

## Kim Wins Frosh President by Two; Other Races Close

By Dan McGuire  
STAFF REPORTER

Jin S. Kim '99 was narrowly elected freshman class president following four days of Athena-based voting last week.

Kim won by 2 first-choice votes in the preferential elections, beating out 10 contenders. The vice presidential and social chair elections were similarly close.

The other victors were: Pooja Shukla '99 for vice president, Sabina W. Ma '99 for treasurer, Nina S. Ma '99 for secretary, Andrew R. Bankert '99 and Katherine Spade '99 for social chair, and Orli G. Bahcall '99 and Alicia Mendez '99 for publicity chair.

The turnout for the elections rose to 36.5 percent, slightly higher than last year's 35 percent.

Athena-based voting was not expected to increase participation, said Undergraduate Association Treasurer Russell S. Light '98.

"In general people don't get excited about the freshman election because they don't know most of the candidates," Light said.

Many of the races were very close, "so there will be some disappointments" said UA Council Floor Leader Ashwin Viswanathan '98.

### Close seconds in elections

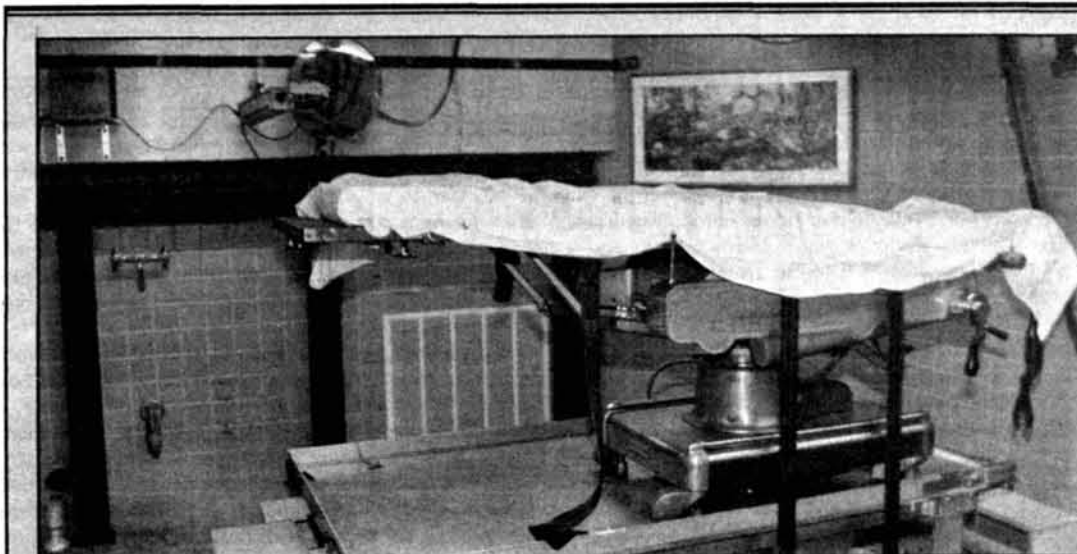
The rankings after the first round of the preferential voting system, based on the number of first-place votes a candidate received, gave Kim 68 votes, or 17 percent, of the 396 votes cast. That put her just two votes ahead of her closest challenger, Charles K. Howard '99.

Shukla received 79 of the 359 first-place votes for the office of vice president, putting her 7 votes ahead of John N. Dukellis '99.

Viswanathan attributed the closeness of the presidential and vice presidential elections to the large number of candidates fielded. Along with the eleven candidates running for president, five ran for vice president and two for treasurer.

In another close election, one vote separated the teams competing for social chair. Bankert/Spade won

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ADRIANE CHAPMAN—THE TECH

Today, the fourth patient is slated to begin testing a new radiation treatment in this facility at the Nuclear Reactor Laboratory. MIT is named in a lawsuit filed on behalf of brain tumor patients treated with an experimental radiation treatment at the reactor in the 1960s.

## MIT Named in Lawsuit Over Radiation Deaths

By Stacey E. Blau  
NEWS EDITOR

MIT and Massachusetts General Hospital are named as defendants in a lawsuit filed last Thursday by relatives of brain tumor patients treated with nuclear medicine at MIT and MGH in the 1960s.

Evelyn Heinrich and Henry M. Sienkewicz filed

the suit on behalf of 140 patients who underwent experimental nuclear medicine treatment that killed at least 10 of them, including Heinrich's husband and Sienkewicz's mother. The treatment was administered at MIT's Nuclear Reactor Laboratory, MGH,

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## Greek Week Activities to Promote IFC Unity, Better Public Relations

By Shawdee Eshghi

Today marks the beginning of Greek Week, the annual Interfraternity Council event designed to promote unity among fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups as well as better relations with the MIT population in general.

Throughout the week, there will be many athletic, social, and educational activities. Some are open only to FSILG members, while others, including the popular Greek Week Ball on Saturday, are open to the entire campus.

The policy "is not meant to be exclusive," said IFC Vice President Jason D. Pride '97. While some events are specifically designed to promote interfraternity relations, others are intended to draw in the MIT population in general.

"The main goal is unity," said

Iddo Gilon '98, IFC public relations chair. "We want to show how we can come together as a whole for a good cause."

### Events start tonight

The festivities get under way this evening with the "Wing It" hot wings eating competition. This event, for FSILG members, begins at 7 p.m. on the front steps of the Student Center.

Aside from bringing together the IFC community, Greek Week organizers hope to raise money for Cambridge Family and Children's Services, a charity that assists orphans and abused children. Each FSILG will set up a contribution jar in Lobby 10 in a fundraising effort known as "Jar Wars."

The group with the most money at the end of the week will get to donate half of the total amount

raised to the charity of their choice. The rest of the money will be donated to the Cambridge organization.

Since the majority of the cost of Greek Week is covered in the IFC budget, almost all of the proceeds will go to the charity.

In another activity, Wednesday night's "Progressive Dinners," members of the IFC community will be able to stop at participating houses for different kinds of food.

### Strats Rat sponsors Versus

On Thursday, the IFC and the Student Center Committee will sponsor a Strat's Rat concert featuring the band Versus, open to the MIT community.

Half of the proceeds from the concert will go toward covering the cost of the band while the other half

Greek Week, Page 16

## New MIT Card Accesses More Services; Features Random ID Number

By Ifung Lu  
STAFF REPORTER

Students, faculty, and staff will have access to more services than ever this year when the new MIT Card takes effect Thursday.

This card, which also serves as the main form of identification for students, allows access to many campus services that include the Multiplan — a combined meal and auxiliary declining balance account, use of campus libraries, and access to dormitory entrances, parking lots, and various buildings on campus.

Many new transactions can now be charged to the MIT Card under the Multiplan, including laundry in some dormitories, photocopies at Graphic Arts, purchases from the 24-Hour Coffee House, and vending machine purchases, said Lucy A. Barrera, manager of the MIT Card Office.

Food purchased at on-campus dining facilities and orders made to Domino's Pizza can still be charged to the MIT Card.

Students living in Institute dormitories can obtain their card from their dormitory, usually at the front desk, Barrera said.

Employees and students living off-campus should get their card from Room E32-200 any time from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. through Thursday of this week.

### Convenience and security

Associate Director of Housing and Food Services Kenneth R. Wisentaner believes that consolidation of services onto one card is beneficial for the MIT community.

"The goal [of the MIT Card] is for convenience and for students to carry less cash on them," Wisentaner said. It has been implemented "to make it as easy as possible for peo-

ple." One new feature is that the card now boasts the new randomized student identification number rather than a Social Security number, Barrera said.

According to Associate Registrar Elizabeth C. Bradley, the switch will increase security and privacy.

"If one has hold of a social security number, they can pretty much have access to someone's life — income, place of birth, credit history," Bradley said.

However, by replacing the social security number on the MIT card and official MIT documents, it is much more difficult for unauthorized people to gain access to personal information, Bradley said.

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THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

Phi Beta Epsilon and Alpha Delta Phi mark the start of the intramural football season on Saturday.

# WORLD & NATION

## Young Children Fall Victim to Urban Violence

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Police Saturday announced the arrests of three suspects in the shooting death of a 3-year-old girl whose killing as she rode in a car abruptly escalated into a national symbol of senseless urban violence.

The suspects, whom police refused to identify, were arrested late Friday and booked on suspicion of murder in connection with the ambush-style shooting last Sunday that resulted in the death of Stephanie Kuhen and minor gunshot wounds to her 2-year-old brother and the family friend who was driving the vehicle.

Meanwhile, police said a 12-year-old Whittier boy became another victim of an unprovoked attack on a motorist when he was shot in the head late Friday while riding home on a freeway after seeing a Los Angeles Dodgers game with a cousin and a friend. Richard Andrew Bautista was listed in critical but stable condition Saturday after undergoing surgery.

Bautista, described as a model student and Roman Catholic altar boy dedicated to soccer, was in the front passenger seat of a car being driven by his 18-year-old cousin. A man in a yellow van opened fire for no apparent reason as the van approached Bautista's car from behind with its high beams on, police said.

## Christopher Urges U.N. to Streamline, Restructure

THE WASHINGTON POST

UNITED NATIONS

Secretary of State Warren Christopher told the 50th anniversary meeting of the U.N. General Assembly Monday that if the world body is to retain the support of the American people, it must undergo major reform to slim down and focus "on the tasks it performs best."

"On this 50th anniversary year, we must shape the U.N.'s agenda as if we were creating the institution anew," Christopher said as he used the opening of this year's assembly meeting to press the Clinton administration's call for reforms capable of defusing growing anti-U.N. sentiment in Congress.

He called on the United Nations to become leaner and more efficient, taking on fewer tasks and performing them more effectively for less money. He also made clear that the United States believes the member countries must stop using the United Nations as a pork barrel and source of patronage, and crack down hard on waste, fraud and corruption that provide an inviting target for its enemies.

"It is time to recognize that the U.N. must direct its limited resources to the world's highest priorities, focusing on the tasks that it performs best," Christopher said. "The U.N.'s bureaucracy should be smaller. ... Each program must be held to a single standard — that is, it must make a tangible contribution to the freedom, security and well-being of real people in the real world."

## Dole Warns Clinton to Consult Before Committing Troops

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Senate Majority Leader Robert J. Dole (R-Kan.), in a tepid note to President Clinton, warned Monday that Congress should be consulted before committing U.S. ground troops to Bosnia but did not disapprove outright of the deployment as some other congressional Republicans have done.

"There should be no doubts that without the concurrence of the Congress these commitments (to send peacekeepers) will not be fulfilled," said the letter, signed by Dole and nine other Senate Republicans. "We hope you will begin to consult earnestly and forthrightly with the Congress in the very near future," it concluded.

Other congressional Republicans, including many in the House, have already begun to say they would not approve of sending U.S. ground troops to Bosnia to police a peace accord in fulfillment of a previous U.S. pledge to NATO allies.

## WEATHER Jet Stream Blues

By Gerard Roe  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The large pool of frigid polar air that has left us with temperatures about 10°F (5°C) below normal now sits squarely over the eastern part of the country. Consistent with this, the jet stream is aligned almost parallel with the east coast, and gentle on-shore breezes at lower altitudes bring moist air from the ocean. Such a configuration is always a warning sign for bad weather. Waves travelling along the jet stream causing lifting of the air usually generate precipitation in the moist environment, and this week is not an exception.

The particular ripple which is going to make today miserable will spread rain in from the Berkshires through the early morning. Rain will be moderate with around half an inch or even more accumulating by day's end, diminishing towards the evening. The associated development of a surface low just off the coast will turn winds round to westerly by nightfall. The outlook continues to be unsettled with a strong likelihood of rain tomorrow afternoon. In the longer term, some respite can be expected from the clouds, although not from the cold temperatures, as high pressure develops and moves east from the central states.

**Today:** Rainy and cloudy. Fog possible in the morning. Winds light from the east becoming westerly later. Rain peaking during the day. High 63°F (17°C).

**Tonight:** Cloudy and continued chance of rain. Low 53°F (12°C).

**Tomorrow:** Mostly cloudy. Chance of rain afternoon. High 66°F (18°C). Low 52°F (12°C).

**Thursday:** Clearing and fair. High around 65°F (18°C).

# Clinton Says He Won't Be Blackmailed into Budget

By John F. Harris  
and John E. Yang  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Clinton said Monday he wants to avert a stalemate with Congress that would end in cutting off the government's ability to borrow money, but he said that the prospect is not so dire that he will be "blackmailed" by House Speaker Newt Gingrich into accepting a budget he does not like.

What is not clear, after several days of blustery rhetoric from both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue, is whether congressional Republicans are trying to force the administration to choose between a GOP budget and an unprecedented government default — or whether both sides are playing a game of budget bluff.

Easier to figure — according to a variety of administration officials, congressional staff, and Wall Street bond experts — are the motives behind the clash between Gingrich and Clinton over whether to increase the federal government's debt ceiling before the day sometime in mid-November when the Treasury runs out of money because it cannot borrow any more.

Gingrich wants to use the prospect of the government running out of money to force Clinton to back off his veto threats against Republican budget proposals, and to reinforce the perception that the GOP is so serious about deficit reduction that it will not go along with the customary practice of raising the debt ceiling whenever necessary.

The risk for Gingrich, under a worst-case scenario, is that Clinton won't back down, and that cutting off the government's borrowing authority could trigger a crash in the bond markets, for which the public would hold Republicans accountable.

Clinton, too, sees an opportunity in the clash. Administration officials say the appearance that Gingrich and the Republicans are so hostile to government that they are prepared to risk a financial crisis rather than compromise on the budget reinforces their argument that the opposition is driven by reckless ideologies.

The risk for Clinton is that, if a crisis does come to pass, the public will attribute it not to Republican recalcitrance but to the Democrats' insistence on higher spending.

The positioning continued Monday when Clinton met with reporters and columnists at a White House luncheon.

"It would be wrong to have a default" on government bonds, Clinton said, describing the prospect raised by Gingrich in recent days as "wrong," "irresponsible," and "not necessary."

Even a short-lived impasse over the debt level would be "self-defeating" for Republicans, Clinton said, because it would shake the confidence of investors and raise the cost for the government to borrow money — thus throwing the Republicans' own plans for balancing the budget out of kilter.

He said he wants to avert a crisis but warned that any agreement cannot be "unilaterally dictated ...

There will be a discussion, we will come to an agreement, but I am not going to be blackmailed."

Gingrich, who has been both combative and conciliatory, Monday took the latter approach. "Nobody is trying to blackmail the president," said Gingrich spokesman Tony Blankley, saying there is enough agreement between the two sides to "work out the details to everyone's satisfaction."

But if blackmail is an impolite term, Gingrich and staff are frank about using the debt ceiling as a lever to get his way in the budget debate.

"The debt ceiling is the appropriate device for getting to a balanced budget," said Blankley. "If we get to a balanced budget, we won't have to keep raising the debt ceiling."

At the practical level, Gingrich may not have a choice. House Republicans are insisting on a tough stance.

Assessing the politics of the confrontation is complicated by two uncertainties: Are the Republicans serious about cutting off the government's borrowing ability? And if that did happen, would there be a financial crisis, or simply a short-term crunch that could be easily worked around?

On Wall Street, the consensus view for now is to discount the rhetoric out of Washington as so much bluster.

Most analysts believe that the debt-ceiling debate is "a mating dance, a sort of predictable process" that will end with an agreement, said David M. Jones, vice chairman of Aubrey Lanston & Co.

# Palestinians in Hebron Tired Of Fighting, Look to Future

By Barton Gellman  
THE WASHINGTON POST

HEBRON, WEST BANK

Wossam Abu Mazen, 16, got out of school Monday and did what he does every day after class: With long, loping strides and a stone in each fist, he raced toward an Israeli checkpoint and let fly.

The checkpoint stands at Shuhada and Salaam streets, which translates as the corner of Martyrs and Peace. It seemed an apt spot to gauge whether Jews and Arabs here have begun to turn that corner, one day after their leaders initialed a landmark pact to expand self-rule to Palestinian-inhabited areas of the West Bank.

It was only to be expected that the results were mixed.

Israelis here could not be interviewed Monday. Hebron's Jewish settlers celebrated Rosh Hashanah, the start of Judaism's High Holy Days, and would not speak to a reporter. Soldiers are not permitted to talk, and the lieutenant in charge of the checkpoint said, "You'll just have to imagine what I think of serving here."

Nearly every Palestinian complained that Sunday's agreement will require Hebron, uniquely among West Bank cities, to remain an unwilling host to about 400 Jewish settlers downtown. That means that when Israel completes its agreed military withdrawal — by March 30 — this will be the only Arab city with some army troops still inside.

But many residents, tired of fighting, took a cue from their mayor and expressed cautious hope that the new deal at least will mean an improvement.

"Everything is going step by step

in a positive direction," said Ali Tamimi, 59, whose 24-year-old nephew, Nidal, died in a clash at this very checkpoint not quite a year ago. "It is not enough for me as a Hebron man, but it is much better than nothing."

Abu Mazen and his friends in the "shebab," the teenagers in the street, saw occupiers in the accustomed place and responded in the accustomed way. Wave after wave of stones and bottles flew, and after a while the angry soldiers gave chase. They scattered a few percussion grenades and rumbled after Abu Mazen in full battle dress.

"They tried to catch me but I was too fast," he said later, after disappearing into an alley and reemerging. He cast his missiles, he said, "because I don't agree with the peace agreement. It's a bad agreement, and I think the settlers should go."

The striking thing, though, was that for every bystander egging him on there was another frowning at the continued, grinding street combat that is Hebron's daily lot.

Morad Sayed, 32, has seen how it sometimes ends: a body lying in the street, grieving parents, an angry funeral procession, vows of revenge.

"These are kids," he said. "They don't represent Palestinian opinion. After seven years of struggle against occupation, we would like to see a better situation."

Sunday's agreement, initialed in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Taba, calls for Israeli military withdrawal from West Bank cities, villages, hamlets and refugee camps — to be followed by elections next spring for an 82-seat governing council and a chief executive that

Palestinians will call "president."

It comes two years after mutual recognition by Israel and the PLO, and 18 months after establishment of the first footholds of Palestinian self-rule, in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

Sunday's agreement, which is still unpublished but new details of which were made available, suggests that as early as next week there will be conspicuous changes in Hebron's communal life.

Immediately after Thursday's White House signing ceremony, the agreement states, Israel's security forces will reopen the Hasbahe produce market, a barbed-wired and barricaded vacant lot until now because it abuts a building used by settlers downtown.

The army also is to reopen the main entrance to the Islamic College and remove at least nine road barriers — including one on Shuhada Street — that have choked downtown traffic for more than a year.

These changes, together with the arrival of 400 armed Palestinian police and another group of unarmed municipal "inspectors," will also make for a singular test of the agreement's resilience. The most radical elements on both sides are already cheek by jowl here in Hebron: an Arab population with disproportionate support for the Islamic militants of Hamas, and a settler community that openly glorifies last year's massacre of 29 Arabs kneeling at prayer.

Mayor Mustafa Natche, interviewed in his office Monday, said he has ordered three municipal offices to return to Beit Hadassah Street, which they long ago had abandoned to the settlers down the block.

# Hearings Suggest Ruby Ridge Tragedy Happened by Accident

By Robert L. Jackson and Ronald J. Ostrow  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Three years later, with the eagle-like vision of hindsight, the violent confrontation at Ruby Ridge, Idaho, looks like nothing so much as a tragedy that need never have happened.

For all the charges and countercharges from both sides, the evidence emerging from three weeks of Senate hearings suggests that Randy Weaver and a small army of federal agents lumbered into deadly conflict more by accident than design.

Each side was spurred on by internal pressures. Each had created overblown images of the other. And each believed — and still believes — that it was forced by the other into confrontation and the outbursts of gunfire that claimed the lives of a deputy U.S. marshal, a 14-year-old boy and his mother.

For their part, Weaver and his wife had plunged so deeply into the fogs of white separatism, anti-gov-

ernment conspiracy theories and religious militancy that they faced the outside world with violent rhetoric and aggressive, threatening defiance.

Their isolated homestead beside Ruby Ridge in the mountains of northern Idaho bristled with guns. And Randy Weaver, holed up with his family, openly defied a federal court order to appear on weapons charges and issued bellicose warnings against agents trying to arrest him.

At the same time, the actions of federal law enforcement agencies and the court at several stages of the protracted affair were shaped not purely by the actions of the Weavers but by the officials' own internal pressures and attitudes.

The result was distortions and exaggerations in the federal agents' view of the situation they faced, which played a role in tipping the case toward violence.

"It's clear that the people involved had some correct information, some hazy information, some

information that was partly true and some that was outright false," Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on terrorism that conducted the hearings, told federal officials.

But Weaver, now 47, also bears heavy responsibility for the tragedy visited on his family and that of Deputy Marshal William Degan, a decorated officer who was fatally wounded in an initial confrontation near the Weaver cabin.

Weaver, the subcommittee's first witness earlier this month, acknowledged that "I am not without fault in this matter." He went on to say that, "if I had it to do over again, knowing what I know now ... I would come down from the mountain for the court appearance."

Weaver and a friend, Kevin Harris, were cleared of murder charges in 1993 resulting from Degan's death and Weaver was acquitted of the firearms charges. A jury convicted him only of refusing to surrender for trial at the earlier date.

# Democrats Develop Plan to Reform Medicare; Less Severe than GOP

By Edwin Chen  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

In a major tactical shift, congressional Democrats are developing their own alternatives to the GOP Medicare reform plan in an effort to markedly soften the drastic changes sought by the Republican majority.

The Democratic gambit — with White House backing — injects a new dynamic into the acrimonious and partisan debate just as it nears a crescendo in Congress, and it is fraught with political perils for would-be Medicare reformers in both parties.

For the nation's 37 million Medicare beneficiaries, the reversal by Democrats all but ensures Congress will fundamentally restructure a Great Society program, with higher out-of-pocket costs and a distinct move toward managed-care delivery systems.

Although the plans are not complete, House Democrats are striving to limit reductions in future Medicare spending by \$89 billion over 10 years. In the Senate, Democrats are working to find a somewhat greater level of savings but still far less than would be required under the GOP's goal of

\$270 billion over seven years.

Development of the Democratic proposals is tantamount to a death-bed conversion. For months, they have been accusing the GOP of "cutting" Medicare to pay for a broad tax cut.

But that argument simply did not catch on. Instead, Democrats have been excoriated by even some of their staunchest constituents for seeking to obstruct the Republicans and trying to frighten the elderly — and score political points in the process.

So congressional Democrats are about to leap aboard the Medicare reform bandwagon.

"We're telling our members: we don't have to fall into the Republican trap and be forced into doing things we don't want to be doing," one Democratic House staff member said Monday.

Amid broad agreement that Medicare's hospital trust fund will be bankrupt by the year 2002, Republicans are proposing to save \$270 billion in Medicare spending over the next seven years.

The savings can be achieved, they say, largely by slowing the annual rate of growth in spending, from about 10 percent to just over 4

percent, and by channeling seniors into less expensive, managed-care settings.

Similarly, President Clinton says his less drastic plan would achieve \$124 billion in Medicare savings, over 10 years.

Under both approaches, hospitals and physicians would encounter deep reductions in payments. And beneficiaries would pay more in monthly premiums for physician services — about \$90 under the GOP formula and \$82 under Clinton's formula, by the year 2002.

Most Democrats in Congress have argued against any sharp reductions. But that argument has failed to resonate — and drawn sharp criticism.

Even the liberal editorial pages of The Washington Post recently accused Democrats of engaging in "demagoguery, big time." The searing critique quickly made its way into Republican ads promoting the GOP Medicare plan.

"The Democratic failure is that people now believe that the program is going bankrupt — and that Democrats didn't address the issue," said Robert Blendon, a Harvard University health policy polling expert.

# Agents Arrest Suspected Gunman in Roman Catholic Cardinal's Slaying

By Mark Fineman  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

MEXICO CITY

Federal agents Monday announced the arrest of one of the two principal gunmen alleged to have fired on Guadalajara's Roman Catholic cardinal more than a dozen times two years ago, a murder that continues to test the credibility of President Ernesto Zedillo's government.

The Mexican attorney general's office said Edgar Nicolas Mariscal, known as "El Negro," was captured Sunday in the Pacific coast state of Sonora, carrying an Uzi submachine gun and "fake" papers identifying him as an official of the state's transit department.

The official communique stated that another gunman — one of 24 suspects already in custody in the case — had identified Nicolas Mariscal as one of the drug-cartel hit men who participated in the killing of Cardinal Juan Jesus Posadas Ocampo outside the Guadalajara Airport on May 24,

1993.

The arrest did little to advance the controversial criminal case beyond the government's original finding that the cardinal, who was dressed in clerical garb, was killed by accident in a case of mistaken identity when he was caught in the crossfire of two powerful narcotics-trafficking cartels.

After months of investigating possible motives, Zedillo's special prosecutor in charge of reinvestigating the cardinal's slaying and two other political assassinations last year — which Zedillo has promised that his government will solve — announced at a news conference in Mexico City that he had to agree with the government's initial findings. He did so, he said, "through the process of elimination."

"The motive of confusion is sustained in 158 official depositions, 80 expanded declarations and 24 interviews," special prosecutor Pablo Chapa Bezanilla told dozens of skeptical reporters and church officials on Aug. 29.

Chapa also released official testimony in which witnesses said Nicholas Mariscal and another suspect, who was killed by federal agents a year later, fired on three cars, including the cardinal's white Grand Marquis. The shootout left seven people dead, including Posadas's driver. The gunmen, who allegedly were hired by the cartel headed by the Arellano Felix brothers and fled by a commercial flight to the cartel's base in Tijuana, mistook the cardinal for rival drug lord Joaquin Guzman Loera of the Sinaloa cartel, Chapa said.

Church officials and most Mexicans still doubt the official version.

Posadas was an outspoken critic of the drug cartels that have made billions of dollars using Mexico as a key smuggling route for the South American cocaine sold in the United States. Some church leaders believe the cardinal was killed to silence him; others privately suspect former President Carlos Salinas de Gortari was using him as a go-between with Colombia's powerful drug cartels.

# Perot Expected to Endorse Drive For a Third Party

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Ross Perot is expected to endorse a drive to form a third political party in California and perhaps throughout the nation, in a move with the potential to change the basic framework of the 1996 elections not only for President Clinton but virtually every office holder on the ballot.

The move does not mean that Perot himself will enter the presidential race, but it significantly increases the likelihood. In some respects, the call for creation of a third party is an ideal way for Perot to test the enthusiasm of his own backers, and to determine whether they are prepared for a second presidential bid. The Texas billionaire, who drew 19 percent of the vote as an independent candidate in the 1992 presidential race, was expected to discuss his plans during an appearance Monday night on the "Larry King Show."

"This is a great political awakening," declared Don Torgersen, executive director of the Illinois branch of United We Stand America, the organization established by Perot during the 1992 campaign. "United We Stand is the major political thrust in America, it is the driving force," he said, comparing what Perot is doing to the religious Great Awakening.

The creation of official third parties with clear identification on the general election ballot is a huge undertaking in many, if not most, states, requiring large numbers of signatures. If successful, such a drive would be a major mobilizing tool to rebuild and strengthen the Perot organization from 1992.

# Clinton Declares Victory In War on 'Funk'

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Clinton declared victory in his war on "funk" Monday without firing a shot.

Less than 72 hours after telling reporters aboard Air Force One that his new mission was to "get people out of their funk" about the dislocations and disturbances that are part of this period of rapid change, the president changed his mind.

"Funk," he said, "was a poor choice of words." If folks were ever out of sorts, it was a year ago — when they voted for all those Republicans — not now. Now the country is more upbeat than ever.

"I feel very optimistic about the country," Clinton said. "If you were betting on what country is likely to be in the strongest shape 20 or 30 years from now, you'd have to bet on the United States."

The fuss over "funk" began Friday when the president, in the course of a long conversation with reporters traveling with him from California, said that he found so many people confused and upset by the side-effects of the changing economy and culture that he realized he should work harder "to get people out of their funk."

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary gives two meanings for "funk": "a state of paralyzing fear" or "a depressed state of mind."

When the news stories about the Clinton soliloquy appeared Sunday, White House message mavens realized they were treading dangerously close to the word "malaise," indelibly associated with President Jimmy Carter and the 1979 speech in which (without actually using the M-word) he blamed a sour public mood for the travails of his administration.

# Gingrich's Plane Collides With Geese on Takeoff

THE WASHINGTON POST

A jet carrying House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.), his wife and two bodyguards collided with two geese on takeoff from a small Michigan airport Monday and the plane slid off the end of the runway after the pilot aborted the takeoff.

No one aboard was injured, but a Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman said one of the Cessna 550's engines was damaged.

She said the plane was taking off from the Mackinac Island airport at 4:50 p.m. when one goose was sucked into the right engine and another hit the left wing. The plane was below takeoff speed, but the pilot was unable to stop before running about 30 feet beyond the runway.

The plane is owned by Meijer Inc., a grocery chain based in Grand Rapids, Mich. The airport has no tower or other air traffic control facilities.

# Operations Will Continue at Major Nuclear Weapons Labs

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Clinton on Monday ordered the U.S. Energy Department to continue operations at all three of the nation's major nuclear weapons labs, rejecting recommendations to phase out nuclear bomb research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory near San Francisco.

The decision was an outgrowth of Clinton's announcement last month to support a comprehensive ban on all future nuclear testing, which prompted bomb experts to recommend against any major reduction in weapons research, Energy Department officials said.

The announcement will save more than 3,000 research jobs in the Bay Area community of Livermore, as well as appease senior Pentagon officials who have argued vehemently to preserve Livermore's role in nuclear weapons.

Clinton's decision was kept under close wraps until Monday, leaving even Livermore officials in the dark about what was coming. Livermore executive officer Ron Cochran said the lab had worked hard for 18 months to demonstrate that its expertise was still needed.

In the aftermath of the Cold War, the nation's nuclear laboratory complex was expected to be sharply curtailed. Clinton's decision means that the system put in place after World War II will be largely kept intact.

Clinton said preserving Livermore is essential to insuring the reliability and safety of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile, the size of which is classified but widely estimated at roughly 6,000 bombs.

# OPINION

## Letters To The Editor



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### "Jim's Journal" Is Hardly Okay -

I have never found "Jim's Journal" amusing or enjoyable. When I first arrived at MIT, I read it regularly, in search of some glimmer of humor or artistic merit. Perhaps Jim was a sort of "Zippy"-esque commentary on the life of Everyman, or perhaps a subtle statement about the lack of content of some comic strips. Or, as I have learned, perhaps not.

After over three years of exposure to him, I've never found Jim any more interesting than your opinion policy or the regular Stuyvesant alumni chapter classified ads.

Perhaps the space would be better used by reprinting choice excerpts from the *Encyclopedia Britannica*? I'm sure the MIT community would appreciate the change of content.

Eric J. Mumpower '96

### Jim Is a Waste of Space And Money

I've been reading "Jim's Journal" for three weeks now, waiting and waiting for just one of them to be funny. Not one has. Not only is Jim a waste of space, but a waste of money. Get rid of "Jim's Journal."

Jeffrey S. Brown '99



### Don't Get Rid Of "Jim's Journal"

I am writing in response to the recent letter to the editor by Christopher E. Bachman '99 ["Tech's Printing of 'Jim's Journal' Excessive," Sept. 15] criticizing "Jim's Journal."

Please do not get rid of Jim. I enjoy "Jim's Journal" very much; it is wry, poignant, ordinary, humorous, cute, and funny. And those are only the adjectives I can come up with in thirty seconds. I can think of more, especially when I am reading "Jim's Journal." Jim draws the best cartoon cat of any of the strips, including Bill the Cat. But I never think of Jim's Journal as a mere cartoon — it's more than that. I find it oddly comforting. Please don't even consider dropping it.

Therese Z. Henderson  
Energy Laboratory



RAJESH  
THE COMMERCIAL ARTIST  
AND CARTOON ILLUSTRATOR



### 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 4:30 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.

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# THE ARTS

## Insulting *Hackers* wrongly typifies Internet heroes

### HACKERS

Directed by Iain Softley.  
Written by Rafael Moreu.  
Starring Johnny Lee Miller, Angelina Jolie,  
Fisher Stevens, and Lorraine Bracco.  
Sony Copley Place.

By A. Arif Husain  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

It's not uncommon for filmmakers to take advantage of audiences' fascination with stereotyped groups. Films like *Backdraft* or *Top Gun* take us inside the lives of select groups which may never cross our paths. Often, these pictures hope to glorify or venerate such groups. To this end, *Hackers* is director Iain Softley's latest contribution.

Exploring the world of the hacker (defined in the *American Heritage Dictionary* as a "computer buff"), we follow the life of Dade Murphy (Johnny Lee Miller) who establishes himself among the elite, frenetic computer-literate subculture by crashing 1,507 Wall Street computers at the age of 11. Barred from using electronics until his 18th birthday, we rejoin Dade as he moves with his job-seeking single-mother to New York. Here, his technical expertise quickly land him in high standing with the local crew. The plot eventually develops into a struggle between the young hackers and the extortive corporate computer system administrator known as "The Plague." Played by Fisher Stevens, this villain plants a destructive computer virus, for which the youths are blamed.

In the face of danger, the hackers are propelled together, throttled by a developing romantic rivalry between Dade and the slick and wild Kate Libby (Angelina Jolie). The conflict between the two, which develops in a series of technical pranks, supports a few amusing skirmishes but was boring and typical. Likewise, the whole framing plot seemed contrived and disingenuous. We follow along a path designed solely to accommodate the characters, who are to enlighten our knowl-



Kate (Angelina Jolie) and Dade (Johnny Lee Miller) are renegade computer geniuses in *Hackers*.

edge of "hacking."

Unfortunately, Softley failed to recognize a crucial flaw. Although invading computer systems, writing viruses, and cracking codes may seem curiously interesting to the average Joe, in reality it's all terribly dull stuff. As far as I am aware, the hacker culture (if in fact such a culture exists) is nothing like Softley wishes us to believe. Nor is there much room in the movie to convince us otherwise. As a result, Softley tries to create his own hacker

stereotype: something of a misunderstood psychedelic rebel punk in search of knowledge and conquest on the global infobahn. In effect, it is a complete fabrication within itself.

To fill in the gaps, mathematical formulas swirl in multi-color, computer screens fill with textual garbage and an innumerable array of technical perverse idiosyncrasies. The characters often misuse jargon, and stress flashy catchwords which have little meaning without

context. Like mystified children, we are expected to be turned on by these images and phrases, and we are expected to overlook their irrelevance.

Personally I was annoyed and insulted. Apparently either someone forgot to do his homework, or thought we wouldn't notice. Softley set out to expose the secret realm of the computer hacker. Instead he created a wholly insulting piece of work, which relies on fluffed-up hype.



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# Newest drag journey on film is haphazard and unreal

## TO WONG FOO, THANKS FOR EVERYTHING. JULIE NEWMAR

Directed by Beeban Kidron. Starring Wesley Snipes, Patrick Swayze and John Leguizamo, starring Stockard Channing, Blythe Danner, and Melinda Dillon.

By Teresa Esser  
STAFF REPORTER

The movie *To Wong Foo* is as lame as its name. An obvious Hollywood rip-off of Australia's *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, this film is so obsessed with copying somebody else's good idea that it forgets what it was supposed to be about in the first place.

The story starts with a drag queen beauty pageant at a gay bar in New York City and ends at a similar contest in Hollywood. The two hours in between are filled with a cross-country car trip during which the car predictably breaks down. Stranded in rural America with little more than a trunkful of high heels and gaudy dresses, the three "persecuted" and "under-appreciated" drag queens take it upon themselves to transform a largely homophobic and washed-out rural town into a monument to fashion-consciousness and civic pride.

With more perceptiveness than *Mighty Mouse* and more self-righteousness than Robin Hood, Noxema (Wesley Snipes) and Vida (Patrick Swayze) teach the mute to speak and put an end to the town's domestic

violence. Meanwhile, Chi-Chi (John Leguizamo) deflects a farm boy's affections toward the local teen who has lusted longer. Unwilling to give up their big-city lives to stick around in the backwoods paradise that has embraced them, the three find a way to fix their car in time to drive off into the settling dust of the parade that they created. In short, this movie has a happy ending.

Unfortunately, there is absolutely nothing about the film that can be called realistic. Swayze and Snipes are so comfortable in their heterosexuality that they seem to forget they are playing the part of persecuted queers; Leguizamo, although pouty, has an emotional recuperation period of about one minute. Unlike the parallel scene in *Priscilla*, where

the three queens have to defend themselves against an angry mob of mining hicks in the outback town of Coober Peedy, Hollywood's dragsters weasel their way in and out of trouble with little more than a nervous giggle. Although Vida is accosted by a sexist and homophobic cop, the trouble is resolved with a single punch. There is never any drama or suspense; the three queens never get sick of one another's company and although their employment situation is never referred to, their supply of money appears to be endless.

*To Wong Foo's* one redeeming quality is that it is funny. The comedy is slapstick and predictable, but it works, and it's worth the price of admission to see Swayze and Snipes in dresses.

# Even with good rip-offs, UKJ is out of touch with times

## UGLY KID JOE

Menace to Sobriety  
Released by Mercury Records.

By Rob Wagner  
STAFF REPORTER

Plagued by a "one-hit wonder" categorization, Ugly Kid Joe continues to produce the music that hit the right formula once. Their newest album, *Menace to Sobriety*, is actually pretty good.

*Menace* is sometimes reminiscent of *Appetite for Destruction* by Guns N' Roses, and at times emulates the style of Joe Satriani. Ugly Kid Joe has a distinct sound in the style of late 80s-early 90s rock. A bit cheesy at times, the group generally has a crunching sound with consistently good, also-crunching vocals by Whit Crane.

On a few songs, Ugly Kid Joe hits the formula they found had worked for *I Hate Everything About You*. The first track, "Intro," sounds similar to something Joe Satriani might release. "Jesus Rode a Harley" and "V.I.P.," both songs resembling the style of Guns N' Roses, are actually very good. One can tolerate and perhaps not mind listening to them. Songs such as "God" and "Clover" follow in this style. "Oompa," however, is intolerably annoying.

They have, however, included a few slow tracks, in an attempt to sell out their original sound, apparently to get a single, analogous to "November Rain" by GNR. "Cloudy Skies" and "Candle Song" are both reeking of cheese, offering neither the crunching chords nor the crunching vocals that give Ugly Kid Joe its sound. Unfortunately for them, I doubt their "selling out" will result in any monetary gain, since they are unlikely to get a single to catch on, and even more unlikely to sell very many albums. Despite these slow songs, Ugly Kid Joe has, for the most part, retained their late 80s style and sound when most of their counterparts have either disappeared or have changed like Bon Jovi has.

Ugly Kid Joe is fighting not to be stuck in the ranks of Stryper, Cinderella, Ratt, and The



Cordell Crockett, Shannon Larkin, Whitfield Crane, Klaus Eichstadt, and Dave Fortman are (left to right) Ugly Kid Joe.

Cult — all of whom never really caught on after an initial hit. Sure, Ugly Kid Joe had a second video that got most of its airtime on Beavis and Butthead, but they can still be

classified as a "one-hit" band.

In any case, *Menace to Sobriety* is a decent album, likely doomed by the record industry to end as a flop. People will not buy an album

which is out of style with today's music. Instead, they will continue to buy the latest drivel by Hootie and the Blowfish, or the next retching one by Pearl Jam.

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# Holiday Scheduled to Balance

By Daniel C. Stevenson  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Yesterday's class holiday, originally scheduled for last Monday, was moved by the faculty last fall to coincide with the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashanah.

The reason for the holiday is to balance the number of Tuesday-Thursday classes with the number of Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes, according to Iria J. Romano, assistant to the registrar.

The holiday occurs in five of the seven possible calendars, depending on the placement of Labor Day, Romano said. The calendar schedules school to begin after Labor Day, which traditionally falls on the

first Monday in September. For years in which Labor Day comes early in the month, the Institute calendar will include the holiday.

This is the second academic year under the new calendar approved by the faculty in the spring of 1993.

Next fall will also have a class holiday, Romano said, on Sept. 23, which coincides with the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah is on Sept. 14 next year.

Last November, the faculty approved a motion to move this year's holiday forward one week. In April, they approved a motion to allow the registrar to set the date for the holiday, in consultation with the Faculty Policy Committee.

The original placement of the holiday was "somewhat arbitrary," wrote Professor of Physics Robert L. Jaffe, chair of the faculty at the time, in a Nov. 9 letter explaining the Faculty Policy Committee's recommendation for the change.

Jaffe, Registrar David S. Wiley '61, and President Charles M. Vest received several suggestions to move the holiday one week forward to coincide with the Jewish holiday, Jaffe said last fall.

Jaffe said the FPC unanimously agreed that "the best resolution for this situation would be to give the Registrar the authority to establish, with advice from the FPC, the specific date of the Monday holiday."

# Bacow Begins Faculty Chair Job

By Felicia Hu

Professor Lawrence S. Bacow '72 of the Department of Urban Studies and Planning took office as chair of the faculty at the beginning of the academic year.

Bacow succeeds outgoing chair Professor of Physics Robert L. Jaffe.

As faculty chair, he serves as the chair of the Faculty Policy Committee, which supervises the activities of other faculty committees as well as considers issues of general faculty policy.

In addition, he appoints the chairs of the various standing com-

mittees. He and President Charles M. Vest will work closely together in planning agendas for faculty meetings.

### 'Shared governance' discussed

Bacow will represent the faculty in MIT's shared governance system between the faculty and administration.

Although Bacow looks very positively upon the system, he does acknowledge that issues arise that "test the relationship between the faculty and administration," he said.

However, the members of the faculty "are not reluctant to voice their opinions when they think the administration has taken actions which are not in the best interests of MIT," he said.

Bacow received his MIT degree from the Department of Economics. He also received a law and a doctorate degree from Harvard University. He joined the MIT faculty in 1977. In addition to his new responsibilities as faculty chair, he teaches a graduate course and a freshman seminar.



JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

Professor Lawrence S. Bacow '72

mittees. He and President Charles M. Vest will work closely together in planning agendas for faculty meetings.

### ROTC, re-engineering targeted

Bacow considers ROTC, the institute-wide re-engineering effort, and the faculty retirement policy as the important issues that the faculty will face in the coming year.

MIT's participation in ROTC has been under scrutiny because the military's discriminatory policy against gays conflicts with the Institute's non-discrimination policy. When the ROTC working group ends its five-year tenure next month, an administration task force will begin considering the matter.

Anticipated federal cuts in research funding will raise questions as to how the Institute will cope and respond. Finally, the faculty retirement policy has been a major issue since the federal government eliminated mandatory retirement in colleges and universities last year.

According to Bacow, the Institute is looking at ways which would

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**Graduate Student News**  
 Sept. 27, 5:30  
**General**  
 Oct. 4, 5:30

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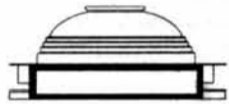
Please send all submissions either by email to [gsc-secretary@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-secretary@mit.edu) or on disk to 50-222. Submissions must be received by Oct. 25th.

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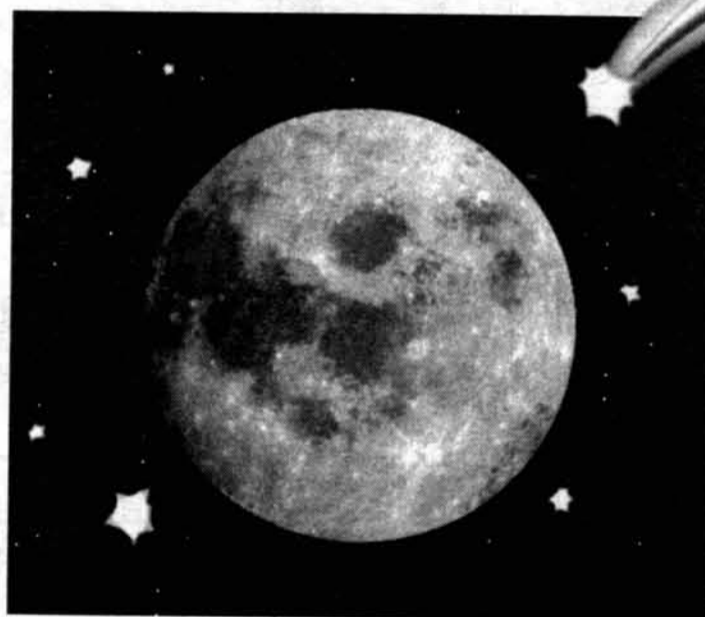
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# Negotiations Begin for Two Properties for Sigma Kappa

By A. Arif Husain  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Preliminary negotiations on the purchase of two properties to house the Sigma Kappa sorority have begun.

Zoning difficulties have slowed down progress, but SK is expecting to move students in by the fall of 1997, said SK President Christine A. Ho '95.

The properties under consideration are 480 and 482 Commonwealth Ave., located near the Alpha Chi Omega house in Kenmore Square. The exact prices were not available, but market values border around a million dollars, said Director of Special Services Stephen D. Immerman.

Efforts are currently concentrated on the larger property, which can house approximately 30, with the hope that the adjacent building may be used as an annex.

Since residents will be responsible for operating costs, it will be most cost-effective to acquire both so that fixed costs can be distributed, Immerman said. The pair should be able to house between 40 and 50.

"There's a lot of bureaucracy that has to run its course before we know exactly where we are in terms of making [the properties] a sorority house," Assistant Dean and Adviser to Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups Neal H. Dorow said.

The negotiations were prompted by a growing need to accommodate rising numbers of female students. With 118 members, SK is the largest sorority on campus.

"MIT didn't realize that sororities want housing. Now that they know, the real estate office is actively

looking," Ho said.

After the purchase, SK will borrow funds to cover renovation costs. Low-interest loans are available through the Institute's Independent Residence Development Fund. In the past, Alpha Phi borrowed just over \$1 million for its house, and AXO borrowed nearly \$800,000, Immerman said. SK renovation costs are expected to be in the same range.

### Ashdown placement successful

The move to purchase an off-campus house follows last year's placement of SK in Ashdown House ["Sigma Kappa Moves to Ashdown," April 14]. Currently, 45 SK members live in Ashdown.

Residents have been surprised at how smoothly things have worked out, Ho said. "We love it. We all get to live together; that's never happened before."

SK will keep its spots in Ashdown until the end of next year while purchase and renovations of a house are completed. At that point, no members will be allowed to move into Ashdown, although those already housed will not be forced to move out, Ho said.

### Kappa Alpha Theta next in line

The sororities are given preference for housing based on their founding dates. Kappa Alpha Theta was founded fourth, and will be considered for housing after SK negotiations are complete, KAT President Lara J. Ivey '95 said.

KAT is looking for a house in the Back Bay for about 30 people. "Hopefully we'll be housed in two to three years," Ivey said.



Many Cambridge residents, including these children relaxing in their wagon, attended the Central Square World's Fair on Sunday.

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**Wednesday, September 27, 1995  
6:00 p.m.**

**MIT Faculty Club  
Main Dining Room East and West**



# Dole Likely to Speak For Republicans Club



TECH FILE PHOTO

MIT College Republicans Club founders Ricardo A. Egozque '96 and Gary M. Rubman '96

By Orli G. Bahcall  
STAFF REPORTER

Republican presidential candidate Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) is expected to speak at MIT near the end of the semester, according to MIT College Republicans Club President Gary M. Rubman '96.

The Republicans Club wants "to get people excited by big names" in order to "get people to come out and listen to us" said Rubman.

Over the next week, a firm date will be set for the visit, which will likely include a speech and a fundraiser, Rubman said. The club has a letter from Dole's campaign expressing the candidate's interest in appearing at MIT.

The club was formed last April in response to a protest of House Republicans' "Contract with America."

The club has also invited Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.).

Gingrich could have visited MIT during his book tour three weeks ago, but MIT was not in session and the visit was postponed, Rubman said.

An Institute appearance will be considered for Gingrich's next tour, next semester, he said.

### Speeches to promote interests

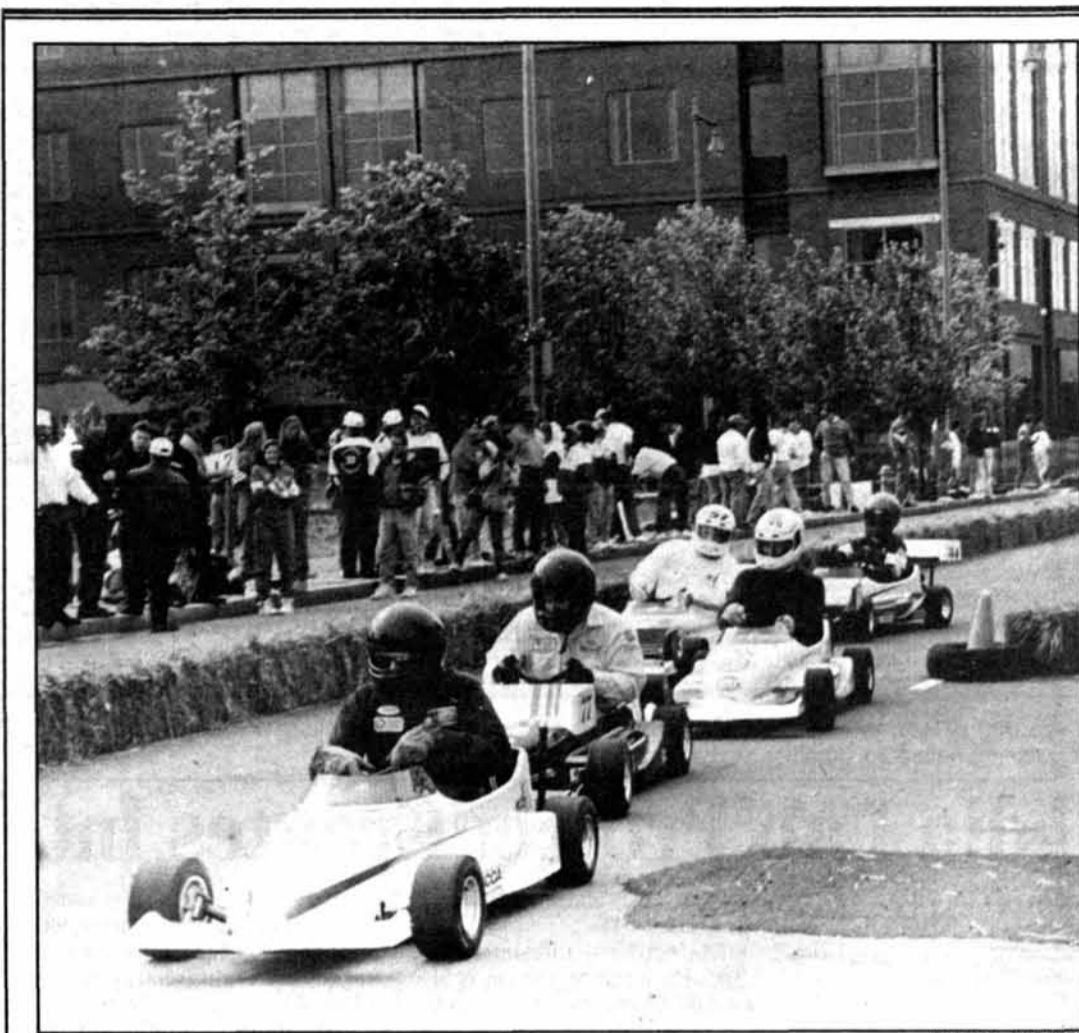
Most people at MIT just don't really care about politics and what information they do hear is often one-sided," Rubman said.

"We want to expose students to some of the leaders of the U.S., so that they can make educated [political] decisions."

Candidate speeches are chances for MIT students to learn more about politics and "a way to find people interested in politics and who possibly will help out with next year's campaign," he said.

The club has also invited Massachusetts Reps. Peter S. Torkildsen and Peter Blute.

Other possible speakers include former Vice President Dan Quayle, former White House Chief of Staff John H. Sununu '61, Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, and Governor William F. Weld.



EVA MOY—THE TECH

Twenty-five area businesses competed in the Arthritis Foundation's mini grand prix fundraiser Saturday at University Park.

# BEAR STEARNS

cordially invites all seniors to meet representatives from our Investment Banking Department.

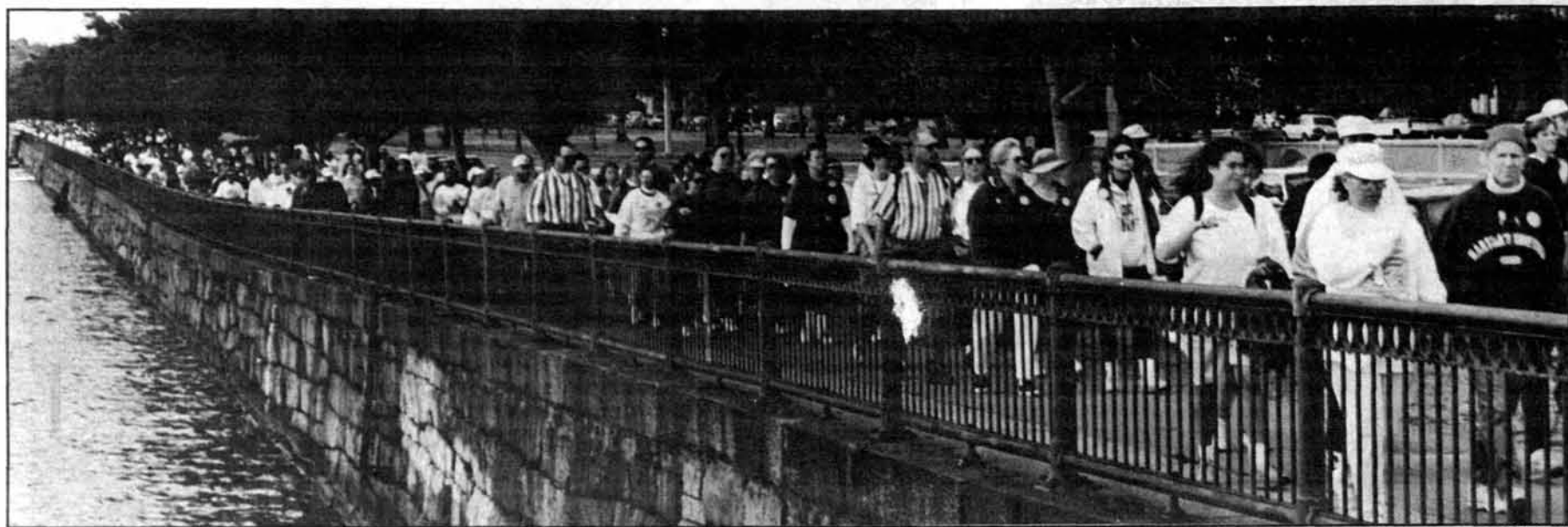
Thursday, September 28, 1995

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Room 4-149



This space donated by The Tech



GABOR CSANYI

Over 15,000 people, including these walking along Memorial Drive, participated in the American Cancer Society's third annual "Making Strides" walk on Sunday. The walk raised a record \$1.5 million to fight breast cancer.

## Media Lab Project Creates Interactive Environment

By Damian Isla

First in a series profiling research projects at MIT.

Researchers at the Media Lab are creating a computer system that replicates a user's body in a computer environment where it can interact with other inhabitants of the virtual world, including a hamster

and a dog that understands spoken commands.

The Artificial Life Interactive Video Environment system is also being used to develop a virtual aerobics instructor, which, when completed, will be able to provide accurate, instantaneous feedback on body position and movement for simple aerobic exercises.

ALIVE uses the latest in pattern recognition and artificial intelligence technology to immerse the user in an augmented reality that combines both real and virtual elements.

"Computers, as they are, are deaf, dumb and blind," explained Associate Professor of Media Arts and Sciences Alex P. Pentland, who heads the Vision and Modeling

group, one of two Media Lab groups working on the project.

Humans and computers "live in separate worlds. ALIVE brings those two worlds closer together, by allowing computers to understand human input on a more human level," Pentland said.

Using only the flat image provided by a normal video camera,

ALIVE can detect the position and movements of a person using the system. The program can then add other subjects, with which the user may interact, to the computer environment.

### System recognizes hands, feet

The system recognizes a person by isolating and analyzing their outline. Then, based on prior information about basic human shape and anatomy, it finds their head, hands, and feet.

Assuming the user stays on the floor, the ALIVE cameras can construct a complete 3D model of the scene.

ALIVE uses two microphones located at the base of the screen to follow the user's movements and to respond to verbal commands as well as general noises such as clapping or shouting.

"There's only so much data you can get from one microphone, especially when there's a crowd standing around watching," said Sumit Basu G, who is working on the project. "By having two, we can get more specific, localized information from the user."

### Second group creates animals

The Autonomous Agents group at the Media Lab uses this data to determine how the virtual inhabitants of the world will react to the user and to each other.

These inhabitants currently include a hamster, a predator, a puppet, and a dog.

The dog, the most sophisticated of the agents, responds to the user's spoken commands and gestures. The user can also throw the dog, named Silas, a virtual ball to play with, pet it, or feed it.

The dog's program wrestles with several basic needs, including the need for human attention, hunger, and the need for sleep.

The hamster's actions are similarly determined by the varying degrees of the intensity of the desire for food, which it can beg from the user, the desire to be petted or have its belly scratched, and the fear of the predator, which can be let loose by the user.

At the same time, the predator is torn between its desire to catch the hamster, and its fear of the user, whom it regards as a predator itself.

### Goals focus on interaction

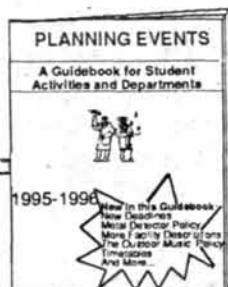
The groups hope that the ALIVE system will, in the long run, help to bring about new and freer means of interacting with computers. Involving no wires, gloves, or goggles, ALIVE allows for more unrestricted movement. This could help to open the computing to more non-technical individuals, especially children and persons with disabilities.

"What's missing from computers is not the networking or the power or the speed," Pentland said. "What's missing is that our computers don't live in the same sensory world as we do. In a sense, our computers don't know who we are."

**Attending a workshop is MANDATORY for at least one member of all Student Activities. Groups who do not send a representative to one of these workshops will not be permitted to register events or schedule rooms after October 1, 1995.**

## Student Activity Workshop on Financial and Event Planning

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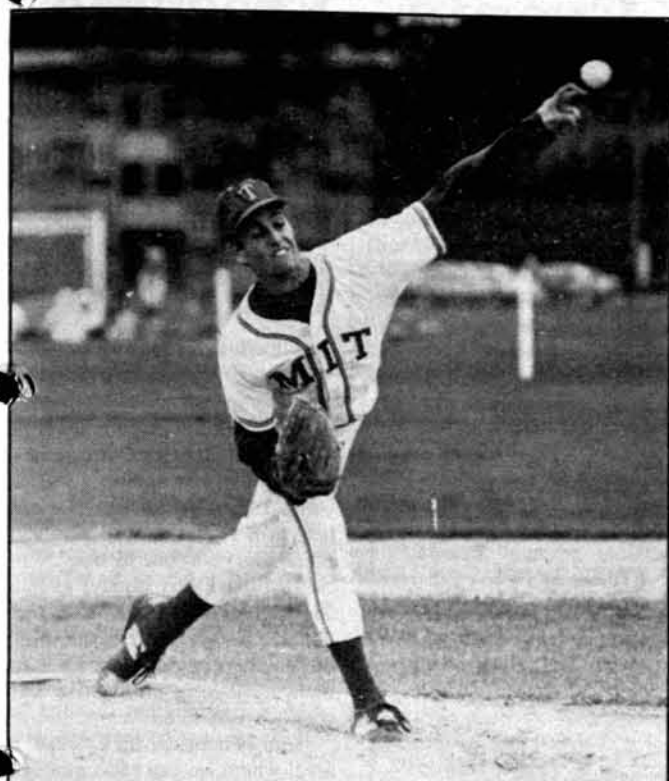
and a handbook on how to manage your finances.

**Tuesday, September 26th 12:00 Noon**  
**20 Chimneys - 3rd floor, Student Center**

*The workshops will provide important information on scheduling rooms, event registration, liquor/entertainment licenses, financial management, latest financial statement, and tips on running successful events.*

**Workshops have limited seating. Please register in advance by calling: Marianne Cook, 253-6777**

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THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

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# Greek Week Events Include Symposium

**Greek Week**, from Page 1

will be donated to charity, Pride said. On Friday afternoon, students can compete against each other in events such as human foosball, sumo wrestling, and volleyball in the Greek Olympiad.

The Greek Week activities con-

tinue on Saturday with a leadership symposium that includes a series of workshops and speakers who will address general leadership issues.

The Greek Week Ball on Saturday night wraps up this year's festivities. The ball is open to everyone and will feature music from a DJ, dancing, and refreshments.

# Freshman President Considers Carnival

**Elections**, from Page 1

with 161 votes. Kim, who was active in her high school government and was the president of her school's National Business Leaders of America chapter, said that she will deal with issues this year "one by one".

"I'll make [my policy] as things come to me," she said. "I talked to upperclassmen and freshmen and the consensus was that we hadn't been here long enough to know what we have to do."

Kim is considering a "class carnival where we can raise money for the community" and allow members of the freshman class to get to know one another.

"Some of the other candidates who weren't elected have already e-mailed me wanting to know they can do to help," she said.

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## Nomination to the MIT Corporation for Final Year Students and Recent Graduates (1994, 1995, 1996 Graduates) DUE DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 1995

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (h)

\_\_\_\_\_ (w)

Please briefly state why you have chosen to nominate this individual (self-nominations welcome). Any additional information you can provide (relevant activities, references, etc.) is also welcome:

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MIT Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (h)

\_\_\_\_\_ (w)

Please forward nominations to Kathleen Cragin Gailitis, Room 10-110 or [rcragin@mitvmc.mit.edu](mailto:rcragin@mitvmc.mit.edu) no later than Nov. 3. Your nominee will be contacted for further information.

# Radiation Treatment Killed 10

Lawsuit, from Page 1

and the Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York.

MGH neurosurgeon William Sweet, who still practices medicine and holds an unsalaried position at Brookhaven, is charged along with others at MGH, MIT, and Brookhaven with using patients as guinea pigs for radiation experiments that were known not to work. Sweet conducted some of his work at the MIT reactor.

### Patients and families were misled

Heinrich said that she and other patients' relatives were not properly informed and sometimes misled about what was being done to patients. The procedure used to treat patients, called boron neutron capture therapy, involved "excruciating pain" and did not succeed in prolonging the lives of patients, Heinrich said.

The procedure consisted of surgery coupled with injections of a boron drug and exposure to a beam of neutrons intended to kill tumors. The patients treated suffered from highly malignant tumors like glioblastoma and melanoma.

Heinrich said that her husband, George, was treated at MIT in 1960, died of necrosis after the tissue in his brain was burnt from the nuclear treatment. The treatment he received was administered irresponsibly, she said.

James White, another neurosurgeon at MGH, warned Sweet that it would be "unbelievable, inconceivable to go to the reactor to treat patients," but Sweet proceeded with the treatment anyway, Heinrich said.

"I hold the government responsible" because the government licensed the nuclear reactors, she said. "But MIT was the recipient of funds from the Department of Energy" to do research at the reactor and also responsible for the experiments, Heinrich said.

### MIT is prepared to defend itself

MIT has not yet been served in the suit, said Vice President and Dean for Research J. David Litster PhD '65. The paperwork should arrive within the next few days.

"I haven't seen the lawsuit," he said, but "if the suit accuses MIT of doing something we didn't do, we'll defend ourselves."

The brain tumor therapy tested did not work, but "can you come 35 years later and sue for it? It remains to be seen if that will stand up in court," Litster said.

The studies done at Brookhaven "were done ethically, in accordance with standards that existed at the time for research involving human subjects," Brookhaven Public Affairs Representative Kara Villamil said.

Sweet has held unsalaried research collaborator appointments at Brookhaven since 1954, and currently holds such a position in the laboratory's medical department, Villamil said.

Heinrich said that MGH's records on her husband have been available for a number of years but that she did not look them because of the emotional trauma involved.

Last year, Heinrich decided to look into the records. "Reading them proved to be a nightmare," she said. "Dr. Sweet was extremely deceitful," she said.

Heinrich said that Sweet performed other "grisly scientific experiments" on her husband at MGH, one of which caused abscesses to form underneath his eyes. "It is the most grotesque situation," she said.

At her husband's funeral, Heinrich said Sweet asked the family to donate George Heinrich's brain for further research that could provide insight into glioblastoma, the type of cancer George Heinrich suffered from. Evelyn Heinrich said Sweet claimed that her husband's brain could solve the mystery behind the

cause of the same cancer that ran in Napoleon's family.

Heinrich said she later found out that Sweet's claim about Napoleon's family was untrue. Sweet is "an absolute madman," she said.

In the past two years, MIT has come under scrutiny for its researchers' roles in various radiation experiments conducted decades ago. Details of many experiments came to light following Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary's 1993 declassification of thousands of documents about government-sponsored radiation experiments.

### MIT begins new new tests

Last year, work began on testing a new potential brain cancer treatment using boron neutron capture therapy at the Nuclear Reactor Laboratory based on the tests done during the 1950s and 1960s.

The study, which is in its first phase, was mandated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to demonstrate that the treatment will not cause harm, Bernard said.

The new tests are completely different from the old ones, Bernard said. "But we've built on what [Sweet] learned," Bernard said.

The standards of safety that Sweet used in his tests were in accordance with regulations at the time, Bernard said. "I don't think

the suit is justified," he said. The current testing will not be affected by the suit.

The procedure used in the new tests involve a epithermal beam, a medium-level energy beam that unlike the 1960s low-energy beam, is strong enough to penetrate bone and tissue to kill tumors, eliminating the need for surgery, Bernard said.

The current tests also use a better boron drug that increases the treatment's efficiency, Bernard said. The tests during the 1960s were not as effective.

Testing is being conducted at MIT and at Brookhaven. So far, three people have participated in tests at MIT, and a fourth is slated to start today, Bernard said. All three "are doing fine at the moment, but they're all terminal, and that doesn't change."

Around 10 people have participated at Brookhaven, two of whom have died, although their deaths were unrelated to the test, Villamil said.

Two of the people who have participated in tests at MIT have shown regression of their tumors, but the tests are intended not as therapy but as a way of showing that the treatment is not harmful, Bernard said.

## MIT students:

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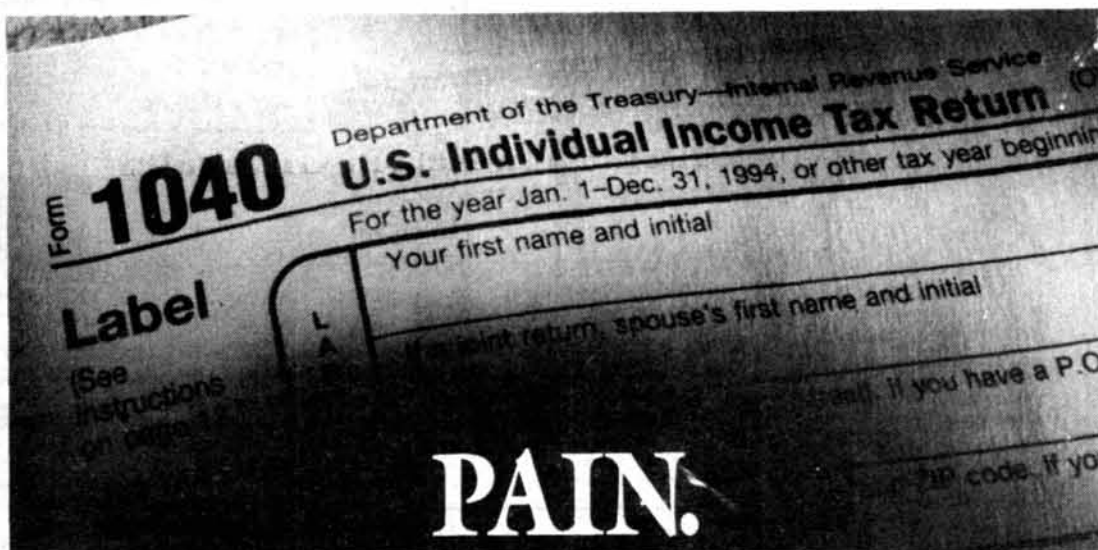
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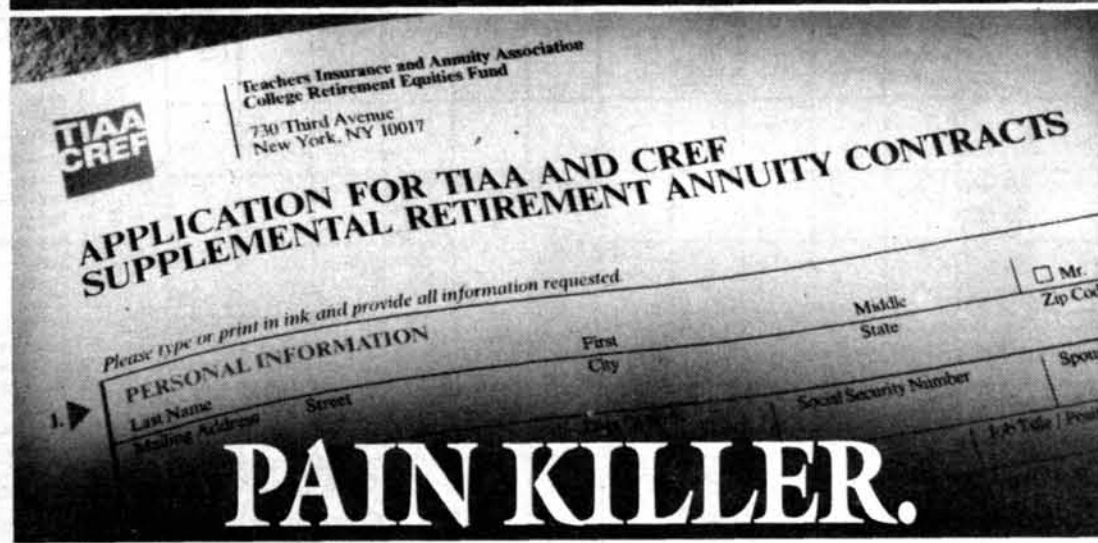
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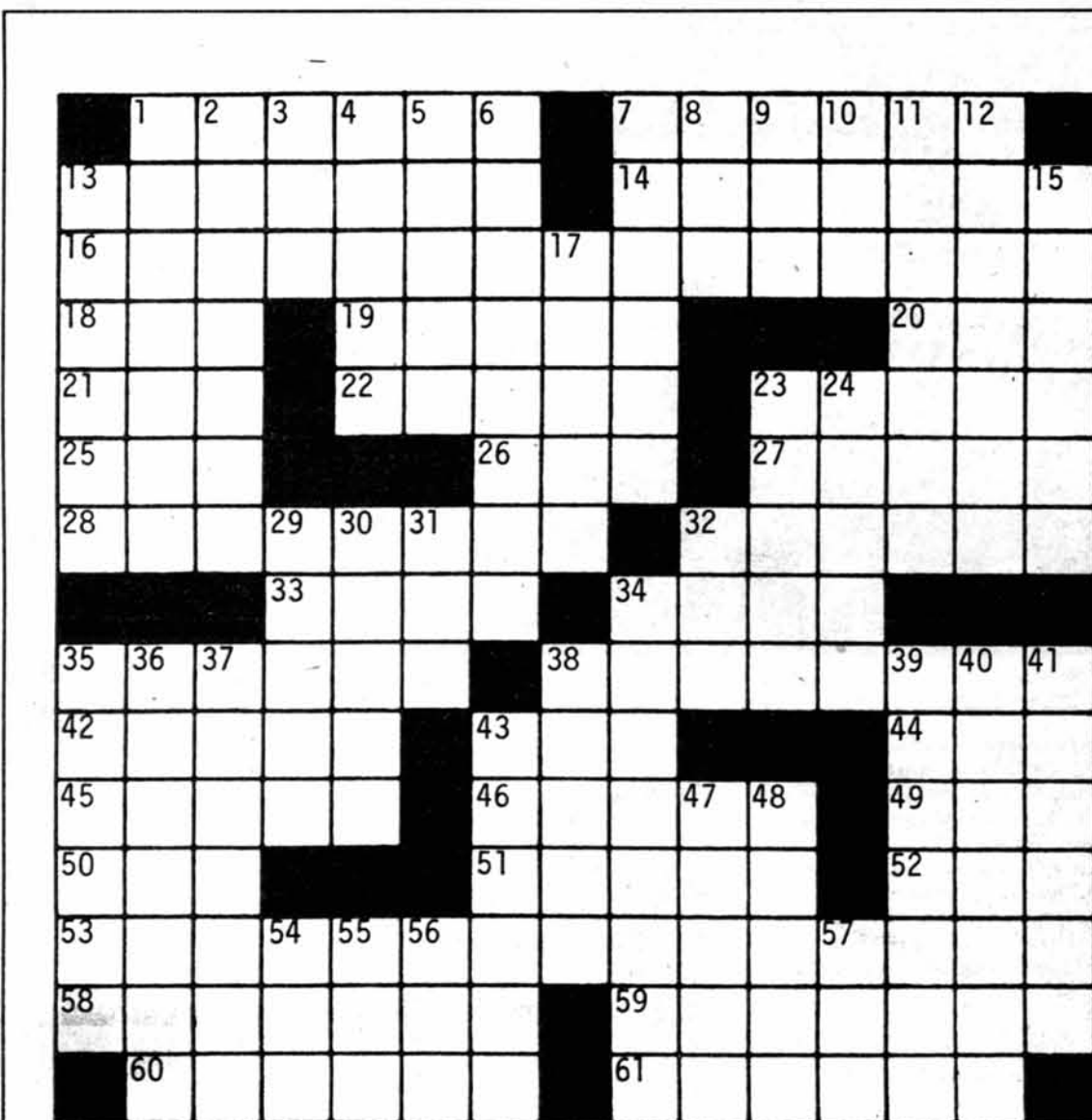
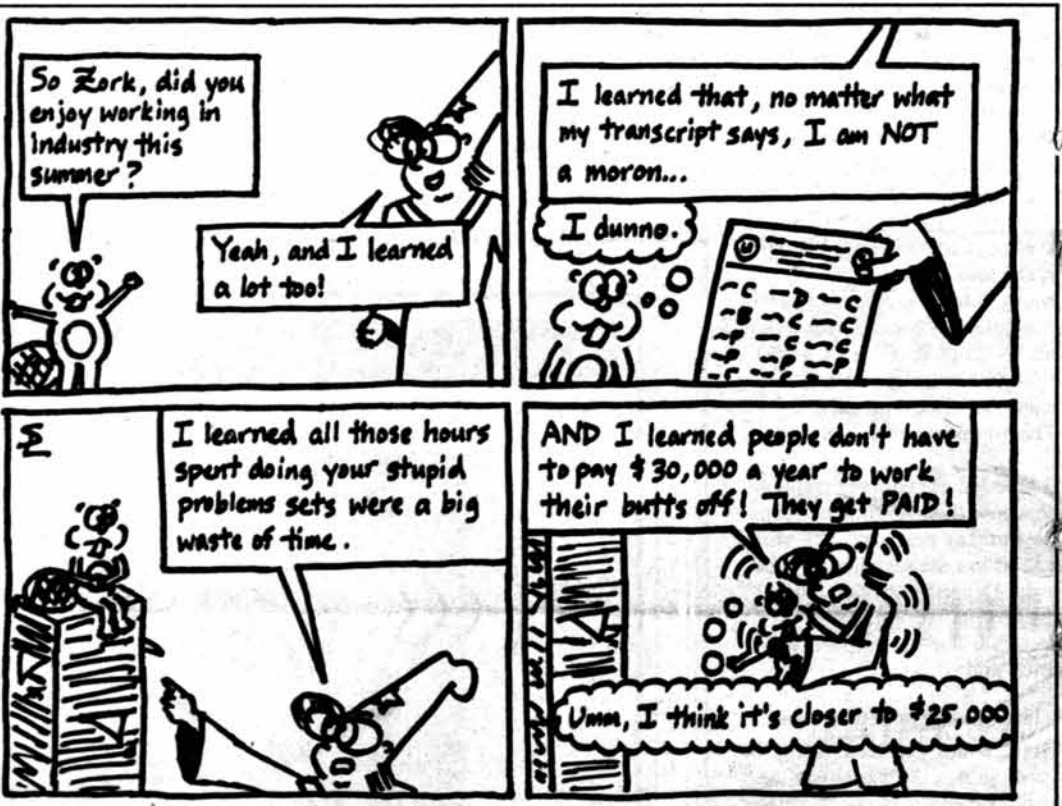
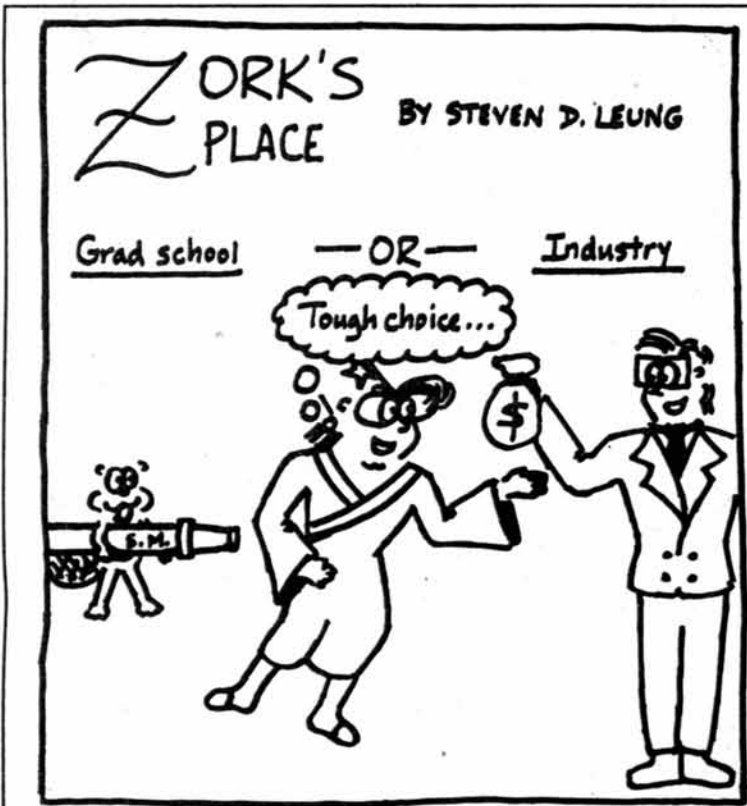
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**ACROSS**

- 1 "The Dark at the Top of the —"
- 7 Like blood fluid
- 13 — fever
- 14 Like a rosebush
- 16 Rubberneck (2 wds.)
- 18 Sports-minded (abbr.)
- 19 Water —
- 20 Dutch commune
- 21 Map abbreviation
- 22 See — eye
- 23 Trucks, for short
- 25 Tavern brew
- 26 Writer Anais —
- 27 Records
- 28 European capital
- 32 Dessert item
- 33 Rogers and Clark
- 34 Dark red
- 35 Connive
- 38 Hockey seating area
- 42 "Poppycock!"
- 43 Suffix for child
- 44 Opposite of pos.
- 45 Platoons
- 46 School, in Paris
- 49 Prefix: height
- 50 Baseball positions (abbr.)
- 51 Horse used in racing
- 52 You: Ger.
- 53 Stage-door crowd (2 wds.)
- 58 Record players
- 59 Young girls
- 60 Wandering
- 61 Puts up

- 9 Deer
- 10 Pay dirt
- 11 Slovenly
- 12 More shabby
- 13 Ancient Egyptian symbol
- 15 Stylish
- 17 Late comic Fields
- 23 Blow one's —
- 24 Comforts
- 29 Accost
- 30 Actress Schneider, et al.
- 31 Sailor's assent
- 32 Play upon words
- 34 Card game
- 35 NFL coach Don, and family
- 36 Disprove
- 37 Lifting machine
- 38 Summarize
- 39 Peeved (3 wds.)
- 40 Acts as judge
- 41 Exit
- 43 Meal
- 47 Hungarian composer
- 48 Uneven
- 54 Hockey legend
- 55 Suffix: land area
- 56 Cey of baseball
- 57 L.A. campus

**DOWN**

- 1 Run swiftly
- 2 Native of North Carolina
- 3 Onassis, for short
- 4 Two of three little words
- 5 Iterate
- 6 Periodic payments
- 7 Author of "Confessions of Nat Turner"
- 8 Inquisitive interjections

**PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE**



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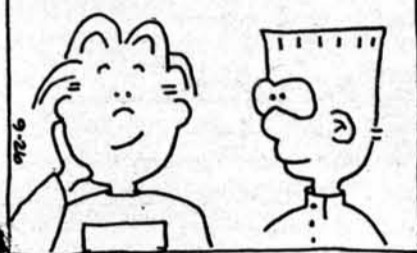
# Off Course

## By H. Ayala

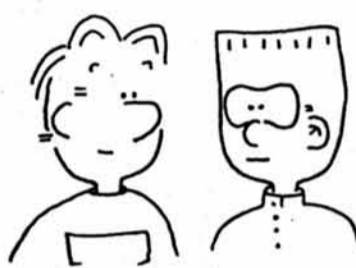
CHIP DISCUSSES HIS DATING OPTIONS WITH JOHN...

THEY ARE BOTH REALLY CUTE, BUT ONE OF THEM IS KIND OF NEUROTIC AND THE OTHER IS FROM OUTER SPACE

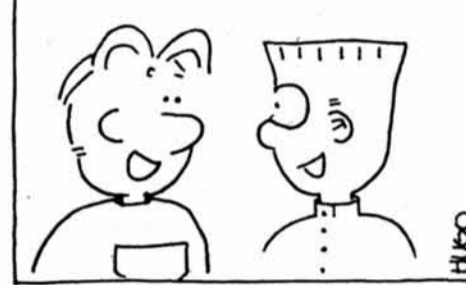
I KNOW THESE TWO GIRLS  
GIRLS?



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OUTER SPACE, DEFINITELY THE GIRL FROM OUTER SPACE



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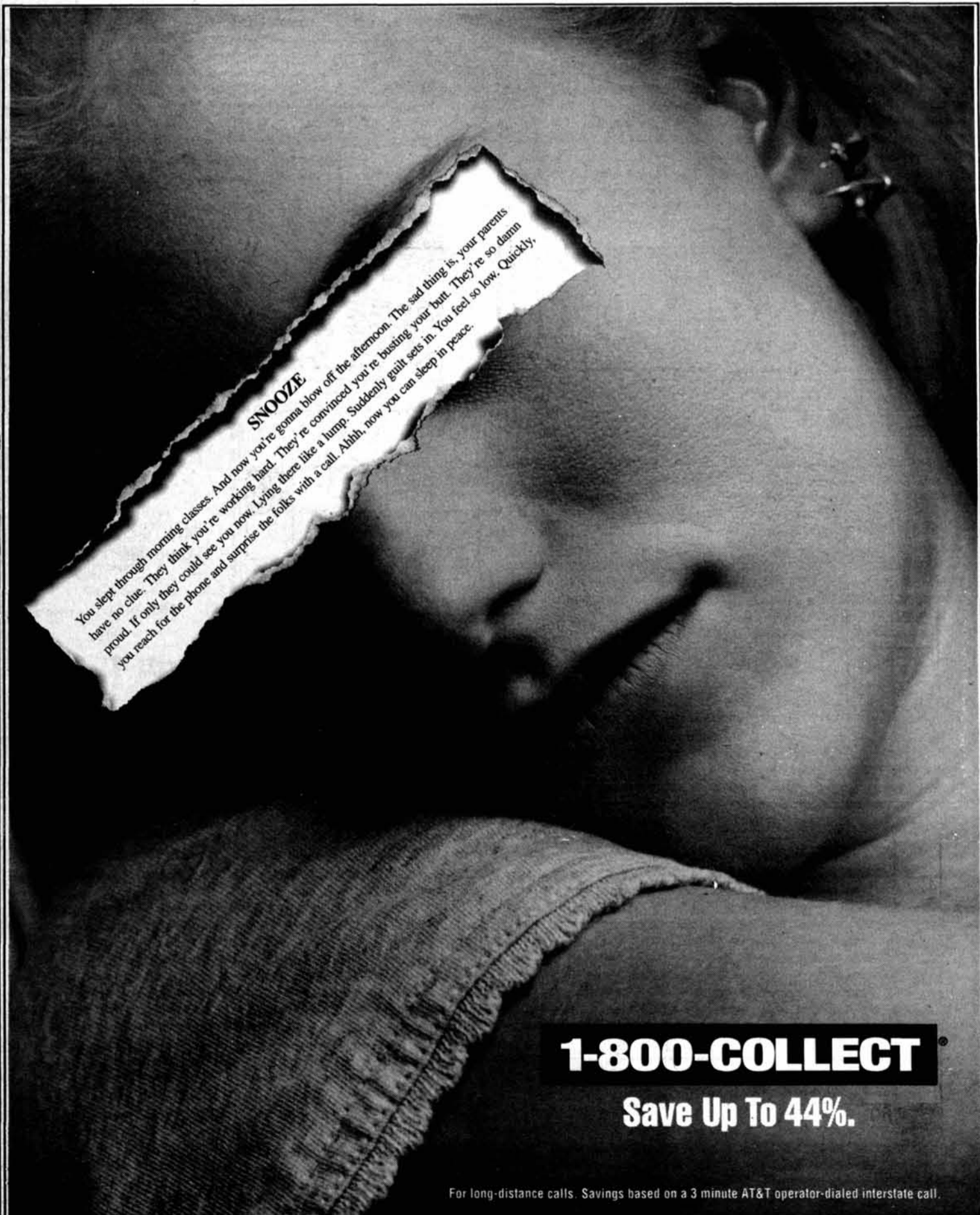
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#### SNOOZE

You slept through morning classes. And now you're gonna blow off the afternoon. The sad thing is, your parents have no clue. They think you're working hard. They're convinced you're busting your butt. They're so damn proud. If only they could see you now. Lying there like a lump. Suddenly guilt sets in. You feel so low. Quickly, you reach for the phone and surprise the folks with a call. Ahhh, now you can sleep in peace.

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Discover how you can make a difference on these issues and more on October 2 when members of the Coporation will be on hand to discuss how to be elected to the Corporation.

The ballot to elect young alumni/ae (1994, 1995, 1996 graduates) to the Corporation needs strong candidates. Could that be you or a friend at MIT? Herald your interests and concerns by nominating yourself or a friend.

Watch your mail for nomination notices and come to the Open Meeting on Monday, October 2, 1995 in the Moore Room, 6-321, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Share a pizza with members of the Corporation and learn how you can make a difference for the student body at MIT.

See other side for nomination form.



MIT sailors race this past weekend on the Charles River.

ADRIANE CHAPMAN—THE TECH



**Mental illness has warning signs, too.**

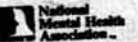
Withdrawal from social activities. Excessive anger. These could be the first warning signs of a mental illness. Unfortunately, most of us don't recognize the signs. Which is tragic. Because mental illness can be treated. In fact, 2 out of 3 people who get help, get better.

For a free booklet about mental illness, call the National Mental Health Association:

**1-800-969-NMHA.**

**Learn to see the warning signs.**

Ad



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