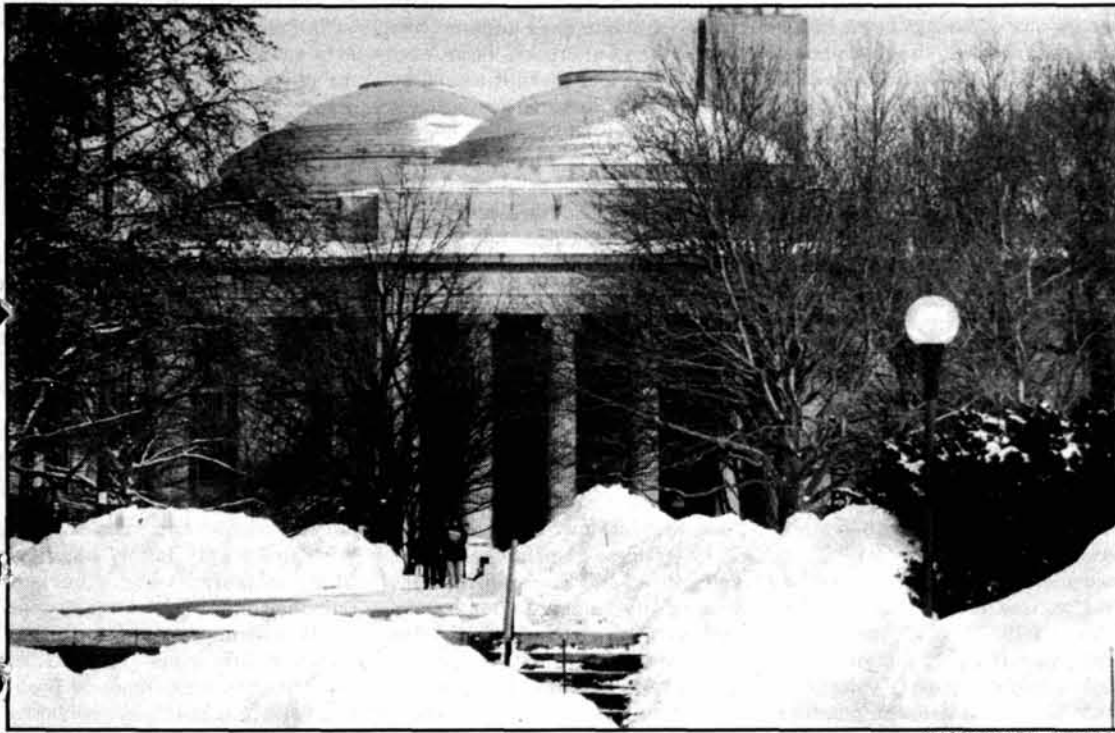


Blizzard Closes MIT for First Time in a Decade



The 18 inches of new snow that fell Sunday and Monday caused the first full-day closing of the Institute in a decade and delayed some students from returning to campus.

By Jeremy Hylton
TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR

The blizzard that blanketed much of the east coast with record snowfall brought 18.2 inches of snow to the Boston area and closed the Institute for the first time this decade.

Snow started falling early Sunday afternoon and continued until Monday evening, closing schools and businesses throughout southern and coastal New England.

The Institute was officially closed from 6 a.m. Monday morning until 11 p.m., when the third shift workers reported for work as normal, according to Joan F. Rice, vice president for human resources.

Classes were canceled and all but essential personnel, including some employees in Physical Plant, the Medical Department, and some computer operations, were told to stay home.

"Even though they had done a pretty good job of keeping the main roads clear, the blowing snow was causing white outs, and so it was kind of dangerous driving," Rice said.

The grounds service at MIT worked through the night on Monday to remove snow from walkways, roads, and parking lots. Crews worked from 10 p.m. on Sunday until 8 p.m. on Monday, and then returned at 5 a.m. yesterday morning.

"The snow removal to date has been pretty good," said Victoria V. Sirianni, director of Physical Plant. The removal was particularly difficult because of the strong winds, which caused snow to drift over already cleared areas, she said.

Several frozen pipes caused some problems on campus, but no serious problems or damage has resulted from the storm, Sirianni said. No problems or accidents were reported to the Campus Police.

The campus was fairly quiet yesterday, although some offices and some of the stores in the Student Center were open. Lobdell Court and the Campus Activities Complex were both open.

The Institute closing marked only the second time that MIT was closed for a full day since Rice became responsible for the decision 12 years ago. The other closing was caused by Hurricane Gloria in September, 1985.

The Institute also closed two hours early for an ice storm several years ago. Employees are occasionally let out a little bit earlier if the weather is very bad, Rice said. "We haven't closed the Institute partly because we haven't had really, really heavy snow storms," Rice said.

Snow blankets east coast

Although the snow did not have a significant impact on students on and near campus, many employees faced larger snowfalls south of the city. Snow accumulations as high as 25 inches were reported across southeastern Massachusetts.

Snow, Page 11

Brown, Litster Named to Top Dean Posts

By David D. Hsu and Christopher L. Falling
STAFF REPORTERS

Professor Robert A. Brown, head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, has been appointed dean of the School of Engineering, and J. David Litster PhD '65, vice president and dean for research, has been named dean for graduate education. Isaac M. Colbert, who has served as the acting dean of the Graduate School since September, was selected to be the senior associate dean for graduate education.

Brown's appointment fills the vacancy created when then-Dean of the School of Engineering Joel Moses PhD '67 became provost in June. Associate Dean of Engineering John B.

Vander Sande will continue to serve as acting dean until Jan. 15.

Moses and President Charles M. Vest made the selection from a short list submitted by the search committee chaired by Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics Jack L. Kerrebrock.

Brown called innovative, efficient

Recognized as an expert in fluid mechanics, transport processes, and numerical methods, Brown has served as department head since 1988 after coming to MIT in 1979.

"Bob Brown has distinguished himself as an engineering educator and administrator. He is uniformly recognized as an outstanding depart-

ment head," Vest said. "He has a good balance in his understanding of both engineering science and professional practice."

Chemical engineering faculty members agree that Brown has been an effective department head.

"From our viewpoint in the department, he's been very effective at implementing vision, bringing people together," said Professor of Chemical Engineering Charles L. Cooney PhD '70. "He's really stimulated a lot of new initiatives in the department."

Brown has been "innovative in both undergraduate and graduate education and in operat-

Deans, Page 13

Three Named Marshall Scholars To Pursue Studies in England

By Stacey E. Blau
NEWS EDITOR

Ciamac C. Moallemi G, Stephanie N. McGuire '96, and Ben Y. Reis G were awarded Marshall scholarships along with 37 other winners nationwide.

The Marshall scholarship allows a select group of American citizens

who have recently graduated from a four-year university to study at the university of their choice in the United Kingdom.

The award covers all expenses for two years of study and can be extended for a third year. Awards usually amount to about \$22,000.

The candidates were all "really first rate this year," said Professor of Materials Science and Engineering Linn W. Hobbs, who advises Marshall scholarship applicants.

"This was one of the most competitive years. It's a real feather in our cap that we did so well," he said.

Moallemi, who graduated from MIT in 1994 and is presently a graduate student in computer science, plans to study mathematics and economics at Cambridge University. "I wanted a place that I thought would be good in both of those areas," he said.

Moallemi said that he applied for a Marshall scholarship because "it gives you two to three years to do what you'd like to do and not be concerned about funds."

A benefit the program is that studying in a different country and "seeing another culture definitely gives you perspective," he said.

Moallemi said that he was "excited to get to the interview"

stage of the application process. "I actually thought that my interview went horribly, but I guess not."

Reis plans to pursue studies in computer science, cognitive science, and music at Cambridge.

His study will involve "a computer-aided cognitive or perceptual study on music. Basically, we're using Course VI-3 to do Course IX on Course XXI-M," Reis said.

Reis, who graduated from MIT in June, is in the process of completing his master of engineering degree in computer science.

When Reis visited England this summer, he saw that Cambridge is suited to students interested in science. Essentially, Cambridge is the British equivalent of MIT, Reis said.

McGuire plans to pursue a three-year doctorate in neurobiology at Oxford University. McGuire is presently a senior majoring in biology, according to an article in *Tech Talk*.

McGuire plans to pursue research in neuropharmacology and neurodegenerative disease. She was inspired to become involved in this specific field of research by her experiences in a class in which a man with Alzheimer's disease visit-

Marshall, Page 13



The snow bear stands guard over Ashdown House after the first snowfall last year.

INSIDE

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■ Heat succeeds as action-packed crime thriller. Page 7

■ Cast, cinematography shine in *Nixon*. Page 7

■ On The Screen. Page 9

WORLD & NATION

Shutdowns Could Cost \$1.25 Billion

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Administration officials say the federal shutdowns have or will cost the taxpayers \$1.25 billion. That includes pay for furloughed employees, plus millions in added costs growing out of the shutdowns.

In addition to back salaries, agencies will incur extra costs catching up on key projects as well as sorting out internal administrative problems resulting from the partial shutdown of the nation's biggest single concern.

Thousands of federal workers applied for and received unemployment benefits during the shutdown period. The Office of Personnel Management says that those who get retroactive pay, which is virtually all full and part time workers, will "be required to repay the unemployment benefits they received." In some cases employees may have to pay them directly to the state; in others they may be able to do it via payroll deduction.

Workers will be required to pay their share of health insurance premiums (about 28 percent of the total premium) that weren't collected during the shutdown. But the shutdown will cost agencies millions of dollars because the government pays the employee share of federal life insurance premiums during furloughs or shutdowns.

Security Council Protects Serbs

THE WASHINGTON POST

UNITED NATIONS

The Security Council has condemned continuing murder and other atrocities against the Serb minority in Croatia's war-torn Krajina region, and it has called on Croatian President Franjo Tudjman's government to take more effective steps to protect the Serbs' human rights.

The 15-nation council reiterated past charges that widespread killing, looting and intimidation are being carried out against the largely elderly Serb population. In a statement, it demanded that Croatian authorities arrest and try the killers, prevent future actions against the Serbs and halt interference with the right of displaced Bosnian Serbs to return to their homes.

But the council adopted its tough language under circumstances that raised questions in U.N. circles about whether four permanent members — the United States, Britain, France and Russia — are trying to avoid embarrassing Tudjman unduly. The four are principal participants in the international force in the former Yugoslavia, and Tudjman's cooperation is considered essential to implementation of the U.S.-brokered peace accord among Croatia, Serbia and Bosnia.

Clinton Vetoes GOP Welfare Plan

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

As promised, President Clinton on Tuesday vetoed the sweeping GOP plan to overhaul the welfare system, thwarting Republican efforts to dismantle the 60-year-old federal safety net for poor families and shift responsibility for new programs to the states.

The veto was politically risky for Clinton, given that the GOP initiative has broad public support and that he campaigned on the pledge to "end welfare as we know it."

But Clinton argued that the GOP blueprint for changing the system would be too tough on children in many ways, including cutting funds for disabled children and not providing enough money for child care for children whose parents take jobs because of the reform.

"The Congress should not use the words 'welfare reform' as a cover to violate the nation's values," Clinton said in his veto statement Tuesday night. "We must demand responsibility from young mothers and young fathers, not penalize children for their parents' mistakes."

"By vetoing welfare reform, the president has demonstrated what he is against," said Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. "Now he must demonstrate what he is for."

WEATHER 'S No Joke!

By Marek Zebrowski
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Canadian clipper-type storm will add to our snow woes as it crosses the region Wednesday evening and redevelops off Cape Cod. Thus, light to moderate snowfall is expected throughout the day, with overall totals of 4-6 inches (10-15 cm.) by nightfall. Cold air will then return to New England, as strong northerly winds follow the departing disturbance. This annoying event will be a mere fluff, compared to what some models are predicting for late Friday and Saturday — a closed upper air low over Georgia, spawning a coastal development on the mid-Atlantic coast by Friday morning. With cold air in place over the Northeast, we may have to deal with yet another snow job, rapidly adding to the 58.6-inch seasonal total so far, which already exceeded our "average" of a mere 42.7 inches.

Today: Cloudy with light to occasionally moderate snow. High near 30°F (-1°C) with northerly winds 10-15 mph (16-24 kmh)

Tonight: Snow tapering off to flurries, then clearing from west to east. Low near 20°F (-7°C) in town, in mid teens (-11 to -9 °C) elsewhere with strong northwesterly winds.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, windy and cold. High near 32°F (0°C). Winds will diminish after sunset.

Friday: Sunshine giving way to increasing clouds. Morning lows near 15°F (-10°C) in the city, single digits (-17 to -13 °C) inland, highs 25-30 °F (-4 to -1 °C) with light winds gradually turning onshore.

Weekend outlook: Snow developing early on Saturday, possibly mixing with rain near the coast and on the Cape. Lows in the 20s (-6 to -2 °C), highs in mid 30s (2-3 °C) in coastal locations, near 30° F (-1°C) inland. Significantly colder weather may follow the storm as an arctic front plunges southward on Sunday.

Giant Snow Storm Paralyzes Travel on Eastern Seaboard

By Malcolm Gladwell
and William Booth
THE WASHINGTON POST

Picture Miami Airport, Tuesday afternoon. Outside the skies are blue and the sun is shining. At the "International" counter, the destinations whisper promises of even warmer and more blissful climes:

Cancun, Aruba, Montego Bay.

But that is not where Sharon Alrich stood. She was one line over, in the serpentine queue labeled "Domestic Economy." Desitation? JFK. New York City. The big freezer.

"Look at them over there at International," she said, pointing enviously to her counterparts across the way.

The people in Domestic Economy were bound for the northeast, where a trickle of flights finally began Tuesday to airports iced over and snowed in by Sunday and Monday's snowfall. They stood, sweating in their boots and parkas, as if poised to mush sleds. They dragged their suitcases behind them like body bags, raising in their collective misery the most profound of the question posed by Blizzard of 1996.

Why would anyone be standing in line to board a plane from Miami to New York, the city of eight million snow drifts?

"My cat," Aldrich said. It seemed her neighbor, who has a key to the 29-year-old loan officer's West Side apartment, so she could get inside to feed her cat, was herself stuck somewhere in the Midwest.

All up and down the Northeast, people began the arduous task of digging out — their homes, their cars, their businesses — as snow plows took on highways and airport runways. While most airports were open by mid-afternoon, there were huge delays and backups caused by so many key airports having been snowed under for so long.

In New York, airports reopened by midmorning but immediately had to contend with a backlog of about 5,000 canceled flights. Officials said it would take days to unsnarl the mess.

At O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, which has had less snow than usual, about 700 incoming and outgoing flights had been canceled Sunday and Monday because of the Northeast blizzard, stranding some 4,000 travelers. Hotels near the airport were fully booked while city officials set up 200 cots in the terminals and served free coffee and sandwiches to the temporarily homeless. Some relief seemed to be arriving by the afternoon with extra flights to Boston, Philadelphia and New York, but not to Washington because of the unexpectedly heavy new snow Tuesday.

"This ranks up there as one of the most dramatic weather situations we've ever seen as a major connecting airport in recent history," said Lisa Howard, a spokeswoman for the city's aviation department.

At Boston's Logan International Airport officials got two runways cleared Tuesday morning and were counting themselves lucky in other ways. The airport last month signed

an insurance policy providing \$50,000 for every inch of snow this year above 46 inches. The great Blizzard of '96 brought the total to 46.4 inches.

In Pennsylvania, where 31 inches of snow fell, setting new records, the governor said the state would request federal disaster assistance. Some 25 people have died in the state. Other states have also reported fatalities but in smaller numbers.

"This is an unprecedented storm," Gov. Tom Ridge said Tuesday as he toured hardhit areas. "It's as much of a tragedy and challenge to us as hurricanes and earthquakes are to other portions of this country." Other states, from New York to Maryland were predicting millions of dollars in lost revenues and expenses due to the storm.

As the blizzard receded, many people emerged from two days of hibernation with bad cases of cabin fever and empty family pantries. Many restaurants and groceries reopened but, with so many side roads still impassable and other transport slow at best, had little to offer. Several areas reported problems with bread and milk supplies.

In New York City, where snow plows left huge dunes of snow in their wake, it wasn't just simple bread and milk that residents craved. At the famous Park Slope food co-op in Brooklyn, the pre-Blizzard shopping rush showed, conclusively, what the most politically correct of New Yorkers consider staples: spiced catfish, flavored tofu, baby carrots and innumerable substitutions for real ice cream.

Opponents Vie over Who Gives Most Ground in Budget Talks

By Dan Morgan
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

After months of acting tough on the budget issue, President Clinton and Republican congressional leaders switched public tactics Tuesday. They vied over who was giving up the most ground in the interest of balancing the budget.

Following the breakup of talks Tuesday, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., ticked off Republican compromises on the GOP budget numbers for Medicare, Medicaid, welfare, taxes, and discretionary spending. "We feel that on every one of these items we are moving toward a very big bipartisan majority," he said.

President Clinton responded by saying he had "worked hard to find common ground," and had made a "move" toward the GOP Tuesday on taxes.

Both sides have a case to make.

The latest Republican offer makes considerable reductions in the savings proposed earlier for Medicare and discretionary spending. It aligns savings in Medicaid with those put forward by a coalition of moderate Democrats in the House who call themselves the "blue dogs." And it scales back the seven-year tax cut from \$245 billion to \$177 billion, the minimum that House GOP leaders say is acceptable to a majority of Republicans.

For his part, President Clinton has come a long way as well, having accepted the Republican demand for a seven-year balanced-budget agreement, a tax cut, and reductions in discretionary spending — which covers education, housing, the environment and other programs that are funded annually.

Clinton implied Tuesday he does

not entirely trust the numbers because they are based on Congressional Budget Office estimates that are questionable.

But Republicans contend that while the administration has portrayed itself in public as the reasonable party in the dispute, in private it has stalled negotiations, raised new demands after issues have been settled, and presented a budget plan that is full of gimmicks.

Republicans in the House and Senate last week cited a small incident to symbolize their frustration with the White House.

Last month, White House chief of staff Leon E. Panetta told Republican leaders in Congress that the annual appropriations bill funding housing, veterans and environmental programs fell \$1.9 billion short of what the president considered the minimum amount needed.

Republicans said they promised to try to accommodate at least some of the administration's demands — either by shifting money from other accounts or adding money that might be freed up as part of a larger budget deal.

But on Jan. 2, the administration, under pressure from Democrats in Congress, upped the ante. The president sent Congress a revised list calling for \$2.5 billion to be added to the bill, including more funds for veterans construction projects, housing for the elderly and disabled, and National Science Foundation research grants.

"It was one more sign that (the president) had no intention of concluding a budget agreement," said Sen. Christopher Bond, R-Mo., who is in charge of drafting the Senate version of the bill.

Bond said efforts to get real negotiations going on the vetoed

\$61.2 billion bill had been fruitless.

"They've refused to talk to us," he said. "They haven't darkened our doorstep or our telephone."

Rep. Ralph Regula, R-Ohio, chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that drafted the \$12.1 billion Interior Department funding bill that Clinton also vetoed, charged last week that the administration kept "moving the goal posts," after Congress changed objectionable provisions in the bill relating to Western mining, and the Tongass National Forest in Alaska.

More broadly, some budget analysts, along with Republicans, have questioned the likelihood of achieving the \$295 billion in discretionary spending cuts that are by far the largest item in the seven-year balanced-budget plan proposed by Clinton Saturday.

This category covers spending approved annually for most of the operations of government — other than benefit programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and welfare. It includes defense, national parks, federal research, highway building, and many other, popular programs that are difficult to cut because interest groups can defend them every year during the annual appropriations bargaining between Congress and the White House.

Clinton's latest plan delays the bulk of these cuts until after 2000, while the GOP budget plan cuts deeply into the programs now, to make sure that the savings really take place.

The discrepancy appears to have created a huge gap between the GOP timetable for shrinking discretionary spending, and that of Clinton.

Chechen Rebels Raid Russian City, Seize Hospital, Hostages

By David Hoffman
THE WASHINGTON POST

KIZLYAR, RUSSIA

Hundreds of Chechen separatist rebels stormed this southern Russian city before dawn Tuesday, seizing the local hospital and maternity ward, taking at least 2,000 civilians hostage and demanding the withdrawal of Russian troops from Chechnya.

The commando-style operation in Kizlyar, which plunged the government of President Boris Yeltsin into a fresh crisis, was nearly an exact replay of a wrenching drama in another city in the region last June. Like that assault, Tuesday's attack riveted the attention of the nation on a bloody hostage crisis that so far has left at least 16 people dead — including Chechen guerrillas, local policemen and apparently at least two hostages.

Russian special forces, army

units and police detachments rushed to the scene to surround the hospital at the edge of the city, where at least 200 heavily armed Chechen commandos were holed up with their hostages in corridors crowded with women, children, babies, patients and hospital workers. Thousands of pounds of emergency medical aid was also being rushed to Kizlyar, a city of about 40,000 people.

Shortly before midnight Tuesday, a convoy of 48 tanks and other armored vehicles rolled into town, while frightened residents were fleeing on buses. Officials said the rebels were firing weapons from inside the hospital and maternity ward and using their hostages as shields. Reporters, who were not allowed near the scene, could see brightly burning flares drifting slowly out of the night sky toward the hospital.

The guerrillas were demanding that Moscow withdraw its troops

from Chechnya and end the 13-month-old war there, and they threatened to shoot their hostages if that demand is not met. Russian television reports said also that the rebels claimed to have placed explosives inside the hospital and had pledged to blow it up if the Kremlin does not comply.

"We can easily turn this city to hell and ashes," said Chechen commando leader Salman Raduyev in an interview from the hospital broadcast Tuesday on Russian television. "We are not at all concerned for our own lives," said Raduyev, chief of a Chechen militia unit that calls itself "Lone Wolf."

All across the country last summer, people spent four days huddled by radios and television sets when Chechen commandos seized more than 1,000 hostages at a hospital in the southern Russian city of Budenovsk, just north of Chechnya.

Clinton Tempted to Punch Columnist Who Called Hillary 'Congenital Liar'

By Doyle McManus
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Clinton had an old-fashioned husband's response Tuesday to a newspaper columnist who called his wife a liar: He wanted to punch the man in the nose.

Clinton told a White House news conference that he deeply resented an article by New York Times columnist William Safire calling first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton "a congenital liar."

Clinton initially laughed as he responded to a question about the column, but his smile rapidly faded as he said:

"When you're president, there are a few more constraints on you than if you're an ordinary citizen. If I were an ordinary citizen, I might give that article the response it deserves."

It was White House spokesman Mike McCurry who first told reporters of Clinton's urge to wallop Safire.

"Columnists have the right to write what they want to, even when it's an outrageous personal attack that has no basis in fact," McCurry told reporters. "The president, if he were not the president, would have delivered a more forceful response to that on the bridge of Mr. Safire's nose."

"The president, being president, knows that he can't possibly do such a thing," the spokesman added ruefully.

The president's energetic defense of his wife was his first public response to renewed charges that she has not been fully truthful about her role in several controversial episodes, including the

Arkansas real estate deal known as Whitewater and the summary firing of the staff of the White House travel office.

Both Congress and an independent counsel are investigating the Clintons' investment in Whitewater, a failed Arkansas real estate project, and whether funds were siphoned off through Whitewater to benefit Clinton's 1984 gubernatorial campaign.

The discovery of two sets of documents — billing records from Mrs. Clinton's Arkansas law firm and a memorandum from a White House aide suggesting that she was actively involved in the day-to-day work her law firm did for the ultimately bankrupt S&L whose chairman was a co-investor with the Clintons in the Whitewater resort property — have renewed the Republican focus on her.

Clinton Must Answer Civil Charges

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

A federal appeals court said Tuesday that President Clinton, just like any other citizen, must answer to civil charges that he sexually harassed former Arkansas state employee Paula Corbin Jones in 1991 when he was governor.

On a 2-1 vote, the court said the president is neither immune from damage suits for his private behavior nor entitled to delay responding to a lawsuit simply because he holds high office.

"The president, like all other government officials, is subject to the same laws that apply to all members of our society," a panel of the U.S. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis said in a long-awaited ruling.

Tuesday's ruling came 13 months after a U.S. district judge first ruled on the matter. Because the president's lawyers can take their appeal further, to the full appeals court and then to the Supreme Court, it is unlikely that Clinton will have to respond to the explosive allegations until he is either a private citizen or in his second term as president.

When Clinton later denied the incident ever took place, Jones filed a lawsuit in 1994 demanding \$700,000 in damages for defamation.

Madonna Stalker Found Guilty

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

A homeless man who was shot last year by a bodyguard at pop superstar Madonna's estate after showing up there repeatedly was convicted Monday of stalking and threatening to kill the entertainer.

Robert Dewey Hoskins, 38, also was convicted of threatening to kill the bodyguard and Madonna's personal assistant on one of his forays to her property in the nearby Hollywood Hills and of assaulting the bodyguard on another occasion.

Hoskins smiled when he was led into the courtroom Monday afternoon to hear the verdicts, but he sat impassively as a court clerk announced that he had been found guilty on all the counts against him.

His lawyer, Deputy Public Defender E. John Myers, contended last week that Hoskins is harmless and is guilty only of trespassing.

But the jury, in 4 hours of deliberation, concluded that Hoskins had stalked Madonna and that she believed him dangerous, an element required for conviction under state law.

The crimes, jury foreman John J. Utech said, had terrified the normally "defiant" celebrity.

"She was very real, very believable and very credible," despite her testy answers to some questions and her reluctance to come to court until ordered there under threat of jail and \$5 million bail, Utech said of the entertainer's appearance last week.

After the verdicts, Madonna released a statement saying she was relieved that the jury had convicted Hoskins and that she hopes "the outcome of this case let's other stalking victims know that the system can and does work."

Hoskins first invaded the pop star's property in April by scaling a 40-foot wall on an evening when Madonna was in San Diego, according to testimony. Madonna's bodyguard Basil Stephens testified that he chased Hoskins away on that occasion.

Hoskins could receive a maximum 11-year prison term. He is scheduled to be sentenced Feb. 8.

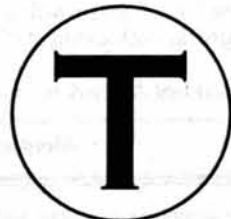
Graduate Student Council

General Meeting Tonight
Wednesday
January 10th
5:30 PM in 50-222
All grad students and postdocs welcome
free dinner

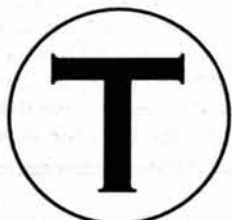
THE GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS IS COMING....

All submissions are due Jan 25th in the GSC office.
Contact gsc-secretary@mit.edu for more information.

Student Rate Discount T passes
Get 4 months (Feb-May) at 11% discount
All payments must be made by
4pm Jan. 17th at the cashiers office



Local bus \$71
Subway \$96
Combo \$164
Combo Plus \$171
Zone 1 \$228
Zone 2 \$256



Can We Talk? A Communication Workshop for Men and Women

Aimed primarily at grad students!
Jan 18th, 3-5 pm

Come join us for an afternoon of role-playing and discussion. Please preregister (contact Holly Sweet: hbsweet@mit.edu, 3-7786).

GRADUATE STUDENTS: REENGINEERING AFFECTS YOU! FIND OUT HOW:

Discussions led by grad students on reengineering topics that will affect their everyday lives: Procurement Card, Electronic Catalogue, Travel, Publishing (graphic arts), Lab and Office Supplies, etc.
January 30th from 4-6 pm in Walker Memorial. Free feed too!

Deadline for **spring term** (Feb. 15 to June 14) **funding applications** is Tuesday, Feb 6th at 4 pm. Applications should be dropped off in the GSC office (50-222).

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
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Recent GAMIT Accusations Unfounded

I was angered by the opinions and insinuations implied by the comments made by members of GAMIT quoted in *The Tech* ["Party Cancellation After NU Shooting Distresses GAMIT," Dec. 8]. Sarah L. Veatch '98 implies that the administration cancelled GAMIT's dance specifically because it was sponsored by homosexuals. Yet it is clear that the administration cancelled all parties fitting the general description of the Alpha Phi Alpha party at which a student was shot. The reasons why this policy does not apply to fraternity and sorority parties should be obvious: They are for the most part not on-campus, and not large enough to require a metal detector. It is unfortunate that a major event for GAMIT was cancelled because of an incident unrelated to the group; however, the cry of "discrimination" is unfounded. If it were a Chinese Students Club party that was cancelled due to this new policy, would members accuse the administration of racism? I doubt it.

In addition, Veatch implies that GAMIT's history of parties at which there were no students shot should be enough to guarantee that no violence of that sort would occur at this year's party. Did APA have a history of shootings which occurred after their party? Probably not.

My suggestion to GAMIT: Save the accusations (outright or implied) of "homophobia" or discrimination for incidents where there is evidence to warrant them. The cancellation of their party is not such an incident.

Wan Shon Lo '96

Holiday Safety Rules Too Restrictive

Last week I and many other members of the MIT community enjoyed the hospitality of the Vests at their annual holiday party. Their generosity in opening the doors of their elegant residence to all each year is truly commendable and appreciated. MIT would be well served by more of such kindly-offered, informal associations of the diverse elements of our community.

The appearance of Building E1 last Tuesday made it clear the amount of time and effort that had gone into the holiday party. Evergreen bows and ribbons decorated the exterior, poinsettias lined the entrance, and two beautiful Christmas trees greeted the guest with lights, wrappings, and ornaments. Wreaths and bows of pine and boxwood draped tables and hung on windows. A dining

table filled with cookies, breads, egg nog and cider was lit by the shimmering glow of four red candles in a shiny brass candelabra. I can only hope that someday I will welcome guests into such a place of traditional warmth and beauty.

After leaving the Vest's house, I walked over to the dormitory where I am a House Fellow. At the desk, I saw the MIT Safety Office's rules for holiday decorations and functions posted on the wall. In this list of guidelines, I found prohibited several of the things that I thought made the Vests' party quite wonderful. They include the following items:

"Massachusetts Fire Prevention Regulations prohibit flammable decorations such as natural greens, straw, crepe paper, and surface coverings on building interior finish in school buildings and places of public assembly.

"Natural trees (cut or alive), natural wreaths, boughs, and greenery are not permitted in Campus buildings.

"Candles and other open flames are prohibited by the Cambridge Fire Department. Candles may be used for normally recognized religious services."

I do not know if these rules apply to the Vest's home or not. I am more disturbed by the fact that the same party, even when handled with appropriate caution, could not have been held anywhere else on campus.

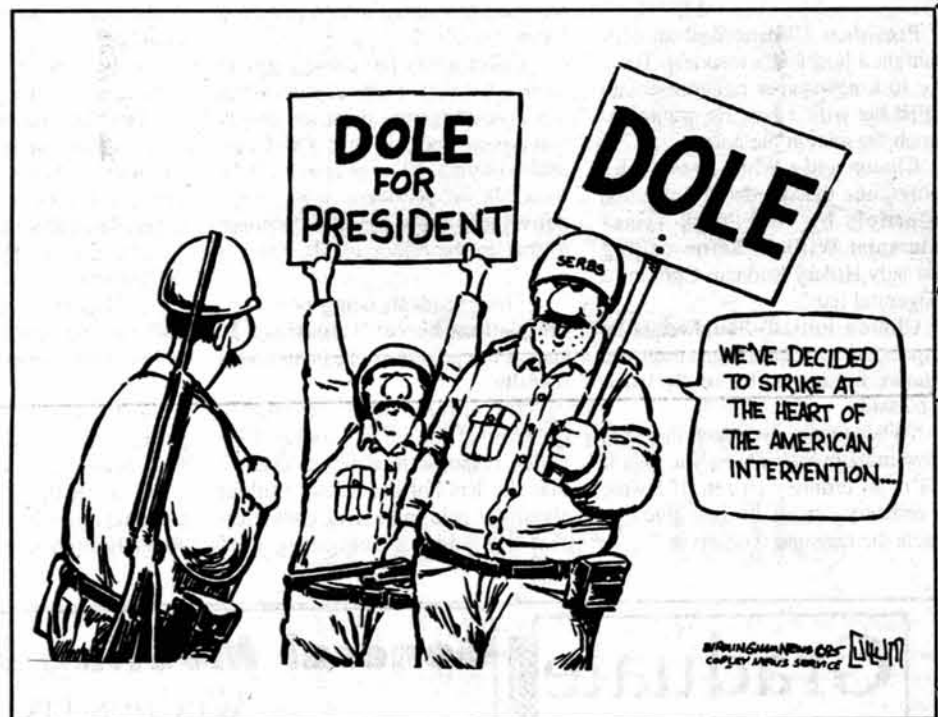
The rules are actually even more restrictive. For example, while cut trees are specifi-

cally outlawed, "Christmas trees are not permitted in public assembly areas, laboratories, or in student dormitory rooms," nor are they permitted in "lobbies, corridors, aisles, stairways or passageways." From this rule, it is not clear to me where in fact they are allowed.

In my mind, this last restriction clearly goes too far. If a student wants to have an artificial tree with approved lights and non-flammable decorations in his or her room or suite, why is it any more dangerous than a desk full of problem sets, a pile of laundry, or a potted spider plant? I assume this rule is meant to limit MIT's liability in the case of accident. The MIT regulation in this matter would be much more reasonable if they asked students to have their house manager look over any decorations for obvious safety problems.

It is true that if we outlaw all things that could potentially hurt us, we would all be safer and live longer lives. But maybe in the process we would have thrown away some of those things that make life more enjoyable, even though they may force us to act with thought, forethought, and responsibility. And if we create rules solely for the purpose of avoiding liability, while knowing that people will likely disregard them, do we not diminish all the rules and laws we make? MIT should strive to craft rules and policies that are both effective and reasonable.

Michael Halle G
House Fellow, Senior House



MIT Should Let Aramark Contract Expire

Guest Column by James R. Morgan

Aramark's reign at MIT must come to an end. Though I have only been at MIT for three terms now, I have seen a steady regression in the quality of food service. The recent firing of Eddie Cogliano has ignited student concerns over Aramark's wholly inadequate service, and I see no other course of action but to let the company's contract expire and allow another company or companies to provide the MIT community with quality food service.

To be quite honest, I cannot understand why Aramark is still at MIT. The company has consistently shown its inability to provide quality food at a reasonable price. Service in the dining facilities, hours of operation, and the company's overall attitude towards the

MIT community are laughably poor. Additionally, the company's incompetence in maintaining a solvent operation even while holding a monopoly should be a signal that something is drastically wrong.

The decrease in hours of operation, the closing of several dining halls a few years ago, and now the firing of a respected manager illustrate that Aramark is simply incapable of netting a profit without maligning its customer base.

Brian D'Amato '96 and Albert L. Hsu '96 outlined the circumstances surrounding Cogliano's termination and suggested that it is time for MIT food service to be run competitively ["Aramark Shows Lack of Service to Students by Firing Cogliano," Dec 5]. I would agree that Cogliano was unfairly treated, however, I think the more important issue is the

entire spectrum of food service at MIT. Aramark has failed in each of its essential responsibilities to the MIT community, and unless the company can radically change its course the contract should be allowed to lapse. Here I have outlined my specific complaints about Aramark's operation. My opinions are shared by many at MIT:

- There is an incredible lack of selection at MIT dining locations. The same few foods are offered all the time. I have spoken with students at other colleges who receive a "menu schedule" at the beginning of the term. It lists which dishes will be prepared at each dining hall on each night.
- It is obvious that Aramark has not provid-

Morgan, Page 5

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Numerous Faults Make Aramark Unfit for MIT

Morgan, from Page 4

ed enough dining facilities to comfortably feed the entire MIT community. During peak hours at Lobdell Court and Networks all of the tables are occupied and you have to wait for someone to leave. One way to alleviate congestion would be to increase the number of dining halls.

- MacGregor House and McCormick Hall once possessed dining halls but Aramark shut them down.
- It's difficult to get out of Lobdell with a decent-sized lunch without spending more than \$5. Dinner at Lobdell or Networks typically costs \$6 or \$7. Most of my friends at other universities are amazed that I have to pay up-front for food or beverages I consume on campus. I have eaten dinner several times at Wellesley and I can tell you that their dining system works marvelously. For a fixed sum they are entitled to eat as much as they want from any dining hall at any time. The food is

quite varied, healthy, and delicious. The students can come back for seconds and thirds, and the dining halls are located within most of the dormitories. A far cry from Aramark at MIT.

- Many of the employees at D'Angelos can be seen going into temper tantrums when the door to Lobdell is still open at 6:55. I have seen an employee put down the sandwich he was making to find a manager to lock the door. This would be understandable at 7:15 or so, but not seconds after the hour. Often there is only one cash register open on week nights at Lobdell. The line routinely stretches beyond the D'Angelos hot sandwich line.
- Lobdell, Walker Memorial, and the two dining halls are closed by 7:00 every night, and oftentimes earlier. I would appreciate at least one dining hall and one cafeteria staying open until 10:00 p.m. On weekends the situation is laughable. Aramark seems to think that having one "dining" facility open at any given

time is enough. Before 4:00 p.m. on the weekend you can only eat at Pritchett or D'Angelo's. The other kiosks within Lobdell are closed. After 4:00 p.m. your choices are Networks or Pritchett. It would be safe to assume that the entire MIT campus should not be expected to eat dinner at Networks on Sunday at 6:00 p.m. There's Pritchett, but that's a long walk in the winter from the West Campus dormitories.

- Networks employs an individual who insists upon screaming into the microphone at the top of her lungs and antagonizing her customers: "1127, LAST CALL, check your TICKET, one-one-two-seven! Pick up your food NOW!" As if Networks wasn't unpleasant enough with two televisions tuned to different stations and elevator music blaring in the background.
- And last, but certainly not least, who does a person have to kill to get fries at Burger King?

The monopoly Aramark holds over MIT food service is not a mandate to exploit the MIT community in order to increase its profit margin. If the company cannot deliver quality, convenient, and inexpensive eating options for MIT then it should not be here. Next year, when Aramark's contract is up, the company will be hard-pressed to prove that it is worthy. I find it quite amazing that the administration has been blind for so long.

Perhaps the problem is that Aramark does not really think anything is wrong. This is the fault of MIT students. MIT students on average are not ones to make a fuss.

I have talked to many people who are quite concerned, even angry, about the food situation at MIT. If Aramark is to get the message that we are dissatisfied, then MIT students must actively voice their opinions and concerns *en masse*. Only then will the administrators in charge of the food service contract realize that the only way to ensure quality will be to let several companies compete for our food dollars.



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THE ARTS

Pacino, De Niro turn up the heat in crime thriller

HEAT

Written and directed by Michael Mann.
Starring Al Pacino, Robert De Niro, Val Kilmer, Tom Sizemore, Diane Venora, Amy Brenneman, and Jon Voight.
Sony Cheri.

By Scott C. Deskin

CHAIRMAN

Hollywood seems to play both sides of the fence in the crime story genre, sympathizing with either the cops or the robbers, but rarely at the same time. In Michael Mann's *Heat*, the writer-director favors the increasingly popular view that there are no good guys or bad guys — just people doing their jobs. For homicide detective Vincent Hanna (Al Pacino) and professional thief Neil McCauley (Robert De Niro), life and work — and personal and professional morals — are inseparable. And, in the words of De Niro's character, one must be prepared to drop everything in one's personal life in thirty seconds and split when feeling "the heat coming around the corner."

Neil McCauley is a cold, calculating thief who tries to live by those words, leaving little room for a personal life in the face of his profession, committing intense, high-stakes robberies with an elite cadre of thieves: Chris Shiherlis (Val Kilmer), a dedicated, trustworthy team member whose personal vices cause trouble for his marriage to his street-smart wife (Ashley Judd); Michael Cheritto (Tom Sizemore), a psychotic killer on the job who's also a caring family man; and Nate (Jon Voight), Neil's insider informant who specializes in resale of stolen bearer bonds. One of the opening scenes involves the team's elabo-

ately-staged heist of an armored van, which comes to a bloody end in the murder of three guards.

On the other side of the law, Vincent Hanna is a relentless cop whose dedication to his job is stifling his third marriage. He's not insensitive to the problems of his family, but he simply doesn't have to the time or emotional capacity to fully deal with the pill-popping insecurity of his wife Justine (Diane Venora) or the manic depression of his neglected stepdaughter. In one scene, Justine confronts Vincent with the facts of their disintegrating marriage: While Vincent is obsessed dealing with thieves and junkies and "sifting through the detritus" of society, their love is a victim of atrophy and neglect. But Hanna can't pry himself away from his job or his latest quarry. When he examines the aftermath of McCauley's crime scene, he confidently picks apart the evidence. His appetite has been whetted, and the hunt begins.

Mann confidently weaves his myriad of characters around a intricate plot. There's a cliché used here: one last big score, after which McCauley is determined to retire. In



Al Pacino plays Vincent Hanna, a street-smart detective pursuing a cold-blooded career thief played by Robert De Niro in *Heat*.

the meantime, he's also fallen in love with a young graphic designer, Eady (Amy Brenneman), who is charmed by McCauley's candor and lack of pretense in his personal life; however, he doesn't let her know that he's a thief and a killer. Of course, Hanna has his sites set on McCauley, and won't let him slip away from him that easily. The centerpiece of the film is a meeting between the two characters in a diner; it's also the first time that Pacino

and De Niro have acted together on-screen. Although they talk about life, love, and personal fulfillment, the words don't really matter; the subtlety of the meeting between these two characters/actors is that of mutual respect and unwavering self-interest. We know that this meeting is a precursor to an explosive showdown.

The latter part of the film climaxes in a pulse-pounding shootout on the streets of Los Angeles that has both cops and robbers suffering casualties. Mann's sense of pacing serves him well in deciding where to place the main action sequences (as in *Last of the Mohicans*), but part of this is obscured by the multitude of characters and dialogue, some of which could have been cut. As such, the film clocks in at nearly three hours in length, and it may lose some of its impact with viewers not expecting dramatic development amidst the fireworks. But Mann deserves a lot of credit for bringing this "Los Angeles crime saga" together. The supporting actors, too, deserve a lot of credit for bringing life and credibility to the characters.

Cinematography, cast combine for outstanding *Nixon*

NIXON

Directed by Oliver Stone.
Written by Stephen J. Rivele, Christopher Wilkinson, and Oliver Stone.
Starring Anthony Hopkins, Joan Allen, Powers Boothe, Ed Harris, Bob Hoskins, David Paymer, David Hyde Pierce, Paul Sorvino, Mary Steenburgen, J. T. Walsh, and James Woods.
Sony Cheri.

By Anders Hove

OPINION EDITOR

Oliver Stone's latest work, *Nixon*, sets out to provide still another answer to the generation-old question, Who is Dick Nixon? Through the use of rich if eclectic cinematography, and with the able help of an amazing array of actors and actresses, Stone manages to capture the warped essence of the Nixon White House better than any movie-maker to date. Anthony Hopkins' brilliant performance underscores an astonishing number of Nixon's foibles, mannerisms, and pathologies. The well-picked supporting cast succeeds in accurately portraying Nixon's staff right down to Len Garment's bow-tie and Pat Nixon's tensed neck muscles. While Stone admits to fabricating some scenes, the film is generally historically accurate, especially in its portrayal of the man, Nixon.

More than 20 years ago, an anguished John Dean III (David Hyde Pierce) promised Watergate investigators that he could "deliver the P." For all the testimony Dean gave, his version fell short. Does Stone succeed where Dean failed? The problem with analyzing Nixon is the opposite of trying to get blood from a stone — there are too many plausible answers. Inevitably, Stone's version gets tangled up in some of them.

The film opens with the "smoking gun" conversation between Nixon and Chief of Staff H. R. Haldeman (James Woods) in which the president orders Haldeman to sick the CIA on the FBI, advising him to threaten "bringing up the whole Bay of Pigs thing again." Stone lays on the Kennedy references throughout the film, reiterating his twisted vision of a CIA-Cuban conspiracy that somehow manages to encompass Nixon as well. (Nixon was in Dallas the day before Kennedy arrived. So what?) True, Nixon was obsessed with Kennedy's popularity and background, but he was equally crazed by "eastern intellectuals," Jews, gays, and hippies. Is this film about Nixon or JFK?

Stone regains lost credibility, however, by brilliantly laying out the mystic connection between Nixon's saintly mother (Mary Steenburgen) and her vengeful son. At the risk of



Anthony Hopkins as the victorious Richard Nixon in Oliver Stone's latest film.

lengthening an already over-long film, Stone uses numerous flashbacks to Nixon's boyhood home of Whittier, California, to set the stage for Nixon's betrayal. In one of the movie's most powerful scenes, a drunk Nixon envisions his mother listening to the tapes over his shoulder — listening as her son organizes a web of lies, spews out his venomous hatreds and prejudices, and overlays every phrase with a skein of profanity. "Dick Nixon can't say that!" scowls the president, scribbling madly over the laboriously typed transcripts; not with his mother watching he can't. The link to mother makes the rest of the action almost comprehensible. Why else did he have to pray with Henry Kissinger? Why else did he suffer a nervous breakdown in his farewell address to the White House Staff? Nixon's mother was his real obsession. Since he could never live up to her, he betrayed her instead.

Nixon's obsession with gaining the love of others complemented his relationship with his mother. His complex over the White House taping system was intimately related to this

need for love to prop up his faltering self-image. Watching this film, one can feel this revelation, as Nixon listens to himself and his friends wading in recrimination, hatred and conspiracy. The real clincher is the fictitious dream scene, in which Nixon imagines his body covered in slimy, worm-like tapes.

He then wakes, spitting blood because of an intestinal blood clot. Watching this gripping scene, I squirmed in my seat. One test of a historian is whether he can capture the character of an individual so well as to convincingly read between the lines. That split-second makes the movie — it really could have happened like that.

The rest of the fictional scenes are entirely unnecessary. Especially alarming is Stone's made-up visit by Nixon to the Lincoln Memorial — material swiped from Frank Capra's *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*. In this scene, the president justifies his actions in Vietnam to a group of young protesters as a parallel to Lincoln's pragmatism during the Civil War. Nixon never opened up like that, not even to his wife. That's what made him such an unredeemable character. Even to his friends Nixon portrayed his actions not as historic, but as ways of lashing out at his enemies, whether they be Vietnamese enemies, hippie enemies, or Kennedy-loving liberal establishmentarian columnist enemies. This scene's nice-guy idealist is no Richard Nixon.

A lot of Stone's made-up world is like that, depicting Nixon as a tragic figure. In tragedies, however, there are some good people, but not in the Nixon White House. Even the survivors, like Henry Kissinger (Paul Sorvino) and Alexander Haig (Powers Boothe), have long been revealed as equally

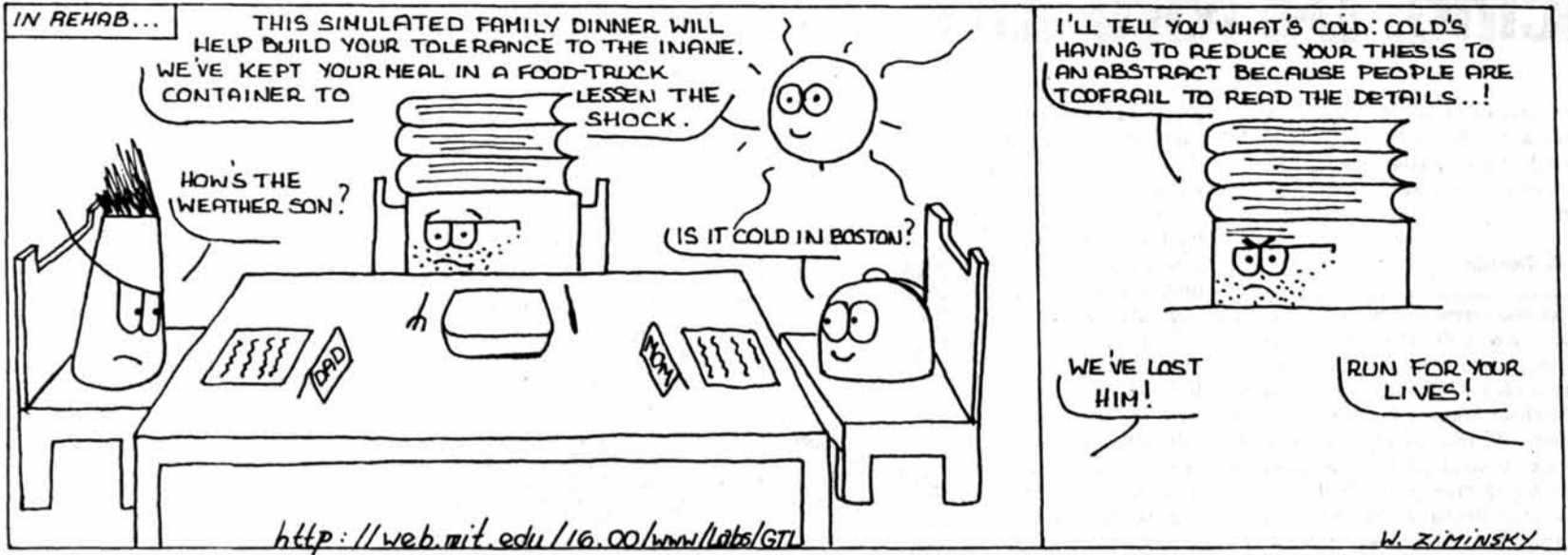
Nixon, Page 9



Richard and Pat Nixon, played by Anthony Hopkins and Joan Allen.

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by willy ziminsky



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ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

- ★★★★: Excellent
- ★★★: Good
- ★★: Average
- ★: Poor

★★½ **Casino**

Casino is director Martin Scorsese's latest mob film. The setting is Las Vegas in the 1970s, when the mob was still in control of the casinos — before they became too much trouble and were forced out of Vegas by the feds. The story follows three characters through the downfall: Ace (Robert DeNiro), a casino boss trying to run a respectable casino; Nicky (Joe Pesci), Ace's childhood friend and violent partner who's trying to organize Vegas street crime; and Ginger (Sharon Stone), Ace's troubled wife. *Casino* tries to follow closely the lives of each character, but this comes at a price: the movie is long (nearly three hours) and moves very slowly. The characters are fairly interesting but not enough to compensate. *Casino* is not nearly as good as

Scorsese's last mob film, *GoodFellas*, which I can more confidently recommend. —David V. Rodriguez. *Sony Copley Place*.

★★★ **Get Shorty**

John Travolta continues his astonishing career comeback, proving that there is life after *Pulp Fiction*. In this tongue-in-cheek adaptation of an Elmore Leonard novel, Travolta plays Chili Palmer, a Miami loan shark on assignment in Hollywood to track down people who skipped payment of their debts: In particular, he meets Harry Zimm (Gene Hackman), an independent filmmaker who pitches an idea for a screenplay which Chili thinks has some promise — enough for Chili to consider producing Harry's film. In the process, Chili becomes involved with Harry's actress-girlfriend (Rene Russo), fends off the predatory advances of Harry's drug-dealing investor (Delroy Lindo), and woos the elusive, but diminutive, star for the film (Danny DeVito). The story may be slow compared to the slam-

bang approach of *Pulp Fiction*, but the acting and dialogue are rich in dark, subtle comic undertones. The ending is too neat and the production values are a little too slick, but Travolta's cool on-screen demeanor is a treat to watch. —Scott C. Deskin. *Kendall Square Cinema*.

★★★½ **Goldeneye**

Goldeneye is an all-out fun ride. From the beginning to the end, it is a true Bond film, and it is just fun to watch. I was left wanting more. Bond fans should not despair; the film is definitely worth the long wait. The movie has action, suspense, and all the other aspects that make the Bond films so wonderful. There's a new Bond in town and his name is Pierce Brosnan. Remember it because it looks like he's going to be around for a while. —Daniel Ramirez. *Sony Copley Place*.

★★½ **The Muppets Take Manhattan**

This third film featuring Jim Henson's Muppets is amiable enough; in this outing, Kermit the Frog and company head for the big city to make it big in the world of Broadway musicals (kind of the same premise as *The Muppet Movie*, only in that film it was motion pictures). Fans of the familiar puppets will no doubt be pleased by their antics, but formula is a bit tired at this point. Also, the songs aren't as memorable as those in the first film. —SCD. *LSC, Saturday*.

★★★½ **Shanghai Triad**

Director Zhang Yimou's (*Ju Dou, Raise the Red Lantern*) latest film, is absolutely stunning. Set in the westernized Shanghai of 1930, the film deals primarily with the fate of a woman living in a society controlled by the Mafia. The result of this shift of focus is refreshing — rest assured that there is not a bloody horse head to be found. Although there are impressive performances all around — most notably Li Baotian in his role as Mr. Tang, the ruthless godfather chief of the Tang family-run underground Green dynasty, and Shun Chun as Song, his backstabbing number two man — it is the incomparable Gong Li's performance as the conceited, hot-tempered

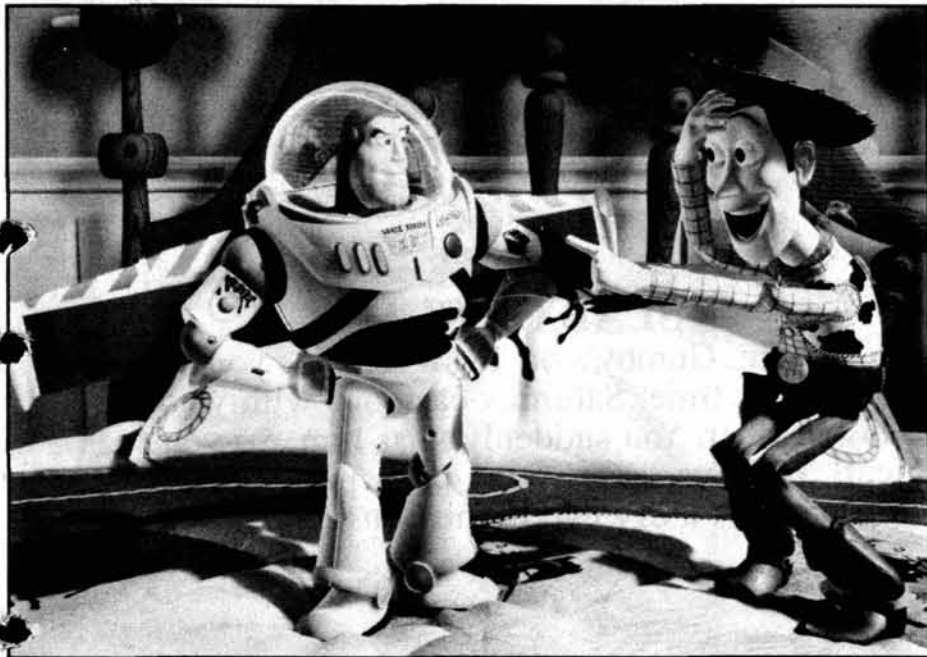
prostitute/singer Xiao Jinbao that grips the audience's attention for almost two hours. —Audrey Wu. *Kendall Square Cinema*.

★★ **Sleepless in Seattle**

Sleepless in Seattle, yet another entry in the harmless romantic comedy genre, stars Meg Ryan as a slightly ditzy blonde and Tom Hanks as the widower she falls for after hearing him on a late-night radio talk show confessing his love for his dead wife. Ryan, realizing how perfectly empty her relationship with her fiancé is, embarks on a quest to find Hanks, while Hanks' precocious son Jonah (Ross Malinger) pushes his father to answer the pile of love letters he's received after the talk show stint... and guess whose letter Jonah most wants his father to answer? The movie is consistently funny in a low-key, inoffensive way, Hanks is adequate, Ryan isn't too annoying — but Nora Ephron's script ties every loose end so neatly that there's no room for unpredictability. *LSC, Friday*.

★★★ **Toy Story**

Toy Story, Disney's most innovative feature-length film to date, not only is a landmark in computer animation, but also manages to retain the action-packed plot line and light-hearted comedy that have given Disney a virtual stranglehold on children's films. But besides the fact that the film is practically one big special effect, its premise is also a lot of fun: the supporting characters of the film are such familiar toys as Mr. Potato Head, Etch-a-Sketch, Slinky, and those miniature green plastic army men that are packaged in buckets. The film stars a talking cowboy doll named Woody (voice of Tom Hanks) and a "Space Ranger" named Buzz Lightyear (voice of Tim Allen). The villain is the bully who lives next door, a juvenile delinquent named Sid who thoroughly enjoys torturing his toys. Woody and Buzz ultimately become "lost toys" trapped in Sid's house with his hideous toy creations, and have to escape before Andy's family moves away without them. *Toy Story* is a lot of fun and the computer animation is, for lack of a better phrase, really cool. —AW. *Sony Copley Place*.



Buzz Lightyear and Woody the pull-string cowboy star in Disney's *Toy Story*.

Stone's latest film captures Nixon's warped essence

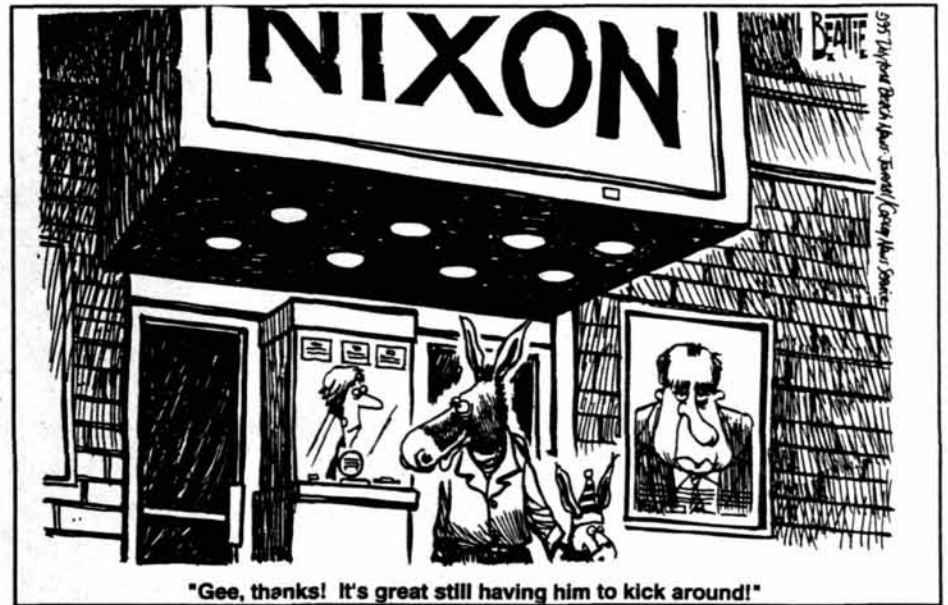
Nixon, from Page 7

enmeshed in Nixon's enemy-oriented pathologies. In this film, Haig and Dean come out nearly unscathed, in spite of the gross improprieties they committed. After all, the Watergate wiretap removals were intended to cover up Dean's wife's call-girl ring, and Haig's efforts to plug his own leaky ship played an essential role in shifting the investigation to Nixon. Stone barely resists painting Kissinger as a white hat too.

To me, the essential vignette of any Nixon story is the prayer session between Nixon and Kissinger in the White House. After begging the forgiveness of his mother's Quaker God, Nixon collapses on the floor, curled up in the fetal position, "What have I done?" he sobs, clutching at Kissinger's hand. Does Nixon finally understand the totality of his betrayal? Struggling to maintain his composure, Kissinger encourages Nixon, calling his presidency historic. Nixon is unconvinced. Final-

ly, Kissinger utters the magic, revealing words: "When the history books are written, you will be remembered better than your contemporaries." When you wipe away Nixon's tears, the Enemies List remains the essence of his being — from Alger Hiss, Jack Kennedy, Dick Tuck, and Daniel Ellsberg to Indira Gandhi, Bill Rogers, Archie Cox, Le Duc Tho, the Jews, Jack Anderson, John Dean, and the intellectuals. Kissinger knew it: Nixon was little more than the sum of his hatreds.

Stone ends the film with a fictional challenge from Nixon. Looking at a painting of Kennedy, Nixon says, "When they think of him, they see their hopes and dreams. When they think of me, they see themselves." These days, when the political system still reels from the credibility gap opened by Nixon's fall, that is a poignant remark. We need to know Dick Nixon so we can face down his petty pathologies and hatreds when we come across them.



"Gee, thanks! It's great still having him to kick around!"

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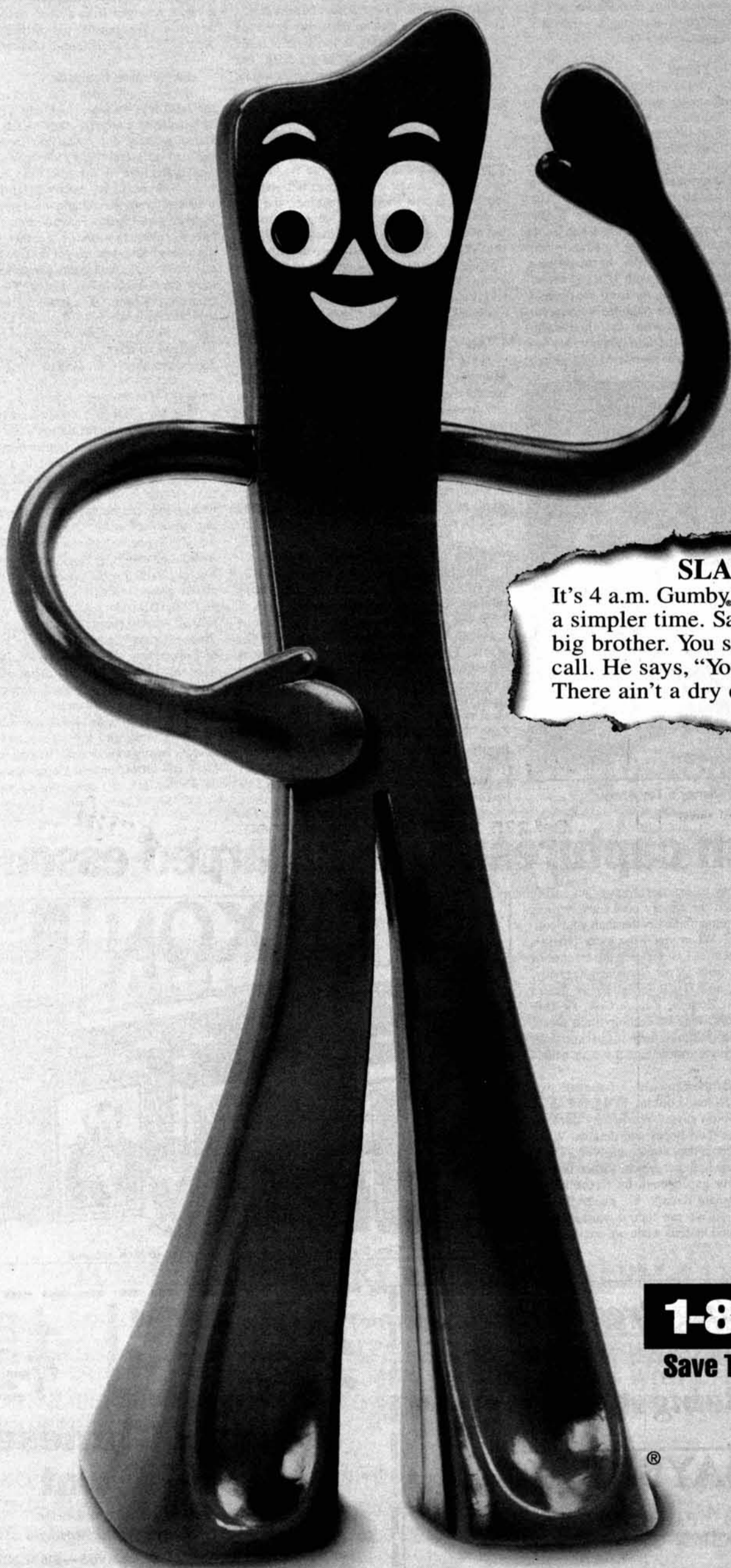
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POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between Dec. 8 and Jan. 4:

- Dec. 8:** Bldg. 2, bicycle stolen, \$360; McCormick Hall, bicycle stolen, \$180; Next House, harassing mail.
- Dec. 9:** 796 Main St., harassing phone calls; Kresge lot, minor motor vehicle accident.
- Dec. 11:** Bldg. 4, laptop computer stolen, \$2,100; Bldg. E39, microwave stolen, \$150; Bldg. 12, jewelry, pocketbook, and cash stolen, \$650; Bldg. 7, wallet, cash, and credit cards stolen, \$15; Bldg. 11, cash stolen, \$35.
- Dec. 12:** Bldg. E39, microwave stolen, \$160; Bldg. 14, bicycle stolen, \$950; Bldg. 11, cash stolen, \$20.
- Dec. 13:** Bldg. 14, coat stolen, \$125; Bldg. E15, computer chips stolen, \$12,990; Bldg. 14, cash and credit cards stolen, \$5; Bldg. 9, laptop computer stolen, \$1,700.
- Dec. 14:** Bldg. 14, harassing phone calls, Bldg. E38, 1) laptop computer stolen, \$1,000, 2) laptop computer stolen, \$2,062.
- Dec. 16:** MacGregor House, harassing phone calls.
- Dec. 17:** McCormick, suspicious activity; Student Center reading room, cash stolen, \$55.
- Dec. 18:** Bldg. E40, pocketbook stolen, \$65; 33 Massachusetts Ave., bike stolen, \$300; Bldg. 2, Lawrence Smith, of 212 North Hampton St., Boston, arrested for trespassing; Burton-Conner House, harassing phone calls.
- Dec. 19:** Lobdell Court, teddy bear stolen from toy box for needy children, \$25; Bldg. 4, lab equipment stolen, \$12,000; Bldg. E40, cash stolen, \$110.
- Dec. 20:** Windsor lot, attempted break-in into a 1989 Subaru; Bldg. 68, wallet stolen, \$100; East Campus, shrubs damaged; Bldg. E52 plaza, bicycle stolen, \$300; Pacific lot, hit and run property damage.
- Dec. 21:** Bldg. N42, harassing mail; Dupont gymnasium men's locker room, locker broken into and wallet containing cash stolen, \$20; Bldg. 48, down jacket stolen, \$350; Bldg. 2, calculator and stamps stolen, \$155.
- Dec. 22:** Student Center fourth floor, wallet and contents stolen, \$75; Ashdown, stereo speaker stolen, \$306.
- Dec. 25:** Bldg. 14E, suspicious activity.
- Dec. 26:** Bldg. 14, wallet stolen, \$20.
- Dec. 27:** Bldg. W32, suspicious activity; Bldg. E25, leather jacket stolen, later recovered in Bldg. 8; Bldg. E53, suspicious activity; Dupont, wallet stolen from jacket, \$30.
- Dec. 29:** Bldg. 20, stereo equipment stolen, \$1,800.
- Dec. 30:** Walker Memorial, assault and battery between persons known to each other.
- Dec. 31:** Bldg. 3, suspicious activity.
- Jan. 1:** Bldg. E52, computer component stolen, unknown value; while checking property, a Campus Police officer observed an altercation at Massachusetts Avenue and Blanche Street and arrested Jonathan Millman, of 1612 Harrison St., Apt. 6, Hollywood, Florida, for assault by means of a dangerous weapon (knife).
- Jan. 2:** Bldg. 13, computer stolen, \$3,020; MacGregor kitchen broken into, various items stolen, \$1,292; contractor's trailer broken into and office equipment stolen, \$11,224; Bldg. E38, Sloan School of Management watch stolen, \$165; MacGregor, credit card stolen; Dupont men's locker room, locker broken into and wallet, cash, and jewelry stolen, \$825.
- Jan. 3:** Bldg. E10 parking lot, 1982 Oldsmobile stolen; Dupont, wallet stolen from pants left on side of basketball court, \$10; Student Center, John Waddie, of 1202 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, arrested for trespassing.
- Jan. 4:** Johnson Athletic Center, 1) gym bag stolen from track area containing leather jacket and clothing, \$555, 2) cash stolen, \$60, 3) cash stolen, \$20; Student Center reading room, wallet and contents stolen, \$150.

Storm Shuts Institute for a Day, Leaves Some Students Stranded

Snow, from Page 1

Record accumulations were measured in many cities on the eastern seaboard. Philadelphia received a record 30 inches, New York's LaGuardia Airport received 27, and Washington's Dulles Airport got 25 inches. In Pennsylvania and New Jersey, governors declared a state of emergency and banned all non-emergency vehicles from the roads.

At Logan Airport, the blizzard's 18 inches combined with snow still on the ground from two previous storms to set a Boston record for the most snow on the ground — 30 inches.

But this week's blizzard comes up short when compared to the measure of all New England storms, the Blizzard of '78. That blizzard, in February of 1978, hit Boston just before classes were set to begin, dumping 27 inches of snow and closing the Institute for a week.

Students stranded by storm

The Blizzard of '96 stopped all air traffic on the east coast and stranded passengers across the country. Logan Airport closed early Monday morning, and remained close until 9:15 p.m. on Monday, when a single runway opened. But many flights originating in airports to the south were canceled hours before Logan closed.

Students returning from the semester break had flights delayed and canceled. Some students reported that friends were still stranded waiting for flights to Boston, but it is hard to estimate how many students were affected.

One student delayed by the weather was Amalia R. Miller '99, who had planned to fly from Newark at 11 a.m. on Sunday. Miller spent most of the afternoon waiting in Newark. The plane she was supposed to fly on was delayed arriving from Atlanta and took more than an hour to de-ice before it left for Boston around 3 p.m. It was one of the last flights to leave Newark before the airport closed.

Vest is 'non-essential'

Institute employees called 253-SNOW yesterday morning to hear the Institute was closed and that only essential personnel should report for work on the first and second shifts. So President Charles M. Vest called Rice to inquire if he was one of the "essential" employees who needed to come in.

Rice told Vest the he was not an essential employee, but Vest reported for work anyway. "I spent the morning in the office with one stalwart staff member, but went home just before noon. There was no one here to meet with, and no one in

Washington or New York answered their phones," Vest said.

Vest was not the only one who wasn't sure about the implications of the 253-SNOW message. Though classes were officially canceled, some classes met anyway. Rice did not realize that classes for credit were being offered, so the original snow message said that the Institute was closed but not that classes were canceled.

"Some faculty had some required classes, so it caused some confusion for people... I got some people confused on that for which I'm very sorry," Rice said.

Rice and Vest both lauded the job done by Physical Plant to clear the snow before the Institute re-opened today. But the grounds work may continue, because weather forecasts predict more snow today — about 4 to 6 inches — and this weekend.

"The amount of snow is more than we've seen since the Blizzard of '78, and it's getting very difficult because there isn't anywhere to put it anymore," Sirianni said. "It's going to be a long winter."

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- Pressure, confidence, and self-esteem
- Thinking about your education

These guides will appear over the next few months.

NOTE: Each year the Bose Foundation sponsors a one year fellowship (approximately \$34,000) for a first year graduate student in Engineering. Please see your faculty advisor for more information or write: Melanie Murphy, Bose Foundation, The Mountain, Framingham, MA 01701-9168. Deadline for application: February 16, 1996.

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MIT Libraries' IAP Offerings

Finding A Job

Anita Perkins
January 8-February 2,
open during Dewey Library hours
Dewey Library, E53

Books, reference materials, and journal articles will be available for consultation. A bibliography will be available for distribution. Job applications, resume writing, interviewing, job markets, career development, and other topics will be covered.

Introduction to FirstSearch: 20 Databases When and Where You Want Them

Rae Jean Wiggins and Nina Davis-Millis
January 11, 10am-noon
Room 14-0637
Prerequisites: Registered Athena account
holders only
Preregister by calling x3-5673 or e-mail
jceggles@mit.edu

The FirstSearch databases via Athena cover a broad range of topics from art to business to medicine. HANDS ON training at this session will enable you to work magic from your desktop computer.

Blast Your Way Through the Aerospace Literature

Eileen Dorschner
January 16, 2-3 pm and January 24, 11am-noon
Aero/Astro Library, Room 33-316

Search the literature on your own using the
Aerospace Database on CD-Rom.

Everything You Wanted to Know About Patents

Carole Schildhauer and Carol Robinson
January 16, 3-5 pm
Room 18-490

Come and hear patent attorney Sam Pasternak of Choate, Hall and Stewart, Jack Turner of the MIT Technology Licensing Office, and Mary Pensyl of the MIT Libraries' Document Services. Group discusses the ins and outs of the patent process.

Don't Read This!

Ingrid Ullrich
January 16, 7 pm
Room 1-390

Come watch a videotape of this student-written and produced play about banned books!

Introduction to the World Wide Web

Linda Martinez and Rae Jean Wiggins
January 17, 11am-noon
Room 14-0637
Preregister by calling x3-9370 or e-mail
bookworm@mit.edu

An overview of the World Wide Web with demonstrations and the opportunity for hands on exploration. Library resources on the Web will be highlighted.

Pointers for Post Docs

Christine Sherratt
January 18 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Room 10-280
Pre-register by calling x3-5648 or e-mail
gcsherra@mit.edu

Postdoctoral staff often have specific questions about the Libraries' services and collections at MIT. This informal seminar will include discussion on the topics of online searching options, finding journal literature, Barton, current awareness products, and access to other libraries in the Boston area.

Introduction to Online Searching for Chemists

Margret Lippert
January 18, 9am-4 pm
Prerequisites: a knowledge of chemistry
Preregister by calling x3-1294 or e-mail
mattski@mit.edu

Learn to use the basic command language of STN in the Registry and Chemical Abstracts files, the basic online databases for chemists. You will learn to use chemical names and formulas to find references to and preparations of chemical substances.

Exploring Film & Videotapes at MIT and Beyond

Katherine Poole and Merrill Smith
January 18, 10:30-noon and January 23, 10:30-noon
Rotch Library Visual Collections, Room 7-304
Preregister by calling x3-7098 or e-mail
kkpoole@mit.edu

Introduction to resources for information about films, videodiscs and videotapes, as well as how to locate these media at MIT. Coverage includes reference works, indexes, and electronic resources, such as Barton, and Internet sources, such as the WWW. Lecture, discussion and hands-on activities.

Publishing on the Web: Lessons from the 'City of Bits' Project

Rae Jean Wiggins, Linda Martinez,
Terry Ehling, and Dan Stevenson
January 19, 1:30-3:30 pm
Room 3-133

The MIT Press broke new ground last summer when it published *City of Bits* on the World Wide Web and in print. The creators of the Web site will discuss their experiences and demonstrate the site.

Searching MEDLINE for Biology & Neurosciences

Louisa Worthington
January 23, 2-4 pm
Room 14-0637
Preregister by January 22 by calling x3-6575
or e-mail elworthi@mit.edu

A hands on program providing search strategies for MEDLINE and Willow.

Barton Uncovered

Christa Miniuks and Margo Miller
January 24, 2-3 pm
Room 14-0645

Learn the secrets of Barton in this hands-on exploration class. Particular emphasis will be placed on locating conference proceedings and other tricky materials in the engineering and science disciplines.

Musician Look-Alike Contest

Peter Munstedt
January 26, 2-3 pm
Music Library, Room 14E-109
Contestants should preregister by January 12
by calling x3-5636 or e-mail pmunsted@mit.edu

The Music Library will hold its second annual Musician Look-Alike Contest. Contestants will dress up as their favorite musicians in any field of music. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. This event is open to observers as well as participants.

Electronic Access to High Technology

Linda Martinez and Rae Jean Wiggins
January 29, 10 am - noon
Room 1-115

Pre-register by calling x3-9370 or e-mail
bookworm@mit.edu

A combination of lecture/demonstration and hands-on instruction on electronic databases covering the areas of high technology. Part one will highlight FirstSearch and part two will cover DIALOG. We will focus on technical and business databases.

Patient Empowerment Roundtable

Samantha Scolamiero
January 29 and January 31, 6-8 pm
Room 66-148

Knowledge is power. Supplementing what we know about our bodies with reference resources and support groups is very valuable. Let's talk about surviving our health system. Bring strategies, stories, issues, ideas and enthusiasms or take what you need.

How to Do Your Bibliography Electronically

Margret Lippert and Carol Robinson
January 31, 1-4 pm
Room 14-0637

Come to hear the pros and cons of utilizing different bibliographic software packages to compile and manipulate bibliographic data (for your thesis or your article). Learn the essential elements of citations for different types of sources of information.

Brown, Litster Take New Posts

Deans, from Page 1

ing a smoothly-functioning department in a time of severe budget constraints," said Professor of Chemical Engineering Clark K. Colton PhD '69.

Reduction in funding is one of the problems the School of Engineering will face. "It does need to work about its response to possible cutbacks in federal funding, but this, too, may lead to creative new mechanisms for the conduct and funding of engineering education and research," Vest said.

Brown has been recognized for his "leadership role in his own research," Cooney said. He conducted research during his tenure as department head and will probably continue his research as dean.

During his years on the MIT faculty, Brown has been honored with the Outstanding Faculty Award three times by students. Brown also has helped improve computing resources at the Institute as co-director of the MIT's supercomputer facility.

Litster appointed graduate dean

Litster was appointed dean for graduate education effective Jan. 1.

Litster will hold the combined title of vice president for research and dean for graduate education. The

new post of dean of graduate education replaces the previous position of dean of the Graduate School.

Litster is an internationally-recognized physicist who has done pioneering research in phase transitions.

"Litster has all the needed characteristics of a dean of graduate education," Moses said. "He has done great research, has had many graduate students, and has enormous management experience."

In a press release, Moses explained the decision to combine the deanship roles for research and graduate education. "Over the past several months we have come to the conclusion that the common U.S. model of combining research and graduate education under one roof is a good one for MIT at this time, particularly given the importance of securing appropriate funding for graduate education."

Litster joined the Department of Physics in 1965. He received his bachelor's degree from McMaster University and a doctorate from MIT.

Litster is currently a fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the Solid State Sciences Panel of the National Research Council. Litster is also a

recipient of the 1993 Irving Langmuir Prize in Chemical Physics.

Litster could not be reached for comment.

Colbert to run graduate office

In his new position as senior associate dean, Colbert is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the office of the graduate school.

Colbert has served as the associate dean of the Graduate School since 1988, and has held administrative positions at MIT since 1977.

"My role will continue in the leadership of the graduate office and the staff," Colbert said. "With the combination of research and graduate education, I hope to consolidate a number of services for graduate students to make them into a coherent set."

Despite this consolidation, no significant changes in the daily operations of the office are expected, Colbert said.

"We will work in partnership with the undergraduate dean's office in areas of mutual interest regarding student life, like housing and student activities," Colbert said. While the dean for student life will have primary responsibility in these areas, the graduate office will have input into the process.

Three from MIT Are Marshall Scholars

Marshall, from Page 1

ed and discussed his disability.

The experience "caused me to think seriously of pursuing a career studying neurodegenerative diseases, conducting basic research with immediate relevance to suffering people," McGuire said, according to the article.

Application process intense

Applicants apply from five regions of the country, and students may apply from where they live or where they go to school, Hobbs said. Each region interviews about 20 candidates, from which each sends a smaller group of about 10 names to the ambassador's commission in Washington, where the final 40 selections are made, he said.

The Graduate School office handles Marshall scholarship applications. To qualify as an applicant, a student must have a grade point average of at least 4.7, Hobbs said.

Fourteen students from MIT applied for Marshall scholarships this year. From that pool, about five received interviews by regional committees.

Hobbs, a past recipient of a Marshall scholarship, chairs the committee for the Northeast region. He is also a member of the ambassador's commission, Hobbs said.

The Marshall program was started by the British Parliament in 1953 "as a practical and enduring gesture of thanks on behalf of the British people for assistance received from the United States in the aftermath of the Second World War," according to the program's brochure.



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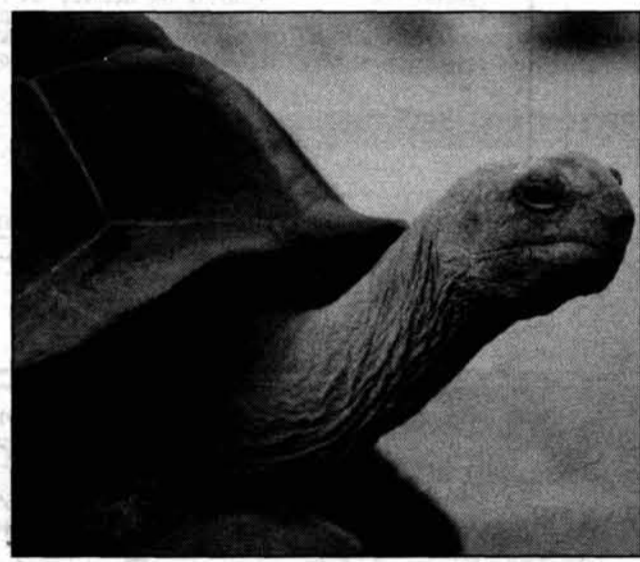
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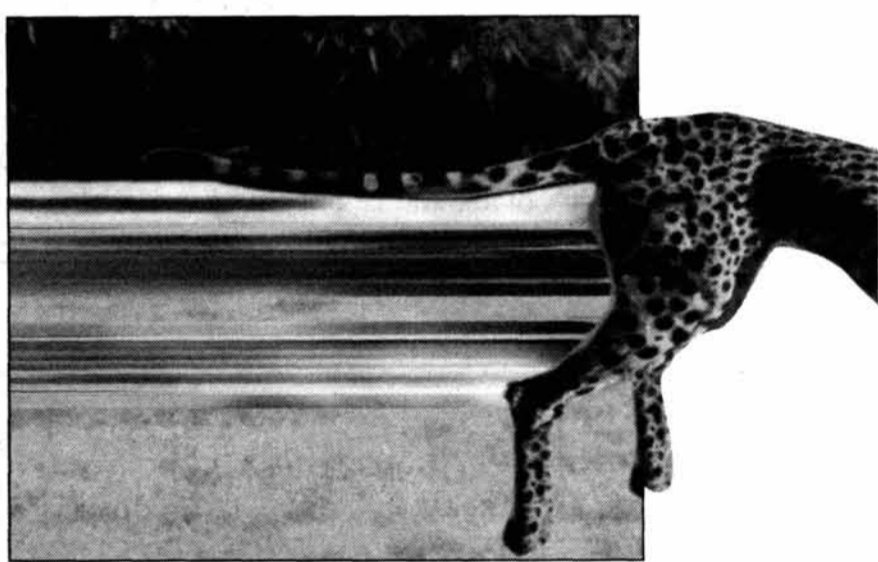
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Internet: Search Engines/Intelligent Agents Embryonic start-up looking for a few people who know a lot about the Net and want to have fun while inventing a company. I got the idea, some seed money, and the connections that will eventually get us venture capital money. Our product will serve the masses who haven't the time nor dexterity to deal with the Lycos/Yahoos of the world. Skills we need: programming, AI, linguist/semanticist, research librarian, and an unrelenting desire to succeed. Tell us why you're the one. SPIKE! PO Box 382537 Cambridge, MA 02138n Housing

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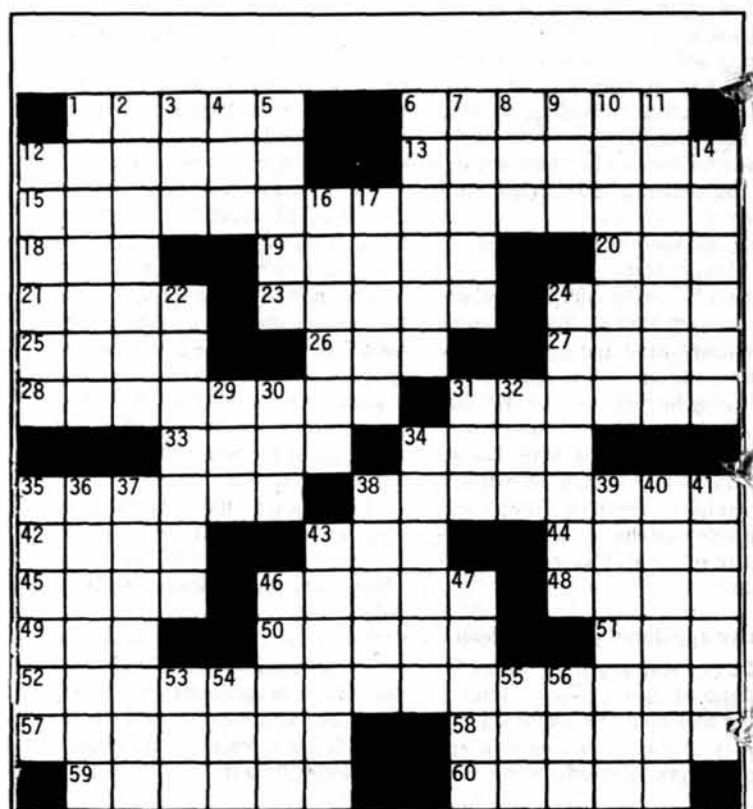
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ACROSS

- 1 Reef
- 6 Ancient Italian
- 12 Well-balanced
- 13 — grounds
- 15 Notorious queen (2 wds.)
- 18 Small demon
- 19 Mends
- 20 Japanese money
- 21 Spanish rivers
- 23 Proverb
- 24 Sneaker part
- 25 Speed unit
- 26 Slang diamonds
- 27 Roman road
- 28 Hygienic
- 31 Tourist accessory
- 33 Boston —
- 34 Distort
- 35 College lecturer
- 38 Free from impurities
- 42 Words of determination
- 43 Trigonometry abbreviation
- 44 Japanese monastery

- 45 — antique
- 46 Makes the first bid
- 48 Half of movie team
- 49 Mr. Whitney
- 50 Part of a carpentry joint
- 51 Suffix for real
- 52 Well-known general (3 wds.)
- 57 Having floors
- 58 Those beyond help
- 59 Sweet
- 60 A great number of

- 14 Biological classes
- 16 Points opposite to the zenith
- 17 "Best Actor" of 1938
- 22 Payment
- 24 Marine mollusks
- 29 Suffix for simple
- 30 Likely
- 31 College in L.A., Southern —
- 32 College major
- 34 Sift, as grain
- 35 Greg Louganis, et al.

DOWN

- 1 Endurance
- 2 Barbed spear
- 3 Part of a kimono
- 4 Fermented drink
- 5 You can — horse...
- 6 — cake
- 7 Get up
- 8 — vivand
- 9 Suffix for attract
- 10 Potassium —
- 11 One who allures
- 12 Certain smiles
- 36 Spotted cats
- 37 North American deer
- 38 Wicked person
- 39 Laid a new floor
- 40 Pencil parts
- 41 — "Inferno"
- 43 — Gonzales
- 46 Fine fur
- 47 Becomes tangled
- 53 Work unit
- 54 Inlet
- 55 Bird of Mythology
- 56 Watson and Crick discovery

SOLUTIONS IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE TECH

TOMORROW'S NEWS TODAY

Have you ever wondered how *The Tech* is put together?
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Stop by our office in W20-483 at 6:00pm on Sundays for food, or call us at 253-1541. Or stop by on Monday or Tuesday evenings and help us produce MIT's oldest and largest newspaper!

ZORK'S PLACE
BY STEVEN D. LEUNG

Panel 1: Zork is sitting at a desk with a sign that says "ZORK'S LIFE SAVINGS" and "FEDERAL LOANS". A man in a suit says, "You can't get any more money from me like this, you know." Zork replies, "Yeah, but this is fun."

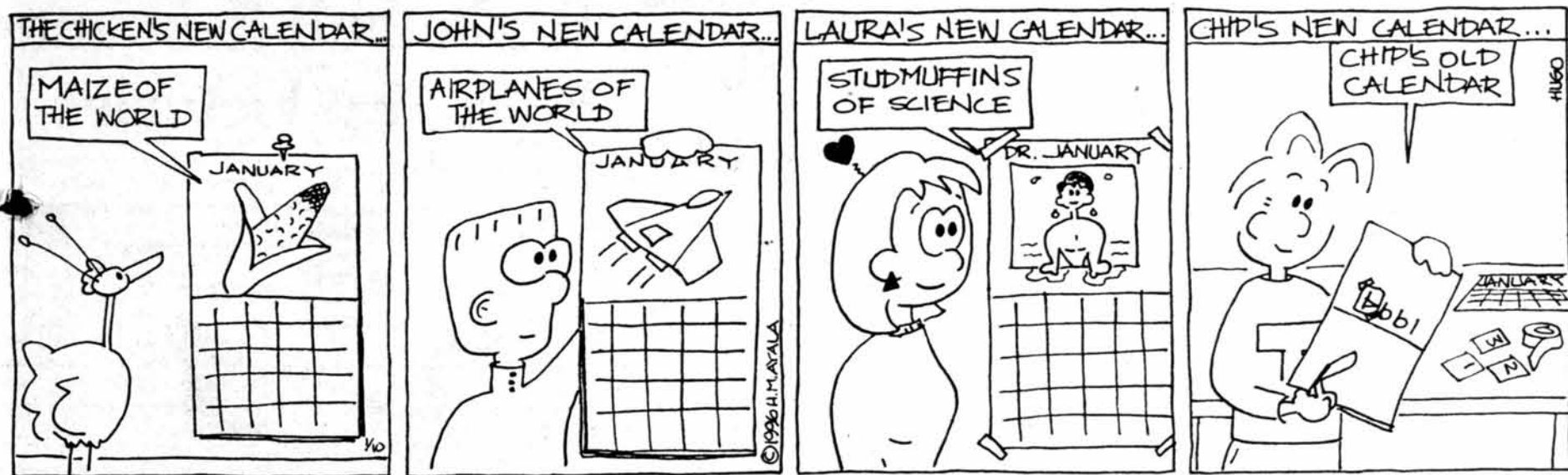
Panel 2: A man in a suit is knocking on a door. He says, "KNOCK! KNOCK!" He thinks, "I wonder who that could be..."

Panel 3: The man in a suit says "HI!" to Zork. Zork replies, "Please... no more..."

Panel 4: The man in a suit says, "I just came to say you have January off." Zork says, "OFF?" The man in a suit asks, "Now what am I supposed to do?"

Off Course

By H. Ayala



Dexter's not his usual self.

You suspect the **salsa**.

So you call **Dr. Nusblatt**, your family vet back home.

The **call** is *cheap*.

(Too bad about the *consultation* fee.)

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SPORTS

Gymnastics Team Successful At UMass Open Tournament

By Raymond W. Li

TEAM MEMBER

The men's gymnastics team began its season Dec. 2 with a successful meet at UMass Amherst.

At the UMass Open, a total of 10 teams competed — including a few of the best collegiate gymnastic teams in the nation such as Ohio State, Penn State, and the host team.

The team began the day with the rings. Team captains Robert A. Cooper '97 and Andrew D. Lobban '97 gave strong performances with scores of 8.00 and 7.50, respectively. These and other outstanding performances help put MIT in seventh place in front of the University of Vermont, Syracuse, and Southern Connecticut, and within reach of sixth.

On the vault, Cooper, David D. Golombek '98, Robert J. Spina '99, Andrew D. McCraith '98, and Jason C. Miller '99 all gave dazzling 8.00+ point performances, maintaining the 7th place standing. With the help of Miller's 7.10 on the parallel bars, MIT held their lead against UVM. On the high bars, although the whole team all threw strong tricks and Lobban got a 7.15, UVM was still able to come within one point of MIT.

After the first four events, the rings, vault, parallel bars, and high bars, the men's team remained in

seventh place. The fifth event was the floor exercise. On the floor, Cooper did outstanding tumbling and Van C. Van '97 did a breathtaking scale. MIT gave a solid performance but because one member of the UVM team got an amazing 9.3, UVM went into the last event with a 0.75 lead, but still within reach.

MIT has not won against UVM in years and was not about to give up this chance. Moving into the final event, the pommel horse, the team was exhausted after three hours of continuous competition. The team's all-arounders (who competed in all six events) gathered what strength they had to carry out their last routine. Many athletes on both UVM and MIT struggled to stay on the horse. MIT was not able to regain the lead, and finished seventh at 166.70, a little more than three points behind UVM.

This competition was very successful for the team. MIT triumphed over Syracuse for the first time ever and had a strong lead over Southern Connecticut, both extremely strong schools. The meet also gave the gymnasts a good idea of what they needed to do to prepare for the next meet, this Saturday, at Dartmouth.

Basketball Rebounds With Two Victories

By Melissa N. Ronge

TEAM STATISTICIAN

The men's basketball team began to turn their season around by winning two out of the last three games of 1995. After losing to Hamilton, MIT came back to beat Cal Tech and Coast Guard to bring their record to 2-4.

MIT faced Hamilton in the first game of the Washington Lopata Classic. The Engineers started out extremely slow as Hamilton was able to jump out to a 16-point half time lead. MIT tried to come back and was only outscored by two points in the second half. The first half lead was insurmountable as MIT went on to lose 83-65. Leading scorers included Melvin D. Pullen '98 with 22 and Timothy M. Porter '96 with 21. Kareem A. Benjamin '97 grabbed 14 boards to assist the MIT cause.

In the consolation game, MIT was pitted against their academic archrivals, Cal Tech. MIT came out slow once again, down by 3 points at the half. The second half was much more productive for the Engi-

neers this time as they outscored Cal Tech by 9 to grab the win 46-40. Pullen contributed 18 points and 6 boards to earn him a spot on the all-tournament team.

MIT's first game back from the tournament saw them travelling down to Coast Guard. The Engineers kept up their streak of being down at the half by trailing by 7 after the first 20 minutes of play. Good three point shooting by the Engineers kept the game close.

In the second half, MIT shot the ball very well: .500 from the floor and .800 from behind the three-point arc. The other big factor in the game was that the Coast Guard leading scorer was held to two points and just one shot. With just a couple minutes left in the game and down by only three, it seemed as MIT was very much in the game. A key three-pointer by Martin J. Gilkes '97 tied the game with a little bit of time to go in the game. Coast Guard and MIT exchanged free throws down the stretch. With 3 seconds left, Coast Guard hit two free throws to tie the game at 64. MIT inbounded the ball and Porter dribbled up court. At the buzzer he threw up a prayer shot, which ended up banking in to give the Engineers a thrilling 67-64 victory.

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Ad

Age 7, 1982



Age 18, 1993



Elizabeth Suto.

Killed by a drunk driver
on February 27, 1994, on Bell Blvd.
in Cedar Park, Texas.

1 year old, 1991



2 years old, 1992



Stevie Ace Flores.

Killed by a drunk driver
on March 23, 1993, on Pacific Coast
Highway in Wilmington, Calif.

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from driving drunk, who will?
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