

RCA, HFS Merger Would Consolidate Student Services

By Dan McGuire
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A draft proposal released early this month by the re-engineering effort's Student Services Assessment Team suggests that the Institute should merge its departments of Housing and Food Services and the Office of Residential and Campus Activities.

The plan, if accepted by the re-engineering steering committee, will put the department responsible for maintaining dormitories and the department that manages dorm activities, floor tutors, and house masters under one roof.

At the moment, though, the plan remains in draft form. "We've come up with a list of recommendations and we're taking it out to the community to get feedback," said Director of Special Services Stephen D. Immerman. One needs to think of it as a "point of departure for conversation," he added.

The recommendation is a draft and not a final decision, said Anand Mehta G, a member of the Assessment Team. It is "being discussed with the community to figure out whether it is the right idea and whether" to continue with the process, Anand said. "The decision to combine HFS/RCA... is not a done deal."

Plan to Increase Efficiency

The move is intended to remove

what the team calls "shadow processes," the redundant work that both departments work on, said Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs Margaret S. Enders, who is a member of the team.

"Everybody's keeping a lot of information in parallel," Enders said. "Different offices have built up databases over the years and haven't realized that other people are doing the same thing," she said.

MIT is "virtually alone among major universities in how it separates operational policy from educational" policy, said McCormick Hall Housemaster Charles Stewart III.

In each dormitory, the house manager reports to HFS Head Lawrence E. Maguire, "a business operation," Stewart said. At the same time, the housemasters report to RCA, "an educational operation."

"It would be better... if the people responsible for education could have a more direct relationship with those responsible for the maintenance of facilities," Stewart said.

"The idea does have some merit," said John Hollywood '96, Chair of the Undergraduate Association's Student Life Committee. "The first person who can mandate an agreement between a housemaster and house manager is President Vest himself."

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Valentine's Day at the Student Center, florist Peter Medaglia sells roses to Garrett W. Shook '97.

JIRI SCHINDLER—THE TECH

After One Term, Institute Still Divided on Plus/Minus Grades

By Jean K. Lee
STAFF REPORTER

With one semester completed under the Institute's three-year trial period with intermediate grading, students and faculty still offer no consensus.

The experiment, proposed by the Committee on Academic Performance last year, allows faculty members to assign pluses and minus

to letter grades that appear on internal grade reports. Intermediate grades will not appear on any official transcripts.

The new system was designed to "allow everyone at the Institute to gain some experience with plus/minus grading, while seeking to alleviate the concerns of those worried about possibly increasing the pace and pressure and grade consciousness of our students," explained Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering Nigel H.M. Wilson PhD '70, who chaired CAP last year.

Although the new system was encouraged, course instructors were not required to give intermediate grades. Approximately 75 percent of courses utilized the plus/minus grading system last term, according to Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics Paul A. Lagace PhD '78, chair of the committee on plus/minus grading.

Opinions on system mixed

Many students feel that the intermediate grades will serve only to boost problems with competition and grade consciousness.

"Competition is a good thing... [but] if it gets to be too great, it can be counter-productive," said Undergraduate Association Vice President Erik S. Balsley G. "If we are as we are always told — the best of the

best — why must we be even further categorized into minute classes?"

Some professors who oppose the new grading system chose not to assign plus/minus modifiers to letter grades last term. Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Alvin W. Drake SCD '57 belonged to this group.

"It's an awful idea — there's no difficulty with the notion that this place is for exceptional people... there's no need for finer distinction," Drake said. "The plus/minus grading will lead to more emphasis with evaluation than teaching," he said.

In addition, some opponents are concerned that the new grading system will cause the alumni aid rate and the number of MIT applicants to drop.

On the other hand, those who are in favor of the new system support that the plus/minus modifiers help better evaluate student performance.

"I personally prefer it. It allows you to make finer distinctions with the grades more quantized and less jumpy," said CAP Chair Kerry A. Emanuel PhD '76, Director of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences.

Wilson said that the system would reduce the anxiety students

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Cartoonist Larry Gonick Shares Drawing Secrets and Path to Fame

By Yaron Koren
STAFF REPORTER

Cartoonist and humorist Larry Gonick alternately amazed, regaled, and enlightened a crowd of about 40 at an hour-long talk at the MIT Museum last night.

Gonick, a San Francisco-based cartoonist is best known for his "Cartoon Guide to..." series—comic-book style books meant to bring complex issues in history and science to the masses with intelligence and humor. He also writes an illustrated column, "Science Classics," for *Discover*.

Gonick is currently at MIT as part of the Knight Science Journalism Fellowship Program, which brings noted science-based journalists to the Institute to teach and pursue independent study.

Last night's talk — entitled "How Many Words is a Picture Worth?" — concluded a week-long

series of seminars on illustration. Gonick spent much of the hour discussing the differences between written and pictorial information, and the challenges in translating from one to the other.

Describing "a picture is worth 1,000 words" as inexact, Gonick used bit analysis and a knowledge of digital compression capabilities to hit on an estimate of anywhere from 36,000 to a million words needed to represent the information in one picture.

Ironically, for the in-depth, specialized topics Gonick said that the opposite is usually the case. "The cartoonist's job is to convey a lot of meaning into very, very few bits," he said.

He described his art as constantly taking advantage of the human instinct to read a great deal of

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Three Professors Honored as MacVicar Fellows

By David D. Hsu
NEWS EDITOR

Three professors were appointed Feb. 1 as MacVicar Faculty Fellows for their exemplary contributions to undergraduate education.

The faculty honored this year were Professor and Associate Head of the Department of Chemistry Rick L. Danheiser; Professor of Materials Science and Engineering Michael F. Rubner PhD '86; and Professor of Chemistry Robert J. Silbey.

"The overall aim [of the MacVicar Fellows Program] is to recognize and enhance outstanding contributions to undergraduate education at MIT," according to the

MacVicar Faculty Fellows Program announcement.

The MacVicar Faculty Fellows Program was established in 1991 to honor Margaret L. A. MacVicar '65, MIT's first dean for undergraduate education.

The appointments were made by Provost Joel Moses PhD '67 with advice from a committee chaired by Dean for Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams.

While the fellows were not chosen using any specific set of criteria, the committee looked for "sustained contributions" to undergraduate education, Williams said. "What that means depends on the department and the discipline... No one

model will fit all cases."

The appointments took effect Feb. 1. The president of the Washington Post Co., Alan G. Spoon '73, spoke about education and leadership at a reception honoring the fellows.

"I'm convinced that MIT's already large contribution to our society would sharply expand if its graduates were ever better advocates and raconteurs for their views and labors," Spoon said.

This year's MacVicar Fellows are the fifth group chosen so far. The fellowship is a recognition of their excellence with no further obligations on the winners, Williams said. All the MacVicar fel-

lows attend an annual dinner to discuss ways to improve education. "I think in a voluntary, collective way they want to do more."

Rick L. Danheiser

From the nominations: *There are four essential qualities for a great teacher: a flair for presentation, a concern for the learner, a scholarly command for the material, and a constant striving to improve on what one has done before. Rick has all of these.*

While known for teaching Organic Chemistry II (5.13), Danheiser also has the responsibility for

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WORLD & NATION

Clinton Proposes \$2 Billion Plan To Fund Computers in Schools

LOS ANGELES TIMES

UNION CITY, N.J.

The Clinton administration is proposing to spend \$2 billion over the next seven years, including \$300 million in 1997, on its recently announced program to connect all public schools by computer, President Clinton announced Thursday.

Offering new details of a showcase technology initiative, the White House said it wants to shift money from other federal programs to prod states and private groups to put their own funds into an undertaking that could better prepare young people for a changing workplace.

"We're not just talking about an option that would be nice for schools to have," Clinton told an audience in this blue-collar city. "We have dramatic proof of the power of technology to expand opportunity. We have to harness that power, and spread it throughout the country."

Officials acknowledged that the \$2 billion program represents only a fraction of what it would cost to interconnect all U.S. schools and libraries in the way that some experts have envisioned. One recent study suggests that a computer network encompassing all schools would cost somewhere between \$11 billion and \$40 billion.

Kasparov Enters Game Five Against Computer at a Standstill

NEWSDAY

PHILADELPHIA

The tension for world chess champion Garry Kasparov was agonizing as he prepared for Friday's fifth game against the world's most powerful supercomputer.

The computer — IBM's Deep Blue — has fought him to a standstill after four games with each side winning once and drawing the last two games, for a score of 2-2.

The games have had an impact on Kasparov. He appeared exhausted after Wednesday's 50-move, 4-hour game. At one point toward the end of the drawn game, his hand shook slightly when he moved a piece into position.

Kasparov will play Friday with disadvantageous black pieces, giving the computer the first move and thus an edge. Kasparov is worried about losing to a computer — and losing the \$400,000 prize money. If the computer wins, the prize money will go to IBM's research fund. But, the computer, of course, feels no tension, no fear or intimidation. And it doesn't care about the money.

Buchanan Adviser Steps Down

NEWSDAY

WASHINGTON

A co-chairman of conservative commentator Patrick J. Buchanan's Republican presidential campaign took a leave of absence Thursday after an ethics watchdog group linked the adviser to white supremacists and armed citizen militias.

Larry Pratt, executive director of the 150,000-member Gun Owners of America, staged a news conference to deny having racist views and to denounce the independent Center for Public Integrity's allegations as "a scurrilous attack designed to derail the success of the Buchanan campaign."

But Pratt said because "the smear against me has been made a national issue," he was "temporarily" departing as one of four campaign co-chairmen to spare the candidate from controversy.

WEATHER

More snow, by George!

By Marek Zebrowski

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

A developing storm off the Carolina Capes Friday will initially move on a northeasterly track, paralleling the eastern seaboard and intensify rapidly, as it turns to the north in the vicinity of our latitudes by late Friday evening. Coastal locations will thus receive the highest amounts of precipitation; local snow totals are expected to be in the 6-9 inches (15-23 cm) range by midday Saturday, when bulk of the moisture will have moved to the north and east of our area.

As the storm track may come very close to Cape Cod, a change to sleet and some rain may occur in portions of southeastern Massachusetts, the Cape and Islands during Friday night. By later on Saturday, this storm will pound down east Maine, bringing us a backlash of blustery winds, with but a hint of clearing, scattered among some squalls of flurries.

A shot of cold air will follow on Sunday and Monday this latest stormy episode. In a slightly longer range — a changing pattern, with milder, southwesterly flow is forecast to provide a hint of spring for mid week and the real Washington birthday next Thursday.

Today: Cloudy with snow developing around midday and increasing in intensity after dark. Accumulations of 3-5 inches (8-13 cm) are likely in Boston area by 8 p.m. North to northeasterly winds increasing from 10 to 20 mph (16-32 kmh). High near 32°F (0°C).

Tonight: Snow continuing. Blustery and cold, with lows near 23°F (-5°C). Four more inches (10 cm) expected by daybreak tomorrow.

Saturday: Snow gradually tapering off to flurries, with some breaks in overcast late. High 30°F (-1°C)

Sunday outlook: Becoming partly sunny and colder. Highs in mid 20s (-5 to -3 °C) and lows in low teens (-12 to -10 °C) by early Monday.

UC Board of Regents Plans Out Affirmative Action Ban

By Amy Wallace

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SAN FRANCISCO

After weeks of contentious debate that included a well-publicized clash between the University of California president and Gov. Pete Wilson, the University of California Board of Regents Thursday swiftly and quietly approved a new timetable to implement a ban on race and gender preferences in admissions.

At their monthly meeting in San Francisco, the regents voted unanimously to eliminate preferences in undergraduate admissions beginning with students applying for entry to the spring 1998 term. There was little discussion and the vote came so quickly that the governor, who made a special appearance at the meeting to underscore the board's policy-making authority, missed his chance to weigh in because he was in the restroom.

The meeting, perhaps the first in history to finish ahead of schedule, was so uncharacteristically calm that regents admitted they were stunned.

"I'm as confused as everyone else is," said Regent Roy Brophy. "We went in there and sat down like we had swallowed a handful of tranquilizers. ... It's like the Joe Louis fights. If you missed the first three seconds, the fight was over."

But sources said the real action occurred before the meeting was gavelled to order, when Wilson met privately with University of California President Richard Atkinson, Regent Ward Connerly and board chairman Clair Burgener. Connerly,

who had joined with Wilson in requesting the meeting, described it as a "candid exchange" in which he and the governor made clear that they were not convinced that the University of California administration needed more time in order to effectively implement the affirmative action ban in admissions.

Wilson and Connerly have maintained that the policy approved by the board last July was intended to be put in place beginning with students entering in the fall 1997 term. Last month, Atkinson announced that the university could not move that quickly and delayed the ban on preferences in admissions for a year, a decision that angered the governor.

Thursday's proposal of spring 1998 was a compromise, but Connerly said he supported it only in an attempt to make peace, not because he believed a delay was necessary.

"I was not doing it because I, as one person, was persuaded that he (Atkinson) needed more time. I don't think he needed more time, and I told him that," Connerly said.

During the closed-door meeting, the foursome also discussed whether the university's outreach efforts and financial aid strategies will continue to be race-attentive, as in the past. Outreach programs — through counseling and instruction — seek to increase the number of minority and socioeconomically disadvantaged students who are eligible for admission.

"Race should not be a part of it," Connerly said later, adding that he preferred a socioeconomic model. "If you make the program inclusion-

ary, on the basis of income, you're going to reach a lot of those who deserve to be included."

Connerly declined to describe the tenor of the meeting in detail. But when asked whether he and the governor feared that Atkinson might be trying to find a loophole that would allow race and gender preferences to continue, Connerly said, "In a word, yes."

Connerly said he and Wilson are considering drafting a resolution to be brought to the board in March that would clearly ban preferences in outreach and financial aid. But Connerly said the so-called California civil rights initiative, a statewide affirmative action ban whose campaign he is running, will play a part in their decision.

"The passage of that initiative will probably render a lot of our deliberations at this board somewhat moot," Connerly said, noting that the measure has until next week to submit enough signatures to qualify for the November ballot. If the initiative qualifies, he said, "we'll have to weigh whether to bring this back to board or let the voters decide."

The governor declined to comment. But his spokesman, Sean Walsh, confirmed that Wilson "is not in favor of preference programs anywhere, and that extends to outreach programs."

For his part, Atkinson described his meeting with the governor as "very friendly." Asked about the outreach and financial aid discussion, he cited a legal opinion he requested from the regents' counsel.

Yeltsin Launches Populist Campaign in Russia's Elections

By Richard Boudreaux

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

In a hoarse voice that bespoke fragile health, President Boris N. Yeltsin launched a populist campaign for re-election Thursday with attacks on Russia's "suffocating" Soviet past, part of its new capitalist elite and even corrupt officials in his own administration.

Russia's first popularly elected leader declared that his mission to create a democratic, free-market society is incomplete and could be destroyed if Communist rivals "bound by dogmas that life has rejected" come to power in the June elections.

"To stand on the threshold of a civilized life, the civilized life of the world — and to roll back — this will be our common defeat and disgrace," Yeltsin said in a nationally televised speech. "In this situation, can I afford not to take part in the elections?"

"I must bring to a successful end the cause to which I have devoted my whole self," he added. "I am sure I can bring the country through troubled times, anxiety and uncertainty."

As Yeltsin spoke in Yekaterinburg, his home city in the Ural Mountains, delegates of Russia's resurgent Communist Party gathered in Moscow to nominate their boss, Gennady A. Zyuganov, for president on the June 16 ballot.

While Zyuganov gave a cautious address calling for greater state control of the economy, Yeltsin was more aggressive, asserting that a Communist victory would bring famine, Soviet-style dictatorship and civil war. "We must do every-

thing possible so that we Russians, and our country, do not perish under the red wheel of the past," he said.

The two speeches marked the start of a four-month race that many believed the 65-year-old president was too ill and too unpopular to enter. Hurt by economic hardship at home and war in secessionist Chechnya, he was bedridden four months last year by two bouts of heart disease and trails Zyuganov, the front-runner, and several other candidates in the crowded field.

Some Russians recall Yeltsin's declaration in 1992 that the "burden" of transforming Russia "is too heavy" to allow him a second term. Thursday he looked tired after a wintry day of campaigning that plunged him into crowds at three subway stations and left him rasping.

Rambling and incoherent at times during his hourlong speech, Yeltsin ticked off some achievements of his five years in office: political and press freedoms, a modern market and trade infrastructure, \$13 billion in reserves in a once-empty treasury, progress in taming the inflation he unleashed.

But he admitted that mistakes in his conduct of economic reforms, which have made most Russians worse off than they were under Soviet rule, have caused "deep scars on my heart."

"I spend sleepless nights analyzing what we have done," he said. "Every time, I feel convinced we have taken the correct path." But he added that the free market cannot be pursued at all costs and promised steps to balance social inequalities.

Yeltsin attacked Russian capitalists who bleed their companies' assets, fail to pay their workers on

time and take vacations "on Cyprus or on Corfu." He said: "The president cannot afford (such vacations). But the planes are chock-full of such people flying them from Russia abroad."

Turning to the governor of the region where he spoke, Yeltsin said the director of an unnamed local company who earns \$6,500 a month "should be immediately fired," even though the company is in private hands. The president announced a decree requiring all companies to pay at least 20 percent of their earnings in wages.

In his most sweeping campaign promise, Yeltsin said he would find enough money to pay the state's entire bill in overdue wages — \$2.75 billion owed to soldiers, teachers, scientists and other public employees who are routinely paid months late. He said the back wages will be paid by March and never be a problem afterward.

Yeltsin did not say where he would find the money but promised that wages will not be paid in "wooden rubles," slang here for deficit spending that only drives up prices. Some government economists are skeptical that the Kremlin has such reserves.

While Communists and other opposition groups focus their campaigns on the widening gap between Russia's rich and poor, Yeltsin's aides believe that the biggest obstacle to his re-election is widespread outrage over official corruption.

Yeltsin admitted Thursday that the reformist rhetoric of "tough financial policy" is often "used to cover up numerous financial shams and abuses." He promised a crack-down on hundreds of officials.

Federal Judge Blocks 'Indecency' Provision in Internet Legislation

By Mike Mills
and John Schwartz
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A federal judge in Philadelphia temporarily blocked the government Thursday from enforcing part of new legislation that prohibits making indecent material available to minors via computer.

U.S. District Judge Ronald Buckwalter said that his order in the case, brought by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and other groups, applied only to enforcement of a provision of the law pertaining to "indecent materials," and not to another section of the law that proscribes distribution of "patently offensive" materials.

The decision left civil liberties lawyers scratching their heads, since the Federal Communications Commission has used the two terms interchangeably in the past. The bill defines "patently offensive" as "depictions of sexual or excretory activities or organs."

The apparent conflict within the

order will have to be worked out at a later hearing on a request for a preliminary injunction, which has yet to be scheduled.

"We are very glad that the judge did consider the free speech rights of on-line users to be very important," said Ann Beeson, ACLU counsel. "While we have obtained a partial victory, the fight's not over."

The Justice Department had no comment on the decision.

The chief judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Dolores K. Sloviter, named herself, Buckwalter and U.S. Judge Stuart Dalzell Thursday to a three-judge panel that will rule on the provision.

The telecommunications law, signed by President Clinton on Feb. 8, calls for the panel to rule on any court challenge to the provision. After the panel decides the matter, either side may appeal directly to the Supreme Court.

The "Communications Decency Act" imposes fines up to \$250,000 and prison sentences up to two years

on those who knowingly "make available" over interactive computer services indecent material to anyone under 18.

The Clinton administration defended the law in briefs filed late Wednesday, saying that the provision clearly applies only to communications to minors. But the plaintiffs argued that the law actually applies to anyone who places such material in a public place that minors might happen upon, and is so vague it could lead to the wrongful prosecution of unwitting users of the Internet.

The plaintiffs also said that Congress failed to consider the "least restrictive means" available in curbing indecency to minors, namely new software designed to help parents block out objectionable information on their computers. They contended the law will chill the free flow of speech on-line that contains literary or educational value or deals with such issues as sexuality, reproduction, human rights and civil liberties.

CIA Official Reveals Agency's Use Of Journalists in Secret Operations

By Walter Pincus
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Waiving regulations that bar the practice, the CIA on "extraordinarily rare" occasions over the past 19 years has used American journalists or U.S. news organizations as cover in conducting clandestine operations, according to an intelligence official.

The official, who would not describe the instances, noted that activities were undertaken under a waiver in CIA regulations formally adopted in 1977. Those rules ended the earlier agency practice of secretly employing American reporters and using the names of U.S. news organizations as cover for the CIA's own clandestine officers.

The regulations were a response to public outcry after disclosures a year earlier by congressional committees that the CIA for decades had clandestine agents posing as journalists for American news organizations.

Under the little-publicized waiver, exceptions to the 1977 prohibitions could be made "with the specific approval" of the CIA director. The intelligence official, who spoke on condition that he remain anonymous,

cited that provision in saying, "Exceptions have been made in extraordinarily rare circumstances."

Asked about the official's comments, CIA spokesman Mark Mansfield said Thursday the 1977 regulation including the waiver "has been and continues to be the CIA's policy." He refused to discuss if any waivers had been granted.

Disclosure that existing CIA regulations continue to permit using American journalistic cover for intelligence operations came after an independent, blue-ribbon task force on intelligence sponsored by the Council on Foreign Relations recommended "a fresh look be taken at limits on the use of non-official covers" for clandestine operations overseas.

U.S. clergy and Peace Corps volunteers are, along with journalists, among categories the CIA is barred from recruiting. The prohibitions have never applied to foreign journalists, whom the CIA still looks to recruit, according to sources familiar with the matter.

The panel's recommendation, first reported two weeks ago in The Washington Post, is part of a broader report on the future of U.S. intelligence. The recommendation

regarding journalistic cover was controversial among the group's members and has since drawn sharp criticism from many editors and reporters.

Richard N. Haass, the council's project director and an official of the Bush administration's National Security Council, said Thursday he was unaware that current CIA regulations permitted the use of journalistic cover in exceptional circumstances. "Our assumption was use was totally banned," he said.

Informed of the CIA director's right to waive the prohibitions, Haass said, "That is about right. The bias or norm ought to be against the use of journalists as spies ... but one would not want to be in a situation of exceptional circumstances where the possibility ... was automatically ruled out."

Leonard Downie Jr., executive editor of The Washington Post, said Thursday, "It's disturbing to hear that the possibility exists that CIA has either used the cover of legitimate journalistic organizations without their knowledge, or somebody working for them has been recruited by the CIA."

Report Reveals British Deceit, Denial, And Cover-up in '80s Arms Sales to Iraq

By Fred Barbash
THE WASHINGTON POST

LONDON

High-level British officials misled the public, the Parliament, the courts and even one another in their handling of policy on arms sales to Iraq during the late 1980s and into 1990, a long-awaited independent inquiry released Thursday concluded.

The 2,000-page report on the most searching look yet into the inner workings of the British bureaucracy said the government secretly relaxed its ban on sales of arms-related machinery to Iraq in 1988, but repeatedly and deliberately denied doing so when queried by members of Parliament, for fear of adverse public reaction.

While the U.S. government has been hit by its own "arms to Iran" and "arms to Iraq" fallout, Thursday's report was awaited with special anticipation here because the party and many of the officials in office during the events covered in the report are still in power, including Prime Minister John Major.

In addition, it is viewed not as a commentary just on arms policies but on the British way of governing, regarded by many commentators as among the most secretive in the democratic West. "In circumstances where disclosure might be politically or administratively inconvenient," it said, "the balance struck by the government comes down, time and again, against full disclosure."

Under this policy, defense, intelligence and export-licensing officials allowed a machine-tool company to export to Iraq machinery with military uses. In fact, British intelligence used the company to obtain useful information on Baghdad. It then failed to inform customs investigators of this, according to Thursday's report, and allowed them to proceed with a criminal prosecution of the company's executives. It failed, as well, to inform then-Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

As the trial got underway in 1992, cabinet members received flawed advice from Britain's attorney

general that prompted them to withhold from the defendants "sensitive" information that tended to exonerate the men. When the trial judge discovered this, he threw out the case. The case, concluded Richard Scott, the veteran judge who prepared Thursday's report, "should never have been commenced."

Scott said, however, that he could not conclude that any of the dozens of ministers and bureaucrats involved in the events — many of them still in high office — had acted maliciously. In their dealings with Parliament, however, he said they nevertheless acted "deliberately."

The Scott inquiry, which heard 268 witnesses and reviewed thousands of documents, stemmed from the collapse of a criminal prosecution of executives of Matrix Churchill, a British machine-tool manufacturer.

At the time of the Iran-Iraq war, from 1980 to 1988, Britain agreed to abide by a U.N. arms embargo against both sides.

Moderate Volcano Hazards Alert Declared in California

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The U.S. Geological Survey Thursday declared a moderate level Volcano Hazards Alert in the Mammoth Lakes area of eastern California after a swarm of more than 100 earthquakes during the day.

Research geophysicist Malcolm Johnson of the Survey, said the alert is "fairly uncommon." It reflects "a moderate level of increased activity and unrest in the vicinity of the Mammoth Mountain volcano," he said.

However, he emphasized, this does not mean that scientists believe an eruption near the Eastern Sierra community is imminent. There has not been such an eruption for at least 200 years.

Johnson said the "Level D" alert is the second of five volcanic warning stages under a system revised in 1990.

According to the warning system, a Level A alert would indicate that an eruption was likely within hours to days. A Level B would indicate intense unrest, with the volcano deforming rapidly and many earthquakes. A Level C would reflect strong unrest, a Level D moderate unrest and a Level E weak unrest or possible instrument problems.

Alerts have been called before in the geologically active Mammoth Lakes area, the last about a year ago, Johnson said. No volcanic activity occurred at that time.

Bangladesh Voter Turnout Low

THE WASHINGTON POST

DHAKA, BANGLADESH

A boycott by major opposition parties and fears of violence kept voter turnout low Thursday as Bangladesh held parliamentary elections. At least 13 people were reported killed, most of them away from the capital, which was calm under a heavy military presence.

There were no official announcements of results or turnout, but spot checks of polling places found few voters and a spokesman for the ruling Bangladesh National Party called participation in some areas disappointing. Diplomatic sources had predicted a turnout of 10 percent, compared to 55 percent in 1991.

The government of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia is assured of being returned to power because it faced only token opposition.

In Dhaka, streets were nearly clear of vehicles and pedestrians. Soldiers patrolled and manned machine guns behind bunkers at key intersections. The capital's atmosphere combined the easygoing feel of a holiday, which the government declared, and the ominousness of a general strike, which the opposition called.

Sheik Hasina, leader of the Awami League, the largest opposition party, called on Zia to resign and for President Abdur Rahman Biswas to schedule another election under a caretaker government.

Aide Testifies of First Lady's Opposition to Prosecutor

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's opposition to having an independent counsel appointed to investigate the Whitewater controversy was so strong that even the president failed to change her mind before calling for just such an appointment, a former top White House aide testified Thursday.

Hillary Clinton's antagonism was based on her belief that there had been "no credible allegation of wrongdoing," a factor that normally triggers creation of such a counsel or special prosecutor, former presidential aide Mark D. Gearan told the Senate Whitewater Committee.

Reviewing expletive-laced notes he made during daily White House strategy meetings in early January 1994, Gearan wrote that then-White House Counsel Bernard Nussbaum shared Hillary Clinton's concern, saying at one of the meetings that an outside prosecutor is "subject to no control."

According to Gearan's notes, Nussbaum also said: "You'll have a 3- to 4-year investigation. Lives will be under a microscope."

Although Hillary Clinton's opposition was publicly known at the time, Gearan's notes and testimony marked the first disclosure that the president and some White House staff members had tried but failed to change her mind. Clinton, despite his wife's views, called for appointment of an independent counsel several days later on Jan. 12, 1994.

Eight days beyond that — on Jan. 20 — Attorney General Janet Reno named New York lawyer Robert B. Fiske Jr. as the first Whitewater independent counsel. A federal appeals court replaced him as counsel later that year with former U.S. Appellate Judge Kenneth W. Starr, who is now conducting the inquiry.

Police Explode Terrorist Bomb

THE BALTIMORE SUN

LONDON

For those accustomed to a terrorist bombing campaign, it was all depressingly familiar: Coded telephone warnings. Police clearing the streets. The busy heart of London shut down.

Thursday, police exploded a suspected bomb in the West End theater district hours after an unidentified Irish Republican Army spokesperson indicated the group may continue its bid to blast the politicians to the bargaining table.

A Scotland Yard spokesman said the incident "bore all the hallmarks" of an IRA action, coming six days after the paramilitary group lifted its 17-month cease fire by detonating a half-ton truck bomb in the Docklands district in east London. The incident occurred only hours after the British Army sent 500 soldiers to Northern Ireland, boosting its military presence there to 17,000 troops.

No group or individual claimed credit for planting the device, which was found in a sports' equipment bag inside a phone booth along Charing Cross Road near Leicester Square. The bomb, described by police as "small," was believed to be made of Semtex explosive.

When police received the first of two telephone coded warnings at about 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Londoners and tourists were herded off the streets, shops were closed and office workers were told to stay away from windows as a square-mile area was closed.

OPINION

Large Party Ban Should End Soon

In December, when the Office of Residence and Campus Activities responded to the shooting of a Northeastern University student in front of Walker Memorial by banning most large, late-night events, many members of the MIT community assumed that the ban would be temporary. The prohibition

Editorial

against these large events has now lasted more than two months; several large events have been cancelled, and others are now at risk. We support the RCA's original plan to temporarily ban these events to explore security options. Yet we also recognize the negative impact the ban has had on student life, and believe that the dean's office should set a firm and early date for the lifting of the ban, independent of the progress of the current discussions with student groups.

During the past two months, the dean's office and the Campus Police have begun a series of discussions and meetings with student leaders and student groups. The purpose of these discussions has been to explore different ideas as to how the security problems with large events might be handled in the future. There seems to be some consensus among the participants that the current system of metal detectors and police details has not been adequate, particularly in dealing with crowds of people from outside the MIT community that sometimes assemble near the entrances of events.

A number of options have been raised by both administrators and students, ranging from advanced ticket sales and limited admission, to somehow improving the logistics of moving people into or away from event entrances. It is too early to tell whether any of these solutions will prevail, or even if they would work. Hopefully, the policy that results from these inclusive discussions will represent a broad community consensus of how best to deal with the current problems.

While we endorse the process of developing solutions to

our security problems, we acknowledge that progress to date appears somewhat slow. Nobody should expect students and administrators to arrive at a good solution immediately, but with the moratorium on large events in place, there is a large incentive to rush a discussion that has really only begun.

The original purpose of the events moratorium was to end the dangerous situation at large parties while the MIT community explored different policy options. First, we believe that student life is being very adversely affected by the ban. Several important events have already gone by the boards. Planning for all major spring term events is stalled owing to the great uncertainty concerning the ban's duration. Second, the time pressure has acted to rush the discussions now under way. The dean's office has expressed an interest in developing a concrete, comprehensive policy. That will take time. Third, a temporary solution now exists that would allow for the lifting of the ban without returning to the dangerous situation of previous years. Limited, advanced ticket distribution for large events can be implemented right now. It would do much to deter crowds of uninvited guests from showing up for such events at all, and might also help move people into events more quickly.

The important thing right now is to find a temporary security measure that can replace the moratorium during the several months that it may take to flesh out ideas raised in these discussions. The events moratorium has placed an artificial time-pressure on those valuable discussions. It is also threatening to severely impact student life on the MIT campus. While we endorse the administration's strategy to date, we feel that the dean's office should commit itself to ending the moratorium on a specific date, even if other, interim measures are required to insure the safety of the members of the MIT community and their guests.

Student Input Should Guide Merger

The latest draft document by the re-engineering assessment team contains a recommendation that Residence and Campus Activities and the Department of Housing and Food Services be merged. If this merger were to take place, it would represent the

Editorial

largest administrative change set in motion thus far by re-engineering. More importantly, it would have far-ranging consequences for students. For this reason, the students whose lives would be influenced by the change should be given preeminent responsibility for deciding whether and how such a merger would take place.

Current responsibility for the housing system is divided along fairly rational lines. HFS operates and maintains the dormitories, and handles their finances. RCA, a branch of the dean's office, deals with issues of residence life, tutoring, and housemasters. The historic independence of the two offices is often a benefit to students, especially insofar as it enables them to claim a policy turf of their own. The current division of responsibility works well with one caveat: sometimes the two offices communicate poorly with each other. Advocates of the merger have expressed the concern that housemasters, house managers, and tutors report to different people, and therefore may not communicate well with each other. The assessment team also believes that some responsibilities of the offices overlap, and that merging them might result in substantial administrative savings.

While we believe that there may be some points in favor of merging the two offices, no change should be made without

extensive involvement by those most affected by the change. While it is too early to say what sort of student involvement was originally planned for the merger, it seems clear that the assessment team anticipated having a decision out by March, with changes taking place by September. Such a schedule would allow for little more involvement than the few cursory "focus groups" that have already been held. Because the changes are critical to issues of student life in general, and student government in particular, student leaders should expect to play a central role in any decision over the future of RCA and HFS.

MIT has long recognized the important educational role played by the housing system. While academics may be the focus of students' energies, housing arrangements still play a central role in their lives. Allowing students to manage and guide life in the housing system is at the core of MIT's educational mission. Closed decision-making processes that deny the role of student leadership are in conflict with that educational mission. MIT cannot afford to throw its goals overboard for the sake of administrative savings.

The idea of merging RCA with HFS raises a number of issues that merit discussion. Students and administrators need to work together over the next few months to explore how their goals of improving communication and increasing efficiency can be accomplished. If all sides believe that the best solution includes a merger, so be it. The important thing is to arrive at a consensus in a way that respects the value and educational merit of allowing students to decide their own destiny.

Letters To The Editor

GSC Played Crucial Role In Parking Changes

I was very disappointed by the article "Parking Fee Increase Delayed for Residents" in last Friday's issue [February 9]. There was no mention of the Graduate Student Council's work in obtaining this settlement with the administration. While the Planning Office

(Senior Planning Officer Lydia S. Snover in particular) was helpful in listening to the concerns of the graduate students, I seriously doubt that they would have decided to delay the implementation of the parking fee increase without the prodding of the GSC's Housing and Community Affairs committee (HCA). This, however, is exactly what the article seems to imply.

Last semester, coordinators in the graduate residences collected over 300 signatures on petitions against the increase. HCA coordinated a survey asking for residents' reactions to the increase, and received 286 responses in less than a week. We hosted an open meeting for students to discuss the issue with three mem-

Letters, Page 5

Opinion Policy

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

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

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

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

Letters and cartoons must bear the author's 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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Letters To The Editor

Letters, from Page 4

bers of the administration. We pressed for the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Residential Parking. Andjelka Kelic G and John P. Mellor G are the two graduate student representatives on the committee, and they have spent a considerable amount of time working on this issue. (They continue to work on the question of whether the \$300 fee is appropriate, postponed or not.) Yet there is no mention of any of these contributions in the article.

The Tech has done a great disservice to the GSC, HCA, and all those on the Ad Hoc

Committee. I hope that in the future you will endeavor to acknowledge more of the work done on behalf of all students by these organizations.

Geoffrey Coram G
Co-chair, Graduate Student Council Housing and Community Affairs Committee

Grad Housing Story Paraphrases Missed Point

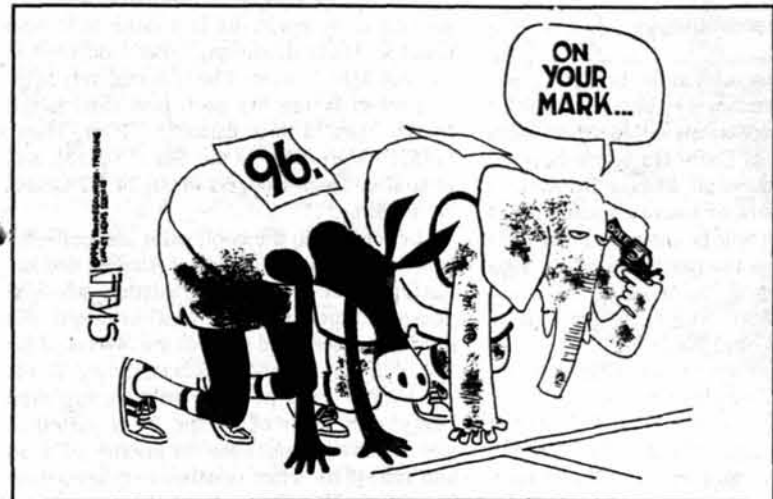
Your *The Year In Review* article on housing paraphrased me in ways that omitted sub-

tle, yet crucial points. This, in turn, led to a serious misrepresentation of my opinion on the desirability of building new graduate student housing.

While I oppose the construction of a graduate housing facility to *replace* Ashdown House at the corner of Sidney and Pacific Streets, I just as strongly support the construction of a graduate housing complex at that site that would *add* to the number of "on campus" graduate student beds. The reason for this dichotomy is that Ashdown House uniquely meets several niche needs in the graduate student population which could not

be accommodated in a replacement building at the Sidney site. At the same time though, the vast majority of grad students currently live in housing that is either farther from campus, in a less safe neighborhood, or more expensive (especially in the post-rent control era). Thus the construction of additional housing at the Sidney site, while it may not be an optimal location, would improve the lives of hundreds of graduate students. I hope that design and construction work can begin soon.

Joseph J. Bambenek G



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TRUE ROMANCE

Stars Christian Slater, Brad Pitt, Dennis Hopper, Val Kilmer, and Patricia Arquette. Written by Quentin Tarantino

THE ARTS

CAMPUS pick

By David V. Rodriguez

Roadkill buffet, MIT's "best and only" improvisation comedy group, is performing their new show, Intestine Ice Cream, this Saturday night.

The group has an interesting motto: If we suck, it's your fault. Though their December show was funny, its main problem resulted from the audience's awkward suggestions for skits. The group did well with what they had, but it was obvious that they were limited.

The Independent Activities Period show set a good trend by being much better — partly because they had a more benevolent audience, but mainly because the group looked more at ease. Having been through it twice before in so few months, Roadkill Buffet should be in top form this Saturday.

Dramashop's production of *Escape From Happiness* continues this Friday and Saturday in the Little Kresge Auditorium

Drama of two extremes play this weekend

INTESTINE ICE CREAM

Roadkill Buffet
6-120
Saturday, 7 p.m.

ESCAPE FROM HAPPINESS

MIT Dramashop
Little Kresge
Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.

at 8 p.m. The story centers around a bizarre suburban family and takes place entirely in a kitchen. When the curtain rises, one of the daughter's husbands is beaten up and lying on the floor, and the circumstance around it are unclear.

The rest of the plot takes a while to sort out (nearly three hours), as do the family's other problems. With a great cast which builds on its energy with time, George F. Walker's story of emotions and conflict make even a long play worthwhile to watch.

Brattle Theater hosts '96 Bugs Bunny Film Festival

BUGS, DAFFY, MARVIN, TAZ AND FRIENDS AT THE BRATTLE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle Street, Cambridge
Friday through Thursday, matinee and night screenings.

By Ben and Stephen Brophy

STAFF REPORTERS

Bugs Bunny rules at the Brattle Theatre for the next week, but as always he has some serious competition from the likes of Daffy Duck, the Tasmanian Devil, and, best of all, Marvin the Martian. New 35mm prints of twenty-four Warner Brothers cartoons will be screened in two different programs as the Brattle hosts the Bugs Bunny Film Festival '96 and adds the bonus of Tasmanian Devil Nights (which will be shown on Monday and Wednesday).

These cartoons are uproariously, hysterically funny, but they also serve as tiny, secular morality plays — meditations on all the variations of the Seven Deadly Sins that fall into the collective name of "obsession." They

give us a chance to laugh out loud at our own weaknesses, to enjoy identifying with characters driven by some irresistible ruling passion, to contemplate the results when our passions drive us beyond the bounds of reason.

Marvin the Martian provides one of the best examples of obsession in the program, and one particularly suited to the mind-sets of the MIT community. Marvin has absolute faith in scientific truth and the power of technology. He tries to use technol-

ogy to dominate the universe, but he also apparently loves it for its certainty and precision. He is totally baffled when his faith in technology is shattered, which of course happens time after time. But he doesn't give up; he just goes back to the drawing board.

Marvin loves technology so much he doesn't need contact with other Martians. In a post-modern world, he is a modernist who could probably defeat any other modernist in an even fight — even if he is completely helpless when facing the post-modernist Bugs. Marvin stars in three cartoons: "Hasty Hare" (1952), "Hare-Way to the Stars" (1958), and of course "Duck Dodgers in the 24 1/2 Century" (1953).

In contrast to the cool, calm and collected Marvin, the Tasmanian Devil is all id, and has a temper that explodes immediately when he doesn't immediately get what he wants. He drools, slobbers, and pursues the objects of his lust with single-minded concentration. Taz is apparently very popular with young men between the ages of 17 and 24, a period of unstoppable, unquenchable pursuit of food and sex. (The latter is often represented by Bugs in female Devil drag.) Taz also decorates a disproportionate amount of merchandise in the Warner Brother's stores. He too appears in three cartoons: "Devil May Hare" (1954); "Bedevilled Rabbit" (1957); and "Bill of Hare" (1962).

The main program, The Bugs Bunny Film Festival '96, focuses on Bugs and his friends, and delivers the work of the two most inspired directors on the Termite Terrace: Chuck Jones and Friz Freleng. Among the delights are the first screen appearances of Pepe Le Pew, the amorous French skunk in "For Scentimental Reasons" (1949) and the Coyote/Roadrunner duo in "Fast and Furry-ous" (1949).

Chuck Jones shows his amazing ability to dream up situations based on popular pieces of classical music. He then designs the cartoon to move with the rhythms of the music, as in the two timeless opera spoofs "Rabbit of Seville" (1950) and "What's Opera Doc?" (1957). The former is arguably more funny, but "What's Opera Doc?" is very likely the most visually



Bugs Bunny and his cartoon colleagues hit the screen at the Brattle Theater's Bugs Bunny Film Festival '96.

Bugs Bunny, Page 8

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Antonia's Line urges reconciliation between the sexes

THIS WEEK AT THE KENDALL

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square, Cambridge

By Stephen Brophy
STAFF REPORTER

Antonia's Line, one of the movies nominated for the 1996 Best Foreign Film Oscar, opens this week at the Kendall Cinema. Written and directed by Dutch filmmaker Marleen Gorris, it is a magnificently open-hearted feminist vision of the way the world could be if men were not always struggling to dominate it. We get to know five generations of a farm family in an magical and realist epic which begins just after World War II and culminates the day after tomorrow.

One of the director's previous works, *A Question of Silence*, tells the story of three women who kill a rude male shopkeeper after he accuses one of them of shoplifting. In *Antonia's Line*, however, the war between the sexes is imagined to be over, although a few men still attempt some pathetic rear-guard actions. The tone of the story is mostly comic. But, as befits a story in which the cycles of seasons and the phases of the moon are frequently noted, laughter sometimes shades into tears.

The central motif of *Antonia's Line* is a large outdoor dinner table in the farm yard of the house to which Antonia returns at the beginning of the narrative. Over the years, the numbers of women and men who share food and love around this table wax and wane. As the story continues, Antonia adopts misfits as

if they were stray puppies, and her daughters beget daughters. Friends gather and join in as if they were part of a big family. They all laugh and sing and tell stories and give each other significant glances as new surprises are revealed.

This is not some matriarchal never-never land, however — the roses in this paradise still hold thorns. As the seasons turn over, friends and lovers grow older and die, and those who are left behind have to mix some sadness with their satisfaction. Rape can still happen, and as always it sows hatred and reaps retribution. Because the women here

strike back when they are hurt, some critics will inevitably try to brand this a male-bashing movie. But these critics will have to ignore the more positive relationships between women and men in order to tell that lie.

Antonia's Line is not perfect. It relies a little too heavily on voice-over narration to move the story along — a result of trying to tell too much story in too short a time. But its vision is inspired, and it plants hope in our hearts. Marleen Gorris demonstrates that feminisms can grow and change as the situations they address grow and change, and that recon-

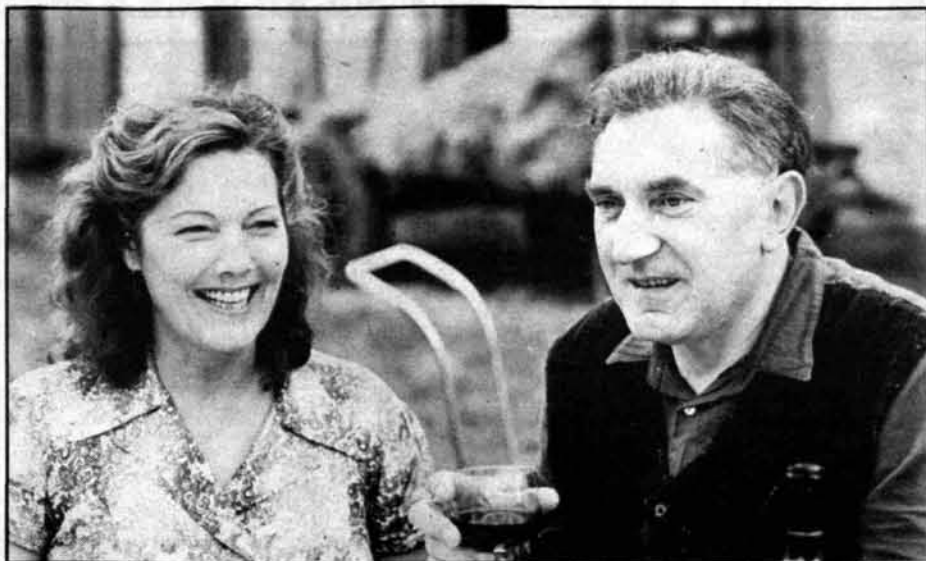
ciliation and love between women and men is not impossible.

Twenty years ago Martin Scorsese directed *Taxi Driver*, which has come to be seen as occupying a central place in his body of work. The film follows a man who has trouble sleeping. As he drives his cab through the grimy streets of New York City, his contempt grows for the degradation he sees around him, and his attempts to connect with other human beings keep failing. The film culminates in a controversial blood bath, some parts of which are lovingly filmed in slow motion. *Taxi Driver* was cited by a deranged John Hinckley as the inspiration for his attempt to assassinate President Ronald Reagan.

To celebrate this anniversary, new prints have been struck, and a stereo soundtrack has been added. This is particularly welcome, as it calls more attention to the final score written by Bernard Hermann, who wrote the music for all the best American films of Alfred Hitchcock, and is considered to be one of the two or three best film composers of this century.

Scorsese makes a Hitchcock-like appearance in his movie as the creepy passenger who sits in the back of the cab watching his wife's silhouette on a window shade as she has an assignation with another man. Robert De Niro, Jody Foster, Harvey Keitel, and Cybil Sheppard star; it's eerie to see how young they appear in what still looks like a contemporary movie.

Two other new releases, director Kenneth Branagh's comedy, *A Midwinter's Tale*, and the crime movie inspired by a Warren Zevon song, *Things To Do In Denver When You're Dead*, will be covered in next week's column.



Antonia (Wileké van Ammelrooy) and Bas (Jan Decler) share good times in Marleen Gorris's *Antonia's Line*.

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Humorous cartoon characters model human foibles

Bugs Bunny, from Page 6

spectacular work of animated film ever created. On top of that, it shrinks Richard Wagner's 18-hour Ring Cycle into just 6 minutes and still amazes us with its absurdity.

Also on this program is the sublime "One Froggy Evening" (1956) with Michigan J.

Frög, a singing-and-dancing sensation who only sings and dances for one person at a time. The only disappointment in this festival comes from one of the newest cartoons, "Carrotblanca" (1995). It is amusing enough for fans of the Bogart Bergman classic which it spoofs (and what friend of the Brattle is not a fan of *Casablanca?*), but it can't stand on its own.

Most of the best work of the Warner Brother's animators stays funny even when the source of its inspiration has long been forgotten.

Through all the hilarity of both programs, Bugs Bunny, with his nonchalant poise, prevails. In a cartoon universe where the villains have all the interesting roles, Bugs is the only adversary as interesting as the bad guys. The

Roadrunner and Tweety are essentially one-note characters who only exist to be the object of a more captivating character's mania. Obsession does not rule Bugs; even his taste for carrots is usually under control. He is too curious and quizzical to give in to obsession; his imperturbable personality is perfectly summed up by his mantra, "What's up, Doc?"

ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

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

★★★ Black Sheep

This film, the latest attempt by Lorne Michaels to milk money out of *Saturday Night Live*, is truly funny. Chris Farley and David Spade revive their roles as big fat spaz and wimpy sarcastic guy, both the same type of characters they played on *SNL*. The story is predictable, but the film works because Farley's wild antics make the film fun. The fact that their routine still seems fresh shows that Farley and Spade are a great comedy team. — Rob Wagner. *Sony Fresh Pond*.

★★★ 1/2 Braveheart

Mel Gibson's *Braveheart* is a curious combination of historical legend and modern dramatic techniques woven together into a tapestry of connected stories. With the plot based loosely on Scotland's real-life attempt for independence from England and the screenplay straight from modern Hollywood, the three-hour show reminds one more of *Lethal Weapon* than *Rob Roy*. A Scottish commoner, William Wallace (Mel Gibson), returns to his native land after an education in continental Europe with his uncle. He yearns for an idyllic life on a farm with his childhood sweetheart and new wife, Murron (Catherine McCormack). His domestic bliss is shattered when British lords kill his beloved wife; in response, Wallace assembles his friends and neighboring clansmen into an army, burns the British forts and charges toward the English border. *Braveheart* increases its appeal by contrasting these highland goings-on with portrayals of British royalty, especially the powerful, evil King Edward I (Patrick McGoohan). The queen-to-be, Princess Isabelle (Sophie Marceau), is bored with her marriage to the king's homosexual son and becomes infatuated with Wallace in a distracting subplot. The battle scenes in *Braveheart* may be gruesome and a bit extreme, but the film as a whole is immensely satisfying. — Teresa Esser. *Sony Fresh Pond*.

★★ 1/2 Broken Arrow

John Travolta and Christian Slater play Vic Deakins and Riley Hale, two Air Force pilots who fly a Stealth bomber on a predawn run over the Utah desert. Travolta is the older, wiser mercenary who steals the two nuclear warheads from the bomber's cargo bay; Slater is the young, idealistic whipper-snapper who enlists a spunky park ranger (Samantha Mathis) to foil the plan. The action sequences shouldn't disappoint fans of director John Woo — they're all executed with humor and finesse, with people leaping across the screen in slow-motion with both barrels blazing. But the story is trite and predictable in comic-book fashion (it's basically a rewrite by Graham Yost of his own script for *Speed*), and the pivotal fight scenes feel staged and choreographed. But you don't get to see an exploding nuclear warhead (below-ground) everyday, and more often than not the special effects team delivers the goods. —Scott C. Deskin. *Sony Cheri*.

★★ Captain Blood (1935)

Captain Blood shows some of the strengths, but more of the weaknesses, of classical Hollywood filmmaking. It was a star-making vehicle for all involved, for it includes actors Errol Flynn and Olivia De Havilland, director Michael Curtiz (*Casablanca*, *Mildred Pierce*), and composer Erich Korngold, whose florid style greatly influenced subsequent Hollywood music. The film suffers from the lapse of 60 years between the time of its making and now. If you can stand the first 45 minutes, it picks up some steam when Errol Flynn and friends finally get out to sea and commence their piratical careers. But this will satisfy the little boy in only some of us. —Stephen Brophy. *LSC Classics, Friday*.

★★ City of Lost Children

This fantastic dystopian-future fable,



Robert DeNiro and Martin Scorsese star in the chilling *Taxi Driver*, now showing with a new stereo soundtrack at the Kendall Square Cinema.

involves attempts by a family of clones to steal the dreams of kidnapped children. It features a sensitive performance by Ron Perlman (TV's *Beauty and the Beast*) as a giant carnival strongman searching for his stolen brother. Directed by Jean-Pierre Jeunet and Marc Caro, the French team who gave us *Delicatessen* in 1991, *City of Lost Children* has the inventive special effects we would expect. But it is a more coherent, and ultimately more affecting, work than their previous comedy. —SB. *Kendall Square*.

★★★★ 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. *Sony Nickelodeon*.

★★★ Georgia

The title character is a popular country-pop singer, played by Mare Winningham (who received an Oscar nomination for best supporting actress). But her little sister Sadie, played with an almost unbearable, naked intensity by Jennifer Jason Leigh, runs away with the show. Leigh documents the dissolution of Sadie, who dreams of topping her sister's success, even as she slides into a self-destructive haze of drugs, alcohol, and abusive sex. Not for the faint-hearted. —SB. *Kendall Square*.

★★★★ Last Summer at the Hamptons

Last Summer is a surprisingly effective ensemble production which invites its actors to improvise thinly disguised autobiographical roles. The centerpiece is a powerhouse performance by the late Viveca Lindfors in her last screen appearance. She plays the matriarch of a large family presiding over the final gathering at their summer home, which will have to be sold when the season is over. Written and directed by Henry Jaglom, the film borrows

heavily from Anton Chekhov, James Joyce, and Jean Renoir. It not only steals some of their best bits, but also recreates some of their sad and funny contemplation of human comedy. —SB. *Kendall Square*.

★★★★ Leaving Las Vegas

This sometimes-harrowing, often-redemptive look at a relationship between a destructive alcoholic (Nicholas Cage) and a prostitute (Elisabeth Shue) could be a spiritual antidote to the excesses of *Showgirls*. Cage is a newly-fired screenwriter whose vices have torn apart his family and led him to Las Vegas, where he resolves to drink himself to death. Shue falls in love with him for his lack of pretense, and both embark on a journey of love and self-revelation. Director Mike Figgis completely redeems himself for the pathetic *Mr. Jones*; here, he paints the characters with warm, natural emotions and uses the garish backdrop of the Vegas Strip (where even the golden arches of McDonalds are adorned with a multitude of flashing lights). The soundtrack of soulful contemporary songs by Sting, Don Henley, and other performers is hypnotic and artfully used. It's definitely worthwhile and uplifting for those who can take it. —SCD. *Sony Nickelodeon*.

★★★ Restoration

This 17th-century tale focuses on James Merivel (Robert Downey Jr.), a ne'er-do-well English physician who has an amazing stroke of luck and falls into the court of King Charles III (Sam Neill). Merivel lets his healing talents go to waste when he wallows in opulence and pleasures of the flesh. However, Charles soon bestows on him the ultimate reward/temptation: a title, an estate, and a wife (Polly Bergen) — actually one of the king's mistresses with whom he must never fall in love. But Merivel blows it, and is consequently banished from this paradise to the plague and squalor of the real world; there he must learn how to regain his faith in medicine and in himself, aided by fellow doctor John Pearce (David Thewlis) and mental asylum inmate Katherine (Meg Ryan), a woman who isn't really crazy and manages to teach him a few things about love. If you aren't overwhelmed by the decadent set designs, this film can be a very rewarding experience; anchored by Downey's poignant performance, the protagonist's journey in this film is like a more cerebral *Forrest Gump*. —SCD. *Sony Nickelodeon*.

★★★ 1/2 Sense and Sensibility

Director Ang Lee (*The Wedding Banquet*)

and screenwriter-actress Emma Thompson present just one of the newest Jane Austen adaptations this year. Despite the similarities in outcome and narrative structure to BBC-TV's *Pride and Prejudice*, the film is a treat to watch. Thompson plays Elinor, the older, more sensible sister of the family, while Kate Winslet plays Marianne, her younger, more passionate sister. When struck by the loss of their father, the family must look to its daughters to seek out prospective husbands; through their trials and misfortunes (including liaisons with prospective suitors Hugh Grant and Alan Rickman), the family stands together and never forsakes its honor. The dialogue and ruminations on sexual impropriety may seem quaint by today's standards, but Thompson's screenplay does justice to 18th-century romance and chivalry. —SCD. *Sony Nickelodeon*.

★★★★ To Die For

To Die For is the story of Suzane Stone (Nicole Kidman), a woman willing to do anything to fulfill her dream of being on television. Trouble comes when her husband (Matt Dillon) wants them to start a family, something Suzanne knows she cannot do if she is to be a star. Realizing a divorce will be bad for her nice-girl image, she instead decides to have him killed by a high school student she is romancing. The screenplay, written by Buck Henry, creates many great characters and makes for one of the year's best films. —DVR. *LSC, Friday*.

★★ 1/2 Twelve Monkeys

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

1/2 White Squall

"Dead Sailors Society" is a more apt title for this drivel. Although the plot is a true story and the film arguably contains the best "at sea" action sequence this season, the movie is awful. Seeing half-naked teenage boys prance around a ship, exposing more flesh and buttocks than a Calvin Klein ad, is not what I want out of a movie. The only recognizable star in the movie is Jeff Bridges, who is awful. The boys who makes up his crew are supposedly inspired by his monotone voice — so much so that when the ship goes down and he winds up on trial, all the boys support him. The film in general is unbelievably emetic and completely worthless. —RW. *Sony Fresh Pond*.

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by willy ziminsky



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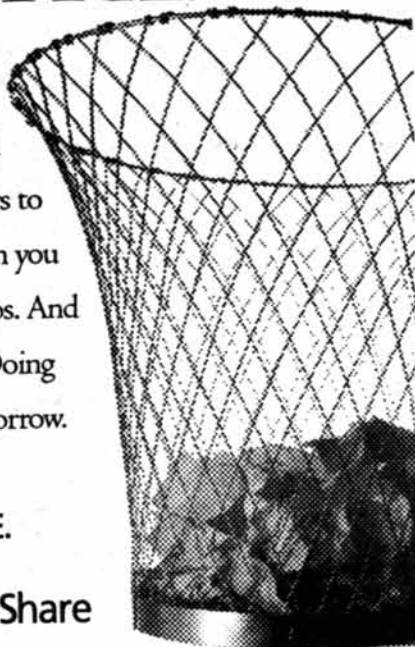
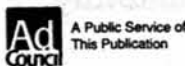


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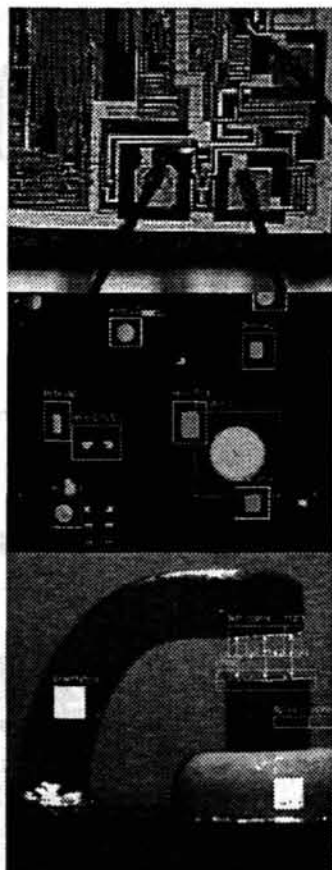
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RCA-HFS Decision Lacks Student Voice

Proposal, from Page 1

"I'm not sure a full scale merger" is the best way to go about that, Hollywood added.

This is "not to say that HFS or RCA is doing a bad job, but they could do a better job if their operations were working together," Enders said. "It's not an indictment of either office."

The relationship between house managers and housemasters are based on informal, personal relationships, Stewart said.

"As we try to think about adding housing there isn't a natural way to bring together the concerns of faculty members with the people who would actually go about building it," Stewart said.

"The mission of the house is educational," Stewart said. "It's not a place to put bodies in boxes to sleep at night... it's a place where the education of MIT continues."

Merger might induce tensions

HFS currently comes under the control of the Vice President for Operations while RCA is managed by the Dean for Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams. The issue of who controls the new department has not been decided.

"It's probably useful to not make any assumptions about where this reorganized process will fit in the organizational structure at MIT because first and foremost you have to look at the work ... that needs to be done," Immerman said. "If you organize the stake-holders in ways that maximize the functional relations between and among them, it's

almost irrelevant where it reports organizationally."

"There's always difficulty in merging offices ... one would naturally imagine there would be some tensions," said Stewart. "There's no reason they can't be resolved over time.... Part of it really is learning to appreciate what the other side does. It's not an insurmountable issue."

"The big problem that I have with this... is that these are two separate agencies that have been apart for a long time," Hollywood said. "They have very different philosophies."

Lack of Student Input Cited

"We were not included in the [HFS/RCA re-engineering] process at all," said Dormitory Council President Dhaya Lakshminarayanan G. "They had focus group meetings, but in our minds those are just to sell the ideas you already have to people," she said. "Dormcon is unique in that we have expertise in areas of housing... it's odd that we were not adequately involved in the" decision process, she said.

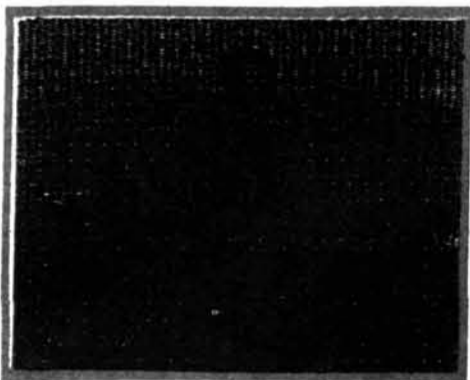
Hollywood countered that when the re-engineering team "was deciding which options it was going to choose... I didn't see a lot of community involvement," he added.

"We've had a meeting with the GSC," said Mehta. "Representatives from the Dormcon and UA have heard these recommendations and have heard or been invited to" meetings about the topic.

"If one thing frustrates us it is that students couldn't come because they were too busy," Enders said. "We were trying really hard to make sure that" people weren't left out.



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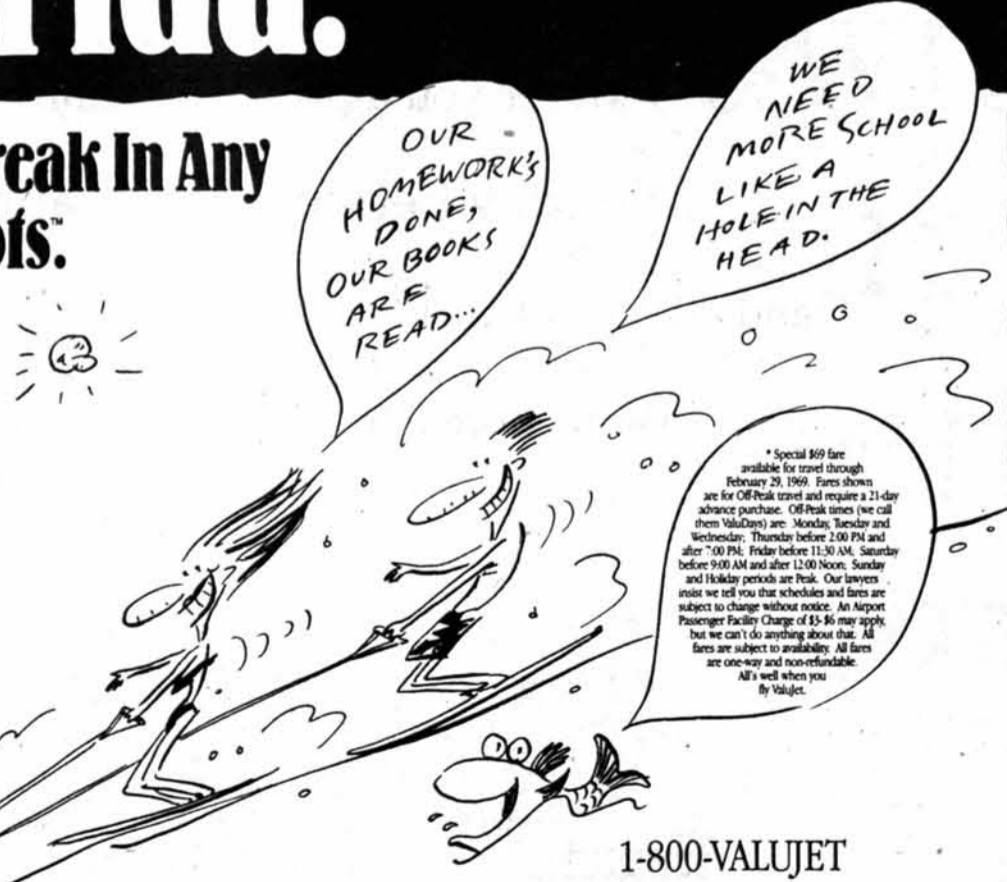
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TIFFANY LIN—THE TECH

Larry Gonick, author of *The Cartoon Guide to Physics* and an MIT Knight Fellow, gave informal session on cartooning Monday through Wednesday in the MIT Museum.

Gonick Captures Satire, Science in Comic Works

Gonick, from Page 1

emotion and body language into rudimentary illustrations. He got one of his biggest laughs from the audience explaining how he draws faces. Gonick began with a large circle with two eyeballs inside and a curved line representing a mouth. "Just your typical smiling idiot," he said. He then added two long eyebrows, slanted inward to represent anger. Finally, he added a single horizontal line through the eyeballs to represent half-closed eyelids. "Now he's just gotten away with something," Gonick observed.

Gonick spoke disarmingly about his work, very in touch with his scientifically-oriented audience and giving little indication of his national prominence in cartooning.

He described his early career while a graduate student in mathematics at Harvard during the late '60s and early '70s. A friend introduced him to a series of comic books on complex political issues such as the Communist revolution in Cuba that were informative, yet funny and pointedly satirical.

Although only an amateur, Gonick approached the book's publisher about helping to write additional books in the series. He was accepted, and his first assignment was "the driest subject in the series: tax reform," Gonick said.

Gonick was proud of his effort, and showed the book to various local publishers in an attempt to begin a career in cartooning. He ended up getting a stint at the newspaper *Boston After Dark*, writing a comics-style column exploring the seamier side of Dorchester politics.

At the talk, Gonick reproduced on his easel one of the main characters from his column — a caricature of a corrupt judge named Jerome D. Troy, who under Gonick's satirical pen became the Roman emperor-like figure of Jerry D. Stroy.

Later in his career, another newspaper hired Gonick to draw a series of columns about the history of Boston for the nation's bicentennial.

In August of 1976, bereft of a job, Gonick decided he would create a full-scale non-fiction book written entirely in comic-book format. He explained his propensity for writing only informative content by saying that he "went into this career with the assumption that I would only draw about things."

"I never trusted myself to create drawings out of nothing," as most cartoonists do, he said. The crowd chuckled when Gonick recollected that after searching a considerable time for a large enough topic for his first book, he finally hit on "the world."

Gonick was, of course, talking about what eventually became "The Cartoon History of the Universe." His most famous work, it is a monumental eight-volume tome covering the dinosaur age to the end of the Roman Empire in 650 illustrated pages.

Gonick listed several upcoming projects, including a guide to environmental science to be released on Earth Day, and another one on sex. "This is the one that will make us all millionaires," he said wryly.

Gonick also took the occasion to reveal a few secrets of the trade. He confessed that he uses a computer program to mimic his handwriting. The program uses four slightly different versions of each letter to create an illusion of authenticity. He claimed that he has not actually handwritten any books since his "Cartoon Guide to Statistics"

"This is a picture of my best friend," near the end of a slide presentation. He was pointing to a photograph of his computer.

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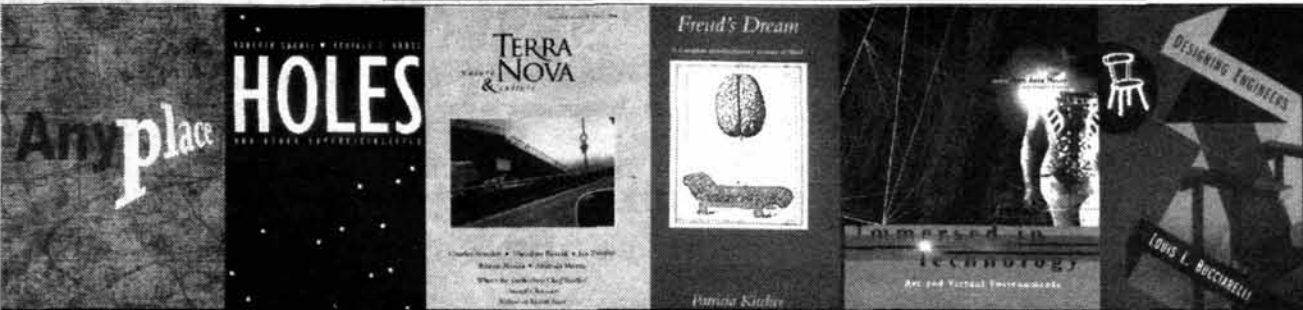
MIT Schedule

Information Session
Thursday, February 22
Room 2-139
(4:30pm - 6:30pm)

On-Campus Interviews
Monday, February 26
at Career Office



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Grade Spread Stable Under New System

Grades, from Page 1

feel when they just miss the grade cut-off mark.

"The spread between a high B and low B has become very large in many subjects, and it inevitably results in students just missing an A feeling hard done by because of the large jump from B to A in terms of grade points," Wilson said.

Some students feel that the change hasn't made much impact. "It hasn't made much of a difference to me.... I don't remember talking to anyone about their habits changing due to intermediate grades," said John S. Hollywood '96.

The potential adverse effects on student performance due to the increased stress of intermediate grading were not visible. No significant effect was observed in last term's Grade Distribution Report, compared with the previous year. In Fall 1995, 55.8 percent of under-

graduate and graduate student grades were As (including pluses and minuses), as compared to 54.6 percent in fall 1994; 36.5 percent were Bs versus 36.7 percent last year; and 7.7 percent were Cs compared with 8.7 percent last year.

The grade experiment will continue until August 1998, said Lagace. "This is not a quick process. We're just starting to evaluate the system by gathering data to better formulate the effects."

"I think the plus/minus system or some altered form will be permanent," Balsley said. "The three-year plan is a bridge to the inevitable decision much like pass/fail is the bridge to grades."

"It's important for the faculty to keep an open mind," Lagace said. "The greater resolution of the new system may prove to have the capability of better evaluating students' performance. It's good for us to question the things we do from time to time," he said.

Three MacVicar Fellows Honored

MacVicar, from Page 1

overseeing the entire undergraduate program of the department.

He has the "overall coordination responsibility with a department under a great demand," Williams said. He must make the most out of limited resources; his contributions extend beyond the classroom.



Richard L. Danheiser

"I think it's a fantastic honor," Danheiser said. The program also demonstrates that MIT values education as well as excellence in research.

The MacVicar Fellows Program benefits both students and faculty, Danheiser said. MacVicar Fellows act as role models for other professors. Danheiser cited Professor of Chemistry Daniel S. Kemp, a past MacVicar Fellow, as a role model for him.

Michael F. Rubner PhD '86

From the nominations: In 1990 he was the winner of both the Baker Award for undergraduate teaching and the Graduate Student Council Teaching Award. How often does that happen?

He played a key role in revamping the undergraduate materials laboratory from four different materials-specific laboratories to a single materials-general laboratory.

In the old system, each laboratory focused on a different material, Rubner said. The new system unifies the separate laboratories so that students can understand the general principles while learning about many materials in a single course.

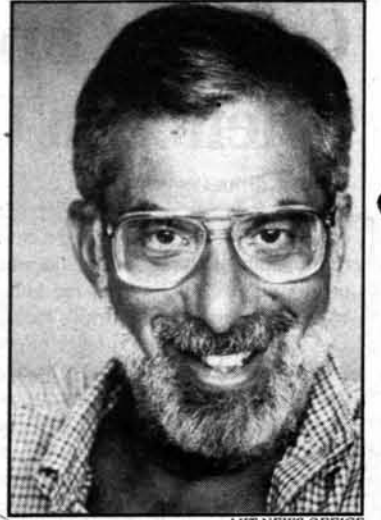
Rubner also worked to "introduce more design and focus on teamwork," he said.

This new program was implemented about four years ago and has met positive student feedback, Rubner said.

"It always feels wonderful to be honored for teaching," Rubner said. "I feel teaching, education, and research go hand in hand.... It all fits together in my mind."

Robert J. Silbey

From the nominations: His proficiency as a teacher is beyond question, but more important is the respect he earns from his students.



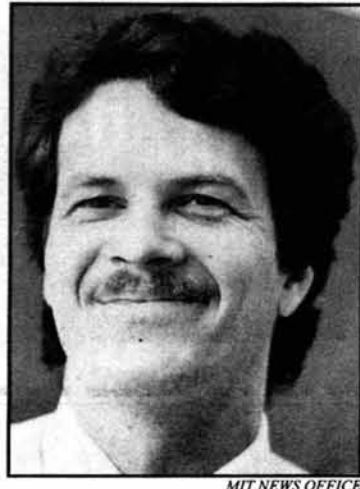
Robert J. Silbey

He was my first professor at MIT and was successful not only in communicating the subject matter, but also in projecting his enthusiasm for the field of chemistry.

Bob Silbey's lectures are electric with his excitement about the material and his enjoyment of the act of teaching. He is simultaneously entertaining and serious, larger than life and approachable, spontaneous and focused.

Besides teaching such classes as Thermodynamics and Kinetics (5.60), Silbey has served on several Institute-wide committees that have had an impact on undergraduate education, Williams said.

Silbey is on sabbatical this year.



Michael F. Rubner PhD '86

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by Jim



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UMass Should Remain Undefeated in the Regular Season

EA Sports, from Page 20

current Lakers sixth man. That's right, folks, Magic's making another comeback, and this time, he's looking good. Magic may not be the rookie who could play all five positions, and he may have lost a step or two. But he can still hit a no-look pass, and he brings a presence to the league that's been missing for some time.

In today's NBA, where having the coolest (i.e., most marketable) uniform is more important than winning, and the almighty dollar is

king, it is refreshing to see a man playing just because he loves the game. Welcome back, Magic. P.S. Don't keep your fingers crossed for a Larry Bird comeback.

On the college front, you heard it here last: UMass will become the first team in two decades to finish a regular season undefeated. The Minutemen have already overcome a tough preconference schedule (including Kentucky), the loss of star Marcus Camby, and a scare from a surprising Xavier squad, and have only the remainder of their conference schedule to play. The

Atlantic-10 is relatively weak this year, and so barring an upset in the conference tournament, UMass should be sporting a big goose egg in the loss column come March.

Whether or not UMass can win a national championship is another story. The great thing about the NCAA basketball tournament is that anything can happen, and there are a lot of tough teams out there. It is hard to believe that the Minutemen, who will be playing out their season against the likes of Duquesne and St. Bonaventure, will be as prepared for the postseason as, say, the Kentucky Wildcats, who still have to make it through the SEC; or Connecticut, the best team in the Big East. The thinking here is that two months from now, UMass fans will be consoling themselves with an undefeated regular season.

Gridiron Update

Okay, the Super Bowl was three weeks ago, so this will be a merci-

fully brief Gridiron Update. For those who have been living in their labs since 1990, Dallas beat Pittsburgh, 27-17, to extend the NFC's winning streak to twelve years. Some quick awards:

MVP: Neil O'Donnell, QB, Pittsburgh. Larry Brown this, Larry Brown that. Sure, Larry Brown had two interceptions, but if he'd been covering his man like he was supposed to, Pittsburgh would have won 17-13. In this context, O'Donnell's contributions to the Dallas offense are shown to be invaluable.

Best Commercial: Pepsi-Cola. The tragic tale of a Coke distributor who gets caught red-handed trying to steal a Pepsi takes home the gold in a year when the game was actually more interesting than the commercials.

Worst Commercial: British Airways. As we watch a man taking a shower in his private first-class cabin (they have showers in first-class? I gotta stop flying coach), a

disembodied voice asks what the shower must feel like. Immediately we are shown the man's head superimposed on a dove in a birdbath. Great, a feathered rodent. Just the feeling I've been looking for.

Too Much Coverage Award: Deion. Who else?

Ends Justify the Means Award: Jerry Jones. Congratulations, Jerry, you bought yourself a team.

In college football news, congratulations go out to Scott Vollrath '96, who has been named to the Academic All-American team. Scott is a four-year letterwinner for the MIT varsity.

Trivia Question

Name the last college basketball team to finish their regular season undefeated. Send your answers to easports@the-tech.mit.edu.

Answer to the last question: I lost the list of correct answers to the last question, which is okay because I forgot the question anyway. Sorry.

Men's Fencing Faces Tough Teams at Duke

By David Nauman

TEAM MEMBER

In the continuing drive to bring the MIT fencing team to a nationally competitive level, both the men's and women's teams drove to North Carolina this past weekend to fence schools whose experience far surpassed that found in New England. Duke hosted the two-day competition, with Notre Dame, Air Force, UNC Chapel Hill and Brandeis fencing as well.

Early Friday morning, the MIT men's team first faced off against Duke. The Blue Devils stepped up to the strip with vigor and beat MIT 20-7 in a match which was closer than the final tally indicated. The MIT sabre squad fought hard to a close 4-5 loss, with squad leader Josh Trauner '97 going 2-1. The epeeists fell 2-7, with David Lewinnek '97 bringing in the two wins. The foil squad lost 1-8.

Next the fencers were matched up against the 1995 NCAA bronze medal team Notre Dame. Though all three squads lost (epee 2-7, foil 1-8, sabre 2-7) it was a meet that showed MIT's potential. Captain David Nauman '97 won the only foil bout 5-1 against the number one Fighting Irish fencer, Jeremy Siek. Siek placed 12th at the NCAA championships last year and is ranked 32nd in the United States Fencing Association.

The meet against Air Force, a team that placed 14th last year at the NCAA nationals, started off poorly for the MIT fencers. Still mentally down after the defeat by Notre Dame, the Engineers lost the first 16 bouts of the match. Late in the second round, led by a win by Jae Park '98, the men's team bounced back and won five of the last 11, making the third round as competitive as the rest should have been.

The final round's meet pitted MIT against a local favorite, UNC-Chapel Hill. Still fighting to regain lost momentum, MIT finished with a disappointing 9-18 result, a loss which could have gone the other way had MIT's fencers managed to turn around their seven 4-5 defeats. The epee squad ended at 2-7, foil at 4-5, and led by Brian Bower '99 (2-1), the sabre squad went 3-6.

The next competition, the New England Championships, will be held at University of New Hampshire the weekend of the 24th.

Women's Fencing Defeats Air Force, Puts Up Good Fight Against UNC

By Jennifer Mosier

TEAM MEMBER

The women's varsity fencing team had an impressive showing against very difficult competition last Saturday at Duke University. In the last series of dual meets of the season, they faced the powerhouses of Duke, Notre Dame, U.S. Air Force Academy, and UNC-Chapel Hill.

The first meet of the day was against the host team, Duke. Although losing to this experienced team 7-25 (3-13 foil, 4-12 epee), strong individual performances were posted by Amy Hwang '97 in foil and Jennifer Mosier '96 in epee, who both had two victories.

The next meet was against Notre Dame, home to several nationally ranked fencers. The team fought hard in every bout, with epeeist Nicky Leifer '98 going 2-2, but were simply outclassed by the Irish 6-26 (2-14, 4-12).

The last two meets were very exciting ones for the Engineers. The first of these was against Air Force. This meet saw many outstanding individual performances, with captain Wanda Chin '97 going 3-1 in foil; Hwang, Leejee Suh '97 (foil), Mosier, and Kari Backes '96 (epee) all at 2-2; and Sara Perry '99 going 2-0 in epee.

Epeeist Nora Szasz '99 was called upon to fence the last bout of the competition with MIT down 15-16. Under a tremendous amount of pressure and with all of the fencers from both teams watching and cheering loudly, Szasz overcame her nerves and defeated her opponent to win the meet 16-16 on indicators (8-8 win, 8-8 win).

The last meet of the day was against another very difficult team, UNC. The team stayed fired up from their win over Air Force, and surprised UNC by giving them a very tough battle. Although UNC prevailed in the end 13-19 (6-10, 7-9), the meet was not decided until the last round.

This great fight was led by Chin

who went an impressive 4-0. Backes was not far behind at 3-1, and Hwang and Mosier were each 2-2. At the end of the meet one of the UNC assistant coaches told the MIT team that he "was very impressed by the fencing and team spirit of the MIT team. I expect we'll be seeing this team competitive among the top NCAA teams in the near future."

For the day, Chin had an outstanding 9-7 record, Mosier was 7-9, Hwang and Backes were both 6-10 and Perry was 3-5.

One of the most impressive features of the weekend was the intensity of support and team spirit. MIT was always cheering loudly and supporting each other after both wins and losses. This energy was a large part of the successful fencing of the day.

This team is looking forward to using the Division I experiences of the last two weekends when they return to compete in the New England Championships on Feb. 24 and 25.



Wanda A. Chin '97, foil captain, fences to victory versus Ohio State on Feb. 3 at Brandeis University. MIT won the meet 16-16.

Club Volleyball Shuts Out Northeastern in 16-9 Game

Volleyball, from Page 20

and a pinpoint short-serve ace from Lazaro put MIT on top 15-12.

Even play continued as the Huskies shifted their attack to the middle and right side in the third game. Good blocking began to give IVC the edge just when Huskies suffered a sprained ankle while coming alive on an outside block.

Former player and coach Evan

Sherbrooke PhD '95 described the Club as "committed to win the game" for their injured star hitter. The Engineers stepped up their intensity and never let Northeastern back into the match. Asari and Niemeyer connected in the middle several times to help MIT to a 15-9 game and match win.

IVC will hold its next home match against UMass-Lowell next Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Rockwell Cage.

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Women's Hockey Defeats Bates, UPenn; Loses to UMass

Hockey, from Page 19

entire game. In the second period, Ferrante got a great centering pass from Victoria Herman G who was behind the Conn College net and slammed it home.

MIT gave up another goal on a high glove-side shot by Conn College. MIT then gave up a short-handed goal when the power-play line (Ferrante, Jesurum, Herman) were apparently sleeping on the face-off. Depto later drew an interference penalty and shortly after, Jesurum drew a hooking penalty giving Tech a 5-on-3 power play. Narula won the face-off to Ming-fawn Chow '97 who shot, and Cynara Wu G put it away, making up for the sad power-play performance earlier. Ferrante would score again late in the second period when she skated it up and used the defender as a screen to score a beautiful goal from the high slot area. The second period ended 6-3.

In the third period, Conn College worked hard to get back into the game, and they were the first to score. Wu answered with a shot that made the goalie fall back into her own net with the puck. Conn College got one more to end the game 7-5.

MIT v. Holy Cross 3-1

Ferrante started off with one of her traditional goals; skate down ice, go around the defender, and shoot from high slot area.

There were no other goals in the first period despite numerous chances for MIT. Holy Cross had weak goal-tending, but Tech had trouble putting away the rebounds. In the second period Chow set up another goal for Tech by skating around a defender shooting along the ice; Wu put away the rebound. The third period provided one more goal by MIT on a beautiful break-out set up by Depto streaking up the boards for a pass by Stifelman.

Depto was checked when she crossed the blue line, but Stifelman picked up the loose puck and centered it to Jesurum, Jesurum looked ready to shoot but passed it back to Stifelman who scored on a diving play for the puck.

In the last few seconds of the game, Holy Cross scored after a

JV Squash Loses Close Matches To Milton

By Carol Matsuzaki
TEAM MEMBER

The MIT JV Squash Team traveled to Milton Academy for its last away match of the season on Monday. Although Milton is a powerhouse in squash and is undefeated, MIT gave them a few good battles.

James Habyarimana '98 played some great squash in a most grueling match, but lost 17-16 in the fourth. Robbie Chhabra '99 also lost 3-1 in a close match. Jon Goldman '98 totally dominated and never let his opponent in the match, as he took a 3-1 win.

Carol Matsuzaki '96 squandered leads of 2-0 in games and 14-10 in the fifth, but had just enough to pull out a 17-15 victory on a nick on the last point of the match. Torkel Engeness '97 lost 3-0 in three close games, as the last one went to 17-14.

Jacob Marcus '99 and his opponent see-sawed back and forth, but unfortunately, his opponent raised his level of play in the fifth game (15-10) to take the match, 3-2. Bryan Robinson '98 ran into a tough opponent and lost 3-0, making the final dual match score 5-2.

The team's last match is on Feb. 20 at 4 p.m. against Tufts University at the Alumni Pool Squash Courts.

face off inside the MIT zone to spoil the shut-out.

MIT v. Bates 4-2

In a beautiful and brand new rink at Bates College, MIT got their third straight victory following their four-game losing streak. Bates is a young team so MIT played a bunch of rookies and tried some interesting line changes. The first period had no scoring, despite MIT's dominance on the ice. In the second, Raquel Romano G scored for MIT off of a rebound set up by Narula. Depto got another goal with a short-side shot over the glove-side shoulder. Bates got one in the end of the second period.

In the third period, a goal was scored by a beautiful play with Stifelman passing back to Depto who had a great shot which was saved. Lipson picked up the rebound for her first goal ever for

MIT. Later, Jesurum, who played defense in this outing, scored on an end-to-end break, deeking around the last defender (one of Bates' best skaters) and sneaking a wrist shot past their goalie. Bates got one more to end the game at 4-2.

MIT v. UPenn (8-1)

Wu started off the scoring assisted by linemate Ferrante. Jesurum and Narula scored another two goals, giving MIT a 3-0 lead at the end of the first period. At the start of the second period, Wu and Ferrante connected again. Ana Yook scored from the point after receiving a pass from her defensive partner Diane Ho G.

The second period ended with MIT in a commanding 6-0 lead. UPenn finally scored one with 5 minutes remaining in the third period. Although MIT lead the game 6-1, they were losing the third period 1-0.

A common problem for the team was staying focused throughout all three periods. Less than one minute after the UPenn goal, Stifelman and Jesurum scored on a shot roofed over the goalie's head (the two players hit the puck simultaneously). With only 6 seconds left, Depto scored on a strong wrist shot from just over the blue line; MIT won the third period and the game.

MIT v. UMass Amherst (2-3)

After winning their previous three games, MIT suffered a tough loss to UMass. UMass brought along three strong players not on their roster, in anticipation of a tough game with MIT. MIT started out the scoring on a power play goal. Jesurum set up the goal with a strong back-hander from the slot that was put in by Depto on the rebound. An interference penalty on

MIT gave UMass a power play and they tied the score. With the clock winding down on the period, MIT tried to regain the lead, with Stifelman forechecking to pick up the puck behind the UMass net.

A shot by Depto in front was denied by the UMass goalie, leaving the score tied at 1 at the end of the first period.

At the start of the second period, UMass got a go-ahead goal to lead 2-1. MIT tied it up when Yook launched a high wrist shot from the point and Narula put away the rebound on the short side of the goal.

Early in the third period, UMass scored to take the lead again, 3-2. MIT successfully implemented the trap, stripping UMass of the puck, but then was not able to clear their zone. MIT could not regain the energy of the first period, resulting in a disappointing 2-3 loss.

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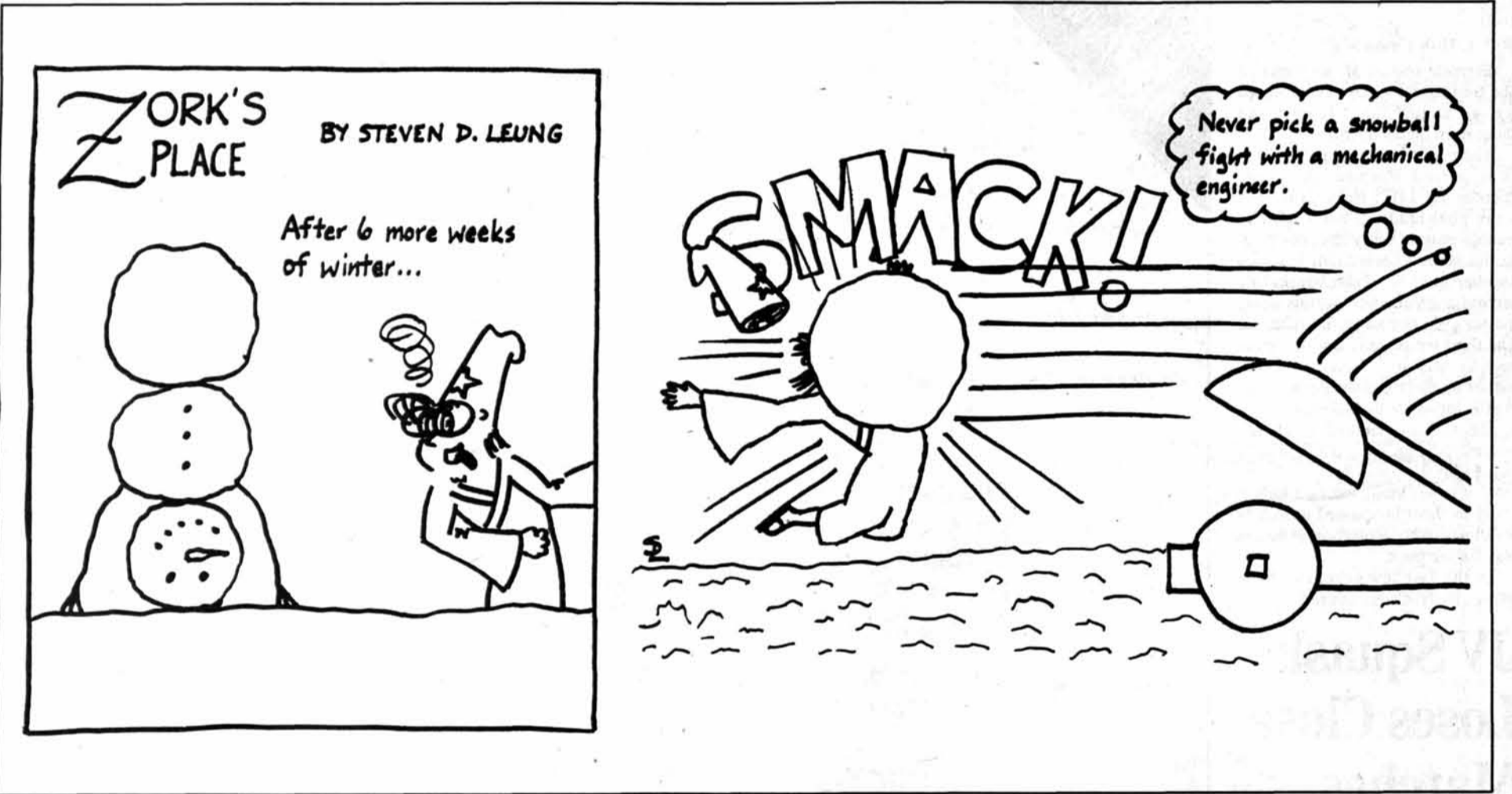
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ACROSS

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- 14 May's stone
- 16 College environment
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- 18 Application item
- 19 "___ Doll"
- 21 Endure
- 22 Fuss
- 23 Relatives
- 24 Give; Scot.
- 25 Manufactured
- 27 First Oscar-winning movie
- 29 Accelerates
- 30 Punishing by fine
- 32 Turkish inn
- 34 Sounded
- 35 Part of speech (abbr.)
- 36 Coax
- 39 Like tender meat
- 43 Jewish month
- 44 Go swiftly
- 46 Streetcar
- 47 Seoul soldier
- 48 Kittle or Guidry
- 49 Finnish port
- 50 Do vet's work
- 52 Red dye
- 54 Father de ___
- 55 Italian strait
- 57 Fit for the table
- 59 William Holden movie
- 60 Ate the clock
- 61 "Inferno"
- 62 Move unsteadily

DOWN

- 1 Road surfacing material
- 2 Pie ___
- 3 Green gemstone
- 4 Keats' forte
- 5 Just misses a basket
- 6 ___ suspicion
- 7 Telephone again
- 8 Portent
- 9 Vietnam Offensive
- 10 Seed covering
- 11 Scarlet ___
- 12 Hard to grasp
- 13 ___ Canal
- 15 Loathe
- 20 Ringing sound
- 26 Diamond goof
- 27 Tavern stock

- 28 Danube tributary
- 29 Chased toward (2 wds.)
- 31 State abbreviation
- 33 Work with grass
- 35 Most counterfeit
- 36 Kit or Rachel
- 37 Put into use
- 38 Indonesian capital
- 39 Dove sounds
- 40 Prickly shrub
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- 42 Was theatrical
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- 52 Raison d'___
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- 54 Nautical man
- 56 "Ask ___ what your country..."
- 58 Make lace

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE

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New Coach Leads Women's Hockey to Good Season

By Esther Jesurum
TEAM MEMBER

This season has been one of changes for the women's ice hockey team. The most noteworthy change is the new coaching staff. Katia Pashkevitch is the new head coach and Susie Wee, a former player on the team, is the assistant coach. Pashkevitch brings with her years of experience and proficiency. She is one the top 10 women hockey players in the world and will be playing for the Russian team in the 1998 Olympics in Japan.

Many of MIT's club opponents have joined the Alliance (of varsity teams) and as a result, MIT has a shorter schedule this year. While there is some talk of MIT eventually going varsity, for now the team is concentrating on building a strong base of younger players.

MIT started its season with a decisive victory in a scrimmage against BU (10-0). MIT then played an official game against BU beating them 4-0. Tech got one more win against Holy Cross (5-1) before losing their last two games before the winter break. The first of those was against a much improved Wesleyan (1-11) and the next was against a comparable team and probably MIT's closest competition, Amherst (2-4).

It seems the loss against Amherst was merely a matter of not converting our many scoring chances into goals. The play itself was fairly even.

After winter break, the team warmed up for their next meeting with Wesleyan by scrimmaging Boston women's league teams. Pashkevitch had the women practice an advanced defensive strategy, a neutral zone trap (used by the New Jersey Devils in winning the '95 Stanley Cup Championship) to be used against stronger teams. In the Jan. 17 game against Wes-

leyan, "the trap" held Wesleyan to a 0-0 draw in the first period. However, Wesleyan changed their offensive strategy for the second and third period, handing Tech a 0-9 loss.

Two days later, MIT faced Amherst again, determined to get the win they deserved. The first period was disappointing with Amherst stuffing in a goal off of a rebound. MIT came back strong in the second period with Gina Ferrante '98 scoring a beautiful goal through a crowd in front of the net. With one minute left in the second

period, Caroline Jesurum G got an exciting go-ahead goal assisted by Lisa Stifelman G.

The third period was a let-down for Tech. Amherst scored another weak goal off of a rebound, tying the game at 2-2. MIT played only two lines for the remainder of the period, and unfortunately, could not keep the energy up to get the win, with Amherst winning in overtime.

MIT v. Connecticut College 7-5

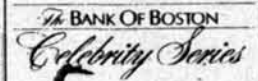
In the first minute of the game, Stifelman picked up a loose puck in the MIT defensive zone for a

breakaway, scoring a back-handed shot through the five hole. On their next shift out, Jesurum, Jill Depto '97 and Stifelman played a great passing game to break it out and Jesurum scored on a pass back from Stifelman in the corner. The game was a lot closer than it should have been, again because of a


breakdown on coverage after rebounds.

Conn College scored on a rebound situation to tighten the gap. Aradhana Narula G used a defender as a screen to get back the two-point lead that would come and go for the

Hockey, Page 17

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SPORTS

Doering Wins Cross Country Skiing Race

By Jeff Breidenbach
TEAM MEMBER

MIT skier Jeff Doering '99 glided to his first college victory in the men's 15-kilometer classical race in the Cornell/Syracuse Carnival last weekend. With a time of 48:05, Doering is the first MIT Nordic skier in three years to win a division race.

The cross country ski team traveled to Osceola, New York for the Carnival, which also included Cornell, the United States Military Academy, Clarkson, Syracuse, and Alfred Universities.

Doering started with the first wave of skiers in the 15-second interval start. After taking off from the line, Doering skied alone until the 7.5 kilometer mark, when Cornell skier Steve Halasz from the second wave caught up. Revitalized, Doering pushed forward during the third and final lap, gaining 18 seconds over his Cornell rival — enough to win the race by a scant three second margin.

"During my first lap I wasn't very focused and had trouble maintaining a fast tempo," said Doering. "As a Cornell skier gained on me in

the second lap, I concentrated on technique and set a faster tempo that I managed to maintain through the remainder of the race."

Jeff Breidenbach '96 finished in 20th place with a time of 1:03:02 just ahead of teammate Jiri Schindler '96 who came in 21st out of 34 finishers with a time of 1:03:15.

In the women's 10-kilometer classical race, Adrienne Slaughter '98 was the first MIT skier to cross the line, coming in 8th place with a time of 47:09. Lynn Cornell '97 placed 12th with a time of 49:30. Erin Lavik G, in her first-ever varsity ski race, finished in 16th place. Both the MIT men's and women's squads finished third place overall, behind Cornell and Army.

"It was a nice course but could have been groomed better. I was very lucky though because I had perfect wax," commented Slaughter.

Clarkson placed first overall in Sunday's 3x5 kilometer mixed-sex skating race, with a winning time of 41:25. MIT's first relay team came in 5th place, with a time of 45:17. The relay team consisted of Doering, Breidenbach, and Cornell.



Jeffrey R. Doering '99 skis past a competitor on the way to his first victory last Saturday.

Doering started the race for MIT with the third fastest leg time of the entire relay. He spent the lap vying with two Cornell skiers, holding third place only 6 seconds behind the leader when the tag was made. Breidenbach reduced that gap to two seconds during the second leg

as the first pack of skiers reshuffled. Cornell skied a strong third leg, holding off all but two teams.

Conditions were much faster in Sunday's skate relay. MIT demonstrated good speed, but could definitely use some improvement on the relay tags.

The next Midwestern Conference race will be held this weekend in Mt. Snow, Vermont. Saturday will be a 15k classic for men, and a 10k classic for women. Sunday, there will be a skating race, 10k for men and 7.5k for women. Monday will feature a 3x5k relay.

Alpine Skiing Squads Fight Tough Battles Against UConn, Harvard

By Jonathan S. Shefftz
TEAM COACH

The men's and women's alpine squads of MIT's ski racing team completed their fourth regular season race this past Saturday and Sunday at Ascutney Mountain in Vermont. The result was another seesaw battle against their close rival the University of Connecticut and a victory over Harvard University.

The men went into this weekend one point out of seventh place in the cumulative conference team standings, behind UConn. Because they had only five finishers in the first run, all of whom counted toward the team score, the men found them-

selves hopelessly behind UConn by half a minute.

The first run of the slalom was not kind to either team; normally dependable racers either crashed, suffered from binding pre-releases, or hooked tips on the slalom gates on the flats in their all-out charges to the finish. The women also suffered because Chrissy Hartmann '99 had sustained minor injuries while skiing after her race run.

The second run became even more harsh than the first, as one of the turns above the steep pitch developed an slick sheet of ice and sent much of the women's field crashing into a deep, powdery hole.

Coach Jonathan Shefftz, acting in his official capacity as the Assistant Referee for the race, deemed the course unsafe and requested that the top section be reset before the start of the men's race.

Mike Protz '96, however, avoided all such perils in skiing to 28th place. Nate Kushman '98 and Sean Lavin '97 also managed to finish the course, contributing to the team effort, although the team still lacked the crucial fourth and fifth finishers. The scoreboard at the finish revealed that UConn had suffered an even worse fate, allowing the MIT men to move into a tie for seventh place in the cumulative team standings for the season.

As Coach Shefftz commented on the competition, "That last UConn skier went flying so far off the course I think he ended up on another trail ... at another ski area."

On Sunday, Brooke Baker '99 turned in her third sizzling giant slalom performance of the season for 13th place. Marcela Valderrama '97 had troubles on her first run with an extra dense fog that seemed to descend onto the course just for her, but still finished a solid 44th overall, allowing the women to defeat both UConn and Trinity College. This finish moved the team into ninth place in the cumulative team standings.

The men faced an extra challenge, having to also compete against Harvard. Co-captain Geoff Johnson '97 led the men with 30th place, but crashes, binding pre-releases, and absences due to injuries and illnesses allowed UConn to retake seventh place in the division.

Protz, Jeremy Gerstle '99, Kushman, and Nick Howard '99 all provided finishes for the team effort that allowed MIT to defeat Harvard.

The alpine squads head to Berkshire East (training site of Smith College) this weekend.

IVC Defeats Northeastern

Gene Van Buren
TEAM MEMBER

The Northeastern University Huskies were the victims of the MIT Intercollegiate Volleyball Club's first divisional match, held in DuPont last Monday. The Club picked up where it left off after last year's undefeated divisional season by handing Northeastern a 15-3, 15-13, 15-9 loss.

The match started quickly for MIT. Middle blocker Gunter Niemeyer G intimidated Northeastern's middle offense early, forcing them to go outside only to find the block of Parry J.R. Husbands G waiting for them. Precision serving from Alberto Lazaro G brought seven points for Tech midgame, followed by four straight off the serve of setter Koji Asari '96. MIT reached 15-3 before the Huskies could react.

The momentum stayed with the Engineers into the second game as strong serving from Phil Le G led MIT to a 5-2 lead. But the Huskies came back with scrappy play. Errors from MIT countered some good attacks by Rad Roberts G and Lazaro on the outside. Northeastern was up 13-12 before hits by Roberts and Husbands

Volleyball, Page 16



ARIFUR RAHMAN—THE TECH

John A. Miller '98 tips the ball against St. Norwich University on Feb. 13. St. Norwich won the game 79-46.

Boxer's HIV Positive Test Raises Questions of Safety

By Bo Light
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Welcome back (finally) to the first Spring edition of Everything About Sports. If you missed our IAP issues, that's because there weren't any. The reasons for this are quite complicated (the government shutdown, the new telecommunications bill, and a case of cheap wine are all involved), so we'll just skip to the big stories of the last month.

First we head to the world of boxing, which was shaken this week by the news that heavyweight fighter Tommy Morrison has tested HIV-positive. He was to have

fought Saturday night.

Morrison is not the first professional boxer to test positive for HIV (in fact, he is the seventh). But he is the best known, and his news once again raises questions of the dangers of athletes with HIV. Magic Johnson's first attempt at coming back to basketball was quelled when other players were concerned about becoming infected. It is likely Morrison will never fight again, but he has fought several times in the last year and bled profusely in all of them.

The possibility of becoming infected from another player is remote in basketball but very real in boxing. Currently, only three states test boxers for HIV (Morrison's last fight was in New Jersey, which does not). Morrison's announcement simply stresses the need for even more thorough precautions in what is already a barbaric sport.

Hoops Report

Speaking of Magic Johnson, the former Lakers superstar is now the

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Feb. 17
Men's basketball against Babson College, 2 p.m.

Feb. 18
Women's ice hockey against Wheaton, 5 p.m.