

Student Center Alarm Forces Evacuation

By Stacey E. Blau
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A false fire alarm in the Student Center forced the evacuation of about 250 people for about 30 minutes yesterday afternoon.

Alarms sounded and lights flashed throughout the Student Center at 3:10 p.m. and were soon followed by the outpouring of hundreds of people from the Student Center onto the outside plaza, where Campus Police officers and Physical Plant workers stood blocking off front entrances.

The cause of the false alarm was rain water that got into a smoke detector in a mechanical

space on the fifth floor of the Student Center, said William G. McCue, senior communications console operator in Physical Plant. The water came in through a ventilation fan that takes in air from the outside.

The amount of water that made its way in was minimal and caused no damage, McCue said. "It only takes a drop" to set off the alarm, he said. "It is sensitive."

Electricians from Physical Plant worked to replace the detector, which was ruined by even the small amount of water that got into it,

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Perennial Difficulties Delay Directories

By Noémi Giszpenc

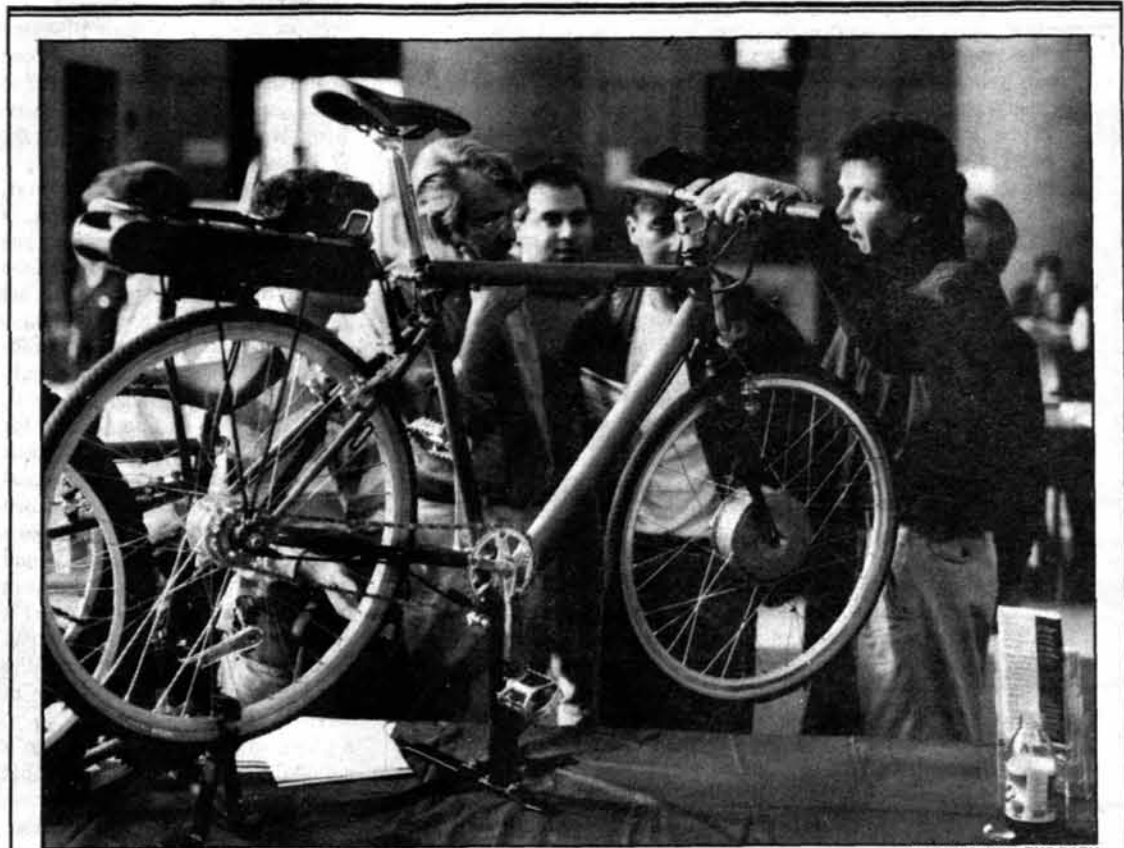
The Institute phone directories will be arriving on their usual date of Oct. 25 — more than halfway through the first term.

Even though the process of putting together directories starts early, the perennial problem of getting the directories out in a timely fashion is the fact that the Communications Office has "two and a half" people working on them, said Communications Manager Barrie B. Gleason. The office could clearly use more people, she said.

This year, the directories are facing the additional problem of altering the staff listings to reflect the more than 600 early retirements this fall. Some departments have also requested changes in their listings to reflect organizational structure changes. For example, Information Systems has restructured its listing for the coming year to better reflect its organization and be clearer for directory users.

Putting together the Student Directory starts on Registration Day when registration cards — from which most of the information is

Directories, Page 28



Daniel T. Langdale, assistant dean for recruitment in the office of graduate education, a bicycle commuter himself, explains the details of an electric bicycle to students on Wednesday in Lobby 7 as part of the commuter transportation fair.

UA Council Holds First Meeting, Outlines Plans for Coming Year

By Ian Chan
STAFF REPORTER

With a vision to improve student life, the Undergraduate Association Council held its first meeting Monday night.

At the meeting, the council voted to approve the fall Finance Board funding appeals allocations. UA President Richard Y. Lee '97 and

UA Vice President Dedric A. Carter '98 also spoke about many of the general and specific goals they have for the year and summarized procedural matters to orient new council representatives.

The UA has a lot of "room for improvement," Lee said. In his state of the UA address, Lee outlined his three major goals: to produce

"something tangible" for MIT students, to present students' opinions before the administration, and to take risks this year to work toward making improvements in a number of areas.

The UA "will not be just sitting around and worrying about getting into trouble," Lee said. Lee said that is committed to make UA a proactive organization and to "earn back the UA's credibility."

Lee presented the Social Committee, the Committee on Educational Policy, and the Course Evaluation Guide Committee to the council. The committees will be working on projects like arranging musical performances in the Student Center, reviving the Course Evaluation Guide, publishing a weekly list of weekend parties and events, improving Safe Ride, and organizing class competitions.

Other projects underway include a voter registration drive in the Student Center held this week and a

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Kingston Shares New Work *Fifth Book of Peace*

By Zareena Hussain
STAFF REPORTER

"Maxine Hong Kingston first and foremost tries to cultivate honesty and mindfulness in herself and in others. She takes responsibility for being a catalyst and a conduit for what is most true about human life," said Ruth Perry, professor of literature, as she introduced the famed writer to an eagerly awaiting audience in 10-250 Monday night.

The overall impression of those who attended the presentation was much the same.

"She's an amazing, amazing person," said Emily B. Cooper '99.

During an evening reading entitled "Another Book of Peace," Kingston, a professor at the University of California at Berkeley

and writer of the *Woman Warrior* and many other literary works, read excerpts from her work in progress, *Fifth Book of Peace*.

In addition to being a writer and professor, Kingston has sought through her writing to better understand the idea and practice of nonviolence. Monday night Kingston included a packed lecture hall in that personal quest.

Kingston speaks of destruction

One issue Kingston highlighted was destruction in war. In one excerpt she read, she compared the destruction to the aftermath of a fire, much like the wild fires in California. She used the destruction she could understand from the fire to understand the destruction in the Persian Gulf War and all wars.

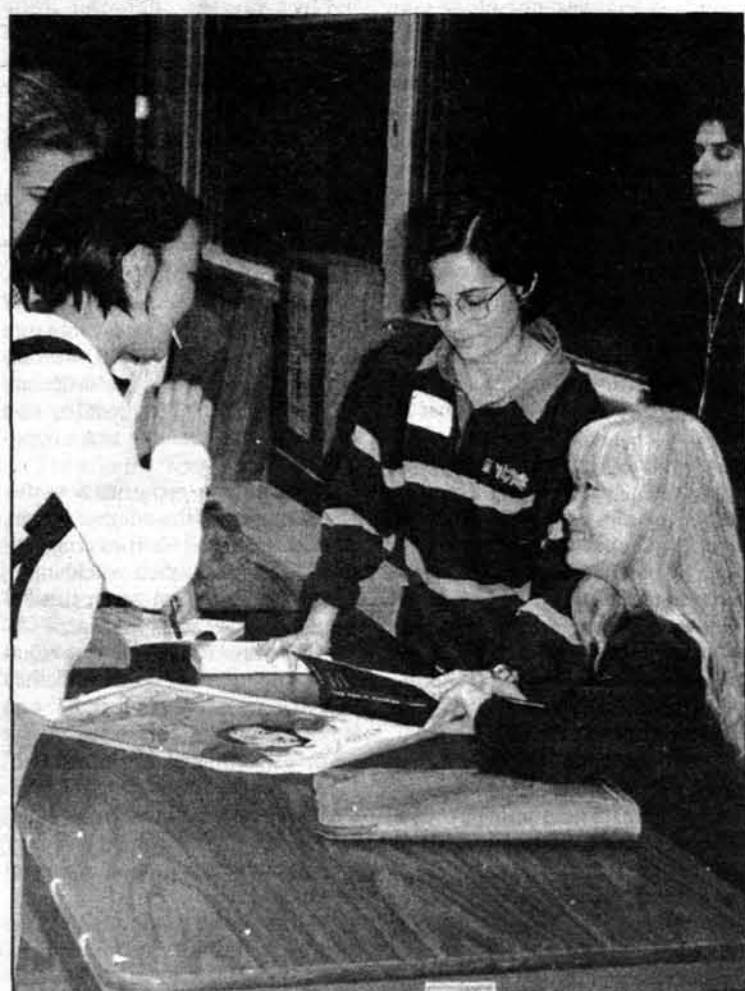
Her description of the destruction was so powerful that one woman in the audience who had experienced the California wild fires around Berkeley herself felt compelled to personally thank Kingston during the question and answer session later in the evening.

"We were experiencing the writing process with her," said Alarice C. Huang '00.

As part of her visit to MIT, Kingston also visited two MIT classes, one in short fiction and the other in playwriting. She offered her advice to students about the writing process.

Students from high schools in

Kingston, Page 26



ZAREENA HUSSEIN—THE TECH

Maxine Hong Kingston signs a *Woman Warrior* poster for Lei Wang '00 (left) as Amalia Miller '99 (center) looks on. Kingston read from her work-in-progress *A Fifth Book of Peace* on Monday evening in 10-250.

Streets Closed

There will be no parking on Memorial Drive between the Reed Overpass and Ames Street eastbound this Monday because of the running of the 10K Tufts Road Race, which begins at noon. There also will be no entry or exit from Audry Street, Danforth Street, Endicott Street, or Fowler Street. All of the above locations will be closed to traffic with wooden traffic barriers. Amherst Alley will be open to traffic.

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WORLD & NATION

Time Warner Shareholders Approve Turner Takeover

LOS ANGELES TIMES

NEW YORK

Shareholders overwhelmingly approved Time Warner Inc.'s \$7.5 billion acquisition of Turner Broadcasting System Inc. Thursday in a deal that vaults Time Warner ahead of Walt Disney Co. as the world's largest entertainment company.

The marriage combines some of the best known entertainment brands in the world: Time Warner's cable systems, HBO cable channel, the Warner Bros. movie studio, the Time Inc. magazines, including Time, People and Sports Illustrated, with Turner's Cable News Network, Cartoon Network, Hanna Barbera cartoon studio, Turner Classic Movies, New Line and Castle Rock and New Line movie studios, and the Atlanta Braves and Atlanta Hawks pro sports teams.

"The long march of Time is now complete," Time Warner Chairman Gerald M. Levin told shareholders in the Time & Life Building at Thursday morning's special meeting to vote on the deal. After more than a year of work on the complex transaction, Levin said that he and his executive corps would now focus on operating the company.

Congress Passes Bill to Authorize Construction of King Memorial

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

America's largest black fraternity had a dream: to honor the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. with a memorial here. It finally happened.

Before adjourning, Congress passed legislation authorizing construction of a memorial to King on federal land in Washington. After 12 years of struggle and rejection by four previous Congresses, the bill passed unanimously in the House and then slipped through the Senate quietly Oct. 3 as part of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act. It will be sent to President Clinton in the next few days.

The legislation authorizes Alpha Phi Alpha, the nation's oldest African-American fraternity, to begin a national fund-raising campaign and design competition for the memorial. The fraternity has 700 chapters in 42 states and more than 100,000 members. The project, to cost an estimated \$500,000, will be paid for by private contributions.

Project organizers hope to locate the memorial on the Mall near the Lincoln Memorial, site of King's "I Have a Dream" speech in 1963. Final site designation will be made by the Interior Department in consultation with the National Parks and Planning Commission.

45 Accused of Bribing Stock Agents

NEWSDAY

NEW YORK

Federal officials Thursday charged 45 people with bribing undercover agents, who were posing as brokers working out of a small Manhattan brokerage firm, to sell shares of stock.

The arrests of brokers, stock promoters and company officers that had been made by late Thursday afternoon were "the largest single set of arrests ever made in the securities industry," U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White said at a news conference. The nationwide sting operation was conducted by the FBI.

By allegedly bribing brokers to place stock with customers, the defendants named Thursday wanted to drive the prices of those stocks up in order to enrich themselves, White said.

Because the operation is still ongoing, FBI officials would not divulge details of how it worked. Almost all conversations with defendants were recorded on audiotape or videotape, according to court documents.

The individuals charged included many who had been registered brokers," said James Kallstrom, the assistant director in charge of the FBI's New York office. He said the stocks involved were mostly issued by thinly capitalized companies traded on the OTC Bulletin Board, or, in some cases, NASDAQ.

WEATHER

Peak Foliage

By Marek Zebrowski

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

As soon as the cold front and a low pressure system clear the eastern coastal areas by daybreak Friday, a large high, centered over Indiana, will slowly move eastward. Complete clearing will arrive only after an upper air trough swings through later today, sweeping away the low level moisture and stabilizing the air mass. As the high pressure moves toward the mid-Atlantic shores, winds will diminish and light frost is expected in most inland locations by dawn on Saturday.

Skies will remain fair for both Saturday and Sunday, with some moderation in temperatures and gradual increase in high cloudiness. By later on Sunday, ahead of a fast-moving storm in central Canada, upper level moisture will stream in from the West on the back side of the ridge. Thus, the Columbus Day outlook is for more clouds and some light rain, especially in northern New England. A cold front, expected to swing in by the middle of next week, is likely to bring the coldest temperatures of the season so far.

Today: Becoming partly to mostly sunny with a cool high of 54°F (12°C) and moderately chilly northwesterly breeze.

Tonight: Clearing and nearly calm. Low near 40°F (4°C) in the city, 30s (-1-3°C) elsewhere.

Saturday: Mostly sunny and a touch milder. High 58°F (14°C) with some light seabreezes possible near the coast.

Sunday outlook: Fair with highs near 60°F (16°C), lows in mid 40s (5-6°C).

Pontiff's Plan to Visit Cuba Raises International Worries

By Stanley Meisler

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Evidence is mounting that Pope John Paul II plans a visit in 1997 to Cuba, an act that could give international legitimacy to a nation that the U.S. government wants to isolate.

A senior Vatican diplomat, Monsignor Jean-Louis Tauran, is scheduled to arrive in Havana in late October. No official reason for the Tauran trip has been announced but both Vatican and U.S. sources have confirmed that discussion of a probable papal visit will be the main item on Tauran's agenda.

It has been an open secret for years that the pope believed the time had come to break the international isolation of Cuba and the Castro regime — now that tensions between the church and the island government have eased. Joaquin Navarro-Valls, the pope's spokesman, told reporters more than a year ago that a papal visit to the Caribbean island was probable in 1996.

But the 76-year-old pope's schedule has been slowed by his health problems — he is recovering now from an appendix operation. And, according to U.S. sources, no official invitation ever came from Fidel Castro.

Reports of an impending papal visit have disquieted the Cuban-American National Foundation, the most powerful political arm of the Cuban exile community in the United States. These exiles fear the pope would mute his criticism of communism on Cuban soil, instead

celebrating closer relations between the church and state there.

"If the pope is going to Cuba and the visit is being controlled, we are not happy about it," said Ninoska Perez, foundation spokeswoman in Miami. She quoted her "sources in the island close to the church" as reporting that the regime would try to prevent any large outdoor masses by the pope and insist on setting up a photo of the pope shaking the hand of Castro.

"This pope has been a very effective and vocal critic of communism," Perez said. "He fought communism in his native land of Poland. When he went to South Africa during apartheid, he did not kiss the ground. When he went to Sandinista Nicaragua, he scolded the priest Ernesto Cardenal (a member of the Sandinista government). To me, to have a meeting with Fidel Castro and not to mention what is wrong with Cuba is wrong. ...

"I would not be upset," she went on, "if the pope would really tell Castro the things that he must hear. But if it is a trip just for publicity's sake, it is really upsetting."

A Clinton administration official, however, professed no concern. "The pope always goes on his own terms," the official said. "The pope doesn't negotiate conditions. He tells them: 'I'm going to say what I'm going to say.' I don't see the papal visit conferring any legitimacy on Castro. ... The pope might not call for rebellion but he's also not going to praise Castro."

But Wayne Smith, a former American diplomat who follows

Cuban events at the Center for International Policy, said: "The fact that the pope would go to Cuba would be an important suggestion that Cuba is ready for reinsertion into the international community."

The fanfare over the trip, Smith said, is unlikely to change the U.S. policy of isolation, which is powered by the Cuban exile community and influential conservative congressmen. "I'm not sure anything would have an effect on U.S. policy," Smith said. "But I think the papal visit would make it more difficult for the administration to argue the logic of its policy."

A visit also likely would feature a papal condemnation of the U.S. economic boycott of Cuba. On a plane trip from Rome to New York in 1995, the pope, when asked about the embargo, told reporters that "a people, a nation must not suffer." Even when the church was feuding with Castro 25 years ago, the Cuban Catholic bishops condemned the American boycott.

Despite papal opposition to the boycott, Navarro-Valls, the pope's spokesman, has told the media that John Paul II does not intend to serve as a mediator trying to arrange for the lifting of the embargo.

Meantime, cardiologist Attilio Maseri said in Rome Thursday that the pope was "in really great shape" after the removal of an inflamed appendix two days earlier. "I'm really visiting him more for reasons of affection and devotion at this point than for medical reasons," he said.

Republicans Protest Dole's Silence On Clinton Administration's Ethics

By Dan Balz

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Bob Dole's advisers always claimed that a reputation for integrity was one of their candidate's greatest attributes. Now, after two debates in which neither Dole nor running mate Jack Kemp questioned the ethics of the Clinton administration, many Republicans are wondering why the Dole campaign has failed to make the case against the president.

"There's been a part of the (Dole) campaign that is obsessive about not appearing critical, about not appearing judgmental, as if it is more important to be nice than to win," former Education Secretary William Bennett said Thursday. "Nothing against nice, but nice here has become soft-headed — and diffident — about central issues."

Bennett's public grumbling reflected growing disillusionment among Republicans that Dole and Kemp have walked away from issues they believe cry out for public discussion, from Travelgate and Filegate to Whitewater pardons, ongoing investigations of Cabinet officers and the recent reports about the Clinton campaign's fund-raising connections with an Asian conglomerate.

These Republicans argue that those are areas of public character and trust that are entirely legitimate areas for discussion.

In his first debate with Clinton on Sunday night, Dole was asked if there were any personal difference between him and Clinton he wanted to discuss. He declined, although at another point he raised questions about the president's position on pardons for his former Whitewater business partners.

Tuesday, Dole appeared to shift

gears with a harsh new radio ad, an off-handed, disparaging remark about Clinton and interviews with television networks during which, in response to questions from reporters about whether he considered Clinton ethically fit to be president, Dole said it was "a very close question." What was not clear was whether his comments represented a shift in strategy or the confluence of unrelated events.

In his debate with Vice President Al Gore on Wednesday, Kemp was asked whether he wanted to draw any "personal or ethical differences" between Clinton and Dole. "In my opinion, it is beneath Bob Dole to go after anyone personally," Kemp said. From there the debate moved into economics and other issues.

Kemp's performance drew harsh reviews from many Republicans Thursday. They complained that he not only failed to respond to a number of Gore's attacks against the party and Dole, but also that he passed up the chance to shift the opening question from private behavior to public morality. Even Dole appeared less-than-satisfied with the tenor of the St. Petersburg debate, saying in an interview taped for ABC's "Nightline" that the Gore-Kemp encounter looked "like a fraternity picnic for awhile."

Dole aides quickly tried to squelch suggestions Thursday that their candidate was unhappy with Kemp or that Kemp had failed to follow a game plan that would have put some of these ethical issues on the table.

"There may have been some rehearsed lines that weren't delivered, but big deal," said communications director John Buckley, adding, "If Bob Dole was looking for someone who was to poke Bill Clinton in the eye, he would have

chosen a different kind of running mate."

But other Republicans said both Kemp and Dole had missed their best opportunities — and biggest audiences — to question Clinton's ethical conduct.

"What's annoying is they've given away the character issue because they're too witless to address it," said William Kristol, a Republican theorist and editor of the Weekly Standard. "You don't have to be ham-handed and crude to raise issues about Clinton's trustworthiness and ethical standards of the Clinton administration."

But Dole's top aides defended the candidate and their strategy. "When we talk about character, we talk about issues," said campaign manager Scott Reed. "It's issue-related. Taxes, spending, drugs are all issues that the president has said one thing and done the exact opposite."

"If there's an opportunity to discuss failures of the administration, such as their civil liberties armageddon in Filegate or their witchhunt in Travelgate, we may well take them," Buckley said.

"I haven't figured out what they're doing, and I don't think they know what they're doing," one Republican strategist said. "Last week it was 'liberal, liberal, liberal.' Now it's 'trust, trust, trust.' With Dole taking a pass and Kemp taking a pass, how do they make it work? Now Clinton has a good argument for desperation."

That was exactly the line the administration was pushing Thursday. With an eye on the final presidential debate next Wednesday, the Clinton campaign happily trumpeted Kemp's statement Wednesday that any personal attacks would be "beneath Bob Dole."

Leaders in China Close Talks Without Any Clear Initiatives

By Steven Mufson
THE WASHINGTON POST

BEIJING

Top leaders closed a four-day plenary session of the ruling Communist Party Thursday with a communique that sidestepped their toughest policy problems while calling on China to raise the level of its "spiritual civilization."

The spiritual plea echoed a year-long campaign by the Communist Party chief, President Jiang Zemin, to consolidate his power in the waning days of senior leader Deng Xiaoping and the approach of a critically important party congress — now set for the second half of next year.

But the plenary leadership session ended without any new initiatives on such sensitive issues as money-losing state-owned enterprises, rising unemployment, gaping holes in the social safety net, rampant corruption, widening inequality and rising street crime. Nor did it clarify what ideology underpins the Communist Party in an age of mar-

ket economics.

Instead, the closing document issued Thursday night by the official New China News Agency appeared to be trying to be all things to all people in all wings of the party.

For the party's economic free marketeers, the document embraced Deng's policy of "reform and opening up," paid tribute to the 92-year-old architect of that policy and said economic construction should remain the nation's "central task."

For Communist hard-liners concerned about the party's waning authority and cohesiveness, the communique asserted that "the ultimate goal is to realize communism" and endorsed the "four cardinal principles" that in the early 1980s reasserted Communist Party control and authority.

On balance, however, the communique suggested that the party leaders had put aside economic issues to focus on ideology.

"The problem of neglect or being comparatively casual in promoting ideological education and

ethical and cultural progress, while being quite strong in promoting material progress, has not yet been solved," the document said. It added that "ethical and cultural progress should be given a higher status."

The message was reinforced in official newspapers, one of which ran an article criticizing enterprise managers who have a "good grip on economics, but a loose grasp when it comes to meeting with the workers about morality and ideology."

"At no time can we sacrifice spiritual values in the name of momentary economic development," the communique said.

This week's meeting was one of the few since 1978, when Deng consolidated power, that economics hasn't been the main focus. The hallmark of the Deng era has been to de-emphasize party orthodoxy while speeding economic development. Jiang, struggling to avoid the fate of his predecessors, has made a nod toward party ideologues by stressing the importance of "talking politics."

South African Judge Acquits Six Soldiers in Racist Massacre

By Dele Olojede
NEWSDAY

DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

A high-profile murder trial involving some of the leading lights of apartheid began to crumble Thursday when a judge pronounced six of their alleged foot soldiers not guilty and strongly indicated that former Defense Minister Magnus Malan and other army generals may be similarly acquitted when he concludes his ruling Friday.

Malan and 15 others were facing murder charges in the massacre of 13 blacks in a small township near this Indian Ocean port. Their trial was the first ever to involve the most senior officials of the former white government whose death squads, hit men and surrogates killed thousands of anti-apartheid activists and ordinary blacks in an effort to prolong white rule.

But hopes of bringing the most senior apartheid leaders to justice began to fade Thursday when Judge Jan Hugo shredded the prosecution's case at the start of a long ruling. The judge practically accused the prosecution of misconduct and sloth, saying evidence appeared to have been tampered with and witnesses coerced.

As a result, the six men who allegedly carried out the dead-of-night attack on the sleeping Ntuli family and their guests were discharged, prompting cheers in the courtroom and celebratory foot-stamping from about 20 of their supporters who waited outside, chanting "Viva!" The six and another accused, M.Z. Khumalo, were members of Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha movement, which cooperated extensively with apartheid authorities but has denied any involvement in murder.

"This is a mighty triumph for justice," said Koos van der Merwe, one of a handful of white conservatives who have attained leadership in the Zulu movement. "The vilification (of Inkatha) must now stop. We are a party for peace."

Hugo said the prosecution failed dismally to prove its case and that its star witness was a liar and dissembler. The witness, former army Capt. Johan Opperman, has confessed to being in charge of the massacre operation. He testified for the prosecution in hopes of gaining immunity.

But the judge said that Opperman and another star witness were "self-confessed criminals who

are trying to get some benefits by testifying ... (and) red lights must necessarily start flashing.

The unraveling case represents a setback for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which was established last year under the chairmanship of retired Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu to document the political crimes committed under apartheid.

Perpetrators are supposed to offer a full confession in exchange for state pardon, but almost no senior apartheid-era leader has come forward. Many believe that the justice system is too weak and in such disarray that they could never be successfully prosecuted, and the unfolding fiasco of the Malan trial will only reinforce that view.

The six men acquitted Thursday were charged with murder, while Malan and other generals faced additional charges of conspiracy to murder for approving "Operation Marion," under which the apartheid army secretly trained a hit squad for Inkatha in order to kill supporters of the rival African National Congress. Malan admitted to the training, but said it was a legitimate force for "VIP protection" and not for murder.

Clinton Proposes Free Internet Access For All U.S. Schools and Libraries

By Mike Mills
and Elizabeth Corcoran
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration proposed Thursday to give every school and library in the United States free basic access to the Internet, with the cost to be paid collectively by the nation's communications carriers.

The plan, announced by President Clinton less than four weeks before the election, must still be approved by federal regulators and faces many technical and financial hurdles. The idea of wiring the nation's classrooms to the Internet has been a staple of administration campaign rhetoric for months.

In a speech Thursday in Knoxville, Tenn., Clinton called on the Federal Communications Commission to approve the plan, which aims "to give every elementary, middle and high school and every library in the country, the lowest possible 'e-rate' (education rate): free basic service to the

Internet."

Clinton also called for \$100 million in federal spending starting next year to begin a five-year project to upgrade the Internet for 100 universities, national labs and other federal institutions.

A representative from GOP candidate Bob Dole's campaign staff derided the effort. "Once again, the teachers unions have scared Bill Clinton away from real education reform," said Dole campaign spokeswoman Christina Martin. "Little steps and small programs such as this will do little to ensure safer schools, drug-free schools and quality education for all."

In February, the new telecommunications law guaranteed the nation's grade schools and libraries discounted rates for basic Internet connections. But Congress left the size of the discount up to regulators.

In a filing sent Thursday to the FCC with the endorsement of Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley, Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman and Commerce Secretary

Mickey Kantor, the administration began to spell out its proposals for how the e-rate would work.

The administration is proposing to create two tiers of discounts. The first would offer free "basic connectivity and Internet access, at adequate transmission speeds" to grade schools and libraries. The cost of a second tier of services, such as video conferencing or higher-speed Internet access, would be discounted — but not free — and influenced by how much the school could afford to pay. Schools and libraries in low-income or rural areas would be entitled to more generous discounts.

The administration gave no estimate of what its plan would cost, and recent studies vary widely. The Commerce Department earlier this year estimated it would require \$1.5 billion annually to provide the nation's schools with the most basic telephone-line Internet connections — a figure that does not include monthly Internet access charges, training and computer equipment.

New Finding May Stall Parkinson's

NEWSDAY

Parkinson's disease may be caused by a genetic defect in the body's energy-producing cells, a finding that could lead to treatments to stall or prevent the debilitating disorder, according to a new study.

Researchers at the University of Virginia are defying conventional genetic wisdom, suggesting that a mutation in mitochondrial DNA, rather than in the DNA that makes up chromosomes, can lead to common medical disorders like Parkinson's.

The disease leaves people with tremors and rigidity. Dr. W. Davis Parker, a professor of neurology and senior author of the Parkinson's study, to be published Friday in the *Annals of Neurology*, said his team is looking at a variety of common illnesses that could be triggered by mitochondrial mutations. Parker's team has also identified a similar genetic process in patients with Alzheimer's.

"This is the best scientific proof available that suggests that a genetic mutation leads to Parkinson's," said Dr. Flint Beal, a professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School.

Parkinson's disease affects about 2 million Americans. It has long been a puzzle because it did not seem to run in families.

Mitochondria are the thousands of thread-like bodies in each cell that contain enzymes that control the production of energy. It's the cells' breathing machine, gathering oxygen to use as energy. Mitochondria has its own DNA, inherited solely from the mother.

U.S. District Judge Orders INS To Reopen Deportation Proceedings

LOS ANGELES TIMES

In a ruling that affects thousands of immigrants across the United States, a federal judge in Seattle has ordered the Immigration and Naturalization Service to reopen deportation proceedings in cases where the INS failed to adequately inform individuals of their right to a hearing prior to deportation.

U.S. District Judge John C. Coughenour, a President Reagan appointee, ruled that the INS violated the Fifth Amendment's due process clause by failing to properly inform about 5,000 individuals charged with using false documents that they have a right to a hearing in order to rebut those charges.

In a ruling made public Wednesday, Coughenour found that the INS had been using forms and procedures that were "highly technical," "legalistic," and "confusing." He said that the forms did not adequately apprise immigrants of their rights to hearings.

The judge also said that since many of the individuals charged with document fraud are Spanish-speaking it was "simply unacceptable" for the INS not to have provided forms in a language other than English. He rejected the INS' claims that the defendants had knowingly forfeited their right to a hearing.

HMO to Pay \$12 Million To Resolve Claims of Overcharging

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A health maintenance organization serving more than 150,000 federal employees has agreed to pay the government \$12 million to resolve claims that it overcharged the employees for their health-care benefits between the years 1987 and 1991.

FHP Inc., the HMO, charged the Office of Personnel Management higher rates for the health benefits than it charged other subscribers, according to a statement issued by U.S. Attorney Eric H. Holder Jr. and OPM Inspector General Patrick E. McFarland.

The \$12 million settlement is the largest civil recovery this year by the U.S. attorney's office here in an ongoing initiative against health-care overbilling, fraud and other abuses, the statement said.

The Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, which is administered by OPM, requires insurance companies to provide a certification that the rate provided to the government is equal to the lowest rate charged to other subscribers for the same contract period for the same level of benefits. An audit by the OPM inspector general's office discovered FHP charged higher rates in five regions — Arizona, Guam, California, New Mexico and Utah.

Ria Carlson, a spokeswoman for FHP, said the HMO disagreed with the government "over what the actual rate would be." Rates are influenced by demographics, geographic locations and price competition in a local health-care market, she said.

Study Finds Parents Not Consumed By 'Family Values' Worries

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Politicians who believe that welfare cheats, gay marriages or even abortion are high-priority concerns for U.S. parents are seriously off the mark, a new study has shown.

Rather than espousing the abstract, ideological "family values" agenda that has figured prominently on all sides of the political debate, U.S. mothers and fathers want to ban handguns, protect their kids from violence and improve the quality of public education, according to a study to be released Friday.

What's more, the survey conducted by an independent, international polling company, shows a startling consensus among parents that crosses class, racial and gender lines.

Nearly unanimously, parents said they wanted less rhetoric from government and business institutions, and more practical help. They also expressed widespread concern about the strain of balancing work with being a parent. Eighty-four percent of the parents surveyed said they are having a tougher time balancing work and family responsibilities than their own parents did.

But despite heavy demands from work and family, parents also demonstrated a strong commitment to activities in their communities. Rather than joining civic organizations in large numbers, however, many parents said they volunteer in their communities on an ad hoc basis — coaching soccer, collecting money for wildlife protection, shelving books at the library and so forth.

The nationwide telephone survey of 500 mothers and fathers was conducted in mid-September. In hopes of attaining a mainstream sampling, welfare recipients were excluded. Income levels among survey respondents ranged from \$20,000 to \$100,000 per year.

OPINION

Jim Ends, Leaving Behind a Legacy

It is a rare occasion that an outsider can gain the respect and loyalty of the members of this community. MIT follows a long-standing socio-academic tradition that is rooted in our own brand of esoterica and is perhaps best described as somewhat eccentric. Our impressions of humor take shape in such displays as adding scrubbing bubbles to the bathroom-tile

Editorial

decor of the Media Lab, or in various ornamentations of the Great Dome or 77 Massachusetts Avenue. This line of amusement has become a part of our charm, and many hold it close to their own.

In this regard, Scott Dikkers' character, Jim, who has lived on the pages of *The Tech* for more than five years is a unique example. Although it was a syndicated comic distributed by Onion Features, "Jim's Journal" occupied an intimate place in the MIT mindset and may well have been considered a local product.

Somehow, Jim knew MIT. Neither heroic nor villainous, the Jim persona embodied a way of life that many could relate to, some could appreciate, and everyone could understand. Jim was not a mover and a shaker. He was not a silent protester, nor did he express lasting sentiment one way or the other. He appreciated the little things and noticed the oft ignored.

As a person, Jim was not a charmer or a recluse. He was not witty or clever, decisive or determined. His strength was in his earnest stolidity, frankness, and acceptance. He rarely wavered in the face of disadvantage, instead accepting the fatality of his decisions. His doctrines fit well in the scheme of Tech Hell.

"Jim's Journal" captured the essence of Institute life, on and off the page. As an icon in the community, Jim was ridiculed for his vacuousness and adored for his blase. His fans and his foes loved and scorned him for the same reasons. Blazingly true to some, he was blandly evident to others. His downplayed attitudes were a poignant reminder of truth and perhaps for that reason offered multiple interpretations.

We honor the passing of "Jim's Journal" not as the loss of a comic strip but as the loss of a controversial player in MIT's social sphere. When a distant star goes out, it can take many years for its light to stop reaching us. When Dikkers stopped drawing "Jim's Journal," it took *The Tech* — which had been printing back-orders and re-runs — over a year to realize the change. As a vibrant campus icon, it may take much longer for Jim to reach oblivion. Regardless, Jim would agree that we will all probably be okay.



Letters To The Editor

Writing Requirement Articles Were Misleading

I was disappointed by your Oct. 4 article, "Forum to Solicit Student Opinion on Writing Requirement Proposal." It repeated a misleading statement which was also made in an earlier article on the same topic.

In the October article, the author writes: "The plan would only affect future students, since it would take approximately seven years to create all the subjects the new system would need."

This statement is misleading at best. It is true that it will take seven years for students

who have had to fulfill the new "communications requirement" to graduate on time. However, freshmen who will enter MIT in the fall of 1999 will have to start fulfilling this new requirement.

It is hoped that much of the necessary new coursework will be in place by that time, as detailed in the report that the Committee on the Writing Requirement submitted to the Committee on Undergraduate Performance last year.

The statement that the plan would only affect future students is certainly questionable. Freshmen and sophomores currently attending MIT see the new plan in action. Resources that could be used for other purposes will be allot-

ted to creating new communications courses.

Moreover, the new "communications requirement" will require every department in the Institute to begin making changes, some of them major.

Students currently attending MIT will feel the effects of these changes even if they do not need to fulfill the new requirement.

Unfortunately, both of the articles on the new requirement written in *The Tech* merely said that it will take seven years to overhaul the current system.

I regret that you were unable to print my earlier letter correcting this fact, and I regret that *The Tech* has now printed this error twice. Matthew J. Herper '99

Students Must Reject Apathetic Teaching

Column by Brett Altschul
STAFF REPORTER

The conventional wisdom at MIT says that the importance of a professor's research is far more important than the quality of his teaching. Over the first few weeks of this semester, the truth of this observation has become more and more evident. A great many professors simply demonstrate a total disregard for their undergraduate students, and the entire Institute suffers.

Naturally, innate teaching skill varies a great deal from person to person. However, many professors who lack "the gift of gab" make up for it with an enthusiastic attitude and a willingness to talk to students outside of class. They may not be the best instructors around, but they welcome suggestions and try to make use of them.

The teachers who genuinely cause problems are the ones who just don't seem to care a whit about the students under their tutelage. In my experience, this kind of attitude appears much more often in full, tenured professors. Too much time in secluded labs probably makes these people forget what it's like to be a student.

Apathetic professors have many ways of expressing their basic disinterest in their charges. Sometimes, they simply make themselves unavailable outside of class time. Too often, office hours "by appointment" means that the person is consistently busy at any time you'd like to see them. If you send e-mail, they respond with something like, "I can't meet with you this afternoon, but if you drop

by my lab between 3 and 5 a.m. tonight, I might be able to answer any questions you have about tomorrow's test."

Another technique used for making undergraduates feel like worthless urchins is taking long trips at inopportune times. Many professors go to significant lengths to ensure that they will be present and available in the days

We can't expect the faculty to recognize their failings spontaneously

leading up to a test. However, some prefer to take their research presentations on the road at just such times. Apparently, potential funding sources are receptive to proposals only at the same time as undergraduates are cramming.

Usually, the absent professor will draft one of his graduate students or post-doctoral fellows to lecture or lead recitation. Fortunately for undergrads, the metaphorically unwashed masses, the more literally-so graduate students tend to possess a real measure of enthusiasm about their temporary students. However, they more than compensate for this gung ho attitude with unfamiliarity with the conventions of the course and what's actually been covered.

Particularly when full professors are found teaching recitations — as occurs in physics classes — professors are often very poorly

prepared. They often fail to attend lecture, so they're not really in touch with the notation and specific techniques introduced by the lecturer. Sometimes, they seem to be leading recitation by the seat of their pants, making up poorly constructed problems as they go. This definitely isn't the best way to teach.

The severity of this problem is perhaps much greater than it seems at first glance. The level of competition at MIT makes it a fairly harrowing place without any assistance from the faculty. The high level of student dissatisfaction is MIT's biggest single weakness. Everything that we can do to improve the quality of life at the Institute is worthwhile.

To raise that quality, the less-than-stellar professors need only do a few simple things. Primarily, they need to make themselves available to the undergraduates. Research doesn't really consume all their time, although it provides an easily-invoked excuse for why they can't make any time for undergraduates to ask questions. These people are paid to do more than fiddle around with circuits, or chemicals, or whatever, all the time.

We can't expect the faculty to recognize their failings spontaneously. It's up to the undergraduates to express their displeasure when a professor isn't fulfilling his teaching role adequately. Even the most jaded professor is likely to at least listen to constructive criticism and make at least a nominal effort to change methods. The situation can be improved if students speak up and if professors accept the importance of undergraduate education.

Opinion Policy

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

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

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

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

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

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



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'Jim's Journal' Offered Welcome Cynicism, Apathy

Column by Anders Hove
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Everybody on this campus knows Jim. I don't just mean the comic strip character, but the man himself. Jim is close to us all because we all know him

— or someone like him. And we all have an opinion on people like him, too. Some people love them while others detest them fervently. Still others think Jim-like people are just okay.
What makes a Jim-like person?

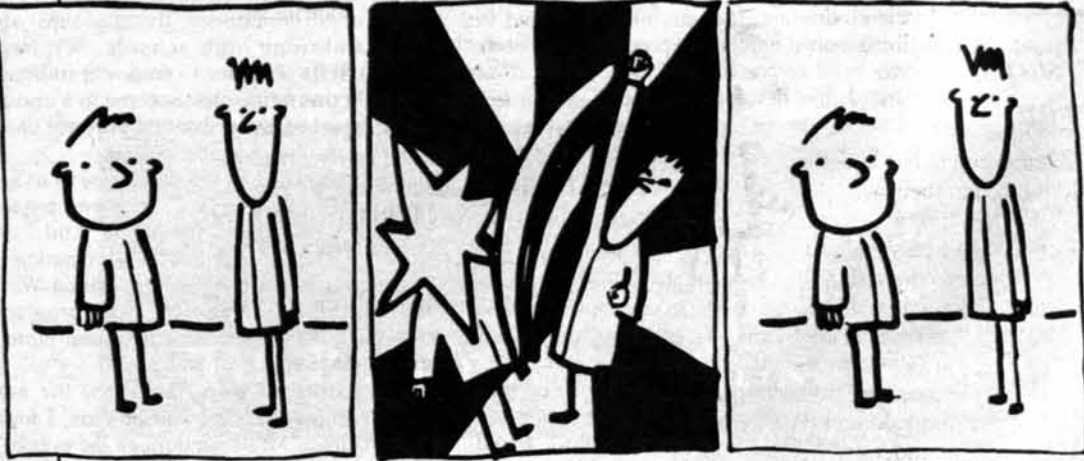
Stoicism, maybe, or apathy. Certainly a quiet demeanor is essential. I know a lot of people like that, but they actually harbor many feelings and passions, if only one can draw them out. Not so with Jim.

But let's be fair here: Can we really dismiss Jim as just another two-dimensional man with no feelings, no opinions, and more to the point, no presidential ambitions? It's a difficult call.

Jim has been with us for just over five years now. He debuted in the February 1, 1991, issue of *The Tech*, with no prior fanfare. The first frame we printed contains the line, "Steve got the mail today." That one frame is telling.

Jim, it turned out, spends almost all of his time hanging out with Tony and Steve, or working on his pointless jobs. The people in Jim's life — from Ruth to his annoying bosses — demonstrate that Jim is a fundamentally sensitive and expressive man. His friends like him because he has a quiet rapport with them and with their feelings. Jim likes them because it is through them, vicariously, that he expresses himself.

Like Jim's friends, Jim's many followers — be they admirers or detractors — have plenty of emotion and passion to throw around. When some suggested killing "Jim's Journal" last year, it incited a torrent of reader mail, pro and con. More than anyone else, Jim is a recognized figure on this campus. And people



COMIC BY RAMY A. ARNAOUT

Hove, Page 6

At 3 a.m., Jim Filled an Important Space in *The Tech*

Column by Stacey E. Blau and Saul Blumenthal
STAFF REPORTERS

Picture this: It's 3 a.m. in *The Tech's* production shop, and the driver from the printer has been waiting already for a half hour to take the boards away for the next day's issue. But wait! There's a quarter-page of blank space at the top of page 17. What are we to do? We surely can't leave it that way, because the next day everyone in the office will exclaim "AWS!" That's "awful white space" for those not involved in newspaper production.

Luckily, a good and trusted friend has always come to the rescue — Jim, of course. For five years now, "Jim's Journal" has been *The Tech's* comic of choice to fill space after all the stories

have been laid out.

It was with great shock and dismay, then, that we learned of Jim's demise. Why — how could Scott Dikkers have stopped drawing Jim? Even more confounding, how could he have drawn "Jim's Journal" for eight whole years?

The obvious question now arises: Who will replace Jim? Will it be Dilbert? The guy from "Life in Hell"? Those "Peanuts" kids? Garfield, for Christ's sake?

The answer is that none of these could ever replace Jim. We're not talking about how Jim is an irreplaceable campus icon. We're talking pragmatics. Why were Jims so cool? We'll tell you. Because they said nothing. You don't have to worry about the order in which

you put a comic that has no plot. You

don't have to worry about running the same Jim you ran in 1992. These are important considerations in *The Tech's* production shop at 3 a.m.

It is unclear what direction *The Tech* will now take comic-wise, but we welcome any suggestions.

Stacey E. Blau and Saul Blumenthal are juniors majoring in mathematics with computer science. They hope their professors will embrace the spirit of Jim when they hand in their problem sets late, and just say, "That's okay."

To: Stacey Blau <stacey@the-tech.mit.edu>
From: editorial@theonion.com (The Onion)

Well, you certainly have written to the right place, because I'm Scott Dikkers. I draw (drew) Jim's Journal.

Sorry about all the confusion. Here's what's happening: Yes, Jim is dead. I stopped drawing the strip. I stopped because I've been drawing it for 8 years and wanted to move on in life to other things. My books are still available... and Jim T-shirts and boxer shorts and everything else are still available... But the strip is no more.

Hope that clears it up for you. And again, I'm sorry about the confusion.

Take care,
Scott Dikkers



Undergraduate Association

MIT's Student Government



UA NOTICES

Writing Requirement Open Forum

Everyone is welcome to come and voice their concerns to the administration about the proposed changes in the writing requirement

Monday,
October 21 at
7pm in 10-250

Dean's Office Advisory Council

Students interested in this influential position should contact Richard Lee at rlee@mit.edu.



UA Council

Next meeting:
Monday,
October 21 at
8pm in W20-400

Frosh Program Encouraged Leadership, Cooperation

Column by Orli G. Bahcall
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Ever feel that you can't make a difference at MIT? That the administration is not receptive to your concerns? In the past several weeks I have heard from many students who are frustrated by a lack of student involvement in Institute decisions. At times, I have shared these sentiments, for there are many arenas at MIT in which students find it hard to participate.

However, I do see strong student leadership at MIT. And I do see an administration that is supportive of student efforts to contribute to the MIT community.

This year the freshmen orientation was expanded to include MIT's first ever Freshmen Leadership Program. The freshmen returning from the pre-orientation program were excited to begin their MIT experience, having had the unique opportunity to get to know other freshmen and become acquainted with MIT activities. I was one of the 12 upperclassmen counselors that joined 88 freshmen in the program.

FLP was modeled after the National Conference of Christians and Jews Anytown Conferences. The Anytown Conference is a week-long event in which students are able to discuss race and gender issues. The conference is sponsored by the NCCJ, a nationwide organization committed to fighting racism.

The MIT conference strives to deepen participants insight into race and gender issues.

The week is also designed to build a strong and supportive community in which participants will feel comfortable developing personal leadership.

The program was initiated by Class of 1997 President Pardis C. Sabeti '97 as a culmination of several years effort to improve

I do see strong leadership at MIT. And I do see an administration that is supportive of student efforts to contribute to the MIT community

freshmen orientation. This year's FLP was a pilot program. The focus of race relations and gender was chosen because the most immediate results could be seen by addressing these issues on campus. The program was sponsored by the Office of Race Relations and Undergraduate Academic Affairs.

FLP exemplifies MIT student leadership at its best. Sabeti had a vision to create a positive initial experience for freshmen by exposing them to a diverse group of their classmates in

which they were encouraged to express their views and learn from others.

FLP gave the freshmen an introduction to university life with a diverse group of students in a setting where they felt comfortable challenging their views and which promoted their personal, social, and intellectual growth.

The program became a joint effort between the counselors, the administrators, and the freshmen to explore important social issues and build community. It was exciting to see that we had developed a support system from these diverse groups. The program took students that would otherwise be likely not to interact, and bound all by a common experience and common goals.

Back at MIT, the FLP community has begun to question social norms by continuing to remain a community even after rush, when individuals were spread out and somewhat segregated into different living groups throughout campus.

Many freshmen returning from FLP dove right into student life, running for Undergraduate Association positions, attending the Interfraternity Council pledge retreat, and becoming involved in their own favorite student groups. Next year, we look toward opening the program to many more incoming freshmen.

In the meantime, the MIT community as a whole awaits to see what FLP has to offer. These freshmen leaders are familiar with

questioning the social norms of their cultures. They have shown the interest and motivation to probe difficult issues in race relations honestly. Their next challenge is to prove both individually and as a group their commitment and leadership.

As their first project at MIT, FLP members have planned a series of race relations programs in all dormitories, living groups, and two Cambridge high schools. We hope through these programs to empower freshmen to ensure that future classes come to a university in which students from all different backgrounds can work together.

FLP succeeded far more than any of us had imagined. I find myself inspired by the activism of so many freshmen. And I am already looking forward with anticipation to next year's Residence and Orientation Week and toward expanding FLP. Such programs are exactly the way to encourage and nurture student leadership.

So instead of worrying about the new restructuring of MIT's administration, I focus on a picture of MIT seen through the eyes of a 100 freshmen who, with all the possibilities of our university laid out before them, are grabbing at every opportunity to become a part of our community.

A university that encourages students to initiate such programs that benefit the entire community is indeed a university that educates its students to become leaders.

Dickers' Character Was a Convenient Model for Satire

Hove, from Page 5

have an opinion on him.

And then there's the matter of Jim parodies. Many editors (including me) have parodied Jim. More famously, *The Tech* ran a series of "Jim Baker's Journal," a strip chronicling the daily events of George Bush's campaign manager-turned-chief of staff during the 1992 campaign. In addition, we ran several strips of "Jim Tewhey's Journal" in which the ill-starred associate dean for residence and campus activities attended a series of inexplicable meetings with then Undergraduate Association Vice

President J. Paul Kirby '92. But why? Aside from their names, what did James R. Tewhey, James Baker III, and Jim have in common?

The answer is cynicism. Tewhey and Baker were both confronted with dopey, clown-like colleagues; they were both entrapped by events beyond their control. In the strips, the two Jims respond to their fatalistic surroundings in the only way appropriate. They respond with apathy and cynicism.

Scott Dickers created for Jim a world gone inane. In Scott Adams' "Dilbert," the main characters fight inanity with humor and

More than anyone else, Jim is a recognized figure on this campus. And people have an opinion on him.

pointless bureaucratic warfare. Unlike Dilbert, Jim does not fight. He accepts his surroundings as a fact, sad or not; he responds with stoicism and apathy.

Jim's world has now come to an end. To say the strip ended with a whimper would be an understatement. *The Tech* has been running Jim reruns for about one year now and, in the mean time, the syndicated comic strip disappeared. Onion Features Syndicate (the firm that distributed the strip and its attendant collection of t-shirts, books, and paraphernalia) claims not to have heard of Jim at all. It took an e-mail to Dickers himself to confirm Jim's death. Somehow the ignominy of his disappearance seems appropriate.

Needless to say, Jim's attitude will live on. His implicit cynicism is infectious. Things will be okay.

February 1, 1991: Jim makes his first appearance in *The Tech*.

PAGE 6 The Tech FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1991

comics

Jim's Journal

by Jim



Help us decide who will replace Jim.

comics

Let us know what you think
The Tech's next comic should be.

Send us e-mail at comics@the-tech.mit.edu

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THE ARTS

THEATRE REVIEW

Improv murder mystery *Shear Madness* still a success

SHEAR MADNESS

Charles Playhouse.
74 Warrenton Street.
Shows Tuesday to Friday 8 p.m.,
Saturday 6:30 and 9:30 p.m.,
Sunday 3 and 7:30 p.m.

By John Rae

A third of the way through Paul Porter's *Shear Madness*, Lieutenant Rossetti (Paul Dunn) looks to the audience and states: "This is where you come in!" Up until this point, the audience has simply been watching the daily routine at Shear Madness, a unisex hair salon located on Newbury Street in Boston, but now they're a part of the mystery. Those of you who fear the thought of being involved can relax. When Lt. Rossetti tears down the wall between actors and audience, the patrons of Shear Madness are more startled and squeamish at the thought of exposure than we are.

Shear Madness is the comic mystery from Marilyn Abrams and Bruce Jordan's, adapted for the city in plays in. It's currently in its 16th season, and the small stage at the Charles Street Theater perfectly suits the cheerfully revolting barbershop set. This six-character play is amusing at the least, as the audience attempts to help two Boston Police detectives discover the killer of Isabel Czerny, the eccentric concert pianist who lives above the Salon.

The audience acts as witnesses to the event, pointing out clues, corroborating testimony, and sometimes yelling at the inept police officers, all of which trigger hysterical responses and improvisational comedy from the actors. The show reaches a climax as the audience votes on who it believes is the killer, leading to the wacky conclusion.

The comedy in the play is excellent, but the acting is mediocre at parts. It's the over-the-top style they're looking for, which works in some cases but not others. The elderly Mrs. Schubert's (Mary Klug) falsely pretentious attitude hits the desired note, but Barbara DeMarco's (Marina Re) horrible Boston/Revere (pronounced: Ra'veah) accent just didn't cut it. Ken Cheeseman was excellent as the gay stylist Tony Whitcomb, especially in his chemistry with Lt. Rossetti. Eddie Lawrence (Eddie Rutkowski) was definitely

the cream of the crop with his sleazy defensive style.

The secret to *Shear Madness* is creating the appearance of spontaneity even when some parts have been preprogrammed. Depending on the mood of the audience, the cast is given freedom to create material which promises to keep you on the edge of your seat with laughter. Improv jokes like, "Yeah, if I'd killed her I would of stabbed her, or shot her, or put her on Value Jet," are the norm. These jokes are even funnier when the actors have to

control their own laughter. The secret to enjoying this play is to get into it. Yell out your ideas and let the actors play off you.

For me the best part of the play comes now — when I can tell you who did it. It was Barbara Demarco, the insane manicurist from hell. Don't worry — I didn't spoil it for you. Every show is different, and the outcome changes every night.

Shear Madness is playing indefinitely at the Charles Playhouse. A good time to go is Friday nights in October, when tickets are only 10 dollars.

FILM REVIEW

The personal life of a brilliant young physicist

INFINITY

Directed by Matthew Broderick.
Written by Patricia Broderick, based on the autobiographies of Richard Feynman, "Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!" and "What Do You Care What Other People Think?"
Starring Mathew Broderick, Patricia Arquette, and Jeffrey Force.

By Yaron Koren
STAFF REPORTER

The story of larger-than-life physicist Richard Feynman '39 is one of the relatively few in the annals of science to have truly sparked the public's interest. As MIT students, most of us are familiar with the legends told of his undergraduate days here on campus as a frat boy and math prodigy, his later instrumental work on the Manhattan Project, his Nobel Prize-winning research, and his numerous hobbies and indulgences, including playing the bongos in a Brazilian band. A man of boundless energy

and zest for life, he seems like the perfect subject for a screen treatment. *Infinity* is the first-ever celluloid incarnation of Feynman, with Matthew Broderick playing the lead role, and its handling of the subject matter is nothing if not surprising.

The makers of the movie have chosen to focus on a little-known aspect of Feynman's life: his first marriage, to Arline Greenbaum, which was cut short in 1945 when she fell to Hodgkin's Disease. Her health had been slowly deteriorating in the years before that; *Infinity* is set during this time period. It shows us his most recognizably human sides: those of ardent lover and caring husband. But it does so to the exclusion of any real exploration of Feynman's personality or his amazingly intuitive brand of genius. *Infinity* takes a more simplistic, she-was-the-only-equation-he-couldn't-solve approach that seems better suited to a made-for-TV movie than a full-fledged screen biopic.

Patricia Arquette plays well the tragic

Arline, and makes her suffering plausible without becoming a martyr. Even as the disease reaches its terminal stages, Arquette shows her remaining strong and enjoying life in her moments of clarity. Broderick, too, turns in a very good performance. His thick Brooklyn accent is impeccable, and in general he projects a wide-eyed amusement at the world, coupled with unshakable sincerity.

Perhaps it is partly the result of Broderick's almost disturbingly youthful appearance, but this Feynman looks and acts like a 12-year-old boy trapped in a man's body. Broderick is at his best when he plays up this aspect of the scientist, as when he gleefully demonstrates the ineffectiveness of the seemingly impenetrable security system of the Manhattan Project.

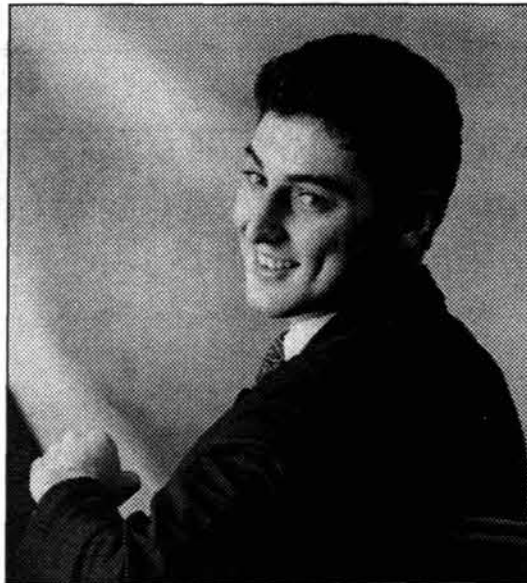
But these scenes come far too rarely. Arline finds out about her disease within the first half an hour, and after that the bulk of the movie is

Infinity, Page 9

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ON CAMPUS

Sarodist Ali Akbar Kahn comes to campus

By David Rodriguez
ARTS EDITOR

Ali Akbar Kahn, a famous Indian sarod player, is performing Saturday night in Kresge Auditorium. The show is organized by the Indian student's association and ASHA-MIT, an action group for basic education in India.

The sarod is one of the most respected instruments in Indian tradition. It's similar to a steel guitar or banjo but has 25 strings and is played with a pick made of polished coconut shell.

Kahn was one of the people responsible

for bringing the sarod to world-wide attention. He learned Indian raga from his father, the musician Allaaddin Khan, and for over 20 years practiced 18 hours a day. He has won honorary degrees from several universities and was a recent recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship for his life's work.

Kahn made his American debut in 1955 and has since played with George Harrison and Bob Dylan at Madison Square Garden. This will be his first visit to Boston since his last sold-out concert in Kresge in 1993.

Saturday's show is the second of two

fundraisers, the first being two weeks ago with the Indian dancer Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra, who *Encyclopedia Britannica* calls "the principle 20th century figure of Odissi dance."

Odissi dance is one of India's seven classical dance forms. Because of suppression by foreign rulers, Odissi dance was in danger of being lost. Mohapatra is one of a handful of dancers responsible for keeping Odissi dance alive.

Tickets for this Saturday's show are available in advance from MIT Heritage of the Arts of South Asia, by calling 258-7971. Prices are \$50, \$25, and \$15.

INTERVIEW

Mike Leigh talks of his new film *Secrets and Lies*

By Stephen Brophy
STAFF REPORTER

Mike Leigh came to Boston last week on the heels of his triumphal visit to the New York Film Festival, where his new movie, *Secrets and Lies*, had been selected for the opening night screening. He talked about the details of his most recent work and how it fits into the style and concerns he has been developing in the course of his career.

Leigh develops his stories in a much more collaborative fashion than most other writer/directors. He comes up with a general situation, finds actors to people it, and together with camera operators, production designers, and other crew members, they all basically write the script.

"A script is no more important than a blueprint — you don't make a script, you make a film," Leigh said. "What gets filmed is absolutely precise, very thoroughly rehearsed. But that comes out of the work with the actors — the rehearsals, the development, the research, the discussions, the improvisations. And the input of the other people. But the def-

inition of the material is very much in the hands of myself and the cinematographer.

This working style developed in the 1960s. "It came out of very strong desire to write and direct and being fascinated with the possibilities of acting." But it also suited his particular personality. "As a writer I am not terrifically inspired by sitting alone in a room — deadline keeps receding, pots of coffee keep getting made — but I do respond to a collaborative situation."

When asked why even the peripheral characters in his stories are so fully fleshed out, he pointed around the room. "All of us sitting here are totally different from each other. We are like the tips of six icebergs. This is fascinating." When pressed to explain, he responded that for him, "filmmaking is about people, and all people are interesting, and are to be explored and developed in a three-dimensional, round way. All characters in a story should have that dignity. It doesn't make sense to have some interesting people in a story and some you don't believe in — then the whole thing short circuits."

The emotional drama of his stories also

develops out of the way he works with actors to create the story. "In any film of mine, the entire thing is constructed by the actors never knowing any more than their characters would know. This relates back to what we were saying about each character being the center of his or her own universe. So when we rehearsed it, things were a surprise to them. But not when we shot it. They still don't know any more than they need to know when we shoot it, so they don't know what the whole film is about until months later when they see it. Some of the central characters didn't know they were in a film about adoption."

Leigh insists that he has been basically making the same movie with variations for much of his career. Certain basic preoccupations show up again and again. "For instance, Cyril in *High Hopes* is an idealist who has become inert. Johnnie in *Naked* is an idealist who is disappointed, angry, and has become negative. Maurice in *Secrets and Lies* is an idealist who bottles it and gets on with it. *Naked* is about family — it's about belonging, and connecting, it's about displacement which has to do with roots."

Not enough Feynman found in *Infinity*

Infinity, from Page 8

spent in a sea of hospital rooms and concerned looks. To speed up the section of Arline's deterioration, the movie has Feynman summarize what happened with an annoying voiceover technique. Still, no time is left to show us even a glimpse of the powers of observation that led to Feynman widely being recognized during his lifetime as the world's smartest man. The closest we come is an early scene in which he beats out, using pencil and paper, an old Chinese man with an abacus in an arithmetic contest. This hardly qualifies as a display of genius.

Ironically, even the character of Arline, with all the attention placed on her, remains little more than a cipher on the screen. She is strong-willed but lacks any identifiable personality. She seems to have no acquaintances other than Feynman and no hobbies other than ordering personalized pencils by mail. What was it about Arline that attracted this brilliant and intensely active man to her? The movie never satisfyingly explains this.

After watching it, I was curious to know the answer to this apparent anomaly, so I re-read some of James Gleick's *Genius*, the definitive biography of Feynman. Her characterization there is quite at odds with the film portrayal: Gleick describes her as a woman of high culture, with "well-bred talents for playing the piano, singing, drawing, and conversing about literature and the arts." The closest *Infinity* gets to showing us any of this is a scene in which Arline plunks down some notes on a toy piano which Feynman bought her.

Perhaps *Infinity* is successful as a love story, or even as a medical tearjerker. But the fact that the movie deliberately squanders an opportunity to explore the exhilarating life of Richard Feynman makes it, in my mind, a waste of two hours.

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FILM REVIEW

Secrets and Lies explores complexities of emotions

SECRETS AND LIES

Written and directed by Mike Leigh.
Starring Brenda Blethyn, Timothy Spall,
Phyllis Logan, Claire Rushbrook, and
Marianne Jean-Baptiste.

By Stephen Brophy
STAFF REPORTER

Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or, the major prize at this year's Cannes Film Festival, and Brenda Blethyn was selected as best actress for her role in Mike Leigh's new film. It was also selected for the prestigious opening night screening of the New York Film Festival. You can go into it knowing all this and still not be prepared for how good it is.

The plot is pretty simple, but it provides a solid foundation for the examination of a set of complex emotions stirred up by a young adopted woman's search for her birth mother and therefore her roots and identity. Leigh, whose previous work includes *High Hopes*, *Life Is Sweet*, and *Naked*, developed this story collaboratively with his actors and artistic crew, as is his practice, and together they have come up with a rich slice of British life in the 1990s.

We first see Hortense at her adoptive mother's funeral as the opening credits roll. She's a young professional of Caribbean background who is in careful control of her

emotions. In rapid succession, new scenes introduce us to the other major characters — Monica, a vaguely dissatisfied but prosperous suburban housewife; Maurice, her corpulent photographer husband; and Cynthia and Roxanne, Maurice's sister and niece, who live in a run-down London flat. Brenda Blethyn portrays Cynthia in a performance unlike anything anyone else has done in a movie in a very long time.

Cynthia works in a factory at a machine cutting slots in cardboard boxes, eats and drinks a little too much, and drives her almost-grown daughter to explosive exasperation with her good-intentioned but meddling asking of questions. Cynthia has never been married and never talked with Roxanne about how she was born but keeps offering advice to keep Roxanne from getting into a similar predicament.

After the funeral, Hortense starts the hunt for her birth mother, who of course turns out to be Cynthia. This comes as quite a surprise, because Cynthia doesn't at first remember ever having had sex with a black man. The scene in which mother and daughter finally meet, and in which the mother gradually becomes aware that she really is the mother, is amazing. It is done in just two shots, the first setting up the scene in a coffee shop and then next with the camera just placed in front of the two women who sit facing it. Blethyn tra-



Marianne Jean-Baptiste and Claire Rushbrook star in Mike Leigh's new film *Secrets and Lies*.

verses a range of emotion in this six- or seven-minute sequence that should all by itself garner her every acting award that is available.

But the truly amazing thing about *Secrets and Lies* is that all the characters, even those who have only one scene, are as well drawn and almost as well acted as Cynthia. Timothy Spall, as Maurice, is a dumpy but decent idealist who manages to be quite a hero when his family reaches its crisis, and Phyllis Logan, Claire Rushbrook, and Marianne Jean-Baptiste bring Monica, Roxanne, and Hortense to throbbing life in their part of the ensemble creation. Also, several bit players add comical moments in

brief scenes as the subjects of Maurice's camera.

The camera work is unobtrusively perfect, standing still or gently moving around its subjects in a way that brings the audience into the story. The musical accompaniment is mostly built around a cello line which can be sprightly or melancholy as the situation warrants. The set design also shares in the excellence of the project, efficiently filling in details about each characters' histories and circumstances. Several inanimate objects, like an old hair brush or an artificial Christmas tree, manage to silent speak volumes about this family and how it has come to be what it is.

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★★★★:Excellent
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★★★ **American Buffalo**

Dennis Franz is a junk shop owner and Dustin Hoffman his best friend in this well-crafted film version of the David Mamet play. The movie covers the scheme the two hatch to steal a mysterious customer's coin collection while he's away on vacation, thus reaping themselves a small fortune. But Bobby (Sean Nelson), a local street youth, also wants in on the deal, and the interplay between the three in the hours before the planned heist leads to disaster. The movie is somewhat done in by its limited scope (three characters, one set) and its near-complete reliance on dialogue to carry the story. Still, the acting is superb, especially on Franz's part, and the screenplay (also by Mamet) is razor-sharp. The movie ultimately resonates with a powerful message about the corrupting influence of money on even the closest of friendships. —Yaron Koren. *Coolidge Corner Theatre.*

★★★½ **Bound**

Bound tells a familiar film noir story — a drifter comes into contact with a sultry, dissatisfied woman and is lured into a chain of events that escalates into some serious violence. But in this sexy, intelligent, and stylish new thriller, the drifter is a lesbian ex-con who is repainting a vacant apartment next door to a Mafia money launderer and his restless mistress. As played by Gina Gershon and Jennifer Tilly, these two dangerous women bond immediately, and then take on the mob and the boyfriend to snatch \$2 million in a caper that will leave you breathless as it unwinds. The production design emphasizes gunmetal gray and black with highlights of white, against which red blood and green money stand out with startling intensity. *Bound* is tightly written, beautifully filmed, and adroitly edited to keep the tension twisting tighter and tighter. Imagine a cross between *The Last Seduction*, *Goodfellas*, and *Go Fish*. —Stephen Brophy. *Sony Nickelodeon.*

★★½ **Eraser**

Arnold Schwarzenegger plays a federal marshal responsible for the safety of witnesses, in this case, Vanessa Williams, a "bona fide honest person" whose company is selling high-tech weapons to foreign terrorists. But Arnold soon learns his boss is in on the deal and that he's being set up to take the blame, so Arnold goes out on his own to clear his name, save the witness, and save the world. Needless to say, he kills/breaks everything in his way. The action is fairly good but uninspired. As far as Schwarzenegger movies goes, this rates in the middle. —David V. Rodriguez. *Saturday at LSC.*



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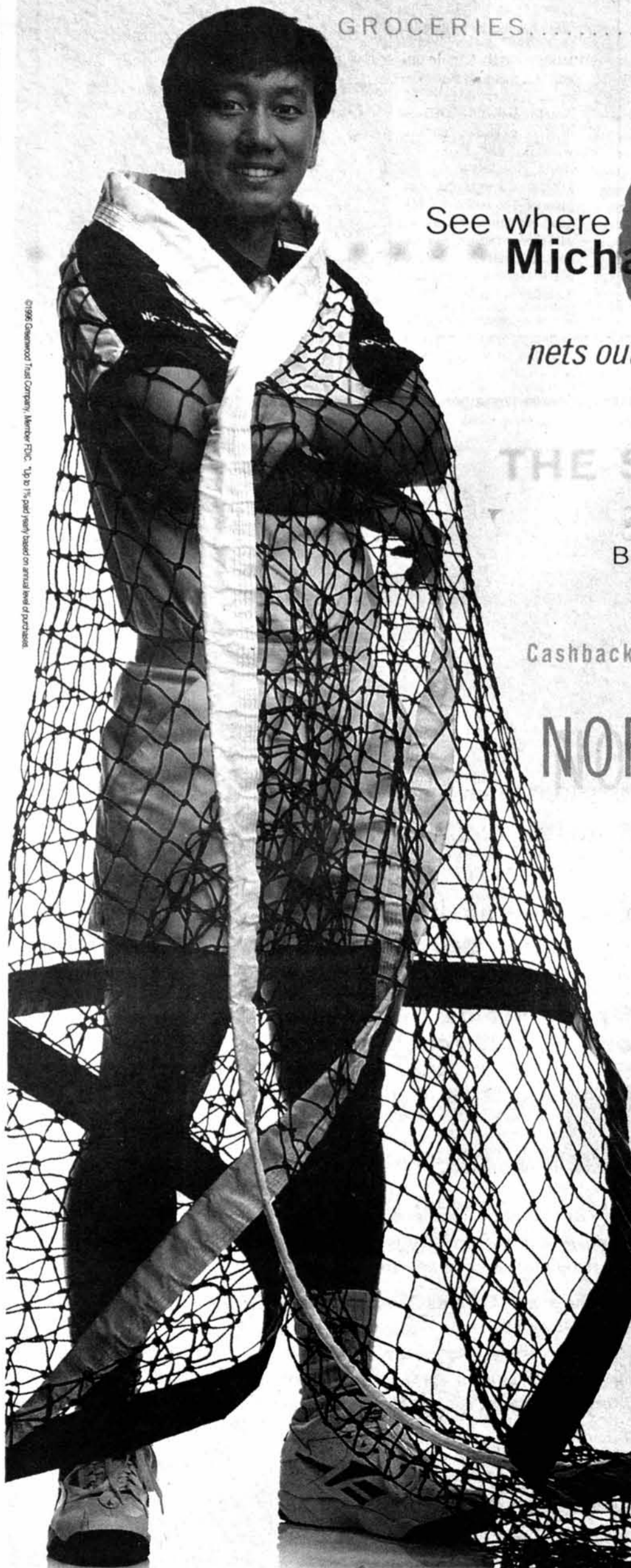
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Med Congress Club Looks to Address Health Care Policies

By Carina Fung
STAFF REPORTER

The MIT Medical Congress, a new student-run organization focusing on health care policy, will hold its first meeting next Wednesday.

The meeting will feature a talk by Harvard Medical School Associate professor of Medicine and Health Care Policy David Blumenthal, who is chief of the health policy research and development unit at Massachusetts General Hospital.

The Medical Congress was formed to recognize the rapidly growing interest in health care policy, said Eugene E. Lee '98, one of the co-founders of the club.

"Our experience in Washington, D.C. this past summer Internship Program... was the largest influence in the formation of this club," said Benson P. Yang '97, the other co-founder.

Lee, Yang, and eight other MIT students spent their summer in Washington D.C. working in various internships under a program sponsored by the Department of Political Science. Both Lee and Yang worked as policy analysts — Lee for the Institute of Medicine and Yang for the Congressional Research Service.

Lee and Yang were very excited about the experiences they came

across in their respective internships and in Washington in general and wanted to share their experiences with other MIT students upon their return.

MIT faculty who have been contacted thus far seem very enthusiastic, he said.

Future speakers, from the Harvard Kennedy School, New England Medical Center, and MIT, will be featured every one to two months, Yang said.

"One of the future meetings will consist of residents currently in the medical field, speaking about their education experiences," Lee said.

Lee and Yang plan to survey students to see what other areas of interest there might be. Future topics may include Medicare vs. Medicaid, bioethics, insurance reform, comparative health care systems of different countries, or the American health care system, Yang said.

Currently, the Medical Congress is funded in part by the Undergraduate Association, Yang said. The group is not at this point affiliated with any other organizations but may have a degree of overlap with the Premedical Society, Lee said.

"This is an excellent opportunity to illuminate the present and future trends in the fields of medicine and health care."
—Eugene E. Lee

Next Wednesday's meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. in room 3-270. The second one meeting is expected to be in November.

Meetings to feature speakers

Medical Congress meetings will be seminar-styled, with a keynote speaker, followed by an open question and answer session, Lee said.

Minutes from each meeting, executive summaries, and possibly a newsletter will be made available to anyone interested, he said.

In addition, the group will also distribute relevant articles by the speakers or by some other source "so that students can take something back with them for future reference or for further investigation," Yang said.

For his talk, entitled "The Effects of Market Reforms on Doctors and Their Patients," Blumenthal will discuss how competition in the U.S. health care system will influence the clinical practice of medicine generally, and interactions between patients and doctors in particular, Yang said.

The premedical students at MIT are very aware of the changes in health care and want to learn more about the field, Lee said. "This is an excellent opportunity to illuminate the present and future trends in the fields of medicine and health care," Lee said.

"From preliminary reactions, students seem very interested in the club. It is an issue that is not addressed widely at the undergraduate level, but is very important for people to understand," Yang said.

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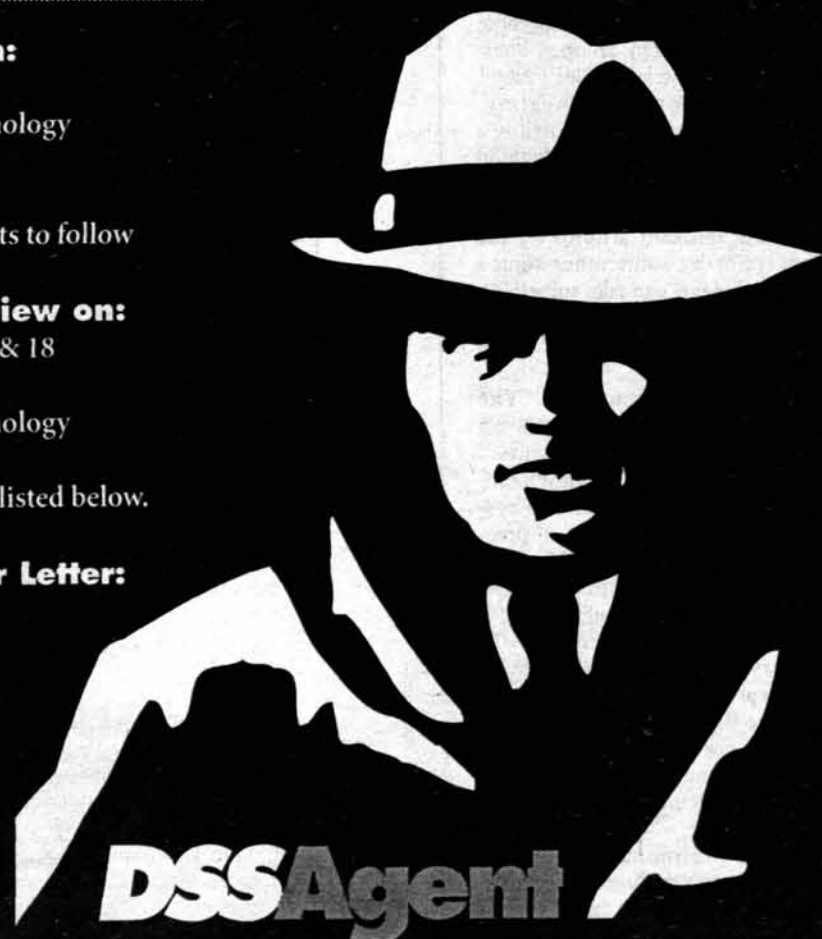
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Ig Nobel Ceremony Honors Hilarious Experiments

By Kyle Young
STAFF REPORTER

The Sixth Annual Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony, honoring people whose achievements "can not or should not be reproduced," was held at Harvard University last Thursday night.

A humorous farce of the actual Nobel Prizes, the ceremony presents the humorous and less serious sides of scientific research, quite contrary to the actual Nobel Prize ceremony held in Switzerland.

Indeed the humor of the evening was much anticipated by the full-house crowd in Sanders Theater, a Gothic cathedral next to the Science Center at Harvard. The light-hearted atmosphere in the theater prepared the audience to greet any preposterous scientific research with open laughter. Even before the show began, many anxious watchers created and tested paper airplanes for range and accuracy.

Ten categories awarded

Like the genuine Nobel ceremony, the Ig Nobel ceremony also awarded winners in 10 (albeit slightly different) categories this year: biology, medicine, physics, peace, public health, chemistry, biodiversity, literature, economics, and art.

For example, the 1996 Ig Nobel in biology was awarded to Anders Baerheim and Hogne Sandvik of the University of Bergen, Norway, for "their tasty and tasteful report" on "Effect of Ale, Garlic, and Sour Cream on the Appetite of Leeches."

The 1996 chemistry Ig Nobel was awarded to Robert Matthews of Aston University, England, for his studies of Murphy's Law, and especially for demonstrating that toast always falls on the buttered side.

The 1996 chemistry Ig Nobel was awarded to George Goble of Purdue University, for using charcoal and liquid oxygen to ignite a barbecue grill in three seconds, the world record time.

Of course, not all winners welcomed the honor bestowed by an Ig Nobel. Several winners "could not be reached for comment or refused to speak," Marc Abraham, the announcer, said in a humorous voice.

For example, France's President Jacques Chirac was not able to accept the 1996 Ig Nobel peace prize, given to honor his commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Hiroshima with atomic bomb tests in the Pacific.

Hilarious presentations featured

In between naming Ig Nobel laureates, there were also a number of hilarious presentations that punctuated the event. This year the plaster casts of the left feet of several genuine Nobel laureates were auctioned to benefit Cambridge Public Schools. The five feet raised about 100 dollars total.

The three-act opera *Lament del Cockroach* proved an especially entertaining performance. The opera featured two female cockroaches, Thelma and Louise, who became the prime mating choice when an asteroid headed for Earth threatens insects with extinction.

In the first two acts, Thelma and Louise talk about their disgust toward mating with the other species of onlooking insects, played by two genuine Nobel laureates. In the third act, the asteroids destroys the two cockroaches but surprisingly spares the other species of insects.

Another six Heisenberg Certainty Lectures also featured notable guests presenting humorous 30-seconds speeches.

One lecture featured Robert T. Morris, convicted felon, whose WORM virus brought down the Internet in the late 1980s. Morris shared his views about the government's new proposed policy for export cryptography. The time referee stopped the lecture before Morris could propose himself as the entrusted key keeper.

Ceremony focuses on biodiversity

This year's ceremony paid a special tribute to biodiversity. In keep-

with this theme, one Heisenberg Certainty lecturer argued against washing hands — to stop the ethnic cleansing of bacteria.

Another Heisenberg Certainty Lecture, "The Taxonomy of Barney," presented scientific evidence that Barney the Dinosaur was in fact not a dinosaur. Evidence provided by X-ray imaging revealed that the skeleton within the purple beast was human-like, quite different from the reptilian build of dinosaurs. The conclusion proved that children have been fooled by false advertising that portrays Barney as a real dinosaur.

The ceremony included a large cast of performers, including bonafide Nobel laureates, past Ig Nobel winners, scientists, and students. No wackiness was barred from the ceremony. How else would Reverend Chandler Newton, Sister Christine McGuirk, auctioneer Lin Calista, convicted felon Robert T. Morris, parade announcer Mark Waldstein, and the Swedish meatball king and queen participate together with bonafide Nobel laureates all in one night?

The diversity of the cast was matched only by the diversity of the viewers. In the live audience were students, professors, researchers, and reporters. Also attending were 20 delegations, including the Dilberts in Disguise and the Society

for the Preservation of Slide Rules. The ceremony was taped for televised showing, recorded for broadcast on radio, and broadcasted live over the Internet.

The Sixth Annual 1996 Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony was co-sponsored by *The Annals of Improbable Research*, the Harvard Computer Society, Tangents, and

the Harvard-Radcliffe Science Fiction Association. This ceremony was the second held at Harvard. The first four were held at MIT.

1996 Ig Nobel Prize Winners

Biology: Anders Baerheim and Hogne Sandvik of the University of Bergen, Norway, for their tasty and tasteful report, "Effect of Ale, Garlic, and Sour Cream on the Appetite of Leeches."

Medicine: James Johnston of R.J. Reynolds, Joseph Taddeo of U.S. Tobacco, Andrew Tisch of Lorillard, William Campbell of Philip Morris, and the late Thomas E. Sandefur, Jr., chairman of Brown and Williamson Tobacco Co., for their unshakable discovery, as they testified before Congress, that nicotine is not addictive.

Physics: Robert Matthews of Aston University, England, for his studies of Murphy's Law, and especially for demonstrating that toast always falls on the buttered side.

Peace: President of France Jacques Chirac, for commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Hiroshima with atomic bomb tests in the Pacific.

Public Health: Ellen Kleist of Nuuk, Greenland and Harald Moi of Oslo, Norway, for their cautionary medical report "Transmission of Gonorrhea Through an Inflatable Doll."

Chemistry: George Goble of Purdue University, for his blistering world-record time for igniting a barbecue grill — three seconds, using charcoal and liquid oxygen.

Biodiversity: Chonosuke Okamura of the Okamura Fossil Laboratory in Nagoya, Japan, for discovering the fossils of dinosaurs, horses, dragons, princesses, and more than 1,000 other extinct "mini-species," each of which is less than 1/100 of an inch in length.

Literature: The editors of the journal *Social Text*, for eagerly publishing research that they could not understand, that the author said was meaningless, and which claimed that reality does not exist.

Economics: Robert J. Genco of the State University of New York at Buffalo, for his discovery that "financial strain is a risk indicator for destructive periodontal disease."

Art: Don Featherstone of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, for his ornamentally evolutionary invention, the plastic pink flamingo.



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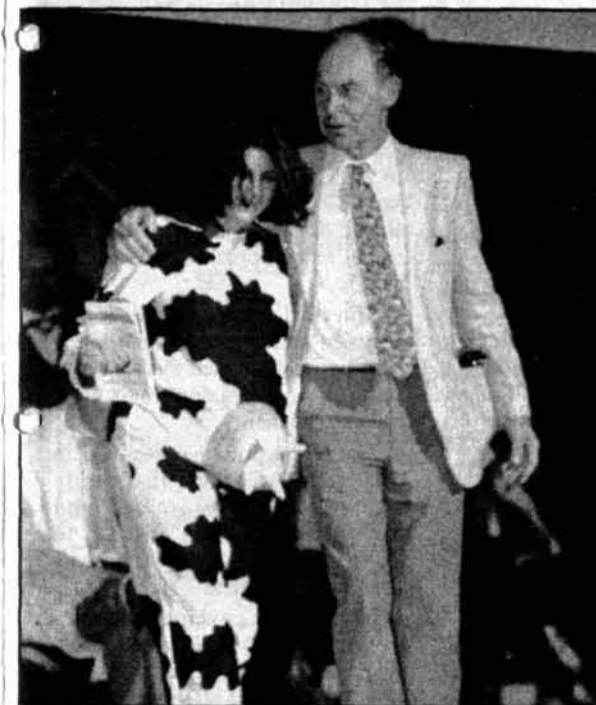
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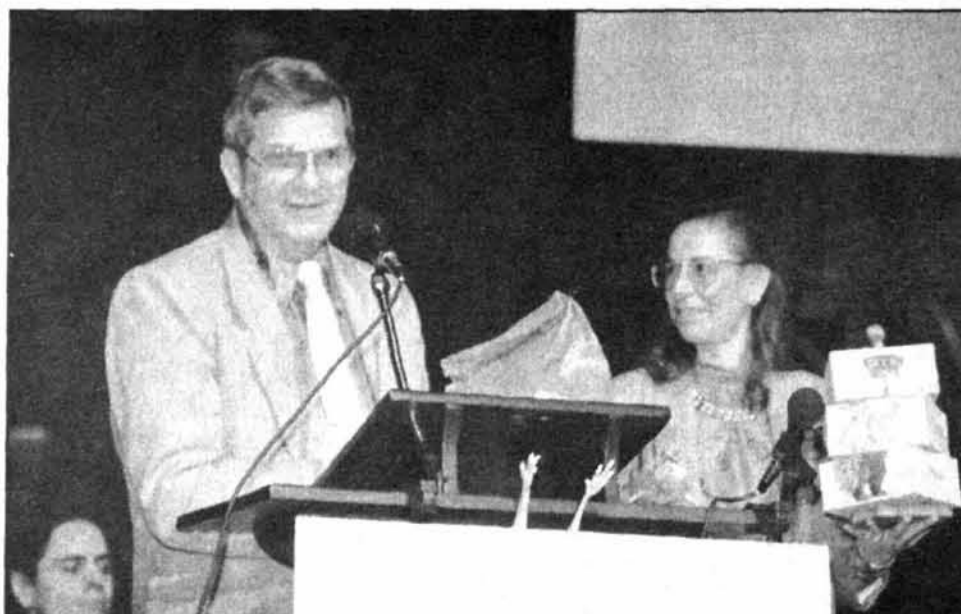
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Brown Bans Campus Parties for 2 Weeks

By Dan McGuire
NEWS EDITOR

Brown University's Student Activities Office issued a moratorium on Wednesday that will ban parties on campus for two weeks.

Brown's Dean of Student Life Robin Rose said a combination of violations of the fire safety code, illegal service and provision of alcohol, inappropriate advertising of social events, failure by party hosts to check for college identifications and to maintain appropriate guest lists, and numerous fights all brought on the ban.

"All of these things signify that there should be concerns with the level of compliance with University policy," Rose said. "The fact is that we have had social events that are unhealthy and unsafe. Students and University personnel have been injured."

Brown's Greek Council Chair Chris Hogg said the moratorium caught the group by surprise but that the council supports the decision.

"We've only been here for 30 days, and already there have been some pretty major incidents," Hogg said. "It will give us a chance to evaluate our party policies and make sure we are doing everything possible to ensure people's safety."

"They are doing good and bad with this decision," said, Brown sophomore Seth Goldberger, the social chair of one dormitory.

"On the one, hand there have obviously been a lot of problems within the past month that they are going to work out. On the other hand, there is already not much to do in Providence, and if you take away parties at which alcohol is served — which are basically the only kind — there is not going to be much left to do."

[Brown Daily Herald, Oct. 9]

Yale graduate union meets

Yale University's Graduate Employees and Students Organization, the school's self-styled graduate union, held its first meeting of the new academic year on Wednesday. The event was a referendum and rally measuring student support of a proposed graduate school assembly.

The proposed assembly will have the power to veto proposals on student-relevant policy changes made by Yale's Graduate School Dean Thomas Appelquist. The dean has proposed a modified version granting the assembly the right to "discuss and comment" on policy changes.

A total of 508 of the 1,100 non-science graduate students — the people the organization aims to represent — voted at the rally. Only 35 voted against the proposed council.

"We want to make sure the dean knows we're not going to settle for an impotent assembly," said GESO member Antony Dugdale.

While the results of the vote surprised few, the event's warmer, more cooperative style caught many students' attention. In stark contrast to the militant reputation the group has acquired — especially from the January strike which generated little but campus ire — GESO leaders put on a noticeably softer face yesterday.

The federal government began an investigation of Harvard's pharmacy, located in Harvard Square, almost a year ago after reports that drugs had been stolen.

"We don't mean to shift back to rigid dogmatism," Dugdale said at the rally. "We're looking at many

ways to achieve our bottom line. It could be an assembly, it could be a union, it could even be another creative alternative we haven't thought of yet."

Conscious of the need for consensus, GESO leaders designed the day's events to prove their claims of support. The referendum "is really just a visible expression" of graduate student support of the GESO-approved assembly, GESO Chairwoman Robin Brown said. The overwhelming majority of voters who selected the GESO's version of the assembly provides the proof of support.

"It's a time of optimism and possibility here," said GESO member Anita Gallers at the 100-person rally in front of the Hall of Graduate Studies. "We're reaching decisions by talking to people and making sure we find a solution everybody's comfortable and confident with."

[Yale Daily Herald, Oct. 10]

Harvard pharmacy fined \$775,000

Harvard University has agreed to pay a \$775,000 fine to settle a federal civil drug case involving its pharmacy, federal prosecutors said last month.

Harvard was accused of lax security and improper pharmacy practices that resulted in significant thefts of controlled drugs by a pharmacy technician.

Harvard's practices resulted in the "thefts of drugs, inaccurate inventories, sloppy storage, and improper distribution of drugs to unregistered sites," said U.S. attorney Donald K. Stern.

The federal government began an investigation of Harvard's pharmacy, located in Harvard Square, almost a year ago after reports that drugs had been stolen.

The government said that in 1995, a pharmacy technician stole more than 7,500 dosage units of cough syrup with codeine, a controlled substance.

According to federal drug experts, the drugs stolen are a type preferred by heroin addicts when heroin is not available.

The government said that as early as 1990, Harvard had reasons to know of significant problems in its pharmacy operations but failed adequately to address them.

[United Press International, Sept. 30]

UMass funding linked to study

Massachusetts Representative Harold Lane (D-Holden) told University of Massachusetts at Amherst's faculty at a faculty senate meeting last week that the only way the state legislature will continue to award a financially-sound budget to the school is if the school's faculty holds itself accountable to the public.

Lane's plea for accountability raised anew a contentious subject for the faculty and the president's office. The president's office has been trying for over a year to get faculty to participate in a workload study. Although faculty have been reluctant to cooperate, claiming they should not have to justify themselves to anyone, rumors of faculty workload legislation have put a new spin on the issue. The president's office is expected to produce and distribute a faculty workload survey in upcoming months.

"With the escalating costs of education, the public is demanding to know where its money is going," Lane said. "The faculty has to be more proactive in translating to constituents what they do and how they do it."

If faculty insists on ignoring attempts to document workloads, the legislature will have to fill in the blanks, and faculty will not be happy with the end product, Lane said. "There are solutions we can come up with, but I guarantee you, they won't fit," he said.

[Campus Chronicle, Oct. 10]

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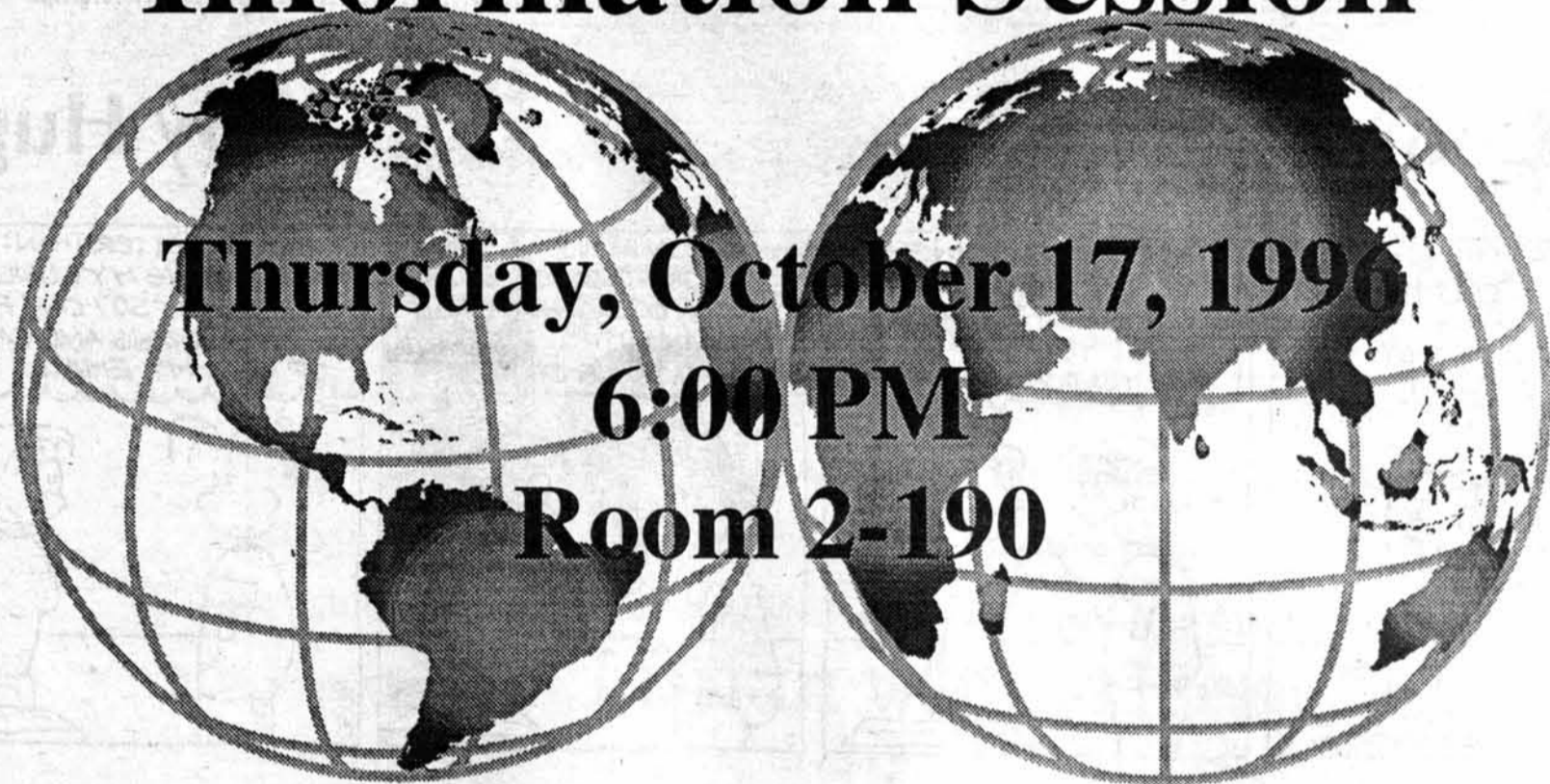
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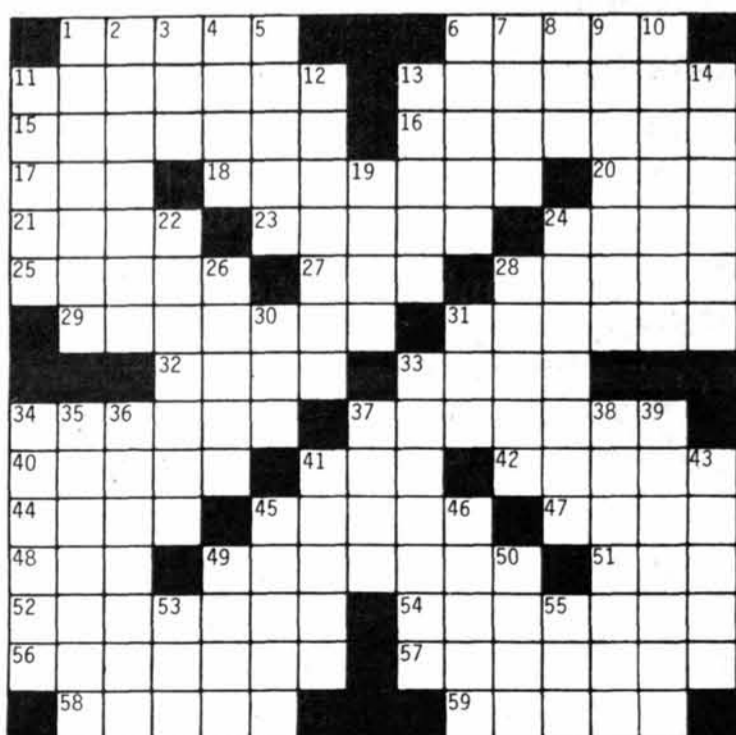
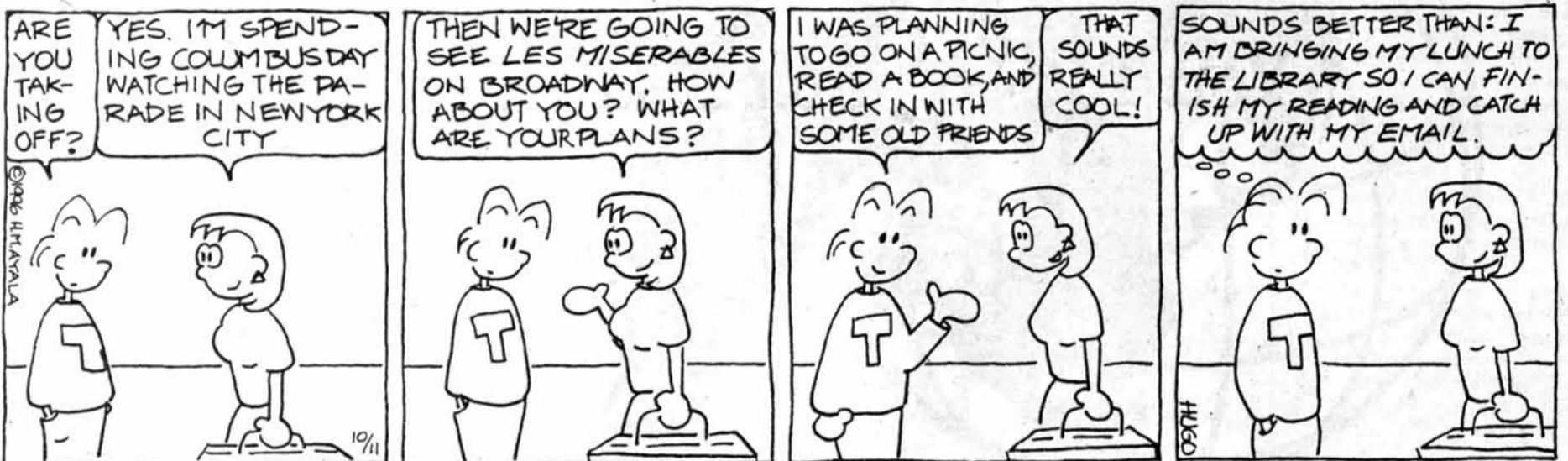
Dammed for Life

by Jessica Wu



Off Course

By Hugo



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ACROSS

- 1 Grouches
- 6 Forceful gush
- 11 Antelope leather
- 13 Water travelers
- 15 Regret
- 16 Large global region
- 17 Poisonous snake
- 18 Former French kingdom
- 20 The — Offensive
- 21 "A — is Born"
- 23 Endures
- 24 Neat
- 25 "Love Story" author
- 27 Permit
- 28 Relish
- 29 Shrinks back
- 31 Physician of old, and family
- 32 Franklin's toy
- 33 Rabbit
- 34 Poe's bird (pl.)
- 37 Tiresome teachers
- 40 Encourages
- 41 Trigonometric ratio (abbr.)
- 42 Prized music maker, for short
- 44 Large vehicles
- 45 Tape recorder button
- 47 Storage structure
- 48 High in pitch
- 49 More regretful
- 51 Tenth wedding anniversary

- 52. Food expert
- 54 Food
- 56 On the way (2 wds.)
- 57 Agents of retribution
- 58 Vane directions
- 59 Torn places

DOWN

- 1 President Arthur
- 2 Wild outbreak
- 3 I love: Lat.
- 4 " — Free"
- 5 Firm fiber
- 6 Becomes spoiled
- 7 Shave off
- 8 Actress Hagen
- 9 Uneasy
- 10 Tested for size (2 wds.)
- 11 Stupid
- 12 Place in Rossini opera
- 13 Le Havre hat
- 14 Woodland deities
- 19 Class of vertebrates
- 22 Illegal businesses
- 24 Astaire and Crosby; e.g.
- 26 Cut of meat
- 28 FDR's mother, et al.
- 30 Part of TGIF
- 31 Israeli tribe
- 33 Mercenary of '76
- 34 Destroy
- 35 Marine mollusk
- 36 California city
- 37 Rain
- 38 Most hackneyed
- 39 Salty medicines
- 41 A la —
- 43 Prohibitions
- 45 Auden and Donne
- 46 Type of fisherman
- 49 Indecent language
- 50 Hoarfrost
- 53 Cornish prefix in names
- 55 Checker pieces

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE



You waited in line an hour to see this movie. Incredible opening! Heart-stopping action! Unbelievable tension! This is going to be ... a great... a great... oh no. Seated directly behind you. A talker. You can withstand many things. People who drive 55 in the left lane. People with 10 items in the 8-items-only checkout. But here you draw the line. Talking in movie theaters is

sacrilege!

You paid seven bucks for this ticket. Seven bucks!

To the voice you say, "Could you please keep it down?"

Mistake. The voice gets louder. "Let's move," you hiss to your girlfriend. "No," she says. "Come on," you implore. "No," she says. "I've had it with talkers," she says. She reaches into her bag. Drops a squat metallic object on her lap. What the...? **Out of the corner of your eye,** you see her squinting, slowly, surely screwing two pieces together. A... a... silencer? Geez! This is a side of her you've never seen before. You think, momentarily, that should this case go to a jury, it will be important to have movie lovers on the panel. She lifts the weapon from her lap. What's it going to be? A Colt .45? A derringer?

You force yourself to look.

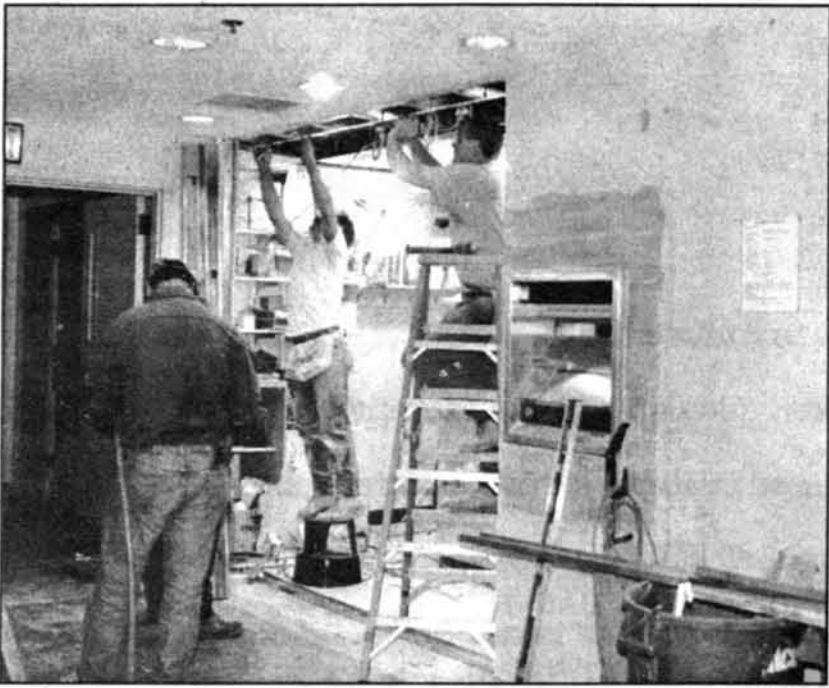
It's sleek. It's smooth. It's small. It's a... PDA? She's going to threaten the voice with a personal digital assistant? She quickly touches some keys, leans forward. "Computer," she says tersely to the little machine. Great. Now your girlfriend talks to inanimate objects. What's next? **Lunch with aliens?**

She whispers something else to the machine. Wonderful. She's decided to catch up on work during your date. Suddenly, miraculously, the voice behind you stops. Weird-like, in mid-sentence. You glance back. What the...? It's long. Round. Pointy. A... cone... of... silence? "PDA with a silencer," your girlfriend mutters. **Damn, that's good software.**

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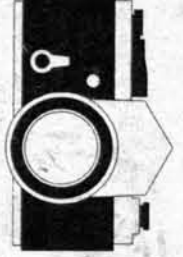


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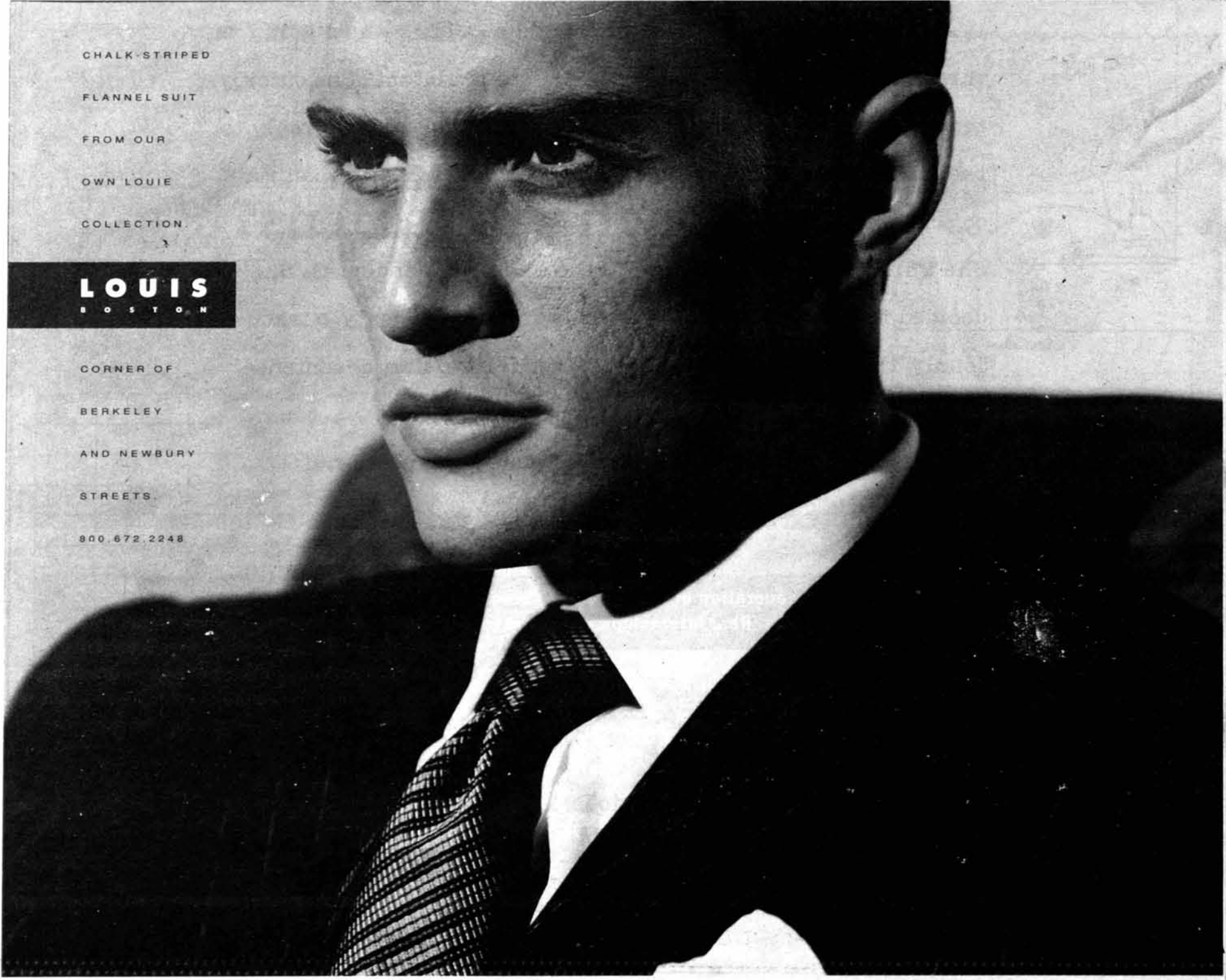
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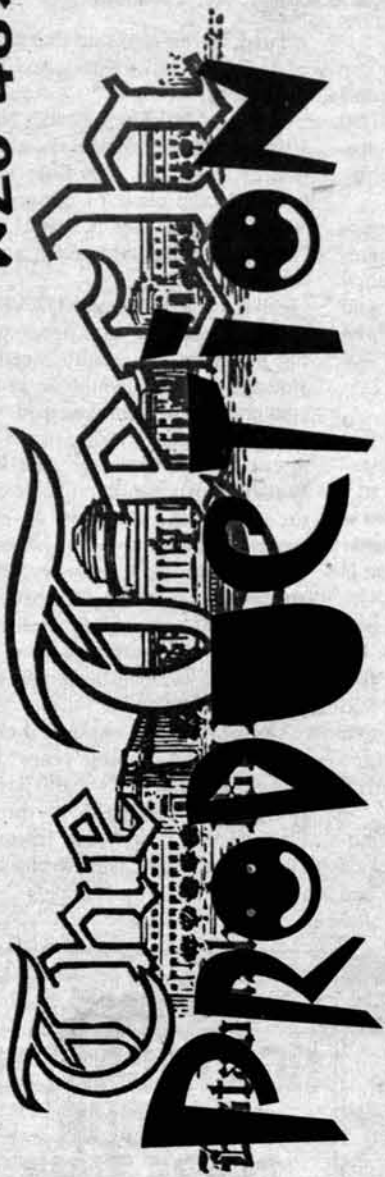
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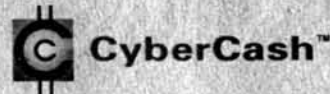
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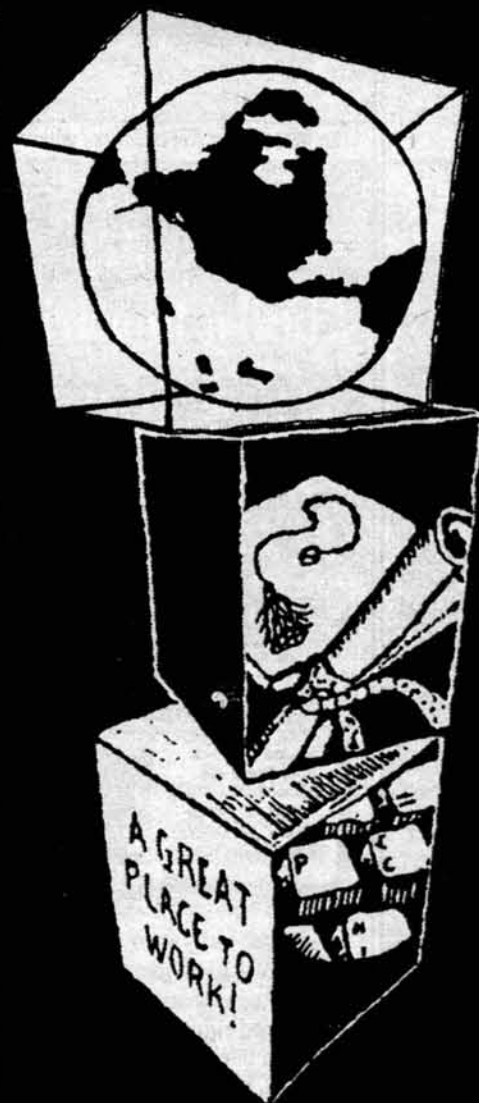
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UA Plans Projects, Hopes for Interest For Coming Year

UA, from Page 1

collaborative between the UA and the Graduate Student Council to find cheaper alternatives to the long-distance phone service provided by ACUS.

Carter is also planning to establish an intra-executive council composed of class officers. The council will work toward more student and class government collaboration, he said.

UA faces problem of apathy

One of the biggest problems that the UA faces is a lack of participation.

"How to generate involvement is the million dollar question," Carter said. "Everyone is part of UA and is welcome at our meetings."

Carter presented a brief orientation for the new representatives. He emphasized the importance of following attendance requirements and proxy rules so that the UA can "deal with the students' concerns instead of its own administration issues."

Noting the fact that not all student groups received the level of funding from Finboard that they had

wanted, Carter also said that a "lack of UA funding is also one of our difficulties."

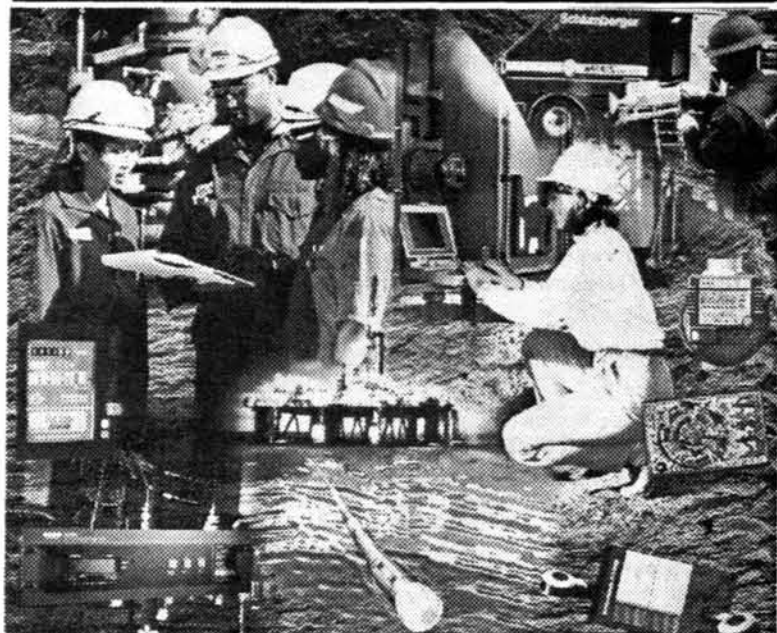
UA Council Floor Leader Norris Vivatrat '99 sees student dissatisfaction as a concern. The floor leader serves as the chair of the council. Vivatrat said that his goal is to "strengthen UA and make it a voice for the students."

Since the UAP and UAVP are the only students who have speaking privileges at faculty meetings, students need to communicate their concerns to the them, Lee said.

Any student can attend and speak at UA Council meetings. Students also can send their comments to the UA at ua-comments@mit.edu.

This year's UA seems organized and energetic, taking a realistic and incremental approach to challenges, Carter said. "Don't let your past experience evaluate how you think about this year's UA."

Several people expressed enthusiasm for the coming year. "I am impressed with Lee's and [Carter's] systematic approach to the UA Council this year," said Executive Committee Vice Chair Stephanie H. Zielenski '98.



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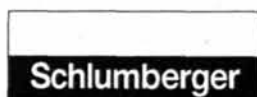
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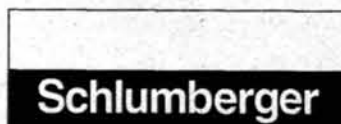
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False Alarm Causes Midday Evacuation From Student Center

Evacuation, from Page 1

McCue said. A Cambridge Fire Department truck arrived on the scene at 3:25 p.m. but left only two minutes later when it was clear that there was no fire. "The trucks came, and it was kind of a ruckus," said Campus Police Captain John Driscoll.

Many annoyed at inconvenience
The evacuation kept students, workers, and administrators alike outside in yesterday afternoon's cold damp weather. Many were annoyed at the 30-minute interruption.

"I was in line to make a purchase at LaVerde's Market," said Christina L. Gehrke '99. "I am very pissed off. I was trying to get lemons."

"Fire alarms have a bad, bad, bad tendency to interrupt things," said Charles H. Hamilton '97.

*"You have the safety of the police officers and all. They won't let you in the building, but they'll let you three feet away from the building."
— Mike Domal*

"It's a hassle putting everything away and having to take everything out later while the customers are waiting," said Filomena Paiva, who works at the Baybank on the first floor of the Student Center.

When the alarm rang, "we started putting everything away, the foreign currency, closing the vaults. It takes five to 10 minutes," Paiva said.

Carmen Cardillo, who works at LaVerde's, noted that the evacuation meant a loss of potential revenue for the store. "The bank loses, LaVerde's loses, we all lose," he said.

"Well, this certainly isn't the first time" this has happened, said Pramod N. Achar '97, who was on his way to buy a CD at Newbury Comics when the alarm went off. "It happens two or three times a year."

Some, however, were pleased to have a break and had a more casual appraisal of the situation.

"This is awesome," said Mike Domal, who works at LaVerde's. "You have the safety of the police officers and all," said Domal, standing right outside the main entrance to the Student Center. "They won't let you in the building, but they'll let you three feet away from the building."

"I work, so if I get a few minutes off, it's good thing. Fortunately, I wasn't making a pair of glasses," said Eva Klimczyk, who works at MIT Optical. "Well, I would be pissed off if it were a prank fire alarm."

"I was at Athena. I logged out. I was about to go and develop film for *Technique*," said Sarah L. McDougal '00. "These kind of things happen. I'd rather be outside and safe than inside."

Cristián A. González and Douglas A. Heimbürger contributed to the reporting in this story.

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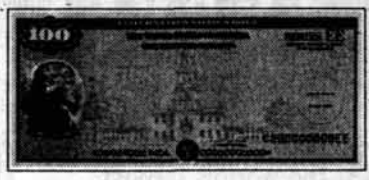
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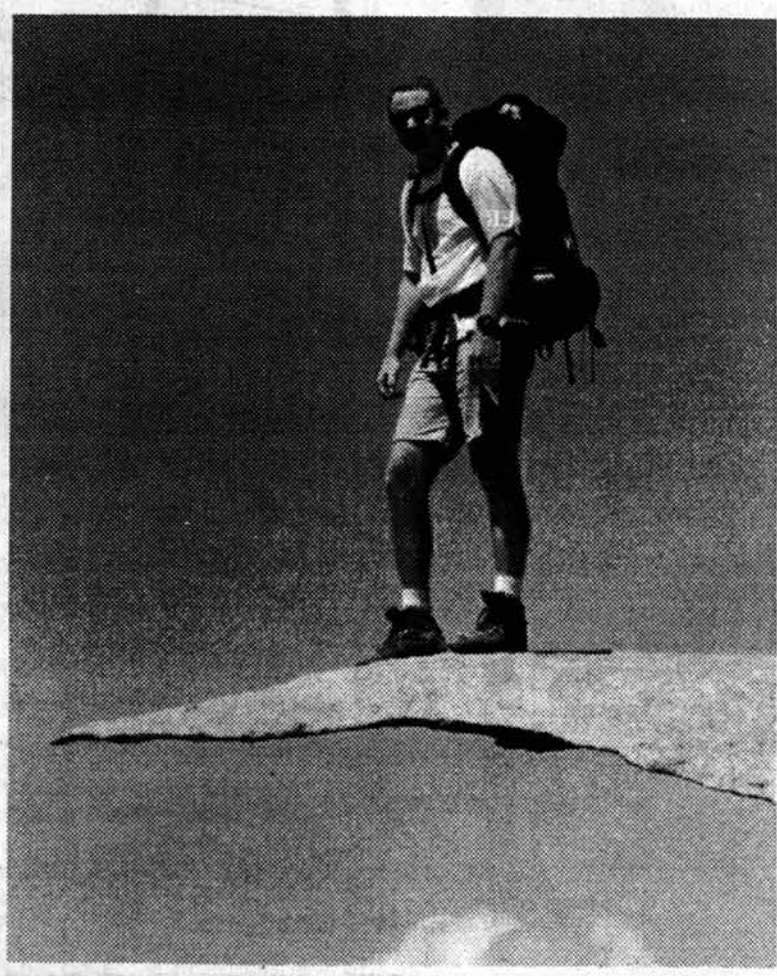
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Kingston Reads Work in Progress

Kingston, from Page 1

the Boston area and suburbs were also invited to attend the reading. The majority of people who attended the MIT-sponsored event were not actually MIT students. "MIT students don't come out for things," Perry said.

"MIT students need to be exposed to artists and arts and to

"MIT students need to be exposed to artists and arts and to understand the power of the imagination."

—Ruth Perry

understand the power of the imagination," she said.

"Another Book of Peace" was brought to MIT by a number of groups, including the Program in Women's Studies, the Office of the Arts, the Office of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies, the literature section of the Department of Humanities, the foreign languages and literatures section of the Department of Humanities, and the Theater Arts Program.

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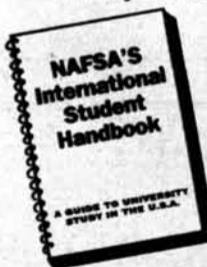
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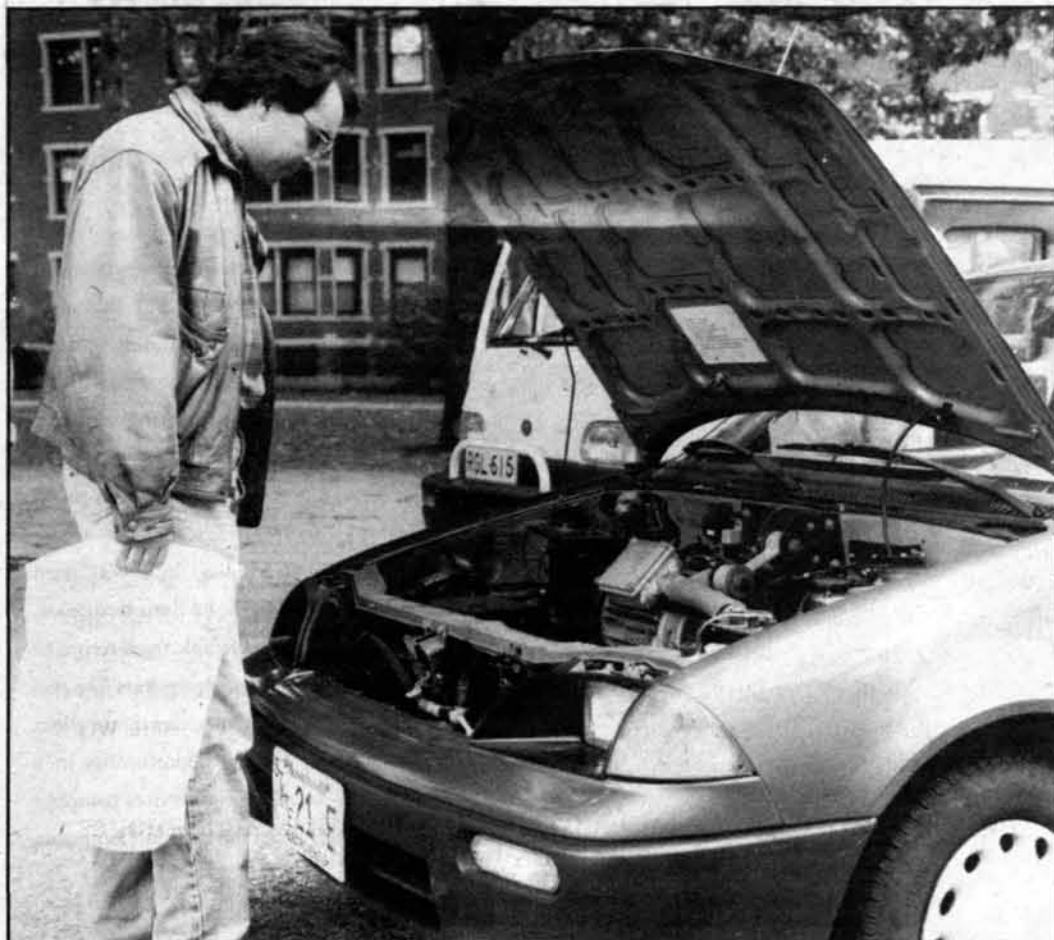
All students, faculty, staff and MIT affiliates are invited to enroll in Physical Education classes for the second quarter. Enrollment takes place through the PE lottery on Athena from 4am on October 16 until noon on October 23. From any Athena workstation type add pelott, and then type xphedu& to execute the Selection System (note: if you are dialing up use phedu instead). Non-Athena users may enter the lottery with the assistance of the PE Office W32-125.253-4291. Results of the lottery will be available to participants on October 24, by using the same two commands as above: add pelott and xphedu& (or phedu from dialup). Late registration, based on availability, will be conducted beginning October 25 in the PE Office. Classes begin Monday, October 28. All students with the exception of undergraduates taking classes for credit, must purchase the MIT Athletic Card

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Classified ads are due at 5 p.m. two days before day of publication, and must be prepaid and accompanied by a complete address and phone number. Send or bring ads, with payment, to W20-483 (84 Mass. Ave., Room 483, Cambridge, MA 02139). Account numbers for MIT departments accepted. Sorry, no "personal" ads. Contact our office for more details at 258-8324 (fax: 258-8226) or ads@the-tech.mit.edu.

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Kamal Hadidi, a research scientist in the Plasma Fusion Center, looks inquisitively into the open hood of an electric car Wednesday in front of the Student Center at a commuter transportation fair.

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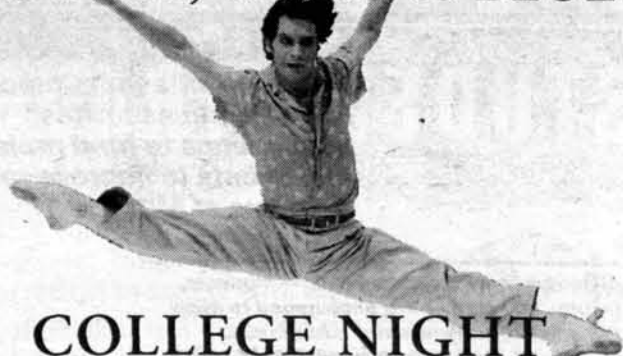
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An information session will be held Thursday, October 17 from 6-8pm in Room 4-145. Refreshments will be served. Interviews will be scheduled on Friday, October 18. To find out more about EMC, please check out our home page at <http://www.emc.com>.

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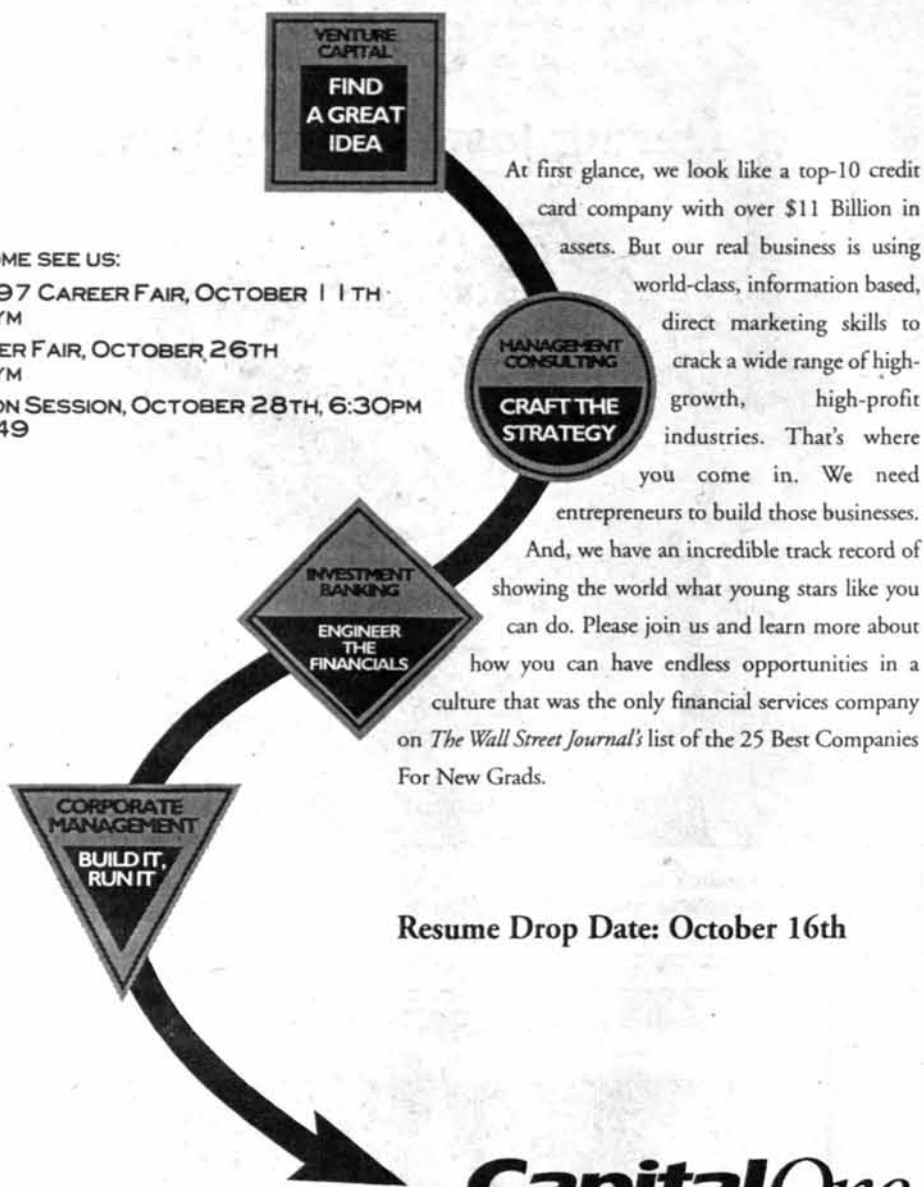
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Lack of Personnel Delays Production Of MIT Directories

Directories, from Page 1

obtained — are collected, said Assistant to the Registrar Iria J. Romano.

The Department of Housing and Food Services provides information on dormitories directly, while three full-time and one or two temporary workers from the Registrar's Office work to enter the rest of the term addresses and phone numbers, Romano said.

All of this work has to be done by Sept. 16, when the Bursar's Office sends out the first bill of the term to students. Then missing or incorrect information for about 200 students — most of them graduate students — is completed and corrected, Romano said.

By Sept. 23, the information is ready to be sent to the Communications Office, which is responsible for putting out the directories, Gleason said.

The office then sends the information to University Directories, the publisher. The directories are printed and sent to dormitories, the Office of Residence and Campus Activities, and the Information Center.

Offices need more people

The Registrar's Office "could always use more people," but the directories actually would not come out any earlier even if there were more people, Romano said. The time the directories get distributed is controlled by the Communications Office, which sets the deadlines.

Gleason was surprised to hear that the Registrar's Office would be able to get the information to the Communications Office sooner. Earlier availability of information for the Registrar's Office may allow an earlier deadline to be set in the future, she said.

Another possible option would be temporary directories that would contain incomplete information but would be distributed immediately.

But given the situation of current staffing, the temporary directory would be impossible, Gleason said. However, if there are enough resources, both she and Romano would support the idea.

A more realistic prospect is the faster placement of an updated listing of departments and offices online. Online information is usually in place a few weeks into the term.

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The Committee on Campus Race Relations



Photo by Justin Knight

Grants Program

The Committee on Campus Race Relations invites applications to fund projects and events to improve race relations at MIT.

All members of the community — students, faculty, and staff — are encouraged to apply. For applications and more information, please call Aylda Mthembu, 253-4861 or Liz Connors, 253-5882 or drop by Room 3-234.

Deadline for proposals:
 Tuesday, October 15, 1996

The next application deadline is Monday, December 9, 1996.



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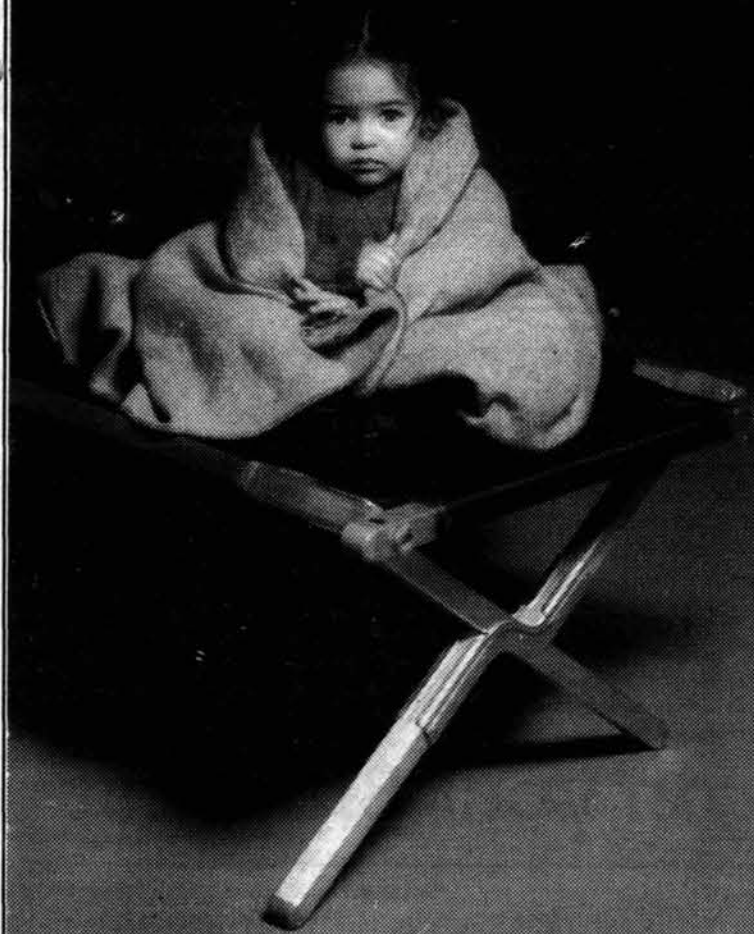
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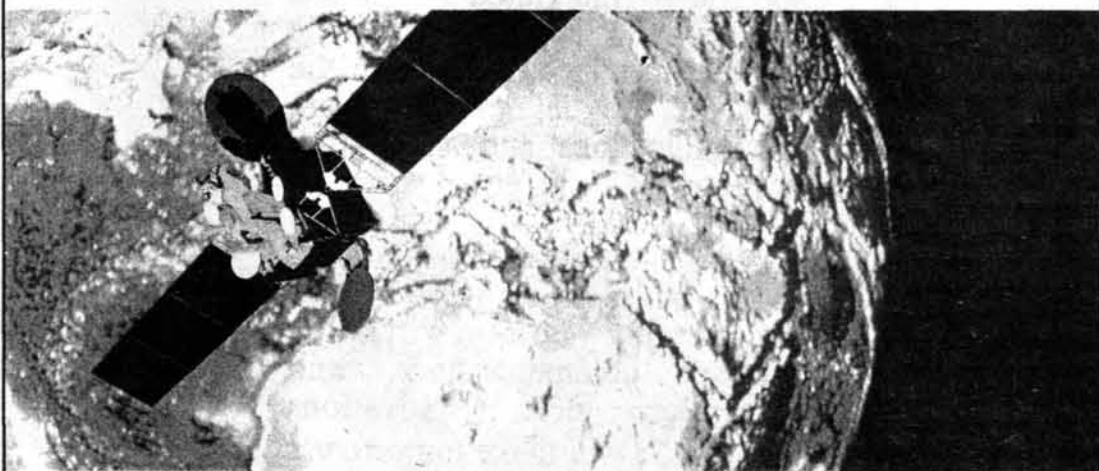
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Forecast for the NFL: Chance of Steelers

Brocoum, from Page 32

time I checked Atlanta and Carolina were on the Atlantic coast.

Finally, for some odd reason, Washington is leading the East. Dallas must be steaming about that one. Talk about a reversal of fortune. Although for a team that

A WORD ON SPORTS

screwed up with both Desmond Howard and that quarterback guy (I will mention no names to protect the embarrassed), I guess the least they could ask for is to win a couple games now and then.

Basically, my great football sense is telling me that this just might be the year the AFC dethrones the NFC. Well... no maybe not (I was getting delusional for a second). But at least the NFC doesn't seem to be quite as dominating as usual.

The picks, week 7

Atlanta has been giving up twice as many points as they have been scoring. This stat leads to much blame, excuse-making, and bickering around the Atlanta locker room. But more importantly it leads to an endless string of losses. Take Houston.

Miami was looking good at the beginning of the year. Now they are just looking for Marino to return. Buffalo on the other hand has been winning despite atrocious play by Jim Kelly. If he ever gets it together, Buffalo is going to be very strong. Take Buffalo.

St. Louis at Carolina. Not much to say. Carolina.

Arizona is a not particularly good. Dallas is not particularly bad (despite how they have been looking so far). But because of aforementioned prejudices (Dallas over Pittsburgh; Super Bowl, last year); I feel the need to laugh in Barry Switzer's face and pick the two touchdown underdogs, Arizona, anyway.

The Jets continue to have a nagging problem with a quarterback named Neil O'Donnell. Until they rectify that situation expect the offer trend to continue. Take Jacksonville.

New England seems to have turned it around the past few games. But I will say again, Washington has been winning. I think some divine force has been following them around driving the old Bandwagon around again or something. Take Washington over the Patriots.

New Orleans disappointed me by breaking their winless streak, but I suspect they will quickly relapse against da Bears.

It has been noted numerous times in this column that Pittsburgh is beyond good. Cin-cinnati has yet to be noted (or even really mentioned for that matter). Steelers!

For a moment, I thought this was Minnesota at Green Bay. That would have been a game. Then I noticed that it was TAMPA Bay instead. This game is going to be a rout.

Philadelphia has been struggling recently after a fast start. New York has just been struggling. Take the Eagles.

The Raiders just ain't that good anymore even if they are back in Oakland. Take Detroit.

Baltimore is just a mess. The Browns just aren't coalescing as the Ravens. Too bad, because I think the Browns would have been good. Indianapolis is starting to wake up after a dreamlike start. Take the Colts in a close game.

Monday Night Brawl for the Ages II: San Francisco at Green Bay. This game is big. I mean BIG. Because of space constraints, I can't address this sporting event in these pages. Just kidding — I like San Fran and all, but Green Bay is powerful. Green Bay is just Green Bay. Take the Pack in a thriller.

Last week: 8-4 (plus five dollars on Pittsburgh), season: 31-20.

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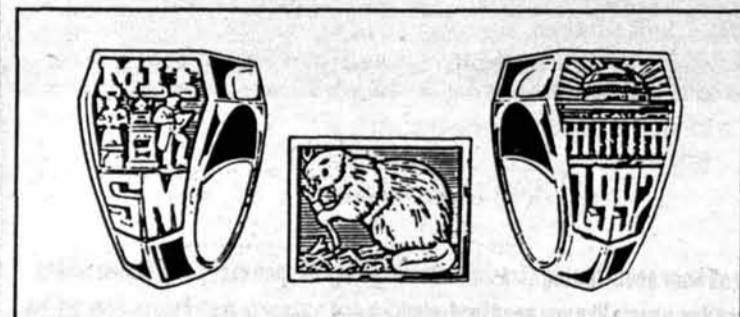
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Women's Rugby Tops Providence Ruckers

By Marianne Bitler
TEAM MEMBER

The women's rugby football club beat Providence College this Saturday 25-5 and 25-0 in a two-game rout to continue undefeated this season.

Jennifer Joy G blitzed past the Providence defense to score the first try of the game. Later in the first half, scrum half Karen Willcox G, scored off a pass from Anne Pepin G on the weak side. The next score was made by inside center Marianne Bitler G and fly half Sara Woodring G, who combined to score off a switch.

An aggressive crash through the Providence defense into the try zone by flanker Katy Quinn G, after heads up penalty play by MIT left the score at 20-0 at the half.

Providence was more aggressive in the second half, with Joy providing the only MIT score off a break-away run down the right wing.

MIT's pack fought hard holding back the Providence scrum.

Providence however, was able to score in the last few minutes of the game with a long run from their inside center to leave the final score at 25-5.

In the second game, MIT dominated again. Rookie Dana Ayotte G, had an outstanding game at outside center, scoring twice. Rookie wing Rebecca Morss G also scored in the first half to bring the score to 15-0.

Hooker Sheri White G scored after the MIT pack forced the Providence forwards into their own try zone, bringing the score to 20-0. Woodring scored in the last minute of the game off a pass from wing Liz Hick G, who had run the ball halfway down the field to clinch MIT's victory at 25-0.

The women's rugby club's next game is against Bridgewater State College tomorrow at 11 a.m. at Briggs Field.

Chen Drops Last Play In Division III Tourney

By Roger Crosley
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Freshman Eric Chen '00 advanced to the semifinal round of the New England Division III Intercollegiate Tennis Championship last weekend.

Chen made the final four by defeating defending champion Keith Tonkin of Williams College by scores of 4-6, 6-0, 6-3. Chen dropped his semifinal match to the eventual champion in the tournament.

Eisenberg cross country winner

Junior Janis Eisenberg '98 was the individual winner in last weekend's Wellesley College

Invitational. Eisenberg covered the 5,000 meter course in 19:33 to lead MIT to second place in the race behind the host school.

Strong showing for crew

The heavyweight crew had its best showing ever at the Head of the Ohio Regatta in Pittsburgh. MIT finished second in the Open Eight Division, behind Brown University and 0.2 seconds ahead of Cornell University.

The crew was also second in the 500 meter sprint, again behind Brown. Later in the competition, the squad was split into two fours and came in third and fourth in the Open Fours, once again behind Brown, which placed first and second.

The women's crew placed second to Villanova University in the Open Fours.

Women's Tennis Continues Top Record, Beating Smith

By Lily Koo
TEAM MEMBER

The women's tennis team traveled to Smith College this past Saturday and defeated them 6-3, bringing the Engineers to a 5-0 New England Women's Eight Conference record and to an overall record of 7-1.

The team was expecting a difficult match, as Smith is traditionally one of the toughest teams in the NEW8. The match began with doubles play.

The number one doubles team of Mealani Nakamura '00 and Nora Humphrey '98 and the number three team of co-captain Sarah Kringer '97 and co-captain Lily Koo '97 both had slow starts and lost 8-2, 8-4, respectively. The number two doubles team of Angela Mislowsky '99 and Michelle Youn '00 claimed a 8-4 win in an extremely well-played match.

Though MIT was at a 1-2 deficit entering singles play, each team member remained focused, determined to win. Mislowsky at number four won quickly, defeating her opponent in two shut-out sets 6-0, 6-0. Youn had a rare loss at number two with a score of 6-1, 6-4.

Koo was next to finish with a 6-3, 6-2 victory at number five. Kringer added another point for the Engineers with a 7-5, 6-4 win at

number six. The total score was 4-3, with two singles matches still in play.

Nakamura clinched the MIT victory over Smith with the fifth point in an amazing 5-7, 6-1, 6-4 win at number one singles. In the longest two set match in MIT tennis history, Humphrey was last to emerge victorious in a 7-5, 7-5 win at number three.

The 1996 women's varsity squad has had wins over Tufts University (5-4), Colby College (9-0), Clark University (8-1), Wheaton College (7-2), Worcester Polytechnic Institute (9-0), and Babson College (5-4). The team's only loss this year has been to last year's nationally ranked Skidmore College.

Other members of the team include Bobby Kommineni '97, Pardis Sabeti '97, Tiffany Cunningham '98, Doana Cecan '00, Nisha Singh '00, and Neda Ramirez '00. Ramirez was a key player in the team's 5-4 win over Babson College.

The team is led by new Coach Merrilee Keller and Coaching Assistants Carol Matsuzaki '96, Una-May O'Reilly, Jim Taylor, and Jeannie Yoo.

The team faces a traditional tough conference rival, Wellesley College, in an away match on Tuesday.



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A LECTURE BY

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SPORTS



Stephanie M. Maifert '98 tries to sweep the ball past the Wheaton College goalie in the second half of Tuesday's field hockey game. MIT won the game 3-2.

Men's Rugby Kills off Dinosaurs

By Chris Townsend
TEAM MEMBER

In a clash to decide the winners of the Boston Social League last Saturday, the men's rugby team showed maturity beyond its years, defeating 22-14 an experienced veterans' team from Beacon Hill in a hard-fought contest.

The pattern of the game was shaped by MIT early in the first half. Fired up for the occasion, the Engineers started with a mixture of running rugby and tactical kicking that surprised Beacon Hill and left them scrambling for possession.

Five minutes into the game, John Higginson G opened the scoring for the Beavers with a penalty kick from 30 yards. Shortly afterwards Chris Kantner '97 scored the first try with a powerful run along the touchline.

A few minutes later the ball fell loose over the try line following MIT forward play, and visiting scholar Christophe Bruneton was able to touch down to increase the lead to fifteen points.

This provided the incentive to spur the Dinosaurs into action.

Using to good effect the superior weight and height advantage of their forwards, they secured possession, and for the first time this season, the MIT defense was severely tested. A try looked likely and 25 minutes into the half the Beacon Hill full-back broke powerfully through the center of the field to score between the posts.

The second half started much like the first had ended. In the opening minutes, the Dinosaurs strung together a series of strong forward moves and were rewarded with a second try to reduce the deficit to just a single point.

However, this was the last time the team was able to breach the MIT lines. For the remainder of the half, MIT frustrated Beacon Hill with some stout defense and clever offensive play, utilizing a much quicker back division. On occasion, the opposition let their frustrations show with some provocative behavior and instances of bad sportsmanship.

MIT maintained discipline, however, and toward the end of the game, MIT began to reassert itself

once more. In the last minute, MIT secured the game beyond doubt with a second try from Kantner following a clever kick out of defense to bring the score to 22-14.

Hating the NHL — The Bottom Line: The Regular Season Means Nothing

Column by Martin Duke

How do I hate the NHL? Let me count the ways:

1. The regular season means NOTHING.

2. The worst seats at the Fleet Center cost \$29. For \$29 at Fenway, you can get seats close enough to spit on Roberto Alomar warming up and still get two hot dogs.

3. The Anaheim Mighty Ducks.

4. Real Hockey Fans in Winnipeg losing out to Phoenix.

5. The \$65 lower deck seats at the FleetCenter.

6. The regular season means NOTHING.

7. The San Jose Sharks.

8. Sixteen teams in the playoffs. Sixteen! I guarantee the Rangers and Avalanche have nothing to play for by March except for meaningless playoff seedings.

9. Stanley Cup games in June, in places where it doesn't even snow in January (see number 3).

10. The Baseball Hall of Fame is in idyllic Cooperstown, New York. The Basketball Hall of Fame is in the game's birthplace, Springfield, Massachusetts. The Football Hall of Fame is in the classic gridiron city of Canton, Ohio. The Hockey Hall of Fame is in the basement of a shopping mall in Toronto.

11. That annual question: Pay my tuition, or buy hockey tickets?

12. Once you've watched a grueling 82-game schedule, nothing has been decided and you still have six weeks to go.

13. The regular season means NOTHING.

Now that I've had my fun, let me talk about the good things about hockey. The game is exciting, especially in overtime. The game has an outstanding tradition that is, unfortunately, largely ignored by the NHL.

There is subtlety to the game, much like in baseball, that can be lost on the average fan. Perhaps most importantly in this day and age, the league's stars are the most well-behaved bunch of any of the big four sports.

I just wish it was under the con-

Field Hockey Beats Wheaton College 3-2

By Katie Barron
TEAM MEMBER

Under a sky of threatening rain clouds on Tuesday afternoon, the field hockey team defeated Wheaton College 3-2 on the Jack Barry Omni Turf, avenging last season's regular season loss to Wheaton. The loss last year was the only one MIT suffered in regular season play.

The aggressive Wheaton team came on early and strong. In the early part of the half, the team scored its first goal off a penalty stroke against MIT. This was the first penalty stroke called against MIT this season. They soon scored another goal to bring the score to 2-0.

Coming back from this deficit, MIT scored two goals in the last minute of the first half. The first goal was scored by Tracy Sadowski '99 off a pass from Margie Tsai '99 with 49 seconds remaining in the half.

Fifteen seconds later, as the clock wound down to 34 seconds, MIT scored its second goal to even up the score. The goal was scored when Tsai put it in off a pass from Connie Sadowski '99.

The Engineers came out strong

in the second half, with Tsai tallying the winning goal after five minutes on an assist from Katherine Merrilees '97. MIT dominated the rest of the second half, holding back Wheaton to secure the victory.

The game was "a real wake up call" to the team, said Coach Cheryl Silva. In the first half the team came out flat and did not play together as a unit and Wheaton was able to take advantage of this, Silva said.

A "goal [of the game] was to put two solid halves together," Silva said. This season, the Engineers have played a strong first half and a less strong second. In this game as the Engineers gained momentum and pulled together, they did the reverse and "put together a strong second half," Silva said.

This win brings the women's field hockey team's record to 5-2 overall and 2-0 in conference play. MIT's next home game is tomorrow against Smith College at 1:00 p.m. on the turf.

Erik S. Balsley contributed to the reporting in this story.

In Surprise Move in NFL, 1996-97 Football Season Forfeited to Steelers

By Chris Brocoun
SPORTS COLUMNIST

After having watched my team, the Pittsburgh Steelers, smash the capable Kansas City Chiefs on Monday night, I am making a bold prediction.

Pittsburgh is riding a four-game winning streak. The combined record of the Steelers' next six opponents is a difficult to accept 9-57 (I'm not joking). I'm going to stick my neck out, but I'm thinking that Pittsburgh may be on a serious tear. We're talking a 10-1 start.

A WORD ON SPORTS

I don't mean to blow my own horn, but how can you argue with a team that despite having stars like Jerome Bettis and Kordell Stewart, ends up riding on the shoulders of... Mike Tomzak?

He started the game with a perfect touchdown pass to Carter of the... Chiefs? Somehow he recovered from the interception to throw for a decent 338 yards against a grueling K.C. defense. This team has potential, folks.

Believe it or not, there were some other key games aside from Pittsburgh. Buffalo managed to barely squeeze by the "everybody loves us" Colts. That is a big game for both teams since now there is a definite rivalry brewing in the AFC East.

Denver's victory over San Diego means they now stand alone atop the AFC West.

In the NFC, everything is just a mess. Green Bay and Minnesota are deadlocked in the Central Division in a test of wills up in the cold territory. San Francisco seems to be sitting pretty leading the NFC West, but that picture might get a little ugly after they face Green Bay this coming Monday.

Curiosity question: Why the heck is it called the NFC West? Last

Brocoun, Page 30

trol of someone other than Commissioner Gary Bettman.

Speaking of Commissioners...

There's no better example of why baseball needs a commissioner now than the whole Roberto Alomar fiasco. The weak leadership shown by Gene Budig and Bud Selig is mind-blowing.

I'm afraid, however, that once there is a basic agreement, the owners will appoint someone they think they can easily control. If somehow he proves to be more independent, the owners will sack him.

When you look at the names that are being considered, they're all public officials I've never heard of. Why not appoint someone who writes about the game regularly, who obviously personally cares about it, who has a solid grasp of its traditions, and who has demonstrated a simple wisdom about what needs to be done.

That man is Keith Olbermann, the ESPN SportsCenter anchor. It sounds silly, but imagine him in the role and you'll see what a good idea this is.

TBS = Turner Baseball Stadium?

It was announced last week that Atlanta's Olympic Stadium, future home of the Braves, will be renamed after team owner (heck, city owner) Ted Turner. The specific name has not been determined.

While it's not surprising that Turner would name something after

himself, it is interesting to note that only in the era of 3Com Park and Pro Player Stadium could we be relieved that an owner would do something as traditional as name a park after himself.

And now... for the weekly tirade against baseball's wild card.

Cleveland fans, see what I've been saying? Ninety-nine wins over 161 games, and it means nothing! Even though performance in the regular season was never a barometer of postseason success, at least getting to the playoffs — solely a result of long-haul performance — meant something.

With the added round, the task seems somehow unimpressive. Now, no matter how many games you win, if you run into a streaky wild-card team, the season is a failure.

In spite of all this, the World Series possibilities we are presented with are tantalizing. How about Yankees-Braves, who haven't met since the 1958 series?

Yankees-Cardinals, last seen when Bob Gibson shut them down in 1964?

Orioles-Braves, the best pitching staff in decades versus the greatest home run-hitting team of all time?

Now think about how less special these matchups would be if we'd already seen these teams play this season in an insignificant series to boost ratings by a few percent.

Interleague play stinks. Here's hoping it dies before it is born.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, Oct. 11
Golf vs. Brandeis University, 1 p.m.
Men's Soccer vs. Brandeis, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 12
Field Hockey vs. Smith College, 1 p.m.
Sailing Rhodes 19 Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
Sailing New England Single-Handed Championship, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 15
Women's Soccer vs. Babson College, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 16
Men's Tennis vs. Harvard University, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 17
Men's Soccer vs. Wentworth Institute of Technology, 3 p.m.