FHC takes criticism of its proposals at forum

By Prabhat Mehta

At an open forum on Tuesday members of the Freshman Housing Committee met with a barrage of criticism from students opposed to the committee's recently issued report. The approximately 15 students who spoke out at the forum were mostly members of independent living groups concerned about FHC's proposal to house all freshmen in dormitories and move to a residential model. Over 200 students, graduates, faculty and staff members packed into 6-120 for the forum. Provost John M. Deutch '51, who moderated the event, closed it about an hour after it started, saying that similar events would be scheduled in the future to provide a continuing forum for the overwhelming response.

Students and alumni argued that the FHC plan would fail to promote diversity and interaction, as the committee hopes. Rather, many argued, the plan would allow the choice students currently enjoy in residence selection. "One of the reasons why I selected MIT was because of the housing system," noted Jason B. Silbey '91 of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. He said that he was "treated like an adult." Alongsimilar lines, John J. Magee '92 of Alpha Delta Phi told the committee that his friends from home were all unhappy with the schools they were attending and that all but one of these friends' problems arose from the existing policies similar to the one proposed by the FHC. "You shouldn't have to fight to like your school," he said.

Rebecca O. Kaplan '92 of Senior House felt that taking away the choice in residence selection takes away part of that which is unique about MIT. Students are respected under the current housing system, she said. "Even before this situation (the FHC report) arose, everyone knew about it and everyone was informed about it." President Paul E. Gray S54, who was scheduled to speak later in the forum, said that the thief (or thieves) probably hid in the building Wednesday night and then "had a field day," he said. To Ennis' knowledge, "no money has ever been stolen from the machines before. The Student Center was closed between 7 pm Wednesday and 7 am Friday."

"The thief" broke into the game room and used professional equipment "to make the machines," according to Ennis. The thief "tried to remove money from the dollar bill-changer, but was unsuccessful." The game room has been closed between 1 am and 7 am every day since it reopened on Monday. Until then, it was open 24 hours. SCC will meet Sunday night to adopt a formal policy. The planner involved in the thefts was "a peculiar situation," according to Chop, in that a Rand vs. MIT has been filed. The MIT Planning Process Committee is hearing in a "peculiar situation" in which a student after having been at MIT for more than four days, can join an ILG and be "in the company of eight or nine" other students, members in the rest of the MIT society's lives, at the Institute. The matter head of the Undergraduate Academic Service Office and mem- bers of the MIT community are concerned that the "highly disciplined intellectual community is important," he said.

Chomsky blasts view of Middle East problems

By Gauree Rewari

Institute Professor Noam A. Chomsky, in a lecture Tuesday, charged the American media with biased coverage of the various problems for peace in the Middle East. He also sharply criticized shifts in US policy at crucial times in the past.

The noted linguist cited a 1976 peace proposal advanced by Jos- dan, Iran, and Egypt at the United Nations. Israel denounced this proposal as having been prepared by the Palestine Liberation Organization, and it was subsequently vetoed by the United States, Chomsky said. Information about this proposal has been heavily censured in the United States, Chomsky claimed.

Even more recently, an attempt by President Jimmy Carter was undermined by the Congress, according to Chomsky. Israel was infuriated by the proposal, and the American media "played along," he said. Most television news programs ignored it. Carter — a reversal of normal coverage of such an event, Carter soon abandoned his position. Chomsky said. Under President Reagan, the United States insisted that, as a precondition to talks, PLO chairman Yasir Arafat actually "parrot words written by [Secretary of State George ] Shultz's" and "work on the future of the PLO's policy on the future of the PLO, the United States and Lebanon took a "highly disciplined intellectual community is important," he said.

In return for these "mythical concessions" the PLO was al- lowed to stay in the United States. Chomsky felt that "by the 1982 invasion" and "the 1982 invasion, in which a new "low level dialogues" was to shift world attention away from Israeli policies and to the "highly disciplined intellectual community is important," he said.

(To page two)

Vandals rob SCC Game Room

By Irene C. Kuo

An unknown number of intruders vandalized the Student Center Computer Room on Thanksgiving weekend, according to Ted E. Johnson, program coordinator of the Campus Activities Board. Estimates of damage range from $600-800 stolen from six machines. None of the other businesses in the Student Center were affected. Many other students expressed similar sentiments, challenging the FHC's notion that, because other universities assign freshmen to dormitories, MIT should follow suit.

Professor of Biology Frank Solomon, a member of the committee, responded to the criticism that MIT should not look at the housing policies of other schools. "It turned out to be a fact that many people also find virtue in the other sys- tem," he said. Students should ask themselves, "Is the current system destructive to the educa- tional institution itself?" and "should they see whether there is any good in the other system," he added.

(To page two)
Events promote AIDS awareness

(Continued from page 1)

personal involvement with AIDS but also to realize what its impact is everywhere in the world. Van Ness agreed that participation in World AIDS Day should allow people to see beyond their own personal vulnerability and to realize that AIDS is a global epidemic. "AIDS is not an issue of any single dimension; it's a global issue; and that's the message we're trying to get across," she said.

Mackie further emphasized the need to make college students more aware of AIDS. College students are not that well informed about AIDS, he said, but they are making progress.

Noting a decrease in the numbers of students who think AIDS is a "nonissue," Mackie noted that a recent survey showed a decrease in the percentage of students who believe that AIDS is a "nonissue," from 43% in 1988 to 30% in 1989. He also noted that a recent survey showed that 80% of students believe that AIDS is a "public health issue." "These are significant improvements," Mackie said.

The students' increased awareness of AIDS is reflected in the number of organizations and events that are being held on campus to promote AIDS awareness. The AIDS Awareness Committee, for example, has organized several events, including a panel discussion on AIDS early in the semester, and a lecture series on AIDS in the last month of the semester. The committee has also distributed pamphlets and brochures on AIDS to students, and has organized a AIDS walk on campus.

The students are also becoming more aware of the need for research on AIDS. They are demanding that more resources be invested in AIDS research, and are demanding that more attention be paid to the problem of AIDS in the developing world.

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The students are also becoming more aware of the need for international cooperation on AIDS. They are demanding that more attention be paid to the problem of AIDS in the developing world, and are demanding that more attention be paid to the problem of AIDS in the developing world.

Students criticize FHC proposal at open forum

(Continued from page 1)

Many of the criticisms voiced at the forum challenged this premise. The forum challenged this premise that the current system fosters cohesion and limits diversity. One student felt that the FHC plan would destroy community by promoting rush and allowing ILGs the time to find people who "fit in perfectly." He felt that it's "very open here.

Toby L. Sanders '90 of Bedley Hall said that the FHC plan would make the campus even more biased toward (patronizingly) "an age of continuing rush" would develop, she said, and there would be even an "acceleration of Greek system" on campus.

The FHC report argued that rush should be moved to the spring term because it creates unnecessary stress during a freshman's first week at MIT and forces students to choose where to live based on limited information. An alumnus of a fraternity commented that "rush gets you settled" into a comfortable place before school begins and hence reduces stress.

One student viewed rush as "a way to look for a place to make your housing." She felt that moving rush to the spring would extend the burden of looking for a place to live.

Solomon, however, felt that students should look at the pros of rush a bit differently. Putting emphasis on such characteristics as gender and race. Orientation should focus on the intellectual side of MIT life, he said. Another major concern cited by opponents of the proposal to house all freshmen in dormitories is the potential effect on ILGs, which already experience problems filling their houses. Committee chair Mary C. Potter acknowledged that the FHC plan would influence the ILG problem and possibly lead to the closing of several off-campus houses. "We don't deny this will make that problem more acute," she said.

One student said that if the proposal were implemented, about eight ILGs would be forced to close. Baker House's Chaehoon Ko '99, a former member of the FHC, said that he and the only student to express support for the FHC plan, felt that we're "selling ourselves short." He claimed that under the current system, students are led to believe that they should look for people with whom they feel "comfortable." Such an atmosphere, he argued, leads one to believe that only those associated with one's immediate group are worthy of friendship and respect. But, in reality, students can learn to like people who are really different.

UA statement rejects FHC housing plan

(Continued from page 1)

that "the nature of student housing at MIT does have a great impact on the graduate education, and thus should be an issue of concern for faculty, as well as students and members of the administration." The faculty currently has no official role in the final decision; MIT's top administrative officials will ultimately decide whether to implement the FHC proposal. But the FHC report encourages the faculty to change this, so that the FHC will be a model for other institutions to follow.

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Rebels launch coup attempt in Philippines

Rebel and pro-government forces in the Philippines exchanged air attacks as the rebels attempted a coup yesterday. The coup attempt began when rebel forces launched an attack on the presidential palace, in which three civilians and two soldiers were killed. President Corazon Aquino reportedly escaped injury.

A government helicopter later dropped a bomb on the rebel-held television station. The rebels responded by bombing the headquarters of the Philippine Constabulary and at the headquarters of the armed forces general staff. The rebels also knocked out the only operating TV station, one which the government had been using to broadcast demands that the rebels surrender.

Witnesses and reporters said at least 10 people have been killed and 10 more wounded. There were also reports that rebels were bringing artillery and armor into the capital.

Earlier, Aquino vowed to smash the uprising, and she said the government had been using it as a "way to work for peace."

Bush and Gorbatchev to hold summit off Malta

President George Bush left yesterday for his first summit meeting with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. The meeting will be held on ships out at sea, off the coast of Malta, an island just south of Sicily in the Mediterranean Sea.

On board Air Force One, Bush told reporters his briefing pack indicated the two leaders are "about on the same wavelength."

By Leigh Rubin

Americans leave El Salvador

About 150 American citizens left yesterday on the first of the US government-arranged charter flights out of El Salvador. They left behind them a continuing battle between leftist rebels and right-wing counter-revolutionary elements — a battle that has spilled over into their neighborhoods and homes.

The rebels appeared to have retrieved somewhat by the end of the day.

Some of the departing Americans swore they would return after the fighting stops. Others said they are never going back.

Sports

Lendl beats Krickstein in Masters semi-finals

Ivan Lendl has gained the semi-finals of the Masters Tennis Event in New York, the Czechoslovakian creamed American Aaron Krickstein 6-1, 6-3 for his second straight victory.

Boris Becker of West Germany and Stefan Edberg of Sweden advanced to the semi-finals Wednesday night.

Rubes

By Leigh Rubin

MVP Yount: American League's most wanted player

Robin Yount, the American League's Most Valuable Player, wants to continue his 16-year career with the Milwaukee Brewers. According to The Wisconsin State Journal, Yount wants to return to the team but needs assurance that the club is committed to winning.

Yount is also being courted by the Blue Jays, Angels, Dodgers, Cubs and Braves, who have contacted the free agent outfielder's boyfriend and attorney Larry.

Nadia Comaneci flies Romania to Huyghropy

Gymnast and superstar Nadia Comaneci flew her native Romania earlier this week. Her former coach Bela Karolyi said she's probably in Switzerland seeking passage to the United States.

A spokeswoman for the US Gymnastics Federation said "all indications" point toward Comaneci coming to America. However, both American and Swiss officials deny that Comaneci has arrived.

Comaneci became the first gymnast to earn a "perfect" ten on her way to three gold medals at the 1976 summer Olympics.

Weather

Flaky forecast

A strong Alberta Clipper will dive into the upper Midwest Great Lakes this afternoon and track to the New York-Pennsylvania border by tomorrow evening. This low will then be followed by a strong cold front. The new low will then move northeastward and pass the region tomorrow afternoon.

Precipitation changing to all snow. High 25-30°F (-10°-6°C). Winds from the northwest, the snow may be heavy. The new low will then move northeastward and pass the region tomorrow afternoon.

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Bushi veto could threaten Chinese students

Andrew Heath's portrayal of General Motors as having "blas- tantly disregarded the environment" and "making no effort to set a good example" does not compute with my observations. The solution clouds GM's "forward look" in autos," Oct. 20. Allow me to explain just some of our regard for the environment and the progressive example we set.

GM is committed to satisfying our customers. That commitment leads to being a full-line manufacturer of cars, trucks and cars, from small trucks to big cars and small trucks to big trucks. Yes, big cars do get less economy than small ones, but at GM, we currently sell the highest fuel efficiency vehicle in the United States. The Geo Metro at 58 MPG highway, and our large cars have competitive efficiency with any other manufacturer in the world.

GM is devoted more resources to automotive safety and research and has developed many safety devices - more than any other automaker. In the world. Can we adapt all of this safety technology today to every car and truck we build? No, because in some cases it's not ready yet. But it will be.

Since the mid-1970s, we have reduced our vehicle weight by some 1200 pounds (27 percent), gone from 99 percent rear wheel drive to about 90 percent front wheel drive, improved aerodynamic efficiency by one third, reduced tire rolling resistance by 50 percent, and reduced brake drag by 75 percent. Need I go on? These are all things we have done, and there is much more to come. I think people should be given opportunities of responding to the changing expectations of society.

We are trying to lead in providing cars and trucks that are safer, efficient and clean. In addition, we will never lose sight of the element that makes everything possible: the wants and needs of our customers.

Emission, economy, and safety are complex issues. I don't believe it makes sense to burden the product line with solutions that will only barely do the job, so costly, and not a cost-effective solution for society. With the biggest half of today's fleet accounting for some 85 percent of car emissions, as new cars replace old ones, the air we breathe will become cleaner. GM has devoted more resources to automotive safety and research and has developed more safety devices than any other automaker.

It bothers me deeply to see my country playing second fiddle to the environment. It's not good enough and requests from the Bush Administration this bill passed the House by a vote of 403 to 0 and the Senate unanimously approved it. However, the Bush Administration has indicated that he might veto this bill because of concerns that the Chinese government would surpass all educational exchange programs and that the bill would weaken Sino-American relations.

Since June, the Chinese government has already tried to control over the choice of students to receive visas. Those who were involved in the demonstrations earlier this year are prohibited from leaving the country. For many students in China, it has become more and more difficult to get passports issued. Therefore, the much feared "suspension of visa issuance" is now in effect despite any US action. The Bush Administration has been trying hard not to provoke the Chinese government since it believes we have the best US interest to have a good relationship with the Beijing government.

But is it in the United States' interest to see China following the footsteps of the Eastern European countries? Does it not make sense to help accelerate the downfall of a dictatorial regime that hates truth and justice?

It is true that the Chinese government must do more to promote freedom to nations that responded angrily to the bloody suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations. These threats do not show their strength. If anything, standing in to such threats will only encourage the dictators in Beijing to think that they can get away with anything. History has plenty of lessons on this.

President Bush, please sign the Pelosi Bill to show that the United States is not intimidated by the threats of the dictators in Beijing and that the real "paper tiger" is not the United States, but the Chinese government.
Parents deserve summer dormitory priority

(Parents of students) I would like to complain about the fact that my parents will have to spend over $400 to stay in the Boston area for a weekend. In past years, MIT has made arrangements for out-of-town family members to be able to stay in some of our dormitories so that they may be close to their children and the events, and also save spending a huge amount of money to stay in Boston area hotels. But why, when we students live here for nine months of each year for four years, have you decided to give early summer dormitory priority to alumni visiting for a weekend?

Each year when I was kicked out of my room in May to make space for our seniors' parents, I thought, "At least this will be nice for my parents when I graduate." But now you have changed your mind so that my family, which has already given MIT over $70,000, has to pay even more for a place to sleep while they see me finally get out of here. The hotels in Cambridge are ridiculously expensive; a family as small as mine will be forced to pay over $1000 for 3 nights, and only allow three people per room. Most families would have to rent at least two for just the immediate family members. This makes spending time together with the graduate far more difficult and time consuming, not to mention troublesome with parents unfamiliar with the Cam-bridge area (especially parents from other countries). I realize that you want to make the alumni happy because they give MIT money, but I can tell you now that after creating my family this way, I will not be inclined, as an alumna, to give MIT money in appreciation. If the alumni have so much money to give I would like to think that they could better afford the hotels in Boston.

I request that you rethink this decision, or make some arrangements to reserve and partially subsidize rooms in area hotels to accommodate our parents with the convenience and reasonable price they deserve.

Loai Fretz '90

Would you like to learn about Ocean Science and Technology? New Undergraduate Subjects will Begin 2nd Term (89-90)

13.010 INTRODUCTION TO OCEAN TECHNOLOGY I

This new subject (12 units), which is designed for all MIT students who want to learn about ocean technology, will be offered in the third term of 1990 and will consist of four "academic modules" and a case study of a real ocean engineering endeavor. The four modules are:

1. Oceanography
2. Ocean Waves and Dynamics of Objects in the Sea
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4. Marine Measurements

The case study will develop the connections between the fundamentals of ocean technology and actual practice; and will provide a basis for an experiment that will be done at sea the following term by those students who wish to enroll in the next subject, 13.011 Introduction to Ocean Technology II.

Prerequisites for 13.010 are 8.01, 18.03 and any introductory subject in fluid mechanics which can be studied simultaneously. 13.010 is the pre-requisite for 13.011.

It is anticipated that 13.010 will be a Science Distribution (SD) subject and that 13.011 will be an approved laboratory (LAB) subject.

Enrollment is limited with a first-signed-up-first-served basis. Complete description sheets which include a sign up form are available outside rooms 5-225 and 5-320.
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E. Toshiba T2100/20 Portable Personal Computer. The ideal computer for those who can’t be tied to a desk. It gives full desktop capabilities in a 12.5 pound portable. With 12MHz 80C286 microprocessor, high-performance 200MB hard disk with 27 msec. access, high-resolution gas plasma display and 1MB memory expandable to 2MB. Includes MS-DOS 3.3. $3275

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INTRODUCING...
NAME'S BUNKY. WOULD YOU MIND NOT STARING AT MY EARS?

INTRODUCING...
NAME'S SHEBA. I'M PREMENSTRUAL AT THE MOMENT.

INTRODUCING...
NAME'S MARY. SHE'S AFRAID. I'M AFRAID. WE'RE AFRAID. PLEASE... I'M BENGAL.

WILL THE CHARACTERS IN "LIFE IN HELL" EVER ACHIEVE HAPPINESS?
WHAT A SILLY QUESTION! BUNKY AND THE GANG WILL BE AS HAPPY AS YOU ARE.

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Sponsored by the MIT Medical Department, List Visual Arts Center, ARMIT and the Council for the Arts.
**Future II a carbon copy of Future I, without original's charm**

**BACK TO THE FUTURE II**


By MICHELLE PERRY

**WHEN CRITICIZING A SEQUEL,** the fairest procedure is to judge it as a unique entity and then to compare it to its predecessors. Unfortunately, this is impossible with Back to the Future II. Director and co-author Robert Zemeckis derives most of the plot from the first Back to the Future, and the sequel simply does not stand on its own.

Back to the Future II begins where its predecessor left off. Doc Brown (Christopher Lloyd) returns to 1985 from 1993 and tells Marty McFly (Michael J. Fox) and his girlfriend that they have to do something about their kids. The three travel together to 2015, but when they return to 1985 they find that an event triggered by their trip to 2015 has created an alternative 1985. Doc and Marty then travel to 1955 to straighten out things out.

Sound confusing? It's not, if you have just watched a tape of the original film. If you haven't, then trying to recall its plot while following the convolutions of the second movie might be overwhelming.

Future II bites off more than it can chew by trying to stretch itself over four time periods. No attempt is made at character development, especially in the 2015 sequence. Michael J. Fox plays Marty at 17 and 47, as well as Marty's son and daughter (a good-looking daughter at that). Marty's son is a drugged-out wimp and Marty's daughter is disappointing. She was vivacious and charming in Future I, and so authentic that it was as if two different actresses were playing the part of the 17-year-old and of the 47-year-old. In Future II, she is crotchety as an older woman and vacuous as a younger one. Judging from how she acted as Howard the Duck, it is possible that her performance in Future I was just a fluke.

One surprisingly memorable performance is given by Tom Wilson. He plays a mid-teenage Biff the bully from 1955, two middle-aged Biffs from 1985 and the alternative 1985 and both an elderly Biff and Liddy's grandson from 2015. Each character has a distinct personality and physical appearance, quite an accomplishment given the limited screen time each character is allowed. Hopefully, one or all of Wilson's characters will appear in the next movie.

Don't bother seeing Back to the Future II if you have not seen the first, because the plot is entirely derivative. Do, however, see Back to the Future II before the sequel because it is the most disappointing aspect of the movie. Zemeckis obviously believes that a successful Back to the Future II depends on the incorporation of elements from the first film. This would work if Future II contained subtle references and inside jokes, and perhaps a scene or two which reflected the first film. Zemeckis' treatment is too heavy-handed and detracts from the original elements of the second film. If these had been given more attention, the movie as a whole would have been more successful. Instead, the fun, original moments are overpowered by Future I.

Michael J. Fox successfully recreates the role of the 17-year-old Marty McFly. It is unfortunate that he was not given more time as Marty's older self and his children, because those cameos had the potential to be very funny as full-blown characters. Lea Thompson's performance as Marty's mother is disappointing. She was vivacious and charming in Future I, and so authentic that it was as if two different characters were playing the part of the 17-year-old and of the 47-year-old. In Future II, she is crotchety as an older woman and vacuous as a younger one. Judging from how she acted as Howard the Duck, it is possible that her performance in Future I was just a fluke.

The interlude between 2015 and 1955 is spent in an alternative 1985. Marty's hometown has become a disorganized, bored community of criminals. This brief yet compelling segment should have been developed more fully as well. Unfortunately, Zemeckis chooses the relative safety of a more recognizable setting. Instead, most of the sequence is filled with a skateboard scene reminiscent of the one from the first film. The special effects are great; however, holograms advertising Jaws 19 do not do the future make. The film leaves 2015, abruptly dismissing the fate of Marty's son and the rest of his family. It is unsettling to see these characters presented and then left in the lurch.

The 1955 segment is simply a re-hash of the first film. This is the most disappointing aspect of the movie. Zemeckis obviously believes that a successful Back to the Future II depends on the incorporation of elements from the first film. This would work if Future II contained subtle references and inside jokes, and perhaps a scene or two which reflected the first film. Zemeckis' treatment is too heavy-handed and detracts from the original elements of the second film. If these had been given more attention, the movie as a whole would have been more successful. Instead, the fun, original moments are overpowered by Future I.

The 1990 Burchard Scholars Program is now accepting applications

**BURCHARD SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

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For information or an application, contact: Dean's Office, SHSS, E51-234 (x3-8961) or the HASS Information Office, 14N-408 (x3-4443).

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1989.**

**SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN, SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE.**
Night of the Pencils details Argentina’s brutal “Dirty War”


By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

UCH AS THE VIETNAM WAR seared the American consciousness, so too has Argentina’s “Dirty War” left an indelible mark on the Argentinian psyche. Nine thousand people disappeared in the 1970s as the military junta in power at the time brutally suppressed all things leftist, inflating or real. The dictatorship finally fell in 1983 after the Falkland War debacle, and many Argentinians—filmmakers included—have only recently begun to come to terms with their memories of having survived the Dirty War.

Hector Olivera’s notable new film La Noche de los Lapices (“The Night of the Pencils”), however, tells the story of a group of six high school children who did not survive. Their sole crime was their participation in a student protest for free bus passes. But the military junta saw them as subversives, and in September 1976, homes of six students were raided in pre-dawn darkness. The students—all of whom were less than 18 years old—were brutally arrested and dumped in prison. The raid came to be known as the “night of the pencils.” The film follows the story from the student protests in 1975 to November 1980 when the only student to survive the ordeal was finally released.

Clearly, this material could have easily degenerated into an Argentinian television movie of the week in the wrong hands. Fortunately, director Olivera seems to have kept his integrity mostly intact. He does not shy away from disturbing realities, and he draws a surprisingly complex portrait of the students, their captors, and the students’ parents. The film’s accomplishment in this regard is considerable and therefore worth commenting on.

This is especially true of the film’s second half, which depicts the oppressive interrogation, harsh interrogation, and outright torture that awaited the students. The film does more than just dangle grime and dirt on the actors’ faces to create sympathy. It manages to create a genuinely moving and convincing picture of the ordeal these students went through. By describing everything from the small details that substitute for survival to the constant battle to maintain hope, Olivera recreates a nightmarish experience in very accessible and potent terms.

While the validity of that accomplishment is not open to question, the film does suffer from limitations. Paradoxically, the same qualities that enable Olivera to escape the standard television clichés are the same qualities that prevent the film from rising above its limitations.

The film’s major success is that it does in and focuses intently on the experience of six individual people undergoing a terrible ordeal. However, that very fact is what causes the film to begin losing its social and political resonance: this could have been the story of any six young prisoners in any country around the world. The specific links between these individuals and the Argentine experience in the late 1970s start to come unraveled.

Ordinarily, one would applaud any effort to impart a universal value to a fairly specific story. However, in this particular case, the thetic seems to have backfired. Ultimately, the film is not about politics or Argentina at all. Rather, it becomes a study of survival, an examination of humans under severe pressure. It is the conflict between these two disparate goals that creates the subtle pressures that hold back the film.

A truly visionary director might have been able to resolve the difficulties and transcend this limitation. In fact, one has come very close to doing just that—Stanley Kubrick in Full Metal Jacket (1987). That film, which treated its characters and viewers with equal brutality, was an intensely clinical dissection of a hellish environment and the resultant pressures toward madness. At the same time, the film captured the paradoxes and absurdities that surrounded the American war in Vietnam. Olivera’s film does not match that accomplishment, and it also cannot claim that the electrifying impact of Alejandro Agresti’s Love is a Fat Woman (1988), which also dealt with the Dirty War.

Still, the film does have enough good qualities that deserve recognition. La Noche de los Lapices succeeds enough that it will undoubtedly be remembered when film historians begin to chronicle the current Argentinian film renaissance. And in an increasingly commercialized filmmaking environment, that is no small achievement indeed.

Editor’s note: This film is part of a Latin American film series that begins tonight at 8 pm with La Gran Fiesta (Marcos Zurroga, Puerto Rico, 1966)
The Tech
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1989

comics

Today I was just
sitting around
watching TV.
(Bewitched was on)

Kurt, Tony's friend,
came over. He was
eating a bag of
cheese puffs.

Tony wasn't home,
so Kurt came in
and waited for
him.

He sat and watched
Bewitched with
me and laughed
out loud.

Today Steve told
Tony and me that
we have to wash
the dishes more often.

He said there's
always a giant
pile of dirty dishes in
the sink, and it
annoyed him.

Tony said, "They're
not just dishes, at
least most of them
aren't." We both told
Steve we'd try
to wash them
more often.

Dean sat next to
me in my Ethics
class today.

He said, "Which tie
do you think
Buchman will
wear today?"

The red and yellow
striped, or the brown?
(Buchman is the
professor.)

I said red and
yellow," he said.

Today I was
trying to do some
French homework.

It was aggravating
just trying to
memorize words.

This time it was
parts of the body.
We're supposed to
learn them all.

For a while I just
stood at my book
and crossed my
eyes so the pages
melted together.

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By Chris Doerr

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We'll get back to our ongoing story next week, but now, an announcement from Normal Headquarters...

Hi everybody. Sorry about missing Tuesday, Amy unexpectedly lengthened my Thanksgiving by eight hours (I got bumped). Well, actually, I got myself bumped on purpose for the free round-trip tickets. Try it sometime. It's easy and fun!

C. M. Montgomery
In Northeastern, MIT faces toughest opponent

By David Rothstein

The men's indoor track season opens tomorrow when the Engineers host Worchester Polytechnic Institute and Amherst College at the Johnson Athletic Center at 1 p.m. Pity the visitors.

MIT has not lost an indoor or outdoor dual or triangular meet since the beginning of the 1983 indoor season, when the Holy Cross Crusaders topped MIT by two points. Since then, the Engineers have racked up 59 meets without a loss and have finished no worse than third in the indoor and outdoor New England Division III Championships.

So this season, like most for MIT's track team, is not about the little people like Amherst or WPI. It is about Championship meets. About the N.E. Div. III's, about the Greater Boston Championships, and about National Div. III's.

This year, however, there's a twist.

On Jan. 19, the Engineers host Northeastern University, a strong New England Div. I squad. MIT has beaten Div. I schools before — Holy Cross and St. Lawrence University, for example — but none as good as Northeastern. No doubt about it, THE STREAK, and a lot of pride, is on the line this time.

Despite losing several key scorers from last year's indoor squad, this year's team is as strong a team as MIT will see in a while.

One reason is senior Boniface Makatiani, an outdoor runner who is competing on the indoor track head coach Gordon Kelly is likely to see in a while.

Despite losing several key scorers from last year's indoor and outdoor season's most interesting one, even though the championship meets count for more.

The Northeastern meet (Jan. 19) will be the indoor season's most interesting one, even though the championship meets count for more.

One reason is senior Boniface Makatiani, an outdoor runner who is competing on the indoor track the first time. Perhaps New England's finest collegiate 400-meter man, Makatiani will give MIT great strength in the sprints and relays at any level of competition.

He is joined by Mark Dunzo '91, who is ever-improving in the 400 and should, along with Makatiani, make MIT unstoppable in that event all the way through to the February All-New England Championships... or farther.

In the do-or-die-anything category, there is senior Bill Singhose, last year's leading scorer indoors and outdoors, and the defending National Div. III decathlon champion. Singhose is New England's best pole vaulter and a strong contender in both the long and triple jumps. He can also score in the high jump. And the 55-meter high hurdles. And the 200 meters, and the relay events, and probably a lot of other events.

Last year Singhose's injured hamstring, along with Dunzo's injured knee, probably cost MIT the indoor New England Div. III title, one they had captured each of the previous four years.

Expect the title to be back this year.

If the Engineers want to compete well in the bigger meets, they will have to pick up the slack in the weight events left by the graduation of Scott Derring, a national-caliber thrower, who won virtually every shot put and 19-pound weight throw he entered last year.

Weightman John-Paul Clarke '91 came on strong early in practice this year, but should be productive in that area as well. If sophomore high jumper Tom Washington's knee holds up, the Engineers have yet another strong scorer.

The picture is not so clear about MIT's middle and distance runners, and upper-distance runners. The Engineers have racked up 59 meets without a loss and about National Div. III's.

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Huskies coach Tom Lech gave this rundown of what he expects in a telephone interview last week: "We'll be a good meet for some of our younger people... and maybe for some of our older runners, too."

Lech said that he accepted MIT's invitation primarily because MIT will host the All-New England Championship, but also because he has "a lot of respect for the [MIT] program."

Maybe you don't have enough respect, Coach Lech, but you do have nine to 12 scholarships with which to work.

MIT will not win this one. But even in losing, the Engineers will have a chance to prove a lot more than they can by beating up on schools like Amherst or WPI.

Mark Dunzo '91 (right) hands off to Boniface Makatiani '90 in last spring's Greater Boston Championships.

Sailing program and 3 individuals take honors

Sports Update

Fahey shines in tournament

Maurice Fahey '90 was named to the All-tournament team for her efforts in last weekend's Elms College Tip-Off Tournament. Fahey scored 33 points and hauled down 32 rebounds in the Engineers' two games, leading the team to their third place finish.

The team is 3-1 on the season, earning non-tournament victories over Regis and Simmons by huge margins. MIT romped Regis 61-45 Monday and stuffed Simmons 64-42 on Wednesday.

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Inttramural cycling results

George Cathey '90, Mark Drels '92, Mark Wall, and Steve Bull '90 were the top four finishers in the advanced division of the intramural cycling races. Brad Leighton, John Deyst G, Dan Connelly G, and Jae Roh '93 were the top finishers in the novice division.

Mark Dunzo '91 (right) hands off to Boniface Makatiani '90 in last spring's Greater Boston Championships.

Sailing club awarded

The sailing program has been chosen Club of the Year by the Massachusetts Bay Yacht Racing Union. The award recognizes the accomplishments of the team in everything from intercollegiate competition to community service.

Cirillo honored

Lorraine Cirillo '90 has been selected to the New England Women's Soccer Association Division III All-Star Team. Cirillo, who helped lead the team to the NE8 championship, was also a second team All-New England selection.

Warpinski also lauded

Cecilia Warpinski '90 has been selected to the New England Women's Soccer Association Division III All-Star Team. Cirillo, who helped lead the team to the NE8 championship, was also a second team All-New England selection.

Upcoming Home Events

Saturday, December 2

1:00 Wrestling v. Plymouth State & WPI
1:00 Indoor Track v. WPI & Amherst
2:00 Men's Hockey v. Southern Maine

Compiled by Shawn Mastrian, The Sports Information Office