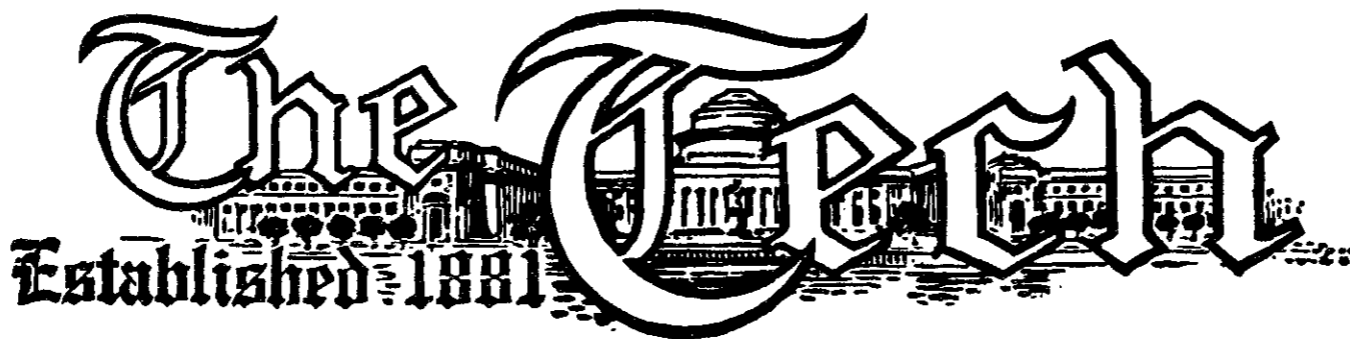


MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather
Today: Rainy, 47°F (8°C)
Tonight: Rain ending, 34°F (1°C)
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, 48°F (9°C)
Details, Page 2

Volume 112, Number 16

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tuesday, March 31, 1992

Bansal, Kessler Elected UAP/VP in Close Vote



Shally Bansal '93 and David J. Kessler '94

By Reuven M. Lerner
NEWS EDITOR

Shally Bansal '93 and David J. Kessler '94 narrowly beat three opposing teams to win this year's Undergraduate Association elections, according to unofficial results released last night by the UA election commission.

The results will be formally recognized at Wednesday night's UA Council meeting.

The Bansal/Kessler team captured just over 26 percent of the 1213 first-choice votes, only 10 more than the second-place team of Kai-Teh Tao '94 and Peter Verprauskus '94, who received 308 votes.

Stephen A. Rinehart '93 and Jeremy H. Brown '94, who campaigned on a platform of apathy, came in a close third with 304 first-place votes, or 25 percent. The fourth-place team of Emily R. Prenner '93 and Anne S. Tsao '94 received 283 first-choice votes, about 23 percent.

Only 30 percent of students eligible to vote did so, according to Raajnish A. Chitaley '95, UA election commissioner.

This year's election was one of the longest and most complicated in many years, in part due to the March 11 theft of a ballot box from Lobby 7. A group calling itself the "Student's Revolutionary Government" said the theft was only the beginning of a popular campaign to overthrow the UA. Students who had voted in Lobby 7 on March 11 were allowed to cast their ballots again two days later.

About 500 of the nearly 700 students who voted in the original election cast their ballots a second time on Friday.

Excited about possibilities

Bansal, interviewed in the UA president's office, said she is "very excited" about the upcoming year, but was not sure what she will do first when she becomes UAP in May.

Kessler, who was "absolutely shocked" when he first heard the election results, said there were a number of ideas that he wanted to act on immediately, including the possibility of turning the Burton-Conner House dining room into a "hangout for people on west campus."

"It was a really good race — in general, not a bitter race at all," Kessler said, adding that "I'm very impressed with how the race was won."

While Bansal would not speculate on why she won the election, Kessler attributed their success to the fact that they spent time with students, asking for ways in which the UA could improve their lives. One of the most important issues among independent living group members, Kessler said, was the fact that sidewalks on the Harvard Bridge are rarely plowed when it snows.

Kessler also mentioned the possibility of unlocking women's bathrooms, first raised by Rinehart and Brown at a debate on March 1.

Election, Page 11

Aspin to Speak at Graduation

By Sabrina Kwon
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

U.S. Representative and Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee Les Aspin PhD '66 has been chosen as the keynote speaker for commencement on June 1.

President Charles M. Vest, who selected the speaker from a three-page list presented to him by the Commencement Committee, said that Aspin has "a unique perspective on important issues of our time, particularly those involved in our shifting national priorities as defense needs adjust to changing conditions and civilian issues come to the fore."

Provost Mark S. Wrighton and Dean for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs Arthur C. Smith were unavailable for comment.

Director of Special Events Mary L. Morrisey, who led the Commencement Committee, was pleased with Vest's selection. "I

always feel surprised, and pleasantly so, in who is picked as the final choice," she said. She declined to name the other potential speakers on the list given to Vest, but did comment that the president "generally does stick to the list presented" in this decision.

Aspin graduated *summa cum laude* from Yale University in 1960 with a bachelor's degree in history. He was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University in England, receiving his master's degree for a combined major in economics, politics, and philosophy. He received his PhD in economics from MIT in 1966. Aspin has been described as "one of the truly important legislators on Capitol Hill" by the Almanac of American Politics.

Student opinion mixed

"I think he's an excellent choice," said Aileen W. Lee '92, class president and an *ex officio*

member of the Commencement Committee. "I've heard from several different sources that he is an excellent speaker. ... He has his finger on the pulse of what's going on in Washington. He knows about the economic climate that the members of our class will face, especially about what the defense situation will be like," she said.

Graduate Student Council President Furio Ciacci was also happy with Vest's decision. "I, for my own benefit, laid out qualities I thought the speaker should have, and this person has nearly everything. In that respect, I think he's ideal and am quite satisfied with the choice."

Ciacci continued, saying that since Aspin studied and spent time at MIT, students will be able to "relate better" to his speech. "He's familiar with the experience of the

Aspin, Page 8

2090 Admitted to Class of 1996

By Eva Moy
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The statistical profile of the newly admitted class of 1996 is similar to that of previous years, with academic scores and racial and gender distributions falling within normal fluctuations, according to Associate Director of Admissions Elizabeth S. Johnson.

More students were admitted this year — 2090 of 6671 applicants, compared to 2009 last year. This larger figure was made possible because of an apparent rise in housing vacancies, which leaves more room for freshmen. Another 579 applicants are on the wait list. Between one and 130 students have been admitted from the wait list in the past five years.

Forty percent of the admitted students with high school class rankings are first in their class. Ninety percent are ranked within the top five percent of their class, and 97 percent are within the top 10 percent. Seventy-seven percent of the applicant pool had class rankings.

The average Scholastic Aptitude Test math score of admitted students is 742 out of 800, and 54 percent scored above 750. The average SAT verbal score is 641 out of 800. These averages are based on 2050 admittees' scores. Scores for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) are not included, although they are considered in the admissions process.

For admittees who took the

American College Test, the average for the math components is 33 out of 36; the average for the verbal components is 30 out of 36.

The average score for the Math Level I and Math Level II Achievement tests is 755 out of 800. The average score for the science Achievement tests, including Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, is 696. The average score for humanities Achievement tests, including English, American History, and European History, is 647.

Johnson said these are "minor fluctuations" from recent years' test averages. "They don't change enough for us to worry about them," she added.

Admissions, Page 7

Impostor Robbed APhi; Arrested Later at URI

By Brian Rosenberg
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A woman posing as an Alpha Phi alumna forged a check and used the credit cards of several members of MIT's Alpha Phi chapter. The crimes took place before spring break, when the woman, using the name Tracy Lynn Ryder, stayed six nights at the Alpha Phi house in Kenmore Square.

Lisa Sargent, a Canadian woman, was arrested and charged with larceny last week by University of Rhode Island police after similar activity there. Anne P. Glavin, chief of MIT Campus Police, said all the evidence available indicates that Sargent posed as Ryder at MIT.

Campus Police received three complaints about Sargent from Alpha Phi members, the first on March 17. Sargent also spent a few nights at Phi Beta Epsilon, but Campus Police have received no reports of any thefts there, Glavin said.

Sargent obtained lodging at the houses by presenting a variety of stories describing her background and a recent misfortune. A bulletin released by Campus Police on March 20 says she has represented herself as a student at the University of Southern California and at

McGill University in Canada. She has also said her father is the U.S. Ambassador to Japan. At different times, she said she had just had her purse stolen and had no money or identification, or that she had been abused by her boyfriend.

Alpha Phi President Susan K. Scruggs '93 said Sargent slept in her room. She said sorority sisters became suspicious of Sargent when

Robbery, Page 8

INSIDE

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■ Class Council election results.
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■ MIT Baseball returns from spring break at 500.
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WORLD & NATION

Baker Urges Mideast Leaders to Plan Future Peace Talks

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Secretary of State James A. Baker III, taking a more aggressive posture toward the Middle East peace talks, has asked all participants to return to Washington April 27 while insisting they also agree in advance to hold future talks closer to the region.

State Department spokesman Margaret Tutwiler announced Monday that Baker sent letters last week to Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and the Palestinians with "a package proposal" to resume the talks as well as make a commitment to move them out of Washington.

Tutwiler said Baker wants agreement in advance of the next meeting that the future rounds would be held closer to the Middle East. Israel has been advocating that the talks be held in the region since last October's Madrid conference launched the current process, while the Arab participants have preferred Washington.

If the participants cannot agree on a new venue, Tutwiler said, the United States and Russia, co-sponsors of the talks, will designate a location and announce it before April 27. Tutwiler described this as a "new approach."

Russian Unemployment Increasing

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Unemployment in Russia, once so small that authorities insisted that it did not exist, will reach 15 percent or more by the end of this year and produce severe hardships in a country that lacks adequate jobless benefits, the International Labor Organization reported Monday.

The U.N. agency said that unemployment was expected to be a little lower in the other republics of the former Soviet Union, but that even there it would be massive in comparison to previous years, when the communist regime kept workers on the job even if they were unnecessary and unproductive.

Now, as a result of the effort to convert to a market-oriented system, as many as 15 million workers will lose their jobs across all of the former Soviet republics and 30 million more may be reduced to marginal work that is far below their abilities.

"The crunch is coming, one way or the other," Michel Hansenne, director-general of the Geneva-based organization, said in a written statement that accompanied the report, which was released in Washington. "From our surveys and secondary evidence, we know that over a quarter of the currently employed are surplus. We go to factories and ask managers about their ability to cut workers; all say that they have 25 percent more workers than they really need, even though they're producing at only about 70 percent of capacity."

Jordanian Escapes Prosecution

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Justice Department decided last year not to indict a Jordanian businessman in a \$5 billion Iraqi loan fraud scheme after the State Department pointed out that he was "well connected" to the King of Jordan and to U.S. grain exporters, according to records made public in the House on Monday.

Government prosecutors had been planning to name the middleman, Wafai Dajani, as one of the defendants in a conspiracy to funnel billions of dollars in illegal bank loans to Iraq, but decided not to do so shortly before the indictment was returned on Feb. 28, 1991 — the day allied forces were ordered to stop fighting in the Persian Gulf War.

In a secret internal memo that day, the State Department said it had "no objections" to indictment of any of the individuals on the prosecution's list, including Dajani, but it expressed reservations about proceeding against him in light of his connections.

Iraq received more than \$5 billion worth of what the government says were "unauthorized 'off book' loans and credit commitments" from the Atlanta branch of Italy's Banco Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL) between 1985 and 1989, including some \$900 million guaranteed by the U.S. Government's Commodity Credit Corp. Dajani's firms handled most of the CCC agricultural commodities once they arrived at the port of Aqaba in Jordan, according to Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, D-Texas, chairman of the House Banking Committee, who discussed the matter Monday on the floor.

WEATHER

A Brief Spell of Rain

By Yeh-Kai Tung

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A small storm system will pass through Tuesday, bringing rain. The rain will end Tuesday night, but skies will remain partly cloudy for the middle of the week. Temperatures will be slightly below normal.

Tuesday. Rain with a small chance of mixed precipitation in the afternoon. Winds northeast 5-10 mph (8-16 kph). High 47° F (8° C)

Tuesday night. Rain ending. Cloudy. Winds shifting to northwest 15-20 mph (24-32 kph). Low 34° F (1° C)

Wednesday. Partly cloudy. High 48° F (9° C). Low 32° F (0° C)

Thursday. Slightly cooler. Partly cloudy. High 42° F (6° C)

South Korean President Reshuffles Gov't. Posts to Ease Public Discontent

By Teresa Watanabe

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

President Roh Tae Woo fired his internal intelligence chief Monday in a reshuffle of government posts aimed at showing "new resolve" to heed popular discontent expressed in last week's national elections.

One week after the ruling Democratic Liberal Party's upset electoral defeat, Roh moved to punish the intelligence agency blamed for distributing slanderous pamphlets against an opposition candidate shortly before the election. He dismissed Suh Tong Kwon, director of the Agency for National Security Planning and replaced him with Home Minister Lee Sahng Yeon, a former NSP deputy director who hails from a town near Roh's regional power base of Taegu.

Roh also replaced his chief economic assistant, two other senior aides and three Cabinet officers in the reshuffle.

In addition, Roh announced the creation of an advisory committee to recommend ways to revitalize the economy, which grew 8.4 percent last year but has suffered from a 10 percent inflation rate, a \$10 billion trade deficit and sluggish exports.

The ruling party has blamed economic woes and allegations of vote-rigging and fraud for its March 24 electoral defeat, in which voters cut its strength in the National Assembly from 72 percent to 49 percent.

Roh's action was meant to "insure the government administers state affairs with a new resolve, following the people's will demonstrated in last week's election," presidential spokesman Kim Hak Joon said.

But the opposition Democratic Party immediately branded Roh's move as a superficial step and a "stopgap measure" to quell public discontent without tackling real reform. It demanded that Roh also fire Defense Minister Choi Sae Chang and punish army leaders for another scandal involving the alleged doctoring of 560,000 absentee army votes. Two days before the election, an army lieutenant publicly accused his commanders of ordering that the ballots be rigged to give the ruling party an 80 percent edge.

Those allegations, if true, would have far greater ramifications than the slander incident, in which four intelligence agents were arrested for stuffing mailboxes with inflammatory literature against an opposition candidate in Seoul. But the Defense

Ministry has denied the rigging accusations, and the lieutenant who made them was immediately arrested on charges of leaving his unit to talk to reporters.

The opposition has also demanded that Prime Minister Chung Won Shik and Roh's entire 23-person Cabinet resign to apologize for the alleged voter fraud.

Other new Cabinet appointees are:

—Lee Dong Ho, new home minister who formerly served as Finance Ministry vice minister, Korea Development Bank president and appointed governor of Chungchong province.

—Kang Hyon Wook, new minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries who formerly served as vice minister of the Economic Planning Board.

—Ro Kun Il, new transportation minister who has served as Roh's senior secretary for administration.

In addition, Roh named as his chief economic aide former Construction Minister Lee Jin Seol succeeding Kim Chong In, who was elected to Parliament last week.

Roh also named Shim Dae Pyung as secretary for administrative affairs and Lim In Kyu as assistant for policy research.

Clinton Criticizes the News Media, Requests Further Debate with Brown

By Thomas B. Edsall

THE WASHINGTON POST

MILWAUKEE

Faced with mounting evidence that questions about his character put him in danger in next Tuesday's crucial New York presidential primary, Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton Monday issued an anguished critique of the news media for the way they have covered his campaign and said he would take his case "directly to the people."

In an unusual step for a front-runner, Clinton called for a sharp increase in the number of debates with his remaining opponent for the Democratic nomination, Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown Jr., because all that voters "have heard is bad stuff dumped on them about me." He charged that the media do not accurately report on his positions, and that "at least the people who watch the debate will hear them."

Clinton's advisers are also considering buying a half-hour of television time in New York to let the candidate answer questions directly from voters, a tactic he used successfully during the final week of the New Hampshire primary campaign in February.

"There is a limit to how much time I have," Clinton said as he campaigned here before flying to New York. Sounding uncharacteristically pessimistic, he said: "The sand runs out of the hourglass in eight days."

The cumulative effects of allegations about Clinton's marriage, draft status and business dealings were underscored in a poll released Sunday night by WABC-TV in New York. Asked whether Clinton has the "honesty and integrity" to be president, the poll of 700 voters in the state found that 57 percent said "no" while only 29 percent said "yes." Even among Democrats, a 51 percent majority said he does not have the requisite honesty and integrity, and among city voters the figure shot up to 62 percent.

The survey results indicated greater damage to Clinton than a national Washington Post-ABC poll conducted about two weeks ago. That poll found that a plurality of voters, 46 percent, does not believe

Clinton has enough honesty and integrity, while 41 percent said he did.

As part of a new strategy devised in a series of meetings of his senior staff members Monday, Clinton will try to schedule other events besides debates that will make him appear open to inquiry from voters, and launch new television ads designed to give voters positive information about Clinton's background and record as governor.

"He's got to give a more complete profile of who he is and what he stands for," said James Carville, one of Clinton's senior strategists. "People can't react to information they don't have."

In his comments about media coverage, Clinton seemed to single out the New York City press, whose tabloid newspapers have given prominent display — with typically colorful headlines — to negative stories about Clinton, but made it clear that they applied to newspapers, magazines and television elsewhere as well. "I have been a punching bag in New York and all across this country. How can people think anything different?" Clinton said, when asked about the doubts voiced by New York voters about his candidacy.

In an almost plaintive speech to black churchgoers in Queens after returning to New York, Clinton referred to the coverage he has received and said: "I have seen myself turned into a cartoon character of an old-time southern dealmaker by tabloids and television ads, a total denial of all my life's work."

The WABC survey was conducted before Clinton acknowledged on Sunday that he had experimented with marijuana while he was a Rhodes scholar in England in his early 20s. He had said in an interview with the Daily News last week that he had "never broken the laws of my country."

If the disclosure becomes a political liability in New York, it seems most likely to result from Clinton's use of a technicality to avoid answering the question before he was forced on Sunday by a television interviewer to say whether he

had ever violated another country's law.

Asked Monday whether he should have been forthcoming when he has been asked about drug use in the past, Clinton said: "No. In 1987, I said what I believe in. I think there is a limit to what people ought to have to say. But I am running for president now. People finally asked me a direct question. I gave them a direct answer."

Clinton advisers fear that the way Clinton's drug use became public could contribute to doubts about his credibility. "Our problem in New York is not that they think he's a dangerous hippie who experimented with pot," said Paul Begala, a campaign adviser. "It's that people don't trust him."

Clinton vowed to continue the fight for the Democratic nomination no matter what the outcome is in New York. "This thing is going to go all the way through to California and New Jersey," he said. "I'm going to try to win them all. The ones I win, I'll be grateful for. The ones I don't, I'll get delegates in."

He also sought to deflect media scrutiny toward Brown, citing a Washington Post article Monday that described how many of Brown's public comments and campaign themes echo the language used in a book proposal written three years ago by political consultant Patrick Caddell.

"If you look at the (Washington Post) story," Clinton said, "he (Brown) absolutely lifted the whole announcement speech out of Pat Caddell's transcript. He (Brown) just recreated himself for this campaign . . . We now know he even had to lift his announcement speech so somebody could tell him what he believes in for this election."

Clinton advisers said the debates with Brown, coupled with Clinton's ads attacking Brown's flat-tax proposal, were designed to put the former California governor on the defensive. "He (Brown) has to have the mike in his face," Carville said.

The Silence of the Lambs Sweeps Top Awards at Oscars

By Terry Pristin
LOS ANGELES TIMES

"The Silence of the Lambs," the suspenseful but gruesome psychological thriller centering on an FBI trainee's battle of nerves with a diabolical psychiatrist-turned-cannibal, swept the Oscars Monday night, winning the statuette for best picture and picking up four other honors during the 64th annual Academy Awards ceremony.

The award for best actress went to Jodie Foster, who played the FBI trainee assigned to hunt down a second serial murderer. She won the Oscar in 1988 for her role as a rape victim in "The Accused."

Anthony Hopkins became the third British actor in a row to win an Oscar for best actor for his performance as her sparring partner, the sadistic Dr. Hannibal Lecter.

Jonathan Demme was named best director for the same movie, based on Thomas Harris' best-selling novel of the same name, and Ted Tally won the Oscar for best screenplay adapted from another source.

Only twice before — "It Happened One Night" in 1934 and "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" in 1975 — has a single film been recognized in the top five categories of best actor, actress, director, screenplay and picture.

Despite threats by gay groups that they would disrupt the proceedings to protest the treatment of homosexuals in films, the program was not disturbed. But outside the Music Center at least 10 people were arrested during a noisy protest by hundreds of demonstrators.

In winning the top award, "The Silence of the Lambs" edged out "Beauty and the Beast," the first animated film ever to be nominated, as well as "JFK" — easily last year's most controversial film —

"The Prince of Tides," and "Bugsy."

Named best supporting actor was Jack Palance for his role as the crusty trail boss who leads the yuppie cattle drive in "City Slickers." It was a first Oscar for Palance, who was nominated twice before as best supporting actor—in 1952 for "Sudden Fear" and the following year for "Shane."

In mocking reference to the way older actors have to prove themselves to directors, Palance, 72, surprised the audience by stepping away from the podium and performing a series of pushups on the stage.

Mercedes Ruehl won the best supporting actress Oscar for her portrayal of the video store owner who nurtures a burned-out radio talk show host in "The Fisher King." Recalling that success has not come easily, Ruehl said that in light of the Oscar, "all of those sort of doleful memories transform themselves into amusing and charming anecdotes for my memoirs."

Though initially considered a dark horse, "The Silence of the Lambs" chances seemed to improve after director Jonathan Demme picked up this year's Director's Guild awards, and Ted Tally's script garnered the Writer's Guild award for best adapted screenplay.

The first of the five nominated films to open, "The Silence of the Lambs," has grossed \$130.7 million at U.S. theaters, making it the last successful hit released by the now-bankrupt Orion Pictures.

"I know everyone feels the incredible irony of what's happened to Orion," said Demme in accepting his Oscar.

Although the movie was very well-received, skeptics wondered if the Academy, which usually recognizes films with more uplifting

themes, would break with tradition and bestow its top award to such a grisly effort. With this criticism in mind, perhaps, Demme referred to the Harris' book as "extraordinarily moral."

The object of Foster's manhunt, a cross-dressing, misogynistic serial killer known as Buffalo Bill, had drawn fire from gay rights groups who said the character embodied anti-homosexual stereotypes.

In accepting her award, Foster said: "I'd like to dedicate this to all the women who came before me who never had the chances I've had."

Said Hopkins, who follows fellow Britons Jeremy Irons ("Reversal of Fortune") and Daniel Day-Lewis ("My Left Foot") in the best-actor category: "I can't believe it. This is really unexpected."

Although it was not nominated in any major categories, "Terminator II: Judgment Day," picked up four awards — for make-up, sound effects editing, sound and visual effects.

"Bugsy," a dark comedy about a dapper but psychopathic mobster and his tempestuous romance with a wisecracking Hollywood actress, was nominated in 10 categories but won awards in only two: art direction and costume design. Of all the nominated films, it has had the poorest box-office showing: \$47.5 million so far.

"JFK" was honored in the categories of film editing and cinematography. Oliver Stone's thriller sparked a national debate about the assassination of President Kennedy.

Although it was nominated in seven categories, "The Prince of Tides," the family saga of a South Carolina man who travels to New York to help a suicidal sister and winds up reconstructing his own

life, failed to win a single Oscar.

The award for best original screenplay went to Callie Khouri for "Thelma and Louise," another controversial film about two women who take off on a weekend trip and wind running from the law. "For everybody who wanted to see a happy ending for 'Thelma and Louise,' to me this is it," said Khouri.

for best documentary. Selected as the best short documentary was Debra Chasnoff's "Deadly Deception: General Electric, Nuclear Weapons and our Environment."

Winner for best original score and best original song for "Beauty and the Beast" was composer Alan Menken, who won an Oscar in the same category for "The Little

And the winners are . . .

Best Picture
The Silence of the Lambs

Best Actor
Anthony Hopkins — *The Silence of the Lambs*

Best Actress
Jodie Foster — *The Silence of the Lambs*

Best Supporting Actor
Jack Palance — *City Slickers*

Best Supporting Actress
Mercedes Ruehl — *The Fisher King*

Best Director
Jonathan Demme — *The Silence of the Lambs*

Best Original Screenplay
Callie Khouri — *Thelma and Louise*

Best Adapted Screenplay
Ted Tally — *The Silence of the Lambs*

"Mediterraneo," Gabriele Salvatores' comedy about a band of Italian soldiers stranded on a Greek island during World War II, was named best foreign language film.

"In the Shadow of the Stars," a film by Irving Saraf and Allie Light about the chorus singers of the San Francisco Opera, received the award

Mermaid" in 1989. Paying tribute to his partner, lyricist Howard Ashman, who died of AIDS in March, he said:

"Howard, I wish you could have seen the finished product. I wish you could have heard the completed score. I know you would have been proud."

Communications Manufacturing Co. (CMC)

CMC will be recruiting on April 1.

The company designs, engineers, and manufactures test and maintenance equipment for the telecommunications industry.

Some of our products include butt-in hand sets, craft access terminals, local access test cabinets, and other central office equipment.

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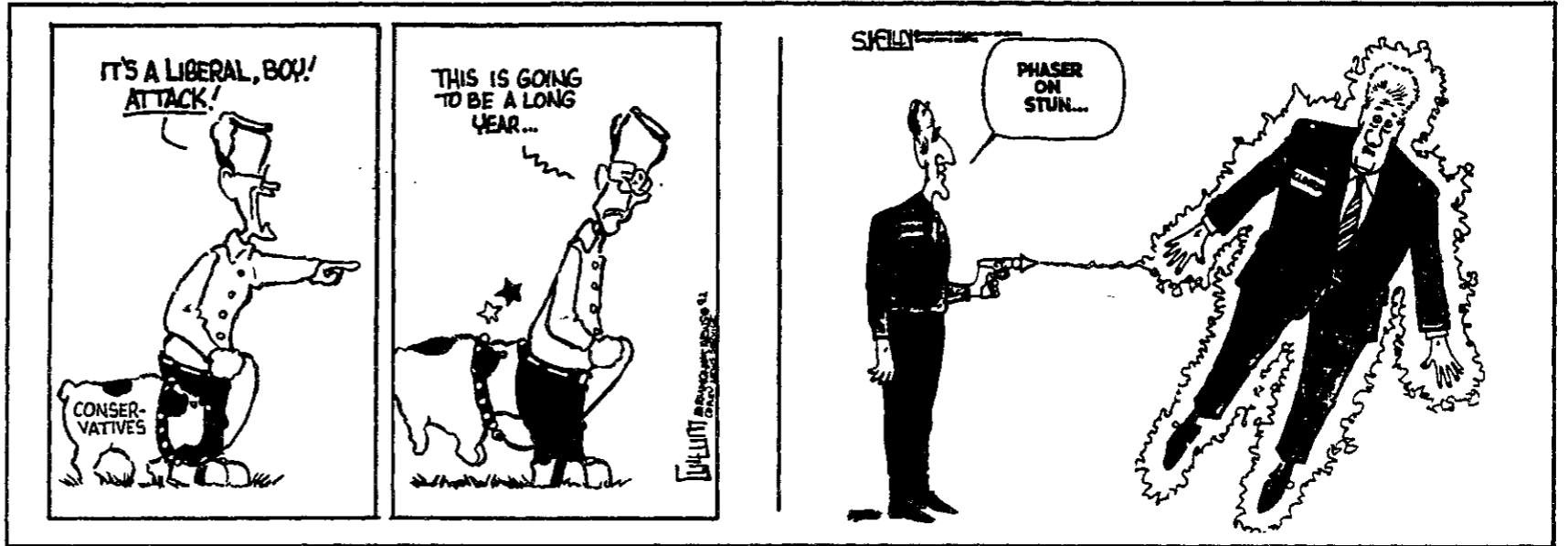
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Los Angeles – Not Really That Angelic

Column by Jonathan Richmond
ADVISORY BOARD

The cab driver grinned as he handed me the morning Herald with the crashed jet sprawled across the front page. Two minutes later we were at Logan.

Up all night, working like the graduate student I thought I no longer was, I'd missed my flight and was now en route to American Airlines for their 9 a.m. departure to Los Angeles.

You can generally go to the gate and hand the agent a ticket from any other airline, or even possibly a piece of paper with a smiley face on it, and be allowed to fly, but I had a bag to check, so a trip to the front counter was in order. I got there at 8:30 to face a fifteen minute wait, a surly and misinformed employee, and ten minutes of bureaucratic delay.

Despite the airline's efforts, I got on the flight, which was promptly delayed for forty-five minutes. The passengers listened with clenched teeth to an entertaining description of the procedures for ensuring the wings were de-iced. My bag, left behind in Boston, was delayed for longer.

Wearily, I gazed at the buff envelope handed me upon arrival at the Los Angeles County Hall of Administration, where I stood ready to face the consequences of the article headlined "Sex and the Single Subway" the *Los Angeles Times* had written about me two days previously. "Execution of Richmond agreement," the envelope said. "Agreement for execution on Monday in your office," I read on.

I realized I needed to get my new contract notarized...

And so to Interstate 5, a traffic-frozen freeway of late-afternoon misery.

I wonder whether getting kicked out of the City of Commerce Travelodge Suites Motel deserves a place on my resume. The manager of this facility, whose matchbox rooms look out on the frenzied I-5 on one side and the almost equally noisy Slauson Avenue on the other, had argued over accepting a discount voucher his reservations staff had told me I could use, and suggested I check out.

Looking into dinner possibilities in Beverly Hills the following night, I ventured into the Wilshire hotel. The silent alarms went off as the *maitre d'hôtel* detected the presence of a grubby, unmoneyed, and tweedily-dressed Englishman. Though no one in the room so much as batted an eyelash, the *maitre d'* beckoned me towards the exit, and I strolled on.

I passed on the opportunity to dine on "Scrambled Tofu" or "Vegan Cutlets Française" at the Vegé Gourmet, and hesitated only briefly at the Caviarteria — eschewing the chance to buy a kilo of the stuff for a mere \$2,450 — before arriving at Critter Caterers, "A Pet Bakery and Boutique."

Critter caters for the gourmet canine take-out market, supplying dog biscuits intricately crafted in the shapes of bagels and croissants and, for the social crowd, "party platters" for \$25. Conscientious owners can ensure that their pooch is admitted to the Wilshire with the purchase of a dog tuxedo for \$45 or a Chanel collar and leash set for \$102.

I considered dining at Critter Caterers, but the prices were too high for human consumption. It's a dog's life.

My return trip began inauspiciously. The traffic was backed up on I-10, and I missed my flight back to Boston. I stood by for a later one. I was assigned seat 1F and was happy because it was in first class, courtesy of a free upgrade Continental sends out periodically to those masochistic enough to fly with them on a regular basis.

But I turned out to be the third person to have come to claim the seat, and the first

arrival had firmly cemented himself in place to minimize the high risk of displacement.

The gate agent came to attend to the confusion, and I was reassigned to 20F — in coach. There were only two people who had been assigned this seat, but since even Continental won't strap two people in one seat, I was re-directed to the empty aisle seat in the last row, Continental's prison class.

None of the seats in the back row would recline, but the ones in front certainly did, wedging into the chests of the hapless victims in the back. Across the aisle were two security agents with a prisoner placed between them, handcuffed for some of the time. One of the guards got up at one point and was overheard discussing the merits of mace and handcuffs with one of the cabin crew.

Was the Continental ambience intended to make the prisoner feel "at home?" The inedi-

ble dinner appeared to be made of reconstituted plastic doggy doo, and would have triggered a riot in any self-respecting jail. And while ordinary fare-paying passengers have no chance to complain, shouldn't Alan Dershowitz be arguing that this is cruel and unusual punishment for prisoners?

The cabbie at Logan was in an irritated mood. Traffic was at a standstill due to work on the road. "They must have a completely naked woman doing it," he said, "and everybody's stopping to look."

The next night I thought I'd go round to play with the kids from pika to unwind from all this, when I realized I'd just locked myself out. With one call I produced a full-service Cambridge fire engine screeching round the corner, three uniformed firemen, and a police officer, who obligingly helped me open my bedroom door. Ah, the joys of home.

IF WE ALL LIVED LIKE CONGRESS



LETTERS POLICY

Editorials, printed in a distinctive format, are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors and opinion editors.

Dissents, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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, Mass. 02139, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. Electronic submissions in plain text format may be mailed to tech@athena.mit.edu. All submissions are due by 4 p.m. two days before the issue date.

Letters and cartoons must bear the author's signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the 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 MIT Community Players

Announce...

AUDITIONS & Tech Sign Ups

For our Production of 3 One Act Plays to be presented May 7-9:

Romance & Strangers

(both by local playwright Barbie J.J. Lhota)

A Marriage Proposal by Anton Chekov

directed by Spencer Klein

From 8 to 10 PM on

March 31 in Student Center Room 407

April 1 in Student Center Room 491

For more information call x3-2530

LSC PRESENTS

April 3-5, 1992

Friday Classic 7:30 in 10-250
Al Jolson

The JAZZ Singer

Friday 7&10 in 26-100
Christian Slater

MOBSTERS

Saturday 3, 7 & 10 in 26-100

THE SECRET NIMH

Due to circumstances beyond LSC's control, Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* has been rescheduled for May 9.

Sunday 7 & 10 in 10-250
Sean Connery

FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

All movies \$1.50 LSC MovieLine 258-8881
MIT/WC ID required.

LECTURE

Tuesday, April 7

7:00 in 26-100

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ATHENA MINICOURSES

Schedule and Index

April 6-9, 1992

(One Week! -- Last Chance for Spring Term!)

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
12 noon	6 Apr Intro	7 Apr Basic WP	8 Apr Latex	9 Apr Thesis
7 p.m.		Latex	Intro	MSO
8 p.m.		Thesis	Basic WP	Matlab

- All minicourses are one hour each, and are taught in Room 3-343.
 - For more information, contact Minicourse Training at training@athena or x3-0184.
- PLEASE NOTE: No Pre-Registration or Reservations are Needed... Just show up for class!

Minicourse Descriptions

How To Get Around Athena (Intro) An introduction to Athena and Athena workstations. Topics include: getting an Athena account, logging in, using files and directories, windows, sending messages, finding help and documentation. *Pre-requisites: None*

Basic Word Processing (Basic WP) Elementary text editing with Emacs, sending and receiving electronic mail, and using the Athena printers. *Pre-requisites: Intro*

Advanced Word Processing: Latex (Latex) An introduction to Latex, a widely-used text formatter, used for converting a text file into an attractive, professional-looking document. It is a powerful and flexible program, with the capability to typeset many foreign characters and very complex mathematical text. *Pre-requisites: Basic WP*

Latex Thesis (Thesis) Using the Latex text formatter to produce a fully-featured thesis that meets all MIT format requirements. *Pre-requisites: Latex*

Math Software Overview (MSO) A survey of major mathematics and graphing packages available on Athena. *Pre-requisites: Basic WP*

Matlab (Matlab) An interactive program for scientific and engineering numeric calculation. Applications include: matrix manipulation, digital signal processing, 3-dimensional graphics. *Pre-requisites: Basic WP*

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U-TALK: Just Call It!

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38% of New Admits Are Female

Admissions, from Page 1

Fewer minorities admitted

The percentage of underrepresented minorities in the admitted class fell to 13 percent, down from 15 percent last year. The Institute admitted 125 African Americans (6 percent), 20 Native Americans (1 percent), 86 Mexican Americans (4 percent), and 35 Puerto Ricans (2 percent).

In addition, 566 Asian Americans (27 percent) and 37 students of Hispanic origin (2 percent) were admitted.

Also among the admittees are 128 international students.

"We've always tried to admit as many underrepresented minorities as we can," Johnson said. She added that the number "varies somewhat based on the applicant pool."

If an underrepresented minority is initially rejected, other members of the admissions staff review the application to make sure that these people "won't fall through the cracks," Johnson said. It is a "much

more considerate process," she added.

"Minority numbers are slightly lower," said Joanne L. Cummings, an associate director of admissions. "The minority pool was not as strong this year."

More women in class

The newly admitted class includes 789 females (38 percent), which is the highest percentage within the past five years. The percentage has fluctuated between 35 and 38 percent in recent years.

There is no affirmative action program for women, but MIT encourages admitted women to attend MIT by holding events like the Campus Preview weekend for women and minorities and a special telethon. Although a smaller proportion of admitted women than men choose to attend, data show that women do as well at MIT as men, Johnson said.

The admissions process

Applications for freshman

admission are read by the professional admissions staff and by outside readers such as faculty members and administrators.

All applicants are assigned both a numerical and a non-numerical index. These range from one to five, with five being the highest rating.

The numerical index is a computer-generated academic rating, a weighted average of applicants' academic records as compared to applicant pools from the three previous years. The non-numerical index is a combination of the applicant's academic style, personal style, and personal accomplishments, as compared to other students in the current applicant pool. But this is subject to a "variability in reader ratings," Johnson said.

Applicants with a 5-5 index are usually admitted, and applicants with a 1-1 index usually are not. For the middle-range scores, applicants are compared against others with the same scores; there is a target percentage of acceptances from each index pair.

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Aspin to Speak at Commencement

Aspin, from Page 1

Institute," he said. Ciacci also added that the Commencement Committee "was looking for someone in Congress, and Aspin is very accomplished in that aspect."

The general opinion among

seniors seems split. "I've been reading about Congressman Aspin for a long time now. Coming from MIT, he's risen to prominence and is really a good role model for students," said Roopa H. Mehendele '92.

Craig W. Griffin '92 agreed. "It might be interesting to hear from [Aspin's] perspective on how MIT will be affected by the changes in military spending and how MIT is adjusting now that the Cold War is over," he said.

Some students, however, were very disappointed with the selection. "I was hoping that (Sen.) Al Gore (D-Tenn.) was going to speak — that's who I asked for," said Christopher M. Rein '92. Rein added that Arkansas Gov. Bill

Clinton would also "have been a better choice."

Joshua M. Holden '92 was in full agreement with Rein. "We don't need a defense man to speak at commencement. Al Gore would have been a much better choice — he's a technology guy." Holden added that some students "probably haven't even heard" of Aspin. One student even commented that her parents were pleased with the choice. "My dad can't wait to come here to hear him speak," said Barbara A. Sigmund '92. "He's been bugging me about who was going to be chosen, and is finally off my back because he's psyched about the choice," she said.

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Rep. Les Aspin PhD '66 (D-Wisc.)

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URI Police Arrest APhi Impostor For Larceny

Robbery, from Page 1

several noticed money missing from the house.

"We called USC and they had no record of her ever being a student there," Scruggs said. "We asked her to leave — we packed her up and moved her out."

Scruggs said several sisters, including herself, later discovered that their credit cards had been used. "Most of us will not be responsible [for the cost of Sargent's purchases] because we signed a statement that we will prosecute" if Sargent is brought to Boston, Scruggs said.

"She used a check of mine to pay someone at another school," Scruggs said. "The check bounced — I guess she picked the wrong person to forge a check off of," she added.



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Also visited PBE

Before she went to Alpha Phi, Sargent stayed at PBE for four nights. "She called at 3:30 a.m. and said she was stranded in Boston on her way to Jamaica," said Michael M. Tso '92, president of PBE. "A couple freshmen invited her to stay."

Tso said it took two days to "find any inconsistencies" in Sargent's story. "She said her mother was having a liver transplant and that she called because a friend of hers had a boyfriend who knew someone at the house."

"Later she said she was going to visit her little sister at Alpha Phi, then leave. She called to make airline reservations, but I called several airlines and none of them had reservations for her," he said.

"She had her birth certificate with her," Tso said. "The name [on the certificate] was Lisa Georgia Ryder. It was Canadian," he added.

"She was a good liar — very intelligent and quick on her feet," he said.

Prosecution possible

Scruggs said Sargent is being brought to court for her URI charges on April 8. "If she shows up, she'll be arrested and prosecuted in Boston," she said.

Scruggs said the Boston police told her Sargent has a history of similar behavior. "She's 29 and has been doing this for 10 years. She spent a year and a half in jail in Canada for larceny. She's showed up at several schools — she went from school to school before each of their spring breaks."

"We're just really tired of talking about it. We've basically turned it over to the police and are letting them do the work," she added.

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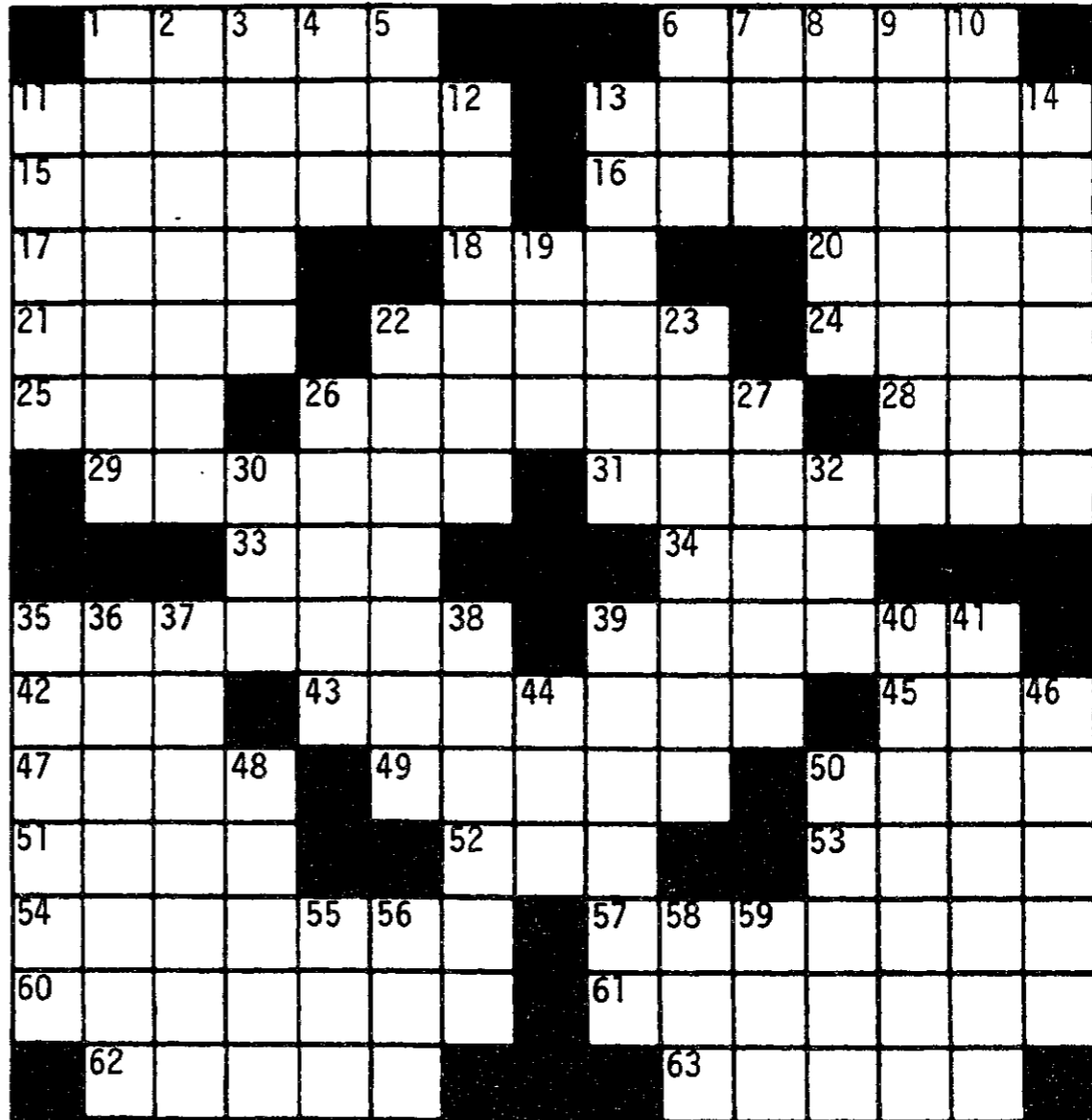
Monday, April 7, 1992
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Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Building 10, Room 250

ACROSS

- 1 — system
- 6 Disagree with, in law
- 11 Baseball hall-of-famer, — Baker
- 13 Reduces in rank
- 15 Show excessive devotion
- 16 Learned
- 17 Govern
- 18 European country (abbr.)
- 20 Wallach and Whitney
- 21 Bed support
- 22 Lowest point
- 24 Fine earth
- 25 Fedora
- 26 Large grasshopper
- 28 Zuider —
- 29 Put on a new book cover
- 31 What Edmund Hillary conquered
- 33 No —, ands, or buts
- 34 Here: Fr.
- 35 Gave a conceited smile
- 39 — Delta
- 42 Faux —
- 43 In — (behind in payment)
- 45 Dumbbell
- 47 Lubricates
- 49 Neighbor of Turkey
- 50 — one's time
- 51 Turkish chamber
- 52 Snakelike fish
- 53 Sidekick (abbr.)
- 54 Newer film versions
- 57 One TV show
- 60 Most sarcastic
- 61 Slanders
- 62 Aroma
- 63 Physician of old

DOWN

- 1 Constructed with standardized units
- 2 Try to equal or surpass
- 3 Issue a new lease
- 4 Retirement account
- 5 Famous king
- 6 — Fuehrer
- 7 Flightless bird
- 8 Statistical measures
- 9 Put into service
- 10 Puts in a new floor
- 11 Stern
- 12 Nullify
- 13 Ridicule
- 14 Musical group
- 19 Miss Williams
- 22 Former world leader, and family
- 23 Las Vegas hotel
- 26 Novelist Franz —
- 27 Knocks down by punching
- 30 Abbreviation before a date
- 32 Dolores Del —
- 35 Animal tracks
- 36 Certain race horses
- 37 Muslim
- 38 Most arid
- 39 Dispatched
- 40 Offensive, as an odor
- 41 — Purchase
- 44 Before
- 46 Celebrations
- 48 Tree product
- 50 Fundamental
- 55 Famous doll
- 56 Superlative suffix
- 58 Slangy throw
- 59 "— nightingale..."



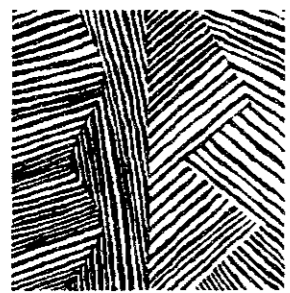
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SOLUTIONS, P. 16

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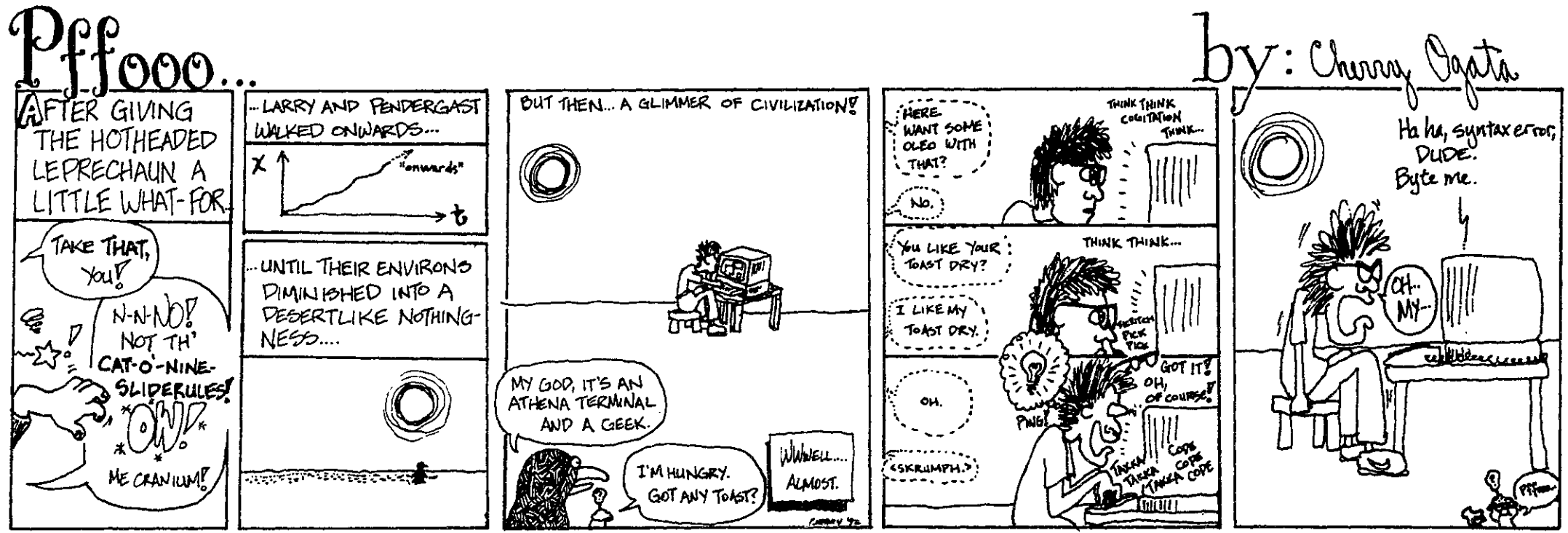
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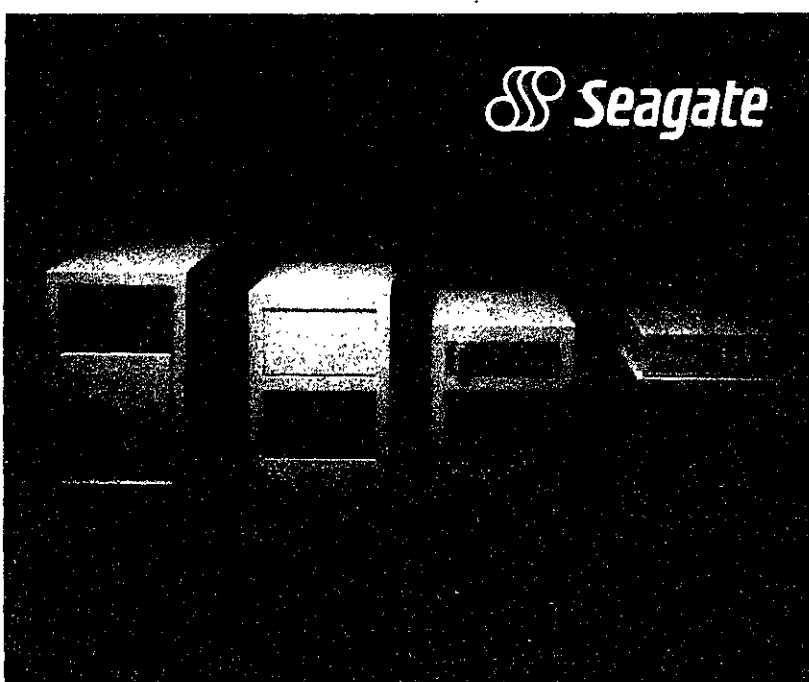
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Further information and a
booklet describing the program
may be obtained at Dr. Gerzon's
office, Room 12-170 or
253-4737

Election Turnout at Three-Year Low Despite Large Number of Candidates

Election, from Page 1

Providing keys is "a really quick thing that can get done immediately," he said, adding that there was no reason not to use other candidates' ideas if they would improve students' lives at the Institute.

Results will be uncontested

Candidates interviewed last night unanimously agreed not to contest the election results.

Bansal and Tao, who had called on the UA to hold new elections, said that they would accept the results, mostly because the UA Council had voted to accept them. Prenner, meanwhile, said that she had been opposed to holding new elections from the beginning, and that she would hold to this principle even though she lost.

"I guess I still think the fairest way to do this would be to have a re-election," Bansal said. "But I think that because [the] council voted on whether or not to consider the votes valid, that if [the] council in general feels these results were valid, then they are valid."

Tao agreed with Bansal's assessment, saying that "it was kind of ironic that the two teams that came in first and second both favored the re-election and wanted to ensure the integrity of everything."

Prenner and Tao both felt their teams would have done better if they had paid more attention to advertising. "I would have spent more time on advertising. That was definitely a weakness in our campaign," Prenner said.

"We didn't think it was going to be as major a factor as it was," Tao said. "We were hoping we could spread our message by word of mouth. In hindsight, we could have printed up more posters. For the amount of publicity we did, we did pretty well."

Weather was a factor

Chitaley was at a loss for why so few students voted, but said that the bad weather — it was raining on the day of elections — was a contributing factor. "We usually get 300 people voting at Baker [House], and this year we didn't," he said. Very few people voted at Theta Xi, usually a popular polling place, he added.

Indeed, fewer students voted in this year's election than in UA elections during the previous two years.

Last year, 33 percent of students voted; 38 percent voted the previous year. This year's turnout was estimated at about 30 percent.

Particularly confusing, Chitaley said, was the fact that so few people voted even with such a large field of candidates. "There were four presidential candidates, a bunch of the Class of 1994, and for the Class of 1995." The election was, he added, a "large contest."

New Class Council Officers

Class of 1992

- President — Aileen W. Lee
- Vice President —
Barbara A. Sigmund
- Secretary — Leslie A. Barnett
- Treasurer — Michael S. Gull
- Members-At-Large —
Seth A. Cohen
Roopa H. Mehendale
- Class Agent — Joanna E. Stone

Class of 1994

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- Vice President — Ann Chen
- Secretary — John J. Bellizzi III
- Treasurer —
Catherine L. Downard
- Social Chairs —
Heakyung Chung
Elizabeth Y. C. Oh
- Publicity Chair — no candidates

Class of 1993

- President — Reshma P. Patel
- Vice President —
Christopher F. Blanc
- Secretary — Leila Tabibian
- Treasurer — Sophia Yen
- Social Chairs —
Valerie A. Gafori
To-Quyen X. Chu
- Publicity Chair — no candidates

Class of 1995

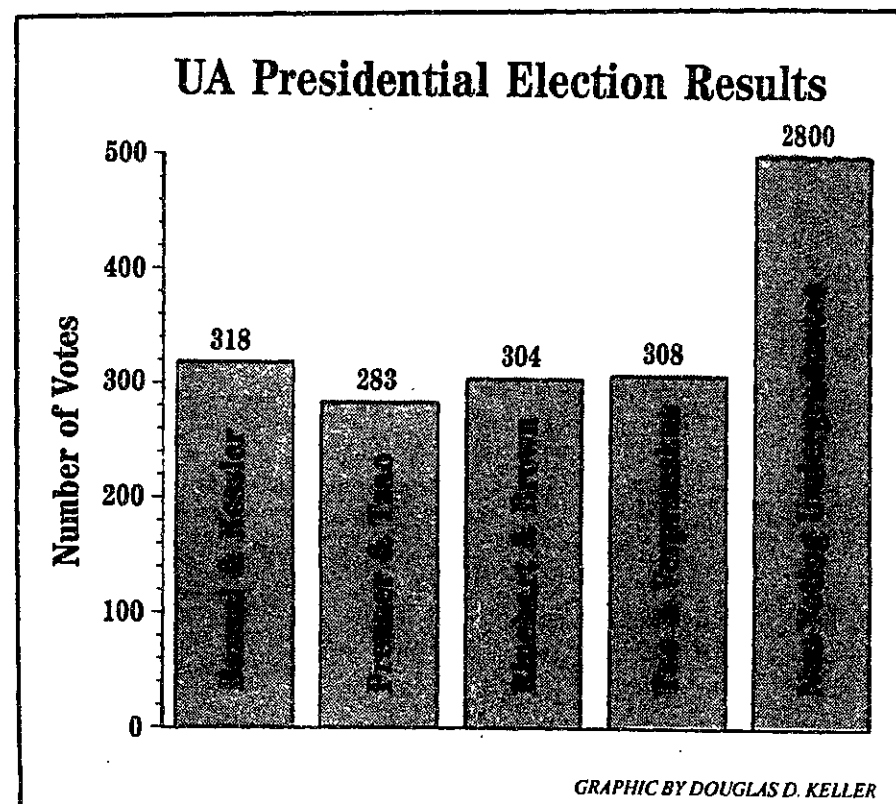
- President — Sandra K. Joung
- Vice President — Kalen Yang
- Secretary — Colin M. Page
- Treasurer — Sabrina H. Kwon
- Social Chairs —
Michael J. Joo
Laura J. Vojvodich
- Publicity Chair —
Frances Hsieh

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Guidelines and Applications are available at the Office of the Arts (E15-205, Wiesner Building). Call Susan Cohen at 253-2372 for more information.



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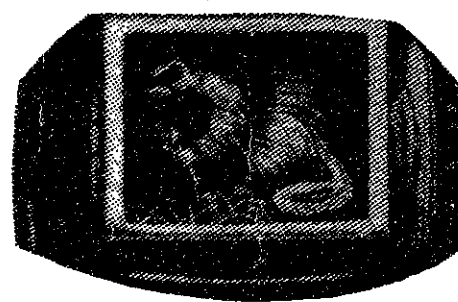
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MIT Alumnus Flies on Shuttle

By John Tylko

The space shuttle *Atlantis* launched into orbit last week with an MIT alumnus among its crew. Byron L. Lichtenberg ScD '79, the crew's payload specialist, will study the sun and the Earth's atmosphere from space.

The eight-day mission, which began last Tuesday, carries the Atmospheric Laboratory for Applications and Science, which contains 12 instruments that will study solar radiation, the chemistry of the atmosphere, space plasma

physics, and ultraviolet astronomy.

Lichtenberg received his SM in mechanical engineering in 1975 and an ScD in biomedical engineering in 1979. He first flew in space as a payload specialist aboard Spacelab in November 1983, logging 10 days

of space flight.

Lichtenberg carried two items from the Institute aboard *Atlantis* — a small piece of the steps of Lobby 7 and a 10-foot long banner signed by faculty, students, and staff members.

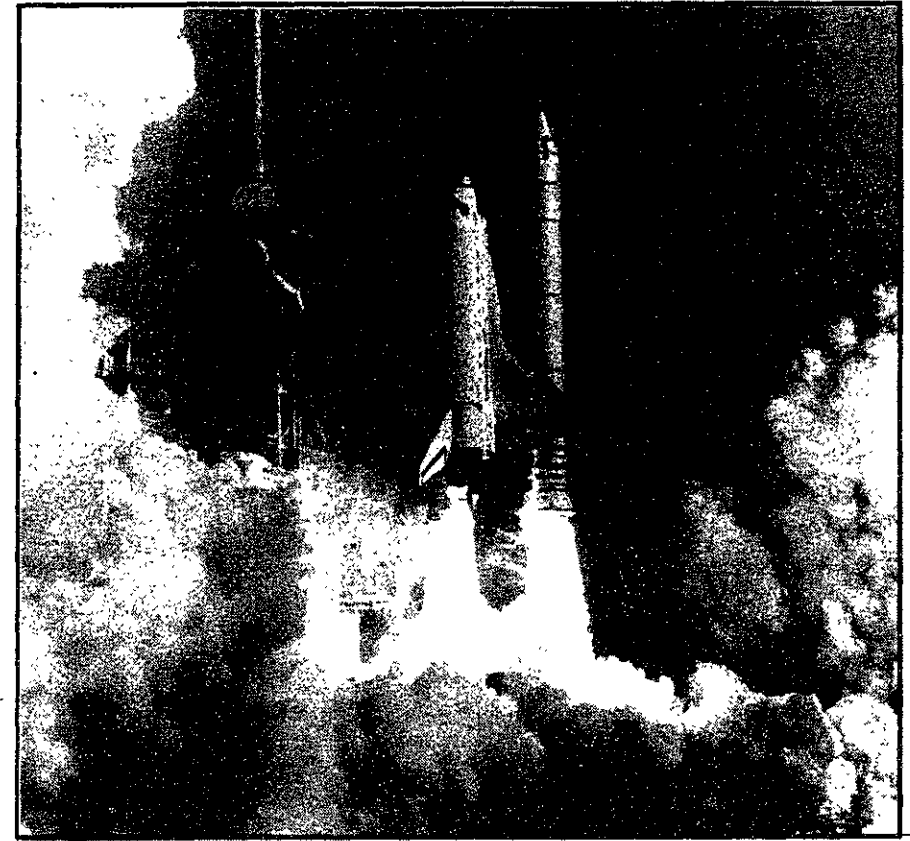


PHOTO COURTESY NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

The Space Shuttle *Atlantis* surges skyward on a pillar of flame Tuesday. Among its seven crew members is payload specialist Byron K. Lichtenberg ScD '79.



PHOTO COURTESY NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

A jovial *Atlantis* flight crew departs the Operations and Checkout Building at the Kennedy Space Center Tuesday; among them is Byron K. Lichtenberg ScD '79 (upper right).

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Jim's Journal



by Jim



C Programmer

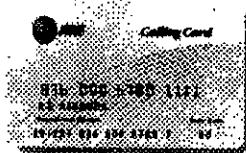
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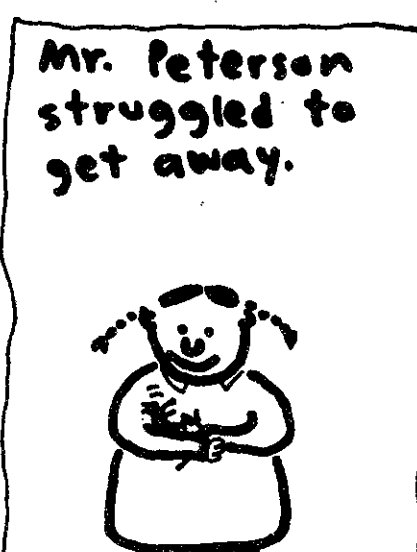
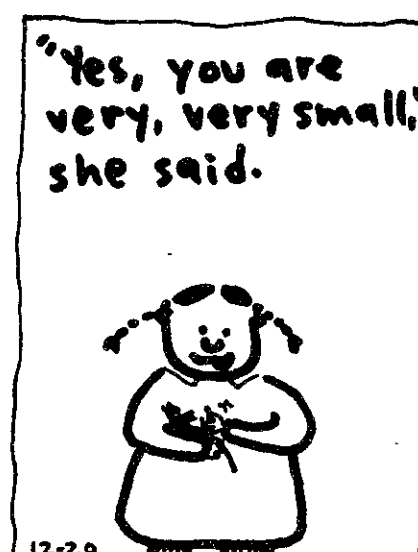
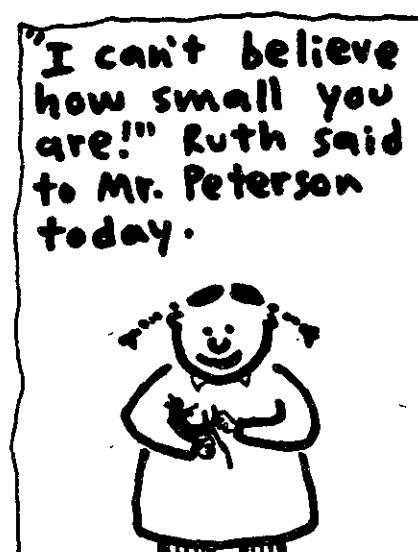
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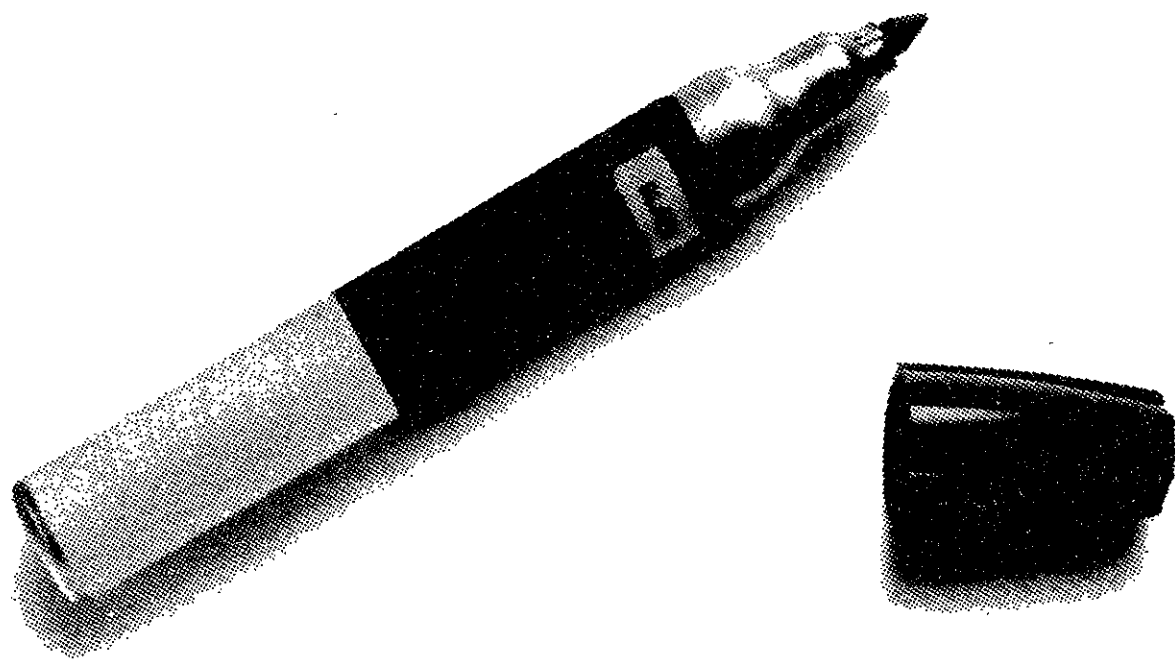


Jim's Journal

by Jim



If you don't have the money to fly to London, use your imagination.



Or use your four color Xerox™ copier. Your pastel markers. Or your new 3-D graphic software package. Hey, don't hold back. Simply put, we're having a contest to find the most fabulous, creative, memorable, audacious 19 by 24 inch poster to get people to fly Virgin Atlantic Airways to London. The designer will not only win two round-trip tickets to London. They'll get a chance to have their first big portfolio piece plastered all over the United States. Not a bad deal. If you want more information about Virgin, drop us a line. Just remember, the sky's the limit.



Virgin Atlantic Airways. 96 Morton Street, New York, NY 10014. Attn: Marketing Services, Poster Contest.

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SPORTS

Baseball Team Emerges 2-2 from Spring Break Games

By Danny Su

ARTS STAFF

The baseball team is 2-2 after playing its first four games in Florida during spring break. Pitcher Peter Hinteregger '93 earned both victories. He gave up only one run in nine and a third innings while striking out ten. The offensive attack was led by Mike Purucker '92, Dan Sabanosh '94, Ian Somerville '93, and Jon Gass '94. Purucker had an on-base percentage of .474 in four games, scored six runs, and stole three bases; Sabanosh had six hits; Somerville drove in four runs; while Gass was five for nine and stole four bases. The team stole 10 bases, walked 19 times, and batted .262. However, the team also committed seven errors, and the pitching staff walked 17 batters in 30 innings.

The first game, against Miami Dade Community College of Miami, Fla., was all pitching. MIT managed only three hits, while the trio of Eric Hopkins '92, Matt Gimre '94, and Mkurlma Britt '94 limited Miami Dade to only four hits.

Gimre suffered the loss when

Miami Dade scored the only run of the game in the bottom of the sixth inning. After a leadoff double, Miami Dade moved the runner to third on a fly ball to right field. The runner then scored on a sacrifice fly to right field.

Jeff Olson '94 had two hits for MIT. He singled with two outs in the seventh inning, then stole second base. MIT loaded the bases as the pitcher issued a walk to Hinteregger and hit Purucker. But the scoring threat ended when the next batter struck out.

MIT came back strong the next day, beating Upsala University in Boca Raton, Fla. by a decisive 8-3. Hinteregger pitched six innings to earn the victory. MIT mounted a 13-hit attack against Upsala, with Sabanosh collecting four and Gass collecting three. Gass also stole three bases. Purucker received four walks, stole two bases, and scored three runs. MIT jumped to an early four run lead in the first inning. After Purucker received a leadoff walk, Brian Christensen '94, Sabanosh, and Somerville all followed with singles for a 2-0 lead.

With one out, Gass had an RBI single, and Nate Ritter '93 added a sacrifice fly. The lead was extended to 6-0 in the fifth inning when John Mueller '94 squeezed home Sabanosh, and Ritter drove in Gass with a triple.

Against Wesleyan University of New Jersey, MIT was outslugged 10-6. Wesleyan pounded out 11 hits against Hopkins and Rob Lepard '95. MIT also committed three errors, which led to three unearned runs. With the score tied at 3-3 in the sixth inning, Wesleyan broke the game wide open when they batted around. They scored five runs on four hits, a walk, two stolen bases, and an error. MIT then closed the gap to 8-6. But Wesleyan put the game away with two more runs in the ninth inning on a single, a stolen base, a triple, and a wild pitch. The Beavers' offensive attack was led by Sabanosh, who had two hits, and Gass, who drove in two runs.

MIT evened its record with an 8-5 victory over Northwood Institute of West Palm Beach, Fla. With the score tied at 5-5 in the bottom of the eighth, Sabanosh led off with a strikeout but reached first base on a

third-strike wild pitch. He moved to second on Somerville's sacrifice bunt. After a walk to Mueller, Sabanosh scored on a wild pitch. Mueller then scored on Lepard's sacrifice fly. With two outs, Olson walked, stole second, and scored on

Gass' RBI single. Somerville and Mueller each had two hits and two RBIs for the game. Hinteregger improved his record to 2-0 when he relieved Ritter in the fifth inning and shut out Northwood batters for three and a third innings.

Reds, Mets Predicted to Triumph In National League Contests

National, from Page 16

Tim Wallach, who, despite last year's terrible season, has been having a great spring. I look for Wallach to have a big season. For those of you who play rotisserie league baseball, this a good player to get at a low price.

Last year, the Expo bullpen led the majors with 28 blown saves. But this year will be different. John Wetteland, acquired from the Reds for Dave Martinez, will be the closer. Wetteland is having an excellent spring, and if he develops a curve ball to accompany his blazing fast-

ball, he will be a dominant closer.

5. St. Louis Cardinals

Joe Torre's magic won't work in St. Louis because he has no pitching. The bullpen is sound with Lee Smith and the return of Todd Worrell. But the starting rotation is below average with Joe Magrane, Omar Olivares Bryn Smith, Bob Tewksbury, and Jose DeLeon.

6. Philadelphia Phillies

Len Dykstra is back, along with Darren Daulton, but the rest of the team isn't. Dale Murphy is past his prime, and Mitch Williams will blow saves left and right.

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NEWBURY COMICS

MIT Student Center 225-2872

Reds Will Capture NL West; Mets to Rise in East

By Danny Su
ARTS STAFF

The western division winners have beaten the eastern division champions for the past four years. That's not going to change this year. The western division has far superior pitching — the key in the National League. Despite my bias toward the Dodgers, I think the Reds will win the National League this year.

National League West

1. Cincinnati Reds

With off-season acquisitions of Tim Belcher and Greg Swindell, together with established starters Jose Rijo and Tom Browning, the Reds have one of the best starting rotations in the league. The bullpen is anchored by Rob Dibble, the most intimidating pitcher in baseball. Now that Randy Myers is gone, Dibble can concentrate on his job without looking over his shoulder. Additional help will come from Norm Charlton and Scott Ruskin.

Off-season acquisitions have transformed Cincinnati into a team of speed and power. Barry Larkin, Chris Sabo, and Paul O'Neill are all capable of hitting 20 home runs and stealing 20 bases. Rookie Reggie

Sanders, along with former Padre Bip Roberts and former Expo Dave Martinez, will hit around .300 and steal 30 bases. And first baseman Hal Morris is ready to win a batting title. The Reds were second in team batting last year, and they can only improve. Furthermore, they have depth on their bench. With veterans like Billy Hatcher, Bill Doran, and Glenn Braggs, the Reds will have plenty of pinch hitting power late in the game and in extra innings.

2. Los Angeles Dodgers

When the Dodgers traded for Eric Davis, they created the impossible, the dream outfield of Davis and Darryl Strawberry, friends since their old school days. Sandwiched between them in center field is Brett Butler, one of the premier leadoff hitters in baseball, who was also errorless in 161 games last year.

Unfortunately, outfield is the only bright spot for the Dodgers. They have one of the worst infields in baseball. Every ground ball hit against the Dodgers is going to be an adventure. Back behind the home plate for another year is Mike Scioscia, the best human roadblock in the league. But he is 33 years old, and years of wear and tear have slowed him down.

The glory days are over for the Dodgers' starting pitchers, but the

rotation is still solid, with Orel Hersheiser, Tom Candiotti, Ramon Martinez, Bob Ojeda, and Kevin Gross.

The bullpen could be a problem for the Dodgers if Jay Howell can't stay healthy, something he hasn't done for three years. And he is opening the season on the disabled list.

Tommy Lasorda has never gone four years without winning the division — the Dodgers last won the division in 1988. I predict that the Dodgers won't win the division unless Tommy gains back some of the weight he had then.

3. Atlanta Braves

With plenty of help from the Reds, Astros, Giants, and the perennial post-season slumping Pirates, the Braves made it within one run of winning the World Series. But they are no longer the Cinderella team, and every team in the West will be gunning for them.

4. San Diego Padres

Last year, this bullpen blew 17 save opportunities. With the off-season acquisition of Randy Myers, the Padres now have a dominant closer. This should be the year that starter Andy Benes will blossom into a star, and Hurst will post his usual 15 to 20 victories. Unfortunately, there is no supporting cast for the team's superstars.

5. San Francisco Giants

The only bright spots for the Giants are the hitting tandem of Will Clark and Matt Williams. They combined for two Gold Gloves, 63 homers, and 214 RBIs last year. Otherwise, forget it. Last year's team ERA of 4.03 was the worst in the league. Despite several winter trades, they still lack a strong closing relief pitcher.

6. Houston Astros

The Houston Astros are young and doomed. No one on the team is over 30. They led the majors in errors last year, and were next to last in ERA. They can only

improve, but not this year.

National League East

The Mets made all the noises during the winter, but the Pirates will steal the headlines with their blockbuster trades once the season gets underway. This division is pathetic: any team from the West, with the exception of the Astros, could easily finish first here.

1. New York Mets

This year, the Mets are the one-eyed man in a kingdom of blind men. The outfield trio of Bobby Bonilla, Vince Coleman, and Howard Johnson will provide plenty of run production, but any fly ball hit to the outfield will become an adventure. Besides spending megabucks on Bonilla, the Mets also signed Eddie Murray and Willie Randolph to fat contracts. They also obtained Bret Saberhagen and Bill Pecota in a trade with the Royals. The starting rotation of Dwight Gooden, Saberhagen, David Cone, and Sid Fernandez is only good on paper. Gooden is trying to recover from surgery; Fernandez is still overweight; and this is an even year — bad news for Saberhagen, who always pitches better in odd years.

2. Pittsburgh Pirates

When the Pirates traded away pitcher Neal Heaton for outfielder Kirk Gibson, I thought they were going to win the World Series this year for sure. Gibson has been a winner with both the Tigers and the Dodgers. And he brings a football atmosphere onto the baseball diamond, which is exactly what the Pirates need — an emotional player to spark the rest of the team.

I was worried that Barry Bonds, Doug Drabek, and John Smiley would be traded before the end of the season. All three are eligible for free agency after this year. Then I read this quote from the new general manager Ted Simmons. "My gut feeling? Barry Bonds is going to be our left fielder this season, and

Drabek and Smiley are going to be our pitching staff." Two days later, Smiley was traded to Minnesota. I think Bonds will be traded to either California or the White Sox, when both teams are trying to stay in contention late in the season. Drabek will be traded to either Los Angeles, Boston, or the Yankees. Boston is a likely choice since the Red Sox need pitching help. I won't be surprised if Mo Vaughn and some other players go from Boston to Pittsburgh for Drabek.

The bullpen is shaky for the Pirates. Stan Belinda had a good season last year, but he needs to cut down his walks before he becomes an effective closer.

The starting rotation will be headed by Drabek if he's not traded. Zane Smith, who led the staff in complete games and shut outs, will take over the number two spot after the departure of Smiley. Rand Tomlin led the staff in ERA and should only get better. Bob Walk, at age 35, is capable of a big season if he stays healthy.

The Pirates were one of the best fielding teams last year with a fielding percentage of .981, and they were second in turning double plays. With Steve Buechele playing a full season at third base, the infield can only get better.

3. Chicago Cubs

Andre Dawson, Geog Bell, Shawon Dunston, Ryne Sandberg, and Mark Grace will provide plenty of offense. But the Cubs have absolutely no pitching. The acquisition of Mike Morgan won't help, either. Although he pitched well for the Dodgers, he is going to be a different pitcher in Chicago. Without the help of Dodger Stadium and pitching coach Ron Perranoski, Morgan is just average.

4. Montreal Expos

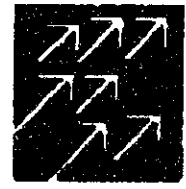
This is a young and talented team. The only regular over 30 is

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