work, and the social life that barely had time to exist around it.

After finishing his descrip-

tion of each stage of his life, Watson leaves the reader with bullet-marked bits of advice, like "Choose a young thesis adviser", "Work on Sundays", and "Don't anticipate a flirtatious Santa Lucia girl [when accepting your Nobel Prize]". For readers in a hurry, these are collected on the last five pages.

Volleyball seeks first win

BY YANG YANG

The Caltech women's volleyball team lost in straight games 30-16, 30-21, 30-15 at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps on Friday.

Junior Marie Giron and sophomore Lisa Yee led the team in kills with three apiece while freshman Kathryn Peters led in digs with seven.

The Stags fielded a team all above 5'8", while the Beavers' tallest player Peters stood at 5'10".

"[The CMS team] were a bunch of Amazonians," said senior David Koenitzer. "They were extremely tall."

Friday's game at CMS was preceded by a disappointing loss to Whittier at home on Tuesday. The Beavers lost in straight games 30-19, 30-12, 30-26.

The game was supposed to be one of the team's best chances at garnering its first SCIAC conference win.

Whittier had been previously winless in conference play. The Poets' lone win came against La Sierra University, which Caltech almost beat 3-2 in the home opener.

"It was very disappointing," said team captain Sarah Stidham. "We should have won. I still feel like we were the better team. It just didn't come together like it should have."

Although only 63 people attended the game according to official records, finding a seat in the bleachers was quite difficult.

"I'm glad we had so many fans there," said Stidham. "It's much better than playing in an empty gym."

After several calls that rankled the home crowd, one of the referees was escorted out of the gym by security after the match ended.

With 11 matches down, the Beavers have improved team communication with three freshmen starters in the lineup.

"We are definitely coming to



Freshman Kathryn Peters goes up for the kill as teammates Sarah Stidham and Carolyn Valdez watches on during the Beaver's 0-3 loss to Whittier on Tuesday.

gether as a team," said Stidham. "We understand better how we play. Letting a ball drop between two people or running into another person doesn't happen as much."

Peters believes the team has yet to play its best.

"I just don't think we're playing to our fullest potential," she said. "Hopefully we'll find our groove. I hope the second half will be better."

The Beavers will be looking

Men's soccer loses 6-0 to Redlands

BY RAM KANDASAMY

The Caltech men's soccer team lost 6-0 to Redlands on Saturday, dropping their record to 0-8 in SCIAC conference play.

The 7-1 Bulldogs tripled their score from the last time the two teams played. On Sept. 12 the Beavers held Redlands to only two goals in a 0-2 loss.

"It's very different playing here," Hannasch said. "The last time we played [Redlands], we lost 2-0 and we came off the field cheering and the other team hung their heads as if they had lost."

The soccer team also lost 6-0 at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Wednesday.

The estrogen factor

Due to Caltech's size and strong focus on academics means, the school cannot field a women's soccer team due to lack of participation.

However, that did not stop junior Sierra Petersen and freshman Rebecca Scholz from playing the sport they love.

"Our situation is unique,"

Petersen said. "I haven't seen another girl on any team we have faced."

Both have played soccer from a very young age, and they have enjoyed the sport the whole time. "I started playing when I was 5 [in Little League]," Scholz said.

Although both felt it would have been ideal for there to be a women's team, they agreed that playing soccer on the men's team was far better than no soccer at all.

Petersen and Scholz agree that there is some difficulty in adapting to the men's game. The men's game is much faster and more aggressive, according to Petersen. Both know they had to make a lot of adjustments.

However, both players were extremely happy overall to play soccer on the men's team. Neither feels estranged by their teammates due to the gender gap. According to Scholz, she is treated not differently than here male teammates.

"It works out well here because the focus of the team is on playing for fun rather than just wins and losses," said Petersen. "The coach is really fair about our situation."

Upcoming games

- Monday, 10/8
5:00PM - Women's Volleyball vs. West Coast Baptist College
- Wednesday, 10/10
4:00PM - Men's Soccer vs. Occidental College
6:00PM - Men's Water Polo vs. Chapman Univ.
- Thursday, 10/11
7:30PM - Women's Volleyball vs. Southwestern (AZ)
- Saturday, 10/13
9:00AM - M/W Cross Country @ SCIAC Multi-Dual (Chino)
11:00AM - Men's Soccer vs. Cal Lutheran University
11:00AM - Men's Water Polo vs. Occidental
7:30PM - Women's Volleyball vs. La Sierra University

Some think complex calculation.

We think basic logic.

Equity and Fixed Income PhD Presentation
Date: Thursday, October 11, 2007
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Beckman Auditorium

If you have a PhD or Masters degree in a quantitative subject, you have an important decision to make. What are you going to do with it? Where are you going to apply the knowledge and skills you have built? And how are you going to add to them? Right now we're looking for people who can help Credit Suisse become the world's premier bank. We're offering exceptional intellectual challenges and extraordinary scope for personal development. Visit our website for more information on our elite Quant programs. And then as the saying goes, you do the math.
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Information Technology PhD and Quantitative Master's Degree Presentation
Date: Monday, October 15, 2007
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Athenaeum Faculty Club



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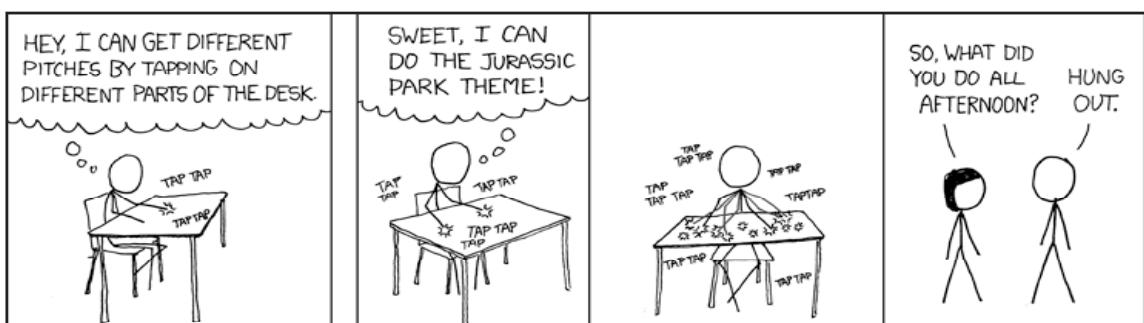
Ten things you might have heard during Rotation

1. Your graphics are so beautiful they rival Doom 3
2. I wish I could be DNA helicase so I could unzip your genes
3. There's a launch party in my pants and you're invited.
4. So, you're a girl huh?
5. Are you busy tonight at 3 a.m.?
6. Be unique and different, say yes.
7. The voices in my head told me to come over and talk to you.
8. Are you sure you're not a parking ticket? Because you have fine written all over you
9. Want to come see my hard drive? It's not 3.5 inches and definitely not floppy.
10. I like your Maxwell's Equations t-shirt...on my floor.

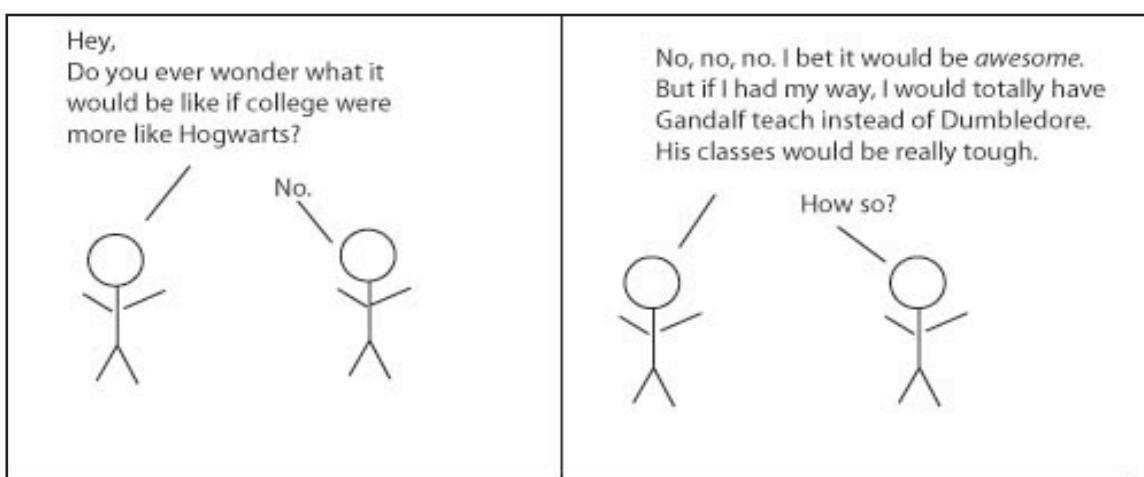
Comics



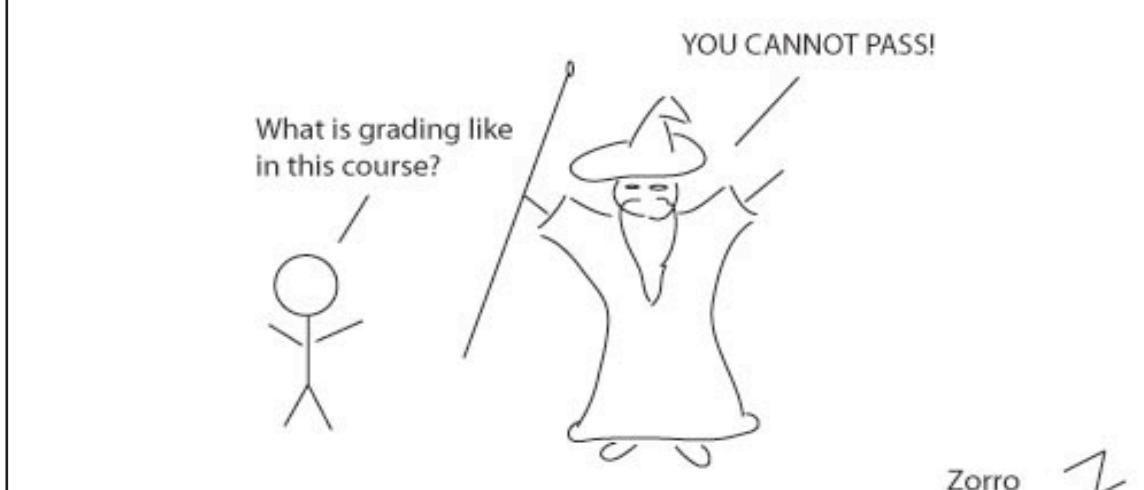
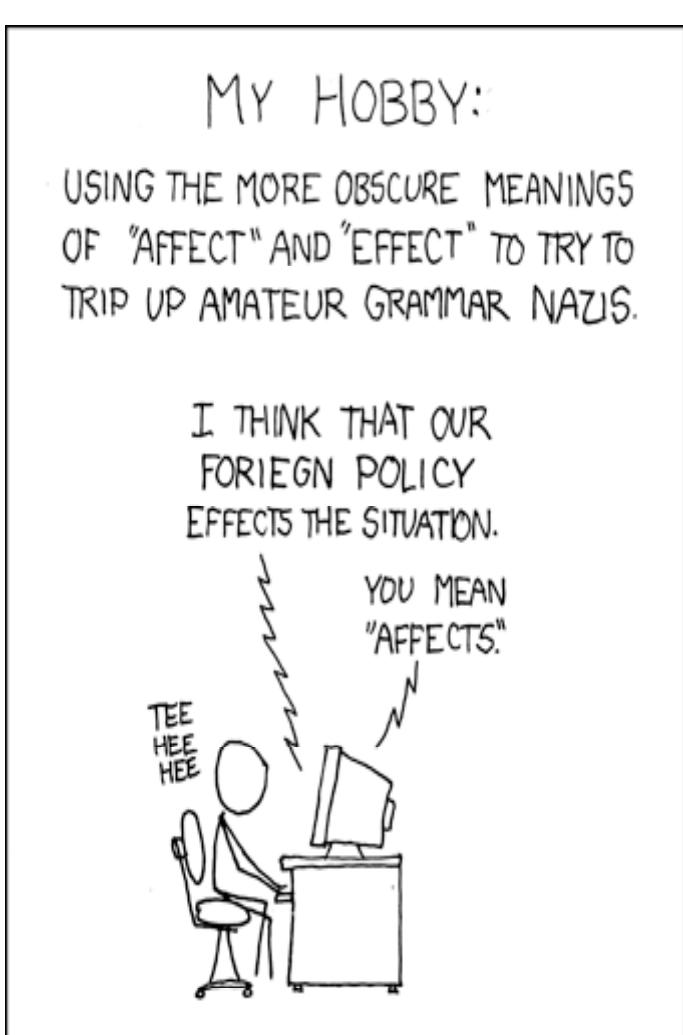
XKCD by Randall Munroe



XKCD by Randall Munroe



Applied and Computational Mathemagic 95 / 100



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