

*...And
Then There*

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

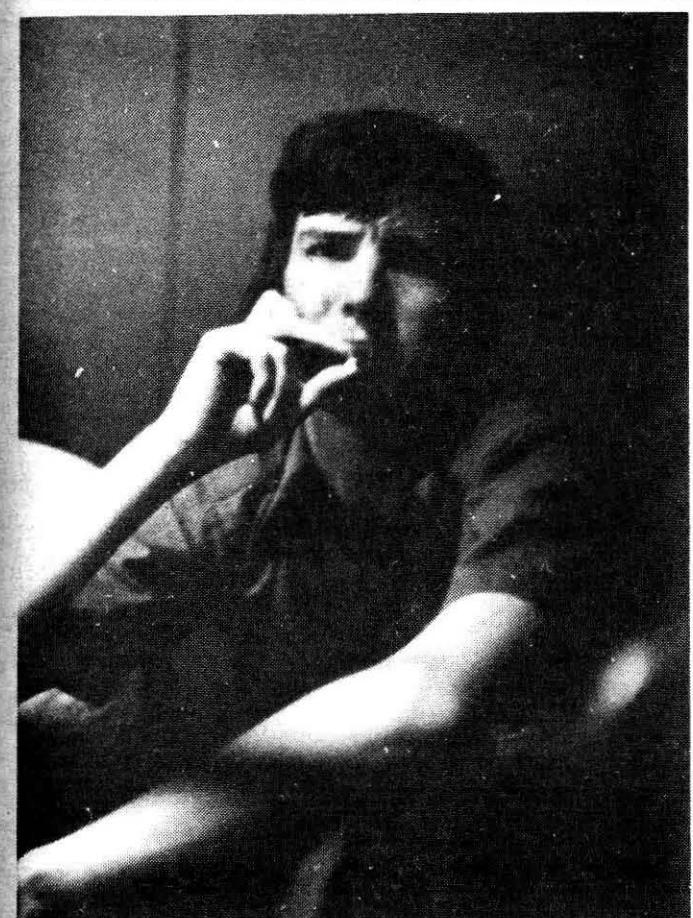
*Were
None*

Volume LXXXII

Pasadena, California; Friday, January 9, 1981

Number 12

STU ABDICATES



After leading a long and productive career as *Tech* editor-in-chief, Stuart Goodnick disappeared. Here, he enjoys one of his excesses.

Presenting: Saturn

by Robert Hill

The *Voyager 1* encounter with Saturn was probably THE Science event of 1980. World Press coverage and interest was the biggest for any space event except for the first moon landing back in 1969. The Planetary Science community will be recovering from their week of surprises for years to come. "Smog" on Titan, the spokes within the rings, the braided F ring, the turbulence of Saturn's atmosphere and the incredible detail within the rings successfully imaged by the *Voyager* instruments are just some of the phenomena that will cause rewriting of textbooks on the ringed planet.

Dr. Bruce Murray will give a presentation entitled "Saturn and the Mind of Man" (Ramo Auditorium, 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 13). Dr. Murray is Professor of Planetary Science, and Director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory which operates the two *Voyager* missions for NASA. Dr. Murray's presentation will be in two parts—the showing of edited videotape of a panel discussion (with Dr. Murray, Carl Sagan, Ray Bradbury, and Phillip Morrison) followed by a slide presentation in which some of the highlights from the flyby will be illustrated (and, of course, explained!).

The panel discussion had been edited from the original tapes made in Beckman Auditorium last November. It consists of presentation by the four panelists on what the Saturn encounter means to them. To this writer, Dr. Murray's talk, which could perhaps be titled "Voyager: The Beginning of the Limits to Human Endeavor?" was easily the most stimulating.

This program is, of course, brought to you by your friendly Caltech Y.

by Roger Fong
Tracy Furutani
Ed Suranyi

Stuart E. Goodnick, the current editor of *The California Tech*, abdicated his post under mysterious circumstances Wednesday. Citing "personal reasons", which may include physical abuse and a low GPA, Goodnick declined to comment further on his abdication.

His intercourse with the *Tech* began inauspiciously on October 26, 1979 with his article "Coleman Chamber Opens '79 Season" which appeared on page four. However, his *tour de force* occurred the following week in the column, "Fester-

ing Wound" which garnered much fame, if not disgust.

In his term-long career as a writer, he developed his writing style in numerous articles, including a review of the poet Clayton Eshleman.

But throughout this time, he was clandestinely plotting to become editor. He was often seen working with then-editors Dave Younge and Alan Loh, learning the "fuckwads" of editorship.

It came to pass in the general elections of 1980 that Goodnick and two co-conspirators, Oliver Graves and David Durham, *a.k.a.* Grover, were elected to

the editorship, using Goodnick's deft maneuver of having Alan Loh write their campaign statement.

Goodnick was well known for his ebullient editorials concerning a plethora of topics from the mundane, such as JPL conferences, to the bizarre (and incomprehensible) praise of the Horizontal Pillar.

Towards the end of his term, Goodnick initiated his "Great Consolidation". He began to draw greater prestige and power for himself. Durham was demoted to "Staff Liason", while Graves was pigeonholed to "Head Photographer"; later, he was exiled to San Francisco. Also, Goodnick became enraptured in the mystical; incense (among other intriguing substances) was often oxidizing in his room, and even his editorials grew more esoteric. His curtain call article was the old standby, the second "Festerling Wound" and foretold of his coming downfall.

Goodnick disappeared the night of January 6, 1981. According to a highly placed source, he was last seen Tuesday night, meandering out from his room, leaving behind a trail of wit, whimsy and wor-

managing editors.

VOTE



Beckman Quakes

by Tracy Furutani
with the Caltech News Bureau

"We are almost certainly not overdue for a repeat of the great 1857 earthquake, but that anticipated event may be so close that we can ill afford to neglect serious preparations for it," declared Dr. Kerry Sieh, assistant professor of geology at Caltech, in his Watson Lecture Wednesday night.

Although the examples were sometimes confusing and once he even had to skip an entire section, Dr. Sieh's message was clear: we need to prepare now for possible future shocks.

He began with a short history of the large earthquakes in California, such as the 1906 San Francisco and the 1857 Fort Tejon temblors, and showed how an "average recurrence interval"—the time lapse

**CONTINUED
ON PAGE 6**

Kudos from TQFR

by Charlie O'Neal

Thanks go to everyone who returned their *TQFR* questionnaires. As a student effort to increase the quality of teaching, the ASCIT Educational Policies Committee (EPC) is going to process the first term's survey results right away in a limited edition of the *TQFR*. This first term edition will only be distributed to the professors of courses surveyed, the division chairmen, and a few other concerned members of the faculty. We are hoping

that professors, getting immediate feedback from their first term courses, will be able to make any needed adjustments as they continue to teach second or third term.

Although for many classes the response rate was great, a full 90 courses won't be included in this *TQFR* because less than five surveys were returned. Twenty-one of these courses need only one more returned survey before they can be included and another 25 courses need only two addi-

tional responses each (see below). I realize that some of these courses had less than five undergrads in them but if one of yours had 5 or more and you want the prof to see the survey results TURN IN YOUR SURVEY or get some one who hasn't to turn in theirs.

For sure, your house president and Theresa in Winnett

**CONTINUED
ON PAGE 6**

ENTERTAINMENT

MOVIES plays **SPECIAL EVENTS**

ASCITscan

Flash-Ah Gordon

Flash Gordon. Starring Sam J. Jones, Melody Anderson, Ornella Muti, Max Von Sydow, and Topol. Produced by Dino De Laurentiis. Directed by Mike Hodges. Screenplay by Lorenzo Semple, Jr., adaptation by Michael Allin; based on characters created by Alex Raymond. A Universal release. Running time: 110 minutes. Rated PG.

Flash Gordon is a romp. The 1930s comic strip has come

alive as *cinema strip comique*, a two-hour extravaganza with heroes, villains, strange races, exotic lands, gorgeous costumery—everything the author/artist can draw, and which few films can afford.

There are threats, daring escapes, treachery, love, temptation, scheming; all lightly seasoned with humor and self-

parody, so that the balance between disbelief and entertainment is not strained too far.

The film bills itself as an "adventure-fantasy," and this is a fair assessment. There is little science to concern the viewer here, but there are no blatant impossibilities either. Admittedly, the film does open with a view of a totally unclouded Earth, an image seldom used nowadays—pictures from space having shown that seeing continents is the exception, not the rule. But for the most part we're in terra incognita, and if the rules of our universe can't apply, perhaps we're in another.

The special effects are primarily fantastic in nature, rather than in the hardware vogue that started with *Star Wars*. (Example: hundreds of Hawkmen hovering, waiting to attack an airship.) The entire film is a visual treat, with bright, outspoken colors everywhere: in the sky, in the palace, in the costumes.

The story is simple and classic: the planet Mongo is a true "wanderer", domicile of Ming the Merciless, Emperor of the Universe. Decadent beyond imagination, he has set the Moon on a collision course with Earth. Why? He's bored.

Dr. Hans Zarkov, a scientist whose theories have received unfavorable response from his colleagues, attempts to prevent the disaster by going to Mongo. Flash Gordon and Dale Arden, who have just

on page 7
continued

Whether accidentally or deliberately, the forthcoming ASCIT By-Laws Election contains a sneaky way of diluting the value of your vote in ASCIT elections to come. Therefore, first, we call upon the ASCIT BOD and Elections Chairman, in the interest of a fair and honest election, to provide a ballot for this election that breaks the changes down into three separate votes, one for each Article to be changed. This will be a small extra effort to pay, since (we believe) the three Articles do not deserve an equal chance of passage.

The change to Article IV is a simple and beneficial one, as far as we can tell. It may prevent the kind of screw-ups that occurred last year, when the outgoing treasurer had the books and the incoming treasurer had the authority, thus guaranteeing that *neither* could or would get things done for several weeks. It does, however, leave two Treasurers in office at the same time, which may cause confusion. Thus, we don't put much energy behind our YES vote on the stated change to Article IV.

The changes to Article XIV will increase the salaries of the editors of the *California Tech*, the *little t*, and the *Teaching Quality Feedback Report*, in that order. While it was nice of ASCIT to think of us, it would have been nicer to do all of the needed changes in that article all at once, and there are some purely business changes that need to be made in Article XIV, Section 5a. We recommend a YES vote, but ask that *somebody* from ASCIT check with us about the problems with the Business Manager part of 5a.

Now comes the biggie: Article VIII. Elections and Procedures. This section is so full of problems that we actually *plead* with all of you out there to vote NO as firmly as possible, so it can be rewritten correctly.

Problem 1: The expansion of voting time to 24 hours, seems like a great idea at first, but fails the crucial test of being an improvement. Starting 24-hour voting on Sunday night means that there will only be one house meal/announcement made about the election. Starting Monday night and running through Tuesday would improve voter turnout. Further, 24-hour voting, promoted as a means to reduce the influence of house politics on ASCIT elections (by reducing the pressure of people standing around watching your "secret" ballot being filled in), actually lends itself more to direct fraud and deceit, since the ballot box will be unattended most of the time. And don't give us that stuff about how "nobody would do that under the honor system". There have been election irregularities before, and this would just make them easier, and more open to some one's warped idea of an RF.

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Computer Science and Electrical Engineering Majors

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On Campus Interviews

Thursday, January 22, 1981

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THE CALTECH Y fly-by

Tuesday, January 13: SATURN UPDATE. A discussion of the Voyager 1 mission with Dr. Bruce Murray, director of JPL. The presentation will include an edited video tape of the "Saturn and the Mind of Man" panel discussion with Dr. Bruce Murray, Ray Bradbury, and Carl Sagan. Dr. Murray will also be showing slides of recent transmissions from Voyager 1 which were not available for the panel discussion. 8 P.M. in Ramo Auditorium.

Wednesday, January 14: UPDATE NOON DISCUSSION. Dr. Ned Munger speaking on the question: "Is There Hope for South Africa?" At noon in Clubroom One, upstairs Winnett. Bring your lunch.

Saturday, January 17: SAN DIEGO ZOO TRIP. Sign up in the Y between Monday and Wednesday (Jan. 12-14). The cost per person: \$4.00 for transportation; \$3.75 entrance fee; and money for meals and miscellaneous.

Sunday, January 18: TRIP TO EVITA. 20 tickets are available for the 7:30 P.M. performance at the Shubert Theater. The cost per ticket is \$12.50, which includes transportation. The tickets will be distributed by lottery, with the sign-up for the lottery lasting from Monday to Wednesday (Jan. 12-14). Winners' names will be posted and they must come by the Y office to pay for their tickets by noon, Friday, January 16.

The California Tech

Friday, January 9, 1981

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The Body Shop

Have you ever been sitting in a movie theater, church, a lecture hall, etc., and suddenly experienced an attack of hiccups? I'm sure almost everyone can answer this question with a big YES! This experience can cause great embarrassment and sometimes discomfort to the victim, but is usually a benign phenomenon.

Hiccups are caused by spasmodic contractions of the diaphragm, the muscle which separates the chest from the abdomen. The normally smooth function of this muscle plays an important role in the breathing process, but when irritated goes into spasms. As the diaphragm moves downward, the victim inhales quickly, and the glottis (the vocal cords and surrounding structures) at the base of the tongue involuntarily snaps shut across the throat. It is this reflex action that causes the audible, repeated "hic".

Ordinarily an attack of hiccups will last from 5-10 minutes, during which time everyone will offer his/her pet remedy for the happening, one of which usually works. I'd also like to mention that no treatment may be necessary for hiccups to end; sometimes all that is needed is to have the victim's attention distracted. But occasionally an attack of hiccups will go on for hours, in which case medical treatment should be sought.

A great variety of irritants may trigger an attack of hiccups: rapid eating or drinking,

particularly of highly spiced foods or of alcohol, gulping liquids that are too hot or cold, excessive smoking, fatigue, or hearty laughter after a big meal, just to mention a few.

Now you're saying to yourself, "ok, so what can I do to get rid of this nagging 'hic'?" Thumping the victim on the back is a time-honored method of treatment. Other home remedies include holding your breath, breathing deeply, holding your tongue out so the glottis cannot close, and exhaling and inhaling into a paper bag. Taking steady sips of water breaks the spasmodic rhythm for some people, and others can be shocked out of their reflex by being shouted at or startled. The aim of all home remedies is to reduce the irritation to the diaphragm and to interrupt the rhythmic spasms.

If hiccups have not subsided within one hour, medical help should be consulted. Fortunately, most cases of hiccups do not call for drastic intervention. All you need is to be surrounded by a circle of friends that will undoubtedly recommend one of 300 or more home remedies, which have at one time or another proved effective in curing hiccups.

Do you have a famed cure? If so, let us know! Any questions, arguments, facts, new info, etc., you might have about anything, feel free to write me.

— Lynnette Wilmoth, R.N.
Health Center 1-8

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Up From the Well

It's Saturday evening. As the shadows grow longer in the streets of Pasadena, an uneasy rumor flees from person to person, evoking mixed reactions: excitement, desire, pyromania... Small groups or individuals scurry to and fro; seedy-looking characters park obscurely loaded cars in dark alleys; while not far away, a gathering crowd seems to be marching in protest of some unstated issue, by repeatedly crossing the intersection which is slowly bulging due to the enormous amount of cheerful souls present.

A crack barks out in the night and suddenly the entire mob dashes to the north, feet pounding ground; random people are bathed in the white glare of a circling chopper; the frenzied crowd re-convenes inside the relative safety of a few hastily-erected traffic barricades, and for a moment nothing happens. (EVERYONE BLEW IT—the signal was supposed to be a whistle... cjh) Then a car screams up, pallettes fly out a door, the car screams off as if seeking refuge from the Chicago '20s gangs; gasoline splashes over the crude pile, and a road flare is nonchalantly tossed into the works, to produce a satisfying flare-up which levels off into a medium-

sized fire. The crowd mills about, chanting arcane spells which resound off the surrounding buildings.

No, it's not the work of the PLO or any equivalent terrorist group. (Pasadena P.D., can you hear me out there?) No, it's not an attempt to get into Guinness for the world's largest marshmallow roast/traffic obstruction. (Sorry, folks.) And no, it's not the People Resisting Installation of Coal-Burning Steam Plants demonstrating their latest slogan—"Burn trees, not dinosaurs." (I hope they freeze.) It's THE LEADING EDGE telling the whole world that, once again, our football team has vanquished its opponents (from Simi Valley, I do believe) and relegated them to the dusty soles beneath our

feet. Right about then things start to get unreasonable. One frosh, trying to keep the blaze to a minimum area, is rearranging the wood when he is hustled away by two of Pasadena's finest. Subsequently this safety-minded individual is a candidate for a felony arson charge. Another individual, in keeping with the spirit of the event, holds a beer, till a keen-eyed, sharp-nosed officer spots this flagrant violation of civil codes and drags the second offender away. (No one seems to recall seeing the beer actually being consumed; it is entirely possible that the alleged offender brought it along just for company's sake.)

The PFD arrives and has a few words with the PPD. There ensues a valiant struggle as one fireman singlehandedly takes on a horrendously large pile of burning pallettes. In the heat of the action (sorry!) the hose seems to slip in his hands

**CONTINUED
ON PAGE 5**

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OPENINGS

Tulsa, Oklahoma

DOWELL, a service division of Dow Chemical U.S.A., provides services and products to the energy industries. It is one of the most rapidly growing and innovative companies in the field and currently has openings in its research organization in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

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January 14, 1981

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Ad Hoc Committee Studies Institute Core Curriculum

By Bill Goddard

An Ad Hoc Committee is in the midst of examining the Institute's Core Curriculum. This Committee (known as the AHCCC and pronounced as if a lecturer were clearing his throat) was appointed by the Chairman of the Faculty, David Goodstein, and asked to determine whether any changes should be made in the core curriculum. The core curriculum consists of the courses involved in satisfying Institute requirements. This includes Ma 1, Ma 2, Ch 1 (or its replacement, Ch 2), Ch 3, Ph 1, Ph 2 (or its replacement, Ph 12), freshman laboratories, freshman humanities, Ec/SS 11, and PE. In addition, it effectively includes the other courses used to satisfy Hum/SS requirements (it perhaps should also include AMA 95).

The major question about the core curriculum is whether it is serving its function of providing the basic education in science, technology, and the humanities that is expected of Caltech. If deemed appropriate, the Committee will consider changes in the requirements. However, more likely they will consider narrower questions, such as:

- 1) Is the workload in the core curriculum consistent with the assigned units?
- 2) Are the subjects covered so as to be useful to the non-specialist?
- 3) Could the courses be better coordinated?
- 4) Are the courses outdated?
- 5) Do they ignore new, important areas of science and technology?
- 6) Is the teaching quality (by professors and teaching

assistants) adequate? The AHCCC will also be concerned with establishing a system that will automatically spot and correct problems with the core curriculum in the future. The present experiments with ombudsmen in the core courses are part of this program.

Students and faculty with constructive suggestions on these matters should feel free to communicate with any members of the AHCCC.

Student members: Charlie O'Neil, Nick Gross, and Jon Quackenbush.

Faculty members: Bill Goddard (Chairman), Tom Apostol, Bob Bates, John Bercaw, Albert Hudspeth, Bill Johnson, George Rossman, and Tom Tombrello.

The best suggestion agreed to by the Committee will earn its earliest proponent a free lunch at either the Greasy or at the Burger Continental.

Robert Kelly, Past Poet-in-Residence, Reads in Judy Library

Robert Kelly, the poet and essayist, will read from his works on Thursday, January 15, at 8:00pm in the Judy Memorial Library in Baxter.

Mr. Kelly has just been awarded the 1980 Los Angeles Book Prize for Poetry for his most recent volume, *Kill the Messenger Who Brings Bad News* (Black Sparrow Press, 1979).

"Kill the Messenger reveals an extraordinary alertness to the dimensionality of words relative to sound, association and erudition," wrote poet Clayton Eshleman in the *Los Angeles Times*. Kelly "draws into bold relief the figure of the mortal all of us in our

singleness are."

"The Loom," a long poem regarded as one of the poet's most important works, was composed in 1971-72 while Mr. Kelly was writer-in-residence at Caltech. He has published forty volumes, among them *Flesh Dream Book* (1971), *The Mill of Particulars* (1973), *Kali Yuga* (1970), *The Convictions* (1978), the essays called *In Time* (1971), and the long poem about America called "The Common Shore" (1969). To be published in 1981 are "Spiritual Exercises" and "Erin Tantra America," called "an examination of Irish-American excuses." Mr. Kelly currently lives in upstate New York and teaches writing at Bard College.

This reading is open to the public, and admission is free. For more information, phone 356-4652.

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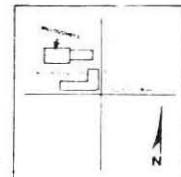


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Excomm Suggests Change To ASCIT Election Method

By Ed Lambert

As is typical of an election year, many people begin to find fault with various aspects of the election process and suggest alternatives. The ASCIT Executive Committee has considered the problems that ASCIT has been having with its elections over the past several years and is offering to the student body several changes to the ASCIT By-Laws. These changes would substitute the present required majority system of voting with what is known as "approval voting".

Briefly stated, approval voting allows the voter to cast a vote for every candidate on the ballot who meets with his approval.

The winner in any election, therefore, is the candidate who has received the most approval votes. While at first this might sound absurd, a close examination will show that this system is superior to the current one and solves the ills which have plagued recent ASCIT elections.

Before discussing this system further, let's first address the difficulties that ASCIT has had with its elections. A system of majority voting works great when there are two candidates for an office. This, however, is often not the case, as 3 or 4 people will often sign up for key offices. As a result, a majority may not be reached after the initial election. Therefore, a runoff election is required which often digresses to two or three runoffs. Problems arise when runoff elections are not well publicized and student indifference strikes, causing the number of votes cast to fall drastically. By the time a third runoff occurs, only a few dozen votes may be cast (unless it's a particularly heated race). Capricious 'no' voting can also muddy the situation further.

Approval voting, on the other hand, requires only a plurality of approval votes. Therefore almost all races will be decided in the first election when student interest and influence is greatest. A runoff election would be required only in the rare instance of a tie in votes or in the case of a plurality of 'no' votes. You can see how a major deficiency in the present system can be solved.

In addition, approval voting proves to be a more equitable manner in which to determine a winner in a race with 3 or more people. Under this system, it is never in a person's best interest to not vote for his first choice and vote for a less preferred candidate in order to second-guess voting strategies of other people. Such

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a process can arise under the present system as evidenced by the recent Presidential election. John Anderson's chances were severely damaged by the attitude of a "vote for Anderson is a vote for Reagan," etc.

The rational person will vote for all people who he feels are acceptable. To vote for any more would support those people whom he doesn't endorse, whereas to vote for fewer candidates would withhold support from possibly acceptable compromise candidates. Thus, the will of the electorate is better felt and a 3 or 4-way race is decided on a more equitable basis.

The suggested changes incorporate approval voting into ASCIT elections. These changes, however, still allow for the casting of a 'no' vote if the voter feels none of the candidates are acceptable. Slight variations are made in the selection of the office of Director at Large because of the requirement that at least one Director must be a freshman.

Essentially, in this case, the voter will vote for all people whom he endorses. If he doesn't consider anyone acceptable, he instead casts a "no for all candidates" vote. If in the instance he finds acceptable upperclassmen and no acceptable freshmen he may instead vote for those upperclassmen he likes and "no for all freshmen candidates." For any freshman to receive the automatic freshman slot for Director-at-Large he must have more approval votes than the total number of "no" votes. Thus an equitable manner in electing someone to the peculiar office can be reached.

The additional By-Law changes raise the salaries of the Editors of the *California Tech* and the *Big T* commensurate with inflation over the past five or so years. In addition, the Treasurer remains an officer of the corporation until he's finished the corporation books of the fiscal year he was in office. This way he won't run off and leave the job to the next sucker to get elected.

These proposals are presented after much careful discussion by the ASCIT ExComm and a lot of work by Andy Gellman. We suggest you read the By-Law changes carefully and discuss their merits and drawbacks among yourselves. If you have any questions just ask an Excomm member (there's one in each house if they can remember who they are). A special election will be held on Monday, January 19, in order to endorse these changes.

Proposed ASCIT Bylaws Revisions

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 5. Office of the Treasurer: Replace third sentence with, "He shall remain an officer of the corporation until the beginning of the new fiscal year. He shall have the corporation books audited by June of that year."

ARTICLE VIII. ELECTIONS AND PROCEDURES

Section 2. All nominated candidates shall be listed on the ballot and shall be voted upon at elections. Election day shall be the second Monday following the closing of nominations. Election day for run-off elections, if necessary, shall occur on the Wednesday of the same week.

Section 3. Balloting shall take place from 8:00pm of the day preceding the election day, as defined in Section 2., shall take place in Winnett Center and in each of the undergraduate houses. Each voter must sign an official register at the place of voting before submitting a ballot. Absentee ballots shall be allowed in the case of a voter who expects to be absent on the day of an election. Absentee ballots must be filed with the Election Chairman no later than noon of the day preceding the election day. All ballots shall be cast in secret.

Section 4. Only members of the corporation may vote for elected officers. A correctly cast vote for the election of an officer shall be either one of the following:

a) A vote of approval to one or more of the nominees and/or writing in the names of other legally qualified persons to whom the voter gives approval.

b) Writing the word "no" signifying that none of the nominees meets with the voter's approval.

Section 5. For all offices other than those of Director at Large, each voter may cast a vote of approval for as many candidates as the voter wishes or else cast one vote of "no". The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes of approval shall win the election provided that this number is greater than the total number of "no" votes.

Section 6. A voter may cast only one "no" vote for the offices of Director at Large. The voter may vote either "no for all candidates" or "no for all freshman candidates". A voter casting a vote of "no for all

freshman candidates" may nevertheless cast votes of approval for upperclass candidates.

a) A necessary condition for freshmen to be elected is that they receive a greater number of approval votes than the total number of "no" votes. The corresponding condition for upperclassmen is that they receive a greater number of votes of approval than the number of "no for all candidates" votes.

b) The freshman receiving the greatest number of approval votes and meeting the above condition shall be elected. Of the remaining candidates the one receiving the greatest number of approval votes and meeting the above condition shall also be elected.

c) If an upperclassman but no freshman is elected then the nominations for Director at Large in the subsequent election shall be open to freshmen only.

ARTICLE XIV. PUBLICATIONS

Section 5.

a) Replace second sentence with, "The Editor(s) will receive a salary of \$500 for each term's work payable at the end of each term."

c) Replace second sentence with, "The Editor will receive a salary of two hundred dollars (\$200) with a possible bonus of one hundred dollars (\$100)."

d) Replace the second sentence with, "The Editor will receive a salary of two hundred dollars (\$200) with a possible bonus of one hundred dollars (\$100)."

HELP!

The Caltech Musical needs you! We need your time and your body—to help us backstage with building sets, finding props, moving the sets around on stage, helping with makeup, costumes, and lights, and all the other multitudinous things that must be done to put on the musical by February 27, 28, and March 1. So if you want to help us out (or know of someone else who might be interested) please call Flora Boyer in the Drama Office at ext. 6259 or Chris Lindblad, the Producer, at Ricketts, 356-9387.



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Commentary Well

FROM THREE

just a little...oh my gosh, about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the people standing around seem to have suddenly gotten damp around the edges. Tch tch.

Of course, using the modern technology developed at Caltech, the remnants of the bonfire are zapped into nothingness; brute force wins again as the pallettes, some still smoking, are hauled away to re-appear in the Ricketts pot.

It would appear that the PPD rotates its personnel at least once each year, probably more frequently; none of the officers there seemed to have any experience in dealing with the situation, and in general were less polite than someone inured to the experience would be (e.g., last year's fires). Another possibility: since this is the first event this year, a show of strength/aggression/inflexibility might sway the frosh to shun further such pyrotechnics in the event that our team were to win again. (I quote one police officer: "You bastards don't know brains from common sense. If my house were on fire from one of these stunts, I'd come over to your campus and draw blood.") Don't believe it, guys. We all know that the PPD is really, deep down underneath, a reasonable bunch of folks and they regard our pranks with tolerant amusement; any displays of temper are purely to save face before the rest of the world. Right?

—Nick Smith
—the realist

Answers to Last Week's Puzzle

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Our Noble Leader

Now that Ronnie Raygun is officially destined to become "Our Noble Leader" it would be well to brace for the pleasure of his term in office. Certainly Ronnie's scintillating wit and great charisma will lend credence to every word he utters, as will the battery of tape recorders he will have planted all over the White House. The fabulous sense of timing that made him such a famous actor will no doubt serve him well when dealing with the Ayatollah and other non-english speaking people. It will certainly be a sight to make patriotic eyes wet when our boys go marching bravely off to a land of sand dunes to save fifty people claimed to be "spies". What a ridiculous idea. Why, I'm sure those honest Americans would never have been involved in anything as nasty as political subterfuge. That's what the commies do. But it's good to know we'll be fighting another heroic Trojan War. This time it'll be fifty faces that launch a thousand missiles, but what the hell, it's the thought that counts. Of course I'm disappointed that I won't be able to go myself. I'm just a little too old, but oh,

how lucky my 18 year old brother is! Won't it be thrilling to defend America from those vicious heathens.

Ronnie's gonna do us another big favor as well: get rid of abortion. We all know that it's a crime against God and Man, and it'll save us so much money to stop. Just think of it. All those new babies ready to get out there and work! Yes it'll be wonderful alright. Now I suppose there may be a glut of children for eighteen or so years, but that shouldn't dismay us any. Anyway, even if we do

lose patience with the scheme I'm sure there are lots of good, honest folks who might modestly propose solutions to the problem.

Even better yet, I think we can look for Ronnie to put a lid on those goddamn radicals who stir up American youth and pollute their minds with dangerous drugs. It'll be such a pleasure not to worry about my children at night—knowing that they went to bed saying their prayers. How marvelous it'll be to see smiling "young people" having a good time and going home by 11 as they

should.

Yessir, I look forward to seeing America as it should be. The true pioneer spirit lives on in our new leader, and I wish each and every one of you who call yourselves "Americans" to give him your full support, and if you do then I have faith that the moral majority will triumph in the end, and I will sleep easy at night.

"People get the kind of government they deserve"

—Thoreau.

—Bruce Sams

Beavers Ball Southern Cal

By P. G. Hepzibah

The Caltech Beavers opened the 1981 portion of the basketball season by dropping a 97-64 decision to Southern California College. The Beavers appeared to still be suffering from New Year's day hangovers as they committed 27 turnovers in the first half, thus allowing SCC to take a 58-27 halftime lead. The game turned out to be a repeat of the game last December where the varsity played a good second half only to lose 91-62.

Frank Janeczek scored 18 points to lead all Tech scorers, and Bob Golden scored 14 points, all in the second half. Gary Tornquist, Janeczek, and Mike Pearson each had six rebounds. The Beavers are now

3-4 and will open league play tomorrow at Occidental.

The junior varsity squad suffered a similar fate, losing 109-57. The JVs were within eight points in the second half, and appeared to be taking control of the momentum of the game when the aggressiveness of the SCC players wore down the Tech defense. SCC scored 18 straight points and the game was history. 6'7" freshman Stewart Peebles scored 14 points in his debut, and Scott Gordon came off the bench to score 18 points to lead the baby Beavers. The JV team is winless in three tries, but things are looking better since the previous two defeats were by 88 points (113-25) to this same Southern Cal team and by 70 points to L.A. Baptist.

TQFR List

FROM ONE

will have extra surveys.

Classes needing 1 more returned survey: AM 97, AMA 104, AMA 153, APh 114, APh 181, Bi 103, Bi 135, Bi 136, CS 172, Env 142 (Morgan), Env 150, GE 104, GE 176, Lin 101, MA 5 (Dean), MA 137, ME 22, MS 15, Ph 205, Ph 236, Pl 104.

Classes needing 2 more returned surveys: AE 104, AMA 98, APh 153, Art 110, AY 101, Ch 4, Ch 125, CS 140, CS 141, CS 286, Ec 121, EE 112, EE 116, Ge 100, H 107, H 150, Lin 105, Lit 120, Lit 160, Ma 112, ME 118, Ph 92, Ph 136, Ph 171, PS 120.

Earth-Quake

FROM ONE

between "events"—could be figured. After a brief introduction to plate tectonic theory, he commenced his spirited address on his research in the area; the Wallace Creek area near Bakersfield, and the Pallett Creek area around Palmdale-Lancaster. In each of these areas, Dr. Sieh excavated massive amounts of land to expose and interpret telltale layers of sediment. Surprisingly, he found that earthquakes could be distinguished and even their magnitudes and approximate dates established from his data, and that there were conflicting recurrence intervals between his two sites. The Wallace Creek estimates show a range from 150 to 300 years in the recurrence interval; if this is believed then the next big event should not occur for at least another few decades. However, the Pallett Creek estimates show a shorter range of 125 to 225 years of lull; we are just reaching the end of the current interval, if the lower estimate is used.

He concluded by restating the tenuousness of these recurrence estimates, while emphasizing the need for good earthquake planning now. As Dr. Sieh said, "earthquakes do not adhere to the intervals exactly; they make individual appointments."

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(or most especially)
business manager**

Flasher Gordon

from two

dropped in, become his unwilling assistants.

For the most part, the actors were able to play their roles straight, accepting the course of events as perfectly reasonable, or at least acceptable as a nightmare. The occasional lapses seem to be concentrated early on.

The cast is a mixture of the new and old: Sam J. Jones and Melody Anderson fill the hero and heroine roles as Flash and Dale; Topol plays Dr. Zarkov; Max Von Sydow is Ming the Merciless.

Jones, as Flash, isn't going to let a little thing like inexperience keep him from saving the world (his previous occupation was quarterback for the New York Jets). Anderson handles Dale's damsel-in-distress scenes well enough, but is more impressive when she's taking matters into her own hands.

Jones' first film role (here's a future trivia question) was that of Bo Derek's husband in *10*. Melody Anderson has several TV movies and guest roles to her credit, including that of Presley's high-school sweetheart in *Elvis: The Movie*.

Dr. Zarkov begins the film as a wide-eyed fanatic, who attempts to force his assistant to enter his (probably untested) spaceship at gunpoint. But later, having escaped from one of Ming's deadly plans, he exclaims "You can't conquer the human spirit!" Although otherwise enjoyable, Topol wasn't able to bridge this gap in character for me.

Ming the Merciless is magnificent. Max Von Sydow projects the aura of decadence, omnipotence, and sovereignty that must surround the Emperor of the Universe. Ornella Muti, as Ming's lascivious daughter, is sure to raise a few temperatures in the audience.

Topol, the Tel-Aviv-born actor, is known the world over for his performance of Tevye in the film version of *Fiddler on the Roof*; he also played the title role in the American Film Institute's *Galileo*. *The Seventh Seal*, *The Exorcist*, *Hawaii*, and the role of Christ in *The Greatest Story Ever Told* are some of the high points in Max Von Sydow's distinguished career. Ornella Muti has been acting nearly half her 25 years; accompanying her elder sister to a film audition in 1969, she won the role herself!

The story contains a few contemporary references, but since most of the action takes place on Mongo and its moons, this plays no important role. If you prefer to believe it takes place in the 1930s, you may.

Flash Gordon is good entertainment, a pleasant holiday present from Dino De Laurentiis.

—Gavin Claypool

The Avenal Inn; 808 Skyline Boulevard in Avenal; (209) 386-9979; reservations not required.

The Avenal Inn is blessed with a very advantageous location, first and foremost because it's on Avenal's principal avenue. And it also has the good fortune to share that street with only one other restaurant, where the sign doesn't advertise any kind a self-respecting white man would voluntarily stick in his face. Just tacos, burritos, stuff like that. But our party on this particular Avenal excursion was 75% white (87.5% by Eichorn's standards), so we elected for the unassuming white frame house across the street. Parking should be no problem, since there's a big vacant lot behind the Inn besides the three or four curb spaces. The 1940's "Coca-Cola hits the spot" sign in the window reassured us that we had made the right decision and, pulling open the screen door, we made our entrance.

Small tables line two walls of the Inn, with a grill counter on the third and the kitchen,

Restaurant Review

A Venal Inn

bathrooms, and a vague facsimile of a salad bar—it made Food Service's look good—sharing the fourth. Our hostess (she just waited the tables, but I couldn't shake the feeling that she owned at least half the operation) was congenial, to the point of giving us a free 18-oz. glass of soda when she spaced out our order. All this hospitality made up for the icy glances that the rest of the diners, astute enough to figure out that we weren't locals, were shooting our way.

As our hostess disappeared into the kitchen, we took stock of the restaurant. The paintings around us, although they probably wouldn't have made the Huntington, wouldn't have made the Baxter, and they were pleasant enough conversation pieces while we waited. One in particular, of a cowboy sitting on a bed with his boots off, was great fodder for

metaphysics and mindfucks, and kept us entertained for quite a while with some of its deeper implications. The window view of the burrito bar and the street outside left a little to be desired, but it added nicely to the total effect of the Inn.

Just as we were deciding that Avenal (accent on the first syllable, stranger, if you please) wasn't so bad after all, the food came. My chili cheeseburger was pretty greasy, but it was fair enough, somewhat better than the Shaker's and a real steal at \$1.50. The tacos were, without any doubt, the worst I've ever had in my life, but the filling seemed alright; if the shells had been fresher—read 'edible'—I think they would have been pretty good. Gordo, Stuart, and Mikey all said they got "pretty reasonable" food, if somewhat fat-laden. The drinks were all

very good as well, especially the one we didn't have to pay for. We settled our bill for a noticeably small amount, around \$15 for four very hungry and fairly large diners.

The sanitary facilities (bathrooms for the unpretentious) were less emotionally satisfying than the rest of the Inn, with a great view of the vacant lot mentioned earlier and a 30-second wait for hot water. But I must say I liked the Avenal Inn as a whole. It had pretty decent food, very decent prices, down-home Middle American hospitality, and that distinctive *je ne sais quoi* you somehow just can't get in metropolitan Los Angeles.

I think it had something to do with the 50-gallon drum out back, $\frac{3}{4}$ -full of polyunsaturates. In any event, it was a lunch well taken, and as we piled back into the aging auto that had brought us to the Gateway to Coalinga and sped off down Route 33 towards Pasadena and Tech, we all agreed that a good Avenal run has a Tommy's run beat, hands down.

—David Younge

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mers who will advance The Standard in micro-computer software.

More information about Microsoft is available at the Placement Center.

We will be on campus Tuesday, January 20, or application may be made by resume, attention: Mr. Steve Ballmer, Assistant to the President.

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***** all the news that fits in print *****

IMPORTANT BY-LAWS ELECTION!

On Monday, January 19, there will be an ASCIT Special Election for the purpose of voting on some By-Laws changes. PLEASE cast your vote in this election. If possible, also read the editorial and article in this issue, as well as the text of the changes. This election could well affect the value of your future votes and the safety of your ASCIT dues.

Hillel Shabbat

On Friday, January 16th at 6:30, the Caltech Hillel/Jewish Community invites your presence for Shabbat singing and pot-luck dinner at the Y-Lounge. RSVP Carol (356-9344) or Stuart (792-6342).

COFFEEHOUSE

The Coffeehouse will be opening for this term tomorrow night, January 10.

The Yanks Are Coming!

The Americans are invading Britain and the Germans don't like it. Come to the naval miniatures game to find out more. Saturday, January 10 at 7:30 pm in Dabney Hall. Newcomers welcome. Sponsored by the Caltech Gamers.

Baxter Art Films

Next Tuesday, January 13, there will be a free showing of three films in the Baxter Art Gallery. Showtime is 8pm, and the three films are: "Jasper Johns: Decoy;" "Magritte: False Mirror;" and "Duane Michaels (1939-1997)." These are short films on the named artists. They last a total of one hour. Sponsored by the Friends of the Baxter Art Gallery.

Ec 11a Sections

Both sections of Ec 11a will meet at 1:00 on Fridays this term. Students with last names beginning with A-H are in Carl Lydick's section, which meets in the Baxter Lecture Hall. All others meet with Josh Foreman in 201 Booth.

Model United Nations

There will be a meeting of the Caltech Model United Nations Club at 10:00pm, Wednesday, January 14 in Clubroom 1, Winnett Center. This year we are representing Niger, and the conference will be in Eugene, Oregon during spring break. If you are interested in joining the club this year, it is necessary that you come to the meeting, or contact Eric Korevaar (209 Page) ahead of time. Anyone is welcome.

OWC Meets

There will be a general meeting of the Organization for Women at Caltech (OWC) on Tuesday, January 20, at noon in Clubroom 1 of Winnett Center.

Yuill Visits Winnett

There will be an Open-Audience Discussion On *Women* with Helen Yuill, star of "The Belle of Amherst", Friday, January 16 at 8:00pm in Winnett Center Lounge.

Company Seminars

The following three companies will be on campus to present general information regarding company background, interests, and job opportunities:

Weyerhaeuser Company, Monday, January 19, 5-6:30 pm, 153 Noyes;

Hughes Aircraft Company, Tuesday, January 20, 4-6 pm, 153 Noyes;

TRW Defense and Space Systems, Wednesday, January 21, 4-5 pm, 153 Noyes.

For further information please consult the Placement Office, Room 8, Dabney Hall.

No Comment

The Air Force Academy is sponsoring a conference March 10-14 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. This year's topic is "Mexican-American Relations". Any student who is interested in attending should contact David Wales or Chris Wood in the Dean's office.

Are You Well Armed?

Do you have any old bayonets, swords, muskets or other weapons? The Caltech Musical is producing *Candida* this winter and needs lots of weapons to make lots of corpses with. No borrowed weapons will be used in combat, and all are covered by the Musical's insurance. If you want to lend us something, call Flora at x6259 from 9am to 5pm.

Are You Musical?

The Caltech Musical for 1981, *Candide*, will be presented on February 27 and 28, and March 1. We need an orchestra! Orchestra tryouts will be held on Saturday, January 10, from 2 to 4 pm, in Beckman Auditorium Basement. Please come at that time if you are interested; or, if the time is inconvenient, please call the Drama Office at x6259. Parts needed for this year's orchestra are: Violin (doubling Viola), Cello, String Bass, two B flat Trumpets, Trombone, Piano (doubling Celeste), R.M.I. (electric piano), Reed I (Piccolo, Flute, B flat Clarinet, Alto Recorder), Reed II (B flat Clarinet, B flat Bass Clarinet, B flat Soprano Saxophone), Reed III (Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, B flat Clarinet), and Percussion (Drum Set, Wood Block, Cowbell, Triangle, Tambourine, Castanets, Ship's Bell, Chimes, Orchestra Bells, Pedal Timpani, and Gong). If you have any questions, drop by the Drama Office, in 2 Winnett Center, or call ext. 6259.

Rehearsal Pianist Needed

If you play the piano, we need to borrow you, at least sometimes. The musical needs rehearsal pianists—lots of them. If you are interested, please call Flora Boyer at ext. 6259, or come by the Drama Office, 2 Winnett Center, to look at the score. There is a lot of singing in this show, which means that the chorus and soloists need LOTS of rehearsals. So please help us out!

GDG Moves

The new meeting place for the Gay Discussion Group is Room 218 Baxter. First meeting of second term is tonight at 7:30 pm.

Zoo Trip

The Caltech Y will sponsor a trip to the San Diego Zoo on Saturday, January 17. The Y will provide transportation for \$4.00. Also plan on spending \$3.75 for entrance fee; about \$1.00 for each of the various major attractions within the Zoo; and buying two meals. Sign-up for the 24 places on the bus will last from Monday, January 12 through Wednesday, January 14, with a lottery if necessary.

Don't Keep Your Distance!

The Caltech Y presents *Evita*, (or tickets thereto). We have 20 tickets to see this marvelous show, winner of 7 Tony Awards, at the Shubert Theater on Sunday, Jan. 18 at 7:30 pm. The cost of this extravaganza is a mere \$12.50, which includes transportation. The tickets will be distributed by lottery, with the sign-up lasting from Monday, Jan. 12 through Wednesday, Jan. 14. Winners will be posted and must come by the Y Office to pay for their tickets by noon Friday. Unclaimed tickets will be given to people on the waiting list.

IBM Coughs Up

(CNB)—IBM has awarded the California Institute of Technology a grant of \$1 million to be used as general support for the Institute. Caltech President Marvin L. Goldberger has announced. The contribution, to be paid over five years, represents an unrestricted gift to Caltech.

"We are extremely appreciative of IBM's continued confidence in Caltech," said Dr. Goldberger. "For over two decades, IBM has provided support to Caltech, and the result has been a mutually productive relationship of the highest order."

Unrestricted funds are our greatest need," he said. "Such basic grants provide the monies for library acquisitions, sophisticated laboratory equipment, improvement of physical facilities, and salaries for faculty and staff.

"Such funds for general support are essential if Caltech is to continue to conduct the increasingly complex operation of a modern research university in the face of continuing inflation and higher utility costs; it is to continue to provide new learning and laboratory opportunities; and if it is to sustain an atmosphere of intellectual vitality that is worthy of its student body and faculty," said Dr. Goldberger.

Is There Hope For South Africa?

"Is There Hope for South Africa?" will be the question addressed by Dr. Ned Munger this Wednesday, January 14, as part of The Caltech Y's UPDATE Noon Discussion Series. The Y's UPDATE series gives Caltech students, faculty, and staff a chance to learn about research being done here on campus. Wednesday at noon in Winnett Clubroom 1, you'll find professors talking about topics ranging from black holes to French literature. The discussions are

informal and fun. Bring your lunch.

Dr. Munger's talk on South Africa starts off this term's UPDATE series. Over the years, Dr. Munger has gotten to know many of the main actors on the political scene in Africa. His friends include politicians, reformers, and academics. Dr. Munger understands the issues in Africa as few Americans do. Wednesday's talk should provide valuable insights into an increasingly volatile region.

—Mike Nelson

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