

Welcome, Prospective Students

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather

Today: Mostly sunny, 52°F (11°C)
Tonight: Cloudy, cool, 38°F (4°C)
Tomorrow: Cloudy, 48°F (9°C)
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Volume 117, Number 18

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, April 11, 1997

Prefrosh to Receive Glimpse of Campus

By Carina Fung
STAFF REPORTER

Campus Preview Weekend officially began yesterday when over 360 women and minority students arrived on campus. The weekend will give visitors a taste of the Institute before they accept or decline membership in the Class of 2001.

"There are prefrosh coming from as far south as Puerto Rico and as far west as Hawaii and Alaska, and others who are coming from as close as Cambridge and Newton," said Assistant Director of Admissions Yvonne M. Romero at a meeting with all of this year's hosts on Tuesday night. The youngest prefrosh this year will be only 14 years old.

There are fewer prefrosh attending this year, down from 420 last year. Of this year's group, about 275 are women. Roughly 90 of the minority students are men, Romero said.

"We target women and minority prefrosh because these groups usually produce the lowest acceptance yield," she said.

"There were about 320 students who volunteered to host this year, slightly more than last year. We were unfortunately unable to accommodate all requests," Romero said.

Prefrosh will be staying with MIT student hosts who reside in dormitories, as well as some fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups, she said.

Prefrosh seek insight into MIT

Prospective students yesterday

said that they were interested in seeing both the academic and social aspects of life at the Institute.

Some students wanted to dispel or prove various rumors that they had heard about campus life. "I've heard vicious rumors that people brag about how many days they haven't seen the sunlight," said Katie M. Jeffreys, from Buffalo Grove, Ill. "I'm hoping to prove them wrong."

Others expressed an interest in finding out about the students here. "Some people tell me that people who go to MIT have a very narrow focus," said Pablo E. Hollstein, from McLean, Va. "I want to see what people do outside of science."

Most, however, seemed to just get a feel for the campus. "You can't really get a feel for the place if you haven't been there," said Christy L. Starner, from Atlanta.

Variety of events scheduled

Visiting students will be invited to several social and academic events and tours this weekend to show off the MIT community.

To start off the weekend, prefrosh were encouraged to attend a jazz social and dinner in Walker Memorial on Thursday evening, so they could mingle with future classmates and enjoy the music of the MIT Jazz Collective.

Tonight, prefrosh can attend

Campus Preview, Page 13



A worker cleans up the tree damage left by last week's snowstorm.

GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

Graduate Student Council Elects Geoffrey Coram as Next President

By David D. Hsu

EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Graduate Student Council held elections Wednesday, unanimously electing Geoffrey J. Coram G president.

Michelle K. McDonough G was elected vice president in the only contested election this year, while Yanqing Du G was elected secretary and Veronique Bugnion G was

elected treasurer.

McDonough and Du were nominated for positions at the meeting. Nominations for president and treasurer had closed last week.

Coram, a graduate student in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, wanted "to increase the number of people" in the GSC, he said.

Coram wanted to see more gradu-

ate students involved in short-term projects, and not just increase the attendance of graduate departmental representatives, he said.

Much of Coram's previous experience comes from his work with the GSC Housing and Community Affairs Committee, where he worked on the grocery shuttle, he said. He also helped tackle issues like parking fees and uncharacteristically high AT&T College and University Solutions phone rates.

McDonough beats out Bae

McDonough ran against Eugene Bae G for vice president in the sole contested election.

McDonough, a first-year graduate student in the master of city planning program, was a member of the Housing and Community Affairs committee.

As vice president, McDonough pledged to seek out the "highest level of participation of all departments," she said. People should get involved in the community, whether that community is Roxbury or MIT.

Increasing short-term membership was an "important goal to have

GSC, Page 15

Gray Gala Provides Fitting Goodbye

By Ramy A. Amaout

SENIOR EDITOR

It's not often that the top MIT brass throw a party for one of their own, but Tuesday afternoon they did, and with style. This was no mere post-faculty-meeting wine-and-cheese social, although both claret and brie flowed freely. This was collegial. For awhile, almost posh. Almost — shudder — Harvard.

Well, at least until the carring, the drinking song, and the joke about the testicles and Mr. Whitehead brought everyone back to earth.

The reception honored Paul E. Gray '54, the stocky soon-to-be-former chairman of the Corporation, and his wife, Priscilla, hailed during the evening as "MIT's mother goose," for their four-plus decades of service to the Institute.

Over 250 well-wishers flocked to Walker Memorial Tuesday afternoon to greet the guests of honor, schmooze, and enjoy the free, uh, brouhaha.

Most of the guests were anonymous old friends of the Grays, although some social-climbing students, not all of whom with ties to the Undergraduate Association, and many senior faculty members also attended.

On hand, too, were a host of administrators, including President Charles M. Vest and his wife, Rebecca; Senior Associate Dean Robert M. Randolph and Provost Joel Moses PhD '67,



AHMED AIT-GHEZALA—THE TECH

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Rebecca M. Vest presents outgoing Chairman of the Corporation Paul E. Gray '54 with a gift at a tribute in his honor on Tuesday at Walker Memorial.

INSIDE

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WORLD & NATION

INS Grants Legal Status To Palestinians with Terrorist Ties

LOS ANGELES TIMES

In a stunning development, the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service has granted legal resident status to two Palestinian men it had tried to deport for nearly a decade on the grounds they have ties to terrorists in their native land.

The two men are part of a group of seven Palestinians and one Kenyan, dubbed the "L.A. 8," who have alleged the Justice Department has selectively prosecuted them for lawfully exercising their First Amendment rights in assisting the militant Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, or PFLP, in humanitarian activities.

Aiad K. Barakat and Naim N. Sharif received notices in recent days the INS had approved their applications under a 1986 immigration statute, which set up a new procedure for individuals to become permanent resident aliens.

The notices gave no explanations as to why the INS had reversed field, and no federal immigration officials were immediately available for comment. Georgetown law Professor David Cole, one of the lawyers for the L.A. 8, said the agency "never gives a statement of reasons when they grant an application, only when they deny one."

New Hong Kong Draws Criticism For Get-Tough Plans

LOS ANGELES TIMES

HONG KONG

Hong Kong's future government's plans to strengthen legal controls over political parties and demonstrations are drawing sharp reaction from friends and foes alike.

The incoming administration invited public comment on the controversial proposals unveiled Wednesday, saying it would consider changing the draft legislation based on the feedback.

The plans include banning political parties from maintaining any links with foreign organizations or receiving money from abroad and requiring all demonstrations to be approved by police in advance.

Responses were as sharp as they were swift. The territory's largest pro-democracy group staged an impromptu march on the headquarters of the government-in-waiting Thursday — a demonstration that would be banned under the new rules, which would take effect after Hong Kong reverts to Chinese rule July 1.

The leader of the Democratic Party, Martin Lee, said during a visit to Washington that the proposed laws are aimed at his group because China knows the party has wide popular support. The Democrats have the most seats in Hong Kong's legislature.

"They are so afraid of us because we have the support of the people of Hong Kong," he said. "They will do anything to stop us."

Schedule Outlined for Action on Treaty Banning Chemical Weapons

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., Thursday outlined a schedule for action on a treaty banning chemical weapons that anticipates a ratification vote shortly before the 4-year-old pact takes effect April 29.

While Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms, R-N.C., continued to block action on the treaty, Helms said in an interview he sees "some indications" that the Clinton administration may be willing to negotiate on key points, which he declined to specify. "I want to work it out so we can get to a vote," he said, but only if "the White House stops stonewalling."

Earlier, Democrats urged Lott to act on his own to bring it to the Senate floor if Helms tries to bottle it up in his committee or otherwise thwart action.

"Senator Lott is going to have to pull the trigger, so to speak," said Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr., Del., ranking Democrat on the foreign-relations panel. Biden described the struggle as a "test of leadership" for Lott.

WEATHER

Play Ball

By Marek Zebrowski

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

For the Red Sox opener at Fenway Park this afternoon, Mother Nature will play ball, allowing for fair skies and almost spring-like temperatures.

An arctic high, responsible for record cold weather over the eastern half of the United States, will slowly move eastward, as another large storm tracks from Oklahoma towards the Great Lakes. As a result, once again, spring will be put on hold for several days in the Northeast. Cold rains will arrive for the weekend and a possible secondary low, developing early Sunday will keep the unsettled and chilly weather around. The outlook is for chilly weather to remain around well into next week. Alas, spring in New England is just like the pennant hopes for the Red Sox fans: maybe this year, then again — maybe not!

Today: Mostly sunny with some high clouds moving in. High 52°F (11°C). Moderate northwesterly winds.

Tonight: Becoming cloudy. Winds diminishing. Low 38°F (4°C).

Saturday: Cloudy with showers moving in from the west. Cool high of 48°F (9°C), winds turning onshore.

Sunday outlook: Continued unsettled, turning colder late. Highs in the mid to upper 40s (7-9°C), lows in the upper 30s (3-4°C).

Federal Gov't to Hire 10,000 From Current Welfare Rolls

By Elizabeth Shogren

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Attempting to set an example for private industry, President Clinton announced Thursday that the federal government will hire 10,000 people from the welfare rolls before the end of his term to perform an array of jobs — from collecting census data door-to-door to doing clerical work in the White House.

As he announced the plan to recruit welfare recipients for federal jobs, the president released data showing welfare caseloads across the country dropped 20 percent, to 11.4 million, during his first term.

"The welfare rolls have now declined by as much in the past four years as they increased in the previous 25 years," Clinton said during a meeting with his cabinet, the first of his second term, that focused on implementing the new welfare laws. "And that's a great tribute to all of those who worked on welfare reform as well as to the strength of the American economy," he added.

This significant decrease in the number of Americans receiving welfare payments occurred before states began implementing the new welfare laws passed last year by Congress, which ended the system that allowed adults to receive benefits as long as they had dependent children.

Under the new law, states must require recipients to work within two years of joining the rolls and limit their cash assistance to no more than five years over a lifetime. The new laws shift vast authority over the welfare system to the states, which must devise their own programs for moving people into jobs. Although the plan was crafted primarily by Republicans in

Congress, the president signed it into law — even as he pledged to work to soften some of its provisions.

At Thursday's Cabinet meeting, Clinton again called on the private sector for help in meeting his goal of removing another 2 million people from the welfare rolls over the next four years. The administration estimates that would require moving 700,000 people into jobs.

"Of course the vast majority of these jobs will have to come from the private sector," Clinton said. "But the government must do its share as well."

Given that the federal government employs about 1.5 percent of the overall work force, administration officials believe that the government's share would be to provide 10,000 jobs.

The president plans to convene a meeting of business leaders next month to discuss how the private sector can hire welfare recipients. The federal government also will work to encourage private contractors who work for the federal government to hire more welfare recipients, Clinton said.

Under the president's new plan, six former welfare recipients would work in the White House in clerical positions. About 40 percent of the 10,000 government jobs would be in the Commerce Department, primarily working on the decennial census. These temporary jobs — lasting from six months to two years — and the employees will involve going door-to-door to collect census data.

Welfare recipients will also be recruited to clean up and sell tickets in national parks, work in canteens in Veterans Administration hospitals, answer phones at the Social Security Administration,

and provide services at Indian reservations.

Many of the federal jobs will be temporary or part time, but administration officials stressed that some of the employees will move on to permanent jobs with the government and others will gain important work experience for future jobs in the private sector.

Although the plan does not give agencies a new legal mandate to hire welfare recipients instead of other applicants, the agencies will aggressively recruit welfare recipients for their entry-level job openings.

Nor will these be new positions. While the federal government has been downsizing its work force, it still hired 190,000 permanent and temporary workers last year — largely to fill jobs that came open due to attrition.

In devising its plan, the administration spoke with the major labor unions that represent federal workers and did not encounter significant resistance, although welfare recipients will take jobs that likely would have gone to other low-wage workers.

"We're talking about welfare-dependent mothers who in most cases have small children," White House spokesman Mike McCurry said. "We make no apologies for making federal employment opportunities available for exactly those kinds of people. They are, in many cases, the poorest of the poor."

Since most of the new employees will be single parents with children, they will have to find day care for their children. Although many federal office buildings provide on-site day care, the services are likely to be too expensive for many of the former welfare recipients.

Russia's NATO Security Plans Surprise Western Governments

By Michael Dobbs

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

As negotiations with Russia on the expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization enter their decisive phase, western governments have been taken aback by new Russian calls for binding security guarantees ruling out any eastward movement in the alliance's military infrastructure.

NATO and U.S. officials described the latest Kremlin proposals for a NATO-Russia charter, which were outlined to the French government by Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov on Wednesday, as unacceptable. They said lower-level Russian officials were attempting to "reopen" questions that appeared to have been largely settled during the Helsinki meeting last month between President Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Western concern over the tough line taken by Moscow accounts for the cool response from the Clinton administration to upbeat public remarks by Primakov over the prospects for signing a NATO-Russia charter in Paris on May 27. Western officials said NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana will travel to Moscow next week to make clear to the Russians that the West cannot make further concessions on the security rights of new member states.

"We have to be very clear that the new members of NATO will be full members of the alliance," said

Solana after a day of talks with senior U.S. officials that centered on the progress of the NATO-Russia negotiations. "This is one of the red lines that cannot be crossed."

Solana has taken the lead in negotiating a security agreement between NATO and Russia that seeks to address Russian concerns over the eastward expansion of the alliance to former Soviet bloc states such as Poland, Hungary and the Czech republic. The document, which is now in its second draft, consists of approximately 15 single-spaced pages citing general principles, areas of cooperation, the establishment of a Russia-NATO Council and including a section on the military aspects of NATO enlargement.

According to U.S. and NATO officials, it is the final section of this document that has become the object of heated negotiations with Russia. Under the latest Primakov proposals, which were submitted to the French on Wednesday, NATO would make a formal commitment not to station nuclear weapons on the territory of new member states and would also give formal guarantees that new military infrastructure would not be moved closer to the Russian border.

Over the past few weeks, NATO has stated it has "no intention, no plans, and no reason" to station nuclear weapons closer to Russian borders. It has also said that in the absence of a "substantial" military threat in central Europe, it sees no need to deploy significant new com-

bat forces in the region and will rely instead on a "strategy of reinforcement." But it has refused to turn these assurances into the kind of formal commitments being sought by the Russians.

The predominant view among U.S. and NATO officials is that the latest Russian proposals probably are a last-minute bargaining ploy designed to probe for weaknesses in the Western position and differences between NATO member states.

"We have to hope that this is old Soviet school bargaining tactics and they will move into a more pragmatic mode when we reaffirm that this is not on," said a Clinton administration official. "The Russians are trying to nail everything down 100 times over."

In order to sign the proposed NATO-Russia charter in Paris on May 27, the negotiations will have to be wrapped over the next two or three weeks. This means, according to NATO officials, that substantive progress on settling the dispute over military infrastructure will have to be made during Solana's trip to Moscow next week. The Russians have said they are eager to sign the charter in advance of a NATO summit in July that will unveil the identity of the new NATO members.

During a meeting with newspaper editors Thursday, Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright said NATO expansion will go ahead whether or not the alliance succeeds in negotiating a charter with Russia.

China Cautions U.S., Denmark Against Human Rights Criticism

By Steven Mufson
THE WASHINGTON POST

BEIJING

China warned Thursday that the United States risks damaging ties by backing a U.N. resolution condemning China's human rights record, and said that Denmark's sponsorship of the measure would "become a rock that smashes on the Danish government's head."

But China appeared close to success in its aggressive campaign to split western nations and beat back censure at the U.N. Human Rights Commission meeting in Geneva for the seventh straight year.

China has managed to undermine support for the resolution mainly by threatening economic retaliation against other countries

without making concessions on human rights issues or releasing any leading political prisoners.

Thursday, in one of the final blows to the resolution, Australia announced it would drop public criticism of China in favor of a formal bilateral dialogue with Beijing on human rights. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang welcomed Australia's decision as "sensible" and said China is willing to discuss human rights if Canberra does not confront Beijing over the issue.

France, Germany, Spain and Italy already have decided against endorsing the Danish resolution, which Denmark and the United States formally introduced Thursday at the 53-member rights commission

meeting. Japan and Canada are wavering.

The imminent defeat of the resolution points to a sense of futility among countries that backed the measure in the past and to the extensive efforts Beijing has made to win allies and intimidate critics in foreign capitals.

The U.S. State Department on Wednesday reaffirmed its support for Denmark's stand. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said Washington had "not seen any significant change in the way China treats its people."

China's recent concessions on human rights have been small. The prospects for the release of leading political prisoners remains a dim chance.

Federal Court Judge Determines Line-Item Veto Unconstitutional

By Toni Locy
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A federal judge Thursday declared the presidential line-item veto unconstitutional, calling Congress' ceding of such powers to the president "revolutionary" and warning that it turned the division of legislative and executive branch responsibilities "on its head."

Because the line-item veto effectively gives the president the power to repeal laws or portions of laws he does not like, it violates the "careful design" of the Constitution by the founding fathers, U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson ruled.

"Never before has Congress

attempted to give away the power to shape the content of a statute of the United States, as the act purports to do," Jackson wrote in a 37-page opinion. "As expansive as its delegations of power may have been in the past, none has gone so far as to transfer the function of repealing a provision of statutory law.

"The power to 'make' the laws of the nation is the exclusive, non-delegable power of Congress," Jackson ruled. "... That it can be recaptured if Congress repeals the (line-item veto) act, or suspends it ... does not alter the fact that until Congress does so ... the president has become a co-maker of the nation's laws."

And that is not allowed under the

Constitution, the judge said.

Jackson's ruling came in a lawsuit filed by six lawmakers, led by Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., who argued that the line-item veto, a marquee item in the House Republicans' "Contract With America" in the last Congress, illegally circumvents the Constitution's requirement that the president veto whole bills, not pieces.

Byrd Thursday night called the decision "a great victory for the American people, the Constitution and our constitutional system of checks and balances and separation of powers."

Rep. David E. Skaggs, D-Colo., another plaintiff, said he felt vindicated by the ruling.

Gingrich Suggests Rich, Not Congress, Fund Arts

By Jacqueline Trescott
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The wealthy celebrities and entertainment company executives who lobby Congress for government arts funding should instead use their own money to set up a private endowment, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., said Thursday.

"If the people who come to lobby us (for arts funding) who are famous and rich would simply dedicate 1 percent of their gross income to an 'American Endowment for the Arts,' they would fund a bigger system than the National Endowment for the Arts," Gingrich said in a news conference at the Capitol.

He joined a feisty contingent of conservatives from both the House and the

Senate who renewed their calls to eliminate the NEA when the fiscal spending year ends at the end of September. They were immediately rebuked in the same location by an equally fired-up, bipartisan group from the House.

Gingrich and others insisted that the industry has the money to spend. Rep. Bill Paxon, R-N.Y., a key House leader, read from the Forbes list of top moneymakers. "If Disney would simply donate as much to the endowment as Disney pays one executive who is leaving the company, you could finance the whole thing," said Gingrich of his idea, which he described as a tax-deductible private trust.

Gingrich's strongly worded stance indicated that the NEA's strategy of sending pro-arts celebrities to Capitol Hill might cast a temporary glow of photo opportunity but doesn't change the position of some die-hard opponents.

Also, the conservatives who wholeheartedly backed the speaker's agenda two years ago have

pledged to make the NEA a prime issue again this year and were eager to have him out front as a clear opponent of the agency.

In recent weeks, it appeared that the conservatives' battle plan to close the NEA, based on a 1995 agreement to continue funding at \$99.5 million for two years and then eliminate it, was being derailed by moderate Republicans who were speaking up for the agency.

Although most of the conservative speakers acknowledged the importance of the arts in society, they had a long list of objections to federal arts support. "I consider the arts to be a precious part of American culture," said House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, "but the National Endowment for the Arts gives you more reasons to quit than Willie Nelson."

Armey started his list with the fact that the framers of the Constitution did not include the arts, maintaining that the arts developed just fine before the advent of the NEA in 1965.

Sen. Tim Hutchinson, R-Ark., said government approval for arts projects was akin to censorship. "The American people will get better art once the government gets out of the way," added Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, the House majority whip.

Gingrich again raised the issue of the geographic spread of the NEA grants. "There are 140 districts with ... taxpayers who pay taxes to subsidize art, and that subsidy goes primarily to New York and California," he said.

The NEA released figures this week showing that New York, California and Pennsylvania received the most dollars, while Texas ranked fifth and Georgia 10th.

House Votes to Ban Funds For Physician-Assisted Suicide

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The House Thursday overwhelmingly approved legislation forbidding the use of federal dollars to pay for physician-assisted suicide, a largely symbolic action since no government money currently is used for that purpose.

But backers of the bill, saying they feared court decisions may make doctor-assisted suicide legal, said the legislation is needed to deflect any future attempts to use funds from Medicaid, Medicare or any other federal assistance programs to pay for the practice.

The Supreme Court is expected to rule this year on the constitutionality of laws in 42 states that ban assisted suicide. The bill's supporters said it is critical for Congress to act before the high court releases its decision. But the legislation stipulates that, regardless of the judicial outcome, no federal funds will be used for the practice.

The White House issued a statement saying President Clinton "has made it clear that he does not support assisted suicides" and would not oppose the bill because it reaffirms current federal policy.

For the measure to become law, the Senate also would have to approve it but no comparable legislation has been introduced there.

The 398-16 House vote was a reflection of the lawmakers' almost universal disapproval of the procedure.

U.S., Japan Signal Concern Over Dollar's Rise

THE WASHINGTON POST

Top U.S. and Japanese economic officials signaled their concern Thursday over the recent rise in the dollar against the yen, causing the dollar to recede on currency markets.

But the U.S. currency didn't fall much, and analysts said it remains unclear whether the financial authorities' new posture will be enough to keep the dollar from soaring anew against the yen — a development that would erode the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers against Japanese rivals.

With the dollar trading overnight in Asian markets above 127 yen for the first time in 56 months, Japanese Finance Minister Hiroshi Mitsuoka said the yen's weakness was "obviously excessive," and his top aides hinted that to reverse the trend they might order official sales of dollars.

Then in Washington on Thursday morning, Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin issued a statement asserting that the Clinton administration's policy favoring a strong dollar "is unchanged," but "we share the concern expressed by the Japanese authorities last night about recent movements in the yen."

The comments were the clearest expressions of unease that Rubin and his Japanese counterparts have made about the dollar's recent surge against the yen, which evokes worry in both capitals.

SENIORS



IT'S TIME TO ELECT YOUR ALUMNI CLASS OFFICERS, TO REPRESENT THE CLASS OF 1997 BETWEEN GRADUATION & YOUR 5TH REUNION!

Available offices:

Class President Secretary
Vice President Treasurer
Executive Members

If you are interested in running for any of these offices or want more information, contact Jill Pullen in the Alumni/ae Association (Rm 10-140, 253-0708, pullenj@mit.edu)

DEADLINE FOR GETTING ON THE BALLOT IS FRIDAY, MAY 2nd!

Class elections will be held on Tuesday, May 13th, 10am-4pm

OPINION

+/- System Doesn't Make the Grade

Over the past several decades, MIT has debated a number of times the possibility of switching to a plus/minus grading system, only to back down under student pressure. Back in the 1970s, in fact, *The Tech* put out a special four-page supplement on the topic.

Editorial

It is then with some sense of resignation that we approach the halfway point of the current grading experiment, which is designed yet again to ease the Institute in to an intermediate grading system.

Surveys have shown that students don't want it. A March 1995 referendum by the Undergraduate Association was particularly damning: Students were asked to approve or disapprove of a number of grading schemes and in the end 899 students approved of the current system while only 57 students found it unacceptable.

Despite these votes, there remains the siren's song of standards — putting MIT's grading system in parity with those of many other universities. There is also faculty opinion to contend with. A Committee on Academic Performance survey concluded that 75 percent of faculty members were in favor of an intermediate grading system. And so CAP must find a way to bring these two viewpoints together.

The Tech has long held that these viewpoints cannot be reconciled, and our impressions of the experiment to date have done little to affect that opinion. Astute professors and students have brought many times a fundamental flaw in an intermediate grading plan: MIT is a pretty homogenous place intellectually,

and higher levels of resolution tend to yield very little.

In addition, there are MIT's current system has been in place long enough that a culture has grown up around it. The MIT grading system has a set of built-in uncertainties ranging from tests and curves vary which from recitation to recitation to large, subjective "class participation" grades. In the past, the rough grading system could be counted on to render these issues moot. With a new system, these uncertainties could become very real problems.

Many MIT students don't quibble with professors over every last point on tests because they know that such minor issues will eventually be lost in the rough grading scale. Expect that to end when such points can actually affect a GPA.

A compromise plan, which would make the intermediate grades internal, has been floated. While it may seem like an appealing idea at first blush, it is also flawed. We have already begun to see problems with MIT's freshman year pass/fail grading system as medical schools demand the unreleased grades as part of the admissions process. A similar thing would undoubtedly happen with the intermediate grades as well. There is no real difference between internal and external.

So we end up with a fundamental question: What do intermediate grades get us? We get additional resolution, but it is unclear if that resolution is necessary or even a fair reflection of the grades students deserve considering the uncertainties currently in the system. We are almost certain to get headaches as traditional structures bend to the new system. Intermediate grades remain an interesting idea but an ultimately doomed one.

Ginsberg's Era Should Not Be Forgotten

Column by Stacey E. Blau

OPINION EDITOR

Since Allen Ginsberg's death on Saturday, I've been thinking a lot about him. I've been going through newspapers to see the obituaries written about Ginsberg and looking at the things his friends and others have to say about him. I leafed through my City Lights copy of *Howl and Other Poems*, his most famous collection of poems, because I realized on Saturday, much to my surprise, that it had probably been more than a year or two since I had last read the poems of one of my favorite poets.

What I discovered from Ginsberg's poems is that he was an even better poet than I had thought, although probably the new things I saw in his poems were because I see more as I grow older. Even so, what I had always found with Ginsberg's poems remained true. His poems — even with their themes of drugs, insanity, aimless traveling, communism, and sex — have a tremendous appeal that extends quite beyond their specific subject matter.

That said, Ginsberg is still in large part the man who very explicitly opened up these topics as legitimate areas for exploration in poetry and other art. He and the rest of the Beats did so starting in the 1950s, a decade not exactly characterized by its embrace of matters beyond those discussed in polite company. Ginsberg's politics (communist), his sexuality (homosexual), and his drug use (quite substantial) were not exactly topics for conversation — let alone poetry — in the 1950s world of the Cleaver family.

Yet it seemed to me in many of the articles that I read about Ginsberg that people have forgotten about these things or at least don't think they matter much anymore. In particular, the picture many young people paint of the Beats is a rather unfavorable one. One story in *The New York Times* had a quote from a young woman living in the East Village in New York City — where Ginsberg lived, too — saying that the Beats really didn't speak to her and her generation anymore. Ginsberg's and other Beats' work, she said, characterize

the excesses of the 1960s that we'd probably all be better off forgetting.

In a way, she is right. Many of the Beats did a lot of drugs, including Ginsberg. Alcohol killed Jack Kerouac, and certainly by now we would have expected that heroin would have killed William S. Burroughs (who, at over 80, has fortunately been off junk for a while). Ginsberg got away relatively unscathed by drugs, but many of the others he knew did not. The best minds of Ginsberg's generation, "destroyed by madness, starving hysterical naked ... looking at dawn for an angry fix," as he describes them in the first few lines of "Howl," are probably among them.

But dismissing Ginsberg and the Beats as a bad sign of the excesses of the 1960s is a mistake. In fact, one of the Beats' lasting contributions perhaps ironically stems precisely from the apparently outrageous lives young people these days criticize them for. One example is Ginsberg's and other Beats' public avowal of their homosexuality. Some of them were way out of the closet 40 years ago when practically no one else was. There can be no doubt that their public homosexuality made coming out more acceptable for others in a very closeted era. More generally, the "alternative lifestyles" the Beats led (back when parents locked their children away for aberrant behavior that is now considered simply part of being young) helped make acceptable the far more commonplace alternative lives teenagers and twentysomethings live today.

It seems like people forget what life used to be like during the 1960s and 1970s or don't want to believe it. (Of course, for someone 20 years old like me, you have to read or ask your parents about it). But the

more I find out about 1960s and 1970s, the more I am amazed at the instability that ran throughout them. Those two decades were characterized heavily by things like war, protests, assassinations, the resignation of a president — and rock music, drugs, and the sexual revolution.

Yes, some of the reaction to the state of world during that period was excess. But it was also a very special time for politics, art, and mainly youth, and it was almost entirely unprecedented for the United States. It seems a shame that people don't want to remember the artists who gave a voice to those times. It is especially irritating to watch young people these days with far more fashionable and substanceless versions of alternative lifestyles that they in many ways owe to the Beat generation.

The other side to those hip, young lives the Beats led is the activism that was a big part of many of their lives. I don't pretend that they were all righteous activists back then or that no one is today. But it doesn't take much to see just how much some urgency-like thing is absent from young people and the world today. And it doesn't seem like shunting aside the memory of people like Ginsberg and of life 30 years ago is doing good much to change it.

Stacey E. Blau is a junior majoring in mathematics with computer science.



Opinion Policy

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

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

Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and may be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions are accepted as well, although e-mail is preferable. Hard copy submissions must be typed, double-spaced, and addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. 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 (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January and monthly during the summer for \$35.00 per year Third Class by *The Tech*, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. Third Class postage paid at Boston, Mass. Non-profit Organization Permit No. 59720. **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. Telephone: (617) 253-1541, editorial: (617) 258-8324, business: (617) 258-8226, facsimile: (617) 258-8324. Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available. Entire contents © 1997 *The Tech*. Printed on recycled paper by Mass Web Printing Co.

Any plans this summer? Ever considered planning R/O '97?

MOYA

Sexual Identity

Minority

Asian

International

DAILY CONFUSION

Events/Tours

Academic

Parents

Elsewhere

Women's

R/O Committee Applications available in 7-103.

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UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION



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←-----→
 < **UA General Council Meeting:** >
 < **Monday April 14th W20-400 8pm** >
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Welcome to the
UA Social Scene

UA is now offering Free advertisement in the Tech for your club's, IFC's, and dorm's weekend activities

Please register these event in the UA homepage.

Questions or Comments
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THE UA PRESENTS:



The Social Scene

Directory of This Weekend's Activities

FRIDAY APRIL 11TH

- 5:30pm GSC Friday Social
Open House 50-220
ID-required
- 7:00pm LSC: Jeffrey
26-100 S2
- 7:30pm LSC: Last Tango in Paris
(Classic Feature)
10-250 S2
- 8:00pm Weird Romance (MTG)
Musical of speculative fiction
Little Theatre (Kresge)
S6 MIT students
- 9:00pm "Find Your Date for the Senior Ball" Pub
Free Guinness & Killians
Thirsty Ear Pub
Senior Ball tickets available until April 18th.
- 10:00pm LSC: Jeffrey
(above)
- 10:00pm ADP All Alpha Delta Party
ADP, 351 Mass Ave
- 10:00pm PBE Roofdeck Party
Boxer shorts & tie theme
400 Memorial Dr.
- 10:00pm Theta Chi Heaven & Hell Party
OX, 528 Beacon St.
- 10:00pm Nu Delta Get Nu'd Party
460 Beacon St.

SATURDAY APRIL 12TH

- 6:30pm Christian Festival '97
Worthy Life (ABSK)
Wong Auditorium E51-115
- 8:00pm Endellion String Quartet
Kresge Auditorium
Bethoven, Webern, Schubert
- 8:00pm Roadkill Buffet wants to SHAVE YOU BALD
Improve Comedy 6-120 FREE
- 8:00pm Pablo Ortiz: Latin American Classical Guitar Concert
Killiam Hall
FREE Admission
- 10:00pm Yellow Submarine (ZBT)
Alpha Pi class party
Appearance by ZEBEATLES
58 Manchester Rd.

SUNDAY APRIL 13TH

- 9:00am Chi Phi 5K Fun Run
benefit Dorechester Food Pantry
Meet at Kresge Oval
Race starts 10:30a.m
- 7:00pm Malaysian Night '97
An Invitation to a Malay Wedding
Dinner and Performance
Walker Hall
\$12 advanced \$15 at door

THE ARTS

FILM REVIEW

I've had 10 years to kill since our prom night

GROSSE POINTE BLANK

Directed by George Armitage.
Written by Tom Jankiewicz, Tom Jankiewicz, D.V. DeVincentis, Steve Pink, and John Cusack.
Starring John Cusack, Minnie Driver, Dan Aykroyd, Alan Arkin, and Joan Cusack.

By David V. Rodriguez
ARTS EDITOR

It's a good sign when a studio wants people to see their movie before it opens. Word of mouth is important in determining who sees a movie, and Disney is so confident that talk of *Grosse Pointe Blank* will be good that they seem to be giving advanced screenings to everyone in sight. (Compare this to *The Pest* or *Carpool*, which snuck into theatres without giving the press the chance to preview it.)

And Disney has good reason to be confident: *Grosse Pointe Blank* is one of the funniest movies this year.

The story is about Martin (John Cusack), a hired killer with some personal problems. 10 years ago, on the night of his high school prom, he ran off and joined the army, leaving his date and everyone else in town wondering where he went. But now he feels that his life is lacking meaning and can't get thoughts of his old flame, Debi (Mimi Driver), out of his mind.

Then he receives an invitation to the *Grosse Pointe High 10 year reunion*. He doesn't want to go, but his work forces him to be in the town neighboring *Grosse Pointe* on the weekend of the reunion. His nosy secretary, who's heard plenty about Debi, thinks it's fate. He asks his psychiatrist for advice, who tells him to go to the reunion and confront Debi so he can get some closure. "And try not to kill anyone while you're there."

Martin returns to find to *Grosse Pointe* to find his old classmates in more conventional jobs. One friend is a real estate agent, another sells cars. Debi is a disc jockey for the local radio station, and Martin brings the show to a dead halt when he suddenly shows up in the studio. They all ask him what he does and where he's been for the past 10 years. "Business," he tells Debi. A few others he tells that he's a professional killer, but none of them

believe him. "Do you need post-graduate work for that?"

Soon Martin's focus changes from the job to getting back together with Debi, and he asks her to be his date to the reunion — a second chance at a prom. Although she still doesn't know what to make of this mysterious reappearance (or the original disappearance), she agrees to go.

Grosse Pointe Blank is the first role leading role in some time for John Cusack, and it's one of his best. The story is centered on efforts to get back with Debi, but it never turns sappy (as it did in *Say Anything*), largely because Debi doesn't jump into Martin's arms the minute he walks in the door. She makes him work for it.

The dialogue is sharp, and you get the impression that much of what is on the screen was improvised. The story moves along at a quick but natural pace, never getting bogged down in sentimentality or unnecessary plot details.


An extra treat is the soundtrack, comprised mostly of popular 80s tunes.



Martin (John Cusack) returns home for his class reunion and to see Debi (Mimi Driver), the girl he stood up on prom night 10 years ago in *Grosse Pointe Blank*.



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THE MEDICAL SCHOOL APPLICATION PROCESS
FOR THE CLASS OF 1998.
Wednesday, April 16
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
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FILM REVIEW

She's a woman's woman

CHASING AMY

Written and directed by Kevin Smith.
Starring Ben Affleck, Joey Lauren Adams,
Jason Scott Lee, Dwight Ewell, Jason Mewes,
Illeana Douglas, and Brian O'Halloran

By Jonathan Litt
STAFF REPORTER

In Kevin Smith's new movie, *Chasing Amy*, he combines the hilariously unique style of conversational dialogue familiar to fans of *Clerks* and *Mallrats* with a classy and mature story about life and love. This time there is no convenience store or mall to serve as a source for gimmicks, however. The "mall" of *Chasing Amy* is the world itself, and Smith appears to have found comfort with his new open surroundings. *Chasing Amy* is a story about coming of age — for both the fictional characters on screen and of Kevin Smith himself.

The story revolves around two comic book artists, Holden (Ben Affleck) and Banky (Jason Lee), who have hit it big with their best-selling comic "Bluntman and Chronic," a spoof of Batman and Robin featuring the likeness of the familiar Jay (Jason Mewes) and Silent Bob (Kevin Smith).

At a comic book convention, Holden is smitten by the sight of a fellow comic book artist, Alyssa (Joey Lauren Adams). After several rounds of flirtatious courtship, the overconfident Holden is ready to make his move until he finds out that Alyssa is actually a lesbian. He is so naive that until the moment of discovery, he doesn't even realize that the bar she invited him to is a gay bar.

Banky, the honest but tactless extrovert, is thrilled to find out and proceeds to barrage her with a series of questions about lesbian sex in a classically raunchy Smith dialogue. (Take note: This scene is a tribute to the famous scene in *Jaws* in which Richard Dreyfuss and Robert Shaw compare old shark wounds.)

Holden is initially scared off, but with Alyssa's support, he overcomes his shock and becomes good friends with her anyway. Their friendship grows until Holden realizes that his feelings towards her are more than just friendly. With the same sense of naivete that prevented him from realizing she was a lesbian in the first place and against the urging of best friend Banky, he decides that he should try to pursue a relationship with her despite their incompatible sexual orientations.

As a result of many events that take place thereafter, each of the three characters is forced to re-examine themselves and their relationship with the other two. Their responses to various crisis situations are surprising at times, but more than anything convey a sense of realism; that real feelings can't be characterized as good or bad, but usually are the result of our best and worst traits combined. This means things don't turn out hunky-dory for everyone in the end, but the results are still satisfying to the viewer.

At the crossroads in the movie comes a scene-stealing entrance of Jay and Silent Bob.

In addition to their usual hilarious antics, they help to partially explain the purpose of the movie. With the abysmal commercial failure of *Mallrats* (although it's still liked by most Kevin Smith fans), Smith felt like he needed to redeem himself by moving away from commercialization (represented by Bluntman and Chronic) and tell a more personal story. He succeeds in his attempt, but even more impressive, he doesn't sacrifice an ounce of his trademark uncensored humor in the process.

Comic book artist Holden McNeil (Ben Affleck) falls for fellow artist Alyssa Jones (Joey Lauren Adams) in *Chasing Amy*.



INTERVIEW

Chasing Amy's Ben Affleck

By Jonathan Litt
STAFF REPORTER

Ben Affleck, the star of *Chasing Amy*, played a minor role in Richard Linklater's 1970s retrospective *Dazed and Confused*. That might be a promising portent given the recent success of *Dazed* alumni like Matthew McConaughey, Renee Zellweger, and Parker Posey. As much as the *Dazed* blessing may be on his side, however, Affleck's success has come as a result of talent, dedication, and hard work. Throw in good looks and a little bit of serendipitous luck, and a star is born.

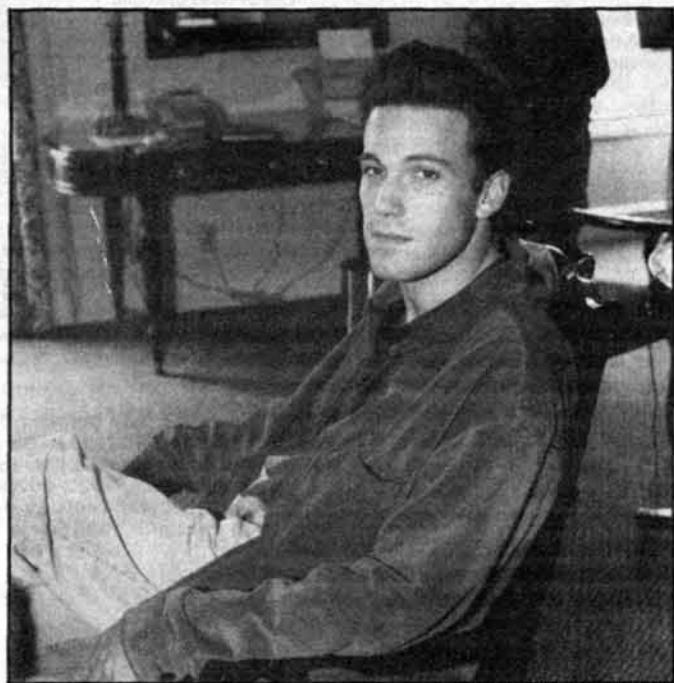
He is currently back in his hometown of Cambridge as part of a promotional tour for *Chasing Amy* and to begin production on his new movie shooting here, *Good Will Hunting*, which he co-wrote. Affleck will also star in it, alongside Robin Williams and Minnie Driver. MIT will feature prominently in the movie, but more on that later.

Affleck can succinctly be described as affable and not just for the sake of alliteration. (I'm sure that affluence is something he can count on calling himself in the near future as well.) More than anything he exudes a humble air of excitement about his current success. Proud of his accomplishments, but aware of the fragility of success in the movie industry, he seems perfectly content to live in the moment. With his laid-back and humorous personality, he also seems to make friends very easily, especially ones in the right places.

Take Kevin Smith, for example. Affleck met Smith when he landed the part of the manager of "Fashionable Male" in Smith's second movie, *Mallrats*. They became close friends, and soon thereafter Smith decided to write a role specifically for him — what became the leading role of *Chasing Amy*. This is especially flattering considering that the role is in many ways Smith's attempt to characterize himself.

Chasing Amy is Affleck's favorite role to date, partly because of this reason. He said, "This is a very personal movie for Kevin Smith. It was one of the things that made it mean more to me and made me really want to do a good job for him. It deals with issues that are important to Kevin in his life, not in literal ways, but in metaphorical ways. He wanted something with more soul, more of his real life. Kevin is really kind of a romantic." The result is a commanding performance on screen by Affleck and a movie that people generally agree is Smith's (and Affleck's) best one so far.

Affleck originally wrote the script to *Good Will Hunting* with his friend and fellow actor Matt Damon as an opportunistic venture because they were having trouble finding appealing projects to work on. Kevin Smith, who considers himself a writer even more than a filmmaker, complimented Affleck and Damon by saying that the script to *Good Will Hunting* is one of the most fabulous scripts he's



INDRANATH NEOGY—THE TECH

ever read.

Roughly, the plot is about a young, undiscovered mathematical genius from Boston and his relationship with his psychiatrist, played by Robin Williams. Without giving too much away, I can say that the movie involves several key scenes at MIT involving a series of math lectures. The scenes will be shot on a soundstage, but keep an eye out for several exteriors being shot within the next few months.

The movie takes place around Boston because Affleck is a Boston native himself. He went to Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School, and his parents still live in Cambridge. He pursued acting as child and teenager, although he never thought that it would take him as far as it has. His brother Casey is also an actor, with his most well-known role as one of the two teenagers in Gus Van Sant's *To Die For*. (The other teenager is another famous actor brother, Joaquin Phoenix.)

It was through this connection that Gus Van Sant eventually signed on to direct *Good Will Hunting*. Van Sant brought his pal Robin Williams into the project, and voila, Affleck is now an integral player in a full-fledged, high budget motion picture. Affleck says, "If someone had asked me five years ago what I would think about starring in a movie I wrote with Robin Williams and Gus Van Sant directing, it would be like someone asking me if I wanted to fly."

The rocky rise of Kevin Smith

By David V. Rodriguez
ARTS EDITOR

When Kevin Smith started making movies, he thought only his friends would see them. He was working at a convenience store at the time and thought making a movie would be fun. He financed the film through credit cards — he had many — and by selling his comic book collection to a local comic book store (however, the store only issued store credit, so he sold his store credit to his friends.)

The final output was *Clerks*, which Smith thought was good enough to send to all the major distributors, but none of them were interested. He later took his film to the Sundance Film Festival, where many young directors were found (including Richard Linklater (*Dazed and Confused*) and Quentin Tarantino). But Smith's expectations were low — the studios passed once, and they'll pass again, he thought. But by the time he left Sundance, he had a deal with Miramax, and *Clerks* was being scheduled for nationwide release.

Clerks grossed over \$3 million at the box office and a good deal more on video, and for his next film, *Mallrats*, Smith was given a budget of \$6 million. And initially, everyone was happy with the movie. Smith thought it was funny, and it got good marks from test audiences. The studio was excited about it, and one executive dubbed it the "smart Porky's."

But *Mallrats* flopped. Everyone went to see *Get Shorty* that weekend, and the movie was pulled from the theatres after only three weeks, after grossing less than *Clerks*. A large share of the blame should be put on the advertising campaign that tried to use the comic book theme, but instead came out

with ads that looked like *Saved by the Bell*.

Even worse, *Mallrats* was panned by critics. It was called sophomoric, and there was talk that maybe Smith was a one-hit wonder, that he left the independent film track for the big studio and couldn't make it.

One evening, after *Mallrats* was a confirmed failure, Smith spoke before an audience of independent film makers. He started by publicly apologizing for *Mallrats*. Smith liked *Mallrats* (and still does), but he thought this would

be a good way to show that he had a sense of humor about it all. But what started as a joke won't be forgotten: Every time Roger Ebert writes about Smith, he never fails to mention the apology.

For his next film, *Chasing Amy*, Smith asked for a budget of \$3 million. But the studio was afraid of another *Mallrats*, and said that if he was to get that much money, the film would need to star Drew Barrymore, John Stewart, and David Schwimmer. Smith refused; he wrote the script with his favorite actors in mind (the same actors from *Mallrats*), and he wasn't about to change it. The studio told him that



Jay (Jason Mewes) and Silent Bob (Kevin Smith) in *Chasing Amy*.

they weren't going to give him \$3 million to make a movie starring his friends. So he went back to Miramax and made the movie for \$250,000.

Chasing Amy might be the movie that puts Smith back in good graces with Hollywood. Reviews of *Chasing Amy* have run the full spectrum, but most have been positive. It received a standing ovation at this year's Sundance, where the audience tends to be younger and hipper (and more like the audience who would go see Smith's films). Even Ebert liked it, saying it was the funniest film shown at Sundance, and one of the best-written films he's seen in a while.

Classical Music

Boston Conservatory Opera

Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hermenway St., Cambridge. April 11-13, 8 p.m. Admission: \$10; students and seniors, \$7. Information: 536-3063. Cecelia Schieve and Patricia Weinmann co-direct the *Ballad of Baby Doe*.

Mitsuko Uchida

Jordan Hall at the New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston. April 12, 8 p.m. Admission: \$34. Information: 482-6661. Mitsuko Uchida has won world recognition for her fresh and inspirational interpretations of a wide range of repertoire from Mozart and Schubert to Debussy, Scöenberg and Messiaen. Program includes Berg, *Sonata for Piano, Op. 1*; Schumann, *Dauidsündertanze, Op. 6*; Beethoven, *Sonata No. 32 in C Minor, Op. 111*.

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston. April 16, 8 p.m. Admission: \$35, \$25, \$20. Information: 266-1200. The Bournemouth Symphony's first visit to Boston in 1994 confirmed its status as one of Britain's best regional orchestras. The orchestra's return under its new music director, Russian-born Yakov Kreizberg, with celebrated cellist Lynn Harrell as soloist, promises to reinforce their reputation. Program includes Elgar, *Cello Concerto*; Tchaikovsky, *Symphony No. 6 in B minor, "Pathétique."*

Cantata Singers Recitalists

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 2 Palace Rd., Boston. April 13, 1:30 p.m. Admission: adults, \$9; seniors, \$7; college students with current ID, \$5; youths ages 12-17, \$3; free for members and children under 12; Wednesdays, \$3 for college students with current ID. Information: 566-1401. Kayo Iwama, music director. *The New England Legacy*, and *Billings to Ives and Beyond*.

Faculty Artist Series

One Follen Street, Cambridge. April 14, 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 876-9326. Pianist Wayman Chin performs Bach's *Four Duets, BWV 802-805*; Schubert's *Sonata in C Major, D. 840*; Schoenberg's *Three Pieces, Op. 11*; and Beethoven's *Fantasy, Op. 77*.

Longy Chamber Orchestra

One Follen St., Cambridge. April 17, 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 876-9326. Theóphanis Kapsópoulos, guest conductor, performs Schubert's *Symphony No. 5 in B-Flat*, Haydn's

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston

April 11 - 17

Compiled by Cristián A. González

Send submissions to ott@the-tech.mit.edu or by interdepartmental mail to "On The Town," The Tech, W20-483.

Symphony No. 30 (Alleluia), Passacaille for Strings by Frank Martin and *Rebec for Strings* by René Oberson.

Ongoing Theater

mAlice: An Improv Tabloid Odyssey

Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston. Through April 12, 8 p.m. Admission: \$10 if reserved in advance; \$12 at door; \$2 discount for students. Information: 887-2336. A foray into the surreal world of tabloid media, mAlice combines improvised scenes, music, video, and drawing as Alice negotiates the wonder world where personal tragedy has been repackaged as popular entertainment.

Rent

Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston. Through April 27. Tues.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 7 p.m.; matinees, Sat.-Sun., 2 p.m. Admission: \$25-\$67.50. Information: (800)447-7400. Musical based on Puccini's 1896 opera *La Bohème*.

Film

The Museum at the John F. Kennedy Library

Columbia Point, Boston. Through June 1: Fri.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$6; seniors and students, \$4; ages 6-12, \$2;

under 6, free. Information: 929-4523. Films run continuously during the day.

Cuban Missile Crisis. Film documenting the October 1962 confrontation with the Soviet Union. Through June 1.

Fight Against Segregation. A film on events leading up to JFK's national address on civil rights.

Son of Ireland. Portrays Kennedy's visit to his ancestral home. Through June 1.

Whales

Museum of Science, Science Park, Cambridge. Through April 30. Admission: \$7.50; seniors and ages 3-14, \$5.50 (Tues., bargain nights for all shows 7 p.m. and later, \$5; seniors and ages 3-14, \$3). Information: 723-2500. Film follows the life cycles and travels of blue, humpback, and right whales from Argentina to Alaska.

Exhibits

MIT Museum

265 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission: \$3; non-MIT students, seniors, and under 12, \$1; MIT students, free. Information: 253-4444.

What's So Funny About Science? Cartoons of Sidney Harris offer a hilarious look at unexpected and incongruous moments in science. Through May 31.

Maps from the Age of Atlases. Rare maps from the Museum's Hart Nautical

Collections illuminate the golden age of cartography. Through May 4.

Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson. Ganson's kinetic sculptures exude the wit of their creator, a self-described cross between a mechanical engineer and a choreographer. Ongoing.

Lightforest: The Holographic Rainforest. Large-scale hologram exhibit by Betsy Connors. Ongoing.

Holography. The exhibition explores the holographic universe from its inception in the late 1940s through its artistic and technical evolution and highlights works by the world's foremost holographers. Ongoing.

Math in 3D. Morton C. Bradley's mathematical sculptures inspire inventors of all ages to create their own structures in the adjacent Mathspace activity center. Ongoing.

MIT Hall of Hacks. Chronicling MIT's rich hacking tradition, this exhibition features historic photographs and a collection of artifacts. Ongoing.

Light Sculptures. Vivid interactive plasma sculptures by Center for Advanced Visual Studies alumnus Bill Parker. Ongoing.

On the Surface of Things: Images in Science and Engineering by Felice Frankel

Compton Gallery, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Feb. 14-June 27: Mon.-Sun., 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-4444. Stunning photographs communicate recent research in a variety of disciplines at MIT and other institutions.

The Race to the Moon

The Museum at the John F. Kennedy Library. Off Morrissey Boulevard, Dorchester. Through June 1: Fri.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$6; seniors and students, \$4; ages 6-12, \$2; under 6, free. Information: 929-4523. Exhibit on America's pioneering space exploration.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed.-Fri., 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. Admission: \$10; seniors and college students, \$8; ages 17 and under, free; Wed. after 4 p.m., voluntary contribution; Thurs.-Fri., after 5 p.m., \$2 discount. Information: 267-9300.

The Art of John Biggers: View from the Upper Room. Exhibit of the black artist's drawings, prints, paintings, and sculptures. Through April 20.

Beyond the Screen: Chinese Furniture of the 16th and 17th Centuries. The exhibit aims not only to explore the beauty of Chinese art forms, but also to carry the viewer into the physical surroundings of their time. Through May 18.

This is the Modern World: Furnishings of the 20th Century. The exhibit relates the look of objects intended for everyday use to the creative vision of the artist-maker or designer, and the demands of technology, function, cost, and the needs and desires of the potential buyer or user. Through September.

On The Town, Page 9



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

Rehearsals were well underway yesterday for the Musical Theater Guild's opening production of *Weird Romance: Two One-Act Musicals of Speculative Fiction* tonight at 8 p.m. in Little Kresge Theatre.

On Campus

Endellion String Quartet

Kresge Auditorium, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 12, 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-9800. Program includes Beethoven, *Quartet Op. 18, No. 6 in B-flat*; Bartók, *Quartet No. 4*; Schubert, *Quartet in A Minor*.

AMP Student Recital

Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge. April 16, 5 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-9800. Yukiko Ueno G, piano. Program includes J.S. Bach, *French Suite No. 6 in E major*; Chopin, *Polonaise Op. 26, No. 1 in C-sharp Minor*; *Polonaise Op. 26, No. 2 in E-flat Minor*; Ginastera, *Danzas Argentinas*; F. Liszt, *Mephisto Waltz*.

MIT Chapel Series

MIT Chapel, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 17, noon. Admission: free. Information: 253-9800. Marina Minkin, harpsichord. Program includes J.S. Bach, *Goldberg Variations, BWV 988*.

Student Workshop

Kresge Auditorium, Rehearsal Room B, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 15, 16, 17; 8 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-9800. Directed by Jeremy R. Butler '98; by Butler and Laura Y. Padilla '97. Zastrozzi: *The Master of Discipline and Destruction*, by George F. Walker. Zastrozzi, a master criminal, seeks and exacts revenge for his mother's murder.

Ich trug den gelben Stern

Room 14E-310, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge. Admission: free. Information: 253-4859. Renowned German-Jewish writer Inge Deutschkron reads from her work. Reading in German. Room 14E-310. April 14, 7 p.m. Free. For information: mtotten@mit.edu or 253-4859.

Weird Romance

Kresge Little Theater, 48 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 11-12, 8 p.m.; April 13, 2 p.m. Admission: \$9, \$8 for MIT faculty and staff and other students, \$6 for MIT/Wellesley students (discount of \$1/ticket for groups of 10 or more). Information: 253-6294. Musical Theatre Guild production of two one-act of "Speculative Fiction" musicals (*The Girl Who Was Plugged In* and *Her Pilgrim Soul*), set in the near future. Each story, using a character that is not quite human, presents a different perspective on that all-too human emotion, love. Music is by Alan Menken (*Little Shop of Horrors*, *Aladdin*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Little Mermaid*). Book by Alan Brennert with lyrics and additional book by David Spencer.

Classical Guitar Concert: Pablo Ortiz

Killian Hall, 120 Memorial Dr., Cambridge. April 12, 8 p.m. Admission: free. The Costa Rican guitarist will perform traditional Costa Rican melodies and music by notable Latin American composers. Ortiz is professor of music at the Universidad Nacional, in Heredia, Costa Rica. Sponsored by the Council for the Arts and Club Latino.

Roadkill Buffet

Room 6-120, 77 Massachusetts Ave. April 12, 8 p.m. Live, fresh, innovative improv, right before your eyes.

Music @ the Coffeehouse

Stratton Student Center, Third Floor, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 14, 9 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-7972. CeyJay (piano/voice), new-(r)age-

art-rock.

Eleventh Arthur H. Schein Memorial Lecture

Room 10-250, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 15, 6:30 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-7791. "Recent Work," Department of Architecture talk by Ada Karmi-Melamede, architect, Tel Aviv, Israel.

Reykjavik MIT Yellowstone

Kresge Oval, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 15, 3:30-9:30 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-4415. Robert Dell, research affiliate with the Center for Advanced Visual Studies, will create five geothermal sculptures powered by four simulators with four different on/off cycles, resulting in a variety of kinetic activities and creating a visual dialogue among the works documenting the weather/temperature changes. Dell will present a lecture on his work at 7:30pm in 20 Chimneys in the Student Center.

authors@mit Reading Series

Room 54-100, 77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Admission: free. April 17 at 6 p.m. Information: 253-5249. Robert Barsky will discuss his book *Noam Chomsky: A Life of Dissent*. Co-sponsored by MIT Humanities and Dewey Libraries and The MIT Press Bookstore. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase.

The Fine Line: Where Does Science Leave Off and Cartooning Begin?

MIT Museum, 265 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. April 17, 7 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 253-4422. Artist in Residence Larry Gonick tosses a handful of paint-loaded darts at science in this lively, graphic discussion of cartooning in the information age. Gonick created the "Flashbacks" cartoon feature in *Newsday* and "Science Classics" in *Discover* magazine and is the author of a popular series of cartoon science books on topics ranging from statistics to physics.

LECTURE SERIES COMMITTEE

77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Information: 258-8881.

Jeffrey

April 11, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., Room 26-100. Admission: \$2. Steven Weber plays a gay actor/waiter in New York who, terrified of contracting AIDS, commits to celibacy. But when he discovers how difficult it is to stay celibate, he is forced to confront the issues he tried to avoid. Also features Patrick Stewart.

The Last Tango in Paris

April 11, 7:30 p.m., Room 10-250. Admission: \$2. Directed by Bernardo Bertolucci. Starring Marlon Brando, Maria Schneider. An American expatriate in Paris (Brando) tries purging himself of bad memories after his wife's suicide by entering into a "no questions asked" sexual liason with a chance acquaintance (Schneider) which ultimately proves to be even more destructive than his past memories. One of the most controversial films of its time, it is still explicit by today's standards.

Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai: Across the Eighth Dimension

April 5, 7 p.m., and 10:30 p.m., Room 26-100. Admission: free.

On The Town, From Page 8

Botticelli's Witness: Changing Style in a Changing Florence

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston. Through April 6: Tues.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$9; seniors, \$7; college students with ID, \$5; ages 12-17, \$3; under 12, free. Information: 566-1401. Works by Sandro Botticelli, one of the most influential artists of the Italian Renaissance.

USS Constitution Museum

Navy Yard, Charlestown. Mon.-Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission: \$4; seniors, \$3; ages 6-16, \$2; under 6, free; under 16 when unaccompanied by an adult, free. Information: 426-1812. *Old Ironsides in War and Peace*. Retrospective celebrating the USS Constitution's upcoming 200th birthday. Includes artifacts such as the sea bag and possessions of an 1812 crew member, hands-on activities, and photographs. Ongoing. *Strengthening Old Ironsides*. Color photographs documenting the four-year rehabilitation and restorations of the ship. Ongoing. *Capturing Old Ironsides on Canvas*. Works by artist Cheslie D'Andrea. Ongoing.

Living with Ants and the Science of E.O. Wilson

Harvard Museums of Cultural and Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge. Through April 30: Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Admission: \$5; seniors and students, \$4; ages 3-13, \$3; Sat. 9 a.m.-noon, free. Information: 495-3045.

Inside Fort Independence: An Archaeological View of Military

Life

Commonwealth Museum, 220 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 727-9268.

The Pyramids and the Sphinx: 100 Years of American Archaeology at Giza

Semitic Museum, Harvard University, 6 Divinity Ave., Cambridge. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun., 1-4 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 495-4631. Collection of photos and artifacts. Ongoing.

New England Aquarium

Central Wharf, Boston. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission: ages 12 and up, \$9.50; seniors, \$8.50; ages 3-11, \$5; under 3, free. Information: 973-5200.

The Otter Limits. Construction relocation of aquarium's colony of harbor seals and sea otters to a new, enlarged habitat behind the aquarium.

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Original Visions: Shifting the Paradigm, Women's Art 1970-1996

Boston College Museum of Art, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill. Through May 18. Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., noon-5 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 552-8100. Exhibit includes paintings, photographs and sculptures.

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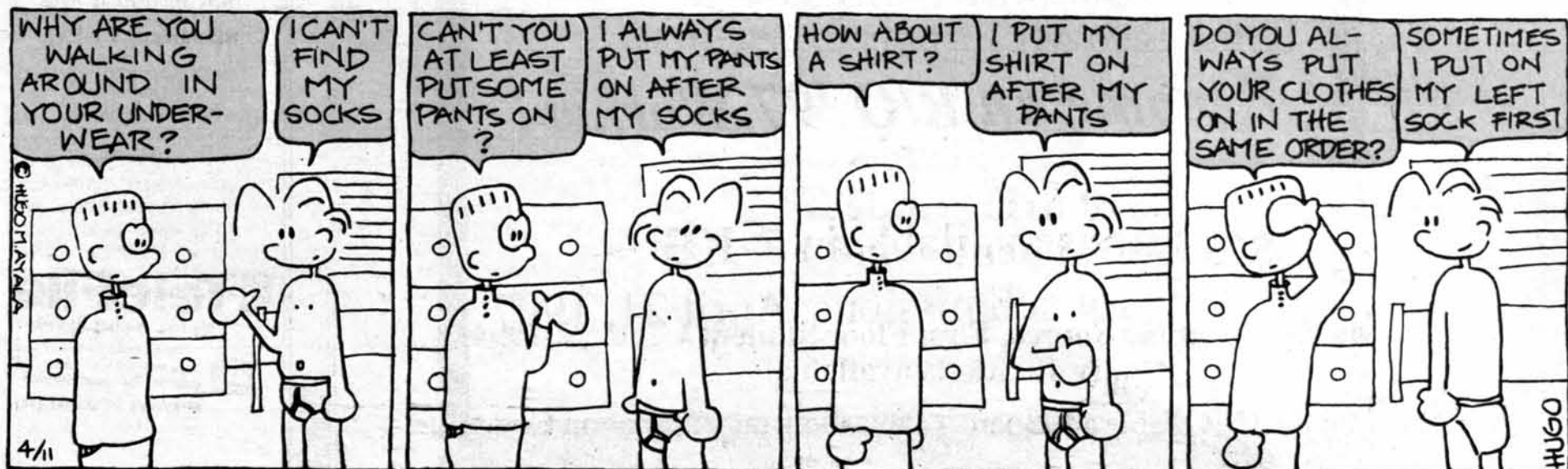
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by Zachary Emig



Off Course

by Hugo



Transition Teams Look to Streamline Dean's Office

By Douglas E. Heimburger
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Fifteen transition teams were recently established to better organize and structure the 14 offices that compose the Office for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs.

The advent of these teams will bring the formal re-engineering process of the newly consolidated Dean's Office to a close.

The teams will be serving as "the natural evolution of re-engineering," said Steven D. Immerman, director of administration and operations. Since January, the groups have been determining where the opportunities for change exist in the office.

Unlike re-engineering, where personnel exclusively focused on forming a plan to reform an organization, the transition teams will mainly be composed of people who continue to work within their various offices while they implement changes, Immerman said.

Instead of focusing merely on finances, the transition teams will also focus on improving the quality of services for those who work in and utilize the Dean's Office.

Over the next 12 to 18 months, the transition teams will be working to unify various processes

across the various offices, said Dean of Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams. "The transition teams have the goal of saying in a specified time. ... We will have made major changes in the structure and operations" of the Dean's Office.

Teams to address student services

Several of the new transition teams will be directly restructuring offices that students regularly interact with, Immerman said.

For example, the educational support team is bringing together individuals from the Registrar's Office, the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs, and the Campus Activities Complex, among others, to work on improving the quality of service provided to students.

"We're flattening the organization," Williams said. As part of the process, new groups may be formed to provide specific services.

For instance, the co-curricular activities transition team may create a new group to handle all activity registration for groups. Currently, groups wishing to hold an event must visit several offices to get the proper approval.

Another transition team, the residential system integration team, will

work with the Office of Residence and Campus Activities and the Department of Housing and Food Services to implement the proposals of the housing and residential life re-engineering team.

The HARL team issued their final report in January, recommending better communication within the residential system and the dissemination of information in the dormitories.

The team is now working with residents of McCormick Hall to develop a pilot program to implement the decisions of the HARL team, said Margaret R. Bates, dean for student life. McCormick residents and members of the team are visiting other campuses to discover new ideas and develop a framework for the redesign of dormitory services.

Groups to centralize operations

The remaining transition teams will work across all the offices in the reorganized Dean's Office in order to control costs and improve services, Immerman said.

"The Dean's Office needs to develop more centralized services to avoid duplication," Williams said.

For example, the communications and publications infrastructure team will bring together individuals

from all the offices that are involved in publishing, Williams said. The end result of the team will be a central service that all the offices can utilize when they need electronic or paper publication.

Other groups will deal with financial operations, planning and management, human resources, information technology, and facilities maintenance, Williams said.

While these groups may consolidate some of the functions of the various offices now under the Dean's Office, any potential mergers of complete offices will not occur until later, Williams said. "The last thing you want to do is set up a whole bunch of new offices" before the processes involved have been redesigned.

Groups will utilize student input

Student input will play a key role in the transition teams, Williams said. "Each team has to have profound student involvement."

In determining how to solicit student opinion, each team will first consider whether to utilize an already established group, Williams said. For example, the educational support transition team can call upon the associate advisers for input.

Other groups will be hiring stu-

dents as full-time interns during the summer to assist during the transition. Focus groups, advisory boards, and student membership on teams will also be utilized, Bates said.

Eventually, the goal is to inform and seek input from all students. "Student leaders can only take it so far," Bates said. Individuals who are not involved in drafting plans must be presented with opportunities to share their opinion.

Redesign process accelerates

Because all the offices involved in the transition teams are under the framework of the Dean's Office, the teams are expected to finish their work within 12 to 18 months, Bates said.

By finishing the process in a shorter period of time, the offices will eliminate the burden of continually adapting to major changes, Immerman said.

One of the transition teams will specifically be dealing with the identity of the Dean's Office, Williams said. The goal of that team is "getting people in the office to know each other."

The reorganized Dean's Office was created on Oct. 1, merging 14 offices in order to provide a single organizational structure for most student support services.



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Macintosh FTP Site Will Relocate to LCS

By Frank Dabek
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Info-Mac FTP site, the world's largest repository of Apple Macintosh software, is moving from Stanford University to the Laboratory for Computer Science at MIT.

By accessing the FTP site, users may download software for use on their Macintosh. The move was scheduled to be finished by March 28 but is not yet complete.

There are over 50 mirror sites which hold copies of the Info-Mac site around the world. The new site will not be accessible directly by users, as public access will be limited to the mirror sites.

MIT's involvement in the new site is minimal, said Mary Ann Ladd, sponsored research technical staff at LCS. "We're supplying a spot for their machine and a network," she said. In addition, LCS will handle backups and other physical needs of the new machine.

The Info-Mac site will not be managed by staff at MIT but rather by a group of volunteers across the country.

The process of moving the site has been under way for over two

years, Ladd said. She could not predict a completion date, but said that the switch was "taking much longer than they [the Info-Mac team] had planned."

America Online provides machine

The machine where the new site will reside was provided by America Online and has been at LCS for more than a year, Ladd said.

Ladd was not sure why MIT was selected to host the site but speculated that the presence of HyperArchive (<http://hyperarchive.lcs.mit.edu/HyperArchive/HyperArchive.html>), a "hugely popular" mirror of Info-Mac at LCS, led to the decision.

LCS does "expect an impact" on their network as a result of hosting the Info-Mac site, Ladd said. She said that the HyperArchive machine which holds a mirror of Info-Mac and other files is the lab's current heaviest traffic generator. "We have a wait-and-see attitude about what it [the new site] will do to our network," Ladd said.

The many mirror sites sharing traffic will help relieve network strain, she said.

Prefrosh to Take Part In Panel Discussions, Lab Tours, and Dinners

Campus Preview, from Page 1

another dinner in Walker with guest speaker James McLukin '95 who is currently researching robotics.

There will also be a special guest lecture this afternoon presented by Professor of Physics Walter H.G. Lewin in 26-100. Lewin is well-known among current students for his weekly physics television program which can be viewed on the MIT Cable 24 hours a day.

In addition to the traditional student-organized discussion session on the minority experience at MIT, there will also be a women's discussion and luncheon cosponsored by the Women's Conference and the Society of Women Engineers.

At this meeting, members of MIT's sororities, other independent living groups, SWE, and the Program in Women's Studies will describe services provided for female students and opportunities for involvement in organizations.

Departments and laboratories are also offering tours and open houses throughout the weekend.

Visiting parents are also invited to participate in scheduled activities, ranging from informal campus tours to a parent's panel at which representatives from student services will address parents' concerns.

Campus Preview Weekend will conclude tomorrow at 2 p.m. with a check-out lunch for prefrosh, parents, and hosts.

Prefrosh to stay in FSILGs

In previous years, prefrosh attending Campus Preview Weekend had not been allowed to stay in independent living groups. Last year, a policy change was implemented that allowed some prefrosh stayed in certain FSILGs.

Romero said that a similar policy was adhered to for this year's preview weekend, as most on-campus fraternities, in addition to others

which are located around Kenmore Square or within a shorter distance from campus will be hosting prefrosh.

"We try not to put prefrosh at a great distance from campus, in order to allow easy access to personal items that may be in their host's room," Romero said.

Prior to arriving on campus, prefrosh were asked if they would rather stay in an FSILG or a dormitory for the weekend. "Only about 20 percent of the prefrosh expressed interest in living in an FSILG or had no preference, while about 80 percent wanted to live in a dormitory," Romero said.

Prefrosh express interest in dorms

There was actually an excess of hosts living in FSILGs who volunteered to host, Romero said. "There were just not enough prefrosh to go around," she said. About six to seven fraternities which requested prefrosh were not allotted any.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon members expressed disapproval at Tuesday night's meeting, claiming that they had requested many more prefrosh and had been assigned very few. However, SAE had already received more prefrosh than any other fraternity, Romero said.

Some male prefrosh who had expressed a strong preference in staying in dormitories were placed in on-campus fraternities because there were far fewer dormitory hosts than FSILG hosts.

"Some prefrosh who stated that staying with a minority host was extremely important were placed with minority fraternity hosts," Romero said. Also, prefrosh who have been assigned to off-campus fraternities for the weekend were placed in groups of three to four, to avoid isolation, she said.

Douglas E. Heimburger contributed to the reporting of this story.

Department of Earth, Atmospheric, & Planetary Sciences

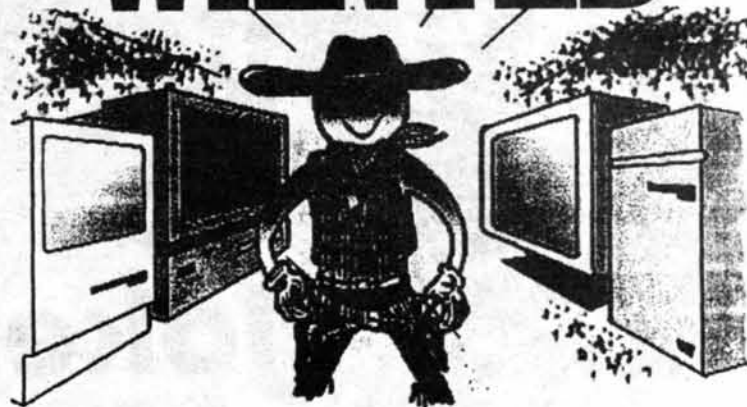
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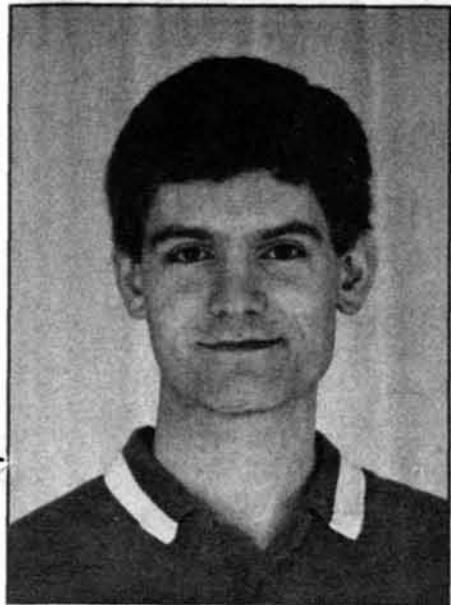
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Geoffrey J. Coram G

LONG N. PHAN—THE TECH



Michelle K. McDonough G

GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH



Yanqing Du G

INDRANATH NEOGY—THE TECH



Veronique Bugnion G

LONG N. PHAN—THE TECH

Du, Bugnion Elected to Secretary, Treasurer Offices

GSC, from Page 1

with waning membership," McDonough said. Still, while any involvement is good, long-term commitment is still more effective.

Bae, a student in the Department of Nuclear Engineering, wanted the GSC to make "significant contributions to administrative issues," he said. This would include getting the GSC involved in search committees and graduate issues like parking and housing.

As vice president, Bae would also help communicate to graduate students what the administration does, he said.

McDonough and Bae both fielded questions from the graduates.

A few questions asked about the candidates' levels of commitment to the GSC.

Bae regretted that he did not know whether or not he would be at MIT for the spring semester but reaffirmed his commitment to the GSC, he said. "As long as you got me, I'm yours."

McDonough said she would be very committed to the job, although next year will be her last year at

MIT.

After a secret ballot vote, McDonough was elected vice president.

Bugnion runs after Du elected

Du, an EECS graduate student, was nominated and unanimously elected for the uncontested position

of secretary.

The responsibilities of secretary matched many of her interests, Du said. She has had experience in student government during her college years.

Du would also work to encourage more women and international students to join the GSC, she said.

Filling the secretary position was welcome news for the GSC, since Bugnion, the lone candidate for treasurer, had said she would withdraw her candidacy if no secretary had been elected.

Bugnion was worried that if there was no secretary, additional duties would fall on the remaining

three officers. She was unanimously elected.

Bugnion was previously a representative to the GSC for the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences.

Seventeen of 29 voting GSC members were present at the meeting.

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Extravagantly Decorated Walker Home for Gray Gala

Gray, from Page 1

both big as life; and, later, Dean for Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams.

Walker decked out for the show

The hall itself was a sight to see. Hardly recognizable after the lavish and caring ministrations of MIT catering and Physical Plant, Walker was a place transformed.

An arch of balloons, white, purple, and green, met visitors just inside the outer door; the daffodils and guestbook — apparently leather-bound — both contributed to the impression that someone had paid close attention to the little things, and wanted the guests to do the same.

It was an impression the six-foot free-standing Roman column did little to dispel.

Inside the softly-lit main hall, groves of columns and wild flowers gave the party an almost Mediterranean feel. In the middle of the room, two huge tables were piled high with pastries and sweetmeats. On one side, a wet bar served all comers. Yes, all.

At the back, Former Associate Provost and accomplished trombonist Samuel J. Keyser and his band added a touch more class with some tasteful swing. Overhead, a digital slideshow took viewers on a walk down the Grays' memory lane: The couple selling T-shirts, laughing

with friends, strolling arm-in-arm through Killian Court.

Guests wore tweed, laughed politely, and sipped wine. Through it all weaved tuxedoed waiters, platters full of breaded foods with French names.

Paul Gray, this is your life

After about an hour, guests took their seats as the reception segued into a tribute to the Grays.

There was a lot to say. Gray has been at the Institute for all but two years since 1950, when he entered as a freshman. He went on to earn two higher degrees and become a professor of electrical engineering, along the way earning a reputation as a dedicated teacher.

He has carried that reputation through a number of administrative posts, including president through most of the 1980s and chairman of the Corporation since. The 65-year-old plans to step down in June to focus once again on teaching.

What could have turned into a tear-jerking love-fest instead turned out instead to be a heartfelt, genial tribute, thanks in part to Vest. He set the pace for the evening by presenting Gray with a gift of a body-wear earring — to keep him in touch with what kids are wearing these days, he said. Gray promptly stuck it on his nose.

"Paul has a wonderful sense of humor, available at times when it's seriously needed," said the next



The Chorallaries sing farewell to outgoing Chairman of the Corporation Paul E. Gray '54.

speaker, Institute Professor Emeritus Francis E. Low. There was the time he and Gray drove all night in a snowstorm, for example, to secure an affiliation between MIT and the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Sciences.

Low then said something a little unexpected.

"That reminds me of the lady who went to see the dentist," Low said. The dentist approaches the lady, seated in the dentist's chair, and then backs away. "Madam, he said, you're holding my testicles," he says. She says, 'Yes, doctor. And we're not going to hurt each other, are we?'" At any rate, he said, the deal went through. Well.

Chorallaries commemorate Gray

For a change of pace, the Chorallaries serenaded Gray with

soaring renditions of Rubber Duckie — one of Gray's favorites — and the Engineers' Drinking Song.

Gray later said that he could think of at least two alumni during the 1980s whose diplomas he in fact signed Rubber Duckie.

Mrs. Gray also received the high praise and admiration of the assembled company for being, in the words of Corporation Secretary Kathryn A. Willmore, "a partner to Paul, an ambassador to MIT all around the world, and a model of MIT caring and service."

Mrs. Vest cited Mrs. Gray's "insight and inspiration," "sunny smile," "intimate wisdom," and love, as well as all the appetites she "assuaged throughout the years" through what must be excellent food.

The guests of honor were clearly touched by the attention and praise.

"This has been a lovely party," Mrs. Gray said. "The flowers are beautiful and so are you."

Gray then took the podium. "MIT is thought of, remembered in so many ways. Boston Tech. The premier institution of applied science and engineering in the nation. One of the world's great research universities. 'Tech Is Hell,' and its modern equivalent, which I shall not repeat.

"It is the people who make the place, give it its spirit and personality," Gray said. "Thank you so much for being here tonight; thank you for this occasion, your kind remarks. ... You have been our friends for so long, and we look forward to nothing very much changing come June 1."

And with that came to a close a great afternoon of great finger food, as well as a commemoration of an era.

Goodbye, tax forms. Hello, TeleFile!

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GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

The Musical Theater Guild's production of *Weird Romance: Two One-Act Musicals of Speculative Fiction* opens tonight at 8 p.m. in Little Kresge Theatre.

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Pop Internationalism



**A talk by Paul Krugman
Thursday, April 10 5:30 pm MIT 54-100**

Green Building, 21 Ames Street, Cambridge

FREE. Wheelchair accessible. Info: 253.5249 or authors@mit.edu

"Pop internationalists' — people who speak impressively about international trade while ignoring basic economics and misusing economic figures — are the target of this collection of Paul Krugman's most recent essays.... everything [he] has to say is smart, important and even fun to read." —*New York Times Book Review*

Paul Krugman is Ford International Professor of Economics at MIT. He is the author of numerous popular and scholarly books, including *The Age of Diminished Expectations* and *Pop Internationalism* both published by The MIT Press.

Autographed copies of the book will be available at the talk. \$10.00 paperback. Published by The MIT Press

authors@mit

a series sponsored by The MIT Press Bookstore and the MIT Humanities & Dewey Libraries.

<http://mitpress.mit.edu/bookstore/events.html>

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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 Ayida Mthembu, 253-4861 or Liz Connors, 253-5882 or drop by Room 3-234.

**Deadline for proposals:
Tuesday, April 15, 1997**

During the 1997-98 academic year, the Committee will consider proposals received at the end of any month from September through April, with decisions to come by the middle of the following month.

Men's Pistol Tops Civilian Schools for Third in Nation

By Evelyn Huang
TEAM MEMBER

The men's and women's pistol teams competed in the Intercollegiate Pistol Championships held from March 20 to 22 at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The men's team finished third at

the championships, improving from their fourth place overall finish last year. The team finished behind the U.S. Military Academy and the U.S. Naval Academy.

MIT finished ahead of such schools like the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, Texas A&M, and Ohio

State University by placing third, fourth, and fifth in the three events: .22-caliber standard pistol, .22-caliber free pistol, and .177-caliber air pistol.

Following last year's national championship, the women's team endured some mishaps to finish fourth and fifth in .177-caliber women's air pistol and .22-caliber

sport pistol, respectively.

Given the extreme mental nature of this sport, the Engineers' strong performance was not a surprising result.

In the first event, men's free pistol, the team of Jacques De Lalaing '97, Ben Leong '97, John Novak '96, and team captain Danny Yu '98, placed fourth out of 10 teams invited to the tournament with a team aggregate score of 1,941, only three points behind third-place Texas A&M.

De Lalaing finished 14th in the nation in free pistol with a score of 492. Leong earned 17th with a score of 487. Novak placed 22nd with a personal career high of 484 after recovering from surgery on his shooting arm earlier in the season. Seth Webster '97 placed 24th with a score of 481.

In standard pistol, the team of De Lalaing, Leong, Novak, and Webster finished third with a score of 2,069, trailing the U.S. Naval Academy and the U.S. Military Academy. De Lalaing came in 18th in the nation in standard pistol with a score of 516. Novak and Leong also finished with high scores of 534 and 526 respectively. This year, the team avoided the weapon malfunctions of last year, turning in season average scores.

In air pistol, the team of De Lalaing, Leong, Webster, and Myong-Sin Yi '98 placed fifth with a score of 2,138, only 19 points behind Ohio State University and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, which placed third and fourth respectively. Webster finished 15th in the nation with a score of 543. Yi finished 22nd with a score of 538.

In women's air pistol, the team of Yi, Tracey Ho '99, and Evelyn Huang '99 placed fourth with a score of 1,024, only eight points behind third-place Coast Guard, last year's individual national air pistol champion, led the team with a score of 348,

and placed sixth individually in the nation despite shooting at a much higher level for the entire season.

Ho's Tau-7 air pistol had air cylinder problems, causing her to finish with an unusually low score of 330. In women's sport pistol, the team of Yi, Ho, and Huang placed fifth with a score of 1,511, only 25 points behind third-place U.S. Military Academy. Yi also placed sixth with an outstanding final 10 shots with score of 93.9.

Shooters earn awards

All-America and All-Star awards were also given out at the awards ceremony to recognize shooters with high average scores during the entire year.

De Lalaing was given an All-America Honorable Mention in free pistol. As the leading shooter on the team, the recognition was much deserved.

Yi was named to the All-America Second Team for air pistol as well as All-Star in women's air pistol. Yi is the first MIT woman pistol shooter to receive All-America honors, and still has one year of eligibility left.

Jane Sohn '97 was named to All-Star team in both women's air and sport pistol, repeating as one of the top women shooters in the nation.

This tournament was also the last for Ben Leong '97, John Novak G, De Lalaing, and Webster. The team looks to retool next year and is optimistic because of this year's freshman shooters, who have been training since the beginning of the academic year.

In contrast, the national tournament was also the first for new coach Will Hart, who began coaching the team just last November. Hart's hands-on coaching style has succeeded recently retired coach Pat Melaragno handsomely, and the team has responded.



PASSOVER
1997 / 5757
at MIT



First Seder

Monday, April 21, 6:00 p.m.
MIT Hillel, W11 Main Dining Room
\$18. students; \$25. non-students
A traditional participatory seder

Home Hospitality

Monday, April 21
Tuesday, April 22
MIT faculty and staff welcome students to their home seders.
Contact Hillel by April 17

Reservation Policy!

All Passover meals require reservation and payment by Friday, April 11. Contact MIT Hillel, 253-2982. Payable with MIT meal cards or cash/checks at the Hillel office or at Hillel booth in Lobby 10 on Thursday, April 10.

MIT Hillel is the sponsor of the above events.
For additional information contact us at 253-2982 or <hillel@mit.edu>.

Hillel is located in the MIT Religious Activities Building, Bldg. W11, at the corner of Mass. Ave. and Amherst Street in Cambridge.

Deli Dinner

Thursday, April 24, 5-6:30 p.m.
MIT Hillel, W11 Small Dining Room
\$11.50 students; \$13.00 non-students

Shabbat Dinner

Friday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.
W11 Main Dining Room
\$14.50 students; \$18.00 non-students

Holiday Dinner

Sunday, April 27, 7:00 p.m.
W11 Main Dining Room
\$14.50 students; \$18.00 non-students

All food served at Hillel is kosher for Passover. The MIT Hillel kitchens are under the supervision of the Vaad HaRabbonim of Massachusetts.

Interested in becoming a member of the UA Finance Board?

Pick up an application from the door of the UA Office (W20-401) and return it to the UA Office by April 16 at 5:00 p.m. Interviews will be held on Thursday evening, April 17.

Interested in getting money from the UA Finance Board?

Funding requests are due April 25. The budget process will be different from prior years, so consult the Finboard Web page at <http://web/finboard/www> for details. Failure to comply with the new guidelines may jeopardize your group's funding.

IVC Concludes Season With 2nd Place Finish

By Rad Roberts
TEAM MEMBER

The intercollegiate volleyball club finished second in the New England Collegiate Volleyball League championship tournament at the University of New Hampshire on Saturday. The team advanced to the tournament by clobbering the University of Massachusetts at Lowell last week to finish the 1997 regular season as undefeated division champions.

IVC showed its tenacity in the first match of the tournament by beating Northeastern University 15-10 in the first game, and by overcoming a second game 13-10 deficit to win 15-13.

Dartmouth College proved a more worthy opponent, by beating IVC 15-12 in the first game. IVC rebounded to capture the second game 15-10. Providence College was easily dispatched 15-7, 15-10, and IVC advanced to the semifinals to face UNH.

Boosted by dozens of cheering fans, UNH was hot to avenge their earlier loss to IVC in the finals of the NECVL open. IVC rose to UNH's challenge to defeat them in two straight games.

Tom Klemas G was unstoppable, firing blistering hits from all over of the court. Parry Husbands G passed UNH serves with cat-like grace and coolly scored big kills of his own. Setter Koji Asari G had a dramatic block on the tallest UNH player and Mitch Price G hit right over several UNH blockers.

The real surprise came from middle blocker Jim Fleming G, who helped shut down the UNH offense with his best blocking performance of the season. Gene van Buren G and Roberto Leon G rounded out the IVC defense with solid digs in the back row.

With each IVC block and hit the MIT bench roared with thunderous cheers that put the UNH fans to shame. The UNH coach was stunned. His team had prepared for this match for months, but they couldn't stop IVC.

Before UNH could collect their wits, IVC finished them off to win the first game, 15-5. In the second

game, UNH pushed their intensity to higher level, surging ahead to a 9-2 lead.

Rad Roberts G then entered the match for IVC, making diving digs and several blocks to spark his team. John Modzelewski '98, Klemas, Roberts, Fleming, and Husbands scored blocks and hits as IVC ran off 10 unanswered points to lead 12-9.

UNH still refused to yield as they fought back to 12-12, but IVC dug in defensively and sealed their victory with three outstanding plays to win the game 15-13.

This match marked the high point of the IVC season. Each player performed the best he had all season, and the team played with a coherence and camaraderie that was truly inspirational.

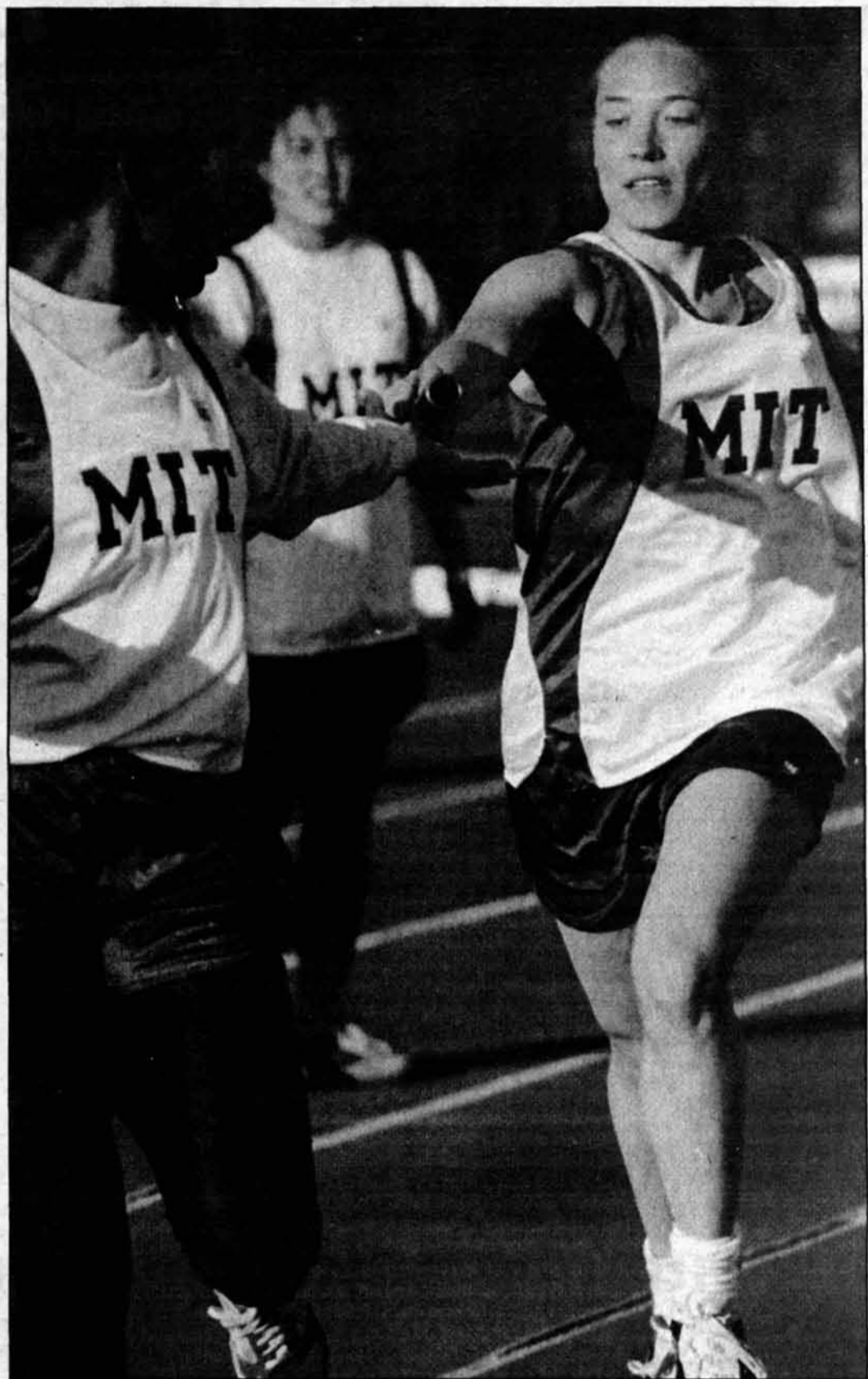
In the finals, IVC faced the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. The match opened with a block from Husbands, which scored the first point of the match.

However, UMass played outstanding defense and IVC couldn't reach the level of intensity it found against UNH. IVC blocking and digging broke down somewhat and UMass played an almost flawless game to capture the first game 15-9.

IVC fired up its intensity in the second game, but UMass answered. Both teams fought hard to a 9-9 tie by trading blocks and sideouts. UMass eventually won the second game, 15-12, to claim the NECVL championship despite a valiant IVC effort.

Husbands and Klemas were selected as tournament all-stars and the IVC team was honored for finishing second in the NECVL championship. With many returning players, coach Satoshi Asari hopes IVC will be a very strong team again next year.

IVC will host a doubles volleyball tournament open to MIT students, alumni, and staff of all abilities on May 3. Two divisions of women's and men's teams will vie for prizes while enjoying lots of playing time. Registration forms will be available in the lobby of the Student Center from April 30 to May 2.



Robin Evans '99 hands the baton to Natalie Smith '00 on their way to winning the 4 x 400 meter relay in Wednesday's track meet at Steinbrenner Stadium. Evans also won the 800 meters in 2:32.2, and Smith won the 400 meters in 1:03.7.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, April 11

Baseball vs. Wentworth Institute of Technology, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 12

Baseball vs. Western New England College, 12 p.m.

Lightweight Crew vs. Dartmouth College and Harvard University, 9:45 a.m.

Women's Lacrosse vs. Babson College, 1 p.m.

Women's Track and Field vs. Bates College, Bowdoin College, and Colby College, 1 p.m.

Monday, April 14

Baseball vs. Clark University, 3 p.m.



Third baseman Annamaria Cherubin '99 fields a ball after a bunt by a Regis College batter, later throwing her out at first base. MIT lost 10-7 in Tuesday's home game.

1997-98 Coop Student Board

The Harvard Cooperative Society announces that the following students have been designated as members of the Board of Directors for the 1997-98 academic year.

M.I.T. Undergraduate Students:
George Berkowski John Choe

M.I.T. Graduate Students:
John Hollywood Larry Sass

Harvard Undergraduate Students:
David Boggs Matthew Kramer
Alice Lee Chana Schoenberger

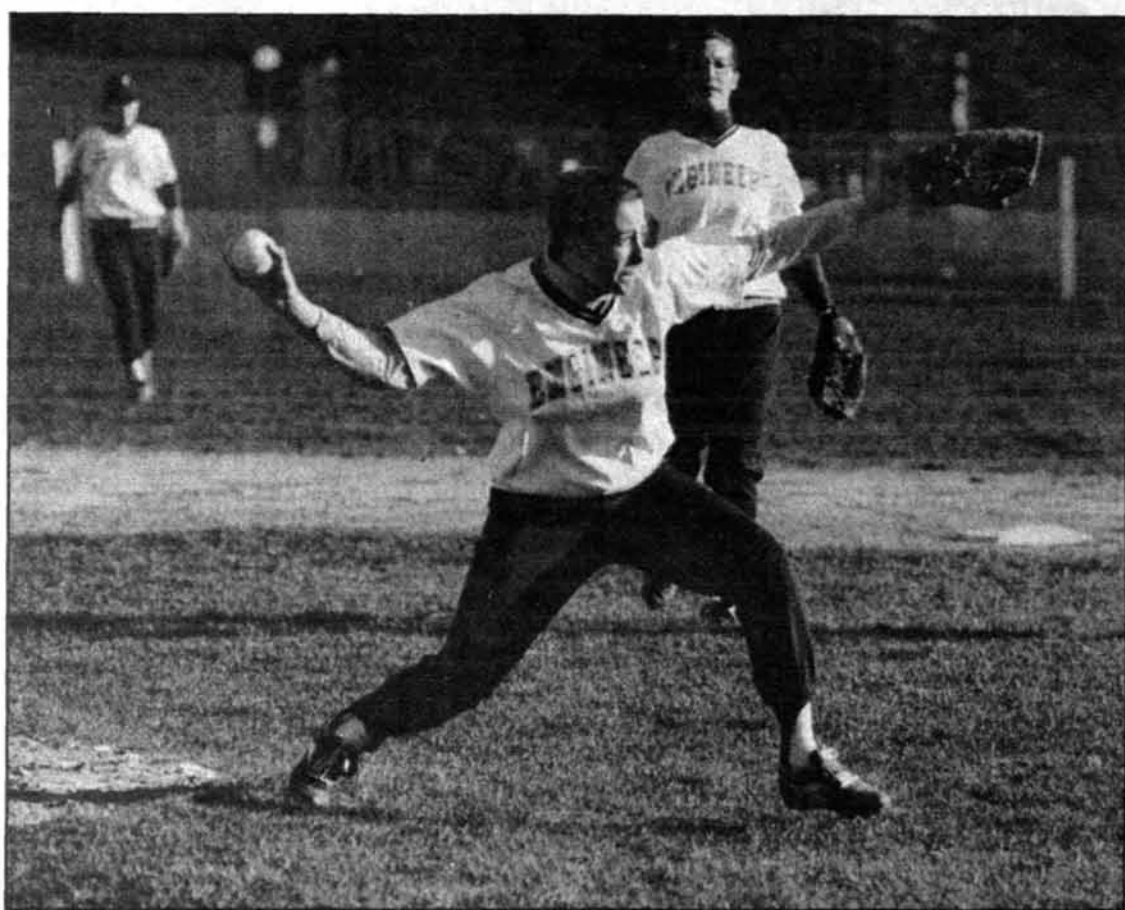
Harvard Graduate Students:
Julie Chow Carlos Lopez
Jay Olson

Each Spring, The Society normally conducts an election to select eleven student directors for the next academic year. This year there were no petition candidates, therefore, The Stockholders have determined that their slate of nominees will be designated the 1997-98 student directors and no election will be held.



HTTP://www.thecoop.com

SPORTS



Amber Crabbe '00, who pitched from the third inning in Tuesday's game against Regis College at Briggs Field, makes a throw to first base. MIT lost 10-7.

Softball Starts Off With Solid Victories

By Joanna Garelick
TEAM MEMBER

The women's varsity softball team opened its season with a 3-1 NEW 8 conference record, one of the best starts in recent years. Under new coaching and with nine new players in the lineup, the team has become more focused and better skilled.

A Florida spring training trip during Spring Break was the first opportunity to practice hitting and fielding outdoors and in game situations. With a win in the last game of the trip over Trinity College, a positive attitude, as well as the strong hitting of co-captain Sherry Mowry '98 and left fielder Ali Pearlman '00, prevailed.

In the first game of the year, the first half of a doubleheader against Babson College on March 29, pitcher Amber Crabbe '00 threw a no-hitter with the assistance of catcher Kim Murdoch '99. Crabbe and Murdoch led a strong defensive game, resulting in an 8-0 win for MIT, with the mercy rule ending the game in the fifth inning.

The second game was more of a battle, and the team walked away with their first loss by a close three-run margin.

The unexpected snow last week kept the softball season on pause until Saturday, when the team went to Mount Holyoke College. The strong hitting of team co-captain Joanna Garelick '98, Anna Cherubin '99, and Katie Barron '00 helped the team to walk away with two more wins and more importantly, a 3-1 conference record.

Tuesday's first non-conference game of the season, which was against Regis College, was the most difficult competition the team has faced since their Florida trip. The game was well played, despite a few defensive errors.

The combined pitching of Vicky Canto-Ponce '00 and Crabbe could not hold off the strong Regis offense. The team lost the game 10-7, but Kristy Stokke '99 showed her offensive power, going 2 for 3, with two triples, and knocking in two RBIs.

This weekend the team faces Wheaton College and Smith College. The team will then go on to meet Amherst College on April 13 at 3 p.m.

Two Garner Academic All-America Distinctions

By Roger Crosley
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

MIT can now boast two more GTE College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-Americans.

Sports Shorts
Cross country runner Arnold Seto G and water polo player Matt Lau '97 were named to the Fall/Winter Men's College Division At-Large Team.

First-team honoree Seto won the Constitution Athletic Conference cross country individual championship. He was also a first-team selection on the 1996 Spring At-Large Team for track and field.

Lau, a Division III All-America selection in water polo, is a third-team selection.

Baseball pitcher honored

Baseball pitcher Thomas Epps '98 was selected as the Constitution Athletic Conference co-pitcher of the week for his performance in Saturday's 0-1 loss to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Epps, pitched the entire contest and lost 1-0 on an unearned run in the bottom of the 12th inning. His co-winner was Coast Guard's Matt Laverghetta who pitched nine scoreless innings in the same contest.

Softball pitcher off to strong start

Softball pitcher Amber Crabbe '00, continues to make her mark on the New England Women's 8 Conference. After pitching a no-hitter in her first collegiate start last week, Crabbe was named the NEW 8 Player of the Week for her efforts in a doubleheader last Saturday against Mount Holyoke College.

Crabbe won both games of the twin bill with a 5-1 three hitter in the first game, and by pitching the final two innings of the second game to seal the 12-4 win. She pitched nine innings, allowing only one run, and fanning 10 batters.

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Campus Activities Complex ADVISORY BOARD Student At-Large Membership

The Advisory Board of the Campus Activities Complex acts as an advisory council to the Director of the Campus Activities Complex. The Board provides feedback on policy and program development as well as suggestions for new and improved services and amenities that the CAC could provide for the community. Members of the board include undergraduate and graduates students, faculty, staff, and alumni/ae of MIT.

Application Deadline: Friday, April 18th

Applications may be picked up at:

- The Source, Stratton Student Center First Floor •
- CAC Office (W20-500) •



If you have any Questions contact:

- Maria Kamvysselis, Chairperson (mkamvyss@mit.edu, x5-9396)
- Teresa Raine, Secretary (tjbraine@mit.edu, x5-6487)
- Ted Johnson, CAC (tej@mit.edu x3-3913)