

Vest to Hold Town Meeting Tomorrow

By Stacey E. Blau
NEWS EDITOR

President Charles M. Vest will hold the third annual town meeting tomorrow to address general questions from all members of the MIT community.

Unlike the two previous years' town meetings, this year's meeting has no set focus.

"I do not have a particular topic that is important to discuss, as I did in the past," Vest said.

The town meeting will take place from noon to 2 p.m. in La Sala de Puerto Rico.

Re-engineering may be focus again

Both of the previous town meetings were presented as a chance for the community to ask about re-engineering.

Although re-engineering is not

officially the topic of this year's meeting, "I think that [it is] very much on people's minds," Vice President for Human Resources Joan F. Rice said.

People want to know how re-engineering will change their workloads, since it involves reducing the number of people working at the Institute, Rice said.

People may have similar questions about the effects of MIT's new retirement plan, which offers a number of benefits to eligible faculty members who choose to retire early, she said.

Many staff members will be leaving now and during the summer, and because of budget constraints, they cannot all be replaced, Rice said.

Meeting, Page 14



ADRIANE CHAPMAN—THE TECH
Elisa C. Holland '96, Tara V. Perry, Charlotte Reid, Shannon D. Kelly '98, Lekisha S. Jackson '98 and Pappudu Sriram '96 perform to *Pearls in the Movements in Time* Spring Concert Sunday in Walker Memorial.

Awards Ceremony Recognizes Outstanding in MIT Community

By Venkatesh Satish
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Outstanding students, faculty, staff, and organizations were paid recognition at the 1996 Awards Convocation, which was held in 10-250 before an audience of 150 people yesterday afternoon.

John S. Hollywood '96 was the sole recipient of this year's Karl Taylor Compton Prize. The Compton Prize, the Institute's highest award, is presented to students "in

recognition of outstanding contributions in promoting high standards of achievement and good citizenship within the MIT community," according to the program distributed in the convocation.

Hollywood specifically received the award for his efforts in turning out the *Institute* electronic newsletter, his involvement with the Student Affairs Committee, and the Undergraduate Association Student Loan Committee.

Seven recognized for involvement

Seven students received the William L. Stewart, Jr. awards which are presented to students "who have made outstanding contributions to extracurricular activities and events" at the Institute.

The awards were presented by Andrew M. Eisenmann, associate dean for undergraduate education and student affairs.

Anthony J. Ives '96 "demonstrated a compassion for fellow

students and for others," in planning the "Alternative Spring Break" during which he and 25 others volunteered to teach inner-city youth in Washington, D.C., Eisenmann said.

Joseph M. Lee '97 was given the award for his "great success" in initiating and organizing the Interfraternity Council's new member retreat, Eisenmann said.

Carlos I. Gutierrez '96 was recognized for bringing "energy, class, and enthusiasm" to Club Mex, which is the Mexican students' association, Eisenmann said.

Berdell Knowles, Jr. received the award for his leadership as president of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, as well as his involvement in the Black Students' Union, the National Society of Black Engineers, and Office of Minority Education, Eisenmann said.

Convocation, Page 17

Panhel Delays Vote On New Sorority

By May K. Tse
STAFF REPORTER

The Panhellenic Association decided last Thursday to postpone the vote on bringing a new sorority to campus until next fall.

"The vote was rescheduled due to the fact that more time was needed to discuss the issues at hand," Panhel President Laura L. DePaoli '97 said. "There are many issues to consider in making such a large decision."

Some important issues under consideration are "how [the new sorority] will affect current sororities at MIT, whether there is enough interest to support a sixth sorority on campus, [and] when is the best timing for the group" to start, DePaoli said.

"More time is needed for the [existing] sororities to convene and discuss matters," she said.

The idea of bringing a new sorority to campus was first brought up early this spring. The reason behind the idea was that as more women come to MIT and rush, the size of pledge classes have risen to the point where "they're a little too big," Panhel Vice President for

Sorority, Page 15

Competition Encourages Students to Value Writing

By Jean K. Lee
STAFF REPORTER

Twenty-five cash awards were presented to 23 students at the annual Ilona Karmel Writing Prizes awards luncheon last Friday.

Initiated in 1985, the competition is named to honor the contributions made to the writing program by former senior lecturer and chair of writing prizes Ilona Karmel, who retired last year.

"The main purpose of the competition is to encourage students in writing and show that we value writing at MIT," said Alan P. Lightman, head of the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies, which administered the contest.

This year, a total of 185 entries were submitted. Prizes were awarded in six competitions representing distinct areas of writing. Some competitions offered awards in subcategories, but in the absence of outstanding entries in a particular category, no award was made. Each writing category was evaluated by two or three faculty judges.

"This policy [on outstanding entries] not only ensures that winning entries are of a high caliber,

but also makes winning an award that much more satisfying," award recipient August W. Chang '97 said.

Twenty-five prizes awarded

The Robert A. Boit Writing Prize was divided into three categories. In the category of essay,

Prizes, Page 19

INSIDE

- Short Takes Page 13
- Police Log Page 13
- MIT Student Cable produces mock-action movie *Speed Harder*. Page 8
- *Twister* suffers from predictable plot. Page 9



ADRIANE CHAPMAN—THE TECH
Two dance students from The Roxbury School of Performing Arts compete in a tap dancing duet last Sunday in Walker Memorial.

WORLD & NATION

Mayor Barry Returns to Post After 17-Day Leave Of Absence

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Ending speculation that he might resign, Washington Mayor Marion Barry reclaimed his office Monday after an unscheduled 17-day leave to seek physical and spiritual renewal.

Barry, who served a six-month prison sentence after FBI agents videotaped him smoking crack cocaine in 1990, suddenly turned over the running of the nation's capital to his chief of staff and chief financial officer on April 27. Rumors were rampant that the mayor had relapsed into alcohol and drug abuse.

At the time, Rock Newman, a close friend of the four-term mayor, heightened public concern by saying Barry was fighting "a battle for personal survival." There were reports Barry had been seen back on Washington's late-night circuit where he had become legendary in the 1980s as a mayor living on the fast track.

But on Monday, Barry, 60, emerged from the seclusion of two retreats to reassure his cabinet and the media that he was healthy, capable of governing and had regained "an active and reciprocal relationship with my God."

"I come back more rested, with more energy, with clearer vision and more determined than ever before to transform our DC government into America's first city ... and more determined than ever to lead our city out of financial distress," Barry said.

Terror Trial Opens With Errors

NEWSDAY

NEW YORK

They called their plot "Project Bojinka," or explosion, a scheme to blow up 11 U.S. airliners during a single day of rage against the United States.

Monday, Project Bojinka's alleged ringleader, Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, 28, a Pakistani national, went on trial in U.S. District Court in Manhattan with two others — Abdul Hakim Murad, 28, also a Pakistani, and Wahli Khan Amin Shah, who has used so many aliases that his age and nationality are unknown.

Seventy-five potential jurors were summoned by U.S. District Court Judge Kevin Duffy to begin what could be several days of jury selection.

He informed them that the trial could last up to three months and told them that while they would not be sequestered, they would remain anonymous and would be known only by their court-assigned numbers.

Monday afternoon, Duffy dismissed the entire panel from consideration after a variety of logistic mix-ups in the case. In the morning session, the defendants' suits were not available. They appeared in court wearing their blue jail clothes. In another mishap after lunch, some of the jurors might have seen the defendants being transported to the courthouse in handcuffs. Jurors are not supposed to know whether defendants are in custody because it would be prejudicial.

Duffy will start over with a brand new panel Tuesday.

Clinton Plans Ban On Land Mines

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Clinton, under pressure from Congress to join an international push to ban land mines, is preparing a compromise that would bar some types of mines in three years but permit use of others until a global treaty is negotiated.

Administration officials said that Clinton essentially has decided on the new policy and is expected to announce it by midweek, possibly as early as Tuesday. They said the White House was discussing final details with congressional leaders Monday.

Under the proposal, the military would be barred after 1999 from using so-called "dumb" mines, which remain active indefinitely, except in defense of South Korea and for use in training soldiers on how to deal with enemy mines.

However, U.S. troops would be allowed to continue using "smart" mines until a global treaty banning them is negotiated sometime in the next several years. Smart mines deactivate or destroy themselves automatically after a specified time.

Clinton's decision caps weeks of wrangling between the Pentagon and congressional supporters of a global ban.

WEATHER

Big Bubble — No Trouble!

By Gerard Roe

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Mostly sunny skies will be the rule for the next 24 hours or so. However, increasing clouds on Wednesday afternoon foreshadow an ugly looking Thursday. A large high pressure air mass sitting squat over the eastern US dictates clear skies today. A smattering of clouds from some upper-level short waves will mar slightly an otherwise pleasant day. The extra cover will, however, help raise night time temperatures a little above their near record nadir last night. Wednesday begins in the same style but with strong southerly winds bringing up subtropical moisture on the back side of the high pressure, high clouds will spread over the region in the afternoon. A cyclone pushing in from the West has the potential to generate substantial precipitation on Thursday.

Today: Mostly clear skies. Moderate westerly winds. High 63°F (17°C).

Tonight: Some clouds. Low 47°F (8°C).

Wednesday: Clear start, increasing clouds during the day. Winds picking up a bit and from the south. High 68°F (20°C). Low 49°F (10°C).

Thursday: Rain likely, possibly heavy. High around 65°F (19°C). Low around 45°F (7°C).

Divers Recover 'Black Box' From ValuJet 592 Wreckage

By Eric Malnic

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MIAMI

A sharpshooter watching for alligators guarded divers in a steamy Everglades marsh on Monday as they recovered fragmented human remains and a "black box" recording device from the wreckage of ValuJet flight 592.

"This is tough stuff out there," said National Transportation Safety Board vice-chairman Robert Francis, who is heading up the investigation of the crash that killed all 109 aboard the DC-9 jetliner Saturday afternoon.

The flight data recorder found in the marsh Monday afternoon could provide important clues why Flight 592 crashed.

If it is not severely damaged, the device should provide a readout of important technical aspects of the last few minutes of flight, including the plane's heading, altitude and air speed. Investigators said there is a slight chance that the device found was a spare that was not actually operating before the crash.

Divers are still searching for Flight 592's other black box, which records the last few minutes of pilot conversations and other sounds in the cockpit.

In Washington, President Clinton ordered Transportation Secretary Federico Peña to report to him "this week on additional measures the Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration can take to ensure that all our airlines continue to operate at the highest level of safety."

White House Press Secretary Mike McCurry said Peña will look

to see if he can bring on more FAA inspectors promptly to check aircraft and flight procedures. The agency has hired 230 inspectors this year and the administration has requested funds for 150 more for next fiscal year, starting October 1, McCurry said.

Although the U.S. air travel system with 1.5 million passengers a day is the world's safest, "no one should ever be satisfied completely with the quality of our protections for air travel," McCurry said.

On Sunday, the FAA announced that it will intensify a review of ValuJet's safety and maintenance, extending a 7-day examination into a month.

Lewis Jordan, who founded ValuJet in 1993 as a low-price airline, said Monday his company "would never cut a corner on safety. We pay the highest degree of attention to it at all times."

Officials said it could be days — and perhaps weeks — before all the human remains and bits of wreckage are recovered from the marsh.

At least 40 body parts had been recovered and transferred to the Dade County Medical Examiner's office by midday Monday.

Medical Examiner Joseph Davis said that the tissues have been decomposing rapidly in the warm water, and although DNA experts will be brought in to help the pathologists, some of the remains may never be identified.

Under a broiling South Florida sun, 30 police divers dressed in heavy biohazard protective suits and masks slogged, crawled and swam through the rotting vegetation, oozing mud and murky water at the

crash site Monday, using touch more than sight to locate and recover whatever they could find from Flight 592.

Francis said that because of humid temperatures that soared close to 90 degrees, the divers were limited to 30-minute shifts, resting for at least an hour before returning to their grim tasks.

"This is not easy for them," Francis said. "But this is their work. These people are professionals."

Francis said a "sniper" armed with "an automatic weapon" was on the lookout for alligators, snakes and other potentially threatening wildlife, but local environmentalists played down the danger, saying there was little likelihood of attack.

The largest pieces of debris located so far are the plane's twin engines and an 8-foot-long chunk of the airframe. Like the rest of the debris, they lie beneath layers of water and muck, resting atop the bed of submerged limestone that serves as the base of the Everglades.

Several plans — building a bridge to a road 300 yards away, erecting dikes and draining the marsh around the crash site, towing in large cranes mounted on barges — have been suggested for speeding the retrieval process, but officials say there are flaws in all of the proposals.

Naturalists say a bridge could further damage the fragile Everglades ecology. Hydrologists say water might seep in under any dikes placed on the porous limestone. Investigators said cranes could further mangle the wreckage, destroying important clues as to why Flight 592 crashed.

Terrorist Attack on Israeli Bus Stop May Sway Coming Elections

By Marjorie Miller

LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

When Israeli radio reported that gunmen had opened fire on Jewish settlers at a West Bank bus stop on Monday, the first question on many political minds was, "Is this the terrorist attack that will sway the election?"

It was the same question that arose when Hezbollah guerrillas fired on Israeli soldiers in Southern Lebanon on Sunday. It even came to many Israelis when an unusually loud sonic boom shook Jerusalem last week, prompting hundreds of panicky telephone calls to police.

As the May 29 national election day draws near, Israelis increasingly are jumpy, anticipating a mass attack by Palestinian extremists in central Israel or by Muslim guerrillas on the northern border.

But probably no one is more worried than Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who, in addition to fearing for Israeli lives, is fighting for political survival.

Peres has been hanging on to a fragile five-point lead in the race against right-wing Likud Party leader Benjamin Netanyahu that even members of his own Labor Party concede would disappear quickly with a devastating assault. Peres knows from experience this is true — he blames his loss to the Likud's Yitzhak Shamir in 1988 on a Palestinian attack on an Israeli bus in Jericho.

Just how massive an attack it would take to turn the election no one can predict in a country that is simultaneously accustomed to terror and fed up with it. The answer has a lot to do with the very psychology

of terrorism — with how many people die and how off-balance or insecure it makes Israelis feel.

Four people died in the 1988 Jericho attack — a mother and her three children who were trapped in the burning bus with all of Israel watching the tragedy on television.

Monday's attack occurred outside of the West Bank settlement of Beit El about 12 miles north of Jerusalem. Israelis soon learned that the gunmen left one teen-age seminary student dead and another seriously wounded.

The attackers first shot at a bus carrying Jewish settlers, but the shots did not penetrate the armored windshield that is routinely used on West Bank buses as protection against such terrorist attacks. Two passengers were slightly hurt when the driver slammed on the brakes after the shooting.

The gunmen, presumably Palestinians, then turned their fire on a bus stop about a mile away, killing 17-year-old David Reuven Baum, who was also an American citizen.

There was no claim of responsibility for the shooting. The assailants overturned the silver vehicle they were driving and fled toward the nearby Palestinian refugee camp of Jalazoun. Both the area of the attack and the refugee camp are under Israeli control.

"We have no security in this country, no security and no peace," Baum's mother, Frieda Freigel, said at the hospital before her son died. "If boys can't leave their yeshiva ... without someone taking a gun and shooting them, I don't know what kind of country this is."

Peres's political opposition was certain to claim the killing as further proof of the prime minister's

inability to provide security to Israelis.

But while all attacks are damaging in such a tight electoral race, political commentators do not think Monday's incident will determine the outcome of the vote. Israeli security forces have been warning for weeks that Palestinian militants plan to carry out attacks ahead of the voting; in the wake of suicide bus bombings that left more than 60 dead in nine days earlier this year, this attack did not live up to Israelis' worst fears.

Additionally, the attack took place in a still-occupied area of the West Bank rather than in the Israeli heartland. Most Israelis do not go to the West Bank, where about 140,000 Jewish settlers live among some 2 million Palestinians, because they consider it too dangerous.

It is unclear whether Peres can win the election even without a major terrorist attack in Israel — undecided voters could swing either way. The vote is a referendum on the Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations, and many Israelis are ambivalent about their progress.

Peres has been saying that Iranian-backed extremists want to defeat his government and, with it, the peace process.

"I think [the shooting] proves that there are enemies to the peace process who are trying and will try intensively to torpedo it in the next few weeks," said Foreign Minister Ehud Barak, Peres's campaign manager.

If Peres hopes to win, those "torpedoes" cannot hit major Israeli targets in the next 16 days.

U.S. Admits Turning Blind Eye To Allied Arms Shipments To Bosnia

By John Pomfret and David B. Ottaway
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Arms smuggling to Bosnia and Croatia was larger and more complex than the shipments from Iran and Turkey recently acknowledged by the Clinton administration, and involved such U.S. allies as Pakistan, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and Argentina, according to U.S. and Bosnian officials.

U.S. officials learned in 1992 that Iran had opened a smuggling route to Bosnia with the assistance of Turkey, two years before a controversial decision by President Clinton to give Croatia a diplomatic "green light" for the shipments, national security adviser Anthony Lake said Friday. Bosnian government officials said that by 1993, arms or money for arms purchases also were being supplied through the Turkish pipeline by Saudi Ara-

bia, Malaysia, Brunei and Pakistan, and that other weapons shipments came from Hungary and Argentina.

U.S. officials knew of most of the arms shipments but took no action, despite Clinton's public support for a United Nations-sponsored arms embargo against Bosnia, Croatia, and the other nations of the former Yugoslavia. That policy marked a break with the Bush administration, which strongly protested when an Iranian plane flew into Zagreb in September 1992 with 4,000 assault weapons, prompting Croatia to impound the cargo.

Administration officials have said that no covert action was taken to support the weapons smuggling, and that U.S. actions amounted to turning a blind eye to the shipments. But several congressional committees, including a House select committee named Friday, are now investigating the arms smuggling and

Clinton's decision in April 1994 to have U.S. envoys tell Croatian President Franjo Tudjman that the United States did not object to the shipments. Republicans have charged that the administration allowed Iran to gain a foothold in the Balkans by not opposing the shipments and plan to investigate whether U.S. officials in the region may have taken direct action to encourage or facilitate the smuggling.

Bosnian officials said the Balkan arms smuggling pipeline took shape during 1992, six months after war erupted in Bosnia between the Muslim-led government and rebel Serbs, who were backed by forces and supplies from neighboring Serbia. During a visit by Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic to Tehran last October, Bosnian sources said, an agreement was worked out to open a weapons supply route to the Muslim-led government in Sarajevo through neighboring Croatia.

Supreme Court Decision Endorses Fair Crack Cocaine Prosecutions

By Joan Biskupic
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

In a decision that endorsed strong prosecutorial discretion, the Supreme Court Monday made it more difficult for blacks to claim they have been unfairly targeted for federal drug charges.

By an 8-1 vote, the court ruled that blacks who allege that they have been singled out for tough treatment must first show that whites in similar circumstances have not been prosecuted.

The ruling is significant against the backdrop of a highly charged national debate over tough prison terms for crack cocaine that fall disproportionately on blacks. Federal sentencing law, which ties prison terms to drug quantities, treats one gram of crack as the equivalent of

100 grams of powder cocaine, which is used more by whites. Defense attorneys and civil rights groups have accused federal prosecutors in a string of cases nationwide of targeting blacks for punishment under the harsh crack cocaine laws.

"We think the required threshold — a credible showing of different treatment of similarly situated persons — adequately balances the government's interest in vigorous prosecution and the defendant's interest in avoiding selective prosecution," Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist wrote for the court.

Justice John Paul Stevens was the only dissenter, stressing that "the possibility that political or racial animosity may infect a decision to institute criminal proceedings cannot be ignored."

"The severity of the penalty (for crack) heightens both the danger of arbitrary enforcement and the need for careful scrutiny of any colorable claim of discriminatory enforcement," Stevens wrote, arguing that lower courts should have more leeway in deciding whether a threshold showing of selective prosecution has been made.

Five Los Angeles defendants claimed they were singled out in 1992 for federal prosecution on charges of operating a "crack house" and that prosecutors were steering black suspects into federal court and white defendants into state court.

The local federal public defender representing the men found that of the 24 crack cocaine cases her office closed out in 1991, all involved blacks.

Clinton Nominates First African-American Four-Star Admiral

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

President Clinton Monday nominated Vice Admiral J. Paul Reason to be the Navy's first African-American four-star admiral.

Clinton's nomination means the Navy could get its first African-American four-star officer 21 years after the Air Force and 14 years after the Army. Reason's promotion would give him the rank of admiral and the job of commander of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk.

Monday, Clinton also nominated Navy Rear Admiral Patricia A. Tracey, 45, to be the second female three-star officer in any service. Two months ago Marine Corps Lieutenant General Carol Mutter became the first when she was named deputy chief of staff for Marine manpower.

Reason, 55, a 6-foot-5 210-pounder known as a "gentle giant" by some Navy colleagues, is the son of educators — his mother was a biology teacher at Cardozo High School in Washington D.C. for 30 years, and his father was director of libraries at Howard University. He grew up in Brookland in Northeast Washington.

Reason was turned down for an ROTC appointment while he was a senior at McKinley Technical High School. He soon learned why he lost out, when a white naval officer visited his parents' home to say he'd scored number two out of 300 on ROTC entrance tests. The southern ROTC officials, Reason recalls the officer telling him, "weren't ready for an African-American naval ROTC midshipman."

Naval Academy To Intensify Screening To Weed Out Criminals

THE WASHINGTON POST

U.S. Naval Academy officials said Monday in Annapolis they will intensify their admissions screening to weed out potential criminals, after weathering an embarrassing string of student arrests this spring.

They also plan to hire an independent analyst to survey the military college's 4,000 midshipmen on "quality of life" issues.

Those two plans were the most concrete proposals to come out of a special eight-hour, closed-door meeting with the academy's civilian advisory board, which was called Monday to address questions about the academy's direction in a season of scandals.

"The jury is out" on whether the Naval Academy suffers serious systemic problems, said retired Rear Admiral Benjamin Montoya, the chairman of the school's Board of Visitors.

Montoya said the board would conduct a summer-long review of the academy's recent problems and its new programs designed to combat cynicism and ethics problems among the student body.

He said that the academy's superintendent, Admiral Charles R. Larson, "has a good handle on what needs to be done at the academy."

The Board of Visitors is appointed by the president and congressional leaders and includes members of Congress, retired admirals and private citizens. It advises government and military officials on the running of the academy but has no governing powers.

Two years after trying to bounce back from a massive cheating scandal, the Naval Academy was embarrassed again in April by the arrests of several students on charges of sexual assault, a car theft conspiracy and breaking and entering. Last fall, the academy revealed it had charged 24 students with drug use and distribution.

Graduate Student Council

Upcoming meetings

HCA - May 14

Activities - May 16

Going away for summer?

Don't forget to buy your student discounted T passes (11 percent off) for the fall!

Available at the Cashier's Office, Room 10-180, x3-3340.

Forms due August 16.

Look out for the May 15 issue of the Graduate Student News.

Do you need (free) extra Graduation Tickets ?

Or do you have extra tickets to help out your fellow graduates?

Avoid the hassle and expense of the black market and go through the GSC Commencement Ticket Redistribution Program!

There will be a lottery one week before Commencement for students requesting tickets.

Students who donate tickets will be entered in a raffle for prizes!

Visit our web page for more information:

<http://www.mit.edu:8001/activities/gsc/commencement.html>

The program can be successful only if you participate!

All graduate students are invited to all our meetings held in Room 50-222 at 5:30 p.m. Dinner is included.

Stay informed about all our events! Check out our web page <http://www.mit.edu:8001/activities/gsc/gsc.html>. Add yourself to our mailing list by sending e-mail to gsc-request@mit.edu. Questions, comments, ideas? Call us at x3-2195 or send e-mail to gsc-admin@mit.edu.

OPINION

Life Demands More Irrational Behavior

Column by Anders Hove
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

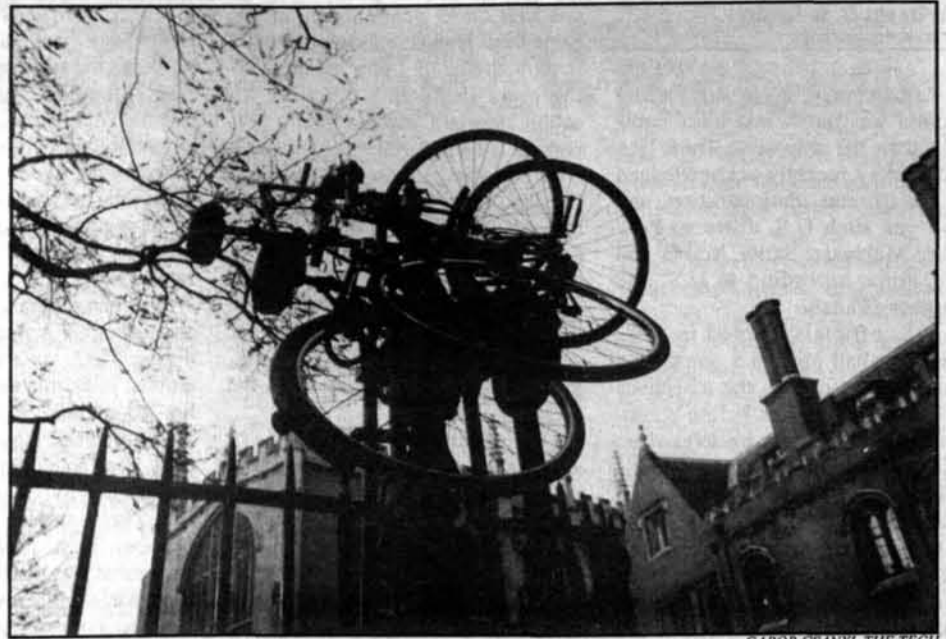
The last few weeks of this term have brought many things to a conclusion in my life. My thesis is signed, and I turned in my last paper as an undergraduate. I'm no longer involved in any student government or committee. Finally, the words and pictures on this page were the last I edited as opinion editor — I'm happy to announce that A. Arif Husain '97 will take charge with the next issue.

I am not sure whether the feelings that I have over everything ending are the same as others. Certainly each person's experience is unique. The first thing I felt after turning in my thesis was exhaustion. Next I felt bored, and then lonely. Of course, during the three or four weeks I spent chemically bonded to a chair in my department's computer cluster, I had built up a lot of expectations about what would happen when I finished — expectations I could never live up to. But optimistic expectations can't explain the ambivalence I felt this weekend.

This photograph gives some idea of what I would like to do. It was taken in our sister city, Cambridge, England. Those two buildings in the background are part of Trinity College and St. John's college, two of Britain's great elite institutions. The two bikes in front? Their arrangement has no good explanation. Probably some crazy person like myself, in a fit of internal discord, stuck them up in on that fence in front of the venerable institutions just to confound and inspire the world. That was nice of them, and it sure makes an interesting photo.

The photographer, Gábor Csányi G, thinks some drunk people put them up there. He also says bikes get wrecked along this particular street every Friday and Saturday night. What a waste.

It bothers me how people blame every creative or weird thing on drunk students. Would it throw the world into disorder if we discovered that sober people are sometimes infected



GABOR CSANYI-THE TECH

with irrational or incongruous instincts? Indeed, most people can be wonderfully interesting, exciting, and funny without inebriation. The fact that they can is not so much an argument for temperance as it is a threat — a threat to those who live in calm and collected worlds like Cambridge. Sometimes I wish these staid, humorless people would emigrate to Canada. On other days, I worry that people would deport me with them.

I suppose the need for creative anachronism is what drives a lot of the greasy brand of weirdness we see on this campus. Hackers, assassins, and other so-called twinks have rediscovered their animal instincts at MIT, to the great chagrin of majority opinion.

A better example might be how a group of my friends went in for piercings recently. Maybe that's not so much weird as cool. But to some people navel rings are still an aspect of the bizarre, and I hope their exposure to my

friends will heighten their appreciation of weirdness in the future.

To understand my point, take a look at the sky right now. If the weather over the past few nights is any guide, I'm willing to bet the sky is filled with a fog of dreary translucent grey. Or maybe the overcast skies have given way to the cloudless blue of summer. Cloudy or clear, the weather usually bores people to tears around here. As I write this, however, the sky is filled with all sorts of bizarre color. The sky is dotted with orange man-of-war clouds — brave-hearted ships at sea among the menacingly dark shoals of black clouds to the east. Just minutes ago, the two cloudy fleets exchanged a murderous cannonade of rainbows. No casualties reported.

When these kinds of beauty are too common, we take them for granted. But beauty is so rare here that many won't recognize it when they see it. Similarly, many can't appreciate the bizarre. They attribute it to drunks.

I don't plan to smash any bikes when I graduate. But I do hope to make life warmer and more interesting than the weather around here.

Sometimes I wish these staid, humorless people would emigrate to Canada.



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Freshman Year Policies Need Revision

Column by Brett Altschul
STAFF REPORTER

I haven't liked everything about my first year at MIT. That's pretty natural. Now, as my period as a freshman winds to a close, I want to air some of my grievances with MIT's educational policies.

My most serious complaint regards the freshman grading system. Students at other colleges get along quite nicely without such a system. More important, MIT freshmen managed without the Pass/No Record policy for decades.

The special freshman grading hurts two large groups of freshman. Some students, like myself, work diligently during the first year, and really have nothing to show for it at the beginning of the sophomore year. I personally feel cheated that I don't get any official recognition for my labors.

Altschul, Page 7

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

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

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Media Lab Advances Use Creativity to Help People

Guest Column by Thad E. Starner

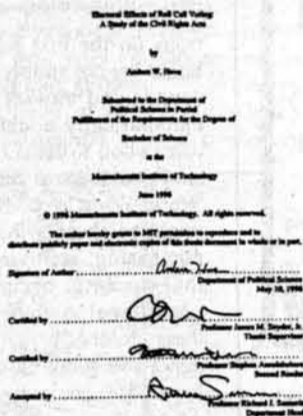
Scott C. Deskin '96 may have missed the point of the Media Laboratory's Smart Clothing project ["Media Lab's 'Smart Clothing' Is a Dumb Idea," May 10]. To a large extent, it seems that his impression of the Media Laboratory is based on the material presented in MAS100 [Introduction to Media Arts and Sciences]. This introductory level class is only a small porthole through which to view the work at the lab, and correspondingly the more involved research issues and details are skipped in the overview. Instead, many of the more light-hearted and fun aspects of the field are emphasized to grab students' imaginations. In other words, lighten up, try crazy things, and see where your ideas take you.

In the case of smart clothes, the ideas have

become fertile. One of the applications that developed from the research was helping the blind to see. Deskin may not realize that the research is already helping Ruth Marshall, a poet and political activist, in her daily life.

Marshall became legally blind last year and was told that she would never read again. She now reads and writes independently due to the Smart Clothes project. While the Veteran's Administration has funded such research at Johns Hopkins University for many years, Marshall's system was made from 15-year-old spare parts. If this "low vision reader" was marketed today, it would be sold for \$500, or about what Medicare would cover for the 200,000 Americans who are afflicted with similar conditions. This is but one example of

Starner, Page 6



This is Anders' thesis.



This is Anders.

OPINION STAFF

Editor: A. Arif Husain '97.

This is the new Opinion department.

Anders may be finished with his work, but that doesn't mean that he and Arif don't still need your help! The summer is the perfect time to try new things, and they want you to try writing *Opinion*! Contact x3-1541 for more information, or just top by for a chat sometime!

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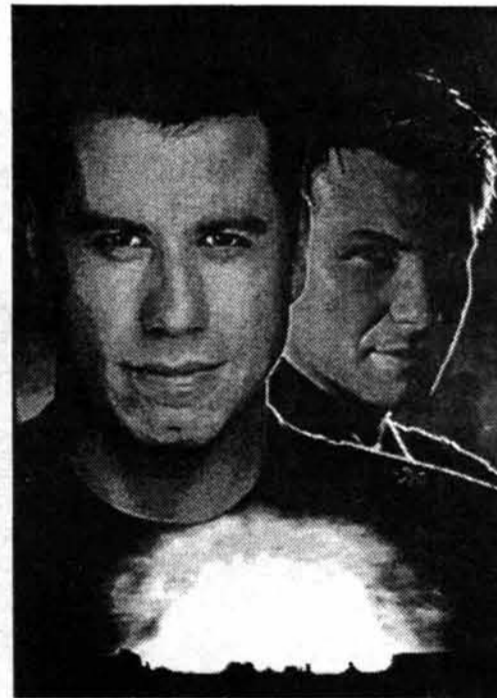
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Smart Clothes Critic Should Explore the Imagination

Starnier, from Page 5

the technology resulting from the project. Unfortunately, there is not space here to talk about the augmented memory software for students, augmented and mediated reality applications, or the magical devices that have resulted from the program.

Smart Clothes is enabling technology. The heads-up displays, information sharing, and network access are being designed to augment

and enhance human communication, not replace or confound it. That is one of the basic tenets of the research, and the research teams are not only trained in computer science and physics but also in cognitive science.

In fact, a new research program by Associate Professor of Media Arts and Sciences Rosalind Picard concentrates precisely on the affective side of communication. Emotions are exceedingly valuable in everyday work and recreation. It can be clinically argued that

without emotions, none of us would be able to reach decisions. Unlike that horrible invention, the telephone, which has alienated distant family members from coast to coast, the Smart Clothes project is actively learning from the affective side of human nature and taking it into account as the technology increasingly improves.

Deskin's best point may be that this technology will split the "haves and have-nots." This is undoubtedly true, just as access to

electricity, the automobile, or the Internet splits society. However, the right way to approach this problem is to find a commercially viable way to make everyone into a "have" if they so desire. How is this possible? In the case of electricity, the United States government mandated that utilities provide service to rural areas. Henry Ford used ingenuity to bring the cost of automobiles down to where many Americans could afford one.

Maybe the American school system could give each child in America a wearable computer. Imagine each child having every book used in his education downloaded to his own sneaker computer where he can make annota-

...the Smart Clothes project is actively learning from the affective side of human nature...

tions on the text for later searching. These books are not simply plain text and images but sounds and movies as well. The books are automatically updated through the network connection to reflect the most up to date version and links to the newest material on the World-Wide Web. Best of all, such a system might be cheaper than the expensive printing, purchasing, archiving, and updating process that currently occurs with the books in the educational system. Considering how fluent these children would become with such tools, don't you think an argument could be made for a \$500 computer for each school child in America?

While such research, by its very nature, generates many differing opinions, the Smart Clothes project has much deeper motivations and implications than can be covered in an introductory lecture or column. For more insight, I encourage people to attend one of the numerous lectures the professors and graduate students give on these topics and ask questions in person. Explore your imagination and see where it takes you.

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Freshman Pass/No Record Hurts First-Year Students

Altschul, from Page 4

Even worse, the system creates a significant group of students who choose not to work particularly hard for their first year. These students don't learn the basic concepts presented in the freshman classes very well, and this hurts them later on. Moreover, they never establish the study skills necessary for the more difficult courses they will take in later years.

At the root of this policy of reduced accountability is an attitude that I've noticed among many MIT students. Especially among freshmen, there seems a strong tendency to dismiss the students who do well as "better prepared" rather than more intelligent. Certainly, some students have problems because of insufficient preparation, but the stellar performers aren't just products of better high schools.

Of course, this attitude is very understandable. Ninety-ninth percentile students who come here suddenly find themselves in the middle of the pack. It can be difficult to admit that they're no longer the brightest ones around, so they attribute everyone's levels of success to the quality of their prior education rather than their innate learning abilities.

The attitude doesn't really bother me among new students. What bothers me is that

the MIT administration also believes the bogus preparedness argument. That line of reasoning provides the primary justification for the special freshman grading system.

It also seems that the MIT administrators lack a basic understanding of probability and statistics in many cases. The most obvious examples are the programs to assist students from underrepresented minorities, like Interphase, the summer program to assist incoming freshmen.

The administration's logic justifying such programs runs roughly as follows: minority students are more likely to have had poor prior educations; people with a poor prior education need extra help to get started; we need a special program to help minority students.

To me, this sort of reasoning begs the question of why we can't just have a program for people with poor educational backgrounds. There are terrible schools in essentially all areas of the United States, yet most students get no opportunities to make up for their lacking high school experience.

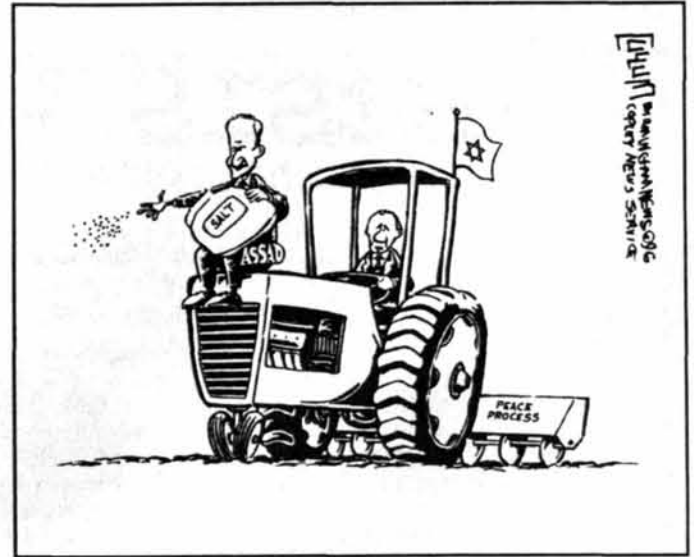
Meanwhile, minority students get such an opportunity whether they need it or not. After all, not all underrepresented minority students came from lousy schools. The administrators here just can't seem to comprehend the difference between correlation and cause.

MIT's system of delayed major declaration also causes some problems. Several majors essentially require that a student begin taking classes toward their degree during the freshman year. Students who think they can safely delay their choice of major until after two full semesters are either excluded from these departments, or they end up with a great deal more work than the students who began taking classes for their major during their freshman year.

Those students who do tacitly begin their majors during the freshman year also suffer under this system, because they don't have a contact in their chosen department. I had a great deal of difficulty choosing math classes with a geologist for my adviser. Many freshmen who think they can get an early start toward their degree end up in much deeper water than they expected, because their freshman advisers

didn't know anything about the courses the students were choosing.

None of the situations I've addressed are likely to change in the near future, and I fear that many more freshmen will suffer the same difficulties that I have encountered this year. The fact that these systems are so entrenched and unthinkingly accepted may be the greatest problem of all.



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THE ARTS

CAMPUS
pick

By Scott C. Deskin

At MIT, there often isn't an opportunity for students to participate in full-fledged movie productions. Unless producers are foolhardy enough to return to this campus for *Blown Away 2*, the MIT Student Cable Group has taken some initiative in involving MIT in the process of filmmaking. The end result, an hourlong production entitled *Speed Harder*, will have its world premiere at the end of the "MIT-Made Media Spectacle" at Bartos Theater at 7 p.m. on Friday.

The film's auteur, Philip W. Tracadás G, has been involved with the film's production since its inception over a year ago. After shooting some footage last spring, the project lay dormant until this fall, when new recruits, Ivi B. Acuña '96 and Rob Wagner '97 infused new life into the film. Thus, the film can be seen as two separate parts: the outer frame of the film concerns the efforts of Tracadás and his cohorts to raise money for the *Speed Harder* movie — from Mafia sources, sleep-deprivation studies, and blood drives — at the risk of losing their sanity; and *Speed Harder* itself, a mock-action-adventure flick directed by Acuña and written by Wagner, in which the climactic

MIT Cable produces
mock-action movie,
Speed Harder

SPEED HARDER

Directed by Philip W. Tracadás G and Ivi B. Acuña '96.

Written by Philip W. Tracadás G and Rob Wagner '97.

Starring Philip Tracadás, Ivi Acuña, David M. Sirlin '98, and Lynn D. Gabbay G.

Part of the "MIT-Made Media Spectacle." Bartos Theater, List Visual Arts Center. Friday 7 p.m.

scenes take place on a Safe Ride van wired with explosives.

A portion of the film will be recorded live at the premiere on Friday, serving as the bridge between the end of the filming *Speed Harder* and the showing of the featurette, which recalls a self-referential style that permeated Federico Fellini's *8 1/2* and Mel Brooks' *Blazing Saddles*. "Originality isn't the main idea in our movie," Tracadás says. "We enjoy being self-referential." Tracadás hopes that this project will bring prestige to MIT Student Cable and will spawn interest in future student-produced films.

Dance Troupe gives eclectic,
high-energy performance

MIT DANCE TROUPE

In the Limelight.

Friday May 10, 1996 (additional performances on Saturday).

By Kimberly Ann Knowles

The MIT Dance Troupe took the stage once again to display student talent in dance and choreography. The 18 dances expressed a diverse range of styles and genres, and all of them sparkled with energy, integrity, and personality. Music varied from contemporary funk and alternative, to jazz, and to Broadway. The styles exhibited covered ballet, tap, jazz, and aerobic dance.

The show opened with a modern dance titled "Trod Down," with music by Nine Inch Nails and choreography by Mary L. Krasovec G. This was a surreal interpretive dance with mechanical movements combined with rhythm, resulting in a strong statement of presence that permeated the entire show.

The first ballet of the show, "Morning," was danced to Pachelbel's *Canon in D Major*. Choreographed by Katie J. Adams '98, the dance was movingly joyful, and the costumes in spring colors contributed to a pretty spectacle of hopefulness and happiness.

There was no shortage of feminist attitude, as it was expressed in several dances to contemporary pop tunes. One of these was "Dismissed," choreographed by Janice C. Chen '97, Kaitlyn C. Liao '97, and Mala Murthy '97 and danced to Janet Jackson's song, "This Time." The dancing was fantastic, evocative of a new '90s woman" attitude, combining sultry, seductive moves with flirtatious hip-hop steps. Another number, titled "The Two

Faces of Eve," choreographed by Jennifer L. Rochlis G and danced to "Human Nature," by Madonna, was equally sexy and full of feminist strength.

The second act was even more spectacular, and opened with a dance to "Africa," by Toto and choreographed by Carol C. Cheung '98. The dancing was full of longing, and each dancer portrayed their own style of personal feeling.

Another number danced to a Nine Inch Nails song, "Closer," combined the modern jazz/funk dancing of a couple with emotions portrayed by dancers in pointed shoes. Choreographed by Jimmy J. Lin '97, the dance blended classical ballet moves with the contemporary style of the characters; this was very striking and lent the piece intensity. One "emotion" even was dragged around by a chain around his neck, as the couple portrayed issues of domination in their relationship.

The finale, "Mortal Kombat," was definitely the height of the show. What Van C. Van '97 choreographed definitely pushed the limits of dance, combining acrobatics and stage fighting with hardcore funk. The action never stopped from the beginning to end, and each time the audience was surprised with the increasing intensity of the violence and precision of the dancers. The pace was breathless and relentless, tearing from one duel to the next, with characters flipping each other and clearing off to let the next pair take the stage. This was a truly impressive finale.

Altogether, the sold-out crowd Friday left well satisfied, having experienced over two and a half hours of passion, joy, funky attitude, and excitement. Dance Troupe has indeed established its place in MIT entertainment.

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Crichton's *Twister* a predictable, contrived disaster

TWISTER

Sony Cheri

Directed by Jan De Bont

Starring Helen Hunt, Bill Paxton, Cary Elwes

By A. Arif Husain

NEWS EDITOR

Going into *Twister*'s preview featuring a local weatherman as a guest host didn't do wonders for my expectations. I couldn't imagine what director Jan De Bont, acclaimed for his directorial-debut on *Speed*, could do to squeeze out a full-length feature on tornadoes. But with Michael Crichton as screenwriter, Industrial Light and Magic on effects, and Steven Spielberg lurking in the background, I was willing to be surprised. Unfortunately, as on every other aspect of the hollow and contrived film, my predictions on the whole were validated.

Twister stars Helen Hunt as weather scientist Dr. Jo Harding and Bill Paxton as her estranged husband meteorologist Bill Harding. Hunt's character leads a motley band of pseudo-scientist storm chasers who are energized by the rush to test out a new revolutionary device they invented to study tornadoes from the inside. Tension mounts when former member Dr. Jonas Miller (Cary Elwes), who is now loathed by the group due to his apparent selling out to big-money corporate sponsors, appears with an identical device for which he takes credit. The leading couple, on the brink of divorce, are inadvertently thrown together over the chase to top Miller's high-profile team of science goons.

In a sentence, the film relies on more formulas than a physics textbook. I don't claim any psychic powers, but I was nonetheless able to make a fairly accurate outline of the story as it played out after watching just the

first ten minutes. Perhaps I've just watched too much television, but there was hardly a single unique plot element throughout. Jo Harding (Hunt) is driven by a childhood trauma, and hopes to someday conquer the force that killed her father. Bill Harding wants to get out of the storm-chasing business, even though his instincts are renowned and unmatched by anyone in the field.

A mixed bunch of crazed hippies compose Harding's group, which is out of grant money, but deeply committed to science. The bad guys are therefore with Miller, whose clean-cut sleek fleet of scientists revel in their corporate-sponsored high-tech gadgetry. Take away the shameless Silicon Graphics plugs and the situations could be straight from *Leave it to Beaver* or Aesop's fables.

To make things worse, the film suffered from sappy melodrama and contrived conflict. Most of the central areas of intended suspense

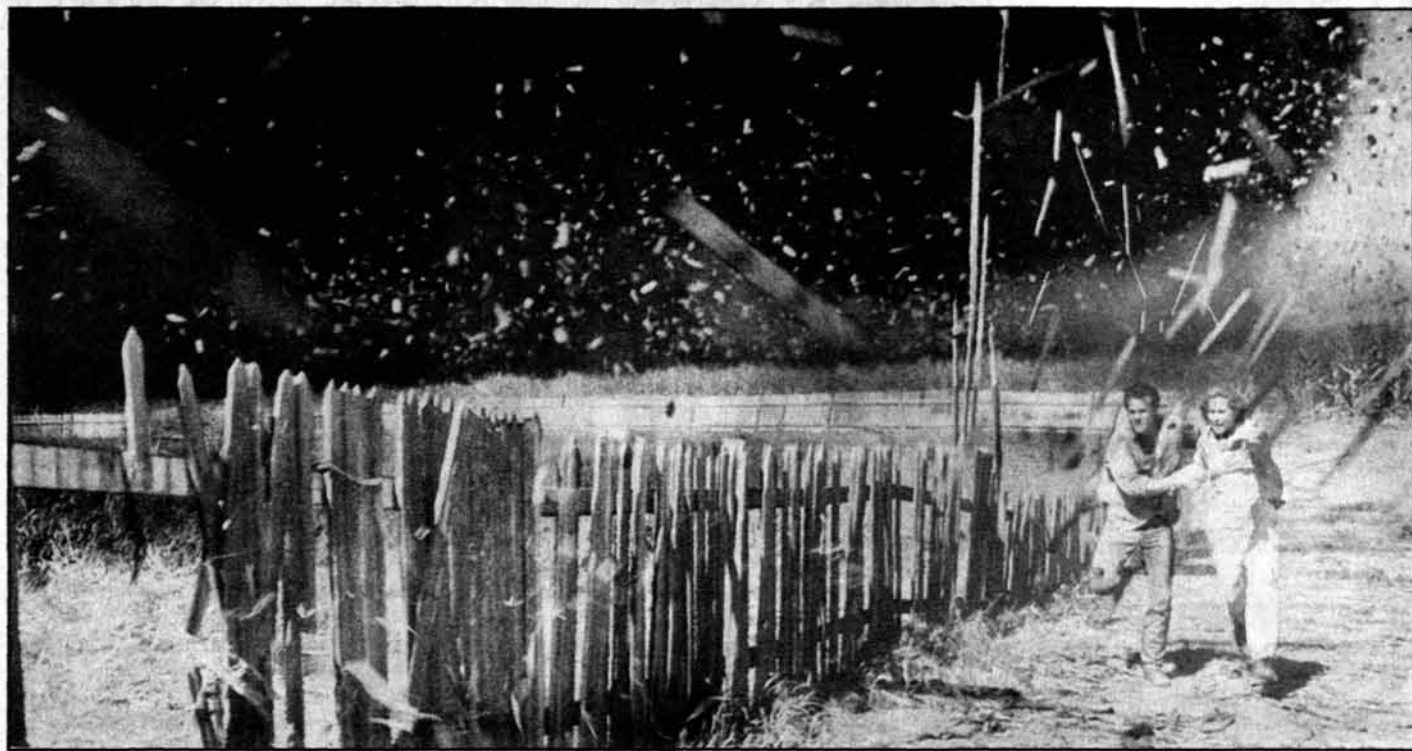
and tension were so obvious in the means of their resolution, that they became ineffectual and cumbersome. Every death-defying near escape in an action sequence seemed so predictable that the potential for thrills was massively reduced.

On the drama side, Hunt and Paxton seem puppeted in many instances, with Hunt even performing a brief G-rated shower scene, whose relevance I have yet to understand. The subplot of the torn marriage could not have been more fake, with the light-hearted abuse of Bill Harding's out-of-place therapist girlfriend seeming almost uncaring at times. The most prominent example of pure gut-wrenching sap is an early scene in which Bill Harding taps into his tornado instincts by gazing thoughtfully into the storm as he sprinkles sand into the air. His primal prowess, of course, leads the team to top Miller's purely textbook know-how.

With a script written by Crichton straight for the screen, I expected more from the man responsible for the exciting meat of *Jurassic Park* and *ER*. My advice to Mike: Stick to dinosaurs.

Perhaps the only redeeming quality of the film lies in its visual appeal. In usual form, the wizards from ILM, whose credits include *Jurassic Park* and *Terminator 2*, put on a stunning display of computer animation and spliced real footage. The scenes of destruction were nearly too beautiful in their cinematography and embodiment. The highlight for me was a semi-humorous inclusion of wind-carried cattle which verified that technical excellence doesn't have to rule out some fun creativity. Complementing the effects, the on-location setting in Oklahoma and Iowa brought natural beauty as a pleasant contrast to the destructive force the film portrayed.

Overall, *Twister* was a disappointment as I had pessimistically expected. But I wouldn't deem it a complete waste. If for no other reason, the film offers some great eye candy and is sure to please the retinas. But if it's pretty pictures you're interested in, I'd recommend the Museum of Fine Arts. Unlike the local movie theater, admission there is free for students.



Bill Paxton and Helen Hunt play scientists studying tornadoes up close in *Twister*.

Don't want to spend a fortune taking a cab to Logan Airport after finals?

Then take the UA SPONSORED
**FREE SHUTTLE TO LOGAN
 AIRPORT**

When: May 22 (W), 23 (Th) and 24 (F) at 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm and 5pm each day

Where: Exact pick-up location at MIT TBA.

How to sign up: Sign up lists will be outside of W20-401 starting Wednesday on a first come, first serve basis. Maximum 35 per bus and three pieces of luggage per person. You need MIT ID to use the shuttle.

Questions: Email jschoe@mit.edu or jinkim@mit.edu.

MIT and the UA are not responsible for missed flights. Please plan accordingly and take into account that Logan will be very busy at this time of year. The shuttle will reach Logan Airport approximately 30 minutes after leaving MIT.

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Off Course



By H. Ayala

Read on if you answer yes to any of the following:

- ✓ Do you want to see your name on *The Tech* comics pages?
- ✓ Do you doodle in your spare time (or even during class)?
- ✓ Do you want thousands of people to see your doodling?

Then maybe you can have a comic in *The Tech* next term. Stop by our office in W20-483, or wait till next term... we'll still be here!

NO TALENT REQUIRED!



Left: Nurudafina Abena, Christopher Fung, Theodore DeVane, and Matthew Richter provide drum accompaniment for the Movements in Time Dance Troupe at their spring concert last Sunday. Right: Movements in Time open their spring concert with a dance to *Ah Been Buked*.

PHOTOS BY ADRIANE CHAPMAN—THE TECH

ZORK'S PLACE

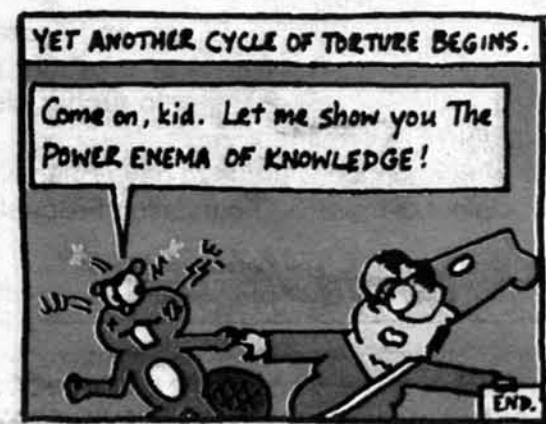
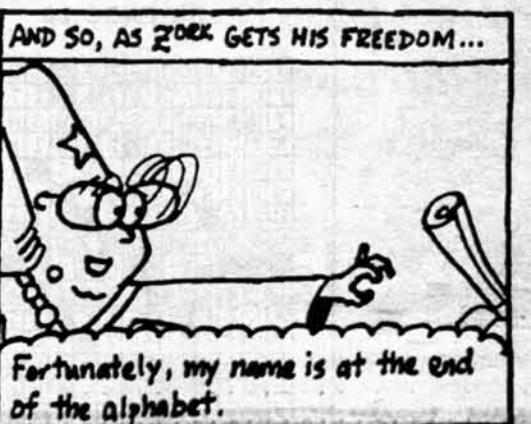
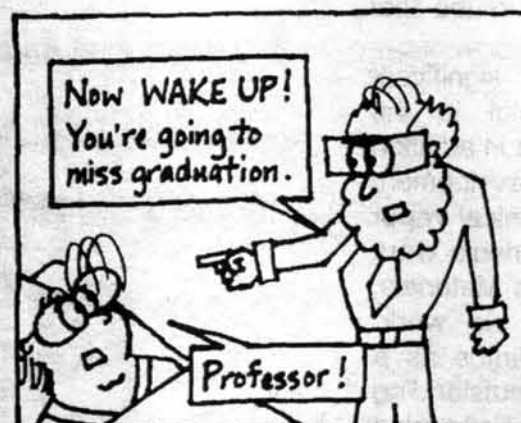
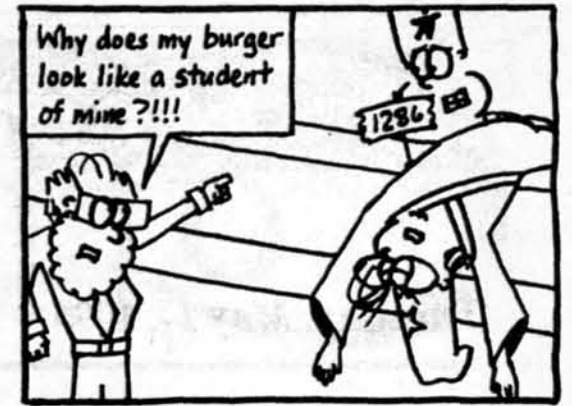
BY STEVEN D. LEUNG

THE STORY SO FAR...

ZORK, AFTER HAVING YE OLDE "BOTULISM BUFFET" AT NETWORKS, COLLAPSED, CRACKING HIS HEAD OPEN.

ZACK AND BUCKY TRIED TO GET ZORK INTO THE MED CENTER BUT THEIR ATTEMPT WAS THWARTED BY A MERCILESS CARD READER. THEY WERE PROMPTLY ARRESTED BY THE CAMPUS POLICE WHEN THEY LIBERATED ZORK'S WALLET TO GET HIS ID, TO GET INTO THE MED CENTER, TO GET HELP...

IN THE MEANTIME, ZORK'S BODY WAS COLLECTED BY ARAMARK



TO EVERYONE WHO HAS READ MY SCRAWLING, WRITTEN ME E-MAIL ABOUT IT, OR STOPPED ME IN THE HALL; TO THAT NAG SAUL BLUMENTHAL FOR EXPONENTIALLY INCREASING MY WORKLOAD BY MAKING ME DO COLOR; TO ARAMARK FOR BEING SO EASY TO NICK; TO ANDREAS HOVE FOR THAT WONDERFUL FEAST AT THE RITZ; AND TO MY FRIENDS WHO PUSHED ME INTO THIS MESS... THANKS.

Steven D. Leung

Student Center Committee 24 hour

Coffeehouse

Café BUZZ is BACK!!!

Twice the  Caffeine

**3RD FLOOR STRATTON
MEAL CARDS ACCEPTED**

The 1996 Bose Foundation Fellowship for graduate study in engineering has been awarded to Brian N. Hubert.

This award includes both tuition and stipend for one year of graduate study at M.I.T. The fellowship is awarded on the basis of academic excellence and for technical achievement outside of academic study. Particular emphasis is placed on a high level of initiative and creativity.

The applicants for the 1996 award demonstrated outstanding accomplishments, not only in their academic pursuits but also in their technical achievements in work assignments and class projects.

Brian N. Hubert, in particular, exemplifies the criteria for the Bose Fellowship award. Hubert, a candidate for a Doctoral of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree, will complete his combined Bachelor's and Master's of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering this June, having maintained an outstanding grade point average throughout his academic career.

Brian has earned the well-deserved respect of his peers and leaders for his work at Los Alamos National Laboratory Center on design, fabrication, and characterization of a large number of silver alloys for the cladding of high-temperature superconductors. "Brian is the most impressive and accomplished student I have ever seen" remarks Dr. James L. Smith, Fellow and Chief Scientist who supervised Brian's research at Los Alamos. According to Dr. Smith, "for Brian, virtual reality is limiting. Brian is a visionary who pursues that vision."

Working independently, Brian has made significant accomplishments in identifying new alloys useful in the fabrication of high-temperature superconducting wire in addition to his thesis work which entailed the successful development of a novel feed mechanism for metallo-organic chemical vapor deposition of ceramic films on novel substrates. Brian's work resulted in a publication in the Journal of Electronic Materials; Los Alamos is also filing a patent based on his work. Furthermore, Brian's work will be used at Los Alamos as a basis for future industrial collaborations. These outstanding achievements are consistent with the Bose Fellowship standards for excellence.

Brian is a member of Pi Tau Sigma, an honorary society in mechanical engineering. He plans to take his post-doctoral expertise either directly to industry or to further his research in a purely academic environment.

The Bose Foundation is proud to have Brian N. Hubert as the 1996 recipient of the Bose Foundation Fellowship.



10AM-4PM Monday through Saturday
1000 Engineering Building

Scott's Journal
by Scott



SOLUTIONS FROM PUZZLE ON PAGE 18

A	S	T	R	O	D	O	M	E	S	E	R	F	S		
F	O	R	E	C	A	B	I	N	I	T	A	L	A		
F	R	A	N	C	I	S	X	B	U	S	H	M	A		
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P	E	R	S	E	G	O	V	E	R	N	E	S			

POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Campus Police between May 1 and May 9:

May 1: Bldg. 5, suspicious activity; 33 Mass. Ave, bicycle stolen from rack, \$110; Westgate, assault and battery between persons known to each other; Eastgate, harassing phone calls.

May 2: Bldg. 26, lock tampering; Bldg. E23, keys lost; 33 Mass. Ave bicycle rack, bicycle stolen, \$230; Johnson Athletics Center, bicycle previously reported stolen recovered on a different bicycle rack; Bldg. 6, wallet stolen, \$50.

May 3: Bldg. 34, suspicious activity; Bexley Hall Alley, 4 juveniles arrested for trespassing.

May 4: Burton-Conner House, harassing phone call; Alumni pool, \$150 cash and \$600 charged on stolen credit card in approximately 15 minutes.

May 5: Bldg. 6, annoying phone calls; Bexley, harassing phone calls.

May 6: Student Center, \$70 cash stolen from wallet while in game room; Bldg. 10, threatening phone call; Lobby 7, palm tree stolen, \$50; DuPont gymnasium, gym bag & wallet stolen, \$3 cash; Bldg. 66, harassing phone calls; Hayden Library, wallet with no cash stolen, later recovered; Burton, harassment; Bldg. 2, harassing mail.

May 7: DuPont, locker broken into and gym bag stolen, no value; Amherst Alley, indecent exposure, victim describes suspect as: hispanic male, 30-35 years of age, dark curly hair, spoke with accent, driving a red van; Two juveniles arrested for larceny of a bicycle.

May 8: Bldg. E38, annoying mail; DuPont, locker broken into and \$30 cash and credit card stolen; Bldg. 7, video camera stolen \$600; Bldg. 8, harassing mail; Alumni pool, locker broken into and \$40 cash stolen; Bldg. E19, unwanted person; West garage, tire rack from a Ford Bronco stolen; Hayden, wallet containing only credit cards stolen.

May 9: Bldg. 14, sign stolen; Bldg. N52, camera stolen, \$775; Bldg. 66, electric cords stolen \$150; Bldg. E51, \$300 bicycle stolen; DuPont, Joseph Scalesse, of 33 Cross St., Everett, arrested for breaking and entering and other related charges.

House Fire at UNC Chapel Hill Kills Five Fraternity Members

By Dan McGuire
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A fire swept through the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill early Sunday morning, killing five occupants of the house.

Short Takes

Investigators, in a preliminary report, said that the fire was caused by a cigarette coming in contact with a pile of lumber, paper, and housewares being stored in the house's basement. The fire spread quickly due to extremely flammable wall paneling. The house had smoke alarms but no sprinklers.

The fire occurred the day that graduation exercises were set to begin.

"It's hard to think of something positive like graduation when there's something so tragic and sad happening at the same time," said Mallory Reeves, a graduating senior.

[The Chapel Hill News and Observer, May 13]

BU experiences lack of housing

Boston University students will again face a housing problem as limited dormitory space forces the

university to put many sophomores into crowded triples in order to provide adequate housing for the incoming freshmen.

This year, the university ran out of space for 300 freshmen and was forced to place them in a university-owned Howard Johnson hotel in Kendall Square.

[The Daily Free Press, April 26]

Yale saves tradition despite strike

After consultation with graduate and undergraduate leaders, Yale University administrators decided to hold graduation cere-

monies at the traditional place in the old campus.

Union members, who are currently on strike as part of a long-running labor dispute, have

promised to disrupt the ceremony. The AFL-CIO has said that it plans to use the event to kick off a "union summer" training program.

"It's time to get in the employer's face," said AFL-CIO Assistant Director for Field Services Vinny O'Brien, "There aren't any sacred cows, such as graduation."

[Yale Daily News, May 8]

Student sues Amherst over error

Julia Melissa Enrile, a senior at Suffield Academy in Connecticut is threatening to sue Amherst College over a letter for admission issued by mistake and later rescinded.

The letter, apparently issued due to a clerical error, stated that Enrile's admission would be revoked only if her "current level of academic performance" declined.

The filed suit alleges that the college breached its contract with Enrile. The Enriles allege that Amherst's Dean of Admission, Jane Reynolds, indicated that despite the error, Enrile would be allowed to attend. Reynolds denied this, calling Enrile "ill-prepared" for the school.

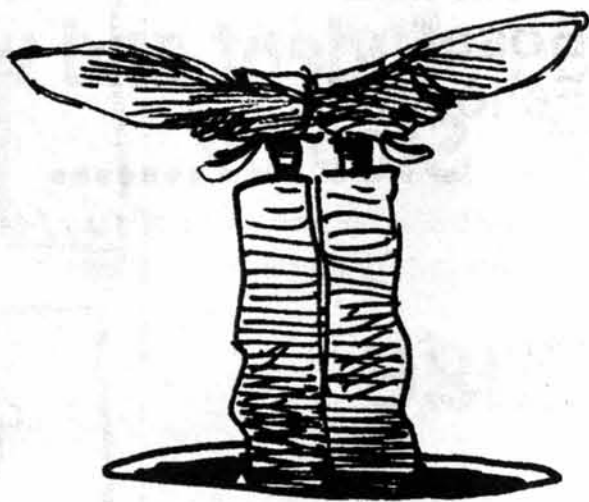
[The Amherst Student, April 24]

"It's time to get in the employer's face. There aren't any sacred cows, such as graduation."
— Vinny O'Brien

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12.002 Physics and Chemistry of the Solid Earth

Prerequisite(s): 8.02, 18.02
3-1-8 REST
Prof. Chris J. Marone
Meets MWF 11:00 - 12:00

Earth



12.102 Environmental Earth Science

Prerequisite(s): None
3-0-9 REST
Prof. Sam Bowring, Prof. John Southard
Meets TR 10:30 - 12:00

Atmospheric



12.003 Physics of the Fluid Earth

Prerequisite(s): 18.02, 8.01
3-1-8 REST
Prof. Alan Plumb
Meets MWF 10:00 - 11:00

NEW!

12.335 The Ocean in Climate

Prerequisite(s): 18.03, 5.60, or equivalent
3-0-9
Prof. Ed Boyle, Prof. Carl Wunsch
Meets MWF 2:00 - 3:00

& Planetary
Sciences



12.400 The Solar System

Prerequisite(s): 8.01
3-0-9 REST
Prof. Rick Binzel
Meets TR 10:30 - 12:00

Other Fall Courses (Non-REST)



12.006 Chaos and Complexity
TR 10:30 - 12:00

12.201 Essentials of Geophysics
MWF 9:00 - 10:00

12.215 Modern Navigation
MW 10:30 - 12:00



12.300 Global Change Science
TR 3:00 - 4:30

12.301 Past and Present Climate
MWF 9:00 - 10:00



12.410 Optical Astronomy
MW 2:00 - 3:00

For more information, send email to burns@mit.edu

Meeting Expected To Address Variety of Institute Issues

Meeting, from Page 1

People would like to know if a large number of retirements will mean that others will not be laid off, an anxiety for many who fear losing their jobs because of the re-engineering process, Rice said.

"The whole premise behind re-engineering is that you don't need the same number of people to do the job as you had before you went into the process," Rice said.

About 400 staff members — including about 40 faculty members — of the 1,400 eligible staff have expressed interest in the program.

Rice, along with several other administrators, will be at the meeting to field questions that Vest refers to them.

Some may focus on budget

People may also have other questions about budgetary concerns, Vice President for Finance and Treasurer Glenn P. Strehle '58 said.

"An important issue for MIT is the very slow growth in revenues which seems unlikely to exceed even the modest rate of inflation during the next few years," Strehle said.

A number of factors, including

the flat or declining revenues from campus sponsored research due to "the widely publicized slow-up in government funding of university research" will contribute to the slack revenue growth, Strehle said.

Re-engineering is part of the effort to cut expenses and keep spending in line, and will help during leaner funding periods, he said.

MIT must always be looking at

the outcome of the federal budget, Rice said. The budget, which is currently under discussion in Congress, may have some negative consequences for MIT.

Many graduate students are concerned that less federal funding and potential in-

creases in overhead rates could mean cuts in funding for teaching and research assistant stipends, Rice said.

People may also ask questions about issues of diversity, particularly what MIT has been doing to accommodate the growing numbers of women at the Institute, she said.

ROTC may also be a topic at the town meeting, Rice said. The faculty recently approved a plan to create a pilot ROTC program that will try to incorporate gays into all of its aspects.

Re-engineering is part of the effort to cut expenses, keep spending in line, and help during leaner funding periods.

— Glenn P. Strehle

If you're a Grad or Undergrad student and would like to relax or unwind. Stop by.....



Finals Lounge

Monday - Friday, May 20 - 24

between

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

in the Bush Room (10-105)

Sponsored by the Alumni Association

Extension Would Give Women More Choices

Sorority, from Page 1

Rush Shirley H. Hung '98 said. "Bringing a new sorority onto campus can alleviate that problem."

"Panhel wants to provide each woman at MIT with the opportunity to become part of a sorority if they so choose," DePaoli said. "With the increased interest in sororities at MIT, we want to ensure that we can continue to provide women with those opportunities."

These reasons brought up the discussion of an extension, the method by which sororities like Sigma Kappa and Kappa Alpha Theta came to campus, DePaoli said.

Extension could bring new sorority

In order to begin the process for settling a new sorority, Panhel will have to contact the National Panhellenic Association and file for an extension. National Panhel would then inform national sororities of its intent to extend a sorority at MIT.

"After considering applications from interested national sororities, several would be chosen to interview or present at MIT to an extension board, [made up of] representatives from the five sororities on campus and advisors," DePaoli said.

"A sorority would then be chosen by the MIT Extension Committee and then decisions for their rush schedule would be made," she said.

If the vote goes through, then Panhel will start the process of extension, but "since there's no point in rushing it, we're going to postpone the decision until the fall when questions can be answered," Hung said.

The official vote will take place after this fall's rush, with delegates from each of the five current sororities voting on the issue. A two-thirds

vote is needed to pass the motion.

If the vote goes through, representatives from National Panhel will rush for a founding class based on the schedule determined by Panhel, Hung said.

If the new sorority is extended, its rush probably still will not begin earlier than the fall of 1997, but Panhel must decide on whether to pass the extension first before they decide the timeline.

Good luck on finals and congrats to all graduating students!

Have a question for Dr. Vest?

Come to the
Town Meeting
Wednesday, May 15
Noon to 2 pm
Sala, Student Center

Bring your lunch
Refreshments provided

The Metric System?

- Is the United States converting?
 - Who uses the metric system?
 - Is the public ready?
 - Should schools have national or state metric teaching standards?
 - Will I need to use the Metric System when I get a job?
- Your opinion counts!

The National Institute of Standards and Technology invites you join our discussions and debate about the future of the Metric System in America.

WHEN: Friday, May 17 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and
Saturday, May 18 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

WHERE: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stratton Student Center

WHO WILL BE THERE?

Participants from educational and industrial communities including MIT, Boston University, Pepperdine University, Chelsea High School, Gilette, the Massachusetts Highway Department, and the Naval Underseas Warfare Center will share their experiences and views as we move closer **TOWARD A METRIC AMERICA.**

Notice to All Students Planning to Take Fall '96 Sloan (Course 15) Subjects



To better manage increasing enrollment demand for its classes, the Sloan School is again implementing a subject prioritization process during pre-registration for its Fall subjects.

- Students will be given priority if:

they pre-register for Course 15 subjects and submit their registration form to the MIT Registrar between 5/6 and 5/24/96,

AND

they fill out a Course 15 Prioritization Form between 5/14 and 5/20/96. The form will be available on-line by accessing the Educational Services Course Prioritization System Home Page on the Web (<http://sloanbid.mit.edu/es/>) from any Athena cluster on campus or at the Sloan Educational Services Office in E52-101.

- Students will find out their Sloan class enrollment status which will be posted on the Web May 22 (use the same URL as above).

For further details, refer to the Fall Term Class Schedules Booklet included with the registration material available 5/6/96) or contact the Sloan Educational Services Office in E52-101 @253-1510.

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 TUESDAY MAY 21: 2PM, 3PM**

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Jim's Journal

I've noticed Mr. Peterson has taken up some different little habits since I've been gone.



She used to like to sit on my bed. Now she sits on my chair.



6-2

**AFTER FINALS...
 THE CRAMMING
 BEGINS.**



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Thur. 10:00 to 12:30 Fri. 1:30 to 4:00

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She used to sleep on my bookshelf, now she likes the window sill.



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otherwise, she's about the same as always.



by Jim

Professors Rewarded for Good Teaching

Convocation, from Page 1

Albert L. Hsu '96 was recognized for his "tireless efforts" to keep the Baker House Dining Hall open. Hsu "spearheaded a successful effort" to meet this goal, Eisenmann said.

Dhaya Lakshminarayanan '96 was given the Stewart award in recognition of her efforts as the President of East Campus and being the President of the Dormitory Council, Eisenmann said.

Shruti Sehra '96 was recognized for her development and implementation of the Panhellenic Association's community service projects, as well as her participation in LINKS.

Professors receive Baker award

The Everett Moore Baker Memorial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching was given to two professors "in recognition of exceptional interest and ability in the instruction of undergraduates."

The awards were presented by Chair of the Baker Memorial Foundation Samir Thadani '96.

Women's Tennis coach Candace L. Royer, who is also the associate professor in the athletics department, "has had an incredible impact on her students, as an educator, as a tennis coach, and as a human being," Thadani said.


Janet Sonenberg, assistant professor in Music and Theater Arts section of the humanities department, was presented the award for "always making time for her students, helping them develop a passion for life," Thadani said.

Yaron Koren contributed to the reporting of this story.

Royer has impacted her students greatly "as an educator, as a tennis coach, and as a human being."
— Samir Thadani




GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH
Dean of Engineering Robert A. Brown presents the Bose Award for Excellence in Teaching to Professor Alan V. Oppenheimer of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the Awards Convocation held in 10-250 yesterday.



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It is our honor and pleasure to announce the winners of the Graduate Student Council awards for teaching and graduate advising.

GSC Teaching Awards

*Prof. Triantaphyllos R. Akylas
Mechanical Engineering*

*Prof. Kevin Rock
Sloan School of Management*

*Dr. Sean M. Carroll
Physics*

*TA Kevin A. Laws
Sloan School of Management*

*TA Daniel R. Goldner
Earth, Atmospheric, & Planetary Science*

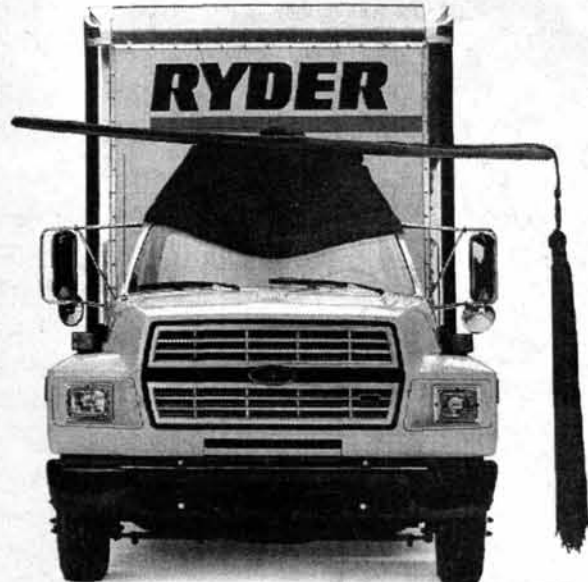
Perkins Award for excellent graduate advising

*Professor James E. Chung
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science*

*Professor Lionel C. Kimerling
Material Science*

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Information

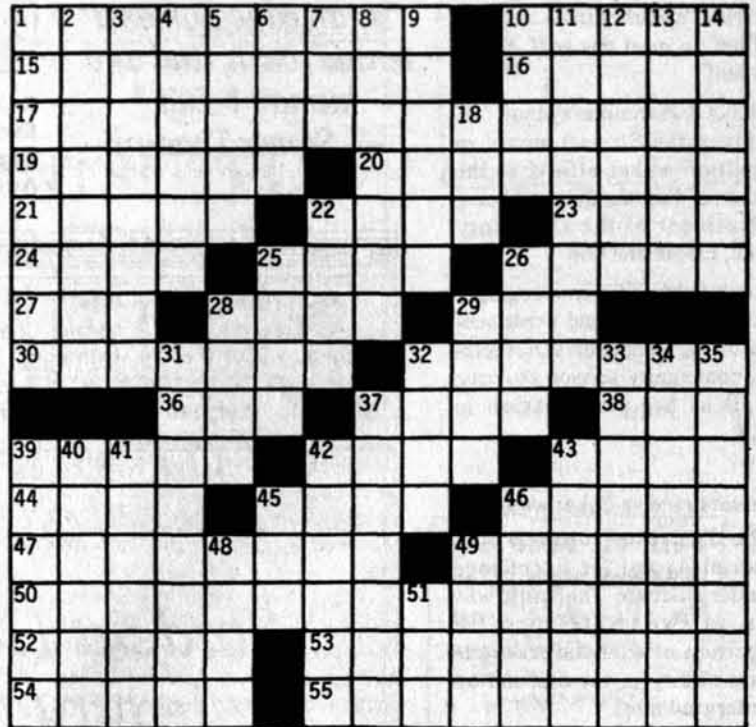
June Degree Candidates - Candidates with Federal and/or MIT administered student loans must have an Exit Interview with a Bursar's Office loan counselor before graduation. Call 253-4007 or e-mail ewolcott@mit.edu to schedule an appointment.

ACROSS

- 1 Houston ball park
- 10 Bondmen
- 15 Room on the anterior part of a ship
- 16 Early Latin version of the Scriptures
- 17 Star of 1926 Ben Hur (3 wds.)
- 19 — oculi (eye muscle)
- 20 Setting for "Hamlet"
- 21 Roller used in printing
- 22 Fusses
- 23 Chemical suffixes
- 24 Equipment
- 25 Of an amide
- 26 " — of thousands!"
- 27 Apt., dorm., etc.
- 28 The Emerald Isle
- 29 By way of
- 30 Disease-carrying flies
- 32 Hotel employee
- 36 Pollution control agency
- 37 The Bay State (abbr.)
- 38 Asiatic tent
- 39 Madison's VP
- 42 Adjectival suffix
- 43 Canadian province (abbr.)
- 44 Syrian city (var.)
- 45 Poker term
- 46 British elevators
- 47 Texas's nickname (2 wds.)
- 49 Way to obtain money (2 wds.)
- 50 Member of famous acting family (2 wds.)
- 52 Willow
- 53 Small airplane (hyph.)
- 54 In itself: Lat.
- 55 Nanny

DOWN

- 1 Fill with fear
- 2 Pain
- 3 Railroad inventory
- 4 Tenant or landlord
- 5 Happen
- 6 Raised platform
- 7 No longer in use (abbr.)
- 8 Blended with



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- (2 wds.)
- 9 In one lump (2 wds.)
- 10 Spanish equivalent of "oui, oui"
- 11 Of a particular race or culture
- 12 Woman's name or '20s song
- 13 Traffic warnings
- 14 Most mentally sound
- 18 Part of ship's name
- 22 French friends
- 25 Length times width
- 26 Is unwell
- 28 Catch sight of
- 29 Sleeveless garment
- 31 Hydrocarbons found in solvents
- 32 Foundation
- 33 Sheet music symbol (2 wds.)
- 34 Exhausts
- 35 Applies wall coating
- 37 Actor Art —
- 39 Fast gait
- 40 Girl's name
- 41 Painter of "Rowers' Luncheon"
- 42 Mired (3 wds.)
- 43 Military rank
- 45 Baseball city (abbr.)
- 46 Stratum
- 48 Dried up
- 49 Irish-Gaelic
- 51 Accelerate

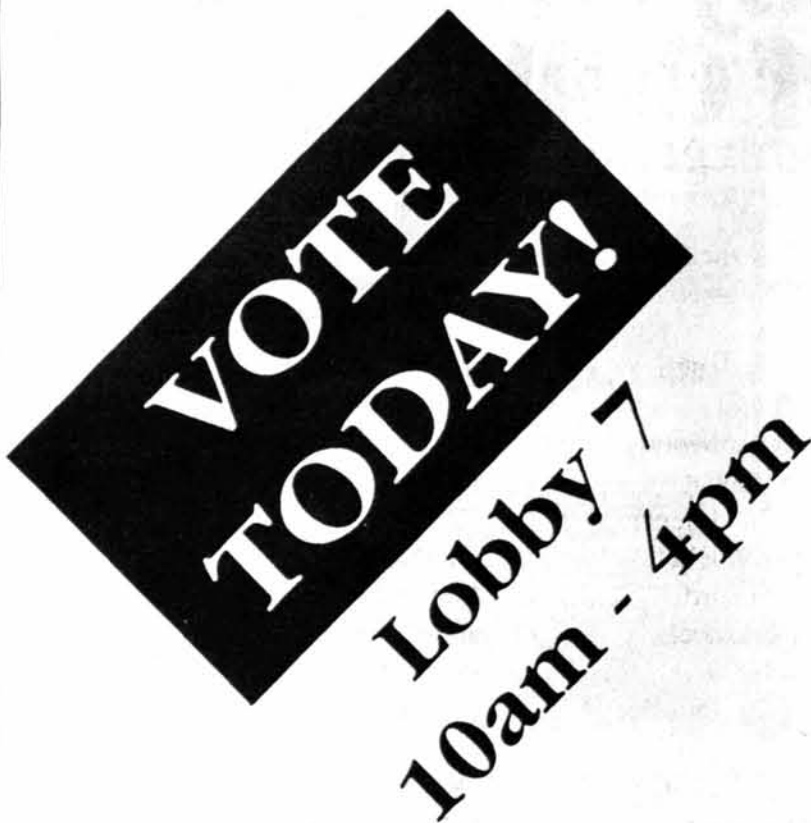
PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE



SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 12

DON'T MISS IT!

Read the full color finale of Zork's Place on page 11.



Attention Seniors!

- Class of 1996 Elections for:
- Class President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Executive Members

It is time to elect the alumni class officers who will represent the Class of 1996 between graduation and your 5th reunion.

Prizes Awarded for Both Artistic, Scientific Writing

Prizes, from Page 1

Minh H.T. Dinh '98 won first place and \$250, Marwan M. Kazimi '96 won second place and \$150, and Marsha F. Novak '96 won third place and \$100.

In the poetry category, Brent A. Ridley '96 won first place, Stephanie A. Jenrette '97 won second place, and Lucius F. Lau '96 took third place, with similar monetary awards.

In the short story category, Esther S. Dutton '96 placed first, Yulan Liao '96 placed second, and Charolette D.W. Iverson '96 followed up with an honorable mention and \$50 cash award.

Kazimi also received the single \$300 Louis Kampf Writing Prize in Women's and Gender Studies for his entry entitled "Depression and Gender."

The Boit Manuscript Prize was presented in the categories of drama, fiction, and poetry for publishable works of substantial length. In the drama category, the \$300 first place prize was awarded to Lawrence K. Chang '97, Ivana Komarcevic '96 placed second and received \$150, and an honorable mention and \$75 award went to Lin-Ann Ching '98.

Komarcevic also received first prize in the category of fiction, while Iverson won first place in the poetry category.

A separate category open only to

freshmen awarded three prizes. First place in the Ellen King Prize for Freshman Writing went to Mark A. Meier '99 along with \$150 for his short story. Jessica A. Nordell '99 placed second, receiving \$75 for her poetry submission, and Timothy M. Murithi '99 received honorable mention and \$25 for his essay.

Two other categories offered prizes for scientific writing.

"It's essential that the future leaders of science and technology have a social awareness and an ability to express themselves both scientifically and artistically," Lightman said.

The DeWitt Wallace Prize for Science Writing for the Public awarded three students for writing about issues and developments in science, medicine and engineering addressed to lay audiences. Patrick J. McCormick '98 received the \$300 first place award, A. Arif Husain '97 received second place and \$150, and Shelly-Ann N. Davidson '97 received honorable mention and \$75.

The S. Klein Prize for Scientific and Technical Writing, the only competition open to both MIT undergraduate and graduate students, recognized interpretive writing in specialized areas of science. A \$300 first place and \$150 second place award went to August Chang

and Karen V. Chenausky G, respectively.

Recipients enjoy creative freedom

Many students felt that the contest encouraged them to continue writing despite their busy schedule.

"It's a really different sense of accomplishment when you know that you've done a good job on something that came out of your own creative sense, not because you've memorized what they've wanted you to," Dinh said.

Some participants submitted material written as formal course work.

"Unless I take a class and am bound by its formal structure, I rarely find the time to write because I feel bound by the formal structures of my technical courses," Ridley said.

"I wish MIT would do more to emphasize the importance of good writing and liberal arts in general," Meier said.

"It's evident that there's a great interest in writing among students--there are plenty of creative and imaginative writers here," Lightman said.

Hodges awards also given

While the luncheon was given for the Karmel Writing Prizes, four students were awarded the

Parke A. and Ann L. Hodges Prizes for their outstanding Phase I Freshman Essay Evaluations or Phase II papers, after the main ceremony.

Petra S. Chong '99 and Sachiyo Minegishi '99 took the Phase I prizes.

Debajit Ghosh '97 was awarded first place for his Phase II paper entitled "IHTFP: An Improved HyperText Filing Proxy." Seungtaek L. Choi '96 was awarded second place for "The Compound Action Potential of the Frog Sciatic Nerve."

The MIT Lecture Series Committee presents:

Roe vs Wade: Past and Present

by Sarah Weddington, Jane Roe's lawyer in the landmark Supreme Court case.

Tuesday, May 14

8pm

MIT Kresge Auditorium

\$3 MIT/WC students
\$5 MIT community
\$7 others

Tickets available at the door or in advance at The Source on the first floor of the MIT student Center.

for info, call LSC at 253-3791 or see <http://web.mit.edu/lsc/www/>

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Leading developer of CAD & Facilities Management software has full and part-time positions available. Flexible hours and conveniently located in the Kendall Square area.

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The Everett Moore Baker Memorial Foundation congratulates

Candace Royer and Janet Sonenberg

for winning the

1995-1996 Everett Moore Baker Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

The Foundation would also like to congratulate the following teachers who were nominated for the award:

Tomas Arias
Monika Totten
Stephen Senturia
George Ruckert
Hartley Rogers
James Poterba
Gang Lin
Kirk Kolenbrander
Barbara Goldoftas
Susan Athey
Elizabeth Eccher
James Munkres
Frank Levy
John Essigmann
Daniel Kemp
John Brisson

Bolek Wyslouch
Irene Taylor
Donald Sadoway
Nasser Rabbat
Margarita Groeger
William Mitchell
John Lienhard
Frans Kaashoek
Robert Field
Wolfgang Ketterle
David Dunand
Tomoko Graham
Henry Jenkins
Alan Guth
Amar Bose

Jacob White
George Stephens
Gregory Stephanopoulos
Robert Rose
David Ragone
Ole Madsen
Walter Lewin
John Hildebidle
Peter Dourmashkin
Thomas Allen
Arthur Mattuck
Winston Markey
Christopher Cummins
Jon Lendon
Jeremy Wolfe

Thanks to all those students who took the time to submit their nominations for these individuals. Outstanding undergraduate teaching at MIT definitely deserves recognition.

Confused?
- Call Nightline
x 8-8003

Wait -
That's not it.

Confused?
Call Nightline
x 08083

Nope, wrong
again...

One more
time...

Confused?
- Call Nightline
x 38800

from 7pm
to
7am,
We're
here to
listen.

Do you have the feeling something was missing from your life this term? Then next term, join *The Tech*! No experience necessary! In the meantime, have a great summer.

***The Tech* will begin daily R/O issues starting on August 22. Stop by and check us out!**



SPORTS

Baseball Prepares for ECAC Tourney

By Joel Morales
TEAM MEMBER

After wrapping up the regular season with a 20-11 record, the most regular season wins in MIT history, the varsity baseball team was rewarded with a bid to the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference tournament.

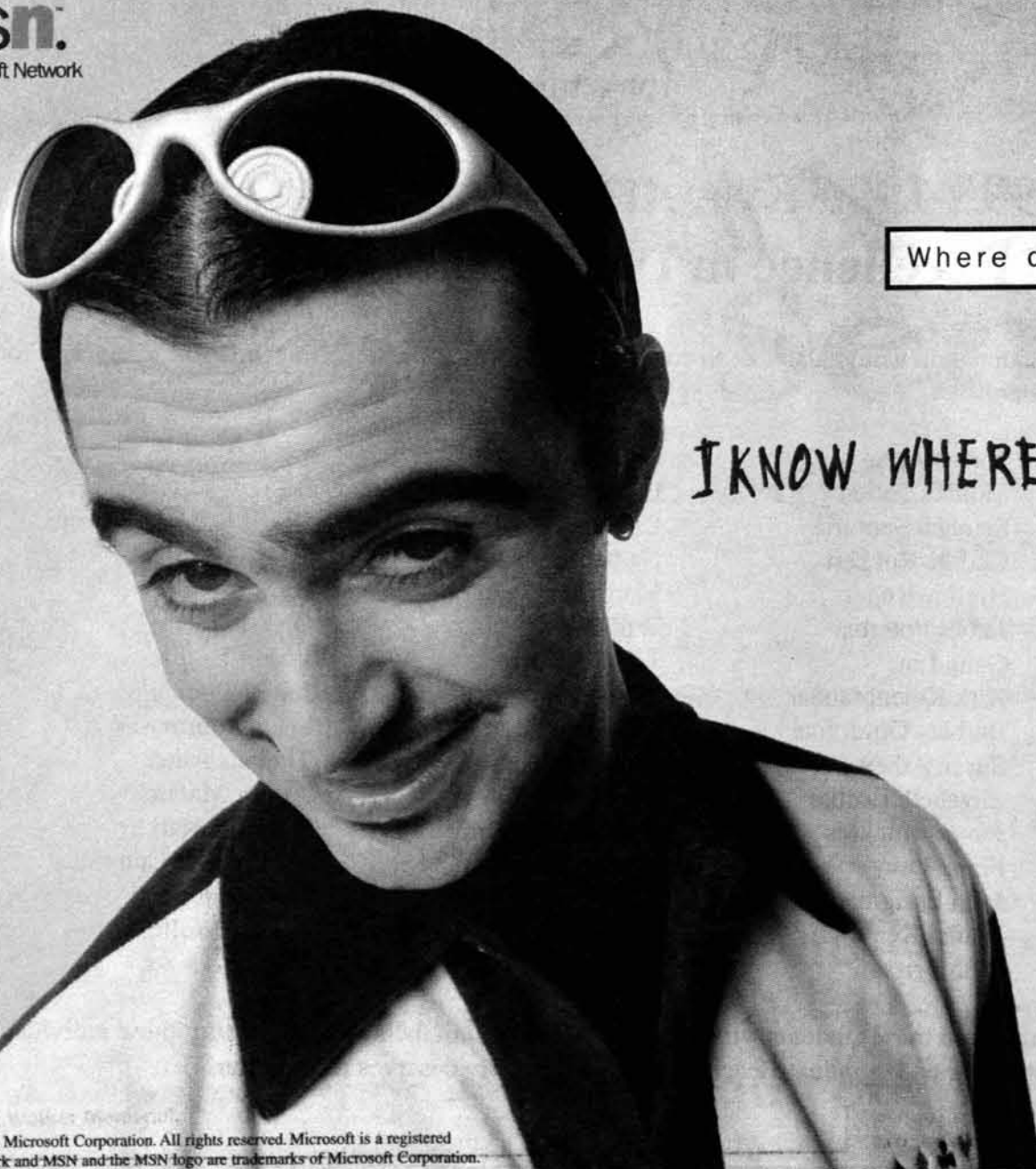
The team enters the tournament as the fifth seed and is slated to face fourth-seeded Plymouth State on Friday at Babson Field at noon. This marks MIT's first trip to the ECAC tournament since 1993, when the Engineers won the tournament.

The Engineers secured their spot by winning four of five games in the last and most crucial week of the season. The team began by convincingly defeating UMass-Boston, 10-6. Pitchers Wil Nielsen '98 and Steve Brunelli '96 kept UMass-Boston off stride the entire game. The team went on to beat Curry College, 10-7. MIT pitchers Tommy Epps '97, Chris Roy '99, and Joel Morales '99 kept the Curry hitters at bay.

The Engineers then took two wins from Suffolk University. In the first game, lefthander Steve Brunelli '96 shut out Suffolk, going all seven innings. The MIT bats finally came alive in the top of the seventh inning. After the Engineers loaded the bases, Baldemar Mejia '98 ripped an infield single to score the winning run. In the second game, Nielsen shut down Suffolk, and the Engineers breezed to victory, 12-3. Stephen Vetere '97 led the Engineers at the plate, going four for four. Mejia and Niki Batra '98 also had two hits apiece.

Read the finale of Zork's Place on Page 11.

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The Microsoft Network



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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Our cool site is your Custom Start Page.