

JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

Charles Toye '00 stretches after a kick in Tuesday's football practice. The team has a scrimmage tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. at Steinbrenner Stadium.

RCA Policy to Permit Groups To Have External Accounts

Change Reverses Years of Prohibition on Outside Bank Accounts

By Dan McGuire
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Student activities will again be allowed to hold bank accounts outside of MIT under a new policy passed by the Office of Residence and Campus Activities yesterday.

The new policy ends the long-standing RCA policy that student activities may have only internal accounts at MIT. The change will allow all groups recognized by the Association of Student Activities to open outside accounts provided that they do not have a negative balance in their present internal MIT accounts.

Groups directly administered by RCA as well as larger groups supervised by the Campus Activities Complex, like the Lecture Series Committee and *The Tech*, are covered by the new policy.

The new policy will be tested over the course of the next week with a few student groups to see if

there are any problems with the process of opening outside accounts, said Associate Dean for RCA Andrew M. Eisenmann '75.

The goal is to "have things in place so that by Sept. 16 we can accept requests to open outside accounts" from student groups, he said.

Once the new policy takes full effect, all student groups with outside accounts will be required to submit quarterly reports containing balances and account transactions for the purpose of random audits. RCA staff will handle the auditing of the transactions.

Inflexibility prompts change

One of the main reasons behind the formation of the new policy was the problem with the slowness and inflexibility of internal accounts.

"It would take a while to get a check cut," said Douglas K. Wyatt G,

the president of the Association of Student Activities, who was involved with the development of the policy. "The party line was two days."

Wyatt said that the new system will make check writing more flexible because it can be done at any time and without delay.

"Now if you go on a trip you can pay on the spot" with a check instead of paying for things out-of-pocket and getting reimbursed from RCA, he said.

"I think that RCA will be getting more useful information than in the past and that there will be less of an administrative burden for groups," he said.

Eisenmann said that RCA would be flexible on which banks it would allow groups to work with. The goal is to "allow groups to pretty much shop around with the restriction that

Accounts, Page 10

MIT Ranked 5th for Second Year

By Shang-Lin Chuang
and Daniel C. Stevenson
STAFF REPORTERS

MIT ranked fifth for the second year in a row in the *U.S. News & World Report* survey of the nation's best colleges, despite outscoring the fourth-place finisher in many categories.

Yale University jumped to the top of the list, followed by Princeton University. Harvard University fell to third place after six years at the top of the list.

Duke University (4) and Stanford University (6) swapped places from last year. Rounding out the top 10 were Dartmouth College (7), Brown

University (8), and the California Institute of Technology (9).

"I am pleased for MIT to be recognized again as one of the very top handful of universities in the nation," said President Charles M. Vest. "We should continue to strive for excellence and to do what we believe is important in education and research and let the chips fall where they may."

MIT fell to second place in the ranking of engineering schools from first last year. Also in second place are Caltech, the University of California at Berkeley, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Stanford took first,

while Carnegie Mellon University, Cornell University, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Purdue University tying for sixth.

"This raises my competitive instincts despite the fact that differing by one-tenth of a point out of 100 is pretty meaningless," Vest said. "I have great admiration for Stanford's engineering school, but let's keep striving to be the best by doing our best."

Ranked by discipline, MIT came first in aerospace engineering, chemical engineering, computer engineering, electrical engineering,

U.S. News, Page 23

Design Team Plans For Activities Center

By Shang-Lin Chuang
NEWS EDITOR

The re-engineering co-curricular design team has made a number of recommendations regarding student activities that will involve centralizing accounts management and expanding oversight of activities.

The recommendations will be presented at four open meetings held by the co-curricular redesign team over the next two weeks.

The co-curricular team, part of the larger student services re-engineering effort, focused on and analyzed how student groups manage their accounts, receive financial and other resources, obtain recognition for their groups, schedule space, and plan and register events, said Anthony J. Ives '96, team captain.

The team's recommendations include consolidating the functions of managing student activities into a Student Activities Center and an Event Management Center. They

will be presented for approval by the re-engineering steering committee in October. The steering committee, which supervises all of re-engineering, consists of the Institute's vice presidents and Dean for Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams. Plans for implementation of the policies will begin early next month if they are approved.

Whether the nature of and relationship between the administrative offices primarily affected by the changes — the Campus Activities Complex and the Office of Residence and Campus Activities — will be substantially changed remains to be seen.

"All of the ideas are valid and seem reasonable," said President of the Association of Student Activities Douglas K. Wyatt G. "Most of these things have been suggested before, but we just never had the means to carry them

Re-engineering, Page 23

Course VI-2 Receives Accreditation

By David D. Hsu
NEWS EDITOR

The Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science degree section Course VI-2 has been officially accredited by two national boards.

"The VI-2 program had never been accredited before because it's a new program," said Head of EECS Paul L. Penfield Jr. ScD '60.

The VI-2 major has only been around for about three years, said Administrator Anne M. Hunter.

The Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology and the Computer Science Accreditation Board sent in their official letters to MIT this week which "means that those boards have given their stamp of approval to our major program," Hunter said.

The accreditation process has been going on for decades, Penfield said. The VI-2 major started the

accreditation process last year.

During the spring of 1995, the EECS Department prepared written material and submitted applications for accreditation, Penfield said. During the following fall term, both accreditation boards sent teams to visit MIT.

The teams looked over the VI-2 program in several aspects.

The accreditation boards looked over class descriptions, talked to students, faculty, and staff, and looked at Barker Library, Penfield said. The teams also talked to people in the School of Science and in

the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, since students must take science and HASS classes to graduate.

The CSAB group did have a few problems with the VI-2 major requirements, Hunter said.

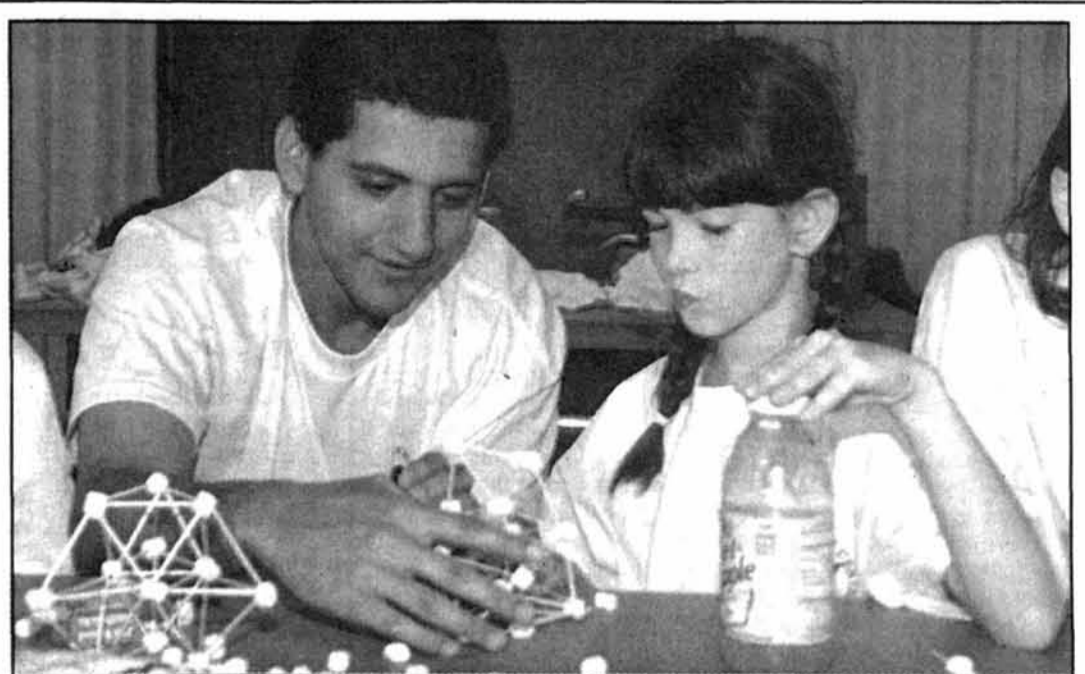
Accreditation, Page 17

INSIDE

■ 1.00 will be taught in C++ for fall semester experiment. *Page 8*

■ List Center lottery allows students to borrow works of art. *Page 9*

■ Renovated Music Library boasts new services. *Page 10*



TIFFANY LIN—THE TECH

Members of Phi Delta Theta led children from Cambridge elementary schools in toothpick-tower building as part of City Days festivities last Friday.

A memorial service will be held in celebration of the memory of John N. Krikelis '97 at the MIT Chapel on Sunday at 3 p.m. There will be a reception after the service on the first floor of the Religious Activities Center. Krikelis was killed last September in a motorcycle accident.

WORLD & NATION

France Dashes Hopes of Coalition

LOS ANGELES TIMES

PARIS

French President Jacques Chirac Thursday rebuffed Secretary of State Warren Christopher's plea for help in enforcing the expanded "no-fly" zone in southern Iraq, dashing U.S. hopes of refurbishing the Persian Gulf War coalition.

In a statement issued by Chirac's office following the French president's hourlong meeting with Christopher, the French government said its warplanes will resume patrolling Iraqi airspace south of the 32nd parallel, the boundary of the "no-fly" zone before President Clinton enlarged it this week to Baghdad's southern suburbs. But it declined to patrol between the 32nd and 33rd parallel, the area that was added in what U.S. officials described as an effort to "humiliate" Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Nevertheless, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said Christopher was pleased with the outcome of the meeting because France agreed not to pull out entirely from the coalition with Britain and the United States that has been enforcing two "no-fly" zones over Iraq since shortly after the 1991 Gulf War. Officials said the more drastic step had been under consideration.

U.S. Issues Warning After Second Encounter between Nato and Serbs

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Responding to a second violent encounter between NATO and Bosnian Serbs in less than a week, the American head of peacekeeping troops in Bosnia warned Thursday of "fatal consequences" if similar defiance is repeated.

In an unusually severe reprimand, U.S. Navy Adm. Joseph Lopez said an attack Wednesday on British troops by Bosnian Serb police and an accompanying mob in the Serb-held city of Banja Luka was "dangerous and irresponsible behavior" that would not be tolerated.

The confrontation was defused only when a British sergeant fired a warning shot into the air, NATO officials said.

"But our soldiers are not required to fire warning shots," Lopez said in a statement. "They don't have to fire over anyone's head or into the ground. They are trained and are authorized to shoot to kill in order to defend themselves and others... The soldiers chose to fire a warning shot. The next time, the consequences could be fatal."

With Bosnia's nationwide elections just eight days away, tensions are on the rise, and international monitors fear an upsurge in violence. Relief workers report new ethnic-based evictions, and groups of Muslims attempting to return to their Serb-captured homes have been attacked or firebombed.

Netanyahu Defends Arafat Meeting Against Likud Claim of Betrayal

LOS ANGELES TIMES

TEL AVIV, ISRAEL

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu defended his brief handshake with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat before the bitterly divided rank-and-file of his Likud party Thursday night, and warned that dissenters have no place in his conservative government.

Hundreds of Likud faithful rose to their feet and cheered as Netanyahu arrived at a party central committee meeting a day after reluctantly accepting Arafat as a partner in peacemaking. The other half booed, claimed betrayal and stayed angrily seated in front of their party chief and prime minister.

One woman remained standing but with an open umbrella — a protest meant to recall British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's fateful meeting with Adolf Hitler before World War II.

In speeches, Likud member of parliament Uzi Landau accused Netanyahu of buckling under international pressure, and Science Minister Benjamin Begin called the Arafat meeting "a severe defeat." Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon warned Netanyahu that governments can be replaced, but not the Jewish holy sites.

"The meeting yesterday was not easy, but leaders are elected for tough hours," Netanyahu told the Likud crowd. "We said that we would implement the existing (peace) agreements on the condition that the other side does. We said we would talk to the other side without conditions. Those who argue with this now shouldn't have joined the coalition or the government."

WEATHER

Tropical Tales

By Marek Zebrowski

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

At 9 p.m. EDT Thursday, Hurricane Fran came ashore just south of Wilmington, N.C. on a stretch of coast called Cape Fear. Packing winds of 110 mph (180 kmh) and plenty of moisture, Fran is expected to wreak havoc not only on the mid-Atlantic coast but also well inland. Copious rains and widespread flooding are expected east of Appalachians as remnants of Fran move slowly northward through eastern and central North Carolina on Friday. By Saturday, Fran's wet legacy will begin to approach our region from the south and west. Due to a small blocking high pressure cell just to the north of eastern Great Lakes, Fran will be stalled throughout the weekend over the northeast, finally moving away by early Tuesday, when a stronger cold front comes in from the west.

Today: Partly sunny, warm and humid. High 84°F (29°C), with afternoon sea breezes near the coast.

Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy, with areas of fog likely in coastal sections. Low 66°F (19°C).

Saturday: Partly to mostly cloudy, with showers moving in from the southwest. High 76°F (24°C) with light onshore winds.

Sunday outlook: Cloudy with a chance of showers. Lows in the mid 60s (17-19°C), highs in the mid 70s (23-25°C).

Yeltsin Decides to Undergo Heart Surgery After Absence

By Richard Boudreaux

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

After 11 weeks of mysterious absences from the Kremlin, President Boris N. Yeltsin announced Thursday he will soon undergo heart surgery — a risky operation that could leave Russia without an effective leader at least until winter.

The 65-year-old president, looking pale and speaking slowly, broke the news in a televised interview, saying the procedure would be done near Moscow at the end of September. The evening announcement partially lifted the veil of Kremlin secrecy about the severity of his illness, but it raised questions about his prospects for recovery.

"I had a medical checkup and they found a heart disease," Yeltsin said. "The recommendation of our doctors was either an operation or more passive work. I have never been satisfied by passive work. ... It is better for me to have an operation and fully recover, as they promise, than to engage in passive work."

His physical decline has set off an open struggle among his top aides for control of a nuclear-armed nation with an imperialist history and an uncertain commitment to democratic rules. The infighting has already complicated efforts to settle Russia's 20-month-old war in breakaway Chechnya and is expected to intensify until — and unless — Yeltsin regains his vigor.

Although Yeltsin did not specify the kind of operation, a spokesman for Moscow's Cardiology Research Center, Vitaly I. Dmitriyev, said the president will undergo coronary

bypass surgery there.

The president was hospitalized twice last year, in July and October, for myocardial ischemia, a partial blockage of the coronary artery that restricts the flow of blood and oxygen to the heart. It is the most common heart ailment — and cause of death — in the United States and Russia.

Yeltsin recovered without surgery to wage a vigorous campaign for re-election but suddenly dropped from public view about two weeks before his victory July 3. Since then his only public appearances have been in brief, carefully edited television footage and a slurring, stiff-legged performance at his Aug. 9 inauguration.

Bypass surgery is a routine procedure in the United States, where it is performed about 500,000 times a year, compared to about 20,000 in Russia. It involves diverting blood around a clogged portion of the patient's coronary artery by grafting onto it a piece of artery or vein removed from elsewhere in his body.

Other medical specialists warned that the operation is quite risky for Yeltsin and might require as long as three months' convalescence.

While most U.S. patients live 10 years or longer after bypass operations with no recurrence of the disease, such surgery in Russia is less advanced and relies on techniques abandoned in the West, according to specialists in both countries.

The Kremlin never disclosed the seriousness of Yeltsin's two illnesses last year or his recent relapse. If Yeltsin has suffered a stroke or a severe heart attack, bypass surgery would do nothing by itself to repair the damage.

"Given the lower quality of this procedure in Russia, given Yeltsin's hard lifestyle and given that he may have had some damage to his heart, his prognosis is not very good," said Dr. Manuel Cerqueira, associate chief of cardiology at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington. "He should make it through surgery, but I think he's going to be limited in the future."

The death rate during bypass operations in Russia is similar to that in the West, doctors here say, but the danger for Yeltsin is probably far greater. A man with a long history of illness, punctuated by bouts of public drunkenness, Yeltsin has already lived seven years longer than the life expectancy for Russian males.

Yeltsin's interview, conducted by RIA-Novosti Television and aired on all national channels, was the first time a Kremlin leader openly had discussed his health on the air in such detail.

"I want to have a society based on truth," said Yeltsin, who was at a Kremlin hunting lodge in Rus, 60 miles northeast of Moscow. His face was pale and puffy, and he gestured listlessly with both hands. "That means no longer hiding what we used to hide."

The president did not say whether he would hand presidential power during his surgery to Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin. In the event of Yeltsin's death, Chernomyrdin would by law become president but would have to call a presidential election within three months.

Hurricane Strikes Carolinas; States Declare Emergencies

By Eric Harrison and Mike Clary

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C.

Hurricane Fran, blowing with dark fury, roared across Cape Fear late Thursday and sliced into North Carolina like an ax, killing one person and sending at least a half million others scrambling for safety.

Rain blew sideways. Waves taller than houses crashed into shore. Wind hurled rocks through windows and onto rooftops. Both North and South Carolina declared emergencies. Businesses closed, buses stopped running and all Amtrak trains and airline flights were canceled.

The eye of the storm was 25 miles wide. Far inland, power lines tumbled, trees shredded and highways flooded, making travel hazardous. A 66-year-old woman was killed in Conway, when her car skidded through a patch of standing water. She lost control, and the car hurtled down a muddy embankment. The woman died when it hit a tree.

Fran was the second hurricane to hit Cape Fear this year. The first was Bertha, which killed 10 people in the Caribbean and along the East Coast last July. This time officials feared a storm to match Hugo, which killed 35 people in 1989. They told more than 500,000 tourists and residents to flee. Some of those who did not were asked for their next of kin.

Thursday night, the eye of the hurricane passed directly over Southport, N.C., just inland from Cape Fear. Ahead of the eye, winds

blew at 115 mph and gusted to 120 mph. "It was blowing hard," said Mayor Bill Crowe. "We were at the mercy of the Lord. ... Then, all of a sudden, it got really calm. He spared us."

Fran gave Southport a beating, nonetheless. "It sounds like hell hung over out there," said Steve Robbins, a police dispatcher. "The trees and power lines are coming down, and there's flooding in the streets."

"No one can go outside. Most of our residents are still in town, riding it out in their boarded up homes," Robbins said. "These are rednecks down here. They're pretty tough."

In Calabash, N.C., not far from Cape Fear and near the North and South Carolina state line, 72-year-old Thomas Wynn snorted with disgust as most of his neighbors headed for high ground.

"They're chicken," Wynn said. "I'm staying put ..."

"What's the use of leaving?" he asked. "I'd just worry about things back home if I left."

Wynn said he had filled his bathtub "so I can grab a bucket and use that to flush the toilet when the water supply goes."

As he spoke, the lights went out in his small, wood-frame home.

"What the heck," he said. "We've had some hurricanes here before. The wind's blowing pretty good and it's raining hard, but the house should ride this out."

Although Fran was less powerful than Hugo, which had winds of 135 mph, it was just as large. Fran sent hurricane-force winds up to 140 miles from its eye.

In South Carolina, the advancing storm ripped the steeple off the Sandy Grove Baptist Church in Myrtle Beach, but there were no reports of injuries.

Myrtle Beach, about 60 miles from landfall, pulled its police and utility crews off the streets at the height of the storm. Residents were told by the local radio station that there was no point to calling about power outages, because there was no one available to make repairs.

In Georgetown, a community of 12,000 about 35 miles south of Myrtle Beach, a large number of homes and businesses were boarded up. Most residents had left early or were buttoned up safely inside as the winds mounted to hurricane force. By nightfall, streets were deserted.

Precautions appeared to be paying off. Although electrical power was out, many places had generators. Wind knocked down tree limbs, and vines littered yards and parking lots, but barricaded structures appeared to be holding up well.

One store, Georgetown Ice, did a brisk business selling ice, batteries and what owner Ginger Haley billed as "the world's best hot dogs."

Ralph Anthony Brown, 46, said Haley's hot dogs were well worth an arduous trip to the store. "These are so good," he said, "that I would come out in a hurricane for them."

Minutes later, Brown left for home with some of life's other necessities: two loaves of bread and a case of Budweiser.

McDougal Refuses to Testify Before Whitewater Grand Jury

By Sara Fritz
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

Susan McDougal, a former Whitewater investment partner of President Clinton and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, refused to testify before a federal grand jury Wednesday about the Clintons' role in the celebrated case.

McDougal was promptly found in contempt of court and faces a sentence of 18 months. She already has been sentenced to serve two years in prison for her conviction earlier this summer in a Whitewater related case.

Afterward, McDougal said she was asked three questions in front of the grand jury before being ushered out for refusing to answer.

One question, she said, was: "Did William Jefferson Clinton testify truthfully at your trial?" She said the other two dealt with whether Clinton knew about a loan and property in which the Whitewater corporation had an interest.

Although in an interview broadcast nationally Wednesday night McDougal said that she believes the Clintons have not lied about Whitewater, her refusal to answer the question about Clinton's truthfulness is likely to be cited by his Republican critics as evidence that Democrats have been covering up details of the Whitewater saga. So far, however, Whitewater has not been an issue in the presidential campaign.

McDougal's lawyer, Bobby McDaniel, said that his client is being pressured by Whitewater Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr to "lie for leniency." She received the grand jury subpoena Aug. 20 — the day she was sentenced to two years in prison.

The president was a defense witness earlier this year at the trial of McDougal, her ex-husband, James B. McDougal, and then-Gov. of Arkansas, Jim Guy Tucker. All were convicted in connection with a conspiracy to bilk two federally backed financial institutions.

James McDougal recently agreed to cooperate with Starr and, as a result, his sentencing has been delayed until November.

Both McDougals have said repeatedly over the last few years that they had no information to offer that would incriminate the Clintons. They also have expressed feelings of contempt for Starr, whom they have accused of conducting a politically inspired witch hunt.

The McDougals were joint investors with the Clintons in an Ozarks resort development known as Whitewater. Investigators have long suspected — but never proved — that Whitewater was intended by the McDougals as a way to compensate Clinton for political favors.

U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright, who on Tuesday refused McDougal's request to quash the grand jury subpoena, found her in contempt of court shortly after her appearance before the grand jury. The judge decreed that she would begin her sentence for contempt next Monday.

Jury Finds Three Guilty of Plot To Blow up a Dozen U.S. Jetliners

By John J. Goldman
LOS ANGELES TIMES

NEW YORK

A federal jury Thursday found Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, the alleged mastermind of the World Trade Center bombing, and two co-defendants guilty of plotting to blow up a dozen U.S. jetliners during 48 hours of unprecedented terror over the Pacific Ocean.

More than 4,000 people aboard the planes could have been killed had the 1995 plan succeeded, prosecutors told the jury of seven men and five women. The verdict added to a string of government successes in a series of spectacular trials after the bombing of the trade center in Manhattan in February 1993. Six people were killed and more than 1,000 were injured in that attack. Yousef faces trial later this year in that case.

Yousef and his co-defendants, Abdul Hakim Murad and Wali Khan Amin Shah — who are to be sentenced Dec. 5 — showed no emotion upon hearing the verdicts, reached in the fourth day of deliberations. The men face mandatory life sentences. Lawyers said that all three planned to appeal.

With the FBI and the National

Transportation Safety Board still investigating the possibilities that a bomb or a missile downed TWA Flight 800 July 17 off the coast of Long Island, N.Y., killing 230 people, the jury's decision Thursday received added attention.

Federal agents have placed followers of Yousef high on the list of potential suspects in the TWA crash, should that be found to be a criminal act, investigators said.

The plot to destroy the commercial airliners in Asia was never carried out. It was foiled when investigators found an apartment where Yousef and his co-conspirators were manufacturing explosives. But Yousef also was convicted of staging a trial run — bombing a Philippine airliner in 1994, killing a Japanese passenger and injuring several others.

Central to the prosecution's case was a white laptop computer that government lawyers said belonged to Yousef and contained airline schedules and the alleged times the bombs were to be detonated.

At the top of the screen containing the listings for Delta, Northwest and United airlines flights was the word "Bojinka," which prosecutors charged was the code name given to

the plot, designed to weaken U.S. support for Israel.

"Thousands of passengers would have died ... only because they happened to be on a particular flight on a particular day," Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael J. Garcia said.

Only sloppiness in the mixing of the bomb-making materials, which caused a fire in an apartment in Manila that was rented by Yousef, thwarted the plot, prosecutors contended.

Yousef sought to rebut the evidence by bringing a computer expert to the witness stand.

Under questioning, Lance Leventhal demonstrated the ease with which entries in the computer could be changed — including altering even the computer's clock to disguise the time that files were recorded.

It was part of the defense's overall strategy to suggest to the jury that Yousef and his co-defendants were framed by Philippine police.

In an attempt to bolster that claim, two medical experts — a forensic psychologist and a psychiatrist — testified that Murad's behavior supported his statements that he had been tortured overseas while in police custody.

Morris Book Deal Near \$3 Million

NEWSDAY

NEW YORK

Since resigning from President Clinton's re-election campaign late last week, strategist Dick Morris has reached out to the news media he once avoided in a bid to bounce back from the sex scandal that knocked him from the heights of power.

Almost immediately after published reports of Morris' involvement with a Washington, D.C., call girl prompted his exit, he offered himself for an interview with *Time*, which has put him on the cover for the second consecutive week. He was speaking, too, about wanting to work as a political commentator and will be a featured guest at a breakfast with other New York media figures that *The New Yorker* has scheduled for next week.

But the most striking evidence that Morris hopes to rebound, not retreat in embarrassment, was an announcement Wednesday night that Random House has signed him to write a book focusing on his past two years as Clinton's top political consultant.

Terms were not disclosed by Random House, which lists retired Gen. Colin Powell among its authors, but sources indicated Thursday that Morris will receive up to \$3 million.

Random House Publisher Harold Evans said Thursday he met Morris earlier this year and found him so "compulsively fascinating" that they entered into an agreement — "but not a standard contract" — to do a book about the Clinton White House.

Although the book is expected to come out soon after the November election, it still could prove embarrassing to Clinton. In the interview that appears in this week's *Time*, Morris recalls that many proposals made by Clinton in his acceptance speech at the Democratic National Convention first were put through a polling and vetting process and the address itself was almost word for word the one drafted for him.

Feds Call for New Anti-Terrorism Measures at U.S. Airports

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Federal officials announced a series of steps Thursday to combat terrorism, including recommendations to make \$300 million in improvements to airport security that would see the government assume more of the burden for ensuring that passengers and cargo on commercial aircraft are safe.

Fifty days after an explosion brought down TWA Flight 800, Vice President Al Gore announced recommendations to install advanced explosives detection devices at almost all airports, add more bomb-sniffing dogs and conduct selected airline passenger "profiling."

At the same time, Attorney General Janet Reno said federal law enforcement agencies will beef up their anti-terrorism units and CIA Director John M. Deutch said more CIA agents will be assigned to track terrorism.

Gore said the airport security improvements "are tough, they are doable, and we're going to get them in place quickly and effectively. "We may never see an end to terrorism," Gore said. "But we are sure going to do our level best to combat it."

In addition, the government, and not the airlines, would assume the delicate task of notifying the families of plane crash victims. After the July 17 TWA crash, the airline was sharply criticized for being slow to release a passenger list.

Gore's recommendations go to the president Monday and would require congressional approval to finance the new technology and other security measures.

Clinton Panel to Study Health Care

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Clinton plans to announce Thursday he is creating a commission to conduct a major study of quality and consumer protection in health care, looking closely at the activities of hospitals, doctors and health maintenance organizations, officials in the Clinton administration said Wednesday.

The 20-member commission will be led by Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, and Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich, the officials said. Its members will include health care providers, employers, workers in the health care field and industry experts.

The commission will focus on examining quality of care for the millions of Americans who are often confused by the rapid changes in the world of managed care. Increasingly, Americans are becoming members of health maintenance organizations or other networks with prescribed lists of doctors and hospitals.

The commission is to deliver an interim report in a year, and a final set of recommendations in 18 months.

Hubble Shows Galaxy Formation

THE BALTIMORE SUN

WASHINGTON

Astronomers using the Hubble Space Telescope have discovered what they say is the first galaxy ever observed under construction.

Peering nearly to the edge of the visible universe, Hubble found 18 gigantic star clusters packed within a space just 2 million light years across, and apparently on the verge of merging to form one brand-new galaxy.

The construction site is 11 billion light years from Earth. That means it shows the star clusters as they existed when their light began the trip toward Earth 11 billion years ago. At that time, the universe was just 15 percent of its present age.

"If this discovery is representative of what the universe is like at that distance, it means these baby galaxies would have grown through a series of collisions and mergers into the giant galaxies we see around us today," said astronomer Dr. Rogier A. Windhorst, of the Arizona State University.

"A year ago, we had no direct observations of how anything was being born," said Dr. Bruce Margon, former chairman of astronomy at the University of Washington, who was not involved in the Hubble findings. While not conclusive, Hubble's discovery "is the first page in an otherwise blank book."

Elections Make Republicans Abandon Long-Standing Promise for Tax Cuts

By Janet Hook
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Formally abandoning a crown jewel of their once-glistening conservative agenda, Republican leaders said Wednesday they would not even try to pass a tax cut before this fall's elections.

Prospects for even a modest tax cut — such as the GOP's cherished \$500-per-child tax credit for families — have faded under the shadow of presidential politics and a higher political priority for members of Congress: their desire to adjourn early to campaign full time for this fall's crucial House and Senate elections.

"I would like to see a tax cut proposal but I'm a realist," Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., told reporters as Congress returned from its monthlong August recess. "The reality is I don't think we can get it done in September."

The shelving of the tax cut also reflects the GOP leaders' calculation that the tax issue will work better

for their party as a campaign issue than as fodder for another round of legislative bickering with President Clinton.

"The reality is if (the voters want a tax cut) they need to make a decision on Nov. 5," said House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., after a meeting of House-Senate GOP leaders. "If we passed a real tax cut, President Clinton would veto it."

The shift on tax strategy is also a clear sign of just how vigorously GOP leaders are stripping their legislative agenda down to the bare essentials in hopes of adjourning by Sept. 27, a week earlier than planned previously.

The leadership decision to abandon the tax cut for the time being was not completely unexpected. For months, Republicans were divided about the political wisdom of pursuing a tax cut, in part because it was so hard to come up with offsetting spending cuts or tax increases. But Wednesday's statements by Lott and Gingrich marked the first time

that GOP leaders explicitly wrote off all hope for action this year.

Congress last year approved a \$245 billion, seven-year tax cut as the GOP's landmark bill to balance the budget by 2002. The measure included credits for families with children, capital gains rate reductions and other breaks for business and individuals.

But Clinton vetoed the legislation, arguing that it would cut too deeply into social programs and complicate efforts to reduce the budget deficit.

Before Congress began its August recess, there had been some talk of pushing the family tax credit and other modest breaks in separate legislation this fall — even if only to force another Clinton veto.

GOP leaders said it was essentially a logistical decision to drop the decision. It would be nearly impossible to do a tax cut quickly because lax Senate rules offer many opportunities for delay and amendment. GOP leaders say that they would also expect a Clinton veto.

OPINION

Variety, Creativity Add Spice to MIT Life

Column by Brett Altschul
STAFF REPORTER

About a week ago, I helped two freshmen destroy my old room. These two young ladies began repainting it on the very day they moved in. Initially, I was horrified that they were altering the decor, with which I had become intimately familiar last year. However, I soon found myself wielding a roller, spreading mint green paint on the walls.

A realization struck me as I stared into my erstwhile home away from home that was now partially coated with a fresh layer of pigment. That room had been profoundly ugly. The walls were an ugly, somewhat uneven off-white. The tile floor was spattered with remnants of the previous paint-job, whenever that was. There were cockroaches crawling from holes around the sink.

When I lived there, I did keep the place clean. I swept the floor highly regularly. I scrubbed the tiles to remove the various things I spilled. I ensured that the sink was always neat, the drain always clear. Using several different devices, I exterminated all but one of the roach colonies.

Still, I made no effort to rectify the basically disgusting nature of the area. Initially, I had wanted to redesign my room in its entirety, but my roommate and I never coordinated anything together. I just forgot about it. Even after my roommate moved out, I never gave it another serious thought.

With some time at MIT, I sank into acceptance of my dismal surroundings. As other activities ate up my time, I accepted the

squalor that enshrouded me as perfectly natural. The MIT environment dulled my sense of aesthetics.

With this in mind, I offer two pieces of advice. They're aimed at both freshmen and returning students. Since upperclassmen may have lost some of their accumulated inertia over the summer, they should take the opportunity to spruce up their lives now, before the jaded MIT lifestyle recaptures them.

First, if you haven't already, do something about your environment and lifestyle. Over

your palate has built up a resistance to MIT cafeteria fare.

You may start a class and find that you don't like it for some reasons. Don't hesitate to change recitations or drop the class altogether, putting something more suitable in its place. Don't trap yourself in an uninteresting or overly difficult class just because you made an error in your initial assessment.

There are many other examples, but the basic point is simple. While you still have plenty of free time and haven't settled into numb acceptance of everything, take the opportunity to attempt new things and to rework the old.

My second piece of advice is also simple. Try not to fall victim to MIT-induced apathy as the term progresses. While you may not have the opportunity to try as many new ideas later in the semester, you should still take the time to fix the problems that occur.

Last year, I knew someone who stopped using his sink because it leaked too much; he decided it wasn't worth it to talk with the house manager and get the pipes repaired. Many people who found cockroaches intensely revolting in September were totally ignoring them in May, letting the little vermin crawl up and down the walls without giving them any notice.

Seeing my old room with a fresh coat of mint green paint on the walls made me acutely aware of how apathetic I was last year. I intend to make this year different, as should all the students at MIT. Too much acceptance of miserable conditions seriously detracts from the quality of life.

With some time at MIT, I sank into acceptance of my dismal surroundings. . . . I accepted the squalor that enshrouded me as perfectly natural.

the first few weeks of the term, the workload will be fairly light, so you should be able to find the time. Delay like I did, and you may never get around to it.

This means more than just repainting your dormitory room and moving the furniture around. Don't get sucked into eating at Lobdell all the time. There are many superior eateries around Cambridge and Boston; try them out while you have a chance and before

Sophomore Reflects on First-Year Wonders

Guest column by Tanya Zelevinsky

Rush, first real MIT classes, the excitement of anticipation, lots of new faces — friendly faces, intimidating faces, plain neutral faces. A mix of confusion and exhilaration is what comes to mind when we, now sophomores, think back one year and remember our first MIT experiences.

With the return of the season, those experiences seem to be so near, and yet a whole year separates us from those days — a year that is almost infinity, since for most of us it was filled with a multitude of things we encountered for the first time. Many of them took us

by surprise, and others required significant efforts on our part. Some opened up opportunities which we did not dare to dream of before, without giving us a chance and time to appreciate them or direct them to serve a good purpose.

We were able to experiment with our lives, and, hopefully, we learned a couple of things in the process. If we are lucky, some of the friends we made will stay with us long after we get our degrees and wander away. And, of course, the incurable wrist tendonitis will forever remind us of sleepless nights at Athena.

We envy the freshmen for everything that's still ahead of them, and at the same time

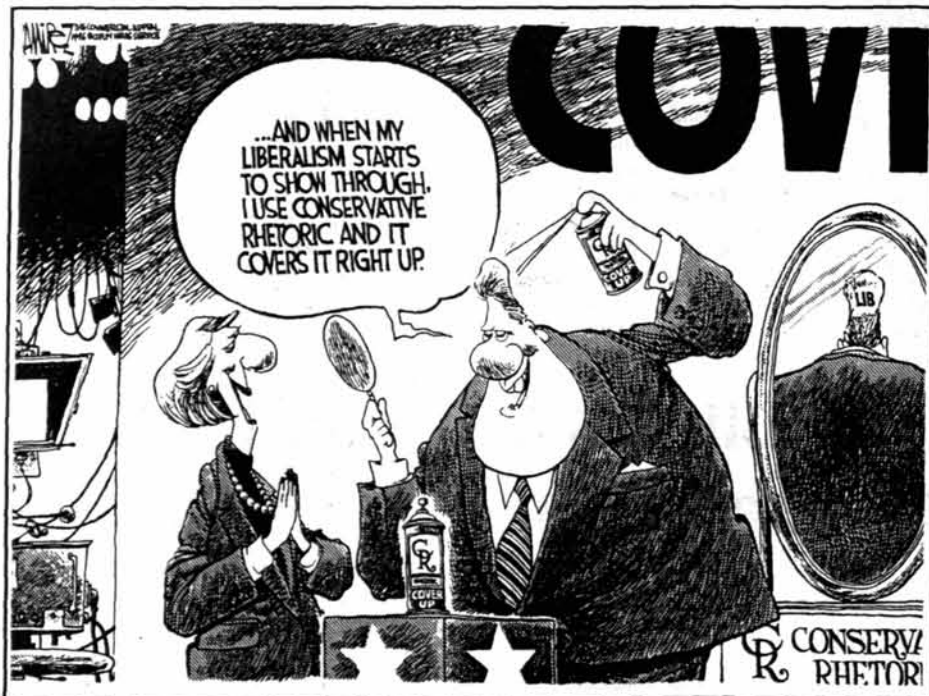
we are happy that some of our mistakes are in the past. Now — after a school year packed with explorations, and all the glories of the summer — is the time to evaluate our achievements and recall the mishaps we would like to avoid in the future. Now is the

I am indebted to the people who made my time here fun and worthwhile. Thank you for a wonderful year, and best of luck to all.

time to weigh gain and loss, and to think about what we really absorbed in these walls radiating endless human wisdom.

Some of us are excited about the new untouched year awaiting us. Some are sad to part with the summer. And yet others, no doubt, are already worried about their careers or graduate school. Whatever our apprehensions might be, it is impossible not to realize that we are about to embark on an adventure which may well be the happiest time we will ever be presented with. Later on, it will seem brief like this past summer, but still it is our time and perhaps the most exciting time we could wish to be living in. The least we can do is catch the moment and not take it for granted. Too many things to be done are our responsibility, being the Class of 1999.

But most importantly, I am indebted to the people who made my time here fun and worthwhile. Thank you for a wonderful year, and best of luck to all.



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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.

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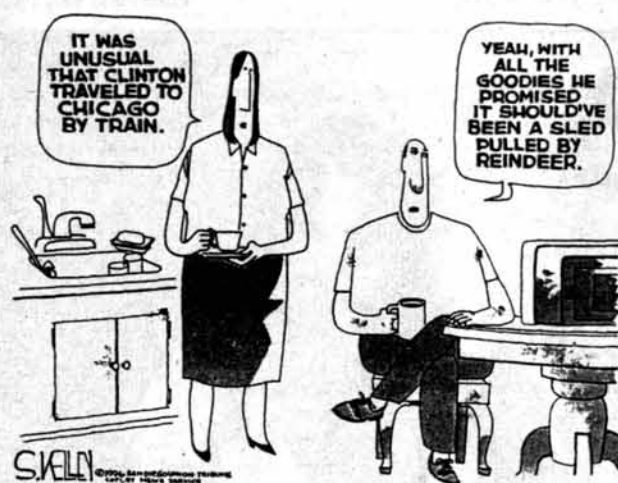
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Flame!

Send letters to
letters@the-tech.mit.edu

Truman Scholarships Informational Meeting

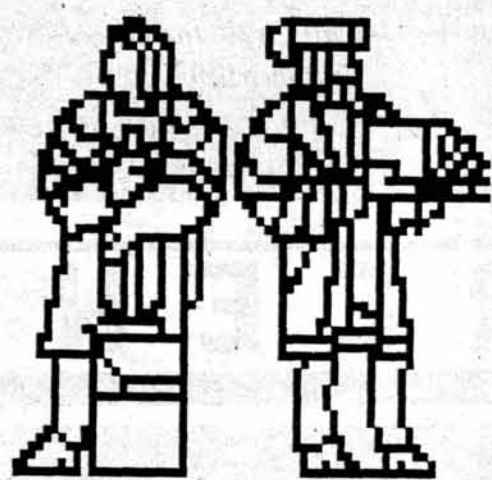
Thursday, September 12, 1996
4:00 p.m. E51-275

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

Professor Anne McCants, a former Truman Scholar and MIT's faculty representative, will be available to share her experience with you.

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

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



Undergraduate Association

MIT's Student Government

We invite you to our **Open House** on:

Saturday, September 21, 1-3pm, W20-400

We will discuss how you can get involved through:

Freshmen Elections, Council Representatives,
Committee Membership, and More!

Luncheon will be provided.

Questions? Contact Dedric Carter (dedric@mit.edu)

THE ARTS

Boston Film Festival shines with movies and stars

BOSTON FILM FESTIVAL 1996

Sony Copley Place and
Kendall Square Theatre.
September 6 to 19.

By Stephen Brophy
STAFF REPORTER

Every year the Boston Film Festival offers local audiences a chance to get a jump on the fall arts season and see the movies that are stirring people up in other festival locations like Toronto and Telluride. It also holds out the allure of mixing with stars and directors, this year attracting luminaries like Emilio Estevez, his father Martin Sheen, Gena Rowlands, Lynn Redgrave, Fanny Ardant, Vincent D'Onofrio, Jada Pinkett, Ron Rifkin, and Michael Corrente.

This star-studded event kicks off tonight with *Shine*, one of the very best films in its program. Lynn Redgrave will attend the 7:40 p.m. show at Sony Copley Place, as well as the opening night party at the nearby Lenox Hotel. *Shine* documents the descent into madness of a young piano prodigy with a smother-loving monster of a father and his partial recovery through the love of his friends and his devotion to his music. There is not another film in recent memory that has endowed the process of music making with so much excitement — watch for the scene in which the protagonist finally plays Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto in public.

Unhook the Stars is sure to be another crowd-pleaser, and its star, Gena Rowlands, will receive the annual Film Excellence award next Thursday at the Sony Cheri. Directed by her son, Nick Cassavetes, Rowlands plays a widow whose children are drifting away, but who finds new life when she is drawn into the affairs of neighbor Marisa Tomei and her six-year-old son. Tomei delivers an edgy performance in a difficult role and gives promise that she might yet become a good actress and not just a star. Gerard Depardieu also makes an appearance as Mildred's potential love interest.

Probably the hottest, most exciting Festival event will be the screening of *Bound*, a neo-noir that should take off like *Pulp Fiction* if there is any justice in this world. Imagine *Goodfellas*, *The Last Seduction*, and *Go Fish* all blended together and you might begin to sense the attractions of this intelligent, sexy, and tense lesbians vs. the Mafia movie. Unfortunately, the young men who might respond most enthusiastically to such a story may not be able to deal with lesbian protagonists, and many lesbians may have a hard time dealing with the violence, bloodshed, and

mutilation that accompany the plot. The film may not find the audience it deserves.

Lars Von Trier provides the most interesting foreign film this year, but with his notorious anti-travel phobia, he will not be around to introduce it. *Breaking the Waves* took the Grand Jury Award at Cannes earlier this year and is a moving parable about the varieties of sainthood possible in the modern world and the incapacity of traditional religious institutions to recognize them. The story takes place on an island off the north coast of Scotland and involves the marriage of a young island

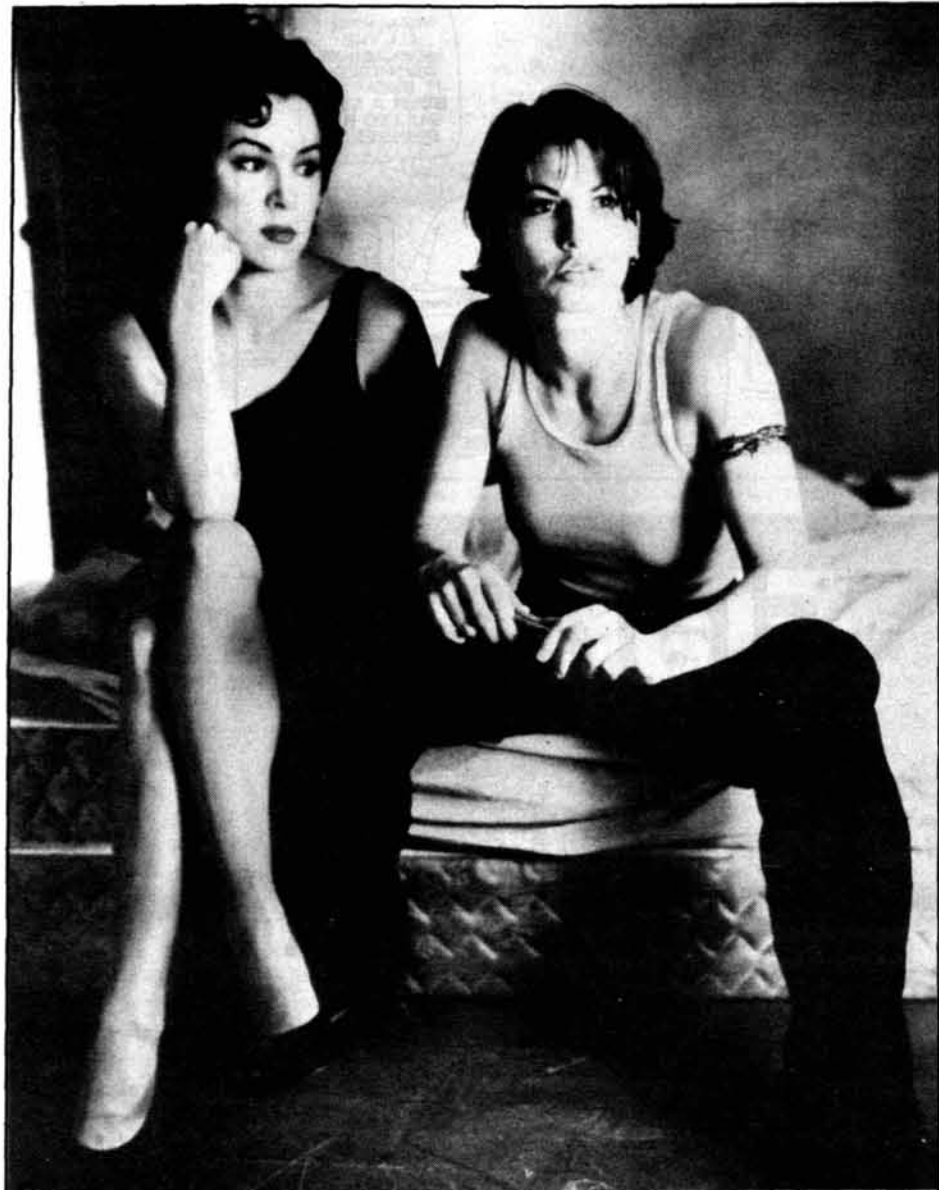
woman to an oil-rig worker. It seems slow and claustrophobic for the first hour, but gradually builds in intensity until it reaches its unforgettable conclusion.

From Britain comes a beautiful gay love story, *Beautiful Thing*, about two high school boys in a housing project and their gradual acknowledgment of their attraction for each other. The beauty of the story comes from the ways the boys open up as they begin to realize that they might find happiness in this life, and

Film Festival, Page 7

Right: Jennifer Tilly and Gina Gershon star in *Bound*.

Below: Gena Rowlands plays a widow drawn into the lives of a neighboring family in *Unhook the Stars*.



ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

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

★★★★ *Dead Man Walking*

Dead Man Walking, directed by Tim Robbins and starring Sean Penn and Susan Sarandon, addresses the death penalty issue unflinchingly and comprehensively. It follows convicted killer Matthew Poncelet (Penn) from the murders, through his several appeals, and finally to his execution in excruciating detail, escorted by his spiritual adviser, Sister Helen Prejean (Sarandon). Don't look to this movie for much action, adventure, or excitement. Rather, this emotionally brutal film challenges you to think about the issues surrounding the death penalty. You'll walk away from the theater with a profound

sense of the tragedy that any murder is, whether it is committed by a person or by the government. And you will leave with a bitter sense of pity both for the original victims and the convicts on death row. —Audrey Wu. *Friday at LSC.*

★½ *Escape From L.A.*

Part action movie, part comedy, part something else that can't be identified. *Escape from L.A.* tries to be all of these and succeeds at none of them. The story is about Snake (Kurt Russell), a man who has committed major crimes in the new hyper-ethical future and is banished to the island of Los Angeles, now the holding area for all criminals (people who use profanity and have premarital sex). Snake is given an offer — a full pardon if he can retrieve from L.A. a dangerous high-tech device stolen from the president and now in the hands of a L.A. gang leader. Much of the humor is about L.A., as when Snake is taken captive by a plastic surgeon who wants to cut him up and use him for his parts. The film's weakest point is the lack of an interesting main character: Snake is unnecessarily raspy and does everything he can to look like a comic book character. —David V. Rodriguez. *Sony Cheri.*

★★★½ *The Hunt for Red October*

The Hunt for Red October is the first and best

adaptation of a Tom Clancy novel. Alec Baldwin plays Jack Ryan, a CIA analyst thrown into action because he is the only one who believes that a nuclear submarine heading toward America isn't trying to start a war, but to defect. Sean Connery plays the Russian submarine captain. The film version has a few plot changes — which may annoy some — but in general, the film keeps the spirit of the book intact (unlike the film version of *Clear and Present Danger*, which was rewritten so that Ryan never touched a gun). —DVR. *Sunday at LSC.*

★★★★ *Trainspotting*

Trainspotting tells the story of a group of Scottish heroin users. Already released in England, it has become the third-largest grossing British-made film and has received a large amount of criticism for not condemning heroin use. The story is told from the view of heroin users, without judgement, which makes the story feel completely genuine and totally fascinating. —DVR. *Sony Nickelodeon.*

★½ *Twister*

Not surprisingly, *Twister's* only redeeming quality is its stunning special effects. Considerably less effort was put into the drama side. After the first 10 minutes, an



Bill Paxton and Helen Hunt run from a tornado in *Twister*, showing tomorrow at LSC.

accurate outline of the story is obvious, and there isn't a unique plot element throughout. Helen 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. The visuals are good, but not good enough to carry the mediocre story. —A. Arif Husain. *Saturday at LSC.*



Susan Sarandon plays Sean Penn's spiritual advisor in *Dead Man Walking*, showing tonight at LSC.

Sheen, Estevez, Redgrave to appear at film festival

Film Festival, from Page 6

also from the road to acceptance travelled by one of the boy's mother. The soundtrack is dominated by the Mamas and Papas. Director Hettie MacDonald will introduce the 7 p.m. showing next Monday at the Kendall Square Theatre.

Two exercises in bringing Shakespeare to the screen offer some interest but ultimately disappoint. *Twelfth Night* has an all-star cast but might have been better if it switched some of them around. Ben Kingsley should be

playing Malvolio rather than Feste, and Nigel Hawthorne would have made a much better Sir Toby Belch than he does a Malvolio. The misconceived production uses the nineteenth century never-never land setting and costumes that are becoming clichés in Shakespeare stagings but does manage to present the gender confusion at the center of the story with admirable clarity.

Al Pacino tries to find modern relevance for Shakespeare in *Looking for Richard*, his meditation on *Richard III*, but his self-indulgent exercise alternates between the extremes

of too obvious and too preachy, ultimately working much less well than Sir Ian McKellen's masterful movie of the play earlier this year.

Vincent D'Onofrio plays Robert E. Howard, the creator of *Conan the Barbarian* and *Red Sonja*, in *The Whole, Wide World*, but it is his co-star, Renee Zellweger, who runs away with the show. She is the spirited schoolteacher who tries to love the conflicted pulp fiction writer. The story transpires in east Texas in the 1930s, and lesser actors would have been swamped by the production values,

but this pair manages to make this story of a love that could not happen constantly absorbing.

Emilio Estevez directs his father and co-stars with him and Kathy Bates in the big-hearted *The War at Home*, about a Vietnam veteran and his family trying to adjust after his return from the war. Most of the story transpires as they prepare for their traditional Thanksgiving feast in 1972, and if it gets a little melodramatic toward the climax, it catches the tensions of a loving family focusing on trivialities to avoid the real problem very nicely. Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young dominate the soundtrack.

Edward James Olmos will appear with his director and producer, Robert and Irwin Young, when they accept the annual Independent Film Maker Award next Thursday at the Kendall Square Theatre. Olmos stars in the brothers' new film, *Caught*, an update of the Phaedra legend that takes place in a New York City fish store. Over the years the brothers have made films like *Short Eyes*, *Dominick and Eugene*, and *The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez* and also provided support and technical assistance to many other independent filmmakers in and around New York.

With more than 50 feature films, and several programs of short films offered during the two weeks of the festival, there is something to suit nearly every taste. Documentaries like *Microcosmos*, the splendid French investigation of life in a forest meadow; *Small*, the splendid French investigation of life in a forest meadow; *Small Wonders*, the heart-warming, Academy Award-nominated story of a successful music teaching program in Harlem; and *Paradise Lost*, a look by the makers of *Brother's Keeper* at the aftermath of the murders of three boys in an Arkansas town, share the screens with their more numerous fictional equivalents. Ten-movie passes can be purchased for \$65, and t-shirts and other memorabilia will also be available.



Dustin Hoffman, Dennis Franz, and Sean Nelson star as small-time hustlers in the film adaptation of David Mamet's *American Buffalo*.

ROSH HASHANA DINNER FOR STUDENTS FRIDAY, SEPT. 13

- ◆ Come celebrate the new year
- ◆ A delicious holiday dinner with traditional specialities will be served at 8:15 p.m. at Hillel, following services.
- ◆ **SPECIAL student price \$3.00**
 - ◆ All others \$13.00.
 - ◆ ALL RESERVE by Wed, Sept. 11.
- ◆ Conservative and Reform High Holiday services are held on campus.
 - ◆ Rosh Hashana is Sept. 13-15
 - ◆ Yom Kippur is Sept. 22-23
- ◆ Other holiday lunches and dinners are available. All reservations due Sept. 11.
- ◆ MIT Hillel is located in the Religious Activities Center, 40 Mass. Ave., MIT Building W11, #253-2982.
- ◆ Holiday meal reservations, tickets and information available daily at Hillel or in Lobby 10 on Sept. 9 and 11

*Undergraduate Academic Affairs and
The Department of Mathematics present*

Math Review Nights

Workshops for students who want to review pre-calculus mathematics

September 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9
from 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Get help from friendly tutors!

Date	Room
• Wednesday, September 4 Exponentials, Logs & Complex Numbers Geometry and Analytic Geometry	2-102 4-149
• Thursday, September 5 Trigonometry Algebra	2-102 4-149
• Friday, September 6 Algebra Exponentials, Logs & Complex Numbers	4-149 2-102
• Sunday, September 8 Geometry and Analytic Geometry Trigonometry	4-149 2-102
• Monday, September 9— Pre-Calculus Open Workshop All Topics: Tutors and Self-tests available	2-102

Want to go but can't get to the workshops? Pick up self-paced Study Guides from the UAA, (Room 7-104), Room 7-133 or the Undergraduate Math Office, Room 2-108.

Questions? Call the UAA at x3-3728 or x3-3561.

This table's statistics show the numbers of bids accepted and extended as of the official close of rush for fraternities and independent living groups. Also included is a list of groups' target numbers for pledges and the number of bids accepted last year for each group.

Independent Living Group	Bids Accepted	Bids Extended	Target	Last Year
Alpha Delta Phi	11	N/A	N/A	14
Alpha Epsilon Pi	13	N/A	N/A	13
Alpha Tau Omega	12	N/A	N/A	15
Beta Theta Pi	12	N/A	12	10
Chi Phi	13	16	12	11
Delta Kappa Epsilon	10	16	10-12	7
Delta Psi	8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Delta Tau Delta	12	N/A	N/A	9
Delta Upsilon	10	14	11	14
Epsilon Theta	6	N/A	5	13
Fenway House	5	N/A	4-9	4
Kappa Sigma	15	N/A	N/A	18
Lambda Chi Alpha	14	18	13	10
Nu Delta	12	15	10	8
Phi Beta Epsilon	12	16	10-12	18
Phi Delta Theta	14	N/A	12-14	13
Phi Gamma Delta	13	16	11	9
Phi Kappa Sigma	8	N/A	N/A	13
Phi Kappa Theta	8	10	8	11
Phi Sigma Kappa	9	12	10	13
pika	12	N/A	N/A	15
Pi Lambda Phi	17	N/A	N/A	15
Sigma Alpha Epsilon	15	N/A	N/A	16
Sigma Chi	8	12	8-9	11
Sigma Nu	5	7	10	9
Sigma Phi Epsilon	18	N/A	N/A	15
Student House	11	N/A	16	6
Tau Epsilon Phi	5	8	N/A	12
Theta Chi	12	N/A	12	8
Theta Delta Chi	12	N/A	N/A	9
Theta Xi	13	20	14	7
Women's Independent Living Group	12	N/A	N/A	12
Zeta Beta Tau	11	16	16	13
Zeta Psi	12	17	14	14

This table includes the number of freshman residents in each dormitory, the total number of residents in each dormitory, and the normal, uncrowded capacity of each dormitory.

Dormitory	Freshman Residents	Total Residents	Uncrowded Capacity
Baker House	119	341	337
Bexley Hall	17	118	120
Burton-Conner House	105	371	344
East Campus	97	392	362
MacGregor House	87	326	326
McCormick Hall	63	265	244
New House	88	312	292
Next House	97	375	352
Random Hall	21	90	93
Senior House	25	145	146

SOURCE: THE OFFICE OF RESIDENCE AND CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

1.00 to Use C++ Language As Fall Semester Experiment

By Brett Altschul
STAFF REPORTER

Introduction to Computers and Engineering Problem Solving (1.00) will be using the C++ computer language instead of the traditional language of C this semester as part of an experiment.

The experiment will be in place for the next two or three fall terms, said Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering Steven R. Lerman '72, who is teaching the course.

For spring semesters, 1.00 will be taught in C as it traditionally has been, he said.

"The spring class is usually larger and it has more freshmen than the fall," Lerman said. "We want people to be able to take the older version of the class, if they want to."

Change makes tasks easier

Lerman said that C++ was being introduced because it allowed for object-oriented programming, which makes some tasks much easier.

"At the end of the course, we've been trying some things that encounter some of the problems with C," he said.

He also said that C++ should be a very useful language outside MIT.

"Most of the interesting programming in the business world is done in C++ these days," he said. "There's definitely been a move toward C++ over the last several years."

C++ is "a language that allows students to build better-structured and more usable code," he said. "For the students who'll take the class, knowing C++ is a big advantage."

Lerman said that student reaction will largely dictate what happens after the experiment is complete. "Hopefully, [C++] won't be to confusing," he said. "If it is, the change probably won't go through."

Salal Humair G, the head teaching assistant for the course, who has

worked as a TA in 1.00 before, echoed this sentiment. "I really don't know how well it's going to work," he said. "We're waiting for student reactions; that's why it's an experiment."

There is a potential for greater difficulty using C++. "I have mixed feelings about it," he said. "Some students may have difficulty with the language. It can be very confusing for some things."

Course content remains similar

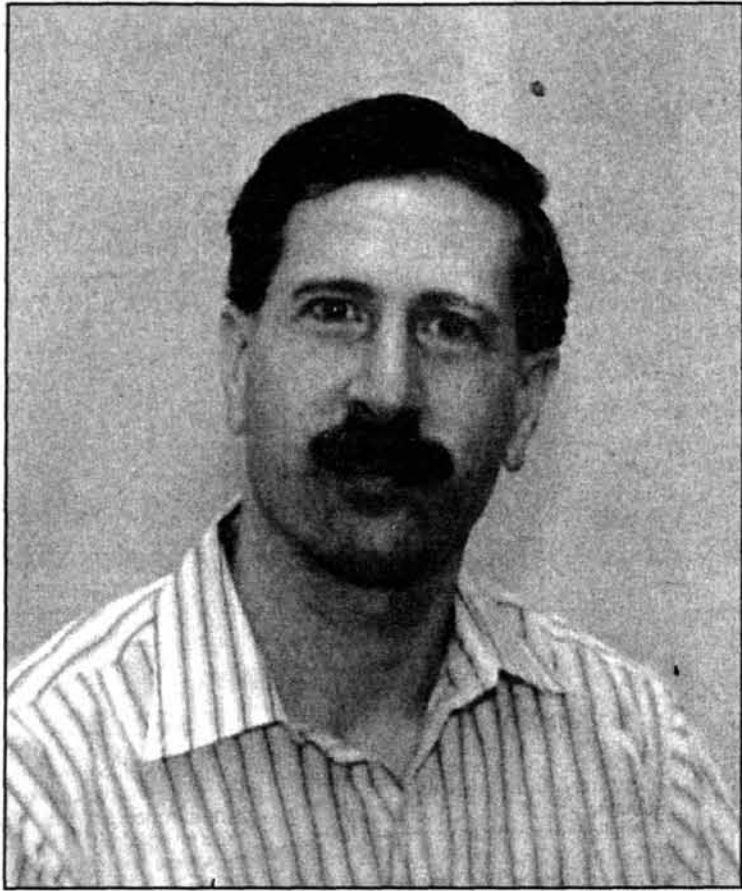
The overall content of the course will remain fairly similar to last year despite the change of languages, Lerman said. In particular, the first half of the course should be largely

unchanged, Lerman said. "You need to learn some C before you can learn any C++."

However, the use of C++ should also make some of the early parts of the course simpler because certain things are harder to learn in C, Lerman said.

Although there is no way to cover all of C++ in a single semester, the important topics will be taught, Lerman said.

"We aren't really emphasizing C++ that much," Humair said. "We're using it as a tool for teaching algorithms, and we're hoping that people will pick up the rest of the language — the complicated things — on their own."



Professor Steven R. Lerman '72.

IAN CHAN—THE TECH

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List Center Hosts Exhibit for Student Loan Program

By Erik S. Balsley

Registration Day marked the beginning of the annual Student Loan Art Exhibition and lottery at the List Visual Arts Center, the first of many exhibitions scheduled for the term.

During the course of the exhibition, which runs until next Friday, students can view about 350 contemporary works of art on paper from international artists. After viewing the exhibition, students can enter the art loan lottery to obtain one of the displayed works on loan for a year.

The program "serves a means to introduce [students] to contemporary art and give them a work of art for a year on loan to hang in their room or workspace," said Jennifer Riddell, a curatorial assistant at the List Center. It also introduces students to the center to possibly "get them involved," she said.

All full-time students are eligible to enter the lottery. After viewing the works, students can fill out a card listing their three favorite works and deposit it in the box at the entrance of the gallery to enter the lottery.

Students whose cards are drawn are then matched up with one of the three works they listed. If all three works have already been assigned, they are placed on a waiting list for unclaimed or unassigned works.

Students must bring back the works of art at the end of the year or

fill out an extension card for the summer, Riddell said. The extension card allows a loaned work to be kept during the summer only if the student will be living in the Boston area.

Collection created for program

MIT's art program is one of the few of its kind, said Jennifer G. Aszling, the Fine Arts Registrar for the List Center.

The Student Loan Art Collection was created specifically for the loan art program, which was inaugurated in 1968. The collection has expanded through purchases and gifts over the years.

The collection grows by about eight to 10 works a year. The most recent acquisitions are currently on display on the third floor of the Student Center and will be included in next year's lottery.

As the collection has grown it "has moved away from poster editions to contemporary works of art," Riddell said. These works are of a variety of print media including lithography, aquatint, and photography.

Information about the process used to create a work and information about the works and the artists is provided when a student picks up a work from the lottery.

For many students the ability to own an actual piece of art rather than a poster of it, is a main reason to enter the lottery.

"I personally enter the lottery to have the chance to look at a beauti-



GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

The List Visual Arts Center is currently holding its lottery for students who wish to borrow a work of art from its collection for the academic year.

ful work of art for a year that I otherwise wouldn't be able to afford," said Maria S. Redin G. "The chance to have one of these would make my year."

"It's nice to have real art instead of a poster or a reproduction," said Jennifer Glos G, another student at the exhibition. Another benefit of participating in the lottery is that "you get to know some of the art," she said.

The exhibition is open during weekdays until next Friday, from noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from noon to 8 p.m. on Fridays. The lottery will be con-

ducted the day after the exhibition closes, and results will be posted by 6 p.m.

Center prepares for artists

Visitors to the exhibition will notice that the walls are painted pink. This is in preparation for a major retrospective of the artist Louise Bourgeois.

Although Bourgeois is best known for her sculptures, a variety of drawings in different media will be presented at the retrospective. In addition a large sculpture entitled *Spider* will be installed specifically for the exhibit. The retrospective

will open on October 4.

In addition to the Bourgeois exhibit, the List Center will be presenting a work by artist in residence Joseph Grigely entitled *Ordinary Conversations*.

The works of Grigely, who is deaf, deal with issues of communication. This makes him an excellent choice for the artist in residence program, which provides "an opportunity for an artist to create a work on site, and allow visitors to the center to be part of the creative process," Riddell said.

Visitors to the List Center will be able to meet and converse with Grigely through the use of written notes. These pieces of paper will then become part of the project.

These papers, along with ones from previous exhibitions by Grigely, will be posted on the wall on the study-type environment he is creating. Visitors can then examine these notes along with the contextual background of previous conversations written by Grigely.

Grigely will be at the List Center from Sept. 12 to 20 and Oct. 2 to 5. The finished project will be on display until Dec. 29.

Hours for both exhibitions are noon to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday; and from noon to 8 p.m. on Fridays. A public opening reception for *Ordinary Conversations*, and the Louise Bourgeois retrospective will take place on Friday, October 4, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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Student Activities Face RCA Auditing

Accounts, from Page 1

the banks be in the Boston area," he said.

Audits may require more work

The move to a less centralized banking system will require some additional work by groups, said Robert N. Clark Jr., a manager in the Audit Division.

"Before when it was mostly housed within" RCA, there was only one place that financial information was stored, Clark said. With the new system "it's going to take some closer coordination by the student group treasurers to make sure that they are doing the proper reconciliation."

Wyatt was confident that student groups would be able to handle the additional burden.

"For groups that don't keep accurate records, it might be a scramble at the end of the term" to reconcile the budget, but the process should be easy for groups that keep accurate records, he said.

Despite the previous policy that most student groups could not have outside accounts, over 100 outside accounts were being maintained as of the last student group survey, said Assistant Treasurer

Robert E. Lee. That figure represents about 40 percent of all groups.

The ASA estimates that about two-thirds of student groups maintain illicit outside accounts, said Undergraduate Association Treasurer Russell S. Light '98.

Thomas R. Henneberry, director of Legal Affairs, said that MIT is liable for what happens to the accounts.

"This is money which is in many cases earning income" and yet is not being properly accounted for in internal records, he said. "It's an issue of MIT as a corporate entity being responsible for all of its vested interests and knowing what they're doing."

Lee says that many student groups are using MIT's name and tax identification number for their accounts.

Generally "if an account earns interest and it's under somebody's tax ID number, then it's taxable income," Lee said.

If the account comes under a tax ID number that's tax exempt like MIT's and "somebody represents themselves as tax exempt when they have no authority to do so, it's illegal," he said.

Renovated Music Library To Expand Collection, Service

By Kai-yuh Hsiao
STAFF REPORTER

The Music Library is scheduled to hold a larger collection, serve more people, and provide more functions than ever before despite the temporary inconvenience from its current construction.

People interested in browsing the music library right now do not have a whole lot to see. The temporary library, which opened on Wednesday, consists of a table or two in the Hayden Memorial Library's map room. It provides users with access to less than a fraction of the holdings that the Music Library is known for.

The library, under construction since the end of last term, is due to open officially at the end of this month.

The new library will to be named the Rosalind Denny Lewis Music Library, the mother-in-law of one of the main contributors to the renovation of the library, Cherry Emerson '41.

New features allow for expansion

One of the most notable changes to the structure of the library is a second-floor mezzanine which will hold 22 reconfigurable listening carrels for student use, a listening lounge, a group listening room, and a conference room.

Other new features elsewhere in the library include a photocopy machine, an electric keyboard for playing music scores, and a special collections room for rare items.

Furthermore, the library will feature compact shelving, shelves on wheels in which aisles can be opened up as needed. This new shelving will be used both in the private collection behind the circu-

lation desk and in the public areas.

The compact shelving system will provide growth space for at least the next 20 years in some areas, said Peter Munstedt, the music librarian.

There will be enough space to hold about 28,000 compact discs; currently the library only has 4,500.

Also, many archived journals currently kept in storage will be moved into the library, a convenience for users that the old library

Glass panes... will be decorated with sandblasted musical staff lines.

was unable to provide. New journals will be put on display in the new journal reading area.

Design features music motif

The new library actually represents one of the largest projects done so far by Physical Plant's in-house architectural staff.

The overall architectural design of the new library will include a music motif, said the chief architect of the project Melanie Brothers.

The mezzanine has been designed in the shape of a curve that resembles a treble clef, and wooden supports throughout the library are in the shape of instrumental bows. Glass panes all around the library will be decorated with sandblasted musical staff lines.

Brothers has also been involved

in the design of a number of conference rooms around campus, as well as the lobby of the Medical Center, which is currently under construction.

Many of the visual touches that have been put into the library have also been partly the work of artist John Powell.

One of the most notable of these is the complete inscription of a piece of music into the glass railing on the mezzanine. The music is written exclusively for the new library by Institute Professor of Music John H. Harbison.

Renovations were long-awaited

The old music library was actually constructed as a music lounge in 1948. Before this summer, it had seen very little change over the years aside from its gradual conversion into a library, which was not its original intended purpose.

Munstedt, who arrived at his current position of librarian in October of 1992, started pushing for renovations almost immediately.

"When I came here, that was the first thing I wanted to do," Munstedt said.

Fundraising for the renovations was organized by Ellen Harris, then the associate provost for the arts. Most notably, she enlisted the support of Emerson.

Alan Brody continued fundraising efforts as the new associate provost. Planning and design of the library began last September, and construction began immediately after the end of spring term last year.

Director of Libraries Ann J. Wolpert said that the new library represents the "dynamite renovation of one of the premier music libraries in New England."

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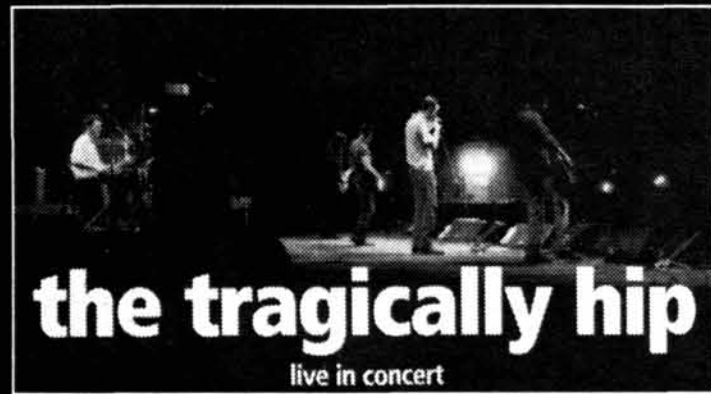
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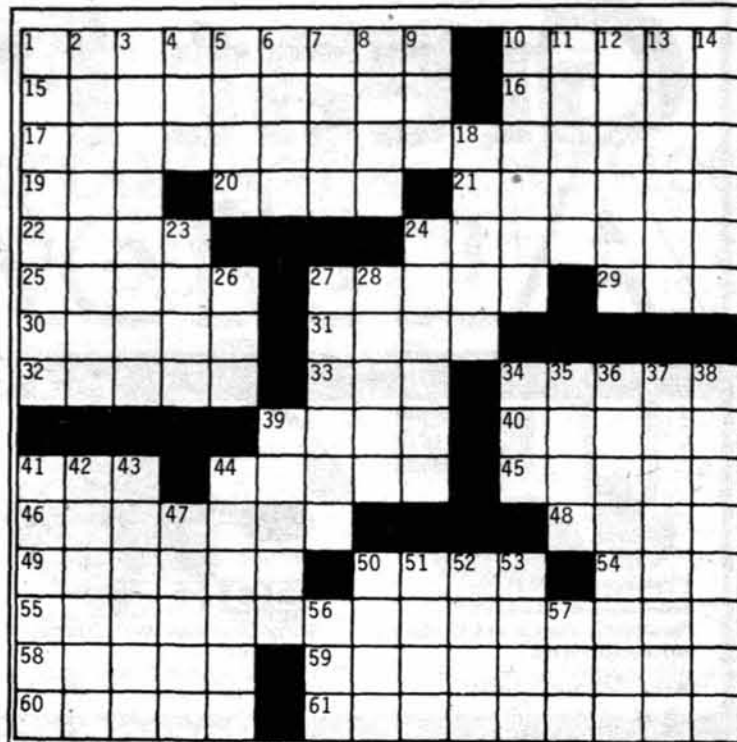
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- 1 Ruin the reputation of
 - 10 Juicy fruit
 - 15 At stake (3 wds.)
 - 16 Do construction work
 - 17 O'Neill play (3 wds.)
 - 19 Male sheep (Br.)
 - 20 Acute
 - 21 "— Fideles"
 - 22 Give off
 - 24 Tornado
 - 25 Rambled (2 wds.)
 - 27 In the middle, for short
 - 29 Madison Avenue output
 - 30 Journal item
 - 31 Like some college courses
 - 32 Sierra —
 - 33 Cager's target
 - 34 Park in Quebec
 - 39 Nine, in Venice
 - 40 Galahad's garb
 - 41 Cul-de—
 - 44 Entertained, in part
 - 45 Climbing plant
 - 46 — post
 - 48 Certain sandwiches
 - 49 Wandering
 - 50 West German state
 - 54 Mr. Grant
 - 55 Winter weather index (2 wds.)
 - 58 Dodge
 - 59 Certain odds (3 wds.)
 - 60 Fleur—
 - 61 The quality of being lean or thin
- DOWN**
- 1 Old World bird
 - 2 Cruel
 - 3 Enter (2 wds.)
 - 4 —square
 - 5 Have care or concern
 - 6 Robert —
 - 7 — novel
 - 8 — instant (at once)
 - 9 Bo Derek film
 - 10 Co-star of "Midnight Run"
 - 11 Frosts
 - 12 Zoroastrian writings
 - 13 Stroked, as an animal
 - 14 Anesthetics
 - 18 Imitated a crow
 - 23 Hitchcock's "Curtain"
 - 24 Named
- 26 Comedian Louis —
- 27 Big crowd
- 28 Forgo
- 34 Liquid measure (abbr.)
- 35 "A wrong'd thought will break — of steel"—Chapman
- 36 Part of the foot (2 wds.)
- 37 Floating structures
- 38 Expungements
- 39 Keyboard interval
- 41 Was in a dither
- 42 Reach a destination
- 43 "— Knowledge"
- 44 Shows pain
- 47 — Warbucks
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- 51 Famous middle name
- 52 Southwest wind
- 53 Appraise
- 56 No —, ands, or buts
- 57 Swindle

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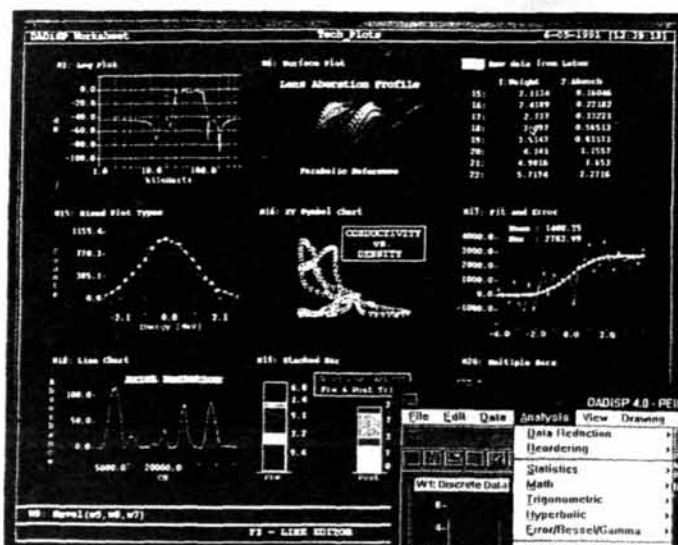
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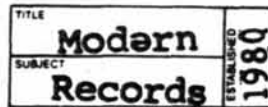
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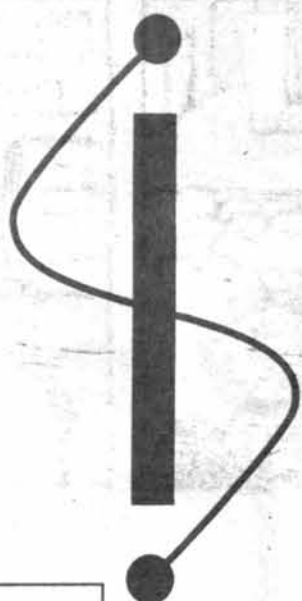
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- Visit the **MIT Libraries** on line.
- Check out the available **Athena software** and **keyserved Macintosh software**.

Welcome Back to School



Athena

Fall '96

Minicourse Schedule



Open to all MIT students, faculty, and staff

Room 3-343	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
noon 7pm 8pm	Sept. 9 MSO MSO Matlab	Sept. 10 Matlab MSO Matlab	Sept. 11 Maple Maple Xess	Sept. 12 Xess Maple Xess
noon 7pm 8pm	Sept. 16 Frame Frame FrameThs	Sept. 17 LaTeX Frame FrameThs	Sept. 18 FrameThs LaTeX Thesis	Sept. 19 Thesis LaTeX Thesis
noon 7pm 8pm	Sept. 23 No Classes	Sept. 24 Intro Intro Basic	Sept. 25 Basic Intro Basic	Sept. 26 Working Working EZ
noon 7pm 8pm	Sept. 30 Info Res. Info Res. HTML	Oct. 1 HTML Info Res. HTML	Oct. 2 Ser Emacs Ser. Emacs Dotfiles	Oct. 3 Dotfiles Ser. Emacs Dotfiles
noon 7pm 8pm	Oct. 7 Matlab MSO Matlab	Oct. 8 Maple Info Res. HTML	Oct. 9 Frame Frame FrameThs	Oct. 10 LaTeX LaTeX Thesis
noon 7pm 8pm	Oct. 14 Columbus Day No classes	Oct. 15 Columbus Day No classes	Oct. 16 Intro Intro Basic	Oct. 17 Basic Working EZ

Free Computing

To get an Athena Account:

- Students, Faculty, and Staff: You should already be in the Accounts database. Just attend any session of the Introduction to Athena minicourse. (Staff may need to contact Athena User Accounts, <accounts@mit.edu> or x3-1325.)

How to register for a minicourse:

- You cannot register for an Athena Minicourse.
- You cannot pay for an Athena Minicourse. Minicourses are free.
- You cannot reserve a place in an Athena Minicourse. Just show up.

Changing your password

It's a good idea to change your password regularly (e.g., at least once a semester):

athena% passwd

Computer Sales

Recommended computer systems at MIT

Come to the **MIT Computer Connection** (Student Center basement, W20-021, Monday, noon to 4:30pm, Tuesday-Friday, 10am to 4:30pm) for recommended systems. Featured are:

Apple Power Macintosh 5400/120 Power Macintosh 7200/120 Power Macintosh 7600/132	Dell Optiplex 5166 GXM Latitude XPI P100 Bundle
Ethernet <i>For Macs with built-in ethernet:</i> Apple AAUI to AUI adapter Farallon AAUI to UTP transceiver	<i>For PCs:</i> 3Com EtherLink III for 16-bit, 32-bit, and laptops
<i>For other Macs:</i> Apple Ethernet Twisted Pair Apple Ethernet AAUI Card	Asante EN/SCPB Asante MCINB-10T

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If you live off-campus and want to "telecommute" to MITnet and Athena, see the Tether home page:
<http://web.mit.edu/tps/www/Tether/>

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Find more information about using the Macintosh Keyserver for applications such as Matlab, Maple, and FrameMaker at <http://web.mit.edu/resnet/keyserver.html>

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Start at the MIT Home Page:
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Visit the Beginner's Guide to Athena:
<http://web.mit.edu/olh/Frosh/>
Find out about Residential Computing:
<http://web.mit.edu/rescomp/www/>



Libraries



Turn to the MIT Libraries Web page to find an array of on-line services and information including:

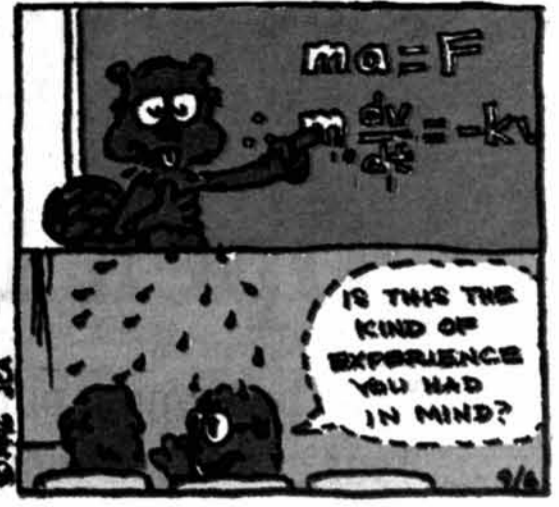
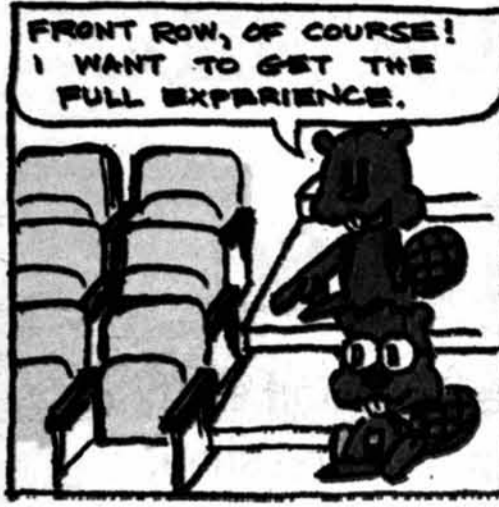
- Hours, locations and phone numbers of all the MIT libraries.
- Barton, MIT's On-line Public Access Catalog (OPAC), with sophisticated search engines
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<http://nimrod.mit.edu/>

S
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Dammed for Life

by Jessica Wu



Stacey's Journal

by Stacey



Subject: 6.163-Strobe Project Laboratory
 Date: Wed, 04 Sep 1996 14:03:22 EDT
 Folks,
 The course was heavily oversubscribed this term. Hao, Dr. Hazel, and I held the lottery after class and the 24 members of the lab were chosen for this term. Unfortunately, you were not selected to be enrolled this semester. You will be placed on a priority list for upcoming semesters. Please consider 6.163 once again during the next registration.
 Good luck with the rest of your classes this fall!

I went to class happy today.

Then I got lotteried out of Strobe Project Lab.

6.046J Introduction to Algorithms

(Same subject as 18.410J)
 Prereq.: 6.001; 6.042J
 U (Fall, Spring)
 4-0-8

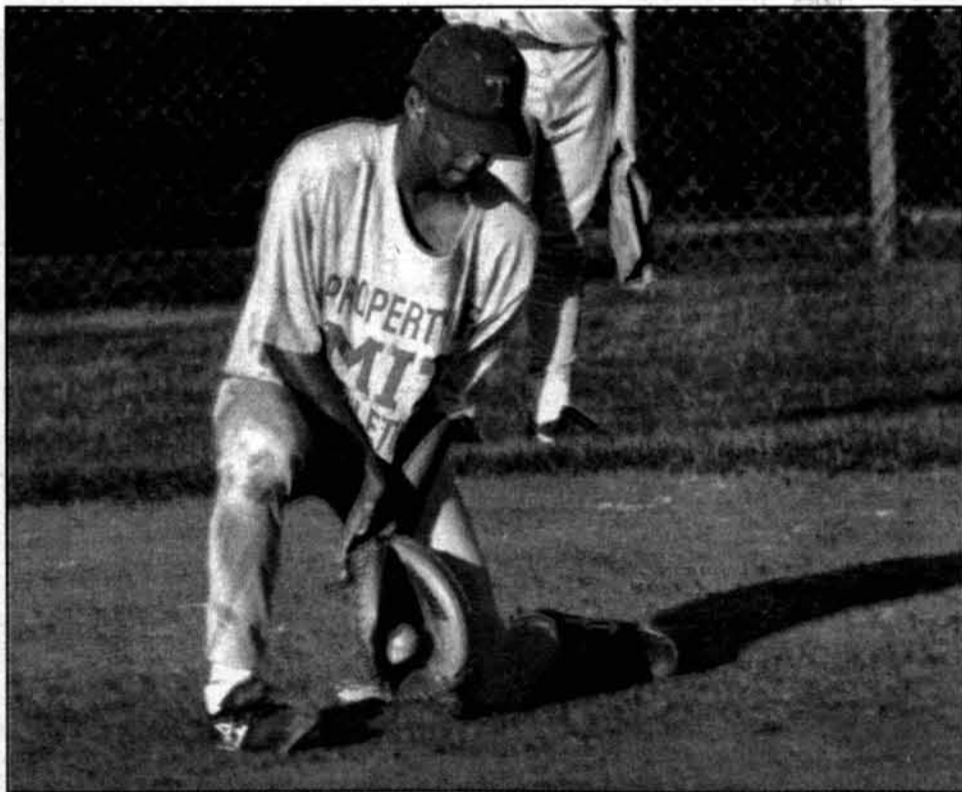
Techniques for the design and analysis of efficient algorithms, emphasizing methods useful in practice. Topics: sorting; data structures for sets; search trees; heaps; hashing; graph algorithms; shortest paths; depth-first search; network flow; computational geometry; integer arithmetic; gcd, primality; polynomial and matrix calculations; dynamic programming; amortized analysis; NP-completeness and approximation algorithms.
 C. E. Leiserson, M. Goemans



Now I'm taking 6.046J.

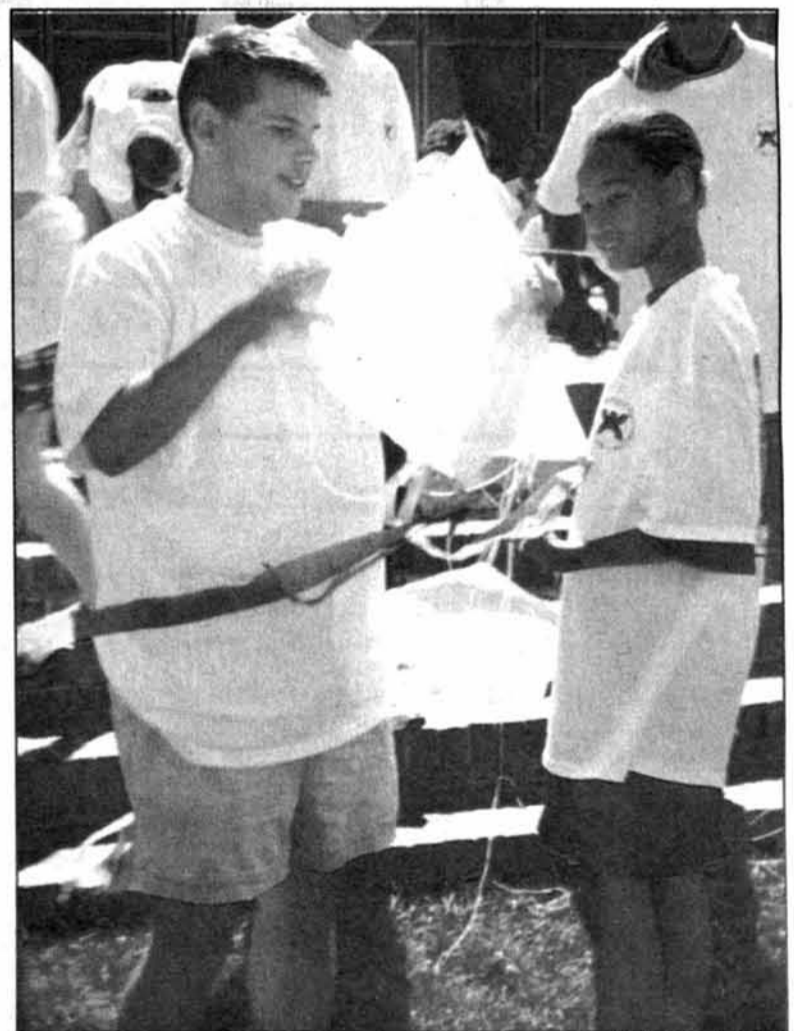
School sucks!

Stacey E. Blav



JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

Darren C. Collins '99 catches a ball near home plate at Tuesday's baseball practice.



TIFFANY LIN—THE TECH

New House residents held a kite making activity behind Kresge Auditorium as part of the City Days community service event last Friday.



JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

Offensive line coach John Bandini is pushed by his team at Tuesday's football practice.

Sunday 2-6 p.m.

The Tech

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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.



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



by Jim

otherwise, she's about the same as always.



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Students Receive Accreditation Retroactively for VI-2 Program

Accreditation, from Page 1

The EECS Department was also aware of the problems and worked quickly to make the changes, Penfield said.

The requirements were changed so that students in VI-2 must take two classes in an electrical engineering concentration and two classes in a computer science concentration, Penfield said. Before, students could freely choose their engineering concentration classes.

These new requirements will not affect juniors and seniors, Hunter said.

The VI-2 program was also accredited retroactively for the past two years, Penfield said. This means that anyone who ever graduated with a VI-2 degree has an accredited degree.

"When you ask for accreditation of new programs, you can ask for retroactive accreditation," Penfield said. "We asked for it for two years. We did get it."

"We're very happy with that," Hunter said. "It was unexpected."

Accreditation influences some

Penfield does not anticipate the accreditation to affect the distribution of Course VI majors. "People choose majors based on what's the most exciting thing in their lives,"

The distribution of VI-1, VI-2, and VI-3 majors has been "fluctuating wildly," Hunter said. Hunter expects more VI-2 majors because of the accreditation.

Some students deciding to major in EECS were influenced by the previous lack of accreditation for VI-2.

Erwin K. Lau '99 said that the accreditation factor affected his decision to major in VI-2. Although Lau knew that VI-2 was not accredited, what that meant for students in terms of getting a job or into graduate school was not defined, he said.

"As I talked to more people, I found out what being accredited meant," Lau said. After he talked to people, the lack of accreditation "didn't mean much to me after a while."

"I think with coming years, more people will go for the major," Lau said.

Lara M. Karbner '97, a VI-3 student, was not affected by the accreditation factor, she said. Karbner was not aware that VI-2 had not been accredited.

CSAB gave their stamp of approval to our major program.
— Anne M. Hunter

he said. "They usually don't make the judgment on whether it's accredited."

About 32 percent of Course VI sophomores and 46 percent of Course VI juniors are majoring in VI-2, Hunter said.



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- SHIFT WORKERS (All Shifts)
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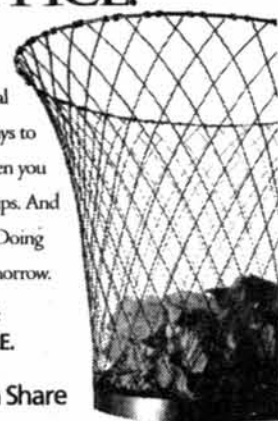
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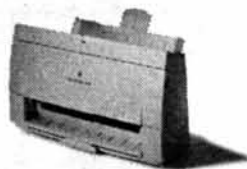
- Tickets must be reserved in person only with valid MIT student ID
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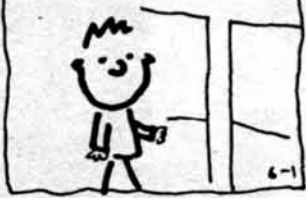


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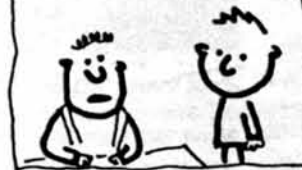
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Jim's Journal

I went to the copy store today to tell Hal I was back.



"We could sure use you, Jim," he said.



He rubbed his forehead and said, "Things haven't been going so great around here."



by Jim

Then he smiled and said, "So, how was your big trip?"



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Residence and Orientation Week News in Review

By Frank Dabek
STAFF REPORTER

The Tech focused on the events and activities of Residence and Orientation Week from Aug. 22 to Aug. 30. Highlights of important stories are summarized here for the benefit of community members who returned after R/O.

Freshman class diverse, select

This year's freshman class totals 1,081 students, down 49 from last year. The freshmen were selected from 8,022 applicants, giving a 24 percent acceptance rate. This was the lowest percentage accepted ever.

The freshman class showed a leveling-off in the numbers of women but increased numbers of minority students. Forty-two percent of the Class of 2000 is female, a

number equal to last year, and 18 percent are members of underrepresented minority groups, up from 14 percent from last year.

MOYA, Dinners revamped

Project Move Off Your Assumptions and Thursday Night Dinners both had a new look to them this R/O.

MOYA divided freshmen into small groups — named as chemical elements — for trust exercises and the opportunity to get acquainted.

Tech Trek, called "a great new finale" by Institute R/O Publicity and Personnel Manager Erica R. Fuchs '99, sent freshmen on a scavenger hunt around campus to answer riddles that would be used to decode a message.

Tech Trek received mixed

reviews from freshmen. Cindy H. Liang '00, alluding to the fact that even MOYA leaders were not aware of the details of the event, said that "it was confusing because no one knew what was going on."

Thursday Night Dinners were also revamped this year in an attempt to avoid a reoccurrence of last year's event in which the Campus Police were needed to control a crowd of upperclassmen who rushed out of Kresge Oval before the end of MOYA to collect freshmen.

The event was moved inside Johnson Athletics Center, and groups were limited in the number of representatives that they could send. The event went smoothly and Thursday Night Dinners, an event which many feared would be phased



HELEN LIN—THE TECH

Paul Ibarra '00 learned to trust fellow freshmen as he was supported and passed around with his eyes closed in one of the Project Move Off Your Assumptions activities at Briggs Field during the first day of Residence and Orientation Week.



GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

East Campus rush workers obtained permission to keep the lights on in the Green Building to advertise East Campus for rush. However, Campus Police shut off the display within an hour.

out of R/O week, appears to be secure for at least the near future.

Sig Ep violates rush rules

Rush began in Killian Court after a keynote speech by Van Van '97 who described going through rush as being "thrown to the wolves."

Even before rush began, however, a potential rules violation by Sigma Phi Epsilon was already being investigated. Sig Ep ran an ad in the August 23 issue of *The Tech*, before the official beginning of rush.

Sig Ep claimed that any violation was not intentional and that they mistakenly believed that *The Tech* would be coming out at around 6 p.m. on Friday at the start of rush.

Interfraternity Council Judicial Committee Chair Christopher G. Rodarte said that Judcomm is looking into the violation.

Clearinghouse, rush rules change

This year also saw a number of changes in rush rules. Dormitories were allowed to host events on Friday of rush for the first time, and the Clearinghouse tracking system was not used by dormitories this year. Instead, dormitories only took emergency messages for freshman at their front desks.

In spite of the change in the dormitory events rule, nearly all dormitory entries on Friday's edition of *The Daily Confusion* were erased from the printed version because of a communication mix-up.

With Clearinghouse gone, messages from fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups were sent to the R/O Center and later delivered to dormitories by members of the Dormitory Council. Assistant Dean for RCA Neal H. Dorow, adviser to FSILGs, said that the new messaging system made it "more of a guessing game" for FSILGs to find freshmen.

Rush was generally slower and

more competitive this year. Factors that contributed to a slow rush included the rains which dampened some events and the new message system, which Pika Rush Chair Margaret D. Harbaugh '98 said "made things a lot harder for us."

Pi Lambda Phi house roof burns

Pi Lambda Phi fraternity experienced a fire on the roof of its house last week.

The fire, which began on the roof from as of yet unknown sources, caused damage to the roof of the building.

The upper two floors also sustained some water damage. Some members of the house were temporarily moved to Ashdown House and power was lost for a day on the damaged floors but the house was reoccupied quickly and the fraternity is, in fact, planning a "Burning Down the House" theme party this weekend.

New trends in dorm crowding

This year's rush was slower than in past years. Predictions for crowding were originally around 120 freshmen, but about 150 freshmen were actually crowded.

In addition, dormitories showed new trends in subscription. Senior House, a traditionally undersubscribed dormitory that was newly renovated over the summer, was oversubscribed by nine spots, while the usually popular Baker House, with 118 openings, had only 51 freshmen rank it as their first choice.

Despite complications arising from the high numbers of freshmen requesting non-smoking rooms, most freshmen got their first choice and almost no one received assignments lower than their fourth choice.

Single-sex housing requests did

R/O, Page 26

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Redesign Team Recommends Creating New Activities Center

Re-engineering, from Page 1

through. Maybe that is what re-engineering is all about."

Goal is to centralize information

"Our goal is to present all the information about a student activity in one central database," said Assistant Dean for Student Activities Katherine G. O'Dair.

This database will contain the information on financial operations, event management, and fund allocations for the various activities.

Staff members trained to work with the ASA will assist new groups with new application processes and finding advisers.

In addition to new management of activities information, student groups will be assigned their own individual MIT accounts instead being a part of the current general account for student activities, said team member Ted E. Johnson, assistant director of the CAC. Activities may also choose to have accounts with outside banks. This proposal parallels the policy of the Office of Residence and Campus Activities that was approved this week by the Institute [see story, page 1].

MIT will also provide online access to an electronic accounting package for the activities' MIT accounts as well as outside accounts, and provide advice and support from MIT's accounting staff under the new system.

Activities will also be able to review their financial status 24 hours a day instead of waiting for their statements to arrive once a month, Johnson said. Activities also will be able to place electronic requests to spend money.

The recommendation calls for a Central Allocations Board, which would be led by students and consist of administration and staff members as well, Ives said.

Activities traditionally have received money from the Institute in two ways: by applying for and receiving money from the Undergraduate Association Finance Board or by "going door to door and convincing various departments to give them money," Ives said.

The board will provide a list of available funds from the departments on the central database.

By including both administration and staff members on the board, "we hope to encourage the departments to give money to support student activities," Ives said.

Students may still request funds from individual departments under the new system.

Students have doubts about plans

The design team has been collecting student input during the summer through various surveys, focus and advisory group meetings, and information booths on Registration Day.

The purpose of the open meetings in coming weeks is to gather student input, Johnson said. "It is important that the redesign recommendations have community support," he said.

Some students have serious doubts about the proposals.

"The team is ignoring politics and reality of making such changes and leaving them to the implementation teams," Wyatt said. "People may not be so willing to give up their control."

The implementation of the activities center will likely necessitate hiring more personnel to advise student groups, which, in addition to the planned activities database, will cost at least several hundred thousand dollars more, said Andrew J. Rhomberg G, Graduate Student Council member.

"I'd be heavily surprised" if the proposal gets total approval from the steering committee, Rhomberg said. The co-curricular team is trying to bill the proposal as worthwhile under the assumption that alumni

donations will rise if MIT supports student activities more, he said.

But alumni will not necessarily be happy simply because MIT makes this one change. "There are so many other things that [MIT] just get[s] screwed up" and makes students unhappy with, Rhomberg said.

Student activities funding should take precedence over assigning new advisers to oversee groups, said UA Treasurer Russell S. Light '98.

More advisers would be "a valuable addition," but "advising is no good if you don't have the money" to have events in the first place, he said.

"I'd love a lot of student group advisers, but let's be realistic," Light said. "MIT is into cutting personnel, not hiring new" people, he said.

"I'm uncertain that MIT is going to be willing to spend the money," Light said.

Light also expressed reservations about the proposal to create a student-administrator board to distribute student group funding. "If MIT wants to increase funding to student activities, they should give the money to the student governments and allow it to be allocated as students choose," he said.

Student activities funding is currently \$22 per undergraduate and

under \$10 per graduate student.

Rhomberg also expressed doubts about plans for an allocations board.

"I don't think the idea of having a Central Allocations Board will fly well," Rhomberg said. "There has been too little information and detail for people to voluntarily give the board their money."

Event registration will be online

The purpose of the Event Management Center is to provide one-stop shopping for space scheduling and event management services for the entire MIT community, including student groups, staff, and individual students, Johnson said.

"If the team can get it to work out, the space scheduling redesign idea can be a big win," Wyatt said. "It is one of the most annoying but easiest to fix problems."

Under the new system, students, faculty, and staff may look at and request available space online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Activities will be allowed to do event registration, which includes reserving equipment that will be needed, at the same time that they do space reservation. The event may even be listed on a master calendar as an option, Johnson said.

Duke Beats MIT On U.S. News Rank With Lower Scores

U.S. News, from Page 1

materials engineering, and mechanical engineering.

The survey rated the Institute's Sloan School of Management the nation's third-best business school behind the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.

"We're a specialized and not a totally comprehensive university," said Director of MIT News Office Kenneth D. Campbell said. "I don't think we'd ever be number one."

MIT beats Duke across the board

Duke, which placed just ahead of MIT, fell significantly behind the Institute in all but two of the criteria listed in the report.

"I don't know what prompted [Duke] to be propelled into fourth place," Campbell said. "The scoring is complex," but MIT has been in fourth or fifth for many years now.

"From what I know, Duke is a very good university that has continued to grow stronger during the past few decades," Vest said.

"Maybe it got a boost because its presidents, Nan Keohane, is a trustee of MIT!"

MIT tied with Princeton for the first-place academic reputation, compared to Duke's ranking of eleventh. MIT also ranked fourth in student selectivity, compared to Duke's ranking of ninth.

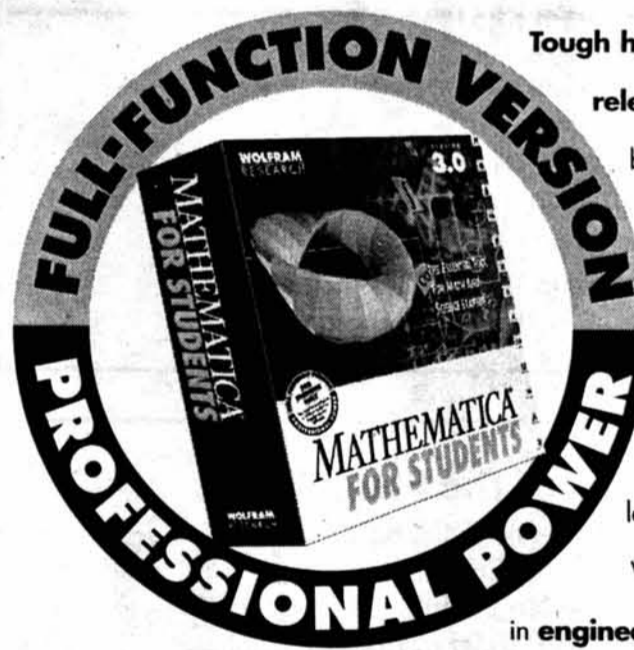
The Institute edged out Duke in faculty resources, financial resources, alumni-giving rank, standardized test scores, percentage of freshmen in the top 10 percent of their high school class, and student/faculty ratio.

The only criteria in which Duke beat MIT were 1995 graduation rate (95 percent vs. 89 percent), and percentage of classes larger than 50 (7 percent vs. 12 percent). The retention rate counted for a total of 20 percent of the school's overall score, putting MIT at a disadvantage at its eleventh-place rank.

Education expenditures per student were also the same for Duke and MIT, at \$37,376.

Stacey E. Blau contributed to the reporting in this story.

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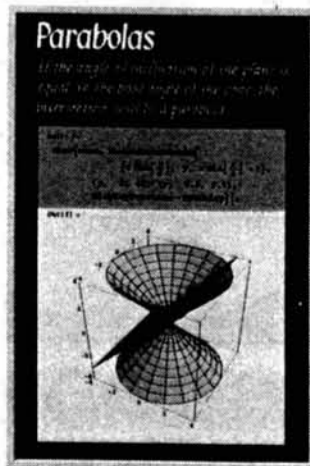
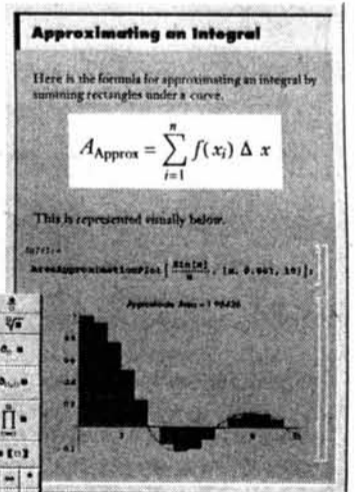
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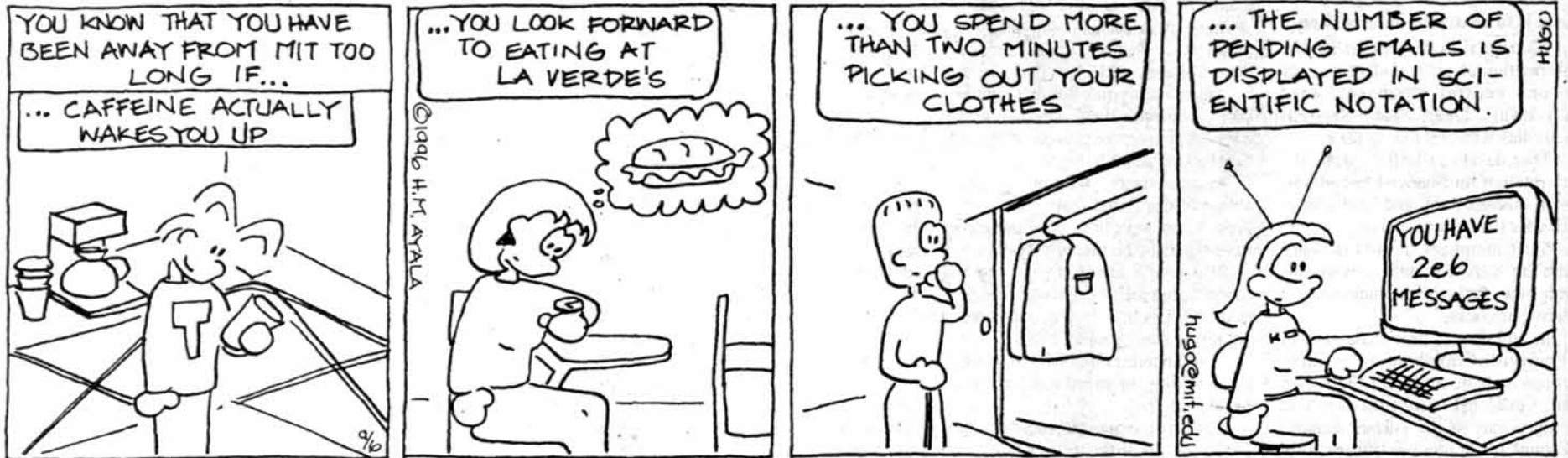
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Off Course

By Hugo



Turn to page 15 for full-color comics!



EAPS Fall Courses

Earth



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

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


& 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
12.305 Global Atmospheric Pollution
MWF 9:00 - 10:00


12.409 Hands-On Astronomy
Organizational meeting:
September 5, 7:00pm, 54-325
12.410 Optical Astronomy
MW 2:00 - 3:00

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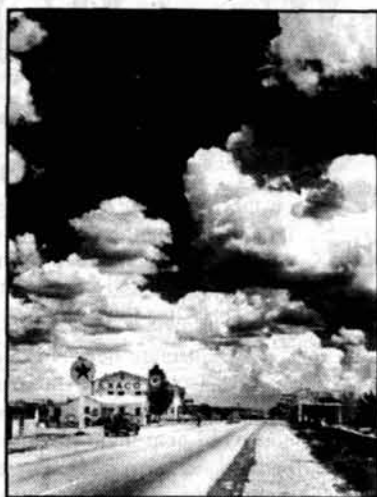
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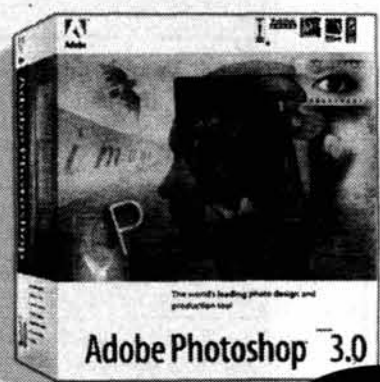


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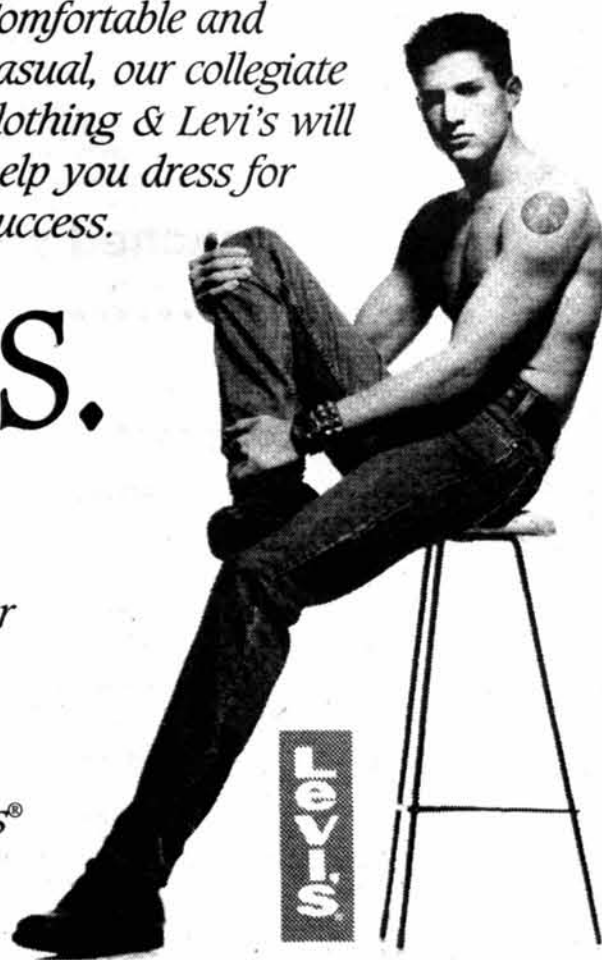
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MIT Educational Studies Program
MIT Student Center
77 Mass. Ave., Room W20-467
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617) 253-4882



Housing Went Well Despite Crowding

R/O, from Page 20

not pose the same problem as they did last year. "We were able to accommodate almost all of the single-sex requests," said Staff Associate for Residence and Campus Activities Phillip M. Bernard.

Essay evaluation results poor

With the continuation of last year's harsh grading, performance

on the Freshman Essay Evaluation remained poor this year as 80 percent of freshmen failed the test, a slight improvement over the 83 percent who failed last year.

The ultimate deficiency of the system is that it fails so many freshmen but offers so few writing classes to help them learn to write better, said Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs Travis R. Merritt.

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by Jim

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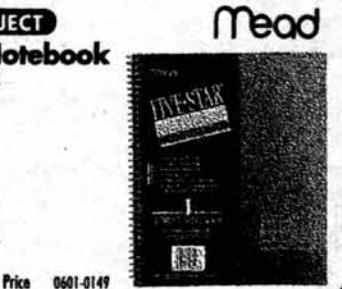
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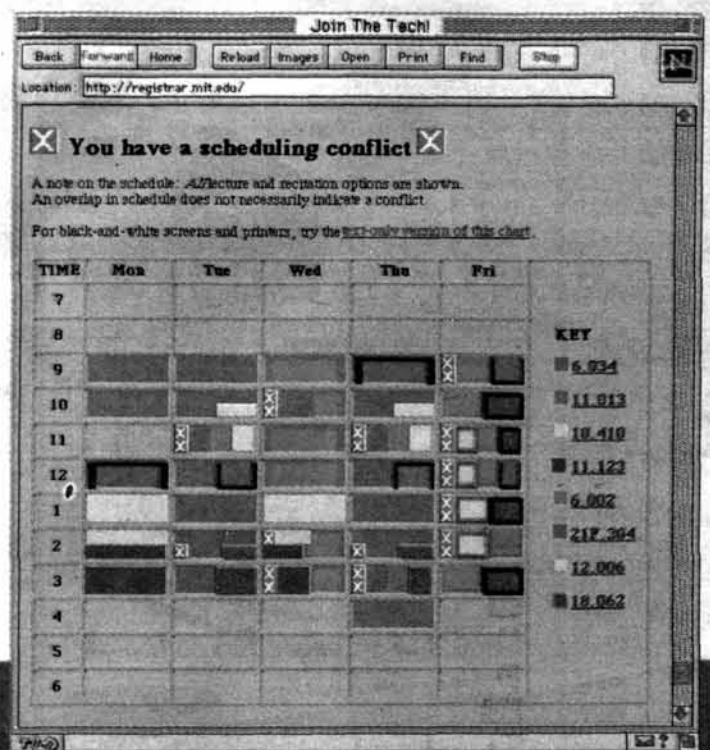
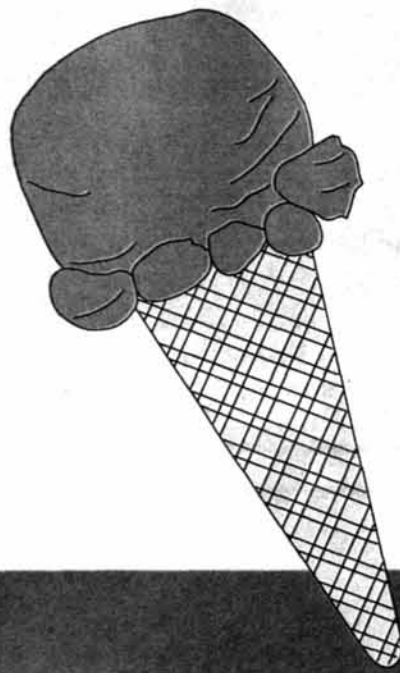
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