



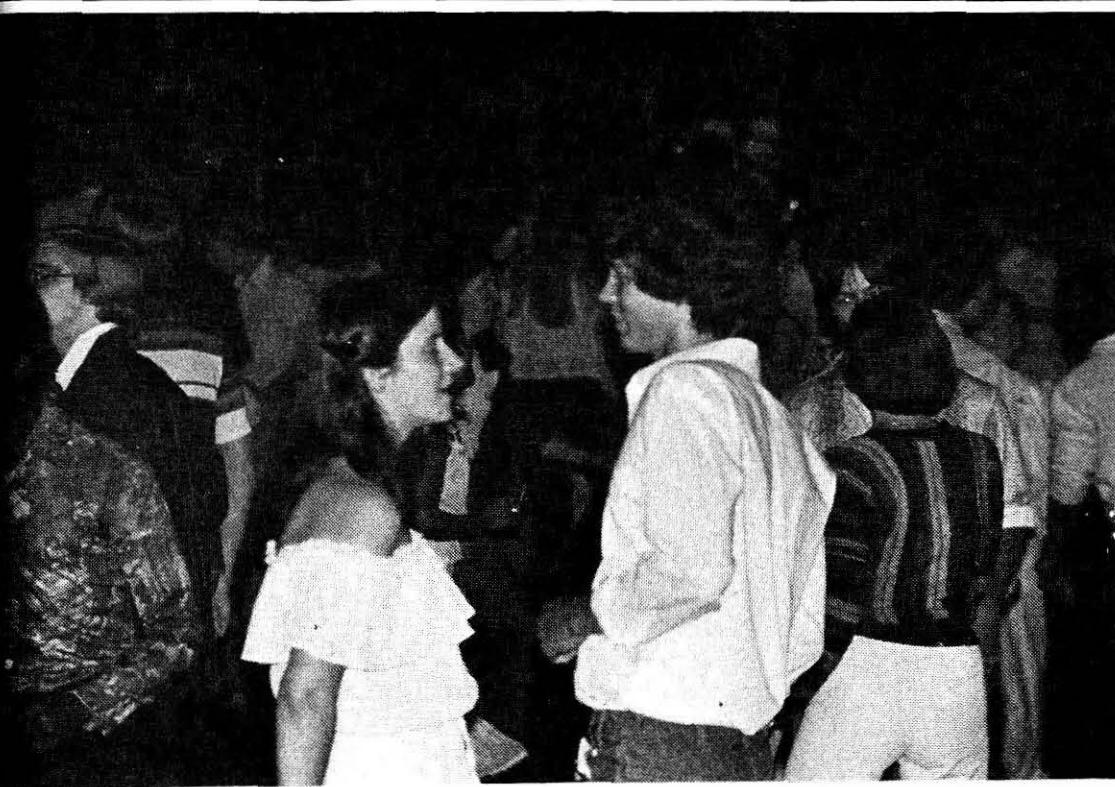
Caltech



Volume LXXXII

Pasadena, California; Friday May 1, 1981

Number 26



Prefrosh Mixup Cleared Up

Or Why Dabney and Blacker Didn't Get Prefrosh

By Glen Swindle

The Admissions Office sent letters notifying some of the applicants to Caltech of their admission on April 10. Among those admitted were 61 girls from around the country, who received, in addition to letters of acceptance, invitations to visit Caltech with half of their travel expenses paid. The result was "prefrosh weekend" for the third year in a row. Thirty-six of the girls admitted to Caltech arrived on Thursday, April 23.

Ten of the prefrosh lived nearby, and arrived by car. The remaining girls arrived at LAX throughout Thursday. A special shuttle of Caltech vehicles was organized to meet the girls as they arrived, and to drive them from the airport directly to Caltech, avoiding the inconveniences involved with Airport Service buses.

Each of the girls was assigned to room with a current female student who had volunteered to house a prefrosh for the weekend. Two ads were placed in the *California Tech* soliciting volunteers for this purpose, and the topic was also discussed at several IHC meetings. In addition, house presidents and RAs were supposed to announce this aspect of prefrosh weekend to the girls in each of the student houses. In an effort to avoid having individual prefrosh living away from most of the

other prefrosh, Gloria Badilla sent follow-up letters to girls in those houses that showed an initial response for the reception of the visiting girls. Unfortunately, little or no interest was shown by the current female residents of Blacker House and Dabney House, and no prefrosh were initially assigned to these houses. When the girls began arriving early Thursday, this situation became apparent, and unsubstantiated accusations of bias on the part of those people responsible for assigning prefrosh to the student houses filled the air. This unwarranted uproar caused the last-minute assignment of a prefrosh to both Dabney and Blacker, countering attempts to prevent the partial isolation of individual girls from larger groups living in other houses. From all information available, lack of visiting prefrosh in any house happened through the negligence of the girls, officers, and RAs living in the house, not the unfairness of those assigning temporary residence to the prefrosh.

Unlike the past two years, activities for the prefrosh began Thursday evening with a meeting of all of the girls for an introduction to the campus. Most of the girls left this meeting in groups to explore Caltech together—a result considered quite favorable by most observers. The five meals served to the prefrosh, outside of the meals at the student houses, were organized by Wendy Rasmussen of Ruddock House. These included three breakfasts in Winnett, a picnic with the faculty at Millikan Pond, and a picnic in the Goldbergs' garden. A tremendous variety of activities was available to the girls throughout the weekend. There were tours and discussions by option representatives and presentations made by members of ASCIT, IHC, the Caltech Y, and many other groups. Among other activities were a noon concert on the quad, the ASCIT movie, athletic events, a moonlight hike, and a trip to the Huntington Museum.

Perhaps the most enjoyable event of the prefrosh weekend was the seven-house party Saturday night, with the music supplied by a band called "Front Seat." The visiting girls were described as the most "aggressive and independent" of any who had visited in the last three years and "psyched to meet the guys." The result was a very enjoyable party, dampened only by a little fine

Photo by Mark Waggoner

Prefrosh Reaction

By Susan Hunts

If you've wanted to hear something good about Caltech, you should have talked to the prefrosh at the end of their stay here. While many of them voiced concerns as well as praise, all the prefrosh I spoke with were favorably impressed by the institute.

Some of the prefrosh had already sent in their acceptance of the admission offer and came only "to see what I was getting into." Others came to check out the institute before making a decision on what school to attend. Still others were looking for first-hand knowledge to convince the folks back home that accepting Caltech's offer of admission would not be a mistake.

Several of the prefrosh noticed our most striking climatic feature—the smog; and some even claimed to have felt it in their throats. (I wonder if these sensitive creatures could survive a summer in the L.A. area.)

Many of the women commented on "the atmosphere and the environment" they found here. They expressed pleasant surprise at "how much people help each other," how friendly the students were, and the lack of competition among the students.

One of the prefrosh from New York said "New York has a view of Caltech from twenty years ago." She was pleased to find the school was not the male-oriented and male run, hostile-toward-women, place that had been depicted back home. Another prefrosh said that the exposure to "the ratio" was good; she was able to better understand the problems as well as the positive possibilities associated with attending a largely male school.

Several prefrosh said their experiences had dispelled "preconceived ideas" about the students at Tech. They enjoyed staying in the student houses and meeting people from all the houses. One woman said "the weekend convinced me I could fit in."

The prefrosh women who attended the party on Saturday reported that they enjoyed themselves. A couple remarked that having the party outdoors was a nice change from what

they were accustomed to and others thought it was a great opportunity to meet people from all the student houses.

While a majority mentioned that the weekend probably wasn't typical, they still praised it highly. A few prefrosh said the weekend was well run, but in general, they just expressed gratitude for the opportunity to obtain first-hand information which they could use in making a decision about where to go to school.

Zaydman Gets Appointment To Education Program

by Julie Kornfield

There are few perennial "three star" professors at Tech. Valentina Zaydman, lecturer in Russian, is outstanding among them. She has received a student body award for teaching excellence four of the five years in which the annual awards have been given. She is the only faculty member to have that record.

Last week, Valentina received an appointment to the Danforth Associate Program. The annual Danforth Associate appointments are awarded for "major commitment to undergraduate teaching." This year, 531 educators throughout the United States received these appointments and will be brought together at the Danforth Annual Conference on Education. There they can exchange ideas on the meaning of quality education, on the best environment for learning, and on the pursuit of excellence in education.

Valentina told me that she

is looking forward to this exchange. She is especially eager to share perspectives with other American educators because she feels isolated from the mainstream of American education. She is a native of Russia, and has also spent a number of years in Israel. America and its educational system still feel foreign to her. "The relationship between faculty and students is so strained and formal here."

At first I did not understand, and I was surprised that this relationship would be more strained in the U.S. than in Russia. Valentina explained that, although "the system is strict and rigid" in Russian universities, the interaction of students and professors is very direct. For an example, she contrasted the students' attitudes toward a quiz at Caltech and in Russia. "When a professor here tells you there will be a quiz tomorrow, even though you have not fully covered the material, you

would just accept it. Right? In Russia, the student would say 'Professor, we have not covered the material yet. Please prepare us first.' And the instructor would do it."

This directness is built into the system. Although students have large lectures together as we do here, the smaller sections are very different. Students in a major field of study are broken into "groups" which are assigned to specific professors. All recitation-type work for a group is done with their professor. Thus, each student is very familiar with a core of students and at least one professor in his major.

As a result of this familiarity, the group's professor is also an effective advisor and liaison to other members of the faculty. The informal attitude which develops in the group allows students to admit confusion without being self-deprecating, and to voice criticism without

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ON PAGE 5

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 8

EDITORIAL

Dwayne and Robert, pseudo-intellectual-extrordinaires.

We want to thank both of you for bringing faith back to the Tech. Now, we can pick up an issue on Friday morning and chuckle, "What are the Bobsy Twins up to now?"; don't get us wrong—we find you entertaining.

It's not the fact that some of your facts are wrong that endear your pieces to us. It's not the fact that name-calling is a turn-on for us. No, what makes your little diatribes so personal is that they are written in the spirit of classic Horatio Alger: long-winded and often boring, but containing juicy tidbits like run-ons, jargon, and obscure epithets. That's why we don't edit them; how could we possibly bear to read your letters if they were direct and to the point? Shit, we'd even go out of our way to add a couple lines of padding in the event of such an emergency.

Seriously, it wouldn't be the same if we didn't see "mental degenerates", "swine", or "social misfits" mentioned at least five times in the letters. No siree, don't change. Bob, thanks for making "liberal ilk" the latest cliché; we hear it's being used among the "in" crowd at Vassar. This isn't meant to be disparaging; we just love your quaint little expressions like "vulgarian" and "Another D.D. exclusive idea has crept up from the slime of your cerebrum." From one preppie to another, we think it makes you sound really keen, though there isn't any thought behind it.

Oh, yes, Dwayne, don't feel left out. Not many people can speak so condescendingly convincing! It certainly must have taken you several years of unsuccessful attempts to be published in "The Hollywood Reporter." we've got to hand it to you, boy, you sure know how to impress an audience; the sarcasm not only drips from your pieces, it inundates the carpet and drowns the reader.

Well, to end, we'd like to say both of you are fine products of our society (perhaps a comment on society in general), and I'm sure someday you'll grow up, to be upstanding citizens. Someone like Babbitt.

—Tracy Furutani



OUR TOWN

By Joe Balke

"Our Town," a play by Thornton Wilder, will be performed in Ramo Auditorium next Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday (May 7th–10th). It is this term's student production (directed by Marty Strikin), and is definitely worth seeing. It's about the everyday lives of two New Hampshire families living in a small town near the turn of the century. The story follows the growth of several characters—from youth, to adulthood, death, and ultimately, to an afterlife—with a simplicity and a sense of reality that makes the characters and the town come to life in the viewer's mind. The use of as little scenery as possible promotes the simplicity and stark reality

of the play, and also allows the audience to use their imaginations.

"Our Town" is an interesting, moving and serious portrayal of people's unique, inner view of our own lives and selves.

What can I say? [ed. note, nothing of any substance, apparently.] It's a play that you'll remember for a long time. Come and see it!

Performances are Thursday May 7th at 8:00 p.m., Friday, May 8th at 8:30 p.m., Saturday May 9th at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday May 10th at 2:00 p.m. (The play will be interpreted for the deaf on Sunday.) Admission is \$1.00 for Caltech students (grad and undergrad) and \$3.00 general admission.

The California Tech

Friday, May 1, 1981

Volume LXXXII Number 26

Published weekly except during examination and vacation periods by the Associated Students of the California Institute of Technology, Inc. The opinions expressed in all articles are strictly those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors or of the *Apocryphal Tech*.

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The California Tech publication offices are located in Winnett Student Center on the Caltech campus, as if you didn't know already from reading this week after week. The address is: Winnett Center, Caltech 107-51, Pasadena, CA 91125. Telephones—Editor: 356-6153; Business Manager: 356-6154. Printed by News-Type Services, Glendale, California.

Subscriptions
\$2.00 per term
\$6.00 per year
\$100 for life

ISSN 0008-1582

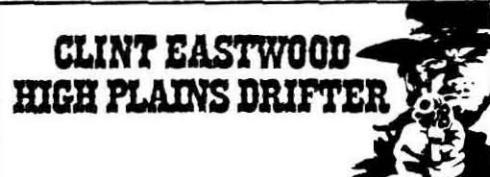
The Caltech Y / ASCIT / GSC present:

the colorful, exotic and rhythmic sounds of SOUTH AMERICA in the songs of...

ARCO IRIS



FRIDAY NIGHT ASCIT MOVIE 7:30
TONIGHT: 10:00



50¢ ASCIT members \$1.00 All others Baxter Lecture Hall

NEXT WEEK: The International Film Festival

TUESDAY, MAY 5: Sign up for PASADENA SYMPHONY tickets for May 9. Twenty tickets will be available for \$2 each. If necessary, a lottery will be drawn and posted Tuesday afternoon. Payment is due by noon Friday, May 8. Transportation is not provided.

FRIDAY, MAY 8: Noon Concert and Le BoBo Productions will jazz up your lunch hour with a performance by Dave Pozzi and company on the Quad. Remember, bring your goodie bag.

Getting My Act together

If you have the time to go to a show in the next week or two, catch *I'm Getting My Act Together And Taking It On The Road* with Betty Buckley. Unfortunately, it's true that Ms. Buckley does not look like she is thirty-nine years old and "has been through the wringer" as the character she portrays has been. Also, fans of the original (and recorded) version of the musical, with writer Gretchen Cryer playing the role of Heather, must be warned that the former *Eight Is Enough* TV mom (Ms. Buckley) has a peculiar singing style which takes a while to get used to. Despite its shortcomings, the play is definitely worth seeing for its entertainment value as well as its message. I have trouble imagining Lola Falana in the lead role, so I suggest taking the trip down to the Huntington Hartford before she takes over in May.

What is the play about? Middle-aged soap opera star Heather Jones has written some songs about life, in general, and her life, in particular. Her songs explain how she has earned the wrinkles on her face, by growing up and growing old as an American female. The entire play takes place at the dress rehearsal for her nightclub debut with The Liberated Man's Band. Heather's manager, Joe, is hearing their show for the first time.

There isn't much of a plot involved. The big conflict arises because Joe does not like the new act—he finds her songs offensive. For example, in a song entitled "Miss America" she sings "sittin' in your dream house, watchin' the TV, thinkin' how things never are the way you thought they'd be...And you think you're going crazy, and you're scared of getting free, And you'd like to take your trophy and smash the damn TV." Joe warns her that "Honey, we're sold out all across the country to those people who watch you on TV."

In a skit that accompanies Heather's song about her marriage, the vows read "To be his help-mate, build him up when he's down, bear his children, send his pants to the cleaners, pick his underwear up off the floor, hold a job that'll bring in a little extra money, but which won't absorb you to the point where you won't be able to have supper ready at 6 o'clock every night." Joe tells Heather that the men in her audience will find the skit offensive, for "Men don't like hearing about their underwear."

"Strong Woman Number" features back-up singer Alice singing "I can fix my own faucets, I can plan my own life. Maybe we're looking in the wrong direction, maybe we need a wife." Joe says that will offend both men and women. That same song ends "I've gotten my whole life together,

reconstructed bit by bit. But as for finding love, my friend, this Strong Woman Number doesn't mean a shit!" Offensive language—everyone will be offended in some way, Joe thinks.

Throughout the songs and skits there are a number of familiar dissatisfied-woman themes. "If you smile in just the right way you'll make a pretty wife, And someone will take care of you for all your pretty life." "Dear Tom, yes, I've always fixed your suppers. Dear Tom, yes, I gave more than I got. Dear Tom, you thought that I was perfect. Well, I'm not!" "Love is rare, life is strange. Nothing lasts, people change." "I closed you out by asking for nothing 'cause I needed someone to blame. You couldn't give what I didn't ask for. It was a perfect game."

"God damn it!" says Heather, "I've spent my whole life improving myself until I am a magnificent person. And no one, no one wants to share my life!" Share her life. Go see the play. Laugh at the jokes, listen to the songs, empathize with the character and enjoy yourself.

—Norma Ofsthun

ENTERTAINMENT

MOVIES plays SPECIAL EVENTS

MX MISSLE DEBATE

The Caltech Y is sponsoring an Afternoon Discussion of the MX missile Project today at 2:00 pm in Winnett Student Center.

The MX Missile Project, while not affecting California directly, is nevertheless a controversial national concern. If passed by Congress, it will be one of the most important and extensive defense mechanisms ever built in the United States. However, it also promises to be one of the most costly as it will cover much of the Nevada and Utah desert. For this reason it is being hotly debated across the country.

At today's discussion, viewpoints on the MX Project will be presented by Joseph Griggs, Janet Moose, Sylvia Baker, Dr. Edwin Firmage, and Admiral John M. Lee. Mr. Griggs is chairman of the Great Basin MX Alliance while Ms. Moose is from the Western Shoshone Sacred Land Association. Ms. Baker, a Nevada rancher, is a member of the Nevada Cattlemen's Association. Dr. Firmage is a former White House fellow and Professor of Law at the University of Utah and Admiral Lee is former negotiator of Salt I. Thus, it promises to be a very interesting and informative discussion on a very controversial issue.

—Candy McCoy

Random Numbers

I'm pissed. Then again, I'm really pissed. If there's one thing that I hate more than a poorly written essay, it's a poorly written essay without an opening paragraph. Nevertheless, the *Tech* editors seem to have lost the first page of last week's article. One would think that they might have become suspicious considering that the first paragraph that appeared under the header in last week's *Tech* was at the top of the second page of the four pages that I did hand in. I mean, after all, don't most works of any literary stature start with a page numbered 1 and not with a page numbered 2? [Typist's note: Why else do you think it's called "Random Numbers"? Besides, 'page 1' was a single paragraph, and in defense of the editors, it may have been deliberately edited out. But don't count on it.] Of course, had my opening paragraph appeared elsewhere

in the article, I could have written it off as randomness or fatigue on the part of the editors or layout trolls. But really guys, it is so-o-o tacky to lose a whole page of an article, especially when I hear these frequent pleas for more copy. Besides, the loss made last week's article sound like it was serious or something and I don't want the frosh to get the wrong idea or anything like that. Frosh should try to get ahold of some back issues if they want to see prime examples of the mental wanderings of a scorched and burning out Tech.

However, as I believe in giving credit where credit is due, the editors also left out the last line of my article. This probably just as well as I really don't feel like writing an article about raping animals this week; I'm tired of serious

Clubs and Organizations

To get your group picture in the *Big T*, submit your pictures by May 15th. If you have any questions, contact Mort at 1-59, or call 356-9414.

Attention Seniors!

Today is the last day to submit your picture for the *Big T*! Send in your photo to the *Big T* desk of the Student Publications Office, 107-51 (107 Winnett if you want to deliver it in person).

Jim Carroll Band

I have this theory that one's life is a reflection of one's attitudes. Approaching life negatively makes bad things happen. Clearly, this is not an original idea, but it enabled me to have a good time last weekend when I saw the Jim Carroll Band play at Perkin's Palace.

Unlike Mr. Sams who attended a show there the week before I did not find the management oppressive. Nor were the ushers the brutal Neanderthals that Mr. Sams encountered. The warm-up band, Tonio K., was the same for both shows. While Mr. Sams could not bring himself to remain in the room, I stayed and was entertained by an energetic band endowed with a hard driving sound and a singer with good lyrics and masterful stage presence. Maybe Mr. Sams should lighten up and try having fun once in a while.

It's only due to a coincidence that Jim Carroll is a rising rock star. While travelling with girlfriend Patti Smith, he was recruited to do the opening act for her. As a teenager Carroll was a basketball star who taught Lew Alcindor (now going by the name Kareem and playing for the Lakers) how to do a skyhook. He was also a heroin addict and a brilliant poet. After publishing his third volume of poetry, *Living at the Movies*, Carroll became, at 22, the youngest poet ever nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

Jim Carroll writes about city life and death with stark realism. But, he manages to infuse his work with a tinge of humor. Well, maybe it's more like a wry way of looking at life. I can think of no other band who could have the audience enthralled by a story about kids dying. But, Carroll brings it off in one of his most popular songs, "Lots of People Die."

Perhaps Carroll's success with slightly morbid songs is due to the somewhat incongruous music played by the band. While Carroll is singing about ODing on reds, the band is playing up-beat Chuck Berry type music. The band gave an enthusiastic performance which had the audience up and dancing. Unfortunately, the mixing was poor; so, lyrics sometimes went unheard. And, when you're listening to a Pulitzer Prize caliber writer, that's something you don't want to miss.

—Lisa Grenier

Marathon Guitar With the Romero Family

A two-part marathon guitar concert, headlining the Romero family, will be held in Beckman Auditorium on Saturday, May 9th at 3:30 pm and 8:00 pm.

A seldom performed program of all the Boccherini quintets for solo guitar and strings has been planned for the 3:30 pm concert. Each of the Romanos: Caledonio, Pepe, Celin, and Angel, will play two of the quintets, and they will be supported by Ronald Copes and Michelle Makarski, violin; Myra Kestenbaum, viola; and Gabor Rejto, cello.

Following a dinner break, the 8:00 pm evening concert will feature music from the baroque to the romantic Spanish era. Works of Vivaldi, Telemann, Sanz, Sor, Giuliani, Torroba, Albeniz, Lobas, Chapi, and Breton will be performed.

A prolific composer, Boccherini wrote over 500 works, 100 of which were string quintets. The eight quintets, featuring the guitar, were com-

pleted in 1798 and were dedicated to the virtuoso guitarist, Marquis Benavente. Although born and educated in Italy, Boccherini adopted Spain as his native country and incorporated rhythms of popular Spanish dances and environmental sounds such as bird calls and street sounds into his works.

Celedonio Romero and his sons, Celin, Pepe, and Angel, left their native Spain for Portugal in 1957 and came to America in 1958. Since 1961, they have concertized individually, as duals, and as a quartet throughout the United States and Europe. They also appear regularly as soloists with major orchestras and at music festivals. The Romanos record for Philips, Mercury, Delos, and Angel records.

Tickets are now available for the marathon concert at the Caltech Ticket Office, and at all Mutual and Ticketron Agencies. Student rates are being offered.

body shop

Warts, or verrucae, are the most common benign tumor of the body. They are not caused by handling frogs, but are caused by a virus and spread from person to person, from inanimate objects (such as a gymnasium floor) to an individual, and from a person's hands to various portions of his anatomy.

The various clinical types of warts relate to the appearance of the growth and to its location. The treatment varies somewhat for each type of wart.

The common wart is usually seen on the hands. They are elevated and covered by a thick rough surface consisting of many closely set projections. They vary in size, but may reach a surprisingly large mass.

Plantar warts are found on the soles of the feet where they are flat because of the pressure and may be surrounded by a shiny, yellowish callous. In addition to pushing the wart inwards, standing and walking produces pain because the imbedded wart presses on various structures, including nerves and blood vessels.

Venereal warts occur in the genital area of both sexes and is transmitted by sexual contact with an individual who carries the virus or who has venereal

warts. The warts are quite contagious in their early stages. These warts differ in structure from the common type of skin warts that occur on the hands. They may be single or multiple, soft, nonhorny masses. They often increase rapidly in size and number. For this reason and to prevent infecting a sexual partner, the warts should be treated as soon as they are recognized.

There are bizarre legendary cures; burying a dead cat in the graveyard at midnight and selling your wart to someone are only a few. No therapeutic approach is uniformly successful. Perhaps none of them cures more than 75-80% of the cases treated. Treatment includes freezing with liquid nitrogen or dry ice, burning with an electric needle, surgical excision, chemicals such as podophyllin (especially in the ano-genital region), various acids, formalin and a host of other acceptable measures.

The response to therapeutic measures is unpredictable. Furthermore, the cured person may be re-infected. Uncured lesions are a common reservoir for the production of such reinoculation. Interestingly, reinfection tends to occur in the exact areas in which susceptibility to the wart virus has

been demonstrated by the initial occurrence of these lesions.

In many instances warts tend to clear without treatment, but before that happens the warts may extend and may require years to subside.

Wart treatments are available at the Health Center, so if you have unsightly warts and would like them removed, give us a call at x6393 for an appointment. Believe me it would be easier than burying a cat at midnight!

Watch next week for more healthful hints.

—Lynnette K. Wilmot, R.N.
Health Center 1-8

Basic Aid Training

A Basic Aid Training (BAT) Instructors Course will be offered to persons who work with children, Saturday May 9 from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Monrovia Red Cross Center, 200 E. Lime and on Monday May 11 from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm at the Pasadena Chapter, American Red Cross, 430 Madeline Drive. The purpose of the training is to provide increased emergency preparedness skills and awareness to as many people in the community as possible who can then teach children and others. Instructors who become certified may teach at schools, youth centers, churches, Red Cross centers or other requested sites. Call Pasadena Red Cross Youth Services, 799-0841, for more information and reservations.

In Memoriam



Coral Vernon

Food Service Worker Dies

By Kevin Mulcahy

On Monday, April 20th, the Caltech community lost a good friend.

Coral Vernon passed away at the age of 73 following a long illness.

For the past twenty years, she had been an integral part of Chandler Dining Hall, having performed a variety of tasks. Most people will remember her as the breakfast and lunch cashier with the cheerful disposition.

Coral's dependability, excellent memory, enthusiasm, sense of humor, and love of people made every day more enjoyable for her family, friends, customers, and fellow workers.

She is survived by three

sons, two daughters, one sister, one brother, eighteen grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, and many many friends.

Funeral services were held at the Lamb Funeral Home in Pasadena on April 23rd. The Reverend Walt Meader of The Caltech Y delivered a moving eulogy that urged everyone to celebrate her life instead of mourn her death.

There has been a Coral F. Vernon Memorial Scholarship Fund set up through the Alumni Office. Anyone wishing to contribute should contact Coral's son, Richard Vernon at 414 Redwood Dr., Pasadena, CA 91105. (256-3664).

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Discounts are available for military per-
sonnel and their families. Call World. Fares
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WORLD AIRWAYS
For people who hate to waste money.

THE ORCS ARE COMING

Discover the World of Role Playing Games at

The Gaming House

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Opening April 15 We teach any Game

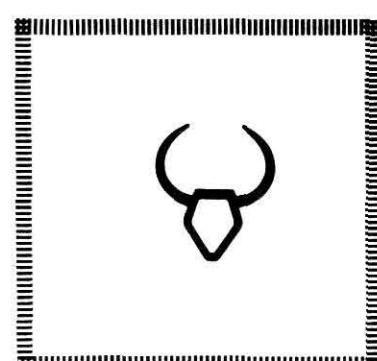
KELROF

Many timers will also be needed, so if you enjoy watching pain, you can sign up for a 4-hour timing shift. Any suggestions, or questions about forming teams or the event in general, should be directed to Eric Korevaar (Relay Organizer) or Shawn Larsen (Head Timer) in Page House, x6181.

The fifth annual KELROF 24-hour relay will take place May 23 and 24 at the Caltech track. Several teams of ten people each will participate in this event, in which team members take turns running miles for 24 hours, between 9:00 am Saturday and 9:00 am Sunday.

The 24-hour relay got started four years ago by Steve Kellogg, who organized KELROF (Kellogg's Eighth Light Regiment On Foot.) That year, two teams started a tradition by running in the relay. Last year seven 10-man teams, and a 3-man team, started in this masochistic event, and most of the runners finished it. (Those that didn't will get another chance this year.) The seven ten-man teams ran a total distance of over 1500 miles, with the first place KELROF team leading with 254 miles, 910 yards. About the same number of people are expected to participate this year.

People who are interested in running should sign up as soon as possible either in the locker room at the gym, or in the Page House Mail Room.

**ZAYDMAN****FROM ONE**

seeming threatening.

Valentina has adopted such a group format in her teaching style. She meets with her Russian classes three days per week and holds office hours during lunch, also three times each week, to be available to students. In lecture, Valentina strives to clarify difficult material. "I look at my students' faces to see if they understand." Very simply, Valentina cares about teaching.

Using the opportunity provided by the Danforth Foundation, Valentina will explore the

role of faculty-student relations in the learning process. She plans to evaluate her extensive academic experience in Russia, Israel, and the U.S., and to study the European system of education as well. Her goal is to discern which faculty-student attitudes are most effective in teaching and which academic systems promote such relationships. During the next six years the Association will provide Valentina with a

**CONTINUED
ON PAGE 8**

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Weight Alley and Thug Alley. salve said merely "Burrp!" Members of both teams echoed his sentiments, though most hadn't matched the 6 double-cheese he consumed. The only big disappointment was the performance of big Greg Sayles. After wolfing down 3 burgers before anyone else, Greg burned out and could only eat one more.

Surely other houses must partake of some semi-interesting alley challenges. Let's hear about some of them!

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Bike Lane**Billie und Ich**

After reading the last two columns you should have a new bike or at least be considering buying one soon. I have found that a lot of non-serious bikers are reluctant to get into biking for the sake of enjoying it as a sport because they believe in things that are not true at all. These myths tend to magnify the dangers thought to be associated with biking. Usually, with a little practice, one can easily avoid or lessen the chances of such problems ever happening to you.

Myth #1: "Riding in the streets with cars is dangerous; i.e. cars cause accidents."

There has been a study on this topic and it has been found that only one out of five bike accidents involve cars. It states that riding on a street with traffic only increase the

chances for an accident by 25% compared to a bare street. In fact, more accidents happen on sidewalks and bikepaths. This is probably due to two reasons: 1) People tend to "have fun" by pushing themselves while riding on a bikepath. 2) People on the sidewalks do not expect a bike to hit them.

Myth #2: "Aggressive drivers"

Many novice bikers often complain about drivers who have intimidated them either by honking or driving in an offensive manner. It is true that I have seen a lot more of this sort in California than New York but I think a lot has to do with the bikers themselves. First of all, no driver who has the right to be on the streets would want an accident. This means that they will not ap-

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

preciate timid, erratic drivers. Bike predictably and respect their right to pass you and follow the traffic rules. Remember that you must gain the respect of the drivers before they begin to respect your rights as a biker.

Myth #3: "Rear end collisions"

Most bikers who fear this do so since they cannot see what is coming from behind. The solution is simple: use rear view mirrors. With a mirror, you can move out of the way as a courtesy to faster vehicles. You can also see if they see you. This means that you should not ride too closely to the edge of the road where a biker will get lost among the roadside objects. Also, riding near the curb tempts the drivers to squeeze by, even if there is less than a comfortable amount of road space. If you do want cars to pass you at that moment, you can signal to the driver if you know what is happening behind you. Ask them to wait and wave them by as soon as you feel comfortable.

Statistics show that only 4% of all car-bike accidents are of this type and many are of cyclist's fault. This is probably because drivers are more ready to accept slower traffic on the right side of the road. People who ride against the flow of traffic are in danger because they will approach the driver much faster and will present a problem for bikers following the rules. Another danger in riding against the traffic is created by the fact that most drivers will look to their left when coming out of a side street.

Myth #4: "Bikes can be safely kept locked up."

With the popularity of cycling, bike thefts have increased tremendously. This means that if a potential thief likes your bike as it sits locked to a tree, he will get the bike, with sufficient time or skill. The proven weakness of flexible locking devices (chains, cables) have made the stiff types (Kryptonite, Citadel) to become popular, but *don't rely on any locking device*. I have personally witnessed a Kryptonite lock

fail to a determined thief and the method will work on any stiff locking device.

The recommended method of safeguarding your bike is to take it with you. Lighter (and more expensive) bikes have an advantage here. Although Caltech buildings do not allow it, my friend at MIT literally rides into classes. If you must leave it outside, make sure that your bike is with a lot of other bikes or there are a lot of people who know that it is your bike around there.

Who Brought Annapurna?

The OWC would like to clarify who brought Arlene Blumb's program on April 15. The Y coordinated and funded the program. The COW assisted in publicizing it. Some confusion about the sponsor resulted from the publicity and introduction of the program. For "Ascent of Annapurna," thank you Caltech Y! (In case you weren't wondering, you can skip ahead to the next announcement now.)

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subscribers to the Tech—

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NUCLEAR REACTOR MANAGEMENT TRAINING: OPENINGS/OPPORTUNITIES

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Random Returns

literary work. Besides, I've got a 95 midterm to study for. So I guess I'll just have to write a classic Random Numbers type of column, a little bit of everything and a lot of nothing. Well, I just found out how to replace the correction ribbon on this typewriter. I'm not sure that I can really write a truly random article on a typewriter that can actually make letters faster than I can type. Of course, this is due to the fact that you can't double-space a letter on this machine which does slow me down on words like happy or well, but mostly I just don't trust a machine that isn't prone to irreparable flights of temperment. Of course, it really isn't old enough to be crotchety yet. But then my manual typewriter with the pink ribbon, which these flights in literary disaster were first perpetrated upon, is only $\frac{1}{4}$ of my age and I am crotchety only when I choose to be. This brings me to conclude that either my typewriter doesn't like me too much or else typewriters age like cats or dogs (i.e., faster than Techers).

But anyway, on to the main point or lack of it, of this week's article. Some things on this campus are predictable, like master keys and B&G tree runnings. I find myself frequently amazed that a tree can actually continue to live when 99% of the foliage is removed every "spring" for what seems like perpetuity. It is also a pity when it is considered that shade is certainly more valuable in the summer than it is in the winter. But who am I to argue with perpetuity? Of course some things also change, like Security. What's going on anyway? The parking rules are being enforced with a new Draconian fury these days. Somehow parking cars in until the tow truck gets there seems a little severe, not to mention putting the posts up while there are still cars on the Olive Walk. That really does tend to make it very hard to get off the Olive Walk within 30 minutes. Then of course there are the smaller annoyances like writing the RAs tickets for parking in the reserved RA spaces, writing tickets to Athenaeum guests for parking in the Athenaeum

lot or for parking in "no parking" zones when the lot is full. I'm sure that most Techers, like myself, have nothing against Security and we all realize that enforcement of the parking laws has been lax due to all the construction in the past few months; however, there are some large problems with the parking situation at Tech. For one thing, all the parking that is designated as students available is either in the gym lot, the Wilson lot, or North of Beckman Auditorium. In addition, there is a great deal of "informal" parking available on what is left of Chester and San Pasqual, which, if the current Campus maps are to be believed, will probably disappear when the construction is done. Quite frankly, it is a long walk from the student houses to the parking lots and a lot of Techers do use their cars pretty frequently. Being off board I perhaps use mine more than most, but then I don't go to Tommy's that often. In any event I suggest to anyone who doubts that it is a LONG way from the Beckman/Baxter parking lot to the student houses that they try to carry a 12-pound frozen turkey and the other ingredients necessary for Thanksgiving dinner that distance. It is certainly something that I shall never repeat.

While I realize that many staff members have to walk long distances to their cars as well, they walk these distances during the day in most cases. Tommy's runs and other Tech type affairs are frequently held only after or well after sunset. As I am tall and large, I don't fear for my safety too much, but I do worry about my car. My car has already been broken into once this year, along with several others the same night, while parked in the parking lot North of Beckman. Fortunately, the only result for myself and a friend were a couple of large repair bills. I frequently wonder though, what would have happened if I had followed through on my intention to use my car that night and had encountered whoever it was that broke into my car while they were in process. The thought of encountering anyone with a crowbar as large as was used on my car is not pleasant. I certainly hope that, when the new buildings are finished, students will be considered in the decision of who the closest new parking gets allocated to. And I hope that

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

both Security and the students temper Draconian tactics with patience and good judgment, otherwise I see some ugly confrontations down the road.

I saw *Excalibur* last weekend, I was quite pleased. It was a bit gory in some places and there was some explicit sex so it is not really suitable for six-year olds or people prone to nightmares but it is a very fine adventure story otherwise. Some significant liberties were taken with the story and I did find it hard to adapt to the idea of Merlin as a young man but I was very impressed with the costumes and locations and the special effects were not too bad either. In fact some of the special effects were very spectacular. Although no "name" actors appear in the film, all the performances were at least good if not excellent. I found it worth the time and money and I'm sure you will too if you like adventures set in that time frame. Approach it with the idea that it really doesn't matter if it isn't all true or possible, just as long as it is fun or exciting, and you won't be disappointed. And for those of you who want randomness, & 76¢ % 43 # '' / ? 1/2 1/2 1/4 1/4 1/4 - + =) 0(9 ** & & € € 66 % 5 \$4#3@!1 Etc....

-DGM

TOTEM COMING [SOON]

By Lee Sunderlin

The Caltech Totem has been resurrected once more from the distant past. Ben Luisi, with help from some others, has edited a collection of stories and poems into publishable form. Under the new name of *Rara Avis* (Rare Bird), it should be out near the end of this term.

The literary magazine

should run about 32 pages. It contains mostly poetry, but it has three short stories, including a Hemingway burlesque and two good serious works by Randy Morse. The authors published include undergraduates, grads, faculty and relatives.

This year's magazine will be free, due to funding from ASCIT and the Student Investment Fund. If it manages to continue next year, it may become self-supporting. No one has volunteered to edit next year's edition, so if you are interested, contact Ben Luisi (109 S. Chester) for more details.

SENIORS

Senior Ditch Day, 1972. Chris Russel's stack was broken into within half an hour and the room was quickly turned into a soccer field. All the furniture was removed and the floor was covered with sod. White lines were drawn on the sod, goals were put up at either end of his room, and a picture of a sheep (which acted too realistically for some) was put in.

Please do not push us. Although we are not vindictive, we strike quickly and without mercy on Ditch Day. This is your last warning. Beware.

with servo-mechanisms to keep it closed while he was away, returned to find two small wires he planned to cross to open the door had multiplied to 76. Dick Montgomery found his furniture at the bottom of a pit in Robinson. Mike Milder found his buried under an eight-foot beach ball.



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What About Left Ones?

Dr. Roger Payne, New York Zoological scientist, will discuss "The Right Whale: New Sounds and Strange Behavior," in Beckman Auditorium on Tuesday, May 26 at 8:00 pm. Recordings of the mammal's extraordinary sounds, and slides illustrating the right whale's strange and inventive forms of play and aggression will be presented. Call 356-4652 for ticket information.

Next Year's Musical

Anyone who is interested in what musical is going to be put on next year should come to the meeting at 12:30 Sunday, May 3 in Winnett Center. Several shows will be suggested, and the possibilities will be narrowed. If you want to be in next year's show, you should think about what you want to do. So come and help decide.

IBM Gives Prizes

IBM is offering four prizes of \$100 each through Tau Beta Pi at Caltech. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors may apply for them. Winners will be selected on the basis of scholarship, clarity, and initiative. Application forms will be available through Eric Chang (16 Ricketts) or Bill Naylor (Blacker) starting May 5. They should be turned in by May 20.

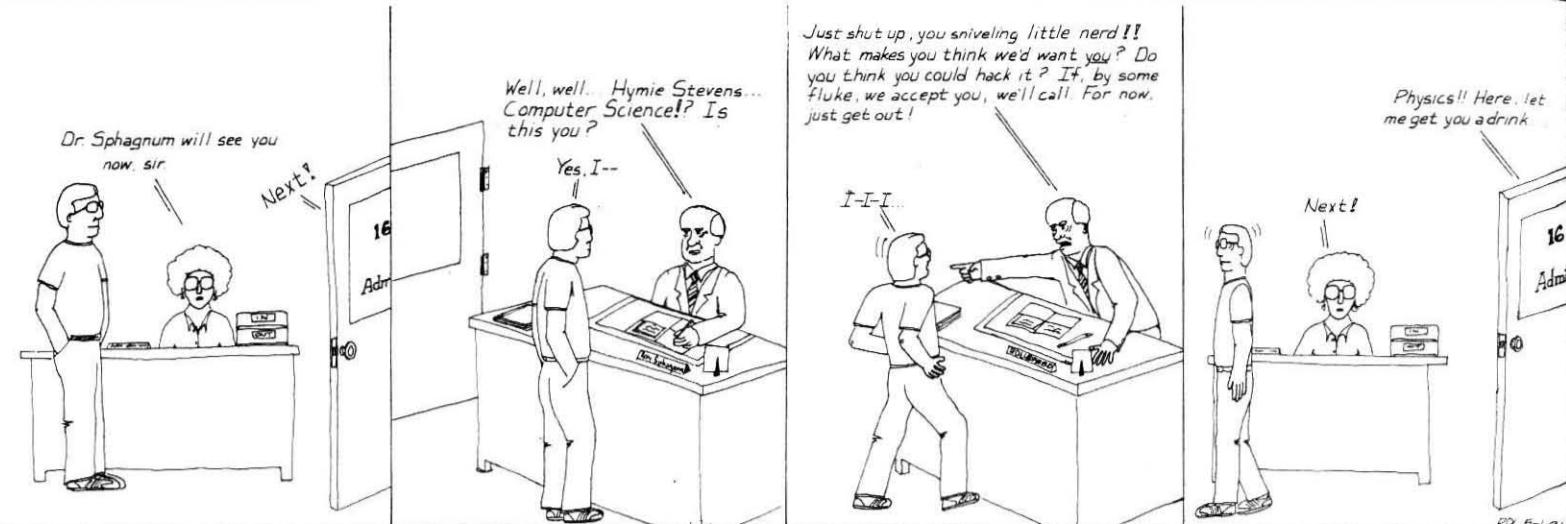
Juniors!

This is the last day to apply for a Junior Travel Prize. Please take your applications to the Dean's Office, Room 210, in Dabney Hall of the Humanities.

Prefrosh
FROM ONE

mist falling from the sky.

When asked about the general reaction of the prefrosh girls to Caltech, Kathy Crandall of the Admissions Office said that they "love it." The organizers of prefrosh weekend believe that it is an excellent program which benefits both the visiting girls and Caltech students. Hopefully, we can look forward to a similar visit by the prefrosh of next year.

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source of professional feedback and some financial support for this research. By the end of the six year period, Valentina intends to share with Caltech specific suggestions for revising the academic system here and to bring to its professors some techniques for observing and filling students' needs. For those of us who will have long since left Caltech, Valentina is also considering the publication of her ideas in a book on the subject of education throughout the world and the specific strengths and weaknesses of the various systems.

Valentina has chosen an ambitious and sensitive research project. Like the rest of her efforts, it reflects her devotion to education and to the Caltech community.

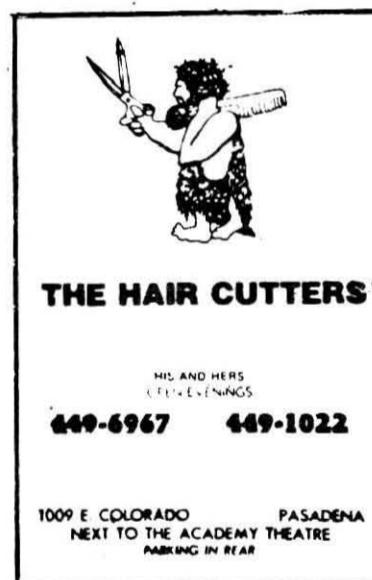
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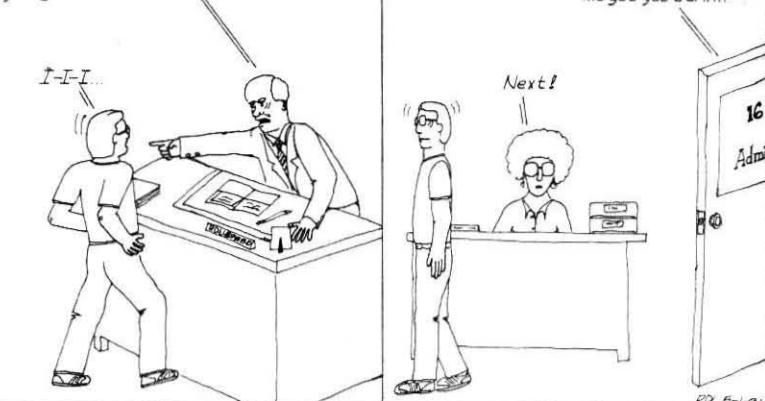
FOR RENT—Must sub-rent a large 1 br. apartment 1 block from Caltech. Security bldg., pool, AC, dishwasher, etc. Available May 1-June 20. My cost is \$400/mth. Will take \$200/mth or best offer for any portion of the above period. x4634, home 792-9651.

LOST AND FOUND

WINDBREAKER—Black/yellow reversible jacket, left on railing by Senior Tree (Dabney-Gates) at 7-house party last week. Dave,



Just shut up, you sniveling little nerd!! What makes you think we'd want you? Do you think you could hack it? If, by some fluke, we accept you, we'll call. For now, just get out!



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