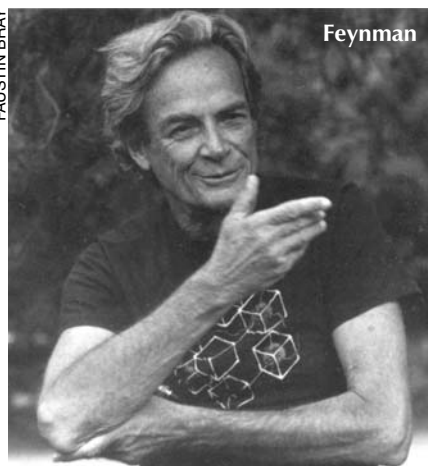




Feynman and Ralph Leighton² is a photograph of Feynman, in which he wears a T-shirt showing the schematic of the parallel supercomputer Connection Machine CM-1, with chips connected in the shape of a hypercube (see photograph above). The idea for the machine was initiated at MIT's Artificial Intelligence Lab in the early 1980s. When Feynman heard of the project, he helped design the machine's connecting network. Carl worked on the machine and its successors.

The US Postal Service sent Michelle a preliminary design of the Feynman stamp, by the artist Victor Stabin. Caltech's Steven Frautschi and Leighton edited the Feynman diagrams for the final version. Who submitted the original diagrams that are the basis for the stamp remains a mystery.

References

1. M. Feynman, ed., *Perfectly Reasonable Deviations from the Beaten Track: The Letters of Richard P. Feynman*, Basic Books, New York (2005).
2. R. P. Feynman, as told to R. Leighton, *What Do You Care What Other People Think?* Norton, New York (1988). This and Michelle Feynman's book were given to ceremony attendees.

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Of Titans and Gods and Knowing the Difference

I enjoyed reading Paul Guinness's Issues and Events piece "Statue Hid Hipparchus Star Catalog" (PHYSICS TODAY, April 2005, page 27). Insight into ancient historical

achievements teaches, if nothing else, humility about our achievements. There is a minor error in the explanatory text: Atlas is not a Greek god, but a Titan, and thus an adversary of the gods.

According to classical Greek mythology,¹ after a 10-year war, the gods won, and all male Titans except Atlas were exiled to an island in the Far West. The female Titans were left unharmed, since two of them had aided the gods in their struggle. Atlas, as ringleader, got a particular sentence: He was condemned to carry the heavens on his shoulders.

Reference

1. R. Graves, *The Greek Myths*, Penguin Books, New York (1955).

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Correction

September 2005, page 31—The median number of physics bachelor's degrees awarded in 2003 by departments that don't have a graduate program was 3. The average number was 3.9. ■

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