## Tech

# The California THE CALIFORNIA TECH

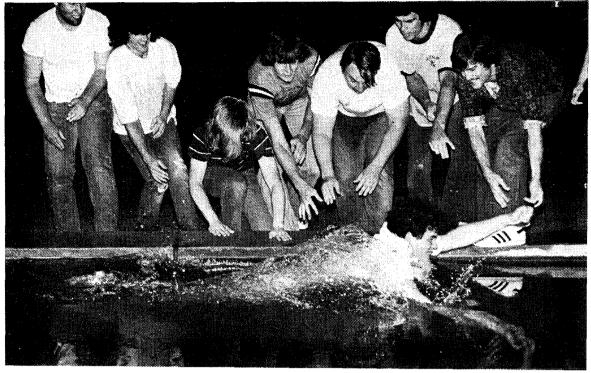
Volume LXXVIII

Pasadena, California

Friday, May 6, 1977

Four Pages

**Consumes 47 Times** Its Weight In Excess BS



Nastv Flems throw Scurve David Ritchie into Millikan Pond to celebrate Polish Constitution Night. The year's PCN was marked by the Scurves' first successful attack on Ruddock in two years by breaking a lounge window after being let into the lounge by Security. For trivia experts, a new record of 110 seconds was also set during the festivities.

## Two Caltech Students Win Research Prizes

By Bob Morrison

Watson Fellowships have been awarded to two graduating Caltech seniors, Ryn Miake and Chris Henley, to assist them in carrying out a research project in their chosen field of study. Watson Fellowships include a \$7000 lump sum to cover travel and living expenses abroad.

This year, Ryn Miake, a biology major and senior class president, proposed to work at the Marine Sation at Ischia, a part of a group of islands off Naples. There, she will be cooperating with several universities in studying an organism involving underwater plant life.

Chris Henley, a mathematics major, will be studying functional equations with two of the most knowledgeable people in the field, one of whom is Dr. Marek Kuczma, Kuczma, from Poland, was at Caltech this year giving seminars on functional equations. Henley has been the top point scorer for Caltech in the Putnam exams for the past four years.

Watson Fellowships are awarded primarily on the basis of a candidate's proposed project. Fifty outstanding institutions participate in the program, selecting a total of 176 nominees to the Thomas J. Watson Foundation.

The proposals are then examined for practicality, imagination, and personal significance. The person's academic record is examined and should generally demonstrate a considerable degree of interest in the field. The nominees are then interviewed by representatives of the Foundation. Of the 176 nominees, 70 are actually picked for the fellow-

## Sinsheimer Explains Caltech DNA Work To City Council

By Tom McCabe

Last Tuesday, Dr. Robert Sinsheimer, Chairman of Caltech's Biology Division, spoke before the Pasadena Board of City Directors on the highly controversial subject of Recombinant DNA. The purpose of the presentation was to inform the Board about DNA research at Caltech-its risks, its benefits, and the safety precautions being taken. In a written statement, the Board was assured that "the Caltech research program...constitutes no special hazard to the community of Pasadena."

There was none of the controversy and debate that has thus far been characteristic of such hearings around the country. In fact, the Board seemed to have complete confidence in Caltech's ability to provide for the safety of the surrounding community.

The bulk of Dr. Sinsheimer's presentation was a simple explanation of recombinant DNA-the reasons it was developed, a description of procedures, its possible applications, and its possible risks. He also described the guidelines which the National Institutes of Health have drawn up in order to ensure the safety of these experiments.

As Sinsheimer told the Board. Caltech has just finished construction on a special lab in Kerchoff which surpasses the NIH physical containment requirements known as P3, and has two labs already in operation with less secure facilities known as P2. The P3 lab will go into operation in the next week or so,

The Board had few questions for Dr. Sinsheimer. Director Loretta Glickman asked him if he thought the guidelines which the Cambridge City Council had imposed on Harvard should be applied to Caltech. Sinsheimer felt that the guidelines were "indeed desirable," but said that

"it's a very difficult issue to approach, frankly, on a local level," and that "the only sensible solution is to have national regulations."

Mayor Robert White suggested to Dr. Sinsheimer that possibly more non-Tech people could be appointed to the Institute Biohazards Committee, chaired by Sinsheimer. Sinsheimer agreed, and promised to discuss it with Acting Institute President Robert Christy.

Finally, Mayor White suggested that the Institute come back to the Board in six months or so to keep the Board up to date on current research. Sinsheimer agreed, saying, "My feeling is that we should be completely candid and open with you. This is the way you avoid suspicion and ill-feeling."

## Why The Secrecy In The Search For A President?

By Kevin Drum

Just who exactly is Caltech's next President going to be? Most people want to know, and they also would like to know why no one will tell them. According to Fred Anson, chairman of the faculty search committee, the reasons are quite simple. And it's not just that the committee members don't trust students with the names: in fact, they do not give the names to anyonenot the faculty, and not the Board of Trustees.

Anson compares evaluating potential candidates to evaluating freshman applicants, saying that it would be "counterproductive" to have names circulated. He says that confidentiality is necessary because of the nature of the selection process. Outside help is solicited frequently and people will not evaluate prospects frankly unless they can be sure that their remarks will be confidential. Sometimes search committee members may want to meet someone in order to evaluate him, in addition to asking for his comments on others. Also, if the names were to be made public, persons on the "list" would be

reluctant to talk. It isn't reasonable to expect them to comment objectively on someone when they themselves are being con-

Search Committee member Peter Fay also brings some insight to the committee's secretiveness. "Of course," he says, "the Trustees have charged us with secrecy. But that is begging the question."

He explains that even if it were possible to protect confidentiality while allowing various groups to participate in the discussions, meetings would become too unwieldy and scheduling would be a disaster.

Fay then goes on to relate the most important reason for secrecy, as he sees it. Assuming some of the names have been leaked, he gives the following scenario:

With confidentiality slipping, the real horrors begin. It is rumored-not, it's a fact-that Smith is being looked at! that Smith isn't, though he should be, because the idiots prefer Jones! that Jones has been approached and has turned the job down, with the consequence that the

Continued on Page Four

### Female Acceptances Down Despite **Record Number Of Admissions**

By Alan Silverstein

Little can be done, it seems, to change the status quo-as of noon Wednesday, four days past the Candidate's Reply Date, 214 prefrosh (including only 22 women) had given positive replies to Caltech offers of acceptance. In addition, 93 persons had definitely turned down Tech, including 22 women as well. This means that replies have been received from 307 of the 381 who were offered admission at the freshman level. The latter sum includes 6 deferrals, though, and 12 (rather than 18 as previously reported) early admits.

Hence we have yet to hear from about 18 women and 56 men.

It will be a few weeks before the admissions situation really settles, at which time there will very likely be a further report in the Tech. In the meantime, Ms. Barbara Brown, Assistant Director of Admissions, said the following of the people who have not yet notified CIT of their decision: "We will be sending letters to tell them that we haven't heard from them, and to inquire whether there has been a miscommunication, but we really don't expect anything much to come out of that.'

#### Watson Lecture

## Tsunami Research Aids Disaster Prediction

By Alan Silverstein

of the earth's crust somewhere near a shoreline, probably due to a massive fault slippage. Out from the disturbance, at speeds as high as 500 mph, energy radiates across the seas as a series of waves, perhaps of low amplitude but with wavelengths on the order of 120 miles. Hours later and thousands of miles away, this tsunami may wreak havoc upon a distant shore, producing water level changes of as much as 30 meters. Even though the energy of the waves spreads out over time, certain shoreline configurations may produce deadly focusing effects, with unpredictable results.

At the last Watson Lecture, Dr. Frederic Raichlen, Caltech professor of civil engineering, talked about "real world tsu-namis" and about some of the

small-scale simulation work that river beds. Dr. Raichlen men-A change occurs in the shape is being done right here on tioned that the first arriving wave the earth's crust somewhere campus with the goal of better may be either positive or negunderstanding the mechanics of tsunami formation, travel, and shoreline breakup. During the course of the evening's presentation, he showed numerous slides and film clips that were very well done and informative.

Starting from basics, Dr. Raichlen explained the that the word "tsunami" is of Japanese origin, and means something like "small-harbor-wave." This is the "important aspect" of tsunamis, he said-that is, some landforms (especially harbors) turn tsunamis into disastrous waves that cause flooding. The first film clip, from the University of Hawaii, was a collection of short home movies showing small tsunamis breaking on beaches, flooding coastal areas, reflecting back out to sea, and forming "bores" that ran up

ative, but that in any case, a tsunami usually manifests itself as "a rapidly rising or falling tide" of enormous proportions.

Some of the slides showed global areas of common quake activity, typical kinds of "tsu-namigenic" tectonic movements, and graphical correlation of quake maginitude, focal depth, and the wave(s) produced.
Usually the magnitude must be greater than about 6.5 to cause any significant wave, according to one set of statistics from a researcher in Japan. Further, the speed of the first wave is proportional to the square root of the local ocean depth. Armed with this sort of information, and past experience, one could possibly create, for any point on

Continued on Page Three

Connie Sulentic

**Personnel** 

that it was such coverage that

initially prompted the students

into joining in the competition

## Parry! Riposte!

<u>oddadadadadadadadadada</u>

The Editorial Page

## Undergrads And The Presidential Search

<u>opopopopopopopopopo</u>

"I think that we should be given a vote on the [Faculty Presidential Search] Committee." So says Bert Wells, ASCIT president.

The members of the search committee maintain that they cannot allow undergraduates full voting membership. They advance several arguments in support of this decision: 1) allowing undergrads on the committee might endanger the confidentiality of its proceedings (see story page one); 2) if undergrads were allowed on the committee, other "special interest" groups (grads, staff, various departments) would ask for some, or more, representation; 3) undergrads have a shorter term interest in the Institute, and thus should not participate to such an extent. They also maintain (although none of them have actually said it) that allowing undergraduates on the committee would upset too many factions in the faculty and could set the search back substantially.

These are all legitimate reasons. However, Wells thinks differently. If there aren't any undergrads with voting membership on the committee, then the undergrads are effectively powerless and at the mercy of the faculty. And it is a well known fact that faculty members care little for

We disagree. It is true that faculty proceedings at Caltech are all too often shrouded in secrecy and this makes students (grads as well as undergrads) feel that something must be going on, that obviously the faculty is trying to screw us. Why else would they care if we were to find out what they're doing? Faculty committees often cite arguments like those listed above, but the typical student reaction is that everyone knows that this is just bullshit: something evil must be brewing.

This air of suspicion is understandable in many ways, but it is also unfortunate. Certainly there are some professors here who don't care one way or the other about what the students want. However, many of them do care a great deal for the undergraduates. They have other concerns, and they may deal with those before they consider what the undergrads want. But it is difficult to believe that they are deliberately out to screw the undergraduates. The apparent inability of the undergrads to see things from any view other than "We're getting screwed" does nothing more than lower any respect we once had.

One of the problems is that there is no middle ground between simply listening to student representatives and giving them full membership on the committee. The latter is unfeasible to the faculty and the former is unpalatable to the undergrads. However, the faculty here has shown good faith many times before. Every faculty committee but one (the Faculty Board) has students with full voting privileges. Pass/fail grading was instituted many years ago when serious problems developed with freshmen transferring out at alarming rates (although many thought that the action came too late). Since we don't have much choice, the best course is to trust them once more. Their interests are not that much different from ours.

At any rate, suspicion or no, there are not going to be any voting undergrads on the search committee. Wells and IHC Chairman Eric Kaler (the other undergraduate representative to the search committee) recognize this. So why not work within this restricted framework and still try to do some effective lobbying for student interests? They tried to get together a forum for discussion of the next president with someone from each of the student houses, but no one showed any interest.

Wells suggested at the BOD meeting Wednesday that the best method would be to talk to individual members of the committee. That's a good idea and we hope they follow up on it. In the meantime, however, we hope they manage to calm their own and others' suspicions. Perhaps the faculty isn't leveling completely with the undergrads, but neither is it going to ignore us completely.

> -Kevin Drum Henry Fuhrmann Al Kellner

## Letters To The Tech

#### **Blood** Drive

An Open Letter to the Student Body:

As with all letters of thanks, it is very difficult to mention all of those involved. However, I would like to take this moment to thank the students for their outstanding participation in Caltech's recent Red Cross Blood

I think I can state, without exaggeration, that without the students, this year the Blood Drive would not have exceeded last year's total of 344 pints of blood collected during the Bloodmobile. It is only with the turnout of the students that we collected the walloping total of 412 pints for this year's Blood

Needless to say, the Red Cross and myself are very grateful that we have such students who are willing to donate not only their

blood, but also their time and energy, to guarantee that this year we surpassed our goal. There are some people who I could not neglect to mention, one of whom is Leslie Paxton, for all the enthusiasm and help she gave me even to the final moments of the Drive when we thought all was lost. Again, this year as last year, I would like to thank Leroy Fisher for getting the ball rolling and pointing me in the right direction. There are others who were pulling their friends in as the Drive was taking place-these remain nameless to me but, I also gratefully acknowledge their zeal and coop-

cannot ignore all the News Briefs that the California Tech printed concerning the Blood Drive, especially on the last day when they printed not only an article, but a photo as well. I am sure

Last, but surely not least, I

among the Houses. Coffeehouse To the Editors: The Coffeehouse has three main attractions: food, comic books, and low prices. The Coffeehouse managers have tried to get rid of the comic

books. They were forced to return them by a strong student protest. There are frequently food

shortages. People come to the Coffeehouse to get food, not for a fair chance of getting food.

Now the Coffeehouse managers want to raise prices. The reason they give is that the Coffeehouse has been losing so many customers that it is no longer able to run at the current prices. It was because of bad management that the Coffeehouse lost so many customers.

I see no reason why the remaining Coffeehouse customers must pay for bad management. Any loss that the Coffeehouse has should be made up from the managers' pay since they caused the problem in the first place.

In last week's story "Recomb-

inant DNA Specialist Hired By

Chemistry Department," Dr. Ju-

dith Campbell was described

incorrectly as being an authority

on the recombination of DNA.

Dr. Campbell is studying the

transcription of DNA, but does

nothing with recombinant DNA.

Correction

Steve Qualline

Y Presents . . .

## The Evils Of Capitalism

By Bert Wells

Today at Noon: Blues with a Feeling, a blues band regularly appearing at that notorious Sierra Madre night club, the Raven and the Rose, will appear in live concert on the quad. Bring your lunch and then kick back to enjoy a truly fine group of blues musicians.

Saturday: There will be a day hike in the San Gabriels to Crystal Lake. Sign up in the Y office if you'd like to attend this

Tuesday Afternoon: Dr. Ralph Gomory, vice-president and director for research of IBM, will have a discussion at 2 p.m. in Winnett Lounge. Whether you want to debate against the bastions of capitalism or simply learn the latest about magnetic bubble memories, this man, head

of IBM's large research effort, will be there to satisfy you. This event is being cosponsored with the Office of Corporate Relations and the Master's Office.

Thursday Evening: At 8 p.m. in Winnett Lounge, Bill Brown of the Environmental Quality Laboratory staff will give a slide presentation entitled "Crisis in the Redwoods: The History and Impact of Clearcut Logging. Brown is also an hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. This event is cosponsored with the Environmental Quality Lab.

Next Friday: Frazier Smith, a comedian a la Firesign Theater, will run through his antics for an hour at noon. This will be the sort of absurd humor and improvisation featured on his weekly KROQ radio show. Come

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**NEXT WEEK** 

Taxi Driver

## TSUNAMI RESEARCH

#### Continued from Page One

a shoreline, a refraction path chart from which the travel time of the typical tsunami may be read, going to that point from anywhere on the map. A sample chart, for San Pedro, was given as an example of how predictions may be made under the Tsunami Warning System.

Another set of interesting slides showed tide gauge records for points on the Pacific coast during the arrival of waves from the 1964 Anchorage earthquake. Superimposed on the periodic six-foot tidal oscillations at each place was a set of severe 'squiggles'' characteristic not only of the source waves, but also of the local shoreline. In fact, as was then shown with spectral energy vs. frequency charts for three different places for two different tsunamis, each coastline point-and especially those in harbors-has its own "spectral fingerprint," based on typical "induce oscillation of the offshore water mass."

Dr. Raichlen concluded by emphasizing the usefulness of laboratory simulation of tsunamis because of the (fortunate) infrequency with which they are observed in nature.

### All the News That Fits

#### Frodsham Forces' Finale

On Saturday, May 14, at 8 p.m., the Caltech Glee Club will perform its final concert of the year in Beckman Auditorium. Featured will be David Grimes, well-known classical guitarist and Glee Club alumnus, and David Miles, tenor soloist with the Johnny Mann Singers, as well as the Men's and Women's sections of the Glee Club and small ensembles.

Admission is free to undergrads if seats remain. Tickets for grad students, faculty, staff, and non-Tech students are \$2. General admission is \$2.50.

#### It Is Spring, Even in Lloyd House

Yes folks, it's coming. The event everyone has been waiting for, the 6th Annual Lloyd House Spring Extravaganza-will be held here May 14. Mark down the date, so you won't miss the fun.

#### Bureaucratic Sign Ups

Nominations are now open for all class offices and the remaining vacant ACSIT appointed offices. Those interested may sign up on Flora's door in Winnett. Elections for class officers will be held at the end of May.

#### Wanted: Ten Good Men

A ten-man team is being recruited to run the Runner's World 24 Hour Relay on Saturday, May 21 at Caltech. Each leg of the relay is one mile long and the goal is to amass the greatest mileage in one day. In addition to runners, we will need volunteers for timekeeping. For further information, call 796-9805, or talk to Rob Bourret, 240 Page.

#### T Time

Remember Big T deadlines are coming up soon! Senior photos must be in by May 13. They should be black and white prints, approx. 3" by 4".

House sections should be

finished by about the 23rd of May. Any clubs that want to be in this year's Big T must submit their material for their page (pictures and information about the club) to the Big T also by May 23.

For more information, see Stan Cohn, 105 Ruddock.

#### David Zelinsky and Queen Kong in Concert

Caltech students David Zelinsky and Kathleen Kong for cello and piano tomorrow in Dabnev Hall Lounge at 8 pm. The program will include music by Couperin, Brahms, Bach, Granados, and Ginastera. Admission is free.

There will be a concert by NEVER TOO LATE UNDERSTAND NOVELS, PLAYS

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## You shouldn't have to change banks every time you change lifestyles.

Graduation is one time you change lifestyles. But it's certainly not the

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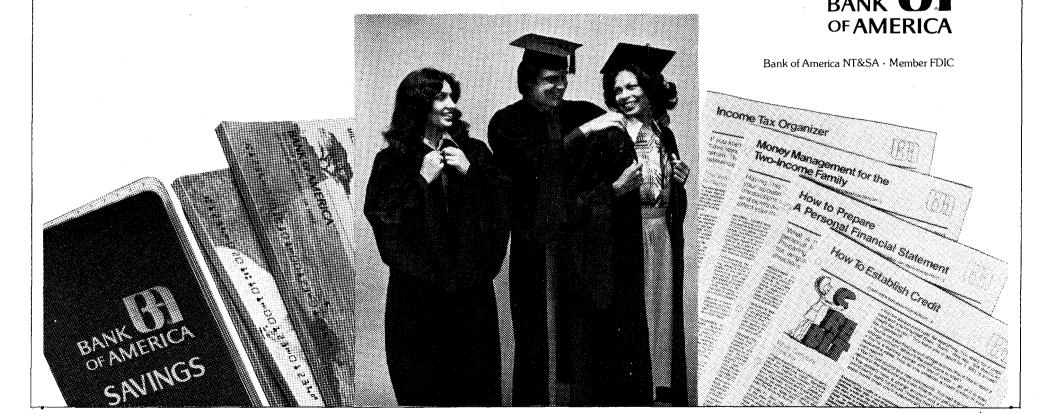
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## Track Team Turns Sharply, Beats L.A. Baptist 74-62

By Tommy Trolljan

The track team warmed up for conference finals, squeaking by L.A. Baptist College in a meet last Saturday at LABC in Newhall. The score was 74–62; however, Caltech led by only one or two points before the last few events as L.A. Baptist was very fired up. The facilities were interesting, to say the least. The track had 70-yard turns, as opposed to the standard 100-yards on a normal track, making the straightaways quite long and the turns quite sharp.

Field Events

Caltech particularly had trouble in the field events. Francis Mukai and Duane Boman couldn't prevent a sweep of the triple jump by LABC. Then LABC proceeded to sweep the javelin and the discus. In addition, the pole vault, normally a plus for Tech, was not held.

In the high jump, Greg Blaisdell managed to tie for first at 6 feet with Turner of LABC.

Norm Murray managed to place third in the shot put (32'2"), behind Surls of L.A. Baptist (35'8'4"). Brian Sutula garnered a first in the discus with a mark of 111'6". Duane Boman was second in the long jump (18'11'4"), an event won by Zegan of LABC at 19'6".

Running Events

Many of the running events were close to being "turkey shoots." Norm Murray took both of the sprints, in times of 10.3 and 23.7 seconds. Bill Graham earned his varsity letter in the 220 by running a 24.3 for second place. While Murray took both sprints, Duane Boman won both hurdle events: 16.3 in the highs and 59.8 in the lows—both personal best times. Stan Shipley took third in both races with times of 17.8 and 62.4.

The shorter middle distance races featured some hard running, despite the slower times. In the 440, Joel Okazaki (55.0) barely beat out Duane Gray

(55.2). Both Tech runners had a hard race against an LABC runner who finished 0.5 seconds behind Gray. Rob Bourret turned it on in the home stretch, beating an "eleventh hour" blitz by Bradley of LABC, to win the 880 (2:10.2). Third and fourth, respectively, were Tom McCabe (2:10.9) and Brett Van Steenwyk (2:11.2).

In the longer middle distance events, Caltech got a fair number

of points, taking first [Brett Van Steenwyk (4:43.7)], second [Rob Bourret (4:47.8)], and fourth [Bill Gould (5:04)] in the mile. Tech easily swept the three mile, with a first by Van Steenwyk (16:07), a second by Steve Kellogg (16:09), and a third by Davis Finley (19:01).

The 440 relay was a particularly good show by Caltech. The sprint squad of Norm Murray, John Hattick, Greg Blaisdell, and

Brian Sutula won in a season best of 45.5 seconds. The mile relay team had troubles, however, as L.A. Baptist, winning by two seconds, broke their school record with a time of 3:38.3.

League Meet

SCIAC prelims are today, with the finals tomorrow, at the Redlands oval. For many, this will be a big meet, as it is their last chance to qualify for district competition.

### SECRECY IN THE PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

Continued from Page One

committee is having rueful second thoughts and plans to turn to Smith after all! These spread across the campus and beyond, carried by word of mouth, by phone, in a clipping from the California Tech mailed to a friend at Johns Hopkins. And the consequence is that the pool of really qualified people from which we hope to hook a president begins to dry up.

"Smith doesn't care to be resurrected as Caltech's second choice. Jones, who in fact had never been offered the position but is privately interested, wonders whether to volunteer himself, anticipates pointed questions from his own university (which doesn't want to lose him), and finally says to hell with it. And

Tree Bowl of Chowder

as the noise level rises, and the names of prominent academicians who have been passed over, or have been invited but declined, multiply, word gets around that Caltech is having a hard time finding a new president.

"And that is plain disaster." The Trustees have given nearly full power of selecting candidates to the faculty committee. Anson has met frequently with R. Stanton Avery, chairman of the trustee search committee (and chairman of the Board of Trustees), in an informal capacity "just to keep each other informed." Formal meetings with the Trustees will be sometime this summer, if everything goes according to plan, when the faculty list is given to the Trustees for final scrutiny. Those

THIS VALUABLE COUPON

who remain on the list, and those on the Trustees' list, will visit the campus. It is hoped that the final selection will be made around Christmas, with the new President joining us by July, 1978.

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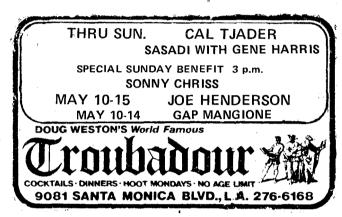
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## XEROX INTERVIEWS

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Xerox Systems Development and Electronics Technology groups are located in Los Angeles, California. These facilities are responsible for the development of electronics systems, modules, and components for future Xerox products.

Xerox Corporation (El Segundo) will be on campus for interviews, Monday, MAY 16. Graduating students interested, please sign up at the Cal-Tech Placement and Planning Center.

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