

Student Confronted Outside McCormick Hall, Bike Stolen

By Shawdee Eshghi
STAFF REPORTER

Campus Police are still investigating the bicycle theft that took place on Amherst Alley in front of McCormick Hall Wednesday afternoon.

The victim, an MIT student, was riding his GT Outpost bicycle slowly in front of McCormick around 4:30 p.m. Wednesday when three black males of college age approached him and eyewitness Ruben E. Brown '99.

One of the assailants, who was also riding a bicycle, commented that his own bicycle was in poor

condition and asked the victim if he would like to sell his bicycle, Brown said.

When the victim replied that he did not wish to sell his bicycle, a second assailant dropped the bicycle that he had been riding and stood in the victim's path, Brown said.

The assailants surrounded the victim, preventing him from fleeing, Brown said.

Although one assailant made gestures suggesting he had a weapon, it is not known whether or not he actually had a weapon or what that weapon might be, said CP

Captain John E. Driscoll.

The victim got off of his bicycle, and the assailants took it and proceeded to ride down Amherst Alley, turning right onto Massachusetts Avenue, leaving behind their own bicycle, Brown said.

The victim quickly approached a CP who was on duty nearby. The officer did not actually see the crime as it took place. "We came after the fact," Driscoll said.

CPs immediately began to search for the perpetrators in the area and on Harvard Bridge. "We did search

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FAST Team's Online Info System Allows Student Access to Records

By Shang-Lin Chuang
NEWS EDITOR

The Online Student Information System will be ready for student use next Monday. Through the system, students can access a plethora of information that was previously available only through the Bursar's Office, the Registrar's Office, or the Student Financial Aid Office.

Students will be able to view

their registration status, academic transcripts, biographical information; and financial information like student account statements, recent account activity, financial aid application status, financial aid awards, scholarship progress, and loan information.

The system was designed and implemented by the online student access team, part of student services

re-engineering's financial and academic services transition team.

Before using the system, students will need to obtain a separate password on Athena.

Students have previously been able to use their Athena accounts to "get their grades, see their grade point average, and track their progress in meeting the general Institute requirements," said Jagruti S. Patel '97, leader of the online student access team. Students were also able to change off-campus addresses online.

"We have made it possible for students to download more information from the MIT Student Information System," Patel said. The MITSIS was originally designed as an administrative resource.

More services will be available online as the project progresses, Patel said. Students may be able to order transcripts, request parent billing, and fill out Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program forms online as well, she said.

Obtaining a password is easier

The online student access team was able to speed up the process involved in obtaining passwords by eliminating paperwork.

Through the old MITSIS, students needed to obtain a password

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'Quickstations' Could Alleviate Cluster Crowding

By David D. Hsu
NEWS EDITOR

MIT students all know that finding a vacant Athena workstation in a cluster can be a difficult task. Information Systems is currently considering a plan that may help alleviate cluster crowding and provide a convenience for students.

The project would allow students to log in to low-power computers — termed "Quickstations" — outside of clusters for short-duration and high-use applications like e-mail and Zephyr.

The plan comes after a survey of Athena users that IS conducted last spring. The survey revealed that most Athena users were logged in for an average of 12.9 hours per week and spent a third of their time reading and sending e-mail, with World Wide Web browsing and Zephyr also taking up significant portions of log in time.

"I can speculate that some directions and

ideas to explore would include dedicated-use facilities" supporting specific applications, facilities for short-duration and high-use applications like e-mail, Macintosh and Windows functionality in some machines, and more extensive access to some courseware and software tools in dormitories, said Vijay Kumar, director of academic computing services, one branch of IS, in an interview last spring during the pre-planning stages of the project.

It is this train of thought that led to the Quickstation concept.

The planning for the Quickstation project is still in the early stages of information gathering, said Naomi B. Schmidt, manager of educational planning and support for academic computing services.

Schmidt is leading a team that is examining the logistics of implementing such a project. The team will consider which hardware platforms are best suited to the tasks, what soft-

ware would be necessary, and where the Quickstations would be located.

The team will also estimate the costs of implementing the system in terms of staff development time, new computer hardware, furniture, and the network and power necessary to support the stations.

The team will also seek permission and assistance from groups around MIT in the project and its implementation, Schmidt said. Hopefully, the team's goals will be met by the beginning of October at which point a final decision will be made on whether or not to pursue the Quickstation project, Schmidt said.

The final decision will be based on the team's findings on costs, and on approval within MIT.

"This project is at the 'might stage.' We've gotten input from students, and we're thinking

Athena, Page 13

Mid-Year Report Shows Increase in Crime

By Dudley W. Lamming

The Campus Police mid-year report showed an increase in on-campus incidents and arrests over the first half of this year.

The number of arrests rose from

26 last year to 36 this year, and CPs recorded 1,036 incident calls for the first half of this year, up from last year's 974.

The increase in arrests is a result of better policing, said Chief of Police Anne P. Glavin.

Additionally, officers have been issuing crime prevention notices to students and faculty who are seen leaving property unattended or doors unlocked, she said.

"The number of such warnings has increased due to the increased attention and concern on the part of the officers," Glavin said.

Bicycle thefts up 50 percent

Bicycle thefts during the first half of the year increased by more than 50 percent over last year, from 54 to 86.

"Bicycle thefts have been a chronic problem in the area — in all of Cambridge and at Harvard," Glavin said.

To deal with the growing problem, the CPs have formed a new bicycle theft task force, which has been "very successful," Glavin said. The force arrested four people for bicycle theft this August.

Bicycle owners should remember to lock up their bicycles and be particularly careful during the second half of the year, traditionally a time when many more bicycles are stolen, Glavin said.

In 1995, 132 bikes were stolen during the fall term, including some 32 bikes in October alone.

Safe Ride usage falls from peak

The ridership of Safe Ride has decreased sharply this year. After reaching a peak ridership of over 96,000 in the first half of 1994, ridership is now just over 70,000 for the first half of this year.

The significant slide in usage

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Safe Ride usage has fallen since the service was outsourced in January.

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WORLD & NATION

Dole Proposes Four One-on-One Presidential Debates With Clinton

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The campaign of Republican nominee Bob Dole Thursday proposed additional presidential debates, suggesting four one-on-one encounters between Dole and President Clinton and two between Jack Kemp and Vice President Gore.

The nonpartisan Commission on Presidential Debates has scheduled three presidential debates and one vice-presidential forum on consecutive Wednesday evenings beginning Sept. 25 in St. Louis. While the commission has set its debates for the traditional 90 minutes, the Dole campaign has proposed 60-minute debates.

The proposal, which a Clinton strategist said would be rejected, was announced by the Dole campaign after representatives from both camps met privately for the first time to discuss the debates. The strategist, who spoke only on the condition of anonymity, also said the Sept. 25 date would be "impossible" to keep because of Clinton's speech to the United Nations a day earlier.

Thursday's meeting came with a dramatic but unsuccessful attempt by Ross Perot's national campaign coordinator, Russell Verney, to be included in the preliminary talks. Trained by reporters, who were stopped at the door after a Dole campaign aide summoned security, Verney headed into the conference room where the Clinton and Dole negotiators were meeting at a downtown office building, only to find the session was adjourning as he entered.

Fran Damage to Reach \$1 Billion

LOS ANGELES TIMES

ATLANTA

Damage estimates mounted Thursday from Hurricane Fran's deadly rampage across North Carolina last week, with the state's insurance commissioner predicting receipt of \$1 billion in claims by the weekend.

Although winds were strongest at the coast, the state's inland agricultural areas were hardest hit by flooding and rain. So far, farm losses of all sorts have reached \$616 million, including \$341 million in crop and livestock damage, according to the state's Department of Agriculture. Of that, tobacco bore the brunt of the losses, with \$185 million in crop damage.

Many inland communities remain without electricity and water a week after the hurricane passed through. As many as 141,000 homes and businesses in the state were still without power. Thirty-four deaths, including 21 in North Carolina, have been blamed on the storm.

State Insurance Commissioner Jim Long said insurance companies have received claims for \$723.4 million in property damage. "We're going to hit \$1 billion by the weekend, no question about it," Long said.

Public Backs U.S. Attack on Iraq

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

By a margin of more than 3-1, the public approves of President Clinton's decision to fire cruise missiles at Iraq — although a substantial majority of Americans do not believe the action will achieve its purpose of thwarting future aggression by Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, according to a new Los Angeles Times Poll.

Responses to a series of questions concerning the U.S. retaliation last week for Hussein's attack on Kurds in northern Iraq seemed to contain much good news for Clinton as the November election nears. By 60 percent to 31 percent, Americans said they now believe Clinton can be trusted to handle a major crisis.

Moreover, a majority of the public rejected suggestions that Clinton acted for domestic political reasons. Some 54 percent said the president's objective was to prevent Hussein from gaining more power; 31 percent said his purpose was to improve his standing in advance of the election; 10 percent said he was pursuing both objectives.

The poll also found the strike on Iraqi air defense systems in the country's southern section was more popular with men than it was with women, potentially shoring up the president's standing with a constituency that has been difficult for him in the past.

WEATHER

Weather woes!

By Marek Zebrowski
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

This time it's a spell of rainy (and perhaps stormy) weather for New England over the next few days. Several factors will be responsible for the cloudy and wet scenario: 1. a trough lying just off shore with several waves of low pressure moving along it; 2. a surface low over central New York with a cold front, approaching slowly from the west; and 3. a strong closed upper air low, which will take up residence overhead for a while and inject quite a bit of cold unstable air into the mix. As bursts of energy enter and leave this upper air system, it will shift slightly, becoming more elongated from west to east. This may occur just in time to prevent a dangerous hurricane Hortense to threaten the eastern sections of New England. As this hurricane strengthened last night to category IV with winds of 140 mph (230 kph) and a central pressure dropped to an impressive 27.67 in (937 mb), its movements during Friday should be monitored closely by all concerned.

Today: Cloudy with periods of rain. Damp easterly breezes. Cool highs near 66°F (19°C).

Tonight: Cloudy with scattered showers. Some steadier activity with imbedded thunder well to the west. Low 62°F (17°C), easterly winds continuing.

Saturday: Continued cloudy and cool with a chance of early fog and drizzle near the coast. High 68°F (20°C). Onshore winds may strengthen, especially in eastern sections, in response to Hortense passing by.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy and unsettled with a chance of showers. Lows in mid to upper 50s (12-15°C), highs in the 60s (16-20°C).

U.S. Moves More Forces To Gulf as Iraq Fires Again

By Bradley Graham
and John Lancaster

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The United States dispatched a second aircraft carrier and an Army air defense group to the Middle East Thursday as Iraq, in continued defiance of U.S. pressure, fired three more missiles into a "no-fly" zone patrolled by American and allied warplanes.

An Iraqi announcement said the three missiles streaked into the sky above southern Iraq at 2:15 p.m. aimed at "hostile targets, forcing them to flee." But U.S. officials said, unlike the F-16s that were targets of an Iraqi missile fired Wednesday, no allied planes were near enough to be endangered by — or even observe — those fired Thursday.

Whatever their military utility, the missiles constituted another gesture by President Saddam Hussein's government challenging the right of U.S. and allied planes to enforce the no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq that have been in place since shortly after the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

The government in Baghdad also lashed out angrily at Kuwait for agreeing to accept U.S. F-117A jet fighters for possible attacks on Iraqi targets.

The warning, by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz on the official Iraqi News Agency called the agreement "a flagrant aggression against the Iraqi people, and an act of war against the state of Iraq."

U.S. officials in Washington have signaled that more attacks on

Iraq are likely, to protect U.S., British and French pilots enforcing the northern and southern bans on flights by Iraqi military aircraft. Thursday's order directing the USS Enterprise aircraft carrier to move from off the coast of Bosnia to the Red Sea, and the dispatch of about 150 Army soldiers from Texas to Saudi Arabia to staff two Patriot antimissile batteries in addition to four already there, indicated Washington is girding for a powerful assault.

"We cannot allow anybody to believe they are not bound by the rules of civilized behavior," President Clinton declared at a campaign rally in California. "So I say again, I don't want to get into a word war with Saddam Hussein, but we're going to do whatever it takes to keep him from threatening his neighbors, threatening our pilots, and we're going to enforce the no-fly zone."

At the same time, the administration appeared in no rush to hit Iraq again following two volleys of cruise missiles launched against air defenses in southern Iraq last week. The gradualness with which U.S. officials are moving to assemble a larger strike force in the gulf region suggested a desire to play for time while consulting with skittish allies and reviewing options.

Defense Secretary William J. Perry, who on Wednesday spun up expectations for a large-scale strike by asserting the United States would respond to Iraqi provocations with "disproportionate" force, seemed to moderate his remarks Thursday.

Noting that U.S. forces in the

region have "robust rules of engagement" allowing them to shoot back quickly when challenged, he said the United States would "take all necessary and appropriate action" to safeguard its personnel.

Asked about Iraq's charge that Kuwait had committed an act of war by accepting the F-117s, Perry said, "Those kind of brash statements are totally unacceptable." He said the United States has kept forces in Kuwait since evicting Iraqi troops in 1991, adding the forces are there "to provide deterrence" against any renewed Iraqi invasion and "to provide security and stability in the region."

The United States announced Wednesday that it was sending eight of the radar-evading F-117s to Kuwait, which lies just south of Iraq at the northern end of the gulf, and the planes left New Mexico Thursday for the nearly 20-hour flight.

They will join more than 200 U.S. combat aircraft in the area, based mostly in Saudi Arabia or on the USS Carl Vinson aircraft carrier in the gulf.

Additionally, four B-52s armed with cruise missiles are being moved closer to the gulf, to the Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia.

Kuwait also rejected Iraq's warning about the F-117s, stressing its right under international law to take security measures. A statement by Information Minister Saud Nasser Saud Sabah said Kuwait "is acting in light of its painful experiences at the hands of the Baghdad regime."

Clinton Faces Senate Setback On Chemical Weapons Treaty

By Thomas W. Lippman
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Facing the prospect of rejection of a prized arms control agreement, the Clinton administration was forced Thursday to accept indefinite postponement of a Senate ratification vote on an ambitious global treaty to ban poison gas weapons.

The treaty, known as the Chemical Weapons Convention, will not resurface in the current Congress, Republican leaders and administration officials said. Whether it can be revived next year probably depends on the outcome of the Nov. 5 election because Republican presidential nominee Bob Dole joined the opposition ranks at the last minute.

Dole, when he was Senate majority leader, had brokered an earlier agreement aimed at facilitating ratification of the accord. But this week he endorsed the arguments of treaty critics that its ban on the manufacture or possession of poison gas weapons would not be enforceable or verifiable, and that it would subject U.S. chemical manufacturers to intrusive searches by international inspectors.

The outcome of Thursday's maneuvering represented a defeat for the administration and a repudiation of its Republican predecessor. The treaty had broad bipartisan support for more than a decade, was signed by the United States during the Bush administration's final weeks, and appeared headed for easy ratification until the past few weeks, when a relentless opposition campaign began to pick up momentum.

Administration officials said

they were still confident of ratification until late Wednesday night, when Frank Gaffney — a former Pentagon hard-liner who runs a one-man think tank here called the Center for Security Policy and who has been an indefatigable critic of the treaty — began faxing out a letter from Dole urging his former Senate colleagues to vote no.

As a result, the treaty, which has been ratified by 63 countries, is likely to go into force without U.S. participation. Only two more countries among the 160 that have signed the treaty need to ratify it in order for it to take effect.

If that happens without U.S. participation, senior officials said, the United States would be precluded from planning or participating in the international inspection system, which is designed to make sure that nobody is making or selling prohibited chemicals. Moreover, the treaty provides that, without U.S. ratification, U.S. chemical manufacturers would be banned from selling in most world markets.

The Chemical Manufacturers Association, representing such industry giants as E.I. duPont de Nemours & Co., Dow Chemical Co. and Monsanto Co., lobbied hard for ratification. They argued that \$60 billion a year in export sales could be jeopardized if the United States does not participate in the treaty. The big chemical companies said they were prepared to accept the mandatory challenge inspections called for in the treaty, but treaty opponents said the inspections would impose an unfair and perhaps unconstitutional burden on small manufacturers of legitimate compounds.

Dole, in his letter, said the Senate should insist the treaty "recognize and safeguard American constitutional protections against unwarranted searches."

"The bottom line is Senator Dole has failed to rally his Republican troops in support of this important tool in the fight against terrorism and the scourge of chemical weapons," said Clinton campaign spokesman James P. Rubin.

Clinton had strongly endorsed the treaty. But the administration did little to push it through to ratification during its first two years, when Democrats controlled the Senate, leaving its fate up to the Republicans after the GOP won control of Congress in the 1994 midterm elections.

Many GOP senators support the accord, as do Bush administration officials who participated in negotiating it such as former secretary of state James A. Baker III and former White House national security adviser Brent Scowcroft.

But hawks such as Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss.; John Kyl, R-Ariz.; and Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms, R-N.C., waged a vigorous last-ditch fight against ratification. Gaffney rounded up plenty of GOP moral support for them, circulating in addition to the Dole letter a letter of opposition from former defense secretaries Richard Cheney and Caspar W. Weinberger, and other former top officials in the Reagan and Bush administrations.

By Thursday morning, Lott, Kyl and their allies appeared to be within reach of the 34 votes needed to block approval; a two-thirds Senate majority is needed to ratify treaties.

Militants in Bosnia Threaten Lives of Election Observers

By Tracy Wilkinson
LOS ANGELES TIMES

SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

As hundreds of Americans flood Bosnia to observe this weekend's national elections, the U.S. Embassy warned Thursday of a group of "moujahedeen" (Muslim fighters) here who have threatened to kill Americans.

U.S. citizens will be advised to stay away from an area of central Bosnia where the presence of Islamic fundamentalists is strongest and where a string of confrontations between those individuals and NATO troops has escalated, Western officials said.

American officials formally protested to the government of Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic Thursday and demanded the expulsion of the men. Under terms of the U.S.-brokered peace accord that ended Bosnia's war, he promised to eject hundreds of foreign fighters, many from Iran, who trained and fought alongside the Muslim-led Bosnian government army.

The Clinton administration had to certify that foreign fighters were out of Bosnia to trigger a multimillion-dollar "equip-and-train" program to arm Bosnia's army. The first shipment of weapons arrived in Sarajevo last month, after that certification.

Continued moujahedeen presence "is very serious," said a Western official. "It continues to represent a real threat to (NATO). ... The threats have become more and more intense recently."

On Saturday, Bosnia holds its first post-war election amid persistent ethnic tension, the threat of violence and a lack of basic freedoms. Going as far back as April, American and Polish NATO patrols in a region of central Bosnia south of the cities of Doboj and Maglaj have been harassed by groups of as many as 15 men whose beards and attire seem to put them in the category of Islamic fundamentalists, Western officials said.

The threats have been oral, and no exchange of gunfire has been

reported. But in recent weeks, the men specifically threatened to "kill any Americans who come into town," a senior Western official said.

To make their point, the men dragged a finger across their necks, imitating the slitting of someone's throat, the Western officials said.

As many as 2,000 moujahedeen are believed to have been working in Bosnia during the war and many left after the signing of the peace accord last December. But a large number are believed to have been reissued Bosnian passports or to have married into Bosnian families as a way to skirt the requirements of the peace plan and remain in the country.

In its protest, the U.S. Embassy "made it clear that these people are out. (the U.S.) wants immediate action from Izetbegovic."

Thursday's protest to Izetbegovic was the first ever on this issue, the officials said. There was no comment from the Bosnian government.

Probe to Begin into Allegations CIA Sold Crack to Fund Contras

By Michael A. Fletcher
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus Thursday called for federal investigations into allegations that the Central Intelligence Agency was instrumental in introducing crack cocaine into black communities in the 1980s as part of a plan to raise money for the Nicaraguan Contra rebels then fighting to overthrow their country's leftist government.

The allegations were raised in a series of articles published last month by the San Jose Mercury News, in which the newspaper reported that the highly addictive form of cocaine was smuggled into the United States in the 1980s and sold to inner-city blacks in Los Angeles to help support the Contras' struggle.

The CIA has flatly denied the allegations, and deny any links with two key people named in the stories as CIA operatives who worked with the U.S.-backed Contras. In a letter to Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., who has led the calls for an investigation, CIA Director John M. Deutch said a review of agency records "supports the conclusion

that the agency neither participated in nor condoned drug trafficking by Contra forces."

He added that while he believes there is "no substance" to the newspaper allegations, he has asked the agency's inspector general to conduct an internal review of the matter. Attorney General Janet Reno also wrote to Waters and said the Justice Department has conducted a preliminary inquiry into the matter that found no evidence to support the allegations against the CIA. The caucus has asked both agencies to investigate the allegations.

The official denials did little to dampen the emotions the allegations have ignited among black leaders. At the Congressional Black Caucus' annual legislative conference, which began Wednesday, many took the newspaper's stories as confirmation of a conspiracy theory that has circulated in the black community for years about why so many poor, black neighborhoods are awash in drugs.

"When these horrible things happen in the black community, people feel there must be someone behind it," said C. Vernon Gray, a political-science professor at Morgan State University. "Being being unable to

explain it, it becomes a conspiracy theory, the work of an unseen hand."

Gray said these suspicions are fanned by such incidents as the infamous Tuskegee experiment in which 399 African-American men with syphilis were not treated for 40 years to allow government researchers to study the natural course of the disease. Only after the fact was the experiment revealed.

The intense interest in the possibility that the U.S. government helped flood black communities with drugs drew more than 2,500 people many who crowded into a large auditorium for an emotionally charged discussion of the issue.

"There has been no war on drugs," Waters said to a cheering crowd. "There has been no real effort to interdict the drugs coming into this country. ... The people that we have depended on, now we find have responsibility for help bringing it in the first place."

Wednesday, political activist Dick Gregory, and radio talk-show host and national NAACP board member Joe Madison were arrested outside of CIA headquarters as they attempted to hand-deliver a copy of the newspapers series to Deutch.

Perot-Choate Ticket Discovers First Obstacle: Choate's Mom

By Donald P. Baker
THE WASHINGTON POST

DALLAS

On his first full day as a candidate, Ross Perot's newly anointed running mate, Washington political economist Pat Choate, wasted no time trying to raise the Reform Party's flimsy standing in the polls.

He began by asking his mother to support the new party or at least stop bad mouthing it.

Betty Choate, 84, who lives in the crossroads town of Maypearl, about 40 miles south of here, was asked Tuesday night what she thought her son's chances were of becoming vice president. "I don't think it will ever amount to much, but I'm proud people have that much respect for him," she told a Dallas reporter who had telephoned.

Wednesday, Betty Choate told another inquiring reporter, "My son called me this morning and told me not to give any more interviews."

"She's a straight shooter," Choate said proudly. "I called her and said,

'well, Mom, I see you're giving interviews.' She said, 'you guys have a hard job to do,' and I agreed, so she told me, 'go work hard.'"

That's what Choate began to do Wednesday, introducing himself and taking questions for 45 minutes at Perot-Choate headquarters here. His access to reporters was in marked contrast to would-be president Perot, who hasn't held a news conference in more than three years. Perot prefers to communicate with the public via appearances on television, in 30-minute paid "infomercials" and on talk shows.

Choate said he too will use the airwaves a lot. "I love talk radio," said Choate, who until Tuesday hosted a weekly show distributed by a radio network that he began earlier this year. Choate said he won't appear on his former network, but will appear on other talk shows and with Perot on his infomercials.

Infomercials are a great way of reaching the "vast number of angry Americans" who distrust the media,

Choate said. He added that there is "an increasing disconnect between the elite and the masses of people."

Earlier Wednesday, Choate, discounted a recent poll showing 74 percent of respondents thought Perot had neither the personality nor the temperament to be president. "I think they feel that way because of the images that are being presented to them by the national media, and the spin that comes out from both political parties," he said on NBC "Today" show.

"Once people come to know Perot," Choate added, "I believe that they will swing to him and want him because, of the three candidates, Perot is the only one that is really talking in detail about the substantive issues."

In addition to writing six books and hundreds of articles, Choate teaches part-time at the George Washington University graduate school of political management.

"One friend described him as 'a knee-jerk moderate.'"

Federal Trade Commission OKs Time Warner Mega-Merger

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Federal Trade Commission announced Thursday that Time Warner Inc. could proceed with its \$6.5 billion acquisition of Turner Broadcasting System, though the agency imposed restrictions it said would prevent the entertainment giants from unilaterally raising cable TV prices and limiting program choices.

The FTC announced that its five commissioners voted 3-2 on Wednesday to approve the deal. The vote came after Time Warner agreed to a half-dozen restrictions aimed mainly at limiting the influence of cable giant Tele-Communications Inc., a major Turner shareholder, on the new company.

The decision did not appease representatives of some consumers groups, who complained that consumers would face higher prices for cable TV and less program choice.

The deal awaits approval by the Federal Communications Commission, which must review the transfer of Turner's Atlanta television station license to Time Warner. But the FTC review was regarded as the most serious threat to the merger and company officials have scheduled separate meetings with Time Warner and Turner shareholders on Oct. 10 to approve the transaction.

The combination of Time Warner and Turner would create the world's biggest media conglomerate, with about \$20 billion in annual revenue coming not only from cable TV operations but books, magazines, movies, music and telephone service. Yet it had been the deal's potential impact on the nation's cable industry that worried regulators.

FCC Eases Way for Utilities To Enter Telecommunications

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Federal regulators moved Thursday to make it easier for gas and electric companies to get into such telecommunications fields as cable TV and the telephone business.

The new rules approved unanimously by the Federal Communications Commission will ease the way for public power utilities to use their vast in-house communications networks — which often run alongside existing phone and cable TV lines — to transmit phone and TV signals and offer other telecommunications services.

Several utilities have already taken steps to enter the telecommunications business. The FCC's action gives the same right to utilities whose service areas cross state lines.

The FCC rule change is the final step needed to implement the wishes of Congress, which earlier this year passed a sweeping telecommunications reform law that lifted the telecommunications restrictions that had been imposed on utility companies by the 61-year-old Public Utility Holding Company Act.

The rule change is expected to ignite a wave of new investment in telecommunications by the \$200 billion power industry, which itself is in the midst of radical change as it loses monopoly status and faces new competition in providing electric power.

Federal Reserve Sees Stable Prices In Nationwide Survey Results

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Despite rising wages across the United States, prices generally remain steady, the Federal Reserve reported Wednesday.

The Fed's latest nationwide survey of economic conditions did little to clarify the outlook for inflation or the economy for the central bank policy-makers — who will meet Sept. 24 to consider whether to raise short-term interest rates. Fed officials are concerned that labor markets have become so tight that a faster rise in wages could cause inflation to worsen.

The survey, conducted eight times a year by the 12 regional Federal Reserve banks, found plenty of evidence of tight labor markets. That was particularly true in the Richmond, Va., district, which includes the Washington and Baltimore metropolitan areas, where the Fed said such tightness was "widespread." Similar conditions were reported for most of the center of the country included in the Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City districts.

In the Cleveland area, the difficulty in finding workers has meant that "the cost of new hires is accelerating," the Cleveland Fed reported. And the Minneapolis Fed said there is "upward pressure on entry-level wages."

EPA to Develop Stricter, Child-Based Standards for Toxins

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration announced plans Wednesday to develop stricter standards for toxic substances based on their effects on children.

In the past, acceptable pollution levels often were determined by studies of the general population. Environmental groups have lobbied to adopt child-based standards instead, arguing that children often are more susceptible to environmental toxins than adults and are not adequately protected by existing regulations.

"We must meet the challenge of protecting our children from toxins in the environment," said Administrator Carol M. Browner of the Environmental Protection Agency. "An awareness of children's unique susceptibility and exposure to toxic threats must guide every action we take to protect public health and the environment."

The timing of the announcement, coming eight weeks before the presidential election, did not escape the notice of environmental groups and others.

"The report is long overdue," said Gina Solomon, a Natural Resources Defense Council specialist on the environmental effects of pollution on children. "But if the EPA really carries this out, it will mean a whole new way of looking at how chemicals affect children."

OPINION

Institute Policies Noble – but Feasible?

The quality of student life on campus is an issue often addressed informally. In the walkway conversations of students, in meetings of student activities, and over dinner at the local dining hall, the resounding consensus is disappointment.

We are certainly not the first to deem MIT devoid of a strong campus spirit. But some opinions must be repeated. The level of attention and interest that the Institute has given to the activities and lives of its student body has been nothing short of dismal. The reciprocation of loyalty the students express is thus not surprising.

Two administrative innovations of the last few weeks, however, are worth applauding. Although independent in their origins, both moves are small steps directed toward a much-needed boost in the quality of student activities.

In the short term, student activities will benefit from less financially restrictive treatment from the Office of Residence and Campus Activities. Since it is estimated that more than half of registered activities maintained accounts outside of MIT in the past, the move to accommodate these "illegitimate" accounts by RCA makes a stronger statement than an any real impact. For one, it allows students to take ultimate responsibility of the finances of their organizations. At the same time, it recognizes RCA's faulty handling of accounts in the past, and will hopefully prevent further botching.

On a longer term, the re-engineering co-curricular design team has made a number of recommendations that aim to consolidate over-managed activities. For most, re-engineering at

MIT is an entity too nebulous to be grappled with. In the past, the wealth of re-engineering benefits has taken form in rechanneled mail distribution, closed offices, and consolidation of obscured administrative groups; things that the self-serving student, faculty, or staff member would unlikely lose much sleep over.

This most recent effort finally brings re-engineering onto the front burner of daily life. The proposed Central Allocations Board would act to coordinate and conserve the resources that are presently spread about the Institute, and potentially cut down on bureaucratic holdup. The Events Management Center would help student activities to sort out planning and orchestration of events while minimizing redundant paperwork. On the high-plane mission level of re-engineering, we heartily support the intent of these proposals.

Ultimately, however, the day-to-day quality of student activities will depend not on organizational and administrative shuffling, but rather, on the availability of funds from a thus far tight-fisted Institute. Hiring new personnel to oversee underfunded activities seems clearly misguided. Policy change and reorganization is important, but money, as is often the case, is the bottom line.

Changes that are intended to improve alumni satisfaction and bring money back into the Institute must be realistic. If MIT is truly devoted to this end, it will meet re-engineering's policy goals with a commensurate sum of funding. After all, MIT may well be successful in trimming the fat, but at some point the question will remain: "Where's the beef?"



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

Editorial

the Institute has given to the activities and lives of its student body has been nothing short of dismal. The reciprocation of loyalty the students express is thus not surprising.

Two administrative innovations of the last few weeks, however, are worth applauding. Although independent in their origins, both moves are small steps directed toward a much-needed boost in the quality of student activities.

In the short term, student activities will benefit from less financially restrictive treatment from the Office of Residence and Campus Activities. Since it is estimated that more than half of registered activities maintained accounts outside of MIT in the past, the move to accommodate these "illegitimate" accounts by RCA makes a stronger statement than an any real impact. For one, it allows students to take ultimate responsibility of the finances of their organizations. At the same time, it recognizes RCA's faulty handling of accounts in the past, and will hopefully prevent further botching.

On a longer term, the re-engineering co-curricular design team has made a number of recommendations that aim to consolidate over-managed activities. For most, re-engineering at

Party Security Must Be Worked Out

The recent confirmation into policy of last spring's pilot plan governing all large, late-night parties comes after a consensus among administrators in charge of the policy that the pilot

plan had proved successful in the scant two months it was in effect last spring. It is unclear what prompted the hasty solidification of the temporary plan. Nonetheless, administrators in charge of the new policy must see to it that student groups are equally approving before the policy is set in stone.

The permanent policy stipulates that proposals for large parties will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and that Walker Memorial is off limits as a spot for large parties — reasonable requirements, and reasonably justified. Clearly, after the shooting last December of a Northeastern University student at Walker, there was no question that MIT needed to look closely at the security of large events. MIT has experienced a number of violent incidents in the past few years, including a 1989 shooting in the Kresge Auditorium parking lot and two stabbings in 1991 at the Student Center. MIT can not tolerate a problem with safety when the consequences could be — and indeed have been — deadly.

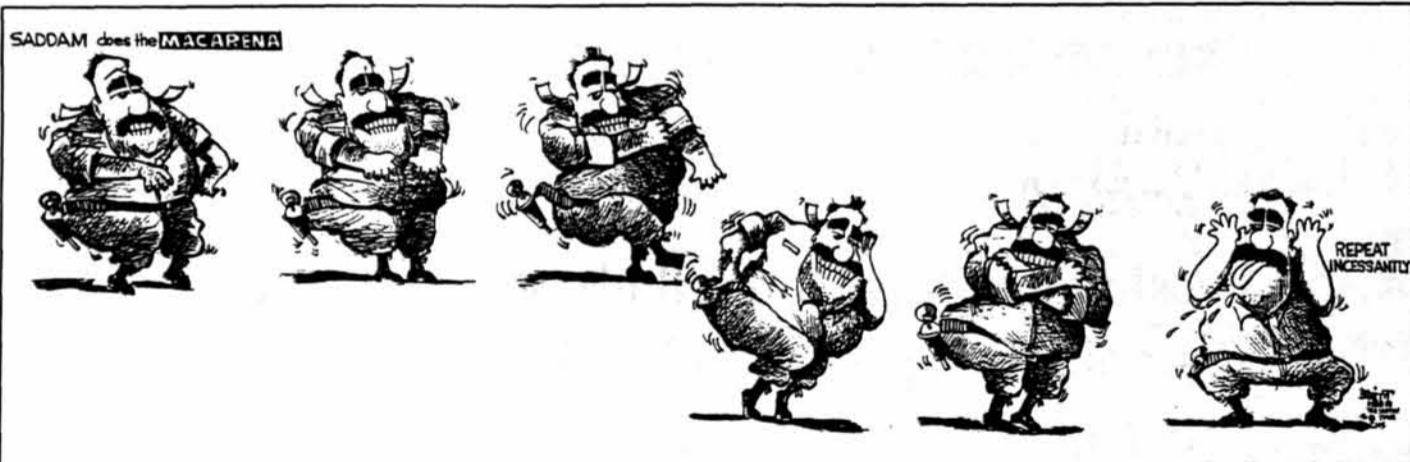
The goal should be to put guidelines in place to keep partygoers safe while still allowing them to carry out and have fun at an event. The guidelines in the recent policy certainly seem aimed at safety, including ones that separate the sale of tickets from the point of entry to events, close admission to events an hour before the event ends, and require party advertisements to mention metal detectors if they will be present (the policy also

specifies requirements for metal detectors). There is also a proposal to have an RCA staff member present at events, and an idea of requiring event organizers to make a post-evaluation of their events.

While all of these guidelines may indeed shore up safety, it remains to be seen if they may also mire events in rules and restrictions, making them difficult for organizers and cumbersome for the people who attend them. Students have not been consulted as extensively as was warranted by the impact of the policy, which was in effect for only the last two months of last term. MIT should pride itself on the freedom that it has often allowed its students in organizing and managing their own activities. Administrators must look to students for more meaningful input if students are expected to be happy working with these rules.

The criteria for parties must also be applied equally to events as they are considered on an individual basis. Already a series of events for the Sloan School of Management has been granted an exception to hold its events in Walker because the events are of a "cultural" nature and do not quite qualify as parties. There would seem to be no reason that Alpha Phi Alpha's annual step party is not equally deserving of the "cultural" event label and therefore exemptible from the rule — except that the event was the site of last year's shooting and is probably an unlikely candidate for an exemption.

Clearly many of the details of the policy and the ways in which they will be applied to events need to be straightened out. Most essential is the need to work with students to create a policy that will be effective and beneficial for all parties involved.



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

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

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

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

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Letters To The Editor

Altschul Should Avoid Whining

I am sitting here reading the column in Tuesday's issue by Brett Altschul '99 titled "Planning Ahead Can Bring Unforeseeable Difficulties," and I cannot help but wonder whether there is a point in the entire article.

It would help to make some sense once in a while. The entire column is just Altschul whining about how indecisive he is and how he is not ready to make tough decisions. Why is it that people like to use *The Tech* to complain and whine about their lives? Does Altschul have so much free time that he can sit around all day and think five, six, or seven years into the future about what classes he might be taking? It's like planning what kind of television you want to buy six years down the road.

Altschul criticizes his friends for over-preparation while he himself is worrying whether he will take Relativistic Quantum Field Theory III (8.325). Is that not the biggest joke in the world? This just goes to show how people who have no social life and are on the verge of a nervous breakdown are prone to just bark randomly, desperately hoping for attention.

Minghui Kuang '97

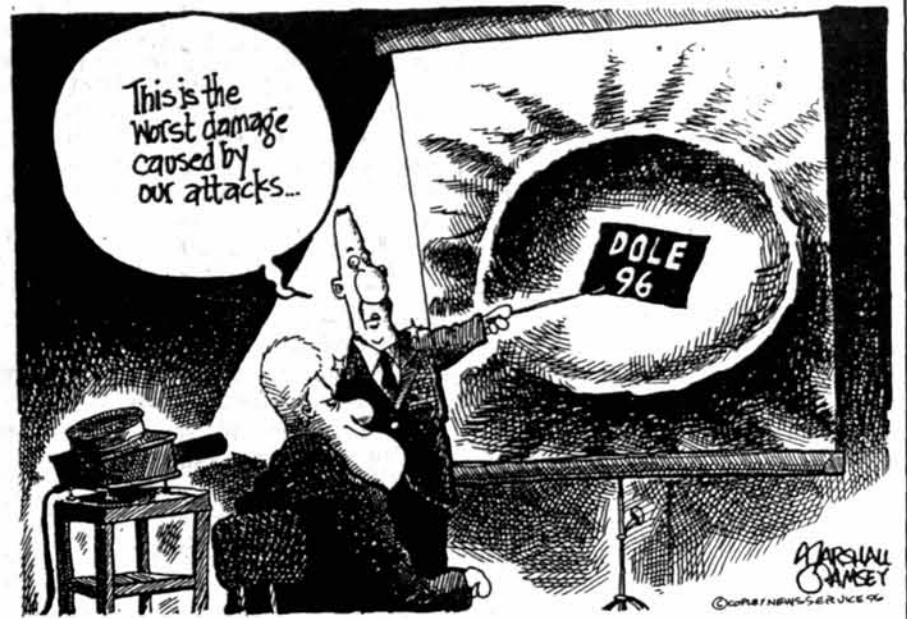
Altschul Lacks Concision

Brett Altschul '99 should be learning something from *The Tech's* headline writer, since that person succeeded in accurately summarizing Altschul's bombastic 400-plus word article using only six words ["Planning Ahead Can Bring Unforeseeable Difficulties," Sept. 10].

Eric J. Plosky '99

ERRATUM

A story in last Friday's issue of *The Tech* about the *U.S. News & World Report* ranking of the nation's best universities ["MIT Ranked 5th for Second Year," Sept. 10] failed to mention all of the schools that rounded out the top 10. The full list is as follows: 1. Yale University, 2. Princeton University, 3. Harvard University, 4. Duke University, 5. MIT, 6. Stanford University, 7. Dartmouth College, 8. Brown University, 9. (tied) California Institute of Technology and Northwestern University.



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RAVE

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Undergraduate Association



- The UA is holding an **Open House** on Saturday, September 21, 1-3pm, on the fourth floor of the student center. Come learn more about the UA, and ways to get involved. *A free luncheon will be provided!*
- Freshman Class Council elections will be held Sept. 26-28. Get your election packet today from the UA office; W20-401.
- The Class of '98 is running the Junior Class Donut Stand in Lobby 7, serving fresh donuts and hot coffee daily. A caffeine and sugar rush to start your day!
- The UA will be nominating people to serve on the Presidential Task Forces. If you are interested, please contact Richard Lee, rlee@mit.edu, for more information.
- UA on the Web! <http://web.mit.edu/activities/ua/ua.html>

THE ARTS

ARTS AROUND BOSTON

The tools for finding your way around Boston

By Joel M. Rosenberg
STAFF REPORTER

So now you've been here a few weeks. Or a few years. Or too many years. What have you done since you've been here? Studied. Drank some. Slept. Probably not much. Well, it's not because there's nothing to do. It's time you checked out what this town has to offer.

There are a bunch of good places to get info on what's going on in Boston, Cambridge, and the suburbs accessible by T. The first and probably best place to look is *The Boston Phoenix*, which comes out every Thursday. Just this week they reduced its price from \$1.50 to \$1, but you can get exactly the same thing for free at college student centers (including our own) on Friday afternoons. The only thing they change is the title — the free copy is called *B.A.D.*, which stands for *Boston After Dark*.

Just like a real paper, it has multiple sections, including a news section, which is where some of the club listings appear. It has a styles section complete with a dining guide, an adult entertainment section (always interesting), and, most useful, an arts and entertainment section, which lists everything from upcoming Hot Tix (great for learning when tickets for big shows go on sale) to movie reviews and club listings by night. Most clubs take out ads with upcoming shows as well, so it's a great resource considering it's at most \$1.

Another good place to check is *The Improper Bostonian*. It's a less comprehensive biweekly paper (comes out Wednesdays, which it did last on Tuesday) that has reviews, articles on local happenings, and a live music listing that is better than the *Phoenix's* because bands' names — instead of the clubs where they are playing — are boldfaced. Aside from this, the *Phoenix* beats the *Bostonian* in most categories. *The Improper Bostonian* is less stylish and concentrates more on local politics, but it can be picked up on many streets

around Boston and Cambridge and is available outside the main entrance to MIT at 77 Massachusetts Avenue, next to the newspaper machines.

Other places to look are *The Boston Tab* or *The Cambridge Tab*, which come out every Tuesday. They are usually in three sections: news, arts and entertainment, and a job supplement that is usually just thrown away. Boston and Cambridge have different news sections, but the arts and entertainment section is the same. It's definitely the worst for finding out what's going on everywhere, but it occasionally highlights some event that would otherwise only be footnoted in the other papers. They're basically community newspapers, focused mainly on local events.

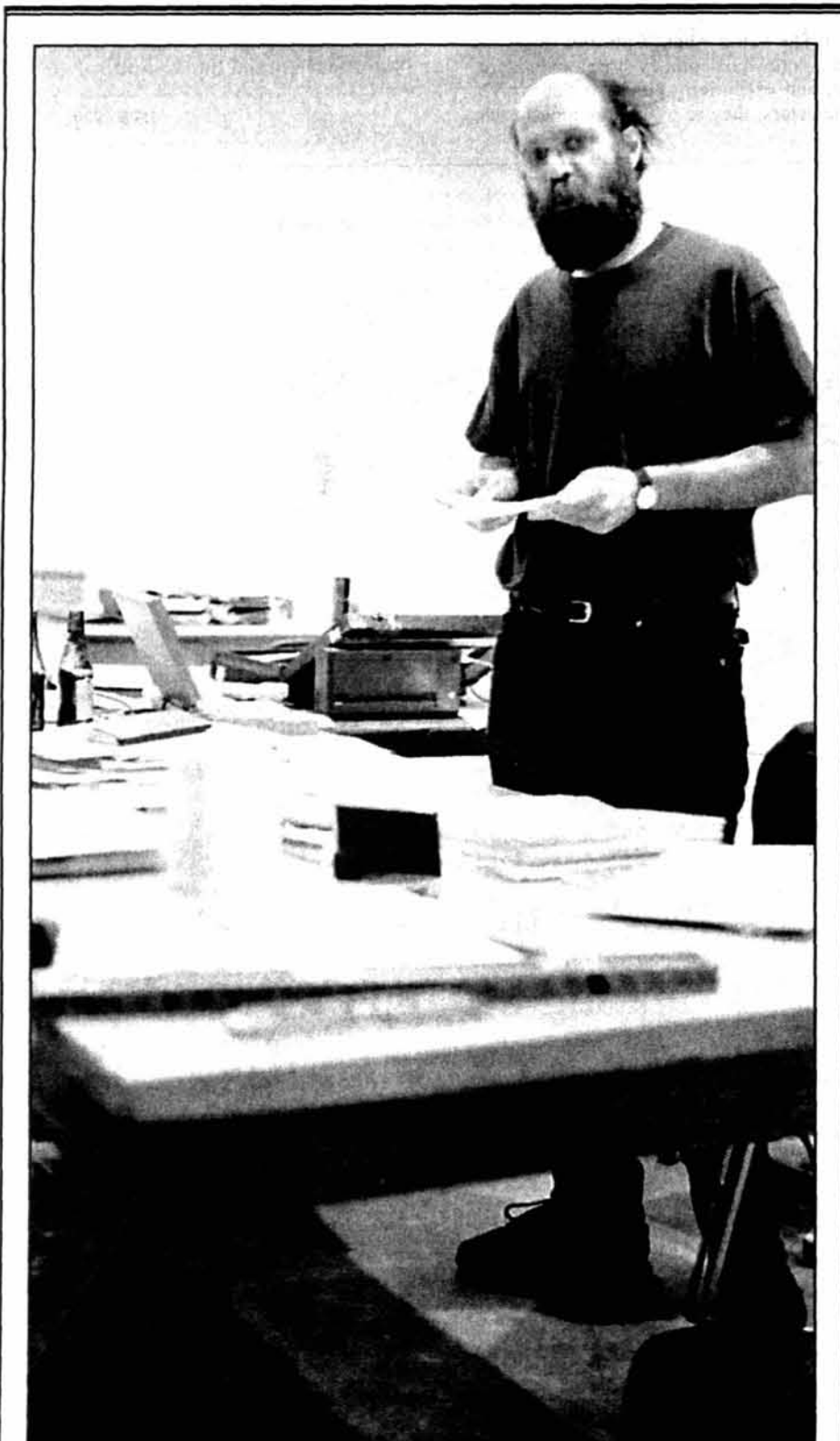
There's also *The Tech*,

which comes out on Tuesdays and Fridays. Different places like to advertise here. The Council for the Arts at MIT, as part of their "ongoing series of student arts excursions," makes available to MIT students free tickets to good stuff in Boston. The Cambridge Galleria advertised last week about a free Poe concert at the mall. *The Tech* also has

reviews of new movies and campus happenings, like the Student Loan Art Exhibition (currently at the List Visual Arts Center, on the first floor of the Media Lab), where students can view artwork and enter a lottery to borrow a piece for the school year.

Tech Talk, which comes out every Wednesday, has a calendar for arts at MIT and a list of lectures and seminars, but not much for the local entertainment scene. And there's the *Boston Globe Calendar* which comes out with the Thursday paper, but it's better to get *The Boston Phoenix* if that is all you care about.

Next week: What there is to do in Boston.



Joseph Grigely sets up his project *Ordinary Conversations* yesterday in the List Visual Arts Center.

BOOK REVIEW

Mr. Magnets kicks off new authors series at MIT

DRIVING FORCE: THE NATURAL MAGIC OF MAGNETS

James D. Livingston.
Harvard University Press.
\$24.95.

By Joel M. Rosenberg
STAFF REPORTER

Many children go through a phase, perhaps near the age of 12, when they take things apart to see how they work. I reached this phase about 50 years late," writes Materials Science and Engineering Senior Lecturer James D. Livingston in his book *Driving Force: The Natural Magic of Magnets*.

Livingston, who is also known as Mr. Magnets, will be the first writer in a new authors series sponsored by the MIT Press Bookstore and the Humanities Library. This Monday, he will be signing copies of his book at 5:30 p.m. in the Humanities Reading Room, 14S-200.

The book deals exclusively with magnets, describing their past, present, and future applications

and history. Livingston's light and conversational style makes the material easy to read, quite accessible, and rather entertaining. His lifetime of experience with magnets, both at MIT and at General Electric where he did research and development (which he refers to often), comes through in his thorough treatment of the subject.

Livingston starts out by presenting a general working knowledge of magnets, and then moves into individual uses chapter by chapter. The large extent to which things and people make use of magnets becomes apparent quickly as the subject changes from stereos and speakers to power plants and shoplifting equipment to medical applications and beyond.

By framing magnetic developments in a historic context, Livingston impresses audiences with much more than just natural magic; there's stuff on quack doctors trying to heal people using "magnetic therapy." While the idea has no scientific basis, it still helped to lay the groundwork for what was later to become the study of healing and the mind, since people did seem to get better from the quack treatments.

The battle of AC versus DC is even more incredible: Harold Brown, a DC proponent, challenged George Westinghouse, an AC supporter, to a duel by electricity, gradually increasing voltages of each person's favorite type of electricity until one either surrendered or died. The duel never happened, AC and Westinghouse won, and today, both are extremely widespread.

Parts of the book satisfy the way-things-work spirit that engineers tend to love. Other parts are just plain magnet trivia, explaining things like what cow magnets are (three-inch-long cylinders that cows swallow and keep in their stomachs to prevent steel objects they may gulp down by accident from ripping up their intestines). The book definitely makes it clear that magnets don't just hold tests and report cards to the refrigerator.

While not as suspenseful as a Stephen King novel, the book is definitely worth reading if the subject interests you. After reading the book, it will become apparent that magnets are everywhere. They're in the computer you type on. They're in the television you watch. And they're all over the car that you'll drive to the bookstore. They're in the power plant that supplies the electricity for the lights at the bookstore. They're in and on the refrigerator that keeps snacks cold for breaks from reading your book, and in the stereo that provides background music for your reading. And now they're in the book itself.

FILM REVIEW

Rosemary's pregnancy by the hands of witches

ROSEMARY'S BABY

Directed by Roman Polanski.
Starring Mia Farrow, John Cassavetes, Ruth Gordon, Sidney Blackmer,
Ralph Bellamy, Charles Grodin.
LSC Friday Classics. Tonight in 10-250,
6:30 p.m.

By Stephen Brophy

STAFF REPORTER

In an inspired bit of Friday the 13th programming, LSC will be screening one of the great classic horror films this evening, *Rosemary's Baby*. By turns comic, grotesque, and genuinely terrifying, this 1968 tale of a really difficult pregnancy proves the old adage that it pays to be paranoid — sometimes they really are out to get you.

John Cassavetes and Mia Farrow play Guy and Rosemary Woodhouse, a newly married couple who move into a gloomy old Central Park West apartment building. (One of the great effects of cinematographer William Fraker, who also worked on great films like *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, is to make the dark apartment grow increasingly light and airy as the heroine's suspicions deepen.) They live next door to Roman and Minnie Castavet, played by Sidney Blackmer and Ruth Gordon (of *Harold and Maude*), an eccentric old couple who turn out to be witches. Soon Guy, a struggling actor, lands a lead role in a successful Broadway play — for which he had previously been turned down — when the actor chosen in his place mysteriously goes blind. To celebrate, he suggests to Rosemary that they have a baby. And then the fun begins.

ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

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

★★★½ **The Birdcage**

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

The birdcage



Nathan Lane and Robin Williams star in *Birdcage*, showing tomorrow night at LSC.

amount of criticism for not condemning heroin use. The story is told from the view of heroin users, without judgement, which makes the story feel completely genuine and totally fascinating. —David V. Rodriguez. *Sony Nickelodeon.*

★★ **The Truth About Cats and Dogs**

This screwball comedy brims over with appeal and execution. Although this works for the actors, they're often drowning in the

sappy plot constructs and the ridiculously "cute" situations. Comedienne Janeane Garofalo plays Abby, a successful pet doctor who has a talk-radio show. In one scene, her no-nonsense advice wins over British photographer Brian (Ben Chaplin), whose accent is to die for. Things get complicated, though, when the photographer mistakes Abby for her ditzy (but tall and blonde) next-door

THE TRUTH ABOUT CATS & DOGS

★★★★ **Trainspotting**

Trainspotting tells the story of a group of Scottish heroin users. Already released in England, it has become the third-largest grossing British-made film and has received a large

OTS, Page 9

What's in a Z

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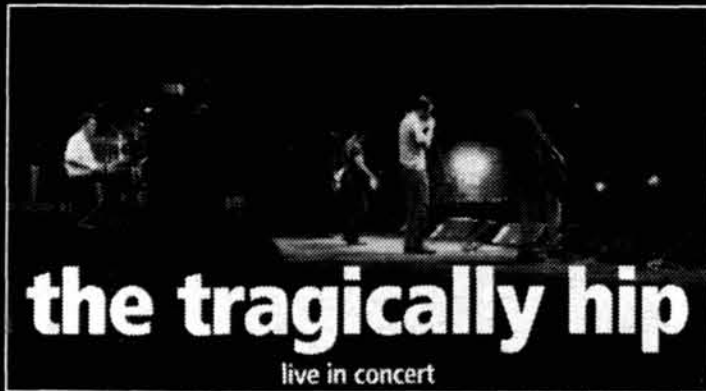
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Rosemary's Baby shows at LSC tonight (Friday the 13th)

Rosemary's Baby, from Page 6

One of the reasons this film works so well is its setting, emphasized by the leisurely pan across Manhattan with which it opens. It's hard to believe that a successful coven of witches could be operating in such an urban environment. And the witches are played by veterans like Gordon, Blackmer, Elisha Cook Jr., and Patsy Kelly, which seems more ludicrous than frightening. Also, the story is told entirely from Rosemary's point of view, and the possibility that her fears are induced by the hormonal changes that accompany her pregnancy always hovers in the background.

Rosemary's Baby marks the final high of an interesting career in horror movies for producer William Castle. Most of his previ-

ous efforts were low-budget thrillers like *House on Haunted Hill* and *The Tingler*, which succeeded more because of Castle's promotional stunts than for any inherent qualities of the films themselves. Watch for Castle playing a man at a phone booth in this movie.

Less than a year after the release of *Rosemary's Baby*, director Roman Polanski was involved in a real-life horror when his pregnant wife and several friends were murdered by a satanic cult led by Charles Manson. And a little more than a decade later, the building in which *Rosemary's Baby* was filmed became the site of the assassination of John Lennon, who shared an apartment there with his wife, Yoko Ono.

ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —



In *The Truth About Cats and Dogs*, showing tonight at LSC, Janeane Garofalo tells the listeners to her radio show that she's tall and blond, and sends a friend to fill in for her on a blind date.

OTS, from Page 7

neighbor Noelle (Uma Thurman). Aside from a "touching" phone conversation between Abby and Brian, there's not much new in this retread of the old *Cyrano de Bergerac* premise; meanwhile, director Michael Lehmann (*Heathers*) seems to have succumbed to the same Hollywood system he subverted in his wickedly funny debut. — SCD. Tonight at LSC.



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Announcements

Gay and Jewish? Am Tikva is holding high holiday services at Hebrew College in Brookline. See Tuesdays Tech (9/10/96 issue) for details or call 926-2536.



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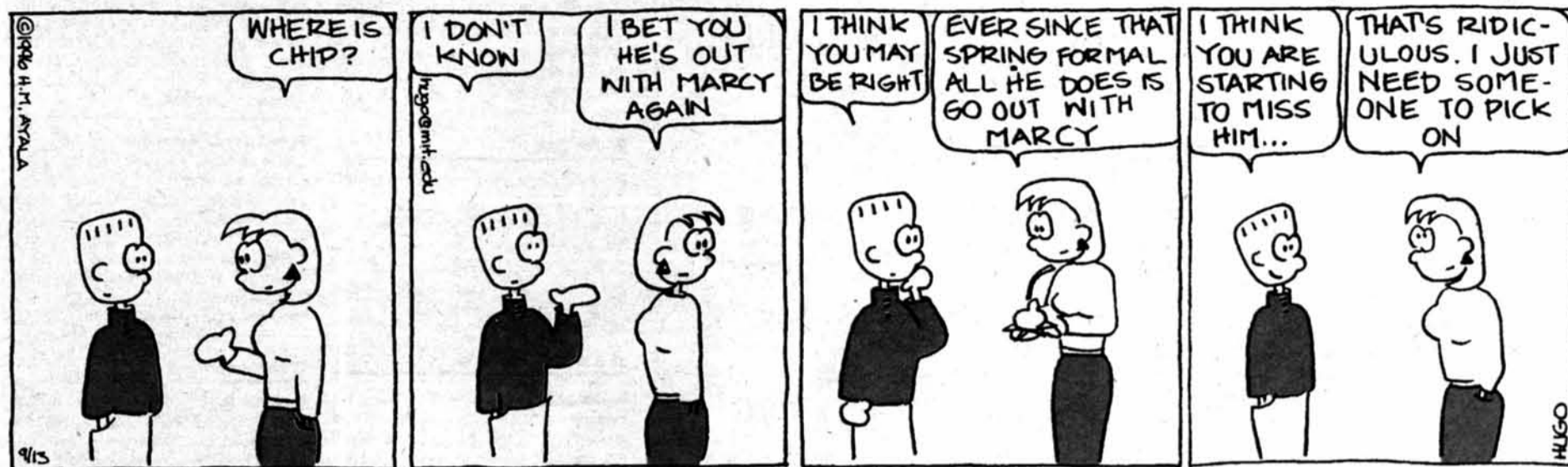
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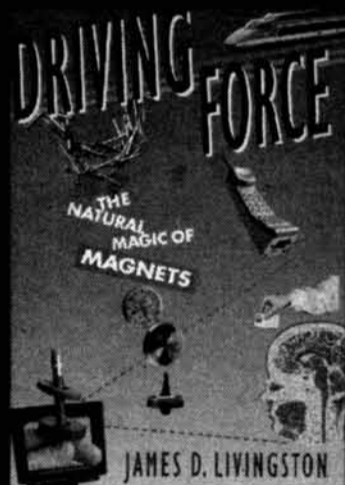


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INDRANATH NEOGY—THE TECH
The women's rugby team practices rucking on Wednesday evening.

Suspects In Bicycle Theft Still At Large

Theft, from Page 1

the area," but "there was no luck" finding anyone, Driscoll said.

Theft was 'brazen'

"It was a pretty brazen crime," Driscoll said.

"It happened right in front of McCormick in broad daylight. That was pretty surprising," Brown said. "The response time by the CPs was very good."

There were no injuries, though the victim and Brown were considerably shaken up, according to the police report.

A search is under way for the three suspects in the case. The victim described them as follows: black male, 6'0", about 230 pounds; black male, about 5'11", early 20s, medium build. No description of the third subject was available.

Students Optimistic Over New IS Plans

Athena, from Page 1

about what it would take and what we would need to do if we wanted to do a real project," Schmidt said.

Student focus group adds input

A student focus group met to discuss Quickstation issues in August.

"Generally I think [Quickstations are] going to be more convenient," said Kerem Limon '97, a student in the focus group.

Students will be able to use the five minutes between classes to check e-mail or maybe look at MIT Web pages. "It seems like a good idea," he said.

"I think it's going to cut down a lot on cluster congestion," said Adam D. D'Amico '99, another student on the focus group. The idea is partly inspired by computer systems at Columbia University and Stanford University, he said.

"I think it's a really good idea. It's a step forward to getting rid of the waiting in line in clusters," D'Amico said.

D'Amico expressed some reservations about the project. It may be difficult to make sure that students will not stay logged in for too long, he said.

Dan McGuire contributed to the reporting in this story.



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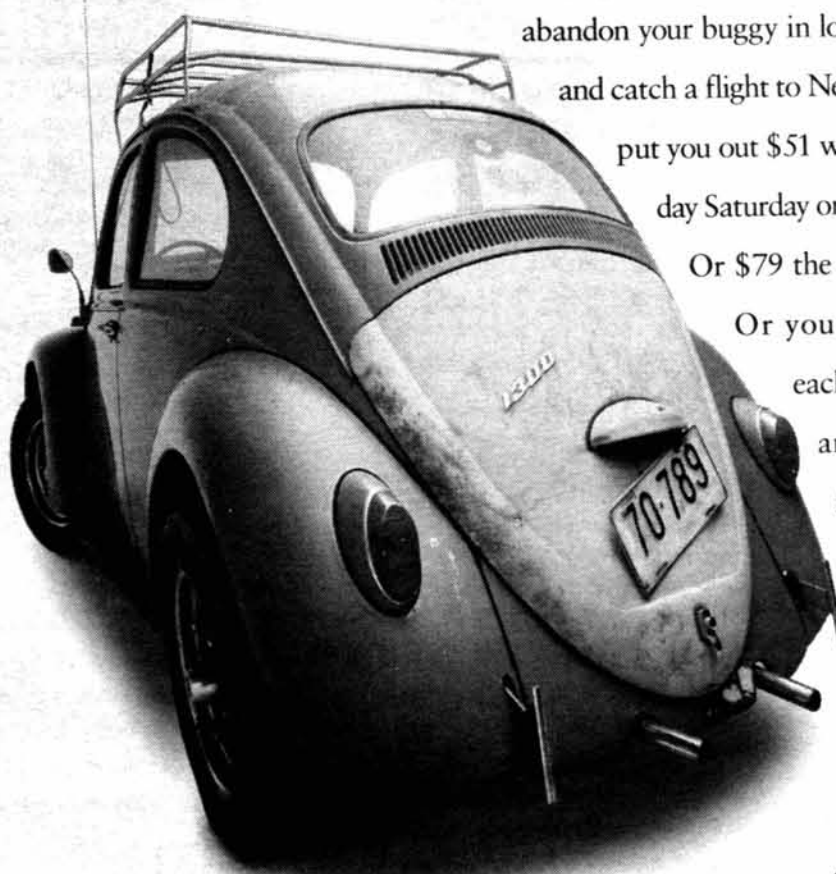
◆ Yom Kippur is Sept. 22-23. Tickets are required for all Sept. 22 KOL NIDRE SERVICES and are available for students and members of the MIT community. Ticket pickup at M.I.T Hillel through Sept. 20 and in Lobby 10 Sept. 18 & 19.

◆ A PRE-FAST MEAL will be served at Hillel on Sunday, Sept. 22. Prepayment by Sept. 18 with valdine or cash.

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Thursday, September 19 Room 12-102 3pm - 4pm
 Thursday, September 26 Room 12-102 3pm - 4pm

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Safe Ride Ridership Down Significantly

Crime, from Page 1

occurred after Safe Ride was outsourced to Standard Parking, the private company that has managed MIT's five-year-old safety shuttle service since last January. However, Glavin insisted that the drop was simply a coincidence.

Decreased usage "just happened around the time we outsourced," she said. Safe Ride "is still a heavily used system."

The decline in usage could also be the result of differences in record keeping, she said. Ridership also may have levelled off because of wait time and a lack of recent improvements.

"A standard [Safe Ride] loop is 20 to 25 minutes, and we may have reached a tolerance level," Glavin said.

Larcenies up 10 percent

The number of larcenies rose slightly from 372 to 388 for the first half of this year, but the value of stolen property decreased.

Property valued at \$290,071 was stolen during the first six months of the year, down from \$303,667 in 1995. However, this drop came after a doubling in larcenies from 1994 to 1995.

"You can't go by the numbers alone," Glavin said. "The number of larcenies remain roughly the same from year to year," even if the value of the stolen property changes, she said.

Theft of computer memory has fallen off sharply. Memory chip thefts were a large problem last year. Many people who were victims of computer memory theft would notice that their computers seemingly inexplicably ran much

slower than usual. Upon opening up their computers, they would usually discover that most of their computer memory was gone.

Serious crime stays the same

The serious crime level has remained relatively constant for the

"Bicycle thefts have been a chronic problem in the area — in all of Cambridge and at Harvard."
 — Chief of Police Anne P. Glavin

past several years. This year, there have been seven assaults — six simple and one aggravated. There was one rape, one armed robbery, and no murders reported for the first half of the year.

There have been 56 fire alarm responses, 17 hit-and-run incidents, 14 bomb calls or suspicious packages, nine alcohol-related incidents, four domestic violence reports, and one suicide during the first half of the year.

The CPs handled 1,043 emergency medical services during the first half of the year, according to the report. This number includes medical emergencies and shuttle and ambulance transfers.

In the past six months, only one hate incident has been handled by CPs, down from four by this time last year.

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FAST Team's Student Services Center to Open Temporarily

FAST, from Page 1

that was separate and distinct from their Athena password, a process that could take up to two weeks.

Now students will be able to receive a password overnight and confirm their OLSIS password electronically. In time, the second password may be phased out.

The second password was originally required because students would often give out their Athena passwords to classmates in order to collaborate on projects over Athena.

Now the Andrew File System enables students to collaborate on Athena without sharing passwords.

The next phase of this project is to put the OLSIS on the World Wide Web and to add more capabilities, like the ability to view a full transcript, Patel said.

"The advantages of the Web are that it is easy to use, it can be used from any platform, and students can use it off-campus," Patel said.

OLSIS implements redesign ideas

The online student access team developed OLSIS to implement some recommendations made by the student services redesign team. Other groups within the FAST team are also working on implementing these recommendations.

The redesign team recommended online implementation of billing, research associate and teaching

assistant appointment, contracting, fund transfer, subject enrollment, address change, certification, grade submission, and student employment.

One of the major changes the FAST team will make is the establishment of a Student Services Center, which will contain all of the relevant information and forms a typical student needs to interact with the administration, such as add/drop and financial aid forms. Previously, this information was scattered throughout the Institute.

The temporary location for the pilot center will be the Satellite Registrar's Office (3-123). The center will be open by the end of November. There will temporarily be no Satellite Registrar's Office, but all of the information currently stored there will be available through the pilot center.

FAST works with the community

The FAST team, developed in April, began a large-scale effort to work with the MIT community to implement improvements over the next 12 to 18 months.

The work of the team directly affects processes in the offices of the Registrar, Bursar, Student Financial Aid, student employment, and MITSIS. Indirectly, its initiatives affect the offices of Admission, Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs, and

Graduate Education, as well as academic administrators in all of the Institute's 26 academic departments and the MIT faculty.

Student services re-engineering is part of the Institute-wide re-engineering effort, which began in January 1994. From November 1995 to January 1996, the student services redesign team worked in collaboration with the MIT community to design a new approach to the delivery of MIT student services that would improve their quality, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness.

The new approach includes changes to the overall service structure as well as to the processes and technology used.

"We have made it possible for students to download more information from the MIT Student Information System."
— Jagruti S. Patel '97

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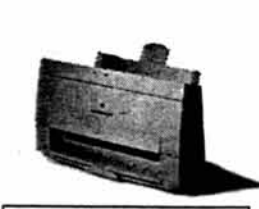
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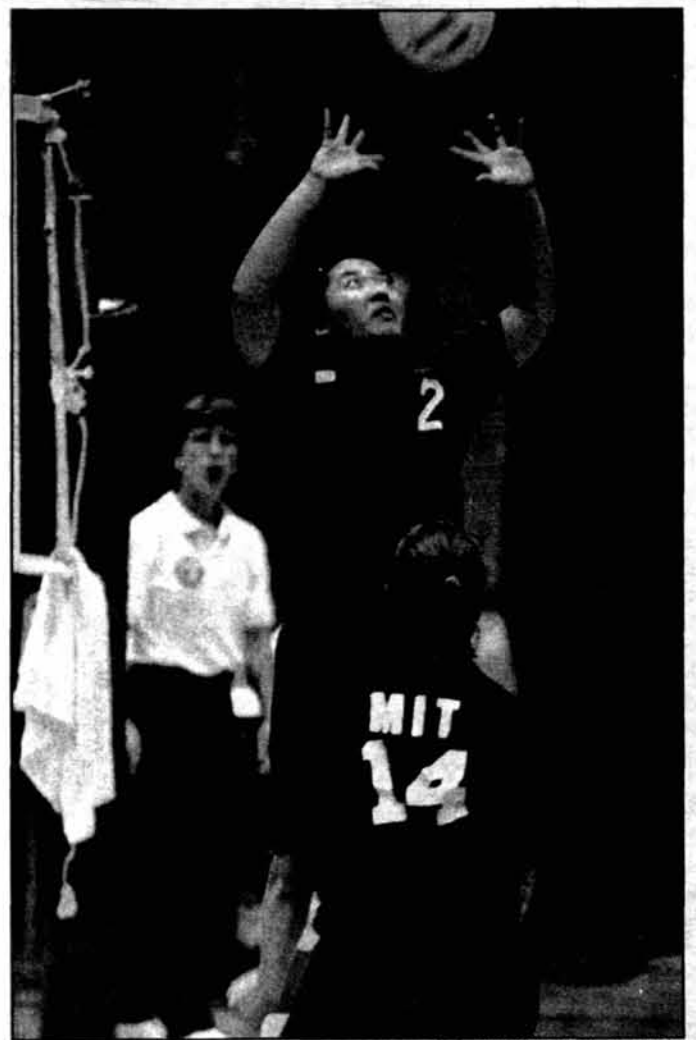
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Next deadline: September 20

The Council for the Arts at MIT Grants Program was created to give members of the MIT community the opportunity to create, learn about and participate in the arts. The Grants Guidelines are now on line, at: <http://web.mit.edu/arts/www/grantguide.html>

Application forms are available at the MIT Office of the Arts E15-205 or by interdepartmental mail. Contact Susan Cohen, Director of the Council for the Arts at MIT at 253-4005 or cohen@media.mit.edu for more information.

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Comments/Questions? Please e-mail them to sis@mit.edu
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Jim's Journal

by Jim

I did a load of laundry today.



3-16

I got the washing machine started and went back to my room.



When I came back, the clothes were all covered with grains of soap, even though the machine was done.



I figured that machine was broken, so I washed my clothes in a different one and they came out fine.



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For guidelines and applications, and to set up an appointment, contact Holly Kosisky, MIT Office of the Arts

253-8089 Telephone; 258-8631 FAX; holly@media.mit.edu

Program administered by Maureen Costello, Director of Special Programs, MIT Office of the Arts and cooperating members of the MIT community

Ad

Age 7, 1982



Age 18, 1993



Elizabeth Suto.

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U.S. Department of Transportation

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Regrettably,
all sections
are full this
semester for

Remedial
NUCLEAR
Thermodynamics



Teams Aim to Work Hard for Success During Fall Season

Preview, from Page 20

have high hopes for this year," Alessi said.

The team's season will begin this weekend when the team travels to Union College to defend its Union Championship at the Union College Tournament. The first home game is on Sept. 21 against Springfield College.

Women's soccer

Coach: Patrick Lewis.
The women's soccer team is coming off a good season (8-7-1) and is hoping to "make it to and win the national championship," Lewis said.

The team's season began last weekend with a non-conference game lost against Gordon College 2-0. This Saturday, the team will play Salve Regina College in an away game. The first home game will be on Sept. 21 against the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Men's tennis

Coach: Jeff Hamilton.
The men's team has a "bright outlook for this year," Hamilton said. Last year's record was 6-12.

The team, made up of three seniors, two sophomores, and four freshmen, will begin its season on next Friday with an away match at Clark University. The team's first home game will be the following Tuesday against Boston University.

Women's tennis

Coach: Merilee Keller.

After several close matches last year women's tennis is hoping to improve upon its 6-6 record. They are "hoping to do well in the NEW8 conference this year," said team member Nora Humphrey '98.

The season begins this Saturday with a match against Skidmore College.

Volleyball

Coach: Paul Dill.
The women's volleyball team is hoping to "at least make the ECAC tournament but is aiming toward the national championship," Dill said. Last year's record was 19-13.

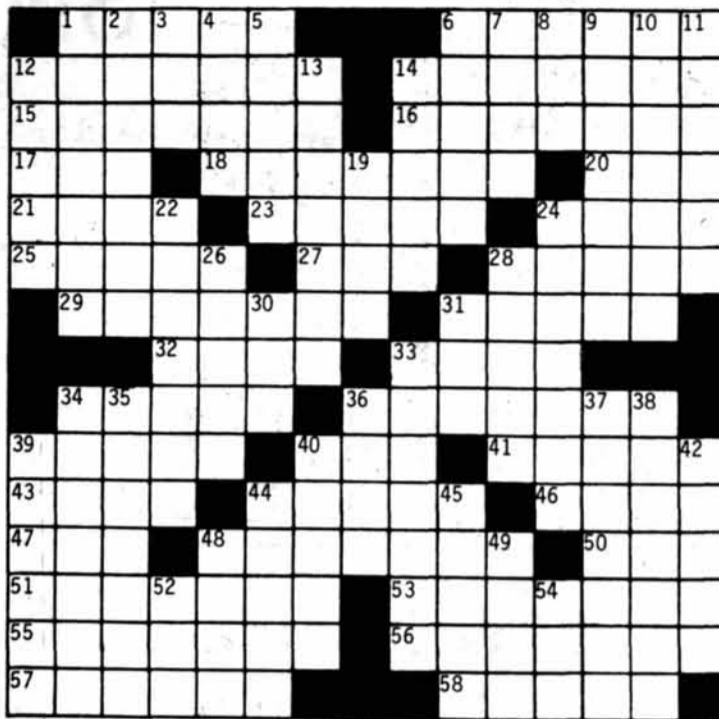
The team — composed of 12 players, four of whom are returning players — began its season Thursday with a game against Tufts.

The next home game will be on Sept. 24 against Wheaton College.

Water polo

Coach: John Benedick.
The water polo team began its season last Saturday, playing in the Division III Cambridge Invitational Tournament. "It's going to be an exciting season," Benedick said.

This will most likely be a growing year for the young team, which has only three returning starters. The team's next meet is on Saturday, when they will be competing in the CWPA I League Tournament against Queens College, Fordham University, and Iona College.



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ACROSS

- 1 Edible fruit
- 6 High-ranking angel
- 12 Buffing cloth
- 14 City in Missouri
- 15 Barbed spear
- 16 Extra bit
- 17 George's lyricist
- 18 Calendar word
- 20 Weather outlook
- 21 Sun
- 23 Element #54
- 24 Mineral suffix
- 25 Longest river in France
- 27 Edge
- 28 As yet (2 wds.)
- 29 Stereo accessory
- 31 More contemptible
- 32 Prevaricated
- 33 Like new
- 34 Condiment
- 36 Footwear
- 39 Exhausted
- 40 "My — Sal"
- 41 1951 PGA champion
- 43 Carry

- 44 Bandleader Xavier
- 46 Part of Fred Flintstone phrase
- 47 Musical instrum.
- 48 Young girls
- 50 Cone-bearing tree
- 51 Ice cream dish
- 53 Protective substance
- 55 Burdensome
- 56 Hires
- 57 Fortifications
- 58 Wise guys

DOWN

- 1 Ancient monarch
- 2 Oregon Trail fort
- 3 Sports official, for short
- 4 Debatable
- 5 Plains Indian
- 6 Type of car
- 7 Whirlpool
- 8 Drive into
- 9 Shad-like fish
- 10 Bat handle substance (2 wds.)
- 11 Mad
- 12 Coldness
- 13 Showed scorn
- 14 Sin city
- 19 Peevish state
- 22 Type of candy
- 24 — found
- 26 Decree
- 28 Well-known hotel
- 30 Understand
- 31 Container
- 33 Vague discomfort
- 34 City in Washington
- 35 — out (came to an end)
- 36 Droops
- 37 Foliage
- 38 Ancient Italian people
- 39 Dazed condition
- 40 Surges of wind
- 42 Bar game
- 44 — Julius Caesar
- 45 Time of life
- 48 French city
- 49 Tale
- 52 Title for a friar
- 54 Billiards term

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE



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SPORTS

As Fall Season Kicks off, Teams Have High Hopes



The varsity football team practices Wednesday for tomorrow's home game against Regina Salve College.

By Erik S. Balsley

As the semester begins, so too does the fall varsity sports season. For many athletes, the season actually began during Residence and Orientation Week, when teams started to prepare for their season opening events. The following is a quick guide to fall sports.

Baseball

Coach: Mack Singleton.
The Baseball team's first home game will be this Saturday against Wentworth Institute of Technology. It will begin at noon at Briggs Field.

Men's cross country

Coach: Halston Taylor.
This year's men's cross country has already begun its season with a meet against MIT alumni this past Saturday. Taylor is expecting the team to be one of two from the New England regional division to make it to nationals this year.

According to Taylor, the team is "very strong," composed of five seniors, four juniors, five sophomores, and seven freshmen. However, only the top five scores from each meet are used to calculate the overall team score.

The first home meet will be at Franklin Field on Oct. 26 at 2 p.m.

Women's cross country

Coach: Joe Sousa.
The women's cross country team will be beginning its season this Saturday with a tri-meet — the Engineer's Cup — versus Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

The team is looking forward to a "great season," said team captain Lauren Klatsky '97, as five of their top seven runners will be returning this year. Although almost all of their meets are away this year, they will be running at their home course, Franklin Field, for the All-New England Championship on Oct. 12.

Field hockey

Coach: Cheryl Silva.
The field hockey team is hoping to build upon last year's best regular season record in MIT history, a record of 12-1, when they were ranked 10 out of 35 teams in New England.

The team is looking to make a repeat "as one of the top teams in the New England Women's Conference," Silva said. The team is made up of three seniors, three juniors, six sophomores, and eight freshmen. The first home game is on Sept. 21 against Western New England College at 1 p.m.

Football

Coach: Dwight Smith.
The football team is hoping to

improve upon last year's 3-6 record as they begin their regular season this Saturday at a home game against Salve Regina College.

The team, composed of 25 upperclassmen and 20 freshmen, is "ahead of last year," according to coach Dwight Smith. They already have won a scrimmage against the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, last Saturday. Their first home game is on Sept. 28 against Western New England College at noon.

Golf

Coach: Jope Kuchta.
The men's golf team is aiming to achieve its 24th consecutive winning season, according to team captain Jonathan Grayson. Last season the team had a 12-9-1 record.

This weekend, the team will be participating in the Middlebury College Tournament at Middlebury College in Vermont. The team's first home match is on Sept. 27 against Tufts University and WPI.

Rifle

Coach: Dick Dyer.
The defending national champions, the rifle team, coming off last season's record of 31-14, will be beginning their fall season with a home meet against the U.S. Military Academy on Oct. 28.

The team's main objective is to "remain in the expert division," according to coach Dick Dyer. The team is currently composed of three seniors, two juniors, two sophomores, and five freshmen.

Sailing

Coaches: Fran Charles, Kyle Welch.

The sailing team has 55 people, "the largest turnout ever," according to Welch. The team, comprised of the varsity, women, and freshman teams, is aiming to be one of the six teams to make the Atlantic Coast Championships at the Schell Trophy later in the season, Welch said.

This weekend the team will begin its season as it competes in seven regattas at Harvard University, Dartmouth College, Boston University, Tufts, and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. The first home regatta — the Hatch Brown Trophy, named after MIT's retired sailing master — begins on Sept. 21.

Men's soccer

Coach: Walter Alessi.
The men's soccer team is hoping to build on last season's 10-7-1 record, the most wins ever in the 75-year history of soccer at MIT. "A lot of veterans are returning and we

Preview, Page 19

Water Polo Starts off Season 1-1

By Matthew Lau

TEAM MEMBER

Men's water polo opened its regular season schedule on Saturday with the annual Cambridge Invitational Tournament here at MIT. The engineers narrowly defeated the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy by a score of 15-13 at noon and then dropped a one-goal game to Rochester Institute of Technology 15-14.

In the first game, the Engineers came out slow, allowing Merchant Marine to build an 11-6 halftime lead. Led by Captain Zachary Ota Lee '98 and his power offense, the Engineers retaliated with a six-goal third period, to bring themselves to within one goal before the fourth quarter, with the score at 13-12.

The Engineers then executed a stifling defense against Merchant Marine, holding them scoreless, while putting another three goals in

to seal the win. The game was highlighted by Lee's six goals and a skip-bar goalie's head-in shot from the outside by Milos Komarcevic '99.

As in the first game, the Engineers were a little sluggish at the start of their second game against RIT. Beginning in the third period, plagued by fouls, MIT trailed 10-6, but came out firing. Four quick penalty shots drawn by Lee brought the Engineers close at 11-10.

The bout went on goal for goal until the score moved to 15-14 with 3:30 left in the final quarter. The Engineers rallied hard and held their opponent scoreless but were unable to ignite their offense and score another goal, and they suffered their first loss of the season.

This year's Engineers are led by coach John Benedick, assistant coach Jeff Ma '94, and goalie trainer Evan Weis '96. Co-captains Lee and 1995 All-East selection

Matthew Lau '97 bring their years of collective water polo experience to the team. Veterans Mark Lebovitz '98, Adrian Gomez '99, and Komarcevic round out the returning varsity lineup.

The depth of this year's team is aided by the arrival of nine freshmen, among them California phenoms Danny Hong '00, Larry Aller '00, and rookie speedster Ben Chun '00. Left-handed neophyte Ken McCracken '00 backs up veteran southpaw Mike McCarroll '99 to add some power from the right side of the pool, and powerhouses James Montgomery '98 and Ray Oshtory '98 will come off the bench to provide some lethal force from the outside.

In an amazing display of athletic versatility, Aaron Wong '98 has switched into the goal for the Engineers and is backed by freshman shotstopper Aditya Prabhakar '00.

The competition for the Engineers is tough. The team looks to go after rivals Harvard University and Boston College as well as foes Johns Hopkins and Merchant Marine.

Next on the season's schedule, the team will host the first Collegiate Water Polo Association tournament tomorrow, when they will play Queens College at 10 a.m., Fordham University at 1:30 p.m., and Iona College at 6:30 pm.

Future home events include BC at 6 p.m. on Thursday and Harvard at 7 p.m. on Sept. 24. On Oct. 10, the Engineers play BC again at 7 p.m.

Gut Instinct Rules Brocoum's NFL Picks

By Chris Brocoum

Picking winners is a national pastime for scores of weekend sports analysts everywhere. Here at MIT, using the wealth of technology at my fingertips, I have labored to produce an utterly reliable quantitative algorithm for forecasting the outcomes of NFL games.

The process is relatively simple, producing a list of probable winners. Nine out of 10 calls are then promptly reversed by that intangible factor — gut instinct.

Being from Las Vegas, I am familiar with handicapping and the amazing effort put into developing weekly point spreads. I prefer to consider myself a sportsman as opposed to a gambler, and therefore I could care less if the Jets cover the spread. Now, if the Jets win, then I'm interested. I call winners straight up without spreads.

Necessary disclaimer: Born in Pittsburgh and a hearty Steelers fan (even after last year's debacle). In my book, the Steelers always win.

While it is only two weeks into the season, it is interesting to note that last year's Super Bowl teams are a distinguished 2-2. This lackluster performance seems to have improved last week after initial stumbles, but the door is now wide open for a host of teams lead by Miami.

I realize that the past five years have all been "do or die" years for Miami, but Jimmy Johnson knows his stuff, and if the Dolphins remain injury-free, I suspect that this will be a very satisfying year.

Enough. On to the picks, week three.
Miami will steamroll the Jets and still barely lift a finger. Washington will squeeze one out against the Giants. New England will turn it around and finally coalesce against Arizona.

The Baltimore Browns will take care of Houston. Detroit will slide by Philadelphia. Minnesota will dispatch of da Bears in da Windy City. Saints over the Bengals in this week's scrimmage. Green Bay stomps on San Diego.

Indianapolis gives the depleted Cowboys a game. (Disclaimer: For obvious reasons, I dislike Dallas.) The young Jacksonville team will beat the old Raiders mystique. Kansas City will take Seattle. Denver; Tampa. Nuff said.

Monday night special: Steelers 34, Buffalo 17.
Season record: 0-0-0.

Cross Country Starts out with 23-15 Win At Annual Season Opener Against Alumni

By Christopher S. McGuire

TEAM MEMBER

Men's cross country opened its season Saturday with its annual competition against its alumni. The current runners beat the alumni by a score of 23-15, showing a promising season for the team.

The five-mile race at Franklin Park consisted of varied terrain, including a number of hills and sharp corners. The cloudy, cool day led to fast times. A lead pack developed early in the race, consisting of current runners Mike Parkins '99, Leif Seed '99, Arnold Seto G and alums Jesse Darley '95 and Ethan Crain '95. Close behind was the chase group of Dan Helgesen '97, Omar Saleh '97, Josh Feldman '97, and Chris McGuire '00. Several others showed strong performances, including Richard Rosalez '98, Frank Johnston '00, and Sohail Husain '97.

The race was won by Parkins in a quick 25:44, with Darley coming in a close second (25:47). The varsity scoring was rounded out by Seto (third) and Seed (fifth). The alums were aided by fast performances from Ethan Crain '96 (fourth in 25:59) and Sumner Brown, whose time of 27:58 is a goal that many current runners have.

Overall, the race showed the enormous talent that the team possesses. However, it will take a season of hard work and dedication to lead the team to a berth at nationals. The MIT harriers next race is Saturday at the Dartmouth Invite. There the team will face some of the top Division III schools in New England.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, Sept. 14
Baseball vs. Wentworth, noon.
Football vs. Salve Regina, 2 p.m.
Women's Tennis vs. Skidmore, 1 p.m.
Water Polo Tournament, TBA.

Sunday, Sept. 15
Women's Sailing Laser Radial Invitation, TBA.