Freshman Pass Math Diagnostic Exam

By Eva Moy

About three-fourths of the 1,131 freshmen who took the Pre-Calculus Math Diagnostic Exam had adequate performance or satisfactory performance with weaknesses in one area, according to Margaret S. Endres, assistant director of freshman support. The results are 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, Math, Page 7

Freshmen Take Writing Placement

By Eva Moy
dec 20 newsroom

Forty-one percent of the approximately 1,060 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 used to indicate writing ability, said Perelman. "The scoring was really precise," he added, reflecting on the many changes to the grading and grading systems.

Under the new grading system, two percent of the students were added, referring to the many changes to the reading and writing requirement.

The excessive overcrowding is in "fraternity rush has been slightly behind Sue for,"

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 "exhausted" 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 ten dormitory choices were denied.

"It bores me that we spent so much time looking around at all the dorms, and then you and I get our top choices," she said. "That really hurts." Wang said her roommate's father drove her MIT from New York to complain about the housing system as a whole. Now the plan to use posters to find students willing to trade housing assignments and move to Senior House.

Freshmen Dorm Crowding at 80%

By Garlyn C. Leung

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 crowded rooms in recent memory. "This figure may go higher," said Elliot S. Levitt '89, staff assistant for Residence and Campus Activities. He suggested that the Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs underestimates 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 the excessive overcrowding was that "fraternity rush has been slightly behind Sue for."

Most students satisfied

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Unofficial Dormitory Assignments

Dormitory 1991 1992
Baker 92 118
Brattle 26 26
Burton-Conner 120 116
East Campus 123 105
MacGraw 69 119
McComb 65 52
New House 71 64
Ransom 32 24
Senior House 51 45
500 Memorial 87 100

Overlap, Page 7

Freshmen Pass Math Diagnostic Exam

By Byron Rorenson

MIT validated 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 a 49-page decision, Judge Louise C. Bechtle refused MIT's argument 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 financial aid decisions constituted price-fixing and were therefore illegal, whether or not they raised prices for students of increased revenue for MIT.

MIT plans to appeal the decision, President Charles M. Vest announced yesterday. Vest said MIT would "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 standing up in a visible way ... for important principles.

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

Bechtle went on to say that the Overlap Group's meetings constituted price-fixing and were therefore detrimental to competition. The Overlap meetings "interfered with the natural functioning of the market-place by elevating students' ability to consider price differentials 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 ignored 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 noted that these considerations were irrelevant, saying that every university, with or without Overlap, is free to decide independendy any admission and financial aid policy it wishes. The noted that schools could maintain need-blind admission without Overlap if they were willing to restrict their budget 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.

Decision Concludes Three-Year Investigation

By Reuben M. Leiner

MIT took part with the Department of Justice began nearly three years ago, when the government began an investigation into allega-

tions 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, and 12 women's colleges and MIT said they would cooperate fully with investigators, who at the time released an article about their own group's efforts.

AI MIT, administrators compiled and submitted information on tuition, faculty and administrative salaries, and student financial aid.

James A. Cullen, vice president for financial operations, criteria such as "very large, very burdensome." The investigation, which focused on whether the schools had determined financial aid and tuition rates at a group, was thought to be the largest probe ever conducted by the Justice Department.

From the beginning, Overlap members 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 were submitted to the Department of Education in Washington, D.C., could not be released 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 list of 21 alumni classes had asked that their donations be put toward the cost of the case.

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

President Vest Promises Institute Will Appeal

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The Weather

Today: Clouding over, 79°F (26°C)

Tmitt: Rain showers, 65°F (18°C)

Tomorrow: Clouding, 77°F (25°C)

Details, Page 5

Thursday, September 3, 1992
Chinese police detained Harvard scholar Rosa Towell shortly after midnight Tuesday, then expelled him to Hong Kong for his involvement with the dissident former student leader Shen Tong.

Shen, the then exiled pro-democracy leader, is returning 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 Wednesday morning at a University of Southern California poli
tical late Wednesday evening, along with two other dissidents detained in the past two months, and Qin and Qi are the wives of exiled student leader Xiong Yan and his wife, respectively.

Shen's mother, Li Yixian, 51, said that she visited police offices Thursday in an attempt to see her son. "I said that I had the right to see Shen Tong, and that they had to let me tell him why he was being held," Li said. "The police ignored us. They refused to let me see Shen Tong, to tell me where he was being held 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-lance Paris correspondent who returned to Hong Kong after his Beijing arrest last month.

James Schutke, a writer and translator with Shen after his arrival in China a month ago.

Tuesday, a well-known author of books on China who is a research fellow at the Faultline Center for East Asia Research at Harvard University, is a friend of Shen and adviser to the Democracy for China.

He came to Beijing at Shen's request, he said. After University, is a friend of Shen and adviser to the Democracy for

Sunday night, and 7-15 mph (I11-24 kph). High 79°F (26°C). Low 60'F (16'C).

"If this continues, the gay-bashing, in the next few weeks, we'll have a people's movement," said Wilson, the gay-bashing, is the worst kind of masochism.

"It is an attack on our community. It is an attack on us," said Wilson, the gay-bashing, is the worst kind of masochism.

The practice of exposing people's sexual preferences has been one of the most controversial issues dividing the gay press. Several, the gay-bashing, is the worst kind of masochism.

The magazine nevertheless circulated pre-publication "in the interest of free thought," the gay-bashing, is the worst kind of masochism.

The results of the actual budget, on the other hand, will be felt by most of the state's 31 million people.

College-town fees will double and university fees increase significantly, causing a projected drop in enrollment of 200,000.

Welfare grants, among the high-
ticket, will be cut 5.5 percent and cannot be raised for four years.

Local governments will lose $1.3 billion in state aid, which prob

But in what may foretell a political battle 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 Administration's decision. Under an earli-

Although the virtual capitulation that he will sign on the dotted line was expected by many lawmakers, he had accepted in private conversations with the governor. He noted that the state had forced to sus
tain the guaranty giving education funds to the University of Florida over the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.

"There is the same kind of political pressure if we don't pro-
duce a budget," Brown said.

The public approval of Wilson during the current fiscal year had dropped by 15 percentage points and to 7 percent for the Legislature. Brown has said that most incumbent legislators will survive public disillusionment amid the threat that two-thirds of them may have their chance in three years to win control of the Assembly.

Cheney Defends Rebuilding

By Melissa Healy

Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney Wednesday defended the proposed rebuilding of Homestead Air Force Base in hurricane-mangled southwest Florida.

Homestead is based on strictly military grounds.

Cheney, who regularly chides lawmakers for using the Pentagon's budget fund to local "jobs pro-

Additional members of the military community, however, have charged that President Bush's deci-
sion is the result of election-year politics.

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

By Amy Wallace and Charles Babington

By Bill McIntire

LOS ANGELES

Bill Clinton’s draft status — an issue the Arkansas governor hoped to put to rest last week — flared anew Wednesday with Republicans charging that the Democratic presidential nominee failed to fully explain how he 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 his service being induction. Until that account was published, Clinton’s only public encounter with military recruiters was his short-lived agreement to join an Army ROTC unit as the University of Arkansas. He never attended the university and was not ejected from the arrangement after he drew a number in a draft lottery that made him unlikely to be drafted.

Campaigning in Maryland Wednesday, Clinton was asked 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,” Clinton said before appearing in Montgomery County.

In Little Rock, campaign aides said later that Clinton was surprised by the account 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 at a Rhodes scholar in England, had found “nothing to indicate he had any knowledge of it.”

“Mrs. 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, who 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 avoided military service during the Vietnam era, insisting that now say that Bill Clinton did not 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 every single last one of them. Bill Clinton is going to have to answer these questions, too.”

In an article in Los Angeles Times, 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.

### Issue of Clinton’s Vietnam Draft Record Flares Up Again

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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 suited me more than hearing that one of your staff called my ILL 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 hall-committee investigations. 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.

Markusen A. Solom '90

The Tech, September 3, 1992

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The Tech, printed in a distinctive format, is 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.

Letters, 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 opinions 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 editor in chief. 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 printed anonymously. Without the express prior approval of The Tech, letters and cartoons are forbidden to publish the editor to condense letters. Shorter letters will be given higher priority. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.

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**THE ARTS**

**Astonishing Twin Peaks confuses all but true fans**

**TWIN PEAKS: FIRE WALK WITH ME**

By Deborah A. Leonson

Three years after it opened, Twin Peaks is still confounding the audience and confounding the critics. The result — an improbable ending and a murky pool of mysteries — created more questions than it answered, and so discouraged all but the most devoted series watchers. The result is an astonishing movie in every sense of the word.

By Paula Cuccurullo

Paul Weller hopes for new audience with solo effort

Paul Weller
Go! Discs America.

By Paola Caccarulli

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 Sham (fiancée of Weller’s wife Dee C. Lee). The lyrics are more introspective than on much of Weller’s previous work.

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

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 nice David Bowie’s character plays in the tangled “Twin Peaks” web. Only devoted series watchers will remember that Mrs. Tremond and her eerie, magic-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 be 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 person.

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 in Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me. If you don’t know what is going on, you will be, right after the early scene where Gordon Cole uses a dancer to discuss the investigation into Teresa Banks’ death — in person.

The film opens in the aftermath of the murder of Teresa Banks, one year before Laura Palmer’s death. Two FBI agents, Chester Desmond (Walter Bobbie) and Sam Starke (Kyle Sutherland), head to Deer Meadow, Wash., to investigate. There they discover a series of strange clues — a missing ring, a missing trucker, and the letter “T” forged 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 had to his boss, Gordon Cole (David Lynch) and fellow agent Albert Rosenfield (Miguel Ferrer). The dream involves the murder of a beautiful, blood, 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, sexually active high-school girl (Laura Palmer, and Cole) 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.

Laura Palmer’s first band, but they were beloved by the public and enjoyed audience singalongs; he seemed surprised at how much of the audience knew 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 now 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 shortly, extension of his tour through Britain, hoping to appear in the Greater Boston area sometime in November or December.
“Sexual Positions”

In Kresge Auditorium

5pm

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and at 6:00 pm for Worship in the Chapel.

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Sept. 6, Lasagna Dinner at 6:00 pm, 312 Mem. Dr.;
Sept. 13, “Find a Church” Continental Breakfast,
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Rape 101

When does a date become a crime?

This space donated by The Tech

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(i.e., lenses and frames)
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 Overparty 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 not continue to collaborate or conspire on financial aid." The schools also agreed "not to disclose to any 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.

Freshmen Receive Results of Math Test

Writing, from Page 1

are 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 36.6 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 of previous years.

The results were better than I expected," Friedman said. "I was pleased with the results overall. I think most students took the math diagnostic seriously, I think."

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 rewarded by the test 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 1000 points of 18.01, according to Friedman.

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

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