

Random Walk

Lasker Award



LEROY E. HOOD has received the 1987 Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award, an honor that in biomedicine ranks in prestige just below the Nobel Prize. Hood, the Ethel Wilson Bowles and Robert Bowles Professor of Biology and chairman of the Division of Biology, shares the honor with two others (from MIT and Harvard). He received the award for his "imaginative studies of the somatic recombination of genes of the immune system, which makes possible an infinite diversity of antibodies." Two other Caltech faculty members have won the Lasker Award — Seymour Benzer in 1971 and Roger Sperry in 1979.

Obituaries

ALAN T. MOFFET, professor of radio astronomy, died August 20 at age 51. Moffet had been associated with Caltech's Owens Valley Radio Observatory from its beginning. He helped elucidate the structure of radio sources, and contributed to the design of

radiotelescopes and other instruments.

Moffet received his BA from Wesleyan University in 1957, and his PhD from Caltech in 1961. As a graduate student, he helped build the Owens Valley facility. He joined the faculty in 1966 as an assistant professor, became an associate professor in 1968, and a full professor in 1971. He served as the Observatory's director from 1975 to 1979. He was executive officer for astronomy from 1984 to 1987.

Rodman W. Paul, the Edward S. Harkness Professor of History, Emeritus, died May 15. He was 74. Paul was an authority on the history of the American West and prizewinning author of several books on western mining. In his 40 years at Caltech he built up the history department virtually from scratch and was a strong advocate of improving humanities education at Caltech and of attracting top scholars in the humanities to the Institute. He was also instrumental in developing the Huntington Library's western history collection.

Paul received all his degrees from Harvard (AB 1936, AM 1937, PhD 1943). He came to Caltech in 1947 as associate professor of history, became professor in 1951, and was named to the Harkness chair in 1972. He retired in 1981.

Anthonie Van Harreveld, professor of physiology, emeritus, died August 14 at age 83. Van Harreveld's research was focused on the nervous system, its structure, and its chemical interactions. He had been at Caltech since 1934.

Van Harreveld was a native of Haarlem, the Netherlands. He attended Amsterdam University from 1925 to 1931, earning his BA, MA, PhD, and MD there. He was an assistant there from 1926 to 1932, and chief assistant at Utrecht University, the Netherlands, from 1932 to 1934.

Van Harreveld emigrated to Caltech in 1934 as a research assistant. He served as an instructor from 1935 to 1940. He became an assistant pro-

fessor in 1940, an associate professor in 1942, and a full professor in 1947. He retired as professor emeritus in 1974.

Astronomy Gift

ASTRONOMY AT CALTECH has received a \$1 million gift from Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Oschin. The 48-inch Schmidt telescope at Palomar Observatory will be renamed the Oschin Telescope in their honor.

The gift will be used to fund observations with the 200-inch Hale telescope and a 60-inch telescope as well as the Oschin Telescope. All three telescopes are at Palomar Observatory. The Oschin Telescope is currently part of a five-year project to photograph the entire northern sky. The resulting star atlas will serve as the basic astronomical guide for decades to come.

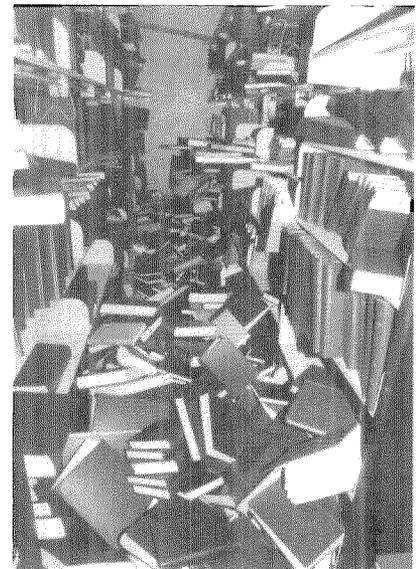
Mr. and Mrs. Oschin are long-term Caltech supporters. Mr. Oschin is an amateur astronomer, and is currently building a 12-inch telescope at his Palm Springs home.

Teaching Awards

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS at Caltech (ASCIT) has recognized six faculty members for their teaching excellence. They are Donald Cohen, professor of applied mathematics; Dennis Dougherty, associate professor of chemistry; Valentina Lindholm, lecturer in Russian; Thomas Prince, associate professor of physics; Jean-Paul Revel, the Albert Billings Ruddock Professor of Biology; and Thomas Tombrello, professor of physics. The awards are based on student evaluations of clarity, enthusiasm, command of subject, rapport with class, and interest in the students as individuals.

Random Walk (continued)

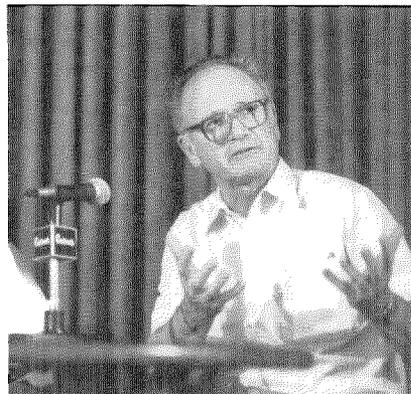
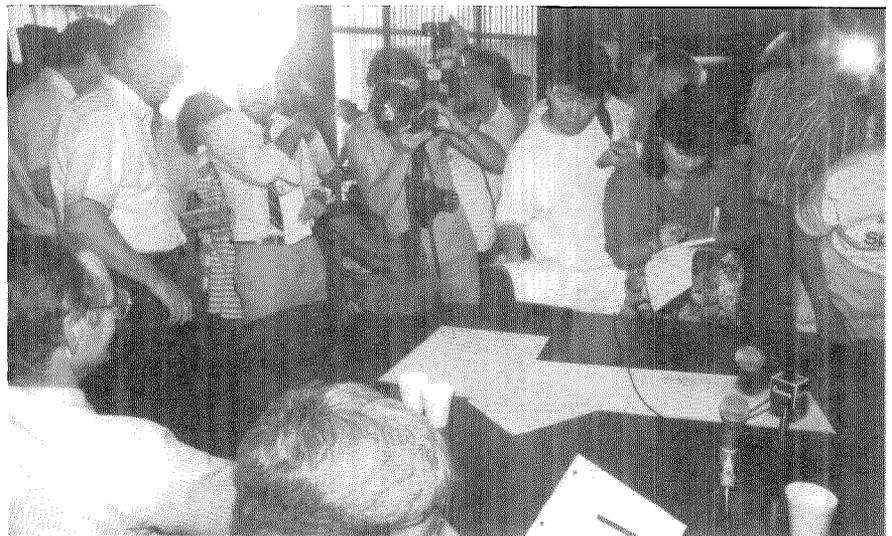
6.1 Earthquake Shakes Up Campus



The early morning quake on October 1, whose epicenter was located just seven miles from campus, tipped over a shelf on the fifth floor of Millikan Library (left) and dumped piles of books off the shelves on the ninth floor.



Damage occurred all over campus, including this crack in a Calder arch, where it joins the Crellin side of the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Laboratory of Chemical Synthesis. This turned out to be minor, but other facilities, such as the 10-foot wind tunnel, didn't fare so well.



By the mid-morning press conference (above), the national news media were besieging Caltech experts for information. The panel included Paul Jennings, division chairman and professor of civil engineering and applied mechanics, and Kate Hutton, staff seismologist (the heads at lower left). Clarence Allen, professor of geology and geophysics (left), describes the Whittier fault during the press conference.