



The California Tech

VOLUME CIII, NUMBER 30

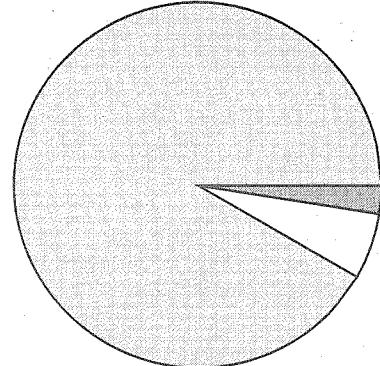
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 10, 2002

Serra's *Vectors* Draws Mass Protest

Should Caltech Install Vectors?

No (365)



By SHANTI RAO

Vectors is overwhelmingly unpopular at Caltech, with few resolute supporters. An online survey conducted last week by the *Tech* revealed that, of 397 respondents, 92% felt that Caltech should not build Richard Serra's monumental sculpture, *Vectors*, along the diagonal of the Beckman Lawn.

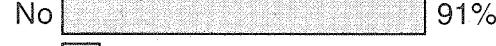
The differences in the opinions among the major groups--staff, faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates--are not statistically significant. Level of education and opinion of *Vectors* appear to be independent.

Those who disapproved of the work indicated concern with its appearance and the use of the space. Their comments indicate several other issues which weren't listed as choices in the survey. Common concerns are how the piece would fit into the campus, the role of public art in the community, and the relationship between the administration and the students. Surprisingly, only 10% of those who wrote comments mentioned sports like Frisbee, soccer, and softball.

Those who approved of *Vectors* praised its visual appeal and value as artwork.

The *Tech* received 410 responses before 6 p.m. Thursday. Obvious duplicates were removed from the statistics, based on a comparison of IP numbers, submission times and lexical analysis of comments. Of the respondents, 280 wrote substantial comments. The results from this group were not significantly different from the entire sample, so the *Tech* is confident that these data have not been skewed by spamming. The complete list of comments, including duplications, is posted at <http://tech.caltech.edu/vectors/>.

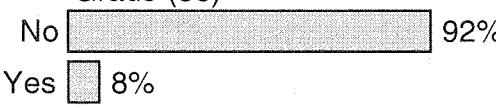
Faculty and Staff (43)



Undergrads (299)



Grads (38)



Top Concerns

Faculty and Staff

Appearance	33	85%
Use of space	27	69%
Safety	13	33%
Symbolism	13	33%
Image of the campus	17	44%
Don't want to walk around it	10	26%
Other	5	13%

Students

257	81%
277	87%
60	19%
60	19%
127	40%
96	30%
52	16%

Student Committees Underway To Review Fire, Alcohol Policies

By SAM HSIUNG and ROBERT LI

In response to changes made by the administration at the beginning of the school year regarding the alcohol and fire policies, members of the student body, led by Juan Rodriguez '03 and the Interhouse Committee, have proposed and received support to set up two committees that will review both policies again. This time, the committees will have student input.

The structure of the committees will follow from previous committees established to address student concerns, such as a committee spearheaded by former Student Affairs Vice President Chris Brennen in 1998 to revise the school fire policy. The committees will comprise students, faculty and staff.

Currently, Student Affairs is searching for suitable faculty members for the committees and ASCIT is heading up the search for student representatives. Nominees will be appointed by the committees by the first week of the summer.

Both committees will work over the summer to review student poli-

cies. The plan is for the fire policy review committee to submit its proposals by September while the alcohol review committee should submit its proposals by beginning of next year.

The goals of the committees are twofold: one is to incorporate student input into the policy review process; the other is to make the policies less ambiguous and more consistent. Regarding the alcohol policy, some students hope that the changes made by the review committee will send a message to the student community to adopt safe drinking habits and to do more to protect student health and safety.

In regards to the fire policy, IHC Chair Marcus Williams '03 hopes to reach an agreement on the issues of the Ricketts fire pot and the fire barrel in the Dabney courtyard. He also believes the current alcohol policy ignores the problem of reckless drinking by some students because it places too much emphasis on keeping alcohol out of the hands of underaged students and not enough emphasis on educating students to drink responsibly.

Rodriguez, president of Ricketts

house, has been instrumental in setting up both committees. After heavy discussion since the beginning of the school year regarding the changes to the student fire and alcohol policies, many felt that these policies had to be addressed in a more concrete way. However, it was not until Rodriguez drafted and sent out a proposal to the vice president of the Student Affairs office to establish these two committees that any progress was made on this issue. The letter was widely supported by various faculty and both committees have essentially been approved.

Students are optimistic about the committees and any new changes that will result. Tommy Trieu '04 said, "I think the establishment of these two student committees is a very positive development. I believe more should be done to educate students about the dangers of heavy drinking, and less should be done to unnecessarily restrict student access to alcohol on campus."

"As for fire safety," he continued, "students should still be allowed to have fires as long as they are made reasonably safe."

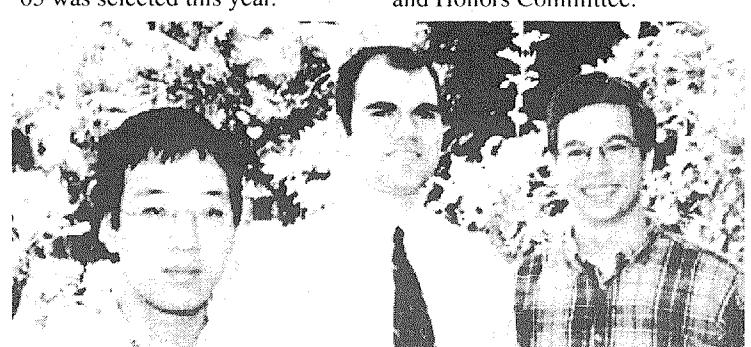
Annual Awards Announced

By SUZETTE CUMMINGS

The Green, Froehlich, Haagen-Smit and Sigma Xi Awards were presented on May 23 at a luncheon hosted by the Deans in the Athenaeum. Timothy Raub '02 received the George W. Green Prize. The Green Prize is awarded to an undergraduate student in any class for original research, an original paper or essay, or other evidence of creative scholarship beyond the normal requirements of specific courses.

The Jack E. Froehlich Memorial Award is for outstanding juniors in the top 5% of the class. Paul Choi '03 was selected this year.

Craig Countryman '03 won the Arie J. Haagen-Smit Memorial Award. This award is given to a chemist or biologist who has shown academic promise and has made recognized contributions to Caltech. Elizabeth Hong '02 was awarded the Sigma Xi Award. The Institute Chapter of the Society annually awards a prize to a senior to encourage original investigation in pure and applied science. The award is funded from membership dues and is selected by the faculty and the Deans together with the Undergraduate Academic Standards and Honors Committee.

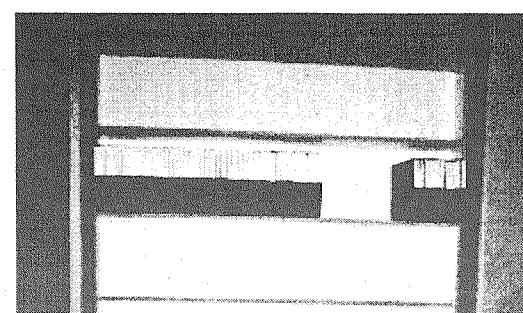


Paul Choi '03, Craig Countryman '03 and Timothy Raub '02 pose after receiving their end-of-year academic awards.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT US?

Comment on the *Tech* in an end-of-year survey.

<http://tech.caltech.edu/survey>



K. Bartz/The California Tech

Tapes sit isolated along shelves of the newly opened ASCIT DVD Library.

SECURITY MEASURES LOCK DOWN NEW DVD LIBRARY FOR SUMMER

By IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

The ASCIT DVD Library is finally up and running again after the theft of the DVDs last year. According to ASCIT President Ted Jou '03 and IHC chair Marcus Williams '03, security and maintenance is a larger focus this time around.

Currently, the library is operating with a much smaller stock of DVDs than it had a year ago. However, ASCIT plans to continuously purchase more DVDs according to the tastes of the student body. As Jou described, "Tim Wan '03, the ASCIT Movies Chair, is in charge of the purchasing of movies and maintaining an inventory of the DVDs we own."

In order to match the stock with student choices as much as possible, the ASCIT end-of-year survey will ask respondents to name movies they like. Wan will revive the DVD library this summer with the most popular responses.

The Movies Chair will also be in charge of storing the DVDs this summer, but the storage location has yet to be determined.

In order to address security concerns, the Donut Development Team, which designed the DVD checkout system, also crafted the cabinet's lock.

According to Williams, "Without disclosing specific designs, there is a solenoid-operated deadbolt lock, which is driven by a timer so that it is only unlocked during coffee house operating hours."

This time around the DVDs are in safer hands, and should serve the undergraduate community for years to come.

The Folly of Secession

Analyzing the Dabnirat Revolution

By OSCAR CARLTON, IV

A revolutionary spirit is essential to American society. The view of authority as an earned, revokable position allows a crucial degree of protection for individual liberty.

Like any worthwhile ambition, if you're going to start a revolution, at least do it right. The opening shots of the Donut War, however, were pathetically disappointing. Instead of focusing energy on fighting the system responsible for their woes, the band of ASCIT dropouts has staged a preemptive strike against their most influential allies.

For what it's worth, the rebels have an impressive legacy of successful non-government. The Dabnirats show impressive solidarity for a motley crew of professed nonconformists. They manage to take an extremely diverse population and turn it into a loving, communal family.

That said, one has to wonder about their motivation in secession from ASCIT. While the defectors may see a marginal short-run economic gain, the benefits of attacking the student government are dubious at best. While ostensibly the instigators are calling for an end to bureaucratic excesses and indirect representation, I find their motives to be somewhat suspect.

The only significant victory for the rebellion has been the trading of Foster's Donuts for Krispy Kreme. This maneuver was unexpected for a political entity which prides itself on socialism and a loathing of all things corporate (except possibly Nintendo). Why would a faction of anti-corporate activists choose the product of a gigantic franchise to symbolize its liberation?

If that question weren't puzzling enough, try chewing this on for size: the movement's primary orator, who hates all things bureaucratic, prefers to represent herself to the Institute's administration, instead of sending a representative to do the job for her. Now, instead of dealing with a handful of students who work tirelessly to represent their interests, the rebels are calling for individual representation with the administration. Although the powers that be are sufficient in number to work one-on-one with students, I don't get the impression that this method of representation will be successful.

For one thing, most of the ASCIT dropouts are far too lazy to put in the work necessary to stay on top of the random acts of management undergraduates are continually fac-

ing among administrators over the last quarter century, they are bound to outnumber us soon. On the surface this would seem like a positive outcome for the Dabnirats' cause, but in actuality responsiveness only worsens with increased number.

Since every bureaucrat is connected to every other by a strip of red tape, the web of administrative inefficiency in an $O(n^2)$ problem. Half of the activity of the nodes of this web involves passing responsibility to adjacent nodes, so finding the responsible party to speak with to get any results is a task suited to only a few highly motivated (or highly masochistic) students. Self-representation sounds empowering enough, but most of the students dropping membership likely lack the willpower to follow through on this quest.

The key to understanding the Dabnirat movement lies in understanding the difference between a committee and a spokescouncil. Committees sit around tables and talk about stuff, whereas spokescouncils sit around tables and discuss things. Since, if the movement is followed to its logical conclusion, ASCIT will be disbanded and everyone will be representing him/herself, the spokescouncil will consist of no fewer than one thousand people, each of whom is allowed to speak all that is on his/her mind. In this manner, a consensus will be reached in the best interest of everyone, without the need for a middleman. By eliminating the student bureaucracy layer, the separatists hope to avoid all the unnecessary inconveniences, elections, surveys and membership dues.

Since everyone will be getting her own donuts, printing her own publications, attending her own meetings with faculty, and conferring with her own administration, no one will have any reason to complain. Communication with the faculty will be enhanced to the point of total synergy, and we will be respected for the intelligent, cohesive student body we are.

Maybe I'm being overly optimistic, since simultaneous revolutions and civil wars tend to be counterproductive. I'm no political strategist, but I'm strategic enough to let someone with a better sense of tact and a higher BS tolerance than me do my representing, even if I'm that person's only constituent. I feel more than confident in ASCIT's ability to do what no one else (except maybe the IHC) wants to do.



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Letters: Vectors, Jewell, ASCIT Dues

Vectors: Why No Gratitude?

Dear Editors,

I attended the forum on *Vectors*. People at Caltech should be grateful they have a President that can raise two million dollars for a work of fine art by a famous sculptor. Why are there so many complaints about how the decision was made?

Why on earth should the Caltech community have a voice in what happens with Caltech land? The land doesn't belong to the students, staff or faculty.

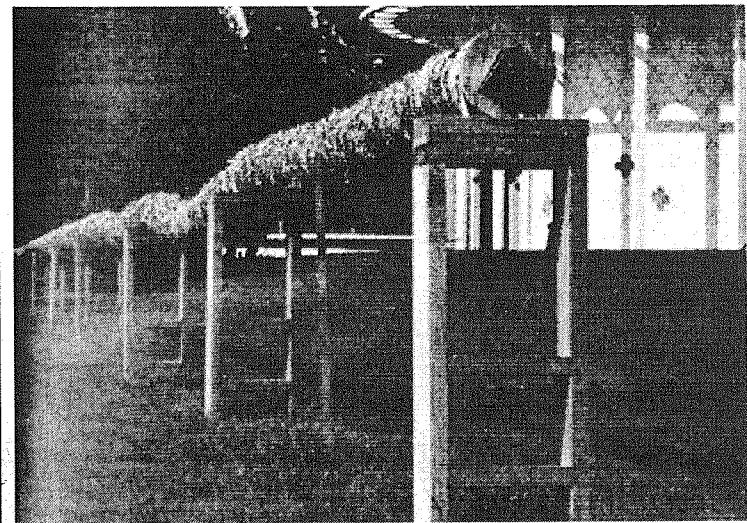
Caltech is not a democracy. David Baltimore is merely doing his job as President of Caltech by personally selecting what kind of art (monumental modern sculpture) he would like and where he would like it to go (on a big, useless field nobody uses). It's his prerogative.

President Baltimore already got the Caltech Art Committee to sanction his plan, so he doesn't need or want your opinions. The entire student body could hate *Vectors* and it would still be installed because it's what David Baltimore wants, and he doesn't have to answer to any of you.

You'll all be long gone for the summer when the issue goes to vote by the City of Pasadena, so there is nothing you can do about it anyway.

So get over it. Eat your donuts and start working on appreciating all that Dr. Baltimore does for you and

TODAY IN CALTECH HISTORY



The California Tech Archives
The controversial *Horizontal Pillar* sits outside Beckman Auditorium in 1980. Faced with the last work of sculpture to generate controversy comparable to that of *Vectors*, administrators of the era ultimately caved in to student outcry and relocated the piece.

Caltech.

D. Flech
Pasadena Resident

Jewell Declares Innocence

Dear Editors,

Along with the right to a free press comes the ethical responsibility to report events accurately.

In his piece in the June 3 *Tech*, Abe Fetterman states that I "wrote the summaries for each of the [bylaw]

amendments online," and then proceeds to lambaste me for the rest of the paragraph over misuse of "discriminatory power," asserting that I more or less single-handedly caused the failure of the donut amendment with my "obviously biased statement."

That's exactly the sort of speculative commentary we've come to expect from *The California Tech*, but I wish that Mr. Fetterman had thought to check his facts before he reported them. I did not, in fact, write the summaries on the ballot, nor did I even read them until I logged on to cast my own vote. I had absolutely nothing to do with the ballot layout or text for this bylaw election. I have no idea where Mr. Fetterman got his "information" on this matter (I suspect he simply guessed and went with it because it sounded interesting), but it is patently false.

Joe Jewell '04
ASCIT Secretary

CALTECH CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH



Where There's Smoke, There's Fire: As ASCIT membership smokes out, committees on fire and alcohol policy mark record student involvement on issues of importance.



ASCIT Dropping Party: Krispy Kremes in hand, a proletarian pack of 26-\$1560 in dues--kisses the corporate barons goodbye. Seems ASCIT isn't richer than god anymore.



Vectors-valued Function: Serra joins his "silent majority" of... 23--total--plus Baltimore. *Tilted Arc* all over again, you say? After all, "art is not democratic."

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of Caltech
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that'll make
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[Teachers]
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you let professionals
take over

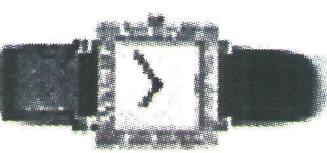
Tech Editors stay up
all night to bring you
this quality edition of
VOGUE



SPECIAL TECH EDITION



Looking for time?



To are we...

It doesn't matter what watch you buy... we're at Tech, you idiot.

VOGUE VIEW

Yeah, You Better Believe These Girls Go to Tech!

It started out an innocent enough day.

The sky was blue, sun was bright. A beautiful day--especially since it was the last day of classes. Nine freshmen Caltech girls decided

that they would cel-

ebrate the momentous occasion of wrapping

up their inaugural year at Tech by showing off all the ways to look great in black and white.

We started off by posing with two of Caltech's resident jugglers. Yup, that's right. It's Robert Forster in the picture--better known as everyone's Physics TA hero.

We attracted plenty of stares and smiles as we walked by all the people standing in line waiting for Chandler dinner.



The cool waters of Millikan Pond beckoned to us and we all took off our shoes and waded in. You should try it sometime, too. Just make sure you don't get too close to the revolving swords of death in the middle of the pond!

We also stopped to pose on the steps of Sloan and climbed

on the mobius strip-like rock structure outside of Noyes.

The best part of the day had to be when a guy stopped us to ask if where we went to school. "You girls don't look like you go to Caltech!" He still didn't believe us even after we assured him!

Wow! We were flattered!

We ended our little tour of the school by engaging in a game of limbo in the gene pool. It was a great way to end the year, and now we're more than ready to start the summer!



10 Tips for Looking Better as a Teacher

(hey, that rhymes! well, almost. Give me a break, okay?)

1. Brushing your teeth with CDS Death-log toothpaste doesn't really count as brushing your teeth--use real toothpaste!

2. Shower every day and don't just wash your hair with the new Millikan Pond Nutrients shampoo.

3. Get a haircut frequently (for boys especially). Those long blond, curly hair is only for pretty lil chicks mind you! Wrong terrain for boys! The length of your hair is certainly not a measure of how good of a scientist you are or how well you have been concentrating on your work. Einstein was a different case altogether!

4. Buy flip-flops or even slippers from your favorite shoe store the next time you go home. Not only the Ath that thinks barefoot walking is the ultimate sign of bad hygiene.

5. Not wearing the uniform tie die shirt, or total black garb, or army pants or the typical "broom skirt" to look girlie once in a while," skirt or the crazy "I Love Booty House" shirt or the "I am a sporty BIG RED guy" clothing *all the time!* Wearing the same clothes does not do the best to your personality outlook.

6. For girls: Shaving your legs *once* in a while especially if you are planning to wear shorts or skirts. (Never hurts as much as when you get called "the lil bear")

7. Take an occasional dance class to learn hip, hand, and maybe just maybe total body-coordination for use at the ever cool, fully crowded Inter House parties.

8. Once in a while, wear a T-shirt that *doesn't* have one of the following screened on: "Academic Decathlon," "Mathcounts," or "Science Olympiad."

9. Stop eating donuts. The freshman 15 doesn't end with freshman year.

10. It is ALL RIGHT to look up straight ahead when walking. If you can't do that, then first step towards improvement would be to try looking at the feet of the person talking to you rather than your own feet. Also, drop an occasional word and smile.

Brush your teeth everyday, and you'll have a

beautiful smile like Vi's. And if you're lucky, you might just find a hunk like Ronald, too.

-- Do these items look familiar to you? Yes? Good! (Just a reminder, from left to right: Deodorant, to be used on underarms; Toothpaste, duh! for your teeth; Soap, for everywhere that you're smelly. And we do mean everywhere!)

beauty health & fitness

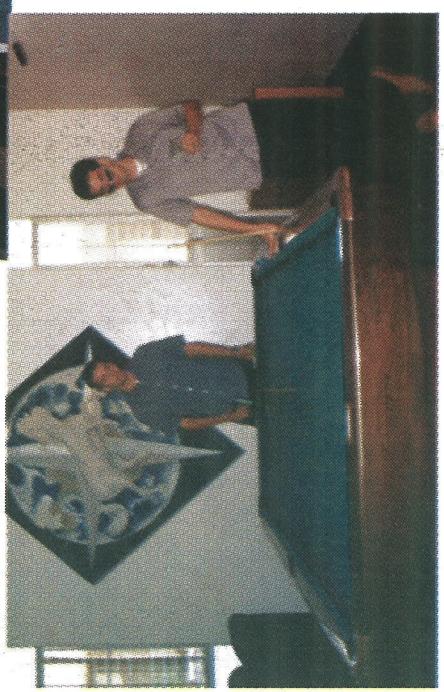


Tech Style

With 60% of the population here at Caltech being of the male species, it's inevitable that there's gonna be some eclectic, some fashionable, and some *oh so hot* guys too...here are a couple of our favorites...



Luke Ekkizogloy (I'll give you a buck if you say his last name, Yes, in fact, it is Greek.) Shows us different facets of his personality: crazy and fun, confident, and sexy.

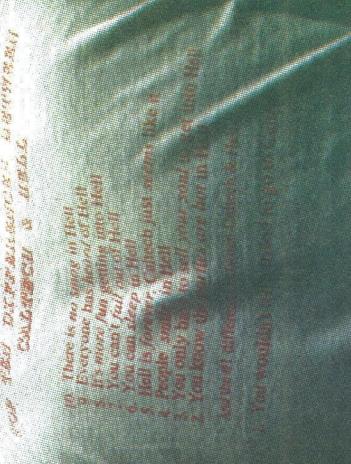


Impeccably dressed Page Boys Paul Wali and Ryan Samson lounge by the pool table with a martini glass and a bunch of grapes in hand.



Brian Cleary shows a little bit of skin while taking his Ph1C quiz. Hey, aren't exams at Caltech all about showing off, anyway?

Can You Tell the Teachers from the Non-Teachers?



Okay, okay, stop drooling. He's everyone's dream man. Bill Prof Henry Lester shows off his amazing legs.



People are Talking about

Techers with fashion sense? If anything, Techers are totally desensitized to fashion. As we can all see for ourselves, Techers are not in tune with the latest trends of the "real world". So, Vogue took 8 unsuspecting Techers, 4 females and 4 males, on a voyage into style.

The guys' first stop was Alex and Friends Hair Salon. There, they were greeted by a friendly staff which, in about an hour's time, transformed our guys' mops into stylish do's. As Michael, the head honcho, put it, "we do a hairstyle and we put a soul into it".

When Michael saw Jared Gabor ('05), he claimed that Jared had "model looks", but that his hair needed some work. So John set to work on Jared, expertly slicing Jared's hair with a razor "from within", giving his hair different lengths to "take out some weight". He then added some pomade to give Jared's hair some texture and an overall bed-head look that was reminiscent of the Beatles.

Abe Fetterman ('05), our favorite victim, was put under the care of Cheyenne. Abe has a big curly mop for hair, so Cheyenne wasted no time in trimming Abe's curls to give him more of a "British" look. She rubbed some hair gel by Modern Organic Products (MOP) into his hair to give his hair a bit more texture and to keep his hair from frizzing. Surprisingly, he bought some and actually uses it now.

Next up was our resident actor and Dab, Nick Rupprecht ('05). Christine got rid of Nick's side part and chopped sections of his hair to make it more edgy and modern. She also cleaned up stray hairs around his mustache and eyebrows, giving him an overall "clean" look. Later, Michael noted that Nick would have had "true potential", had he given up his mustache.

Last was David McKinney ('05), a Scurve in desperate need of a haircut. Cheyenne also took care of David's unruly thick hair, clipping it with a razor as John did, to "take out some weight". David was given an edgy look, complete with angled sideburns. Being last, David got attention from all of the salon's three lovely ladies, who trimmed his eyebrows and cleaned up stray facial hairs.

In the end, I must admit, our guys looked pretty decent. But, we weren't done yet. Our next stop was French Connection United Kingdom (FCUK), a very trendy clothing store in Old Pasadena, recommended by Michael. As we soon found out, FCUK had a European style, i.e. slim pants and form-fitting shirts. Although we weren't technically supposed to take pictures in the store, we snuck some pictures in the dressing room, and I must admit, our guys looked like they were ready to hit up PCC for some hot dates.

Unfortunately, FCUK was a bit pricey for our student pockets, so we walked out without buying anything. However, as we left, we were approached by an employee who asked how we were doing. My quick response: "Yea, the clothes were nice, but the guys just aren't ready to take the next step into coolness." His response: "Well, when they're ready, come on back." That poor boy. He'll be waiting a long time.

In the end, I found out that Techers can all get 50% off their first haircut at Alex & Friends, so I made an appointment for myself. I ended up with really awesome red highlights and a cute layered cut. You can look good too! Just call (626) 449-2425 to make an appointment.



The staff at Alex & Friends: (left to right)
Michael, Zhanna, Cheyenne, Christine, John



.

Meanwhile, we took the girls to the makeup counters at Macy's. With some pre-arrangements, we were able to get free makeovers for our girls from Chanel, Lancome, Estee Lauder, and Clinique. We wanted our girls to find a light, easy-to-create look that they could dab on in the morning before classes. This is what these makeup lines had to offer:

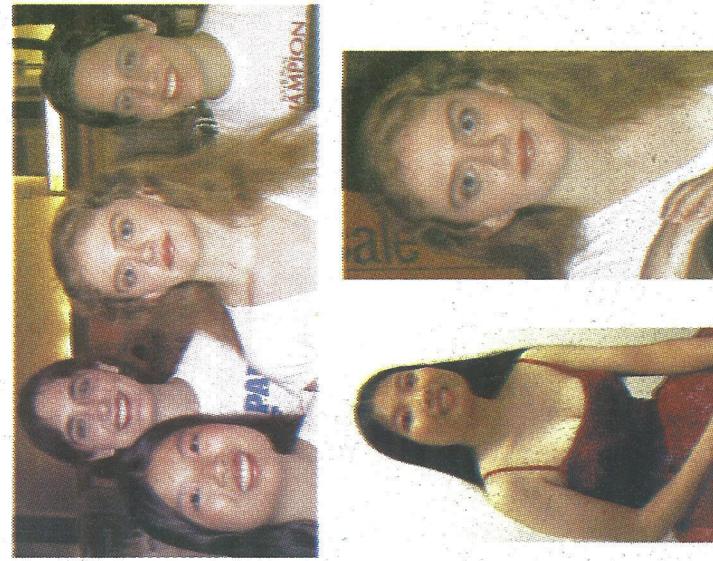
Daina Paulikas ('02) chose to try Chanel's line. With makeup artist Nicole Garnier's help, she found a light look that brought out her eyes. The look was pretty simple: just some quick foundation and a few dabs of concealer, plus a line of eyeliner and a brush of eyeshadow. Since we had time, Nicole also added some color to Daina's cheeks to make her look flush and fresh and some lip gloss to make her lips full and pouty.

Meanwhile, Ann Bendfeldt ('05) wanted a look that brought more color to her pale skin. Estee Lauder's Julie Meneses helped her with this by applying a foundation slightly darker than her natural skin, and then brought out her large blue eyes by shading her eyelids with neutral tones of brown and white. Ann could easily replicate this look with Enlighten Foundation in Natural Linen, the Color Intensity Quad in Brunette, and Pure Color Lip Gloss in Rhubarb, all from Estee Lauder.

The first thing that Lancome's makeup specialist did was get rid of Lisa Fukui's ('05) awkward glasses. To make the most of Lisa's small eyes, she lined them lightly with basic black liquid eyeliner and then smoothed some light pink eyeshadow on her eyelids. Lisa had naturally smooth skin, so the only thing left to do was add a touch of Ultra Shiny Lip Gloss in Cerise.

Lastly, Tasha Vanesian ('03) visited the Clinique makeup counter for tips from Arlene. Tasha has beautiful blue eyes, but you'd never know it until she took off her shaded glasses. Arlene dabbed foundation all over to smooth out Tasha's complexion, and then lined Tasha's eyes lightly with a dark brown eyeliner. She added some blue eyeshadow for good measure, but only lightly because Tasha's eyes had a natural darkening to them already.

Afterwards, all the girls picked out formal dresses from the racks of Macy's women's department and modeled them for our cameras.





K. Bartz/The California Tech
A table at last Thursday's ASCIT-dropping Party bears petitions to recall elected officers. Over 25 corporation members have since dropped out, leaving the BoD more than \$1500 short on next year's budget.

If You Really Knew, You Would Change Your Mind

The Consequences of Blindly Dropping ASCIT

By ANDREA VASCONCELLOS

When a Dabney representative came to our regular Friday afternoon ASCIT meeting to request multihouse funding, there was unanimous approval from the members of the BoD. The multihouse event presented was to be a "political forum" on the Olive Walk that was to fulfill multihouse requirements by attracting members of all houses to discuss and debate qualms about ASCIT.

When I walked out to the Olive Walk on Thursday to check out the "political forum", what I saw was everything but a political forum. Inscribed on large posters with spray paint were messages such as "Represent Yourself," "You can't kill the Revolution," and "FU*K ASCIT." In the center of this was a table of donuts and a table with "Drop ASCIT membership here." I was appalled.

Noticing that I did not have my usual smile

COUNTERPOINT

"When I walked out to the Olive Walk... what I saw was anything but a political forum."

on my face as I stared at the events taking place, my friends tried to make feel better by saying "Don't take it personally!" But I ask, how can I not take it personally? As a member of the BoD, I am intimately connected to what ASCIT does. I know that each BoD member devotes a lot of time to ASCIT, and so when a group of uninformed people assemble and protest ASCIT as a whole, without concrete reasoning, how I can simply stand back and laugh? I take my position seriously, spending many hours a week either attending meetings or contributing in other ways by doing my part. In preparation for the budget meeting at the beginning of the term, I devoted countless hours to informing and reminding clubs to register and apply for funding, putting together a schedule for each club representative to present that accommodated everyone's busy agenda, and organizing the 7-hour budget meeting itself, including making arrangements for food and location. And yet, apart from the budget meeting, I probably have less work to do than other members of the BoD. It is not uncommon for a BoD member to spend more time in meetings than on classwork! And we do not get special treatment because we put in so much work. "Doing my job on ASCIT" does not automatically guarantee us extensions on any set. I'm not saying that I do not enjoy what I do. I ran for FD@L knowing that I was going to have to consecrate a lot of time to it, and I do it with enthusiasm. But what took place on Thursday made a mockery of what we do.

To a certain extent, I cannot blame members of Dabney Hovse portraying us as a "fascist" group that conspires to take advantage of undergraduates by wanting to raise dues and not buying Friday morning donuts. That is how we are depicted almost every week in the *Tech*. I am disappointed that all our work is often reduced to whether or not we provide donuts. I've never bothered to respond to any of those comments, because, although I feel the critics are often unaware as well, everyone has a right to simply express his or her opinion, and some people find it humorous. However, blindly dropping ASCIT membership is not humorous and it has real, harmful consequences to our work.

I wonder whether people really want to improve ASCIT or if they simply want to complain. Ted had a table set up too, with posters of his own that read "Don't just give up. Tell us what we can do better! Write here." There was not a single comment under the header. Close by was another corner with "Read about what ASCIT has been doing," with piles of different articles describing only a few of the issues that the BoD has dealt with recently. Needless to say, the piles looked untouched. If someone is truly concerned with where his or her ASCIT dues are going or what we do to represent the undergraduates, then I would encourage them to speak with one of the members of the BoD. I know that any one of us would be more than happy to share that information. For I'm sure that if you really knew, you would change your mind!

ASCIT MINUTES

June 7, 2002

Present

BoD: Ted, Joe, Janet, Marcus, Basit, Jialan, Neda, Andrea. Absent: Vikram.

Guests: Sam Thomsen, Janessa Link, Kevin Bartz.

Meeting called to order at 4:44 p.m.

Guests

Sam requests funding for a new humor/literary publication. \$100 approved for now; more possible later (6-0-1).

Janessa is reimbursed for Dabney House participation in the ASCIT Carnival.

General Meeting

Ted called a repairman for the Screening Room TV.

All of the ARC's Faculty Committee nominees are appointed, after lengthy discussion.

Seven profs and four TAs are awarded the ASCIT Teaching Award. The awards dinner is Wednesday night.

Ted Jou, Juan Rodriguez, and Galen Loram will be the student co-chairmen for the Moore, Alcohol, and Fire committees. A joint ASCIT-IHC committee will appoint the rest. Our appointing committee delegates will be: Marcus, Basit, Neda, Andrea (Moore), and Ted, Joe, Marcus, Basit (Fire and Alcohol). The parking committee needs a student as well.

Neda reports publications are doing well.

The survey will be out this weekend and probably kept open for a month to maximize response. It encompasses a wide variety of ASCIT issues on which the BoD would like member input, including selection of movies for the DVD Library. The Movies Chair will attempt to purchase every movie suggested over the summer.

The last meeting of the school year adjourns at 6:12 p.m. See you in September!

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Jewell
ASCIT Secretary

Let's Find a Better Way To Represent Ourselves

The ASCIT Bureaucracy Does Not Work

By MARY OLLENBURGER

Don't hate the media, be the media. It's the slogan of the Independent Media Center, a collection of online open publishing forums around the world. And since I spend an awful lot of time complaining about the *Tech*, I guess I ought to take that advice. So, for better or worse, here's my two cents about ASCIT.

There are 900 undergraduates at this school. Why do we have a bureaucratic government for 900 people? Are we so

uncreative that we can't think of any other way to do things? Most of us will end up spending enough time in committee meetings as adults, trying to look interested in something some guy in a suit is telling us. Shouldn't we try to do things better now? I don't know how many of you believe in bu-

reacracy or how many of you can't conceive of any other way of doing things, but I'd love to see us all find a better way of dealing with peoples' opinions. It doesn't have to be my way. But I don't think we should assume that the way it is now is the only way it can be done. Let's talk about the way we want our government to work. It's *our* government, after all. So here's what I'd like. I'd like to see committees formed by groups of people who really care about an issue. I'd like to be able to share my views with administrators and faculty without an ASCIT stamp of approval. I'd like us all to hear lots of views, from students, administrators, and faculty, each person with their own, probably conflicting, opinion. Student opinion, as we all know, is far from uniform. As, I would assume are faculty and administrative views. We should make sure that all of those opinions are represented. I would like to see a

group of people sitting around a table trying to find a way to solve problems that everyone can agree with. A spokescouncil. Where nobody's voice is any more important than anyone else's. Where nobody is drowned out, where nobody feels intimidated, where it's acceptable and safe to argue with anyone, from that guy from Ruddock to David Baltimore. And where decisions are made by consensus. We all have to live and work here.

We should all have an equal voice in the way that happens.

So why drop ASCIT membership? Why not just try to reform the system? Well, first, I think we're going to have to abolish the system and start from the ground up. Any sort of change that will be worthwhile in the long term will be drastic.

I'm advocating the overthrow of the government. Okay, so it's just student government. But governments don't usually dissolve themselves.

Second, we're sending a pretty strong message: You do not represent me. I would much rather represent myself. If enough people say that, ASCIT will lose its legitimacy. And the powers that be will have no choice but to deal with the students personally, without the protective layers of bureaucracy keeping them sheltered from student opinion.

You don't have to agree with me. You can think I'm crazy, you can think I don't know what I'm talking about. So tell me what you think. Tell the BoD what you think. How do you want the administration, faculty and the outside world to see Caltech undergrads? Does ASCIT present your opinions the way you would like to see them presented? Let's keep talking.

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*Congratulations
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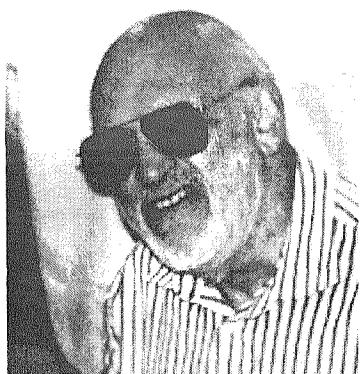
During graduation week, our staff is here to assist you
with the following added services:

- **Commencement Day Same Day Service:** Drop off your 35 mm film at the Bookstore or Tech Express by 1 p.m. and pick it up between 5-6 p.m. at the Bookstore and 5-8 p.m. at the Tech Express.
- **Commencement Portraits:** Our photographers will be on hand to take portrait pictures of you with your friends and family featuring scenic backgrounds of Dabney Gardens or the Athenaeum. An 8 x 10 portrait is available for \$15.
- **Shipping:** Tech Express and Mail Services Staff will assist you with shipping your UPS, FedEx, or USPS packages. Shipping supplies such as boxes, tape, markers, cushioning, and labels will also be available. Mail Services staff will be on site Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. The Tech Express will also be open on Saturday, June 15 from 8-11 a.m.

Please stop by and enter our end of school year prize drawing!
We're having a special drawing for seniors,
And a special drawing for all students!

Don't Forget! During the entire month of June, we're offering special pricing and a 1-day service guarantee on all photo orders, or they're free! Special processing prices are \$2.99 for 24 exposure rolls and \$4.99 for 36 exposure rolls.

Dean's Corner



Let the Cannon Boom

by Jean-Paul Revel

integration. It is in fact a time to rejoice. And no, it is not that we rejoice because we are rid of you, oh seniors! We are happy for you, happy that the biggest graduating class in recorded history has tromped up the podium and received its reward for four or so years of hard work. I say "or so," because an amazingly high number of the newly minted graduates has managed to twiddle its thumbs for a significant portion of their senior year (read: managed to spend an in-

credible deal of time on their ditch day stacks).

After receiving the congratulations of the Faculty, the Board of Trustees and the President, the best wishes of those Staff members and Administrators who interacted with you, and with the beaming approval of parents and assembled friends, all of you anointed ones will keep on marching on into your lives, hopeful, excited about things to come, sure, but also with a little bit of dread. Of course you may be too proud to admit it, or even recognize it right now, but it is there, the fear, if you dare to dig a little, and be completely honest with yourselves. This is it. No more hiding from the realities of the world outside of Caltech. You will have to shoulder that job, tackle that medical school, confront that law school, grab the challenge of that graduate school, take on that business school, deal with who knows what other undertaking. Speaking of which, I have heard that at least one of you will become a trader on the floor of the stock market, one of these people who gesticulate and hold up three fingers of the left hand while clutching a PDA in the right and a sheaf of papers under the arm. Was Caltech really good training to deal with that pandemonium? Of course we won't know right away how right it was for all of you. We'll have to wait to find out. But in the meantime we will look forward to the thrill of having you come back, one by one, as your new life brings you to town, or you get homesick for us, yeah, homesick, can you believe it? Homesick for your Hovse, whoever is left there from among

your friends, whoever of your preferred Pros or Staff members happens to be around. You'll come back armed with further degrees or with impressive jobs, or just with tales of slowly finding your way around life. Sometimes, often, your adventures will have been totally unpredictable. You'll come back as one ex student recently did, unrecognizable, completely transformed by the experience of living and working in a Buddhist, I am not sure that's the right word, commune. Or like the student who aims to pursue a career in decorating, yes interior and all that. Who could have predicted any of this while they were at Caltech?

Ruminating thus about the future I stumbled into the bookstore the other day, having had lunch, but not quite ready to return to my desk. And so I found myself browsing through the piles of memorabilia calculated to induce Caltech nostalgia at this time of low sales resistance. Among the books on display was an album of photos of Throop Hall, assembled by Judy Goodstein, Alice Stone and the Friends of the Caltech Library. Throop was the first building on Campus, built in 1910 "to give," as the dust jacket quotes the architect, "plastic utterance to the aims and scope of the School" (actually this sentence refers to the Calder decorative arches, which eventually found their way to the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Laboratory of Chemical Synthesis, bridging the passageway between Church and Crenlin).

Throop was damaged in the 1971 Sylmar earthquake, and had to be demolished, replaced by the Millikan middle and lower ponds. I keep on trying to figure out what the architect meant by "plastic utterance to the aims and scope of the school." Obviously "plastic" did not mean cheap, or even malleable, early in the XXth century. The figures in the arch represented "Na-

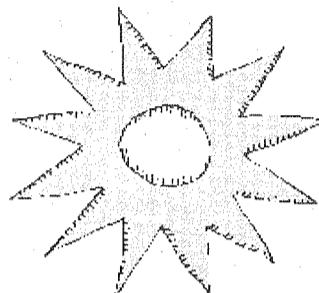
ture, Art, Energy, Science, Imagination and Law," not all relevant to the Caltech that was to be. If I am hard put to see a connection between the arches and the aims of the school, perhaps it is because I am a philistine like those who wonder about our latter day utterance, the Serra "vector," that thunderbolt which has so excited people's imagination in recent weeks. As the saying goes "plus ?a change, plus c'est la m'me chose." And come to think of it, the Throop book illustrates another instance of the present mirroring the past, illustrating, can you believe it, a parking shortage! There are photos of "The Great Parking Rally" where "students and selected faculty" (I presume they were self selected, but one never knows) "protested the shortage of campus parking spaces." You don't say! During the rally Throop was made to serve as a parking garage for a campus mail truck and a small car, a Fiat. Actually one of the pictures shows the mail truck (?), being carried up the steps, anticipating the lot of the mechanical elephant carried across campus last ditch day.

And so, heroes of the season, let me express my best wishes for fabulous careers, and all success in all possible ways, personal, professional, the very best. May you keep the gusto and the curiosity you had when you came, like that displayed throughout his life by that quintessential Caltecher, Richard Feynman whose excitement and joy in discovery has been so well portrayed on the stage by this year's commencement speaker. Ave atque Vale, seniors. And a bientot, the rest of you, have a great summer.

Jean Paul Revel

Jean-Paul Revel
Dean of Students

Don't Let Summer



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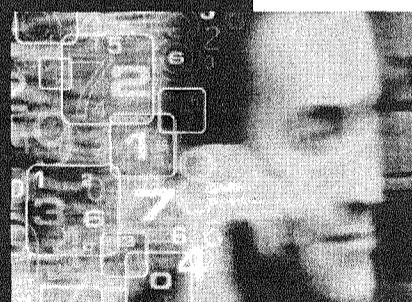
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