

Judge Rules Against MIT in Overlap Suit

Decision Concludes Three-Year Investigation

By Reuven M. Lerner
NEWS EDITOR

MIT's battle with the Department of Justice began nearly three years ago, when the government began an investigation into allegations that the 23 members of the Overlap Group had broken the law by sharing financial aid data every spring.

Overlap Group members — the eight Ivy League schools, the 12 Great Lakes College Association schools, eight women's colleges, and MIT — said they would cooperate fully with investigators, who at the time remained silent about their eventual goals.

At MIT, administrators compiled and submitted information on tuition, faculty and administrative salaries, and student financial aid. James J. Culliton, vice president for financial operations, called the collection effort "a very, very large burden."

The investigation, which focused on whether the schools had determined financial aid and tuition rates as a group, was thought at the time to be the largest probe ever conducted by the Justice Department.

From the beginning, Overlap members freely admitted that they had negotiated financial aid packages for individual students at their annual spring meetings. Each school would independently calculate the amount each student's family could afford to pay. These figures

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President Vest Promises Institute Will Appeal

By Brian Rosenberg
EDITOR IN CHIEF

MIT violated the Sherman Antitrust Act by cooperating with Ivy League schools to set need-based financial aid levels, a United States District Court judge ruled yesterday.

In the 49-page decision, Judge Louis C. Bechtle refuted MIT's arguments that the Sherman Act did not apply to the financial aid meetings held by what is known as the Overlap Group. He held that the Overlap Group's aid decisions constituted price-fixing and were therefore illegal, whether or not they raised prices for students or increased revenues for MIT.

MIT plans to appeal the decision, President Charles M. Vest announced yesterday. Vest said MIT will "fight very hard to win this case," though he said it was too early to discuss specific legal strategies for the appeal. In an interview last night, he said "I am proud of the Institute for being willing to stand up in a visible way ... for important principles."

Attorneys at the Justice Department in Washington, D.C., could not be reached for comment.

Vest said this summer's passage of a federal law specifically allowing colleges to discuss principles for determining financial aid as long as they do not discuss individual students "adds to my confidence in the wisdom of our stance." The law contains a provision which exempted litigation pending at the time of its passage, including the Overlap case.

Vest added that MIT had received support hundreds of colleges and other educational organizations, and said that a few alumni classes had asked that their donations be put toward the cost of the case.

The Institute faces no fines or penalties if its appeal is defeated, Vest said, but could be forced to pay some of the government's court costs.

'Pure sophistry'

In the case, MIT asserted that its distribution of financial aid is not commerce but a charitable activity by a non-profit corporation, and thus should not be subject to antitrust legislation. Bechtle called this argument "pure sophistry," saying that "few aspects of higher education... are more commercial than the price charged to students."

Bechtle went on to say that the Overlap Group's meetings constitut-

ed price-fixing and were therefore detrimental to competition. The Overlap meetings "interfered with the natural functioning of the marketplace by eliminating students' ability to consider price differences when choosing a school," he wrote.

Though both sides made substantial efforts to demonstrate the economic impact of the Overlap Group's decisions on MIT and on prospective students, Bechtle dismissed these concerns as "not germane to the resolution of this case."

MIT argued during the case that the Overlap meetings allowed member universities to offer need-blind admission to students and enhanced competition among them in curricula and other areas. The group also enhanced competition among students for limited enrollment opportunities, MIT said.

Bechtle ruled that these considerations were irrelevant, saying that "every institution, with or without Overlap, is free to embrace independently any admission and financial aid policy it wishes." He noted that schools could maintain need-blind admissions without Overlap if they were willing to restructure their budgetary priorities.

Bechtle wrote that the issue is whether "the elimination of competition itself can be justified by non-economic designs," and said that it cannot.

Frosh Dorm Crowding at 80%

By Garlen C. Leung
NIGHT EDITOR
and Karen Kaplan
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

After two housing lotteries, the housing office has announced that at least 80 percent of freshmen living in dormitories will be crowded, the highest percentage of crowds in recent memory.

"This figure may go higher," said Elliot S. Levitt '89, staff assistant for Residence and Campus Activities. He suggested that the that the Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs underestimated the extent of crowding in dorms.

A room is considered crowded if two students are assigned to what is usually a large single, or if three are assigned to a large double. Crowded students pay less for their room than they would for normal accommodations.

The situation was exacerbated this year because the number of transfer students who applied for housing was double what the housing office expected, according to Levitt. "Of course, we had to guarantee housing for the extra 20 or so transfers who applied," said Levitt. Another reason Levitt cited for

Unofficial Dormitory Assignments

Dormitory	1991	1992
Baker	92	118
Bexley	26	26
Burton-Conner	120	116
East Campus	123	101
MacGregor	69	119
McCormick	65	52
New House	71	64
Random	32	24
Senior House	51	45
500 Memorial	87	102

the excessive overcrowding is that "fraternity rush has been slightly behind thus far."

Most students satisfied

Changes in the lottery system resulted in 97.5 percent of freshmen getting one of their top three dormitory assignments, Levitt said. "So far, we've been rather successful."

Jack Fu '96 said he was "ecstatic" that he was assigned to East

Campus, his first choice. Louise Wells '96 was "happy" to get Baker House, her first choice, but she was one of many freshmen who complained that the lines at each stage of the housing process were too long.

Some students had to wait an hour or more to register their dormitory preferences on computers because of a lack of terminals, Levitt said.

Other freshmen were unsatisfied with their assignments and are searching for ways to move to other dormitories. Alice S. Wang '96 was speechless when she found out that she had been assigned to Senior House after her top seven dormitory choices were denied.

"It bothers me that we spent so much time looking around at all the dorms, and then you end up getting one you didn't even list," she said. "That really hurts."

Wang said her roommate's father drove to MIT from New York to complain about the housing assignment, but to no avail. Now the two plan to use posters to find students who want to trade housing assignments and move to Senior House.

Freshmen Pass Math Diagnostic Exam

By Eva Moy
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

About three-fourths of the 1,131 freshmen who took the Pre-Calculus Math Diagnostic had adequate performance or satisfactory performance with weaknesses in one area, according to Margaret S. Enders, assistant dean of curriculum support. The results will be used to aid freshmen and their advisors during registration.

"The idea here is to offer a test, the results of which do not show on a student record, and therefore can only serve as a benefit to the students," said Sy D. Friedman

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Freshmen Take Writing Placement

By Eva Moy
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Forty-one percent of the approximately 1060 students who took the Freshman Essay Evaluation last Friday received a passing grade, according to Leslie C. Perelman, coordinator for the Writing Requirement.

The essays are good indicators of writing ability, said Perelman. "The scoring was really precise," he added, referring to the many changes to the reading and grading systems.

Under the new grading system, two percent of the

Writing, Page 7



MICHAEL J. FRANKLIN—THE TECH

MIT Chess Club sets up chess boards at the Activities Midway Tuesday night, as over 100 student groups introduced themselves to interested freshmen.

WORLD & NATION

Harvard Scholar Detained, Expelled by Chinese Police

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BEIJING

Chinese police detained Harvard scholar Ross Terrill shortly after midnight Wednesday, then expelled him to Hong Kong for his involvement with the dissident former student leader Shen Tong.

Shen, the first exiled pro-democracy leader to return to China since the 1989 crackdown on that year's Tiananmen Square protests, was detained in Beijing early Tuesday, a few hours before he planned to speak at a news conference. He was apparently still in police custody late Wednesday evening, along with two other dissidents detained with him, Qi Dafeng and Qian Liyun.

Shen, 24, is a graduate student at Boston University and chairman of the U.S.-based Democracy for China Fund. Qi is a student leader from Tianjin who was imprisoned for 20 months for his role in the 1989 protests, and Qian is the wife of exiled student leader Xiong Yan, who now is in the United States.

Shen's mother, Li Yixian, 51, said that she visited police offices Tuesday in an attempt to see her son.

"I told them that I had the right to see Shen Tong, and that they had the duty to tell me why he was being held," Li said. "The police ignored me. They refused to let me see Shen Tong, to tell me where he was being held or to answer any of my questions."

Authorities Tuesday expelled to Hong Kong two Paris-based French journalists who were detained with the three Chinese. Christopher Nick, a writer for the magazine *Actuel*, and free-lancer Pascal Giret had traveled with Shen after his arrival in China about a month ago.

Terrill, a well-known author of books on China who is a research fellow at the Fairbank Center for East Asian Research at Harvard University, is a friend of Shen and adviser to the Democracy for China Fund. He came to Beijing at Shen's request, he said. After Shen was detained, Terrill gave reporters copies of the statement Shen had intended to make at his planned news conference.

Gay Magazines Consider 'Outing' Gay-Bashing Republicans

NEWSDAY

In an election battle where the words "family values" have become the ammunition of choice, two gay-oriented magazines are considering exposing some key Republican officials as homosexuals.

Prompted by what they say is ugly gay-bashing by Republicans, *The Advocate* and *QW* have named in the last two weeks three Republicans as gay: a conservative Southern congressman, a long-time speech writer and the son of a conservative activist.

But depending on the tone of Republican campaign, they might only have just begun. *QW* editor Maer Roshan said Tuesday, contending that the magazine was sitting on "eight or nine names" of officials they believed were homosexual, all of which were "people in policy-making areas."

"If this continues, the gay-bashing, in the next few weeks, we'll start with people who are most noxious and work our way down: people both in the administration and also elected officials," Roshan said.

QW, a weekly New York-based magazine, has "outed" high-profile Republicans in each of the last two issues in response, Roshan said, to a strong tone against homosexual rights at the Republican convention two weeks ago.

And in an editorial in *QW*'s Sept. 6 issue, the magazine says that "We too, like a certain senator who tyrannized Americans almost 40 years ago, have a list. ... If we are driven by this war to go public, to name names, we will."

The congressman has publicly denied that he is homosexual. The speech writer and activist's son have refused comment.

Advocate editor Jeff Yarbrough took a more cautious approach. He said he felt uncomfortable using the contentious practice of "outing," and that he regarded it as a last-resort tactic for times of "political necessity." The magazine nevertheless circulated pre-publication copies this week of its next cover story, an extensive piece entitled: "The Outing of a Family Values Congressman."

"We're aware of other elected national officials," Yarbrough said. "There are elected officials out there who are actively engaging in negative voting records who are gay and lesbian. Those are the people we are investigating."

The practice of exposing people's sexual preferences has been one of the most controversial issues dividing the gay press. Several, including the *Advocate*, have taken strong positions in the past against "outing," saying that the kind of witch hunt it provokes runs counter to gay organizations' fight for sexual privacy.

WEATHER

Damp Weather Ahead

By Michael Morgan

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Rain and rain showers will be arriving from the west this afternoon. The heaviest rain will fall to our west and north. Clearing will begin by midday Friday after a cold front crosses the area.

Today: Clouding up with rain showers arriving late. Winds south at 10 mph (16 kph). High 75°F (24°C).

Tonight: Cloudy and mild with rain and rain showers. Low 65°F (18°C). Winds south at 10-15 mph (16-24 kph).

Tomorrow: Clearing by afternoon. Winds shifting to the northwest at 7-15 mph (11-24 kph). High 79°F (26°C). Low 60°F (16°C).

Saturday: Mostly sunny. High 75-80°F (25°C). Low 60°F (16°C).

California Budget Crisis Ends With Both Sides Dissatisfied

By Lou Cannon

THE WASHINGTON POST

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

The fiscal crisis that brought California state government to its knees finally ended yesterday when weary legislators surrendered to Republican Gov. Pete Wilson and passed the stringent school-finance measure he had demanded.

By the time a tired but smiling Wilson signed the \$57.6 billion budget bill at 1:45 a.m., California had entered its 64th day without a budget and had issued \$3.4 billion in IOU's to meet its payrolls.

Although the virtual capitulation by the Democratic-controlled Legislature to Wilson's insistence on deep cuts in government services was a victory for the governor, state officials warned that California could face a repeat of the crisis next year and have fewer resources to deal with it.

State Finance Director Tom Hayes said California has lost 750,000 jobs since August 1990 while needing to create at least 500,000 new jobs just to keep even with population growth. Hayes said that unless there is an unexpectedly sharp upturn in the economy the state will again face a multi-billion-dollar shortfall in 1993 but, with programs already pared so heavily, it will be difficult to find additional cuts.

While the budget delay caused what Wilson called "inexcusable pain and suffering" for elderly and disabled Californians whose health and nursing-home services were interrupted, it did not inconvenience most Californians.

The results of the actual budget, on the other hand, will be felt by most of the state's 31 million people. Community-college fees will double and university fees increase significantly, causing a projected drop in enrollment of 200,000.

Welfare grants, among the highest in the nation, will be cut 5.8 percent and cannot be raised for four

years. Local governments will lose \$1.3 billion in state aid, which probably will translate into cutbacks in police and fire protection at a time when crime rates and fire dangers are increasing. Some county medical-trauma centers already have closed. Library and park hours have been reduced in many communities.

While Wilson successfully resisted new tax increases, the budget contains some \$700 million in higher fees and charges that Republican Assembly member Tom McClintock, a conservative foe of the governor, called "tax increases by another name."

The likelihood of voter resentment over these cuts and the grim economic conditions in California, now in its worst economic downturn since the Depression, triggered an outpouring of frustration Tuesday night in the Assembly, where liberal Democrats and conservative Republicans took turns castigating Wilson.

"There is a point where you have to give the terrorist what he asks for," said Assembly member Delaine Eastin, a Democrat, lamenting legislative compliance with Wilson's demand that \$1 billion of the \$24 billion allocated to schools this year be treated as a loan to be repaid from future revenues.

On the other side of the aisle, former Assembly Minority Leader Ross Johnson, a Republican, denounced Wilson for allegedly betraying conservative principles when he pushed an \$8 billion tax increase through the Legislature last year and for "mean" behavior in cutting services this year.

Liberals and conservatives teamed up in an attempt to rebuke Wilson with a bill that would have forced cuts of \$92 million in the executive bureaucracy and put the money into grants for low-income university students, which have been sharply reduced in the new budget. The measure passed the Assembly but died in the Senate

after moderate Republican Minority Leader Kenneth Maddy warned that it would be vetoed by Wilson and prolong the legislative session.

The spending package signed by Wilson was similar to the one the Assembly rejected June 30 when the crisis began. Democratic Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown Jr. agreed to end the holdout when it became apparent that Wilson would not back down and Democratic legislators began complaining that they could face defeat in new, court-apportioned districts unless they passed a budget.

In agreeing to what Assembly member John Burton, a Democrat, called "a mutually negotiated surrender," Brown won one concession from Wilson — an agreement that funds allocated to education would not be cut further even if the economy declines.

But Brown was forced to accept a so-called "poison pill" that would suspend a state constitutional requirement giving education the first call on government revenues in the event a court overturns the loan provision of the budget bill.

Unlike many of his colleagues who denounced Wilson, Brown spoke in favor of the compromise he had accepted in private conversations with the governor. He noted that the state had been forced to suspend the guarantee giving education first call on state revenues after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.

"There is the same kind of potential disaster if we don't produce a budget," Brown said.

The public approval of Wilson during the crisis has fallen to 20 percent and to 7 percent for the Legislature. Brown has said most incumbent legislators will survive public disapproval of the institution, but Republican strategists say they have their best chance in three decades to win control of the Assembly.

Cheney Defends Rebuilding Of Florida Air Force Base

By Melissa Healy

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney on Wednesday conceded that the proposed rebuilding of Homestead Air Force Base in hurricane-struck southern Florida is not based on strictly military grounds.

But he fired back at critics who charged that President Bush's decision is the result of election-year politics.

Cheney, who regularly chides lawmakers for using the Pentagon's budget to fund local "jobs programs," said Wednesday that Homestead presents "a unique circumstance" in which defense funds should be used to reassure Floridians of the federal government's commitment to help rebuild their area.

"These people badly need to have their communities restored and re-established and, in this particular case, having Homestead Air Force Base there has been sort of the anchor in that part of the state," Cheney said.

"I think his (Bush's) decisions ought to be evaluated on their merits and without always having this charge that somehow this is politically involved. You can't have it both ways. You can't criticize him for doing nothing and then criticize

him when he does something."

But in what may foreshadow a political fight over the plan, some lawmakers are already challenging the administration's arguments. Rep. Thomas H. Andrews, D-Maine, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, says that he will call for a review of the president's decision. Under an earlier round of base closures, Andrews' state is to lose Loring Air Force Base and, like many lawmakers, Andrews has been stung by the politically painful process.

"We've just been through the base-closure process designed to take politics out of the decision-making. Now, nine weeks before the election, the president goes down there to Florida and makes a mockery of the process," said Andrews.

"The decision of what to do with a military base should be based on the defense needs of the country and the best value to the taxpayers. Military bases should not be jobs programs or disaster-relief programs."

Other lawmakers, however, remained open to the proposal. Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., on Wednesday toured southern Florida, including the destroyed air base, with Gov. Lawton Chiles and declined to say how he would stand on the proposed

rebuilding.

Pentagon officials said that some of the rebuilding of the base could begin using existing military construction funds but that Congress would be asked to approve additional funds to complete the base. Military officials have said that such an effort would cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

Pentagon officials have said that the base, which houses units of F-4 and F-16 fighter jets, is an important staging area for the surveillance of both legitimate trade and illegal narcotics trafficking in the Caribbean. Its position near the Florida coast also makes it a valuable training area for low-level flying.

Annual paychecks issued at the installation bring \$152 million to the area, making it a major economic force there. The president's announcement comes as Pentagon officials contemplate the closure of dozens of U.S. bases later this year in an effort to save money. In the round of base closures that ended in 1990, Homestead was considered on a short list of prospective closures, but in the end was kept open.

"We're ecstatic about it but surprised and taken aback," Homestead City Manager Alex Muxo said of the president's decision to rebuild Homestead.

L.A. Riot Failed to Change Attitudes, Survey Shows

By Amy Wallace
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Sharply contradicting the popular assumption that the 1992 riots were a "wake-up call" for Los Angeles, a University of California, Los Angeles, survey has found that the cataclysmic events of this spring did very little to alter residents' attitudes about economic, ethnic, political and social life.

In a wide-ranging telephone poll conducted before the verdicts in the Rodney G. King beating case, then repeated immediately after, researchers found the riots did not measurably change residents' perceptions about the quality of life in Los Angeles County. Confidence in local government remained tepid. Fear of crime — already high — got no higher.

Even before the civil unrest,

Angelenos' felt such despair about their city that "there was little room," said the survey, "to further shift opinion in a negative direction." Before the riots and after, 70 percent or more of respondents in each ethnic group felt that Los Angeles had become a worse place to live during the last five years.

"We often tend to assume that people's basic assumptions are affected by events this dramatic and costly," said Larry Bobo, a UCLA sociology professor and the principal author of the annual study, called the Los Angeles County Social Survey. "But unfortunately, it doesn't appear that a lot of basic assumptions were moved very far."

That bodes poorly, Bobo said, for the future of Los Angeles. Though the survey stops short of predicting another riot, Bobo said its findings support no other conclu-

sion.

The poll consisted of interviews with 1,869 Los Angeles County residents selected at random. Approximately half were interviewed before the riots and half afterward.

The survey results, while overwhelmingly stable, noted a few significant shifts in opinion after April 29, when the verdicts were announced. Among them:

—Asked if they would favor living in a neighborhood where half their neighbors were of a different ethnic group, many more whites said yes after the riots than had before. Among Asians, blacks and Latinos, there was no significant change.

—Blacks became more alienated. Several questions sought to measure how ethnic groups feel about the social and economic opportuni-

ties available to them. While the responses of Asians, Latinos and whites were unchanged by the verdicts, the responses of blacks — and particularly of upper-income blacks — indicated a "strong and uniform rise in black alienation from American social institutions."

—Confidence in the police declined among whites. Thirteen percent of white respondents expressed "not much" confidence in the police before the riots, as compared to 20.5 percent afterwards. In contrast, the views of Asians, blacks and Latinos remained the same. Before and after the riots, 56 percent of blacks expressed "not much" confidence in the police, as compared to 31.1 percent of Latinos and 26.3 percent of Asians.

In releasing the survey for publication Thursday, UCLA researchers touted it as a historic document that

provides a first-ever opportunity to compare public opinion on race and ethnic relations before and after an explosive event.

The survey found that negative stereotyping is fairly common, especially with regard to perceptions of blacks and, to a lesser degree, Latinos. On the average, 45.1 percent of non-blacks rated blacks as lower in intelligence, 63.4 percent rated blacks as more likely to prefer living on welfare and 48.5 percent rated blacks more likely to be hard to get along with.

On the average, 44.6 percent of non-Latinos rated Latinos as less intelligent, 52.2 percent rated them as more likely to prefer being welfare dependent and 34.5 percent rated them as more likely to be difficult to get along with.

Issue of Clinton's Vietnam Draft Record Flares Up Again

By Bill McAllister
and Charles Babington
THE WASHINGTON POST

Bill Clinton's draft status — an issue the Arkansas governor had hoped to put to rest last week — flared anew Wednesday with Republicans charging that the Democratic presidential nominee had failed to fully explain how he had avoided military service during the Vietnam War.

Campaigning in Kansas City, Vice President Quayle charged that Clinton "has a credibility problem" over the issue. "He is going to have to come clean with the American people and answer the questions," Quayle told reporters.

His comments were prompted by a Los Angeles Times story that Raymond Clinton, a now-deceased uncle of the Arkansas governor, had

conducted a vigorous campaign to get Clinton enlisted in a Hot Springs, Ark., naval reserve unit rather than have his nephew face induction. Until that account was published, Clinton's only known encounter with military recruiters was his short-lived agreement to join an Army ROTC unit at the University of Arkansas. He never attended the university and backed out of the agreement after he drew a number in a draft lottery that made his induction unlikely.

Campaigning in Maryland Wednesday, Clinton declined to address the issue, saying he had fully discussed his draft status in a speech last week to the American Legion. "I already answered that. I have nothing further to say," Clinton said before an appearance in Montgomery County.

In Little Rock, campaign aides said later that Clinton was surprised by the accounts that his late uncle, an automobile dealer, had tried to get him in the Navy. "He doesn't know anything about it," said George Stephanopoulos, Clinton communications director. Betsey Wright, another Clinton aide who has researched the governor's years as a Rhodes scholar in England, said she had found "nothing to indicate he had any knowledge of it."

Trice Ellis Jr., the now-retired reserve officer who found a slot for Clinton in his unit, said in an interview Wednesday he had attempted to raise the matter with Clinton recently, telling him "I don't know if you know anything about this." Clinton did not respond, Ellis said.

Ellis said that he did nothing improper in attempting to find a

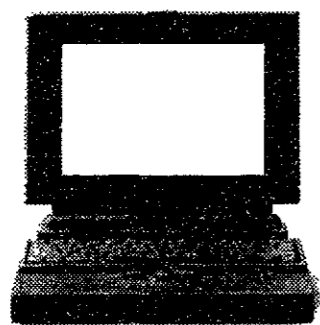
reserve slot for Clinton, but he acknowledged he was friend of Raymond Clinton and was impressed by the chance to enlist someone with a college education. "We would have done that for anyone else who walked in the door," he said.

Republicans charged that the uncle's efforts illustrated how Clinton had failed in his avowed effort to "set straight" the record of how he had avoided military service during the war. "Serious witnesses now say that Bill Clinton did receive 'favorable treatment' " charged Dominic DiFrancesco, former national commander of the American Legion, in a statement released by the Bush-Quayle campaign in Washington.

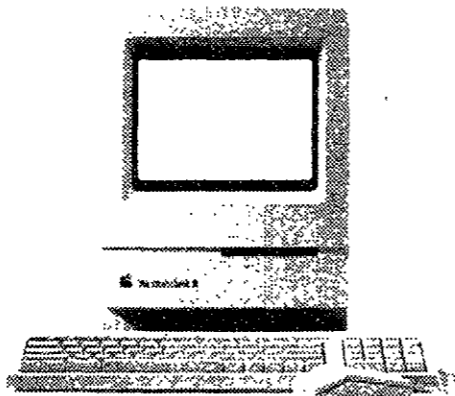
Quayle, who in 1988 underwent extensive questioning about how he

secured his position in the Indiana National Guard during the war, said that the issue showed a fundamental difference between his military record and that of Clinton. "I chose to serve in the Indiana National Guard. Bill Clinton chose not to serve," the vice president said. "I answered all the questions that the media put to me in 1988. I answered every single last one of them. Bill Clinton is going to have to answer those questions, too."

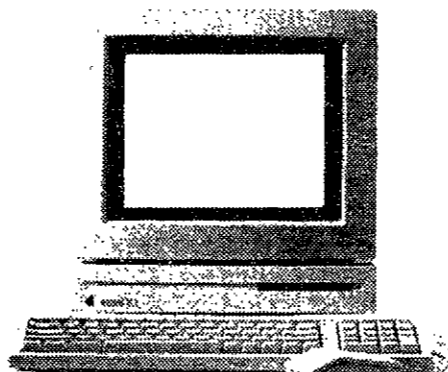
Sen. Al Gore Jr. (D-Tenn.), Clinton's running mate who served in the Army in Vietnam, disputed Quayle's charges, saying that Clinton's speech to the Legion had "pretty well dealt with" the draft issue. The new account "should not affect Clinton's credibility," Gore told reporters in Denver.



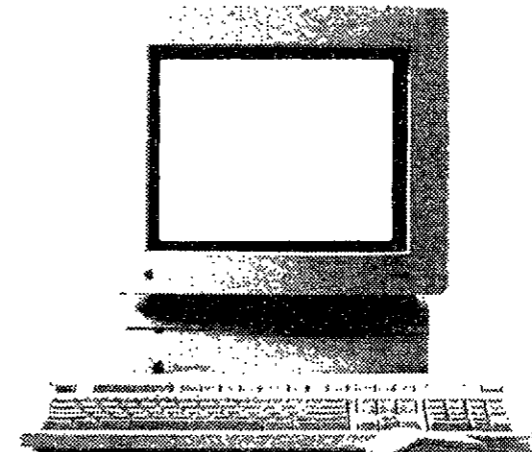
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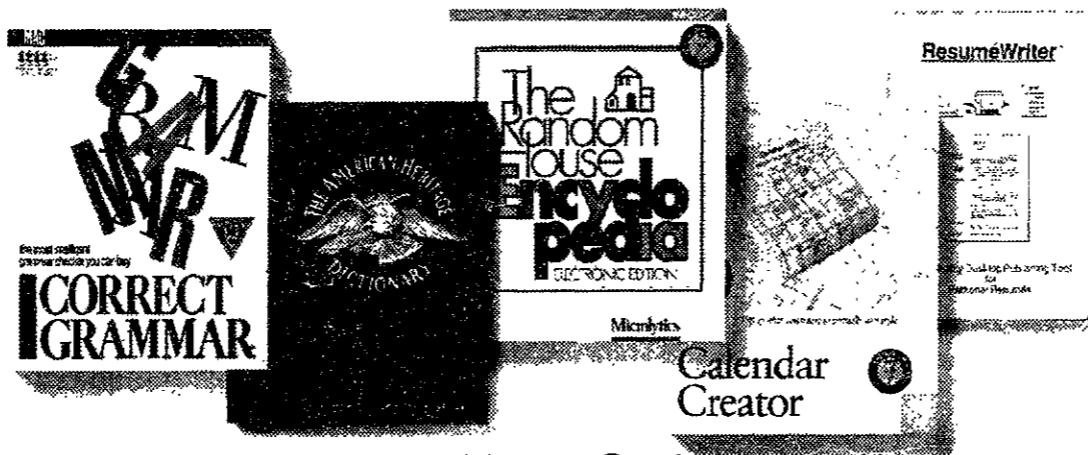


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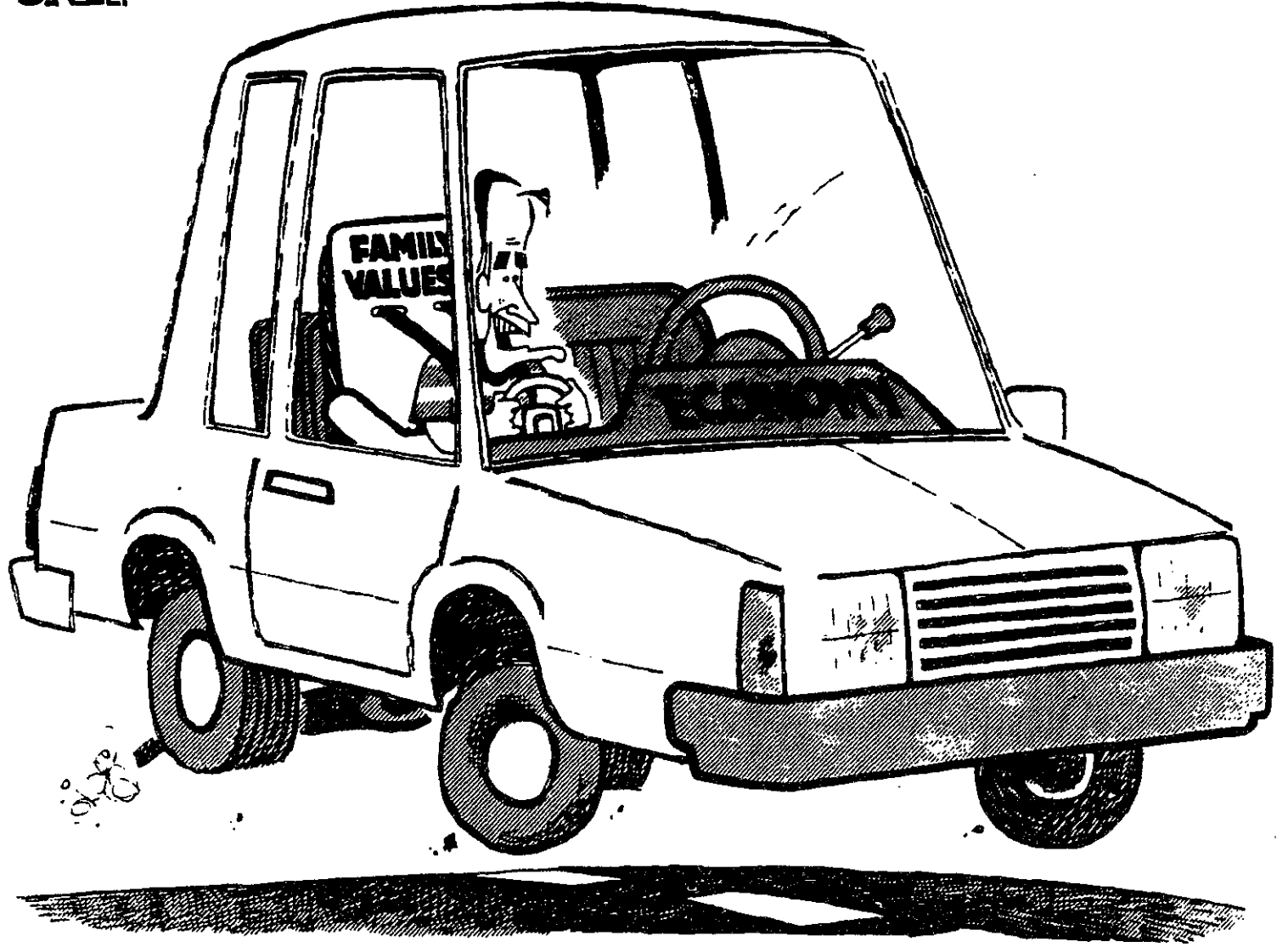
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Tech Drops Bricks on People

During the last two weeks I have had my belief in freedom of the press tested and re-tested, but nothing has stirred me more than hearing that one of your staff called my ILG in order to confirm reports of the number of pledges and spaces available, with the intent to publish such information despite a direct

request, on my house's part, not to do so.

I refused to disclose such information regarding my house and those under my investigation even to my peers, other JudComm investigators.

Your publication lacks discretion, self-restraint, and sensitivity. You wield your freedom and the power of free press as if it were a brick, dropping it even upon the heads of your supporters. And you wonder why persons

think so little of your newspaper as to discard it as trash. I call on you to aid others in supporting responsible, free press.

Markuene A. Sumler '94
JudComm Investigator, Rush '92

Hersch Column On Target

I completely agree with the column by Matthew H. Hersch '94 about ARA food services ["Freshmen Beware: Look Before You Eat," Aug. 30]. I don't find it surprising that he was writing his column in agony - what I find amazing is that he had the strength to do it after he had eaten some of the food provided at the ARA services.

Can a student who needs to have a good and balanced meal eat there? Can an athlete or a person who requires a healthy diet eat there and meet all of his or her nutritional requirements? No!

If MIT is really concerned about keeping the high academic standards that characterize this institution then it should think about the good nutrition of the student population. President Charles M. Vest said in his welcome speech that students at MIT are among the best in the world. But, can we be among the best eating bad food?

Jaime Ramirez G

LETTERS POLICY

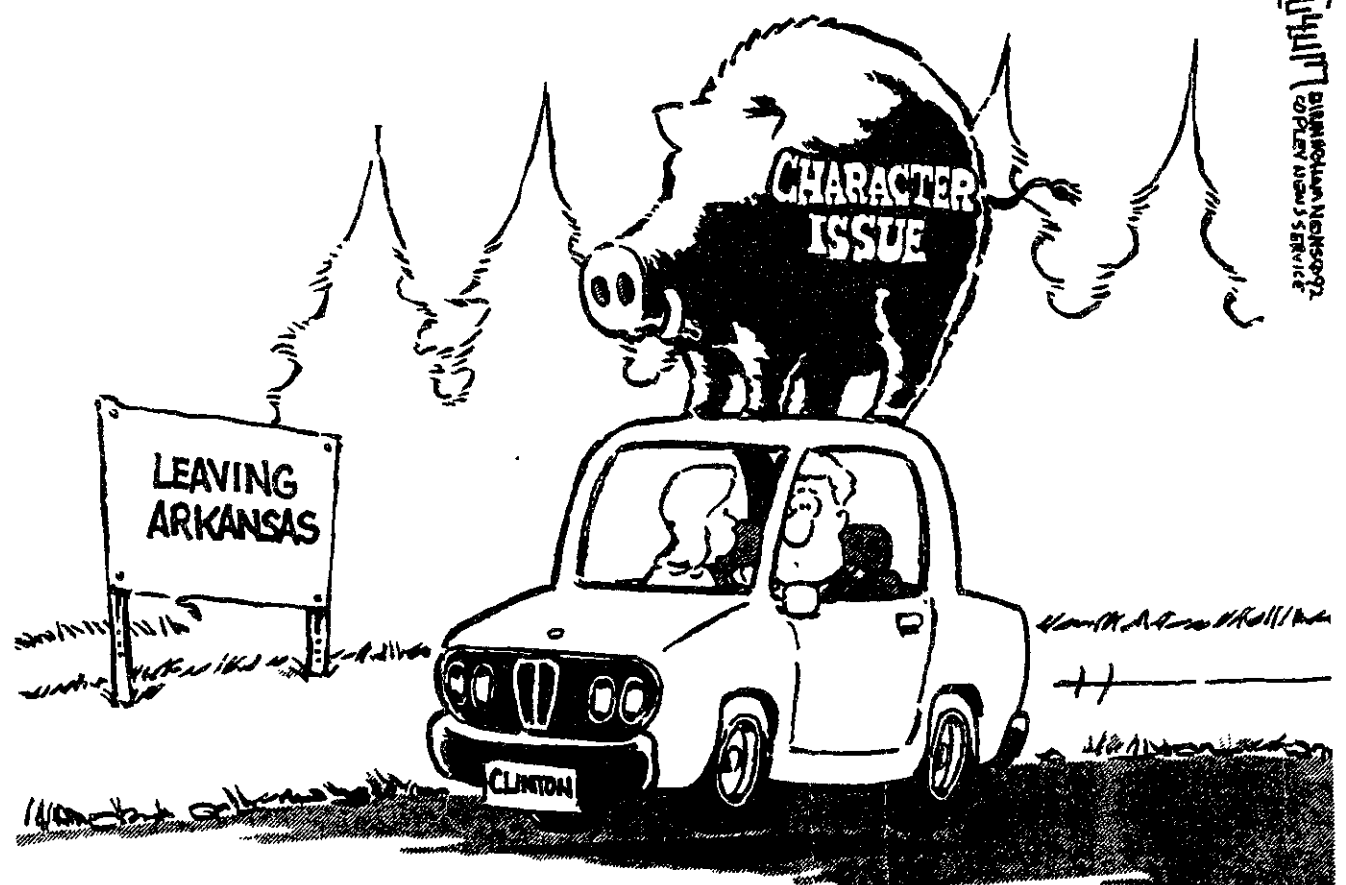
Editorials, printed in a distinctive format, are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors and opinion editors.

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 letters@the-tech.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.



"YOU CAN SLOW DOWN, BILL... I THINK IT STOPPED FOLLOWING US."

THE ARTS

Astonishing *Twin Peaks* confuses all but true fans

TWIN PEAKS: FIRE WALK WITH ME

Written by David Lynch and Robert Engels.
Directed by David Lynch.
Starring Sheryl Lee, Moira Kelly,
Ray Wise, and Kyle MacLachlan.
Now playing at Loews Janus.

By Deborah A. Levinson
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Watching *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me* reminded me what a sick, sick man David Lynch is. Who else could look at a quaint, pretty town in Washington state and see not the potential for beauty, but the potential for evil, decadence, and mayhem?

When ABC canceled *Twin Peaks*, Lynch was forced to wrap up two seasons' worth of complicated questions in one two-hour episode. The result — an improbable ending and a muddy pool of mysticism — created more questions than it answered, and so Lynch turned to film to placate his loyal fans. *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me* does clear things up a bit, but not enough. You have to wonder, given the obviously twisted nature of Lynch's thoughts, if anyone else but he knows what's going on.

Twin Peaks is an astonishing movie in terms of visuals, characterization, and plot. Its fatal flaw is that despite the astonishing visuals, characterization, and plot, it will be utterly incomprehensible to anyone who has not seen at least 75 percent of the television series.

The film opens in the aftermath of the murder of Teresa Banks, one year before Laura Palmer's death. Two FBI agents, Chester Desmond (Chris Isaak) and Sam Stanley (Kiefer Sutherland), head to Deer Meadow,

Wash., to investigate. There they discover a series of strange clues — a missing ring, a missing trailer, and the letter "T" lodged under the body's left ring fingernail. The film then cuts to Philadelphia, where Special Agent Dale Cooper (Kyle MacLachlan) is explaining a dream he has had to his boss, Gordon Cole (David Lynch) and fellow agent Albert Rosenfeld (Miguel Ferrer). The dream involves the murder of a beautiful, blond, sexually active high-school girl — "half the high-school girls in America," as Albert says — but Cooper insists that the dream will come true.

Now cut to one year later in Twin Peaks, where the beautiful, blond, sexually active high-school girl Laura Palmer (Sheryl Lee) is leading a clandestine, dissolute life of prostitution and drug abuse. Tormented by rapist and all-around horror Bob (Frank Silva), Laura is slowly falling apart. Her life teems with the supernatural, from a picture that opens the gateway to a dream to the aforementioned missing ring that suddenly turns up in her hand.

Since Laura only appeared in other characters' flashbacks on the television series, "Twin Peaks" never gave much of an idea of her personality. However, she is the film's primary character, and Lynch and Lee give us a full picture of Laura's schizophrenic life.

She is more than just the homecoming queen rebelling against society's constraints; she is a cocaine addict, accomplice to murder, prostitute, and incest victim. Ultimately, one feels sorry for Laura, and obviously Lynch does,

too, since an angel appears to absolve her in a final scene as hokey as the one in *Blue Velvet*.

Though having watched "Twin Peaks" is not a requirement to understand Laura's pain, it is a requirement to understand anything else about the film. I have seen every episode, and I still had to rely on other fans to remind me of the role David Bowie's character plays in the tangled "Twin Peaks" web. Only devoted series watchers will remember that Mrs. Tremont and her eerie, magician grandson were neighbors to Howard Smith, the keeper of Laura's diary, or that the dead body that mysteriously appears in Laura's bed (and talks to her) is Annie Blackburn, Dale Cooper's girlfriend, who may lie trapped or murdered in the dreaded Black Lodge. Confused yet? Don't worry, you will be, right after the early scene where Gordon Cole uses a dancer to discuss the investigation into Teresa Banks' death — in pantomime.

If you enjoyed the television series, by all means, grab a cup of coffee and a slice of cherry pie, and settle down for the two and a quarter hours that is *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me*. If you don't know what the dancing dwarf, One-Eyed Jack's, or Ronette Pulaski have to do with the story, just remember before you pay \$6.75: *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me* is beautiful to watch, and the plot is riveting, but only the true David Lynch fan will find something to enjoy.



Laura Palmer (Sheryl Lee) in *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me*.

Paul Weller hopes for new audience with solo effort

PAUL WELLER

Paul Weller.
Go! Discs America.

By Paula Cuccurullo

Way back in everyone's favorite decade, the Seventies, something interesting happened on the British music scene. One pub band made up of three teenagers wore sharp black suits, carried vintage guitars, and played angry songs about what it was like to be young in London at that time. They were lumped together with the bands of the Punk movement but were actually more devoted to the Mod ideals of the Who and the Small Faces. By the time of their breakup, the Jam had become the most popular band in Britain (spawning a New Mod movement), and their singer/guitarist/songwriter, Paul Weller, had been proclaimed the spokesman for his generation.

But Weller had wanted to move on to a different sound, and thus made the daring

move to break up the Jam at the height of their popularity to form his new band, the Style Council, with keyboardist Mick Talbot in 1983. This gave him the opportunity to experiment more with the American and Northern (UK) soul sound he favored for his own listening pleasure. The Council stayed together for over seven years, almost as long as the Jam; in the UK, they were never as popular as Weller's first band, but they were beloved by fans of jazz, funk, and pop, alike.

The only thing Weller's two bands seemed to have in common was their inability to make a lasting impression on the music scene in the United States, which is a shame considering the heights of popularity they reached in his own country, the rest of Europe, and particularly Japan. It seemed as if the rest of the world found something important that most of this country didn't. But some hope remains, because almost two decades after he first played in a pub outside of London, Paul Weller has a new album and a tour poised to win this country over to his side.

This time, he is on his own. His band does

include a number of former Style Council musicians, however, including longtime collaborator Steve White, the talented drummer of acid jazz group the Jazz Renegades. Together they have put together a sound which marks a turn towards the guitar rock/pop of the Jam but with the jazz/funk sensibilities of the Council intact.

In concert on July 25 in New York City, the band was focused and having an excellent time. They played songs from all three periods of Weller's career, performing most of the new songs for the first time ever in America. The songs are less jazzy than those of the Style Council and take more of an influence from rock bands of 1960s Britain (Blind Faith, the Beatles), but are far from being strictly mod like early Jam work. The live versions were not as polished as those on the album but benefited from that roughness and the good humor of the musicians. Weller himself was in rare form, thrashing about with his guitar and enjoying audience singalongs; he seemed surprised at how much of the audience knew the words to the older songs!

The self-titled album consists of twelve songs recorded during and since the breakup of the Style Council; one, "Round and Round," was first heard in a much different version on the UK House album *Free Your Feelings* by Slam/Slam (fronted by Weller's wife Dee C. Lee). The lyrics are more introspective than on much of Weller's previous work, dealing with his past, his present, and his fears and hopes for the future. Listeners familiar with his previous work will be surprised at the complete absence of overt political statements on the album. Instead he has taken a more personal approach to putting forth his philosophy of life, and it works. Hopefully it will appeal to both sets of his fans and new converts as well.

Look for the release of the album on Go! Discs America/Polygram on October 6, after the release of the first single in late September. Weller and his band will be playing in America after an extensive tour of Britain, hoping to appear in the Greater Boston area sometime in November or December.

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Nerds

By Ben Reis



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And that's a crime. Because any time a woman is forced to have sex against her will it's a crime.
Rape. It's a subject no one should take lightly.

When does a date become a crime?

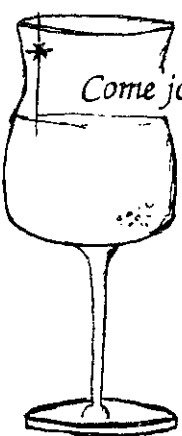
It happens when a man forces a woman to have sex against her will. And even when a woman's college boyfriend, she still considers a criminal offense. A felony. Punishable by prison.
So if you want to keep a good time from turning into a bad one, try to keep this in mind.
When does a date become a crime?
When she says "No." And he refuses to listen.

Against her will is against the law.
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A Buffet Dinner

&
An Evening in Boston

Sunday, Sept 13 @ 6:00 PM
on the lawn in front of the student center

* Sponsored by the Tech Catholic Community *

Judge's Decision Ends 3-Year Fight

Overlap, from Page 1

were adjusted at the meeting in order to make the packages from each school similar or identical. This would allow students to choose a university without regard to its cost, the schools said.

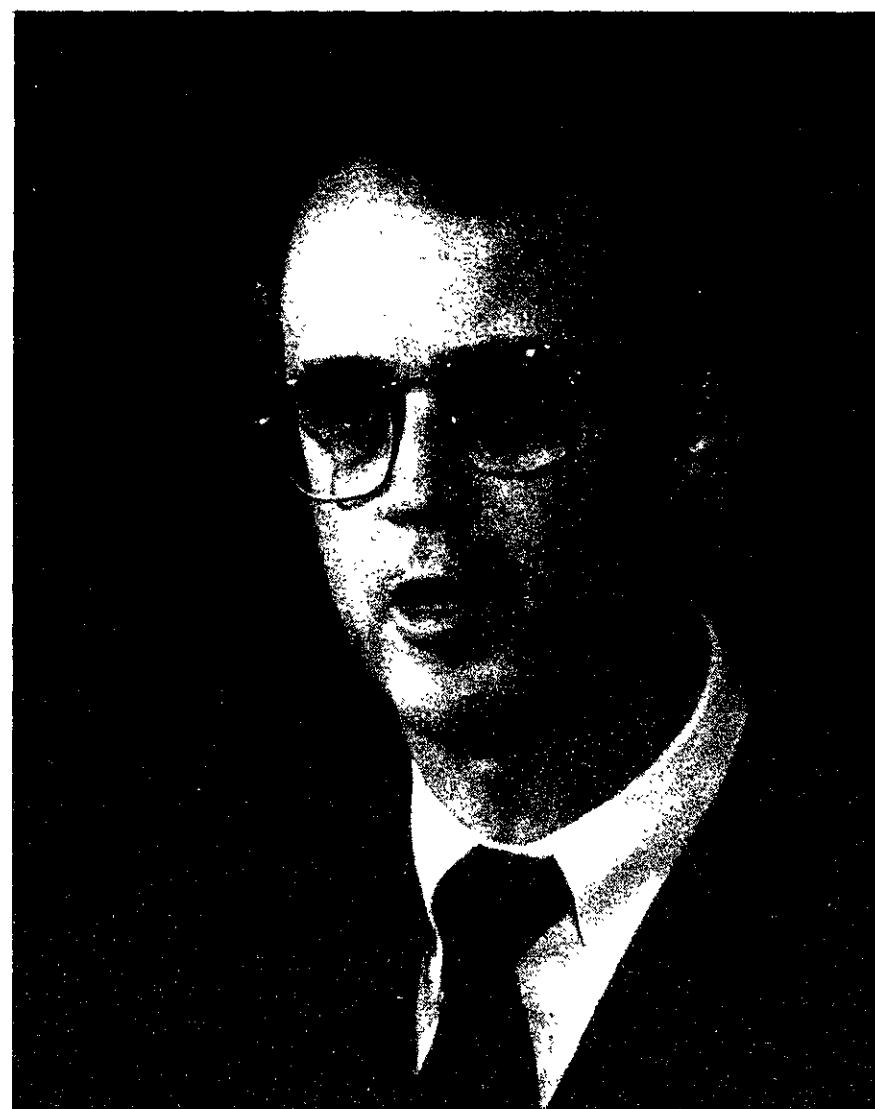
But the Justice Department disagreed, and last year accused the Ivy League Overlap schools and MIT of price-fixing in a federal lawsuit. All of the Ivy League schools decided not to contest the suit, and signed a consent form in which they

promised, among other things, "that they will no longer collude or conspire on financial aid." The schools also agreed "not to discuss or agree on future tuition or faculty salary increases," although the issues of tuition and faculty salaries were not mentioned in the suit.

Throughout this process, MIT adamantly insisted it had not broken any laws. Provost Mark S. Wrighton said, "Our interest all along has been providing the maximum amount of financial aid... in a way

that allows students of modest means to have the kind of education that we offer."

In June, the Justice Department made its case against the Institute at a two-week trial held at the Federal District Court in Philadelphia. Court observers predicted at the trial's conclusion that a decision would probably come in September. Soon after Judge Louis C. Bechtle's 49-page decision was handed down yesterday morning, MIT announced plans to appeal.



President Charles M. Vest

TECH FILE PHOTO

25 Percent of Freshmen Must Retake Math Exam

Math, from Page 1

PhD '76, professor of mathematics, who will teach Calculus I (18.01) this fall.

"To pass the first test, a student had to earn more than 70 points [out of 100] total and more than 17 points [out of 25] on at least three of the four parts," Friedman said.

This year, freshmen took longer, on average, to complete the test, Enders said. "They took it more seriously, I think."

"On the whole, students did better than last year," Enders said. She added that she felt most students were reassured by the results.

The diagnostic tested algebra, geometry and analytic geometry, trigonometry, and exponentials, logarithms and complex numbers. Questions were graded with partial credit awarded.

What happens next?

Freshmen who did poorly last Friday will take a similar test on Registration Day, according to Enders. Those who still score below

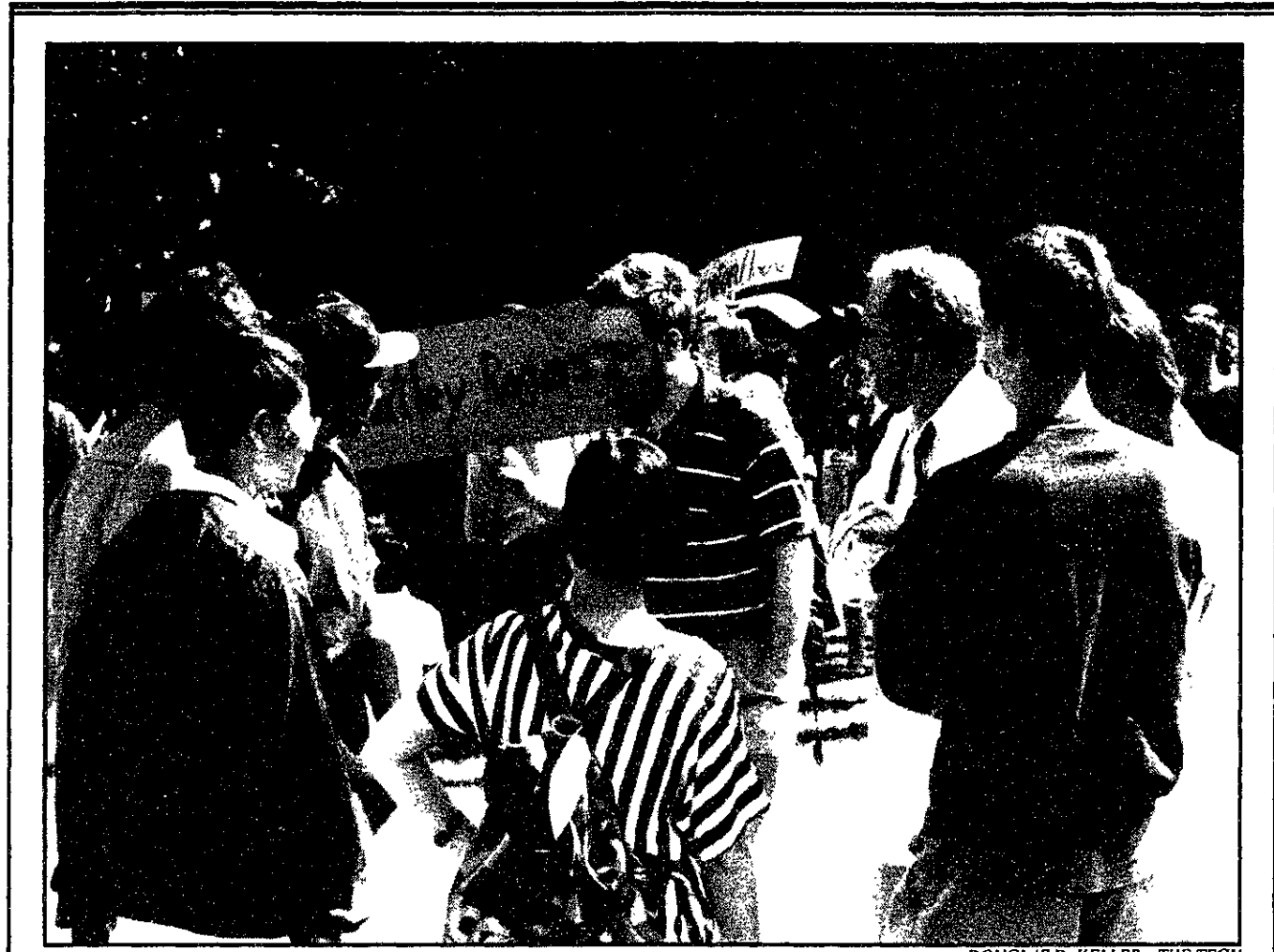
the cutoff of the second exam are strongly urged to take Calculus I (18.01) and Physics I (8.01L), a new, slower-paced version of 8.01, Friedman said.

Students will also be encouraged to attend review sessions, study review modules, and pass a tutored exam on the diagnostic materials, Friedman said. Students can take the test as many times as necessary, but they should pass by Sept. 18, he added.

Although scoring above the cutoff on the math diagnostic is not mandatory, a passing score earns the first 100 points out of the total 1100 points of 18.01, according to Friedman.

Students who score below the cutoff and do not take 18.01 should try to attend the review sessions. "It's going to be a problem if this material isn't passed," Friedman said.

"I was pleased with the results from this first diagnostic. ... The results were better than I expected," Friedman said.



DOUGLAS D. KELLER—THE TECH

Freshman cluster around adviser Hartley Rogers on Kresge Oval yesterday morning before the Adviser/Advisee picnic. This year marks the first time some freshmen will participate in residence-based advising in addition to freshman adviser seminars.

Frosh Receive Results of Essay Test

Writing, from Page 1

tests were graded as "conditional mechanical," and 4.7 percent were "conditional sentence structure." These students must attend a workshop or a tutoring session to convert their scores into passing grades.

A "not acceptable" grade was given to 36.5 percent of the freshmen essays, and an additional 15.8 percent were judged "not acceptable/writing subject recommended," according to Perelman.

Students receiving a not acceptable rating must either submit a paper to the writing requirement office or take a writing subject that fulfills Phase I, Perelman said. These include Expository Writing (21.730), Writing and Experience (21.731), Introduction to Technical Communication (21.732), and Expository Writing I and II for Undergraduates: English as a Second Language (21.333 and 21.334).

Freshmen with a writing subject

recommended grade are urged to register for a writing class first term.

A conditional mechanical rating was given for writing which is generally good but has problems with punctuation or subject-verb agreement, for example, Perelman said. Students can pass Phase I after individual tutorial sessions at the writing center with Perelman, he said.

A conditional sentence structure grade indicates prose that is awkward or difficult to understand, he said. These students need to attend a two-hour workshop teaching "techniques for writing more effective prose," he added.

Each of the essays was read by two readers, who are professional writers teaching at MIT and other area schools. The mean of the normalized scores was 70 out of 100, with a standard deviation of 10. A faculty committee decided that scores of 72 or higher would pass and chose to grant a few conditional passes, Perelman said.

"I hope the experiment succeeds,

and next year we'll expand the number of conditionals," Perelman said.

Students who have not yet taken the exam will be tested on Nov. 5.

ESL exam also offered

In addition to the FEE, international and bilingual students had the option of taking an English as a Second Language test, according to Associate Professor of Foreign Languages and Literature Suzanne Flynn.

The exam is used to determine whether to "recommend that they take a class in ESL," she said.

The exam has three parts — the FEE, listening comprehension, and a grammar component, Flynn said. The results are evaluated independently from those of the writing requirement.

The "response was good this year," she said, citing that 142 students took the exam voluntarily. She added that although statistics are not yet available, the results are close to that of previous years.

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Residence

- All day: **Fenway House.** Relaxing. 437... 437... uh... 437... I forget.*
- 9:52a: **Fenway House.** And the chef said, "Let There Be Breakfast!" 437-1043*
- 9:56a: **Fenway House.** And there was Breakfast!
- 9:58a: **Fenway House.** And the house looked at the Breakfast...*
- 9:59a: **Fenway House.** ...and the house said, "Hmm! Not bad!" 437-1043*
- 11:00a: **Theta Chi.** Come to Theta Chi and check out OUR version of the Decathlon. With events like jello snarfing and can crushing, this promises to show who truly is "The World's Greatest Athlete." Call 267-1801 for info.
- 12:56p: **Fenway House.** Improv lunch. All we promise is food. Call for a ride, 437-1043*
- 1:27p: **Fenway House.** The New England Aquarium is a wonderful place. Lots of beautiful fish and other things that live in the water. Bring your temporary ID, and it's free! Call 437-1043 for a ride.*
- 2:43p: **Fenway House.** Fun, games, and witty banter. Maybe. 437-1043*
- 4:31p: **Fenway House.** Mellowness. 437-1043*
- 8:49p: **Fenway House.** Hello. Department of Redundancy Department. Hello.*
- 11:31p: **Fenway House.** House Meeting! If you'd like to live here and we

don't know it, now would be a good time to tell us. 437-1043*

12:21a: **Fenway House.** Come watch us frantically switching rooms. Call for a ride-437-1043*

1:57a: **Fenway House.** "Anarchists End Annual Conference with Riot." In a world where such things actually happen, wouldn't you rather be at Fenway House? 437-1043*

2:43a: **Fenway House.** Elvis is with us. Watch us do laundry.*

Activities

- All day: **Joint Christian RO.** Come meet Christians. Ask about God. Christian Fellowship Lounge is still open all day.*
- All day: **Science Fiction Society.** The largest public collection of science-fiction in the universe is open from noon until midnight! Relax with a good book in MITSFS on the 4th floor of the Student Center.*
- 10:00a: **Joint Christian RO.** Christian Book Table. Student Center first floor 10 am to 4 pm*
- 12:00p: **Joint Christian RO.** Barbeque and sports: fun, food, and fellowship! At Kresge BBQ pits.*
- 3:00p: **Joint Christian RO.** Hands on Athena Workshop. Meet in the Christian Fellowship Lounge (8-105) and we will walk to a nearby cluster. Bring your questions about Athena :)*
- 6:00p: **Chinese Students Club.** Chinatown Dinners. Come and eat at

our favorite places. Meet at the Student Center steps.*

7:30p: **Chinese Bible Fellowship.** For GAMES and SINGING, join CCF and CBF in Edgerton main lounge. It will be a lot of fun! All are welcome!

7:30p: **Chinese Christian Fellowship.** CBF and CCF will sing and play games at Edgerton main lounge. To get there, walk up 2 blocks up Mass Ave. Right after the used car lot, turn left onto Albany Street. Edgerton is the graduate dorm at 143 Albany Street.*

Notices

- All day: **Elsewhere.** ELSEWHERE LOUNGE IS OPEN!!! Reading room, Student Center.*
- In case of emergency, dial 100 from any MIT phone. Other important numbers: Campus Police: 253-1212 Med Center Emergency: 253-1311 R/O Center: 253-2500 UAAC: 253-6772 Nightline: 253-8800

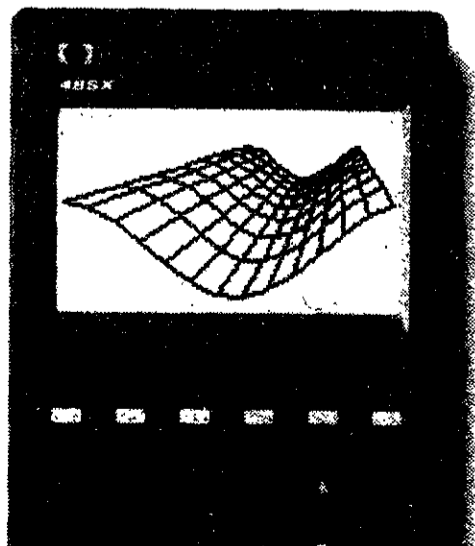
The Daily Confusion
Editors: Christopher Graczyk, Jose Elizondo

NOTE: A single asterisk (*) following a listing indicates a coed or female living group. A double asterisk (**) indicates an activity to which women are cordially invited.



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