

MIT's  
Oldest and Largest  
Newspaper



### The Weather

Today: Mostly cloudy, 53°F (12°C)  
Tonight: Drizzly, 42°F (6°C)  
Tomorrow: Gloomy, 56°F (13°C)  
Details, Page 2

Volume 115, Number 53

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

## Blocked Chimney Evacuates Random

By Orli G. Bahcall  
STAFF REPORTER

Cambridge firefighters and police had to be called in to evacuate Random Hall Sunday after a blocked chimney caused smoke to flood the building.

The emergency caused residents to be moved for several hours to the MIT Museum building across Massachusetts Avenue from the dormitory before being allowed to return.

The event also deprived the dormitory of heat and hot water for the night, forcing administrators to make space available for residents to spend the night at other West Campus houses, said Margaret A. Jablonski, associate dean of residence and campus activities.

Students who could spend the night in Burton-Conner or Ashdown

Houses, Jablonski said. Few students used the service, however.

The cause of the blockage is still not clear, said Random Desk Captain Samir S. Gandhi '97. The fire department "found a fire extinguisher thrown down one of the chimneys," Gandhi said, and this could possibly be the cause. "This is an internal matter we have to resolve."

"There is an ongoing investigation into the cause of the fire," Jablonski said.

### Students smelled burning

The fire department was alerted to the incident by a fire alarm in the early evening. Residents were also aware of an odor filling the building.

"We noticed a smell of some

Fire, Page 10



THOMAS R. KARLO—THE TECH

A blocked heating vent forced the evacuation of Random Hall Sunday evening. Students were allowed to return to their rooms later that evening, although alternative housing was offered to those concerned about their safety.

## Gore Speaks at Environmental Conference

By Orli G. Bahcall  
and David D. Hsu  
STAFF REPORTERS

Vice President Al Gore both stressed the importance of protecting the environment and condemned the Republican Congress for "extremist" views during his Saturday evening talk to the Society of Environmental Journalists' four-day conference here.

Under Secretary-General of the United Nations Environmental Program Elizabeth Dowdeswell and Pulitzer Prize-winning naturalist and Harvard Professor Edward O. Wilson also spoke at the event, which drew hundreds of journalists and students to Kresge Auditorium.

Other guests included former Massachusetts governor Michael S. Dukakis, who moderated a panel on the public's opinions on the environment.

While some attendees had reservations about Gore's message, overall reaction to the speakers was positive.

### Gore blames Congress for inaction

Gore widely praised the efforts of environmental journalists. "Slowly, you are getting your point across," he said. "News about the environment is extremely important to the American people."

Gore also commended Professor of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences Mario Molina, who

recently won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work linking man-made factors to the hole in the atmosphere's ozone layer.

Even though Gore "was anxious to work in a bipartisan way" toward saving the environment, he said the Republican Congress was following an "extremist, radical, and reckless harmful agenda."

"This Congress is the most anti-environment Congress in the history of the United States," Gore said.

Gore called Congress "out of tune with the American people," citing a poll showing that 60 percent of Americans favored protecting the environment to deregulation. Furthermore, the poll was unbiased, he said, since it was conducted by a pollster of Republican Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.).

The Republicans want "sweeping cuts in everything that protects the environment," Gore said. He said lobbyists from special interest groups are being invited by the GOP to rewrite the environmental codes, calling it the "selling of democracy to the highest bidder."

### Student questions OTA closure

Following Gore's speech, members of the audience posed questions to the vice president. Two MIT students were preselected to ask questions.

Gore, Page 13

## Two Parties Face Off in Cambridge Elections

By Jennifer Lane  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Cambridge will hold city elections next Tuesday, offering Cambridge voters the chance to speak out on issues ranging from parental choice in schools to city-wide hiring practices.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.; voters may cast their ballots in the Johnson Athletic Center, among other places.

Elections follow a system of proportional representation, allowing voters to rank as many candidates as they would like. In recent years, elections have pitted candidates from two local political groups, the Alliance for Change and the Cambridge Civic Association.

### MIT grad up for City Council

Kathleen L. Born MArch '77 is running as an incumbent for a seat on the Cambridge City Council, and has been endorsed by the Cambridge Civic Association.

Elections, Page 9



INDRANATH NEOGY—THE TECH

MIT President Charles M. Vest greets U.S. Vice President Al Gore before Gore addressed the Society of Environmental Journalists conference Saturday evening.

## Night Watchmen Keep an Eye on Campus

By Dan McGuire  
STAFF REPORTER

Under the influence of severe academic pressure, lack of sleep, and without their mothers to look out for them, weary MIT students could pose a hazard for themselves and others.

### Reporter's Notebook

While the night watchmen won't make sure students have taken their contact lenses out before they fall asleep, watchmen actively do check to make sure there are no gas leaks, forgotten pots of boiling water, or other active hazards in the dormitories.

They do this, for the most part, without

being noticed or thanked.

Night Watch is a part of the Department of Housing and Food Services and patrols MIT's 15 graduate and undergraduate dormitories from midnight to 8 a.m. The 17 members patrol the buildings in the evenings, looking out for intruders and checking safety equipment; back at the operations center, workers can deactivate lost MIT cards and issue temporary ones and call in physical plant when emergencies arise.

"Originally I'm told there were only six watchmen, and they used to patrol down the alleyways and in the dormitories," said John E. Tocio, manager of Night Watch. "I had a ring of 62 keys... now I'm down to a card and I love it," he said. The department now has a car with a cellular phone and a two-way radio allowing

it to keep in contact with the patrol members.

"Our function is a lot different from that of the Campus Police," Tocio said. "We are essentially a fire patrol... we do not confront urchins."

"We're the silent service," he added with a smile: "We observe and report to the proper authorities."

"The [members of the patrol] are responsible for their own dormitories," said Assistant General Manager John J. Ahern. "They're almost like a night manager... if they find something wrong or out of the ordinary they call the supervisor to find out what action is necessary."

Watch, Page 8

## INSIDE

■ This year's Ugliest Manifestation On Campus is sour milk. Page 8

■ Bands pay homage to Joy Division with decent success. Page 6

■ Powder may have been a good idea, but it's a lousy film. Page 7

# WORLD & NATION

## Scientist Says He's Confirmed Genetic Link to Homosexuality

NEWSDAY

A landmark 1993 finding that mothers can pass along a gene that influences the sexual behavior of their sons has been confirmed by further study, according to a scientist who did the initial research.

A study of 32 additional gay brothers from unrelated families "firms up the connection between genes and their association with gay men," said Dean Hamer, chief of gene structure and regulation in the laboratory of biochemistry at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Md.

"We are excited to see where this leads," he added. Hamer, along with scientists at the University of Colorado at Boulder and the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research in Cambridge, Mass., are to report on his latest research Tuesday in the journal *Nature Genetics*.

Hamer and his colleagues first identified a genetic link on the X chromosome back in 1993, a finding that some activists feared would lead to further stigmatization and the possibility that people would begin aborting fetuses who carry such a gene. Others, however, were heartened to learn that there may be a deeper, more immutable reason that they were gay.

## Administration Offers Congress Larger Say on U.N. in Exchange

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Stung by charges that the United States is the biggest deadbeat at the United Nations, the Clinton administration is offering Congress a larger role in approving U.S. participation in peacekeeping operations if Congress will put up the money to pay off overdue U.S. debts to the world body.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher and other senior officials met last week with key Republicans to begin discussion of a three-part plan to pay off the approximately \$1 billion in unpaid dues and other U.S. arrears in exchange for guarantees of U.N. reforms and a greater congressional voice in peacekeeping.

The discussions represent a bipartisan effort to settle an issue that the White House, State Department and Congress all agree needs resolving: as the United Nations' biggest debtor, the United States is losing influence with other members. Even close allies such as Britain used the occasion of the U.N. 50th anniversary ceremonies this month to flog Washington for having what the British called "representation without taxation" in the world body.

Under the proposal, Congress would not have a veto over U.S. participation in U.N. peacekeeping missions.

## Ames Spy Case Assessment Said To Be Disastrous for CIA

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Central Intelligence Agency has determined that its espionage operations inside Russia in the 1980s and early 1990s were horribly riddled with double agents who fed streams of disinformation back to the United States, going undetected for years until after Soviet mole Aldrich H. Ames was arrested.

What's more, some CIA officials may have realized that their operations had been compromised by the Soviets — and failed to inform the White House or senior U.S. policy makers of just how badly U.S. spy operations had been penetrated.

Sources say those are some of the explosive findings of the CIA's long-awaited internal "damage assessment" of the Ames spy case, to be formally presented to Congress Tuesday.

Sources who have seen the damage assessment said that it represents a devastating blow to the CIA, and could have far-reaching consequences on Capitol Hill. The report also proves that the Ames case was more harmful to the CIA's clandestine operations than has ever been publicly reported in the media.

## WEATHER

### Gloomy Ghosts and Ghastly Ghouls

By Nili Harnik and Gerard Roe  
STAFF METEOROLOGISTS

Halloween promises to be a brisk and likely damp day. The large pool of cold air that plunged southward over the weekend has started a slow migration back north again, pushed by the southerly flow of a surface high pressure ridge to the east. By nightfall, as goblins and skeletons and terrible costumes emerge, the front will be overhead and over-running air from the south may generate some light rain. Rain is more likely on the way home from the party than before, but if make-up is going to run, then take an umbrella.

Wednesday looks none too pretty either as continued southwesterly flow brings moisture, clouds, and again chance of light rain.

In the outlook, we again look towards a chilly weekend as a cyclone develops midweek over the midwest, pulling cold air down once more.

**Today:** Mostly cloudy. Southwest wind at 10-15 mph (16-24 kph). Slight chance of rain by early evening. High 53°F (12°C).

**Tonight:** Cloudy with light rain towards night's end. Gusting winds during the night. Low 42°F (6°C).

**Wednesday:** Gloomy. Mostly cloudy. High 56°F (13°C). Low 42°F (6°C).

**Thursday:** Continued chance of rain, possibly heavy. High 60°F (16°C). Low 48°F (9°C).

# Quebecois Equally Divided In Early Secession Results

By Charles Trueheart  
THE WASHINGTON POST

MONTREAL

Residents of Quebec voting in a historic referendum on secession from Canada split almost evenly Monday between sovereignty for their French-speaking province and loyalty to the Canadian union, according to early results.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corp., reporting 54.7 percent of the tallied vote at 9:25 p.m. EST, put the yes vote in favor of separation at 50.1 percent and the no vote in favor of Canadian unity at 49.9 percent. It offered no projected victor.

The referendum was the climax of a long struggle for self-determination among Quebecers, who represent a quarter of Canada's mostly English-speaking population of 29 million and have felt their minority status keenly from the outset of confederation in 1867.

If the ballot proposal for a sovereign Quebec, which is combined with an offer of economic and political partnership with the rest of Canada, were to carry, it would launch the province on the road to independence and set in motion a bitter struggle within the fragile Canadian federation. But even a narrow rejection of the question would plunge the country into a prolonged constitutional wrangle to try to settle accounts with Quebec once and for all.

Heavy turnout in biting cold weather was reported at voting stations across the province, where more than 80 percent of the eligible voters are French speakers. The last polls of the campaign indicated that

support for independence stood at 46 percent to 40 percent against, but the large percentage of undecided voters defied easy predictions.

Recent tracking polls conducted by the unity forces, according to sources, had given the no side a spasm of confidence that it could dodge the separatist bullet. Prime Minister Jean Chretien was preparing to address the nation from his office in Ottawa, the federal capital.

Running analysis of the early returns on Canadian television suggested two contradictory and puzzling trends: traditionally separatist areas were showing unexpectedly weak support for the yes, while traditionally pro-unity areas were showing unexpectedly weak support for the no.

Only 15 years ago, Quebecers voted 60 percent to 40 percent against a softer version of the same question. But in a pattern that is characteristic of Quebec's deeply ambivalent political sentiments, a year later they reelected their separatist champion, Rene Levesque, as premier of Quebec. His Parti Quebecois was voted out of office in 1985, and the job of rebuilding the party fell to Jacques Parizeau, his onetime finance minister.

Parizeau rejected the compromising strain Levesque had represented in the separatist movement and argued for unadorned "sovereignty." Parizeau's cause got a boost in 1990 with the collapse of the Meech Lake Accord, which would have given Quebec "distinct society" status. That apparent rejection by the rest of Canada drove support for separation to unprece-

dent levels in the polls.

Following a second constitutional debacle, the nationwide rejection of the 1992 Charlottetown Accord, which also would have granted Quebec special status, the separatist cause began to build a head of steam. In 1993, in the elections that brought Prime Minister Chretien and the Liberal Party back to power in the federal capital, Quebecers for the first time sent to Ottawa a large delegation of pro-separatist members of Parliament.

The Bloc Quebecois, founded and led by Lucien Bouchard, has the second largest number of seats in the House of Commons, which makes it Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition. Many in English Canada find it treasonous that such a state of affairs should be allowed to exist, and never more so than now.

Last year Parizeau led the Parti Quebecois back to power in the Quebec National Assembly, the provincial legislature that has retained the name it had before Canadian confederation, and set the stage for Monday's referendum.

He had originally envisioned a "simple question" to put to Quebecers, suggesting variations on "Do you want to become a sovereign country?" But persistently unfavorable public reaction to such a stark formulation led him to capitulate in June to moderating pressures from Bouchard and their young ally, Mario Dumont. The pair persuaded now-Premier Parizeau to attach to the question a second clause that held out to voters the promise of continued ties to the remains of Canada.

# Dutch Absolve U.N. Troops in Fall of Srebrenica to Serbs

By William Drozdiak  
THE WASHINGTON POST

THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS

The Dutch government Monday absolved its U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia-Herzegovina of any wrongdoing in the fall of Srebrenica to the Bosnian Serbs, which resulted in some of the worst atrocities seen in Europe since World War II. Dutch officials said other nations must share blame for failing to provide enough troops to protect the U.N.-designated "safe area."

Defense Minister Joris Voorhoeve said an intensive three-month investigation showed that the 460 lightly armed Dutch soldiers serving in the Srebrenica enclave in eastern Bosnia last July were overwhelmed by attacking Bosnian Serb forces and thus helpless to prevent the subsequent slaughter of thousands of Muslim men and the forced deportation of 25,000 women, children and elderly.

"The fall of Srebrenica was caused by Bosnian Serb aggression, not by the way in which Dutchbat (the Dutch battalion) operated. The opposing forces were far superior in number and firepower. The small Dutch U.N. unit faced them alone," Voorhoeve told a press conference as he recounted the conclusions of a special military panel.

"Close air support was provided too late and on too small a scale. Dutchbat carried out its U.N. tasks under inordinately difficult and dangerous conditions. But it was powerless, in a way itself a prisoner of the Serbs, even before their attack."

The exoneration seems bound to escalate a debate in a nation that cherishes an altruistic tradition of serving as an enlightened moral

conscience and fighting in the vanguard against famine, illiteracy and genocide. On a per-capita basis, the Netherlands donates more than any other nation to Third World development, and it is the leading contributor to U.N. peacekeeping and humanitarian aid missions.

But that heroic image has been badly tarnished by accumulating evidence that Dutch troops stood aside as executions, rapes and expulsions on a massive scale took place last summer in an enclave they were sworn to protect. Public outrage over the failure to thwart such war crimes has been heightened by the appearance of complicity, as Dutch officers served as unwitting dupes and propaganda tools for the Serbs.

In one notorious incident, Ratko Mladic, the military commander of the Bosnian Serbs, summoned the head of the Dutch battalion in Srebrenica, Lt. Col. Ton Karremans, to a room where a live pig was tied up. As Karremans watched in horror with a glass of plum brandy in his hand, a soldier disemboweled the pig with a knife. "That's how we deal with our enemies," Mladic reportedly told him.

When he and his troops were evacuated to Zagreb, Karremans contended that the "militarily correct operation" by the Bosnian Serbs in moving Muslim civilians from their homes was conducted "in the right way." His deputy, Maj. Robert Fraiken, also signed a document with Mladic asserting that the evacuation was carried out in compliance with legal military norms.

At the time, Lt. Gen. Hans Couzy, the commander of all Dutch ground forces in Bosnia, backed up

the claims of his men on the scene and mistakenly insisted that none of his troops had discovered any solid evidence suggesting that Bosnian Serbs had committed acts of genocide in Srebrenica.

While defending the role of the Dutch forces, Voorhoeve said Monday that such statements "were clearly wrong." He said that the Dutch officers never should have permitted themselves to be put in a position, even under such duress, where their words could be exploited by the Serbs.

Even though they were badly outgunned, Dutch soldiers also were castigated for not sticking to demands that Red Cross or other international observers be allowed to accompany the trucks and buses that evacuated refugees from Srebrenica so that Serb actions could be monitored. Other actions by Dutch officers suggested either naivete or a desire to accommodate the Serbs in order to prevent casualties among their own ranks.

Voorhoeve denied reports by human rights groups that Dutch soldiers had destroyed a list of names and a videotape with evidence of war crimes. He said that apart from a few unfortunate comments, there was "no evidence of misdeeds" by any Dutch soldier that would warrant disciplinary action.

"I would compare their situation to that of a man who jumps into the water to save five people from drowning while 100 others watch from the side," he said. "When that man saves two people but three others drown, he gets condemned by those who did nothing for failing to save the three people who went under."

# 11 Charged for Alleged Roles in 1987 South African Massacre

By Bob Drogin  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

In a surprise move that sparked fears of a violent right-wing backlash, the government has announced plans to file murder charges against a prominent apartheid-era defense minister and 10 former top-ranking military officers for their alleged roles in a 1987 massacre.

Magnus Malan, who served as defense minister from 1980 to 1991 and who led the white-ruled regime's brutal "total onslaught" strategy against its foes, is the highest-ranking member of the former government to be charged with politically inspired crimes by Nelson Mandela's democratic administration.

Sydney Mufamadi, minister of safety and security, told a news conference Sunday night that Malan and his 10 former aides will be

arrested and arraigned in Durban on Thursday for allegedly authorizing a death squad that killed a priest and 12 women and children as they lay sleeping in a Zulu township on Jan. 21, 1987.

The impending arrest of some of the most powerful and feared figures of the still-raw recent past was bitterly denounced by right-wing leaders and members of the former government, including the last white president, Frederik W. de Klerk.

"Selective prosecutions are totally unacceptable," De Klerk, now deputy president under Mandela, said in a statement. He warned that the case could have "far-reaching repercussions for national reconciliation."

De Klerk said he had asked Mandela to grant temporary amnesty to the group, and to anyone else facing charges of or under investigation for political crimes,

until they can apply for full amnesty by testifying before a proposed Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Parliament has authorized the controversial panel, but Mandela has yet to name its members.

The 11 men form a virtual Who's Who of top military brass during the most vicious period of the apartheid years. The crackdown by the white supremacist regime against black liberation movements and their communist allies, especially in the mid-1980s, led to a campaign of murder, torture and other human rights abuses.

In addition to Malan, those to be charged include former South African defense force chief Gen. Jannie Geldenhuys, former army chief Gen. Kat Liebenberg and former military intelligence director Gen. Tienie Groenewald. The others named were all senior intelligence or operations officers.

# Court to Hear Case Alleging Blacks Selectively Tried in Cocaine Cases

By Joan Biskupic  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Supreme Court announced Monday that it would hear a case involving allegations that federal prosecutors in Los Angeles selectively pursued and charged blacks in crack cocaine cases.

The dispute, the first at the high court relating to selective racial prosecution in nearly 10 years, comes as the question of whether blacks and whites are treated the same in the criminal justice system has become a focus of national attention.

The issue was highlighted by the recently completed O.J. Simpson trial, in which the Los Angeles Police Department was accused of racism. And Monday, President Clinton signed legislation rejecting

recommendations by the U.S. Sentencing Commission to reduce stiff federal penalties for offenses involving crack in order to make them more equal to lesser penalties for offenses involving powder cocaine.

In the case of United States vs. Armstrong taken by the Supreme Court, five black men indicted on crack cocaine distribution and firearms charges in 1992 eventually had their cases dismissed after the Justice Department declined to present documents countering their claim of discrimination.

The defendants had shown that all 24 crack cases handled by the Los Angeles federal public defender's office in 1991 involved blacks. The men, Christopher Lee Armstrong, Robert Rozelle, Aaron Hampton, Freddie Mack and Shel-

ton Auntwan Martin, claimed that prosecutors targeted them because they are black.

The Justice Department argued that it was not required to disclose documents to counter that allegation, saying that the identification of 24 black crack defendants showed "only that blacks have been prosecuted, not that others of different races and similarly situated have not." No evidence was introduced by the defense showing that similarly situated white people had not been prosecuted.

U.S. District Judge Consuelo B. Marshall said the defendants' statistics were enough to order such disclosure, called "discovery." She ordered the government to provide a list of all cases from three prior years in which it had charged both crack and firearms offenses.

# GOP Considers Extending Government's Borrowing Privileges

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Republican congressional leaders said Monday they are considering extending the government's borrowing privileges through Nov. 29 to allow Congress time to complete work on its budget and spending legislation without throwing the government into default.

The White House has pressed for a longer extension of the debt ceiling — through early January — and has accused Republicans of playing "blackmail" with the debt ceiling to force President Clinton to go along with their budget plans. However, administration officials said Monday they would reluctantly accept a shorter extension.

Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete V. Domenici (R-N.M.) disclosed the Republicans' intentions following an afternoon meeting on the budget with Senate Majority Leader Robert J. Dole, R-Kan., and House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.).

Domenici told reporters that an extension of the budget ceiling to late November would be necessary to give the House and Senate sufficient time to negotiate a compromise on the balanced budget and tax legislation, called reconciliation, they approved last week and to give Clinton a little more than a week to decide whether to sign or veto the legislation.

"We know what we want, and we're going to have to extend the debt ceiling on a temporary basis," Domenici said. He said that Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin's latest request to boost the debt ceiling through Jan. 1 was "out of the cards."

Gingrich confirmed the possibility of a short-term extension: "We talked about that as an option — it is an option." However, Gingrich and Dole said repeatedly they are unwilling to address the looming debt ceiling crisis until Clinton initiates budget talks.

# Israel Not Surprised By Syrian Intransigence

LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

Secretary of State Warren Christopher's meeting Monday with Syrian President Hafez Assad earned barely a shrug of the shoulders from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who once set peacemaking with Syria as his government's top priority.

"It repeats itself," Rabin said when reporters asked what he thought of Christopher's first meeting with the Syrian president since June. "Every time Christopher is on his way to Syria, the Syrians set preconditions for continuing the peace negotiations."

Rabin said before the three-hour session in Damascus that he did not expect it to produce an agreement to resume military-level talks with Israel, last held in June. And he did not seem alarmed that the negotiations are deadlocked over security arrangements on the Golan Heights, the plateau Israel captured from Syria in the June 1967 Arab-Israeli War.

Two events that unfolded over the weekend underscored the increasing marginalization of Syria in Rabin's strategic planning.

One was the assassination of Damascus-based Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shikaki on the island of Malta. The other was the opening of a regional economic conference in Amman, Jordan, that Syria refused to attend.

## Graduate Student Council

### Hey Grad Students!!

Serve on a Focus Group or an Advisory Group for the Student Services Reengineering Teams.

For more information, see the web page at <http://web.mit.edu/studentserve/www/> or send email to [studentserve@mit.edu](mailto:studentserve@mit.edu).

### Next meetings:

- General Nov. 1, 5:30
- APPC Nov. 9, 5:30
- HCA Nov. 14, 5:30
- Activities Nov. 16, 5:30

Join the ad hoc residential parking committee.



Fill out an application (available in 50-222) or contact Geoffrey Coram (577-5719) by Friday, November 3rd.



The GSC is sponsoring a trip to see the Stephen Sondheim Musical

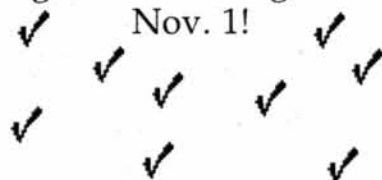
## GYPSY

Thursday, November 2, 8pm  
at the French Opera House in Hyde Park  
Only \$10

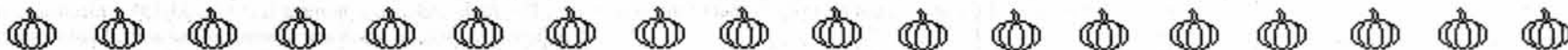
Limited number of tickets so sign up now in the GSC office (50-222)

### IMPORTANT NOTE!!!

The GSC will be voting on two ASA (association of student activities) constitutional amendments at our general meeting on Nov. 1!



## HAPPY HALLOWEEN FROM THE GSC!



All Graduate Students are invited to all our meetings. Most are held at 5:30pm in 50-222 and dinner is served. Stay informed about all our events! Check out our web page <http://www.mit.edu:8001/activities/gsc/gsc.html> Add yourself to our mailing list by sending email to [gsc-request@mit](mailto:gsc-request@mit) Questions, comments, ideas? Give us a call at 3-2195 or send email to [gsc-admin@mit](mailto:gsc-admin@mit)

# OPINION

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## Times Article Misrepresented Chocolate City

An article was published in the *New York Times* on Oct. 25 that caused me considerable concern. The article, "Nation's Campuses Confront An Expanding Racial Divide," features examples of various college campuses where racial issues have had an increasingly divisive affect on students. Among the campuses and incidents featured were "a virulently anti-Semitic newspaper column praising the Million Man March" at Columbia University in New York, "a racist flier calling on whites to arm themselves against blacks" at the University of Southern California and what were described as "tensions" in Chocolate City at

MIT. The "tensions" were not elaborated upon by the *Times*, nor were there any quotes from members of Chocolate City expressing an opinion that there were overt racial tensions on MIT's campus.

As a member of Chocolate City at MIT, I am flabbergasted at how Peter Applebome, the author of this article, (or his source) came up with this conclusion.

While no one can deny that there are racial problems on this campus, this article is extremely misleading in that it gives the impression that members of Chocolate City feel that there is some kind of overt, palpable racial tension at MIT. Chocolate City members are described as "men in t-shirts and black satin jackets." We are not the on-campus representatives of the Nation of Islam, nor are these articles of clothing uniforms any more than fraternity letter clothing are uniforms. I

am insulted that Chocolate City would be grouped along with hatemongers and bigots.

The forum mentioned later in the article, sponsored by Chocolate City, was not just meant to "discuss ways to build on the energy of the [Million Man] march" but was also meant to inform the MIT community about the reasons for the march according to members of Chocolate City and give people a chance to voice their opinions for or against the march. I encourage people who have questions about the Million Man March and other controversial events to talk to members of Chocolate City before making up their mind about what our views are. We are a diverse group of individuals with a large range of views and opinions and do not think or act as a block. I hope that this letter clears up any misunderstanding caused by the article in question.

Harsha G. Marti '97

## It's High Time for Canadian Annexation

Column by Anders Hove

OPINION EDITOR

It must have been a little galling for Canadians to read major American newspaper editorial pages over the last few weeks. Yankee Op-Ed writers have gone bonkers writing flip-pant columns about how great it will be when the United States finally breaks down and annexes Canada. These egotistical pontificators have been storing up years of condescension, just waiting to dump it all on our unwitting neighbors to the north. They seem to think our annexing Canada would some sort of magnanimous favor on our part.

As the descendant of people who accidentally immigrated to this country from Canada, I'd like to think I bring some perspective to the issue. From my uniquely unbiased position, I would offer the Canadian government the following advice: Ditch those pesky, ungrateful Quebecois and annex the United States instead.

The sheer numbers in favor of the idea are overwhelming. If Quebec goes its own way, that leaves Canada with about 3.3 million square miles of land. That's 300,000 square miles shy of the United States' current 3.6 million. Canada then drops to number four in the land area ranking. Without Quebec, Canada has only 20 million people to that vast land area, giving it just a half-person more per square mile than my home state, Montana.

Throw in the United States, however, and Canada rips into first place on the land area ranking. That's even ahead of Russia, which currently weighs in at 6.6 million square miles. Throw in nearly 250 million people and add \$6 trillion to the GDP, and suddenly Canada starts looking like a real country.

But we haven't even considered the fringe benefits yet. Without America, Canada makes for a pretty wimpy world power, doomed to send its air squadrons and ground battalions to United Nations hot spots under foreign command. After annexing the U.S., though, suddenly Canada becomes the world's greatest superpower, with a military budget of over \$270 billion every year. Combine that with U.S. borrowing power (amply demonstrated over the past fifteen years) and you get the greatest debtor nation in the world's history.

One of the most critical reasons for annexing the States, however, has nothing to do with numbers. The fact is, without Quebec, Canada has no culture. True, Canada has a rich frontier history, and some colorful ties to the British Isles. I should mention Canada's rich Native American population (which subsists in spite of Canadian nationhood). In general, though, Canada is still the blandest nation in the world. By comparison, the Unit-

ed States is a cultural melting pot. True, many Americans are provincial unilingual white males who eat pizza five nights a week. But the percentage of those who buck this stereotype is higher here than in Canada, so annexing the United States will amount to a net cultural increase tundra-side.

Sports is another hot issue. By annexing America, Canada would establish its permanent domination of hockey and baseball. Nothing is more important to Canadian identity than the Stanley Cup; this way Canada would win it every year for sure. So much for national security issues.

But while it thus seems fairly obvious that Canada should ditch Quebec and annex the United States, the actual process of annexation will be difficult. As in all matters political and diplomatic, compromise will be necessary. Luckily, Canada's negotiating position is fairly fluid, and allows for considerable movement.

Take the problem of the national capital. Once it jettisons Quebec, Canada doesn't have one. America will have to continue to house the capital in Washington, D.C. (as onerous as that may seem to most Americans).

The issue of a constitution will undoubtedly also come up in any merger negotiation. Once again, Canada comes up a little short: It doesn't have one. So it won't matter how much Yanks demand Canada supply the constitution; it will be the Yankee constitution, or no constitution.

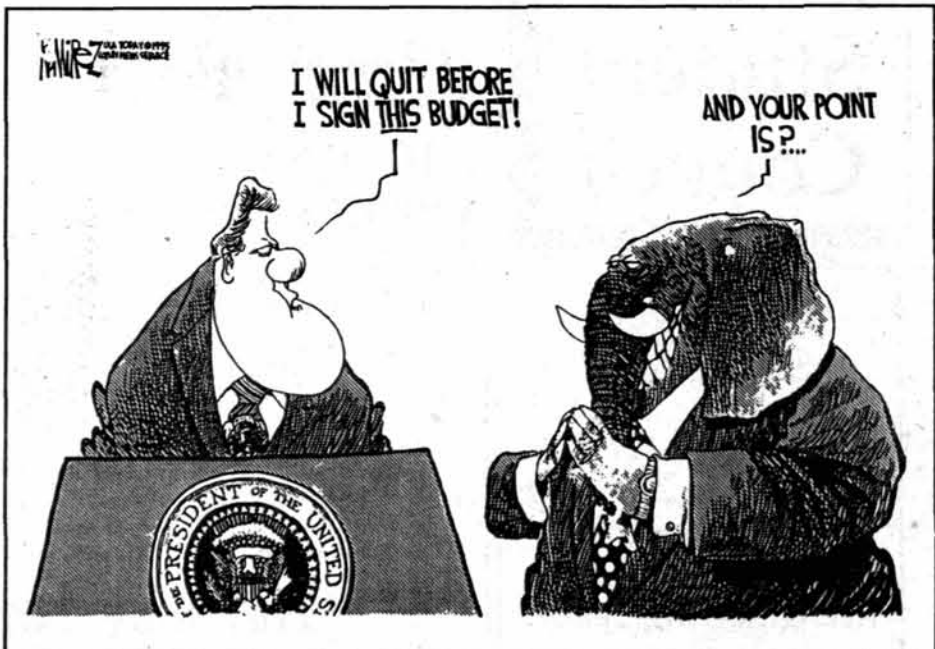
But if America has to supply the capital and constitution, what concessions will Cana-

da offer? First, of course, Canada will offer to ditch its centralized health insurance and agree to fund Medicare cost-of-living increases with their grindingly high taxes. Canada will have to concede its right to log its primeval forests. (It otherwise stands poised to drive the U.S. forestry industry into the dirt faster than all the spotted owls in the world.) If bargaining gets tough, Canada could throw in some free skiing passes to sweeten the deal.

The most contentious point between the two countries is the question of the national anthem. Americans can't sing their anthem, and Canadians won't sing theirs. The obvious solution will be to find some suitably unknown British drinking song and clap on some references to the "red glare" of sunlight reflected off maple leaves. The song would then be such an embarrassment that nobody in either country would admit to having an anthem. Problem solved.

Of the remaining points, few have any substance. Even the monetary issues are fairly simple: To stabilize interest rates ("freeze" is the technical term), the Federal Reserve Board would move to Toronto. Furthermore, Americans will have no problems dumping that silly pyramid on the dollar in favor of Queen Elizabeth II.

In general, it seems the points in favor of annexing the United States far outweigh any possible objection to the scheme. I think most Yanks would even agree that the word "Canadian" has a neat ring to it. Failing that, we could at least call ourselves "Americans" with a little more accuracy.



## Opinion Policy

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**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.

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**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](mailto: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.

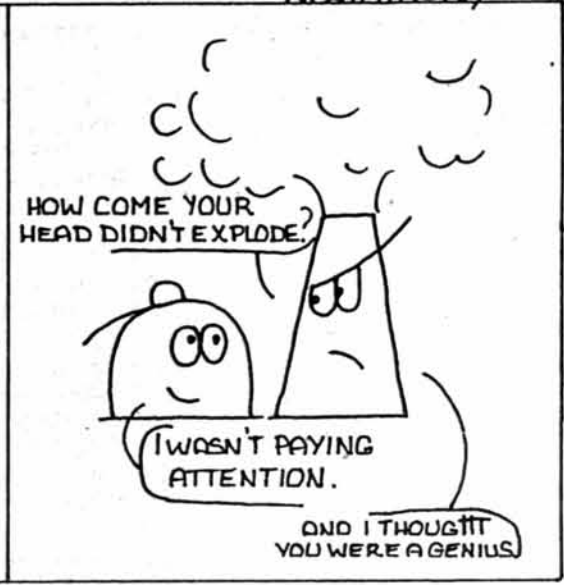
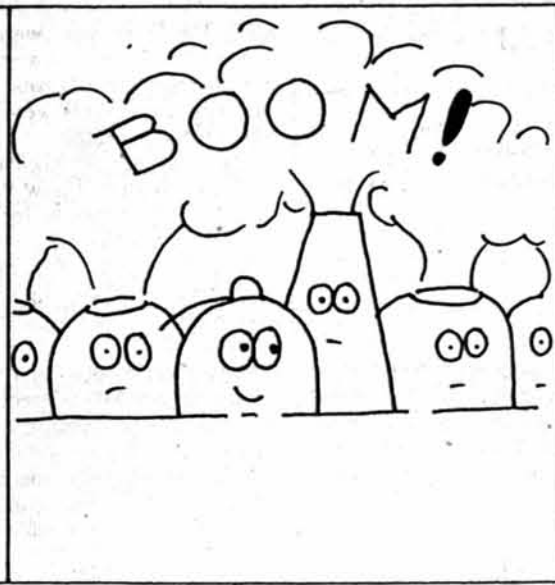
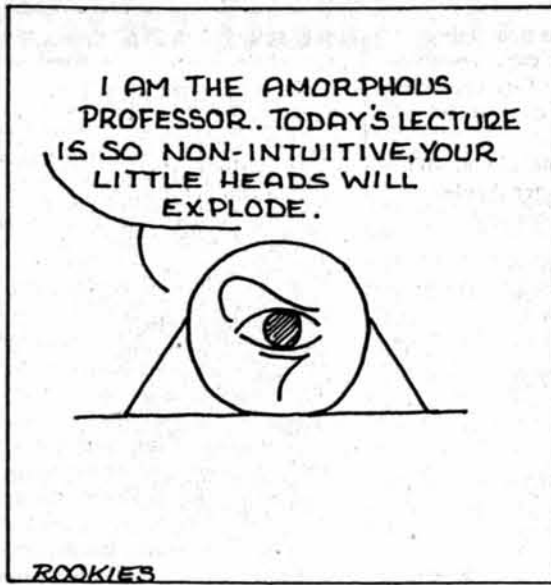
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# rookies

# by willy ziminsky

W. ZIMINSKY



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## THE ARTS

**Joy Division album less convincing than original****A MEANS TO AN END: THE MUSIC OF JOY DIVISION**

Various Artists.  
Virgin Records.

By Stacey E. Blau  
NEWS EDITOR

In the realm of dead rock stars, Joy Division's Ian Curtis occupies one of the more glorified, if not one of the more obscure, thrones of tortured consecration among fans. Ian Curtis led the little-commercially-known but vastly influential late 1970s and early 80s group Joy Division, a band whose music magnified the potential of punk into an art of magnetic and compelling self-doubt and isolation.

Joy Division had a sound like no other band at the time, and that sound influenced a good part of British music that followed in the 80s, including many successful bands like Echo and the Bunnymen, the Cure, and Siouxsie and the Banshees. Now, fifteen years after Curtis's epilepsy — and chronic-depression-induced suicide that somewhat dubiously catapulted the band to cult stardom — young American bands are paying tribute to an influence of theirs, and an influence of their influences, on *A Means to an End: The Music of Joy Division*, an album of Joy Division covers that includes bands like Honeymoon Stitch and Codeine.

Joy Division's continuing importance to so many bands seems most visible within the context of punk. Punk in the 70s ripped away the pretensions of rock music to the simple emotion of unfocused anger. But after a few years of punk's inarticulate fury there arose a need to express more complex emotions with the same anger, and that's what Joy Division did.

Songs like "No Love Lost," "Atrocious Exhibition," and "Something Must Break" expressed a horror, isolation, and a loss of control never articulated by punk bands of the same era like the Sex Pistols. Songs like "Disorder" and "Transmission" were organized

around related themes like social failure and set to music with an unexpected uplifting despair that seemed strangely fitting but so uncalculated. The songs were always coherent and compelling and never premeditated or jaded.

This album of covers takes on the not-so-simple task of re-interpreting what these songs mean and producing viable, believable versions of them. It's a task at which a good part



of the album fails to deliver completely. The most obvious piece missing from the album is anything remotely resembling Curtis, who is mostly responsible for making Joy Division so inexplicably magnetic. Curtis's lyrics and his shaky, faltering voice that always seemed on the verge of something horrible is nearly impossible to reproduce. But the purpose of a

cover album is not to duplicate the original. Instead it is to shape the old into something new worth listening to, albeit for maybe slightly different reasons.

Some of the songs on the album are definitely more than worth just listening to, and those are the ones that work with and exploit Joy Division's magical urgency. But too many of the others take the framework of the songs keeping some of Joy Division — like the loud

guitars and droning vocals — and turn what was persistent and frenzied and compelling into something monotonous and dull.

As for the start of the album, Girls Against Boys' cover of "She's Lost Control" is excellent, as is Honeymoon Stitch's "Day of the Lords." Both manage pretty convincing and interesting takes on the songs, and they retain much of the edginess of the originals. "Day of the Lords" in particular seems to highlight quite well many of the original

version's subtleties. Further's "Insight" and Desert Storm's "Warsaw" are both inventive and riveting. They owe much to the originals but take them in new directions that are pleasantly surprising, if irreverent.

But all too many of the covers seem dull, if not plainly ridiculous. Joy Division's most famous song, "Love Will Tear Us Apart,"

receives shameless and shabby treatment from Stanton-Miranda, and "Transmission," one of Joy Division's more pop-like songs, is so completely slowed down that it is hopelessly boring and painful to listen to. Several of the other songs, like Moby's "New Dawn Fades" and Codeine's "Atmosphere" are slowed down as well, with similarly dull results. The album does pick up at the towards the end with Kendra Smith's "Heart and Soul" and Tortoise's "As You Said," but these noteworthy exceptions seem unfortunately misplaced among the albums other misfires.

Too many of the bands covering the songs seem too young and almost inexperienced with their sound. Joy Division was a short-lived band and therefore young when it made basically all of its music, but somehow it seemed that their youth, inexperience, and even slight technical incompetence with their instruments manifested itself more in their extreme urgency, edginess, and listenability than in any sort of lack of maturity in the band's sound. But Joy Division's immediacy seems to be the precise crucial element that too many of the cover bands lack, and in its place is an undeveloped sound that often seems incongruous manipulating Joy Division's music.

Overall, the album is usually pretty listenable, and the really good covers are a pleasant surprise. It is heartening to see young bands still paying tribute to such an important musical influence as Joy Division, and maybe even particularly relevant in the context of the past few years, which have seen a slight rebirth of punk with the sudden appearance and tragic exit of Nirvana.

But it is unclear that there that there is any obvious candidate to expand on what Nirvana had to say — just corporate junk like Offspring and Green Day. Joy Division picked up where punk left off and paved the way for many of the new-wave bands of the 1980s. It will be interesting to see if any bands of the current talented crop — like Smashing Pumpkins — emerge in the next few years to carry the torch.

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333 Washington St., Suite 850, Boston, MA 02108

# Good sentiment blunted by confusion in *Powder*

## POWDER

Written and Directed by Victor Salva.  
Starring Mary Steenburgen, Sean Patrick Flannery, Lance Henriksen, and Jeff Goldblum.  
Sony Fresh Pond.

By Rob Wagner  
STAFF REPORTER

Most likely created by some sort of mystic, the film *Powder* is indeed strange. *Powder* is the story of the wacky, wild adventures of an albino completely hairless teenager who has the power to use an extraordinary amount of his brain capacity; it's also typically American in its blatant use of moral superlatives.

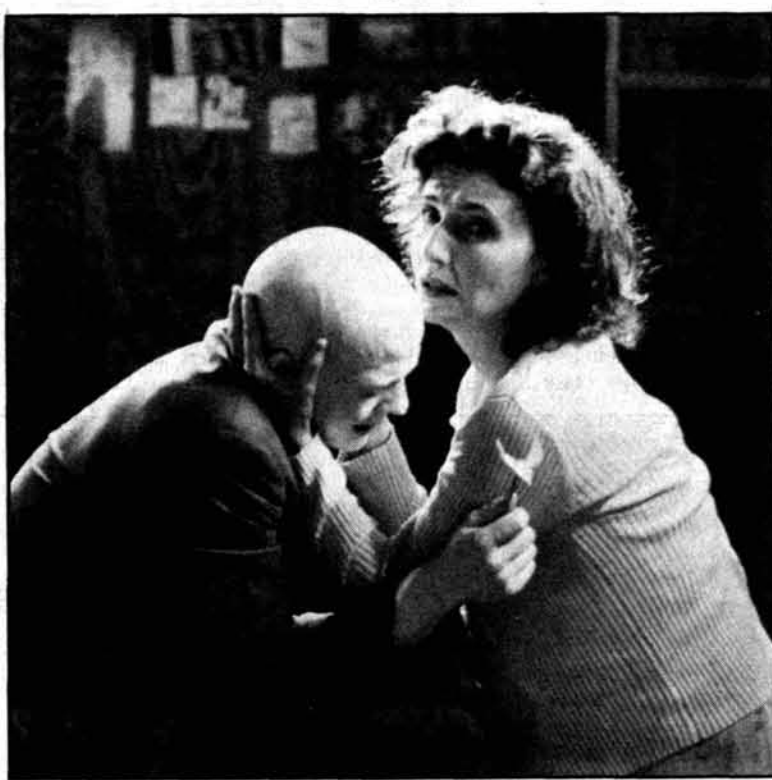
The title character (Sean Patrick Flannery) scores completely off the scale on a school IQ test and can recite any page of any book he's ever read. Due to his mother's having been struck by lightning during her pregnancy, Powder (whose real name is Jeremy Reed) now has these qualities plus a mysterious bio-magnetic ability that affects electronic instruments around him and enables him to manipulate things electrically and magnetically. Of course, he's also telepathic.

It's an interesting idea for a film, but it is done poorly. Because Powder has the use of more of his brain than the audience, we are expected to view what he says with more credibility than any "normal" human. This is a worthy goal for a filmmaker, to develop a philosophy in an attempt to affect the audience, and have Powder embody that philosophy so that people will see him as some sort of role model. In general, this idea could work, but

writer and director Victor Salva obviously misses the boat here.

Instead of the independence embodied in most people, Powder believes that all humans are linked, every single one, in some sort of single-consciousness. The idea of using Powder as a role model can work, but the audience has to view Powder as a worthy role model. Here, Powder views people

unwilling to accept the idea of a single-consciousness purely on faith — as closed-minded. This dogmatic type of view nullifies any worth Powder might have as a role model, and it dooms the message of the film, which supposedly presents a different "higher" view of things, to influence people.



Powder (Sean Patrick Flannery) covers from the cruelty of a close-minded town as Jessie Caldwell (Mary Steenburgen) consoles him.

Powder also hates the way that people live. Since he has telepathic abilities, he can see all the deceit, all the conflicting thoughts and postures of everyone. In the meager advertising campaign that publicists launched for the film, they emphasized Powder's hatred of

hunting. He somehow telepathically links a hunter to the dying deer he just shot, so that the hunter can feel the pain and impending death that the deer feels.

Besides the message implied by Salva, the film itself is just plain awful. With cliché after cliché and an abundance of predictable scenes, it's a wonder anyone could think this movie was worth making. A semi-conscious two-year old could predict exactly what would happen, and who would suddenly reappear in the film. The whole inclusion of a love interest is inane and superfluous to the message Salva was trying to get across. The supposedly touching scenes are obviously predictable, and though some are well-acted, they add nothing but another wacky spin to the film.

One good point about the movie is the inclusion of Jeff Goldblum as Powder's high school science teacher. I don't know who typecast Jeff Goldblum as the nutty scientist pondering technology versus humanity, but it really works.

Though *Powder* is interesting and a bit thought-provoking, my thoughts are mostly to use this film as an example of what not to do in filmmaking. It is on the whole a poorly constructed and clichéd film that ends up with an awkward message. In theory, we are supposed to model our lives around what Powder would do, or what he would think about what we're doing. Goldblum admits that we live in a dark age of man, where we are doing everything we can merely so we don't kill each other. Therefore, we are supposed to live our lives more like Powder would have us live them. Well, I don't buy it.

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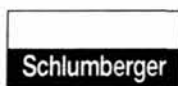
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**INTERVIEWING:**

**Date:** November 14 & 15, 1995

# Year-Old Sour Milk is Ugliest Manifestation on Campus

By Ifung Lu  
STAFF REPORTER

Milk. It does a body good. For Justin O. Cave '98, this year's Ugliest Manifestation On Campus, sour milk was the beverage of choice as his campaign as the Institute's vilest carton of milk raised over \$300 for charity.

Cave and his sour milk campaign defeated runner-up Steven E. Jens '97 by the narrowest margin in recent years, 47 cents.

Between Cave, Jens, and other competitors, UMOC — an annual charity fund-raiser sponsored by the national service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega — raised \$913.64, up from \$765.60 last year.

"I think it went pretty well," said UMOC Publicity Chair Jeffrey S. Poore '97.

"We were happy, but at the time,

Random Hall had just started to blow up, and for a while, we didn't think we had won," said Cave, a Random Hall resident, referring to the Sunday night fire at his dormitory [see story, page 1].

Jens, who wore a smoking jacket and argued for ugly people's rights, was disappointed with his loss. "I was kind of upset about not getting it. I just wanted the title."

**Contest gets ugly for charity**

UMOC, which ran through last Friday, is a charity fund-raising "ugliness" contest sponsored entirely by APO, Poore said. Any student who is not a member of APO could run for the UMOC title.

Contestants set up collection jars in Lobby 10; each penny students contributed counted as one vote.

The money usually goes to the

winner's favorite charity. However, because the spread between first and second place was so small, APO will meet today to decide whether to donate all the money to Cave's charity, the Boston Food Bank, or to divide the money between Cave's choice and Jens' choice, the American Cancer Society, Poore said.

Cave raised \$308.52 and Jens received \$308.05. Third-place Sharon J. Hollander '97 raised \$126.95, followed by Jay P. Muchnig '97 at \$84.04, Omri Schwarz '97 at \$46.58, Sonia Chawla '98 at \$19.38, and Nathaniel J. Bower '98 with \$4.73.

Originally titled the Ugliest Man On Campus, the contest was given its current name to allow women compete, Poore said.

# As Students Burn Midnight Oil, Night Watchmen Keep Eye Out

Watch, from Page 1

One recent night, I joined Ahern on a tour of a Night Watch route. We walked from the headquarters to Next House in time to meet patroller Cecil Eastman for his first round. The first round is typically the longest and takes from 30 to 40 minutes. "They secure the building when they first come on," Ahern said. Securing the building includes checking for open windows, insecure doors, and unattended, turned-on stoves.

We first checked the previous evening's incident log to make sure that all the issues cited by the watchman yesterday were resolved.

We then walked across to the dining hall. Eastman closed several ground floor windows after pointing

out to me that the windows were just a few feet above the ground outside and easy to get in through. "We'll often discover things you won't discover," Ahern said.

We descended into Next House's basement, checking the fire extinguishers as we went along. "Sometimes the kids will fire it off," Eastman said. They also tested other safety equipment like the smoke alarms and fire hoses.

Next, we examined the laundry room, sniffing for gas leaks and checked the stove in the nearby kitchen to make sure that it is not on. "If someone asks 'Who's the mysterious person who shut my stew off?' it's the night watchman," Ahern said, noting that fires have started from unattended food on a stove.

In one of the basement bathrooms we came upon a slow leak which Eastman and Ahern examined but decided was not serious enough to warrant an emergency call to Physical Plant. Instead, they logged it and left it for the morning crew. After making sure that all of the exterior security lights were working, we moved on to the machine rooms to check for more leaks.


At this point I dropped out, exhausted, and Eastman began to make the rounds of the remainder of the building.

"In between rounds you generally find the watchman at the front desk... but he could be handling a room lockout or any number of things," Ahern said. "They're in a dorm looking out for you."

"Where do you want to go?"

"I don't know, where do you want to go?"



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# Cambridge Voting to Open Next Tuesday

Elections, from Page 1

Born believes that during her time at the Institute she "became committed to issues of good urban design and planning," she said. "In the architecture department in the '70s, social activism was synonymous with architecture and planning."

Born is basing her campaign on affordable housing, truck traffic, and preservation of historic sites, an area in which she has a strong academic background.

Like the CCA, Born strongly opposes a residency requirement for city employees. "I don't think the city needs to regulate where people put their head on their pillow at night... that's just another rule that we don't need."

### Hiring, school choice key concerns

In line with the CCA platform, Born wrote the council order requiring an open search to fill city positions. "I will stick by my guns on this one," she said. "We need to have professional management."

The CCA believes the key issue in this election is patronage appointments — "how jobs are filled with the city... whether it is a patronage procedure going by who you know, or if people are hired based solely on their ability," said Geneva Malenfant, CCA president.

Cambridge will be hiring a new police commissioner, and the CCA would like to see a search carried out in order to select and hire the best person for the job instead of simply promoting an officer up through the ranks, Malenfant said.

Other points of the CCA's 1995 election platform include a student-oriented school system, affirmative action in hiring, affordable housing for all income levels, improved productivity of city departments, and beneficial growth through partnerships with business, institutions and community.

The CCA was founded in 1945 in reaction to a then-extremely corrupt city government. The CCA prides itself in promoting progressive views, and the fact that the first women, blacks, and gays to be elected to office were endorsed by the CCA.

### Alliance promotes budget scrutiny

CCA candidates are not voters' only choice. Electing Alliance for Change candidates will be "more likely to lead to a reduction in the budget," said Ed O'Connell, president of the Alliance for Change, in an

article in the *Cambridge Chronicle*.

Alliance candidates have come out against taxpayer support for the Cambridge Hospital.

The Alliance platform includes: working with law enforcement bodies to insure the safety of Cambridge neighborhoods, creating jobs and enhancing revenue, scrutinizing the city's budget, developing programs to provide housing opportunities for Cantabridgians, ensuring equal access to all schools for parents, emphasizing hiring practices in city government that encourages all Cambridge residents to apply, and conducting an external audit of the school administration.

The Alliance is focused on ensuring that Cambridge residents have a say in their government. They aim to respect the views of all Cambridge residents and build the future of Cambridge upon that understanding.

The Alliance for Change began in 1993 in order to challenge the Cambridge Civic Association's control over local government. The Alliance aims not to outline a platform and force its candidates to endorse it, but to develop a platform indicating places of common understanding amongst candidates and citizens.

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## Principal Candidates

### City Council

name	party
Kathleen Born March '77	CCA
Anthony D. Galluccio	AFC
Henrietta Davis	CCA
Francis Duehay	CCA
Paul T. Kearns	AFC
Craig Kelley	CCA
Lester P. Lee Jr.	CCA
Ralph Lopez	CCA
James J. McSweeney	AFC
Barbara J. Pilgrim	AFC
Sheila T. Russell	AFC
Jonathan T. Spampinato	AFC
Michael A. Sullivan	AFC
Timothy J. Toomey Jr.	AFC
Katherine Triantafyllou	CCA

### School Committee

name	party
Christine Arruda	AFC
Alfred Fantini	AFC
Robin Harris	CCA
Joseph Grassi	AFC
Tony Knopp	CCA
Jon Maddox	AFC
David Maher	AFC
Susana Segat	CCA
E. Denise Simmons	CCA
Charles Stead	AFC
Alice Turkel	CCA

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## POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between Oct. 21 and Oct. 26:

**Oct. 21:** MacGregor House, jewelry stolen, \$349.

**Oct. 23:** Bldg. 20, sign stolen, \$100; Bldg. 3, wallet stolen, \$65; Haywood garage, car cover stolen, \$180; Student Center bicycle rack, attempted larceny of a bicycle; Bldg. 1 bicycle rack, \$260 bicycle stolen.

**Oct. 24:** Student Center, Dennis Gillooly (address unknown) arrested for trespassing; West Annex Lot, 1988 Jeep stolen; Bldg. 1 bicycle rack, \$200 bicycle stolen.

**Oct. 25:** Audrey St., car stolen in Boston, later recovered; Bldg. W45, wire stolen, \$765; Bldg. 36, vandalism; Bldg. W31, assault and battery between two persons known to each other while playing basketball.

**Oct. 26:** Ashdown parking lot, two signs stolen; Student Center, bicycle parts stolen, \$100; Bldg. 1 bicycle rack, \$225 bicycle stolen; Bldg. E25, eye glasses stolen, \$100.

## Ventilation Problem Prompts Evacuation

**Fire**, from Page 1

combustion-type odor and traced it down to the basement," Gandhi said.

The blocked chimney interfered with the heating system and caused gases to build up, Gandhi said. The heating system had to be immediately turned off as a result, he said.

The building facilities — including heat and water — had to be shut down to make repairs to the chimney, according to the fire department. Only when the chimney was cleared could the heating system be turned back on yesterday.

There will be a house meeting at 7 p.m. today to "try to clarify what all the problems are that have been happening in Random" Jablonski said.

Sunday's event was not the only one of its kind this week at Random, as a sewer drain blockage on Friday

night caused water to back up, Gandhi said.

The water leaked through the first floor and flooded the trunk room, Gandhi said. "A lot of personal property was damaged beyond repair."

On Saturday night there was a complete water shutdown at Random, Gandhi said. "A yellow powdery substance" was observed "spurting out of the pipes and toilets" when the water was turned on again Sunday morning, Gandhi said. The water was declared unsafe to drink, and an Environmental Medical Service worker was called in to take a sample of the substance for analysis, he said.

The sewage in the rooms and hallways was "only cleaned up [yesterday]," Gandhi said. "Residents were very upset. They had to live in unsanitary conditions for the weekend."

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GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

Many students will partake in the Halloween tradition tonight but these two partygoers celebrated early Saturday night at the Ballroom Dance Club's Halloween Ball, held in the Student Center.



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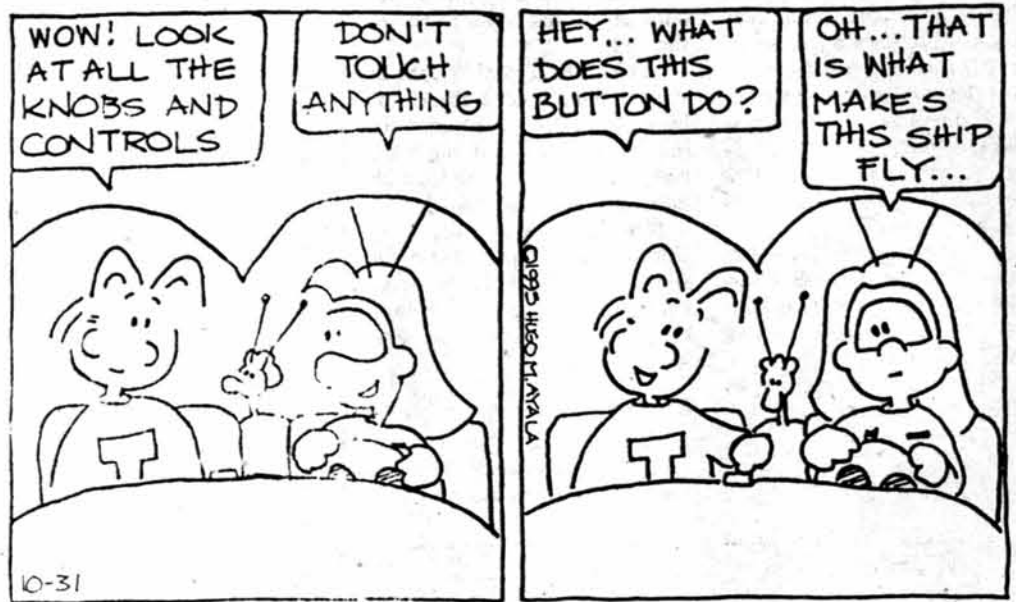
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**UA Nominations Committee will be holding interviews to select members for the Student/Dean panels on Saturday, November 4. Pick up an application and sign up for an interview at the door of the UA office (W20-401).**

# Gore Speaks with Mixed Success at Conference

Gore, from Page 1

Marybeth Long G, a student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering working on international environmental policy, asked Gore about the Republican decision to close the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment.

The OTA, which issued studies on new technologies for Congress and was seen on the Hill as notably non-partisan, was shut down this summer over questionable concerns about its effectiveness.

Gore supported the OTA but said that it would be difficult to resurrect it in the face of the Republican Congress, which approved the measure to disband it.

"If the majority is in favor of [closing the OTA], there's not much we can do," he said.

For Long, Gore's talk "confirmed that someone in the White

House is concerned with these environmental issues." Gore seemed to be "very strongly opposed to Congress' lack of effort to promote the environment."

"Whether [Gore] will do something about this is yet to be seen," she said.

Enrique R. Vivoni '97, the other student, did not get a chance to ask his question. Vivoni, a junior majoring in environmental engineering, had planned to question Gore about the Global Marshall Plan.

This plan was proposed in Gore's book, *Earth in the Balance*, and asks the United States to take an active leadership role in solving environmental problems, Vivoni said.

### Students have mixed reactions

Although Vivoni did not get the opportunity to address the vice president, he was excited to see "that

many of my own concerns were represented." Gore's talk "convinced me that the Republicans are just trying to eliminate environmental issues," Vivoni said.

The talk "proved to me that the Contract with America is trying to do away with environmental issues as a whole," Vivoni said. He added

that Gore's "speech made me see that their administration is doing something productive."

But other students were not as enthusiastic. "All he did was bash Republicans," said Lauren S. Kuhn '98.

The "Democratic party did not do anything for the environment in

the two years there was not a Republican Congress," Kuhn said. Gore brought up the five restrictive Republican versions of the Endangered Species Act now in Congress, Kuhn said, but there "is not even one" such Democratic act out there.

Gore, Page 15



JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

Vice President Al Gore speaks about environmental issues in the 1996 presidential campaign Saturday evening in Kresge Auditorium.



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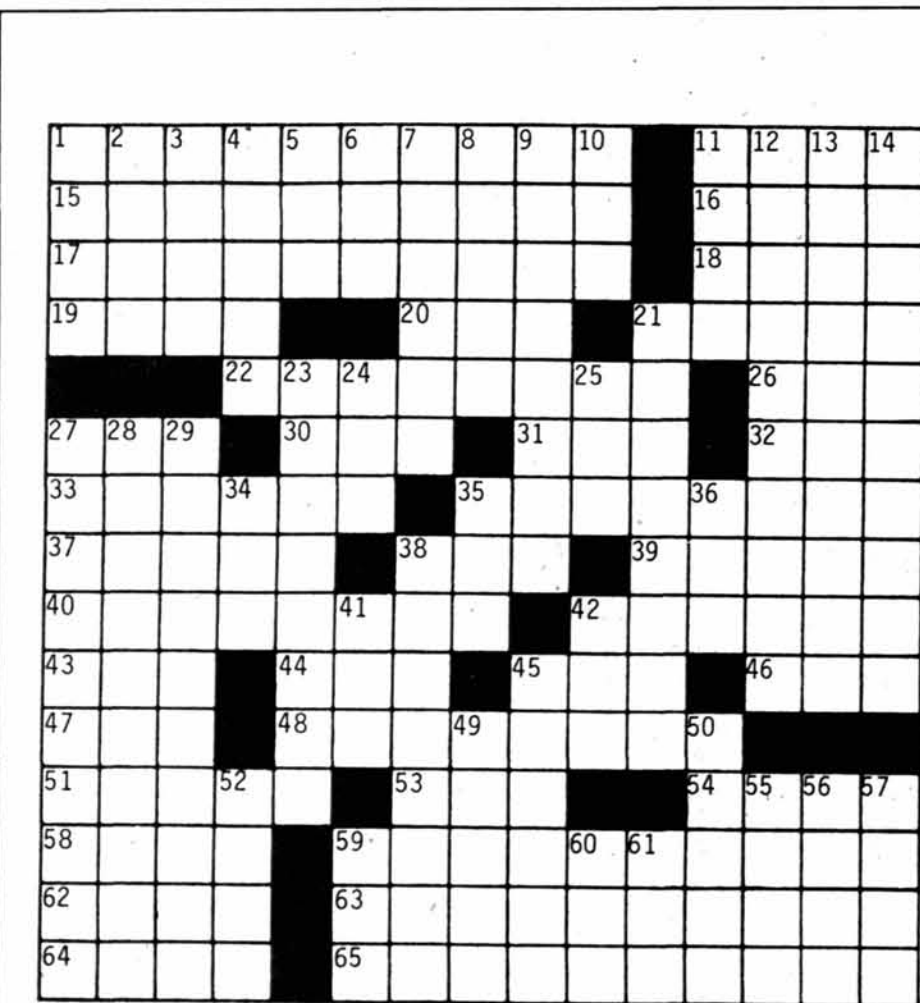
**Registration is open** for MIT community children's skating lessons (ages 6-12 years) to be held Saturday mornings beginning December 2 in the Johnson Athletic Center rink. Classes will run December 2, 9, 16, January 6, 13, 20, 27.

**■ Announcements**

Beginner and intermediate levels will be offered by instructors from the MIT Physical Education staff. Beginners are children with very little or no experience. Intermediate skaters should be able to skate forward well and wish to learn additional fundamentals. Beginner classes meet at 10 am, intermediates at 11 am.

The fee is \$35 per child (\$25 if parent is athletic card holder), payable at the time of registration. Registration forms are available in the Physical Education Office; W32-125. For further information, call x3-4291.

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  - Type of poodle
  - Freezing
  - Impudence.
  - Cuba or Aruba (abbr.)
  - Rob
  - Actor Beatty
  - Pacino and Hirt
  - Sault — Marie
  - Green, as tomatoes
  - Small gathering
  - Opera part
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  - Intended
  - Weather forecast
  - Medium session
  - Author Deighton
  - Musical syllable
  - Pro.
  - Fuehrer
  - First lady
  - Strong coffee
  - Weighed the container
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  - Cried
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  - Decade (2 wds.)
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  - "I Got — in Kalamazoo
  - Where Hempstead is (2 wds.)
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  - Shackle
  - Bowling button
  - Being in debt
  - Feminine ending
  - Miss Adams
  - Ivy League school
  - An NCO (abbr.)
  - School organization
  - Sino-Soviet river
  - Prefix: motion

**PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE**



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# Wilson Gives SEJ Conference Keynote Address

Gore, from Page 13

All the "Republican-bashing was unconstructive," said Kristine E. McCaffrey '97, and "reflected badly upon Gore."

### Wilson discussed biodiversity

The conference featured Wilson as keynote speaker Saturday afternoon. He discussed surveys that measured the rate at which species go extinct as habitats are destroyed.

Wilson stressed the need to begin work on the two-year-old National Biological Survey, a program that aims to catalog all the species of life in this country.

The "more we know about [biological diversity], the better we will be at regional planning" and at finding "alternate uses for the land," he said. This will help us to "come closer to win/win solutions for ... complex social and economic problems."

Wilson was a highlight of the conference, Kuhn said. He convinced "a lot of people into believing that there is a crisis," she said.

"It is not too late to make a difference," Wilson said to the journalists.

Unlike Gore, Wilson said that there is a decrease in the environmental interest in the population. Wilson cited a survey that found only 20 percent of Americans know what biodiversity is.

"You in this room will make a big difference," said Wilson, since education, especially in prominent places, will play a key role in the near future.

"I do not ask you to be partisan. I ask you for the ideal of journalism: to report the facts, and to report them vividly and prominently."

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# SPORTS

## After Close Call, Football Falls to UMass Beacons

By Thomas Kettler  
STAFF REPORTER

On a very soggy and muddy field, the MIT Beavers lost their only non-conference game to the UMass Boston Beacons 18-14 Saturday afternoon, after a controversial call in the last 15 seconds gave the Beacons the ball at the Beavers' two.

The away-game loss made MIT 3-4 overall, while its 3-3 conference record remained unchanged. It

was UMass Boston's first victory of the season.

In a tragic development, the game was marred by the death of one of the officials due to a heart attack just after the end of play.

### Conditions hurt play

The muddy field and the rain dictated that both teams stick to running the ball. The Beacons passed just 27 times, but only 15 were complete due to numerous drops. For its

part, MIT passed only nine times for a total of just five completions.

Neither team moved the ball well, either, as the rough weather took its toll. UMass Boston was held to 301 net yards, while MIT wound up with only 201.

The first quarter had no scoring. The only significant play was a recovery of a Scott J. Vollrath '96 fumble by Michael Feeley of UMass Boston.

The Beacons got on the board

first as the result of a strong first-quarter drive that ended with a three-yard touchdown run four minutes into the second quarter. Their point-after kick attempt failed, leaving them with a 6-0 lead.

The Beavers answered right back on their next drive as José DeLeón '97 scored his 24th rushing touchdown on a 28-yard run-off-tackle two minutes later. The play was set up by a Vollrath 18-yard run on a fake punt to make a first down. But

the Beavers' point after run failed, tying the two teams at 6-6.

The final score of the half occurred on UMass Boston's next drive, as Geoffrey Harris' 23-yard reception on an out pattern gave the Beacons a 12-6 lead. That score held at halftime as their point-after run also failed.

### Game ended on questionable call

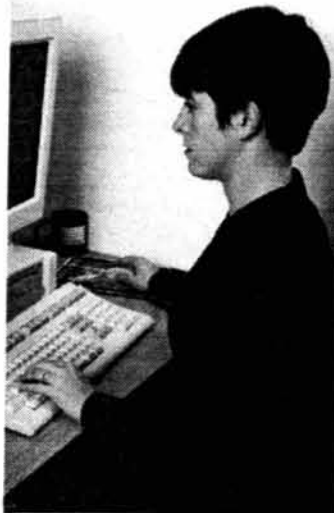
MIT had its only lead of the game on their final touchdown with five minutes left as Chris Brown '96 pushed the ball in one yard on a trap. DeLeón ran the ball in successfully for the two-point conversion to give the Beavers a 14-12 lead.

But that was not to be all. The drive resulting in UMass Boston's final score was controversial. The Beacons were able to get an apparent fourth time-out: officials stopped the clock when the Beacons called for one more than they had.

Also, though Edward K. Chung '99 intercepted an Emil Johnson pass with 15 seconds left, the play was called off due to a pass-interference call. That call was critical as it gave UMass Boston the ball at the MIT two. From there, Skahan's second touchdown reception gave the Beacons the 18-14 final margin.

Head coach Dwight Smith commented, "We were missing some people on defense. That hurt us. [We had just] two or three people on the secondary. That hurt a little bit."

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