

## Budget Cuts Force Fusion Lab Layoffs

By Oril G. Bahcall  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A \$6 million federal budget cut in funding for the Plasma Fusion Center has forced the center to lay off 30 technical and research staff and also threatens graduate research projects.

Two projects of the PFC were directly affected by the federal budget cuts in fusion research. The Alcator C-Mod tokamak, a toroidal nuclear device for heating gaseous plasma to produce fusion, employed about 80 staff and 22 graduate students before the cuts. A second project, the Tokamak Physics Experiment [TPX] at Princeton University, received no further funding and will be shut down shortly. About 15 MIT employees in each project have already been laid off.

There would be a big problem if Alcator had been closed, since the "22 PhD students we have working on the project would all have been let go," said Director of the PFC Miklos Porkolab said. Some of these students are three to five years into their thesis work, and "this is a very difficult time to switch."

It is important to remember that "students are involved in all of these projects," and there are some who may "lose their potential thesis topics," Porkolab said.

The recent cuts scale back Alcator funding by \$6 million from a previous \$16 million allocation. The Alcator, the smallest of three high energy fusion research facilities in the United States, was initially slated

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Robert D. Blau '98 and James B. Williams '98 practice Kall-Silat, Filipino stick fighting, in the IAP self-defense class taught by Arno T. Klein G.

## IAP Seminar on Gay Conversion Prompts Angry Student Response

By Christina Chu  
REPORTER

An Independent Activities Period seminar about converting people from homosexuality last Thursday prompted an angry response from



Peter N. Robicheau

the Institute's gay community.

Senior Office Assistant at the Laboratory for Nuclear Science Peter N. Robicheau offered "An Introduction to Change for the Homosexual and the Ex-Gay Movement." The activity was the only one dealing with gay issues listed in the IAP Guide.

In response, three students sponsored an activity called "Gay to Straight: The Myth of Conversion" the night before Robicheau's talk.

Additionally, students distributed leaflets proclaiming "MIT Sponsors Hatred" on the day of the talk.

Robicheau, who used to be gay, is the director of the Transformation Ministries of Boston.

Most ex-gay ministries or support groups are backed by religious organizations that encourage indi-

viduals to shift from homosexuality to heterosexuality. However, members of the gay community see gay-to-straight conversion as unsuccessful and psychologically destructive.

Robicheau's seminar on the ex-gay movement presented primarily religious views on homosexuality and addressed the methods of conversion therapy.

Throughout the duration of his seminar, Robicheau was repeatedly interrupted with questions, comments, and objections made by the predominantly pro-gay audience.

### IAP office sets activity guidelines

"MIT should not sanction an event which has hatred as its primary focus," said Sarah K. Veatch '98, general coordinator of Gays, Les-

GAMIT, Page 16

## Yale TA Strike Seen Not Likely at MIT

By Dan McGuire  
and Oril G. Bahcall  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITORS

Under increasing pressure from Yale University's administration, Yale's proposed teaching assistant union voted to stop its current "grade strike" against Yale's working conditions and pay levels. *The Yale Daily News* reported yesterday that members of the teaching assistants voted on Sunday to end the strike and release fall semester grades. Administrators find that a TA strike situation occurring at MIT would be highly unlikely.

Yale TAs had been withholding student grade reports originally due on January 2, in order to persuade the administration to recognize a TA union, the Graduate Employees and Students Organization.

"We haven't taken an official position on the Yale crisis," said Graduate Student Council President Barbara J. Souter G. simply "because most of the GSC has been out of town for Christmas."

While "we are looking at Yale with great interest, we are taking no official position," said Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Education Isaac M. Colbert.

### TA strike at MIT not likely

Souter said a similar protest was unlikely here. "I don't think that we would be so extreme as to go on strike," she said. "We often lobby to improve graduate student life but we [prefer] talking to the administration" over confronting them.

The GSC has also "never acted as a collective bargaining union for students," Souter said.

The graduate administration agrees that the action taken at Yale would not occur at MIT, Colbert said. "We've seen no signs of [such] student agitation." Although "we continue to struggle with graduate student issues" we believe ourselves to be doing the best job possible to meet student needs, he said.

### MIT faces different issues

"The entire landscape here for graduate student education is very

Yale, Page 12

## Former MIT Student Found Guilty of Treason by Peru

By A. Arif Husain  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Former Institute undergraduate Lori H. Berenson was convicted of treason by a secret Peruvian military court last Thursday. She received a sentence of life imprisonment for aiding the Marxist Tupac Amaru Resistance Movement guerrilla movement. The group was allegedly planning to seize the Peruvian Congress and take lawmakers as hostages, according to an article in *The New York Times*.

Berenson, 26, withdrew from the Institute in 1988 as a sophomore in the anthropology and archaeology division of the humanities department. She was arrested Nov. 30 along with 22 others after an all-night shootout in a Lima suburb that left one police officer and three guerrillas dead.

Peru's President Alberto Fujimori charged that Berenson aided rebels, including leader Miguel Rincón, who were planning an attack on Congress, said the Associated Press. Berenson helped them by renting them a safe house in the La Molina district and buying them food. Berenson denied the charge.

Berenson reportedly also stockpiled weapons and gathered information for the guerrillas.

The Peruvian military tribunal sentenced Berenson to life in prison. The harsh sentence came as a surprise, since prosecutors had asked for a 30-year term, the minimum sentence for treason in Peru. In addition, the identity of the military judge was concealed, and Berenson's lawyers were not allowed to cross-examine witnesses.

Grimaldo Achahui, Berenson's Peruvian lawyer called the decision a "travesty of justice," said the *Times* article. "There was not one piece of concrete evidence presented to show that Lori had committed treason. It was all conjecture," he said.

Achahui plans to appeal to a higher military court which has the power to overturn the conviction and send it to a civil court on lesser charges of terrorism or collaboration.

"If it is a crime to worry about the inhuman condition in which the majority of this population lives, I

Peru, Page 15

## Anya Pogosyants G

Anya Pogosyants G, 26, and her husband Igor Slobodkin, 28, were killed on Dec. 15 in an automobile accident. An undergraduate research award has since been established in her name.

The couple died in a head-on crash in Rutland, Vermont, on their way to Lake Placid, New York, to go skiing.

"Those of us who knew Anya will miss her greatly. She was a kind and enthusiastic person," said John V. Gutttag, associate department head in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, where Pogoyants studied. "When she entered a room, it made the room a nicer place to be."

Slobodkin hit a slippery spot on snowy Route 7 near the Rutland-Pittsford town line just past midnight, careened across the center line into the southbound traffic lane and struck a one-ton fuel van, according to Vermont State Police in an article in *The Boston Globe*.

The two were pronounced dead at the Rutland Regional Medical Center.

Pogoyants worked in the Laboratory for Computer Science on the theory of distributed systems. Her work included research in formal verification of distributed algorithms and developing easy-to-use verification tools.

Slobodkin was a fifth-year doctoral student in Tufts University's Sackler School of Biomedical Sciences, where he studied the biological control of infectious yeasts.

A memorial service for Pogoyants and Slobodkin was held on Dec. 19 at Waterman and Sons Funeral Home in Kenmore Square.

"Anya was not only a brilliant researcher. Above all, she was a very kind, friendly, warm person. She was always cheerful and ready to help and encourage everybody," said Angelika Leeb G, a friend and colleague. "She and Igor both had many friends and were much-loved in and outside of their research community."

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# WORLD & NATION

## China Demands Recall of Attache

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Chinese authorities have demanded the recall of an American military attache whom they detained for 19 hours last week after arresting him in the vicinity of an air force base in southern China, U.S. officials said Thursday.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said that the Chinese government had given the United States until Friday to recall Lieut. Col. Bradley Gerdes, an assistant air force attache at the U.S. embassy in Beijing. Burns accused the Chinese of detaining Gerdes illegally and preventing him from making a phone call to his colleagues in Beijing.

U.S. officials said that Gerdes was accompanied to his trip to the town of Saixi in Guangdong province by a Japanese military attache, who was detained along with him on Jan. 11. The Chinese accused the pair of trying to gain access to an air force installation in Saixi, a charge they denied, and permitted them to return to Beijing on Jan. 13.

The Chinese request for the recall of Gerdes comes against the background of renewed suspicions in Beijing that the United States is violating the proclaimed policy of recognizing only one legitimate Chinese government, in Beijing, and not also the government of Taiwan.

## Budget Talks Start Again

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Clinton and Republican Congressional leaders prepared to resume budget talks Wednesday in an atmosphere of deep skepticism that the session can produce anything but more disagreement.

Republican leaders Tuesday night wrote Clinton to urge him to offer a new budget proposal that can attract bipartisan support. If he does not, the leaders wrote, "there would appear to be little new to discuss" in what many believe will be the last negotiating session, at least for a while.

The letter — signed by Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., and House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Tex. — notes that in meetings last week House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., said Clinton's latest budget proposal would be unlikely to get the votes of a majority of House Democrats. If a budget plan is to work, the letter said, it must attract votes.

White House Press Secretary Michael McCurry said Tuesday night that Clinton has new proposals and is confident that any agreement reached in good faith would get sufficient votes to pass Congress.

Gingrich, addressing the Economic Club of Detroit Tuesday, said he holds out little hope for an agreement to balance the budget in seven years, a central GOP goal. The chances he said, are "somewhere between dismal and very bad."

"We're prepared to go back if the president has anything positive to offer," Gingrich said. "But we don't want to be props for a charade."

## Affirmative Action Challenge OKed

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Supreme Court cleared the way Tuesday for white men to challenge government affirmative action "goals" in court, even when they cannot show they have been hurt by them.

The court's action, in a California case, will probably widen the legal attack on public programs that steer contracts, jobs or other benefits to racial minorities or women.

In the past, the court had maintained that a plaintiff must have suffered a true loss, such as losing a contract or a job, to have the "standing" to bring a lawsuit challenging a government program as unconstitutional.

But the justices have relaxed that "standing" rule recently in affirmative action cases. White men have a right to challenge a state policy that "effectively encourages, if not compels, (utility companies) to adopt discriminatory programs" that favor minorities and women, wrote a San Diego appeals court justice in a July case.

## WEATHER

### Thaw-t-ful weather

By Gerard Roe

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

There appears to be no end to the tricks the weather has in store for us this winter. A most unseasonable and welcome warming will occur over the next couple of days with temperatures set to head into the 50s (14-15°C). As a high pressure system moves offshore and a large cyclone develops over middle portions of the country, winds will turn to the south bringing a welcome respite from the cold. The slight downside is that warmer air from the subtropics brings with it moisture, causing low clouds and a chance of drizzle. With most of the humid air set to arrive Thursday, the likelihood of some light precipitation will be greatest then. Additionally, as the warm air flows over the still considerable snow pack it will cool, causing widespread fog. In the outlook, a cold air mass digs in southward in the wake of the cyclone; should the cold front reach the ocean there is a chance of coastal redevelopment, leading to a possible late weekend storm.

**Today:** Areas of fog. Mostly cloudy during the day. Winds becoming blustery as pressure gradients tighten. Temperatures climbing throughout the day to about 45°F (7°C).

**Tonight:** Mild and windy. Chance of light drizzle. Low 43°F (6°C).

**Thursday:** Cloudy and continued mild with patches of fog with drizzle possible early. High temperature around 55°F (13°C). Low 45°F (7°C).

**Friday:** Again cloudy and mild. Rain likely toward evening likely. High 53°F (12°C). Low 35°F (4°C).

# Nuclear Test Threatens U.S. Economic Support for India

By Jim Mann

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

In the first use of a sweeping anti-nuclear law, the Clinton administration quietly warned India last month that if it conducts a nuclear test, the United States will cut off virtually all the economic benefits it receives from this country.

The unpublicized message was delivered after U.S. intelligence officials detected early signs that India might be preparing to conduct a nuclear test explosion. U.S. officials, reportedly including U.S. Ambassador to India Frank Wisner, cautioned the government in New Delhi that any such test would prompt the administration to invoke a little-known 1994 statute called the Glenn Amendment.

That law requires the United States to cut off all economic aid, military aid, credits, bank loans and export licenses to any country, other than the five acknowledged nuclear powers, that tests a nuclear weapon. Even more important for India, the law dictates that the United States will oppose World Bank loans and all other international lending to the offending nation.

The loss of these benefits could cost India billions of dollars. Its loans from the World Bank alone amount to about \$2 billion a year. India gets \$173 million a year in economic aid from the United States. And the curb on export licenses would mean that, at least in theory, India would be unable even to buy new computers from this country.

The Glenn Amendment has never been invoked before. "This is

the first time (since 1994) we've ever had a scare of any actual detonation," explained one U.S. official.

India conducted its only nuclear explosion in 1974, and has not carried out any new tests. Indian officials have denied that they were planning to do so, despite news reports in Washington last month of possible preparations for a new test.

Asked about the U.S. warning, Shyamala Cowsik, deputy chief of mission for the Indian Embassy in Washington, replied: "We know that the Glenn Amendment exists. But there has been no such demarche (official protest) with us here." She said she did not know of any warnings delivered in New Delhi.

The 1994 anti-proliferation law applies to all undeclared nuclear-weapons states. In effect, that means every country in the world except the five members of the U.N. Security Council: the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China.

Any other country — including, say, Israel or Pakistan, which like India are believed to have well-developed nuclear-weapons programs — would be subject to the same broad economic sanctions if it carried out a nuclear test.

A U.S. State Department spokesman declined to comment on the American warning to India. But another administration official confirmed: "We certainly brought to India's attention the legally mandated sanctions that would apply if they conducted a test."

In addition, the official said, Wisner delivered to New Delhi the message: "If you test, it will be awful for our bilateral relations."

India is now the third-largest recipient of loans from the World Bank, after China and Mexico. The United States is the leading shareholder in the World Bank, and thus has the greatest number of votes on the board that approves billions of dollars in bank loans.

The United States could not block World Bank loans to India without some support from other nations. But Japan and Germany, which have been strongly opposed to nuclear testing, are the World Bank's second and third leading shareholders.

Usually, when Congress passes law that would impose economic sanctions on another nation, it includes language giving the president the power to grant a "waiver" blocking the sanctions from ever taking effect. In that way, Congress can appear to be taking tough action, while passing the buck to the president to limit the impact.

In the past, for example, Congress has passed laws imposing harsh penalties on South African apartheid, or missile proliferation by China, while leaving it to the White House to grant waivers of the sanctions if it wanted to do so.

But the unusual anti-nuclear provision, sponsored by Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, makes it virtually impossible for President Clinton to prevent the sanctions from taking effect.

It says the president can grant a single, 30-day delay of the penalties. After that, the president can waive the sanctions only if both houses of Congress formally approve a joint resolution authorizing him to do so.

# Chinese Impose Strict Controls Over Financial News Agencies

By Steven Mufson

THE WASHINGTON POST

ZIBO, CHINA

China's State Council ordered foreign economic news agencies Tuesday to submit to control by the Communist Party's New China news agency and threatened to punish them if they release information within the country that "slanders or jeopardizes the national interest of China."

The State Council directed foreign information vendors to register with the New China news agency within three months and it barred Chinese companies and government departments from subscribing directly to economic information from foreign agencies. It also gave the official state news agency the power to set subscription rates for private foreign companies.

The decree was seen by many business people here as further impeding the free flow of information in China and thus dealing a blow to China's efforts to turn cities such as Shanghai into major financial centers, and in Washington the State Department expressed disappointment at the decision.

Business executives interpreted the new policy as an effort by some elements of the government to exercise greater control over the explosion of electronic information services. They also saw it as an attempt by the heavily subsidized New China news agency to reassert its former monopoly power and extract a share of profits from the growing electronic economic news business.

The New China news agency, known here by the Chinese name Xinhua, said the decree aimed to "safeguard the nation's sovereignty, protect the legal rights and interests

of domestic users of economic information and promote the healthy development of our country's economic information industry."

The new policy will have an immediate impact on information agencies — including Dow Jones & Co. and Reuters Holdings Plc — which have been selling economic information services around China, primarily to Chinese banks, trading companies and securities firms. The information includes commodity price quotes, stock prices, exchange rates, macroeconomic statistics, and company news as well as more general news services.

"On the face of it, this has extremely serious editorial implications for Reuters as well as for many other organizations active in China," Reuter said in a company statement issued in London.

"We don't know exactly what this means yet, but it's worrisome if it blocks Chinese banks and businesses from having access to information from the outside world because they have to be able to compete in world markets," said James McGregor, chief representative of Dow Jones in Beijing and chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce in China.

"It's also worrisome from the point of view of China getting into the World Trade Organization because it indicates that they are trying to control yet another service industry," McGregor added.

(China is seeking membership in the global organization that attempts to reduce barriers to international commerce. "We are disappointed that the Chinese government has taken what appears to be an action to restrict the amount and type of information available — at least on eco-

nomic matters — in China." State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said, Reuter reported.

"We don't believe this decision serves China's long-term interests and we hope that this decision can be re-examined in light of the damage that we believe it will do to Chinese credibility on economic issues and also on the overall economic prospects of China."

Dow Jones reaches many Chinese customers for economic news by selling its Telerate services. It also puts on a popular weekly television show in Shanghai about economics. Other firms that sell economic information here include Reuter; Bloomberg News Service; a Hong Kong-based company called Barteck; and a joint venture involving a Taiwanese company called Insetech and a subsidiary of the well-connected China International Trade and Investment Co.

Business sources said the government called a meeting last week at the Chinese leadership's Zhongnanhai compound with Chinese companies that provide Internet services, ostensibly to discuss controlling pornography over the Internet.

The Chinese government's concerns were heightened by public anger over the recent dispute in which Germany pressured CompuServe to block its subscribers from reaching certain pornographic news groups available on the Internet.

China has long taken a keen interest in controlling news and information, particularly when available inside the country.

But recent advances in computer technology and the Internet have loosened the government's grip on information and undermined Xinhua's monopoly.

# Landmark Sexual Discrimination Case Goes Before Supreme Court

By Joan Biskupic  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

One of the most important sex discrimination cases to reach the Supreme Court will be argued this week. The case to be argued Tuesday between the US Justice Department and the Virginia Military Institute could produce a new standard for deciding the legality of any classification or discrimination based on sex.

The Justice Department has asked the Supreme Court to use the case to rule that bias based on sex warrants the same tough judicial scrutiny as bias based on race. Were the court to elevate the constitutional protection against sex discrimination — and it is far from a certain thing it will — the impact would be huge. All sorts of programs that particularly benefit men (or women) would be in legal jeopardy.

## Yeltsin Government Purges Last Big Backer of Russian Economic Reform

By Lee Hockstader  
THE WASHINGTON POST

MOSCOW

Continuing the purge of almost all top Kremlin advocates of reform, President Boris Yeltsin Tuesday accepted the resignation of First Deputy Prime Minister Anatoly Chubais, the driving force behind Russia's ambitious economic changes and the architect of its colossal privatization program.

Chubais, a 40-year-old economist who ranked below only Yeltsin as Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin in the government pecking order, made it clear that his resignation had been forced by Yeltsin's "rather negative evaluation" of his performance.

"I proceed from the belief that if the president considers my work as unsatisfactory I should not remain in the job," he said.

Days III, however, said in a brief to the court, "The long history of discrimination against women, the general irrelevance of sex as a ground for official decision-making, and women's continuing under-representation in government, all support the application of strict (judicial) scrutiny here."

Theodore B. Olson, representing Virginia and its 157-year-old military-style college, will argue against such a high judicial standard, stressing that legitimate and important reasons exist for treating the sexes differently, particularly in education, in prisons and in the military.

Were the court to adopt the Clinton administration's position, Olson said, the military's differing treatment for men and women in combat, the legality of special high school math programs for girls, federal and state financial aide for women-only colleges and tax

exemptions for the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts could all be thrown into doubt.

Government lawyers criticize such "Armageddon talk" and insist that in many cases the government could prove it has a "compelling interest" for separating the sexes and meet the "strict scrutiny" standard. Days asserts in his brief that courts still could give special deference to military distinctions based on sex.

More immediately, United States v. Virginia will determine whether VMI, and the only other all-male, state-run college in the nation, The Citadel in Charleston, S.C., must admit women. Both schools are known for their grueling programs in which first-year cadets must cope with arduous physical routines, constant criticism and humiliation, no privacy and a regimen of enforced conformity — all toward building discipline and loyalty.

A key member of Yeltsin's team since 1991, Chubais was almost the last remaining pro-Western democrat in the upper reaches of the Russian government. His departure signifies a stunning reversal from the early days of Yeltsin's presidency, when Moscow's commitment to building a functioning market economy seemed unshakable.

His resignation a month after the victory of Communists and nationalists in legislative elections follows closely on the heels of the removal of two other leading advocates of change at the top level of the Russian government: foreign minister Andrei Kozyrev, who was dismissed last week after three years under fire from Communists and nationalists for pursuing too pro-Western a policy; and Yeltsin's chief of staff, Sergei Filatov, who

was transferred over the weekend to the No. 2 position on the commission to oversee this June's presidential election.

Yeltsin's allies and enemies alike saw the dismissal of Chubais as driven by the president's effort to distance himself from the country's unpopular economic transformation and reposition himself as a traditional nationalist before the presidential campaign begins this spring. Although he has not announced his intentions, Yeltsin has given every indication that he plans to run for a second term.

Chubais had been roundly criticized for having conceived what is viewed here as a deeply flawed privatization program. "He's clearly become a political liability, and the president doesn't want political liabilities around," a Western economist in Moscow said.

## Alleged Drug Kingpin Arrested

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A U.S. magistrate in Houston Tuesday ordered alleged drug kingpin Juan Garcia Abrego held without bond until a Feb. 6 arraignment on charges that he operated a multibillion-dollar cocaine business stretching from Mexico into the United States.

In an hour-long hearing before federal Magistrate Frances Stacy, Garcia Abrego agreed to forgo an immediate bond hearing and wait in Harris County jail pending his arraignment on 20 charges brought against him by a federal grand jury. Garcia Abrego, who holds U.S. as well as Mexican citizenship, was arrested by Mexican authorities Sunday and flown to the United States a day later.

The first international drug trafficker to be placed on the FBI's "Most Wanted List," Garcia Abrego was indicted in 1993 on charges of drug running and offering bribes as part of a conspiracy to ship tons of cocaine into the United States in collaboration with Colombia's Cali cartel. He is also suspected of involvement in dozens of murders and the assassination of prominent Mexican politicians, including Luis Donaldo Colosio, the 1994 presidential candidate of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party.

Law enforcement officials also described the arrest as significant, but noted that the Gulf cartel, which Garcia Abrego allegedly headed, is unlikely to be affected by the arrest.

## Apple CEO Could Be Casualty In Corporate Overhaul

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO

As Apple Computer Inc. prepares to announce a major lay-off and strategic overhaul on Wednesday, speculation is mounting that Chief Executive Michael Spindler could be among the casualties — in part because of health problems.

According to friends of the 53-year-old Apple chief, he has suffered from high blood pressure and has often been under doctor's orders to stay away from the office. "There's a real question as to whether Michael has the energy to do what needs to be done for Apple," said a source close to Apple.

Apple announced last week that it would report a \$68 million operating loss for the fiscal quarter ended Dec. 30, traditionally the strongest for computer makers, because of plummeting margins and slower-than-expected sales. The company is expected to announce a major layoff when it releases its full earnings report Wednesday, with some analysts speculating that as many as 25 percent of the company's 13,000 employees could get pink slips.

In a brief interview with the San Francisco Chronicle over the weekend, Apple Chairman A.C. "Mike" Markkula — who has thus far been a strong supporter of Spindler — expressed concern about the chief executive's health.

Long-time Apple-watchers say Spindler's health could provide the board with a convenient excuse to dump the company's now-controversial chief executive. "What Markkula said tells me that Spindler is out," said Jean-Louis Gasse, formerly head of research and development for the Cupertino, Calif. computer company. "It was calculated. They're sending up a trial balloon to see how it flies."

Markkula, who has been a key player throughout Apple's tumultuous 19-year history, has fired three chief executives before.

## Graduate Student Council

### Next Meetings:

General - Feb. 7th  
APPC - Feb. 8th

Come have a say in what we do!

### THE GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS IS COMING....

All submissions are due Jan 25th in the GSC office.  
Contact [gsc-secretary@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-secretary@mit.edu) for more information.

### Rights and Responsibilities in Advisor-Graduate Student Relationships

Tuesday, January 23rd, 4-6pm in 6-120

A panel of faculty members and graduate students, moderated by Dr. Caroline Whitbeck, will lead a discussion of problematic scenarios that might arise in the advisor-student relationship. The goal of the event is to facilitate open discussion of sensitive topics and other fundamental issues relating to graduate students.

For more info. contact Ann Park ([apark@mit.edu](mailto:apark@mit.edu)).

### 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](mailto: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 food 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](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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### Students Should Stay Off The Green Building Roof

The brothers and pledges of the Kappa Sigma fraternity are writing to inform the MIT community of an extraordinarily serious problem plaguing undergraduate life at MIT. This is the violation of the MIT policy unauthorized student access to the roof of the

Green Building (Building 54).

While hacking is a tradition beloved by undergraduates, a link to those who have come before us, and is advertised in our campus literature and such books as *Up The Infinite Corridor*, we must not abuse this privilege. Certain members of Kappa Sigma have been caught near and on the roof of the building during the fall term, and were fined severely, as well as sentenced to a significant amount of MIT service.

Hence we strongly urge students not to

attempt to gain access to the roof of the Green Building. The motion detectors will ensure that they get caught. We further suggest that they not "hack" at all. While some may feel hacking is no big deal, the Campus Police and the MIT administration do. Those caught hacking will be fined an amount comparable to being sentenced to a significant misdemeanor by the city of Cambridge.

Joshua V. Bennett '96 and the brothers and pledges of the Gamma Pi chapter of the Kappa Sigma fraternity



IF AT&T HAD INVENTED THE TELEPHONE INSTEAD OF ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL...



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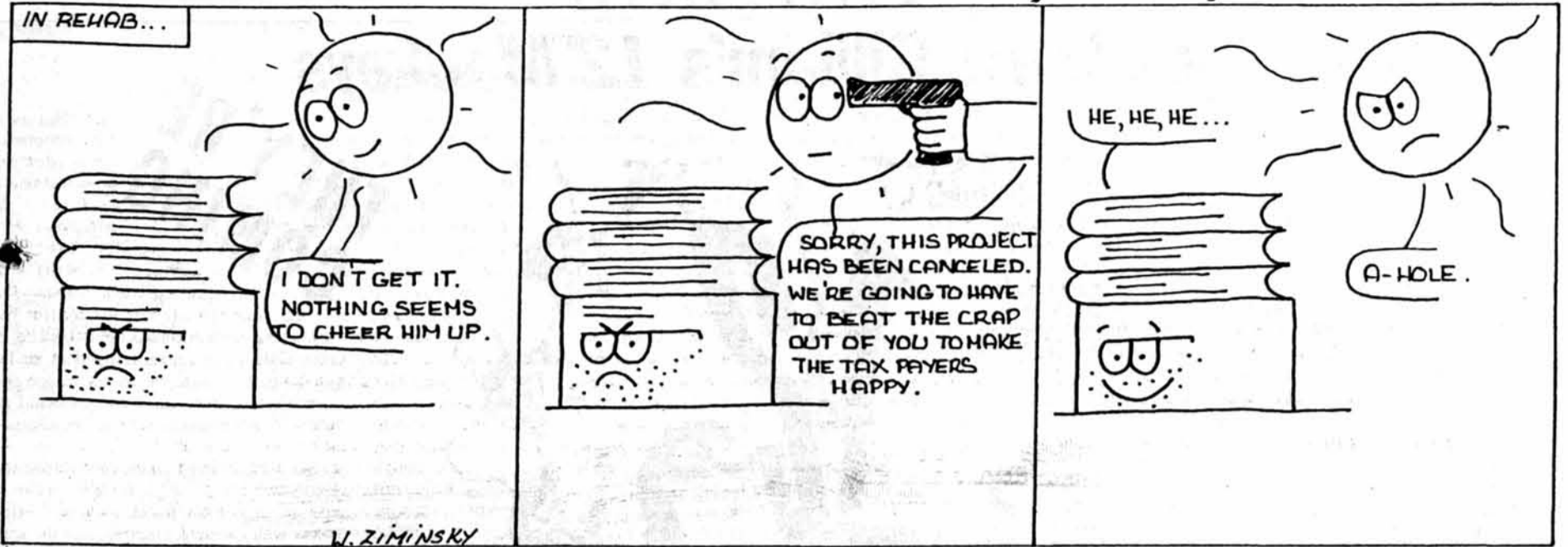
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# rookies

# by willy ziminsky



W. ZIMINSKY

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# THE ARTS

## Bleak outlook hurts Gilliam's *12 Monkeys*

### TWELVE MONKEYS

Directed by Terry Gilliam.  
Written by David Peoples and Janet Peoples.  
Starring Bruce Willis, Madeleine Stowe, and Brad Pitt.  
Sony Cheri.

By Scott C. Deskin  
CHAIRMAN

Terry Gilliam's work has finally received the respect it deserves: This ex-Monty Python member has centered his career around distinctive visuals and convoluted storylines with confidence and style. And while not all of his films have been successful on the order of *Time Bandits*, ambitious works like *Brazil* and *The Fisher King* are filled with wit and pathos, proving that his animated sequences in the original Monty Python series only provided a base outlet for his imagination sense of narrative coherence (at least from the protagonist's viewpoint).

In Gilliam's latest feature, *Twelve Monkeys*, his visual style complements the story quite well. We're introduced to a dystopian future in which the human race has been driven underground after a worldwide plague wipes out most of the population in 1997. Scientists and technocrats determined to get the human race "back on top" embark on a program to send "volunteers" — jailed convicts — back in time to gather evidence on how the deadly virus was spread. James Cole (Bruce Willis) is one of these volunteers, to be

promised a full pardon for his crimes if he carries out his mission. His only clues are to start in the city where the virus broke out, Philadelphia, and uncover all the information possible on a group known only as The Army of the Twelve Monkeys.

So, Cole is sent back in time, but to the wrong year — 1990, a full six years before the apocalypse. When he spouts his story to the authorities, they naturally place him in a mental institution. There he meets a sympathetic doctor (Madeleine Stowe) and a defective inmate (Brad Pitt) who both try to understand him.

The doctor thinks his mind has fabricated an alternate, though altogether convincing, reality in his head — though she can't shake the feeling that she's met him somewhere before; the inmate thinks that Cole wants to escape, although he's not totally sure what to make of Cole's apocalyptic babbling. Visually, this presents an interesting dilemma deciding which fate is worse: suffering in the cramped cages and stale underground air in the prison of the future or the insane, uncertain environment and drug-induced haze in the asylum of the past.

A lot of the development in the film stems from Cole's numerous jumps back and forth through time, so it wouldn't be fair to reveal every jaunt he makes in the

THEY'RE COMING.

story. But as the film progresses, we get the sense that his fate has already been sealed. Like Billy Pilgrim in Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five*, James Cole has no control over where he's tripping next. Unlike Pilgrim, Cole's life seems trapped in an infinite loop; he's haunted by an image from his childhood, and once we see what this means for his mission, we pity the character even more.

But once we buy into the central time-travel gimmick and all of its by-laws, we're left with an incredibly bleak picture. Gilliam directs with characteristic flair, and the actors are generally competent. In particular, and Pitt provides some comic relief in the scenes at the mental institution, and he dwarfs Willis and Stowe for sheer nutball gratification. But the film gets bogged down in the second half, once it falls on track toward an inevitable conclusion and the relationship between Willis and Stowe reaches romantic proportions that seem out of place. The film is certainly great to look at, and Gilliam deserves points for trying his hand at humanizing a dirty, technology-driven future. But a message of redemption is lacking in the script, and the film amounts to little more than cinematic junk food that may leave you groaning by the final frames.



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# Ford, Kinnear charm as dueling brothers in *Sabrina*

**SABRINA**

Directed by Sydney Pollack.  
Starring Harrison Ford, Julia Ormond, and Greg Kinnear.  
Sony Nickelodeon.

By Kamal Swamidoss  
STAFF REPORTER

I went to see *Sabrina* at the cinema because of its actors and because the story seemed interesting. I left the film with a new respect for the actors and a lot of questions about the story. It's basically a love story, complemented by classic comedy undercurrents. Julia Ormond plays the title role, the daughter of the chauffeur of a very wealthy New York family. In this family are two sons, Linus and David, played by Harrison Ford and Greg Kinnear.

When the story starts Sabrina is in love with David, the less business-minded of the two brothers, but David barely knows who she is. Sabrina's dad sends her to Paris to help her forget him. After she "finds" herself in Paris and comes back to New York, David is smitten by the woman she has become. The problem is that he's now engaged to another woman even though Sabrina hasn't completely gotten over him.

As David starts to fall for Sabrina, Linus engineers a solution to make the original engagement stick. He decides to take David out of the picture and to woo Sabrina himself. It's a really complicated idea on paper (reminiscent of *Seinfeld's* "roommate switch"), but as the plot unfolds it proves to be even more so. I'll talk about this later, but first let me discuss my

new respect for the film's actors.

One of the main reasons I went to see *Sabrina* was to see Greg Kinnear perform in a new medium. I had seen him a couple of times on his television show *Talk Soup*, and I've seen every one of his Eagle commercials. He seemed like a funny enough guy to get me interested in seeing how he'd do in this film. I wasn't disappointed. I was surprised to see that his character didn't have a lot of screen time, though.

Harrison Ford has shown a knack for comedy in several of his previous films. He maintains that the Indiana Jones flicks were comedies, and you can't dispute that he was funny in the *Star Wars* films. But this knack has developed into downright skill in *Sabrina*. It's been refined, and has become more sophisticated. He also maintains the abstractness of Linus, his ability to appear stone-cold or heart-warming without revealing his true intentions.

I had only seen Julia Ormond once before, in *First Knight* last summer. I thought her performance was convincing but certainly not outstanding. But she's great in *Sabrina*. She plays a challenging part (she has to transform among three scenes from an awkward girl to a captivating young woman) with subtlety and fire. This time Ormond is definitely outstanding, adding to the deep tone present throughout much of the film.

Ormond and Ford play their characters with such complexity that it was really hard for me to tell how they felt toward each other at any given moment. If I were just reading their lines from the script, I would probably be puzzled, but the spin induced by their unique perfor-

mances amplified the effect. I was constantly wondering about their intentions and their feelings toward each other. This was good; it made for refreshingly difficult characters. By the way, I hadn't seen the original, and I didn't know how it would end until it ended, and then I found myself questioning the ending.

*Sabrina* was an entertaining film. I thoroughly enjoyed the actors' performances, especially those of Ormond and Ford, even though they often intensified the inherently difficult story. In fact, I think that's the main reason I enjoyed the film. In the vast majority of today's films, it's too easy to determine each character's feelings and motives based on his/her actions and expressions. It's much more interesting to have a story and performances to puzzle over. Sure, this raises a lot of questions about why the



Harrison Ford and Julia Ormond are an unlikely couple in Sydney Pollack's remake of *Sabrina*.

story unfolds in the way it does, but then the viewer is left thinking about all of the possibilities presented by a complex performance at each critical point in the story. If Linus is saying *this* in *this* context and in *this* tone, what can I say about how he feels toward Sabrina? I was asking myself this type of question throughout the film, and I liked it.

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# ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

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

★★★★ **Dr. Strangelove**

The world stands on the brink of a nuclear holocaust. The Russian Doomsday Machine will trigger a full-scale nuclear assault on the United States if the president (Peter Sellers) cannot recall a bomber squadron ordered to attack the Soviet Union by the psychotic Air Force Commander Jack D. Ripper (Sterling Hayden), who fears Russian contamination of his "precious bodily fluids." Meanwhile, Gen. Buck Turgidson (George C. Scott) argues for a preemptive all-out attack; Dr. Strangelove (Sellers) warns that the United States "cannot allow a mine-shaft gap;" and Capt. Mandrake (Sellers) contends with Col. Bat Guano (if that is his real name), the Coca-Cola Co., and the telephone service as he tries to deliver the code that will call back the bombers. There is never a false moment in Stanley Kubrick's savagely satiric black comedy about the military mind. —Jeremy Hylton. *LSC, Wednesday.*

★★★ **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. And while the ending is too neat and the production values are a little too slick, Travolta's cool on-screen demeanor is a treat to watch. —Scott C. Deskin. *Kendall Square Cinema.*

★★★★ **Goldfinger**

Probably one of the best films of the James Bond series, *Goldfinger* places the secret agent

(Sean Connery) in the midst of an international gold dealer's plot to raid Fort Knox. Gert Frobe plays the title villain to icy perfection; as the female foil/love interest, Honor Blackman is one of the standout "Bond women" as Pussy Galore. This film is probably the first of the series not to get totally carried away with its budget, and still retains its vitality and sense of controlled mayhem even today. —SCD. *LSC, Sunday.*

★★★ **Heat**

Rarely do Hollywood films play both sides of the fence in a cops-and-robbers saga, but that's exactly what writer-director Michael Mann does in his latest film. Robert De Niro is the robber determined to make one last big score, but complications develop when he falls in love with a young graphic designer won over by his candor; Al Pacino is the cop who doggedly pursues De Niro at the expense of his crumbling third marriage. Although the dialogue is a bit excessive at times — the film is about three hours long — Mann's sense of pacing serves him well in setting up the pulse-pounding action sequences. The supporting actors, too, deserve a lot of credit for bringing life and credibility to the scores of characters in the film. —SCD. *Sony Cheri.*

★★★ **Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade**

The third installment in Steven Spielberg's adventure saga is a return to form after the darkness of *Temple of Doom*. The prize in this film is the Holy Grail, and the swashbuckling archaeologist (Harrison Ford) must work with his father (Sean Connery) to thwart the Nazis'

obtaining the Grail first. The love interest (Alison Doody) is a bit perfunctory, but this is compensated by the splendid action scenes and the rapport between Ford and Connery. And, if nothing else, Spielberg has proved himself to be one of the masters of the tongue-in-cheek adventure genre. —SCD. *LSC, Friday.*

★★★★ **Leaving Las Vegas**

This sometimes-harrowing, often-redemptive look at a relationship between a destructive alcoholic (Nicholas Cage) and a prostitute (Elisabeth Shue) could be a spiritual antidote to the excesses of *Showgirls*. Cage is a newly-fired screenwriter whose vices have torn apart his family and led him to Las Vegas, where he resolves to drink himself to death. Shue falls in love with him for his lack of pretense, and both embark on a journey of love and self-revelation. Director Mike Figgis completely redeems himself for the bathetic *Mr. Jones*; here, he paints the characters with warm, natural emotions and uses the garish backdrop of the Vegas Strip (where even the golden arches of McDonalds are adorned with a multitude of flashing lights). The soundtrack of soulful contemporary songs by Sting, Don Henley, and other performers is hypnotic and artfully used. It's definitely worthwhile and uplifting for those who can take it. —SCD. *Sony Nickelodeon.*

★★★ **Nixon**

Oliver Stone's most recent flick, *Nixon*, manages to capture the essential features of Richard Nixon's twisted character. While Anthony Hopkins doesn't exactly resemble Nixon, he does effectively mimic many of the

president's nervous mannerisms. *Nixon* contains a number of fictional scenes created by director Stone — scenes that blur the already unseemly facts of the Nixon scandal. In spite of the canards, Stone accurately lays out some of the late president's strange psychoses, including phantasms of his saintly mother, dead brothers, and "enemies." The outstanding supporting cast helps weave the entire story into a tapestry of deceit and betrayal that can't fail to impress even true Nixon aficionados. —Anders Hove. *Sony Cheri.*

★★★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.*

★★★ **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 Copy-ley Place.*



John Travolta and Rene Russo star as aspiring producers in *Get Shorty*.



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| Dr. Jeffrey Evenson,<br>Associate,<br>McKinsey & Company, Inc.                        |            |
| Tuesday, January 16   | Room 4-163 |
| <i>POSTPONED</i>  |            |
| <b>STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS</b>   |            |
| Dr. Beth A. Marcus,<br>Founder and President,<br>EXOS, Inc.                           |            |
| Thursday, January 18  | Room 4-270 |
| <b>FINANCE</b>  |            |
| Dr. Amaury Fonseca Junior,<br>Vice President,<br>J.P. Morgan & Co., Inc.              |            |
| Tuesday, January 23   | Room 4-163 |
| <b>SOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS</b>   |            |
| Dr. Richard H. Rosen,<br>President,<br>BioSafe Inc.                                   |            |
| Tuesday, January 30   | Room 4-163 |
| <b>TECHNOLOGY POLICY</b>  |            |
| Dr. Robert E. Roberts,<br>Vice President, Research,<br>Institute for Defense Analyses |            |

All the talks will be at 4 p.m. in the room indicated

Contact: Robert Weatherall, 3-4733



JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

Camila Chaves lectures yesterday afternoon in Room 14E-310 on "A New Face for Berlin: The Changing of Urban Sites and Architectural Renovation in the Heart" as part of the IAP class "Germany Today: A Series of Talks."

### McKINSEY & COMPANY'S TOKYO OFFICE INVITES PHD AND MS CANDIDATES IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING TO ATTEND A DISCUSSION ON FEBRUARY 2/3, 1996

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東京支社では毎年、サイエンス、エンジニアリングをご専攻の皆さまにお集まりいただき、テクノロジーをテーマとしたセミナーおよび懇談会を設けて参りました。今年は、「マルチメディアとマネジメント」をテーマとして、2月2日(金)にサンフランシスコで、2月3日(土)にボストンで開催いたします。

当日は、サイエンスおよびエンジニアリングのバックグラウンドを持つコンサルタントがプレゼンテーションを行い、その後テクノロジーの分野で日本企業が直面している課題や世界の動向などについて、皆さまと活発な意見交換をさせていただきます。また、マネジメント・コンサルティングの内容、クライアントに提供しているバリュー、コンサルタントのキャリアなどについても併せてご紹介できればと考えています。

ご興味をお持ちの方は、1月25日(木)までに東京支社渡辺までコレクトコールまたはe-mailでご連絡ください。皆さまのご参加をお待ちいたしております。

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## Justice Department Drops PGP Case

By Dan McGuire  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Justice Department decided last Thursday not to prosecute programmer Phil Zimmermann for exporting data encryption software. Zimmermann developed a program known as "Pretty Good Privacy" or PGP.

Encryption programs such as PGP are used to protect files and electronic messages so that only the intended recipient can decode the document. Encryption is also used to authenticate the sender of electronic messages.

### Short Takes

In 1991, the software was made freely available on the Internet where international users could download it, a violation of the U.S. ban on the export of strong encryption software, which is treated as a weapon. Zimmermann said he had not placed it there. If convicted, Zimmermann would have faced a maximum fine of \$1 million and up to 5 years in prison.

In May of 1994, the Institute released a new, free version of the software. The release resolved a potential patent conflict between an older version of PGP and patents held by MIT and Stanford University for the RSA data encryption algorithm used by PGP. [*The New York Times*]

#### Vest, MIT delegation go to Tokyo

President Charles M. Vest and 23 other MIT personnel left today to attend a major meeting of the Alliance for Global Sustainability. The Alliance, announced last October, is a partnership between the Institute, Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology, and the University of Tokyo, which studies environmental conservation. Vest will return Friday. [*MIT News Office*]

#### Dartmouth charged with modifying job placement numbers

Alice McCarty Baxter has filed a lawsuit in federal court alleging that in 1994 her supervisor in the student placement office at Dartmouth's Amos Tuck School for Business asked her to modify the 1994 placement numbers to make graduates look more successful in finding jobs. She claims she refused and was asked to resign. Dartmouth denied Baxter's allegations, saying she lost her job in July after her request for long-term disability benefits because of stress-related illness was denied. [*Associated Press*]

*Editor's Note: Short Takes, a new section beginning this issue, will present brief summaries of minor news stories or events peripheral to the Institute. It will appear periodically.*

## UROP Award Made In Memory of Dead EECS Grad Student

Pogosyants, from Page 1

Anya was "a genuinely sweet person. You felt she truly cared about you," said Mark A. S. Smith G, who worked in the same research group as Pogosyants.

"She was also very shy. Anya was always downplaying her ability, but she was very good at what she did," he said.

"Anya was completely consumed by her work," said H. B. Weinberg G, who also worked with Pogosyants. "One time, she came into the office and said, 'I woke up last night from nightmares about my proof!'"

"With Anya, one never had to fear that an evening would be boring. She laughed a lot, and she was very easy-going and open-minded," Leeb said.

Pogosyants and Slobodkin met through their parents in Moscow, where the two were raised and attended college, and were married by the time they came to Boston in 1990 to pursue graduate studies.

Pogosyants' hobbies included playing guitar and singing folk songs. Slobodkin enjoyed mountain climbing and poetry writing.

"All relatives and friends of Igor and Anya will remember them as two wonderful people full of ideas, joy and optimism," Leeb said.

#### UROP award established

Several of Pogosyants' friends have established an award in her honor for the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program.

Each semester beginning this spring, an undergraduate student doing a UROP in LCS or the Artificial Intelligence Lab who has already carried out at least one previous UROP project, will be designated as the Anya Pogosyants UROP Student, said Joanne M. Talbot, senior secretary for LCS.

The student will receive an award of \$500, in addition to any regular salary. No student will be allowed to hold the position for more than one semester.

"The basis of selection will be letters of recommendation describing the accomplishments of the previous UROP project. The area of research is not constrained — selection will be based on quality of work," Talbot said.

The award will be funded by contributions from Pogosyants' friends and colleagues. Anyone interested in contributing to the award endowment may contact Talbot at joanne@theory.lcs.mit.edu.

A memorial fund in the couple's memory also has been set up to buy medical equipment to help other people in Moscow.

Pogosyants leaves her parents, Bella and Gregory Pogosyants of San Francisco, and her grandparents, Michail and Helena Pogosyants and Chaia Likach of Moscow.

Slobodkin leaves his parents, Wolf Slobodkin and Natasha Tomilina of Moscow, and his grandparents, Mark and Tsilla Slobodkin of Brighton.

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10:00-4:00

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Hear about the initial findings and  
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# Cuts Threaten Grad Research Projects

PFC, from Page 1

ed to shut down at the start of the fiscal year, Porkolab said. However, in November Congress allocated \$10 million to the project, just enough to keep the Alcator "operating at a minimal level" he said. This also allowed some of the layoff notices to be rescinded.

## Princeton project cut also

The Princeton-based TPX project received no funding. The goal of TPX is to develop the scientific basis for a compact and continuously operating tokamak fusion reactor, according to the TPX research group. The Department of Energy will provide severance pay for the TPX workers and supply the termination costs, Porkolab said.

The budget cuts for the Alcator project were divided between support and professional staff. Cuts were "applied uniformly across engineers, technician, and scientific research staff," Porkolab said.

However on the TPX project, only the "people specifically involved with TPX were affected. Mostly engineers and one physicist were the ones to go [while the] faculty and staff" stayed, Porkolab said.

"The whole of national fusion is

under review right now by a committee," Porkolab said. "We are hoping that [funding] will be increased back to the previous level." We are "optimistic that it will be re-established for next year."

## Other PFC programs spared

The federal budget cuts have taken their toll on the PFC as a whole. "Some other projects have been cut, but not nearly as severely as these," Porkolab said.

"The budget for next year should stabilize, or if anything, rise a bit. We will know by the end of January, when the [committee] has made a final decision, Porkolab said.

"We are exploring other avenues of funding," mostly by other federal agencies, Porkolab said. The PFC is experiencing limited success since "all the funding agencies are being squeezed."

## PhD students fear losing projects

This has had a large affect on the kinds of programs and research that the PFC sponsors. In addition to the staff reductions, this "restricts opportunities for students at MIT."

"In principal, these students would have to switch projects"

Porkolab said, but fortunately, "we have up until now been able to avoid laying off students.... Every possible effort has been made to keep graduate students on."

Robert T. Nachtrieb G, a research assistant working on Alcator, said he has not been affected yet by the budget cuts, but his research stipend is at risk.

Alcator's continuance depends directly upon the funding it receives for fiscal year 1996. Nachtrieb will continue to work at Alcator until October 1996, then he is "not sure what will happen."

"I will be one year into my thesis research," Nachtrieb said, "and will have to start from scratch."

Research with the new budget constraints has proved difficult, Nachtrieb said. "We have to operate very conservatively with the machine. If anything breaks, we are really in trouble."

Since the graduate students "provide skilled labor while costing less than research scientists," students will be the last to go, Nachtrieb said. But even a maintenance of funding at \$10 million would likely mean "not being able to hire anyone new." Although this would make it more "difficult to conduct research, it is better then getting shut down."

"I came into fusion because I

love it," Nachtrieb said, "so to start over would be very difficult. I would have to drum up enthusiasm for something completely new."

## Alcator may survive after cuts

The bleak future of the fusion research projects is "unfortunate, and reflects upon the desire of the U.S. fusion program to reduce in size," Nachtrieb said. "I think this means that the U.S. is not serious about fusion. They want to keep the program alive, but don't want to pay for it.... I don't think this is possible."

"Reducing the budget will discourage talent from joining" Nachtrieb said. This represents "short-sightedness on the side of politicians — fusion is a long term goal, while politicians have only a four-year time span."

"I like to think optimistically about the future of our funding," Porkolab said.

"If Alcator receives funding," the project can continue for about 10 years. There are "plans and upgrades for new exciting physics — if we can get funding for next year."

"Overall, for whole center, we have taken less of a cut compared to other national labs involved in fusion research" such as the Princeton Plasma Physics Lab, Porkolab said.

# MIT and Yale TA Issues Differ

Yale, from Page 1

different from Yale," Colbert said. "Our institutions are very different in the way we approach student issues."

"One can never rule out the possibility that graduate students will seek to unionize... [but] TAs at MIT are treated much better than those at other places." At MIT "few if any of our students are forced to TA," Colbert said.

Most TAs here "are TAs because they want to be. TA stipends are higher than research assistant stipends" in compensation, he said.

There "are not as many grad students at MIT supported by TAships," Souter said. It is not common to "hear grads complain about the workload. Nobody has come to the GSC this year saying that they had to work too hard as a TA" and were not being fairly paid.

"I do think that there are some improvements that could be made" and the GSC is actively working to these ends, Souter said.

"I think it is very unfortunate" that at some schools graduate students "view TA and [research associateship] work as employment rather than as an essential part of study and teaching experience," Colbert said.

It is also unfortunate "to see students acting as employees — even being manipulated by organizations who do not have as their primary interest the students," Colbert said.

At MIT, "the relationship between faculty and graduate students is more akin to apprenticeships" than an employer-employee relationship, Colbert said.



The Institute is still dealing with the snow after a week of storms and flurries.

# Elias

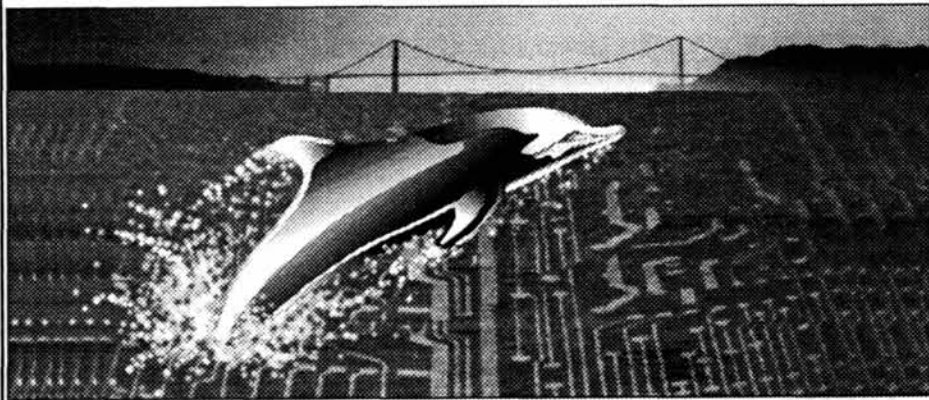


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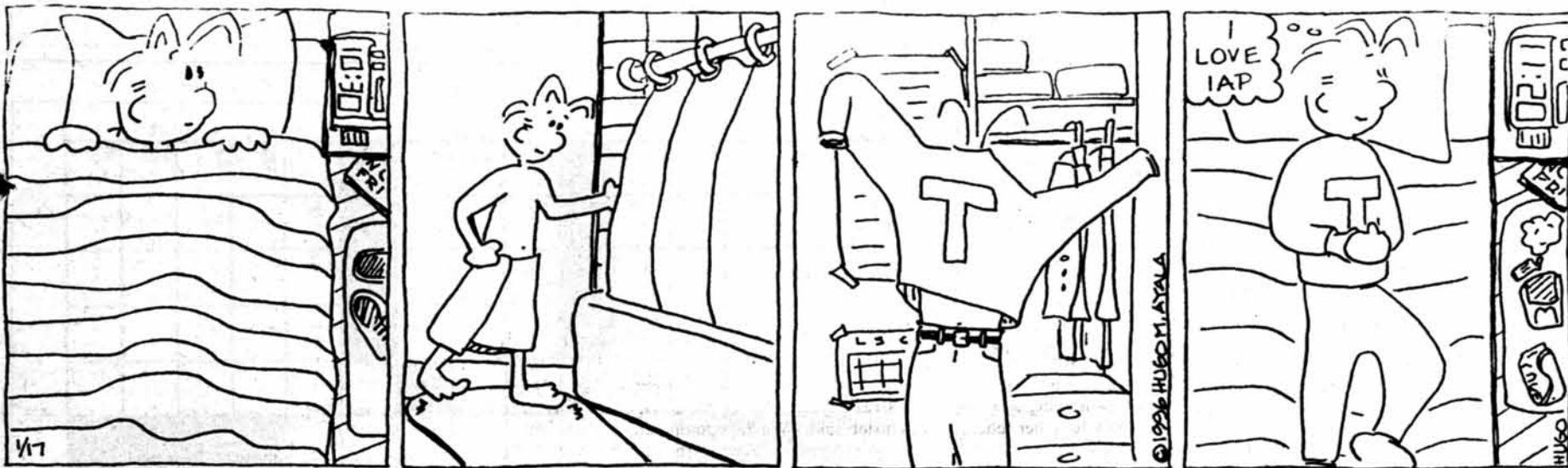
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# Off Course

By H. Ayala



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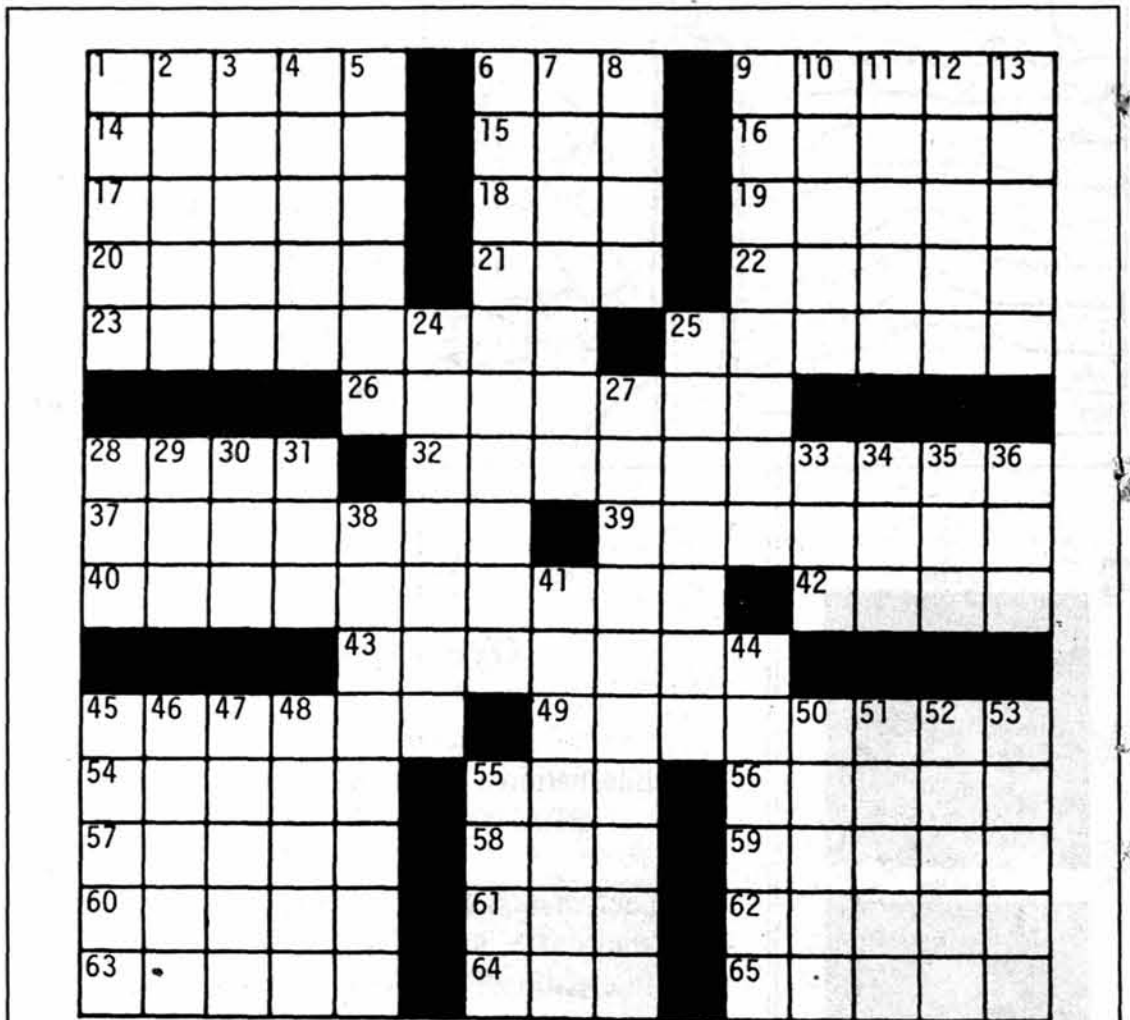
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  - 7 Punishes
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  - 12 Happening
  - 13 Takes five
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  - 29 Term of endearment
  - 30 Fury
  - 31 "— Joey"
  - 33 War casualty
  - 34 Results of Binet tests
  - 35 Enthusiast
  - 36 Prefix for metric
  - 38 Infants
  - 41 Moral
  - 44 Bandleader Louis, and family
  - 45 Hodgepodge
  - 46 Elevate in rank
  - 47 Hairlike projections
  - 48 One who comforts
  - 50 Part of C.Y.O.
  - 51 Prefix for mural
  - 52 Lustrous
  - 53 Reacts to something shocking
  - 55 Ridicule

**PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE**



Make sure your IAP activity is well-attended!

**■ Events**

The Tech Classifieds

SOLUTIONS IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE TECH



# Family, U.S. Question Fairness of Military Trial

Peru, from Page 1

will accept my punishment," said Berenson in a press conference after her sentencing.

"I love this nation, and although this love is going to cause me years in prison, I will never stop loving she said. "I will never lose the hope and confidence that tomorrow there will be justice in Peru," she added

### Family contests ruling

Berenson's family said it was "angered and upset to learn that the government of Peru, acting through a faceless, secret military tribunal, has pronounced Lori guilty of treason against Peru."

"This is outrageous," Mark Berenson, Lori's father said. "Lori

is a pacifist, opposed to every form of violence, and has devoted her young life to helping the poor and oppressed. She would never hurt anyone."

The State Department stated that it "deeply regrets that Ms. Berenson was not tried in an open civilian court with full rights of legal defense, in accordance with international judicial norms."

"The United States remains concerned that Ms. Berenson receive due process. We have repeatedly expressed these concerns to the Government of Peru... The United States will continue to follow this case closely," said the State Department.

Dan McGuire contributed to the reporting of this story.



JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

Dubravka Ugresic, a Croatian author who wrote *Have a Nice Day from the Balkan War*, held a reading of her works Tuesday in Hayden Library.

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DATE: Monday, January 29, 1995

TIME: 7:00-9:00 P.M.

PLACE: M.I.T. - Room 4-149

Interview date: Monday, January 30, 1996

If you are unable to attend, but would like additional information, please contact Angel L. Cruzado, College Relations Representative, FRBNY, 59 Maiden Lane, 39th Floor, New York, NY 10038

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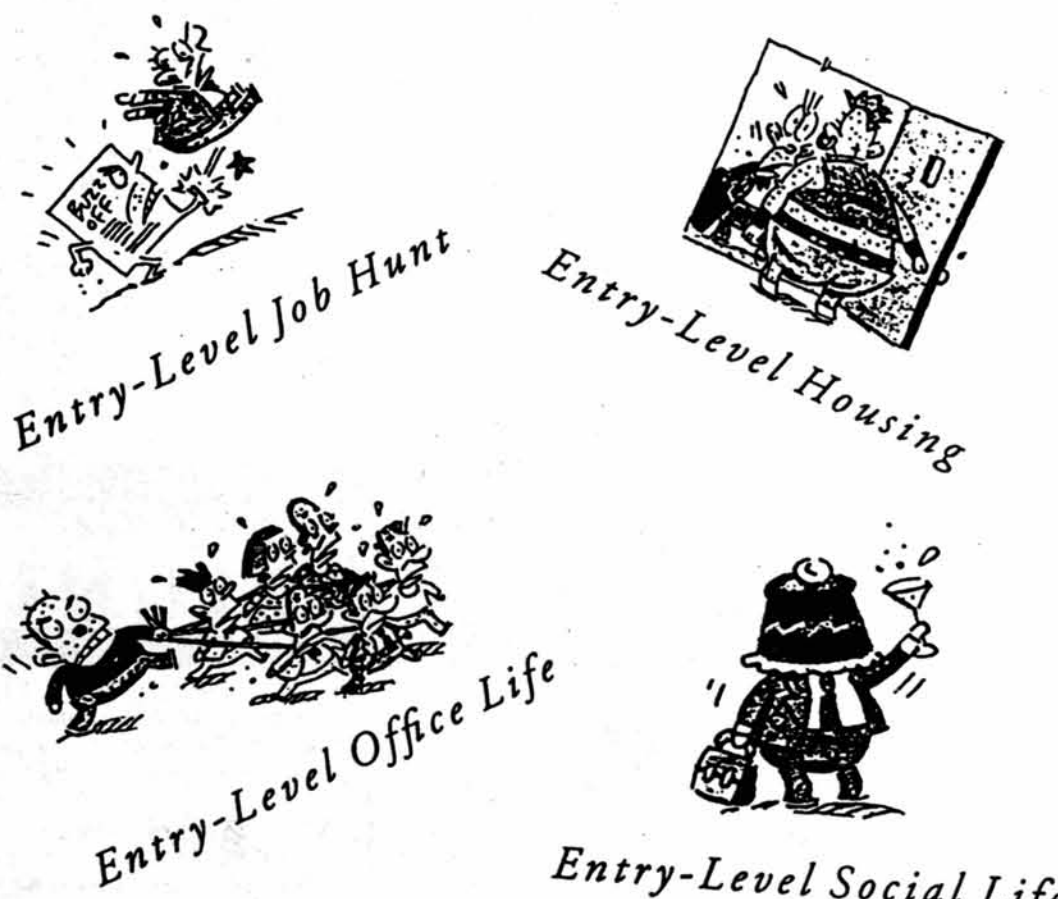
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Dan Zevin, *Entry-Level Life: A Complete Guide to Masquerading as a Member of the Real World* (Bantam)

# Leaflet Charges Institute with Supporting Hatred

GAMIT, from Page 1

BIANS, Bisexuals, Transgenders and Friends at MIT.

The leaflet, which was distributed by Adrian Banard '97 and Damon W. Suden '99, charged that "by holding this hate event, MIT lends a veneer of academic respectability to the bigots running it." The event "directly offends and harms many in the queer community here."

"Any activity that is sponsored by a member of the MIT community that fits the general guidelines" is usually accepted for IAP, said Martin Marks, IAP policy committee chair.

In fact, most of the members of the policy committee did not agree with Robicheau's opinion, but to exclude the activity would have been inappropriate, Marks said.

According to the guidelines in

the IAP Guide, "Inclusion of a non-credit activity does not imply MIT endorsement. Responsibility for a non-credit activity lies with the sponsoring MIT individual or group."

"If any student wants to propose pro-gay issues, that's okay, but this year there weren't any," Marks said.

"In the past, more positive gay-oriented events have been sponsored by MIT departments," Veatch said.

"GAMIT doesn't feel it has to be the only gay organization to sponsor events."

"It was good to hear different points of view. If anybody had an educational experience, it was Robicheau, because people showed him evidence and made him aware about the current thinking around gay identity, and gay science," Marks said.

### Speakers address awareness

"The Myth of Conversion" was put on originally in response to Robicheau's activity, said Daniel Skwarek G, who helped organize the event.

The event focused on a film about the ex-gay ministries, and a panel discussion with J. D. Schramm and Leah Fygetakis of the Boston Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau.

"The bottom line is that MIT is hosting homophobia. People don't understand that the basis of the ex-gay ministries is that being gay is wrong," said Chris Pomiecko, administrative assistant for the literature section of the humanities department.

Pomiecko and Asher Davison G also helped organize the event.

"The opportunity for dialogue at the ex-gay IAP event is valuable, and while people may disagree about the strategy, the important

thing is the [lesbian, bisexual, and gay] community is aware of the situation and is taking steps," Schramm said.

### Beliefs prompted conversion

"We do believe on relying on God for change," Robicheau said in his seminar. He cited other ministries including Exodus and Homosexuals Anonymous.

Robicheau said he felt a need to change his "sexual orientation because of his belief in the Christian religion."

Same-sex sexual relationships were "unhealthy," said Robicheau. That belief may "violate the [Institute's] sexual-harassment policy, but c'est la vie."

Robicheau noted that universities are places for public discussion, and people should be able to talk openly about supporting ex-gay issues. "Change is possible if someone seeks to change," he said. "There are studies and psychologists who say it can be done."

Robicheau's claim was vehemently opposed: "You obviously know nothing about genetics," said one audience member.

"If you're happy being gay that's fine," Robicheau said.

"I don't think Christians hate anyone. I don't hate anyone" said Robicheau.

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