

The Weather

Today: Clearing, sunny, 83°F (28°C)
 Tonight: Mostly clear, 62°F (17°C)
 Tomorrow: Cooler, sunny, 75°F (24°C)
 Details, Page 2

Volume 116, Number 37

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Thursday, August 29, 1996

Housing Lottery Indicates More Crowding, Slow Rush

By May K. Tse
 STAFF REPORTER

Far more rooms than anticipated will be crowded this year, results from the housing lottery indicated yesterday.

"We had projected a crowding level of 120," said Phillip M. Bernard, staff associate for Residence and Campus Activities. "What has happened is that the rush numbers are a level down from previous years."

So far, about 350 freshmen will be living in fraternities and independent living groups, down from 386 last year and 401 in 1994.

"We still think some people will pledge, but right now, we're up to 146 people crowding," Bernard said.

"It's too early to predict if we're above or below average, but the level of crowding is always dependent on the level of pledges," said Assistant Dean for Resident and Campus Activities Neal H. Dorow, adviser to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

Students who entered the lottery received their first choices and almost all students received assignments among their top four choices.

Four students, however, got assigned to a dormitory lower than their fourth choice. "We didn't make our goal of everyone getting their top four choices. I'm disappointed with that and with the crowding level," Bernard said.

MacGregor House was the most oversubscribed of all the dormitories, with 62 extra requests.

"I wasn't really expecting to get

in," said Jairam Ramanathan '00, a freshman who got into MacGregor, which was his first choice. "I would have been happy with my second choice."

New factors complicate process

Several factors made assigning

Lottery, Page 7

Dorm	# First Choice	Total Assigned	Ranks of those assigned		
			1st	2nd	3rd or lower
MacGregor	147	85	77	8	0
McCormick	92	62	62	0	0
Senior House	34	26	24	2	0
Burton	129	101	95	6	0
Random	27	22	20	2	0
Bexley	17	19	14	0	5
New	49	59	46	10	3
Next	70	87	70	13	4
EC	40	100	48	24	28
Baker	51	118	51	39	28

Dormitories are ranked from most subscribed to least subscribed on a percentage basis. Oversubscribed dormitories are above the line.



Susan Chamberlain '00, Sripriya Natarajan '00, and Karen Almgren '00 check their residence hall assignments on Athena yesterday evening.

HowToGAMIT Guide Returns from Grave

By Stacey E. Blau
 EDITOR IN CHIEF

How To Get Around MIT, the guide to life, culture, and lore at MIT, has returned following a two-year period during which it seemed at some points like the guide would never be published again.

The guide will again be free of charge to the Class of 2000 and will soon be available free to the Class of 1999, who did not receive copies of the guide when it was not published last year, said Kevin Amonlirdviman '97, president of the Technology Community Association, which handles the publication of the guide.

Amonlirdviman decided last year that he was interested in reviving the guide and took control of the TCA from former president Ameet Singh '96.

"The TCA as an organization wasn't really functioning very well," Amonlirdviman said. "Ameet decided to hand over the entire organization to me."

Lack of staff hurt guide most

There were basically no members in the TCA when Amonlirdviman took over. "I decided to get a couple of my friends" to work on HowToGAMIT, he said. The small core of members worked all spring semester last year to put out the guide.

Although current Undergraduate Association President Richard Y. Lee '97 pledged in his election platform last spring to resurrect HowtoGAMIT, "it wasn't his talking that brought it back," Amonlirdviman said. The plans and work to bring the guide back were

already underway by that time, he said.

The erstwhile lack of staff working on HowtoGAMIT was initially the biggest obstacle to publishing the guide. A lack of money was also a problem, "but the people factor was much more important," Amonlirdviman said. In the end, "it was the dedication of a couple of people" that made the guide possible.

Some information is outdated

Some, while happy to see HowtoGAMIT back in print, have complained that much of the information in the guide is outdated.

For example, the guide lists the dean for undergraduate education and student affairs as Arthur C. Smith. However, Smith retired last fall, and Rosalind H. Williams is currently the dean for undergraduate education, while Margaret R. Bates serves as dean for student life.

Amonlirdviman said that he had recognized that the guide would not be up to date. He said that the group's main goal was to get the organization in order and publish so that people would see HowToGAMIT and want to join. "We hope that this is what draws people," he said.

"A good project for TCA next year would be to update the guide so that the freshmen can have the most updated information," said UA Treasurer Russell S. Light '98.

Light said that the UA Council donated \$3,500 to help HowtoGAMIT publish on the condition that the group make the guide available free to freshmen and sophomores.

Most Freshmen Fail Essay Test

By Brett Altschul
 STAFF REPORTER

Eighty percent of freshmen failed the Freshman Essay Evaluation, a slight decrease from last year's 83 percent failing rate.

Scores for the Pre-Calculus Math Diagnostic indicated, however, that 68 percent of freshmen passed, up from 58 percent last year.

The harsher grading system implemented last year accounted for the continued low passing rate on the essay evaluation. The scores were up only slightly from last year's 17 percent passing rate year, which reflected a huge drop from the 48 percent that passed in 1994.

Coordinator of the Writing Requirement Leslie C. Perelman said that of the 973 freshmen taking the FEE, 197 passed and 776 did not pass. The Office of the Writing Requirement recommended that 122 of those 776 take a writing course.

Students who received a five on the Advanced Placement Language and Composition Test were credited with completion of Phase One of the Institute Writing Requirement.

Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs Travis R. Merritt said it was unfortunate that there were so many people failing the test and so few spots in writing classes.

"When we give people 'subject recommended,' we ought to have subjects to accommodate them," Merritt said. The number of writing classes offered at MIT have dwindled in recent years.

Merritt said that MIT needs to hire more writing instructors to supplement the insufficient numbers currently employed. "They're not enough," he said. "Most students need to do more writing."

Math results see an increase

The results of the math diagnosis-

tic increased from last year, when the exact same test was used, said Associate Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs Peggy S. Enders.

Of the 1,060 freshmen who took the test, 719 received an adequate score, Enders said. This compares to 652 out of 1,115 the year before.

Most students who scored inadequately got fewer than 70 points out of 100, Enders said. However, a handful of students who scored a 70 or better were ruled to have performed inadequately because they showed weakness on two separate sections of the test.

Although the number of students with adequate scores rose, the average score dropped from 78 to 76 correct, Enders said.

"It's pretty much exactly the way students did a year ago," she said. Students took an average time of 56 minutes to finish the test, exactly the same as last year, Enders said.

Students who score lower than 55 on the math diagnostic are advised to register for 8.01L, the version of Physics I that extends through the Independent Activities Period, said Professor of Physics John W. Belcher, the academic officer for the Department of Physics.

"We advise them not to try 8.01," he said. "You lose the advantages of 8.01L if you try to do the harder class first."

Students who do poorly are also advised to attend pre-calculus mathematics help sessions, Enders said. The mathematics department recommends that these students take Calculus I (18.01) and students with AP credit take Calculus II (18.02S) or Calculus (18.01A), she said.

Physics quiz debuts

This year's math diagnostic also featured a five-question physics section made up of problems used by

other colleges in the past, Enders said.

"There's a sense on the part of many faculty that it could help them understand the effectiveness of the physics course," Enders said.

The physics department eventually wants to have another test given after students finish 8.01, Belcher said. "But it's not certain that we'll be able to do that this year."

Belcher said that tests like these, which stress understanding of physics concepts rather than problem solving, have brought about some changes in the way that physics is taught at other colleges.

"The traditional method of lecture and problems may be teaching students to be good problem-solvers, while knowledge of the underlying physics concepts is lacking," Belcher said.

Belcher said that even if the test became an annual full-length examination, it would not be used to help decide physics placement. "The math is still the best judge for that," he said.

Changes considered in writing

One of the essay questions asked students if they thought the exam should be given online. The question was chosen because many freshmen expressed a desire to take the test on a computer in years past, he said.

About 60 percent of students argued against the idea, though, Perelman said. However, he cautioned that this may not be an accurate survey, as some students may argue against their actual position in order to build a better argument.

Freshman Mikey S. Fradin '00 had no complaint about the test. "I thought it was fair while I was taking it," she said, even though she did not pass the essay test. "It was probably not my best work, but it was decent."

WORLD & NATION

Bosnian Party Calls for Boycott

THE WASHINGTON POST

SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Bosnia's main Muslim party called on its supporters Wednesday to temporarily boycott next month's elections following a decision by the American official organizing the vote to delay the municipal part of the voting.

The move by the Party of Democratic Action, which was joined by two other Muslim parties, added to the confusion surrounding the decision by retired U.S. diplomat Robert Frowick to postpone municipal elections in 109 towns. On Tuesday, Frowick ordered those elections postponed because of widespread fraud carried out by all sides but particularly by the Bosnian Serbs. Frowick also ordered that the rest of Bosnia's elections — for a multiethnic presidency, two parliaments and cantonal governments — should go ahead as scheduled on Sept. 14.

The Muslim party's statement Wednesday was addressed to its supporters among the 641,010 refugees who registered to vote outside Bosnia. Voting by absentee ballot was set to begin Wednesday. The Muslim party said it needs more time to consult with the other parties competing in the elections about Frowick's decision.

Treasury Rejects Farrakhan Gift

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Treasury Department on Wednesday rejected a request from Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan for permission to receive a \$1 billion gift from Libya, which has been barred from virtually all economic transactions with U.S. citizens because of its alleged terrorist links.

In a letter to lawyers for Farrakhan, the director of the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control, R. Richard Newcomb, cited several reasons for the denial, including the belief that Libya is "a strong supporter of terrorist groups."

The denial also bars Farrakhan from receiving the \$250,000 prize that comes with a Libyan human rights award he is to receive from Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi. Past winners of the award include South African President Nelson Mandela.

"There is no basis in law or common sense for this action," said Rufus Cook, a Chicago lawyer representing Farrakhan. "It is an action taken in callous disregard of the needs and hopes of black people, at a time when their needs are dire and their hopes under assault."

Russian Army Continues Withdrawal

THE WASHINGTON POST

MOSCOW

The drive to end the war in Chechnya edged forward Wednesday, with both Russian and Chechen troops pulling out of its devastated capital, military commanders negotiating further steps toward demilitarization, and the violence of the last 20 months coming to a halt.

But there remained uncertainty about whether Russia's national security chief, Alexander Lebed, could get approval both from Moscow and from the Chechen separatists for an ambitious political agreement that would postpone for five years a decision on the break-away region's final status.

Lebed, who left Chechnya for Moscow on Sunday in hopes of conferring with President Boris Yeltsin about his political blueprint for ending the conflict, has yet to win an audience with Yeltsin, who is secluded at a government vacation lodge 60 miles from Moscow. As of Wednesday night, Yeltsin's press secretary, Sergei Yastrzhembsky, said there were no plans for a meeting with Lebed.

Yastrzhembsky told reporters that Yeltsin has studied a written report on the plans submitted by Lebed this week and issued new "instructions" that "provide more details to the settlement steps and consolidate the peace process in Chechnya."

It was not clear if this was intended as the green light that Lebed has been seeking, but his press secretary, Alexander Barkhatov, announced that Lebed plans to return to Chechnya shortly. He said Lebed was still waiting for a phone call or meeting with Yeltsin, who has largely slipped out of view since his reelection July 3.

Lebed's plan includes a proposed election in Chechnya and a referendum after five years on its status.

WEATHER

A Mighty Trio on the Horizon

By Gerard Roe

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The departing remnants of the rather persistent cyclone off the coast will mean clouds lingering into the early morning. However, the growing strength of the northwesterly winds will blow them away, leaving mostly sunny skies.

With the ground at last able to be warmed by the sun, there will be a welcome return to the more salubrious temperatures of the low to mid 80s (27-29°C) and just a few clouds popping up in the afternoon. The northerly winds will begin to take their toll on Friday, however, which while sunny, will see cooler air moving across the region.

Out in the Atlantic, Hurricane Edouard is well to the north of Puerto Rico but still a major concern with sustained winds of 135 mph (216 kmh). All forecasting eyes will be on whether the storm will recurve northward before threatening the east coast. And in case that isn't enough, the Tropical Storm Fran (shortly to become Hurricane Fran), and Tropical Storm Gustav are following on closely behind.

Thursday: Clouds clearing away early in the morning, and becoming mostly sunny. Much warmer than yesterday and less humid. The high temperature will push up to around 83°F (28°C). Moderate winds from the northwest.

Thursday night: Mostly clear, with a low of 62°F (17°C).

Friday: Cooler as winds turn northerly but mostly sunny. High 75°F (24°C). Low 60°F (16°C).

Arafat Lashes out at Likud; Calls for Palestinians to Strike

By Barton Gellman

THE WASHINGTON POST

JERUSALEM

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Wednesday abandoned a three-month effort to woo Israeli public opinion, lashing out at what he called a government of idiots and accusing Israel's new Likud Party leadership of "declaring a state of war against the Palestinian people."

Eyes flashing in rage as he addressed the elected Palestinian Legislative Council in Ramallah, in the West Bank, Arafat declared a one-day general strike for the first time since Palestinians called off their uprising against Israel's occupation and reached mutual recognition with Israel in 1993.

He invited "all Muslims" to take part in a mass prayer rally in Jerusalem's Aqsa Mosque on Friday, in implicit defiance of Israel's military closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Those calls for direct action, combined with a speech that at times included personal invective against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu '75, crossed a new line in the recent decline of the three-year effort to reach a negotiated accommodation between Israelis and Palestinians.

Arafat did not speak of violence or announce a boycott of future talks. But he rejected an American appeal to send his deputy, Mahmoud Abbas, to meet Netanyahu's envoy, Dore Gold, on Thursday and the council declared a rupture in contacts with the Israeli government.

Several hours after Arafat's remarks, unknown gunmen opened

fire on an Israeli bus traveling to the settlement of Kiryat Arba in the West Bank. The Israeli army said two people were lightly wounded by flying glass.

Two immediate grievances appear to have provoked Arafat's outburst, which departed from his ordinary care to avoid the rhetoric of war.

One was Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's announcement this week that he will permit construction of 1,806 new apartments, 900 of them immediately, in a new "neighborhood" of the West Bank Jewish settlement of Kiryat Sefer — the first of many such plans in the works.

Perhaps the greater flash point was the government's demolition of an East Jerusalem community center for disabled Arabs on Tuesday. Israel said the building had been erected without a permit, and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert declared Wednesday that Arab residents "built it in sheer provocation, knowing it would be demolished."

That move followed several other uses of police power by the Likud government to cement its hold on the Arab neighborhoods of the disputed city. Netanyahu also declared this month that he saw no chance of reaching a negotiated agreement on Jerusalem, suggesting Israel will impose its claim on the city that is at the emotional center of both Jewish and Palestinian nationalism.

"Israel has started the war on Jerusalem," Arafat said Wednesday, jabbing a finger in the air, in his speech, which was given in Arabic. "They are idiots to have started the

Jerusalem battle. There will be no Palestinian state without Jerusalem. Netanyahu should know he is stupid to have started this battle."

Netanyahu told reporters on a tour of central Israel that he "would avoid inflammatory rhetoric of this kind" and said it would be "a very grave mistake to have an escalation of both rhetoric, or of deeds, especially an escalation toward violence."

His director of communications and policy planning, David Bar Illan, argued in an interview that the expanded settlement work and demolition had nothing to do with Arafat's "pique." Referring to Palestinian complaints against abuses by Arafat's security forces, he said the only cause of Arafat's distress is "his own actions as a tyrant and a corrupt leader."

Since defeating Shimon Peres for the premiership in elections May 29, Netanyahu has promised foreign leaders that he would honor the accords reached with the Palestinians by Peres and his slain predecessor, Yitzhak Rabin. At the same time he has failed to withdraw Israeli troops from the bulk of the West Bank city of Hebron, the most significant unfulfilled Israeli obligation, and he has refused to permit his subordinates to discuss the matter with their Palestinian counterparts.

Netanyahu has frozen all negotiations with the elected Palestinian Authority, including talks on a final accord begun in May, as his government has fought intramural battles over who would manage the talks and what concessions, if any, it would offer.

Government to Provide Dogs To Sniff Bombs at Airports

By Pierre Thomas and Anthony Faiola

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms is developing a plan to train and provide bomb-sniffing dogs for up to 50 of the nation's largest airports, in a proposed new step toward tightening security for air travelers in the wake of last month's suspicious crash of Trans World Airlines Flight 800.

The Labrador retrievers, with highly sensitive and well-educated noses, could offer a cheap method of increasing protection against terrorist bombs in the near future while the government considers an ambitious, long-term plan to require installation of high-tech explosives detection devices.

To purchase and train a dog costs about \$8,500, compared with up to \$1 million apiece for some of the sophisticated machines that are available but that could take years to install, according to officials familiar with the proposal. Many experts argue that canines alone could not do the job, because they are unable to screen large volumes of luggage as efficiently as machines can and are not as effective at scenting the telltale chemicals used in bombs.

If the ATF plan is approved, individual airports would decide exactly how the dogs would be used, and how visible they would be to the average traveler. Today, dogs are used sparingly at most major airports, where they are generally called in to clear aircraft or parts of terminals only when a bomb threat has been made.

Under the proposal, the dogs could make regular patrols in pas-

senger terminals, or might be stationed out of public view and sniff luggage before it is loaded on planes, officials said.

The start-up plan, estimated to cost \$7 million to \$10 million, would significantly expand ATF's canine explosives detection program in Front Royal, Va. ATF has trained more than 100 Labrador retrievers for Israel, Egypt, Greece and four other countries.

The ATF proposal stems in part from congressional concerns about airport security after an explosion brought down TWA Flight 800, killing 230 people, July 17. A terrorist's bomb is considered among the primary possible causes of the crash.

Terrorism legislation overwhelmingly approved by the House, 389-22, and sent to the Senate on Aug. 2 includes a provision that calls for airport administrators to "use dogs or other appropriate animals to supplement existing equipment for screening passengers and cargo for plastic explosives and other devices or materials which may be used in aircraft piracy."

In addition, the House has approved an appropriations bill for an ATF-Federal Aviation Administration pilot program for using bomb-sniffing canines that seeks to combine the expertise of both agencies. Today, each agency already maintains smaller dog operations, which are used as needed.

The plan being developed by ATF requires funding to be approved by the Treasury Department and the Office of Management and Budget. It calls for hiring additional chemists and instructors to run the 17-week train-

ing program for dogs and their police handlers.

Local airport police would be responsible for using the dogs provided by ATF. The dogs and their handlers would each be recertified annually. The program could train at least 100 to 150 dogs initially, and expand as needed.

Some experts said the federal government can expect a mixed reaction from the traveling public. Although travelers consistently rank safety and security among their top concerns, they are often unwilling to accept the inconvenience — and sometimes additional costs — that come with those safety measures.

"Americans tend to think of free and unfettered access at airports as a requirement rather than a luxury," said William Norman, chief executive of the Washington-based Travel Industry Association.

"If these dogs can be put in place in such a way that travelers don't see them, or in such a way as to not slow things down, I think the public would be all for it," he said. "But if we see an element of inconvenience, travelers could very likely complain."

ATF's dog-training program was developed in 1991, after the agency entered into an agreement with U.S. State Department to train the canines for foreign countries under the anti-terrorism assistance program.

"A good dog can check an average-sized parking garage in 20 minutes," said Neil Livingstone, author of nine books on terrorism and security. "These are good, smart animals that are very effective at weeding out the terrorist threat."

Baker Made Secret Trip to Syria

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Those were barbed words former secretary of state James A. Baker III used at the Republican National Convention two weeks ago as he trashed the Clinton administration for its dogged efforts to nudge Syria into peace with Israel.

"Over the past four years," Baker said, "the Clinton administration has made over 22 trips to pay court to Syria's dictator and come up with exactly zero. When they write the history of Bill Clinton's foreign policy, they're going to call it Gullible's Travels."

That line drew laughs and applause, but as often happens in such a partisan environment it didn't tell the whole story. Baker failed to mention that as the nation's top diplomat in the administration of President George Bush he often journeyed to Damascus and met for many hours with Syrian President Hafez Assad.

And now it turns out that Baker's contacts with Assad did not end when Clinton succeeded Bush. Baker made a secret trip to Damascus in March 1995 and talked to Assad for more than six hours in an unsuccessful effort to break an impasse in negotiations between Syria and Israel.

Baker made that trip on the explicit understanding that it remain a secret, according to an associate, but after his speech at the GOP convention Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's outgoing ambassador to the United States, told a reporter about it. Rabinovich declined Wednesday to say why he did that.

According to the associate, Baker has a "standing invitation" to visit Syria, an outgrowth of the patient work Baker did in establishing a constructive relationship with Assad. As secretary of state, Baker persuaded Assad to join the U.S.-led coalition of forces that drove Iraqi troops out of Kuwait, and later cajoled Assad into participating in the Middle East peace negotiations that began in Madrid in 1991.

English Royals Finally Divorce

THE WASHINGTON POST

LONDON

Prince Charles and Princess Diana were finally, officially, divorced Wednesday.

The world's most talked-about marriage, which became the most talked-about split, came to an end at exactly 10:27 a.m. London time, when a court clerk rubber stamped the decree.

Neither Charles nor Diana was required to make an appearance and neither did. She — still wearing her wedding ring — hurried into a luncheon sponsored by the English National Ballet, glancing only once, with a look of disdain, at the camera-wielding army massed to photograph her. On the way out, she smiled and waved briefly from the back seat of her limousine at some nearby workmen but pointedly ignored the press.

He disappeared at Balmoral Castle in Scotland, where he is vacationing with their two sons, but was inevitably captured by long-range lenses.

The royal marriage lasted roughly 15 years and a month. Its slow industry of newspaper scoops and counterscoops, intercepted phone conversations, interviews and counterinterviews, leaks by friends of hers, leaks by friends of his, books and documentaries.

The terms of the divorce remained the subject of press speculation. It is rumored that she gets a lump sum of roughly \$22 million.

Come Teach With Us!

On November 23rd and 24th, the MIT Educational Studies Program will bring over 600 7th-12th grade students onto the MIT campus to enjoy **Splash**, a program of lectures, seminars, and workshops. **Splash** courses are designed by our volunteer instructors, and in the past have included everything from Chess, The Calculator In Your Head, Technology Risks, and Beginning Knitting, to African Literature, Philosophy Lounge, and Build Your Own Robot. If you have an idea for a course you'd like to present, please call 253-4882 and request teacher information. All are welcome. Application deadline is September 13th.



MIT Educational Studies Program
MIT Student Center
77 Mass. Ave., Room W20-467
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617) 253-4882



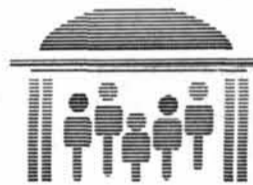
we don't close up at night

urgent care
24 hours
a day,
every day
of the year
253-1311
(voice, TDD)

regular
internal
medicine
and nurse
practitioner
appointments:
253-4481 (voice, TDD)
8:30am-5pm,
monday-friday
(ask about Tuesdays til 8pm)



mit medical



Graduate Student Council

Room 50-222 • x3-2195 • <http://www.mit.edu/activities/gsc>

Keep in Touch! Stay informed about GSC events! Add yourself to our mailing list by sending e-mail to gsc-request@mit. Questions? Ideas? Write to gsc-admin@mit or call x3-2195.

Orientation schedule highlights for new graduate students

Information booth

Aug. 27 - 29, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Aug. 30, 10 a.m. - noon.
Located in Lobby 10.
Pick up information about housing, MIT offices, and more!
Tickets to GSC events are sold here.

Seminars

Sept. 3, 3 p.m.
"Student Health"
Sept. 3, 4 p.m.
"Urban Safety Tips/
Dealing with Harassment"
Sept. 3, 6 p.m.
"GL 001 Introduction to
Grad Life"
Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
"Can We Talk?"

TODAY!

Orientation picnic

noon - 2 p.m.
Meet students from all departments, eat good food, listen to President Vest, Dean Litster, others!

GSC Open House

5:30 - 7 p.m.
Come see our newly-renovated office and become a part of the oldest* student government on campus.
* highest average age

Night on the Town

7:30 p.m. (and Sept. 7, 9 p.m.)
Explore Boston's night life!

Upcoming meetings & deadlines for all graduate students

Graduate Student Council committees

Sept. 4 General meeting
Sept. 10 Career Fair meeting
Sept. 12 Activities meeting
Sept. 17 Housing and Community Affairs meeting

Beginning of school

Sept. 2 Labor day
Sept. 3 Registration day
Sept. 4 First day of class

Activities funding

Sept. 4 Fall applications due
Sept. 9 Funding board meets
Sept. 14 Summer reimbursement request due

GROCERY SHUTTLE

Look for the yellow school bus here:

	Saturday			Tuesday		
Eastgate (1 Amherst St.)	9:00 am	10:00 am	11:00 am	7:00 pm	8:00 pm	9:00 pm
Senior House (Amherst&Ames St.)	9:01 am	10:01 am	11:01 am	7:01 pm	8:01 pm	9:01 pm
Ashdown House (Amherst)	9:04 am	10:04 am	11:04 am	7:04 pm	8:04 pm	9:04 pm
Burton House	9:06 am	10:06 am	11:06 am	7:06 pm	8:06 pm	9:06 pm
Tang Hall/Westgate	9:07 am	10:07 am	11:07 am	7:07 pm	8:07 pm	9:07 pm
Edgerton House/Random Hall	9:09 am	10:09 am	11:09 am	7:07 pm	8:07 pm	9:07 pm
Arrive Star Market (approx.)	9:30 am	10:30 am	11:30 am	7:30 pm	8:30 pm	9:30 pm
Leave Star Market (approx.)	10:40 am	11:40 am	12:40 pm	8:40 pm	9:40 pm	10:40 pm

The shuttle is a free service for all MIT students and families, sponsored by Star Market and organized by the Graduate Student Council. All times are approximate, however, the bus will allow AT LEAST ONE HOUR for shopping. You may request to be dropped off at ANY residence hall, not just those listed. If you ride regularly and would be willing to help with the sign-up list, or if you have any questions, please contact gscoram@mit.edu. To add yourself to the grocery shuttle mailing list, athena%blanche.grocshtut%username

OPINION

Rush Should Work More Like Real Life

Column by David D. Hsu
NEWS EDITOR

I still remember Residence and Orientation Week my freshman year two years ago. During the President's Welcome Convocation, some dean told us something like: "In the next few days, you will be making some very important decisions about what the next few years will entail. And just like real life, you won't have all the information or all the time you want. But you'll still make a decision, just like real life."

During Killian Kick-Off, Van Van '97 echoed those words. "MIT doesn't prepare you for life; MIT is life," he said.

Now that I've been through R/O Week three times in one form or another, I can easily conclude that rush is nothing like real life. If rush were like real life, I would be feasting on steak and lobster every day.

I guess I should clarify myself. When I talk about real life, I'm talking about life I've known growing up in the United States.

It's true that aspects of rush emulate life in communist or fascist countries. In certain countries, rights are taken away in the name of protecting the people. In an odd way, it's the same with rush.

Fraternities, sororities, independent living groups, and dormitories are only allowed to rush within a specified time. This is to ensure that the freshmen get a fair look at all their living options. All the freshmen would obviously be swayed by events happening early. There's no way freshmen can make choices by themselves.

The most important decision freshmen made before this week was which college to go to. Some freshmen probably exhausted resources, looking through *U.S. News* rankings and *The Fiske Guide*, making campus visits, and talking to undergraduates. Some other freshmen may have just decided to go here based on the name. But the point is that the information is easily available. It's the

same way with other important decisions like buying a house or a car. Yet information needed for deciding where to live at MIT for the next four years is hard to get during an arbitrary amount of time before Killian Kick-Off.

I've heard some criticism about *The Tech's* decision to print Sigma Phi Epsilon's rush ad before Killian Kick-Off. One person asked me whether *The Tech* had any interest in protect-

ing the freshmen. Were freshmen really threatened by a full-page ad?

If rush were like real life, I would be feasting on steak and lobster every day.

I guess nobody has any confidence in the ability of freshmen to think for themselves. Yes, they're not going to be as knowledgeable of MIT as upperclassmen, but they can still make their own decisions. Most of them probably know they shouldn't go out in public if they haven't showered in a week, which many upperclassmen forget.

Even though I haven't seen their rush statistics, I'll bet that Sig Ep's rush was neither significantly hurt nor helped by the premature ad. It was no secret that Sig Ep was going to participate in rush, and I doubt the ad displayed any information that wasn't readily available in a summer rush book. One more slick page won't hook many freshmen.

Sig Ep should not be fined for their early ad any more than any fraternity should be fined for their summer rush parties, rush booklets, or all those phone calls from fraternity brothers. Let people decide for themselves, just like in real life. After watching the Olympics, freshmen probably have learned to

tune out commercialism. When I was a freshman, the badmouthing rule was still in effect for dormitories. I had to ask someone at Harvard to find out about the MIT fraternities. But I considered the information I got just as I considered the information I got from fraternity brothers: How well do I know the source? How credible is the source? How impartial is the source?

Most people go through this type of reasoning. If someone hears one living group badmouth another living group, they'll ask the same questions and make their own decision.

Future freshmen are likely to become more and more accustomed to the Internet. Perhaps fraternities, sororities, and dormitories should be required to close down their World Wide Web pages before Killian Kick-Off. Some aimless freshmen might stumble upon the Web site, and the results could be disastrous. Countless freshmen looking at brothers', sisters', and residents' homepages actually might learn something useful about the living groups. It would be unfair to let a sorority with an established Web page get an advantage over a sorority that's more HTML-deficient.

Maybe the Interfraternity Council and Dormitory Council Judicial Committee members should patrol the Web, looking for violations. If they come upon one, a simple e-mail to stopit@mit.edu will save those innocent freshman minds. But I guess that would just be too wacky.

I can understand that if rush were a free-for-all, freshmen would be carted off as soon as they arrive, but certainly rush can be a little more reasonable. Fraternity and dormitory residents should be allowed to wear shirts displaying their living groups, FSILGs should be permitted to badmouth, and sorority sisters should be allowed to talk to female freshmen.

When freshmen arrive, they do not want to be mothered by countless rules. It's time to make rush more like real life.

Recitations for Class Should Not Be Ignored

Column by Brett Altschul
STAFF REPORTER

Over the course of Residence and Orientation week, I've heard numerous upperclassmen giving advice to members of the Class of 2000. Some of these tips are quite sound, but some will come back to bite the freshmen who follow them.

In particular, I've noticed that many freshmen are told that recitations for classes aren't important, and there's no reason to go to them. I admonish all freshmen not to follow this poorly-thought-out piece of advice. Recitations are an important part of an MIT education, for more reasons than you might think.

In many classes, a significant amount of the subject matter is introduced in recitation. This is especially true of some introductory classes with a lot of freshmen, where there's a broad range of material to cover. Both Introductory Biology (7.012) and Introduction to Psychology (9.00) function in this manner. In fact, in 9.00, some of the activities in recitation are graded. However, this is only the most obvious reason why recitations are critical.

In many cases, the recitation offers the only chance to see problems worked out. In 8.012, the advanced version of Physics I, some of the problem sets are extremely difficult. However, much of the recitations are spent working on the difficult problems, with the section leader explaining some of the critical insights. Some of those problems certainly stumped me the first time I saw them, but recitations helped me end up with a high grade.

Many freshmen are told that recitations aren't important.

The issue here is not the ability to complete problems sets. I easily could have gotten a bible of coursework for the class, since the problems change fairly little from year to year. (Primarily for that reason, the use of bibles are forbidden in that class; that doesn't seem to stop anybody from using them though). However, when the test date rolls around, it helps a great deal to have actually paid attention in recitation. After the test, the people who relied on bibles stand around griping about how obscenely difficult the test was, while the more mature students discuss alternative methods of solving some of the tougher problems.

The fact that people who attend recitations frequently do better on the problems is really just a trivial corollary of a more important fact. Those people just comprehend the material more fully than the students who blow off recitation. Sure, freshmen are on pass/no record grading, but if you don't understand Physics II (8.02) very well, you're going to drown when you take Circuits and Electronics (6.002).

Even if you think you're just taking physics (or whatever) to satisfy the General Institute Requirements, it's valuable to understand the material; you may discover that you love physics and decide to major or minor in

it. You may discover that physics is more useful in your major than you thought. Finally, there's the sense of accomplishment you get from really learning the material well. Doubtless, some of you will snicker at that, but I'm sure I'm not the only person who enjoys understanding things.

Recitations also provide an opportunity to meet other people at MIT. Immense lecture classes in immense lecture halls often seem very impersonal, but recitations are small and generally quite informal. You can take the opportunity to meet your classmates and the section leader. While they may seem aloof and threatening, most teaching assistants should prove quite willing to talk to undergraduates. Graduate students are an excellent source of information and advice. Knowing a few grad students can also help you get a good position in the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program. Personally, I've met some good friends in recitations.

I don't mean to say that you need to religiously attend every recitation for every one of your classes. I've missed recitation sections when I was working on an article for *The Tech*, when I wanted to attend another activity, and when I slept late after a long, work-filled night. Still, I do go to most of the recitations for each class, and I certainly pay attention at each one.

So whatever some greasy upperclassman may whisper in your ear about the pointlessness of attending recitations, don't listen. Recitations are very important, adding both breadth and depth to an MIT education.

Opinion Policy

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

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

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

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be typed, double-spaced and addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. Electronic submissions in plain text format are encouraged, and may be mailed to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

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

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. Electronic mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. Mail to specific departments may be sent to the following addresses on the Internet: ads@the-tech.mit.edu, news@the-tech.mit.edu, sports@the-tech.mit.edu, arts@the-tech.mit.edu, photo@the-tech.mit.edu, circ@the-tech.mit.edu (circulation department). For other matters, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. *The Tech* can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://the-tech.mit.edu>.



Chairman

Daniel C. Stevenson '97

Editor in Chief

Stacey E. Blau '98

Business Manager

Christine Chan '98

Managing Editor

Saul Blumenthal '98

Executive Editor

Anders Hove G

NEWS STAFF

Editors: Shang-Lin Chuang '98, David D. Hsu '98; **Associate Editors:** Orli G. Bahcall '99, Dan McGuire '99; **Staff:** Eva Moy G, Kwong H. Yung G, James M. Wahl '97, Christopher L. Falling '98, Brett Altschul '99, Shawdee Eshghi '99, Carina Fung '99, Kai-yuh Hsiao '99, Yaron Koren '99, Jean K. Lee '99, Fenny Lin '99, Eric Sit '99, May K. Tse '99, Rochelle Tung '99; **Meteorologists:** Michael C. Morgan PhD '95, Gerard Roe G, Marek Zebrowski.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Editor: Jen Peltz '98; **Associate Editors:** Josh Bittker '99, Jason C. Yang '99; **Staff:** Amy Hsu '94, Laura DePaoli '97, Jimmy Wong '97, Betty Chang '98, Larry Chao '98, Yun-Ju Lee '98, Jeremy J. Lilley '99, Arthur Murakami '99, Sharon Shen '99, Binh Truong '99, Hoi Wong '99, Douglas E. Heimburger '00, Khelga Karsten.

OPINION STAFF

Editor: A. Arif Husain '97.

SPORTS STAFF

Darren Castro G, David Berl '97, Jeremy Cohen '97, Jason Weintraub '97, Farhan Zaidi '98.

ARTS STAFF

Editor: David V. Rodriguez '97; **Staff:** Thomas Chen G, Teresa Esser '95, Brian Hoffman '97, Kamal Swamidoss '97, Rob Wagner '97, Hur Koser '98, Daniel Ramirez '99, Stephen Brophy.

PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Editors: Helen Lin '97, Indranath Neogy '98; **Associate Editor:** Gábor Csányi G; **Staff:** Rich Fletcher G, Jonathan Li G, Arifur Rahman G, Jiri Schindler G, Brian Vanden Bosch '96, Tiffany Lin '97, Adriane Chapman '98, Ian Chan '00.

FEATURES STAFF

Hugo M. Ayala G, Pawan Sinha G, Jessica Wu '99.

BUSINESS STAFF

Operations Manager: Pamela Shade '98; **Advertising Manager:** Terri A. Wilson '99; **Staff:** Angela Liao '98, Melody A. Lynch '98, Jessica Maia '98, Winnette McIntosh '98, Karen Chan '99.

TECHNOLOGY STAFF

Director: Cristián A. González '99; **Associate Directors:** Timothy K. Layman '97, Christina Chu '98; **Staff:** Ifung Lu '97, Kathleen Lynch.

EDITORS AT LARGE

Contributing Editors: Thomas R. Karlo '97, Jennifer Lane '98, Venkatesh Satish '98.

ADVISORY BOARD

V. Michael Bove '83, Robert E. Malchman '85, Thomas T. Huang '86, Reuven M. Lerner '92, Jeremy Hylton '94, Garlen C. Leung '95.

PRODUCTION STAFF FOR THIS ISSUE

Night Editors: Jimmy Wong '97, Josh Bittker '99, Jason C. Yang '99; **Staff:** Saul Blumenthal '98, Cristián A. González '99, Douglas E. Heimburger '00.

The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January and monthly during the summer for \$35.00 per year. Third Class by *The Tech*, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. Third Class postage paid at Boston, Mass. Non-profit Organization Permit No. 59720. **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. Telephone: (617) 253-1541, editorial; (617) 258-8324, business; (617) 258-8226, facsimile. Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available. Entire contents © 1996 *The Tech*. Printed on recycled paper by Mass Web Printing Co.

Dammed for Life

by Jessica Wu



PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE

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

Massachusetts Institute of Technology ORIENTATION WORKSHOP FOR NEW GRADUATE TEACHING STAFF SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1996

Wong Auditorium (E51-115)
Jack C. Tang Center for Management Education
70 Memorial Drive
(entrance at Wadsworth and Amherst Streets)

Registration: 8:30 am-9:00 am
Foyer, Tang Center

Program: 9:00 am-2:30 pm

Luncheon Guest Speaker:

Ms. Carol Symes

Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning
Harvard University

Sponsored by:
The MIT Provost's Office
The MIT Graduate Education Office

RSVP MANDATORY

Contact: Jackie Sciacca, Workshop Coordinator,
Graduate Education Office, Room 3-136A, MIT.
e-mail: jsciacca@mit.edu

Bookstore

the mit press bookstore
kendall square 3
292 main street
cambridge, ma 02142
tel 617 253 5249 fax 617 258 6884
booky@mit.edu
<http://www.mitpress.mit.edu/bookstore>

MIT Press

Intriguing books.
Kendall

mit press,
mit authors
& more

architecture
art
artificial intelligence
cognitive science
computer science
design
economics
environment
linguistics
media & culture
neuroscience
philosophy
photography
science
technology and
society



© M.I.T. 1981, 1995

MALLAPALOOZA

POE LIVE!



FREE WBCN Concert

Saturday, September 7 at 1pm

On the Lagoon at Lechmere Canal Park • CambridgeSide Galleria

Autograph Signing Session with POE! • 2:30-3:30pm

It's Mallapalooza and it's coming to CambridgeSide Galleria.

See Poe – one of the hottest singer/songwriters on college campuses today – in a free WBCN Concert.

Then meet Poe after the concert and check out the rest of the Mallapalooza celebration.

STUDENT AID

Visit Mallapalooza Central Saturday, Aug. 31 - Sunday, Sept. 8 on Level 2, and get your CambridgeSide Galleria Student Discount Pass for savings of 10% at 57 participating stores.

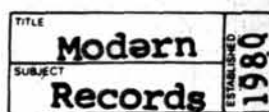
WINAPALOOZA

Enter the Mallapalooza Sweepstakes and win a trip to Hollywood to see "Rage Against The Machine" LIVE in concert and other prizes worth thousands of dollars. Entry forms and rules available at Mallapalooza Central, Level 2.*

FREE SHUTTLE

Catch the free shuttle bus to CambridgeSide Galleria from the Red Line (T) at Kendall Square. FREE shuttle runs daily:
Monday - Friday, 9am - 10:30pm,
Saturday, 9am - 6:30pm, and Sunday 10am - 8pm.

*No purchase necessary



'Sex Matters' Event To Discuss Sexuality

By Eric Sit
STAFF REPORTER

International "sexpert" Jay Friedman will give his "Sex Matters" lecture at 7:00 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium this evening.

Subtitled "Insights and Outbursts on Love, Sex, and Dating," Friedman's lecture is designed to entertain while educating his audience about important and timely sexuality issues. The talk is sponsored by the Interfraternity Council.

"Healthy relationships enhance our lives," Friedman said. "Unfortunately, we live in a sex-negative, sex-phobic, and sex-repressed society which has trouble talking about sex and provides inadequate sex education."

Friedman said that his "sex-positive message" helps people learn to avoid problems like AIDS, unintended pregnancy, and date rape while enabling them to enjoy sexuality as a natural part of their lives.

Some of the "insights and outbursts" the audience will hear include the differences between love and lust, ways to be more romantic, interesting pick-up lines, and how to make condoms feel "oh-so-much better," according to the event's program.

With help from Wayne and Garth, Seinfeld, and other pop culture icons, Friedman will offer his audiences tips for building healthy relationships. Unafraid to tackle even the toughest sexuality issues such as date rape and homophobia, he will offer additional challenges to men as part of his lecture.

"It's not our fault as men that we are sometimes socialized to be sexually irresponsible," said Friedman, himself unique as a man in his profession.

"However, it's our fault if we don't change. I believe men have the capacity, and hopefully the desire, to be better lovers. After all, men have the same needs for love, romance, and affection as women do — even if we won't always admit it!" Friedman said.

IFC aims to educate its members

Although the talk is sponsored

by the IFC as a Residence and Orientation Week event for its members, it is open to the entire MIT community.

"I think it is good that the Interfraternity Council can provide this education for its members," said Assistant Dean for Residence and Campus Activities Neal H. Dorow, adviser to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups. "We hope to broaden the experience it can provide to its members," he said.

The instruction could have been "on an individual basis, but it is much better if we can do it for all" FSILGs, Dorow said. A public seminar "enables more people to get this education."

"This program is targeted at anybody who is interested," Dorow said, although it is mandatory for all new residential members of FSILGs.

"Everyone knows the stereotypical view of FSILG students. We are working to break this mold" with this talk, said Duane H. Dreger '99, IFC community relations chair.

Talk part of awareness program

The talk is one aspect of Stars of Education Program, initiated last year to address issues of sexual harassment, responsible use of alcohol, diversity, and scholarship. FSILGs groups receive a star if their entire new member class attends a program in one of the four areas.

"The four-star award program was made last year as a way to recognize those FSILGs who take extra steps to expand their generic pledge program," Dreger said.

This year the IFC moved from a three-star program to a four-star one, adding the section on scholarship, Dreger said.

Last year, awards for the Stars of Education program were earned by Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Epsilon Pi, Chi Phi, Kappa Alpha Theta, Sigma Nu, and Zeta Beta Tau.

Most Freshmen Pleased With Dorm Assignments

Lottery, from Page 1

rooms more difficult.

The first was the significant number of students who requested non-smoking rooms and roommates. "We had half of the comments asking for non-smoking," Bernard said.

Another item often requested was single-sex housing. "We were able to accommodate almost all of the single-sex requests," Bernard said.

The lottery itself also did not run problem-free. Students involved in an MIT summer program before entering as freshmen faced a technical glitch, although it was resolved quickly.

"They got their Athena accounts in the summer before they were assigned MIT ID numbers," said Andy Oakland, the programmer for Information Systems who wrote the program for the housing lottery.

A more difficult problem surfaced when a group of about 10 students who had entered the lottery were listed as never having logged on. As a result, their housing preference forms were ignored.

"At this point, we're not sure if it's a mistake or an error; there was some kind of a loss in data transmission," Bernard said. The reason behind it is still under investigation, and the students are being dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Students pleased with lottery

Most freshmen were happy with the lottery results.

"It didn't matter too much for me because my first three choices

were about equal," said Ben O'Connor '00, who got his third choice, East Campus. "It doesn't make me too upset or disappointed."

"I could live with mostly any of them, as long as I didn't get my eighth choice" or lower, said Darrell Drake '00, a freshman who got his third choice, Baker House.

"Of course I'm disappointed, but it's not so bad," said Jorg Scholvin '00, a freshman who didn't get into his first choice, MacGregor.

"I got into my first choice, Bexley [Hall], but I would've been happy with my top five," said Autumn Steuckrath '00. "People make too big a deal of this. It's what you make of it, not what the dorm is."

"It's a pretty fair system; the top three would have been reasonable," said Rafael Dinner '00, who got his first choice, Next House. "It's not life or death, but I'm still pretty pleased."

People who deserve the credit for the happiness of the freshmen are the upperclassmen who do the residence and orientation events for dormitories, Bernard said. "If they didn't do that, we would have an almost impossible job. Students contribute to almost all the success," he said.

Students who are dissatisfied with their assignments can still try to find someone to trade housing assignments with and then make the trade official through RCA. The only restrictions for the switch are that the two involved must be of the same gender and the same year.

Athena Classes Aid Students

By Dan McGuire
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT's Athena Computing Environment is a powerful network of computers that can support tasks as complex as mathematical calculations and as mundane as e-mail. But because the system is based on the UNIX operating system, it can appear complicated and intimidating to many incoming students.

The Athena Minicourses, run by the Athena Training Staff during Residence and Orientation Week, are designed to assuage some of the fears that new users may have. The courses "really lay a nice foundation for everything they need to know about Athena," said Gary L. Dryfoos, who coordinates the courses.

The courses "give you a foundation on which you can start to teach yourself," said Ann Marie White G, one of the instructors. But the goal of the course is to "make Athena one thing [new students] don't want to worry about during R/O," she said.

Information Systems recommends that all students take the four hour-long introductory courses that the group offers — Introduction to Athena, Working on Athena, Basic Word Processing and E-Mail, and Word Processing with EZ — in order to get a good grasp of how to use Athena at its most basic level.

"We've actually gotten about half of the freshman class... which is roughly what we normally get," White said.

"The proliferation of the PC has gotten people to think they're able" to work on Athena without any training. "This is a little different from what they're used to," Dryfoos said.

White said that some new students with computing experience walk into the Introduction to Athena course and then walk out when they discover the topics covered are more suited toward beginners.

They then skip the Working with Athena course as well. "They have no idea what UNIX is about. So they're kind of left hanging high and dry" when it comes time to use Athena for

more complex tasks, she said.

"MIT students are very impatient. They will just get up and leave," Dryfoos said. "You've got to pick the pace up but keep it slow enough for beginners."

New students find courses useful

Students were generally happy with the minicourses.

Athena "is not user-friendly like Windows or the Mac," said George Savvides '00, who attended an Athena course. The courses are "a good start for experimenting with" the system, he said. "It's useful knowledge."

"It's very powerful," said Roderick MacLeod '00. "I'm not sure whether that's a consequence of being hard to use."

"You can't find your way through it" by yourself, he said.

"I haven't really explored Athena yet," said Steven Huang '99, a transfer student. "It's something different," he said.

Alyssa Thorvaldsen '00 agreed, saying that the Athena class "hasn't made a difference yet" because she needs to practice. She said that the course's take-home booklet appears quite helpful.

Term brings broader horizons

During the rest of the year, the training staff teach more advanced courses on the system and applications that run on it.

The topics of the courses taught "run from very basic stuff on to some pretty advanced areas," said Amy M. Smith '98, who teaches minicourses. Smith said that the most popular of the minicourses are Working on Athena, one on HTML, and one on dotfiles, which are used to configure the way Athena works.

"We're all here because we like teaching," White said. "There are a lot of things that will overwhelm" new students, she said. "It's really cool to level the playing field for folks."



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

Instructor Poh Lim displays his agility and power as he breaks a board at the Athletics Gateway held in the Johnson Athletics Center yesterday evening.

Looking for information about financial aid?

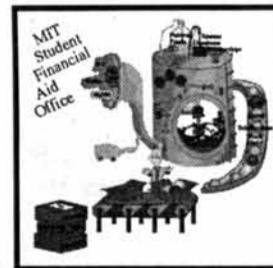


The best resources are free!

Why pay hundreds or even thousands of dollars for information that you can get for free? Beware of scholarship search services that charge a fee. If you have to pay to get money, it's probably a scam.

Here are your best resources for information on scholarships and financing your education:

- The MIT Student Financial Aid Office
5-119 • 253-4971
finaid@mit.edu
- Fund-Finder — The College Board's scholarship search software (available in the MIT Humanities Library)
- Check out these sites on the World Wide Web:



<http://web.mit.edu/sco/www/finaid.html>



LECHMERE®

Hey Cambridge...
You're the #1 College Town in the USA.
So get to Lechmere and pick up
the coolest in "campus gear"!

Gotta Sleep!
149.99 Full Size Futon
Converts to sleeping position
in 1 easy motion. reg. 249.99
Final Price #18706

Gotta Watch!
249.99 Final Price
Integrated
13" TV/VCR Combo
121 Channel Cable Compatible,
1 year/8 event timer, on screen
display #131116 1131181

Get an EXTRA 10% OFF!
All Regular priced merchandise
Simply show your valid college or university ID and fill out the accompanying coupon

Gotta See!
14.99 Torchiere Lamp
Sage, charcoal or linen.
Final Price #111318 111318

Gotta Listen!
SONY
69.99 YOUR CHOICE Final Price
Discman Personal CD Player
Mega bass, 22-track RMS
programming #10 4121510 111

AM/FM CD Cassette
Portable Stereo
Synchronized CD-to-cassette dubbing
#18714141710 11

Gotta See More!
7.99 YOUR CHOICE Final Price
Gooseneck or Organizer
Desk Lamp. White or black.

Admiral Designer Series
Gotta Eat!
99.99 Final Price
1.7 Cu.Ft. Compact Refrigerator
2 Liter bottle storage, 1 removable shelf, ice storage
compartment. #187046

Extra 10% Coupon * Save An Extra 10% Off All Regular Priced Merchandise. See Exclusions Below.

Name _____
School _____ Yr. in School _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Student ID # _____

Offer expires October 15, 1996. Your valid college or university identification MUST BE PRESENTED when you use this coupon.
*Valid only on in-stock, regular priced merchandise excluding Mitsubishi Diamond Line™ Products, Calligaris™ & Milwaukee Cookware™,
Bose™, Amana™, Computers, Stovens & Foster™ Building, Super Toys, Excludes Value or Legendary Value items. Cannot be used in
conjunction with any other discount offers. Cannot be used for previous purchases or applied to your credit account. Cannot be used
for extended warranties, delivery charges, gift certificates or sales tax. Not valid at Lechmere Clearance Centers.

- Residence**
- All day: **Fenway House.** Relaxing. 437... 437... uh... 437... I forget.*
 - All day: **New House.** In-House Rush (all day) All incoming freshmen assigned to New House should come by to participate in in-house rush.*
 - All day: **pika.** and they're all off...like the proverbial prom dress...happy moving!*
 - 9:00a: **Student House.** Don't miss our last public breakfast! Call 247-0506 or 247-8172 for directions!*
 - 9:58a: **Fenway House.** Breakfast. Eat it. 437-1043.*
 - 12:56p: **Fenway House.** Improv lunch. All we promise is food. 437-1043.*
 - 3:29p: **Fenway House.** If he were not an ambassador, I would throw him against the wall and RIP out his esophagus!*
 - 11:00p: **Fenway House.** House meeting. If you want to live with us and we don't know it yet, now would be a very good time to tell us. Call 437-1043 for a last-minute ride.*
 - 11:00p: **New House.** MANDATORY Study Break (11pm-2am) All incoming freshmen assigned to New House must come by for housing assignments. Do not miss this event.*
 - 11:58p: **Fenway House.** Must... write more entries... typos growing... deadline approaching... must stay awake... need caffeine... thud!*
 - 11:59p: **Fenway House.** Come be our next Rush Chair! Write Confusion entries in time for massively early deadlines! See what it did for Silvain!*

- Activities**
- All day: **Chorallaries.** Are you tired of singing the old-fashioned, barbershop a capella? Would you like to try singing something new and innovative? Then audition for **The Chorallaries of MIT!** We guarantee that you've never sung like this before! Call Stacy at x58792!*
 - 10:00a: **Hillel.** Hillel volunteers will help first year students move into their permanent housing (sign up at Activities Midway!).*
 - 12:00p: **AΦΩ.** Community Service and Fellowship - Charles River Cleanup and movie W20-415, 3-3788, apo@mit.edu All are welcome!*
 - 12:00p: **Joint Christian R/O BBQ** at the Johnson BBQ Pits! Join Christians at MIT for a time of food, fellowship, and fun!*
 - 2:00p: **Cycling Club.** The MIT Cycling Club/Team will be going on a group ride to introduce newcomers to both the members of the club and the friendly Massachusetts roads. Group rides will continue in both the fall and spring. Collegiate racing will take place 2nd semester. cycling-club@mit.edu.*
 - 4:00p: **Techyia.** Interested in Jewish and Israeli music? Come join our a cappella group. Bring a song you would like to sing for us. No formal experience necessary. room 4-160*
 - 4:00p: **The CoffeeHouse.** Have you been to 'the coffeehouse'? No? Well come and check us out - meet people - listen to music - write poetry - eat - drink - live.*
 - 5:00p: **Hillel.** Chinese Food Dinner!!! Take a trip with us to Shalom Hunan in Brookline. Meet at Hillel at 5:00pm.*
- Notices**
- 8:00p: **The CoffeeHouse.** Live music at the coffeehouse!*
 - 9:00p: **Assassins' Guild.** "WARNING" Several armed robots are loose at MIT. Over time, these machines have the potential to go berserk. Locals are advised to proceed directly to the first floor of building 36 and shoot them. Translation: Alien Conspiracy is starting now in 36-1xx.*
 - 11:59p: **The CoffeeHouse.** Play cards at the coffeehouse.*
 - 12:00p: **Raw Perspectives.** The Legendary FRUIT FEST is here! A fabulous frenzy of fruit, friends, fruity friends and funky tunes. Make your very own fresh fruit smoothie and then stay and dance. Strawberries, peaches, nectarines, bananas, blueberries, pineapples, oranges, and lemons all sired together for a frosty, fun festival. See you there!!!*
- In case of emergency, dial 100 from any MIT phone. Other important numbers:
Campus Police: 253-1212
Med Center Emergency: 253-1311
BQA Center: 753-2500
Nightline: 253-8800
Delta Psi or St. Anthony Hall: please see No.6
- The Daily Confusion**
Editors: Kelly K Chan, Angela Chou, Jason Davis
- NOTE: A single asterisk (*) following a listing indicates a coed or female living group. A double asterisk (**) indicates an activity to which women are cordially invited.

MIT Music Group Auditions

- MIT Brass Ensemble / Brass Quintets**
Rehearsals: Tuesday, Thursday, 5-7pm, Killian Hall.
Auditions: Thursday, September 5, 5pm. Sight-reading and prepared solo.
- MIT Chamber Music Society**
First meeting & auditions: Tuesday, September 3, 7pm, Killian Hall.
Solo piece required of new members.
- MIT Concert Band**
Rehearsals: Monday, Wednesday 8-10pm, Kresge.
First Meeting and Auditions: Wednesday, September 4, 8pm.
Bring prepared solo.
- MIT Concert Choir**
Rehearsals: Monday, Thursday, 6-8:30pm, Room 2-190. Auditions:
Thursday, September 5, 6pm. Group auditions, no solo required.
- MIT Chamber Chorus**
Rehearsals: Tuesday, Thursday, 11-12:30am, Killian Hall.
Auditions: Thursday, September 5, 11am. Sight-reading and prepared solo.

MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble
Rehearsals: Sunday, 7-11pm; Wednesday, 5:30-7:30pm, Kresge.
Auditions & audition sign-up: Wednesday, September 4, 5:30pm.
Improvisation preferred, sight-reading from jazz book required.

MIT Symphony Orchestra
Rehearsals: Tuesday, Thursday, 7:30-10pm, Kresge.
First meeting: Thursday, September 5 at 7:30pm.
Reading through symphonic literature and audition sign up.

MIT Gamelan Galak Tika
Rehearsals: Sunday, 4:30pm-6:30pm; Wednesday, 7-10pm.
First meeting: Wednesday, September 4, Reh. Room A,
Kresge Auditorium, 7pm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CONCERTS OFFICE AT 253-2826.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15									16				
17									18				
19				20				21		22			
			23					24		25			
26	27	28					29					30	31
32							33					34	
35							36					37	
38							39					40	
41							42					43	
							44					45	
46	47						48					49	50
51							52					53	54
55							56					57	58
59							60					61	62

© Edward Julius Collegiate CW83-14

- ACROSS**
- 1 Reckless adventure
 - 9 That which arouses pity
 - 15 Expressing mockery
 - 16 "Murder on the Express"
 - 17 Diviner
 - 18 Opposite of staccato
 - 19 Deviate, as a ship
 - 20 Overcast
 - 22 Biblical country
 - 23 "Here or there"
 - 24 Workers with tobacco
 - 26 Kitchen utensil
 - 29 Rectangular column
 - 32 Made eyes at
 - 33 Cap attachment
 - 34 Something to grind
 - 35 Cafe au
 - 36 Painter of "Olympia"
 - 37 Raised
 - 38 Relevant
 - 39 Records
 - 40 Traffic: four
 - 41 Practice
 - 43 Mountain ridges
 - 44 Bit actor
 - 45 Valley
 - 46 Dumas
 - 48 Trying experience
 - 50 Australian bird
 - 53 Film-splicing mechanism
 - 55 Slips again
 - 57 "five"
 - 58 Certain speech
 - 59 Well-known shampoo
 - 60 Inventory of steel process
- DOWN**
- 1 Catch sight of
 - 2 FDR's mother
 - 3 Rowing
 - 4 Commercial
 - 5 egg
 - 6 Fisherman
 - 7 the vine (fall)
 - 8 Light tan
 - 9 Multilingual
 - 10 Exist
 - 11 Princeton's football team
 - 12 Advantages (2 wds.)
 - 13 Coghizant of (2 wds.)
 - 14 Prefix: mouth
 - 21 Platforms
 - 23 None
 - 25 Semicircular canal location
 - 26 Tooth
 - 27 With an open mouth
 - 28 Like a snake
 - 29 nez
 - 30 Push oneself
 - 31 As a beet
 - 33 One of the Seven Sisters
 - 36 "...the wall..."
 - 37 "...I've to London..."
 - 39 "Can't Help Lovin' man"
 - 40 Vine supporter
 - 42 Phillips Academy
 - 43 Hooks
 - 45 Web-footed birds
 - 46 Confined
 - 47 Ms. Adams
 - 49 Dull
 - 50 Dutch cheese
 - 51 Apportion
 - 52 Consumer
 - 54 Extinct Brazilian language
 - 56 Wrath

SOLUTIONS IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE TECH PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE, PAGE 5