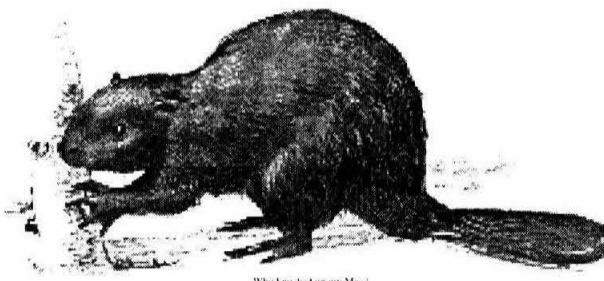


Entertainment
Double Header
Cider House Rules &
Aquarius

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Darb Cashes in Big

see page 2

The California Tech

VOLUME CI, NUMBER 21

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 7, 2000

TOO MUCH TO DRINK? WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY...

BY MERC CHASMAN

How do you know if someone has had too much to drink? How much is too much? What should you do if someone you know has had too much to drink? These are some of the commonly asked questions about alcohol and alcohol emergencies.

On Thursday at noon, I joined a small number of other Techers in Winnett for lemonade, cookies, and answers. The program, entitled "Too Much to Drink?", was co-sponsored by the Health Center and the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program. Although the speaker, Stan Kalter, M.D. and medical director of the ER at Huntington Hospital, started off with a humorous remark on the attention span of previous audiences, the topic was no laughing matter.

"Alcohol can kill," Kalter said bluntly, referring not only to drunk drivers and sparked-sparked violence, but also to the physiological effects of alcohol on the body. "Alcohol is toxic and irritative to every tissue in your body."

Most people know that drinking too much can cause vomiting. Normally, your gag reflex helps keep your airway clear of vomit — a good thing, as the contents of your stomach would cause a lot of damage if they found their way to your lungs. However, alcohol suppresses the gag reflex in addition to inducing vomiting, a very dangerous combination.

If a person who has been drinking is lying on his back, unresponsive and moaning, there is a good chance that his airway would become blocked if he vomits. If you find someone in this state, turn him on his side and call 911.

In addition to blocking the airway, alcohol can cause other breathing problems. Normally, a person takes twelve to sixteen breaths per minute. Alcohol can

Graduate school scores high

Geology and physics departments take first in latest US News and World Report rankings

BY TECH STAFF

US News and World Report bestowed honors upon Caltech yet again on Monday, this time in their rankings of the best graduate schools in the nation.

In the magazine's most recent issue, Caltech's departments of geology and physics were ranked first in their fields. Within the geology category, it also placed first in geophysics and geochemistry and third in tectonics/structure.

Within the physics category,

Caltech took first in astrophysics/space and fourth in elementary particles.

The chemistry department took second overall, including second in organic chemistry and physical chemistry and first in bio-organic/biophysical chemistry.

In engineering, Caltech placed third in two types: aerospace/aeronautical/astronautical, and environmental/environmental health, which rose from sixth place last year. It ranked fourth in chemical engineering.

Caltech also earned a place in the magazine's Social Sciences category, ranking fourteenth in economics.

Graduate schools were evaluated mostly on the academic reputations of the faculty in each department. This year many types of graduate programs were judged, including MBA and MA degree schools and schools of law, education, business, and medicine.

Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology claimed most of the

top rankings.

Caltech came to the special attention of *US News and World Report* when its undergraduate program was ranked first in the country.

Like the undergraduate rankings, the graduate rankings have stirred interest in the graduate school. Within the institute, however, faculty and administration are aware of the political and transitory nature of rankings decisions and are cautious of paying too much attention to the magazine's reports.

Three new chemistry faculty hired

BY JON FOSTER

The Organic Chemistry department at Caltech is set to undergo a radical transformation next year as three new organic chemists join the current staff.

Brian Stoltz, David McMillan, and Linda Hsieh-Wilson are the three new members. Stoltz and McMillan are synthetic organic chemists, while Hsieh-Wilson is a bio-organic chemist. They will be arriving at various times over the summer and will initially teach graduate level classes.

The motivation behind the new hirings is simple. The division has historically had six professors, but over the past few years, three have left for one reason or another. Dr. Dennis Dougherty, Executive Officer for Chemistry, explained, "We certainly had a hole in synthetic organic chemistry, and we were fortunate that some of the best people were available and interested in coming to Caltech."

Hiring three new members in any department is certain to bring changes. "This is a big move," said Dougherty. "We're moving to absorb this. However, the three new members fit in well with the current professors," and the integration of Stoltz, McMillan and Hsieh-Wilson is expected to go smoothly.

Arnold O. Beckman to be honored at 100th birthday celebration next week

BY ELISABETH ADAMS

Arnold O. Beckman, businessman, inventor, philanthropist and Caltech alumnus, will celebrate his one hundredth birthday on April 10th with a black tie dinner at the Atheneum and fireworks. Also in his honor, a special two-day scientific conference on topics from chemistry and biology will be held in Ramo Auditorium on April 7-8. (More information on the conference can be found at www.caltech.edu/events/beckman.)

Dr. Beckman was born April 10, 1900 in Cullom, IL. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in chemical engineering at the University of Illinois before coming to Caltech for his doctorate in photochemistry in 1928. He then became a professor of chemistry at Caltech, where he remained for 12 years.

In 1934, he invented a pH meter for measuring acidity in citrus processing plants, and the following year he founded Beckman Instruments. In 1940, he left Caltech to concentrate on his company, which has since become a world leader in scientific instruments.

Among Beckman's inventions are the DU Spectrophotometer, which vastly decreased the amount of time spent on routine laboratory procedures, and the

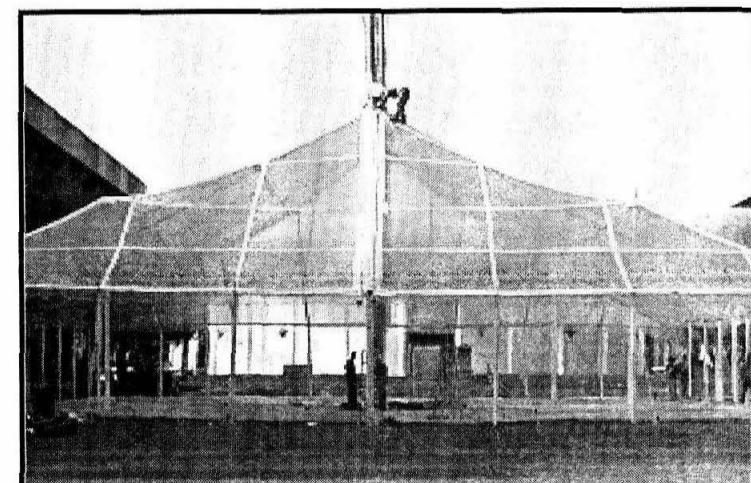


PHOTO BY ELISABETH ADAMS

Grounds are prepared for Monday's festivities at Beckman.

HELIOTOP, a variable resistance device similar to a radio volume control which became an important part of radar systems in WWII and continues to find many uses in electronic equipment today.

He also was instrumental in bringing about scientific studies of the sources and mechanisms of photochemical smog, and later helped develop pollution control regulations and procedures for LA County.

Beckman has always main-

tained an interest in scientific education and research. Through the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, he and his wife have been quite generous in their gifts to numerous universities and research centers, including the four buildings on the Caltech campus which bear the Beckman name.

In 1953, Dr. Beckman became the first alumnus on Caltech's Board of Trustees. He served as chairman of the board from 1964 to 1974.

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News

Scholarships awarded

BY TECH STAFF

Garrett Heffner, Christopher Hirata, and Thomas Snyder have been awarded Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships. Heffner is a sophomore majoring in biology, Hirata is a junior in physics, and Snyder is a sophomore in chemistry.

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation awarded 309 scholarships for the 2000-2001 academic year to undergraduate sophomores and juniors from the fifty states and Puerto Rico.

Caltech grad becomes a millionaire on game show

BY MAYANKA PRASAD

"Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?"

We'd all like to. A couple of weeks ago, however, one of our own, Joseph Trella (Caltech graduate of '97, Planetary Science), made the big win. Here is his story:

Q: How did you get to be on "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?"

A: Well, I called their phone number. A lot. On specified days, they have a toll-free number available (it used to be a pay call, and the schedule is posted on their website at abc.go.com).

When you call the number, you enter your phone number and last four digits of your social security number as an identifier (you only get to call once a day).

Then, you are given four items to put in a particular order (such as "parts of an animal" from top to bottom, or "words in a phrase" in correct order). If you put three groups in correct order, you get to record your name and home town.

Next you specify a future tape date to try for. About two hundred people are randomly selected from those who chose that particular tape date to move to the second round.

You are given a secret phone number to call and a personal ID number to enter. Then, you are given five groups to put in order.

This time, however, speed is a factor as it break's ties. If you are one of the ten fastest, they call you on the same day with the rules and your flight information (they pay for a plane or car, transportation to/from the airport, and a room).

From then on, it's time to study and find Phone-A-Friends.

Q: What was the most exciting moment during the game?

The Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of more than 1,176 mathematics, science, and engineering students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide.

The Scholarship Program honoring Senator Barry M. Goldwater was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences, and engineering. The Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in these fields.

ALCOHOL:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

suppress respiration, bringing down the rate to fewer than ten breaths per minute. If this happens, call for help immediately.

Alcohol also affects circulation, dilating skin blood vessels but contracting those in the brain. It can raise blood pressure, increasing stress on the heart and causing it to beat irregularly. Call 911 if the pulse of someone who had been drinking becomes highly irregular.

Kalter also spoke briefly some of the effects of other drugs, as well as a few withdrawal symptoms of alcoholics. The applause when he finished was not thun-

derous, but most of the group seemed thoughtful as we filtered out of Winnett Club Room 1. I myself thought that the talk was well worth missing TFM's version of lunch to attend.

Below is a brief list of what to do and when to get help if you suspect someone has been drinking too much or taking other drugs.

When to get help:

-If the victim is taking fewer than ten breaths per minute or is not breathing.

-If the victim has a highly irregular heartbeat.

-If the victim is lying on their back and unresponsive.

-If the victim is dehydrated.

-If the victim is having a seizure.

-If the victim is having hallu-

cinations (delirium tremors in alcoholics).

-If the victim is behaving violently, or seems likely to hurt himself or others.

-If the victim is having sharp chest pains or a heart attack.

What to do:

Call 911 or another emergency number.

Keep them quiet, lying on their side.

Keep them from hurting themselves, but do not start a fight.

-If the victim ceases breathing, perform mouth-to-mouth.

-Ask a friend or someone from the Heath Center to help.

What not to do:

-DON'T leave them unattended.

-DON'T get in a fight with them.

game at home, there were a fair number of question sets where I knew every answer.

On the other hand, there were some where I would have been stumped, and others where I would have cheerfully given the wrong answer.

It seems that the first five questions are just warm-ups, and the second five can be hard for those who aren't that strong in the given subject areas, but in the last five the writers seem to be deliberately tricky (hence, "Captain Howdy").

Q: Is it true that you named Dabney House as a lifeline and that they had people near the phone waiting for the call?

A: Yes. I contacted John Marquis, who currently works for the USGS in the Mudd buildings—he was also my host during Pre-Frosh weekend in 1992.

He said he wouldn't be able to get off work the day of the taping (Wed. 3/15), but he got in contact with the Darb President, Dana Vukajlovich. She got a mob of Darbs together by the Lounge phone to wait for my potential call. I should probably send them something nice.

Q: Now that you're a millionaire, what do you plan to do with your newfound wealth?

A: Well, now I'll show THEM! Seriously, it's in a money market account right now, so I didn't sweat out the recent "corrections" in the stock market too much.

I'll invest most of it, take some time off work to indulge myself a little, and campaign vigorously for Steve Forbes and his flat tax (NOT!).

Q: What do you do now?

A: While finishing up [at Caltech], I realized that I didn't really want to go into an academic or research track.

I became more interested in writing—specifically, screenplays. I have been working at KLA-Tencor, who make analy-

a DEI bill - guys, I swear I'll pay it before October.

Also, I don't think I ever got a 1997 yearbook.

If anyone has any spares handy, that'd be nice.

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Green things and sports

Hello mudda, hello fudda, here I am...

BY YUKI TAKAHASHI

Hi mom and dad, I just made it back safely from this thing called the "Alternative Spring Break". It's a program by the Caltech Y (the Y is something that does a lot of extracurricular stuff for students), and we got to go to Arizona and Mexico! It was pretty much like a free vacation and I had tons of fun. The cool thing is, we were actually doing community service. The point of the trips was for us students to go to different kinds of communities to help people.

About 10 of us went to Arizona for 4 days at the beginning of the break. We went to a place called Earthtime Ranch near a Native American reservation in Flagstaff.

People there told us that the ranch was for hosting retreats and internships focused on intercultural exchange, especially exchange of indigenous knowledge. It was so isolated from the city that they had internet connection only through cell phones! The whole facility used only rain and sun for water and electricity. They told us that they try to live with very little impact on the environment. We made a trail that minimizes erosion, fixed a box garden to protect plants from strong winds, cleaned the outdoor composting toilets, and worked with solar

panels. What do you think about getting a composting toilet for our house? That thing doesn't smell at all. On the last day, we cooked food underneath a bonfire and on the grill and had a nice dinner with the people at Earthtime Ranch. During the trip, we had enough free time to visit Wupatki National Park, Sunset Craters, Walnut Canyon, and even the Lowell Observatory. Anyway, it was really neat to spend a few days in a setting totally different from Caltech.

Toward the end of the break I



Caltech students lend a hand

trees or something. We also had chance to talk to a few teenage guys. They were funny. One of them was really into Pokemon. We ate at local taco stands — food was excellent and nobody threw up.

Working at the community center in Tecolote was cool because we could easily see that we made the place nicer. It's always fun to go out to different communities and work with friends on something completely different from school-work. The Y's going to have the

Alternative Spring Break program to Mexico again next year, so I want to go again instead of coming home :)

Anyway, how was your spring break? When I ask people that question, some say "Oh.. it was too short... went home,

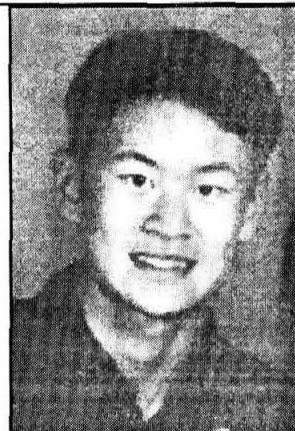
sat around, didn't do much"; others say, "Man I partied and got wasted like every single day." I think whoever answers something like this should check this program out, and maybe help make some changes in society.

Caltech athlete of the week

Techer undefeated on court

BY CHRIS HUGHES

Gerald Palmrose, Sophomore, Men's Tennis - Men's tennis sophomore Gerald Palmrose is undefeated in the month of March in singles play, earning a perfect 5-0 mark thus far. He opened the month at No. 4 singles, but moved up to No. 3 singles on March 17 against Colorado College. He has not dropped a set in the last five matches, surrendering just 16 games in that span while winning two sets by a 6-0 count. In doubles play, teaming with Chris Leapley, the duo is 4-1 in March, falling only to a doubles team from Colorado College by a 9-8 score.



The greening of the pond

Cleaning done while pumps are down

BY JUSTIN KAO

Most of you have probably noticed the "greening" of Millikan Pond and the caution tape around Throop. According to Delmy Emerson, manager of Buildings and Grounds, they should be back to normal in "a couple of days." The Millikan Pond pump broke down and a replacement part had to be ordered and the hot weather led to algae growth, while Throop was drained for preventive maintenance after the discovery of a minor leak into the surrounding planters.

To take advantage of the existing downtime for repairs, said Emerson, "we decided to clean it." At the time of writing,

Throop is still down, but Millikan is circulating water again. However, it will take a few days and a few pond cleanings for Millikan to be restored to the chlorinated clarity Caltech students know and love.

In other grounds news, pruning of the olive trees has begun again, to be followed later this month with sprayings of detuned herbicide to prevent olive growth. Emerson wishes to remind students that they "are using the safest chemicals available" and are well within the stringent state of California chemical safety limits.

Many thanks to Caltech Buildings and Grounds for keeping our ponds healthy and our walks free of olives.

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Aqua haus rulz

Cider House Rules (B)

My interest in this film was piqued upon the announcement of its numerous Oscar nominations over a month ago, seemingly a film overlooked in the shuffle of entries vying for accolades during the holiday season. With a fairly unassuming movie poster, it had easily been relegated to the category of films with cryptic titles using words beginning with the letter C (Cradle Will Rock, Snow Falling on Cedars) that surfaced at the end of last year. Undoubtedly, a masterful marketing scheme and something intriguing about this film did not go unnoticed in the eyes of Academy voters. With a flurry of powder-fresh orphans the movie seeks to elicit the pity and compassion of the audience while subtly juggling the sides of the very incendiary issue of abortion. Strangely, while the film reveals its pro-choice inclination, the existence of the orphans in all their adorableness attests otherwise.

The context of this contentious issue lies in the coming-of-age-tale of Homer Wells, an orphan with the name hybrid of the immortal bard and the accomplished novelist, and so named by the aged obstetrician also burdened with managing the bustling orphanage

which had delivered him. New England is today the bastion of conservativeness as it was likewise in the WWII era during which the film takes place, but it is not without its share of improprieties: the good doctor performing abortions illegally, pregnancies out of wedlock, and tales of lust and betrayal. Treating such topics would have been taboo in the 1930's and 1940's, but we are able to burst the bubble of pre-contemporary innocence and decorum defined by such sitcoms as *Leave it to Beaver*, which came later but we suspect that the portrayal of domestic life prior to that would have also been just as peachy. Though the time spanned in the film is barely a year, Homer Wells undergoes a transformation, or at least the cessation of his sexual repression. One of the ironies is that while Homer was raised within the orphanage and present during many of Dr. Larch's (the obstetrician and patriarch of the orphanage) opera-

tions and therefore cognizant of the results of torrid love affairs, he is still oblivious to the advances of another orphan prior to his peregrination. As the orphan who eluded adoption the longest, Homer had become the older brother to the others, both the comforter and disciplinarian of one of the most cherubic casts in film history, while also defining his morals. Often, he frustrates Dr. Larch because of his inclination for life-saving rather than aborting. As his own existence and those of the other abandoned children were so tenuously close to that of a pile of ashes in a furnace (the undignified final destination of aborted fetuses) his aversion from Dr. Larch's practices were quite justified. The clash over ideals, however never supersedes the fatherly affection Dr. Larch emotes, uplifting always and never over-dramatic.

Nevertheless, Homer itches for a greater reckoning of the world,

Upon a visit from a WWII fighter pilot and his pregnant significant other, he manages to find a means of transportation to exit his niche in rural Maine, making a less than amicable split. Taken as a worker on the farm owned by the pilot's family, Homer falls under the guidance of a troupe of migrant apple pickers, smitten by dramatic events in their own nomadic lives. Away from his role as counselor and protector on the orphanage premises Homer is maladjusted. His education and ethnicity make him a standout in his new working environment, though the labors are more suited for his pro-life stance. His high moral standards, however, take a blow as he enters a strained intimacy with the pilot's girlfriend, a failed monogamist, while her boyfriend and overseer of the apple orchard returns overseas for battle. Ostensibly, Homer's deviations from his standards of decorum, culminating in his treatment of a heinous circumstance which arises among the migrant workers, is meant to soften his otherwise strait-laced judgements and beliefs. Seemingly then, the only means of coming to terms with reality and the outside world is to resort to sordid behavior which plagues them.

While the film's passage from one contentious matter to another is exemplary, with minimal disturbance to the otherwise redolent tone of the movie, there is no grand conclusion made and the transformation through which Homer passes feels inadequate. In epic fashion, Homer having lost in love returns to a grand reception at the orphanage. But while Homer's return is steeped in pathos and provides the sunny ending which is prognosticated, the celerity in which Homer supposedly matures does not seem extensive enough to justify a return to his insular hamlet. Surely, watching a few movies, visiting the beach, and becoming a jilted lover are a bit shy of being cosmopolitan and even Homer's final disposition toward abortion remains ambiguous. There is little proof that Homer has indeed found his home once again as a man and not an adolescent with a slightly altered perspective. Dr. Larch is immobilized and when Homer assumes the vacated position, all indications point to a continuation of the orphanage's work, legal or shady. But the extenuating circumstances that led to Homer's change of heart seem too bizarre to precipitate such a transformation, something that may be neglected behind the aegis of happy orphans at play. Beneath such innocent faces and such glee I risk being a curmudgeon for providing a recommendation which is less than glowing.



Label: MCA
Genre: Rock, Pop
Released: March 21, 2000

Many of you probably remember "Barbie Girl," which was Aqua's big hit a few years back. Their other hit in the U.S. was "Turn Back Time," which was the featured song for the movie "Sliding Doors." Their album *Aquarium* sold over 14 million albums worldwide, and *Aquarius* is their second album. This Europop/Dance group consists of four members, led by Lene Nystrom, the female singing the

majority of the musical numbers. In this album, Lene sings with two voices - one which is modulated electronically (I think) to be higher, and her normal voice, which has a delicate, tender sound. The other main singer in the group, Rene Dif, contributes a completely different sound, almost like a rapper, and often it is used in the same manner that was used to play Ken in the Barbie Girl song (c'mon barbie let's go party).

Aquarius includes a few songs that remind me of Barbie Girl, but there are also some slower ballads and less dance-intensive numbers. I was actually quite surprised by how gentle some of their songs were, like "Aquarius,"

AQUA AQUARIUS

and "Goodbye to the Circus." But the meat of the album is very upbeat - and I got the feeling while listening that the people that would like this type of music would probably also like pop and dance/techno music by artists like Jennifer Lopez, Christina Aguilera, or Vengaboys. My favorite tracks were *Cartoon Heroes*, *We Belong to the Sea*, *Good Guys*, *Aquarius*, and *Goodbye to the Circus*. One thing that amazed me was that Aqua wrote, sang, and produced all of their songs. I think this is the reason that the tracks I mentioned were so different. Various styles are employed, which include some 50s-

60s rock 'n roll, reggae, musical cabaret, pop-classical, salsa, and dance-beat. For the song *Aquarius*, which is a piano-accompanied, slow piece, you can hear a symphony orchestra playing in the background. I enjoyed listening to most of the tracks on the CD, mainly because I felt like the songs weren't a repetition of the same thing, but rather were original, varied, and well executed songs. This CD was meant to cheer people up, and one of their lyrics, "Do what you want and be happy" counsels us to do just that. One final thing about the CD is that it includes the music video for "*Cartoon Heroes*," the first single off the album, which cost approximately \$3.5 million to film. It's neat thing to watch, and completes the album nicely.

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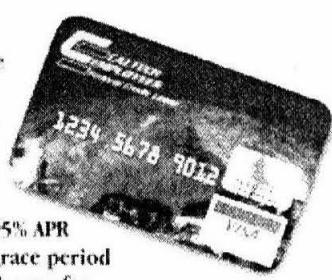
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Present: New BoD (including Cue-stick); Guests: Emilio Castaño Graff, Dan Liebling

Meeting called to order at 10:52 pm.

Martha-Helene organizes the club proposals for distribution to each member of the BoD. Emilio comes to the meeting because he thinks ASCIT is really, really cool.

General Meeting

The first item on the agenda is the ASCIT Carnival for Prefrosh Weekend, which will replace the ASCIT Party this year. Melinda will be able to get us the Bungee Run, Dump Tank, and Bouncing Castle. To cut back on costs, we will have to assemble and operate them ourselves. We will also have cotton candy, popcorn, and maybe game booths if we can find people interested in running them.

Melinda has the contract from the Ritz-Carlton, Huntington, for the ASCIT Formal. The BoD votes to approve this contract.

Next, Melinda brings up the ASCIT lights, which are reportedly broken, although the fog machine still works. She has the printout of an email from Dan Liebling requesting a list of new equipment. Eric calls Dan on the phone, asking him to come and make a presentation.

Meghan has a money request for the ASCIT van, which she is working on selling. She needs funding to renew the registration. Unfortunately, in order to get this registration, the van needs a smog test and must be driven to the DMV, but without registration no one can drive it. The solution to this problem is to get a one-day moving registration. Caltech has offered to sell the van for us if we get the registration records.

Eric asks if anyone has seen his friggin' TI-82 calculator, which was last seen at the Capra retreat. No one has.

Martha-Helene distributes the copies of club proposals. She estimates that there are 35 proposals in the stack.

The BoD then brainstorms about what to do about the International Students office, which will be vacated when the ISO moves to the new building being built on Holliston. Tom Mannion has asked us for suggestions. Should we move the ASCIT office? The best suggestion seems to be to put a post office extension there, so that students will not have to walk all the way to Keith-Spalding to pick up packages. It may also be open later for students.

A.S.C.I.T. Minutes

April 4, 2000

The Budget Meeting is this Friday night. By Saturday morning (or afternoon) the BoD will walk out of 070 Moore with a complete budget for the next fiscal year. At the Capra Retreat last weekend, Baldeep came up with a list of criteria for club funding.

Baldeep's Criteria for Club Funding: 1) Clear, positive, constructive mission, 2) Demonstrated diligence, efficiency, and creativity in the execution of the mission, 3) Broadly appealing, compelling activities that enrich the community and facilitate the interaction of diverse groups and/or activities that nurture the fellowship of existing groups, and 4) Activities that well represent the undergraduate student body or enhance the image of the institute as a whole.

The BoD will review copies of the club proposals that Martha-Helene handed out. (She was right, there are exactly 35 proposals!) The Budget Meeting will start with the first club at 7:00 pm this Friday night and will give each club 5 minutes for presentation and 3 minutes for questions. The clubs will be spaced 10 minutes apart, allowing a 10-minute break every 5 clubs.

Dan Liebling comes in to talk to us about the ASCIT lights. The BoD decide to postpone buying new lights until we know more about the state of our current equipment. Melinda, with the help of Dan, will look into that.

At the Capra Retreat, the BoD decided to set up a meeting with all the publication editors and business managers. We will be discussing schedules, contracts, equipment status, and human resource issues. Sean will also meet separately with the business managers to discuss finances. This publications meeting will be held in two to three weeks.

The BoD sets the ASCIT weekly meeting time this term to be on Thursdays at 4:00 pm, to give faculty and staff the chance to attend. However, the meeting time for next week will be at 10:00 pm on Tuesday, April 11 to give us time to prepare for Prefrosh Weekend.

Meeting adjourns at 12:14 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason C. Cardema

Present: BoD minus Martha-Helene; Guests: Kevin Costello
First meeting of third term called to order at 10:08 pm.

Representing the Caltech Quiz Bowl, Kevin requests funding for two teams to participate in the national Intercollegiate Championship Tournament (ICT), which will be held at Boston University this year. The teams will consist of six undergrad and two grad students and will be competing in the Division I and Division II levels.

Eric just arrived from London a few hours ago and he still thinks it's 7 am.

Melinda gives an approximate date for the formal (May 26), an approximate place (Ritz-Carlton, Huntington), and an approximate price (\$40).

The BoD reminds itself that the Houses still need to be reimbursed for their DVD players, since they each cost less than \$500.

Martha-Helene has put Budget Meeting posters up all over the Houses. Remember, club budget proposals should be in by next Monday, April 3 so we can review them in time for the exciting Budget Meeting next weekend.

Melinda has a printout of an email from Baldeep concerning problems with the Budget Meet-

ing last year. She makes copies for the entire BoD, who studies them so that the mistakes of history will not repeat themselves.

Meghan suggests possibly donating the ASCIT van. This act of good will would also give us a huge tax deduction. Eric says he would prefer that the van be sold.

Next, we talk about the upcoming ASCIT retreat at the lovely Capra Ranch in San Diego. Aside from the current BoD, members of the old BoD were in-

draw up a preliminary budget in preparation for our big Budget Meeting next weekend, and collect ideas about our plans for the future (figure out what the heck we are doing).

Melinda brings up that Prefrosh Weekend is coming up in two weeks and that ASCIT has Dabney Hall reserved that Saturday night for the infamous ASCIT party. She suggests having a carnival in addition to or instead of the party. A carnival may be more

appealing to prefrosh, with attractions such as a bouncy castle and inflatable sumo wrestling. We will work out the details in the next few weeks.

The BoD unanimously votes to fund the Caltech Quiz Bowl team for \$507 to defend our honor at the national tournament this year.

Chris has spent much of his spring break entering data from the ASCIT club surveys we received. There are a few more surveys left to do which the rest of the BoD will handle.

Laura and Emma will both request additional funding for their respective subcommittees (BoC and ARC).

Meghan volunteers to get the ASCIT donuts this week. Eric and Jason are definitely fine with that.

Meeting adjourns at 11:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jason C. Cardema

LAST WEEK'S A.S.C.I.T. MINUTES

MARCH 29, 2000

vited as well as the publications people. Two old friends, Baldeep and Hanna, will be accompanying us as well as little t editor Dave Guskin, who will also represent the rest of the publications people who unfortunately will not be able to attend.

What does the BoD hope to accomplish at Capra Ranch? The annual retreat at Capra Ranch has been a time-honored tradition, during which the members of the BoD establish friendships that will help us endure together the long months ahead. At Capra, we plan to review the bylaws in full detail,

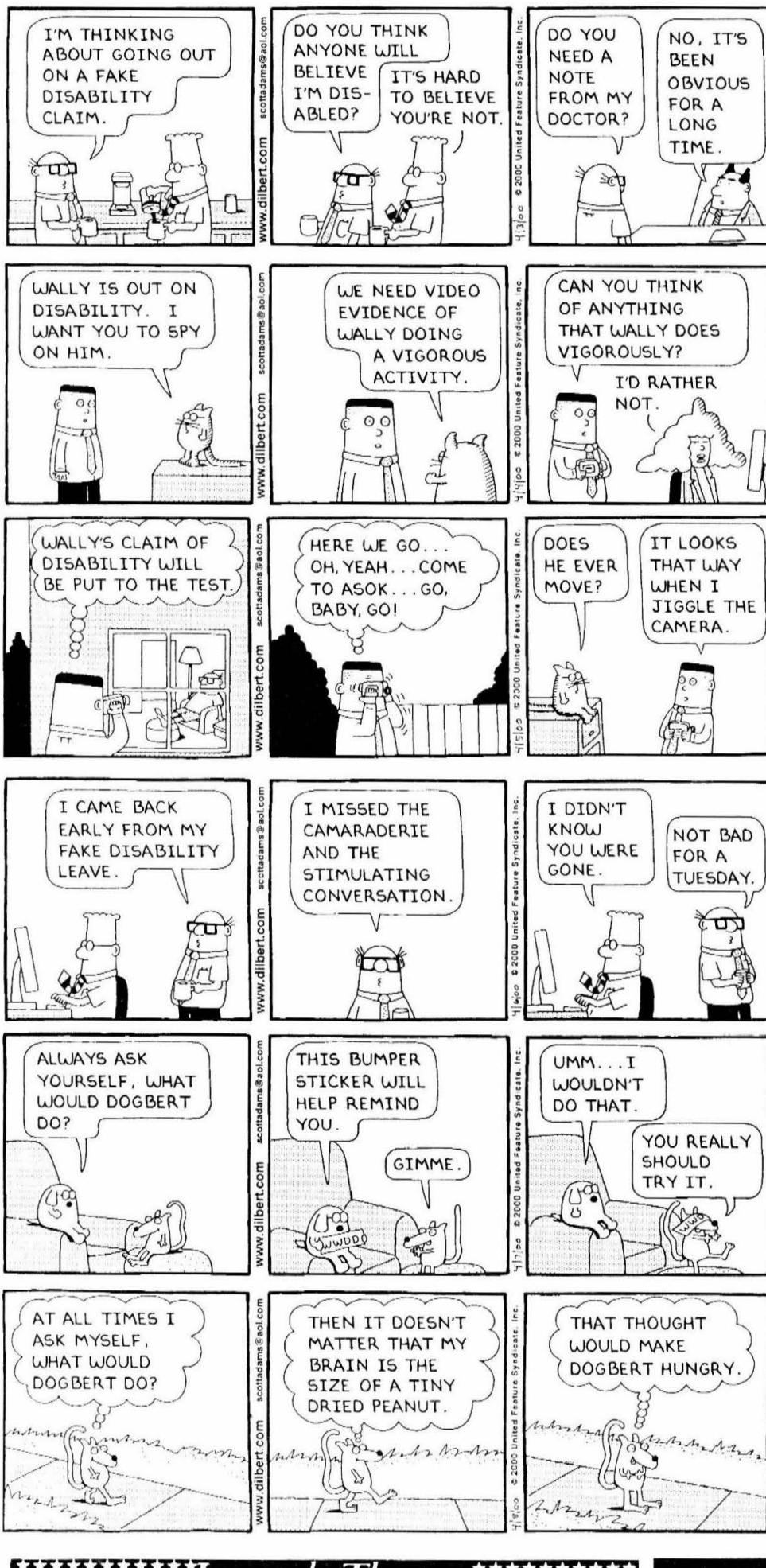
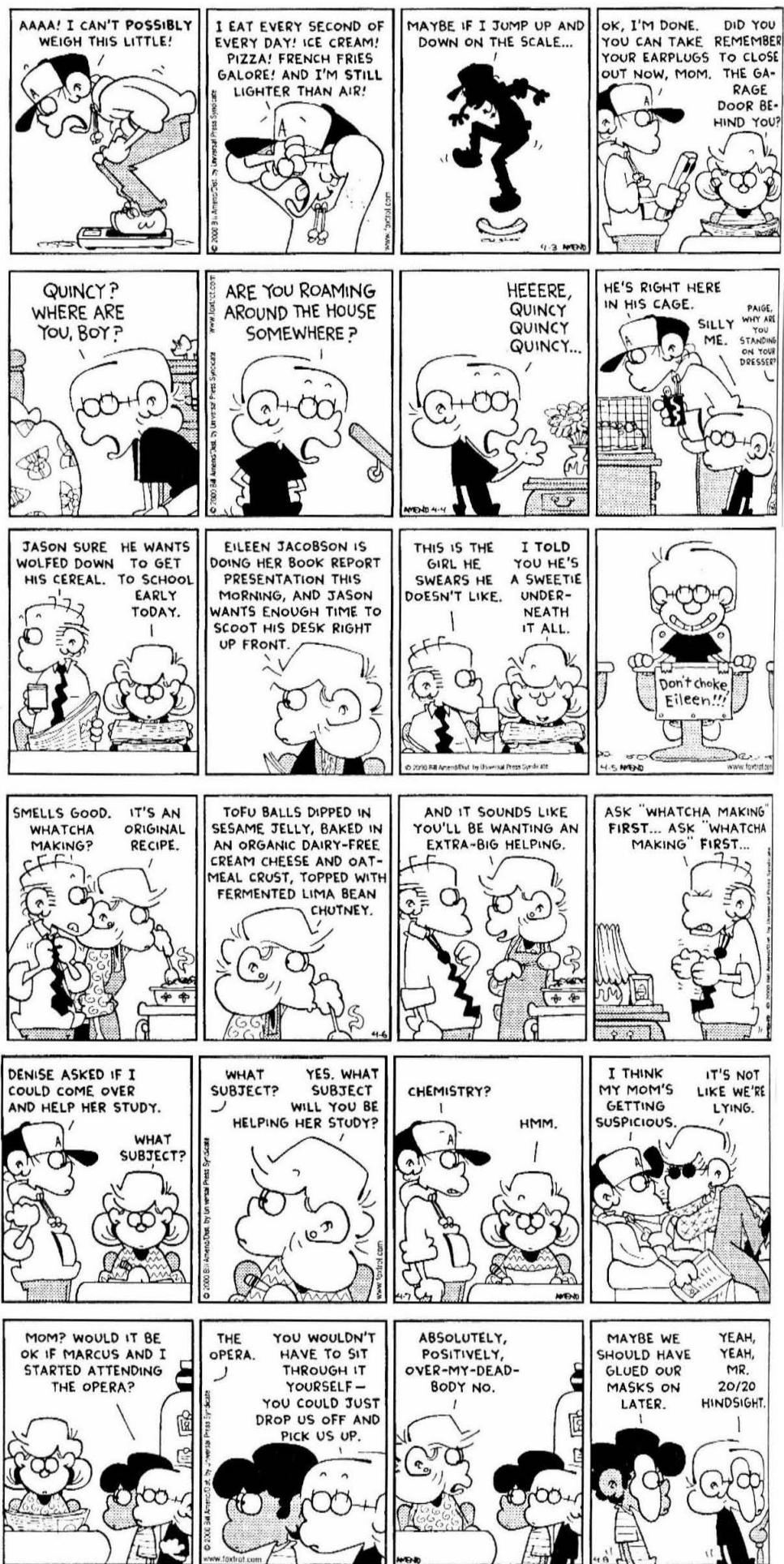


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Based on the novel by John Irving
THE CIDER HOUSE RULES
Daily [12:40] 3:50 7:00 10:00

Anthony Hopkins/Jessica Lange
TITUS
Daily 1:35 5:00 8:30

Starring Kate Winslet
HOLY SMOKE
Daily [11:30] 2:05 4:40 7:15 9:50

Directed by Pedro Almodovar
ALL ABOUT MY MOTHER
Daily [12:30] 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:20

Based on the novel by Jane Austin
MANSFIELD PARK
Daily [11:30] 2:10 4:50 7:30 10:00

Starring Ralph Fiennes
ONEGIN
Daily [11:30] 2:05 4:40 7:15 9:50

Directed by Tim Robbins
CRADLE WILL ROCK
Daily 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00

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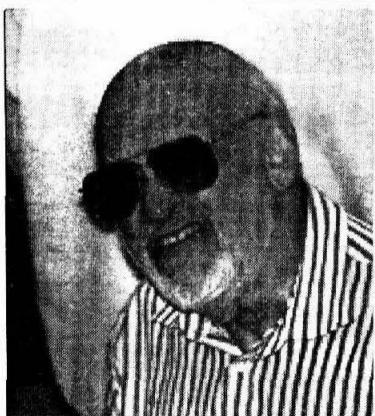
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Dean's Corner



Who speaks for Caltech?

by Jean-Paul Revel

s i t i v e

time for the Institute, with prefrosh weekend starting next Wednesday/Thursday. This is an occasion when Caltech does its utmost to give the potential students a look at what we have to offer from the intellectual point of view, the sort of thing that universities are supposed to do. We spend significant money and much time and effort to give potential students a taste of what it would be like to go to school here. Of course that includes living in one of the houses, so the prospective Techers are hosted by members of the student body. It is indeed good to expose the newcomers to all of the facets of life at Tech. What is not so great is when the youthful excess and the puckish character of some House activities get in the way. Let's put our best foot forward in welcoming the prefrosh next week.

Besides visits to campus, one of the other ways by which Caltech presents itself to the world is through various publications and through its web site. Many outsiders try to get an impression of what we are by browsing the Institute home page and the sites it points to. Of course they soon are led to web

p a g e s prepared by individual Houses and that creates a problem. Several of these pages have material which the authors may think funny, but which is unpleasant, to say the least, for many. They exhibit scenes, present writings, and contain exhortations which are downright repulsive and insulting to the sensibilities of many. Whatever our own personal opinions, we receive reactions to these sites from people outside of Caltech who express great surprise that the Institute should have such material. Such pages are inappropriate and I would urge the webmasters in charge, to take them down ASAP.

Now I am sure you will say, this is a free country, and who are you, Dean, to interfere with the Houses' freedom of speech? Don't the students, like everyone else here, have the constitutional right to express themselves as they see fit? My answer to that is yes, but... it is important to have such a statement on the books, and to have the Supreme Court work mightily to make sure that the amendment not be infringed upon. The Court has a lot of work to do, because, with free speech, come a host of problems. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes pointedly raised one such problem when he said that there are times when "the

words used...are of such a nature as to create a clear and present danger". In other words the First Amendment does not protect someone who falsely shouts "fire" in a theater. It also appears that, despite the First Amendment, it is not okay to interfere with recruitment and enlistment in the armed forces. The right to criticize the conduct of public officials is limited to statements made without "actual malice", by which is meant, and I paraphrase, statements that are false and reckless, made without regard to whether they were false or not.

So, there are clear limits to free expression. In fact, besides the instances listed in the previous paragraph, there are categories of speech which are specifically exempt from protection under the First Amendment. They are: obscenity, defamatory incitement, "fighting words" and child pornography (American Booksellers Association v Hudnut). Obscenity, in the eye of the US Supreme Court means that, first, an "average person, applying contemporary community standards, must find that the work, taken as a whole, appeals to prurient interests; second that it depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct as defined by state law; and third that the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value" (Gertz v Robert Welch, Inc.). Now I will argue that material on some of the House's home pages falls in the above categories and so has no defensible right to be there. That is

so even if the Supreme Court has also said that speech on the Internet is entitled to the highest level of first Amendment protection, similar to that the court provides for books and newspapers (city of Erie et al. v Pap's A.M.).

Okay, I am no lawyer and cannot seriously discuss anyone's right to free speech. But there is another consideration, and this is who will be thought to be speaking. What if the freely expressed ideas are attributed to an unwilling partner? Take the present case of a publication or web site, where students try their best to look sophisticated by using repulsive language and images. If the students use the facilities of the Institution to present such material, they will appear to speak for the school. That is not how Caltech wishes to be seen. It seems to me that while anyone is free to express him- or herself as they wish, he or she must do so privately, in a way that does not confuse the school's point of view with the student's. Saying that the Caltech web site should not contain or point to such material does not limit anyone's right of expression. It protects Caltech's image to that which the Institute itself wants to project.

A bientot!

Jean Paul Revel

Jean-Paul Revel

Quotes from Supreme Court Decisions taken from <http://www.ala.org/alaorg/oif/1stcases.html>

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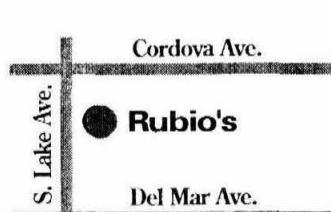
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Mints

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Your Calendars! Admissions, Prefrosh Weekend will be held Thursday, April 13th through Sunday, April 16th. For more information email dina@admissions.caltech.edu or ryan@admissions.caltech.edu.

CIT Guitar Classes for the spring term will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting on Apr. 4. Beginning, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Intermediate, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Advanced 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Classical and flamenco repertoires are explored, but techniques transfer to other styles of guitar. The Beginning Class includes a jazz/folk chord system. Classes are free to Caltech students and other members of the Caltech community (space permitting). Undergrads can receive 3 units of credit. For more information, contact Darryl Denning at (323) 465-0881 or by email at ddenning@caltech.edu, or visit www.eco.caltech.edu/~musicpgm/guitar.html

Beginning Lindy Hop class, 7:30-9:00 p.m. for four successive Mondays starting Mon., Mar. 27 [taught by a professional dance instructor] \$24.00 except \$16.00 to Caltech undergraduates] and Beginning American Fox Trot, 7:30-9:00 p.m. for five successive Wednesdays starting Wed., Mar. 29 [student taught, nominal \$1.00/lesson except free to CalTech freshmen], both held in Winnett Lounge on the Caltech campus. No partner is required. Refreshments and dance practice time are provided after each class. For last minute changes see www.its.caltech.edu/~ballroom or call Don (626) 791-3103.

Due to recent vandalism, Cleveland Elementary School in Pasadena is seeking donations of books and equipment for the school's library. Specifically, the school is in need of two overhead projectors and books appropriate for grades K-6 to replace those stolen or destroyed. Donations may be made directly to Cleveland Elementary School at 524 Palisade Street, Pasadena, California, 91103. For questions or further information, please contact Principal Abel Quesada at 626-794-7169 or Laura Biedebach in the office of Congressman James E. Rogan at 626-577-3969.

Ride your bicycle to Caltech? Register with Caltech's CYCLOCOMMUTERS. Website: <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~cyclocom> or email: cyclocom@caltech.edu. Monthly random drawing for a \$30.00 gift certificate to a local bike store and free tune up and extras at the Commuter Fair Day, on May 19th! If you are a distance rider, log in your miles for an extra chance to win additional prizes every 6 months.

Be a part of the earthquake team. The U.S. Geological Survey (on campus) is looking for a part time intern for ongoing monitoring and programming of an automatic, web-based system for gathering post-earthquake shaking and damage data (see <http://pasadena.wr.usgs.gov/cium.html>). Summer work also possible. More info thru Carrer Center. Email wald@gps.caltech.edu.

EVENTS

The Caltech Ice Hockey Club will be playing their annual Beaver Cup game against the MIT Alumni club this Saturday, April 8, 12:45 p.m. at the Glacial Garden Ice Center in Lakewood. Admission is free. For directions to the

rink, please go to our web site at www.its.caltech.edu/~iceh.

The Caltech/JPL flying club (AACIT) will hold its Spring general membership meeting Wed., Apr. 19, 7:30 p.m. at 269 Lauritsen. The flying club has its own aircraft fleet and offers aircraft rental, flight instruction, group flying trips and camaraderie to aviation enthusiasts of all skill levels. There will be a presentation by Greg Feith of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). Anyone with an interest in aviation or who wants to learn to fly or any pilot who is interested in joining the flying club is invited. For further information, contact Greg Detweiler x1697 at Caltech or Peter Gluck 4-9425 at JPL.

OASIS, The LA chapter of the National Space Society (NSS), will hold a meeting at the Beckman Institute room 115 from 3 - 6 p.m. on Sat., Apr. 15. The public is welcome to attend. For information about the club see our website at www.nss.org/oasis.

Caltech Ballroom Dance Club presents a free ballroom dance party, Mon., Apr. 3 from 9:00 to 11:00 p.m., following the Lindy Hop class, in Winnett Lounge. No partners are required and refreshments will be served. Dancing will start at 9:00pm with Lindy Hop music until 9:30pm at which time requests will be taken. For last minute changes see www.its.caltech.edu/~ballroom or call 626/791-3103.

Earthquake Preparedness Training will be offered by the Pasadena Fire Department through the Safety Office. Training will be from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon in the Baxter Lecture Hall on Thu., May 18th. Learn what to do before, during, and after an earthquake. The session is limited to the first 100 people who sign up. For reservations call Caprice Anderson at x6727.

The Caltech Quintet will give a free concert on Sun., Apr. 9, at 3:30 p.m. in Dabney Lounge. This is a Paco A. Lagerstrom Chamber Music Concert. The quintet features violinists Candace Chang and Argun Mendiratta, pianist Daniel Rogstad, violist Heide Li, and cellist Todd Murphrey. Call 1-888-2CALTECH for more information.

Music of the late 20th century to be featured in April 12 Dabney Lounge Concert. The Division of Humanities and Social Science will offer a free concert, open to the Caltech community, on Wednesday, April 12, 8:00 PM, in Dabney Lounge, as part of the division's music offerings for benefit of students enrolled in music courses and the community at large. Members of The St. Matthew's Chamber Orchestra, Thomas Neenan, Music Director and Conductor (and Lecturer in Music at Caltech) will be joined by composers William Kraft and John M. Kennedy for an informal look at music at the turn of the new century. Featured will be conversation with the composers and Neenan about the music to be performed which will include Kraft's "Concerto for Percussion and Chamber Ensemble" and works by Kennedy, Tan Dun and others.

The Battlefield Band will perform Celtic music on Sat., Apr. 15, at 8 p.m. in Caltech's Beckman Auditorium. Inspired by their rich heritage of Celtic music, Battlefield Band mixes the old songs and tunes with new self-penned material. Tickets are \$25, \$21, and \$17, youths 12 and under receive \$4 off. Rush tickets go on sale for \$10, 30 minutes before performance. For more information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

Dale Smith will narrate the Arm-

chair Adventures travel film *Nepal-in the Shadow of Everest* on Fri., Apr. 14, at 8 p.m. Smith journeys to Kathmandu where he witnesses religious ceremonies on the banks of the sacred Bagmati River. Tickets are \$9 and \$7. For more information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

Eileen McGann will appear in concert on Sat., Apr. 22, at 8 p.m. in Dabney Lounge. This evening will feature equal portions of traditional Irish ballads, and self-penned songs, all sung in a rich, alto-soprano. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. Caltech students receive an \$8 discount. For more information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

Garry Krinsky will present a family program entitled *Toying with Science* on Sat., Apr. 29, at 2 p.m. in Beckman Auditorium. The program explores the scientific principles of gravity and leverage, simple machines, human imagination, and more. Tickets are \$10 for adult and \$5 for children. For more information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

SCHOLARSHIP

Political Internship - The Beckman Internship will be available for the summer of 2000. The internship, supported by friends of Arnold Beckman, will pay a stipend of \$4,000. It allows a selected intern to spend the summer working in the office of a politician and to see the inside process of government. The intern is expected to make arrangements with the appropriate political persons. It is open to any undergraduate who intends to be a Caltech student next year. If interested, submit a brief proposal describing where and how you would use the stipend, to the Deans' Office, 102 Parsons-Gates, by Monday, April 17, 2000.

The Collegiate Inventors Competition, a program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, is handing out money—big money—to college inventors and their advisors. Each winning student - or student team - receives a \$20,000 cash prize. Faculty advisors each receive a \$10,000 cash prize. The competition, open all full-time college students and judged by distinguished scientists and inventors from across the country, awards up to six prizes each year. The deadline for applications is June 1, 2000. In addition to cash prizes, winners and their advisors will travel to the induction ceremony of the National Inventors Hall of Fame on September 8-9, 2000. During the weekend, winners will be honored and have the chance to learn from the greatest scientific minds of our time who visit the Hall of Fame each year for the induction festivities. Applications are available at www.invent.org/collegiate.

The Literature Faculty is pleased to announce the Annual Hallett Smith Competition, honoring the finest essay devoted to Shakespeare. Only full-time officially registered undergradu-

ates are eligible to enter the competition. All submissions must be typed and double spaced, and should not exceed 4,000 words. The essay may be one prepared for a humanities class, or may be specifically written for this competition. No student can submit more than one essay. All contestants must submit their work to Professor Jenijoy LaBelle, Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences, 101-40, no later than April 21, 2000. This year's prize will be approximately \$300, though the judging committee may divide the award in the case of more than one outstanding submission. For more information, contact Prof. LaBelle, x3605, or Barbara Estrada, x3609.

The Jewish Loan Association is offering interest-free student loans to qualified individuals for tuition, books and supplies, and living expenses. Applicants must have completed a minimum of one year of undergraduate study and have a 2.5 GPA or above. For further information, please contact the Jewish Free Loan Association at 213-761-8830 or 818-464-3331.

The JVS Jewish Community Scholarship Fund announces the availability of applications for the 2000-01 academic year. The funds are intended to provide a limited amount of financial aid for needy Jewish students who are legal and permanent residents of Los Angeles County.

Applicants must be full-time at an accredited educational institution and have a 2.5 GPA or above. Recipients are also eligible to apply for loans from the Meltzer Undergraduate Student Loan and the Becker Graduate Student Loan Fund of the Jewish Free Loan Association. For further information you may contact: Jewish Vocational Service, 5700 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite #2303, Los Angeles, CA 90036, or phone 323-761-8888, extension 122 or 132, or via email at jgaylor@jvsla.org. Entries must be submitted by April 15, 2000.

The P.I.A.T.O. Education Loan Program is offering students a chance to receive up to \$10,000 in scholarship for college. Any student enrolled in an accredited two- for four-year college or university is eligible to apply. Scholarships are merit-based and applicants must have a grade point average of 2.75 or higher (on a 4.0 scale). Winners will be chosen by Citizen's Scholarship Foundation of America (CSFA), an independent third party, and scholarships will be awarded August 2000. All information and application material can be accessed, 24 hours a day, at www.plato.org. Applications must be submitted online by April 30, 2000.

The John Gyles Education Fund is offering scholarship awards up to \$3,000 for the 2000-01 academic year. Applicants must be Canadian or U.S. citizens, have a 2.7 GPA or above, and demonstrate financial need. Criteria other than strictly academic ability and financial need are considered in the

selection process. To request an application, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: The John Gyles Education Fund, Attn: The Secretary, P.O. Box 4808, 712 Riverside Dr. Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada E3B 5G4. Filing dates for mailing documents in 2000 are April 1, June 1, and November 15.

The Department of Defense hosts three student internship programs at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. These include Internships in Terascale Simulation Technology (www.llnl.gov/str/str.html), Accelerated Strategic Computing Initiative (ASCI) Pipeline Program (www.llnl.gov/asci/index.html), and Graduate Interns in Nuclear Weapons (www.education.llnl.gov/gint). Housing and salary are at competitive rates. For more information, contact Barry Goldman, 925-422-5177, or goldman1@llnl.gov.

Information and applications for 2000 Summer Work-Study are available in the Financial Aid Office. If you are interested in Summer Work-Study, please submit the required application as soon as possible, **but no later than June 1, 2000**. If awarded, work-study funding will begin July 5, 2000.

The last date to request any change to your 1999-2000 Financial Aid Award is Monday, May 1, 2000. Requests for 1999-2000 made after May 1, 2000 will not be considered. Please contact the Financial Aid Office at x6280 if you have any questions.

Each year, the **Faculty Committee on Scholarships and Financial Aid** grants a number of Upper Class Merit Awards to the most academically-talented of the Institute's Sophomores, Juniors, and, occasionally, Freshmen. Upper Class Merit Awards are based on outstanding scholastic achievement as demonstrated by exceptional performance in formal classes and/or in independent research, and not on financial aid. Last year, the committee recommended a total of 46 Upper Class Merit Awards. Awards ranged from \$6,425 to full-tuition, \$19,260. The number and caliber of the applicants determine the level of awards in any year. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office at 515 S. Wilson or online at www.finaid.caltech.edu. Electronic submissions will not be accepted. The deadline for submitting completed paper applications to the financial aid office is 5 p.m., Apr. 21, 2000. No exceptions will be made to this deadline.

To submit an event for the Mints, contact tech@ugcs.caltech.edu or mail your announcement to Caltech 40-58 Attn: Mints. Submissions should be brief and concise. Email is preferred. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all material. Deadline is noon Wednesday. Unless specified, all mints will run for two weeks.

THE CALIFORNIA TECH
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Pasadena, CA 91126

The Caltech Ice Hockey Club will be playing their annual Beaver Cup game against the MIT Alumni club this Saturday, April 8, 12:45 p.m. at the Glacial Garden Ice Center in Lakewood. Admission is free. For directions to the