Wolff Claims Harassment By Literature Professors

By Sarah Y. Knightley

Professor of Mathematics Richard S. Mehta became one of this year's 149 Guggenheim Fellows earlier this month. Melrose was granted the award for his work on the analysis and geometry of manifolds with corners. The average amount of the fellowships was $26,400, but only individual fellowship winners can release the amount of their award, according to the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

McLure is the Australian state of Tasmania this semester could not be reached for comment.

"He's one of the few Tasmanians to make big splash on the world scene. The only other one that I know of is Errol Flynn," said Guinea.

The suit mentions a few incidents in which Wolff claims other members of the literature faculty have retaliated against her for her opposition to granting certain junior faculty tenure. One incident allegedly took place in 1981, when Wolff voted to deny tenure to Ruth Perry, who has since been granted tenure and is currently head of the Women's Studies Program. In the suit, Wolff alleges that Perry is now excluding her from the Women's Studies Program.

The suit also alleges that when Wolff voted to deny tenure to another junior faculty member in 1988, she and another female professor were verbally abused by some of their colleagues in the Literature Section, including professors David Thocharus and Stephen J. Townsend. Wolff claims that the administration failed to act when she reported these incidents.

Wrighton creates committee Wolff spoke to then-Provost John M. Gatto and several other administration officials and the student-faculty committee, "to get some quick feedback," said Wolff. The office of the president would involve.

The duties of the president and vice-president, as well as the council's meeting, "will be more frequent," said Wolff. She and another faculty member in 1988, she and another female professor were verbally abused by some of their colleagues in the Literature Section, including professors David Thocharus and Stephen J. Townsend. Wolff claims that the administration failed to act when she reported these incidents.

GSC Elects Mehta, Cuthbert

By Eva Muy

The Graduate Student Council elected Anand Guillemin and David Cuthbert as president and vice-president last Thursday. There was no time in the council's meeting to elect a secretary or treasurer.

Mehta and Cuthbert were the only students to run for the two top positions. Both ran for president, and after Mehta won, Cuthbert ran unopposed for vice-president.

Several graduate students were nominated, but most declined to run. "A lot of people just cannot pledge to give the kind of time that the office requires," explained Faro.

The GSC serves mostly as an advocate for graduate students, "to foster some kind of collective initiatives among them," said Cacioppo. The council includes representatives from each academic department, in addition to four undergraduate students.

Dickson Recommends Retaining Status Quo

By Brian Rosenberg

In a memorandum to Lawrence E. Hunter, Director of Health and Food Services, Student Vice President William R. Dickson, "I recommend that the Institute retain the current dining system." Dickson's memorandum was distributed to the administration, and Dickson's recommendation was approved. "It's a good idea," he said. Dickson's memo recommends that the Institute "continues to a conclusion by late next fall.

The House Dining Committee is charged with solving the problem posed by the dining halls in Baker House, MacGraw House, and Heath House, which have lost between $50,000 and $75,000 for each of the last five years. MIT hoped to place those facilities under the profit-loss system, in which ARA Keeps any profit and is responsible for any losses inflicted.

"As chair of the committee, I feel somewhat confident that we couldn't find a solution to resolve the economic problems of the dining halls, but we have good information and the administration is in a better position to make a decision than when the committee started. You hope to find a solution, but maybe if you find the problem, someone else will find the solution," said Watson.
6.1 Quake Hits Southern California

LOS ANGELES TIMES

A magnitude 6.1 earthquake struck a broad area of Southern California late Wednesday night, rocking high-rise office buildings in downtown Los Angeles for several seconds and sending out strong shock waves that were felt from Las Vegas, Nev., to San Diego.

The temblor, centered 14 miles southeast of Lakeview Terrace and 10 miles northeast of the San Andreas Fault, was rated a 6.1 on the Richter scale.

The shock was the strongest so far this year and the strongest felt in Los Angeles for 17 years.

By 10 a.m. Thursday, 180 aftershocks had been recorded.

The aftershocks, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, spread over a dozen counties, mostly in Southern California.

Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, speaking from the Los Angeles County Emergency Operations Center, said the temblor was centered one mile south of the San Andreas Fault stronger than Wednesday's tremor.

The quake hit shortly before 10 p.m. PDT and was felt for at least 60 seconds in some areas. It temporarily knocked at least one television station off the air, but electrical service to downtown Los Angeles was unaffected.

U.N. Weighs Plan to Tap Iraqi Assets

The United States plans to push for a resolution under which frozen Iraqi assets would be used to pay for dismantling Baghdad's weapons of mass destruction, compensating victims of its invasion of Kuwait and providing humanitarian aid, Western diplomats said.

Among key U.S. allies, France and Britain have appeared cool to the plan, expressing concern that it might lead to legal and technical problems. Washington expects preparedness to push ahead, and a Western diplomat said a draft resolution may be presented to the Security Council Friday.

About $35.5 billion in Iraqi assets have been frozen around the world, including more than $1 billion in the United States, an officials said.

Also expected to be available would be funds held in Britain, France, West Germany, Spain and Italy. Japan, the U.S. embargo following Iraq's Aug. 2, 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The move to tap frozen assets stems chiefly from Iraq's refusal to sell oil under the terms of the permanent embargo. Such sales were expected, in order to pay for destruction of the Iraqi army, chemical, biological and nuclear arms facilities and for humanitarian measures.

Washington officials expressed confidence that the United States can muster sufficient support from other council members for the proposal.

'Dating Service' for Ex-Soviet Scientists to Start in June

The $75 million International Science and Technology Center, which will serve as a sort of 'dating service' matching scientists' knowledge with peaceful government and private-sector research projects, will open in July.

The center, which will be headquartered in a former building of the Russian Academy of Sciences, was created to help former Soviet nuclear scientists, including those involved in manufacturing and reprocessing fuel, to move to the United States and work for Ukrainian or American companies.

The United States has put the number of nuclear weapons scientists from the former Soviet Union at about 100,000. But the overall nuclear weapons establishment, including those involved in manufacturing and reprocessing fuel, could number 80,000 to 90,000, Calliess said.

WEATHER

WEATHER

Retrograde

By Marek Zelisniak

A low pressure system moving out of the Ohio Valley on Friday will pull a warm front over western Pennsylvania. The front will push northward over the Northeast, causing some rain to move into the region.

Friday afternoon: Cloudy with rain developing. High around 59°F (15°C) with light winds steady from the east.

Friday night: Periods of rain, some fog in coastal areas. Low around 49°F (9°C) with light to south winds.

Saturday: Occasional rain and showers. Cool with highs in mid to upper 50's (15°C-16°C), persistent east winds.

Sunday: Mostly sunny with warm wave moving in, likely in the low 60's (5°C-6°C).

Mexico Reels from Explosions

By Peter Draper

The government of Mexico said Monday it had arrested 15 suspects in the arrest of 15 people suspected of being involved in the explosion of a police station in Mexico City.

The explosion occurred at an army command center in Mexico City, injuring at least 15 people. The army said the blast was caused by an unknown explosive device.

At least 10 people were injured in the explosion, including eight army officers and two civilians.

The government said the explosion was caused by a car bomb.

The blast caused extensive damage to the building, including shattered windows and a hole in the roof.

The government said it was investigating the possibility of a links to criminal organizations.

Serbian President Milosevic Approves Truce Agreement

By Bialine Harden

The Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic, on Friday approved an agreement between his government and rebels in the Bosnian province of Kosovo, a key step in ending a long-running conflict.

The agreement, known as the "Kosovo Agreement," was reached after months of negotiations between the Serbs and Kosovars.

The agreement calls for the creation of a new province in Kosovo, with a degree of autonomy, and the establishment of a joint government.

The agreement also provides for the withdrawal of Serb forces from Kosovo and the restoration of the former Yugoslavia.

The agreement is seen as a significant step in resolving the Kosovo conflict, which has been ongoing since 1998.

The agreement was signed by the leaders of Serbia and Kosovo, with the aim of bringing an end to the conflict.

The agreement is expected to be signed by the leaders of Serbia and Kosovo.

The agreement calls for the creation of a joint government, with the aim of bringing an end to the conflict.

The agreement is expected to be signed by the leaders of Serbia and Kosovo.
Supreme Court Prepares Ruling on Abortion Rights

By Ruth Marcus

WASHINGTON

The Supreme Court, one vote away from changing the constitutional right to abortion, wrestled Wednesday with the implications of such a historic step as it considered a challenge to a Pennsylvania abortion law.

In a long-awaited test of the conservative new court’s views on abortion, the justices remained largely silent as American Civil Liberties Union lawyer Kathryn Kohler urged them to reaffirm Roe vs. Wade, the landmark 1973 decision establishing abortion as a fundamental right.

They were far more active in quizzing Pennsylvania Attorney General Ernest D. Preate Jr. and U.S. Solicitor General Kenneth W. Starr about the individual provisions at issue in Planned Parenthood v. Casey and what it would mean to strip constitutional protection for abortion.

Justice David H. Souter, whose views on the abortion question are unknown, pressed Starr about whether an outright prohibition on abortion — with an exception only to save the life of the woman — would be allowed under the permissibility standard of review urged by the Bush administration. Utah, Louisiana and Guam have adopted laws that bar abortion under most circumstances.

Starr resisted Souter’s question, saying, “I think it best not to answer these in the abstract.” Souter continued, telling Starr, “You’re asking the court to adopt a standard and I think we ought to know where the standard would take us.”

Souter’s general voting alignment with Justice Sandra Day O’Connor has led to speculation that he might pair up to forge a majority on the court — a position that may or may not be relevant depending on whether the four justices known to favor Roe can attract a fifth and decisive vote. Only two solid abortion-rights advocates, Justices Harry A. Blackmun and John Paul Stevens, remain on the court.

Justice Clarence Thomas, who refused to divulge his position during Senate confirmation hearings last fall, was the only justice who did not speak during the hour-long oral argument. A ruling in the case is expected by July, and will likely be a major issue in the November elections.

The Pennsylvania law at issue is one of a spate of abortion restrictions enacted after the high court’s 1992 ruling in Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services, in which four justices voted to remove abortion from the list of specially protected constitutional rights.

The Pennsylvania law requires married women to notify their husbands of the intention to have an abortion; imposes a 24-hour waiting period on women seeking abortions; and requires doctors and counselors to provide information that one side characterizes as the basis for “informed consent” and the other views as “biased counseling.”

Nearly identical provisions have been overturned by the court, as recently as 1986, as intrusions on the right to abortion established in Roe.

The court in Roe said restrictions on abortion must pass “strict scrutiny,” a tough test that meant they would generally be struck down.

Having lost a majority to support that approach, the court in Casey is presented with a choice between two alternatives.

One, suggested by O’Connor, is whether abortion regulations constitute an “undue burden.” The other, endorsed by the Bush administration and at least four justices, would ask simply whether the abortion regulations have a “rational basis” — whether they further the state’s legitimate objective of protecting potential human life.

O’Connor questioned Preate about the bastardization notification provision, terming it a “curious” that the state did not “require notice to all fathers.”

She then asked about forms of birth control, such as contraceptive devices, that act as “shantafacients” by preventing implantation of the fertilized egg. Could the state, protecting its interest in preserving fetal life, require all women to inform their sexual partners of their use of such contraception, she asked.

O’Connor also expressed repeated interest in whether the mandatory counseling provisions and habitual notice provisions violated the First Amendment guarantee of freedom of speech. “The state is compelling a woman to say something to her husband,” O’Connor said. “I would have thought perhaps compelling speech would get on right into a First Amendment area.”

Preate said that because 95 percent of married women in Pennsylvania inform their husbands voluntarily, the speech regulation “would actually affect very few women.” Stevens said, “Well, if no one is affected by the statute, what is the state interest in upholding the statute?”

During his 10-minute argument in support of the Pennsylvania law, which opens up the possibility that fetuses might be “persons” protected by the Constitution and that states, therefore, could be not only permitted to enact abortion, but required to do so...

In Roe, the court concluded that the 14th Amendment — which prohibits states from depriving any “person” of life without due process of law — does not include the unborn.

In the Roe opinion, Blackmun pointed out that considering fetuses as “persons” under the Constitution could require states to treat abortion as hardly as murder and bar statements from making exceptions in their abortion laws for saving the life of the mother.

No justice has endorsed the view that fetuses are “persons” under the Constitution. However, in a speech that became controversial after his nomination to the high court, Thomas praised an article taking such a position.

“What would flow from that position could be a requirement that every state bar abortion,” said Mania Greenberger of the National Women’s Law Center. “The fact that it was explicitly left open by the solicitor general should cause people to sit up and take notice of what the future might hold.”
I agree with the statement in Randall T. Whisman '94's letter to the editor ("Letters Imply that a Woman Supports Abortion," April 24) that it is too often implied that if a woman is one, we will support abortion. Well, here is one woman that doesn't. I read in pro-lifers that we tend to be conservative in nature (which does not mean being narrow-minded). As a result, people will find us euphemistic in the pro-life cause from deep within our hearts and minds. I have found that it is difficult to speak on this matter because those who are not on our abortion issues will not hear our reasoning. They feel that pro-lifers are imposing their moral principles on them, but the argument goes far beyond morals. It is about the soulfulness of a woman. This is a strong argument that pro-choicers choose to ignore. Just remember that (as others have stated) "no one wrong does not justify another."

Frances M. Finnie '93

SRG Treated Wrongly by Self-Important Groups

The theft of the UA ballot box, which at first appeared merely to be a prank deserving little more than a good laugh, has revealed itself to be the cause of a series of events demanding serious attention. The latest episode in this series has been the unanimous UA vote "to request the office of the Dean of Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs to conduct hearings for five students." This action is thus far the most significant in a series of responses (or should I write knee-jerks?) to the ballot theft. Only the most naive reader of the manifest of the SRG could take its organization with such seriousness. That document was an obvious parody of several political theories from Jefferson to Marx. One has to wonder about the mentality of a group of people who feel directly threatened and offended by such a clearly facetious document.

While Wednesday's vote is but one of a series of insinuated acts by the UA, it is certainly the most appalling and revealing. Besides the fact that it is an "Undergraduate Association"orneying five of its own, it is indicative of how incorrectly choses the words of the con- where the SRG and two of the candidates are involved. UA if an ineffective group actting to a removal. By attacking a group of students that design to criticise, it is the UA in acting on the very thing that is a statute's power to be. This still raises questions about what will be searched. One woman that doesn't. I read in pro-lifers that we tend to be conservative in nature (which does not mean being narrow-minded). As a result, people will find us euphemistic in the pro-life cause from deep within our hearts and minds. I have found that it is difficult to speak on this matter because those who are not on our abortion issues will not hear our reasoning. They feel that pro-lifers are imposing their moral principles on them, but the argument goes far beyond morals. It is about the soulfulness of a woman. This is a strong argument that pro-choicers choose to ignore. Just remember that (as others have stated) "no one wrong does not justify another."

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Death Penalty Cannot Be Justified With Arguments

Column By Matthew H. Hersch

Earlier this week, the State of California murdered a man. With much fanfare, law enforcement officials strapped him into an air-tight torture chamber and slowly pumped in cyanide gas until he was dead. There was once a time when I supported the death penalty, but now, especially after the execution of Robert Harris, I can never do so again.

How can a civilized nation commit ritual murder? What possible reason could there be for the United States to join hands with Iraq, China, Iran, and all the other tyrant states that use execution as an instrument of justice? What possible evil does the death penalty serve?

Does it deter crime? No, not really. This notion was filled with criminals when capital punishment was commonplace.

Is it a cheap solution to the crime problem? Does it deter crime? No, not really. When one considers the cost of enforcement officials strapped him into an air-tight torture chamber and slowly pumped in cyanide gas until he was dead. There was once a time when I supported the death penalty, but now, especially after the execution of Robert Harris, I can never do so again.

No, not really. When one considers the cost of over-eager prosecution or faulty defense is an unjustified tragedy.

What possible reason could there be for the United States to join all the other tyrant states that use execution as an instrument of justice?

One of the most noble traditions in American culture is the belief that no matter how vicious or bloodthirsty foreign invaders it stands more now than barbarism.

UROP

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This summer program is intended for undergraduate students who are interested in participating in research projects in the Laboratory for Computer Science. Although no prior experience is necessary, pay under this UROP Summer Studies Program is commensurate with experience, and the program is open to all undergraduates not currently or formally associated with the Laboratory. Students are expected to continue work in the fall semester (either for credit or for pay). We hope to identify creative and energetic undergraduate students interested in computer science and to encourage their development. An information meeting will be held:

Friday, May 1, 1992, NE43-518 4:00 pm
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Wolff Claims MIT Ignored 'Hostile Environment'

Suit Alleges Thurborn, Others in Literature Section Harassed Her for Opposing Tenure Decisions

Wolff, from Page 1

Professor David M. Haiperin, Associate Provost for MIT, described nothing could be done.

Wolff approached the current provost, Mark S. Wrighton, in 1991. Wolff acted on this in 1991. He created the Clay Committee "to review the tenure process and the proportion to the size of the department. Most of the council's decisions are made in the committees, which deal with issues such as academic procedures, all but dissertation statistics, sexual harassment, and personnel selection powers.

"I think what the GSC needs right now is exposure among graduate students," Meta said. The council must make sure that students know about what is being done to help them, he said. He added that the GSC is "covering a lot of issues which are important to the best in the country." Other recent winners at MIT include Edward A. Boyle PhD '76 and Roger G. Burns, both professors of earth, atmospheric, and planetary science; Drew Fudenberg PhD '81, a professor of economics, and Harriet N. Rinow, an associate professor of writing.

I'm being pinpointed." Wolff said Wrighton "laid the foundation for a revolutionary action" when he later identified her as the principal whose actions led to the formation of the Clay Committee.

The suit contends that MIT did not prevent retaliation against Wolff during the peer review process, did not take action against faculty who conducted themselves improperly, and knowingly allowed harassment to interfere with Wolff's work.

Wolff is seeking damages "in an amount likely to exceed at least $50,000," according to the civil action document.

"I think [Wolff] has had quite a lot of power within the literature faculty," Perry said. "She's consulted in all decisions." Halperin agreed: "The notion that she's been excluded is preposterous — her opinion carries great weight." Both Perry and Halperin said Wolff is the highest paid member of the literature faculty.

"Some years ago it was a position to comment on the lawsuit, and that MIT will respond through its legal counsel.

Thurman expressed dismay at the suit. "My understanding is that the Institute finds no merit in the suit and plans a vigorous defense in court.

Both Perry and Halperin said appointments and selections in the literature section are presently handled by Donaldson, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences Philip S. Khoury, and Wrighton. This is "somewhat unusual," he added. Normally, these decisions are made in the sections themselves.

"I am very concerned about issues such as feelings that people have not been able to work in an atmosphere conducive to their scholarly research. Differences among people are not easy to resolve," Wrighton said.

Wolff is pleased with the ongoing things being done in the literature section, and that all these good things continue despite the faculty problems. Donaldson said, "The group has made a strong commitment working out its problems internally, and that process is going well. There were a series of problems which led to a year of recovery. Most people are committed to that process. Obviously it's my wish that problems be resolved in a collegial spirit."

"My own feeling is people in the literature faculty have tried to talk to each other about our intellectual differences in the last five months or so. We've made progress. The process has been a healthy and a good one — and they say this has been quite a shock."
Tom Massie '93, an electrical engineering student, won the 21st annual Introduction to Design (2.70) contest last night. Massie's device bested more than 110 other students' machines before an enthusiastic crowd in 26-100.

The competition started in Wednesday night's preliminary round, which eliminated about half of the 200 students in the class, according to Ross Levinsky G, a TA for the class.

In this year's contest, entitled "Pipe Dream," each student set out to design a machine that could get the most ping pong balls possible into one half of a vertical pipe in the center of the playing area in 30 seconds.

Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering Harry West PhD '86, instructor for 2.70 and organizer of the contest since 1988, explained that this year's contest was a bit more difficult than many in the past. West was pleased that his students were able to come up with successful designs despite the contest's difficulty.

Winning strategy
Massie's machine moved quickly, extending a box over his goal from the starting position, and releasing his balls into the goal. At the same time, a flap covered the opening of the other goal, preventing his opponent from depositing any balls. Massie's ingenious use of the flap was an important factor in his win.

Massie and nine other contestants will compete in the International Design Contest, to be held at MIT on August 20. They will compete against students from the Tokyo Institute of Technology, Cambridge University, and Technische Hochschule Darmstadt, who competed in similar contests.

The 10 students from MIT will include the four semifinalists — Massie, Dokyu Kim '94, Paul Hsiao '94, and Chad Clutz '93 — and six others chosen by independent judges. Three contestants were chosen by judges in the audience: Dionne Chapman '94, Won Chikyang '94, and Elizabeth Zapata '94. Professional engineers examined all of the machines before the contest and chose Heather Klaubert '94 and Kim Manning '93 to participate in the international competition. PBS chose Cameron Minor '92 to attend the contest.
Left: Tom Massie '93 watches his 2.70 machine win in a preliminary round.

Below: The ping pong balls, after dropping down the tube in the center, were directed into two boxes and counted.

Left: On overhead view of the proceedings at last night's 2.70 finals. Each machine starts from its respective end and attempts to deposit ping pong balls in the center, while trying to prevent the opposing machine from doing the same.

Below: Edward J. Samowski '94 watches with distress as his 2.70 machine starts off well, but topples over before reaching its intended destination.
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In the middle of this immense shot, security chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is chief Walter Stuckle (Fred Ward) walks out of his office and starts to tell another man that he is.

But only a movie like The Player would at the same time poke fun at itself — simultaneously grabbing the audience's attention and reminding them that it's only a movie after all.

The plot of The Player focuses on Griffin Mill, a senior vice president of production who owns confidence and success. He is familiar with the rules of the game at the studio, and he is truly a master player. Lately, Mill has been having some problems, though. Larry Levy (Peter Gallagher), an executive from another studio, is rumored to be after Griffin's job. Also, Mill has been receiving a steady flow of threatening anonymous postcards that seem to come from a writer whom he refused to get back in touch with Griffin starts to feel uneasy about the mail, which gets more ominous day by day, but he has an even greater fear that if he lets the postcards become public knowledge, he will further destabilize his questionable hold on his position of power. Instead of involving anyone else at the studio, Griffin, in his predilection, he drives out to see David Kahane (Vincent D'Onofrio), his primary suspect, and his Icelandic girlfriend, June Gudmundsdottir (Greta Scacchi).

The story of The Player is filled with twists and turns, but the most interesting fact about them is that they are truly surprising, but that they seem to obey some unwritten rules of popular scripts. At one point, Griffin tells June that all movies need to have "suspense, laughter, violence, hope, heart, nudity, sex, and a happy ending." It's all here, and the audience is invited by the movie to pick up points that are made in a very complete and meticulous manner.

In another scene, Griffin waits in a restaurant to meet the writer who has been harassing him. The audience is shown a shot of a foreboding-looking man (Lyle Lovett) intently watching Griffin's every move. Then the camera pans to a photo of Alfred Hitchcock, the director who made giving the audience suspenseful extra information like this standard practice. Later, Griffin and June seek seclusion at an ultra-private resort. June tells Griffin that she never thought places like this existed, and Griffin says quite frankly that they actually exist "only in the movies." The effect of all this is truly unique and eerie. This is not some wildly anarchistic movie like some of Mil Brook's or Woody Allen's works in which a writer is a member of the action he is filming. The Player works much more safely, providing a movie that is in some ways completely standard, while at the same time suggesting that Altman and his production crew lie just outside of the frame, carefully orchestrating everything that the audience sees.

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Indigo Girls' latest simply not up to their best

RITES OF PASSAGE

By Chris Roberge
The Arts

The Revolution of Expression," refers to the ground-breaking musical activity that occurred during the years 1911-12, with each program focusing on works from a single year. Every year the works were composed in the approximate year.

Rites of Passage, the most outstanding work of Thursday's concert, is technically a full score, yet the composition is in essence a symphonic work needing no dancers and perhaps not even the story of romance that accompanies it, especially when it is performed with the fire of the CBSO. A feeling of passion and spontaneity marked Rattle's conducting, yet no nuance in Ravel's colorful orchestra's powerful visual presence on stage could not be reproduced on a recording or a videotape, nor could the orchestra wildly followed him to the sudden, joyous conclusion. The CBSO's rendition of Daphnis and Chloe drove home the importance of live performance. The orchestra's powerful visual presence on stage could not be reproduced on a recording or a videotape, nor could the orchestra's powerful visual presence on stage...
120 Minutes Tour produces only muddled results

MTV 120 MINUTES TOUR

With BAD II, Live, and Blinded Melon, Brandeis University, April 24.

OPINION EDITOR

April 24, 1992

By Bill Jackson

Catchphrase reached a new low as the MTV 120 Minutes Tour came to Brandeis University April 24 as part of the Boston Phoenix "New Music: Full Contact." The results were less than stunning.

The most appealing thing was the sound, an impossible mish-mash. Brandeis' Gossman Center made our own Johnson Administration Center seem as acoustic funeral. Certainly a major national tour could do better

Certainly.

MTV 120 Minutes Tour came to Brandeis University. April 24 was even bearable was PiL, the third of the four bands.

One of the other bands whose sound mix was even bearable was PUL, the third of the four bands.

Opening up was Blind Melon, a newcomer to the national scene. Mele's record company has been hyping them as the Next Big Thing, and in that case of events, the band lived up to its hype, putting on a dazzling display of energy, tight playing, and fun.

The band's singles were played out in muddied arrangements and the crowd's initial warm reception for the band cooled. "We're here in Boston, Massachusetts," they announced, "in a relationship with three or four thousand people, not to play a rock concert." That explains why I didn't come for their show, because I went to see a rock concert.

The next band was Public Image Limited, Johnny Rotten (a.k.a. John Lydon) post-Sex Pistols vehicle. Within the space of the first long, Lydon had removed several condoms from his chest and thrown them to the crowd.

To a significantly more impressive move, he tossed the audience, removed as object from between his cheeks, and tossed it to the crowd. (I think it was a canister of liquid string, but I was too far to tell a girlfriend.)

Lydon was in impressive voice, however, and the band played well together. Lydon largely ignored his bandmates on stage, and he busied himself by bantering with the audience. When someone threw a shoe at Lydon, he laughed. "The silly bastard who threw his shoe is not getting it back. Hope you have a nice walk home in the snow!" Later, removing yet another object from his seemingly bottomless shorts, Lydon held it up, asking "Does anyone want to buy a sanitary napkin?"

Poking that drum will do anything, a large group screamed that they, and he tossed it into the audience.

Lydon finished the regular set by saying "Yes we want, you know the routine." After the requisite clapping, he returned and played an encore. The angry young punk Johnny Rotten has turned into a modern dandy, a scolding, doddling fool. The band is nice to listen to, but Rotten has become merely competent.

The final band of the evening was Big Audio Dynamite II, the latest incarnation of Mick Jones' career since The Clash. The lights came on, and a person who appeared to be a band member came out. The crowd went nuts as a "BAD 11" sign was revealed in the background and the man -- he turned out to be a deejay -began to play an electronic machine, which improved the songs greatly.

But Jones was totally ignorant of the problems of the evening. He seemed oblivious of whether or not the band received any applause, but simply smiled and mumbled unintelligibly into the microphone between songs.

At one point, try to tell some story about learning the guitar when he was growing up, and he broke into a sudden series of guitar licks. Then he said, "1 got better." The audience didn't understand for the most part, and there was only mere subdued confusion about what Jones was trying to play.

Overall, it was not the great event I was hoping for. There was, however, some interesting music and the occasional flash of brilliance on this MTV tour. Maybe I'll even start watching "120 Minutes" if I can learn to stand that annoying host.
Jennifer Rossett, Starla Benford, and Jeremy Gold in Media Amok. Media Amok is a searching satirist on the multiplying lunacies of our time. Seen from the increasingly horrified perspective of a peaceful old couple who just want a little harmless entertainment, the world of talk-show television is seen to be populated with an army of psychotic celebs and wannabes, dominated by a feral, abusive, foul-mouthed figure modelled on a well-known talk show host. Media Amok is a satirical antitoxin to various noisy orthodoxities currently in fashion, because it is left-handed and the right, designed to blow the poisons out of our systems through gusts of laughter. Media Amok runs through April 26 at the American Repertory Theatre.

Collected by Leslie A. Barnett

ON THE TOWN

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Morrisson discusses what lies behind Beloved and Jazz

Morrison, from Page 11

it felt like.”

Morrison showed a rare ability to poke fun at herself and trumpet her own brilliance in the same breath. As she searched through Beloved for the appropriate quote to highlight the use of “the bite,” she excused the excess time it was taking her to locate the passage “since this book is not written in a linear, intelligible fashion...she should have an index or something.”

Later, she told of a time she read a passage to a friend of hers: “You really love your own stuff,” he said. Her reply was: “But what you to a friend of hers: “You really love your own

index or something.”

“since this book is not written in a linear,

the use of “the bite, she excused the excess

ness of the dissonant Sprechstimme kept the

audience’s attention, while her attacks were

never too harsh, giving the seemingly chaotic

music a certain smoothness. The climax of the

21 verses of Pierrot Lunaire was clearly “The

Moonflock,” in which Pierrot is obsessed with

removing a spot on his black jacket which is

actually a spot of moonlight. Ross and the

audience responded well to this unusual work,

though not with as much abandon as for

Daphnis and Chloe.

Birmingham Orchestra performs with emotion

Orchestra, from Page 12

sort of dramatic performance on Friday with a

work from Vienna, the other progressive musical trend of the early twentieth century. In a darkened Symphony Hall, a lone beam of light, representing moonlight, set the stage for

Pierrot Lunaire as Ross, garbed in elegant silk

robes, captured the audience with her

Sprechstimme, Schoenberg’s term for pitched

speaking. Ross told the audience (in German)

the bizarre story of Pierrot — a Viennese

Romantic carried to grotesque, clownish

extreme — with such emotional intensity that

the tale seemed unreal and fantastical. Her

quick mood changes within the inherent same-

deful.”

Morrison also addressed “the culture of Jazz.” She said people will automatically make associations with jazz, “the music black people play and originated and shaped.” She said the appreciation of jazz is one of the few places where a transcendence of race is possible.

She noted that the jazz movement was the first sign of cultural change in America and a cultural affirmation for Afro-Americans.

Jazz tells the story of tragic love in Harlem in 1926. According to Morrison, the protagonist has achieved something in the act of being in love. It’s irrelevant whether there is a happy ending, Morrison said, and there’s no

whining, because “the blues never white.”

Particularly moving were the comments made during the question-and-answer period which followed the lecture. Many of the audience members approached the microphone not simply to ask questions, but also to express their gratitude to Morrison. One woman said: “I went to school here and for much of my time here the only thing that made sense were words that you spoke and words that you wrote. Institutions often miss the truth, but you spoke truth.”

Another woman thanked Morrison for helping her daughter get through Brown University, saying Morrison had been her daughter’s role model. She then handed Morrison her daughter’s thesis, written on Beloved. “My daughter’s in California now, and when I tell her this she’ll say ‘Mom, you didn’t,’ but I’m doing it.”

Morrison took the thesis and the audience applauded. Morrison stunned with brilliance, eloquence, and compassion, yet she maintained a certain down-to-earth humanity that many lose when placed out of reach on a stage. It was a joy to watch her and a special treat, especially for the seniors. Four years later, seniors were able to examine the literary nuances of Beloved from the author herself.

One student asked about the “birth-death-rebirth” significance of Beloved’s nakedness in her first appearance in the story, to which Morrison responded, “She’s naked because she’s hot.”

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The weather was awful, but the men’s track team was still victorious over WPI and RPI on Apr. 11. Temperatures in the low 30s and a steady rain made for a grim day, but MIT prevailed with 83 points to RPI’s 70 and WPI’s 40.

The day began with the 400 intermediate hurdles, run by Jay Chiang ’94, who finished second in a time of 4:05.96. Colin Page ’92 was first at a personal best of 67’2. MIT placed one and two in the winner in the high jump at 6’4”.

Rob Flemming ’93 took first in the discus with a throw of 47.98 meters. Flemming also took the hammer throw with a toss of 16.37.

Goetzinger, Rixner, Andy Romain and Brad Geilfuss ’94. This event was won by default, as WPI and RPI couldn’t even keep hold of their buttons. The 3,000 meter steeplechase followed, with David Doyle ’94 taking second in a personal best time of 10:06.9. Rob Casadonte ’94 came in fourth in a time of 10:06.9.

The distance runners had another great day. In the next running event, the 1,600 meter relay team of Tom Washington ’92, Andy Ugaitv ’95 placed second at 3:36.1. The second novice eight did not have a chance to race Simmons. However, the second novice eight had a solid row, coming in second behind Mount Holyoke.

Although the MIT women lost the Brunelle Cup, awarded to the winner of the varsity eight race, they are aiming to bring the cup home next spring. This weekend, the MIT women will be racing Boston University and Northeastern on Saturday and Tufts on Sunday.
SPORTS

Baseball Plagued by Inconsistent Performance

By Danny Su

The MIT baseball team is anything but consistent. After a tough 5-4 loss in extra innings to Division I team Boston College last week, the team seemed to be heading in the right direction as they crushed Princeton, 12-2, in the first game of a doubleheader Saturday. It looked like MIT would roll away in the second game as they jumped to a 4-0 lead after the first inning, highlighted by a bases-loaded double courtesy of Ian Somerville '93. But the team took a vacation from there on, both defensively and offensively. The turn played charity give-away on the field while runners never made it as far as third base in the next four innings. MIT's comeback attempt was foiled when Wentworth broke the tie in the extra inning with a nice sliding catch in the outfield for the final out. MIT surrendered the lead in the third inning when a two-out error led to two more earned runs. With the score tied at 4 in the fifth inning, the visitors had two on and two outs. Wentworth's number seven hitter then hit a line drive right field. With the wind blowing out, the ball refused to die and carried further than expected. The right fielder misjudged the ball and was turned the wrong way. He finally adjusted, only to miss the catch by inches.

The second boat was equally successful. MIT had a rough start and was down two runs after two sets of 250 meters. The boat smoothed over its difficulties and quickly pulled away, winning by several boat lengths, 5:57.4 to 6:11.0. The first freshman crew also beat UNH, bringing its win total to 7. Times for the race were 6:09.3 and 6:04.3. The only disappointment of the race was for the second freshman boat. In a very close race, MIT covered the finish line less than a second before UNH. But a steering incident that had the boat's oars clashing for a few strokes cost the team the race official to award the race to UNH.

Harvard was the best college crew in the country coming into Saturday's race, and they retained that honor after they left, though Princeton had a strong showing. The race, between Princeton, Harvard, and MIT, is run in honor of the late Hugh Cap.

The MIT heavyweights team had an excellent start, ending their first 25 strokes even or a little ahead of Harvard and Princeton. Through the next 750 meters, though, Harvard and Princeton moved slowly away from MIT. At the Harvard Bridge, 1,000 meters into the race, MIT was three-quarters of a length down to both crews. Crew lost contact with the

Men's Heavies Win One, Lose One

By Dan Donn

The heavyweight crew team had mixed results this weekend. Friday saw victory over UNH, but on Saturday MIT fell to Harvard and Princeton.

Friday's race was held at Durham, N.H., on UNH's annually short course, which is 250 meters short of the regular 2,000. The varsity crew moved out to an early lead that they easily held for the length of the course, finishing in 5:39.4 over 5:43.9 for UNH.

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MIT Information Systems

The Tech

April 24, 1992