Welcome, Class of 1996!

Thursday, August 27, 1992

Freshmen Arrive on Campus

By Josh Hartmann

Comeback and Steven Lerner

Nearly one-third of the over 1,200 expected new students, including a large number from the South and West Coasts, arrived on campus yesterday for the first day of new student registration. The newcomers are expected today.

At 4 p.m. today, President Charles M. Vest and Undergraduate Association President Shally Bansal '93 will address new students at the President's Welcome Convocation at Kresge Auditorium. The convocation will mark the formal beginning of Residence/Orientation Week, which runs through next Friday.

Afterward, from 5 to 7:30 p.m., will be Project MOTA (Move Off Your Assumptions), in which upperclassmen, as well as those trying out for sports teams and in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, arrived earlier this week.

As the students entered the R/O Center in La Sala del Puerto Rico, their names were entered into the Clearinghouse database, allowing R/O Center workers to track their movements during R/O Week. Clearinghouse operations were suspended for a short while yesterday morning, when a power outage blacked out the campus shortly before 10 a.m.

Rush Central, another feature new to this year's R/O Week, is intended to make residence selection easier and add a bit of pressure to freshmen for students new to MIT. But other changes - including the scheduling of two mandatory tests in one day - may add to the pressure that freshmen feel on their first full day at MIT.

Bad-mouthing policy changed

In response to complaints that MIT violated students' right to free speech, the office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs retracted its "bad-mouthing" policy, according to Eliot S. Levit '89, staff assistant for Residence and Campus Activities. In the past, students were required to tell freshmen about any living group other than their own.

Dormitory residents still may not speak with malicious intent or accuse of a person of having committed crimes, but those would be considered harassment under MIT rules. However, residents may say true and unfavorable statements.

MIT Warns Students Of Convicted Rapist

By Katherine Shim

A man convicted in 1991 of raping two Harvard summer school students has allegedly approached one MIT student and two Harvard students since his July 11 release from state prison, according to a memorandum sent to all living groups by the Office of the Deans for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs.

Convicted in 1991 of raping two Harvard summer school students, Baptiste was sentenced in June 1991 to 10 years in state prison and was to be released on parole after having served one year, said Harvard Police Lt. John F. Rooney.

Since the balance of his sentence was suspended for five years, Baptiste was released from Cedar Junction State Prison June 11.

Baptiste was also accused of harassing students at MIT and Boston University. Baptiste is described as a black male, 5 feet 8 inches tall, and 140 pounds. He is approximately 40 years old.

Blackout Affects Most Institute

By Josh Hartmann

Crimson

For Dormitory Residents

Dormitory residents still may not speak to freshmen about any living group other than their own. The students who do not take the test, but in previous years, students who who took the examination nor the AP test were simply required to take a Phase I writing subject.

This year's Residence/Orientation Week included the following changes aimed at increasing the privacy of incoming freshmen, as well as making the Rush process easier and more successful:

Some of the changes, especially those having to do with the way in which living groups may contact freshmen, are designed to placate complaints that the Institute infringed upon students' constitutional rights.

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R/O, Page 6

Yesterday's power outage also set off false fire alarms in Buildings 37 and one in Building 56, which brought this fire truck rolling down the sidewalk past East Campus.

Power, Page 9

The Weather

Today: Mostly sunny. 87°F (31°C). Winds: S, 5 mph (4 kph). High: 89°F (32°C)

Tomorrow: Cloudy, 80°F (27°C)

Details, Page 5

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The prosecution of former CIA official Clair George on perjury charges in the Iran-Contra scandal ended in mistrial Wednesday, in the latest setback for the independent Counsel Lawrence E. Walsh. U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lambeth declared the mistrial and set a new trial for Oct. 19 after a jury of eight women and four men reported for the fourth time that they were hopelessly deadlocked on all nine charges against George in his sixth day of delibera-
tions.

Prosecutor Craig Gillen had recommended a new trial "as quickly as possible" before a new jury that Lamberth will impanel.

"Twelve jurors would have a hard time finding the defen-
dant guilty of those charges," Kist said, explaining that a majority of jurors favored acquittal on all counts. He said that, while some thought that George could have been "more forthcoming" in his con-
gressional testimony, they did not find that Clark George told false statements to Congress.

The outcome of the George case did nothing to improve the sputtering record of the independent counsel. Out of 10 convictions obtained by Walsh's in the past 3 years, two have been overturned on appeal — those of former White House aide Oliver L. North and former national security adviser John M. Poindexter. Of the remaining con-
victions, four are under review on appeal or are in agreement.

Only one defendant has gone free, and that was for income tax charges related to weapons sales.

George, 62, who formerly directed overseas spy operations as the CIA's director of European operations, was on trial for perjury, obstruction, and false statements for what he told Congress in 1986 and a fed-
eral grand jury in 1991. He was accused of concealing his knowledge of Iranian arms sales and of secret U.S. assistance being given to the Nicaraguan rebels by such officials as North and former Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard V. Secord, who was North's logistical chief.

Few Optimistic As Conference on Yugoslavia Begins

Briefing at the State Department in Washington

The international conference on former Yugoslavia opened here Wednesday, with government delegation expressing that the Humpry-Dumpsey exercise of putting Bosnia-Herzegovina back together again will not succeed or that aggressive Serbian expansion will be contained.

Acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger said that Serbs face a "profoundly bleak outlook," with prolonged international isolation, unless Serbs reverse their expansionist policies. Only those Serbs who reverse their "inexorably increase, on any Yugoslav party that stood in

of Europe to flourish, much less spread," he said.

"The civil world simply cannot allow this cancer in the heart of Europe to flourish, much less spread," he said. British Prime Minister John Major promised that governments would "sincerely increase" on any Yugoslav party that stood in the way of agreement.

"We must all do our utmost to make sure that Serbs reverse their expansionist policies," he said. Serbian leaders were "motivated only by

self-interest,"

"I am concerned," said the president.

President Bush Wednesday set aside $16 mil-

lion for 5,000 housing workshops and competitions

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try's most expen
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The estimate of homeless, put at 50,000 earli-

er in the week, was up to 180,000 at three days after the storm broadsided the peninsula.

"If there are three people per home, you are talking about 180,000 households," Sen. Bob Graham of Florida said after meeting with Dade County officials who estimated that 53,000 homes were destroyed.

Although survivors were turning to the formi-

able tasks of rebuilding, large swaths of Red Cross and Dade County shelters did not greatly decline because many stayed put for the first time only to find their dwellings uninhab-

able.

On Tuesday night, nearly 120,000 people remained in shelters. For those in the hardest-hit area of south Dade County, the most desperate

need was for money, since scores of thousands had lost

nutrients.

The cost of rebuilding is too cumbersome for

credible estimate. While Dade County officials put the bill at $15 billion to $20 billion, the

Federal Emergency Management Agency fixed it at

$5.4 billion to $7.4 billion.

"We're going to move now from being in an

adversarial period of high energy to the second phase, which is the mobilization and getting

a long sustained recovery period," Graham said.

Weather

Continued Stickiness

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Today: Hazy sunshine, continued warm and humid. High in the upper 70's (25'C) on the coast, mid-80's (30'C) inland. Light vari-

able breeze at brief times.

Tonight: Hazy and muggy again with increasing clouds. Low around 80°F (27°C).

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I've never seen anything like this," met-a phone polls and giant -shards of were littered with fallen trecs, tcle- mated. Highways along that rofite miles of croplands where sugar cane eled by high winds and fatten trees, west to Lafayette. Along with hun- dreds for automobiles-a potential- Clinton proposal -to, retrain meanwhile, has echoed a key minimize them on questions where they men are moving to maximize thieir other frame the debate on terms instance, moved a bit closer to Bush ince, the attacks, counterat- As part of that is-frategy, both -brancorous engagements, the two seen until October. And in these rances engagements, the two sides have expressed an aggressive philosophy—both insist to const- stantly force the debate back onto one or two central arguments and quickly neutralize issues that might- to distract from those core con- American workers. At the same time, both cam- paigns are trying to frame in the sharpest possible terms two con- trasts with their opponents—one con- on the economy and the other on tax. In Bush’s case the choice arguments are trust and taxes. Bush is portraying the Jacksonian government as a tax-and-spend liberal who would to make the economy even worse by expanding government and is hiding his intention to do so as part of a broader pattern of misleading voters about his political agenda and per- sonal life. For Clinton, the centerpiece arguments are the economy and trust as well. Clinton maintains that Bush, trapped to the grip of an iron- lute after his free economy rhetoric, has failed to produce a plan to revolve the economy and, now, in a desperate attempt to save his job is unloading both wild accusations and implausible promises he made no intention of keeping. The efforts by both sides to direct the debate through these competing claims is perhaps most visible in their delivering over the past week in the economy and the federal bud- get. In his acceptance speech last Thursday, Bush moved to retract promises to cut the conservative omnibus agreement on the budget and other Belt battleground states. Bush, meanwhile, had echoed a key Clinton proposal to retin- efficient U.S. government. At the same time, both campaigns are trying to frame the sharpest possible terms two contrasts with their opponents—one contrasting on the economy and the other on tax. In Bush’s case the choice of arguments are trust and taxes. Bush is portraying the Jacksonian government as a tax-and-spend liberal who would make the economy worse by expanding government and is hiding his intention to do so as part of a broader pattern of misleading voters about his political agenda and personal life. For Clinton, the centerpiece arguments are the economy and trust as well. Clinton maintains that Bush, trapped in the grip of an iron-lute after his free economy rhetoric, has failed to produce a plan to revolve the economy and, now, in a desperate attempt to save his job is unloading both wild accusations and implausible promises he made no intention of keeping. The efforts by both sides to direct the debate through these competing claims is perhaps most visible in their delivering over the past week in the economy and the federal budget. In his acceptance speech last Thursday, Bush moved to retract promises to cut tax-and-spend, but he did not retract their conservative omnibus agreement on the budget and other Belt battleground states. Bush, meanwhile, had echoed a key Clinton proposal to retain an efficient U.S. government.

Winston, from Page 6

Andrew, from Page 5

The Tech comes out Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year with complete, unbiased news coverage of MIT events. In addition, you'll find a wrapup of global and national news, as well as the pulse of campus opinion and reviews of arts events in the Boston area.
Frosh Guide to Understanding MITspeak

By Bill Jackson

EDITOR'S NOTE

Yeah, right, welcome to MIT and all that baggage ...

I know how it is. You've been spoon-fed a lot of information over the summer and by now you've probably much already gained the skeptical attitude toward everything you see and about MIT. This is healthy and good, and you will find it useful not only for reading the drivel of yours truly and the nuke-lunatics but also for reading the other campus publications. In fact, at the end of this article I've placed an explicit list of bizarre and rare sexual activities which I will tonight be photocopying and sending to all of your parents.

Loose Translation: Our admissions officers have carefully combed through our applications and we think that your distribution is as pleasing as possible according to simple statistical categories: race, sex, place of origin, etc. Of course, we can't talk about the things that really matter. This means that your freshman roommate will enjoy Pink Floyd's "Dark Side of the Moon." Stephen King novels, inexpensive mixed drinks, including Saturday Night Live sketches, and The Simpsons, just like you MIT will be happy because you are an Asian from California and the knowledgeable veteran handing out advice to new students during this, your first week at MIT, is that you need other people for whom these feelings will become so strong that they will leave the Institute, either temporarily or permanently.

But for the rest of you, the majority that will march through Killian Court four years from now, get ready for the most exciting, and perhaps the most exhilarating, time of your life. You have undoubtedly heard about many of the good things MIT offers its students: Unparalleled research opportunities, more laboratory equipment than almost any other university, and the chance to explore and learn alongside some of the greatest minds on the planet.

There is a downside to everything, however, and MIT is no exception: The Institute has its fair share of racism and sexism, unfair policies, boring lectures, bad food, and -- you will probably learn within the next few days -- very difficult courses and problem sets.

When you run into these problems, remember that you are probably not the first in your situation, and that someone can probably help you. The most important lesson you can learn during your first week at MIT, is that you need other people to survive here. Sooner than you might think, you will be the knowledgeable veterans handing out advice to new students unfamiliar with the terrain.

So welcome to MIT, the best and the worst of all possible worlds. With your help, it can only get better.
Advice on Surviving from a Seasoned Upperclassman

By Matthew H. Mersh

Welcome, freshman. It seems that around this time everyone on campus will be giving you advice about MIT, and most of it will either be stupidly sexual or filter-blown, wishy-washy, non-committal, R/O-safe, bland, trite, and simplistic.

Freshmen hear "be yourself" and "don't rape anybody" a lot too much. I'd like to help so instead of writing about politics and diplomacy and nuclear strategy like I usually do in this column, I'm going to write something for freshmen, something that doesn't have the word "condom" in it. Here's what I have learned about MIT in the past few years — here's the advice that I would give:

* You're smarter than you think. You're also lazier than you think. Never, ever, ever

• Stay up all night. Sleep late. Try to attend more classes than you punt. Change majors...twice. Got Advanced Placement credit? Use it. Fail while you can. Register for something you like to do and do it. Find something new to do and try it. If it hurts when you do it, then stop doing it and consult a physician.

• Don't read the Thistle.

• Find someone you love and love them. Can't find anyone to love? Then find someone you hate and write about them.

• Always hand in your problem sets.

• Drink lots of orange juice. Don't eat at Lohlell. Learn how to use chopsticks. If you eat pizza every night you will hate it by November. Frazia makes good burgers.

• Bathe every day. Wash your clothes. Keep your finger out of your nose; you don't know where that finger's been. Don't grow a beard — you'll look like an idiot. You're smarter than you think.

• Do you like pain? Then take 18.012. Do you hate to and,, write about them; something new to do and try it.

• An average human being can remain awake for 65 hours without losing consciousness or hallucinating. Never walk within 135 feet of the MIT Nuclear Reactor, no matter how much money they offer you.

• Find a UROP...a good UROP. Find something you like to do and do it. Find something new to do and try it. If it hurts when you do it, then stop doing it and consult a physician.

• Find someone you love and love them. Can't find anyone to love? Then find someone you hate and write about them.

• No one cares where you live. Rush doesn't matter. Try living somewhere, then move. Trust your instincts. Alcoholics look stupid. You're smarter than you think.

• Be happy. If you're not happy, then get away for 65 hours without losing consciousness or hallucinating. Never walk within 135 feet of the MIT Nuclear Reactor, no matter how much money they offer you.

• You matter.

• Don't read the Thistle.

Well that's it, the collected wisdom of one worldweary upperclassman. You should be commended for finishing this column.

Because you read The Tech, you are superior to your friends.

And remember, if rush is boring you, or if you are sweating profusely, then just come up to the air-conditioned offices of The Tech and watch us make a newspaper every day. We won't pretend to like you, and we won't give you free food — we'll just act like real MIT students.

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.

Disses, 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 W20483. Electronic submissions in plain text format may be mailed to techeditor@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.

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New Course Offering
Balancing Technology, Economics, & Environment
Application of Technology
School Wide Elective (1.149,2.63, 5.00, 6.969, 10.579, TPP02)

How much do you know about:

☐ Cost-Benefit Analysis
☐ Probabilistic Risk Assessment
☐ Capital Cost/Financing
☐ Process Flow Diagrams
☐ Material Balance Equations
☐ Use of Models in Policy Analysis
☐ Policy Alternatives in International Decision-making
☐ U.S. Government Role in Science & Technology
☐ Using persuasion & diplomacy in S&T policy-making
☐ Politics and Science

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R/O Activities
for Thursday, August 27

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MIT
Optical

10% off all prescription eyeglasses*

- Great prices on quality eyewear
- Experienced professional staff
- Excellent service with exacting standards

*Complete pair orders only (i.e., lenses and frames)

Open M-F, 9 am–6 pm
Stratton Student Center, Basement Level

Offer expires Sept. 11. Cannot be used with other discounts.

R/O Activities
for Thursday, August 27

24 hours
Student Center
R/O Center open for new student check-in.

9:00am–3:30pm
1st Floor, Student Center
New women students can pick up copy of The New Our Bodies, Ourselves.

9:00am–3:30pm
R/O Center
Make a free one-minute phone call home, sponsored by the MIT Alumni/Alumnae Association.

10:00am–3:30pm
1st Floor, Student Center
Information about safer sex and/or being queer on campus.

11:00am–1:00pm
Location TBA
Transfer students invited to come brunch with administrators and/or faculty in their departments.

11:00am–2:30pm
Meet Student Center steps
Explore the rich heritage of African-Americans in Boston on the Black Heritage Trail Tour.

11:00am–3:30pm
312 Memorial Drive
Kosher snacks available.

noon–2:00pm
200–106
Learn about ISP (Integrated Studies Program) while enjoying great food!

1:00pm–2:00pm
Location TBA
Transfers! Come meet with a representative of your department at the Transfer Open Houses.

1:00pm–3:00pm
24–612
Come learn about the Experimental Study Group at their Experimental Cafe.

1:30pm–3:30pm
Barbecue Pits
Enjoy a snack and relax with your fellow freshmen before it all begins.

2:00pm–5:00pm
Kresge Auditorium
Parents! Come learn about MIT at the Parents Welcome Lounge.

5:00pm–7:30pm
Most on Kresge Oval
MIT President Charles M. Vest welcomes you to MIT. For the first time, your entire class is together in one place!

7:30pm–10:30pm
Leaves from Kresge Oval
Move Off Your Assumptions! An often crazy opportunity to really get to know fellow students, MIT staff, R/O Counselors and most importantly, YOURSELF.

R/O Activities
for Thursday, August 27

This Fall, the MIT Judo Club will offer introductory and intermediate Judo classes taught for PE credit. Judo, originating in ancient Japan, is a martial art that stresses non-aggressive methods of self-defense and physical fitness. Judo is based on the principle of using an opponent’s momentum and weight against him by special, strong and technique, without overuse of strength. Judo’s philosophy, based on the well-known precept of judo, is “Emanate from harmony, conform to the natural world and benefit of all.”

This concept reaches into all aspects of judo, including the use of an opponent’s momentum and weight against him by special, strong and technique, without overuse of strength. Judo’s philosophy, based on the well-known precept of judo, is “Emanate from harmony, conform to the natural world and benefit of all.”

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Much of Institute Is Blacked Out

Commonwealth Energy Systems spokesman Michael O'Malley said 10,000 Cambridge customers lost power when a relay at a substation on Putnam Street failed. "We believe it was an overcurrent situation which caused a relay to trip out in the Putnam Street substation," he said. "We had a crew that was working at the substation. They were able to reset the relay."

O'Malley noted that at the time, the total ComEnergy load was 826 megawatts. "That's the highest load we've seen so far this summer."

Generally, customers in the Central Square area lost power, O'Malley. About two-thirds of the MIT campus suffered from the blackout, according to Thomas E. Shepherd Jr., Physical Plant's Associate Director of Engineering and Utilities. "It was generally to the west of Ames Street," Shepherd said. "I didn't hear of any damage to any equipment."

Firefighters and campus police responded to several emergency calls as a result of the power failure. The calls were a result of alarm systems sending false alarms.

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