Housing Lottery Off to Shaky Start

By Jennifer Lane

The computerized housing lottery was delayed an hour yesterday, causing much frustration among the freshmen who had flocked to the Athena clusters at 4 p.m. to enter their preferences.

"They're expecting 1,000 people to run this by tomorrow?" asked David Wang '99. "At this rate, it's never going to happen," said S. Anders Oakland, a programmer for Information Systems who wrote the lottery program, originally thought that it crashed because too many people were trying to access the program at once. The problem was actually a compiling error caused when he added an assignment field to the program, Oakland said. "Once I figured out what was going on, it was an easy fix," Oakland said. "It's scary when the entire housing lottery, comprising 10 dormitories, Chocolate City, and four language houses. Men may not choose McCormick Hall.

Huntington Hall, a dormitory near Northeastern University that MIT leased for the last two years, is

Clearinghouse System Keeps Track of Freshmen; One Hides

By Stacey E. Blue

For the first time ever since the start of the Clearinghouse computer system used during rush, a freshman exercised his right to be made invisible on the system.

Clearinghouse is used to track freshmen as they move among living groups. During rush, all freshmen must check in and out of any residence they visit, said Jonathan Z. Litt '96, chair of the Residence and Orientation Week Clearinghouse Committee.

Information about a freshman's whereabouts "is immediately available," so the system lets living groups track down freshmen quickly during rush and provides a way for freshmen to be reached during emergencies, Litt said. Freshmen ask for invisibility this year is the first time since the inception of Clearinghouse that a freshman has been asked to be made invisible to living groups, Litt said. Students can make themselves invisible to living groups in Clearinghouse by contacting the Residence and Campus Activities Office in W25-549.

Erika C. Snowberg '99 asked to be made invisible after Alpha Epsilon Pi bothered him with excessive visits and phone calls, he said. According to Snowberg, members of Alpha Epsilon Pi came on three separate occasions to ask him if he wanted to come back to the fraternity with them.

On one occasion, Snowberg was taking a shower at Theta Chi, where he had stayed overnight, when

FSILGs Feel Rush Is Successful So Far

By David D. Hsu

Fraternity, sorority, and independent living groups have been enjoying a successful rush this week. In particular, sororities have benefitted from a larger percentage of females in the freshman class. "They did see an increased number of females," said Neal H. Dorow, adviser to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

"I think that one of the best things about rush is you get to meet a lot of freshwomen. They get to meet a lot of upperclasswomen," said Seoyung Kang '96, rush chair of Alpha Phi.

"In that respect, I feel [rush has] been very successful," Kang said. "We're really excited for the future of women at MIT."

Kang would not speculate on the possible number of pledges until after the end of rush.

"It's going well except for the chaos going out there" when the Panhellenic Association computer system crashed, said Panhel Rush Chair Renee E. Garcia '96.

Members and rush chairs from Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Epsilon Phi, Kappa Alpha Theta, and Sigma Kappa refused to comment on the record.

The Women's Independent Living Group had slightly fewer women visiting than last year, said WiLGI member Rita H. Wechsler '96.

"I'm not at all disappointed," Wechsler said. "I think that one thing is that the dorm preferences are allowed to go in today which has made some people go to the dorms earlier," she said.

Pika, a coeducational ILG, has had more women visit their house, said Rush Chair James A. Boiani '96. However, Pika is extending fewer bids because fewer spots are available than the previous year.

Although more women have been looking at Pika, "We've seen about as many men as last year," Boiani said.

Fraternity rush remains strong

Despite facing a freshmen class with a smaller male percentage, fraternity rush still is going well.

"Everything appears to be going on as normal. People are overthriung, taking trips," Dorow said. "I don't hear anyone concerned about not enough people rushing," he said.

Dorow cited last year's successful rush despite a then-record 40 percent female class. "[The percentage of females] didn't seem to affect the overall number at all," he said.

"We've extended the same number of bids [as last year] so far," Rush, Page 7
California's Disasters Won't Damage Wilson's Campaign

By Cathleen Decker

You've heard it all before. California, where the dream has turned into a nightmare. The place where serial murderers come to murder, gangs to rampage, flakes to flake. It's been its rage with earthquakes, floods and fires. Where housing prices plummet, the econ- omy falters, its stock prices spiral downward in line at the bankruptcy court.

With Whitewater independent counsel Kenneth Starr to turn over a pair of wanted Islamic militants, six days after a Jerusalem bus bombing in which Israel alleges the two men had a part.

Israeli authorities also announced the arrest of dozens of activists of the militant Islamic Hamas movement and said they had foiled plots to carry out more suicide attacks in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

One of those arrested helped plan an attack in December in which a suicide bomber killed 23 people and wounded 132 and Israeli police officers, and another claimed to have shot a Jewish policeman with a pearl-handled revolver.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, says voters in the first-caucus state are surprising- pIes. And he spent the 1992 cam- paign arguing for a flat income tax.

The Philip Morris ad, however, is the only California candidate to receive mentions of some clout. a mini-United States. Geographically

In better days, they were the movers and shakers surrounding Bill Clinton, the vibrant young Democratic Governor of Arkansas. The state has small banks and free-spending savings and loan associations, set up interconnected corporations and embarked on grand business and real estate ventures, often backed by shaky financing.

Now many of Clinton's close associates from the 1980s have fallen- on very hard times. The former governor is said to have received hundreds of pages of documentation to back up

A "friend of mine says I under- standably be taken as a slam against

As Gov. Pete Wilson Monday formally announced his bid for the presidency, most political analysts believe California's "sunbelt" future will have little impact on the governor because it will be difficult to "blow up" the image of a man who has suffered $26 billion worth of disas- ters.

Because, political analysts say, the state's political importance has survived intact despite its slide toward the abyss.

As Gov. Pete Wilson Monday formally announced his bid for the presidency, most political analysts believe California's "sunbelt" future will have little impact on the governor because it will be difficult to "blow up" the image of a man who has suffered $26 billion worth of disasters.

Wilson to trek to the recent

The delegates will deal with specific problems including domestic violence in the United States, sex trafficking in Colombia, bride- burning in India and war crimes in Russia along with general issues such as securing equal wages, primary health facilities and education for women all over the world.

Despite ABC's Apology, "G.Do.

To Keep Up Anti-Tobacco War

By John Schwartz

"Apology accepted, " said ABC's page ad paid. For by tobacco giant Philip Morris Cos., it crowed about the much-publicized apology by ABC for allegations made in a 1994 broadcast about whether the tobacco industry "spiked" the nicotine of cigarette by adding nicotine from out- side sources.

The network made a clearly worded apology last week for the speaking column, but stood by what it insisted was the "main thrust" of the program — that the tobacco companies "spike" the nicotine levels in cigarettes — which the Federal Trade Commission has "spike" the nicotine carefully controlled, whether the nicotine is delivered to consumers."

It's hard to find the word "spike" in the "Internal industry documents demon-

As the" network made a carefully worded apology last week for the speaking column, but stood by what it insisted was the "main thrust" of the program — that the tobacco companies "spike" the nicotine levels in cigarettes — which the Federal Trade Commission has found by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporter was from an article by a Washington Post reporte
Experts Question Effectiveness Of Nuclear Weapons over Time

By Ralph Vartabedian

LOS ANGELES TIMES

August 28, 1995

Los Alamos scientists say the national nuclear forces of sufficient size and capability to hold at risk a broad range of assets valued by such (hostile) political and military leaders "may be overextended".

The problem is how to assure the reliability and safety of those forces without testing, and how to retain the expertise of scientists when nuclear weapons are neither being designed nor produced.

A nuclear bomb contains roughly 6,000 parts, including 50 pounds of high explosives wrapped around a radioactive plutonium sphere. Jan Mercer-Smith, a Los Alamos National Laboratory scientist, compares nuclear bombs to a 747 jetliner in terms of technical sophistication.

By Alan C. Miller

WASHINGTON

Reflecting a 15-year trend, the number of Americans behind bars or on probation or parole climbed to a record 5.1 million last year, amid sharp increases reflect tougher sentencings on a range of crimes as they age to the original design and examine old test data to see how anomalies may have affected bomb performance.

In addition, the Energy Department's $40-billion "stockpile stewardship" program will construct massive testing machines, including the $1-billion National Ignition Facility laser at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, Calif., and the $124-million Dual-Axis Radiographic Hydrotest Facility at Los Alamos.

Despite 50 years of research, scientists say they have only a primitive understanding of the precise physics that occur in a nuclear detonation. These machines will conduct high-energy experiments that simulate conditions in a nuclear bomb, allowing scientists to refine computations that are central to weapon science.

Prisoners Now Comprise 2.7 Percent Of Total U.S. Population, Study Says

By Alan C. Miller

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

A total of 2.7 percent of the nation's population was either locked up or on probation or parole climbed to a record 5.1 million last year, amid both overcrowded jails and prisons and increased community supervision of criminals, a Justice Department study reported Sunday.

At the same time, they said the consequent pressure to ease congestion in packed prisons and jails has lead to expanded use of alternatives to incarceration or early release.

Alfred N. Blumstein, a criminologist at the Peirce School of Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa., said he believes the criminal justice system "may be overstretched itself" and that increased emphasis on such programs as drug treatment and prevention may be more effective in the long run than meting out harsher sentences.

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Russian Passport Peddling: Business, Bribery, or Birthright?

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

Citizens of the late Soviet Union, with the biting black humor that was their birthright, had a saying: "You may have the right, but you still can't do it."".
Institutional Wisdom Watch

C. Conley: In spite of tough crowd, she beats Will Kein hands down. And she costs less, too.

T. Merritt: If only the MIT administration used team-work. Coming from Hopkins, he should have entered Killian from the west.

MOYA: What is this, the 70s? Why'd nobody grab the streaker?

Thursday Night Dinners: Near-riot interrupts MOYA. But I W is hungry!

C. Vest: Cops bawl him out for badmouthing state police blocking his driveway. Can't presidents parallel park?

J. Terrones: Disruptive hip gyration does not a good transverse make.

Senior House: Schedules juggle as "rush event," then backtracks. What happened to "Sport Deals?"

Tang Building: Enough with the standard-issue gray buildings, already! Hire an architect who likes color.

Counterpoint: Building reputation as victimized publication. But why no review of dorms or sororities?

Baseball-capped vandals: First GAMIT, now Counterpoint. Proves they're not ideologically motivated.

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

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

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

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be typed, double-spaced and addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 379709, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. Electronic submissions in plain text format may be mailed to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters and cartoons must bear the author's signature, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of the editorial board. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech and will not be retained. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.

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Comics: The Tech

Survival Check List

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- TV, VCR and video accessories
- Security devices
- Computer and accessories
- Batteries
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- Smoke alarm
- Part-time job (see the manager of your local Radio Shack store)

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August 28, 1999
In Student Center, Women Undertake Sorority Rush

By Ramy A. Aamoout

While new male students may feel thrown into the rush of choosing among the different fraternities and living groups, the process of sorority rush is collectively more cohesive and follows a different set of rules.

"[Some] say it's more fair because it's more structured," said Audrey C. Wu '96, one of this year's sorority rush counselors, or Rho Chi, a group of temporarily de-affiliated sisters responsible for mediating the sorority's contact with the freshmen.

Sororities can only rush within set hours, Wu said. They also cannot talk to freshmen outside the rush rooms until they accept bids Tuesday, she said.

These restrictions give both freshmen and sororities a more level playing field, said Panhellic Association Rush Chair Renee E. Garcia '96.

Rushing behind closed doors

Sorority rush began Friday night with the Women's Convocation, where freshmen women heard information about their living group options. "The general message was to find a place where you feel comfortable and [decide] what's best for you," Garcia said.

Freshmen can spend as long as they want at the sorority open houses. "They want at the sorority open houses," Wu said.

On Thursday, the sororities led introductory tours through their rush rooms, located on the third and fourth floors of the Student Center. The tours were followed by two open houses Friday night and Saturday morning, Wu said.

All rushing takes place behind closed doors, with no loiterers or non-affiliates allowed, according to Panhel rules. That restriction is for the freshmen's benefit, Garcia said. "We want them to get to know the sisters — a group of women, not the guys who hang out with them," she said. Of course, they also do not want men used as bait, she added.

After tonight's "preference parties," the rushers will have narrowed their choices from four or five sororities to two at most, according to Panhel rules. Some people may choose only one sorority, also called a "suicide," making the selection process an all-or-nothing proposition, Garcia said. Even without that problem, this year's rush has been "a very hectic experience," she said.

On bidding and being nice

Sororities assign quotas based on the number of freshmen who attend the preference parties, Garcia said. The four older sororities can accept at most 22 percent of attenders; the newer and smaller Alpha Epsilon Phi can take 12 percent, she said.

Based on the sororities' bid lists and the rushers' preferences, a computer algorithm will assign the freshmen to the sororities tonight. Neither the sororities nor the Rho Chi ever see the bid lists, Garcia said. At most, sorority alumnae and Neal H. Dorn, adviser to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups, get a look. The process ensures that no current sorority member (however de-affiliated) ever sees which of her new sisters was first pick, she said.

As far as sorority behavior is concerned, the guiding rule is "no badmouthing," Garcia said.

Sororities also try to avoid "anything that makes rush unfair — like talking with people outside the rush room, because that would be considered rushing," according to the rush rules, Wu said.

Sororities more down to earth

Sorority rush preparation includes everything from planning rush workshops and mailings to designing T-shirts and booklets, as put forth in the official Panhel rush rules. All in all, each sorority spends about $2,600 of its budget on rush, Garcia said.

But the sum spent on rush is falling, as sororities work to comply with National Panhellenic Conference suggestions, Garcia said. NPC recommends that local chapters do away with most of the hype — the frills and frilly decorations that give a traditional sorority rush, she said.

"They claim the sisters do it just for themselves," Garcia said. "I disagree; I think the sororities like it to give the rushers something to look at, something to break all the talking," she said.

But NPC is also trying to cater to its less interested sorority women by "moving down to earth" than the year- ly extravaganzas warrant, Garcia said. For her part, she favors a "few frills" rush over a no-frills one.

Panhel recommends sororities aim for about $1,500 in total expenses in the future, according to Panhel rules. "We drop [the total] about $300 a year," Garcia said.

Xuan Tang '96 prepares Mark Feldmeyer '96 for yesterday's carnival at East Campus.

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Clearinghouse, from Page 1

members of AEPi arrived and requested to see him. Interfraternity Council rush rules require that a freshman be produced by a living group within 15 minutes, so Snowberg led to be "pulled out of the middle of a shower. That really did annoy me," he said.

"In reality, our only contact with Snowberg was a single telephone call and a single visit," said AEPi Rush Chair Benjamin S. Levin '97. "Indeed, he was considering several other fraternities, and we feel that his reaction to this situation is a complaint against the Clearinghouse system in general, and not against Alpha Epsilon Phi."

Rush "is kind of a moot market," and overzealous rushing is something that fraternity rushes should expect, Snowberg said. He does not fault Clearinghouse for the problem he encountered but said that the option to be made invisible should be made more public.

Snowberg did not know about his option to remove himself from Clearinghouse until an FC fai~s, their option, the Office of Residence Life was a single telephone call to Clearinghouse, few freshmen appear to know about that option, said Russell S. Light '98.

"They should be more up front about that fact that you're not required to participate in Clearinghouse," said Light, who is also treasurer of Undergraduate Association. "His reaction to this situation is required to participate in Clearinghouse until an FC fails, their option, the Office of Residence Life was a single telephone call to Clearinghouse, few freshmen appear to know about that option, said Russell S. Light '98.

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Independent living groups "are counting on the fact that you don't know that you have that option. It's portrayed in a deceptive way," said Light, who stressed his opinions were his own and not the UA's.

The right of freshmen to be invisible is published in The 1995 Fitchburger's Guide to R/O, but since "it works against the interests of rush" to let freshmen know about their option, the Office of Residence Life was a single telephone call to Clearinghouse, few freshmen appear to know about that option, said Russell S. Light '98.

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Snowberg did not know about his option to remove himself from Clearinghouse until a (continued on Page 3)
Residence

46:30, 24.7, Tales into Dallas, sports hanging around.
46:30, 26. All day today and tonight the bell rings and it's the only way to get indoors.
46:38, 11. 3:00 p.m. New House. Call 354-1263.
46:42, 11. Kappa. 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.
46:44, 44. 5:00 p.m. Kappa House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

Warhouse

46:46, 14. They have food, but if you're already here, you're going to have to eat it?

BullshitCenter. Who's always shown MYOS and 354-1263 and in a few days you'll have to eat it.


46:50, 11. Come through the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

46:52, 11. Come through the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

46:54, 11. Come through the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

46:56, 11. Come through the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

46:58, 11. Come through the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

Concert

47:00, 14. Ziggurat, ziggurats for fun! Call 2-6000.

Dine

47:02, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:04, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:06, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:08, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:10, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:12, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:14, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:16, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:18, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:20, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:22, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:24, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:26, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:28, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.

47:30, 11. Come to the Chase and Call 4:30 p.m. New House. Call 2-6799 or 354-1263.