

This a 12 Hour,

# The CALIFORNIA Tech

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Book Tech

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Four Pages



**Dramatic reversals around Tech offices**

Photo by Brian Lockett

## Othello Comes to Tech

by Z-1

Hardly enough can be said about the intellectual stamina of the Caltech student. Even now as midterm madness rages on and the sale of razor blades increases, several Techers are preparing to settle once and for all, the age old dispute between Caltech and *That School on the East Coast*. In an effort to capture the hearts and dollars of us all, Gabriel Industries is introducing the next national craze: the strategy game Othello. The game was created in Japan and is enjoyed to such an extent there that 20,000 strategists recently tore at each others' throats in a national competition. Four million of the board games have been sold in that country and Gabriel Industries lustily "anticipates the same kind of

enthusiasm as was evidenced in Japan."

Fumio Fujita, Japanese national champion of the game, was in town this week to coach a team of Caltechnically superior tacticians who will play a cross-country match against a similarly coached, but pitifully inadequate team from Cambridge, Mass. The battle is tentatively set for the third week in November. For those of us whose hearts are not made of steel, but make excellent banner wavers, a large magnetic Othello board will be located here and at MIT so that the game can be observed as it progresses. Moves will be made by phone-link or fast pigeon. A vicious, unfounded rumor would have us believe that the Team Psychologist for the

opposition refused to allow his players to travel—hence the cross-country nature of the confrontation.

Othello invented by the son of a Shakespearean scholar, is so named because it is said to revolve on "dramatic reversals." It lies somewhere between checkers and chess and involves less chance than backgammon. The game, played on an 8X8 matrix with shiny discs. The credo of the inscrutable game is: "A minute to learn—a lifetime to master." Fate has sealed the future, Mr. and Ms America: throw away your *M.C.O.* and study Shakespeare instead.

P.S.: I'll pay \$10 for a clean copy of *Othello* or a bottle of sake (no edited or watered-down versions, please).

*The best way is to almost die*

## Out of Body

by Alan Silverstein

One of the kinds of people the Y brings to the campus is researchers from other places who are doing unusual or intriguing things in their fields. Last Thursday evening those of us who took time out and wandered over to Winnett heard some fascinating things about parapsychology research from Dr. Charles Tart, Professor of Psychology, UC Davis. Dr. Tart is not only an interesting speaker but one of the few dozen psychologists in the country doing serious scientific research on ESP and altered consciousness. For those of you who didn't make it to the discussion (wherever you were physically located at the time), I'll try to summarize it here.

Of experiences extra-sensory, Dr. Tart said, "You might wonder why a respectable psychologist is talking to you about a subject like that." He hastened to explain that if parapsychology were his only study, he would not be at UC Davis, because funding for the field is virtually non-existent. His interest in the topic has grown out of a new consideration of the question, "What is consciousness?" in a manner scientific rather than philosophical. He is interested in para-psychology because it might "illuminate aspects of the mind not often studied."

Throughout his talk Dr. Tart was careful to be skeptical, and couched his statements with scientific detachment. He led into the subject of "astral travel" by saying that "There's an experience many people have," though the exact number is not known because such experiences are societally taboo, and cases

are seldom reported. "You experience yourself at a location clearly not where your physical body is," and you are certain at the time that "it's not a dream." "Usually your body is a reasonable replica of the physical one, down to the pajamas you are wearing." One often sees one's real body in bed, motionless.

Dr. Tart distinguished experiences of the "second body," the term he prefers, from "lucid dreams," wherein one is conscious of the fact that one is dreaming. Even so, out of the body (or OOB) experiences "could be no more than just an interesting experience at this point"—were it not for the fact that sometimes the second body brings back information the real person could not have had access to.

OOB experiences are distinguished from "absorption," such as in a movie, because in the former, "one is not oriented to one's physical body."

Dr. Tart proceeded to cite several case histories of persons who had OOB experiences. He noted that it is rare that the second body of the traveller is seen as a visible apparition by anyone else. For most people, "astral travel" may occur only once in a lifetime, and not be seen as such because society says it's "not an OK thing." "Logic is wonderful; it can override experience anytime." Most people (scientists included) take the attitude that "it's either a lie or a delusion" when OOB experiences are reported, since "we know it can't happen." Scientists avoid coming across instances of possible ESP because "then they don't have to deny them—which is a wonderful way to preserve a

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In times such as these, things are so grim that one's wisest course of action is merely to take what consolation circumstances offer. The current dearth of potent diversion is matched only by the exorbitant demands of the academic turmoil of midterms—coupled with an early taste of this term's mortality.

Such a situation cannot last, however. Masquerading behind the facade of culture, diversion lurks on the horizon in the guise of the New York City Opera. This season's offerings are heavily sold, with tickets available (if at all) primarily in the fifteen dollar

range at the rear of the orchestra in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.

Your chances of seating at the Ahmanson for this year's Center Theatre Group offerings (the first being Katherine Hepburn in Enig Bagnold's *A Matter of Gravity*) are curiously both the same and the opposite of the opera. As the four play series sold eighty-five percent of its seating by subscription, little remains for those who wish to buy individual plays. Although its opening is over a month away, the second play, Ferenc Molnar's *The Guardsmen*

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## News Briefs News Briefs News Briefs

### Attention, All You Peggy Flemings and Bobby Hulls!

Come glide with us at the new Ice Capades Chalet, 300 E. Green, Pasadena (about a mile west and north of campus) on Sunday November 7 from 12 Noon to 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. Admittance for

adults, \$2.00; Students 15 and under \$1.50; skate rental, \$1.00. Skating demonstrations at 2:00 and 8:00.

A real cool benefit for the service activities of the Caltech Women's Club: the Child Development Center and the Service League.

### Guadalcanal Revisited

The Caltech Gamers, those wonderful people who are bringing you World War II, are staging a naval miniatures game in Dabney Hall Lounge this Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. The game will be a recreation of the First Battle of Guadalcanal, one of the most amazing/amusing battles in naval history. Beginners welcome.

Also for those of you whose fantasy meters are not blown out at the Monty Python flick Friday night, there is always D&D and other fantasy and SF gaming in

Clubroom 1, Winnett, all Friday night.

### Rotor Rooter Spews Tarpits

This week's Olive Walk noon concert will feature the Rotor Rooter Goodtime Christmas Band. For those of you who have never heard the sweet strains of "LaBrea Tarpits" sung by Aufthe Walley *et. al.*, this could be a real treat, and is definitely worth listening to.

### Sister of Kong!

Joanne Kong (sister of one of Caltech's own concert pianists Kathleen Kong) will be performing on the harpsicord on Sunday, November 7 at 8:00 p.m. in Dabney Lounge. This concert is completely free and open to the public. So come and hear Kong's songs.

The Hermann Prey recital scheduled for Caltech's Beckman Auditorium next Saturday November 6 has been cancelled. The German baritone is in Europe, ill with bronchitis, and has had to cancel his U.S. tour. There will be no substitution for the November 6 concert, nor is this a postponement. Ticket holders are requested to return tickets for full refund to: Ticket Office, 332-92, Caltech, Pasadena, CA 91125.

# Astral Travel

Continued from Page One  
belief system.”  
Nonetheless, there are common features in almost all reported OOB cases. If such reports are “an archetypal lie of the human race”, then they are still interesting to psychologists for their consistency. Few people are frightened by OOB when they have it happen to them; most are exhilarated and feel they have found personal evidence of life after death. In fact, Dr. Tart suggested, it’s possible that OOB experiences throughout prehistory were the basis of mankind’s myths about the soul and the afterlife. “I have no doubt in my mind any more that this is where the idea of the soul came from,” he stated.  
Dr. Tart has personally studied, in the lab, two “talented” astral travellers. Talent in this regard implies the ability leave the body more or less at will. In one case, astonishing results were obtained; in both there was statistically significant indication of some kind of ESP at work. One of the subjects showed a highly unusual “alphoid” EEG pattern during reported OOB experiences—evidence that *something* unusual was occurring.  
While Dr. Tart recommended many books during the course of the talk, he could not give a specific method that would seem to increase the chances of OOB experiences, and said that he had not himself had such experiences. He did say that it appears that a likely way to discover the second body is “to almost die—not a technique I recommend.”  
The field of parapsychology is “negligibly funded” and held in common contempt in this country. Dr. Tart said. “It may well be that we are losing the ESP race with Russia,” he remarked rather wryly. A major obstacle to the field gaining credibility, and hence support, is the number of phonies and amateur scientists involved in mystical research. “Our foremost antagonists are not our enemies but our friends,” the professor said. On the other hand, it’s surprising how a lot of people write off successful OOB experiments: “You knew the target number? Oh, then it was just telepathy!”  
There are two schools of thought in qualified circles on the subject of astral travel. The first holds that OOB trips are just what they seem to be; the other says that “the consciousness is not out of the body in any sense—the experience is a combination of hallucination and ESP.”  
Dr. Tart advanced the model  
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# More About Town

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with Maggie Smith and Brian Bedford, is heavily sold. What seating does remain is primarily in the balcony, the least expensive in the house.  
Why, one might ask, would the cheapest Ahmanson and most expensive opera seats remain? The consensus seems to be that the the third floor in the Ahmanson is unacceptably poor, and that fifteen dollars in the Pavilion is close to unacceptably high. The common factor is that the vast majority of seats are sold before general publicity announcements are made. Those who for budgetary or other considerations find they cannot buy the full series—be it drama, opera or the philharmonic—often find themselves aced out of the events.  
Yet while these large houses sell out amidst great furore, excellent productions in smaller theaters (such as *Johnny Belinda* at the Megaw) go begging for audiences. That this should be the case suggests three possibilities. The first is that the tastes of the Los Angeles audience are so discriminating that small productions are not good enough. Lest you gag, turn quickly to the second possibility which is that the Los Angeles audience is either snobbish or limiting its awareness to increase the common ground shared with other Angelenos. The third possibility is simply logistics, the possibility that promotion from the larger houses swamps any thought of the small productions. Defeating either of the latter two possibilities involves no more than a minor sacrifice to the dread god, Inertia.  
This ticket situation greatly resembles that for rock concerts. The main ticket sink rather than subscription, is the ticket broker who knows coming shows (usually through industry connections) and hires people to buy im-  
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# Tech About Town Continues

**Continued from Page Two**  
mediately after sales begin. You will perhaps remember last Friday's warning about Frampton. A few poor seats are still available, but for decent seats you must go to a broker and pay about 200% of the actual ticket price. You can circumvent this problem, too. Either keep your eyes open and buy in the first half hour, or aim at smaller events. The Ice House usually has tickets at the door. Roto is in Winnett Plaza at noon today. Saturday the 13th two progressive rock groups, Wilbur Godsmile and Majestic Sun will be at the Pasadena Center for \$2.50.

If trying to be a Techer around town gets too frustrating, look homeward. Lots of things happen on campus. *Olympia* closes this weekend in Ramo with performances tonight and tomorrow at 8:00 for \$1 at the doors for Techers. Tomorrow at Beckman you can watch the box office hand out refunds to the

scheduled Hermann Prey recital—Herr Prey has bronchitis. Sunday night in Dabney Lounge is the first of the free Dabney Lounge Concerts, this one featuring Joanne Kong on the harpsichord. She will perform works by Rameau, Bach Couperin and Scarlatti. A magnificent opportunity for on-campus diversion of an ongoing nature will soon arrive. Rising like a phoenix from the ashes, the ASCIT musical is cranking up to do *Gyps & Dolls*. Auditions are in two weeks, and openings exist for cast, crew, orchestra, and production staff. If you're interested, buzz Flora at X2157. The musical will fill your spare time this term, and all your time in January and February. If you pick up on it, you can stop reading this column—you'll have all the diversion you can handle.

I find I'm not quite talked out, so I'll turn to some questions raised recently about my favorite topic, the Grateful Dead. The rap about to be laid

down can be traced back to John McIntyre, the Dead's manager. It seems that the Dead are in no danger of breaking up. Plans (exceedingly nebulous at the best of times) are for the Dead to give up touring to spend six months out of a year playing in the San Francisco area (see how easy it is to pick a grad school?). The remaining six months will be devoted to individual weird trips. These trips are the careers of three groups: the Jerry Garcia band (which includes Keith and Donna along with John Kahn & Ron Tutt when last seen); Too Loose (sic?), a new band including Bob Weir, Phil Lesh, Terry Hagerty, and two members of Jim Morrison's back-up band, and lastly the Diga Rhythm Band, a tremendous percussion group led by Mickey Hart and Bill Kreutzman. While no one knows what time will bring, I can at least wish you happy fantasies.

—Chris Harcourt

## RECRUITMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

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Gregory K. Tanaka, Associate Director of Admissions  
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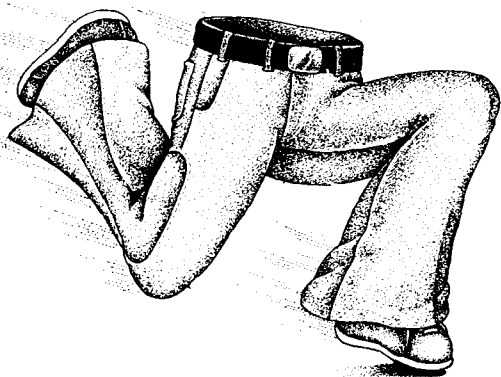
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## Tech Soccer Wins

by B. Bible

On Wednesday (October 27) the Beavers put it all together for their first win in six games as they easily defeated Redlands 4-0, a team which previously had handed the Beavers a 2-0 loss and started our six game losing streak. In a first period marked by outstanding moves on the Beaver front line and magnificent shooting as the halfbacks, Sabetti, Russell and Suwatt provided the necessary support, Trimberger scored first when he took the ball from beneath a startled Redlands goalie. 20 minutes later Sneed dribbled past a stumbling and now dazed goalie as he slipped the second goal in.

The second period again offered the Beavers many beautiful shots as the offense easily passed around a tired and discouraged Redlands defense. Chan scored the third goal less than four minutes after the beginning of the second period and Jim Hickey booted in the fourth and

final goal halfway through the final period.

The Caltech defense with the usually solid play from Bruce Baker, plus the outstanding saves by Snyder and Chen not only stopped the Redlands offense, necessitating only 10 saves by Aydelotte in the goal, but also worked the ball down to a ready offense.

The season record is now 4-6-1.

The Soccer Club also had two victories this week as the A team beat Cal State 3-2 and the B team beat LACC 5-0.

## More Para— psychology

**Continued from Page Two**  
that we humans as conscious beings are actually the result of the heavy interlock of two separate systems, the body and the mind (philosophical "dualism"). Study of the combination can reveal little about the nature of the separate components. Scientific research on out-of-body experiences may be a way to study the mind alone.

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