

It's Hard Not to Find a HASS-D Subject or Two

By Jeremy Hylton
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Information Office fills up at the beginning of each term. It is not unusual to find 15 people crowding into the room, which is smaller than some professors' offices, trying to find classes or complete petitions.

Bette K. Davis, HASS Office coordinator, helps students find classes to fulfill the HASS Distribution requirements. "I remember one student who was here last week whose schedule was so restrictive. The only time of the week she had free was Tuesday and Thursday afternoons," she recalled.

"We found the subjects that met during those times when she was free, and three were still open, and she said she just wasn't interested in them," Davis said. The student left without finding a class.

The fear of not finding a HASS-D class — particularly the fear of being "bumped" from an oversubscribed class in a lottery — is shared by all students. Surprisingly, cases like the one above are rare.

"That's really more the exception," Davis explained. "Generally, we are able to find something that fits the students schedule."

Without question, there are many students who do not get a space in their preferred HASS-D class, but that does not mean there are few HASS-D spaces available. There are a few classes with very high pre-registration enrollments — like Introduction to Fiction (21.003) and Writing and Reading the Essay (21.735) — and many classes with lower enrollments.

Because enrollment in HASS-D classes is limited to 25 students per section, lotteries are held to "bump" the extra students. Bumped students are forced to find other classes or wait until the next time the class is offered, when they are guaranteed a place.

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Thurrow Steps Down at Sloan

By Brian Rosenberg
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Lester C. Thurrow, dean of the Sloan School of Management since 1987, announced Monday that he will resign effective July 1.

Provost Mark S. Wrighton said Thurrow informed him and President Charles M. Vest of his decision to resign at the end of last week. Wrighton said Thurrow's decision did not surprise him. "When I became provost, he indicated that he had promised only five years of his life to the post [of dean], and this summer would have begun his sixth year."

"Certainly I would have liked for him to stay longer, but I understand that only so much of one's career can be dedicated to administration," Wrighton added.

Wrighton said he is beginning to review names of possible members of the committee that will choose Thurrow's successor. He said that while the committee will be largely made up of faculty members, he hopes to "have some student input as well."

Vest, Wrighton Praise Work

Both Vest and Wrighton lavished praise on Thurrow's work as dean. "Under his leadership the

school has developed extensive international activities consistent with the globalization of business."

"Through the Leaders for Manufacturing Program, he has led the school to reconceptualize much of management education for the decades ahead... He has been extraordinarily effective in his communications to business and policy leaders and the broader public," Wrighton continued.

Wrighton said Thurrow was "exemplary in bringing diversity to the Sloan faculty, attracting many fine women and men to join its ranks. Under Dean Thurrow's leadership, the Sloan School has launched initiatives in internationalization in Singapore, Taiwan, and Europe."

"Most recently, Dean Thurrow has been a key contributor in developing new plans for expansion of facilities. He has been a wonderful contributor, and incredibly energetic in Academic Council. I credit him with a lot of good," Wrighton said.

Thurrow was out of town earlier this week and could not be reached for comment. *Tech Talk* reported that he plans to take a sabbatical year to "climb one more mountain," after which he will return to the Sloan faculty.



Lester C. Thurrow

Thurrow has written several books, including *Head to Head: Coming Economic Battles Among Japan, Europe, and America* (1992), *The Zero-Sum Solution: Building a World-Class American Economy* (1985), *Dangerous Currents: The State of Economics* (1983), and *The Zero-Sum Society* (1980).

Sloan students expressed a vari-

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Loan Defaulter Sues MIT, Citing Overlap

By Jackson Jung

An alleged loan defaulter has filed suit claiming that MIT and several of its employees broke the law in processing his loan repayment. David A. Hoicka '77 is charging the Institute on 16 counts, including violations of antitrust, racketeering, and fair dealing laws, and intentional infliction of distress.

Hoicka filed the charges after MIT sued to force him to repay his loans. He is also counter-suing MIT on behalf of present and former

MIT students who have applied for financial aid. Hoicka, an attorney, is representing himself in the case.

Hoicka cites a September ruling by a federal court judge that MIT and 22 other universities, called the Overlap Group, colluded to set financial aid awards. The court concluded that as a result of the Overlap Group's meetings, students received less financial aid than they would have otherwise. MIT is currently appealing the Overlap deci-

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UA Plans 2nd Life Fee Referendum

By Eric Richard
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

In the upcoming Undergraduate Association elections, students will once again have the chance to voice their opinion on a student life fee. If approved, the fee would appear as a line item on the bursar's bill and would earmark funds specifically for student activities.

The newest referendum comes after a disappointing turnout in a similar referendum last April. At that time, only 15 percent of the student population cast votes, although 78.5 percent of those voting did favor the measure. According to Raajnish A. Chitale '95, UA floor leader, "Our original feeling was that the turnout was not significant enough to mandate the change."

Chitale hopes that by presenting the referendum during the regular elections for UA officers, more students will vote on the fee. Turnout for UA elections averages 30 percent, he said. He explained that the referendum would ask whether students find the proposal acceptable, although it would not be binding.

If the referendum is passed, the UA would hold a meeting to discuss the amount of the fee and then hold a second referendum to actually enact it. In its final form, the fee would change the way in which money is allocated for student activities.TM

The activities "are part of the whole budgetary process at MIT. We have to compete [for funding]

with the physics department, the Laboratory for Computer Science, and the Sloan school," said Chitale. Under the proposed system, "We [wouldn't] have to compete for the money out of the tuition."

"What I would envision," said Matthew S. Warren '93, chairman of the UA Financial Board, "is that there is this great vast resource of UA money... with the intent of benefiting all students."

Other Schools Have Fee

Warren cited several other schools, including Wellesley College, which have smaller student activity programs but have pools of money specifically allocated for stu-

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8 Hyundais Broken Into

By Eva Moy
NEWS EDITOR

Eight Hyundai motor vehicles were broken into between Jan. 1 and Feb. 9, according to a bulletin distributed by the Campus Police. The incidents occurred in parking facilities across campus. Most of the break-ins happened during the day.

Six of the eight vehicles had their stereos stolen. The other two were only vandalized, said Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin. The burglars broke into the vehicles through the vent windows.

"Sometimes there's a particular attraction to a particular [automobile] model" for some reason, such as its value and attractiveness, Glavin said.

In comparison, between Jan. 1 and Feb. 5, 20 cars were broken into and three were reported stolen, according to Campus Police Sergeant Cheryl Vossmer.

On Jan. 21 Campus Police and state police arrested three individuals on Memorial Drive for breaking and entering and attempted larceny of a Hyundai, Glavin said. The three were taken into custody by state

police. None of them were affiliated with MIT, she added.

Increased security measures planned

Campus Police erected a new fence around the Westgate parking lot and instituted plainclothes officers, in response to a rash of auto thefts and break-ins last November. Fences will be built around other parking sites pending the success of Westgate's fence.

In addition, the Campus Police are currently working out the technical aspects of a program with the Department of Housing and Food Services. They are working to create one card to be used for identification, the purchase of meals, entry into dormitories, and entry into parking facilities.

The number of stolen vehicles has risen significantly in the past few years, according to the 1991 Campus Police annual report. In the report, statistics show that the number of motor vehicle thefts has increased from 21 in 1985 to 66 in 1991



WORLD & NATION

NASA Space Station Budget May Be Slashed

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Clinton's new budget will cut funding for NASA's planned space station by 40 percent, triggering yet another major restructuring of the project and more delays, sources said Thursday.

Key Capitol Hill aides and others close to the program said the White House had approved \$1.35 billion for program in the next fiscal year, instead of the \$2.25 billion NASA requested. White House officials would neither confirm nor deny those figures.

But Clinton, meeting at the White House with Democratic congressional leaders, said that although he supported the space station during his campaign, he was troubled by the massive cost overruns associated with the project. According to one member, "He said he would have a very difficult time coming before Congress and asking for more money because of cost overruns."

Sources said the arrangement, being referred to as "the 60 percent solution," was reached in talks this week between NASA administrator Daniel Goldin and White House economic officials as away to fend off threatened termination of the project. Some said that Goldin's assurances that the agency could build a space station at that price have boosted his chances of staying on as administrator.

Prosecutor So Popular, Even Rap Has Taken to Her

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

In choosing Janet Reno as the nation's first female attorney general, President Clinton Thursday selected a tough, battle-scarred Miami prosecutor with a demanding style and a track record of turning the most ardent political critics into loyal allies and friends.

An imposing 6-foot-2-inch workaholic who has been known to take her sleeping bag to the office, Reno was described by friends and colleagues Thursday as a public official of ramrod integrity who has 15 years prosecuting the tidal wave of homicides, drug smuggling and violent street crimes that has inundated Dade County, Florida. In that sense, her resume is far different from that of Zoe E. Baird, the corporate lawyer who was Clinton's first choice to be attorney general.

But Reno's most striking attribute, many of them said, is her shrewd political skill — an asset that has enabled the 54-year-old Harvard Law School graduate to repeatedly win lopsided elections with substantial support among Miami's diverse ethnic communities.

"Janet Reno is the most accessible political figure in the state of Florida," said H.T. Smith, a prominent black Miami lawyer who was once one of her most vocal critics. "She returns every phone call. She's all over the community. People feel if they have a problem, they can speak to her. ... I was one of her strongest critics, and in the past 12 years, she's convinced me she's honest to the fault, that race and sex played no part her prosecutorial and employment decisions."

As Smith's comments suggest, Reno has been no stranger to controversy. She has been attacked for failing to vigorously pursue public corruption, bungling high-profile cases and sloppy management of the Dade County state attorney's office — a 238-lawyer, \$33 million-a-year unit that is one of the largest in the country.

Her relationship with the black community was strained for years by charges that she turned a blind eye to allegations of police brutality and was slow in hiring and promoting minorities.

These charges reached a climax in 1980 when four white Miami police officers were acquitted of charges that they beat to death with metal flashlights a black insurance man, Arthur McDuffie, during a traffic stop. The verdict touched off three days of rioting in downtown Miami with angry rioters shouting "Reno! Reno! Reno!" outside her office.

But in the years since, Reno has ardently "worked" the black community — speaking at black churches and civic groups, extensively recruiting blacks and other minorities, and marching every year in an annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade, where she is now loudly cheered.

WEATHER

Slushy Icy Mess

By Yeh-Kai Tung
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A strong system will move through our area over the weekend, bringing large amounts of precipitation.

It will start as freezing rain, but the warm air associated with the system will cause the precipitation to change over to rain. However, as temperatures fall Friday night into early Saturday morning, the rain will change back to freezing rain or snow in some inland sections.

Warmer temperatures during the day on Saturday should melt most of the frozen precipitation, but colder temperatures on Sunday will cause widespread freezing.

Friday. Overcast with precipitation starting in the afternoon. Any freezing rain will change over to rain late in the afternoon. Easterly winds 10-15 mph (16-24 kph). High 35° F (2° C).

Friday night. Rain becoming heavier with easterly winds picking up to 15-20 mph (24-32 kph). Some of the rain may change back to freezing precipitation in the early morning hours, particularly over inland sections. Low 33° F (1° C).

Saturday. Rain ending by evening. High 44° F (7° C). Low 30° F (-1° C).

Sunday. Overcast and turning colder. High 35° F (2° C).

Woman Chosen as Attorney General

By Ruth Marcus
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Clinton Thursday named veteran Miami prosecutor Janet Reno to be his attorney general, selecting a woman he described as "a front-line crime fighter" of "unquestioned integrity" to fill the vacancy that has plagued the first three weeks of his administration.

Announcing his nomination in a Rose Garden ceremony, Clinton said his selection had been guided "somewhat, but not entirely" by the desire to name the first female attorney general. Clinton said the position "was not set aside" for a woman and that he "seriously considered" at least four men for the job. But he said that he "thought it would be a good and an interesting thing to do" to name a woman to the position and said that if he had it to do over again, "I would have called Janet Reno on November the 5th."

In December, Clinton nominated corporate lawyer Zoe E. Baird, who was forced to withdraw because she had violated immigration and tax laws in hiring illegal immigrants. He was poised to name federal judge Kimba M. Wood before she withdrew last week after the disclosure that she had also employed an illegal immigrant to care for her child.

Reno, who is not married and has no children, said, "I've never hired an illegal alien and I think I've paid all my Social Security taxes," adding with a smile, "Certainly in the vetting process in the last week, we've covered everything." An administration official said Clinton decided Thursday morning to name Reno, after interviewing her Tuesday.

The Florida native, 54, turned aside a question about how she felt about being appointed to a position that was seen as having been

reserved for a woman, saying simply, "I'm just delighted to be here and I'm going to try my level best."

She said her efforts would include "restoring civil rights enforcement as one of the top priorities of the department," seeking "to protect America's children from abuse and violence" and establishing "diversion programs" to give nonviolent offenders "a new start" while incarcerating dangerous and career criminals.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Joseph R. Biden Jr., D-Del., said he welcomed the nomination and would schedule a hearing

day — and worked to cement good relations with the black and Hispanic communities in Miami. She pushed for a special court to handle drug cases, cracked down on parents who fail to pay child support and presided over the expansion of the county prosecutor's office into one of the largest in the country.

Noting that Reno's phone number is listed — unusual for a prosecutor — Clinton said, "She has lived the kind of life in real contact with the toughest problems of this country that I think will serve her very well as the nation's chief law enforcement officer."

"I've never hired an illegal alien and I think I've paid all my Social Security taxes."

Janet Reno

"as expeditiously as possible." But committee sources said they did not expect a hearing before next month.

Reno, who once "swore I would never be a prosecutor because I thought they were more interested in securing convictions than in seeking justice," has been the elected chief prosecutor in Dade County since 1978. She supervises a 900-person office that handles more than 120,000 cases annually.

Reno's start in the job was marred by riots that broke out after the 1979 acquittal of five police officers in the beating death of black insurance agent Arthur McDuffie. She has also been criticized for losing several high-profile public corruption cases and for failing to bring charges in other local scandals.

But after her appointment to the position, she waged five successful campaigns for the job — a fact noted admiringly by Clinton Thurs-

Before becoming state attorney, Reno was a partner in a prestigious Miami firm that, she noted in a 1984 book on women lawyers, had first refused to hire her after she graduated from Harvard Law School in 1963 because she was a woman.

Speaking to reporters after the announcement, Reno offered forthright answers that contrasted with Baird's reticence when Clinton nominated her to the position Dec. 24. She said she was "personally opposed" to the death penalty but "probably asked for it as much as any prosecutor in the country" and "will advocate for it as the law of the land in particular situations."

She described herself as "pro-choice" on abortion rights and — asked if she considers herself a feminist — said, "My mother always told me to do my best, to think my best and to do right, and to consider myself a person."

Pentagon, Budget Office May Battle In Wake of White House Budget Plan

By John Lancaster
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Washington has been all but snowed under by policy reports on how to reshape the nation's post-Cold War military, but the latest offering from the Defense Budget Project is cause for special interest: This one was prepared under the supervision of Gordon Adams, who since has left the nonprofit organization for a top-level budget post in the Clinton administration.

The document, moreover, calls for substantially larger defense cuts than President Clinton and his defense secretary, Les Aspin, have proposed.

The report recommends, for example, cutting the size of the armed forces to 1.2 million uniformed personnel by 1997, 200,000 fewer than Aspin's plan — and 400,000 fewer than what the Bush administration had planned.

Adams did not personally write the report, which is due to be released Friday, and he did not return a phone call Thursday seeking comment on it. Nevertheless, the document does suggest a potential conflict between the Pentagon and the Office of Management and Budget, where Adams is now ensconced as the program associate director for national security.

OMB's program associate directors, or "PADs," traditionally have exercised great influence over administration spending priorities. Adams, a pugnacious former academic who founded the Defense Budget Project in 1983, is well-versed in the intricacies of the Pentagon budget process and is not expected to shy away from expressing his views

inside the new administration.

"I won't deny that Gordon Adams had directorial control over our research," said Paul Taibl, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel and analyst at the organization who is one of the report's two authors. "We've talked about this for the better part of a year."

The main thrust of the report is that the Pentagon cannot hope to pay for all the weapons currently in

House Armed Services Committee.

Aspin's proposal called for a post-Cold War force structure of 1.4 million uniformed personnel, 15 active-duty and reserve Army divisions, three active and reserve Marine Corps divisions, 18 Air Force "fighter-wing equivalents" and 12 aircraft carriers, among other benchmarks.

The Defense Budget Project concludes that the nation could ade-

"You have to take into account the availability of resources. If you plan a force without taking into account funding levels, you're planning in a fantasy world."

Steven M. Kozniak

the procurement "pipeline" without substantially greater cuts in force structure.

In a conclusion that few are likely to dispute, the report forecasts that defense budgets will continue to shrink and calls on the Pentagon to plan a post-Cold War military that will be "sustainable" over the long term.

"You have to take into account the availability of resources," said Steven M. Kozniak, co-author of the report. "If you plan a force without taking into account funding levels, you're planning in a fantasy world."

The report is explicitly critical of the Bush administration's plan for a "base force" of 1.6 million uniformed men and women, down from the current level of 1.8 million, calling it "unaffordable over the long run." But the report also questions the plan developed by Aspin last year when he was chairman of the

quately safeguard its interests with a force of 1.2 million uniformed personnel, 11 active-duty and reserve Army divisions, four Marine Corps divisions and 10 aircraft carriers. The plan would save \$90 billion in defense spending by 1997, compared with roughly \$60 billion under the Aspin — and now Clinton — version.

Given its origins, the report is certain to be used by those on Capitol Hill who have begun to argue that the Clinton administration needs to take a bigger bite out of defense than it has so far seemed willing to swallow.

Aspin, in a speech Thursday, pronounced himself open to all reasonable proposals. "We need to look at the world again," Aspin said. "Every time you turn around, something new is happening, and you've got to take another look."

Clinton's Plan Includes Tax Raises for Individuals, Firms

By David Lauter
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Saying that the nation faces a crisis that could undermine future living standards, President Clinton flatly told an audience of business leaders Thursday the economic package he plans to offer next week will raise taxes for both individuals and corporations.

Clinton has walked around the subject of tax increases rhetorically for weeks. But in the last few days, with next week's economic speech fast approaching, he has moved steadily closer to confirming widespread reports that broad tax increases are in the offing.

He conceded to an audience during his televised town meeting Wednesday that, "I cannot tell you that I won't ask you to make any contribution."

Thursday, his language was more direct.

"I will ask for an increase, as I said in the campaign, on the income tax of the wealthiest Americans and corporations," Clinton said, adding that because the deficit has worsened, "we may have to broaden the range of revenues which we seek" to include taxes on other people as well.

More indications came from House Majority Leader Richard A. Gephardt, D-Mo., who emerged after a two-hour meeting between the president and House Democrats Thursday to talk about tax increases.

"The people who will pay the most are those who have the greatest ability to pay the most — the ones who benefited the most in the 1980s," Gephardt said. "But I think everybody in the society will be asked to make a proportionate con-

tribution for the good of the whole."

Rep. Eliot L. Engel, D-N.Y., described Clinton's message as "short-term gain for long-term viability of the country," while Rep. Donald M. Payne, D-N.J., added: "He (Clinton) told us we're going to have to take some tough hits."

Gephardt said he believes most Democrats and some Republicans will support the president's economic package without major changes. Rep. Jim Slattery, D-Kan., added: "This may be tough, this may be hard — but we're going to do it."

Clinton pledged to the business leaders that his economic plan will include cuts in federal spending that will be "real, definable and measurable, not imaginary." Aides conceded, however, that the administration will not follow through on an earlier statement by budget director Leon E. Panetta that spending cuts would form two-thirds of the deficit reduction package.

Aides said the president has not made a final decision on how large a deficit cut to seek. But they have sent clear signals that the reduction will be less than the \$145 billion Clinton forecast earlier this year. That goal, in turn, was less than his campaign pledge to "cut the deficit in half."

The deficit cuts will be "very significant and very real" and will be large enough to reassure the public and financial markets that the president is serious about cutting the government's red ink, Clinton economic aide Gene Sperling said. But, he added, "the markets aren't going to care about a specific number. What they care about is that it's real" and that the deficit is "heading in the right direction."

Even a goal less dramatic than a \$145 billion cut will require politically difficult measures, however. Clinton admitted as much in his speech, saying the economic package will cause "pain." But he quickly added that "the short-term pain of making changes now is so much less than the long-term costs of continuing to do things the way we're doing them."

"If we don't reform our economic policies, I'm convinced eventually we will fall further and further behind. Ten years from now we won't even recognize the country that we all grew up in."

Those sharply worded warnings are a foretaste of the rhetoric Clinton likely will use in next week's speech as he and his aides try to convince Americans to accept tax increases on the grounds that the alternatives are far worse.

"Americans are at their best answering alarm bells in the night but I think every one of you know that today we face a crisis which, while quieter, is every bit as profound as those we have faced in our past," Clinton said. "I want to reduce this deficit, not as an end in itself, but because I think it is a critical part of a strategy to build jobs and growth for America today and over the long run."

In part to convince Americans that the deficit outlook is much worse than he anticipated during last year's campaign, Clinton will use much higher deficit forecasts than either the Bush administration or Congress published before. The higher deficit projections also will be an important element in his campaign to convince key constituencies that they need to accept higher

Pipeline Blasted Again, Leaving Armenia Dark and Freezing

By Richard Boudreaux
LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

A gas pipeline supplying the only fuel to Armenia exploded again Thursday, forcing the besieged republic to shiver through a fierce snowstorm without heat or light.

The Armenian government said the 4 a.m. blast tore a 6-foot gap in the newly repaired pipeline in the same mountainous region of neighboring Georgia where the pipe blew up Jan. 23. Saboteurs trying to tighten a wartime blockade of Armenia were suspected in both acts.

Reacting to the first incident, Armenian forces backed by warplanes and heavy artillery launched a major offensive last Friday in their undeclared war against Azerbaijan, seizing 11 settlements in the disputed mountain enclave of Nagorno Karabakh.

Azerbaijan, which claimed to have recaptured at least three settlements in a counterattack, accused Armenians of planting a bomb that crippled one of its rail lines Monday. Armenia in turn blamed Azerbaijanis shelling for killing nine

civilians Wednesday, the latest of about 2,500 deaths in five years of bloodshed.

Fighting between the former Soviet republics has plunged Armenia's 3.4 million people into three straight winters of miserable fuel shortages. In this harshest of winters, schools are closed, hospitals and maternity wards are without heat, bread is rationed and prices are soaring. Forests and city parks are being stripped bare for firewood.

In Yerevan, the capital, where feeble gas pressure had returned to homes just two days ago and electricity was back on for an hour or two a day, people woke up in 10-degree cold Thursday with neither. The city's alreadycrippled subway trains shut down completely, as did electrically pumped water supplies and most telephones.

"There's no electricity; we're back to the same old story," said Gassia Apkarian, director of the Armenian Assembly of America, reached by telephone in Yerevan. "It's depressing. ... What people are saying is that this is going to take three days to fix. But what guarantee do we have that they're not

going to do it again?"

The pipeline blew up both times in Mameul, a Georgian region inhabited mostly by immigrants from Azerbaijan. Police there arrested three Azerbaijanis for the first bombing but said that they had no information on the second. Armenian officials said Thursday's explosion blew away a segment of pipe installed Jan. 31 as a temporary replacement for the line damaged earlier.

Mobile engineering crews from Armenia have now been stationed permanently in Georgia, on alert to go repair the pipeline at short notice.

Armenia, a predominantly Christian nation surrounded by hostile or indifferent neighbors, imports 95 percent of its fuel. Until a year and a half ago, most of it arrived through Azerbaijan. Then Azerbaijan, in a wartime act, shut down a gas pipeline on its territory.

That forced Armenia to rely exclusively on Russian gas piped through Georgia, supplies increasingly threatened by civil war and banditry in that country. Armenia's other neighbors are Turkey, a historic enemy, and Iran, a Muslim ally

Deng Completes Major Army Purge

By Lena H. Sun
THE WASHINGTON POST

BEIJING

Senior leader Deng Xiaoping has completed an extensive purge of China's military and will reshuffle key government posts next month in what may be his final bid to ensure that his legacy endures, according to Chinese and Western analysts.

In one of the biggest shakeups in the history of the People's Liberation Army, Deng has stripped his longtime comrade-in-arms, President Yang Shangkun, and the president's half-brother, Gen. Yang Baibing, of their control of the military, and sidelined more than half of China's generals because they were

believed to be loyal to the Yangs.

Chinese sources said the moves were aimed at preventing the Yangs from enlarging their power base through the military — a major player in past power struggles.

The changes, Chinese sources said, stem from one basic consideration: Deng turns 89 in August. Although he holds no official titles, he remains China's paramount leader. Deng, these sources said, does not want any one person or institution to challenge him or his place in history in the same way that he has dismantled the Marxist legacy of the late chairman Mao Zedong over the last 14 years and replaced it with capitalist-style reforms.

"Deng knows that only Yang Shangkun could be an all-powerful person after he dies," said one Chinese source with ties to the military. Like Deng, Yang, 85, is one of the few remaining veterans of the historic Long March of 1934-35, which saved the fledgling Communist army.

But Deng's latest maneuvers also highlight the main source for instability in China and what continues to be his biggest personal failing. Like Mao before him, Deng will leave no ready-made strong successor. As a result, some analysts say, the personnel changes will hasten the power struggle expected among the current collective leadership after Deng's death.

Relief Workers, U.S. Officials Call Southern Sudan 'Another Somalia'

THE WASHINGTON POST

NAIROBI, KENYA

In this continent's seemingly endless cycle of civil war and famine, relief workers, U.S. officials and others are calling strife-torn southern Sudan "another Somalia."

Television pictures emerging from southern Sudan are eerily similar to the images that six months ago made Somali towns like Baidoba and Baardheere synonymous with mass starvation — there are the emaciated people, the stick-like limbs, the hollow eyes of the malnourished children.

The stories being recounted about southern Sudan by recent visitors also echo the horrors once heard about Somalia — hundreds of thousands of people in desperate need of food, and relief assistance blocked by senseless warfare and violence. Once-thriving villages have become ghost towns. Other villages have swelled tenfold with refugees fleeing a decade-long, brutal civil war. Hospitals are clogged with innocent victims — mostly women, children, the elderly.

And as with Somalia last fall, voices are being raised calling for a large-scale foreign intervention to stop the Sudanese people's suffering.

"The Clinton administration has to deal with this issue quickly," said Rep. Frank R. Wolf, R-Va., a member of the Select Committee on Hunger, who visited parts of southern Sudan this week. "There is no place in Africa now that is more critical in terms of famine. ... You've probably lost more people there (in southern Sudan) than you have in Somalia."

Earlier this week, Jim Kunder, head of the U.S. Agency for International Development's office of foreign disaster assistance, called southern Sudan "the most silent of the major humanitarian crises around the world today."

Key differences between Somalia and southern Sudan make the Sudanese case seem at once more intractable and more easily forgotten. For one, the war in Sudan has raged largely hidden from view for a decade, pitting the hard-line Moslem fundamentalist military government in Khartoum against black Christians and animists who make up most of the population of the south and are fighting for autonomy.

"It's a very different situation" from the war that devastated Somalia, said Robert Hadley, information officer for the United Nations' Operation Lifeline Sudan, which has been working to provide relief to the area since 1989. "Somalia collapsed very quickly, and it was a central-government collapse," occasioned by the ouster of longtime strongman Mohamed Siad Barre in January 1991. Sudan, Hadley said, is "not collapsing from the top down."

According to Hadley and other reliable accounts, Khartoum has relentlessly bombed civilian population centers in the south, usually with old Soviet-made cargo planes flying at 12,000 feet or higher over rebel-held areas and dropping 500-pound bombs out the back cargo hatch. "It's very ineffective, and it's very, very messy," said Hadley. "It's a very, very brutal weapon."

Wolf said he visited the village of Kajo Kaji near the Ugandan border, which had been the target of recent bombing. The congressman said he saw 10 bomb craters in the village. He also said he found old people and women in hospitals suffering from shrapnel wounds. Wolf last visited southern Sudan in 1988 and '89, and said now, "This thing is going down. The people are very demoralized."

Unlike Somalia, an established relief operation has operated for years inside southern Sudan. In addition to the U.N. operation that includes World Food Program flights, several private relief organizations have been working in the region. But the humanitarian efforts have been hampered by the fighting, and both the Khartoum government and the southern rebels have forced relief agencies to negotiate areas of access.

Yeltsin, Parliament Speaker Fail To Agree On Dividing Political Power

THE WASHINGTON POST

MOSCOW

Russian President Boris Yeltsin and parliament speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov held talks Thursday night on resolving a constitutional dispute, but failed to reach agreement on how to divide political power.

The one-hour Kremlin session was the first substantive meeting between Russia's two most powerful politicians since a showdown last December. It followed a call by Yeltsin for a political truce that would freeze the present balance of power between the executive and legislative branches and postpone a referendum on constitutional reform scheduled for April 11.

Presidential spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov later said preparations for the referendum will continue, along with a search for a compromise. Two meetings between Yeltsin and Khasbulatov have been scheduled for next week.

The president's advisers appear to be split on whether to push ahead with the referendum, which Yeltsin had hoped would give voters a chance to choose between a presidential and a parliamentary form of government. Some contend the referendum is essential to put an end to the power struggle with the conservative-dominated parliament. Others fear it will exacerbate the political tensions caused by a worsening economy.

A politician who owes his power to his ability to manipulate parliament, Khasbulatov has succeeded in chipping away at Yeltsin's authority over the past year even though his own popularity in the country is negligible. He stunned Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt at a meeting this month by declaring that the president was not "up to the job" and should give up much of his power to the parliament.

Before Thursday's Kremlin session, which was attended by Constitutional Court Chairman Valery Zorkin, Yeltsin told reporters it was necessary to avert a political crisis that had the potential of "blowing up the country." He called for a "moratorium on all fist-fights" in 1993, but said the "people" would have the decisive word if he and Khasbulatov were unable to reach agreement.

In exchange for dropping the idea of a referendum, Yeltsin has proposed holding parliamentary elections in 1994 and presidential elections in 1995, a year early. Khasbulatov has demanded simultaneous elections for both branches in 1994 and wants to strengthen the legislature.

OPINION

New lottery policy unfair to seniors

With the beginning of each semester come the inevitable lotteries for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Distribution classes. The 25-student per HASS-D class limit makes these lotteries necessary, despite the fact that they keep schedules in flux long after Registration Day and sometimes leave students with-

Editorial

out a humanities class in their schedule. They also disappoint students who get lotteried out of classes they had been looking forward to taking.

In the past, these ills were mitigated by the prospect of senior priority. By exempting them from the lottery, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences recognized that seniors cannot afford to get lotteried out of a class — by the time it is offered again, they will have graduated.

This year the administration eliminated senior priority from HASS-D lotteries — a misguided policy that may have dramatic consequences. Many members of the class of 1993 have waited until this year to take certain oversubscribed HASS classes in the belief that they would be guaranteed to get in. Now these

students may find themselves taking humanities classes they have no interest in because their names came out of the hat at the wrong time and their tight schedules leave them with few options. Even worse, these seniors may collide with the inflexibility of their remaining graduation requirements and be unable to fit any HASS-Ds into their schedules at all, preventing them from graduating on time.

The way in which the policy change took place is particularly disturbing for members of the classes of 1993 and 1994. These students have spent the majority of their time here planning their schedules and choosing classes based on the notion that they would have lottery priority in their senior year, only to have this security torn away with absolutely no warning. Had they known in advance, perhaps they could have planned their schedules better to insure that they could take a particular popular class. Instead, they got the worst of both worlds — kept out of popular classes in the past by seniors who then had priority, and kept out now because they don't have the same privilege.

Letters To The Editor

Tech Editors Should Learn Economics

The Feb. 5 issue of *The Tech* reported that "the economy only recently emerged from a long downspiral." In fact, the economy has been growing for the last seven quarters. It is

therefore not entirely surprising that "students continued to receive many interviews and job offers over the last year."

What would seem to be merely a statistical mistake is compounded by the article's headline: "Despite Recession, Students Find Jobs." The standard definition of a recession in the United States is a prolonged decline in gross

national product; in light of all established statistics, this headline seems quite irresponsible.

It seems ironic that at MIT, whose economics department is often considered the world's most outstanding, the staff and editors of *The Tech* cannot discriminate between growth and recession.

Avik S. Roy '93

Powell's Decision to Leave Seems Selfish

Column by Matthew H. Hersch
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

If there's one thing that all really screwed-up countries have in common it is the involvement of the national professional military in domestic political affairs. Communist China, modern Haiti, pre-civil war Spain, and France have all had this mark of distinction, and in each of these countries, the empowered military has always done more damage than the civilian order it tried to supplant.

Granted, sometimes the military only intervenes in politics because of civilian troubles or social strife, but even when the military enters the political scene for all the right reasons, its influence is never helpful. Not only are soldiers prone to totalitarianism, but their rise to power sets a bad precedent for future government, an example rife with coup d'états, conspiracies, human rights abuses, and indifference to the popular will.

Fortunately, America, a state with a deep anti-military tradition, has little to fear from its professional military. The U.S. has nasty enemies and the military has no desire to run country, so it is tolerated to an extent that would have had our founding fathers screaming for revolution.

Some American military thinkers, though, may bristle at the thought that they are ultimately at the mercy of civilian decision-makers. The soldiers, in all fairness, however, get plenty in return. In exchange for a secondary role in government, soldiers receive a degree of job security unheard of in other stable societies.

In states with an over-politicized military, the officer corps is shuffled with each change in civilian government. American military professionals, though, (disregarding fiscal downsizing) enjoy a remarkably continuous lifestyle between administrations. As long as they commit no war crimes, competent soldiers can enjoy long, productive careers. And if they eventually tire of becoming agents of the civilian will, they are free to hang up their uniforms — as the Constitution requires — and seek elected office.

The price of liberty, though, is eternal vigi-

lance. The United States has had its share of uppity soldiers, and Americans, it should be said, have an obscene penchant for electing military heroes to high government offices.

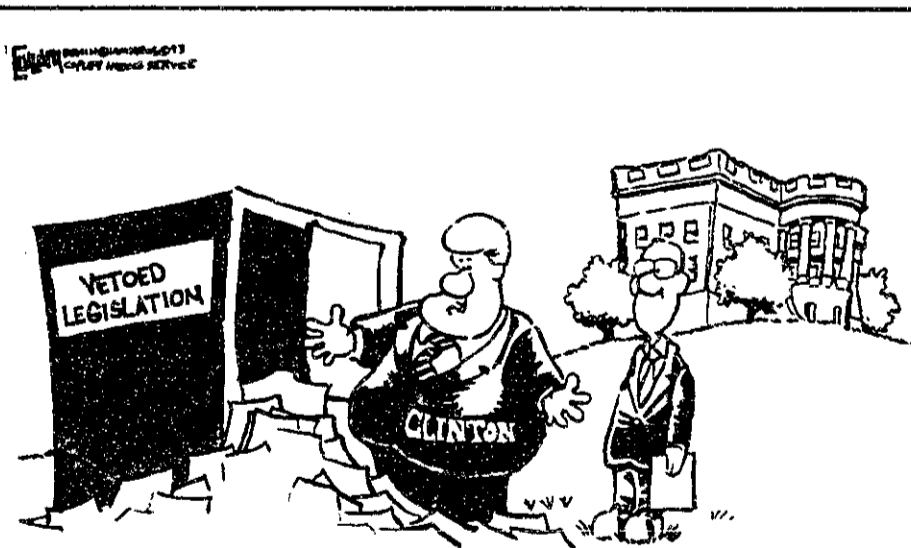
And that's why I get nervous whenever generals and admirals start to dictate terms to the civilian officials who appointed them, and why I won't be sad to see Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Colin Powell follow through on his threat to quit his post before his term expires in September.

Although this move was expected before the election, the most likely reason for Powell's decision to retire early lies with recent disagreements between himself and the Clinton administration over gays in the military and new defense budget cuts, which Powell adamantly opposes. Rather than skipper a sinking ship filled with homosexuals, Powell, it seems, prefers to head for the lifeboats.

Alas, such is the fate of peacetime general. In announcing his intentions to retire, Powell could have done worse. If he had blocked Presidential initiatives or directly challenged Clinton's decisions he would have deserved a prompt firing. As it stands though, Powell's decision to leave the joint chiefs now seems selfish.

Quitting in the face of inappropriate orders is the proper means for an officer to express his disapproval in our system, but as a means of political expression it should only be used sparingly. No one is asking Powell to napalm women and children, or to execute any order that is immoral or grossly unwise. Defense cutbacks will happen whether Powell wants them or not, and instead of bailing out now, Powell should have hung in and guided the country through this difficult process to the best of his ability. If he honestly lacks the know-how to facilitate these cuts, then he should have just said so, and this columnist would have cheered his honesty.

In the long run, hopefully, Clinton's efforts to cut the military will succeed. In this new era of collective security and coalition action, the need to move small units fast and far has supplanted the need for certain nuclear weapons systems, large, armor-intensive Army divisions and a number of forward-based Air Force bases that were the hallmark of cold war strategy. Defense spending moves in cycles of buildup and downscaling. The defense pendulum is swinging back, and Powell seems unwilling to move out of the way.



"WHY SHOULD WE BOTHER WRITING NEW BILLS? WE CAN JUST PASS ALL THIS GARBAGE!"

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Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

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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. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.

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Student-Endorsed Relativism Inconsistent with Morality

Column by Marc Carlin
GUEST COLUMNIST

An opinion poll entitled "What is Truth?" conducted on Registration Day, Jan. 28, by Christian Impact affirms the increasingly prevalent view that the concept of universal "morality" is anachronistic and irrational. Less than one third of the student body said that there is absolute truth, despite the fact that over two thirds of MIT students believe in God.

Our society has been steadily moving towards a state of moral relativism, where each individual is granted the freedom to make his own choice about what is right and wrong. This is, above all, a comfortable position to take — we "live and let live," and are free to do whatever we want because others cannot hold us accountable for our actions. It's trendy, but does it make sense?

If we observe science, an area that we are all familiar with, we find that absolute truth is

essential. If what we study is not a closer approximation of the real plan of life than what we knew before, then our toil is in vain. The key factor in the development of Newtonian physics was the belief that the universe has a logical plan. Regardless of what we personally think of the law of gravity, nothing we can do can cause us to fall upward into the sky — the laws of nature are not negotiable!

Why then, do most of us fail to apply a set of rights and wrongs to human behavior? Many simply claim that there are not, and should not be, any universal rights and wrongs — but stop and think for a second. If I asked to see your most difficult problem set a half hour before it was due, then took a lighter to it and burned it up, wouldn't that be just plain wrong? Or how about if I planted a crib sheet under your chair during a final, and you were caught? Would you be ready to forgive me if I said, "Hey, by my standards I didn't do anything wrong," or would you be ready to rear-

range my face because what I did was wrong — by your standards?

This idea of absolute truth is also the basis for the establishment of civil rights. Jefferson's Declaration of Independence that said: "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights." More recent laws about child labor, desegregation, and spousal abuse hold that certain actions are wrong, regardless of the personal morality of the parties involved. Here on campus, we've heard the phrase, "Sexual harassment is wrong and will not be tolerated" enough times to realize this.

With this said, it is all the more surprising that most MIT students reject absolute truth and in particular on the issue of abortion. 58 percent of respondents said that the decision whether abortion is right or wrong is "your choice." 16 percent responded that abortion was "a right" (i.e., it's not wrong and there-

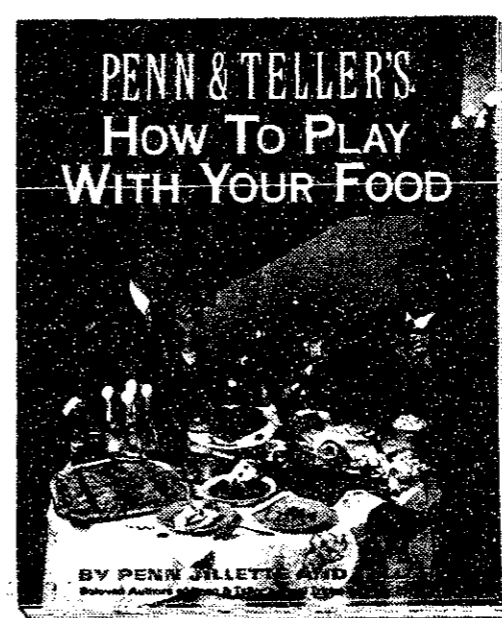
fore should not be prohibited), and 26 percent thought that abortion was "wrong."

With what reasoning do 58 percent of us say that abortion and other issues are a matter of personal morality, while all of us would agree that discrimination, for example, is absolutely wrong? Reasoning that, like a rotten apple, appears genuine on the surface but at its core is flawed. Abortion, then, is either right — for the good of the mother and the fetus, or it is wrong — murder and a violation of the rights of the fetus.

Let's stop kidding ourselves — we all believe in some sort of absolute truth, whether it be the Law of Universal Gravitation, Ten Commandments, dialectical materialism, or whatever. We cannot declare simultaneously that some things are wrong and will not be tolerated, while other things are a matter of personal choice. Let's stop hiding behind the facade of moral relativism, stand up for what is right, and not be afraid to say it.



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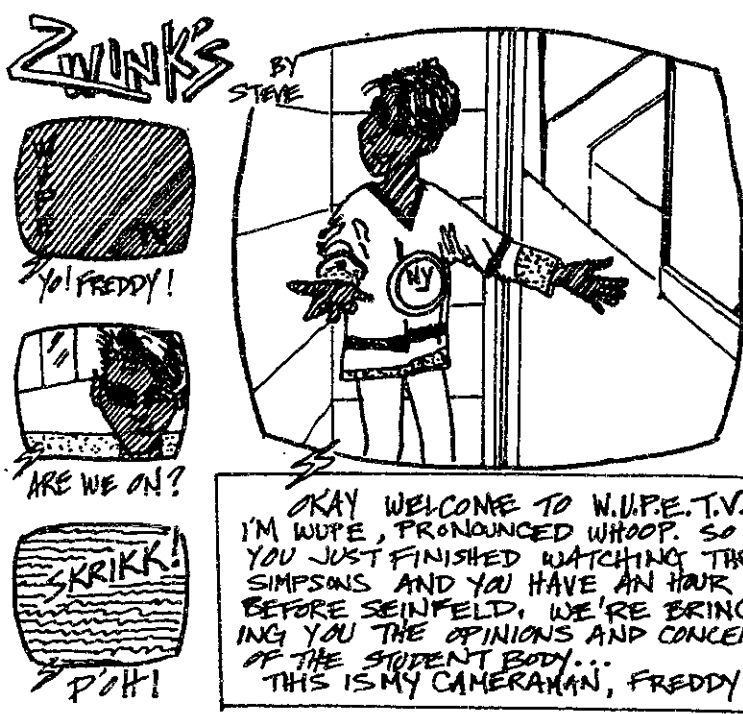
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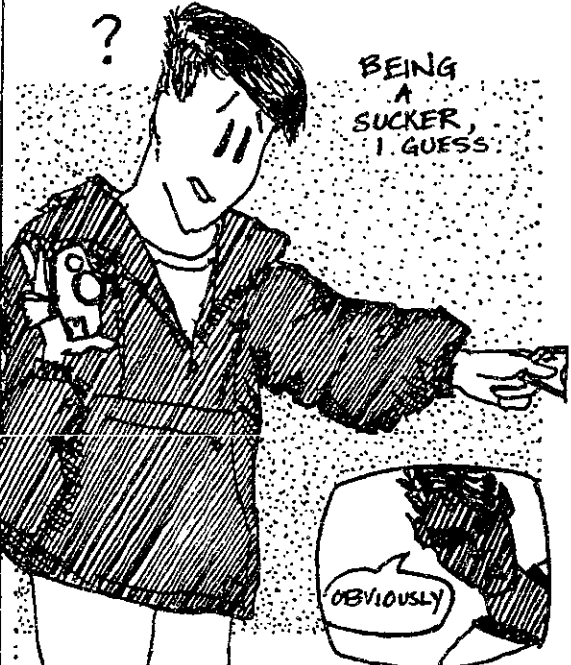
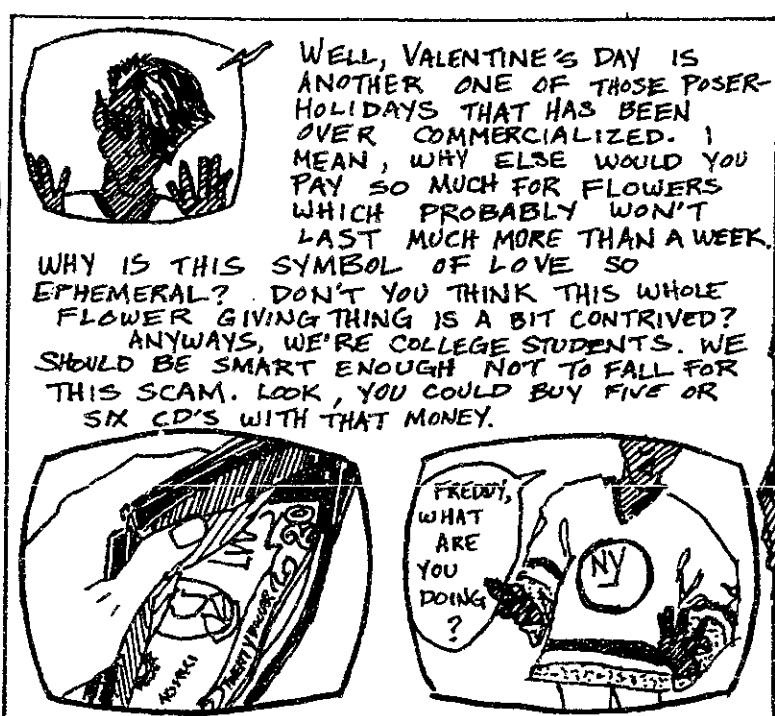
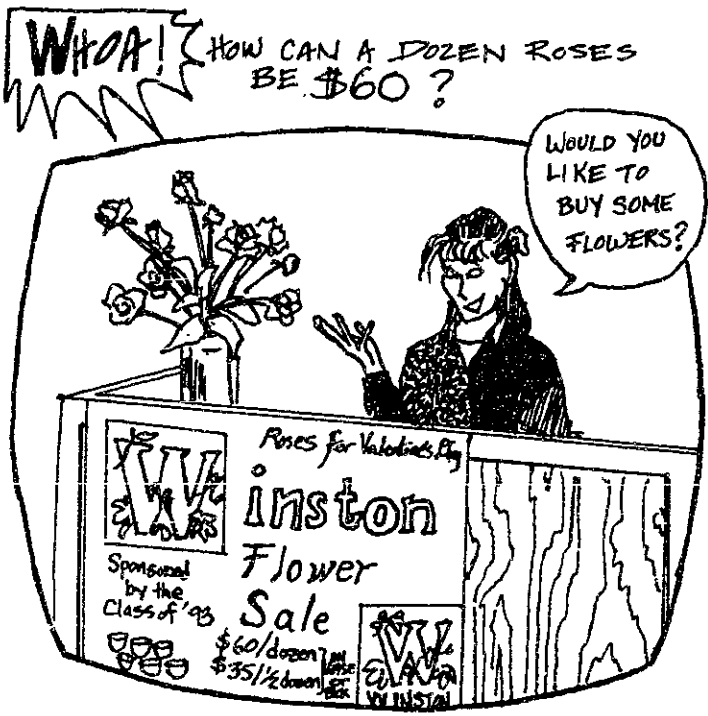
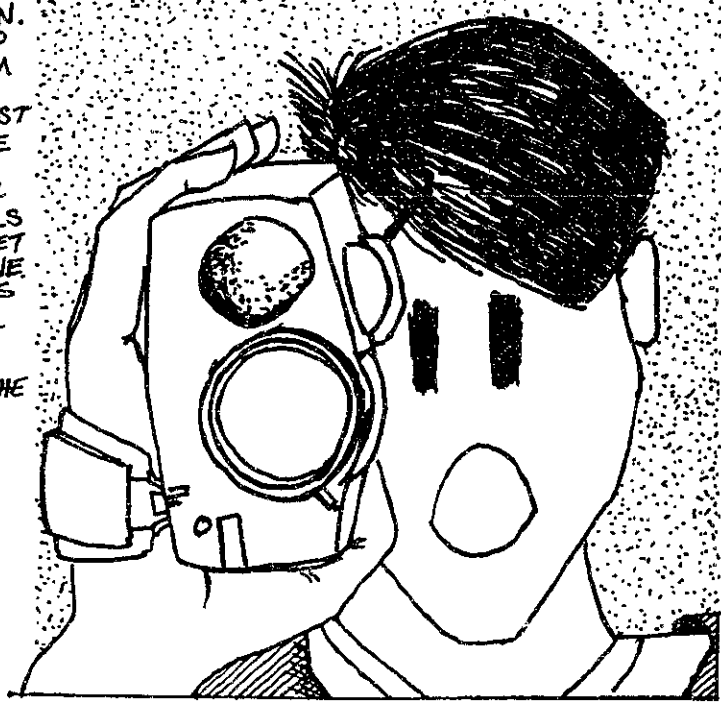
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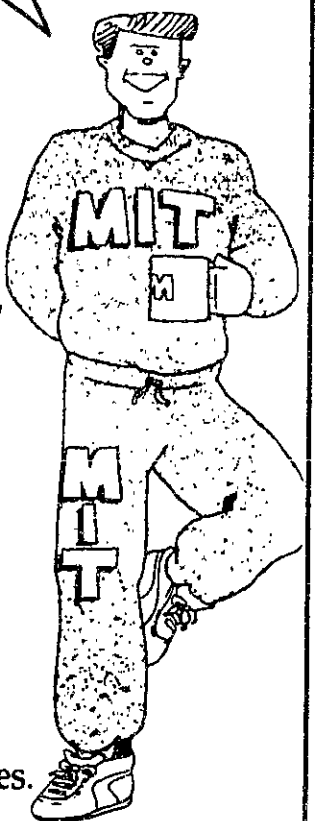
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THE ARTS

Homeward Bound will appeal to all ages

**HOMeward BOUND:
THE INCREDIBLE JOURNEY**

Directed by Duwayne Dunham.
Screenplay by Caroline Thompson and Linda Woolverton based upon "The Incredible Journey" by Sheila Burnford.
Animal voices provided by Michael J. Fox, Sally Field, and Don Ameche.
Loews Fresh Pond

By Joshua M. Andresen
STAFF REPORTER

Although the latest Disney release is clearly intended for a juvenile audience, it is very funny and sophisticated enough to appeal to a much broader base of viewers.

Homeward Bound relates the tale of three pets: Shadow, a golden retriever, Sassy, a Himalayan cat, and Chance, an American bulldog puppy. They are given to a neighbor while their family goes on vacation. When the owners do not return after a week, the animals begin to suspect that there is trouble and decide to escape from the neighbor and travel back home. Their journey through the wilderness is fraught with mishaps and triumphs and they emerge a closer knit "family" of pets, as it were.

This is a healthy dose of anthropomorphism in the movie, but it is not carried to extremes. Wherever possible, the writers attempted to keep the apparent actions of the animals true to the general character of these domesticated pets. The young dog is rambunctious, chasing after skunks and porcupines, and learning why these are not smart things to do. The cat is aloof, concerned always with cleanliness.

The script is very nicely written, and Michael J. Fox and Sally Field do a wonderful job with their parts. Chance (voice by Fox)

has a rivalry throughout with Sassy (voice by Field). The interplay among these two characters is truly delightful. Sassy chides Chance for chewing up a shoe. "Want some?" asks Chance. "I'm not into leather," replies Sassy.

The script is not without the corny morals one often finds in Disney films, though. In the course of the movie, the children become accepting of their new foster father, as the movie (unlike the original film version of the book) deals with the family to which the pets belong. The animals even chip in their share of philosophy. Shadow (voice by Don Ameche) explains how to be man's best friend in one of the sillier scenes.

The best parts of *Homeward Bound* are the shots of the animals in action. The animal trainers started with eight dogs (four for each part), ten cats, and a host of cameramen, producing some amazing footage. Chance navigates the tops of several toppling garbage cans, Sassy flies through the air (landing on all fours, of course), and Shadow faces a mountain lion. The best scene is one in which Sassy falls into the water and is carried downstream while she tries best to stay afloat. The close-up shots of the poor cat trying to swim are priceless. The only thing missing was the reminder that these are professionals and the stunts should not be attempted at home.

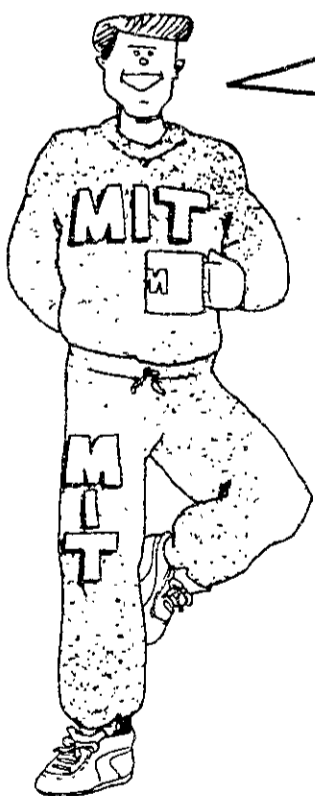
The music in the film (composed by Bruce Broughton) is also worth noting. In addition to the standard tear-jerking themes, an upbeat piece accompanied the escape from the pound (another very amusing sequence). This was a nice break from the long string of clichés that movie music usually employs.

Overall, this is a very entertaining movie. It is also a rather emotional film. It will be hard for anyone who owned a pet as a child to avoid tears from welling up during the final sequence as the pets are reunited with the children.



Untold dangers, including a ferocious bear, await Chance and his partners as they travel in the wild in *Homeward Bound*.

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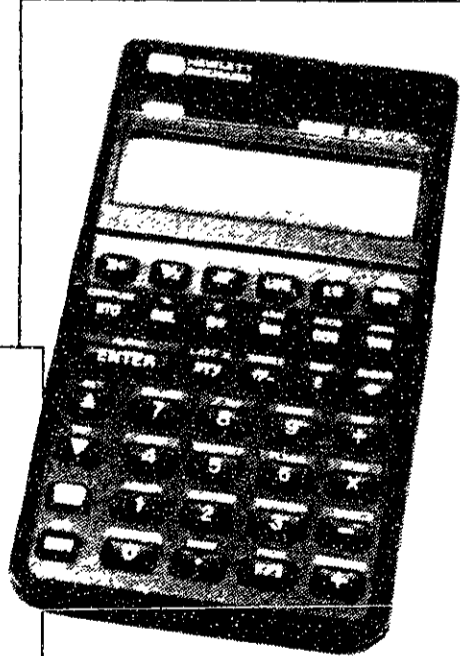


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Dance club Venus de Milo deserves its popularity

VENUS DE MILO

11 Lansdowne St.
Boston

By Ted Miguel

As my interminable wait neared its end one bitterly cold January night and my turn to enter Venus de Milo approached, I looked up and down that gaudy street behind Fenway Park and thought, "Is this half-hour in line and the ten bucks I am going to pay worth it? What is it about this place that gets people to come back again and again, packs the coat rooms every Saturday night, and makes people (like me) stand outside in the freezing cold to wait?"

The answer is simple. Venus de Milo is able to give different kinds of people what they want. In addition to good music and a large dance floor, it has the most varied clientele of any club in Boston.

The club is located behind Kenmore Square, near Axis and Julian's Billiard Hall, and is within walking distance of the Kenmore T-stop. It's a five dollar taxi ride from 77 Massachusetts Ave.

Inside, Venus de Milo is impressive. The brightly colorful, yet tasteful, interior is deceptively large. The huge lower level of the club becomes a single dancing area on Friday and Saturday nights, swarming with hundreds of hot, and tightly packed, people. Standing

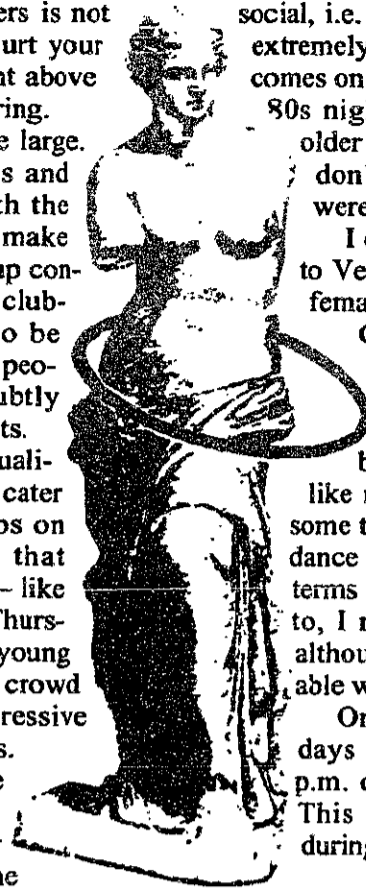
too close to one of the speakers is not recommended; it can really hurt your ears. There is also a stage right above the dance floor for the more daring.

The two bars are both quite large.

Along with the many benches and chairs located all around both the upper and lower levels, they make the perfect places for striking up conversations and meeting other club-goers, most of whom tend to be friendly and eager to meet new people. These dark nooks are subtly illuminated by purple neon lights.

One of the most striking qualities of the club is its ability to cater successfully to various groups on different nights, something that other Kenmore Square giants — like Narcissus — often fail to do. Thursday, Techno Night, attracts a young and artsy, mostly college-age crowd that dances to the latest progressive dance tracks until the wee hours.

Friday nights play more mainstream dance music, although some alternative or techno is usually thrown in. The crowd on Fridays is younger than Thursday's; it appears that many in it still have several years to go in high school. However, the



social, i.e. pick-up, scene on Fridays is still extremely active. A more mature audience comes on Saturdays, a kind of retro 70s and 80s night, when disco and Madonna's older stuff are the dominant fare. If you don't know who the Village People were, don't bother showing up.

I once ventured — unknowingly — to Venus on a Wednesday night with a female date only to find out that it was Gay Night. Not deterred, I entered and found several pleasant surprises. The cover was only three dollars, well within the budget of a poor college student like myself. The music — house with some techno — was to my taste, and the dance floor was not crowded at all. In terms of price and good music to dance to, I recommend Wednesday nights, although some would feel uncomfortable without a date of the opposite sex.

One of the gripes I have with Fridays and Saturdays is that by 11:30 p.m. or midnight, the club is packed. This is a good reason to plan going during the week. On weekends it is virtually impossible to leave, or get to, the middle of the dance floor without getting elbowed and stepped on many times. Those planning to go Friday or Saturday

nights should get there by ten to avoid waiting in line outside in the frigid winter air for a half-hour or more and to have some time on the dance floor without worrying about personal injury.

Before closing, I want to inform the reader of a deception that Venus de Milo appears to practice in those coupon books which are given out occasionally in front of Lobby 7. They contain passes that promise the holder free admission to the club on a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday night. Don't be fooled! On several occasions I have attempted to use them — once after calling in advance and being told that they were being accepted that night. However, each time I have been informed at the door that due to some special promoter or guest, or miscommunication with the front office I would have to pay the full ten dollars that night.

Also be aware that at the coat room you will not be able to put more than one jacket on a single hanger for this is against "club policy." Bring a buck fifty for each one. Drinks sell for the going rate — about two dollars for a soda and four for an alcoholic beverage.

Venus de Milo may be too expensive for regular visits by most people. For a special treat though, pick your night, arrive early, and enjoy one of the most popular night spots in Boston.

VENUS de MILO

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Thurrow to Resign in July After Five Years as Dean

Thurrow, from Page 1

ety of opinions on Thurrow's departure. Jee Y. Ahn '93 said she was "kind of bummed when she heard the news. He's a really good dean as far as raising money, and he's brought a lot of good publicity to the school, but I think the general consensus is that he's not that interactive with students — most undergraduates don't see him much."

Olivier R. Ledoit G said he was surprised and puzzled by the announcement. "I'd like to know exactly why he resigned," he said. "I don't think they'll be able to find anyone with his stature to fill the position. It will be very hard to

replace him with someone as well known and respected. I'm disappointed now, but when they announce that they've replaced him with someone I've never heard of, I'll be even more disappointed," he said.

Mary E. Herndon G, a biology student who protested the November decision clearing Professor of Management Gabriel R. Bitran of sexual harassment, said "harassment victims will not be missing him." She didn't believe that the case had anything to do with Thurrow's departure, saying, "I don't think he has the sensitivity for that to matter to him."

UA Tries Life Fee Again

Fee, from Page 1

dent activities.

"It is a question of student involvement and student empowerment," said Chitaley. "With more monies we could encourage better and more student activities."

Both Chitaley and Warren cited small, new groups as the likely beneficiaries of such a plan. "The Finance Board takes a liking to new

activities that provide something interesting to MIT," said Chitaley.

Chitaley also noted that funds collected as part of the fee could be used to support MIT groups that send students to other colleges as representatives of MIT. Such activities build self-esteem and pride in the MIT community, he said.

"Everybody can be proud of somebody who won the national championship in something," added Warren.

Seniors Lose HASS-D Priority

HASS-Ds, from Page 1

Enough spaces are available

"We have made sure there are enough spaces" to accommodate the total demand for HASS-Ds, said Harriet Ritvo, associate dean for the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. She said difficulties arise because many students tend to register for the same classes, preventing an even distribution of students among the available spaces.

Matching students who need HASS-D classes to graduate with available subjects can be difficult, but Davis found that most students dealt with the problem well. "Even though we were very busy and we had a lot of students in here, it's rare that there is a student who is angry or has a bad attitude," she said.

The lottery system could have posed serious problems for seniors this year. In the past, seniors were given top priority in HASS-Ds and did not face a lottery unless there were too many seniors. Senior priority was eliminated this year, but apparently few seniors were troubled by lotteries in classes they needed to graduate.

"There were surprisingly few we heard from," Davis said. "I can remember a conversation with one senior... that's really the only one that I heard from."

Ritvo, who heads the committee that oversees the HASS-D program, said that the committee did not expect the change in senior priority to be a serious problem. "For most people, you have eight semesters to take three subjects. Really, if you don't get into one you can take it another semester," she said.

Some seniors also take fourth and fifth HASS-D classes to fulfill the general eight-subject HASS requirement. This attests to the popularity of HASS-D classes, but creates trouble when classes are oversubscribed. The problem the committee saw was that giving priority to seniors taking an extra HASS-D would force out underclassmen trying to fulfill requirements.

"It seems likely that the classes in which there is the most consistent and predictable oversubscription are classes which attract significant numbers of people taking a fourth or fifth HASS-D," Ritvo said.

Offerings reflect enrollment trends

Individual departments and sections try to offer more sections of popular classes. The history department, for example, originally planned to offer two sections of The Age of Reason (21.355), which would have accommodated 50 students. When 125 students pre-regis-

tered for the class, two more sections were added.

The management of pre-registration is problematic, though, because students often change their schedules after classes start, Ritvo explained. "It would be nice if we could make registration more of a contract," but that would probably be too great a limit on students' freedom to choose classes, she said.

After adjustments are made based on registration data, lotteries are the only recourse for professors who are not allowed to have more than 25 students per section. "All of our faculty hate to run the lottery. It's just the best system we have figured out for dealing with the situation," Ritvo said.

Though the rules for the lottery are quite explicit, the actual administration of lotteries has proven to be inconsistent. In some cases, professors decide to give priority to seniors or students majoring in their department, even though the rules forbid it.

"It happens and I don't know how much it happens," Ritvo said.

"It seems the method that has been established has been publicized to students. It is too bad if individual faculty members decide not to live up to the expectations that have been produced in the minds of students," Ritvo said.

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Attention Harvard/MIT Graduates, classes 1984-1994. The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania determined on 9/2/92 that the scholarship practices of Harvard, MIT, and the seven other Ivy League schools violated the U.S. antitrust laws. If you were admitted to more than one college within that group, and your high school record was excellent relative to other members of your entering class, the admissions office of your college may have engaged in collusion with other colleges to which you were admitted to eliminate or reduce your scholarship aid. You may be entitled to damages of treble your aid reduction, plus attorney's fees. To participate as a plaintiff in an antitrust class action-suit, please contact William F. Swiggart, Attorney at Law, at 617/868-8867.

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Recruiting Reminder: Fletcher Spaght, a Boston-based strategy consulting firm focusing on venture capital funded high tech, healthcare, and medical technology companies, seeks entry level research associates with biology, computer science or engineering backgrounds. Information session: Thursday, Feb. 18th, 7 pm in room 4-149. Recruiting: Monday, February 22nd. Further information is available at the Career Services Office.

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A Lecture by

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Defaulter's Claims Are 'Frivolous'

Loan, from Page 1

sion.

Meanwhile, Hoicka has filed a class-action suit in which he claims to represent an estimated 80,000 "present and past MIT students... who obtained or were denied financial aid administered in any way by MIT while the Overlap Group was in existence."

Damages from the class-action could total an estimated \$1 million to \$100 million, Hoicka said.

MIT has filed a motion to dismiss Hoicka's countercharges, claiming that "all or substantially all of Hoicka's... counterclaims are wholly insubstantial, frivolous and not advanced in good faith."

MIT attorney Jeffrey Swope said Hoicka's claims "don't fit under existing laws." Swope is an attorney at Palmer and Dodge, which is also representing MIT in the appeal of the antitrust ruling.

Hoicka's claim may be invalidated by the statute of limitations for private actions. This statute allows individuals to recover damages caused by an unlawful activity only if it occurred less than four years before the government filed suit to stop the activity.

The Justice Department did not file suit against the Overlap Group until 1991, while Hoicka's financial aid packages were negotiated before 1982. However, Hoicka charges that MIT "fraudulently concealed" its collusive activity, which may pro-

vide more time under the same statute.

A hearing on Hoicka's countercharges is expected in late February or March.

MIT's original complaint, filed on April 14, 1992, alleges that Hoicka defaulted on a 1986 promissory note issued as a refinancing of former student loans. The complaint seeks approximately \$26,700 in loan repayment and interest charges, and about \$8,800 in collection costs and attorney fees.

In the court file, Hoicka denies the allegation and claims MIT has "misstated and misrepresented the agreement, which is not in default." Furthermore, Hoicka alleges that while he was "ready and willing to comply" with all covenants in the contract, MIT "obstructed and prevented" him from doing so.

"I never had a reason to pick a fight with MIT until they picked a fight with me," Hoicka said. Hoicka said that he tried to set up a payment plan with MIT upon graduating from law school in 1989, but MIT refused. He also said approximately 20 payments of between \$150 and \$200 each were made to MIT while he was trying to establish a payment plan.

Hoicka added, "The powers that be at MIT [should] come to their senses and [realize] that in many of these cases, it's better to be reasonable and make a settlement. The Justice Department gave MIT a very nice offer... but MIT said, 'No

way, we want to fight.'"

Few MIT students default on their loans in comparison with students from other schools. MIT's loan default rate in 1992 was 0.5 percent on Perkins Loans and 2.9 percent on Stafford Loans, according to Bursar Shirley M. Picardi. The national averages in 1990 were 6.2 percent for Perkins Loans and 15.5 percent for Stafford Loans.

Picardi added that an individual MIT loan default averages about \$3,500, and that the highest single default has been about \$35,000 to \$40,000. MIT takes only about three loan default cases to court each year, and only as "an absolute last resort," she said.

"Virtually no MIT alumnus defaults on his loans on purpose. They just don't seem to set out to do this," Picardi continued. "Sometimes they are overwhelmed by adverse circumstances. Sometimes they mismanage their affairs. Sometimes they ignore the problem hoping it will disappear. And sometimes they are embarrassed and won't be forthcoming about their situations."

"We hope that by doing loan counseling early when students first take out their loans, they will get to know their student loan representatives and will feel comfortable calling them if any problems arise after they graduate from MIT," she said.

The 1993 Carroll L. Wilson Awards

4 Awards Planned: 2 Graduate Student Awards at \$7,000 each, and 2 Undergraduate Student Awards at \$5,000 each.

These awards have been established as a memorial to the late Carroll L. Wilson ('32) Professor of Management at the Sloan School and first Mitsui Professor in Problems of Contemporary Technology at MIT.

Professor Wilson devoted much of his career toward seeking solutions to important global problems through the application of scientific, engineering, economic, and political analysis to programs of action. The underlying goal of his work was the improvement of relations among countries and the strengthening of their institutions and people.

The purpose of the Wilson Awards is to provide opportunities for MIT students to pursue a challenging activity which would have excited the interest and enthusiasm of Carroll Wilson.

The prizes will be awarded to students in any department at MIT on the basis of a competitive evaluation of proposals by a Prize Committee.

Application deadline date:
March 19, 1993

Interviews of Finalists:
April 30, 1993

Announcement of winners:
May 10, 1993

Application forms and additional information are available from:

Ms. Sally Gatewood, 3-209
Ms. Joanna Hills, E15-229
Ms. Susan L. Kendall, 20A-023
Undergraduate Education Office, 20B-141

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```

)
hbiCurrent
dwOffset = _lseek(fh,
_lclose (fh);
if (hbiCurrent == NULL) (
ErrMsg("%ls is not a Legitimate DIB File!");
return FALSE;
)
DibInfo(hbiCurrent, &bi);
/* Set up the palette */
hpalCurrent = CreateDibPalette(hbiCurrent);
if (hpalCurrent == NULL) (
ErrMsg("CreatePalette() Failed");
return FALSE;
)
/* Convert the DIB color table to palette relative indexes, so
SetDIBits() and SetDIBitsToDevice() can avoid color matching.
We can do this because the palette we realize is identical
to the color table of the bitmap, ie the indexes match 1 to 1
* Now that the DIB color table is palette indexes not RGB values
* we must use DIB_PAL_COLORS as the wUsage parameter to SetDIBits()
*/
lpbi = (VOID FAR *)GlobalLock(hbiCurrent);
if (lpbi->biBitCount < 16) (
fpalColors = TRUE;
pw = (WORD FAR *)((LPSTR)lpbi + lpbi->biSize);
for (i=0; i<(int)lpbi->biClrUsed; i++)
*pw++ = (WORD)i;
)
GlobalUnlock(hbiCurrent);
bLegitDraw = TRUE;
/* If the input bitmap is not in RGB FORMAT the banding code will
* not work! we need to load the DIB bits into memory.
* if memory DIB, load it all NOW! This will avoid calling the
* banding code.
*/
if (bMemoryDIB || bi.biCompression != BI_RGB)
hdibCurrent = OpenDIB(achFileName);
/* If the RLE could not be loaded all at once, exit gracefully NOW,
* to avoid calling the banding code
*/
if ((bi.biCompression != BI_RGB) && !hdibCurrent) {
ErrMsg ("Could not load RLE!");
FreeDib();
return FALSE;
}
if (hdibCurrent && !bDIBToDevice && bMemoryDIB) {
hbmCurrent = BitmapFromDib(hdibCurrent, hpalCurrent);
if (!hbmCurrent) {
ErrMsg ("Could not create bitmap!");
FreeDib();
return FALSE;
}
}
SizeWindow(hWnd);
return TRUE;

```

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HUGHES

Bowe Meets Great White Dope; Former Viking To Be

Let's Argue, from Page 16

Riddick Bowe after his first round knockout of Michael "Rhymes with Jokes" Dokes in his first title defense (predicted here). From Bowe's perspective, he should follow the first axiom of boxing — most money for the least risk — and fight Tommy "I punch like Van" Morrison next, as a warmup for a rematch with Evander Holyfield, who could fight on the undercard. This makes sense for two reasons. First, a fight with Lennox Lewis would draw the most money sometime around next January, after the Americans get to watch Lewis, whom they haven't seen since the 1988 Olympics. Second, it may finally put a merciful end to the career of The Great White Dope, who should have hung them up after he out-acted Sly Stallone in Rocky V...

You Heard It Here First

NFL Hall of Famer Alan Paige, a former Purple People Eater, and current Minnesota State Superior Court judge, will be Bill Clinton's next nominee for Attorney General...

Race For Futility

Maverics: 4-41

San Jose: 6-46-2

The Maverics' magic number (combination of Mav's losses and Laker wins) to be officially eliminated from the playoffs is 17. The Mudsharks, after a torrid start, have a 1-31-1 record since Thanksgiving, and have displaced the Senators as the NHL's worst team...

Flub of the Week

To Merciful Ray Mercer for blowing a \$2 million paycheck and a heavyweight title fight with Riddick Bowe by losing his fight to journeyman Jessey "The Flabby Body" Ferguson Saturday night at Madison Square Garden.

Kudos to the officials at New York's Millrose Games (also at the Garden), who mis-measured the distance to the finish line of the 60-yard dash, thus making the course five feet too long...

Globe Gem of the Week

To our dismay, Madden, Ryan,

and Shaughnessy did not perform up to par this week. Ryan was a no-show, while Dan the Man barely nosed out Be Like Mike with this one on the Bowe fight, New York, and Elton John: "The sweet science was practiced in the naked city, and Saturday night was alright for fighting."

Where Are They Now?

MLB Catchers

Dan Bilardello, Butch Wyneger, Dom Scala, Jerry Grote, Steve Lake, Darrell Porter, John Wathan, Ted Simmons, Barry Foote, and Johnny Wockenfuss...

Trivia Question of the Week

Since the last two weeks were so easy, try this one on for size: Can you name the five starters and head coach of the 1984 men's Olympic gold medal basketball team? Send answers to sports@the-tech.

Last week's answer: Matt Millen. Here's a partial list of winners: Eugenio Torres '93, Paul O'Brien '95, Thi Nguyen (2-time winner), and the tag team of Mike Aponte '92 and Jeff Ma '94. They all win leftover Lecture Series Committee calendars, color of your choice while supplies last. Pick up awards at LSC's office in the Student Center...

MIT TWIB Notes

At the track, an undefeated MIT team will clash with an undefeated and favored Williams squad, a feisty 7-2 Coast Guard team, and cannon fodder Worcester Polytech for the inaugural Quad Cup Championship Saturday at the luxurious Howard Johnson Athletic Complex and Commencement Facility. Go see The Big Meet, as Hurdler Bo Light '96 is expected to run for approximately nine seconds. Kudos also to Colin M. Page '95, who was awarded a Bertucci's gift certificate by the track team coach for most accurately predicting the score of MIT's victory over the Tufts Pachyderms...

Come cheer on the women's basketball team Tuesday night at 6:00...

Good luck to the rifle team as they participate in the Collegiate Sectionals this weekend against Norwich, the Coast Guard Academy, Yale, and Wentworth...

Not even the heroics of spiking sensation Danny "Escape from" Alvarez '94 could prevent the men's volleyball team from going down in defeat to Springfield College last Wednesday night in a four-game nail biter.

Rumblings Around The 'Tute

Darren Castro G writes in with a good observation in answer to the trivia question: "LB Matt Millen, although his contribution to the

Redskin's efforts was minimal in that he did not dress for any of their three playoff wins against run-and-shoot teams (Falcons, Lions and Bills). His replacement, a more mobile Kurt Gouvia, had key interceptions in each of those games."

Not to be outdone by Jonathan Sigman, who complained about the relative ease of the question: "CBS' analyst (very) ordinaire Matt Millen. Why even bother with the hint? Bud Bowl deserves to be killed anyway."

Elliot Schwartz G sent us: "Mike and Andrew, Linebacker Matt Millen is the only player to win Super Bowl rings with three different teams. Notice that I sent this in after Brian D'Amato '96, who rushed to Athena after the LSC movie to send the answer to you after hearing it from me."

Send comments, questions, or tapes of the Oprah-Michael Jackson interview to sports@the-tech.mit.edu.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, February 13

Indoor Track vs. U.S. Coast Guard Academy, UMass-Dartmouth, and Williams College, 1 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Western New England College, 2 p.m.

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Keene State College, 2 p.m.

Women's Ice Hockey vs. University of Vermont, 7 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, February 13 and 14

Rifle hosts Sectional with U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Wentworth Institute of Technology, and Brandeis University

Tuesday, February 16

Women's Basketball vs. Babson College, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, February 17

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Springfield College, 7 p.m.

Thursday, February 18

Men's Basketball vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 7:30 p.m.

Engineering Reflections:



Richard Saffran, in the Bose Life Test facility.

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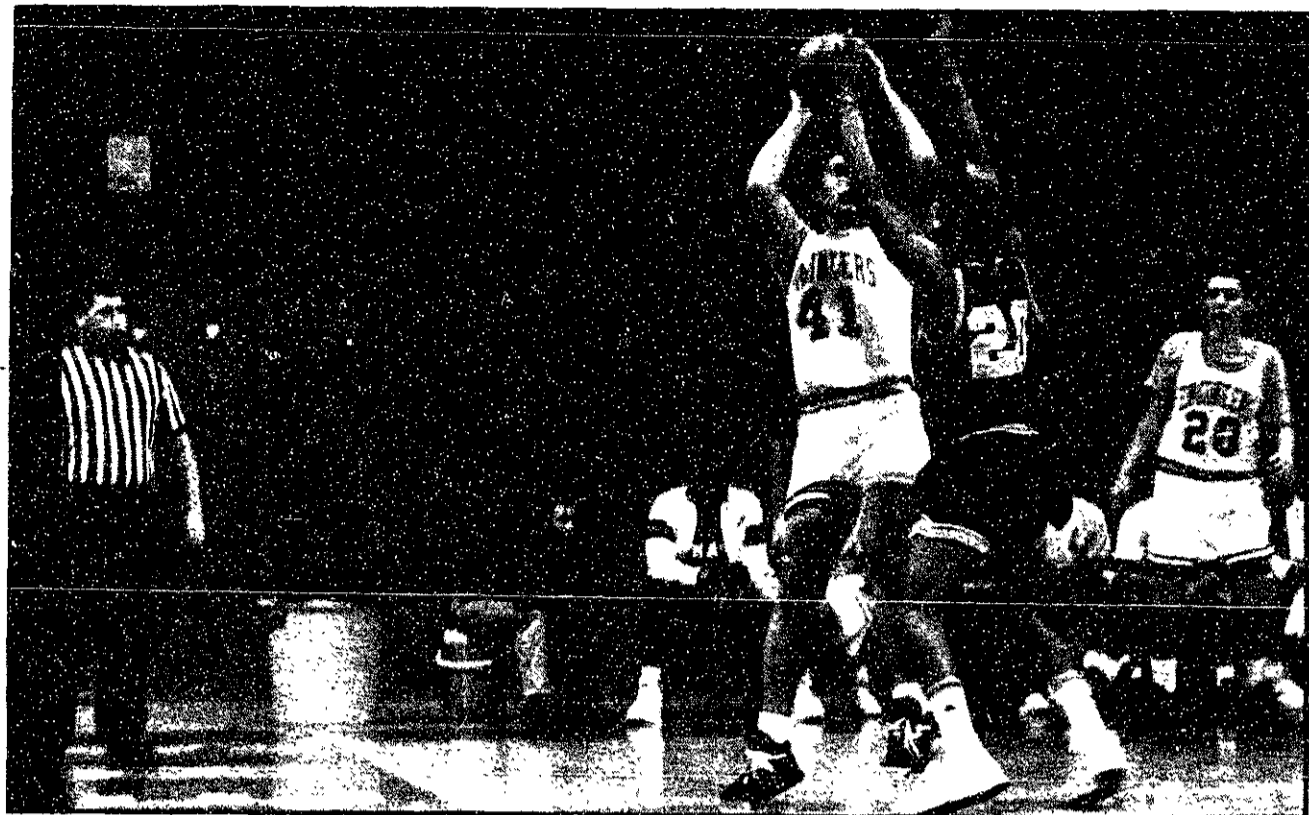
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SPORTS



UMass Boston's sophomore center James Wardwell proves to be a formidable defense for MIT center Keith Whalen '96 Tuesday night. The Beacons defeated the Engineers, 89-58.

Fencers Successful Over the Past Week

By Mark Hurst
TEAM MEMBER

The varsity fencing team hosted a competition against University of North Carolina, one of the strongest schools in its region, and traditional MIT rival Brown University last Saturday in the Johnson Athletic Center.

The women's team defeated both of its opponents. The lady blades defeated UNC 9-7 and destroyed Brown with a 14-2 victory. On the men's team, the sabre squad once again proved its power, soundly defeating UNC 6-3.

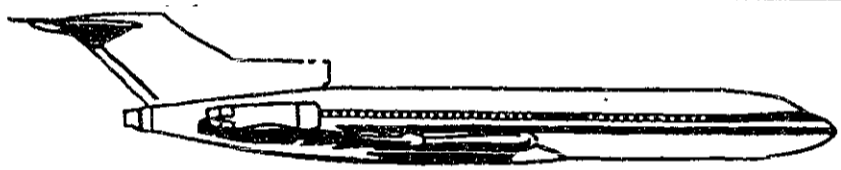
Rene Despinos '94 took one bout, Charles Baroud '93 won two, and Mark Hurst '94 took all three of his bouts. Both Baroud and Hurst defeated Mark Lattimore, who is ranked second in the NCAA.

The entire men's team came alive for its meet with Brown. Both the sabre and epee squads defeated Brown 6-3. The foil squad took three of its nine bouts, with an outstanding performance by John Rodriguez '95. After taking the sole MIT foil win over UNC, he won two of his three bouts against Brown.

On Sunday, the men's team traveled to Boston College to fence BC and Yeshiva College. MIT trounced Yeshiva with an overall score of 23-4. Later in the day they downed BC 18-9, with the epee squad winning 8-1. Jin Choi '94 went undefeated on Sunday, winning all six of his bouts.

The fencing team's last varsity dual meet of the season will be held this Saturday in the fencing room against Harvard University.

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UMass Crushes Basketball Team

By Halder A. Hamoudi
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's basketball team lost by a score of 89-58 to the University of Massachusetts at Boston last Tuesday night in Rockwell cage. The score is misleading, though: the game was fairly close for most of the first half.

The UMass Boston Beacons took an early 12-4 lead, but MIT quickly cut the lead to four at 20-16. At this point the Engineers, led by forward Mark Heffernan '95, went on a nine point run.

The scoring frenzy began with a field goal by center Keith Whalen '96. After UMass had turned the ball over, the Engineers scored again when Heffernan rebounded a Mark Milton '93 miss and hit an easy two from inside. MIT scored on its next possession when Heffernan made a short layup on a beautiful assist from Milton.

On the Engineers' next possession, Heffernan drove into the paint and made a basket while being fouled. He made the free throw, and the score was at 25-20 Engineers. The Beacons were able to convert on their next possession, but Heffernan responded on the other end with a dunk.

The Engineer lead was short

lived. UMass was awarded a three-point play on its next possession, and though the Beacons missed the free throw shot, one of their players was able to tip the ball in after it came off the rim. The MIT lead was then reduced to one, and it wavered between one and three points until UMass' David Hanscom gave his team a one-point lead with 3:32 left in the half.

From then on, the game would belong to the Beacons. In the time left in the first half, they forced two Engineer turnovers, made six fast break points, and completed a three-point play to go into the locker room ahead by eight.

The second half was merely a continuation of the UMass dominance of the late first half. Using a full court press which was to give MIT great trouble for the remainder of the game, the Beacons were able to force a number of turnovers and convert them into fast break points. The lead slowly got larger and larger until the game ended with the Engineers down 31 points.

The cause of the MIT loss is quite clear: They could not beat the full-court press used by UMass while on offense, and they could not keep up with the Beacons while on defense. The Engineers are a slower

team, and this was evident as the game wore on.

Statistics demonstrate these facts as well. MIT committed 27 turnovers in the course of the game, compared with 15 by UMass. In addition, the Beacons had sixteen steals on the day, and the Engineers only six.

When the Engineers could get the inside game going, they were reasonably successful. Of all the players on the MIT squad, only Heffernan and Whalen were in double digits. Too many times, however, the ball was taken away before the offense was set up. While part of this can be attributed to poor passing by MIT, the quickness of the Beacon defense must be properly credited as well.

In addition, UMass' impressive shooting from the free throw line (84.2 percent) prevented the Engineers from getting back into the game by fouling frequently.

As a result of this loss, the basketball team dropped to 4-14 on the season, and UMass Boston moved up to 10-9. The Engineers' next home game is on Saturday at 2:00 p.m., where they hope to end their losing streak against Western New England College.

Soviet inducted into US Hall of Fame

By Andrew Heltner
and Mike Duffy
SPORTS COLUMNISTS

To get respect on the Cal Berkeley campus, you must either strut around in your birthday suit or walk your pet pig to class. You certainly cannot get it coaching basketball, as Coach Campanelli found out this week.

This year, Campanelli has guided the Bears to a 10-7 overall record and an appearance in the Top 25. He has also assembled the best freshman class in school history. His reward for all this was a pink slip. School officials, upset with the team's performance, said that it would be in the school's best interest to get a new coach. Our sources, however, tell us that he was canned because he balked at the idea of changing the team's nickname to Bare's and refused to serve tofu and bee pollen at team dinners...

It was great to see Dr. J and Bill Walton elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame. Before His Airness, the Doctor was the NBA's Mr. Entertainment (and more graceful and classy than Mike), while Walton revolutionized the role of the passing center. Their contributions are well known, and there can be no doubt that they deserved this great honor. The same cannot be said for the Siberian Amazon who was

elected with them. To our knowledge, Ulyona "Built like a Truck" Semyonova, a 7-foot, 2-inch center who led the Soviet Union women's team to an Olympic gold medal in 1976, never played professionally in the States nor did she ever grace the cover of *Wheaties*. This is similar to saying that Jim Craig will be enshrined in the Soviet Union's Hockey Hall of Fame because he was on the US team that won the gold in 1980. This is about as likely as the MIT basketball team receiving an NCAA tourney bid this year...

The Lords of the NHL are trying, without much success, to improve the marketability of the "sport of goons" and shed the image given to them by the Hanson brothers. To begin with, they awarded franchises to such hotbeds of hockey as Miami, Tampa Bay, and Anaheim, thus allowing the Disney-on-Ice Orange County team to be known as the Mighty Ducks (silliest nickname since the University of California Santa Cruz Banana Slugs). They then let Scott Norwood kick, and miss, an extra point for each team in last weekend's All-Star "Game," won by the Wales Conference 16-6. Now, Commish Garry "you're no John Ziegler" Bettman and the boys are toying with the idea of giving the boxers

on ice a month off in 1994 to participate in the Olympics. In a sport where the gringos would finish second to the canucks, the U.S. might as well save face and just send the Beanpot champions. Besides being a sham for a "major" sport to disrupt its season for a month, the Olympics are supposed to be an amateur sport (attention: NBA).

Speaking of the frozen pond sport, Wayne Gretzky's NHL record 212 points for a single season is truly amazing. Pittsburgh's Mario Lemieux has missed 13 of the Penguins' games this year but still leads the NHL points race (with 104) by a comfortable 9-point margin over Boston's Adam Oats, showing how impressive his start really was. Lemieux's 2.6 points per game pace, however, extrapolated over a full season (see Tim McCarver's "At That Rate" bit) would still leave him four shy of The Great One's mark. Scribes place Wilt Chamberlain's 100 points in a game, 50.4 points per game in one season, and 20,000 "scores" in a career at the top of the list of sporting records that won't be broken. Maybe so, but this certainly shows that Gretzky's record deserves Top 5 status...

There has been much talk about who should be the next opponent for