

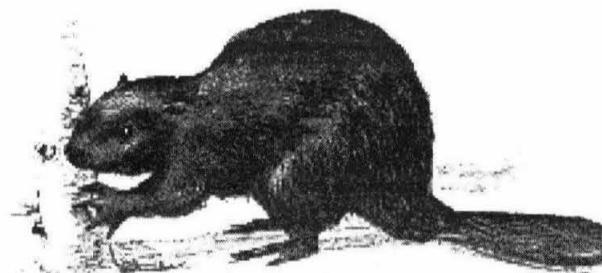
## Survey

Rotation

Off-Campus Rooming

Housing

*see your mailbox!*



## ASCIT Elections

SECRETARY

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

IHC CHAIR

BoC SECRETARY

TREASURER

ACADEMIC DIRECTOR

TECH EDITOR

UD@L

*see page 3-5*

# The California Tech

VOLUME CI, NUMBER 15

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 4, 2000

## IHC APPOINTS CRC MEMBERS AND CO-CHAIR

BY JOE FASSLER

The Conduct Review Committee, which until last week existed only in the form of new policy, now has a student co-Chair and student members to lead and serve in the handling of cases. Mark Barrett, Blacker House junior, was chosen by the IHC last Wednesday to lead, together with Associate Dean of Students Barbara Green, the recently established board for the handling of non-academic cases dealing with the honor code. The IHC also selected Nikki Eber (Fr, Ri), Alec Muller (Jr, Fl), William Peterson (So, Ru), Joe Fassler (So, Bl), Rebecca Stob (So, Da) and Adam Lawton (Jr, Fl) to be in the pool of students who will hear cases on a rotating basis.

"We tried to send the candidates through the ringer, and they responded very well," explained Jaideep Singh, IHC chair. "I don't think we could have picked a better group to get the CRC started." Singh went on to say that the selected candidates represent a mixture of different viewpoints and that they would represent students well to faculty.

Barrett says he is excited to be part of the CRC and feels that "it will bring more student and faculty input into decisions that, until now, have mostly been made by the Dean or the DRL alone."

Asked what is planned for the CRC, Barrett said he was setting up a training with the new members so that those involved will know the procedures and rationale behind the committee. He expects the committee to be mobilized within the next few weeks.

The selections, according to Singh, were made with the help of Dr. Green and BoC Chair Laura Brogoch from about 25 people who signed up. An initial round of interviews was conducted, and those who passed were given the opportunity to interview for the student co-Chair position. The co-Chair was selected first, and the student pool was then chosen after 30 minute interviews with the remaining candidates, in which the new co-Chair participated.

More information on the CRC can be found in the COSGAA report at <http://optimus/cosgaa>.

## Baltimore receives Medal of Science *Clinton awards highest honor to Caltech President*

BY JOHN OH

Last Monday, January 31st, 2000, Caltech's very own president Dr. David Baltimore was named by President Clinton as a recipient of the 1999 National Medal of Science. The National Medal of Science is the nation's most prestigious science honor, and it recognizes the dedication and contributions the eleven recipients have offered toward science. Dr. Baltimore's Nobel Prize-winning research in virology and his leadership is both academics and public policy were recognized with this award.

In an interview, Dr. Baltimore answered questions about his research and his role as president of Caltech, and offered some sound advice to Caltech students.

**John Oh:** How does it feel to receive the National Medal of Science?

**David Baltimore:** I think it's quite wonderful. It's really the highest honor in American sciences, and I think it's terrific to be honored that way.

**JO:** Can you tell us a little about the research that lead to this award?

**DB:** The Medal of Science, the citation, is really for my whole career.

**JO:** And your research for the Nobel Prize?

**DB:** I discovered an enzyme

called reverse transcriptase, which is the base for the ability of cancer causing viruses that integrate into the cell. Really, it's a clear indication that cancer is caused by cellular changes in the DNA.

**JO:** Do you plan on continuing your research?

**DB:** Well, I've been working mostly for the last twenty years in immunology, and I have an immunology lab here, working on the molecular aspects.

**JO:** Do you have any speculations on the future of immunology?

**DB:** Immunology is still a developing field, because there are big questions, significantly about the whole of the immune system, how it's stimulated, that has not been answered yet. But I think we will be answering those questions over the next decade.

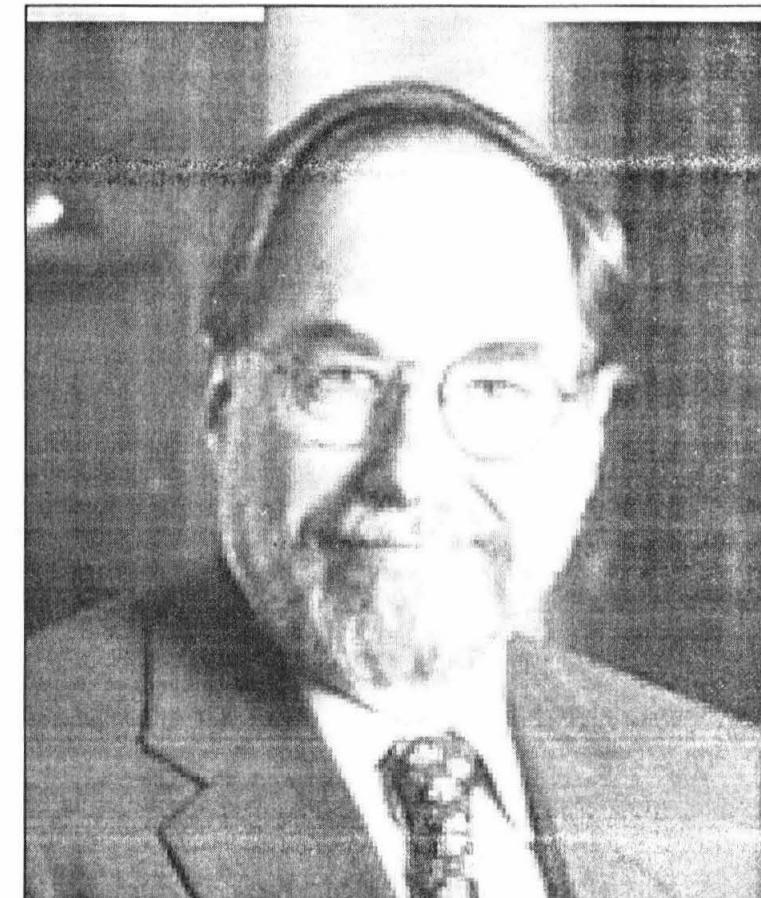
**JO:** How has being Caltech's president worked out so far?

**DB:** I think it's wonderful. The demand is a challenge, particularly learning about fields outside of biology, so I can be at least moderately knowledgeable.

**JO:** Are administrative responsibilities getting in the way of your research?

**DB:** Well, administrative responsibilities come first. That certainly doesn't leave a lot of time for research.

**JO:** You have been a key



President David Baltimore

player in politics during the 70's on the issue of genetic research. What do you think is the impact of politics on science?

**DB:** There are aspects of scientific research that are very sensitive to some members of certain populations. Those generate a lot of political heat, things like abortion, fetal research, and genetic research. And I think it's appropriate where there are public controls, there be a political dimension.

**JO:** Do you think it's wise to

emphasize the political aspect of scientific research in the Caltech curriculum?

**DB:** No, not really. I don't think we should emphasize that. I think people here try their best to do science independent of politics, and that's the best way. I'd rather try to protect Caltech from too much politics.

**JO:** Do you have any advice for the 900 Caltech undergrads striving for the Nobel Prize?

**DB:** The only advice I have is

PLEASE SEE BALTIMORE, PAGE 2

## Tech writer Adam Villani wins Ben Stein's money

BY JON FOSTER

Adam Villani has won Ben Stein's money. Villani, who graduated from Caltech in 1996 and remains the Tech's one and only Media Guy, credits his experience with Quiz Bowl as a large factor in his win.

*Win Ben Stein's Money*, for those of you who are still confused by television, is a game show on Comedy Central where the host (Ben Stein) actually competes with the contestants for his money. According to Villani, Stein's persona is characteristically dry and conservative, and he spends a lot of his time lording over the fact that he

usually beats the contestants — which he does, about 80% of the time.

Villani characterized the questions as "reasonably challenging, but they didn't make my head hurt the way finals at Tech did. More specifically: I remember I answered things about manatees, John Forsyth, and Albert Einstein. He won the first round against a collector of fountain pens, and a man who has never burped in his life and works for a mutual fund company."

After also winning the second round, he then went head to head with Ben Stein. They were both asked the same series of 10 questions; if Villani won, he would

get the whole \$5000, but otherwise he would just get his winnings from the first two rounds. Villani entered the soundproof isolation booth, which turned out not to be soundproof. This problem was solved with a pair of headphones playing, appropri-

ately enough, *The Ride*. Properly psyched, Villani won the maximum prize of \$5000 by beating Stein 7-6. He plans to use the money to pay off bills.

The show will air sometime in mid-April, although exactly when has not yet been revealed.

### Inside the Tech

#### The Usual

News .....	2
Outside World .....	2
Bookworm .....	4
Foxtrot .....	6
DILBERT© .....	6

#### Features

Statements Madness! ..	3
Statements Madness! ..	4
Statements Madness! ..	5
The Dean's Corner .....	7
Mints .....	8

# News

## BALTIMORE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to do the kind of science that you enjoy doing, enjoying the whole involvement, and if you find yourself in the right situation, you might have the opportunity to do a very important experiment. You might not. You really can't judge yourself on whether you win a prize or not. You got to judge it much more out of whether you find your life satisfying and you felt like you made a contribution.

**JO:** Where do you see Caltech in the future?

**DB:** Caltech is going to stay very much the kind of school it is now. Caltech is one of the few schools that try to live in a steady

state. There are a lot of small colleges, there are a very few research universities that try to remain in a steady state.

**JO:** Do you have any comments on Caltech's number one ranking from U.S. News and

is a better school than Harvard, or Yale, or MIT. It's a different school. But, the way they decided to calculate, we came out on top. But the effect, I think, has been enormous. A lot more people are aware of Caltech now, we have more applicants, and I wouldn't be surprised if part of the reason that President Clinton came here to Caltech was because of the number one rating.

Dr. Baltimore expressed his gratitude at the interest in his award. The ceremony for the National Medal of Science will be held in Washington, D.C., on March 14th.

- President Baltimore

*"I think people here try their best to do science independent of politics, and that's the best way. I'd rather try to protect Caltech from too much politics."*

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## The Outside World

By Katharina Kohler

lots lost the control over the airplane and it seems as if they flew inverted before crashing into the ocean.

**Vienna, Austria**—Austria's 14 European Union partners will freeze the communications with Austria once the new government is sworn in. The new coalition includes the country's far right party. The president of the European Union said he sees no other option in this case. The coalition government will be comprised of the Freedom Party and the center right People's party and this will be the first time since World War II that a far-right party has any European government ministry. The party leader addressed last year that immigrants and an expanded EU would cost the Austrians jobs. The 14 EU nations agreed Monday to politically isolate Austria if the new government were installed.

## THE CALIFORNIA TECH

Caltech 40-58, Pasadena, CA 91125  
editorial desk: (626) 395-6153  
advertising desk: (626) 395-6154  
editorial email: [editors@tech.caltech.edu](mailto:editors@tech.caltech.edu)  
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EDITOR  
David Guskin

BUSINESS MANAGER  
Lexi Baugher

AD MANAGER Katy Isaacs	MINTS Jong Oh
COMICS EDITOR Kenneth Kuo	PHOTOGRAPHERS Erik Dill Kudah Mushambi
COPY EDITORS Nicholas Breen Tim Crosby	Roger O'Brient CONTRIBUTORS Erik Dill Hannah Kim
FEATURE WRITERS Ron Dollete Justin Ho Kary Isaacs Jason Meltzer Jean-Paul Revel Adam Villani	Kenneth Kuo Shannon Stewman STAFF WRITERS Cheryl Forest Jon Foster Karrahina Kohler
CIRCULATION STAFF Roger O'Brient Rick Karnesky	Dana Sadava ADVISER Hall Daily

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# IHC CHAIR

## Chris Elion



point of view.  
If I'm elected IHC chair, there are a few things that I intend to do. First, I will try to make off-campus roompicks AFTER the seven houses have their roompicks. This will hopefully reduce the number of people that end up in get screwed over by the process and make sure that more people end up in their first choices. I would also work along with the house presidents to make Rotation rules a bit more lenient, while still keeping the original spirit of them intact.

The position of IHC chair is the most important position that you will decide in this election. So remember, vote smart; vote big and hairy; vote Chris Elion.

Of course, there are other reasons that I think I would make a good IHC chair. First of all, I've been the UD@L since last term. In that time, I have made sure that it is possible for everyone to use the ASCIT copier. This also means that I've gained experience on the ASCIT BoD and am familiar with how it is run.

I have also been on my House's Athletic Team for the past year. Trust me: you have no idea how hard it is to get a bunch of Moles to play sports until you've actually tried it yourself. Interhouse sports are a significant part of the IHC chair's duty, and I already have experience dealing with them from an individual house's

who don't - start reading the Tech more often! It's a wonderfully distorted view of the world (Innerspace included).

I guess I am supposed to write about why I should be IHC Chair. Let me address the question by stating why I want to be IHC Chair. Primarily, it is because there are some aspects of Caltech Undergraduate life that I believe should be fixed. The process of Rotation and the Rules are important issues. It is my belief that many of the rules should be relaxed, and some eliminated. Further study would be necessary to determine what exact actions to take, but the removal of the burden of many of the rules will make the process easier and more productive. I also would like to see some sort of informative guide for Frosh produced. While this may take some of the aura of mystery out of the first few weeks, it would probably be comforting for many incoming students to know more about Undergraduate life at Caltech before they get here (or very soon after); and with more informed Frosh, the necessity for many of the Rotation rules (meant to protect them) would be lessened. Another annual problem is the Off Campus Lottery. This is a process that has been rehashed every year since the founding of Avery House. It would be advantageous to try to standardize it in some way, so that it is no longer a

source of confusion.

Aside from specific issues, I would like to contribute to the Caltech Undergraduate community in an active way. Writing for the Tech is fun, and I hope others take enjoyment from my ravings, but I would like to return more to the community from which I have gained so much.

## Adam Lawton



Hey everyone, I'm Adam, and I'm running for the office of IHC Chair. The IHC Chair is a pretty important position, and to be a good IHC Chair, you need to be effective at leading a pretty elite group of students, as well as interacting with lots of high-profile people around campus. I'm really enthusiastic about doing the job, and I think I'm pretty qualified too, so I thought I'd take a little bit of your time to tell you about some of the things I've done.

Most of my involvement for the past year has been centered around my job as Fleming's social chair. In that position, I was

in charge of pulling everything together for our after-dinner receptions during rotation, as well as planning an event every single week. To do my job, I've had to work closely with the Res Life staff and the Deans, and I'm happy to say that I'm on excellent terms with everyone in both of those offices.

But what have I done outside the scope of house government? Quite honestly, not enough! And that's one of the reasons I'd like to be the next IHC Chair. Actually, most of what I've done in this arena has been as social chair also. If you were at Fleming's Luau party in the fall or at our UFO

## Vanessa Sih



I am running for IHC Chairman because I believe in the house system and student government. I believe that we are capable of making responsible decisions and do not need to be "policed" by the administration. Actions taken by the administration without student input are detrimental to the principle of self-government; they only

party last year or at our submarine party in the spring of 1998, then you've gotten a chance to see some of my handiwork. I've coordinated and helped out with a few interhouse social events also, including a Thanksgiving dinner, a whitewater rafting trip, and of course the drag show. Now I definitely don't mean to imply that I'm tired of throwing parties! But I think I'd like to expand beyond social events and start to be more involved in some of the other important things that go on around campus.

Please vote, and please think of me when you make your selection for IHC Chair!

serve to aggravate us and compel us to defy authority. I would like to continue the work of the current IHC in finding a good solution.

The house system is good because it provides a sense of community. As IHC chair, I would work with the house presidents to make Rotation a positive experience and help freshmen find the community that is best for them. In terms of qualifications, I have been a member of the Dabney Excom for the past two years and participated in the picks process. I am dedicated: I have worked as the ad manager for the Tech and business manager for the little t. Remember, a vote for Vanessa is a vote for freedom.

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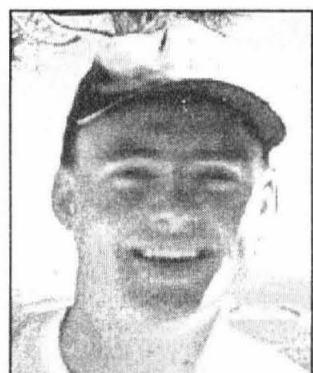
# ASCIT Election 2000



## ASCIT SECRETARY

### Derek Shannon

I'm Derek Shannon, and I'm running to serve as your ASCIT secretary. What's the #1 way that the secretary relates to the rest of Caltech? The ASCIT Minutes published in every Tech. Well, friends, sit down, cause this might come as a shock—The ASCIT Minutes are a world that has been pulled over your eyes to blind you from the truth. What you know you can't explain, but you feel it: The ASCIT minutes are dull, and you never read them. Well, as ASCIT Secretary, I will end this injustice. Never again will one of Dean Revel's violent crack-



added rampages be glossed over with a simple 'Dean Revel stopped by.' Under my stewardship, you'll get all the facts, you'll understand what ASCIT is doing and how you can stop us murderous bastards, and you'll want to read the ASCIT Minutes even more than your Hum assignments. The ASCIT secretary's

will work hard to make sure to fill the position of secretary as completely as my 5 foot 7 1/2 inch frame will let me. I'll keep the entire Caltech community riveted as they read about the exciting weekly ASCIT meeting in the Tech. I'll impress the Board of Directors with my meticulous note taking, impeccable organization, and amazing punctuality. But above all, I will help shape the course of our government over the next potential-filled year.

There are a lot of issues I would like to address as Secretary. I'd work on increasing awareness among students about what ASCIT does and encouraging more student feedback on issues. I would also like to improve inter-house relations, reminding people that they should judge based on character and not on the color of a person's shirt.

So keep me in mind when you vote for ASCIT Secretary.

ing to be an engineer.) I'd still like to contribute to our student community and I would like to start being involved in our government by becoming ASCIT Secretary.

To be honest, I have never been a secretary of any organization before. But I do know what it means to hold an office and the responsibility that comes along with it. I

will work hard to make sure to fill the position of secretary as completely as my 5 foot 7 1/2 inch frame will let me. I'll keep the entire Caltech community riveted as they read about the exciting weekly ASCIT meeting in the Tech. I'll impress the Board of Directors with my meticulous note taking, impeccable organization, and amazing punctuality. But above all, I will help shape the course of our government over the next potential-filled year.

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So keep me in mind when you vote for ASCIT Secretary.

ASCIT archives, (if at all possible).

All in all, ASCIT secretary is probably a pretty shitty job. It's work, and no rewards. So, why do I want to do it? Having been active in my house and on campus for the past year, I know that I can deal well with shit. In addition, I want diversity on the BoD - having it controlled entirely by Fleming is simply not representative.

So vote for me, and I'll make some good, accurate, honest, damn sarcastic ASCIT minutes.

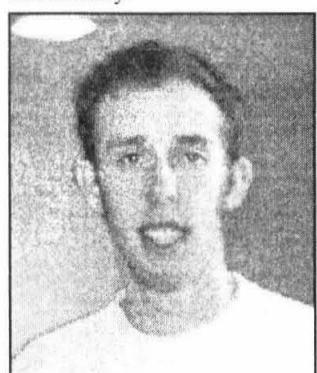
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### Stephen Wexler

People call me Sexy. Why? It rhymes with Wexy. I think if I were elected I'd do a really great job as secretary. Why? Because I like the smell of white-out. Why? Because I write like a girl. Why? Because I need the money. Why? Because real men wear briefs. And certainly don't worry about me not having enough time for the job - I'm a CS major. So remember - vote Wexy for Sexetary.



### Tim Crosby

Recently, it seems that there has been a lot of disillusionment with Caltech's student government. I too share this disillusionment. However, rather than simply whine about it (as I have already done), I want to change it.

Sure, ASCIT secretary doesn't have much control over the fate of the universe, but there are some things I could do. I promise to get the ASCIT minutes to the Tech on time, so that they can be published promptly. If elected, I would make sure that students know about important BoD meetings, and that elections are held in accordance with the bylaws. I would also try to organize the

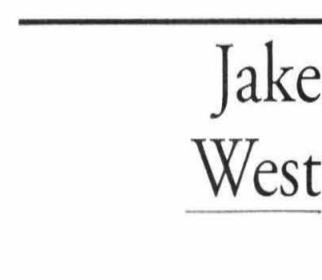
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Jake West is the name. I haven't much to say. I'd like to be your next ASCIT treasurer. Somebody has got to do it, somebody who's got what it takes to vanquish even the toughest of first graders, somebody who can count. That's me. So if you want the best vote Jake West.

### Jake West



## BOARD OF CONTROL SECRETARY

### Betty Hong



System possible, makes possible take-home exams, unmonitored student access to institute facilities, extensions, open dorm room doors, assumed trust with one another. Just imagine how life at this already gut-wrenching, soul-sucking college would be without these privileges. The BoC works to serve and protect you, to help preserve the Honor System and to allow it to work for you.

So I hope by now you are convinced that we need a BoC and so need a BoC secretary. But then, why me over the other guy? Well, I've had the necessary experience — plenty of student government in high school and a year of service on the BoC as a representative-at-large. However, I think the main motivation you should have to vote for me is that I am both a reasonable and responsible person. I think I understand the philosophy and spirit of the Honor System, which (we should always keep in mind) exists to serve the students as part of the Caltech community, to help effectively guide the BoC through its operations.

And just one more reason: I have opposable thumbs, and NO! doesn't, and we all know that's all you really need to be BoC secretary.

### Joe Fassler



The Honor System is one of the things that makes Caltech stand out among other universities. It gives us freedom and responsibility that few colleges would dare to give to students, and gives us a basis for trusting other

members of the community. It is a part of life at Caltech. I feel strongly about the Honor Code, and I am dedicated to working to see that it continues to benefit the community. Last year I served as the Blacker Hovse BoC Rep, so I have experience on the Board of Control. I'm familiar with Board procedure and the responsibilities of the Secretary, and I believe I would do a good job. Vote Joe Fassler "To nullify and protect."

### Ayeh Bandeh-Ahmadi

Hi, I'm Ayeh. I'm a sophomore physics and economics major, as well as a UCC and health advocate. Over the last couple years, I've been very involved with the Totem and Big T and have worked as an off-campus tutor at the Salvation Army for the Y.

I'd like to be your treasurer because I want to be more involved with the decisions that affect students and organizations at Caltech. And because of my experience with different student activities and involvement in different parts of student life at Tech, I feel like I have a good understanding of what sorts of things teachers value, and so I think I would serve everyone well.

In addition to serving on the ASCIT Board of Directors, the ASCIT treasurer's duties also include helping create the ASCIT budget and conducting prompt

audits of ASCIT spending at the end of each fiscal year. The treasurer is also the person responsible for collecting all requests for ASCIT funding for clubs and student activities. Since I've done a significant amount of volunteer work for student organizations like the Totem and the Big T, and enjoy attending all kinds of campus events, I recognize how important student activities are at Caltech; I'd like to accommodate as many activities as possible, and think I could be unbiased towards them.

The ASCIT treasurer is also responsible for receiving and depositing corporation money, keeping records of all these transactions, and presenting them at weekly meetings. I have experience maintaining corporation accounts, so I understand how this system works and what this job entails. And as your ASCIT treasurer, I'd also like to make these reports on where ASCIT dollars go more readily accessible to students.

Finally, the ASCIT treasurer is specifically responsible for making sure that the ASCIT publica-

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### Sean McHugh



Aye, hello me lads and lassies. 'Tis a good day for an election. Methinks I would do just a fine job as the ASCIT Treasurer, but ya got ta be willin' to settle for some changes. First, nooo more o' this silly ASCIT morning doughnuts, what me lads here really need to fuel them though the day is me own traditional meal-a' ASCIT morning

beer an' potatoes. I could evin over step my bounds a littta an' change the food situation here at this school for the betta. T'would only take a wee bit o' your ASCIT dollars to get us enough corned beef and cabbage that all ye lads and lassies would smell sweet as a springtime Irish breeze. Also, I could even use me luck-o-the-Irish to avoid tax audits an' if that don' work, there's nary an IRS agent alive that can run down a greased Irishman.

Enough of that. I need your

## ASCIT TREASURER

tions officers (those responsible for The California Tech, little t, Big T, Totem, CLUE, and Undergraduate Research Opportunities Handbook) know about and meet ASCIT's publication standards. In addition to keeping track of publication budgets and contracts, the ASCIT treasurer is the one to whom all unexpected budget problems for these publications must be brought. When the editors and managers have a problem they can't deal with, the treasurer is responsible for resolving them so that ASCIT publications come out on time. I'd like to make sure that what happened with the little t this year doesn't happen with any more publications next year. And since I've been very involved in publication processes, both at Tech and elsewhere, I'm very capable of giving publications staff any help and support that they end up needing.

I hope you'll vote for me because I know the duties of ASCIT treasurer well, and I'm experienced enough and excited enough about it to do a good job. But in any case, please don't forget to vote.

help... last year I ran against the incumbent and had three of you thought differently I would be the incumbent right now. I will devote all the time necessary to do a good job as treasurer and I'll actually show up at ASCIT meetings. If you have read this far, you would do me a huge favor by remembering to go and place your votes on Monday for the only candidate with green spirit. And please, even though it runs a better campaign and is funnier than I am, just don't say NO.



# ASCIT Election 2000



## DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

### Emma Kang



I am an average sophomore with an average GPA; I often sit in lectures clueless, struggle with Phys2 sets every Tuesday and Thursday nights, and try to get into the most easy-grading TA sections. Just like the most of you people reading this But, there is one thing that stands out about me, which is my strong motivation and desire to be involved in the community and to work for others. The office of ASCIT Director of Academic Affairs seems to be an ex-

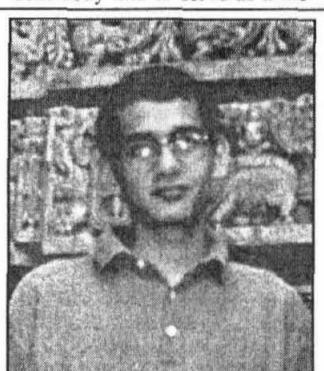
cellent way of contributing to the student body of Caltech and something that I am capable of doing well. And I possess the kind of enthusiasm and stamina that will get me to accomplish my responsibilities.

The mission of this office is to represent the opinions of the student body and to serve as a me-

dium between students and faculty to facilitate effective communication, and improve the quality of learning at Caltech. I've been an ombuds person for a class before, and I have realized how concerned students are with their academics and the importance of close and effective communication between students and faculty. I took pride in what I was doing-delivering opinions and suggestions of my fellow students. Currently I am also a member of Committee on Institute Programs; I work closely with the Office of Public Events, informing students and delivering students' input and feedback to the committee.

There are many other duties of this office that require creativity and resources. Let me assure you once again that I will do the job with integrity and sincere effort.

### Ram Srinivasan

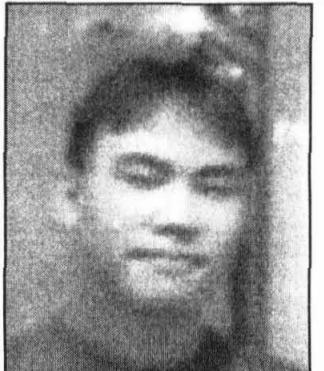


There are only fleeting moments at Caltech for introspection. On occasion, I sit in the company of Melvin Leok (outgoing Director of Academic Affairs), and talk about education. He speaks to me earnestly, emphasizing his points by furrowing his eyebrows and

pressing his fist against the table. Talking with Melvin about decid-

ing academic policy has taught me that it is essential for a leader to have a sense of equity. All our candidates this year are excellent people. But when you pledge your vote for me, you will be voting for equity. Equity, a measured, reasoned approach to assessing the Caltech educational curriculum, an open-minded attitude toward reform. I have a vested interest in doing this job and doing it well, but I need your vote. Ram Srinivasan for equity. Ram Srinivasan for Director of Academic Affairs.

### Jason Tran



For those who don't know me, my name is Jason Tran, and I'd like you to consider me as your Director of Academic Affairs. The Director of Academic Affairs has many responsibilities, including putting together the CLUE, being

the Chairman of the Academic and Research Committee, awarding ASCIT teaching awards, dealing

with the Core Curriculum, etc. It's his or her job to make your academic and research experience a better one. The actions of the Director of Academic Affairs may affect you directly, so it's important who you cast your vote for. I want to take an active role in the decision making process that governs which classes I have to take, and which research opportunities are available to undergrads. I feel that I have what it takes to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to this office. I'm a pretty easy-going person, I like helping people, and I'm committed to doing my best.

## DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

### Melinda Turner



I'm Melinda Turner and I

am confident that I can provide the high-caliber, campus-wide social events Techers deserve.

Currently on my second term on Lloyd social team, I have the time, energy and creativity necessary to offer reliable, weekly entertainment to large groups. As the VP of Women's Glee Club, I have planned many post-concert receptions, club fair presentations and donation-related business mailings. Recently added to the Child

Life volunteer staff at LA County Women's and Children's, I have helped organize a huge hospital-wide Halloween trick-or-treat activity, have run a small movie theatre and have created interactive bedside programs for immobile kids.

As the Director for Social Activities I intent to revive Friday earlymorning donuts, foster more joint ASCIT-GSC parties and coordinate a sinfully swanky formal. Please vote for me !!

You probably don't know what the ASCIT Social Director does. You probably laugh when you hear the words "ASCIT" and "party" in the same sentence. I probably can't help that, but I can tell you a little about this position and why I'd do a good job. The main responsibilities of the Director of Social Activities are the ASCIT parties and the ASCIT formal. Also, the director is in charge of lending out the ASCIT lighting equipment to the Houses

when they throw a party. I am a person who's been involved with a lot of parties. If you were at the Fleming Luau, I was the DJ for most of that party. Before I came to Caltech, I made some money organizing and DJ'ing parties with two or three times the attendance of the average ASCIT party. I own my own mixer, fogger, lighting stand, and lights, so I have a lot of experience with this kind of equipment. But before being a DJ, I am a person who loves to dance

- and I can promise you that I'll make ASCIT parties great places to dance. I won't be able to force you to go, but I'm sure that if you do, you'll like what you see - good music, good drinks, and hey, atleast one guy on the dance floor.

### Lusine Danakian



Social Director: Disco lights. Spinning, spinning. Glistening faces, ecstasy. Echoes of laughter. Droplets, trickle, trickle. beat, Beat, BEAT! For THE social experience, Vote LUSINE!

- and I can promise you that I'll make ASCIT parties great places to dance. I won't be able to force you to go, but I'm sure that if you do, you'll like what you see - good music, good drinks, and hey, atleast one guy on the dance floor.

## UPPERCLASS DIRECTOR AT LARGE

### Meghan Smith



Hi, my name is Meghan Smith. I am running for the office of Upperclassman Director at Large. For those of you who don't know, this means that I am in charge of the ASCIT van and copier. This means that I have to make sure they are in working order. This

is not a difficult job, there is no longer an ASCIT van and all it takes to maintain a copier is dedication and

perseverance. I am in charge of the soda machines in Ruddock House, which you might have noticed have been fully stocked this entire year. I felt it was time for me to move up to something a little more challenging, where a greater number of people would be depending on me. The upkeep of the ASCIT copier is vital to everyone in the student body. What if you need to make a copy in the middle of the night, the library is closed where else can you go but the SAC. This is a convenience which I can add to your lives and it would be my pleasure to do so.

responsibility of the UDL.

Seeing UDL up for election I got this crazy idea to face the wrath of "No" and run in the election. At first I wondered, "Does the UDL do anything else?" In fact, the UDL manages the ASCIT van and copier, as well as "other duties [strictly professional] as specified by the Board of Directors." Having held the position of house librarian, I'm pretty good at performing other random tasks.

I assure you that I will fulfill the duties of Director at Large in their entirety, none of this running off to Cambridge (or Bangkok) business, which has been a problem that has plagued past Directors.

### Scott Payne



From the last election, one might feel that most Techers don't care who represents them and the rest would rather have "No" for President. Your vote for Upperclassman Director at Large (UDL) is important. The Directors of ASCIT head the student government and are representatives to outside groups, faculty,



### Molly Swanson

I don't have a hidden agenda or a need to boost my ego by winning this position. I'm willing to fulfill the responsibilities of UD@L and represent the opinions of as many students as possible. I would also like to see the Board of Directors populated by a few honest and reasonable people! If you feel the same, vote for me. Thanks.

### FRESHMAN DIRECTOR AT LARGE

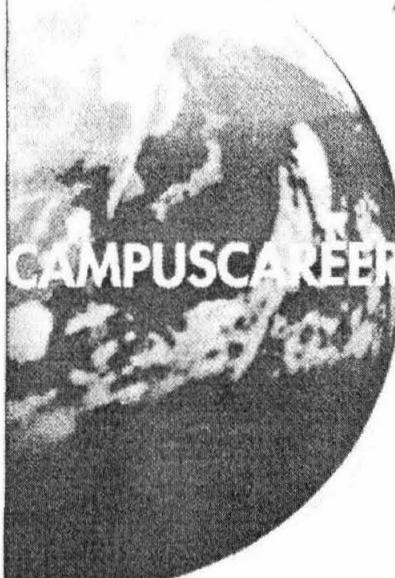
#### Martha-Helene Stapleton



I won't insult your intelligence by making extraordinary promises or degrading someone else's attempt to improve student govern-

Tech, and I am sure that I can represent the frosh class as FDAL. Many of you know me already and how involved I have become here and how little I sleep, and if you don't know me personally yet, you've probably seen me running around campus. I really love getting to know all kinds of people. I'm running because I believe that as students we do have power, and that if we truly realize how strong we are together, we can be effective in changing those aspects that impact us most.

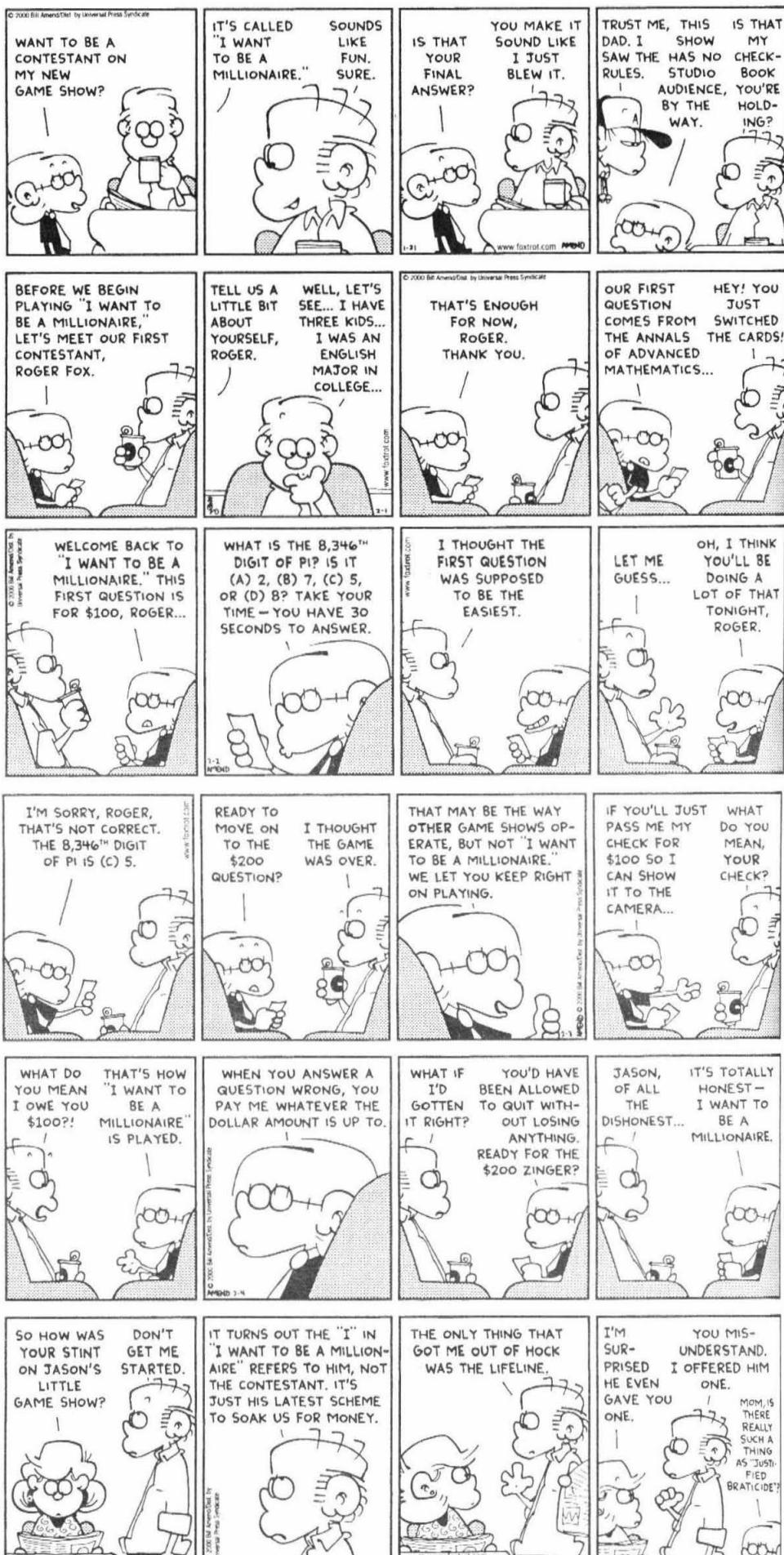
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**Anthony Hopkins/Jessica Lange**  
**TITUS**  
Daily 1:35 5:00 8:30

**Starring Ralph Fiennes**  
**THE END OF THE AFFAIR**  
Daily [11:30] 2:05 4:40 7:15 9:50

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

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

**Starring Ed Harris**  
**THE THIRD MIRACLE**  
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**Directed by Tim Robbins**  
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# Small Fonts Extravaganza

## TECH EDITORS

**Jon Foster,  
John Oh,  
Dana Sadava**

A spectre is haunting Caltech — the spectre of the Tech. All the powers of evil have entered into a holy alliance to exorcise this spectre: ASCIT and BOC, CRC and IHC, French Radicals and Fire Nazis. Where is the party in opposition that has not been decried as Tech Editors by its opponents in power? Where is the opposition that has not hurled back the branding reproach of Tech Editorialism, against the more advanced opposition parties, as well as against its reactionary adversaries? Two things result from this fact: I. We are already acknowledged by all Tech powers to be ourselves a power. II. It is high time that we should openly, in the face of the whole world, publish our views, our aims, our tendencies, and meet this nursery tale of the spectre of Tech Editorialism with a manifesto of the party itself. To this end, Tech Editors of various houses have assembled in the Tech Office and sketched the following manifesto, to be published in the C++, JJ, FJ, Fortran, Perl and Assembly languages.

The history of all hitherto existing editions of the Tech is the history of class struggles. We disdain to conceal our views and aims. We openly declare that our ends can be attained only by the forcible overthrow of all existing editors. Let Dave tremble at a Editorial revolution. We have nothing to lose but our grades. We have a world to win.

Editors of all houses, unite!



## Dean's Corner

*As science fiction would have it....*

by Jean-Paul Revel

of Gathol", and than jumped to another environment with the "Skeleton Men of Jupiter". More recently Asimov regaled us with intergalactic tales. But you probably know more than I. When humanity left this world during the Apollo Moon Program, NASA worried that the space capsule and/or the astronauts inside might come back contaminated by some un-earthly organisms. Many thought it was far fetched, but with the argument that it would be catastrophic if foreign pathogens were brought back, the astronauts were quarantined for 3 long weeks on their return from the moon.

What we did not know is that out of this world materials were already present on Earth. Meteorites which landed on this earth were presumably all cooked to a crisp, their outsides sterilized on the way down through our atmosphere. There was no evidence of the kind of organic material which could have originated from living things like those on earth on the inside. The story changed with the discovery of the meteorite ALH84001 in Antarctica. Analysis of the meteorite indicated a Martian origin, and excitement was very high when there was an announcement of the existence of structures which looked like earthly bacteria along with crystals of magnetite like those produced by living organisms here on earth. The putative critters were much smaller than earthly bugs, but then, they came from another world. It is still not clear if these structures are the remnants of living organisms. For life as we know

it water is required, so there is great excitement as a result of evidence for a watery ocean under the icy surface of Europa. The latest support comes from a Galileo flyby at a distance of only 351 Km from the surface. And there has been at least one meteorite (Monahans 1998) recovered on Earth which contained water (nicely aged, like good wine), actually as old as our solar system, but nevertheless opening the possibility of life elsewhere. But things are getting very serious now. As of January, 17 stars had been recognized for which there is evidence of a circling planet. In one system there are no less than 3 objects orbiting around the central star. It is interesting that most of these planetoids are large and Jupiter-like. Their orbits are mostly elliptical instead of being circular, and most are very close to their star — some even closer than Mercury is to the Sun. While it is exciting to find all these potential harbors for life, none of these appear bright prospects. They would be too gassy and too close to their star... of course Carl Sagan imagined floaters in Jupiter's atmosphere, but.... Smaller rocky planets may exist, but are too small to be detected. Do these findings mean that our hopes for companions are to be dashed once more? We don't know and so we continue an increasingly sophisticated search of the skies for purposeful signals from the beyond, which tomorrow may bring.

One of the fantasies that have been revived at times is that the putative creatures from out there would be not of C, H, N & O as we are, but of sterner stuff like Silicon. Biochemists however warn that Si is not too likely a building block. The atomic distances are a bit too large

and so molecules with lots of Si-Si bonds may be prone to falling apart more easily than molecules with C-C bonds. Also if excess carbon dioxide brings about a greenhouse effect, SiO<sub>2</sub> would also be trouble since it's pretty hard and stony and insoluble stuff (a rain of sand?). But who knows what else would be different in a Si world? After all, ever imaginative Sagan once postulated what creatures on Venus would have to be like. Let's see; an atmosphere containing sulfuric acid, a ground temperature of maybe 400C, an atmospheric density of umpteen bar... well, nothing so much as a horny hoof and a thick skin along with a fiery breath would do. Venus is not inhabited by pulchritudinous and delicate creatures but by nasty devils. And now there is new evidence for the existence of Martians: Is it not curious that so many attempts at reaching Mars have been thwarted? Could this not be explained by the presence of vigilant warriors protecting the secrets of the Red Planet? Of course the two probes that did land and returned pictures from the surface showed no such creatures disporting themselves in front of the lander's TV cameras: Surely that could go to support the idea that the wily Martians managed to keep all their kin out of sight, so as not to blow their cover. Most Martian cities are anyway concentrated at the south pole (the Martians do need water). So the craft that landed there last December had to be neutralized, quick quick: they had only a few minutes to blind it, and this was achieved by covering it with CO<sub>2</sub> snow. The antennas were broken off to keep it silent... but the Martians had not counted on the sensitivity of our technologies. There are reports that perhaps a peep from the buried craft was heard, but then may be perhaps not....shhhh radio telescopes of the world... listen....

A bientot

*Jean Paul Revel*

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# Mints

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The California TECH is experiencing technical difficulties. Please forward all mints to [tech@ugcs](mailto:tech@ugcs). We the editors apologize for any inconvenience.

The Caltech Cheerleading Squad is holding a bake sale on the Olive Walk Sat., Feb. 5, afternoon, to raise funds for the new term. Come by, enjoy good food and support your Caltech Cheerleading Squad.

**Congressman James Rogan** seeks to fill two internships with Caltech students for service during this exciting election year. These would be paid jobs, and would share in the joy and labor of the political campaign. To apply or for information email [vvveysey@its.caltech.edu](mailto:vvveysey@its.caltech.edu) or phone x9570.

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

**Caltech guitar classes for the winter quarter** will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting on January 11 as follows: Beginning Guitar Class 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.; Intermediate Guitar Class 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.; Advanced Guitar Class 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Classical and flamenco repertoires are explored, but techniques transfer to other styles of guitar. The Beginning Class includes a jazz/folk chord system. Classes are free to Caltech students and other members of the Caltech community (space permitting). Undergrads can receive 3 units of credit. The instructor, Darryl Denning, has an international background in performance, teaching and recording (two of his CDs are available in the Bookstore). Mr. Denning can be reached at 323-465-0881 or by email at [ddenning@caltech.edu](mailto:ddenning@caltech.edu). The guitar home page is at [www.cco.caltech.edu/~musicpgm/guitar.html](http://cco.caltech.edu/~musicpgm/guitar.html).

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## EVENTS

**"Sampling the Universe,"** Beckman Auditorium, on Wed., Feb. 10, 8 p.m. Dr. Edward Stone, director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, will give this Earnest C. Watson lecture. Admission is free, for more information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

**The Caltech Progressive Coalition** presents a free showing of "Rosewood" on Thursday, February 10 at 7 p.m. in Moore 070 to commemorate Black History Month. Refreshments will be provided and a discussion will follow the movie.

**John Astin is Edgar Allan Poe** in *Once Upon a Midnight* on Fri., Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. in Caltech's Beckman Auditorium. With flashes and humor, Astin takes the audience through Poe's life and his frequent battles with himself. Oscar and Emmy-nominated Astin is best known as the original Gomez, patriarch of *The Addams Family*.

Tickets are \$25, \$18, \$14; youths 12 and under receive \$4 off. Student and senior rush tickets will go on sale for \$10, beginning one-half hour before the performance. Tickets can be purchased at the Caltech Ticket Office, and all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers. For more information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

**The Merchant of Venice**, Ramo Auditorium, Feb. 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 13, 20, 27 at 2 p.m., presented by Theater Arts at Caltech. Admission to be determined, for more information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

**Cellist James Wilson and pianist Joanne Kong** will give a free concert on Sun., Feb. 13 at 3:30 p.m. in Caltech's Dabney Lounge. This is a Paco A. Lagerstrom Chamber Music Concert. The program will feature Boccherini, Bolcom, Ginastera, and Chopin. The concert is open to public and free of charge. For information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

**The vocal ensemble Anonymous 4** will perform on Fri., Feb. 18, at 8 p.m. in Caltech's Beckman Auditorium. The program for this concert is entitled *The Second Circle -- Love Songs of Francesco Landini*. Anonymous 4 is renowned for its astonishing vocal blend and technical virtuosity. Tickets to this performance are \$25, \$21, \$17; youths 12 and under receive \$ off. Students and senior rush tickets will go on sale for \$10, beginning one-half hour before the performance (subject to availability). Tickets can be purchased at the Caltech Ticket Office and all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers. Call 1-888-2CALTECH for more information.

**Soweto Street Beat Dance Theatre** will perform on Sat., Feb. 26, at 8 p.m. in Caltech's Beckman Auditorium. This all-mail South African dance company melds African contemporary, neo-African, modern African, Afro-fusion, and new traditional dance. Tickets are priced at #25, \$21, and \$17, youths 12 and under receive \$ off. Tickets can be purchased at the Caltech Ticket Office and all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers. Call 1-888-2CALTECH for more information.

**Caltech Folk Music Society** presents **William Pint and Felicia Dale**, at 8 p.m. on Feb. 12 in Dabney Lounge, on Caltech. William Pint and Felicia Dale, of Seattle, sing a variety of music relating to those who live and work on the sea. More information of the duo is available at <http://members.aol.com/Pintdale>. Tickets are available in advance and at the door, \$12 for adults and \$4 for Caltech students and children under 12. For additional information, call 1-888-2CALTECH.

**Earthquake preparedness training** will be offered by the Pasadena Fire Department through

the Safety Office. Training will be from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Baxter Lecture Hall on Thu., Mar. 9. Learn what to do before, during, and after an earthquake. The session is limited to the first 100 people who sign up. For reservations call Caprice Anderson at x6762.

## SCHOLARSHIP

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

**The Asian and Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE)** is proud to announce that applications are now available for the 2000-2001 APAHE Scholarship Program. Applicants must be California residents currently attending a California college or university, plan to enroll at least half time in the Fall 2000 term (the award year), and maintain satisfactory academic progress. Additionally, applicants must be 21 years old by September 1, 2000, have undergone special life circumstances and unusual hardships, have a 3.5 or above GPA, and demonstrate active community involvement or volunteer work with Asian and Pacific American populations. To apply, applicants must submit an APAHE Scholarship Application and Statement of Candidacy to the Financial Aid. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Applications must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office by February 4, 2000.

**The College Women's Club of Pasadena Scholarship Foundation** is accepting applications for scholarship and fellowship awards for the 2000-2001 academic. Applicants must be female, U.S. citizens, full-time undergraduate and graduate students, sophomore or above, and must have a 3.0 or higher GPA. To apply, applicants must submit an application form, a one page, typed essay, a current academic transcript, and three letters of recommendation, preferably from professors familiar with the student's aspirations and achievements. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Entries must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office by February 8, 2000.

**The American Chemical Society Scholars (ACS) Program** will award approximately 100 scholarship awards to undergraduate students interested in four-year degrees in the chemical science. Applicants must be African-

American, Hispanic, or Native American and be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. These scholarships are valued at up to \$2,500 for the academic year. To apply, applicants must submit an application form, a current academic transcript, and two letters of recommendation. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Entries must be submitted to ACS by February 15, 2000.

**The American Society of Naval Engineers (ASNE)** is offering scholarship awards to \$2,500 for undergraduates and \$3,500 for graduate students for the 2000-2001 academic year. Applicants must be an U.S. citizen and demonstrate a genuine interest in a career in naval engineering. Selection criteria will be based on the candidate's academic record, work history, professional promise and interest in naval engineering, extracurricular activities, and recommendations of college faculty, employers and others. Financial need may also be considered. All graduate students must be members of ASNE or SNAME. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. For further information you may contact: The American Society of Naval Engineers, 1452 Duke St. Alexandria, VA 22314 or phone 703-836-6727. The website address is [www.navalengineers.org](http://www.navalengineers.org). Entries must be submitted to ASNE by February 15, 2000.

**The Korean American Scholarship Foundation (KASF)** is accepting applications for scholarship awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Applicants must be full-time students of Korean American heritage enrolled in at least their second year of undergraduate, graduate school or professional school in the Western Region. To apply, applicants must submit an application form; a current official transcript; two letters of recommendation; one picture of applicant taken within the last year; and a copy of the student's and parent's 1999 Federal Income Tax returns. Applications are available upon written request by writing to Scholarship Committee, KASF Western Region, 3435 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 2450, Los Angeles, CA 90010 or via the web at [www.ksaf.org](http://www.ksaf.org). Entries must be submitted to KASF by February 15, 2000.

**The American Meteorological Society** is pleased to invite applications for the 2000-01 AMS/Industry Undergraduate Scholarships in the atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. Prospective candidates from the fields of earth sciences and related fields who intend to pursue careers in the atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences are encouraged to apply. The award is based on merit and awarded to students who demonstrate potential

for accomplishment in these fields. Applicants must have successfully completed two years of study by August 2000 at an accredited institution with a minimum G.P.A. of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and be U.S. citizen or hold permanent resident status. The scholarships are available to students who will be juniors in the fall of 2000. The award is renewed for the senior year based on the recipient's performance and recommendation of a faculty advisor. Applications can be obtained from the AMS web site at [www.ametsoc.org/AMS](http://www.ametsoc.org/AMS). Any questions may be directed to Donna Fernandez, 617-227-2426 x246, [dfernand@ametsoc.org](mailto:dfernand@ametsoc.org); or Stephanie Armstrong, 617-227-2426 x235, [armstrong@ametsoc.org](mailto:armstrong@ametsoc.org). Applications must be submitted by February 25, 2000.

**The Dennis W. Cabaret Scholarship Committee** is pleased to announce the availability of scholarships for students whose permanent address is in Orange County. Applications must have completed at least one year of college, have a 3.0 or higher GPA, be currently enrolled in an institution of higher education, and clear roots of activism in the Orange County lesbian and gay community. The applicants is advised that the Scholarship Committee may call him or her for a personal interview. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Completed applications should be sent to Dennis W. Cabaret Scholarship, c/o Thomas J. Peterson, 2821 Cassia St. Newport Beach, CA 92660. Entries must be postmarked by February 29, 2000.

**The Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations (COHEAO)** will award six scholarships to eligible undergraduate students for the 2000-01 academic year. Applicants must be U.S. citizens; have a 3.75 or above GPA; enrolled at a COHEAO member school; must be entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year at the member school; and only one scholarships per family per academic year will be awarded. Further information about the COHEAO scholarship is only available via the web at [www.coheao.com/scholarframe.html](http://www.coheao.com/scholarframe.html). To apply, applicants must submit a typed application, 300 word or less typed essay response, academic letter of recommendation, and seal official copy of your most recent transcript. Please send application materials to COHEAO Scholarship Committee, 809 S. Marshfield Ave. M/C 557, Chicago, IL 60612. Application materials must be submitted by March 1, 2000.

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

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