

Drop Date Today

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather

Today: Partly sunny, warm, 74°F (23°C)
Tonight: Showers, windy, 56°F (13°C)
Tomorrow: Cooler, 62°F (16°C)
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Volume 116, Number 21

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, April 26, 1996



Ann L. Torres '96 breaks away from a Mount Holyoke College defender to score a goal in last Saturday's game. MIT lost in overtime, 14-13. JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

60 Attend Forum On Lori Berenson

By Brett Altschul
STAFF REPORTER

About 60 people gathered in Room 6-120 Wednesday evening for a forum on the plight of Lori H. Berenson. The forum was intended as a show of support for Berenson, a former MIT undergraduate who was convicted of treason and sentenced to life imprisonment in Peru by a secret military court in January.

The forum featured a panel of Berenson's parents and friends, as well as experts on human rights in Latin America. The forum also included a more general discussion of human rights in Peru.

Berenson withdrew from MIT in 1988 as a sophomore majoring in archeology and anthropology. She was arrested on Nov. 30 last year along with 22 others after an all-night shootout in a Lima suburb

between Peruvian government forces and guerrillas from the Marxist Túpac Amaru Movement.

Professor of Anthropology Martin Diskin, one of Berenson's teachers at MIT and one of the organizers of the event, spoke of his experiences with Berenson.

Diskin described Berenson as a person who was deeply committed to human rights but remained peaceful and thoughtful.

"Lori wasn't the sort of person who made fists and made speeches. She didn't seem to want to burn the world down," Diskin said.

Diskin described a research project on which she worked, a study about applications by Salvadoran refugees for political asylum in the United States. "I think that was the

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DuPont Weight Room Gets Extended Hours

By James M. Wahl
STAFF REPORTER

In an effort to bolster its strength training program, the athletic department finalized new hours for the DuPont weight room on Tuesday.

The new schedule comes after students reacted negatively to two earlier proposals that they said excluded non-athletes.

The new schedule designates a 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. time slot on weekdays reserved for student athletes.

The department has also added hours for community use by extending the closing time on weekdays from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and by staying open on Fridays from 7:00 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Weekend hours remain the same: 10:00 a.m. to 5:30

p.m. on Saturday and 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

The change reflects what many coaches see as a dire need for a dedicated time to introduce new athletes to the weight room and to conduct structured training routines, said Athletic Director Richard A. Hill.

For several years, "coaches have lamented that they can never get in to the weight room with their entire team. Even if they send students in to lift on an individual basis, there is a huge intimidation factor," says Candace L. Royer, senior women's administrator in the department.

The newly established time slot will provide a less crowded environment where athletes can get special-

Athletics, Page 21

Newsweek Story Missed Facts

By Stacey E. Blau
NEWS EDITOR

Several administrators have expressed concern about errors printed about MIT in an article in the April 29 issue of *Newsweek*.

Entitled "Want to Chop?," the article discusses the costs and budget-cutting efforts of colleges and universities. It mentions MIT's re-engineering efforts and the effects of the new early retirement program, which offers a number of benefits to eligible faculty members who choose to retire early.

"MIT is planning something that would have been unimaginable just a few years ago: It has announced a corporate-style downsizing," the article said. "It hopes that 1,400 employees, including nearly 300 tenured professors, will take a buy-out at the end of the month." The comment was made in reference to MIT's retirement program.

President Charles M. Vest sent electronic mail to a number of administrators and department chairs to clear up confusion about the errors.

The figure of 1,400 staff members actually "refers to the number of faculty and staff who are eligible for this generally well-received program," Vest said.

Contrary to *Newsweek's* figure of 300 possible retiring faculty members, only about 150 faculty are actually eligible under the plan, said Chair of the Faculty Lawrence S. Bacow.

Faculty and staff must be at least 60 to be eligible for the program, Bacow said.

"When we announced the program, our expectation was that about one third of those eligible would take the option, including as many as 50 faculty members," Vest said.

"Right now, it appears that somewhat fewer than 400 staff members... and about 40 faculty members have indicated a strong interest in the program," he said.

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INSIDE

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Alan Alda Films Series Episode at Media Lab

By Jiri Schindler
STAFF REPORTER

Actor Alan Alda, known to many as Hawkeye from the television series *M*A*S*H* and from several Woody Allen films, visited the Media Lab last week to film an episode of *Scientific American Frontiers*, a popular public television science series he hosts.

The show has covered topics from self-guiding cruise-control systems to child psychology and enjoys a wide following by a broad spectrum of viewers.

It is geared toward scientists and lay people alike, from elementary-school kids to 80-year-olds. It is even sometimes watched in diners by waitresses and truck-drivers

instead of football games, Alda said.

The show is also used in many schools' science curriculums. Alda believes the show's wide acceptance results from producers' effort to make each episode visually interesting and use common language for describing the frontiers of new knowledge.

Alda talks with MAS members

In each episode, Alda talks informally to scientists conducting research and asks questions that evoke responses that the general public can understand.

Alda filmed with several people from MIT, including Bruce M. Blumberg G, a graduate student in media arts and sciences, and MAS Associate Professor Patricia Maes.

Alda, Page 18



MAS Associate Professor Pattie Maes (right) and Bruce Blumberg G (left) show projects to actor Alan Alda, who visited campus last week to shoot an episode of PBS' *Scientific American Frontiers*. JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

WORLD & NATION

Israel, Lebanon Near Cease-Fire

THE WASHINGTON POST

DAMASCUS, SYRIA

In a day of seesaw diplomacy, Secretary of State Warren Christopher met late into the night with Syrian President Hafez Assad, struggling to nail down a final compromise for a cease-fire between Israel and Lebanon's Shiite Muslim guerrillas.

U.S. officials were heartened by a reported burst of progress during a first three-hour meeting with Assad. After a long break during which Christopher met with Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri, Christopher went back to the presidential palace for a second session that aides said might be critical to the ultimate fate of the negotiations.

Christopher flew to Jerusalem after the second session to seek final approval of the Israeli government for the cease-fire accord. While cautiously optimistic, Christopher and his aides refrained from making any predictions because of the fractious and unpredictable nature of the Israeli cabinet.

The goal of the Christopher's diplomatic shuttle between Jerusalem and Damascus over the past six days has been to secure a lasting cease-fire through precise understandings that would proscribe attacks against civilians on either side of the border.

The final give-and-take has focused on establishing an international committee to monitor any violations of the cease-fire. The most difficult issues at the eleventh hour, according to informed sources, have centered on how to ensure a freeze on retaliatory raids while an investigation is conducted to determine who is to blame. The other question remaining to be resolved is who, along with the United States, would serve on the committee.

Chechen Chief Rejects Peace Talks

THE WASHINGTON POST

MOSCOW

President Boris Yeltsin's month-old initiative to halt the fighting in the breakaway province of Chechnya, already in trouble, suffered new setbacks Thursday from fresh violence, the withdrawal of a key intermediary and renewed vows of revenge by the successor to slain Chechen leader Dzhokhar Dudayev.

Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, the new rebel leader, spoke to reporters at an undisclosed location near Urus Martan, his first news conference since confirmation came Wednesday of Dudayev's death on Sunday. He said the Chechen separatists would fight on and not negotiate until they could "punish" Dudayev's killers.

"We have only one problem: to free the country from the aggressor," he said, referring to Russia, which sent troops in December 1994 to put down a 3-year-old separatist rebellion. Since then, 30,000 people, mostly civilians, have been killed.

Peace talks with Russia will not be started, Yandarbiyev declared, if the rebels discover that Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin ordered the slaying of Dudayev, who was killed by a rocket attack while talking on a portable satellite telephone in a field.

Although neither Dudayev's body nor grave has been found, his death was confirmed by field commander Shamil Basayev.

Senate Rejects Provision That Would Curb Legal Immigration

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Senate, keeping its focus on illegal immigration, on Thursday overwhelmingly rejected efforts to reduce the number of legal immigrants allowed into the United States.

Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., had attempted to insert a provision in the illegal immigration bill he wrote that would have significantly cut legal immigration over the next five years and altered the current family-based visa system.

Senators rebuffed Simpson's amendment on a vote of 80-20 after a bipartisan group of lawmakers argued that illegal and legal immigration ought to be addressed separately. A similar amendment by Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., also was shelved.

The Senate's action reduces the likelihood that Congress will pass legislation addressing legal immigration this year.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service announced in March, while the Simpson bill was being considered in committee, that 593,000 foreigners were granted residency last year, a 10.4 percent drop from 1994. INS officials used the decrease to argue that deep cuts in legal immigration were not needed.

WEATHER

Patchwork Skies

By Marek Zebrowski

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A large storm system moving from the Great Lakes through St. Lawrence will drag a cold front ever closer to our area, bringing clouds, warm southwesterly winds, scattered showers and thunderstorms by nightfall. A period of unsettled weather is expected to persist until about midday Saturday, when this front will finally clear the coast and usher in a brisk, but generally fair weekend.

Today: Partly sunny and warm, with increasing clouds. Becoming quite windy in the afternoon. Chance of scattered showers moving in from the west late. High 74°F (23°C).

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, windy, and mild with showers likely. Low 56°F (13°C).

Saturday: Clouds and leftover showers early, then clearing from west to east and becoming much cooler. High near 62°F (16°C).

Saturday night: Clear and chilly, with biting northwesterly winds. Low near 40°F (5°C) in town, mid 30s (2-3°C) elsewhere.

Sunday outlook: Mostly sunny and crisp, with almost seasonable highs from 55-60°F (13-15°C) and lows in the low to mid 40s (5-7°C).

Clinton Postpones Troop Withdrawal from Bosnia

By Art Pine

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration said Thursday that it has scrapped plans to withdraw the bulk of the 18,000 U.S. troops in Bosnia by Dec. 20, as initially promised, and now is not likely to have most of the American force out until late January or February.

The change was announced by Kenneth H. Bacon, the Pentagon's spokesman, following a plea by NATO's top military commander, U.S. Army Gen. George A. Joulwan, that U.S. and other NATO forces remain on duty until after the Bosnian elections, now scheduled for September.

Although the administration had cautioned previously that it might keep some U.S. troops in Bosnia for a month or so beyond Dec. 20, when the NATO mission comes to an end, it had planned to begin the pullout in June, leaving a relatively small contingent of U.S. soldiers through mid-December.

But Bacon said Thursday that while some U.S. troops may begin leaving in late September — and the NATO mission in Bosnia still will end officially on Dec. 20 — the United States now plans to keep a "significant force" in the country through January or "maybe longer."

Administration officials also said the United States is likely to continue providing air and logistical support after Dec. 20 — if NATO decides to station troops near Bosnia — to prevent a resumption of fighting in the region.

While officials would not say so

publicly, analysts said the slippage reflected the difficulty that civilian authorities in Bosnia have been experiencing in rebuilding the country's governmental and economic structure — including scheduling the first elections.

Although the delay announced Thursday was not an appreciable one, it was expected to draw sharp criticism from Republicans, who

longer because of the time needed for a full withdrawal. Clinton separately made a similar pledge.

When the Bosnian peace accord was signed in Dayton, Ohio, last November, all sides hoped to have a new government in place by now — and an economic reconstruction program under way — with plans for an election sometime in late spring or summer.

Thursday's announcement marked the administration's most visible acknowledgment so far that the civilian side of the allied peacemaking effort in Bosnia is slipping behind schedule.

have been predicting for months that the administration's initial schedule for bringing the troops back was likely to slide.

Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, warned Thursday that "if the administration intends to keep U.S. forces in Bosnia longer than previously indicated, it must come back and consult with Congress."

Thursday's announcement marked the administration's most visible acknowledgment so far that the civilian side of the allied peacemaking effort in Bosnia is slipping behind schedule.

Defense Secretary William J. Perry told Congress in March that U.S. troops would "come out of Bosnia no later than Dec. 20," although he cautioned that some could remain there for a few weeks

But the lack of any formal organization to shepherd the effort, and seemingly intractable delays by the warring factions themselves, have kept the process at a snail's pace. As a result, the elections have been postponed to September, and even that schedule may not be met.

In recent weeks, the allies have tried to help speed the process by permitting U.S. and other NATO military forces to help with some tasks that were supposed to have been reserved for civilian authorities, such as providing security for the inspection of mass grave sites.

However, U.S. Army Gen. John M. Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters in Brussels earlier this week that there would be no reductions in U.S. troop strength in Bosnia until after the country's September elections.

Bad Detonator Saves London From a Powerful IRA Bomb

By Fred Barbash

THE WASHINGTON POST

LONDON

Only a failed detonator saved London from a powerful Irish Republican Army bomb Wednesday night, ending speculation that several relatively weak IRA bombs recently meant the terrorist organization was pursuing a merely symbolic "calling card" strategy.

Police said Thursday that the bomb, planted under a Thames River bridge, was large enough to have wrecked a major traffic artery leading into central London and to have killed or maimed any passers-by or police who had responded to the scene after a warning a half-hour earlier. A detonating device did explode — at about 11 p.m. — but it failed to set off the explosive itself, 30 pounds of the chemical Semtex, attached to the underside of the Hammersmith Bridge.

The attempt occurred as the IRA's legal political wing, Sinn Fein, announced it will participate in elections May 30 in Northern Ireland for a "peace forum," sponsored by the British and Irish governments to help achieve a permanent settlement of the province's sectarian troubles. Wednesday was also the 80th anniversary of the start of the Easter Rising, the 1916 rebellion against British rule in Dublin.

Police say investigations in the past few months have revealed that the IRA was preparing bombings in mainland Britain even as President Clinton was shaking hands with Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams in Belfast during Clinton's visit there last winter.

The IRA declared an end to a

nearly 18-month cease-fire in its long war to end British rule of Northern Ireland with a blast in February that killed two people, injured dozens and caused millions of dollars of damage at London's Docklands development at the eastern edge of the city.

Since then, it has exploded or attempted to explode at least four other bombs in London. One was deactivated in a phone booth in the theater district. One blew up prematurely, killing an IRA operative on a bus and leading police to an IRA bomb factory here.

The last two — in a recycling bin near a cemetery and in the yard of an unoccupied home in west London last week — did little damage. The locations, which carried no particular symbolism, and the small size of the bombs, led to a variety of theories: that the organization was only reminding authorities of its presence, that it was just practicing for a "spectacular," or that it had grown rusty or had had its work disrupted by vigorous police work.

Whatever the motives or mishaps of the earlier efforts, police sources said the Hammersmith Bridge attempt demonstrated the deadly intent of the IRA.

Police said investigations of the Docklands bombing and the haul of intelligence from the home of the dead IRA bus rider, Edward O'Brien, have shown that the terrorist group was laying the groundwork for a resumption of bombing in London before and during Clinton's visit to London and Northern Ireland in November.

Police traced a truck involved in the Docklands bombing to rural

Northern Ireland, where they said they discovered it was being refitted for its mission between November 1995 and January.

Investigators said a "considerable quantity of bomb-making equipment," including Semtex, detonators and incendiary equipment, was gathered from O'Brien's southeast London flat. Police told an inquest earlier this month that they found "targeting information" collected by O'Brien last October and November, when he also began assembling the equipment in the flat.

A source said Wednesday that authorities believe the premature detonation of O'Brien's bomb and Wednesday night's failure were probably caused by use by the IRA of inexperienced "sleepers" — operatives living quietly in the area — who have no criminal record and have not been in prison.

The IRA, with the ultimate goal of getting the British rulers out of Northern Ireland and reuniting it with the Republic of Ireland to the south, has been waging war against British authorities and the Protestant majority in Northern Ireland for 25 years. Protestant paramilitary organizations, determined to keep Northern Ireland British, have joined the battle with their own acts of terror. More than 3,000 people have died in the violence.

The province's political parties — most of them either Protestant or Catholic in orientation — are all preparing for the May 30 elections, designed to lead to all-party negotiations starting June 10 on the future of Northern Ireland.

U.S. Decries Iranian Arms Shipments to Hizbollah

By Robin Wright
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration denounced Iran Thursday for escalating arms shipments to Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon and charged that Tehran is trying to thwart the efforts of Secretary of State Warren Christopher as he shuttles around the Middle East in search of a cease-fire.

The third planeload of supplies in 10 days arrived in Damascus, Syria, Tuesday, according to senior U.S. officials. The Iranian 747 contained crates of arms, including the Katyusha rockets that are among the weapons Hezbollah guerrillas continue to fire across the Lebanese border into northern Israel.

Iran's cargo planes are landing at the Damascus International Airport, the same airport where the blue-and-white U.S. Air Force plane carrying Christopher and his staff land on his shuttle diplomacy stops.

In an telephone interview Thurs-

day, Iranian deputy foreign minister Javad Zarif called the report of the weapons shipments "a baseless allegation. We have increased our humanitarian aid to Lebanon after the recent Israeli aggression because of the increasing need of people for assistance and because they have been displaced." Zarif was in New York for a debate on Lebanon at the United Nations.

But a senior U.S. official claimed Thursday that Iran is not only pumping up assistance to its Lebanese allies and trying to undermine the peace process, but also to see to it that Christopher, the most outspoken U.S. official critical of Iran, experiences "pain, agony, embarrassment and failure" as he seeks a cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah.

From Iran's perspective, the heightened conflict between Israel and Lebanon has offered a rare opportunity to exert control in an area from which it has increasingly been excluded, U.S. officials say.

Hezbollah fighters were at a training camp outside Tehran in March, U.S. officials say, and Pentagon sources suspect the training was in preparation for new attacks. In the past, Hezbollah fighters have been trained by Iranian Revolutionary Guards in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley, which abuts the Syrian border.

Keeping Hezbollah trained and supplied with Katyushas and other weapons allows Iran's allies to sustain pressure on Israel as well as on other parties involved in one of the Mideast's most volatile spots. U.N. military observers in Lebanon say 1,100 Katyushas have been fired at Israel over the past two weeks, and there is no indication that Hezbollah faces any imminent weapons shortage — or any reason to agree to a cease-fire, U.S. officials say.

Zarif insisted that Iran is trying to end rather than fuel the conflict, just as it was "instrumental in obtaining the 1993 understanding that ended that round of attacks.

Mexican Drug Conference Fuels Dispute Over Money Laundering

By Mary Beth Sheridan and Mark Fineman
LOS ANGELES TIMES

MEXICO CITY

After U.S. and Mexican narcotics agents spent three days sharing ideas on how to intercept the tons of cocaine that flow into the United States each year, a hemisphere-wide conference on drug trafficking ended Thursday amid a diplomatic row about the laundering of drug money.

Mexico's angry rejection to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's assertion that Mexico's banks are being used to launder millions of dollars of narcotics profits underscored the delicacy of U.S.-Mexican relations in the war on drugs.

Both governments have called narcotics trafficking a major threat to their security, and Mexico hosted the DEA's annual counter-narcotics conference, which drew agents from more than a dozen countries to share intelligence and ideas on curbing the drug trade.

But the headlines in the Mexican press throughout the week were dominated not by the cooperation but by Mexico's fury over DEA chief Thomas Constantine's assertion that drug traffickers were

depositing millions of dollars in Mexican banks.

"Of particular seriousness is the fact that Mr. Constantine suggested that the Mexican banking system has been converted into a massive mechanism of money-laundering when there is no concrete accusation or proof that confirms this," the Foreign Ministry declared. Business leaders, the finance ministry and top Mexican anti-drug officials also issued angry denials that the country's banks are tainted. And a 3-inch headline in one afternoon daily screamed, "The DEA: Meddler."

Yet, in a clear expression of its own concern over the inflow of drug profits, the government of President Ernesto Zedillo had earlier this year sent Congress a comprehensive anti-narcotics bill that would outlaw money laundering.

The uproar nonetheless illustrated how sensitive Mexicans remain to U.S. involvement in their country, even as they work increasingly with Washington to combat the growing drug trade.

While Mexican officials lashed out at Constantine, for example, the Pentagon announced it will give several dozen helicopters to Mexi-

co's armed forces to fight drug trafficking. The announcement came during a visit by Gen. Enrique Cervantes Aguirre, Mexico's defense minister, to Washington to strengthen ties between the military of the two countries.

"There is clearly an extremely positive attitude on their (the Mexicans') part, but they remain sensitive when criticism comes from the outside, particularly the U.S.," a senior U.S. official said in a telephone interview from Washington.

The diplomatic flap over money laundering is a case in point.

Constantine and other U.S. officials have asserted that as much as 75 percent of the cocaine reaching the United States passes through Mexico. With the capture last year of the leaders of Colombia's Cali Cartel, they have expressed concern that Mexico will become an even bigger factor in world drug trade.

During a news conference Monday, Constantine said evidence is mounting that Mexico has also become a major center for laundering the proceeds from drug sales in the United States. Drug traffickers are "running the money across the Southwest border in cash, several million dollars at a time," he said.

Italian Coalition Seeks Economic Action to End Political Paralysis

By Daniel Williams
THE WASHINGTON POST

ROME

Italy's new government faces a series of tough economic decisions that will indicate whether the precarious center-left coalition soon to take power can withstand the strain of tackling problems left unresolved during the country's recent period of political paralysis.

Important decisions have been delayed during two years of sterile political maneuvering within the country's fractious political establishment. Issues such as electoral reform, corruption and control of the media dominated inconclusive debate, while economic reform lay mostly dormant. Delays in implementing change have endangered Italy's place in a more tightly unified European Union as well as in the fast-developing, interconnected world of liberalized economies.

The tasks in store for the Olive Tree alliance include privatization of some of Italy's key state-owned industries, including STET, the

country's telecommunications company, and the banking system. Reductions in government spending are also in store, although it is not clear where and how.

How the government, led by centrist-economist Romano Prodi, resolves these issues will clarify the true identity of the center-left Olive Tree. Is it more center than left or the other way around? In particular, just how committed to liberal economic life is the Democratic Party of the Left, the party of former Communists that is the coalition's biggest faction? That party is populated by politicians who spent their careers trying to build a more centralized state, with control of key industries and an increase in government employees.

A further complication lies in the fact that the Olive Tree relies on the old-line Marxists of the Communist Refoundation Party, which has opposed both privatization and budget cuts, for its slim four-seat majority in Parliament. Its leader, Fausto Bertinotti, has pledged his party will

supply votes so that the Olive Tree can take power, but afterward, the government will be on its own.

The chances that a government that relies on former and continuing Communists will take the road toward free markets and shrunken government is regarded as doubtful by some Italians. "The numerous proposals presented by the Olive Tree on these themes are undoubtedly serious and articulate," wrote Sole 24 Ore, Italy's leading financial newspaper. "However, (there has been) a certain reticence regarding the theme of 'sacrifice' needed to realize these proposals."

In any event, it appears that Italy will not be among the first participants in European monetary union and lags behind other Western countries in the creation of communications networks that have become the hallmark of business development around the world. In comparison with nations that have taken advantage of the information superhighway, Italy is on an information cobblestone street.

Americans' Incomes Grew Faster Than Inflation Last Year

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Americans' average incomes grew 2.6 percent faster than inflation last year, the biggest rise in nearly a decade, but the gains varied widely in different parts of the country, the Commerce Department reported Thursday.

Disposable income per person — roughly what's left after paying taxes — rose by 2.4 percent, almost double the increase in 1994. Many economists regard changes in this broad inflation-adjusted number as the best single indicator of gains in the nation's standard of living.

However, these national averages mask large differences in incomes among individuals, families and regions of the country. For instance, part of last year's income gains were due to large increases in corporate dividend payments, personal interest receipts, rental income and government benefit programs. Wages and employer benefits grew less rapidly than those sources, but wages did grow last year, the department said.

Although these numbers are evidence that Americans' incomes are increasing at a healthy pace, the wide variations in gains among workers in different industries and different states could make it hard for President Clinton and other politicians running in this fall's election to paint a rosy picture of the economy.

Nationally, income per person — total personal income divided by the population — rose 5 percent to \$22,788 from \$21,699 in 1994. In terms of purchasing power, that gain was partially offset by a 2.4 percent increase in Commerce's price index for personal consumption spending.

Three Firms Convicted of Felony Charges in Puerto Rican Oil Spill

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Three corporations and a manager in one of the companies were convicted in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Thursday of felony charges stemming from a January 1994 oil spill that fouled one of Puerto Rico's most popular tourist beaches.

The three firms, Bunker Group Puerto Rico, Bunker Group Inc. and New England Marine Services — part of a New York corporate family with a long history of environmental violations — face potential fines of more than \$100 million when sentencing occurs in August. A jury convicted the companies, and Bunker Group Puerto Rico general manager Pedro Rivera, after a seven-day trial.

The spill occurred on Jan. 7, 1994, when the oil barge Morris J. Berman ran aground after the tow cable attaching it to a tugboat snapped. The spill fouled Escambron Beach and offshore waters with 750,000 gallons of oil.

According to trial testimony, the tow cable had snapped earlier the same evening and had been inadequately repaired by crew members, who failed to notify the Coast Guard as required.

Two crew members, Capt. Roy A. McMichael Jr. and first mate Victor Martinez, earlier pleaded guilty to violating of the Clean Water Act.

Rivera was convicted of failing to notify the Coast Guard of the cable break, and the three corporations were convicted of violating the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, the Ports and Waterways Safety Act of 1972 and of sending an unseaworthy vessel to sea.

Latest Poll Favors Clinton Over Dole on Trust Issues

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Senate Majority Leader Robert J. Dole, R-Kan., says the fall election "boils down to who do you trust." Dole might start by not trusting the next focus group somebody tells him about.

Campaigning in Pennsylvania last week, Dole tried to play the character card. "If something happened along the route and you had to leave your children with Bob Dole or Bill Clinton, I think you'd probably leave your children with Bob Dole," the Republican candidate said.

The Washington Post posed the choice in a survey of 1,011 adults and found just the opposite: 52 percent said they preferred Clinton, 27 percent said Dole. The rest either said neither or they didn't know. The margin of error is plus or minus three percentage points.

Women were even more emphatic: 56 percent said Clinton while just 20 percent said Dole. Respondents were not categorized by family composition.

All of which raises the question of why Dole brought up the subject in the first place. Dole said Sunday a focus group made him do it.

Cerebellum Has Sensory Functions, Researchers Report

LOS ANGELES TIMES

A middle-aged man who has his head in a magnetic brain scanner while a researcher rubs the man's fingers with sandpaper might not look like the makings of a minor revolution. But that experiment has led scientists from the California Institute of Technology and the University of Texas to a new understanding of the function of the cerebellum, the wrinkled, lime-sized cluster of gray and white matter nestled beneath the cortex.

In a study published Friday in the journal Science, the researchers strongly suggest that the cerebellum is not just involved in guiding bodily movements, as scientists have believed for a century and generations of grade-school biology students have been taught. Instead, say the researchers, the cerebellum, long regarded as something of a neurological drone, actually has a much higher security clearance, being directly involved in processing a variety of sensory information, like the feel of things.

According to this revisionist theory, the cerebellum does not merely help you reach for your car keys (the classic understanding of its function), it also helps you tell the difference between your car key and your house key with your eyes closed.

OPINION

Letters To The Editor



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Killing Innocent Lebanese Is Morally Wrong

Shooting someone who is attempting to or is in the process of doing you mortal harm is usually considered justifiable homicide on ground of self-defense. Shooting someone ex post facto is somewhat questionable, although it might still be morally acceptable, especially in the case of repeat offenders whereby killing the perpetrator would save the lives of future innocent victims. Killing the 20 innocent bystanders next to the perpetrator in order to get at the aggressor could no longer be considered a simple act of self-defense. Innocent blood has been shed, and someone must be held accountable.

In the case of the "accident" in Lebanon, as Harry J. Pell '99 described the incident in his guest column ["Israel Has a Right to Defend Itself," April 21], the responsibility of the tragedy fell on both parties: the Hizbollah guerrillas who provoked the aggression by firing upon Israeli civilians and cowardly hid amidst the Lebanese civilians, as well as the Israeli army that fired the lethal shell.

It is not a matter of whom to blame for starting the conflict, but rather it is a matter of who killed the innocents. Please remember that manslaughter, even when unintentional, is still a crime and morally wrong. The state of Israel could only claim the moral high ground of self-defense when it uses its lethal forces with control and precision, limiting its attacks strictly to the terrorists and them alone. When it ceased to do so, it has committed a wrong. Perhaps not as severe as murder, but it could not escape the blame of manslaughter. Either way, for the victims the end result is the same. They are dead, and for them it was an end all too premature and undeserved.

It is not easy to claim the moral high ground in a situation as complex as the one in the Middle East today. Israel could claim self-defense when it strikes against the Hizbollah guerrillas and them only. When it made the mistake of harming innocent people, it should accept the responsibility of its actions, instead of clinging to the claim of self-righteousness,

as some apologists seemed to be doing.

Israel could continue its military activity in Lebanon if it is in the best interest of its citizens, but it should recognize the danger its military activity posed to the innocent Lebanese people, and be ready to take responsibility when "accidents" happen. The idea of an eye for an eye is somewhat morally questionable, although it might be justifiable under extreme conditions. However, poking out the eyes of bystanders for is never an acceptable response for losing an eye.

Remember that no one human's life is intrinsically more valuable than the life of another. All lives must be treated with equal respect and dignity. The Hizbollah guerrillas, by taking arms against either the Israeli army or the Israeli civilians, has forfeited this right to life. They have become fair game for the Israeli military. However, the people of Lebanon are not guilty of any crime, even if they happened to live right next to the terrorists. Israel has the right to defend itself against terrorist attacks, but the Lebanese people also have the right to live. Had the Hizbollah guerrillas launched their rocket attacks amidst Israeli civilians, would the Israeli army still respond in the same way? I rest my case.

Hsienchang Chiu '96

Israel Often Placed in Defensive Position

I am writing to express my utmost support for the opinions expressed in Harry J. Pell's column ["Israel Has a Right to Defend Itself," April 21]. Israel's military actions have been the subject of extreme global scrutiny and criticism over the last several decades. I wish to go a step further than Pell by extending his argument to include the entire history of Israel. I argue that most of the blame for violence in the Middle East can ultimately be placed upon Israel's Arab neighbors.

At first glance, this argument may come across as prejudiced and extreme. However, I do not wish to excuse any of the reprehensible military actions that Israel has ever taken (of which there are many); I merely wish to put

them into a historical perspective. Most people seem to have forgotten that the original United Nations plan for Israel in 1947 divided it into two states. These two states would have been approximately equal in size, with Jerusalem acting as the neutral capital. The founders of Israel happily accepted this plan and expressed quite clearly their intentions to live in peace with their Arab neighbors. Yet, within 24 hours of the declaration of the state on May 14, 1948, the armies of Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Iraq invaded the country, forcing it to defend itself.

The Arab armies lost that war, and in doing so they also lost most of the land that would have been a Palestinian state. Jordan ended up getting a smaller portion of the West Bank (along the borders of the West Bank as it is currently defined now), Egypt got a smaller part of the Gaza strip (once again along the borders as defined today), and Jerusalem was divided. Once again in 1967, with the imminent threat of attack from all three sides of the country, Israel took a pre-offensive attack in what would be known as the Six-Day War. Though Israel took the offensive, it was a question of how much longer it would have been until they were attacked themselves.

Yet again, the Arabs lost that war, and this time they lost all of their territories in the area. Such activity of Arab offensive and Israeli defensive has continued repeatedly since then. The "occupied" areas that resulted from the Six Day War, smaller than the areas that were originally allotted to the Arabs in 1948, have only been recently reclaimed by Palestinians through the peace negotiations of recent years.

Had Israel's neighbors accepted compromise in 1948, it is a lot less likely that Israel would have a 50-year history of violence. Had the Arabs spent all their energy supporting the proposed Palestinian state instead of trying to attack Israel, there would be a more prosperous and more peaceful Arab and Israeli existence in the Middle East than there is today. Instead, they have repeatedly forced Israel into the uncomfortable position of having to defend itself.

Jonathan Z. Litt '96

DATELINE, LEBANON: ISRAELI PLANES TARGET HEZBOLLAH TERRORISTS.....



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Israel's Bombing of Civilians Promotes Only Violence

Guest Column by Fouad P. Saad

Killing civilians is never acceptable. In fact, it is reprehensible, short-sighted, and bordering on barbaric.

This seems like a reasonable guiding principle by which to judge political and military activities. Civilians are rarely ever at fault. They have no means of defending themselves. They have everything to lose. As such, I agree with Harry J. Pell '99, who lamented of the fate of civilians in the Middle East in the last issue of *The Tech* ["Israel Has Right to Defend Itself," April 21]. But there are no exceptions to the guiding principle. Pell seems to believe that terror in the hearts of Israeli civilians and damage to their homes and lost lives are regrettable only if the civilians are Israeli. All civilians are innocent. No civilians deserve to be bombed, forcibly ejected from their homes, or stricken with terror.

The Lebanese civilians who have been the victims of Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon recently also do not deserve any punishment. They too are being punished for no reason within their control. It may seem to the reader that as a Lebanese citizen myself, I may be a bit biased. But witness the newest issue of *The Economist*. The cover story title describes Israel's response as "Over the Top." More telling even is the title of their main article, "Two eyes for an eye."

I advise anyone interested to read *The Economist's* account of affairs in southern Lebanon. Both articles lead you to believe that

the protests and activity of the Lebanese and other students on campus and around Boston over the last week are not exaggerated. They are not overdoing it. In fact, the response of the Lebanese community and supporters of our protests has been passionate, yet not irrational, and much more in accordance with democratic society than the uncalled-for bombardment of Lebanon by Israel.

I contend that if one accepts the principle that killing civilians is unacceptable, no matter which country they inhabit, then one is bound to realize that Israel's actions in Lebanon must be stopped.

If the only response Israel could muster to guerrillas resisting Israel's occupation of their country is to bomb the civilians, ambulances and power plants of that country, then Israel has not only sunk to the same level as their tormentors, but has outdone them at their own sick terror games.

Hizbollah's firing of rockets into Israel is inappropriate. It targets no one who is to blame. I do not believe it is justifiable at all, but Hizbollah claims to be legitimate resistance fighters. Israel has responded to what it dubs "terrorism" but wielding a bigger sword right back, punishing violence and hatred with much more of it.

Hizbollah is an extremist group, until recently without much support amongst Lebanese civilians. A fringe group, very unrepresentative of the Lebanese civilians who are being killed and displaced for their actions. Israel, on the other hand, is a sover-

eign state of great military strength and powerful allies. It claims to be pursuing a peace process with its neighbors; it no longer wants to be a pariah in the Middle East. And yet its response is to outdo those whom they deem terrorists. Israel has killed civilians, made them homeless, plunged the country back into darkness and insecurity after years of trying to salvage an infrastructure and an economy from the rubble that resulted from 16 years of war.

And to what avail? Israel cannot eliminate Hizbollah. As a guerrilla group with Iranian and Syrian support that is only bound to grow stronger the longer Israel tries to justify its occupation of Lebanon by force, Israel will not succeed in weeding them out any more than it succeeded in weeding out the Palestinian Liberation Organization when Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 (killing 20,000 in

Saad, Page 6



Lebanese, Israeli Students Should Aim for Understanding

Column by Orli G. Bahcall
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

In the past week, this campus has been exposed to some of the conflicts in the Middle East, stemming from Israel's retaliation against Hizbollah forces in Lebanon.

The Lebanese Club quickly mobilized a demonstration last Friday in Lobby 7 with signs, flyers, and posters calling for an end to Israeli terror.

MIT Students for Israel responded to the anti-Israeli sentiments being posterized all over campus by explaining the long history of the conflict and clearing up misconceptions that were presented ["Israel Has Right to Defend Itself," April 21].

It is important for me, as an Israeli, to understand the pain the Lebanese students must feel when citizens of their country are

injured or killed. By the same token, it is important for the Lebanese students to understand that this strike was a preventative operation, to neutralize Hizbollah terrorist forces. The intent was to end a long stream of violence against Israel.

I spent last year volunteering in Israel, and have become all too acquainted with the hardships that the ongoing state of war has on every day life. Whether I was serving on an army base on the border with Lebanon, building cement foundations to protect the border, or walking to a disco in Jerusalem when a terrorist happened to open fire in a cafe, I felt the tension of the ongoing state of violence.

A goal of mine and many in my youth movement was to turn our fear, and for some their hatred, into constructive action — by repairing communication and resolving deep-

rooted conflicts.

While we spent one night in a bomb shelter as Katyushas from Hizbollah came close to our development town, we spent the next day visiting the neighboring Arab school and talking about the politics of the peace process. All of us were affected by the attacks. Even in a bomb shelter, none of us felt safe.

Each time a development in the Arab-Israeli conflict happens — a suicide bomber blows up a bus filled with civilians, or a bomb is left on a beach full of tourists, or a retaliation missile misses its target and hits innocent civilians — I am very hurt. Everyone involved with this inner wrenching conflict has felt this — the question is how we choose to deal with the pain.

The easiest action to take after a tragedy is to condemn your opposition, and cry aloud for

the world to recognize your suffering. A harder approach is to consider what provoked the event and how to resolve these conflicts.

I recall that former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's last words were a song of peace. His actions and commitment inspire me to continue, despite all hardships, to help come to understanding and resolution.

While it is very heartening to see MIT students actively support their political beliefs, it would be a shame to bring the conflict that arises from misunderstanding to this campus.

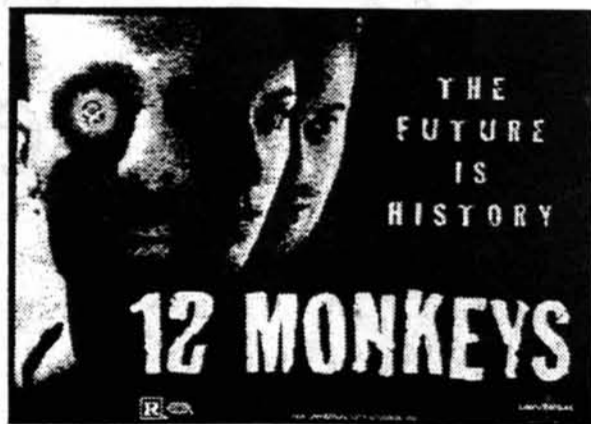
If students are serious about understanding the Middle East, I would hope that they focus the strong motivation and energy that they have shown into initiating more year-round discussions. Perhaps we can set a model for how two groups can come to understand each other.

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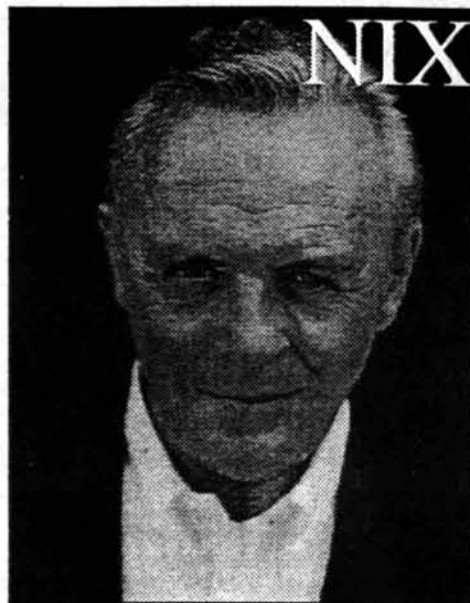
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Jackie Chan in DRUNKEN MASTER

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To Win Peace, Israel Must Withdraw from Lebanon

Saad, from Page 5

the process and uprooting almost a third of the country's population). Instead, Israel should learn from history. Stomping out the Palestinians did not work. Fourteen years later, peace seems to be within reach because diplomatic means were used, and both sides offered concessions.

Israel is not defending its nation. It is suffering the consequences of an occupation. The bombing of northern Israel is not justifiable, but the most rational solution is to withdraw and eliminate not Hizbollah, the physical entity, but its raison d'être. In the absence of occupation there will be no need for resistance of any form. That is how peace can be achieved.

In the interest of the peace process — on which so many of us from the region have been pinning our hopes and futures — Israel must resist the urge to resolve problems with violence. Blasting Lebanese civilians who cannot even convince their government if they tried to reign in Hizbollah is unfair.

Pell says there are no easy answers to the situation in southern Lebanon. I agree. He then claims there is no right or wrong. I beg to differ. From the basic principle that killing civilians is wrong, it is clear that Israel should be reprimanded for responding to violence with more of the same. How is Israel's killing of civilians and bombing of power plants going to promote Israeli security? How does it contribute to the peace process? Hizbollah's tactics are reprehensible, but Israel is simply pursuing tactics of terror on a higher plane. Terrorism is the pursuit of political goals through tactics of terror. Hizbollah does some of that; their political goal is to end the occupation of Lebanon.

Israel is doing more of it. In the last two weeks, a whole order of magnitude more

civilians in Lebanon have been killed than have been killed in northern Israel over the same period.

Pell selectively chooses quotes from Hizbollah to demonstrate their ruthlessness. But the senior policy maker for Israel on the issue of Lebanon claimed in the first few days of the crisis that Israel reserves the right to respond wherever, whenever, and however it pleases in Lebanon. Lebanon is a sovereign state. What arrogance to assume that might makes right, that Lebanese civilians are expendable.

The killing of civilians is wrong. It is wrong in the north of Israel. It is wrong in the south of Lebanon. If Israel believes that its actions in Lebanon somehow will help the peace process, it is wrong again. Violence only breeds more violence, never understanding.

If Israel wants to defend its people and stop Hizbollah's bombing of them, it should withdraw from Lebanon. It should refrain from bombing women and children in UN shelters. It should immediately stop blockading the ports of a struggling country. It should discontinue its policy of making hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians homeless, then attacking the ambulances that are providing them health care.

Israeli security would be enhanced by successful pursuit of the peace process. Rabin realized this and made great strides toward it. There is no room for violence and military operations in the pursuit of peace. Bombing civilians cannot help. Israel is not defending its country, it is violating another, and most importantly it is doing more to sabotage the fragile peace in the region than any Katyusha rocket or suicide bomb ever did.

The killing of civilians must stop — on both sides of the border.



Class of 1999 Ring Committee



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THE ARTS

CAMPUS pick

By David Rodriguez

After prize-winning song, Chorallaries prepare for Spring Sing

SPRING SING

The Chorallaries.
Room 10-250.
Saturday, 8 p.m.

For the past two months, the Chorallaries have been advancing superbly in the National Competition for College a Capella. Reaching the national competition finals itself placed the Chorallaries in the nation's top five college a capella groups. Even better, at the finals stage two weeks ago in New York, they won the award for Best Arrangement.

At the first stage regionals, the Chorallaries competed against other northern New England schools like Wellesley College, Boston College, and Harvard University.

The Chorallaries took first place overall, and both Best Arrangement awards for "Losing Time" (arranged by Dean Currato), and "Pretty Good Year" (arranged by Erin McCoy).

The win sent them to the semi-finals, where they again took first place overall, as well as the award for Best Arrangement for "Pretty Good Year" and the Audience Favorite award.

At the National finals, held April 15 in New York's Lincoln Center, the Chorallaries

competed against Duke University's Men of Yale, Stanford University's Fleet Street Singers, the University of Illinois' Other Guys, and the University of North Carolina's Loreleis, who took first place. Although the Chorallaries didn't place in the top three, their arrangement of "Pretty Good Year" again won Best Arrangement.

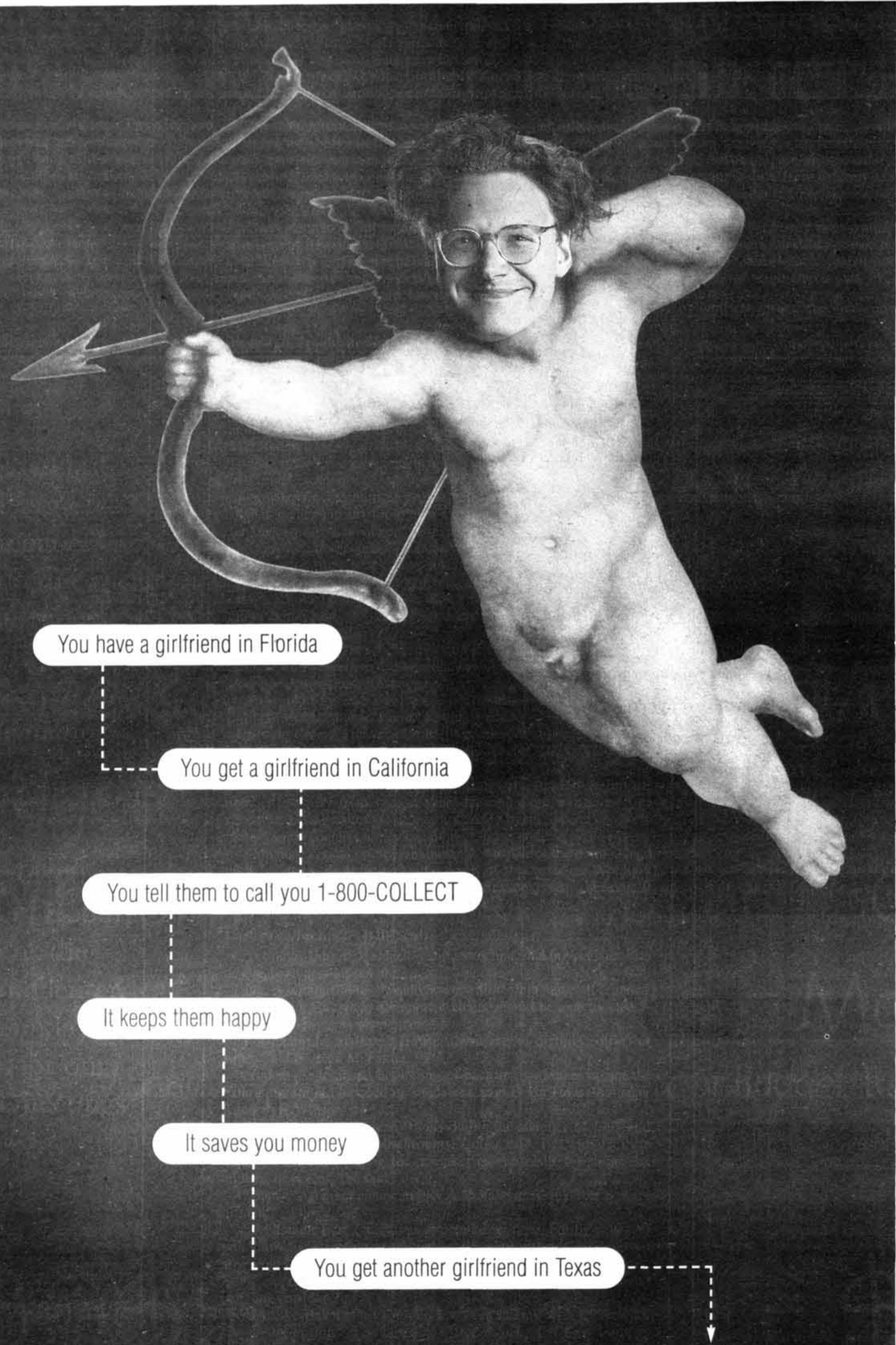
The Chorallaries are probably best known on campus for their annual Bad Taste Concert. The show starts at midnight and is the group's chance to be as raunchy as they want. This year's show included an R-rated parody of *Friends* called *Fiends*.

The coed Chorallaries currently have 17 members. On average, they expect to have four members graduate each year and to

pick up roughly the same number during auditions the next fall. This isn't a strict limit, however — last year they added eight members. This also makes for a relatively young group: 11 of the 17 are in their first two years as Chorallaries members.

All songs performed by the Chorallaries are original arrangements by the members. "Pretty Good Year," which won the Best Arrangement at the national competition, is based upon the same song by Tori Amos.

The Chorallaries' annual Spring Sing concert is this Saturday night at 8 p.m. in 10-250. They will play some of their older favorites as well their newest arrangements of songs by Oasis, Rusted Root, and Paul Simon.



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Cats and Dogs is pleasant for the sensitive at heart

THE TRUTH ABOUT CATS AND DOGS

Directed by Michael Lehmann.
Written by Audrey Wells.
Starring Uma Thurman, Janeane Garofalo, and Ben Chaplin.
Sony Copley Place.

By Scott C. Deskin
CHAIRMAN

In the genre of screwball romantic comedies, competent filmmakers must know how to push the right buttons to evoke an appropriate audience response. A fit of laughter here, a somber moment there — it's all part of a bigger picture over which the writer and director of a film have control. Of course, appealing performances determine whether a film is truly successful, whether the audience can connect with the characters in the story.

The Truth about Cats and Dogs is a film that brims over with appeal and execution. Although this is fine for the actors, whose amiable onscreen presence is a treat to watch, they're often drowning in the sappy plot constructs and the ridiculously "cute" situations: While many audience members at the LSC screening I attended were prone to exclaim "Awwww!" at all the cuteness, I felt an equal desire to groan instead.

In the story, Abby Barnes (Janeane Garo-

falo) is a successful pet doctor who hosts the talk-radio show that provides the title of the film. Her nonsense approach to dispensing her wisdom wins the heart of one of her callers, a British photographer named Brian (Ben Chaplin), who has an accent to die for. When Brian calls and asks her out for drinks, Abby decides to toy with him and fib about her physical appearance: Instead of being a short brunette, she's a tall, vivacious blonde.

Only when Abby's ditzy next-door neighbor Noelle (Uma Thurman) drops by the radio station does Abby's joke get out of hand. Brian mistakes Noelle for Abby; Abby is frustrated by the predicament of missing out on an opportunity for love, now completely squandered because of Brian's obvious physical attraction to Noelle. And Noelle tries to help Abby get her man through a series of ruses even while Noelle ponders a relationship with Brian on the rebound from her "loser" boyfriend. As Brian's infatuation becomes more tenacious, his talks on the phone with the real Abby (culminating in an experience that gives new meaning to the phrase "Reach out and touch someone") lead to an increasing desire to see the



Noelle and Abby try to explain which one is which in Lehmann's *The Truth About Cats and Dogs*.

whole package in person: Abby's radiant personality in Noelle's body.

From the beginning, we know this "Cyrano de Bergerac" tale-in-reverse must have a

happy ending. For one thing, Noelle's presence in the film is noted by some foolhardy, libidinous male in practically every scene. But after the first few times, it gets rather absurd. Second, Abby is not an ugly duckling at all — just short and a bit insecure. As the movie progresses, the audience develops a feeling of identification with Abby, while Noelle (despite her overall kind and generous nature) is little more than a dumb blonde (in the Marilyn Monroe archetypal sense). As Abby, relative screen newcomer Garofalo shows a winning, unforced appeal; Thurman's Noelle is adequate but, as the "babe," her putative intoxicating physical beauty is somehow less than believable. As the love interest, Ben Chaplin (no relation to that other Chaplin, I think) is a star in the making, although with the limited box-office appeal of, say, Uma Thurman.

Director Michael Lehmann (*Heathers*) really hasn't come up with anything as vibrant or scathing as his debut; he seems unable to do anything here except craft "safe" entertainment. The film is not an unpleasant experience, but it doesn't really rise above genre expectations, either. With that said, *The Truth about Cats and Dogs* promises a good time for suckers with romantic pretensions about how the world ought to be: a chick flick that wears its emotional sensitivity proudly on its sleeve.

Talent and grace make Alvin Ailey amazingly enjoyable

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Presented by The Bank of Boston Celebrity Series.
Wang Center for the Performing Arts.
April 22-28.

By Audrey Wu
STAFF REPORTER

In the course of my four-year stint here at MIT, the Wang Center has taken the place of the movie theater that I frequented as a high school student. Still, the ennui that familiarity so often breeds has yet to find me;

there is something about the gilded opulence of the Wang Center and the rich repertoire of works that are performed there that make each visit one that I always look forward to with excited anticipation. I never leave disappointed.

My visit to the Wang Center on Wednesday night for a performance by the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater was by no means an exception. I could attribute the amazingly enjoyable experience I had to a number of outside factors — the long-anticipated emergence of spring, the excellent company I was in, the prime seats we were lucky enough to obtain for only \$12 — but it was the exceptionally talented dancers and the

vivid, expressive choreography that created a truly brilliant performance.

The dance style of the Ailey company is very different from that of classical ballet. The sets and costumes are stark; the emphasis is thus placed on the dancers and the choreography, both of which were nothing less than amazing. Because the choreography is not restricted by a plot, the dancing focuses more on the free expression of abstract ideas and feelings, in contrast to the refined, controlled style of classical ballet. On the Wednesday evening performance that I attended, the Ailey company performed two works: "Riverside," a Boston premiere choreographed by artistic

director Judith Jamison, and the more familiar "Carmina Burana," choreographed by John Butler. "Riverside" featured music by Kimati Dinizulu, and the performance was abundant with a joyful spirit that perfectly complemented the lively beat of the music. In sharp contrast, "Carmina Burana" was a much more powerfully performed piece, and I believe this was largely because of the intensity of the music.

Although the choreography was indeed vivid, the most impressive aspect of the performance had its roots in the amazingly talented Ailey dancers. Not only are they incredible

Ailey, Page 11

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Details and one-liners make *Substitute* enjoyable

THE SUBSTITUTE

Directed by Robert Mandel.
Starring Tom Berenger, Ernie Hudson, Diane Venora, and Glenn Plummer.
Sony Cheri.

By Teresa Esser
STAFF REPORTER

The *Substitute* is an amusing film about drugs, gangs, and high school in Miami. A cross between *Rambo* and *Dangerous Minds*, it packs enough testosterone, sweat, and explosions to satisfy even the most demanding action fans. The writing is excellent and there are a number of well-developed subplots. For those who enjoy a hearty dose of cinematic tension, chivalry, and tough-guy bravado, this film is well worth a trip to the theaters.

The movie's plot is simple: A drug gang terrorizes a high school teacher (Diane Venora). She is saved by her heroic boyfriend Shale (Tom Berenger), who doubles as a mercenary killer. Temporarily unemployed, he

poses as an educator and is hired as her substitute. He confronts the gang leaders. A fight ensues.

Although the basic storyline is simple, the script is well written. For one thing, it is chock full of deadpan humor and quotable lines. "Power perceived is power achieved," Claude Rollé (Ernie Hudson), the school principal, tells Shale. Shale intimidates the fellow with this question: "Do you want to know what the difference is between soldiers and killers? [Dramatic pause.] The difference is, you're still breathing."

When the high-school students don't give him the time of day, Shale grabs the trouble-makers where it hurts. "In this class I am the warrior chief," he says, "the merciless god of anything that stirs in my universe." After a few days of scuffles and twisted arms, the kids start to pay attention.

The strength of *The Substitute* is in the details. The audience is kept on the edge of their seats by a series of unexpected dangers: Shale's girlfriend is kneecapped while jogging. Shale talks business in a bar while men

fire water-uzis into the mouths of dancers. A statue outside the high school is protected from further graffiti by a chain link fence; the letters KOD, for Knights of Destruction, have been written on every available surface.

Even Shale's reason for taking on the substitute assignment makes the situation sound grim: "These kids are walking around with pagers, driving \$50,000 BMWs. Where there's drugs, there's cash." And where there's cash to be intercepted, there will be mercenary killers. So begins Operation High School.

My main objection to the film was the overt racism created by both the script itself and the casting. The hero, Shale, is a large white guy who volunteers to substitute teach when his girlfriend is kneecapped by a Seminole Indian. Because Shale has just retired from a covert army attempt to destroy a Cuban drug facility, he has both the time and the training needed to intervene in the high-school drug ring. The brains behind the drug ring is the school's black principal, Rollé. Rollé is assisted in his evil-doings by the

Knights of Destruction, a local gang made up of black and Hispanic students and the aforementioned Seminole thug. The underlying message here is twofold: first, blacks and Hispanics need to use drugs to obtain power, and second, the situation will not be made right unless large white men come in and take control. Why Orion Pictures decided to cast the film in this way is an interesting question. It would certainly have been a different movie if Berenger had played the principal and Ernie Hudson had played the substitute savior.

There are a few notable exceptions to this trend. Sherman, a black teacher with dreadlocks, sacrifices himself to save the life of a Cuban student. Jerome, a black student in Shale's class, proves himself by firing a gun and saving Shale's life. Unfortunately, the rest of the students are portrayed as passive victims of their surroundings, all too glad to be saved by Shale, the Great White Hope.

The Substitute presents an interesting look at life in a fictional Miami high school. It is a thrilling movie that should be watched with a critical eye and thoroughly discussed.

Taki's redefines fast food with unusual depth and breadth

TAKI'S

Near Draper Laboratories

By Aaron R. Prazan
STAFF REPORTER

Almost every day, the average MIT student's schedule prevents him or her from eating at least one regular meal. Either from skipping breakfast in order to get an extra half hour of sleep, delaying lunch to get some reading done after class, or working late in lab and eating a candy bar for dinner, everyone has gone hungry. The routine malnourishment of MIT students seems out of place in Cambridge, a city with more restaurants per capita than cars. Venture a block in any direction and a cafe of some sort appears on the corner. Located near Draper Laboratories, Taki's is the perfect cure for the frequently neglected appetite.

No matter which meal you miss, Taki's will accommodate. A great breakfast, light or

heavy, is served anytime of day for about three dollars. For half of the price of a bowl of cereal, fruit, juice, and milk at the Lobdell Food Court, Taki's has eggs, bacon, pancakes, and more. An unbelievable array of sandwiches goes far beyond any lunch patron's imagination. From a simple submarine to something called an "accident" sandwich, Taki's has a quick lunch for anyone in a hurry, and it's never over five dollars. Taki's is also open later for dinner. Order ahead, and pick up a pizza that beats any available on campus in quality and price.

In addition to breadth, Taki's food selection has depth. The most noticeable thing about the place is the immense menu board that runs the length of the dining room. When it comes to home-cooked meals, Taki's has most everything conceivable. For instance, I have searched the city for a decent Rueben sandwich. Not only does Taki's have the corned beef, Swiss, sauerkraut, and Russian

on rye sandwich, but it is almost big enough for two and can be had for under four dollars. Specials like stuffed peppers, meatloaf, and steak for under five dollars seem common enough. The truth is, however, that these simple meals are often forgotten. I cannot remember the last time I ate a simple Greek salad or even a simple knackwurst. Taki's complete menu is a real treat in a food genre usually characterized by limited choices.

Despite the traditionally greasy style of food served at Taki's, every effort is made to accommodate the health-conscious. Huge salads are always very fresh and more than a meal in themselves. The pizza is so free of grease that even after saving leftovers over night, the box I had did not have a stain on the bottom. Of all the sandwiches I've tried at Taki's, none has had fatty cuts of meat. Burgers are broiled, not fried. While it is true that some food is inherently fatty, Taki's really tries to keep it minimally so.

Another advantage Taki's has over most on-campus food is its people. Family-owned and operated, Taki's has the kind of charm that is often lost in more polished restaurants. The friendly Greek cooks always have a smile and a kind word. Regular customers are on a first name basis with them. Taki's is the kind of place where you can order "the usual" and be understood. Cordiality takes a few seconds longer, but that time is definitely not wasted.

On the surface, Taki's is just an average quick food stop. Go inside, and it is a stronghold of quality. There is a simple and unbelievably broad selection of food. Friendly service and cooks who treat even new customers like old friends are welcome details. Going along with a considerate attitude is a considerate cooking style. Overall, Taki's is, despite its humble appearance, one of the best restaurants around. *Coming soon: The Search for the Best Pizza in Boston, The House of Blues.*

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A clever camera helps out heavy cinematic *Woolf*

WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?

Directed by Mike Nichols.
Written by Ernest Lehman; based on the play by Edward Albee.
Starring Richard Burton, Elizabeth Taylor, George Segal, and Sandy Dennis.
LSC Classics, Friday.

By Scott C. Deskin
CHAIRMAN

Adapting a play to the screen is a challenge for filmmakers. Often they aim to achieve both artistic and commercial success. The freedom of space in films, however, allows directors to expand the action a bit, change a few locations, and perhaps delete some dialogue to increase the pace of the action or drama. Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (1966) as directed by Mike Nichols exemplifies the benefits and drawbacks of the film medium for certain plays.

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? is a moral modernist fable that hits a raw nerve in audiences for profanity and emotional brutality. It has only four characters. George, a history professor, and Martha, daughter of the university president, are a dysfunctional couple well into middle age. Their guests, Nick and Honey, are young, idealistic, and pathetic in their own ignorance toward the "fun and games" that their drunken hosts have in store for them. In the beginning, the name-calling and accusations between George and Martha could be mistaken as drunken, disaffected banter; however, they progressively draw in their guests to games of self-degradation and destruction with isolated bits of sexual innuendo and revelation of secrets. The tension

builds to increased animosity between George and Nick, heightened sexual tensions between Nick and Martha, and emotional isolation of Honey, a wan and pale character who gets dragged along by the others. In one scene, she is literally yanked up the stairs by Martha for an impromptu tour of the home.

Hollywood actors are carefully mapped into the characters translated for the big screen. From the start of the play, Martha and Nick are at odds with each other. "What a dump," Martha (Elizabeth Taylor) remarks, asking George (Richard Burton) in which "goddamn Warner Brothers epic" Bette Davis had said those words. This minor piece of dialogue reinforces the incredulity of the audience toward the glamorous acting couple (seen three years earlier in the failed Fox epic *Cleopatra*), reduced to a bickering middle-aged couple. The younger couple, played by George Segal and Sandy Dennis, convey a idealism and naïveté that makes them emotionally malleable — ideal victims for the hosts.

The play restricts action to the house; the film moves action outside (first to an adjacent field, complete with a child's swing, and later to a roadside diner) to remove the claustrophobic feeling of the one-room setting and let the audience "breathe" a bit. The necessity of moving the story outside the living-room setting is open to debate, although commercial taste dictates that the film medium be fully exploited to improve upon the play in some way. The few shifts of the location occur when the older couple drive the young couple home and are urged to stop at a diner for dancing by the increasingly delirious Honey (at the same point where the dancing would occur in the living-room setting in the play).

Obviously, the camera can be used to show

viewpoints of characters that we can't easily see in a stage production. In an early scene, Martha and Nick are shown in a foreground conversation (she rubs his leg suggestively), with George and Honey brooding in the background on opposite sides of the room: An alternating 180-degree camera viewpoint shifts the audience's attention between the two divided couples. As expected in film, the camera transports the audience into the house and shifts between conversing characters, making full use of the space in the house. High and low camera shots show, at any particular moment, which character has the upper hand. In the diner, for instance, Martha and Nick taunt George and are viewed from a low, slightly skewed angle; toward the end of the film, when George destroys a myth about a son that he and his wife never had, and Martha collapses to the floor in mournful, regretful supplication to her husband, praying that he won't destroy this intimate, sacred illusion in front of the guests.

In both the play and the film, Martha and George are outwardly rational figures with a troubled and compulsive bent toward emotional sadism. However, George is the outwardly reticent professor who slowly, demonically shows his true colors in a series of "games," and the camera follows George periodically to show his moral deterioration. The first major shock is when George retrieves a toy rifle that sprouts an umbrella, sneaks up behind his unsuspecting guests, aims and shoots at Martha's head. This sequence results from George's disgust at Martha's glee in recounting how she knocked him down once into some bushes, catching him off-guard with a well-timed punch. This story is as much a metaphor for his emasculation in marriage as it is a blow to his long-suffering ego. The

camera tracks slowly backward to show him walking down the hall to a utility closet to retrieve the gun while Martha's voice becomes more muffled and dreamlike. The camera shifts to George's viewpoint as he sneaks up behind his guests in the main living room right before the gag is revealed.

Second, skewed camera angles convey George's drunken perceptions of his surroundings. For example, the view from the floor in the diner that forecasts George's growing anger toward Martha is shot while Martha and Nick taunt George from across the room, making a low, skewed camera angle perceptually incongruous; nevertheless, it forces a similar warped view on the audience toward the characters.

George's cold-hearted behavior toward the playing of the "games" is detailed by his own explanation, right before all-out "war" between the two couples begins in the middle of the second act. To this end, the battle between George and Martha is structured and rational. Only in the end (of both the play and the film) does sentiment threaten the artfully constructed illusion of this love-hate marriage.

Aside from this heretofore technical critique, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* is an emotionally draining film that is not really an enjoyable experience. The emotional catharsis achieved by George and Martha is not much more than a thinly-veiled plot device, designed to both increase the audience's empathy for the characters and to hasten the conclusion of the story. The film is also a bit long and hard to digest if you're not ready for it. But it's a great achievement for its time just for handling adult themes; Mike Nichols shows an uncanny sense of pathos and dramatic pacing in his first directorial effort.

'Dance from people, for people' is what Ailey group gives

Ailey, from Page 9

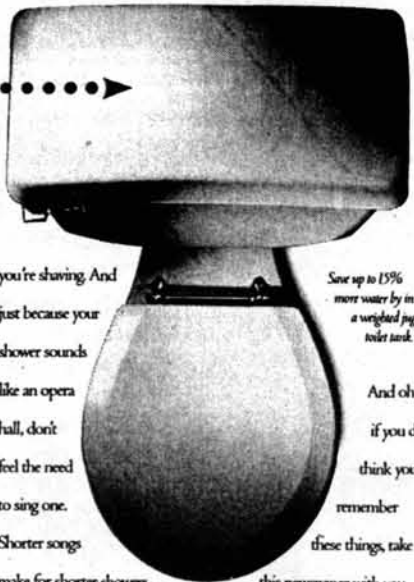
athletes, but they approach their dancing with sincere passion and spirit. Alvin Ailey once commented that "dance is from the people and should be given back to the people," and the Ailey dancers have taken that statement to

heart. They wholeheartedly expressed their love for dance to an appreciative audience, who rewarded them with a standing ovation on Wednesday evening. And I can't resist adding that the Ailey dancers make up the most impressive collection of unbelievably hard bodies that I've ever seen.

The performances change daily and feature works by several choreographers. Today the program features three works choreographed by Alvin Ailey and a revival of an Ailey classic, "Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder." The program for tomorrow features two Boston premieres, "Riverside" and "Fandango" (choreographed by

Lar Lubovitch), in addition to a work choreographed by Alvin Ailey. The program for Sunday features the Boston premieres of "Fathers and Sons" (choreographed by Shapiro and Smith) and "Urban Folk Dance" (choreographed by Ulysses Dove), as well as the famous Ailey signature work, "Revelations."

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you're shaving. And just because your shower sounds like an opera hall, don't feel the need to sing one. Shorter songs make for shorter showers. And for the biggest culprit of them all, the toilet, try putting a weighted jug in the tank. It will help save water every time you flush. Plus, don't forget to turn out the lights when you leave. You'll be helping to conserve electricity.


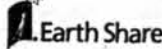
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Dreams of Central Square

Prof. Ritsuko Taho Creates "Multicultural Manifestoes"

By Eva Moy
Photos by Jiri Schindler



sage. Buy what you came for and leave. "If people are allowed to spend some time [after shopping]... then this space functions as a communication place."

The final design incorporates a certain informal, domestic quality expressed by relaxed almost-patterns in the brick work and in the layout of the benches and other elements. "People should be able to feel, 'This is my place,'" Taho said. "I see the dreams as a means to collect their honest and personal voices... and a means to transform negative experiences into positive," Taho said. "In a very humane sense, there are many common dreams."

Towers invoke global community

The hopes of Central Square will be presented on seven "dream towers" which are six to eight feet tall. Taho said she would place the unreachable dreams on the tallest towers, but then corrected herself: the dreams are "reachable, but difficult to touch."

Each cylindrical pillar has a base of brick, a middle section made of square glass panels, and six or twelve brass cylinders at the top depending on the size of the tower.

The glass panels, which will be lit at night from the inside, serve as both part of the safety improvements to that part of Central Square and to create a colorful effect. Each panel will have the word "dream" sandblasted onto it and filled in with color.

The actual dream statements, totaling several hundred, will be inscribed onto the brass

cylinders. Artistic patterns associated with a specific culture will be painted on top of the dreams. And as the observer spins a cylinder, a bell will chime inside.

Finally, the brass cylinders will be covered by a protective coating. But Taho doesn't mind the unavoidable wear and tear on this interactive display. "The artwork won't have to be presented the same way all the time," she said.

Every aspect of the dream towers — the word "dream," the individual dreams, the culture of the chimes, the artistic patterns — is presented in its own language.

Taho took a lot of care in maintaining the authenticity of the different cultures represented. To keep the feeling of handwriting, she will convert the hand-drawn characters into digital form and create a stencil of the image.

While a person may see most of the dreams as just foreign text, Taho hopes that everybody will be

able to identify with at least one part of the display.

Members of the Cambridge community can submit dreams in either their native language or in English; the project will need help translating the other languages.

Spot to be comfortable for everyone

"As a resident and artist, [Taho's] concern with the issues of cultural identity and the nature of public space is very relevant to Central Square," said Director of the MIT Council for the Arts Susan R. Cohen. "It is the most diverse community in Cambridge."

MIT Council for the Arts Awards Two Grants in February

"Multicultural Manifestoes" was one of two projects which received a grant from the MIT Council for the Arts in February. Most of the \$7,000 award was allocated for documentation of the final project, according to Susan R. Cohen, director of the MIT Council for the Arts.

Taho won the award based on her experience and the project's "potential to involve lots of people, including MIT students and the community," Cohen said. The proposal was "very convincing... her project seemed very worthwhile."

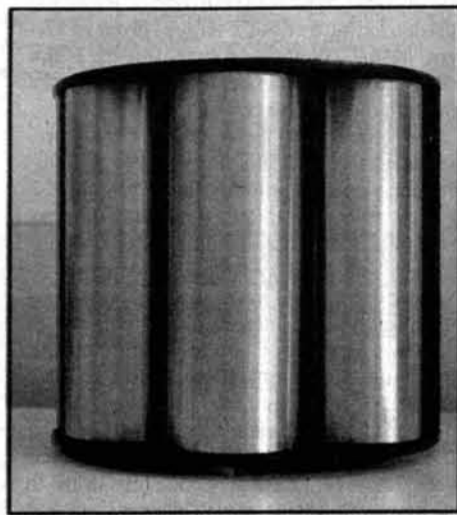
Scott R. Schiamberg G, a student in architecture and urban studies and planning, also won a February-round grant for his proposal to put up a wheat field in Lobby 7 on May 6.

The Council for the Arts — a volunteer group of alumni and friends of MIT — sponsors a wide range of art projects in the MIT community. The three deadlines for funding proposals are in September, February, and April of each year, according to Cohen.

"I see the dreams as a means to collect their honest and personal voices... and a means to transform negative experiences into positive. In a very humane sense there are many common dreams."

Indeed, Taho has strived for a balance between the different constituents of Central Square, in terms of income, age, gender, nationality, and educational level.

Working intimately with members of the Cambridge community, Taho and project architect Steve Carr wanted to create an inviting, comfortable atmosphere for everyone to enjoy. Every aspect of the design was carefully considered, from the shape of the seating areas to the type of trees to plant to the addition of more lights for nighttime safety, they said.



The dreams of Central Square residents will be collected in the next two months and inscribed on brass cylinders which top the "dream towers." Patterns identified with different cultures will also be painted onto the background. In addition, bells will chime as passerby turn the cylinders to read the dreams.

The scattered placement of "brick carpets," colorful patterns inlaid into the existing brickwork, helped to create a feeling of home, Taho said. This is meant to reflect the intimate mix of residences and businesses in Central Square.

The openness of the space invites passersby to stop for a while, Taho said. There may also be occasional performances or other entertainment in the square, she said.

Another design consideration was to recycle as many of the existing elements as possible to maintain the "continuity of the public memory," Taho said.

In addition to the display of the dreams, there will be several major changes to the square. That corner of the intersection will be squared off, extending into part of the street. One of the bus stops will be moved slightly.

The process began last June, when a panel of Cambridge-appointed jurors chose candidates from the 1,200 in the Arts Council's Public Art Slide Registry. Taho was chosen out of the three finalists.

Taho's previous work challenges people to interact with their communities and positively examine their dreams. In her "Transformation of Zero," exhibited in San Francisco last year, participants planted "dream money balls" made of their dreams, shredded dollar bills, earth, and grass seeds.

In "Multicultural Diplomats," a temporary display in 1994, Taho created a large network of inflated latex gloves with dreams inside, draped over a historical building in Atlanta.

"Multicultural Manifestoes" follows in this spirit. But the project combines the temporary characteristic of community participation and the permanent installation of the dream towers in the Square.

Initially, "I was not sure if I was going to collect dreams," although the city was not opposed to the idea, Taho said. The challenge was to design a new way of presenting the dreams. Many dreams were about money. "At first I thought they didn't take my message very seriously," but often people wished for money for their families or their self esteem, she said. "The dreams that can sound very shallow could be interpreted in a very humane way."

The children's book *The BFG*, by Roald Dahl, was about a Big Friendly Giant who collected dreams floating in the air and distributed them to all the sleeping children around the world.

Although she is not a giant, Assistant Professor of Architecture Ritsuko Taho is Cambridge's own dream catcher. For the next three months, she will be collecting the written dreams of the diverse communities of Central Square, which will be inscribed on scroll-like cylinders and permanently installed in the square.

The project, entitled "Multicultural Manifestoes," is part of the renovation of the new Carl Barron Plaza at the intersection of Massachusetts and Western Avenues. Taho won the commission for the project through the Cambridge Arts Council's Percent for Arts program. She has also won two awards from MIT to help fund the project: a \$15,000 Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences award and \$7,000 Council for the Arts award [see box].

For the next two months, Taho will collect dreams from boxes distributed throughout the Central Square business community, and through outreach to different citizen groups in the city. The actual physical construction will take place over the summer, with the final installation scheduled for fall.

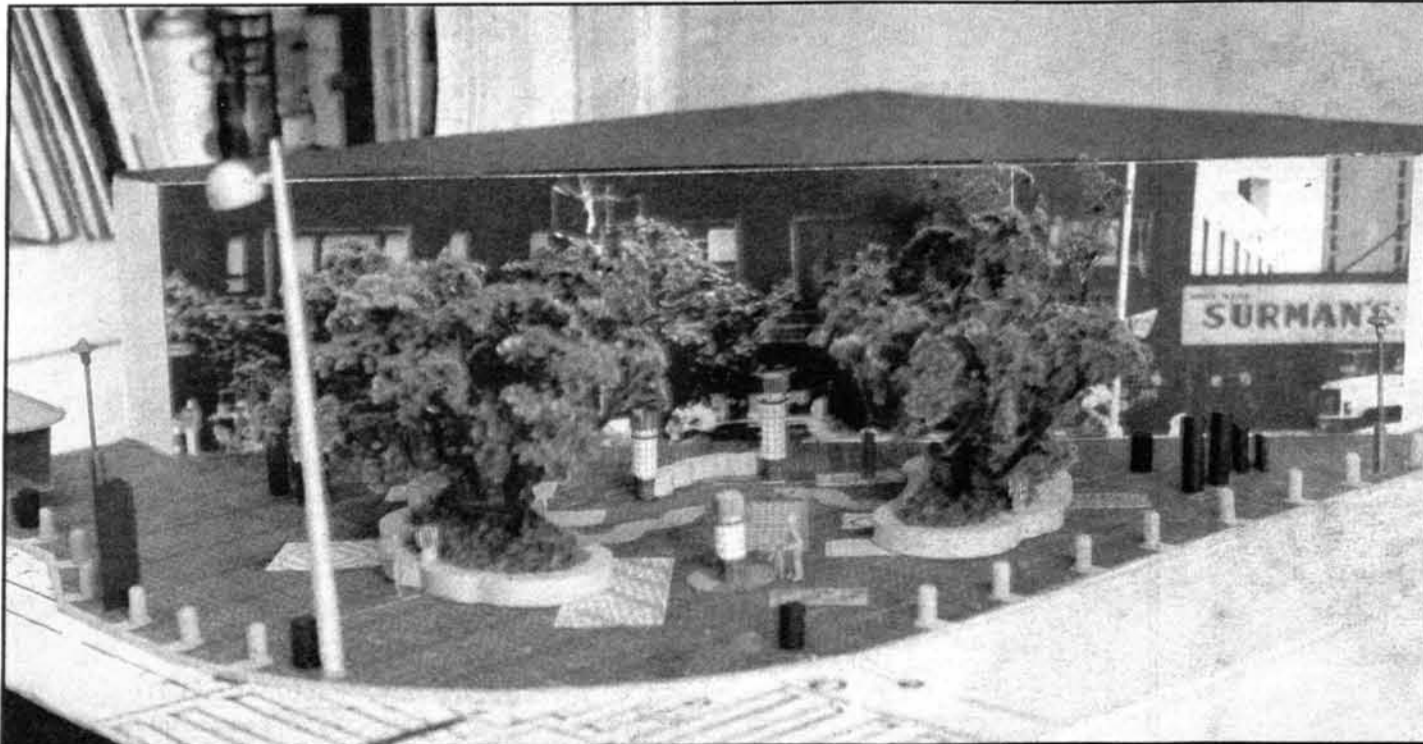
"The philosophy that guided the selection of the artist was that a public artwork in this community should be accessible, inviting, and sensitive to the diversity of Central Square," said Carol Harper, chair of the Cambridge Arts Council.

"Central Square is a very special place in terms of diversity," Taho said. People of different cultures, education levels, and income live next to each other; businesses and residential areas are all mixed together.

Taho — who has created many public art installations and won awards in the Boston area, across America, and in her native Japan — is herself a resident of Central Square.

Originally, the Cambridge committee wanted an enclosed, intimate space, but Taho felt that would discourage people from stopping on their way through.

Central Square "treats you as a consumer all the time," Taho said. This gives the mes-

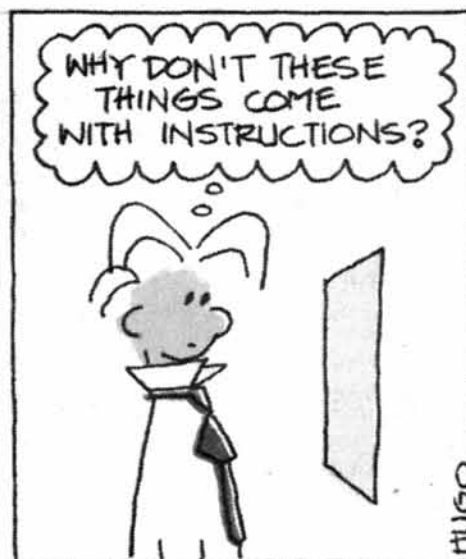
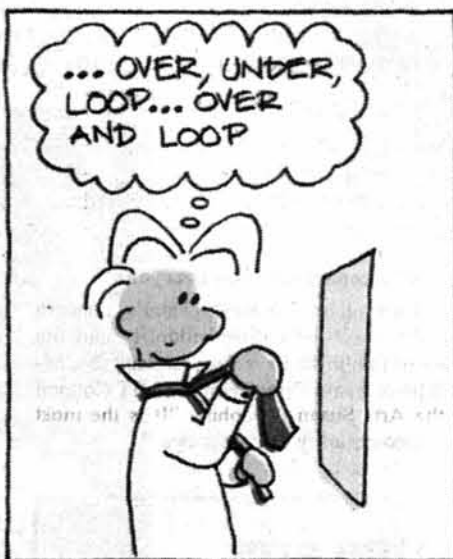


The model represents Ritsuko Taho's "Multicultural Manifestoes," a collection of the dreams of Central Square. This art installation is a part of the upgrade to the intersection of Western and Prospect Avenues.



Off Course

By H. Ayala



Where do you start?

I KNOW WHERE I'D LIKE TO START.

Easy, Romeo. We don't know each other that well. The question was: Where do you begin your online adventures? If you had MSN's Custom Start Page, all the stuff you like best and all the things you need most would be right there, right in front of you. Web links and search engines, sports scores and ski reports—even comic strips. You pick what you want and forget the rest. So visit our site at www.msn.com. It's easier to get to than first base.

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ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

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

★★★ 1/2 The Birdcage

The American version of the French farce *La Cage aux Folles* succeeds on many levels, thanks in part to the ebullient performances of Robin Williams and Nathan Lane. Armand (Williams) is the owner and musical director of a nightclub in Miami's South Beach section, while his lover Albert (Lane) is the diva-in-drag who's the star performer at the club. The trouble starts when Armand's son (Dan Futterman) starts courting the daughter of a conservative U.S. Senator (Gene Hackman) whose election platform is steeped in "moral order" and "family values." By the time the film reaches its climactic, comic showdown between the two families, the message of "family" and the characters' foibles are so skillfully exploited that one overlooks the expected degrees of slapstick, even when resorting to gay stereotypes. Director Mike Nichols and screenwriter Elaine May have struck the appropriate comic and social chords for this film to be a witty, beguiling, and relevant film. —Scott C. Deskin. *Sony Cheri*.

★ 1/2 Brain Candy

The Kids in the Hall make their disappointing transition to the screen in *Brain Candy*. Even with the extra effort put into it, the movie isn't as funny as the television show. The humor is tamer and the performances are more restrained — not a style that works well with a group that succeeded by stressing the absurd. The overall stiffness makes for a movie that is funnier explained than seen, so wait for a friend to see it and tell you about it. —David V. Rodriguez. *Sony Nickelodeon*.

★★★★ The Celluloid Closet

The Celluloid Closet unclosets queers in the American cinema, starting with an eerily provocative little clip filmed 100 years ago in the studios of Thomas Edison. To the sound of a silent violin we see two men dancing, very obviously at affectionate ease with each other. Until recently, it's been mostly downhill in film depictions of lesbians and gays. Based on the groundbreaking book of the same name by the late Vito Russo, this documentary features clips from

various representative movies, talking head shots with famous actors and directors, and a voice-over narration by Lily Tomlin. The movie relentlessly aims to ingratiate itself and is firmly situated in the assimilationist mainstream of gay politics ("We're just the same as everybody else, except for what we do in bed..."). Still, there are many pleasures to be had from watching the clips under discussion, and it's great to hear Harvey Fierstein speak up in defense of "sissies." —Stephen Brophy. *Kendall Square*.

★★ 1/2 Executive Decision

Muslim terrorists hijack a passenger plane en route to Washington and demand money and the release of their spiritual leader. But the Pentagon soon learns the real plan: To crash the plane, loaded with a deadly nerve toxin, into the capitol, instantly killing himself and the rest of the passengers and sending a deadly plume of gas over much of the eastern seaboard. Enter Kurt Russell and Steven Segal, who must sneak aboard the plane to defuse the bomb. Although the ending is never in question, *Executive Decision* keeps us hooked from one climax to the next with surprising efficiency. —Yaron Koren. *Sony Copley*.

★★★ Fargo

Joel and Ethan Coen revisit familiar territory, both personal and professional, in this tale of crime in the heartland. Set in the wintry Minnesota landscape from which the two brothers escaped a few years ago, this story of a kidnapping plot gone bad retreads the success of the Coens' first movie, *Blood Simple*. This revisiting is underlined by the casting of Frances McDormand, *Blood Simple's* femme fatale, but in a very different role — a pregnant police chief with more brains, determination, and grit, not to mention moral sense, than anyone else in the movie. —SB. *Sony Nickelodeon*.

★★ 1/2 James and the Giant Peach

For *James and the Giant Peach*, Disney brings together the team from *The Nightmare Before Christmas* to create another film that is visually intriguing and virtually oozes with its dark, surreal stop-animation style. The story, adapted from the children's tale by Roald Dahl, is given the full the Disney treatment and is full of characters with exuberant personalities and a plot full of adventure. For the

most part, it's an fascinating film, but falls apart after the giant peach crash lands in New York City. Overall, the film is fascinating, visually appealing, and at only eighty minutes long, it certainly won't bore you (until maybe the end). —Audrey Wu. *Sony Copley*.

★★★ The Last Supper

Five liberal graduate students have an unexpected guest who, over dinner, manages to offend everyone at the table. After goading the students with "Hitler had the right idea," he picks a fight and one of the students kills him. Seeing their action as a service to society, they start inviting over other conservatives they don't like — skinheads, anti-gays priests, etc. — to poison and bury in the backyard. —DVR. *Sony Copley*.

★★ 1/2 Mystery Science Theater 3000: The Movie

This Island Earth gets the MST3000 treatment in *Mystery Science Theater 3000: The Movie*, but it really doesn't deserve it. As you surely know, MST3000 is an experiment by the evil Dr. Clayton Forrester who wants to take over the world by forcing its entire population to watch the worst movies ever made, thereby rendering it defenseless. But Mike Nelson, the subject of this experiment, fights back along with his robot pals by talking back at the movies. The only problem with the concept this time out is that *This Island Earth* is actually a pretty good film trapped within the B-movie conventions of its day. Why couldn't they have picked on *The Killer Shrews*? —SB. *Kendall Square*.

★★★ 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. *Saturday at LSC*.

★★ 1/2 Twelve Monkeys

In this science-fiction offering from director Terry Gilliam (*Brazil*, *The Fisher King*) and writer David Peoples (*Blade Runner*, *Unforgiven*), Bruce Willis plays Cole, a prisoner in a post-apocalyptic future; scientists hand-pick him as a "volunteer" to go back in time to uncover information regarding a mysterious virus that wiped out most of the earth's population. He runs into problems, however, when he gets thrown in a mental institution and meets a sympathetic doctor (Madeleine Stowe) and a defective inmate (Brad Pitt). Cole trips through time much like Billy Pilgrim in Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five*. Unlike Pilgrim, Cole 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 him even more. But what results is an incredibly bleak picture; a romantic development between Stowe and Willis toward the end is a pretentious and unsuccessful attempt to offset the film's inevitable, depressing conclusion. However, *Twelve Monkeys* is partially redeemed by some comic relief from Pitt's character and Gilliam's distinctive, engaging visuals. —SCD. *Friday at LSC*.



Anthony Hopkins plays Nixon, showing Saturday at LSC.



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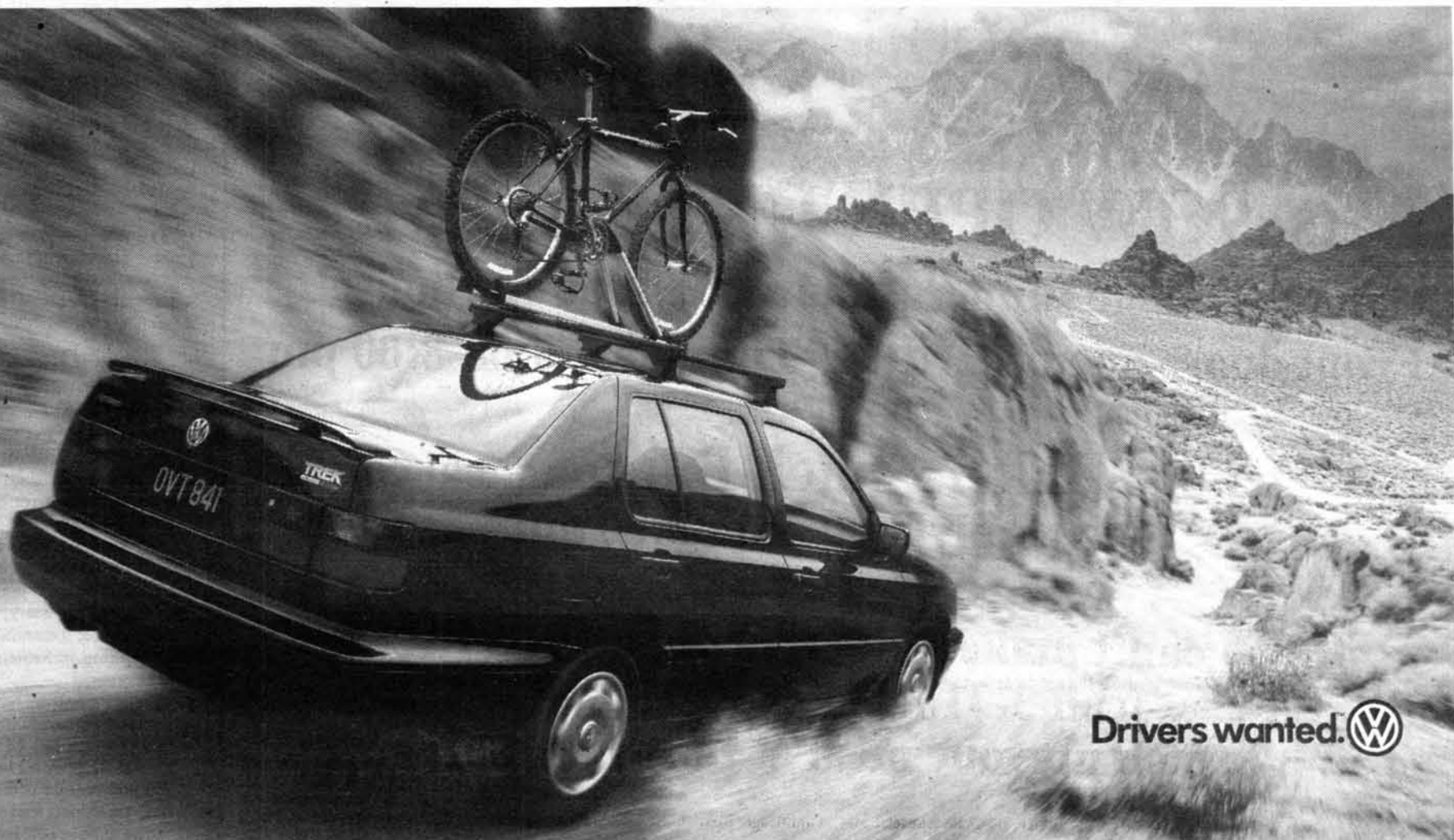
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Teams Prepare for Fall Re-engineering

By Shang-Lin Chuang
NEWS EDITOR

Student services re-engineering teams have started work on improving and streamlining student services for next year, according to team member Jagruti S. Patel '96. The team members met with representatives from major student groups yesterday to brief them on the teams' current status.

"The redesign of educational support and orientation will hopefully start within a year," said team member Anand Mehta G.

Teams start work on proposals

Support for the educational program will include coordination of freshman-year information with support to academic advising and the provision of education-related information.

Orientation redesign will include all processes prior to matriculation but exclude residence selection.

The financial and academic-services transition team has started work to implement the recommendations made by the student services redesign team. The proposed recommendations include automated access to student financial aid and academic records and a timely research associateship and teaching assistant appointment process.

The co-curricular redesign team is following the recommendations made by the student services assessment team and is looking for ways to redesign event registration, planning, and management of student accounts; space allocation and scheduling of student activities; and resource allocation.

The career assistance team, also processing the assessment team's recommendations, will be looking for ways to redesign the distribution

of career services information, planning of careers or further education, development of outside organization connection, and improving of feedback mechanisms.

"I like the things that the teams are looking at," said Gregory E. Penn G, Graduate Student Council representative. "It is very important that they keep communication open."

"I am looking forward to seeing things happen," Penn said. "I am glad that the teams are looking to involve students."

"The student services re-engineering teams are making really good recommendations to improve and facilitate student life," said Undergraduate Association President-elect Richard Y. Lee '97.

"Hopefully the UA can work with the re-engineering teams to convince the administration of the importance of student activities for life at MIT," Lee said.

Other groups that were represented include the Interfraternity Council, Campus Activities Complex, Residence and Campus Activities, Dormcon, and other student groups.

FAST team to implement changes

The FAST team is looking to improve the way technology, human resources, communication, student services, and policies handled.

The team wants to see online implementation of billing, RA/TA appointment, contracting, fund transfer, subject enrollment, address change, certification, grade submission, and student employment.

One of the major changes the FAST team will make is the establishment of the Student Services Center, which will contain all of the relevant information a student needs. The exact location of the center has yet to be determined, Patel said.

"FAST has already started work that will continue into the summer of 1997," Patel said. "Hopefully the Student Services Center will be out this coming fall.... We are trying to get at least one undergraduate and one graduate student on the team," she said.

"Over the summer, we hope to meet with an advisory group consisting of representatives from the major student groups at least once a week," Patel said. "We'd like to get students involved and get a broader view on the services."

Co-curricular support stressed

"We want to emphasize and ask the Institute to devote resources to these co-curricular, not extra-curricular, activities, which are as important as education," said Co-curricular Team Captain Anthony J. Ives '96.

The four areas the team will be looking at are event registration and planning, student account management, space allocation, and resource allocation to student activities.

"The team will officially kick off June 19 and continue to Residence and Orientation week in the middle of August," Ives said.

"During that time, the team, consisting of half staff and half students, will be working intensely on improving support for co-curricular life," he said.

"In September, the team will present the new design and get feedback from the community to change the design as necessary," Ives said.

The career assistance team will start working in September, Mehta said.

The team will be focusing on an early start on career planning, bettering the methods of information exchange, developing better international and outside connections, and increasing alumni feedback.

"The team is still in the planning stages, nothing is set yet," Mehta said.

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Dorms Seek Female Housing Options

By David D. Hsu
NEWS EDITOR

As the number of female students has risen in the past few years, so has the demand for single-sex housing. In response, dormitories and the Office of Residence and Campus Activities are considering several different single-sex housing options.

After last year's dormitory lottery, most of the women unhappy with their assignments had requested McCormick Hall or MacGregor House, hoping to get a single-sex dormitory or a single room. RCA estimated that 100 additional all-female bed spaces were required to satisfy those requests. ["Increased Female Admission Causes Problem For Housing," Sept. 12]

Percentage-wise, female students' demand for single-sex housing has stayed the same even as more women have come to the Institute, said RCA Staff Associate Phillip M. Bernard.

But a small increase in the number of female students may cause a larger strain on the dormitories since fraternities will still draw about the same number of male students, Bernard said. For example, a two percent increase in the number of women students has led to a seven to nine percent increase in the percentage of women in dormitories in recent years, he said.

Also because of this trend, McCormick Hall, the only all-female dormitory, will have less spots available next year than it did this year, said House Manager Bailey E. Hewitt.

"We've thought there is probably a need for more all-women spaces than we can accommodate through McCormick Hall," Bernard said.

To help dormitories plan for students who want single-sex housing, next year's freshmen will be able to select an option in the housing lottery that specifically requests single-sex housing, Bernard said.

Although simply choosing single-sex housing will not guarantee such accommodations, the option helps room assignment chairs plan ahead, Bernard said.

The option also helps gauge whether incoming men want single-sex housing, Bernard said. "We do get requests for that," he said.

"We are telling residence halls that they should expect a certain number of single-sex requests and should plan for them," Bernard said. "We're not telling any house that you have to make a block of halls all-female."

Residents usually decide housing

All-female suites are available in some dormitories. The definition of all-female also varies — whether it means a single-sex floor, suite, or bathroom, Bernard said.

At MacGregor House, there were 10 female suites, 24 male suites, and 18 co-ed suites during the 1994-95 school year, said House Manager Robert Ramsey.

Senior House allows students to choose whether they want to live in a co-ed or single-sex arrangement, said Jonathan M. Hunt '97, a room assignment chair. If people want to live together, they can apply together and get priority for a suite, he said.

The bathrooms are co-ed, but the door can be locked, Hunt said. Currently, the second floor in one of the suites is all-female except for one male, Hunt said. "That's just how it turned out to be."

"A lot of people got together and talked to Phil Bernard and expressed our interest that we didn't want to be forced to do anything," Hunt said. However, "if students want [single-sex housing], we'll try to make it happen."

At New House, "each living group has its own room assignment chair; it's up to them to decide if they want single-sex housing," said House Manager Luise Keohane.

"It would be possible to set one floor aside for single-sex housing if this is what the house wants," Keohane said.

Burton-Conner House is similarly structured into suites, and typically has several that are single-sex, said Angela Chang '96, a room assignment chair.

Currently, seven Burton-Conner suites are single-sex, but the number can vary from year to year, depending on the needs of the residents, Chang said. "If there is a demand by an upperclassman to make a suite single-sex, they can do it," Chang said.

"Making a quota on how many single-sex suites the dorm should have is not really sensitive to the needs of the residents. We don't know how many suites will be single-sex next year, because it depends on what residents want," Chang said.

Lack of suites makes it difficult

Yet many dormitories lack a suite structure, making it difficult to designate an area all-female.

Places without suites "would be very difficult to make all-female," Bernard said. But room assignment chairs should be able to accommodate females in some manner.

For example, at Baker House, there are no distinct entries or suites, said Barbara M. Cutler '97.

Students vote at the beginning of each term whether or not the bathrooms should be coed or single-sex, said Baker House Manager Kenneth F. Winsor.

Baker will undergo renovations during the summer of 1997 and that may make separate bathrooms, Cutler said. But although the administration is pushing for it, Baker has no plans for single-sex housing next year, she said.

Room assignment chairs and RCA "both agree that Baker is more difficult," Winsor said.

Like Baker, East Campus is structured by floor, not by suite. "If you know the structure of the house, it's very difficult" to make an area single-sex, said East Campus House Manager John P. Corcoran. East Campus houses have 30 to 40 students per floor in rooms along one long corridor.

Also like Baker, East Campus has been talking with RCA about single-sex options. The housing office asked what East Campus would do if it received about 10 women who wanted single-sex housing, said East Campus Vice President Stephanie A. Jenrette '97.

East Campus could respond with a single-sex bathroom and attempt to group the women together, Jenrette said. However, "basically... East Campus would be the last place to put people who want single-sex housing," she said.

Student Sustains Minor Injuries After Being Struck by Automobile

By Jennifer Lane
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Joel R. Palacios '96 is doing well following a brief stay at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, where he was taken after being struck by a car on Memorial Drive last Friday afternoon.

The run-in was one of an unusual number of accidents Friday, which included another pedestrian hit by a car and a nine-car pileup, both on Memorial Drive, according to state police.

An officer on the scene ascribed the rash of accidents to the increase in pedestrian traffic, which in turn was probably a result of Friday having been the year's first warm-weather day.

Palacios and a friend had been

jogging along the river side of Memorial Drive just outside of New House, heading toward Massachusetts Avenue.

Palacios hit while crossing

Palacios tried to cut across the road but forgot to check for traffic. "I had just finished a long run and was kind of tired and not really thinking," Palacios said. "I thought the road was just one way, and saw that traffic was clear. I didn't think to look behind me."

He was struck from behind by a car going around 50 miles an hour, according to state police. "I kind-of did a back somersault into the windshield," Palacios said.

Palacios was taken immediately to Beth Israel Hospital in Boston,

where he was admitted for overnight observation and listed in very stable condition, according to Beth Israel Public Relations Spokesperson Cooper Toulmin.

Palacios received stitches for several head lacerations and was released.

The posted speed limit on Memorial Drive is 30 mph, although traffic typically moves at closer to 50 mph, according to state police. The driver of the car is not likely to be implicated in any wrongdoing, according to state police.

The Campus Police could not be reached for comment.

Ramy A. Arnaout contributed to the reporting of this story.

Newsweek Reports Inaccurately On MIT's Early Retirement Plan

Newsweek, from Page 1

"The purpose of the faculty program is intellectual renewal, not reduction of the size of the faculty," Vest said.

The number of faculty members will remain constant because junior faculty will replace tenured professors who retire, Bacow said.

Some concerned over perceptions

Bacow expressed concerns that since admitted students will be mak-

ing their decisions whether or not to attend MIT this week, the errors in Newsweek could make a negative impression on potential students and their parents.

"We would hope that pre-frosh would not be confused by the Newsweek article," said Bacow.

"I don't think that it's really a big factor in 18-year-olds' decisions," said MIT spokesperson Kenneth D. Campbell.

The article also contained an error about MIT's plans to renovate

Building 20. "They confused what was termed 'relocation' costs with what are actually costs of renovating spaces for Building 20 occupants in Buildings 16 and 56 and in other facilities."

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Alda's Show Appeals To a Wide Audience

Alda, from Page 1

Blumberg presented his research on motion detection of a person in a known environment and the possibility of commanding a virtual watchdog named Silas.

Maes presented Firefly, a so-called autonomous agent that previews information about popular culture and that can learn users' preferences. Firefly uses the World-Wide Web as its graphical user interface.

Filming of the episode took place in a sparsely furnished room in the basement of the Media Lab. The front wall of the room displayed a projection screen that showed an image of the room and including the silhouette of Alda and the computer-generated dog Silas.

Alda talked with Blumberg while playing with the virtual dog and trying to make it follow his commands. Later, the host and researchers moved over to a computer and talked about the Web and its applications to new technologies.

Alda films in a relaxed manner

This relaxed style of filming is characteristic for Alda and *Scientific American Frontiers*. Alda reads about the episodes' topics beforehand for background and to "get a feel for" the science, he said.

Alda does not, however, prepare a rigid script, nor does he speak with the researchers he interviews or rehearse questions before filming. Instead, he relies on the spontaneity of the discussion and his natural curiosity for new things to make the show interesting, he said.

Since each film shoot is therefore unique, there are occasional places in the final cut where conversation does not flow smoothly. But instead of detracting from the show, that roughness adds authenticity and brings the viewer closer to an otherwise distant researcher, Alda said.

Part of the job's excitement is meeting people who like to experiment and try new things, Alda said. While filming the series he has learned that even research and experimentation that lacks a practical application is important because it pushes forward the way people think, he said.

The series, which was formerly hosted by Professor of Mechanical Engineering Woodie C. Flowers, is directed and produced by Graham Chedd. The Media Lab episode is scheduled to be aired this fall on the Discovery Channel.



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Jim's Journal

by Jim



10-25

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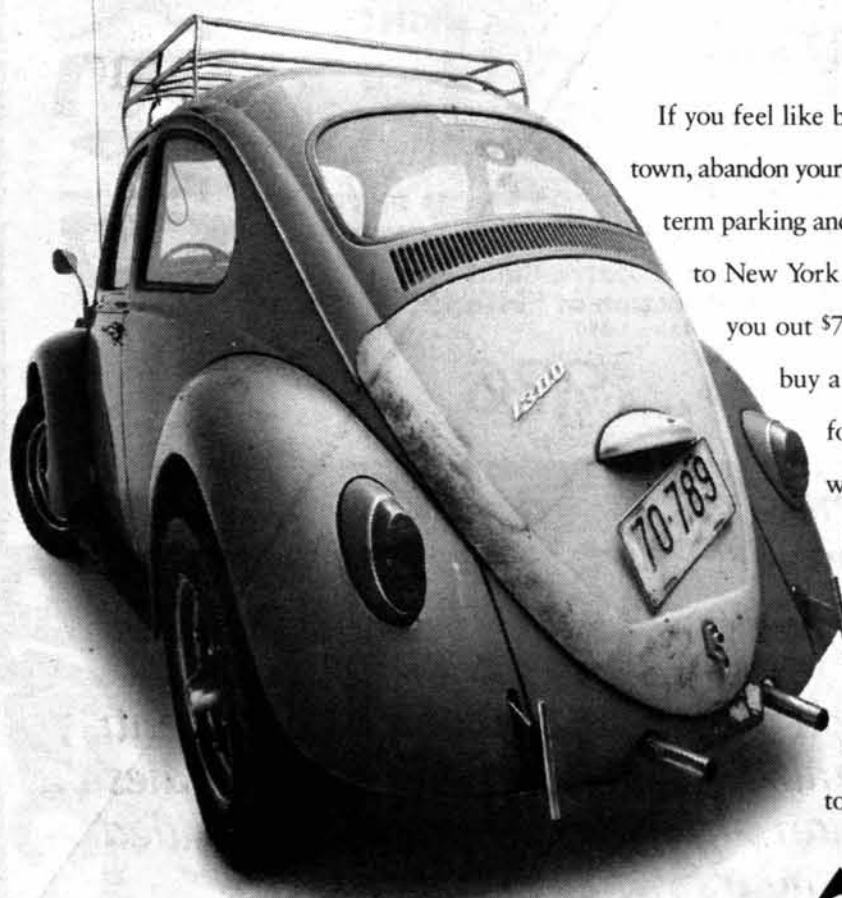
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Jim's Journal

by Jim



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MIT Spring Weekend Committee, Campus Activities Complex & Residence & Campus Activities/UESA PRESENT

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SPRING FEVER-ENERGIZE
11am-3pm, Kresge Oval

Alpha Phi
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Alpha Phi Skit
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Student Center Committee
SPRING CONCERT
featuring "Soul Coughing"
Doors open at 9:30pm, Sala de Puerto Rico

SATURDAY, MAY 4
COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND ROAD RACE
9:30am, McDermott Court

Sigma Chi
3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
1pm-5pm, duPont Gymnasium

Alpha Tau Omega
ATO LAS VEGAS NIGHT
9pm-12:30am, Lobdell

SUNDAY, MAY 5
MIT Vegetarian Support Group
VEGETARIAN FOOD FEST
11am-6pm, Johnson Athletics Center

Black Theatre Guild
Production of "HOME"
3pm, Room 1-390

WEEKEND '96

MAY 2-5, 1996




Mental illness has warning signs, too.

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

For a free booklet about mental illness and its warning signs, write to or call:

National Mental Health Association
P.O. Box 17389,
Washington, D.C. 20041
1-800-969-NMHA.

Learn to see the warning signs.



Weight Room Needs Some Improvements

Athletics, from Page 1

ized instruction and do circuit training routines where several different exercises must be performed in succession with little rest in between, Hill said.

Schedules cause controversy

The new schedule is a finalized version of two earlier attempts. The first schedule, posted two weeks ago, stated that new "varsity hours" would be from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. every weekday.

Hill said he never intended to have more than one time period dedicated to athletes. Also, the 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. period was to be for all competitive sports, not just varsity athletics.

New signs were posted, explaining the mistake. But because of the popularity of the 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. time period, complaints continued and flyers were posted protesting the new hours.

Two days later, Hill held an impromptu meeting where people affected by the change could express their concerns.

"That meeting caused us to meet as a management team and listen to their points. We took the middle ground and chose the 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. time period for athletes and tried to be considerate to everyone, especially our employees that lift after work and our athletes that need to be going to an exam or to a study session later in the night," Royer said.

Improvements expected

Expanded hours and improved training for athletes aside, the issue on many peoples' minds is the

dilapidated condition of the weight room and its equipment, most of which was purchased with a \$20,000 contribution in the late 80s.

"The air conditioning breaks down. The floor is getting dangerous, and that smell is quite obnoxious," said Andrew J. Rhomberg G.

Anke M. Friedrich G, who represents the Graduate Student Council on the athletic board and brought the issue up at the board's first meeting, agreed.

"In general people are very dissatisfied with the weight room. Ten years ago, it may have been enough to have one weight room. But now, lifting is much more popular; it's what people are doing in the 90s," she said.

Hill acknowledged the problems. "The weight room has been sort of a lackluster area that has been undergoing a lot of use and pressure," he said.

In 1992, when Hill became athletic director, "we had no money for personnel — there was always a shortfall," he says. "I think we've come a long way. We're open more and we've provided opportunities for students to earn money. Each year we refurbish the equipment."

In the coming months, "we are going to look to repair the floors, get the room at least painted, and see if we can't develop another dedicated area for just power lifting," he said.

Hill will have to persuade some cynics first, though. Rhomberg said that although the athletic department is quick to promise change, "It takes them forever to do even the most basic things."

"We're definitely going to move on [the improvements]," Hill said. "We are trying to do as much as we can to make the best of a very difficult challenge."

Berenson Subjected to Inhumane Trial in Peru

Berenson, from Page 1

turning point for her," Diskin said.

"It's inconceivable that [Berenson] had anything to do with the military side of things," Diskin said. She was "victimized for reasons that had very little to do with her behavior" by "a government that systematically destroyed its own population."

Berenson's lawyer in the United States, Thomas Nuter, outlined the procedures of the secret Peruvian military courts.

"Lori was blindfolded, driven around in circles for two hours, and taken into a special room in a prison with a hooded judge to hear the judge read the verdict," Nuter said. "That was the extent of her participation in her trial."

Nuter said that much of the evidence was the uncorroborated testimony of one of her co-defendants and that Berenson's Peruvian attorney had to share one copy of the prosecution's 2000-page indictment with all the other defendants' lawyers.

Berenson's lawyer in Peru had only 20 minutes to present his oral defense and was not allowed to hear the prosecutor present the government's case, Nuter said.

Berenson's mother, Rhoda, discussed her daughter's current conditions at Yanamayo prison in the Andes. "There's no heat and no running water, and she only gets out for half an hour each day," she said. "Even so, she's still cheerful."

Rhoda Berenson explained that people convicted of treason in Peru are not normally permitted to receive visitors until after they have served their sentence. Her family is forbidden to see her, but Lori receives regular visits from U.S. embassy staff.

Susanna Cardennes, a Peruvian who teaches at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, discussed the current state of human rights in Peru.

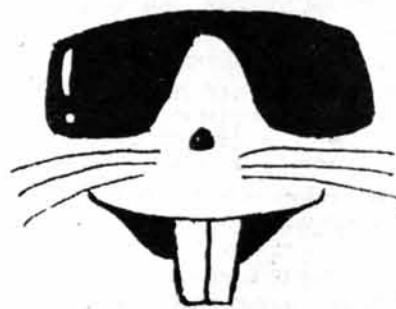
"In 1995, two laws granted amnesty to members of the armed

forces who committed human rights abuses," Cardennes said. "This is considered the most negative thing in the human rights history of Peru."

While the terrorism problems in Peru have not been solved, the situation is getting better, Cardennes said. Both the government and rebel groups have committed fewer human rights abuses since 1992, she said.

Second Annual

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Fundraiser - Motivated groups needed to earn \$500+ promoting AT&T, Discover, gas, and retail cards. Since 1969, we've helped thousands of groups raise the money they need. Call Fina at (800) 592-2121 ext. 100. Free CD to qualified callers.

Marketing assistant needed for a small company start-up. Students are welcome. Please call Eva at (617) 449-5774 mn-fri 7am-4pm.

Office administrator for Graphic Design Firm near Harvard Square. Knowledge of Quicken, Quickbooks Pro, MS Word. Candidate will handle client contact, reception, job tracking. Send resume to: Judith Richland, 357 Harvard Street, Cambridge, MA 02138; Fax: (617) 868-1384.

■ Positions wanted

Person with 25 years of hands on experience in metal casting, lost wax and sand. Has strong problem solving ability, would be interested in working a few hours per month as a consultant, call 508-653-9484

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Inventors and Entrepreneurs: Attorney Charles Katz offers patent and related legal services at reasonable rates. Conveniently located in Central Sq. Call 354-3400 or email cbklaw@ix.netcom.com.

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June Degree Candidates - Candidates with Federal and/or MIT administered student loans must have an Exit Interview with a Bursar's Office loan counselor before graduation. Call 253-4007 or e-mail ewolcott@mit.edu to schedule an appointment.

■ Clubs

MIT Dormitory Council: Help represent dormitory interest by joining student government. The MIT DormCon meets once every two weeks. To find out more about how you can get involved, contact Christopher H. Barron '97 at x5-6654, or e-mail <toher@mit.edu>.

Jim's Journal

By Jim

Tony had his interview at the other shoe store today.



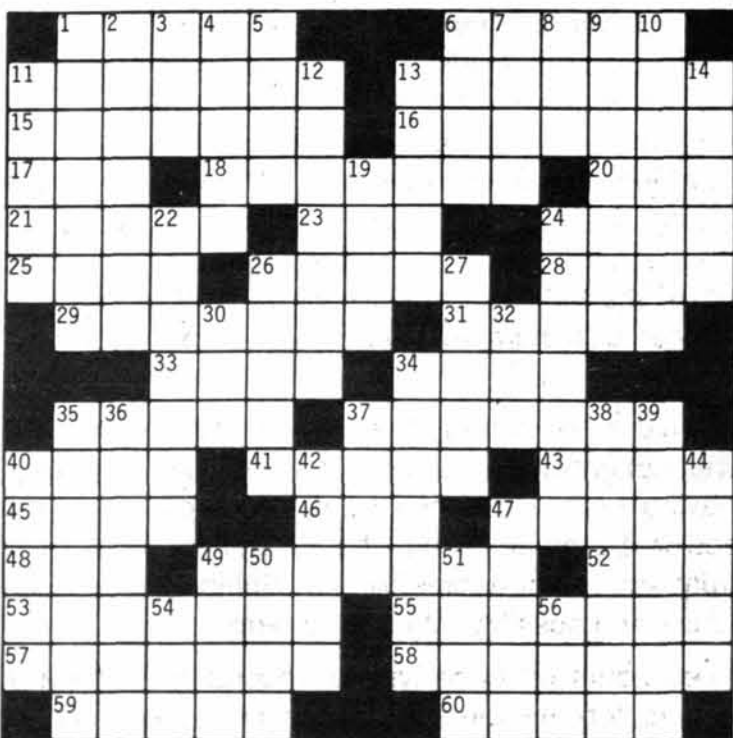
I asked him how it went and he said, "It went fine."



But by the way he said it, it didn't sound like it went fine.



Today I saw a guy picking coins out of the snow by a parking meter.



ACROSS

- 1 Jack
- 6 Paul and Leo, e.g.
- 11 Fanleaf palm
- 13 Crazy
- 15 Shaded walk
- 16 Howl
- 17 Command to a dog
- 18 Spins
- 20 "Mama"
- 21 Lines of stitching
- 23 Dynamite
- 24 Certain fuel
- 25 Aware of
- 26 Maid
- 28 Table scraps
- 29 Certain muscles
- 31 Alysheba, for one
- 33 Does the conga
- 34 Type of plane
- 35 Car part
- 37 Manages
- 40 Command to a dog
- 41 Ignominy
- 43 Oz actor

- 45 Ending for lumin
- 46 Sphere
- 47 Be slow in leaving
- 48 Humor
- 49 African river
- 52 Disencumber
- 53 Teach
- 55 Watch brand
- 57 Obtains
- 58 Wrench
- 59 Passover meal
- 60 Punches

- 12 Rags
- 13 Montana city
- 14 Water performers
- 19 Picnic problem
- 22 Candidate in '84
- 24 Type of Toyota
- 26 Sulks
- 27 River to the North Sea
- 30 Mr. Grauman
- 32 Command (abbr.)
- 34 Frolics
- 35 Moreover
- 36 Class format
- 37 David's instrument
- 38 Piece of jewelry
- 39 Historic places
- 40 Cut
- 42 Residences
- 44 American painter
- 47 Of a musical sound
- 49 Wash
- 50 Roman road
- 51 Louis Armstrong's nickname
- 54 "EI"
- 56 African antelope

DOWN

- 1 Standing out from the rest
- 2 Appease
- 3 Basketball need
- 4 Imitators
- 5 Fuss
- 6 Wan
- 7 Responsibility
- 8 "Joey"
- 9 Inflames with love
- 10 Feed fully
- 11 Italian poet

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE

A	T	A	L	A	N	T	A	A	S	H	E	S	
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Contact: Dr. Perkele (553-3223 or e-mail: subjects@speech.mit.edu)

Playoffs Will Be Fun, But Bulls'll Win It All

By Bo Light
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Did anyone stay up to catch the end of the Capitals-Penguins game on Wednesday? **EVERYTHING ABOUT SPORTS** No? Not surprising, considering the game lasted almost seven hours. When the Pens finally scored the winning goal, with 44 seconds left in the fourth overtime, the security staff had to go through the stands and wake people up so they could leave.

In case you hadn't noticed, Major League Soccer is off and running. So far, the league has featured the lack of scoring common to the sport, despite all efforts by league officials to increase the number of goals scored.

This is not to say the games aren't exciting; last weekend New England and New York/New Jersey played a thrilling 1-0 match that was decided by an own-goal with 12 seconds to play. The game is attracting fans, too; so far every team has sold out its home opener. Now all MLS has to do to be wildly successful is hire the NBA's marketing staff.

Speaking of the NBA, it's finally playoff time in hoops-land. How far will Houston get in its quest to three-peat? How far will anyone get against the Bulls? How far will Dennis Rodman get with Madonna? For answers to these questions and less, read on.

Bulls still own the East

Would everyone who does not think the Bulls will be in the NBA Finals please stand up. If you are standing, sit down; you are wrong. Chicago won a total of 72 games during the regular season; 15 more doesn't seem like much of a challenge. The only question seems to be who will win the rest of the games.

If there is a time for anyone to upset either Chicago or Orlando, the first round is it. With only five games, a team could steal a win on the road, then survive two games at home to pull the upset of the century. The Magic's mediocre road record makes the team particularly vulnerable. But fortunately for the Bulls and Magic, neither Miami nor Detroit are up to the task. The Pistons could stun the Magic, but then again, Winnipeg could still win the Stanley Cup.

Indiana-Atlanta and Cleveland-New York are much better series; both of these should go five games. Look for the higher seeds (Indiana and Cleveland) to come out on top in each case.

In the second round, Orlando plays Indiana, a team that seems perennially one year away from a championship. Reggie Miller could pull out this series for the Pacers, but he'll have to do it nearly single-handedly, as Rik Smits will be hard-pressed to do anything against Shaq. Looks like Indiana is still a year away.

Someday, Cleveland will find a way to beat Chicago in the playoffs. It seems like Michael Jordan is always hitting buzzer-beaters over

Craig Ehlo to send the Cavs home. Well, Ehlo is gone, but the Bulls aren't likely to need any last-second heroics in this series. Maybe after Jordan retires again...

The Eastern Conference finals will match up the two best teams in the league. Unfortunately, Orlando's poor road performances will take them out of this series no matter what, while the Bulls will have the home-court advantage anyway. Bulls in six.

Spurs'll take Western Conference

Hey, maybe Seattle will get past the first round this year! They get the pleasure of playing Sacramento — the only sub-.500 team to make the playoffs — and should breeze through the series.

The Spurs should have a lot more trouble with Phoenix, but will probably get to the second round as well. There will be upsets in the first round; Portland, the hottest team in the league, will bump Utah from the playoffs, and Houston should get by the chaotic Lakers as they attempt to overcome a less-than-stellar regular season.

In the second round, Seattle will face Houston. One team is the two-time defending NBA champion; the other has a history of choking in the playoffs. Do you see where this is going? Keep trying, Sonics. San Antonio, meanwhile, will have a rough time against the Blazers, but should prevail in seven games.

The Houston-San Antonio playoff series is fast becoming a rivalry on par with the Pistons-Bulls series of the late 80s and early 90s. If Hakeem Olajuwon and David Robinson stay in the league a few more years (and they don't look like they're going anywhere), this could even match the great Celtics-Lakers rivalry of years gone by. This year, the Admiral has a better supporting cast than the Dream, and more importantly, Dennis Rodman isn't around to destroy the Spurs. San Antonio will win in seven games, thus guaranteeing a new NBA champion.

Guess who'll take the finals

I'd love to tell you how exciting the finals will be, but unfortunately, this one's a no-brainer. The Bulls might have trouble matching up against the Spurs, because they lack a center, but if they can get past Shaquille O'Neal, who has Penny Hardaway and Horace Grant to back him up, they should get past David Robinson, who has, um, Sean Elliott. Bulls in five.

Trivia Question

Okay, folks, listen up. The first correct answer to this question wins tickets to tomorrow's Red Sox game, where you can watch the home team lose to Kansas City. The Sox have been pathetic through their first 21 games, but there have been worse teams. What is the worst record a team has had through 21 games? Name the record, the team, and the year, and send your answers to teasports@the-tech.mit.edu. Answer by 6:00 p.m. tonight, or you can forget about the tickets.

Truman Scholarships Informational Meeting

**Monday, April 29, 1996
4:00 p.m., E51-275**

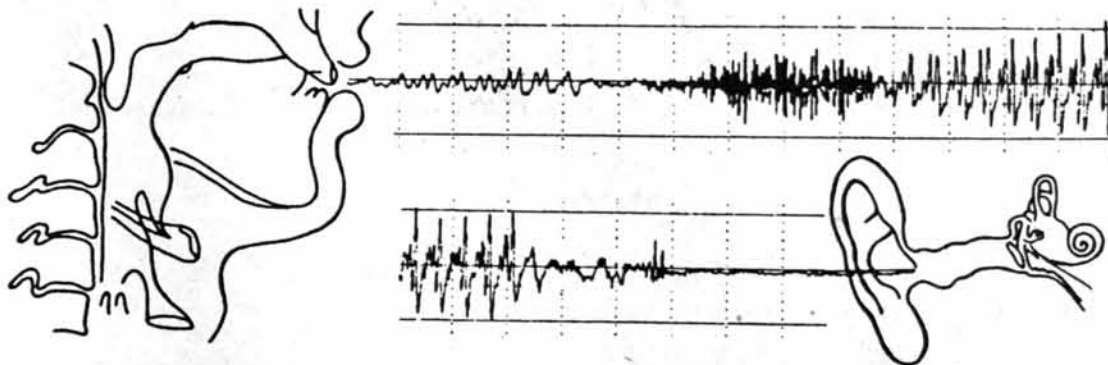
Are you considering a career in government, education, or other public service sector? Find out how you can apply for a \$30,000 scholarship during the fall of your junior year. Scholarships are awarded to juniors for use during senior year and graduate school.

If you are a U.S. citizen and in the top half of your class, you may be eligible to apply.

Ted Miguel, Class of '96, a 1995 Truman Scholar, will be available to share his experience with you.

For more information, please contact the History Office at 253-4965, or visit the Truman Scholarship Foundation web site at <http://www.act.org/truman>.

SUBJECTS WANTED SPEECH PRODUCTION EXPERIMENTS



Nature of experiments: Recording of articulatory movements with an alternating magnetic field movement transducer system. The subject has a transmitter assembly secured to her/his head with a headband. Three transmitters generate alternating magnetic fields in the frequency range 60-80 kHz. The fields induce voltages in small receiver coils which are glued to the tongue, lips, jaw, etc. and are connected to electronics with fine wires. The subject reads a number of sentences while the movement transducer signals and an acoustic signal are being digitized. In addition, a simultaneous video recording is made of the subject's face. We will also make an MRI (Magnetic Resonance Image) recording of the subject's vocal tract at a local hospital. Subject screening includes having dental impressions made of the upper and lower jaws.

Requirements: Subjects should have normal speech and hearing and be native speakers of American English. Also required are dependability, patience and tolerance of having instruments and transducers placed in the mouth. MRI recordings need to be made at odd hours and for them, it is highly desirable to have hardly any metal dental fillings. Subjects should be available beginning early in June and possibly into the fall term.

Duration: Approximately three hours for each type of recording. Typically, we will make three 3-hour articulatory movement recordings and one 3-hour MRI recording for each subject.

Pay: \$25 per hour for all time spent plus bonuses for good performance in some tests. A full set of recordings results in a total payment of around \$500.

Contact: Dr. Perkell (253-3223 or e-mail: subjects@speech.mit.edu)

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SPORTS

Women's Track Sets Five New Records

By Robin Evans
TEAM MEMBER

The stands were alive on Saturday as the women's track team took a 92-54-49 victory over Regis College and Fitchburg State University. The team earned ten first places, broke three varsity and two freshmen records, and earned numerous berths in the New England and ECAC Championships while improving its record to 4-3.

"We scored points in all of the events and just seemed to outnumber the opponents with our multiple entries. Our new-found depth complemented our pre-existing quality nicely," said Assistant Coach Paul Slovenski.

The Engineers were led in the opening field events by Jen Boyle '96, who placed in all four throwing events. She placed first in the shot put (34³/₄) and discus (110-1), and second in javelin (85-1) and hammer (115-6). Her hammer throw broke the varsity record, while her discus throw qualified her for the ECACs.

Marsha Novak '96 added depth by placing in three of the throwing events with a 90-1 hammer throw, a 94-5 discus throw, and a 27-4¹/₂ shot put. Rounding out the field were Jen Elizondo '99 and Julia Ruiz '99 who placed third and fourth in the javelin with throws of 84-2 and 72, respectively.

Elaine Chen '99 also performed well in the field events: Her 5'0" high jump broke the freshman and varsity records and qualified her to the ECACs. She also placed first in the long jump (14-10¹/₄); teammate Christy Kalb '98 was fourth.

Rachel VanBuren '99 jumped well, earning second in the triple jump (31'6¹/₂") and tying for fourth in the high jump with teammate Theresa Burianek '99 at 4'4".

The team's success continued in the pole vault, as the four entrants swept the event. Elizondo placed first, followed by Kristen Prinn '99 and Ruiz, with Kalb in fourth.

MIT also made a clean sweep of the 100-meter hurdles. Prinn crossed the line first in a 17.77 seconds, a time good enough to qualify her for the New Englands. Kalb finished just behind her in 18.12, and VanBuren (18.46) and Burianek (18.88) left no room for the competition.

In the 400-meter hurdles, Kalb cut three seconds off her personal

best time to place second in 75.26 seconds. Burianek came in fourth.

Chen finished second in the 100-meter dash with a time of 13.72 seconds, while Victoria Best '99 was fourth with 14.02. The duo scored yet again in the 200-meter dash as Chen and Best took third and fourth with times of 28.44 and 29.42, respectively.

Stephanie Hong '98 placed third in the 400-meter dash with a time of 68.85 seconds, followed by Nicole Sang '99, who ran 69.74 for fourth.

Runners go the distance

The distance crew also had a memorable day, claiming first in every event.

Robin Evans '99 outdistanced the field in the 800-meter run with a New Englands-qualifying time of 2 minutes, 29.16 seconds.

Lauren Klatsky '97 also earned a spot at the New Englands with her second-place, 5:12.20 finish in the 1500-meter run. She finished just two seconds behind Janis Eisenberg '98, who also took top honors in the 3000-meter run with 11:02.6.

Amalia Londono '99 captured the 5000-meter run in 23:47.8 after agreeing to "jog" through her injury. The Engineers crossed the line second in the meet's final event, the 1600-meter relay.

"With every meet, the times keep dropping," said Assistant Coach June Parks. "I am very impressed with the level of intensity and determination in the kids this year. They are hungry," she said.

The team anticipates a good showing at the New Eight Championships this Saturday.



Ann L. Torres '96 jostles with a Mount Holyoke College defender in last Saturday's game. MIT lost in overtime, 14-13.

Harvard and Princeton Powerhouses Sink Men's Heavyweight Crew Teams

By Toby Ayer
TEAM MEMBER

The Harvard and Princeton University heavyweight crews displayed their superior talents last Saturday on the Charles, as they rowed

easily past MIT in the annual Compton Cup races.

In particular, the first varsities of the two schools had one of their most outstanding battles ever, as Harvard edged out Princeton 5 minutes, 38.1 seconds to 5:38.5. MIT finished 20 seconds back at 5:58.9.

Princeton walked away with both the first freshmen and the second varsity races. The Princeton frosh finished with open water on the Crimson, 5:54.2 to 6:03.8. The MIT freshmen maintained contact with Princeton for over half the race, but were unable to stay in it during the last few hundred meters, and finished in 6:14.9.

The second varsity Princeton boat (5:53.1) was two lengths ahead of Harvard (5:59.1) at the finish, and over half a minute ahead of MIT (6:25.1), which fell behind early on and dropped further back as the race continued.

The second freshmen race went to Harvard in 6:23.8, compared with MIT's 6:40.0. The Tech rowers were pleased with their rowing and realized they were just overpowered.

The varsity boat did manage to put together its first good race of the season, smoothing out their speed profile and rowing with a great deal more confidence.

Coach Gordon Hamilton was excited, both by the outstanding contest between Harvard and Princeton and by the fact that in the next race, defending national champion-Brown University was only ten seconds faster than MIT. He also noted that MIT beat Harvard's second varsity, which it doesn't usually do.

The heavyweights head to Durham, New Hampshire tomorrow to face the University of New Hampshire.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, April 26

Men's Tennis vs. Brandeis University, 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 27

Men's Lacrosse vs. Roger Williams University, 1:00 p.m.

Softball at New England Women's Eight (Semis and Finals), 11:00 a.m.

Men's Rugby vs. Babson College, 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 28

Golf vs. Carnegie Mellon University, 1:00 p.m.

Varsity Sailing at Tech Invitational, 9:30 a.m.

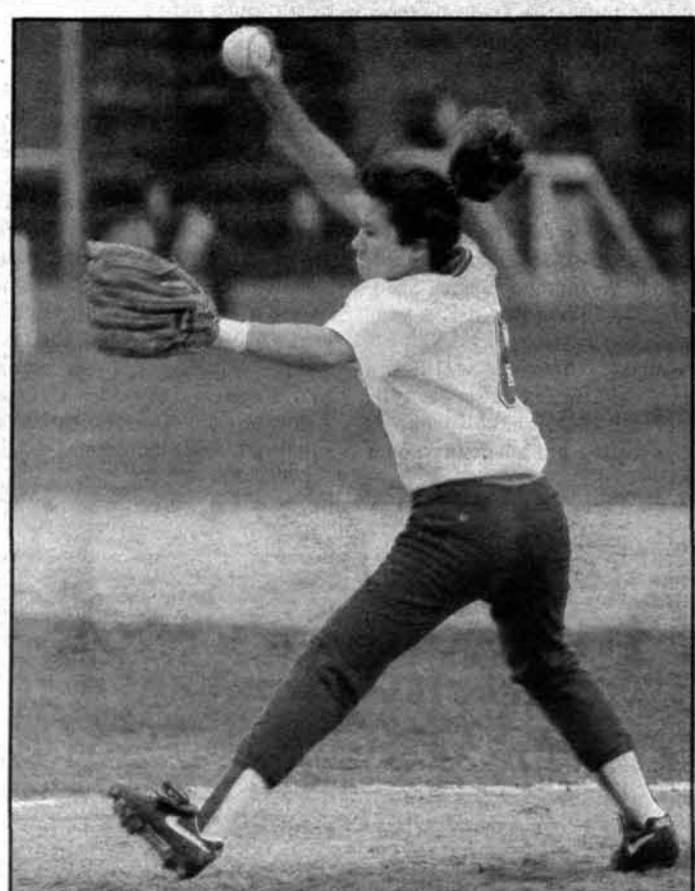
Monday, April 29

Golf at Engineers Cup, 1:00 p.m.

Men's Lacrosse vs. Tufts University, 3:30 p.m.

Now that you've dropped that class, you surely have time to join *The Tech*. Stop by W20-483 or call us at 253-1541.

Production
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Naomi Stone '96 pitches in last Friday's softball game against Clark University.