

Sarath Krishnaswamy/The Tech  
The Goodyear blimp flies overhead during the opener of the American League playoff series Wednesday afternoon.

## Ethics colloquium set for Oct. 18

By Amy Ravin

Three student groups and the MIT Colloquium committee are sponsoring a colloquium on "How To Be Good" — including ethics and professional responsibility in an MIT education.

The colloquium, scheduled for Oct. 18, will feature Institute Professor Noam Chomsky of the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, Institute Professor Emeritus Philip Morrison of the Department of Physics, and Professor Sheila Widnall '60 of the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics. After a formal presentation in the Sala de Puerto Rico, there will be a panel discussion with audience participation. The audience will then break into

smaller sections within living groups for dinner and discussion, said Anne Louit '90, chairman of the Student Committee on Educational Policy and a student coordinator of the colloquium. Each living group will invite faculty members to attend their dinner and discussion.

The colloquium is intended not only to discuss the role of ethics in education, but also to enhance student/faculty relations and interactions, Louit said. It will include the entire MIT community — faculty, administration, graduate and undergraduate students.

Louit and Richard Lightburn '89 originated the idea for the colloquium last spring. They wanted to create a community-

## UA holds its first meeting of the year and reveals activities

By Darrel Tarasewicz

At its first meeting of the year, the Undergraduate Association Council presented to its new and returning members the goals that it will pursue for the 1988-89 school year. The projects include sending out a Quality of Life survey and investigating renovating dormitory dining halls.

Jonathan Katz '90, UA president, reaffirmed the role of the UA council as that of a "communicator." Over 80 percent of the calls that come to the UA are from people seeking information of what is happening on campus, he said.

The main purpose of the meeting was to present each of the UA's general committees and what was on their agenda for this year. The Student Committee on Educational Policy will be putting together a Quality of Life survey, according to Anne Louit '90.

The Association for Student Activities will be conducting a survey to see how students spend their time. This survey will also look into what impact living

groups have on student life, Julia Hsieh '89, said.

The ASA will also conduct survey of the Class of 1972, Hsieh added. They will look into the graduates' current business positions and try to discover what offices these individuals held during their undergraduate years. By making these correlations, the ASA will try to make clear to the administration the importance of student activities, she added.

The Course Evaluation Guide plans to conduct the biggest evaluation in MIT's history this November, David Atkins '89, chairman of CEG, said. The guide that will come out next spring will hopefully have over 180 evaluations, Atkins said.

The ARA committee will investigate whether the new food court in the Student Center is a good change, Patricia Wilson '90, said. It will also look into ARA's suggestions of renovating living group dining halls and turning Lobby 13 into a lounge resembling the one in the Student Center.

## MIT budget to face future deficits

By Darrel Tarasewicz

Due to the small budget surplus for fiscal year 1988 and the projected deficits through 1991, tuition for MIT for the 1989-90 school year may rise more precipitously than in prior years, said James J. Culliton, vice president for financial operations.

Culliton also suggested that building a new undergraduate dormitory could allow MIT to increase class size and collect more tuition revenues.

MIT's operating expenses in FY 1988 were \$944.2 million, which represented a seven percent gain since FY 1987, based on a financial results report that Culliton prepared for department heads. But total operating revenues amounted to \$939.9 million, only a 6.9 percent increase.

To balance the budget, \$4.5 million of unrestricted gifts were used, the report said.

The president and the provost have asked several of MIT's senior officials to develop ways in which to address the current financial situation, Culliton said.

Increasing tuition or decreasing salaries are the two main ways that MIT can directly alter the amount of revenue in its budget, Culliton stressed. "We have to be competitive with the faculty salaries if we want to keep the best people here," he said.

Culliton stressed that in MIT's financial picture there are many variables which are "unpredict-

able" and that the funding situation can change very rapidly. In the mean time, Culliton and others will determine how big of an impact an increase in tuition will have on offsetting the expected increase in operating costs.

According to Culliton, a major factor in the decreased revenue was weak growth in incoming research funds. In the past five years, while MIT was operating on a modest surplus, research funds were growing at a rate of five to six percent each year, Culliton said. However, in 1988, the growth rate fell to 2.8 percent.

For FY 1989, a zero base growth rate is being projected, Culliton noted.

"The federal government has really cut back," Culliton said. Also, since 1984, the government has been placing greater emphasis on the educational role of professors and has been cutting back on research funds, he added.

MIT has been following this trend with efforts by Provost John M. Deutch '56 to get junior faculty more involved in education, Culliton said.

### Smaller class size contributes to problem

Over the past four years, MIT gradually reduced the undergraduate class size by about 50 people, Culliton said. "This was done mainly to alleviate the crowding in housing," he added.

But in a strict sense, it also represented a loss in revenue, Culliton said.

Culliton explained that by increasing the class size again, it would bring in more funds, but "the quality of life will go down." Thus one of the possibilities being considered is the building of a new undergraduate dormitory, he said.

"You would be able to pay for the dormitory with the tuition that the 50 extra students would provide," Culliton said. Also, this would ease the crowding situation that is still a problem, he added.

But a new dormitory is just one of many approaches that is being looked into, Culliton said. "One of the biggest problems is where to build it," he noted.

## Phone switchover delayed

By Darrel Tarasewicz

Due to technical difficulties, the cutover of the academic and administrative portions of the MIT phone system to the new SESS digital telephone network has been delayed till Oct. 28, according to Morton Berlan, director of telecommunications. The cutover had been originally scheduled to begin today.

"AT&T has encountered a number of technical problems which require additional time to resolve in order to guarantee the right kind of cutover that both MIT and AT&T desire," Robert Agricola, AT&T area vice president, said.

Living group phones were cutover to the new system last August. The entire campus was planned to be cutover at that time, but technical difficulties caused the date initially to be postponed to today.

## City council considers parking law

By Andrew L. Fish

The Cambridge City Council faced dozens of angry residents Monday night as it contemplated the possibility of lawsuits resulting from its commercial parking policy. The conflict could possibly endanger future development throughout the city, including MIT's University Park.

The city council voted 7-0 Monday to call for an investigation into whether the building permit for a controversial parking garage near Kendall Square should be revoked.

At issue is a federal parking freeze instituted by the Clean Air Act of 1973. Cambridge may have exceeded the freeze limits by more than 7000 spaces, the Environmental Protection Agency said last Friday.

But a joint statement from the EPA and the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering read by city manager Robert W. Healy said both agencies were still reviewing the matter.

"It is our joint opinion that to withdraw any construction permit for any parking facility on the basis of an alleged violation of the parking freeze would be, at this juncture, premature," the statement said.

In 1973, the EPA and local officials agreed that the city had 3452 off-street commercial parking spaces. The EPA allowed some cities to increase parking by at most 10 percent, which would allow 3797 spaces. But the city has claimed that it was allowed to increase commercial parking to 13,844 spaces.

Both city and EPA officials are trying to find the cause of the discrepancy. City officials may have added more off-street parking to the freeze limit than permitted. Also, since 1984 city officials have granted exemptions to garages that exclusively serve offices, retail, and restaurant establishments. The city claimed such facilities should be exempt since they charge a standard monthly or yearly fee. The federal guidelines do not make this distinction.

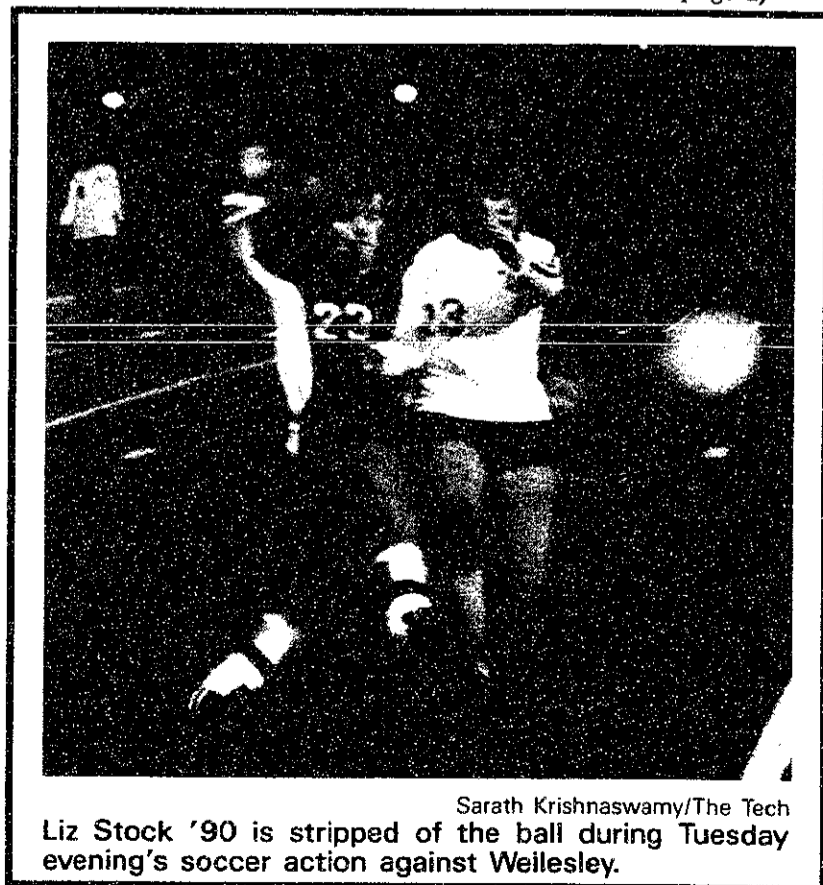
City officials were clearly wor-

ried about the possibility of litigation. "There is a frightening thought that some of us could get sued," Mayor Alfred Vellucci said. "I don't want to lose my house."

Indeed, after a public meeting on the Binney St. garage, which caused the possible Clean Air Act violations to come to light, the council adjourned into executive session to discuss possible violations of the parking freeze.

While the council ordered a review of the garage's permit, such an order is not binding. And

(Please turn to page 2)



Sarath Krishnaswamy/The Tech  
Liz Stock '90 is stripped of the ball during Tuesday evening's soccer action against Wellesley.

## UA will sponsor ethics colloquium

(Continued from page 1)  
 approach that has been used in the past, but not during the 1987-88 academic year.

While the five previous MIT colloquia have focused on national and international problems, this event will focus on an issue related specifically to MIT. The coordinators wanted a subject that would be pertinent to the entire community, said Charles Whetsel '89, president of the Dormitory Council.

"The topic is something we felt was first and foremost on a lot of people's minds," Whetsel, a student coordinator, said. Since it affects both the students and the faculty, it is expected to promote participation and interaction, he explained.

Much discussion has centered on educational reform lately. "One of the issues that always comes up is what MIT does to humanize its students, to make them well rounded and able to face the ethical issues when they enter the laboratory or engineering workplace," Merritt noted.

The colloquium is sponsored by the SCEP, the InterFraternity Council, the Dormitory Council,

and the MIT Colloquium Committee. With this broad base, it will include all the living groups to try to include as much of the community as possible.

This colloquium is "driven largely by student energies," a distinct change from the past, Merritt said.

## Cambridge may have broken EPA parking rule

(Continued from page 1)

Robert McLaughlin, attorney for the Athenaeum Group, which is building the garage, disputed the legality of the hearing, arguing that the council does not have the right to grant or revoke permits.

### MIT could be affected

Walter L. Milne, assistant to the chairman of the MIT Corporation and the president, said the issue was currently in "a state of confusion." Until the city resolves the issue, MIT will not know how it may be affected, he explained.

The Institute Colloquium program began three years ago as the brainchild of former Professor Frank Morgan '74. Five different colloquia were held, covering such topics as South Africa and apartheid, AIDS, Japanese and American economic competition, and image making.

MIT does operate two commercial parking lots — at the corner of Massachusetts Ave. and Vassar St. and at the corner of Ames St. and Main St., Milne said.

Also, commercial parking is planned for University Park, the MIT land currently under development by Forest City Enterprises. The development has been the target of much community opposition. Forest City's legal counsel is currently looking at the implications of the parking freeze controversy, Milne said.

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## notices

### Friday, Oct. 7

There will be a workshop on urban and rural environments hosted by the Middlesex and Essex Conservation Districts. The workshop will be held at Bentley College, Graduate Studies Building, Waltham on October 7-8 and on October 21-22. For more information call 263-2291.

### Sunday, Oct. 9

The Harvard Square Oktoberfest will be celebrating its 10th Anniversary from noon to 6 pm (Raindate is Columbus Day, October 10). For more information about the Oktoberfest, call the Harvard Square Business Association at (617) 491-3434.

### Monday, Oct. 10

Tufts Associated Health Plan is sponsoring the Twelfth Annual Tufts 10K for Women on Monday, October 10, 1988 at 12

noon. The registration fee is \$9.00 which includes a long-sleeve T-shirt. For more information, call Sue Downey at (617) 439-7700.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Riverside Family Institute will have a discussion on healing yourself during separation and divorce. It is a free lecture that will be held at 7:30 pm on Monday, October 10 at the Riverside Family Institute, 259 Walnut Street, Newtonville, Room 14. For more information, call Pat Williams at (617) 964-6933.

### Wednesday, Oct. 12

Donald Woods, the South African journalist whose books *Biko* and *Asking for Trouble* were the inspiration for the film "Cry Freedom," will speak at Simmons College on Wednesday, October 12 at 7:00 pm in Room C103 at Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston. Admission is \$2. For more information, call (617) 738-2124.

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25 student scholarships will be awarded to cover workshop registration fees. For applications, contact the National Director, MIT Enterprise Forum, at the address below. Application deadline is Friday, October 14, 1988. Scholarships will be awarded in order of application receipt, and will be announced on Friday, October 21, 1988.

For registration forms and more information, please contact:

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# news roundup

from the associated press wire

## World

### Kidnappers threaten US hostages

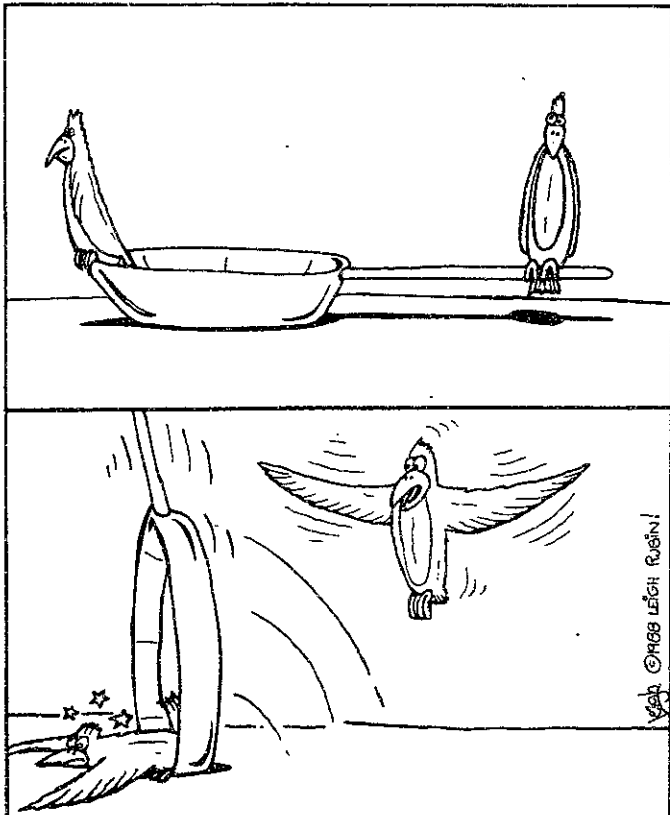
Once again, kidnappers threatened the safety of American hostages in Lebanon. The latest warning came in a typewritten statement accompanied by a photo of American hostage Joseph Cicippio, from a group that also claims to be holding American Edward Tracy. The kidnappers expressed unhappiness with a French proposal to send UN troops to police Lebanon's stalled presidential elections, saying they would use all their cards, including the safety of the hostages, to fight the plan.

### Chile celebrates Pinochet's defeat

Thousands of Chileans are celebrating Wednesday's ball-box victory over General Augusto Pinochet. Jubilant Santiago residents tossed confetti, marched in the streets, and shouted, "He has fallen!" Wednesday's crushing rejection of the army commander who seized power 15 years ago clears the way for elections to return Chile to democracy.

The United States is calling Chile's vote results an important step toward democracy. But the head of a private research group says Pinochet may not be finished politically. Larry Birns of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs points to the opposition's narrow margin of victory, saying "The old fox is in good shape."

Rubes® By Leigh Rubin



"Sorry old boy, I didn't mean to fly off the handle."

### Freed hostage gives information

A US official said the State Department team debriefing freed Indian hostage Mithileshwar Singh in West Germany is getting a lot of "raw information" that could be helpful in learning about the other hostages in Lebanon. Singh reportedly has told the team that he and the three other Americans were frequently moved by their abductors to thwart efforts to locate them.

## Sports

### Oakland beats Boston again

Oakland has taken a 2-0 lead over Boston in the American League Championship Series. The A's nipped the Red Sox 4-3 Thursday night on a Walt Weiss RBI single in the ninth inning.

Boston's Roger Clemens and Oakland's Storm Davis combined to allow only three hits in the game over the first five and one-half innings. But they tired and the batters started finding holes in later innings.

The Red Sox scored two unearned runs in the sixth and picked up another on Rich Gedman's homer in the seventh.

The A's got their first three runs in the seventh on a two-run homer by Jose Canseco and an RBI single by Mark McGwire.

Gene Nelson, who threw one and one-third innings of scoreless relief, got the win. Dennis Eckersley pitched a perfect ninth for a save, and the loss fell to Boston reliever Lee Smith.

The teams now head to the west coast for game three in Oakland Saturday night.

### Johnson steroid controversy continues

There is another development in the Ben Johnson Olympic drug scandal. A company that sells the drug Stanazolol, which is the steroid found in Johnson's system after the 100 meters, said it sold some of it to Johnson's doctor, George Astaphan. A spokesman for Sterling Research says company officials have found a record of the sale. The doctor has denied giving Johnson the drug.

## Campaign

### Polls show Bentsen defeated Quayle

ABC News' overnight survey after Wednesday night's vice-presidential debate said those who had watched the debate favored Democrat Lloyd Bentsen over Republican Dan Quayle, 51 percent to 27 percent. The survey also indicated that Democratic Presidential nominee Michael Dukakis moved up three percentage points into a virtual tie with George Bush.

Nevertheless, both sides claimed they had come out fine. Dukakis said the debate in Omaha had exposed Quayle as "programmed beyond belief" while Bentsen had appeared knowledgeable and relaxed. Bush disagreed, saying that his running mate had proved to be knowledgeable.

## Nation

### SDI cost estimate lowered

The Defense Department said it is cutting the cost estimate for the first phase of President Reagan's proposed space-based defense system, "Star Wars." It said the figure was dropped from \$115 billion to \$69 billion. And it said the first stage of the missile defense system could be available in a decade. However, Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn says the cost figure should be regarded skeptically. He says such estimates typically fall during the planning stages but rise when production begins.

### VA on track to Cabinet-level position

The Veteran's Administration has moved a step closer to becoming a Cabinet-level agency. The House yesterday easily approved a bill transforming the VA into the government's fourteenth Cabinet department. Next stop is the Senate, where passage is also considered likely. President Reagan supports the bill too.

## Weather

### Octobrr. . .

The first "big chill" of the season will continue this weekend as mostly sunny but chilly weather will be the rule for all but southern and south coastal New England. Saturday morning an upper-level disturbance will likely initiate the development of a low pressure center east of New Jersey. As the low develops, winds will become northeasterly along coastal sections, allowing Atlantic moisture to move onshore. Light precipitation will break out in coastal sections Saturday morning in the form of rain showers or mixed rain and snow showers. After the low passes our area, clearing and milder weather is anticipated through early next week.

**Today:** Partly to mostly sunny and cool. Winds northwest 10 mph. High around 53°F.

**Tonight:** Becoming partly cloudy late, cold. Winds coming from the northeast at 10 to 15 mph. Low 38°F.

**Saturday:** Variably cloudy with scattered light rain or mixed rain and snow showers along the coast. The cloudiest weather and steadiest precipitation will fall in southeastern Massachusetts and the Cape. Winds northeast at 10 to 20 mph. High near 45°F; low 34°F.

**Sunday:** Partly cloudy and a bit milder. Winds northwest 10 to 15 mph. High 51-55°F. Low 35-40°F.

Forecast by Michael C. Morgan

Compiled by Prabhat Mehta

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# opinion

Column/Hal Abelson

## Athena possesses student's face

I was surprised to see David S, one of my sophomore advisees, appear for his appointment on Reg Day wearing a paper bag over his head. "That looks different," I volunteered. "Is this the beginning of some new hack, or are you getting an early start running for UMOC?"

His reply was a groan of exasperation. "No, this bag isn't my idea. The Dean's office suggested that I wear it for my own legal protection until my case is resolved. You see, I've been getting letters from lawyers at Digital and IBM claiming that their companies have rights to my face and demanding that I stop showing my face in public."

"That's the nuttiest thing I've ever heard. How did you get into this mess?"

"Project Athena," he sighed. "Digital and IBM claim that they own rights to public display of my face because I made a picture of myself using Athena. You see, last spring my mother asked for a high-tech looking picture of me to help decorate her booth selling Mother's Homemade Cookies at our church charity bazaar. So I

had some friends take a TV picture of me wearing my MIT t-shirt, digitized the picture, printed it on one of the Athena printers, and mailed it home.

"At the bazaar, a man started talking to my mother about how proud she must be to have a son at MIT, and he asked about the picture and how it was made. It turned out that he was a marketing manager for IBM. In July, I received letters from lawyers at DEC and IBM, informing me that I had unlawfully allowed my mother to make commercial use of Project Athena resources. They said any such rights have already been granted to their companies by MIT, and they demand that I cease making any public use of my face until the matter is resolved. I called the Dean's office, and they said that there really may be a problem here and suggested that I wear this bag temporarily until things worked out."

"David, this is crazy," I sputtered. "MIT doesn't grant rights to students' personal work. MIT doesn't even own what you do on Athena, so there are no rights to

be granted in the first place."

"That's what I thought, but the Dean's office says you're wrong."

A phone call to the head of the MIT Technology Licensing Office revealed that I was indeed wrong. "Yes, Professor, MIT's contract with Digital and IBM grants them rights to all MIT-owned material produced with Athena resources. And yes, MIT owns all student work that makes significant use of Athena. I'm afraid your young friend jumped the gun by letting his mother use that picture without first getting our permission. But tell him not to worry. I think this can all be worked out reasonably, given time. He should be able to take that bag off in time for his graduation picture."

\* \* \* \* \*

I ran into David on Kresge Oval yesterday. He was bagless and smiling. "Well David, I see you're showing your face again. Does that mean your legal problems have been worked out?"

"Everything's fine. The Technology Licensing Office ruled that even though I printed the picture using Athena, that does not constitute 'significant use of Athena resources,' so MIT has waived rights to the picture. It's a good thing I only printed the original image. I had planned to do some fancy processing on it before I sent it to my mother. But that's all settled now," he grinned.

"Even so," I replied, "You seem awfully happy about it. I'd still be annoyed if I were you."

"It's not that," he said. "I'm smiling because I'm in love. I met this wonderful woman in my 6.002 recitation. I think about her all the time. And she likes me, too. I've been making her presents. Look . . ."

He handed me an ornate valentine. I opened it and saw that the inside was an LCD surface that spelled out "I love you" in an animated sequence. A miniature speaker played tinny romantic music.

"She thought it was cute," he explained. "We can program LCDs and the music for any kind of personal message. She and I have been advertising them at Harvard and BU. We've already got tons of advance orders for Valentine's Day."

"David," I asked in a worried tone, "what computers have you two been using to program these cards?"

"Oh, my God," he gasped, and rushed off towards McCormick.

*Hal Abelson PhD '73 is an Associate Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.*



## feedback

### Homosexuals do not fit in any one stereotype

To the Editor:

Everyone at MIT is a nerd. How many times have you heard this stereotype? You know that it is not really true, although there is a certain grain of truth to it, for there are some students here who become absorbed into their classwork and have few other interests or activities.

All gay men are screaming queens and wildly effeminate. Similarly, this too is a stereotype that is seldom true. There is, however, a grain of truth in that. There are a small number of men who fit this description, but they are definitely a minority within a minority. Most gay men and lesbians are not readily identifiable. They can be your friends and co-workers, and you might never know if they do not choose to tell you.

Studies show that 10 percent of the population is gay, or at least feel gay tendencies even if they never act on them. Ten percent is a lot; that's 450 undergraduates. "Where are they?" you may ask. From my own personal observations, only half of those 450 people would ever identify themselves as gay, and only another

half of those are really going to come out in terms of telling very many people that they are gay. Our society keeps most of these people from coming out because of its prejudice and bigotry. So are there 112.5 out gay undergraduates? I can't personally name quite that many, but I can certainly believe it. There are gay people in each class, in every dorm and most fraternities.

So what's the point to all of this? This Tuesday (Oct. 11) is National Coming Out Day, as sponsored by the National Gay Rights Advocates. I'm already out to my family, my friends, and most of the people I work with. And I'm not going to go out to complete strangers and say, "Look at me, I'm gay!" That may be one aspect of me, but that's not what I want to be remembered for. It's also not an appropriate way to meet people. Maybe on Tuesday someone will come out to you, maybe not. But I do want everyone to realize that when they say "I've never met a gay person" that they are probably wrong. We're everywhere.

Mark Rosenstein '85

*Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.*

*Letters to the Editor are welcome. They must be typed double spaced and addressed to The Tech, PO Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge MA 02139, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483.*

*Letters and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without express prior approval of The Tech. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters. Shorter letters will be given higher priority. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.*

# The Tech

Volume 108, Number 39 Friday, October 7, 1988

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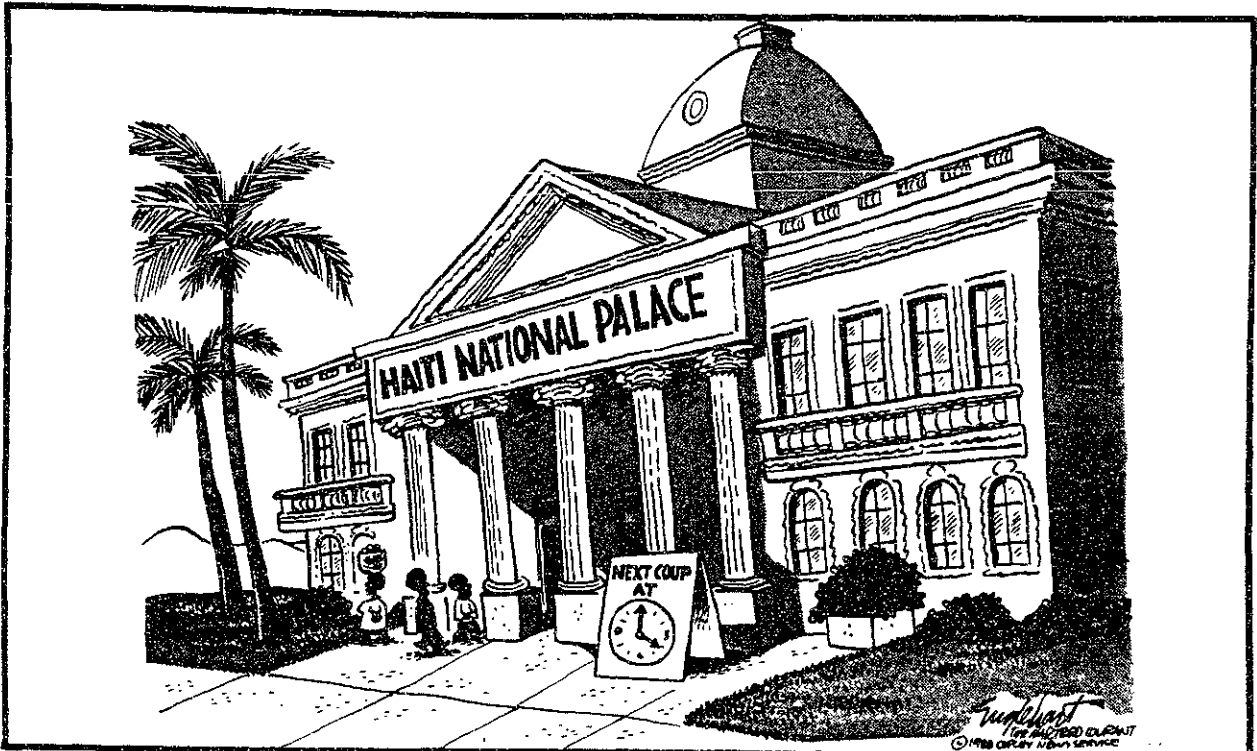
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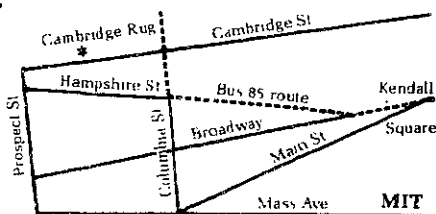
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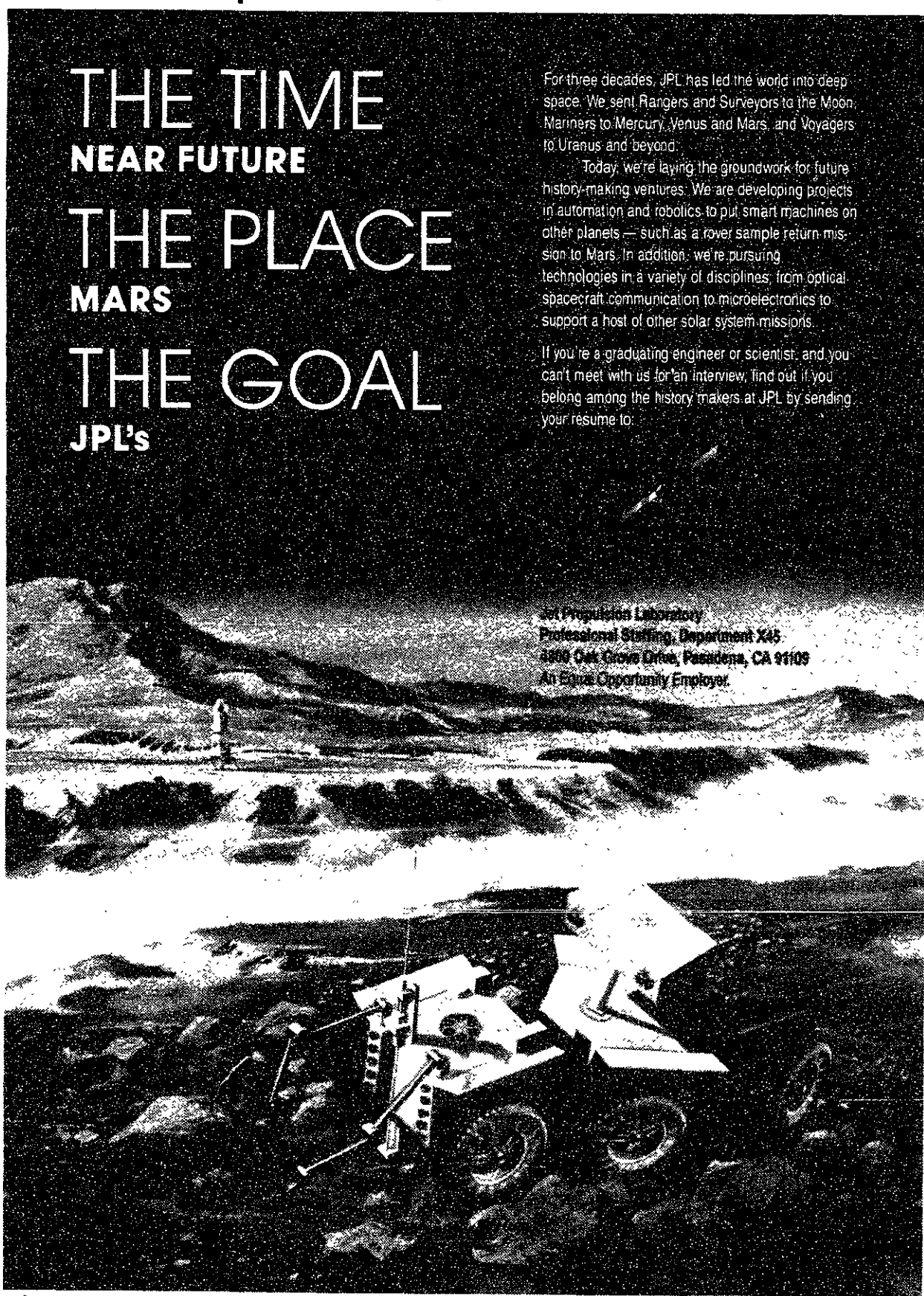
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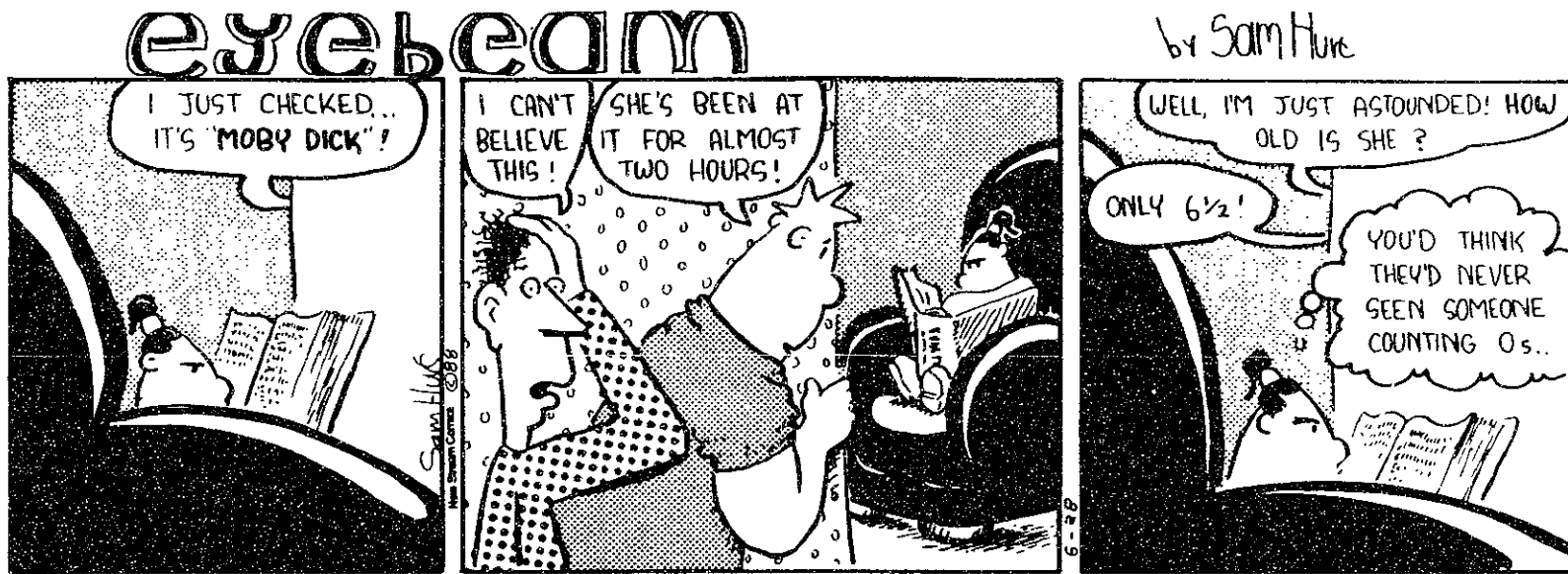
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## Hastily made documentary addresses too many issues

### COVERUP BEHIND THE IRAN CONTRA AFFAIR

Directed by Barbara Trent.  
Written by Eve Goldberg.  
Narrated by Elizabeth Montgomery.  
Opens today at the Coolidge Corner.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

**T**HE LONGSTANDING AND heinous practice of appealing to the lowest common denominator in order to reach a broader audience has come full circle with this film. Instead of diluting or watering down the film's content, Director/Producer Barbara Trent and Producers Gary Meyer and David Kasper have done exactly the opposite: they eagerly tackle an unusually large number of issues. This might seem at first glance to be a positive effort to convey their political convictions at a time when most filmmakers flee from controversial or volatile topics.

However, the film's vast scope crowds out any serious analysis or in-depth discussion of individual issues, and that robs the film of much of its potential impact — which is precisely what would have happened had the filmmakers reduced the film's content to soggy mush. As a result, *Coverup Behind the Iran Contra Affair* erects unnecessary barriers that the audience has to overcome before the film can make its points.

The title would seem to suggest that the film examines how effective and comprehensive last year's Congressional investigation into the Iran Contra scandal was. In fact, the film also includes claims about a confederation of former intelligence officials who wage "war around the world for their personal profit," the CIA's involvement with drug traffickers, covert operations designed to overthrow governments, political bombings and assassinations, a secret deal between the 1980 Reagan/Bush campaign and Khomeini, Oliver North's plan to suspend the Constitution during a crisis, the domino effect as applied to Communism, and the validity of covert operations in general. The film even mentions the Warren Commission's investigation into John F. Kennedy's assassination, the Bay of Pigs invasion, and the internment camps for Japanese-Americans during WWII.



Needless to say, each one of these topics could easily fill volumes. (The report of the Iran-Contra Committee alone was over 700 pages long.) It simply is not possible for a film only about 85 minutes long to discuss this many issues with any depth or particular insight. The topics, of course, are interrelated, and the filmmakers have fascinating opinions and facts to present on many of them. However, their film has precious little room left over for substantive debate or examination of evidence to convince skeptics, and even sympathetic viewers are likely to be overwhelmed by the sheer enormity of the film's scope.

The film does include some opposing

views as well as visual evidence, such as video clips and still photographs, and the film is at its best during these moments. At one point, the film charges that the Congressional hearings deliberately avoided controversial topics. It then shows Chairman Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) silencing Rep. Jack Brooks (D-Texas) as Brooks attempts to question North about his plans to transform the innocuous Federal Emergency Management Agency into a tool for suspending Constitutional rights during a crisis. This one simple clip easily makes the most compelling point in the entire film.

The bulk of the film, however, falls prey

to the filmmakers' seeming desire to create a comprehensive testimonial to their political views. Much of the film's evidence consists of little more than quick zooms onto catchy words in newspaper headlines. Relevant documents are flipped through, but only once or twice are any excerpts shown onscreen. Participants in the activities cited by the film are interviewed, but the evidence they have to offer is overshadowed by the filmed commentary by professors and Congressmen. The end result is that the film offers just enough evidence to ground its claims within reality but not enough to support its claims without additional help from sympathetic viewers. It's dismaying that the filmmakers have incorporated such a broad spectrum of issues that they can only offer hints and suggestions as proof for their stated claims.

In addition, the entire production was shot on video and then transferred to 16mm film for theatrical distribution. Consequently, the technical merits are about average for television but substandard for 16mm film production. Because most documentarists work on shoestring budgets, shooting in the more expensive 16mm format imposes the need for strong discipline on the filmmaker's part. Video removes this financial incentive and therefore fosters a lower average quality, but that pitfall can be avoided by conscientious video artists. This film, however, is so dependent on video that even the credits look blurred and hazy. The film does manage to make its points, but as filmmaking it leaves much to be desired.

This lack of technical quality is important because it becomes yet one more weakness that viewers must endure while watching the film. In order for a film like this to be truly effective, it has to be airtight intellectually and cinematically. Documentaries such as *Still Killing Us Softly*, *If You Love This Planet*, and *Point of Order* are famous precisely because they tackle their complex topics (sexism in advertising, nuclear fallout, and the McCarthy hearings, respectively) with such compelling intensity that their critics are hard pressed to find any holes in their content or technical presentation. *Coverup Behind the Iran Contra Affair* does have some interesting points to make, but its content is too dispersed to inspire one to overlook its numerous faults.

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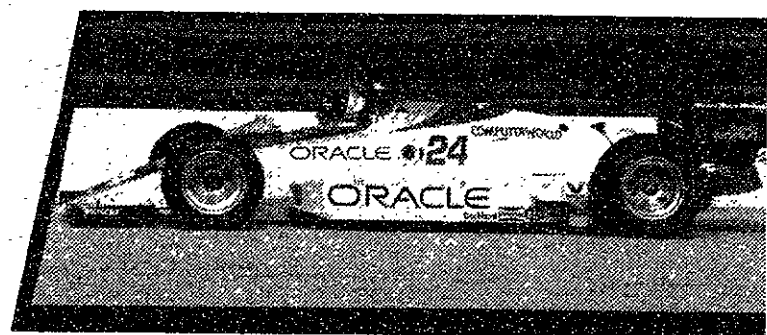
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## ARTS

## Film's ambiguity insinuates intriguing Oedipal overtones

### TRACK 29

Directed by Nicolas Roeg.  
Written by Dennis Potter.  
Starring Theresa Russell, Gary Oldman,  
and Christopher Lloyd.  
Opens today at the Nickelodeon.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

LIKE SO MANY OTHER DIRECTORS, Nicolas Roeg loves to erase the distinction between reality and fantasy in his films and add a dash of incoherence as well. He does not, however, demonstrate in *Track 29* the sure and guiding hand needed to successfully integrate film and dreams into a memorable experience. The striking moments in Roeg's latest film are few, and even those scenes cannot sustain their power outside the screening room.

The film opens with a young man named Martin (Gary Oldman, who strikingly portrayed Sid Vicious in *Sid and Nancy*) hitchhiking down a small winding road in the countryside. He abruptly screams out "Mommeeeee!" as the film cuts to a close-up of his face. Just as quickly, the film shifts its focus to a quiet little home in which Linda Henry (Theresa Russell, Roeg's real-life wife) and her husband Henry (Christopher Lloyd) live, and as might be expected in a Roeg film, appearances are deceiving. It turns out that Linda is a bored alcoholic housewife whose indulgence in numerous material comforts can't break the monotony of married life with Henry, who devotes all of his attention to model trains and none to her.

Like everyone else in the film, Henry is slightly warped and psychotic. He loses his job as a physician because he neglects his patients to play masochistic games with Nurse Stein (Sandra Bernhard). The only time he comes alive is when he delivers the keynote address to a railroad convention in town.

Henry's problems are small, however, compared to Linda's troubles. Martin sneaks up on her as she's swimming in her

backyard pool and claims to be her long-lost son. But Martin is a creepy chap, alternating between childish outbursts and semi-rational proclamations like "I want to have my childhood. It's my birthright." Linda is alternately attracted to and repulsed by Martin, and Martin acts in ways that create a bizarre sexual tension between them. The Oedipal reference becomes complete when Martin goes on a rampage against Henry and his model trains.

Director Roeg plays several cinematic tricks that make Linda (and viewers) doubt whether Martin really exists, and here lies the essential point of the film, such as it is. Linda's life is improved by some violent acts against Henry, such as the big demolition scene already mentioned; the gist is that Martin might really be a fabrication dreamed up by Linda to delegate responsibility for these acts of violence.

In addition, Roeg borrows many motifs from Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*, including an eerie house, but Roeg's film can't match the psychological impact of Hitchcock's masterpiece. And *Track 29* clearly has little or nothing to do with feminist statements against outmoded husband-wife relationships, since Roeg pays a rather curious tribute to leading lady and wife Russell by focusing his camera on her behind at several moments in the film.

The film is devoid of any serious content, and ends up being little more than a collage of some vivid images, such as Martin smashing baby dolls between onrushing model trains. *Track 29* is, at least, more coherent than Roeg's previous film, *Castaway*, and the characters aren't as completely offensive as in *Castaway*. Stanley Myers's music is particularly subtle and effective, but after all the pyrotechnics and histrionics, the film still doesn't leave any lasting impression that's worth speaking of.

*This is an expanded version of the review that ran in these pages during last month's Boston Film Festival.*

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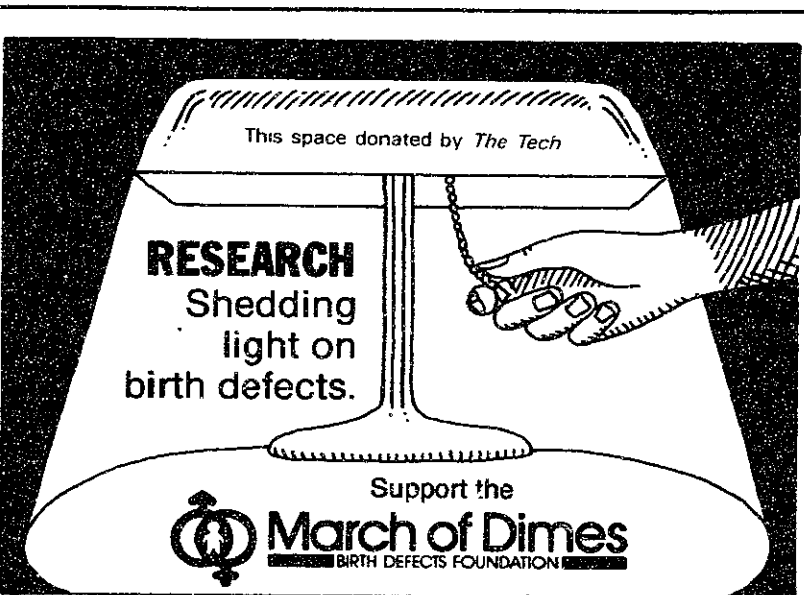
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*The Tech Performing Arts Series, a service for the entire MIT community, from The Tech, MIT's student newspaper, in conjunction with the Technology Community Association, MIT's student community service organization.*



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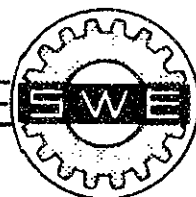
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MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY STUDENT SECTION

## 10th Annual Career Fair and Banquet

sponsored by Society of Women Engineers

### Banquet

Friday, October 14

Reception – 6 pm

Dinner – 7 pm

at the Hyatt Regency, Cambridge  
Members FREE, Guests, \$12.00

### Career Fair

Noon – 5 pm

Saturday, October 15  
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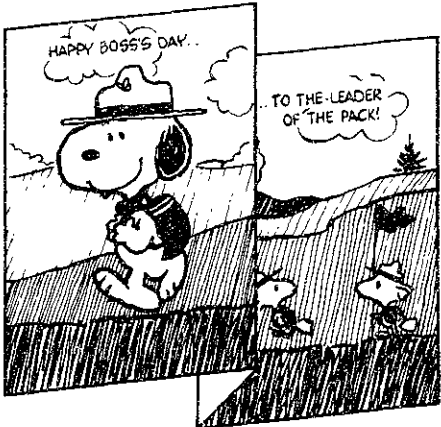
**Brown Bag Lunch**  
**Wednesday, October 19/Noon**  
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EOE

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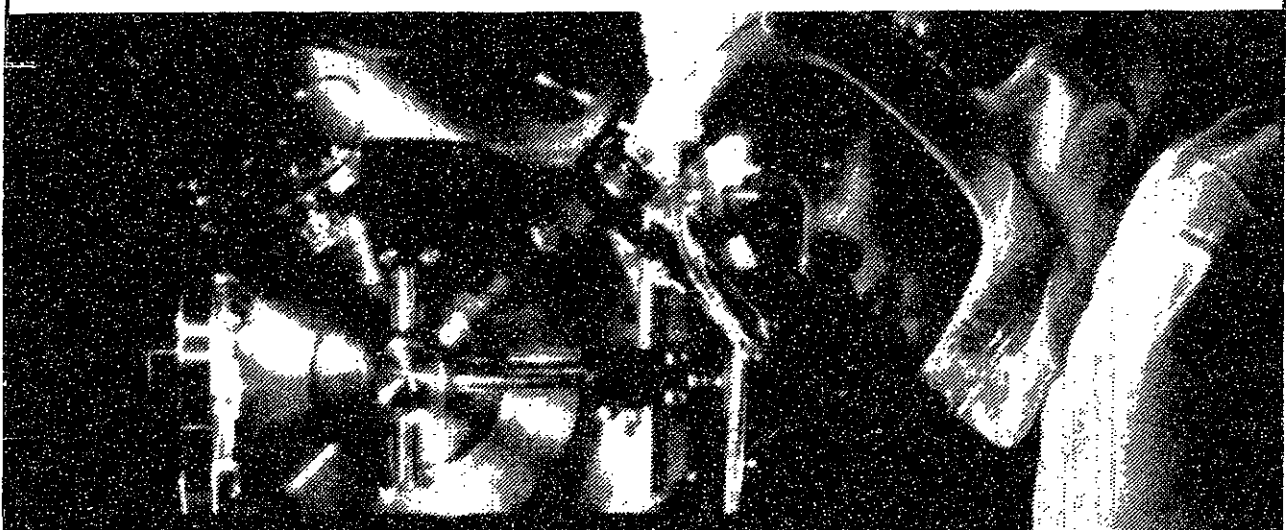
Sloan Presentation: 12 - 1:00 p.m., E51-332

General Presentation: 7 - 9:00 p.m., Room 8-205

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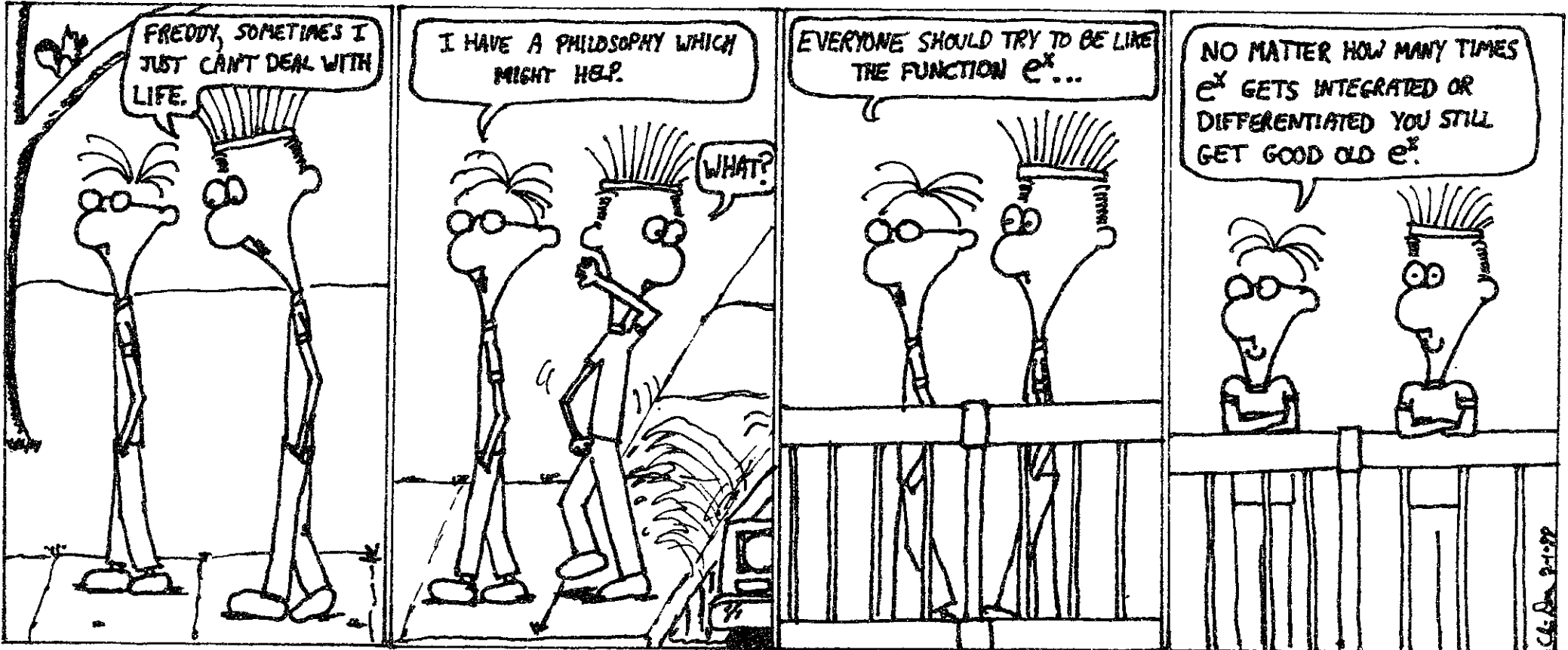
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# comics

Nick

By Chris Doerr



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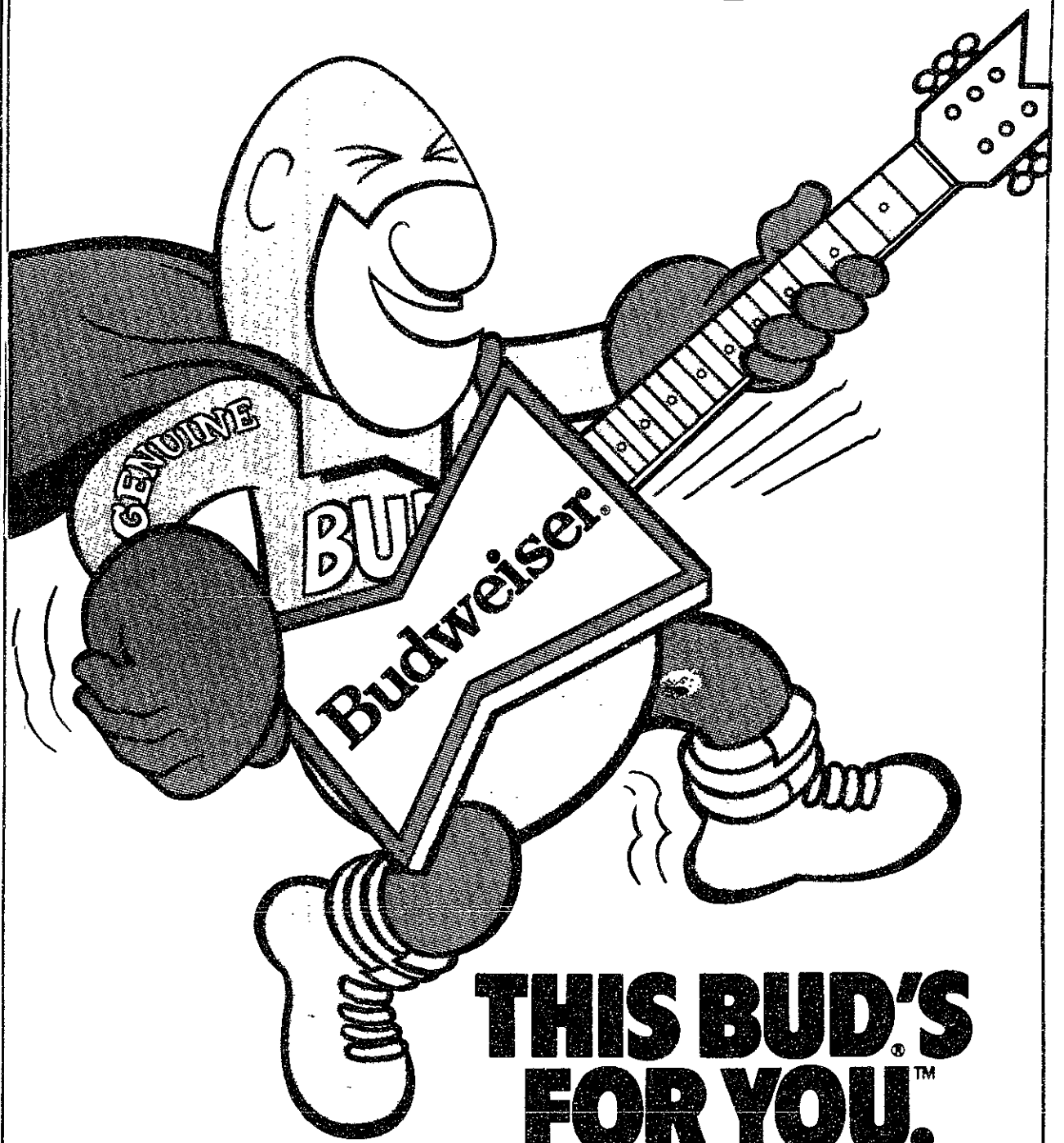
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# WEEKEND WARRIOR!



## THIS BUD'S FOR YOU.™

# sports

## Women's tennis wins impressively over Brandeis

By Paul McKenzie

The MIT women's tennis team overcame a tough Brandeis University squad to post its seventh win of the season on Tuesday. Inclement weather forced the match indoors onto the faster courts of MIT's tennis bubble.

Although the final score was 6-3 in favor of the Engineers, the match was much closer than the score indicated. After singles play the match was tied at 3-3. But MIT won the meet on the strength of its doubles play as they came back to sweep all three doubles matches for the win.

Fiona Tan '91, playing in the first singles match, turned in a truly awe-inspiring performance as she defeated her Brandeis opponent in a three set thriller. Tan started out slowly losing the first two games but eventually won the first set 6-4.

Both players seemed to use the first few games as a warm-up with each making her share of errors. However, by the second set both players had settled down. Both were also doing a lot of running to chase down the excellently placed shots that decided most of the points.

When Tan lost the first two games of the second set it looked as though her opponent was wearing her down. However, Tan battled back to win the set in dramatic fashion, 7-5.

Both players seemed worn out by the start of the third set. However, Tan simply outplayed her opponent in the last set. Several times Tan got her opponent to charge the net then won the point with a passing shot down the line in the deciding 6-3 win.

Dheera Ananthakrishnan '90 lost the second singles match 7-5,

6-3 in a hard-hitting contest. Although she played well Ananthakrishnan was outdone by her opponent's consistent error free tennis. In the third and fourth singles matches MIT got wins from Christy Alvord '89 and Catherine Gionetti '90.

### Women's Tennis

10/4 MIT 6 ..... Brandeis University 3  
10/6 MIT 9 ..... Babson College 0

Alvord defeated her Brandeis opponent in a match characterized by long lobs and drives as both players played much of the match from behind the baseline. Gionetti also played impressively to defeat her opponent 7-6, 6-3. In the fifth and sixth singles matches Stacy Chinn '89 was de-

feated 6-0, 6-3 and Amita Gupta '91 suffered a 6-3, 6-2 loss.

In doubles competition Coach Candy Royer was especially pleased to see strong play as MIT swept all three matches in straight sets. Ananthakrishnan and Alvord demonstrated exceptional teamwork in their 6-2, 6-2 win. Chinn and Tan teamed for an impressive 6-2, 6-4 win in second doubles, while Gupta and Gionetti rolled over their opponents in a 6-3, 6-2 win in the third doubles match.

Royer was excited by her team's win over Brandeis. "It was a total team effort" and "everyone contributed" for the win, she said. Royer also called the win "a very rewarding match" — this was the first time MIT has beaten Brandeis in the last four years.

Last night, MIT hosted Babson College and came away with a crushing 9-0 victory. The Engineers, using the same lineup they had against Brandeis with the exception of Carolyn A. Zehner '89 and Jessie Wong '90 playing third doubles, swept all matches in straight sets. The win gives MIT an 8-1 record, with a 4-1 mark within the New England Women's Eight Conference.

The team will be heading out on the road to face a pair of conference opponents: Wheaton College on Saturday and Smith College the following Tuesday. Although Ananthakrishnan did not know much about Wheaton's record this year, she expected to win based on past performance. The Engineers return home to face Skidmore College on October 15.

## Men's soccer loses 3-1 in the rain

By Shawn Mastrian

On a swampy Steinbrenner Stadium field, in front of a not-quite-capacity crowd of two (which swelled to an overflowing 20 by game's end) the MIT men's soccer team lost 3-1 to a more experienced Brandeis University squad on Thursday afternoon.

Brandeis started the game by constantly pressuring the MIT defense, but the stubborn Engineer defenders did not allow a shot on goal until 7:45 into the game. This shot was saved nicely by team co-captain Gary Rahl '89.

11:11 left in the first half, MIT was called for having 12 men on the field. "Amazing," the referee said later, "they go to MIT and can't even count to 11."

It seemed like the first half would end 1-0 MIT, but at 43:23, a Brandeis player sneaked past the defenders and poked in a little chip-shot, tying the score and ending a 36 minute shot drought for the Judges.

The second half started poorly for the Engineers. With 13:11 gone, a ball rebounded off an

MIT defender and into the MIT goal, handing the Judges a 2-1 lead. Just 2:07 later, another defensive lapse allowed a Brandeis player to manage a scoring shot, accounting for the final margin.

Overall, the MIT defense played well in stopping the relentless Brandeis attack. For 36 of the first 45 minutes, the ball was in the MIT end. Still, head coach Walter Alessi was disappointed with the result. "We didn't play our best," he said. The loss drops the Engineers to 3-5 on the year, and the win put Brandeis at 7-3.

## Women's graduate crew club powers to victory

By Leann Lesperance

The fall rowing season opened this past Sunday for the MIT graduate crew, also known as the Boston "T" Club, at the Textile Regatta in Lowell. The club's entry in the women's crew open four with coxswain event took fourth place out of 16 entries, and the men's crew, in their first race ever, came in third.

The women's race was the first of four head races scheduled for the team this season. But the graduate women's crew had raced over the summer as well.

Its 1988 racing season began with the Bank of Boston Corporate Challenge on June 20. Boston "T" Club finished fourth in a 2000 meter open four with coxswain race. On July 16 at the Bay State Games, an open eight fin-

ished third in the finals behind Community Rowing and Riverside Boat Club.

A Master's four with coxswain missed the finals because it finished second in its heat, losing by one seat (about four feet) to Riverside who went on to win the finals.

The following day at the Festival Regatta in Lowell, Boston "T" Club entries took fifth and sixth out of 19 boats entered in the 2000 meter open four with coxswain event. They went on to take second place in the open eight race.

The summer season ended with an excellent showing at the Master's Nationals in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Boston "T" Club took first place in three women's events and second in another.

The MIT graduate crew is composed of members of the MIT community and is coached by Stu Schmill.

(Editor's note: Leann Lesperance G is a member of the graduate crew club.)

### Men's Varsity Soccer

10/4 Brandeis University 3 ..... MIT 1

Finally, Tech broke through and managed a shot of their own at the 20:50 mark. This was also saved, but soon afterwards the ball rolled out of bounds, giving MIT a corner kick. Just then, as if an omen, it started to rain more fiercely. Undaunted, Marc Bailey '91 lofted the corner kick in front of the goal mouth, where Kent McCord '91 head-butted the ball into the goal to give MIT a 1-0 lead.

Brandeis' frustration continued, culminating with a yellow-card penalty at 29:11 for arguing too much. Unfortunately the game was equally frustrating for the Engineers.

In a game seemingly filled with omens, with the clock showing

## Women's cross country grabs win at Brandeis

By Gabrielle Rocap

The women's cross country team won its first victory of the season by a large margin at Brandeis University last Friday. MIT's top five runners all finished among the top eight, combining for a score of 24. Brandeis was second with 42, followed by Babson College with 78 and Pine Manor College with 98.

"Everyone ran a good race," said captain Anne McVeigh '89, who finished first overall with a time of 19:01 on the five kilometer course. Other top performances were turned in by Chris Goh '92 (20:03), Theresa Fuentes '91 (20:10) and Stacy Holander '92 (20:22), who finished fourth, fifth, and sixth respectively. The trio was followed closely by Kim McNeal '89 (20:45), who ended up sixth.

Other MIT finishers included

### Women's Cross Country

9/30 MIT 24 ..... Brandeis University 42  
Babson College 78  
Pine Manor College 98

Karen Tsuei G (21:13), Amy Ror-elstad '92 (21:19), Heidi Gibson '92 (21:33), Margot Moore '89 (22:10), Chris Bald '90 (22:21), Gabrielle Rocap '92 (22:41), Elenna Dugundji '89 (22:58), and Kim Oakburg '91 (28:38).

"We have the largest team ever this year," said Coach Chris Lane, who was encouraged by the turnout. The team will travel to Wellesley College today to compete in a tri-meet with Wellesley and Simmons College.

(Gabrielle Rocap '92 is a member of the women's cross country team.)

## Upcoming Home Events

### Friday, October 7

3:30 Baseball v. Wentworth Institute  
3:30 Men's Soccer v. Northeastern

### Saturday, October 8

10:30am Men's JV Soccer v. Emerson College  
12:00 Baseball v. John Jay College (DH)  
1:00 Field Hockey v. Smith College  
TBA Men's Cross Country Codfish Bowl  
TBA Water Polo Invitational

### Sunday, October 9

9:30am Men's Sailing MIT/Brandeis Invitational

### Monday, October 10

1:00 Men's Soccer v. Kenyon College

### Tuesday, October 11

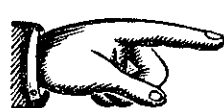
4:00 Field Hockey v. University of Rochester  
TBA Water Polo Bean Pot

### Thursday, October 13

4:00 Field Hockey v. Mount Holyoke College  
3:30 Women's Soccer v. Regis College  
7:00 Women's Volleyball v. Wellesley College

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