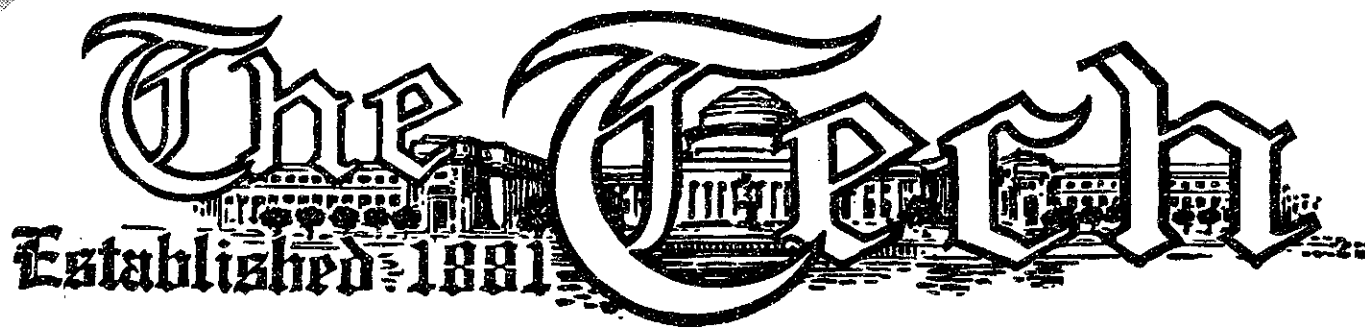


Welcome, New Students

Thursday
Largest
Paper



The Weather

Today: Cloudy, mild, 80°F (27°C)
Tonight: Cloudy, 64°F (18°C)
Tomorrow: Clearing, mild, 80°F (27°C)
Details, Page 2

Volume 114, Number 30

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Thursday, August 25, 1994

USP Head Phillip Clay Named Associate Provost

By Daniel C. Stevenson
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Professor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75, head of the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, has been appointed associate provost effective Oct. 1. Clay will fill the position vacated by Sheila E. Widnall '60, who was sworn in as Secretary of the Air Force last August.

Announcing the appointment, Provost Mark S. Wrighton said that Clay will have responsibilities in promotion and tenure policies, academic integrity, faculty recruitment and retirement, and international education programs, according to an article in *Tech Talk*.

"He has a wonderful, scholarly yet pragmatic style of interaction that seems well suited to the core duties that the provost has assigned him," said President Charles M. Vest.

"I will look to him as a key adviser in the development of academic policy, and as a key link to the faculty," Vest said. "I will work

with him as he develops our international agenda and will seek his advice and actions as a planner."

In June, Wrighton said that he and Vest were discussing the appointment of an associate provost with wide-ranging responsibilities to fill the positions vacated by Widnall and former Associate Provost for Institute Life Samuel J. Keyser.

Faculty experience required

"First and foremost, this position requires someone who has significant experience as a faculty member," Vest said. Clay will be a "key link between the senior administration and the faculty," Vest said.

The new associate provost will also represent the provost on the Faculty Policy Committee and deal with issues of tenure policy and academic integrity, Vest said.

"Phil's professional experiences will be especially important as we undertake new education and research initiatives, especially ones involving work with and in emerg-

ing countries," Wrighton said.

Clay will work primarily with the provost, "but because the senior administration operates very much as a team, I anticipate lots of direct interaction with him," Vest said. "I will work with him as he develops our international agenda and will seek his advice and actions as a planner."

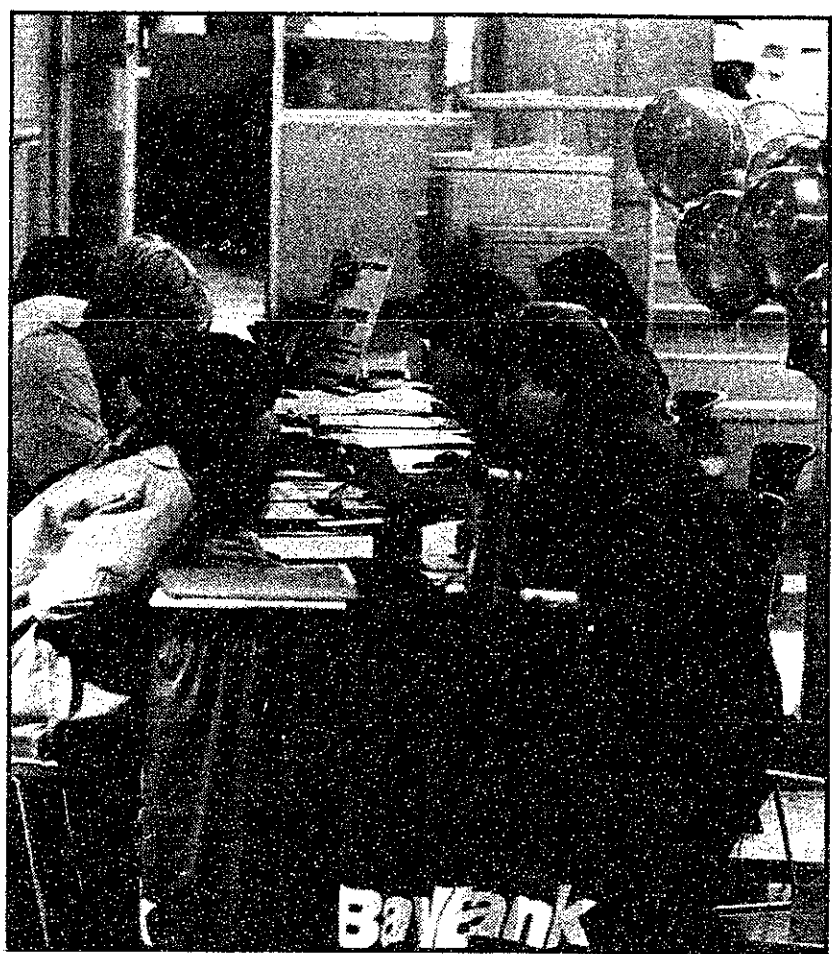
According to Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning William J. Mitchell, Clay has "very strong administrative skills" and is a "very experienced planner."

The perspective of an urban planner will be useful to Clay in his new position, Mitchell said, because MIT is "much more like a community than a corporation."

Mitchell said he hopes to have a new head for the urban studies department by October, when Clay assumes the associate provost position.

Clay held the position of associ-

Clay, Page 8



Incoming students opened bank accounts at the Baybank tables in the Student Center yesterday. Choosing a bank involves many factors, including monthly fees and convenience. See page 8 for story.

THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

INSIDE

■ Woman surprises intruder at DKE Page 7

■ A look at packages available for students at local banks. Page 8

■ Nine Headed Cactus Demon will play tonight at "MIT Unplugged" Page 9

The Tech will publish daily issues throughout Residence and Orientation Week.

More Women Are Coming to MIT

By Sarah Y. Keightley
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Forty percent of this year's freshman class is female. It is the largest number of women ever admitted to MIT, according to Assistant Director of Admissions Zaragoza A. Guerra III.

The Admissions Office attributes this increase to a number of factors, including a new viewbook that focuses more on student life, a two-step application process, and a special letter sent to 1,200 prospective women applicants who scored well on the Scholastic Aptitude Test. These changes were made last fall when the Class of 1998 was applying to college.

Two other factors resulting in more women coming to MIT were higher attendance at the Campus Preview Weekend in April and an admissions video that has been out for about two years, Guerra said. There were about 50 to 75 more students than usual at the Campus Preview this past spring.

"The Admissions Office did make a conscious effort to recruit women into the Institute" by addressing their concerns and offering them encouragement, Guerra said. This helped increase the number of female applicants so the Institute was able to accept more female students, he said.

The overall number of applicants increased as well, Guerra said. "The quality of applicants was very fine," he said.

In the new viewbook that is mailed along with the application for admission, the Admissions Office attempted to "confront head-on a lot of the stereotypes" that prospective students had of MIT, Guerra said. It focuses more on student life and answering concerns that applicants might have about MIT, Guerra said.

The new publication makes an effort to show what MIT has to offer socially and culturally, he said. People "may not know all of the activity that goes on here," he added.

In the past "we did do surveys and so forth asking students what they thought of our publications in comparison to other universities," Guerra said. "Our response rate beforehand wasn't too high. ... [Previously] students had the impression that MIT was a sterile, cold place."

Letter generates interest

Assistant Director of Admissions Lisa J. Oliveira and Associate Director of Admissions Marilee Jones coordinated the effort to recruit more high school women, and they asked the Dean of the School of Science Robert J. Birgeneau to write a letter to the 1,200 prospective women who scored well on the SAT.

Of the women who received the letter, 41 percent decided to apply to MIT, Birgeneau said.

Women, Page 7

New Options to Relieve Crowding

By Jeremy Hylton
CHAIRMAN

By this afternoon about 1,130 new students will have moved into temporary room assignments across campus. Over the next week, many students will find permanent room assignments through a housing lottery system that is intended to be more convenient and less hectic than in previous years, according to Andrew M. Eisenmann '75, assistant dean for residence and campus activities.

A number of factors should make housing more straightforward this year, Eisenmann said. A new, computerized housing lottery, a smaller freshman class, and two new buildings in the dormitory system will all help.

The undergraduate dormitory system should also be less crowded than last year, Eisenmann said. The dormitories will be filled about 140

or 150 people beyond capacity, according to current estimates. "In terms of the actual effect on people, it would be three to four times that number who are ending up in crowded rooms," Eisenmann said.

Two new buildings, an annex to McCormick Hall and the Alpha Chi Omega sorority house, will also make space for 45 or 50 more students, Eisenmann said.

Last year, a large entering class swelled the dormitory system far beyond capacity. More than 70 percent of the freshman class lived in crowded rooms, and lounges in MacGregor Hall were converted to student rooms.

Eisenmann expects to place between 400 to 600 students in crowded rooms this year. Extreme measures, like crowding MacGregor lounges or placing undergraduates in graduate student housing, are unlikely, he said.

To help relieve the Institute's perennial overcrowding problem, about 60 students will live at Huntington Hall near Northeastern University in Boston. MIT began leasing space in the dormitory from the Massachusetts College of Art last year.

"We have made offers to approximately 60 upperclass students and expect most of those to accept to live there, and we have hired three tutors to work there," said Margaret A. Jablonski, associate dean for residence and campus activities.

Summer improvements

Along with a regular schedule of summer renovations, including painting the dormitories and fixing plumbing, Physical Plant gutted Building W2, which used to contain

Housing, Page 10



Brothers from Delta Kappa Epsilon paint fresh lines on their newly resurfaced court. During the last week, living groups have prepared for the arrival of the freshman class.

THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

WORLD & NATION

Republican Senators Threaten Showdown on Crime Bill

NEWSDAY

WASHINGTON

Republicans led by Minority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas Wednesday proposed that the Senate vote on 10 amendments to the \$30.2 billion crime bill that would strike \$5 billion in "social spending" from the package supported by President Clinton and passed Sunday in the House of Representatives.

Majority Leader George Mitchell of Maine called the Republican initiative "a very carefully thought out proposal" intended to kill the bill. If the changes were adopted, he said, the measure would likely die after reverting to the House, where 10 days of painful negotiations were needed to pass a delicately crafted compromise. "My concern is that the crime bill will never become law," Mitchell said.

"So what? It goes back to the House. Then they act on it," Dole said, arguing that if Congress acts quickly, Clinton could be signing a new bill into law "in a matter of days."

Throughout the day Wednesday, Dole threatened that unless the Democrats agreed to negotiate on the amendments, he would call a procedural vote and effectively kill the bill with the support of 41 Republicans.

Still, late Wednesday, neither party leader had a clear handle on how many members they actually controlled, with both men acknowledging that any votes on the crime bill would be close.

Russian Officials Recover 22 Pounds of Stolen Uranium

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

Russian security officials, adding weight to promises that they would work harder to stop nuclear smuggling, announced Wednesday that they had recovered more than 22 pounds of uranium stolen from a closed nuclear center.

The uranium-238 was not weapons-grade and Atomic Energy Ministry spokesman Georgy Kaurov said the material was so harmless it could best be used as a weight for a fishing lure or "to make presses for buckets of sauerkraut."

But in the wake of German accusations that plutonium recently seized in the Munich airport originated in Russia, the uranium case served as concrete reassurance that Moscow would try harder to keep its nuclear stocks under control.

The actual origin of the Munich plutonium has not been established, but German suspicions that it came from Russia — it arrived on a Lufthansa flight from Moscow — were so strong that Chancellor Helmut Kohl dispatched his intelligence coordinator for three days of talks with Russian security chiefs.

The meetings yielded joint resolutions Monday to fight the nuclear black market harder and with more coordination, but no definitive word on where the plutonium came from.

Majority of World's Religions Support Population Conference

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Despite the strong opposition voiced by the Vatican and Muslim religious leaders, a majority of members of the world's religions support the aims of the upcoming Cairo conference on population and development, a panel of theologians of various faiths said Wednesday.

While they said they knew of no polls or measurements to gauge that support, four speakers — two Protestants, a Jew and a dissident Catholic — told a telephone news conference that family planning is embraced by most religions, and that people of many faiths have applauded the United Nations conference's goal of educating and empowering women.

Many religious leaders and theologians, including Protestant, Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu and others, have voiced general support for the conference, which begins Sept. 5. But their often-equivocal pledges of support have been drowned out by the passionate and increasingly unified opposition mounted by the Roman Catholic Church, conservative Protestant groups and Muslims.

The Clinton administration, a strong backer of the Cairo conference, has been besieged recently by detractors and has turned to other religious voices for reinforcement.

WEATHER

Fair Weather to Continue

By Michael C. Morgan
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The anticyclone that has provided the fine late summer weather for the region will slip offshore today — allowing winds to become more southwesterly. These southwest winds will bring back some mugginess and boost temperatures a bit. A weak cold front, crossing the area tonight, will produce a few scattered showers tonight and then skies should clear. The weekend looks mostly sunny and, for the most part, dry. Sharply cooler weather is indicated for the first half of next week.

Today: Partly cloudy and milder. High around 80°F (27°C). Winds southwest 10-13 mph (16-21 kph)

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a few showers possible. Winds becoming westerly by dawn. Low 64°F (18°C)

Friday: Clearing early and continued mild High around 80°F (27°C).

Saturday: Partly sunny and warm. High 84-87°F (29-31°C) Low 64°F (18°C).

Nuclear Rocket Dumped Radiation on Los Angeles Residents in 1965 Test

By Melissa Healy

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

A federal agency's test of a nuclear-powered rocket in 1965 produced a radioactive cloud that drifted over Los Angeles before dissipating over the Pacific Ocean, according to a lawmaker who charged Wednesday that the area's 6 million residents were used as human guinea pigs in the experiment.

Citing documents released by the Energy Department in recent weeks, Rep. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) said the radioactive cloud of nuclear material was the result of an "intentional accident" designed to monitor the effects of a malfunction aboard the rocket.

While radioactivity levels were extremely low and unlikely to have caused illnesses, Markey said "an intentional reactor accident releasing a radioactive cloud should not be considered prudent public policy."

The incident is the latest disclosed as a result of an Energy Department effort to expose government testing programs in which humans may have been exposed to radiation without their knowledge or informed consent. A panel of scientists and ethicists commissioned by Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary is investigating a range of radiation experiments involving humans between 1945 and the late 1970s. The panel also is expected to recommend compensation and medical follow-up for victims.

In a letter sent to O'Leary Wednesday, Markey urged the secretary to refer the rocket test to the investigating panel for consideration as a human experiment. If the panel

accepts the experiment as an episode of human experimentation, Los Angeles residents who can demonstrate they were affected by the test could be eligible for some compensation. More likely, however, area residents would be subject to efforts to trace the long-term health effects of the test.

"The history of the Atomic Energy Commission's nuclear-powered rocket program is already one of unrestrained radioactive hubris," Markey wrote in a letter to O'Leary.

The test was conducted by the Atomic Energy Commission, a predecessor of the Energy Department, with the assistance of the U.S. Public Health Service and a private contractor.

At 10:58 a.m. PST on Jan. 12, 1965, scientists conducted what they called a "controlled excursion."

The rocket took off from Jackass Flats at the Nevada Test Site and burned off part of its radioactive core in a spectacle that scientists said "resembled a Roman candle." Prevailing winds pushed the resulting cloud of radioactive debris Southwest from the test site, over Death Valley, and then onward over "the Los Angeles area," according to the documents. Aircraft stopped tracking the cloud when it drifted over the Pacific Ocean.

Public Health officials taking routine air samples from Barstow, San Bernardino, Los Angeles and San Diego observed "increased

radioactivity" on the two days following the test, according to a 1968 report prepared by the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

In fact, levels of radiation released in the experiment were lower than scientists had predicted they would be, the Los Alamos report observed. At 15 miles from the test site, the maximum level of

The radioactive cloud of nuclear material was the result of an "intentional accident"

—Rep. Ed Markey (D-Mass.)

whole-body radiation exposure was measured at 5.7 millirad. That is well below current standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency for the exposure of the general public from commercial atomic power operations. Those standards dictate that over one year, a member of the general public should not be exposed to more than 25 millirad whole-body radiation.

Experts said that if individuals were exposed to 5.7 millirad at 15 miles from the test site, those in Los Angeles, some 200 miles away, would have had significantly lighter exposures. It is thus doubtful, said one aide to Markey, that the test caused measurable health effects among residents of the Los Angeles area.

But Markey and O'Leary have argued that even if exposure levels do not themselves prompt concern, the emerging picture of early radiation testing raises serious questions about the ethical standards observed by the federal government enforced in its experimental programs.

Computer Firms Race to Cut Prices on Older Machines

By Elizabeth Corcoran

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Following the prices of personal computers these days is a bit like watching a ski slalom race. Top computer makers have been whizzing past one another in their rush to cut prices.

Students buying machines for back-to-school use are finding they can afford an ever-wider collection of features such as built-in audio systems and units that play optical data disks known as CD-ROMs.

Some models once far too costly for these buyers are going for about \$1,000. And "what you can buy for less than \$2,000 is astonishing," said Richard Shaffer, who heads a research firm called Technologic Partners in New York.

Wednesday, International Business Machines Corp. joined the crowd, trimming its prices an average of 18 percent on a number of its desktop models aimed at the business market. A week ago, Compaq Computer Corp. grabbed attention by promising a similar range of cuts, also on models aimed at the business market.

Both companies plan to put out new lines of "multimedia" personal computers in the early autumn, in time for the industry's biggest selling time, the year-end holiday season. These machines can offer sound, graphics and video images.

Packard Bell Electronics Inc. already has announced its fall multimedia model, which will include a CD-ROM player, stereo sound and a

telephone answering machine. The machines will start at \$1,000 (without monitors) and range up to \$3,000.

Those brands are all built to the standard pioneered by IBM and rely on software by Microsoft Corp. Also feeling the price pressure is Apple Computer Inc., which sells the rival Macintosh line. Apple is trimming prices on its families of computers in a bid to remain competitive.

When new models appear, manufacturers often wind up dramatically cutting prices on older generations of machines so as to draw down warehouse stocks. Apple's model 150-PowerBook introduced in July, for instance, is priced at about \$1,470, but it is based on a 1991 model that sold for about \$4,500.

Also helping to drive down prices have been reductions in manufacturers' costs. Microprocessor king Intel Corp., which makes the chips that serve as the brains of the majority of personal computers, slashed prices twice this summer on its two top lines, the "486" and Pentium families.

The chipmaker plans to lower prices again in November as it scrambles to keep ahead of competitors threatening to encroach on its chip market. In hopes of convincing consumers that they should buy sophisticated PCs that rely on Pentium chips, Intel will spend \$80 million to advertise in consumer magazines such as Rolling Stone and Working Mother, and on the Come-

dy Central cable TV network.

PC prices have always been on a downward curve, as the market grew and economies of scale kicked in. But the war began in earnest in 1992, when Compaq Computer slashed prices and reorganized its business to run on far leaner profit margins than it — or other big manufacturers — had in the past. And by grabbing a larger share of the market, Compaq has continued to hold down prices.

Most analysts say there is no ideal moment to snatch up a new computer. "It's always a great time to buy," said Seymour Merrin, an industry consultant based in Palo Alto, Calif. "The value consumers are getting in PCs is unreal."

Others argue for a bit of patience. "I'd wait until a little past September" before buying, said J. William Gurley, an analyst at First Boston in New York. At that point, consumers will "get older stuff at a cheaper price," he said.

And there will be a new range of products targeted at consumers. "I think we're a month away from some really nice new products," Gurley said.

What today seems like "last year's model" to techno-elitists is still an impressive machine for many first-time buyers. And what once was seen as a hopelessly expensive system, such as a 486 computer with a heartbeat of 66 million cycles per second, is now one of the most popular items on computer buyers' lists.

Israel, PLO Agree to Transfer Civilian Powers to Palestinians

By Mary Curtius
LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization initiated an agreement Wednesday on early transfer of civilian powers to Palestinians living in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

After a negotiating session that lasted all night Tuesday, resumed Wednesday morning and finally ended at night, Israel said it would transfer authority on Sept. 12 to Palestinians for collecting taxes and for running health, welfare and tourism facilities throughout the West Bank.

"Today is the real start for the implementation of the peace agreement on the West Bank," Palestinian negotiator Nabil Shaath told reporters in Cairo, Egypt.

Even as negotiators there were

still finishing their accord, the first transfer of a civilian portfolio in the West Bank to Palestinians was already under way.

Israeli authorities formally turned over the Ramallah school district to Palestinians, in keeping with a separate agreement reached in Cairo last week, and promised that the rest of the West Bank education system will be turned over to Palestinians by Aug. 29.

"This is a far-reaching, most important step," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told Israel Radio about the education transfer. "I think we are acting wisely in not forcing our education on them, leaving them to educate in their own way."

The transfer of responsibility for civilian affairs is meant to give Palestinians in the West Bank — who still live under Israeli military rule — tangible evidence that Israel and the

PLO are working toward an agreement to let Israel redeploy its troops out of Palestinian population centers and permit them to conduct local elections and run their daily lives.

But Israel's military administration of the territories will continue alongside the Palestinian bureaucracy for at least a year, Israeli officials said. The Israeli administration will not be dissolved until elections are held in the territories and Israel's troops are redeployed.

"There will have to be cooperation," Shaath told reporters in Cairo. "We will need good will and a lot of cooperation; it will not work any other way."

Both Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat face rising opposition in their constituencies to the step-by-step disengagement process Israel and the PLO have committed.

Delta Air Lines, AT&T Announce Joint Venture for Info Technology

By Elizabeth Corcoran
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Delta Air Lines Inc. and AT&T said Tuesday that they are creating a joint venture that will manage Delta's communications and computing services, except for its reservation system.

For Delta, which reported a \$408 million loss for the fiscal year that ended June 30, the joint venture is intended to save money, absorb about 1,200 Delta employees and eventually generate revenues. For AT&T, it is a sign that its Global Information Solutions division is gaining momentum.

The as-yet unnamed company, which will be based in Atlanta, will initially be staffed by the approximately 1,200 Delta employees and 30 people from AT&T. Although neither company would reveal what

kinds of resources it plans to put into the venture, they described it as a "50-50 joint venture."

Worldspan, a company that is 38 percent owned by Delta, will take over Delta's reservation system. About 300 Delta employees will be transferred to Worldspan.

Delta Chairman Ronald Allen said the airline hopes to save about \$400 million over the next decade by relying on the AT&T joint venture for information technology. During that time, Delta expects to buy about \$2.8 billion of the fledgling company's services. Eventually, the joint venture may sell its services to others in the transportation industry.

Allen would not discuss precisely how Delta hoped to achieve cost savings from the deal, other than to say he hoped to see "productivity gains." Typically, any benefits from

contracting out for data processing occur because the outside firm handling them consolidates expensive resources and knowledgeable staff.

The announcement culminates a two-year effort at Delta to find another company to run its information technology systems. Delta has said it wants to trim its costs by about \$2 billion by June 1997.

Even though this deal may look small, "saving \$40 million a year (for 10 years) is a big deal if it goes straight to the bottom line," said Thomas Longman, an airline industry analyst with securities firm Bear, Stearns & Co. in New York.

The deal "is positive for AT&T," said Connie Luecke, a telecommunications analyst with securities firm Duff & Phelps Inc. in Chicago. AT&T has been trying to transform its information solutions division for "one-stop-shopping" she said.

White House May Put Off Health Care Action Until Next Year

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The White House is nearing a conclusion that action on meaningful health care reform is all but impossible this year and has begun laying the groundwork for moving the debate into the next session of Congress, according to administration and congressional sources.

Even though officials continue to voice hope that Senate leaders can craft a workable compromise from two competing health care reform plans, time and tempers are growing short on Capitol Hill. The House already has left town after its rancorous debate on the crime bill, which is now stalled in the Senate, and there has been virtually no progress in recent weeks toward consensus on health care.

President Clinton remains determined not to settle for half steps on health care, which he believes may do more harm than good and doom chances for the sweeping reformation of the American health care system that he wants.

Unless the Senate can surmount numerous obstacles in the next few days and produce a bipartisan plan that makes significant progress toward universal health care coverage, the White House is prepared reluctantly to call it quits for this year, officials said.

Clinton has discussed the prospect of suspending the health care debate until next year with several influential senators who share his concern about the chances of passing an even minimally acceptable bill this year.

Chavis Loses Bid to Get Job Back, But Will Negotiate Severance Soon

THE BALTIMORE SUN

WASHINGTON

Fired NAACP Executive Director Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. lost his court bid Wednesday to get his job back, but NAACP lawyers said they would meet with him soon to negotiate severance.

Superior Court Judge Herbert B. Dixon Jr. refused to order the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to reinstate the ousted leader. Chavis alleged that the NAACP board violated its bylaws when it dismissed him Saturday.

The judge said the Chavis-NAACP case was essentially a contract dispute. He suggested that Chavis' recourse was not to seek a temporary restraining order, but to sue the NAACP for breach of contract.

Chavis vowed to keep fighting in court to block his firing, and a Sept. 2 hearing was set. But then he said he hoped to "avert a full-blown court battle."

"All I want is fair treatment," Chavis told reporters outside the courthouse. "I want my civil rights respected by the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization."

When Chavis was fired, he lost a job with a \$200,000-a-year base salary, cost-of-living and merit pay increases, free health and life insurance, a housing allowance, and travel and entertainment expenses while on NAACP business. His three-year contract, which many NAACP board members have never seen, was made part of the court record.

For the 46-year-old minister, who made \$64,000 in 1991 as executive director of the United Church of Christ's Commission for Racial Justice, moving to the NAACP was a giant step up in pay and perks.

Graduate Student Council

Orientation Week Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
* Tickets Required for marked events, available at the GSC info booth!						
28		10-4: GSC Information booth and tickets Lobby 10 11 am: Campus Walking Tour 7-9 pm: Activities Midway, Johnson Center	9-4: ID Photos, Lobby 13 10-4: GSC Information, Lobby 10 1-4 pm: MIT Fair, Lobby 13 4-4:30 pm: Urban Safety Seminar, 10-250 7-9 pm: Athletics Midway, Johnson Center	9-4: ID Photos, Lobby 13 10-4: GSC Information booth and tickets, Lobby 10 12-2: Picnic * Killian Court 5:30-7:30: GSC Open House, 50-222. Ice Cream! 7:30-?: Night On the Town, 50-222	10-4: GSC Information, Lobby 10 12-9: Refreshments at Muddy Charles, 50-120 2 pm & 4 pm: Trolley Tour around Boston 77 Mass Ave. * 4-6 pm: New International Student Reception 26-100	
7-10:30 pm: Harbour Cruise, Long Wharf *	29	30	31	1	2	3

And coming up the following weeks:

- Monday, Sept. 5 : Hiking Trip *
- Saturday, Sept. 10 : GSC Puzzle Rally
- Night on the Town II !
- Sunday, Sept. 11 : Red Sox Game ? *

- Tuesday, Sept. 13 : Women's Student Orientation
- Wednesday, Sept. 14 : GL 001 (Intro to Grad Life)
- Thursday, Sept. 15 : Can We Talk? * (Gender Communications Workshop)
- Friday, Sept. 16 : Minority Students Orientation

OPINION

Welcome, Class of 1998



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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer for \$20.00 per year. Third Class by *The Tech*, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139-0901. Third Class postage paid at Boston, Mass. Non-profit Organization Permit No. 59720. **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. Telephone: (617) 258-8324. FAX: (617) 258-8226. Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available. Entire contents © 1994 *The Tech*. Printed on recycled paper by MassWeb Printing Co.

Welcome and congratulations. Be proud not only of your admittance, but also of making the decision to come here to begin the first of what may come to be the most important years of your life.

Now that you've made the first step and arrived here, you'll be faced with many decisions, both immediate and long term.

Some will be trivial — choosing an Athena username or deciding where to eat — and others will be difficult — selecting your dormitory or living group, picking a major, or finding the right group of friends.

Along the path to your commencement in 1998, you'll be challenged in ways you may not yet be able to imagine. Whether facing academic, social, or even physical challenges, you will find out what MIT is really about — stretching your mind, developing your abilities to their fullest, and pushing your limits.

So go ahead, take that hard class, try out for that team, join that interesting activity. Rush your favorite living group, and meet as many people as you can. But don't be overly disap-

pointed if you don't get an A-plus, don't make the team, or don't have time for an activity. And don't get upset if you don't get a bid, don't get invited back to a party, or can't find the right group of friends right away. No matter what happens, always try to maintain perspective.

The college years are when you find out who you really are. If you try to please somebody other than yourself, especially during Rush, consider if it will be worth it in the long run. Don't be afraid to explore new activities, people, and ideas, even for discovery's sake. If you try to please somebody other than yourself, especially during Rush, consider if it will be worth it in the long run. And don't be afraid to ask for help — MIT students are extraordinarily helpful in giving advice, and there are many people who will just listen as well.

So welcome to MIT. Despite some flaws throughout the system, we feel that you will find your education here a positive experience overall. The resources of the Institute are truly great, both in quantity and quality. It is up to you to discover and take advantage of them.

Editorial

Letters To The Editor

Continuous Action In Soccer Does Not Preclude Excitement

I had to respond to the remark of John A. Parente '96, stating that "Soccer games are very low scoring, a key to drawing excitement," ["Soccer Not Highly Regarded Highly in United States," July 20]. For me, a major turn-off with American football and baseball is that most of the time nothing happens.

Occasionally there is a brief spasm of activity and then the players go back to standing around doing nothing. By contrast, in soccer there is continuous action, which provides plenty of excitement even if the final score is low.

What irked me about Parente's letter was the typical American parochialism which says: "Soccer isn't popular here; therefore it must be a boring game, and the rest of the world must be wrong."

Hugh Dunne PhD '87

Proposed Bike Lanes Are a Good Idea

In response to the article "Proposed Bike Lanes Upset Planning Office," [July 20], I do not understand why MIT is so negative towards such a positive city effort to make bicycling safe for its many bicyclists — most of which, in this area, are MIT's own employees and students.

Rebecca Shrigley Hall

What Did You Do for Summer Vacation?

Column by Michael K. Chung

COLUMNIST

Welcome back to MIT, everyone. "Wait a minute," many of you may be saying, "didn't this guy graduate? Why is he still around this place?" But then, many of you may not have any clue of who I am anyway (i.e. if you're a freshman, don't worry — you're not supposed to have any clue who I am).

I suppose that this past summer had its fair share of activity, whether shocking or pleasantly surprising. I'm sure you've all heard the O.J. Simpson joke by now:

"Knock knock."

"Who's there?"

"O.J."

"O.J. who?"

"Congratulations — you're on the jury!"

And how about the World Cup? Though I never saw a live game, seeing the coverage on television and reading the sports column by Daniel Wang '97 ["World Cup Game Proves to Be a Memorable Experience,"] in the July 20 issue of *The Tech* only helped me to catch World Cup fever. Though the World Cup fever has seemed to have died out considerably, the "R/O issue fever" is just starting to spread at *The Tech*, so keep your eyes peeled for these daily issues spouting the latest on what's going on around the Institute.

By now you may be wondering what I did over my summer, since the headline of this column reads as it does (but of course, I might just be deluding myself). What did I do — I worked out fairly regularly in June and July, but a mere two times in the month of August. Maybe taking the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) on Aug. 20 had something to do with it.

Other exciting news about my summer ("Oh please, Mike, tell us more!"): I played violin in Killian Court during the twilight hours a few times toward the end of summer. If you play closer to Lobby 10, you may be

able to hear the echo from the buildings. If you play near the flag pole on the east side of the court, you may get approached by tourists for a photo session. Not that I minded, of course; it's just that it was the last thing I expected to happen amidst playing (or rather, "trying to play") the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto.

Other than these seemingly random things, there weren't a whole lot of highlights to my summer. As a recent graduate of MIT, I am pleased to say that I enjoyed my years at MIT. As some advice to you freshmen getting your start at the Institute (this may even apply to some of you upperclassmen as well), I hope that you take advantage of some of the many opportunities that the school affords. From the purely academic to the purely recreational, there is a great wealth of resources from which to draw at MIT. Go to the Activities, Athletic, and Academic Midways with an open mind and a lot of questions. You may be surprised at just how much is available to the student body.

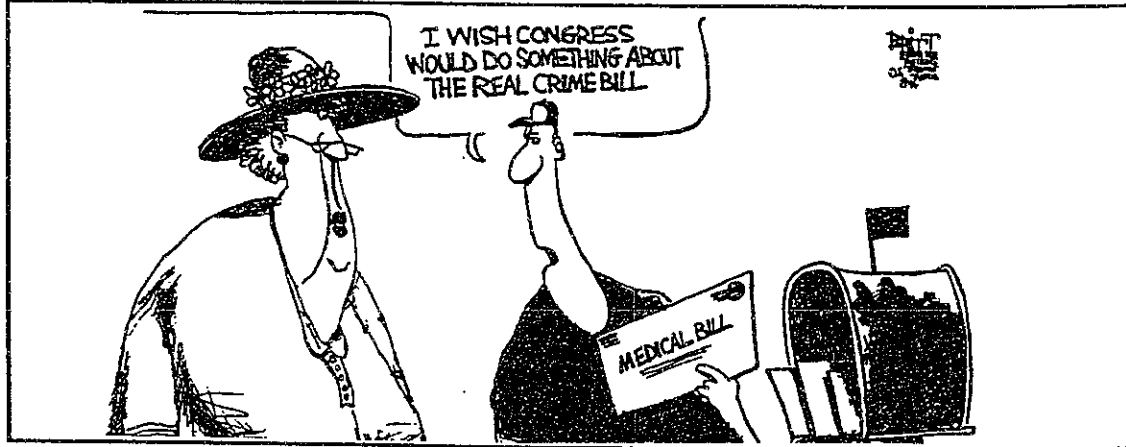
But don't wait for things to come to you. Even if some things do, it's entirely possible for you not to like them and put MIT activities off in general. Keep in mind that "everyone you will talk to in the next few days is a sales-

man," ["Freshmen: Stay Alert and Rush Will Be Fine," August 28, 1992]. As retired Opinion Editor Bill Jackson '93 explained so eloquently in one of his many columns addressed to the entering freshman class in 1992, "Cut through the sales pitches. Make the right choice. And keep your head out of the sand."

No matter what, don't let yourself become intimidated while you're at MIT. Soon President Vest will reassure each and everyone of you that "you were not admitted by mistake," ["Vest Welcomes New Students to MIT," Aug. 28, 1992]. Sure, times may become tough, challenging, and humbling. But remember what qualities were responsible for bringing you here (if you don't know, you owe it to yourself to figure it out), and don't let go of the vitality that has brought you the success that you already have experienced.

Remember the old saying: There are three types of people in this world — those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who asked "What happened?" Don't become grouped with the wrong classes of people. Good luck to each of you: May your time be truly meaningful here.

It doesn't take much to twist former opinion editor Michael K. Chung's arm to help out with the R/O issues, in spite of his new job.



Opinion Policy

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

Dissents, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be typed, double-spaced and addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. Electronic submissions in plain text format may be mailed to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. All submissions are due by 4 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

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.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. Electronic mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. Mail to specific departments may be sent to the following addresses on the Internet: ads@the-tech.mit.edu, news@the-tech.mit.edu, sports@the-tech.mit.edu, arts@the-tech.mit.edu, photo@the-tech.mit.edu, circ@the-tech.mit.edu (circulation department). For other matters, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person.



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*For questions about Athena accounts, contact x3-1325, accounts@mit.
 For other questions about Athena, call the Athena Consultants, x3-4435, or use olc.
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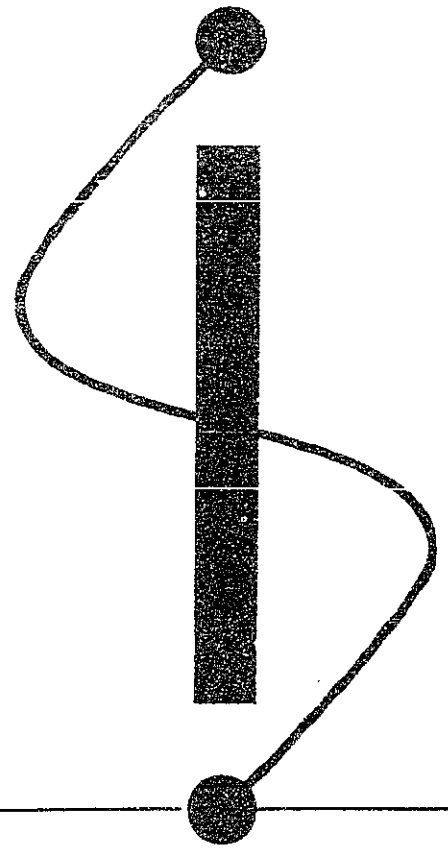
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Hello Freshmen!

Information Systems (IS) welcomes you to MIT. IS is the central computing group at MIT. We manage the campus network (MITnet), run the campus computer store (MCC), offer training, documentation, and consulting assistance on the Athena system, microcomputers, and the Internet. We also publish newsletters such as *i/s* which focuses on general computing issues at MIT and *The Athena Insider* ...

During R/O week, you will see IS reps at various activities. Come to our Minicourses for an introduction to Athena. Contact the RCC in your dorm. Meet the consultants and ask your questions about buying computers, about Athena, and about MITnet. And don't forget to register for your Athena account today — you'll need it for the housing lottery.



Athena Minicourse Schedule



no fee, no registration, no reservations — just show up in Room 26-100 during R/O Week and learn all you need to start using Athena, the MIT campus-wide computing facility.

Room 26-100	Monday Aug. 29	Tuesday Aug. 30	Wednesday Aug. 31	Thursday Sept. 1
10am	Intro to Athena	Intro to Athena	Working on Athena	Advanced W.P.: EZ
11am	Basic Word Processing	Basic Word Processing	Working on Athena	Advanced W.P.: LaTeX
noon	Intro to Athena	Intro to Athena	Working on Athena	Advanced W.P.: EZ
1pm	Basic Word Processing	Basic Word Processing	Working on Athena	Advanced W.P.: LaTeX
2pm	Intro to Athena	Intro to Athena	Working on Athena	Advanced W.P.: EZ
3pm	Basic Word Processing	Basic Word Processing	Working on Athena	Advanced W.P.: LaTeX
4pm	Intro to Athena	Intro to Athena	Working on Athena	Advanced W.P.: EZ
5pm	Basic Word Processing	Basic Word Processing	Working on Athena	Advanced W.P.: LaTeX

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Back-to-School Lobby days in W20 — Demos, Information, Goodies and More

- August 26 (Women's Suffrage Day)
- August 29
- August 30
- August 31
- September 1
- September 6
- September 9

September 2 Come to the Computer Fair in the Bush Room 10-105 from 10am to 5pm

NSS Wants Talented Students

Become a Network Consultant

Network Support Services (NSS) is looking for a select group of students to assist in providing support to MIT's network users. We are looking for motivated, high-energy individuals, who enjoy working with people and solving problems.

- We will be hiring consultants who:
- Have the time to commit to an important job: 7 or more hours per week, in 2+ hour increments.
 - Are willing to commit to ongoing training in network technology and applications.
 - Can make a commitment to providing consistent and reliable support to the users of MITnet.
 - Are responsible and dependable workers.

Above all, our consultants must be interested in helping us to provide quality support for users of MITnet. Problem-solving, patience, and communications skills are important.

- The Benefits of the position are:
- Good pay, based on experience and displayed merit.
 - A wide range of practical networking experience.
 - Interesting work in a challenging and fun environment.

If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, send mail to bobmah@mit.edu, or call Bob Mahoney at 3-0774.

Please send resumes to Cynthia Endriga, E40-334. Selection will begin immediately and continue until all positions are filled. Don't delay!

Some Free Network Stuff You Can Use From Your Dorm Room

Applications available for	Macs	PCs
Discuss	Yes	No
E-mail	Yes	Yes [Windows]
E-mail notification	Yes	Yes [Windows]
Finger client	Yes	Yes
Finger server	No	Yes [Windows]
FTP client & server	Yes	Yes
Gopher client	Yes	Yes
Kerberos password changer	Yes	Yes [Windows]
Mosaic	Yes	Yes [Windows]
TechInfo	Yes	Yes [Windows]
Telnet client	Yes	Yes
Usenet newsreader	Yes	Yes [Windows]
Zephyr	Yes	No

DOS applications are supported on 8036, 8088, or 80286 machines with a 10 megabyte or greater hard disk running DOS.
Windows applications require an 80386SX or better machine running Windows 3.1 or better.

Where to get free network software:

- anonymous ftp to <net-dist.mit.edu> from the directory /pub
- TechInfo in the path Main → Computing → Network Software Distribution (net-dist)
- AppleShare zone IS-DCNS, on the server called net-dist. (Log on as Guest.)

Woman Surprises Intruder at DKE

By Sarah Y. Keightley
EDITOR IN CHIEF

At about 1 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 12, a summer resident at the Delta Kappa Epsilon house confronted two people that had entered the house. The suspects sprayed the woman with a chemical and fled.

They were later apprehended by the Cambridge Police Department.

Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin said that the woman was not an MIT student. Also, the woman was not injured by the chemical weapon, believed to be pepper spray, she said.

The woman surprised the suspects, who had entered the house from a window on the first floor, according to a Campus Police bulletin.

After the Campus Police received a description of the suspects, a call went out to city and state police forces, Glavin said. "We advised the Cambridge police," and the suspects were arrested a few streets away from the campus, she said.

The Campus Police assisted by bringing the woman in to identify the subjects, Glavin said.

The suspects were caught on bicycles that were believed to be stolen. Nothing else was stolen, Glavin said.

DKE residents said that they had no comment on the incident.

Recruiting Efforts Address Stereotypes

Women, from Page 1

One of Birgeneau's three daughters attended MIT and graduated in 1993. "My daughter who went to MIT was relatively the happiest," he said. "I feel good about my daughter's experience here."

In his letter Birgeneau wrote that because his daughter attended MIT, "I know from her firsthand that MIT is a wonderful place for a bright, ambitious young woman to obtain an undergraduate education. ... We are very proud of the academic performance of our women students at MIT."

"The letter told [prospective students] MIT was a human place," Birgeneau said.

"In an ideal world, our students

and faculty would represent the actual diversity in the United States," Birgeneau said. This recruitment effort is progress in making MIT's student population more balanced, he said.

As a result of his letter, Birgeneau said he has received personal letters and telephone calls from prospective applicants and their parents.

Birgeneau said that he is not aware of other universities using this approach to reach out to prospective female students, though administrators from other schools seem interested in this idea. The new female president of the University of Pennsylvania expressed interest in writing a similar letter, Birgeneau said.

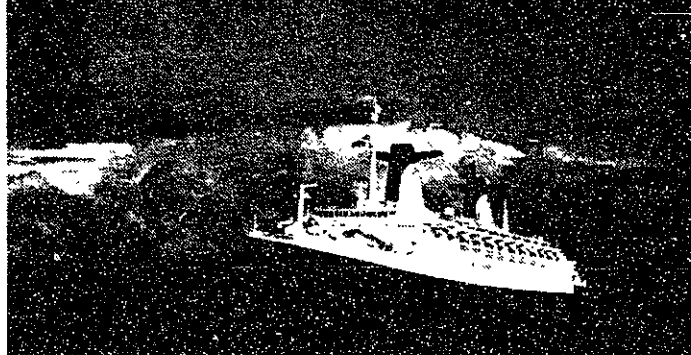
It'll grow on you.

Use a latex condom. You'll get used to it. It's thin, stretchable, and barring abstinence, the best way to prevent AIDS. For more information about HIV and AIDS, call the AIDS Action Committee Hotline at 1-800-235-2331.



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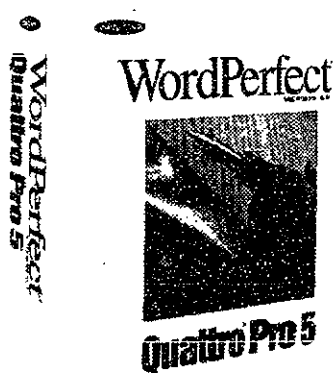
For some people, inner peace is the most elusive thing on earth. But for millions of others, it comes naturally from knowing God.

The God we worship never promised to make life a bed of roses. But He gives us the inner peace and strength to endure them, and eventually to triumph over them.

That's why we're inviting you to join a small group called "Search for Significance". Wherever your search for peace has taken you in the past, there's hope for the future. "Search for Significance" is a small support group of 6-10 people who meet weekly to discuss issues dealing with self esteem and the search for inner peace. It is not a professional therapy group.

If you are interested in developing a trusting relationship with a small group of peers who work within the MIT community, call 253-2328 by August 30 or come to an introductory meeting on Tuesday, August 30 at Noon in W11-125

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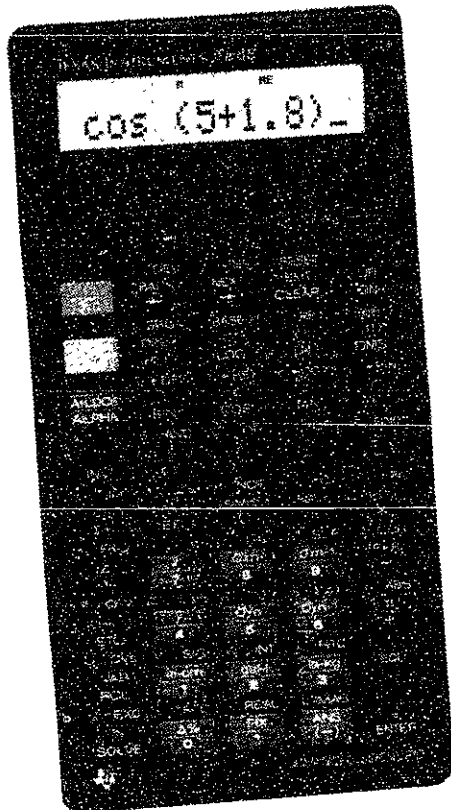


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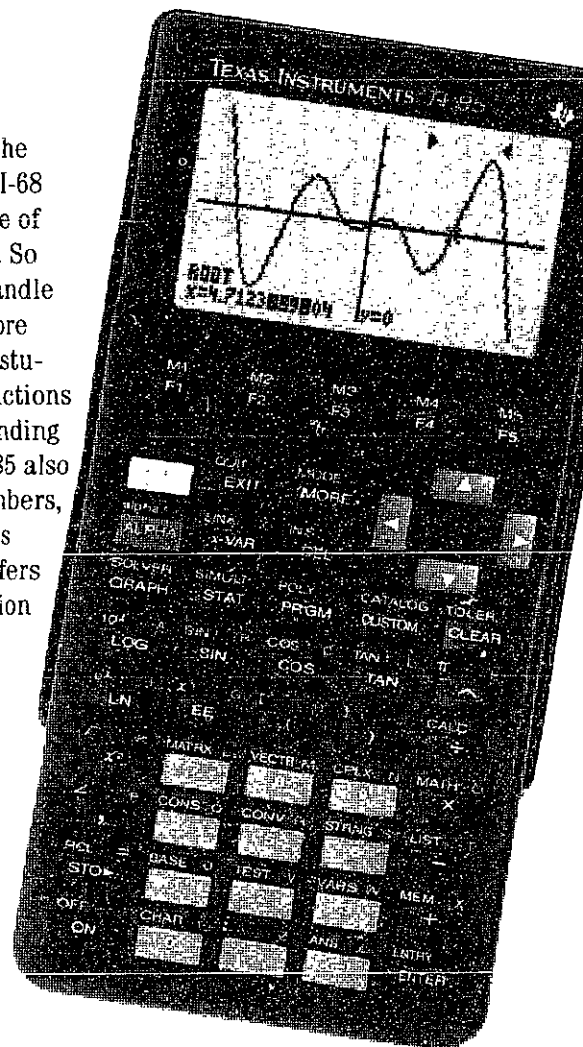
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Local Banks Offer Wide Variety of Packages

By Eva Moy
STAFF REPORTER

Choosing a bank is usually one of the first priorities of incoming students. Banks offer a wide variety of packages and benefits, including monthly service fees, automatic teller machine access, and free checks. Students should also consider the location of the closest branch and automatic teller machines.

Most new students will save some money this year, because banks must waive monthly service charges for people under 19, according to state law. While some students may find a good deal while they are under 19, they should keep in mind any charges they will incur later.

Most banks allow both checking and savings withdrawals, as well as money transfers and balance inquiries. Some banks charge a service fee for ATM transactions made at machines owned by another bank, so called "out-of-network" transactions.

Erin Lovett, branch manager of the Student Center Baybank, suggested that students shop around and talk to several bank representatives before making their final decision.

A bank account can be a way to learn financial independence and

build a good credit rating. While some students may be more interested in skipping the basics and investing their money in stocks or money market accounts, this article will cover the basic checking and savings packages at eight MIT-area banks.

Bank of Boston

The Bank of Boston's First-Up Checking Account has a monthly service fee of \$2.50, which allows 10 checks and four ATM withdrawals per month for no charge. People can also choose the Minimum Balance Checking Account for \$6 per month. The charge is waived with either a minimum of \$1,000 in checking or \$2,000 in savings. The Maximum Checking Account charges \$8 per month, but offers unlimited check-writing and ATM withdrawals, with 10 additional out-of-network ATM withdrawals.

For savings accounts, the Bank of Boston offers a \$1 per month account with no minimum balance and no ATM charges.

Baybank

Baybank emphasizes its Student Value Package. For \$6 per month, customers can write eight checks and use Baybank ATMs without additional charge. There is a \$0.75

fee for each check after the eighth, and the non-Baybank ATM fees depend on the other bank.

The savings account requires no minimum balance, unlimited ATM access, and a \$3.50 per month service fee.

Cambridge Savings Bank

Two of Cambridge Savings Bank's packages are geared toward students. The Personal Checking Account can be opened free of charge with an initial \$100 deposit. Non-CSB ATM transactions cost \$1 each.

The Statement Savings Account has no fees and no minimum balance. Customers also enjoy ATM overdraft protection.

Cambridge Trust Company

Cambridge Trust Company's ATM Convenience Account has no monthly service fee and requires no minimum balance. The first 50 checks are also printed free. Each ATM withdrawal costs \$1, and each check after the first five costs \$3.

Statement Savings Accounts require either a \$200 minimum or a \$2 per month fee. Three free ATM withdrawals are allowed, with a \$1 charge for each subsequent withdrawal.

For all accounts opened in Sep-

tember, Cambridge Trust offers a free American Heritage dictionary.

Cambridgeport Bank

Cambridgeport Bank offers a Value Checking Account, with no monthly fees and no minimum balance. The 10-free check limit can be waived by either a \$500 average daily balance each month or a direct deposit arrangement. Otherwise, each additional check costs \$1 apiece. The account also features unlimited Cambridgeport ATM withdrawals and three free out-of-network ATM withdrawals, with a \$1.25 charge thereafter.

Customers can open a Statement Savings Account with a \$10 minimum, and maintain the Account with either a \$200 minimum or a \$1 service fee per month.

East Cambridge Savings Bank

East Cambridge Savings Bank highlights three of its accounts for students. The Basic Checking Account costs \$3 per month, with no minimum balance and nine checks free. Each additional check is \$1. The Now Account's monthly \$4 service fee and \$0.30 check fee can be waived with a \$600 minimum daily balance. Non-ECSB ATM withdrawals and balance inquiries are charged \$0.75 each.

The only restraint for the Passbook Savings Account is a \$10 minimum, and there are no fees for normal transactions.

Shawmut Bank

Shawmut Bank offers no-frills checking and savings accounts, with no minimum balance, no service charges, and a \$0.50 per month service fee which can be waived by using direct deposit. Checks in excess of 10 per month are charged \$0.75. The minimum balance is \$10 per account. There are no ATM charges.

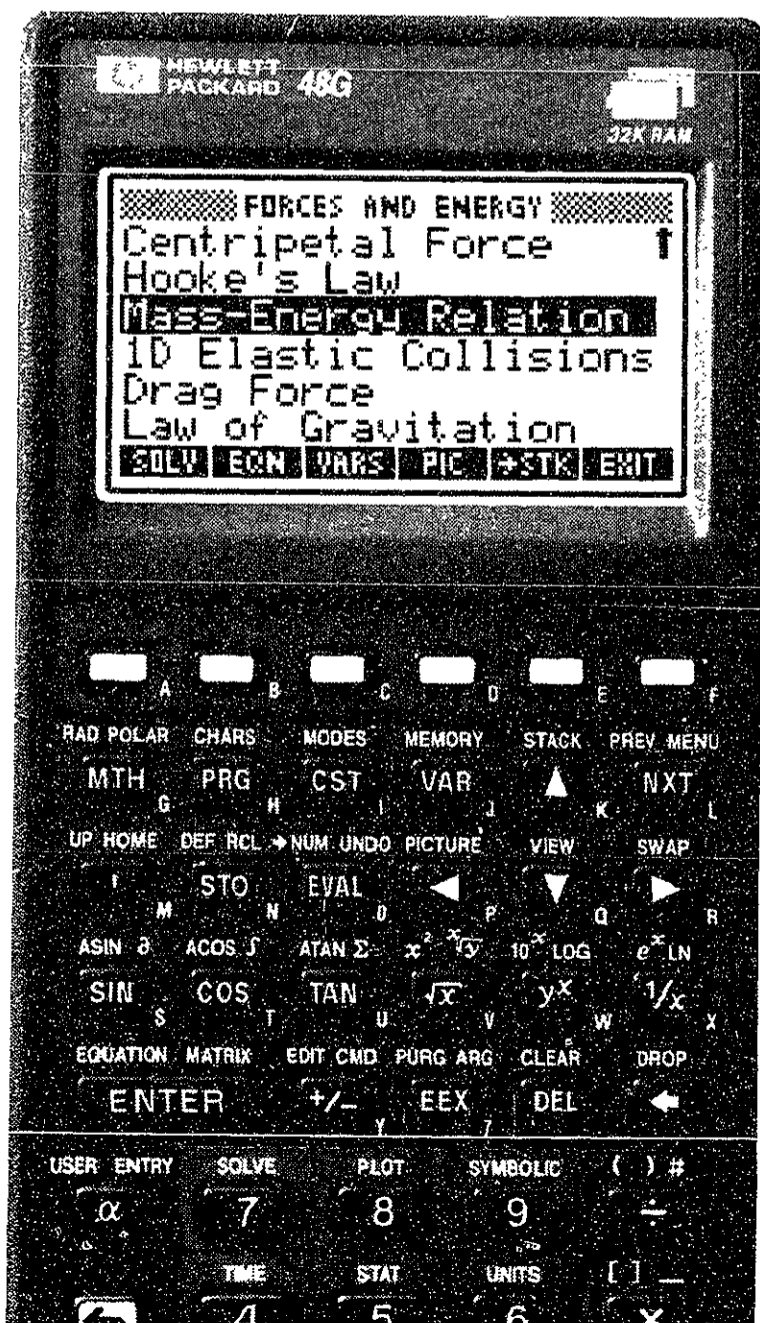
US Trust

US Trust has a more complicated set of fees and benefits. In Choice Checking One, customers who keep a daily minimum of \$100 can avoid the \$8 monthly service fee. There is also a \$0.35 charge for US Trust ATMs and \$1 for non-US Trust ATMs. Benefits include 200 free checks, preferred rate loans, overdraft protection, credit card protection, travel advantages, and interest for accounts over \$500. Choice Checking Two offers many of the same benefits at \$5 per month, but with no minimum balance required.

US Trust's Savings Account requires either a \$250 minimum or a \$3.50 charge per month.

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USP Head To Assist Provost

Clay, from Page 1

ate department head and directed the Masters in City Planning program before being named department head in 1992. From 1980 to 1984, he was assistant director of the MIT-Harvard Joint Center for Urban Studies.

Clay received an AB degree with honors from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1968 and a PhD from MIT in 1975. Clay became an assistant professor at MIT in 1974, associate professor in 1980, and professor in 1992.

Clay is a member of the policy and research advisory councils of the Federal National Mortgage Association. He is also a member of the board of directors of Greater Boston Community Development, the National Housing Trust, and the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts.

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Cactus Demon to Play at 'Unplugged'

By Scott Deskin
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Not to be outdone by MTV, MIT will hold its own free-form pop-music jam as part of this year's Residence and Orientation Week lineup. The concert, affectionately known as "MIT Unplugged," will take place this evening on the Student Center front steps and is open to all MIT students.

The Student Center Committee is sponsoring the concert, and it is one of many concerts that the SCC sponsors throughout the year — which includes the annual Battle of the Bands in the spring.

The headlining act is Nine-Headed Cactus Demon, one of MIT's premier house bands. The group has performed at several MIT events, including the Battle of the Bands. The concert also features the DJs of WMBR, MIT's on-campus radio station.

The SCC has sponsored similar R/O band parties in the past, but they have had poor attendance due in part to bad timing, said SCC

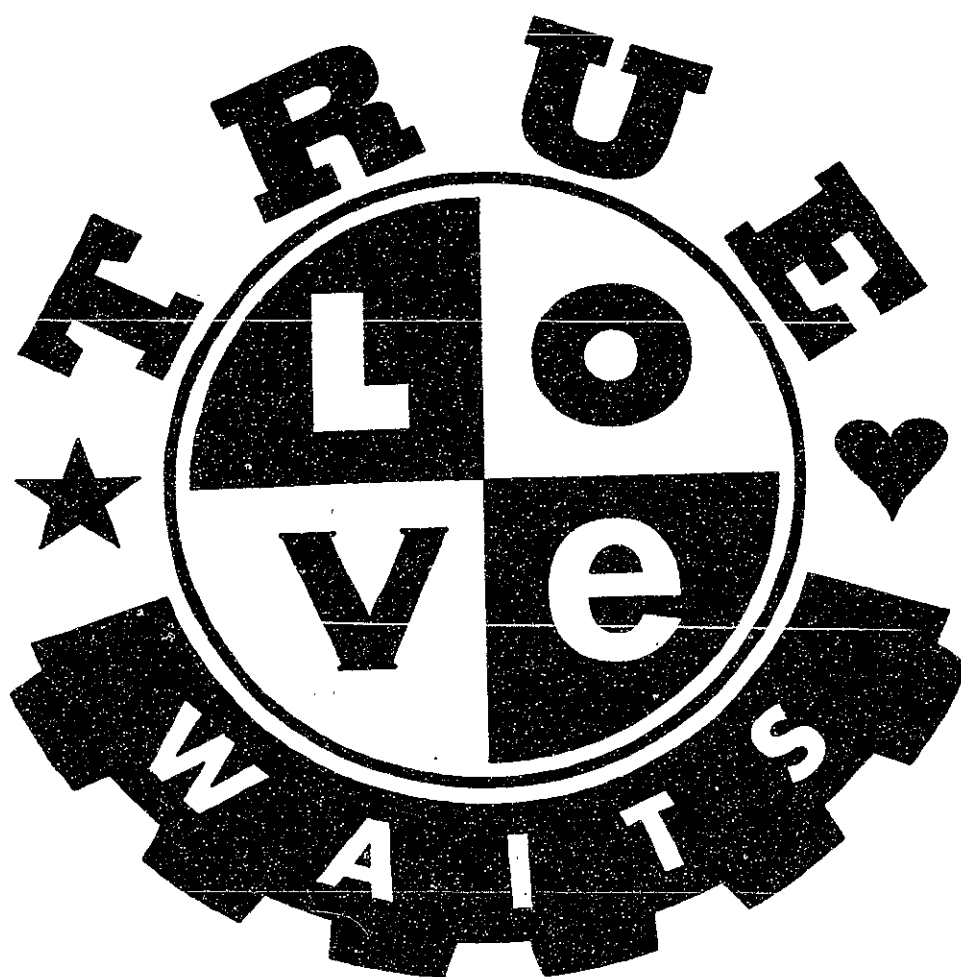
Logistics Manager Jon A. Allen '96. Last year's "Red Line Party," which was scheduled in the middle of the week after Rush, conflicted with many students' plans to study for that week's Advanced Standing Examinations, he said.

"We decided to move the band party up one week, so that the freshmen can have a chance to take a break before Rush starts," Allen said. The posters may hype "MIT Unplugged" as a live band party, but in fact it is just an informal gathering of students on Kresge Oval to listen or to just hang out, Allen said.

Event organizer Grant W. Su '97 enthusiastically said, "It'll be a blast!"

Organizers see the concert as a way for freshmen to kick back and relax. Most of all, Allen believes that the concert provides an opportunity for everyone to enjoy the best music of MIT's rock scene in a low-pressure setting.

"MIT Unplugged" is scheduled from 9:30 p.m. to midnight; the rain location is Lobdell Court.



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New Students to Receive Housing Results via E-mail

Housing, from Page 1

the chaplains' offices, and reconstructed the building as an annex to McCormick.

The new building, which is nearly complete, will house 26 women. "W2 looks very nice. Tom Phalen from Physical Plant did an excellent job on the project," said Christopher Nolan, manager of renovations and construction in the Office of Housing and Food Services.

The building will receive an occupancy permit on Friday, Nolan said.

Another 24 rooms were made available for women when the AXO house at 478 Commonwealth Ave. opened last Friday.

AXO is the second oldest sorority at MIT, and the second to own a house. In 1991, Alpha Phi, the oldest sorority, moved into a house across the street from the AXO house.

"I just took a tour of the new sorority in Kenmore Square and it's just beautiful," Jablonski said.

The housing office also completed many less apparent renovations during the summer. More than 50 contractors were hired to do a variety of construction, including plumbing, electrical work, and masonry, according to Nolan.

"The dormitories are in excellent condition," Nolan said.

"The plumbing seems to be the

worst problem we're having in housing and we're trying to get that done," Nolan said. "Every time we have to work on a shower valve, we have to shut down water for the whole building." Valves that allow water to be turned off in only part of a building have been added or existing valves have been repaired, he said.

New housing lottery

For students who do not join one of the independent living groups, their first introduction to the housing system — and perhaps to the Athena Computing Environment — will be the housing lottery, which begins on Sunday at 4 p.m.

For the first time ever, students must indicate their dormitory preferences using their Athena accounts and will receive the results via electronic mail. The intent of the new program was to "try to make the lottery more convenient and less hectic," Eisenmann said.

By using Athena to submit lottery choice and return results, the Dean's Office hopes to give students more time to enter their choices and to eliminate the long line of people outside La Sala de Puerto Rico on Tuesday, when the lottery results will be released.

Students will still be able to ask a person about their lottery results, but machine communication is preferred Eisenmann said. "We're hop-

ing they don't [come to the R/C Center for housing results], because in addition to getting information about their permanent assignment there is information on their new house like advising, City Days, and in-house rooming assignments," he said.

Students can enter their lottery preferences between Sunday at 4 p.m. and Monday at 3 p.m. in any Athena cluster. They must first register for Athena accounts. "If they do feel they would like some assistance on Sunday evening and during the day Monday, they can talk to consultants in the Student Center cluster," Eisenmann said.

The move from temporary assignments to permanent assignments will also be delayed this year. The goal, again, was to make the process "a bit more convenient, and a bit more straightforward," Eisenmann said.

On Sept. 1, all students will move out of their temporary room assignments between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and move into permanent dormitory assignments between 2 and 5 p.m.

"It will allow students to move during the day and to have the house staffs available if there are any problems," Eisenmann said. He also noted that "all of the freshman will be moving at the same time and all the rooms will be available."

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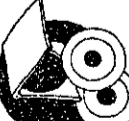


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Is the United States Ready for a Major Soccer League?

Wang, from Page 12

press. "If we can do half as much in the next four years as we did in the last four, we can win the World Cup in 1998."

Time will tell if what he says is true. For the moment, though, it is quite believable. Bearing the responsibilities of being the host nation has provided a huge boost to America's World Cup team. After losing all three of their first-round contests in 1990, the team was determined to at least save themselves from embarrassment when the competition came to its turf. The U.S. Soccer Federation hired an experienced Bora Milutinovic, who immediately ordered the construction of a national training headquar-

ters. Many of the top players joined European professional leagues to gain some experience.

I have a feeling that Americans sense some kind of need to be a world power in all major sports. While my statement can be disputed, it is true that in soccer, the most popular sport in the world, the United States seemed to have lacked something. The drive for improvement in this sport is possibly one of the best things done to any athletic program in the country.

All of the hard work seemed to have paid off. The team advanced to the second round for the first time ever. Along the way, it pulled off an upset against Colombia, a team many had chosen to win the whole thing. Interestingly, that single game

may have set the careers of many American players, as a number of them were flooded with offers from European teams the night after the game. It is hard to believe that a team that gave up only one goal in each game did not advance any further. Even so, masses of fans that suddenly popped up clearly showed their support throughout the four games played.

With such a high amount of participation among the younger Americans, I am quite surprised that the United States is not already an international power. After all, soccer is one of the first sports many children pick up, and at least where I live, there is a sizable league in every town. Furthermore, almost every high school and college boasts a

team, in addition to many other opportunities for practice and competition.

So perhaps the problem could be with providing opportunities to play at the highest levels. There was a time when I believed that this country needed a professional soccer league, which could boost the abilities of American players.

A similar situation existed with our national basketball teams. In the 1970s and 1980s, the U.S. team consisting of college players, often struggled in the Olympics and World Championships. Bring in NBA players, and no one can come close, as demonstrated by the "Dream Team" of the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

The situation even exists now. At this summer's Goodwill Games, the U.S. team comprised of collegians proved to be very beatable. That team marked a stark contrast to the Dream Team II that easily won the World Championship of Basketball weeks later.

I had a strange feeling, though, when I read in the newspapers that the Major Soccer League is being formed next year. With the momentum generated among the public by the World Cup, this is an ideal time to form such a league. The league is a great idea but I wonder if it will work.

Will the league actually attract talent and spectators, and produce world-class players? A problem I see is that many American players already have lucrative contracts overseas, and would prefer to stay there. So it is possible that the league will consist of everyone except the very best, even within the American talent pool.

It will be difficult to bring in players from other countries, unless there are enough people with enough money to lure them. There is a lot unknown about this league so far, so we will just have to wait and see how it turns out.

Something that might help the American cause even more is to continue exposure to international competition. The U.S. team needs to gain even more experience, which comes from playing the world's best.

The team could do so by having the opponents come over here. A few international tournaments and some exhibitions could work wonders. I am sure that teams from other countries would enjoy and would be willing to play in America.

Many players enjoyed playing and staying in the States during the World Cup. Some members of teams that played in New Jersey (Giants Stadium) even made side trips to Atlantic City and New York City during their free time.

There is one final thing I would like to discuss about soccer in America. Many of you probably know very well that Meola, one of the best-recognized members of the U.S. World Cup team, has signed to play American football with the New York Jets. I do realize that soccer players often become successful football kickers, and that this might be something that Meola really wants to do, but his decision doesn't seem to be too good for the image of soccer in the America.

This move will probably affect how soccer followers in other countries view the American interest in soccer. They may find it hard to believe that with people such as

Meola, the United States is still seriously interested in becoming a world power in soccer.

They have probably acquired the impression that Americans care more about football than about soccer. Furthermore, Meola, 25 years old, departs from many good years ahead of him. He could be much better in 1998 — I noticed that the goalies of the final four teams were each either in their late 20s or early 30s.

Meola was the only goalkeeper on the U.S. team who actually saw playing time during this World Cup. Who will fill his shoes? Will he be able to match Meola's skills? We will have to wait and see.

Should penalty kicks be used?

I do not have too much more to say about the World Cup, but there is one point about the rules that I have a need to discuss. Those who watched the championship game between Brazil and Italy witnessed the first ever final tied after overtime, and hence the first decided by penalty kicks. As you may know, Brazil prevailed 3-2, after Roberto Baggio saw his dreams disappear in a flash, as his kick sailed over the crossbar.

Almost all of the journalists who talked about this way of deciding a winner were definitely critical of it. As for myself, I do not know enough about the nature of the sport to really make a well-founded opinion. However, I can agree with the argument that many of them use, that the method is simply not natural. They believed that the winner should be determined on the field of play, just like in the previous 120 minutes, where teamwork is an essential factor.

I guess this is like an NCAA Basketball Championship or the seventh game of the NBA Finals being decided by each player lining up, and shooting free throws. NBC morning show host Bryant Gumbel said, "It's like the Super Bowl being decided by Dan Marino and Joe Montana going up and trying to throw the football through a tire."

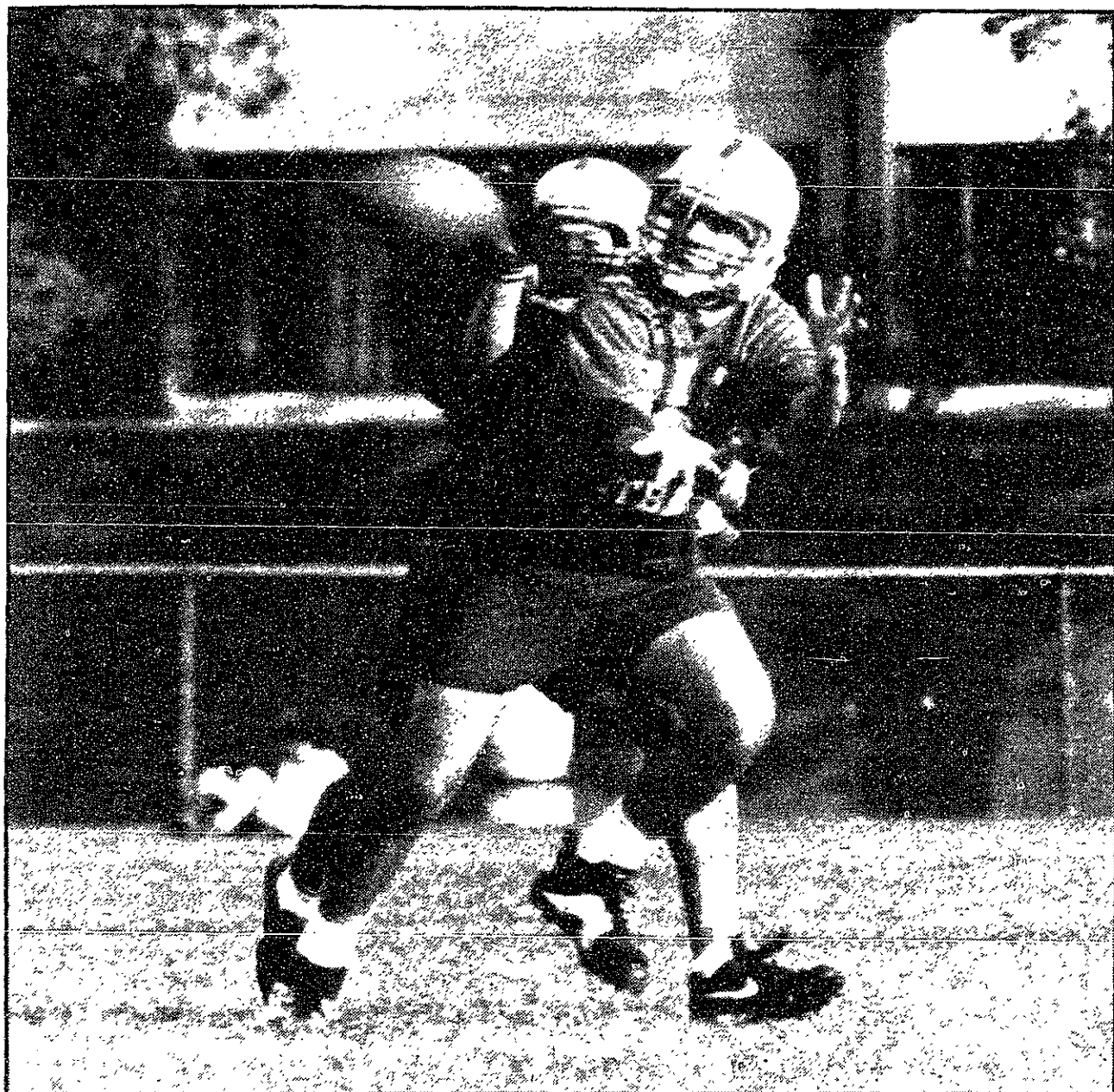
However, a similar use of penalty shots exists in international ice hockey. That was the case in the 1994 Winter Olympics, when Sweden defeated Canada in such fashion to win the Gold Medal.

I would like to leave this matter up to you, the reader. The question that I want to pose is: *Should penalty kick shootouts be used to decide World Cup games?* I am seeking your opinion, which you could send by electronic mail to: sports@the-tech.mit.edu. Perhaps you can suggest alternatives.

If there are enough respondents, I will print the results of the poll, and what some people said, in a future issue. I hope to continue asking big questions like this on a regular basis. Even if the penalty kick shootout tiebreaker is not the best way, at least those who attended the final got the most out of their money.

In closing, you can clearly see that I have had a lot to write about the World Cup alone. However, I must stress that the tournament was only a small part of all the sporting events that happened this summer. Sports fans have truly been treated by the fact that everything has coincidentally happened at virtually the same time.

There is more to come, so enjoy it while you can because next summer's program of events might not be this good!



THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

Above: An MIT receiver pulls down a pass during football practice Wednesday afternoon. Many fall sports have already begun practice to prepare for the upcoming season.

Below: A soccer player moves the ball downfield during a practice scrimmage in front of Burton-Connor House yesterday.

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SPORTS

The World Cup: A Midsummer Sports Fan's Dream

Column by Daniel Wang
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

There's no doubt about it: sports fans across the nation and probably around the world have been given a real treat this summer. In June, July, and August, there was something to watch and to talk about almost every day, with much more to come as the summer of 1994 draws to a close.

Somehow many of the world's biggest events, with dramatic outcomes, all came together in the same season. There were certainly things to say about America's marquee sporting events.

Both the Stanley Cup Finals and the NBA Finals were extended to a full seven games before a champion was decided. For both sports, most of the playoff series that led up to the finals even went the distance. Give the endurance award to the New York Knicks, who played 25 out of a possible 26 games in the NBA playoffs.

In Major League Baseball, it is unfortunate that a strike has had to halt very closely contested pennant races. At least the strike did not happen before the All-Star Game, where the National League broke a six-year losing streak by making a late comeback to defeat the American League, 8-7. Baseball fans are lucky that minor league teams have continued play. Even with the current strike, there have been many more things to watch instead.

Extend to the world scene, and there is even more to talk about. In tennis, followers witnessed Sergi Bruguera and Pete Sampras successfully defend their titles in the French Open and Wimbledon, respectively.

However, there were a few more

surprises on the women's side. Steffi Graf, the defending champion in both Grand Slam events, was the heavy favorite, but fell victim to upsets in both. At Wimbledon, the spotlight shifted to nine-time singles champion Martina Navratilova, who came one match short of a tenth crown, which would have been a perfect ending to a wonderful career.

Now who can forget about the World Cup soccer tournament, which has captured the attention of the world for an entire month? The competition, the world's largest single sporting event on the planet, always provided something for many people to talk about the following day.

Held this year in a country that many did not think could successfully host the tournament — the United States — virtually all attendance records were broken. The championship game alone was witnessed globally by over two billion people, more than the viewers of a year's NBA Finals, World Series, and Super Bowl combined (that's a possible fifteen games!). Very few events in general, let alone others in the world of sports, require the use of an entire nation for such a long period of time.

I would like to focus on a few aspects of the World Cup, and the many impressions the games have left behind. Before I start, I must say that I have mentioned only a few of the many sporting events that have taken place this summer. I apologize for other major events that have been omitted.

The fascinating game of soccer

I was not able to follow all of the

tournament's 52 games as closely as I followed the 1994 Winter Olympic Games, but I thought I was able to catch the highlights fairly well.

I bet that there were many others like myself who were not great followers of soccer, but decided to watch some games to see what all the hype and novelty was about. No other athletic event is notorious for causing riots thousands of miles away. Such incidents did happen, but security crews at the venues did an excellent job, as fears of bombs and violence near the games never materialized.

Even without that kind of unnecessary intensity I gained a greater understanding and appreciation of soccer through watching many games. Although the games have concluded, they have motivated me to buy myself a soccer ball. Every so often, I love to kick it around.

The rules and the sheer nature of the game make soccer a unique sport. Continuous play, 45 minutes at a time without time-outs, sometimes makes games into a battle for survival. At the World Cup, only two substitutions are allowed in an entire game, so coaches must carefully choose their starting lineups. The players make magic with their feet as creativity is rewarded by the ball finding the net. Furthermore, the final minutes are tense moments, as only one person, the referee, knows exactly how much time is left to play. That one person also has strong control over the behavior of the players. All of these things, and more, make a soccer game quite interesting.

The United States hosting the World Cup created an interesting situation with the images of the par-

ticipants. This event is possibly one of the biggest gatherings of national heroes. However, players who are almost treated as immortals in their country were virtually unknown to most of the American spectators. Just who were those guys — Romario, Baggio, Campos (and many others)? I guess people like me got to know them better and admired their skills but never quite deified them like their countrymen.

I highly praise the coverage given to all of the games by the television networks ABC, ESPN, and Univision. The first few games of commercial-free television took a little bit of getting used to for me, and also for the crowd that likes to make trips to the bathroom or refrigerator during commercials. I had trouble keeping an attention span to watch continuously for more than 45 minutes at a time, but later on, the time seemed to pass quickly, as every moment was filled with suspense and anticipation.

The commercials that I missed all would have been the same anyway. The coverage was a welcome departure from events such as basketball games, where the last five minutes of play often seem to require five hours. For people who desire commercials, this type of presentation was like a dream, with the score and time continuously shown. The sponsors still had a chance to have their logo displayed in a corner, with the announcer at times saying, "This segment is presented commercial-free by so-and-so."

For those who watched Univision, the Spanish-language channel, who could forget the commentator's cry of "Gol!" (Spanish for "goal") whenever a goal was scored? That

one word lifted him to fame and appearances on numerous American, English-language channels. I must confess I was one of those who flipped to that channel immediately after seeing someone score.

Those who watch major events very closely often lose sight of the fact that a game is just a game. This also applies to the World Cup, and this year could not be more true. There are negative consequences, such as the murder of Colombian player Andres Escobar for accidentally kicking the ball into his own goal in the game against the United States.

However, such incidents, although they should not be forgotten, were overshadowed by all the wonderful things that came out of the sport. The tournament seemed to bring large parts of the whole nation, if not the world, together to cheer for their favorite team. People of various ethnicities and nationalities clearly displayed national pride everywhere.

Each game was a big event for the countries represented, and a win made it even bigger. A prime example was Bulgaria's upset over the defending champion Germany in the quarterfinals — what some called one of the biggest moments in the history of the former Eastern Bloc nation. In another hemisphere, Brazil's victory in the final helped its citizens forget its many domestic problems, at least for a while.

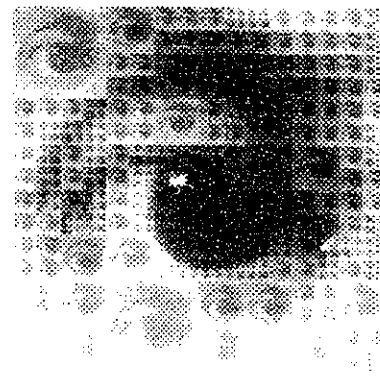
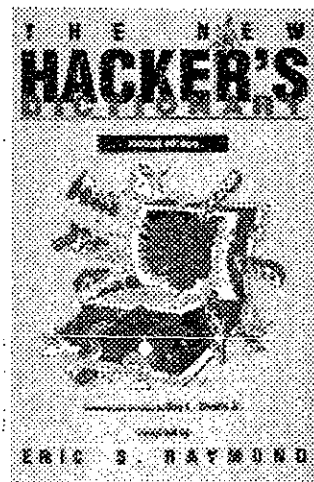
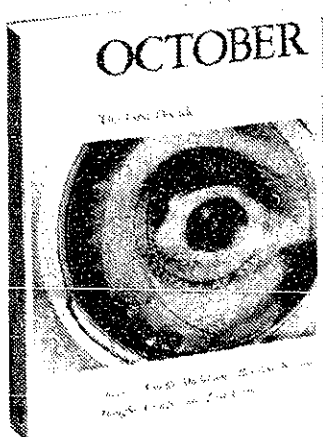
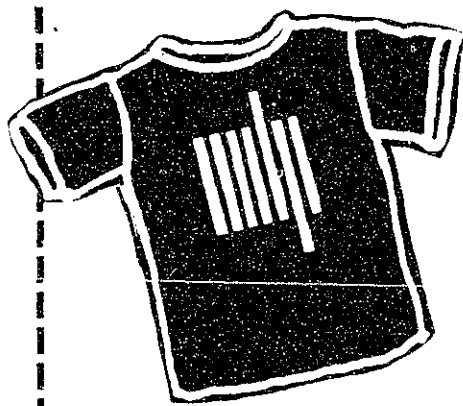
Can the U.S. win the World Cup?

After his team's loss to Brazil in round 16, U.S. team captain and goalkeeper Tony Meola told the

Wang, Page 11

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