

Friday
Largest
Paper



The Weather
Today: Cloudy, clearing, 78°F (26°C)
Tonight: Clearing, 60°F (16°C)
Tomorrow: Partly sunny, 75°F (24°C)
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Friday, August 22, 1997

Frosh Enjoy MOYA Despite Move Inside

By Zareena Hussain
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

"It never rains when the freshman arrive," said Stuart Schmill '86 who aided with project Move Off Your Assumptions '96.

But that was last year. Yesterday, for the first time in seven years, Project Move Off Your Assumptions, which normally begins in Kresge Oval and migrates to Briggs Field, was moved inside because of rain.

The event was moved to four different indoor locations — DuPont Gymnasium, Rockwell Cage, and the two floors in Johnson Athletic Center.

After the President's Convocation and Contact MIT, Wesley T. Chan '00, R/O Committee logistics manager, called on freshman to move off their assumptions and meet their MOYA leaders not in Kresge Oval, but the

Kresge lobby, a considerably smaller space.

Group leaders awaited freshmen at the perimeter of the lobby while holding overhead posters of their respective group's assigned element and atomic number.

In a jam-packed lobby, one worried mother said, "Jesus, how am I going to meet my son here? I've got to give him his bags."

For MOYA leaders, the major difficulty was finding their charges.

"Since it's raining, it's kind of messed up," said John H. Kang '99, a MOYA group leader. "One thousand freshman in the lobby is kind of hard to manage."

However, the group leaders coped with the crowds, successfully locating the members of their groups.

"I jumped up and down and

MOYA, Page 14

Despite Rain, Frosh Take Jaunt In the City

By Dan McGuire
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Heavy rain yesterday evening drenched the first annual Thursday Night in the City program in Kresge Oval, causing headaches and logistical problems with what was already a new program.

Thursday Night in the City replaces the old Thursday Night Dinners and broadening its scope somewhat. Freshman are now fed a meal of hot dogs or hamburgers and a salad before being turned loose with student and living groups into the city. Last year there was no meal and groups met with freshmen immediately after MOYA.

The objective is to keep freshmen "full enough not to have to go out again" but also to give them the chance to eat again if they wished, said R/O Intern Wesley T. Chan '00. "We're telling people it's a meal for people who don't want to go out" later, he said.

Downpour forces innovation

After feasting at an improvised indoor barbecue in the Johnson Ice Rink at 6:00, and watching a twenty minute video montage covering their time at MIT, incoming students entered the sodden green at 7:25 to either find a group to go out with or to head back to their temporary rooms.

Most groups were determined not to let the weather prevent them from enticing freshmen to follow them. The rain "is not going to reduce the number of Interfraternity Council groups that will show up," said Neal H. Dorow, advisor to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups. "The freshmen will not be disappointed by the turnout of upperclassmen." "Rain or shine, we're going to be out there," said David J. Day, the Interfraternity Council's Judcom chair.

However, dealing with the rain "required a lot more planning on our

part," said Sye K. Chanthaboun with Phi Kappa Theta. "We had to rent more cars [to drive students to the restaurant]. Usually people just walk across the bridge," he added.

In addition preparations made before today found themselves being hastily revised. "A lot of the posters are going to get swamped," said Pauan K. Gupta '00 with Baker House. The rain "makes it more difficult to get where you want to go." As the rain began to fall, Baker resi-

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Downpour Forces Project MOYA, Barbecue Inside

By Douglas E. Heimburger
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

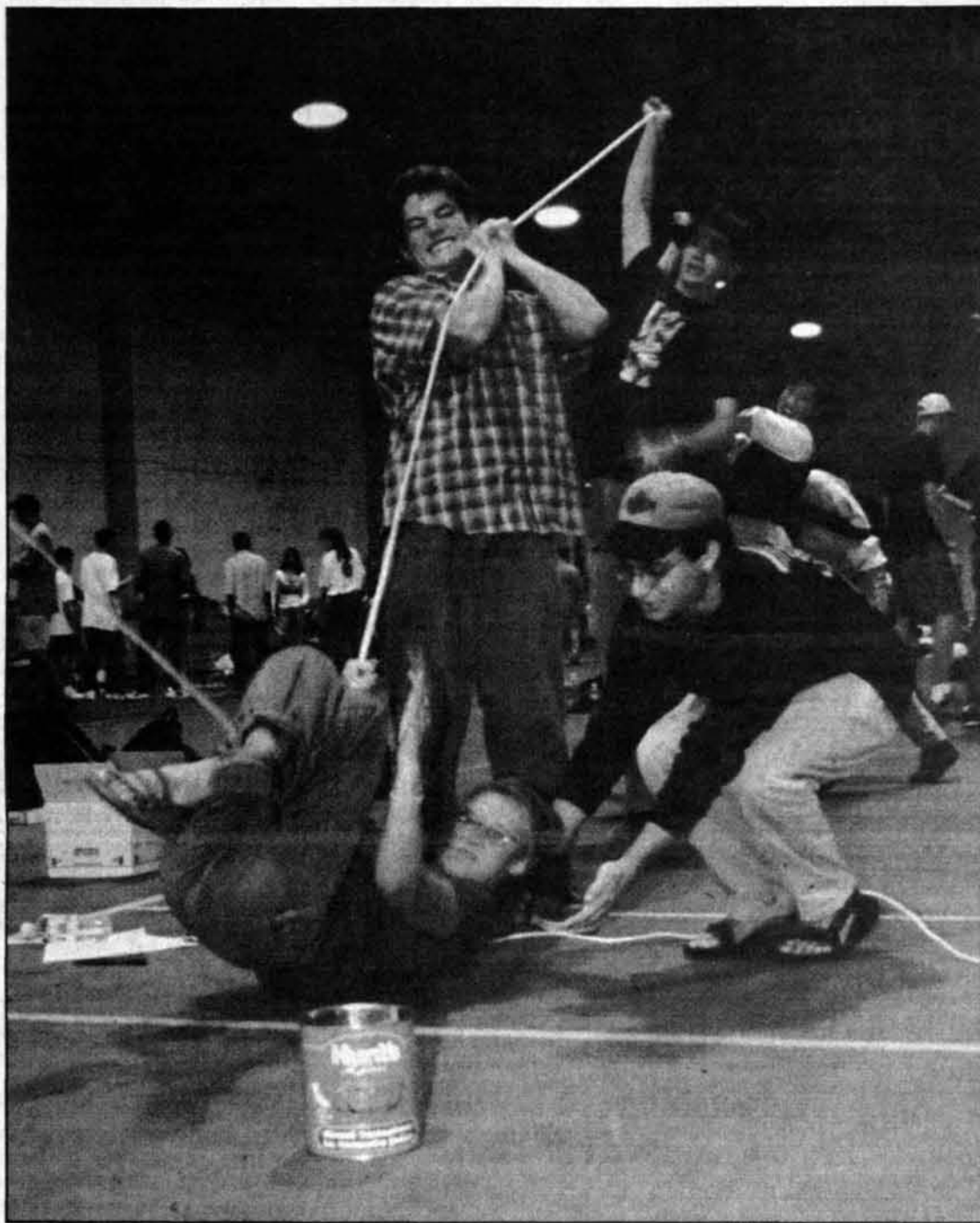
Thursday's rain, ranging from a fine mist to a torrential downpour, had limited effects on the first day of Residence and Orientation Week, according to Elizabeth I. Cogliano, coordinator of student programs in the Office of the Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education and director of R/O.

"We thought it would effect freshman checking in because of late and cancelled flights," Cogliano said. However, only about 50 freshman had failed to check in by 4 p.m. at the R/O Center. This number is "right on target," she said.

Project Move Off Your Assumptions, normally held on Briggs Field moved inside the athletic buildings because of the rain.

MOYA groups met in the lobby of Kresge Auditorium instead of in the Kresge Oval, prompting some crowding in the area.

Because of the possibility of rain, the R/O interns and coordinators developed contingency plans over the previous few days. "They've been working... all night to make sure MOYA happens," said Wesley T. Chan '00, R/O Committee logistics manager.



Nikki Spinello '01 clings tightly to a rope held by her teammates as she tries to retrieve a can of tennis balls during a MOYA event at the Johnson Athletics Center.

WAN YUSOF WAN MORSHIDI—THE TECH

All in all, "everything's gone really well," Cogliano said.

Because of the move, the hamburgers used for the freshman picnic after MOYA had to be cooked in the Student Center instead of grilled at the barbecue pits, said Elizabeth Emery, food services director for Aramark.

MIT catering was limited by the MOYA events in the Johnson Athletic Center. "We only had 15 minutes to set up the tables," Emery said.

Rain dampens In the City

Later in the evening, upperclassmen waiting for freshmen to exit Kresge for the beginning of In the City were drenched by a downpour, marring the start of the new dinner format.

Initially, upperclassmen recruiting freshmen would have been prohibited from the Student Center as well as other areas around Kresge Oval until 7:20 pm. When groups began arriving at 6:30pm, however, they were allowed into the Student Center because of the rain, Cogliano said.

Upperclassmen were concerned about the effects of the rain on the event. "We're worried about cross-

ing the bridge" to Boston, said Raeghan M. Byrne '99. Still, "I think [the freshmen] will be adventurers and go out."

Those waiting dealt with the situation in various ways. "A cool dormmate of ours left us a plastic tarp," said Christa R. Ansbergs '98. "Getting over here was a lot of fun."

Inside Kresge, freshmen cheered when they were told that "there are a whole bunch of upperclassmen waiting for you in the rain" by Tom S. Lee '98, program manager for R/O.

"It was wet and cold," said Boris Zbarsky '01, after venturing outside to find a group of upperclassmen.

Kick-Off may move to Johnson

In the event of rain tomorrow, most events planned for Killian Court will be moved into the Johnson Athletic Center, Cogliano said.

Killian Kick-Off, the event that launches rush, would be moved into Johnson in the event of rain. However, "it has to be really bad weather" to force a change in venues, Cogliano said.

"If it's pouring rain, you can't have the electrical equipment" for the sound system, forcing the

change in venue, she said.

In the event that Killian Kick-Off is held in Johnson, members of ILGs will be allowed to place their signs in the facility at a time to be determined by the R/O committee.

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INSIDE

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■ The President's Convocation welcomes the Class of 2001 to campus. Page 13

■ Full transcript of Vest's convocation speech. Page 12

WORLD & NATION

Calif. Affirmative-Action Ban Could Become Law in One Week

THE WASHINGTON POST

LOS ANGELES

A federal appeals court ruled Thursday it will not reconsider an earlier decision by three of its judges upholding the constitutionality of California's voter-approved ban on preferences based on race and gender. The decision means the affirmative-action ban could become law in a week.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco said a request by civil-rights groups for a rehearing on Proposition 209 had failed to win approval by a majority of 18 judges voting on the issue. It did not disclose a voting breakdown.

In a strongly worded decision last April reflecting the politically charged nature of the issue, a three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit overturned a ban on enforcement of Proposition 209 imposed by a lower court just weeks after its November endorsement by voters. The initiative made California the first state to attempt to roll back affirmative action by barring preferential treatment in public hiring, contracting and education.

Mark Rosenbaum, legal director for the Southern California branch of the American Civil Liberties Union, said he will immediately ask the 9th Circuit to continue a ban on enforcement of Proposition 209 while he appeals to the U.S. Supreme Court. If that fails, Rosenbaum said he will ask the high court to stay enforcement of the measure while it considers whether to grant a review.

If neither court intervenes, the affirmative-action ban can be enforced in seven days, Rosenbaum said. In that case, agencies from the state government in Sacramento to the smallest water district would have to re-examine their hiring and contracting practices and attempt to comply.

Dow Goes on Roller-Coaster Ride, Dipping 127 Points Thursday

NEWSDAY

NEW YORK

The bungee jump that passes for the stock market these days plunged again Thursday as the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 127.28 points, ending its record string of three consecutive 100-plus increases.

The Dow has moved more than 100 points, up or down, each of the last five days — including Aug. 15's 247-point plunge. The Dow finished Thursday at 7,893.95, its drop amounting to 1.6 percent.

The Standard & Poor's 500-stock list fell 14.31 to 925.04 and the NASDAQ composite index slid 21.34 to 1,607.36.

A weakening bond market was blamed for Thursday's decline. Bond traders were reacting in part to Wednesday's report that exports were unexpectedly strong. "Good news for the economy is bad news for bonds," because of fears of renewed inflation, said Peter Canelo, investment strategist at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Discover in Manhattan.

The Treasury's key 30-year bond fell more than a full point, which raised its yield to 6.62 percent from Wednesday's close of 6.54 percent. Bond prices and yields move in opposite directions.

"There is a lot of nervous money in the market," said Robert Froehlich, chief investment strategist for Zurich/Kemper Funds in Chicago, "and we are between seasons waiting for third-quarter earnings. It is a volatile, speculative time."

AMA Asks Sunbeam to Release It From Endorsement Plan

THE WASHINGTON POST

CHICAGO

The American Medical Association, conceding that an agreement to endorse Sunbeam medical products had brought the group's credibility into question, Thursday asked the appliance maker to release it from the heavily criticized plan.

"We did make errors of judgment and errors of process, and on top of that we got a second opinion, a rousing second opinion, from the American people," AMA spokesman Lew Crampton told reporters in Chicago.

Under plans announced Aug. 12, the AMA, one of the nation's most venerated medical groups, would endorse Sunbeam's nine medical product lines, the first such endorsement the AMA had granted any commercial medical product.

The exclusive, five-year agreement would allow Sunbeam products from blood-pressure monitors to thermometers and vaporizers to be sold with the AMA's logo and contain AMA-provided health materials.

The plan was a boost to Sunbeam's stock and its sales prospects. Thursday officials of the Florida-based company said it did not want to end the AMA program and hinted that it might go to court to enforce the agreement.

WEATHER High Hopes

By Gerard Roe
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The region of low pressure which has been plaguing us in the last couple of days will slowly drift off to the northeast during the day. Initially overcast with isolated remnants of drizzle, the skies will clear toward evening. There is a chance that the afternoon will see some thunderstorms crossing the area. The rest of the week is however looking set fair with temperatures in the mid 70s (21-27°C) and sunny skies.

Friday: A cloudy start with some clearing towards evening. Chance of a rumble of thunder in the afternoon. High 78 (26°C).

Friday night: Some welcome clearing. Low 60 (16°C). Some fog in places.

Saturday: A pleasant change. Partly sunny. Highs in the mid 70s (21-27°C).

NATO Curbs Hardliners by 'Stirring Up' Bosnian Politics

By Tracy Wilkinson

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

For most of the the 20 months since the war here ended, Bosnia-watchers have grown accustomed to being told what Western peacekeepers could not do.

The NATO-led guardians of peace could not escort refugees returning home. They could not pursue war criminals. They could not do anything about the paramilitary police who took charge of those two issues by blocking refugee returns and harboring alleged war criminals.

Some of those taboos are now being chiseled away. Most dramatically, NATO this week ousted an entire police hierarchy in Banja Luka, the Bosnian Serbs' largest city, and replaced it with one considered more cooperative.

The confrontation with hardliners led by the pariah former president Radovan Karadzic, in support of Bosnian Serb President Biljana Plavsic, whom the West has decided it can support, marked a significant escalation in NATO involvement — long overdue in the opinion of some, dangerously exploratory according to others.

"They have crossed a line," an international official with extensive experience in the Balkans said Thursday. "And so far it's without casualties. But they cannot just leave it here. They will have to keep up the momentum."

The United States and its European allies have embarked on a new and risky strategy of deliberately "stirring things up," in the words of one senior diplomat, to sow con-

fusion in the ideologically riven Bosnian Serb half of this country. The goal, according to this view, is for the forces favored by the West to emerge victorious while those loyal to Karadzic become isolated.

All factions in post-war Bosnia — Muslims and Croats who control one half of the country and the Serbs who run the other half — have routinely violated or resisted elements of the December 1995 accords that ended the war. But the Serbs, who oppose reuniting Bosnia into a single multiethnic country, are widely seen as the most obstructionist.

And most of the die-hard resistance is traced to Karadzic, who the West says should be removed from the political arena and be forced to face genocide indictments issued against him by an international war-crimes court.

The strategy of stirring the Bosnian Serb pot is a risky effort that could backfire at any moment.

Following the Banja Luka operation, a new spate of staunchly anti-West rhetoric was being aired on the Bosnian Serbs' state-controlled radio and television network, SRT. Plavsic was accused of collaborating with foreign occupation forces likened to the Nazis. On Thursday night, television showed black-and-white images of Nazis spliced with images of NATO soldiers.

The inflammatory language on SRT came even as Momcilo Krajisnik, the Bosnian Serb member of Bosnia's three-man presidency, was promising U.S. special envoy Robert Gelbard that he would keep a lid on anti-West rhetoric.

In a challenge to Karadzic, aides

to Plavsic said Thursday that she had given her rivals 72 hours to dismiss the principal editors at SRT. It was not clear how she would enforce the ultimatum.

Paramilitary police and the media constitute the two pillars of Karadzic's power. Unwilling to confront Karadzic directly through arrest, international officials are instead chopping away at the underpinnings of his regime.

For weeks, international officials have rebuked SRT for its rhetoric, and on Thursday they again expressed outrage at the hardening tone.

"We have virtually exhausted the legal options open to us," said Duncan Bullivant, spokesman for the international Office of the High Representative. "We do not believe continued political pressure will achieve much."

But NATO and the civilian agencies in charge of enforcing the peace accords continue to disagree on how best to clamp down on the media network. Jamming or shutting it down are seen in some quarters as too heavy-handed. And the Bosnian Serb hardliners, clustered around Karadzic in their village headquarters of Pale, would certainly react strongly to losing their all-important propaganda tool.

"Right now the Serbs are behaving," said another international official based in Sarajevo. "But if you crack down on SRT they lose their main P.R. tool, and that would be serious. Pale isn't going to start a war over Banja Luka. But pulling the plug on SRT — that will hurt, and there's no guarantee they'd take it as calmly as they are now."

MCI's Stock Plunges Amid Doubts on Merger with BT

By Mike Mills

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

British Telecom's \$23.5 billion purchase of MCI was in doubt Thursday, with British Telecom contemplating either renegotiating or scrapping the deal to create a global telecommunications giant.

And as MCI Communications Corp.'s stock took a drubbing on the news, the Federal Communications Commission stepped in and approved the merger several days sooner than expected — an unusual example of a government agency rushing to the aid of a U.S. company.

District of Columbia-based MCI announced late Wednesday that the companies were reviewing "the economic terms of their existing merger agreement" in light of a surprise announcement by MCI in July that its efforts to enter the U.S. market for local telephone service would cost it \$800 million this year, twice its previous estimates.

"There can be no assurance as to the outcome of the discussion," the MCI statement said. The merger agreement allows either party to renegotiate the deal in the event of a "material change" in the value of either company.

Analysts said British Telecommunications PLC, which is under pressure from shareholders to reassess the deal, is probably pressing for reductions of as much as 20 percent in the price it will pay for MCI. Under the current terms, BT agreed to pay \$6 in cash and a .54 share of each BT American depositary receipt for each MCI share, and to assume about \$4 billion of MCI's debt.

BT acknowledged Thursday that

discussions over the terms of the merger had begun.

"British Telecom has some leverage here, and it's exercising it," said Scott Wright of Argus Research Inc. in New York. "MCI's losses really gave BT an opportunity to say, 'Look, we like the deal strategically, but we're not going to pay the price we were going to.'"

Most analysts doubted the deal would collapse. "It's important for both of them," Wright said. "It's too late for them to unscramble the egg at this point."

But another trader, who requested anonymity, painted this scenario: "BT could say they're really nervous about this thing, they need protection. They want a 25 percent price cut. MCI says, 'We understand that, but we can't bring that to our stockholders,' so they can't come to terms. The odds still favor a deal at a very substantial cut. But once you get into this type of situation, really all bets are off."

BT's second thoughts about the price it should pay for MCI are based mainly on the unexpectedly high cost MCI faces in building the facilities necessary to enter the newly competitive \$100 billion market in local telephone service.

"The promise of local competition has been much slower to materialize than any of the long-distance carriers wished," said Judy Reed Smith of Atlantic-ACM, a Boston telecommunications consulting firm.

MCI and BT are considering paring down MCI's local efforts by focusing only on markets where local carriers have gone furthest to make networks available to competitors, according to sources at the companies.

But the local market isn't BT's

only concern. MCI also has seen stagnant growth rates in its core long-distance business. And the reality that regional Bell companies soon will enter the long-distance market makes MCI's growth prospects in that business less certain.

MCI spokesman Frank Walter denied a report in London's Financial Times that BT also was considering cutting MCI's work force by 5,000 people to lower the company's costs.

"Any reports of discussions with BT concerning MCI staffing levels or head counts are false," Walter said. "No such discussions are under way, nor are any such reductions planned."

The timing of the FCC approval — which was expected next week rather than Thursday — was not a coincidence, MCI and agency sources said.

"It's quite clear the FCC was monitoring the news," said one MCI executive who requested anonymity. "The FCC's concern likely was to ensure that questions of regulatory uncertainty would not have an impact on the outcome of any of the discussions that were announced last night."

Said one senior FCC official: "We decided we should try to get it out as fast as we could. It seemed kind of goofy for us to allow (FCC approval) to be another factor in the marketplace affecting the merger."

The deal would be the largest foreign buyout of a U.S. company, creating a global telecommunications giant with annual revenue of \$43 billion and 43 million business and residential customers in 72 countries. BT already owns nearly 20 percent of MCI.

Hamas Is Regaining Political Clout as Peace Process Flags

By Rebecca Trounson

LOS ANGELES TIMES

KHAN YUNIS, GAZA STRIP

The Islamic resistance movement Hamas seems to be enjoying a political rebirth. The organization, which is suspected of carrying out last month's deadly market attack in Jerusalem, runs social and medical programs alongside its military operations and appears to be growing steadily stronger.

It is finding its constituency among the thousands of Palestinians fed up with the flagging effort by Israel and the Palestinians to forge a permanent peace and disillusioned by the lack of improvement in their lives.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, his own position weakened by a corruption scandal and the deadlocked peace talks, has resisted demands from Israel and the United States to crack down on Hamas and other radical Islamic groups in the wake of the July 30 market attack.

"He is too wise now to move against us and all our supporters,"

said Abdel Aziz Rantissi, a founder of Hamas and its top political leader in the Gaza Strip. "He cannot arrest thousands and thousands of people."

Indeed, to the anger of Israeli officials and the dismay of American diplomats, Arafat appeared to be gathering the extremists closer about him this week with a two-day "national unity" conference in Gaza and the West Bank.

In Wednesday's session in Gaza City, Rantissi and other militants listened approvingly from the dais as Arafat spoke the language of confrontation. Palestinians, he said, are prepared to return to the days of violent uprising that ended with the first Israeli-Palestinian accord nearly four years ago.

"All options are open to us," the Palestinian leader said to rousing applause. He repeated his vow to defy Israel's latest calls for sweeping arrests of Islamic militants and then publicly embraced Rantissi and other radical leaders.

At the same time, in seemingly

contradictory actions, Arafat has voiced his commitment to the peace process and is allowing Palestinian security officials to continue meeting with their Israeli counterparts.

In Washington, a State Department spokesman said Thursday that the United States regrets Arafat's remarks but continues to regard him as a partner in the elusive search for peace.

Palestinian analysts suggested that Arafat may have arranged the Gaza Conference to co-opt his opposition at an opportune moment. Others said he simply needed a show of support right now.

Increasingly, Palestinians are saying they see little reason to continue with a process that has yielded virtually no new territory in the past year.

The economic benefits of peace, including investment by the international community, never arrived. Thousands of workers are frequently idled, as they are now, by Israeli closures that keep them from reaching their jobs in Israel.

VMI's First Coed Class Confronts Grueling 'Rat' Training Schedule

By Peter Finn

THE WASHINGTON POST

LEXINGTON, VA.

To a bloodthirsty roar fit for the Roman Colosseum, the Virginia Military Institute's first coeducational class entered the school's Rat Line Wednesday afternoon, and a history-making group of 30 young women and 426 young men stoically stood their ground and soaked up the first of what will be six months of ritualized abuse.

At 1 p.m., the rats, as freshmen here are called, were lined up facing one another on either side of the barracks' courtyard, and they began to bellow: "Bring them on! Bring them on!"

From the second-floor balcony of the barracks, a nearly delirious crowd of upperclassmen created a relentless din of anticipation, and their shouts of "You're Dead!" echoed like rifle shots.

A slow ominous drumming began, and the so-called cadre — a select group of nearly 100 upperclassmen who will train the rats — marched in, trying hard to project a machismo as tight as their top buttons. The cadre's line halted between the two lines of rats, half turning left and half right to face the blanching freshmen.

Michael Lorence, a cadet who serves as regimental executive officer, looked down from the second floor, and, in a voice that tried to summon every ounce of school tradition, he said: "Rats, look at the men who stand before you. They are your cadre. They represent the essence of VMI ... From these men, you will learn everything you will need to know to survive here. You will not fail them."

Lorence then unleashed the upperclassmen, who burst into the lines of rats and began screaming.

Yulia Beltikova, VMI's first Russian student, was the first woman to be "flamed," as students call such in-the-face haranguing. She showed no emotion and firmly shouted back, "Yes, sir," to her questioner, whose gesticulating hand cracked the air beside her ear as he roared at her.

At first, the cadre seemed tentative around the women, skipping many of them to shout instead at men. But the hesitation soon faded, and the cadre became equal opportunity barkers.

"Maybe they were a little self-conscious," said Maj. Gen. Josiah Bunting III, the school superintendent. "I was watching that very closely, and it didn't last."

The courtyard ceremony lasted but eight minutes before the cadre began to hustle the various companies of rats to tasks that would exhaust them before nightfall. The freshmen had to get their fatigues for training, move stuff into their rooms and learn to drill. All the while, they had to run or walk double time, with cadets shouting: "Let's go. Let's go. I don't have time to waste."

VMI officials at one point asked the cadets to slow things down because the barracks courtyard and stairs were slick from a drizzling rain and rats were slipping on the concrete as they tried to keep up.

In one of the day's standard events, freshmen also got their so-called Rat Bibles, pocket books that contain VMI arcana and the VMI honor code. It states, "A Cadet does not lie, cheat, steal, nor tolerate those who do."

Rats, with their noses in the books, were forced to repeat the line until it began to sound like a demented kindergarten rhyme and they were blue in the face. Those who faltered were forced to do push-ups. One young man, apparently a Californian, was forced to do push-ups shouting, "East Coast rules. California sucks."

Nebraskan Beef Facility Shut Down By U.S. Department of Agriculture

By Rick Weiss and Caroline Mayer

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A major meat-processing company already under federal investigation for its recent distribution of tainted hamburgers is shutting down its Nebraska beef-processing facility indefinitely and recalling all burgers shipped from the plant, estimated to be about 25 million pounds, Agriculture Department and company officials announced Thursday.

The enormous nationwide recall, the largest by far in U.S. history, was a "non-negotiable" recommendation from the government, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said. It was put to the plant's owner, Hudson Foods Inc. of Rogers, Ark., after federal inspectors uncovered evidence that the company's meat processing, bacterial testing and bookkeeping procedures were inadequate to assure that its products were safe.

"Enough new information has

come to light so we are ready to take action," Glickman said at a hastily called news conference.

The move expands upon a 1.2 million-pound hamburger recall at the same plant, announced last Friday. That recall was ordered after federal investigators determined that Hudson hamburgers produced during three days in June had caused 16 cases of food poisoning in Colorado.

In a statement released Thursday, Hudson Foods said it was closing the plant and initiating the recall "out of an abundance of caution and to restore the public confidence."

Undersecretary for Food Safety Cathie Woteki urged consumers to check their freezers for any Hudson Foods frozen hamburgers and return them to the place of purchase. All Hudson products are labeled with an "establishment number," which is 13569.

The company's burgers are carried by such national chains as Burger King, Wal-Mart, Boston

Market, Sam's Club and Safeway.

Burger King announced it would immediately pull all Hudson products from its restaurants. About 25 percent of Burger King outlets carry Hudson beef products, and some of those restaurants may experience temporary shortages of burgers, the company said in a statement.

Glickman said the department was moved to recommend closure of Hudson's Columbus, Neb., plant and a total recall after inspectors learned that the company had a practice of saving leftover raw meat not used in the burger-making operation on one day and adding it to batches of raw meat used to make burgers the next day.

A separate investigation for possible criminal activity is still under way, said USDA Inspector General Roger Viadero. That investigation was initiated after a USDA audit last week determined that the company's initial estimate of the amount of meat that may have been contaminated in June was short by more than a million pounds.

Clinton Forms Panel to Probe Amtrak Labor Dispute

LOS ANGELES TIMES

EDGARTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

President Clinton, moving to head off a rail strike that could hamper 500,000 Amtrak commuters throughout the Northeast, created a special three-member emergency board Thursday to investigate the labor dispute and draft a proposal for a settlement.

The action was designed to buy more time for Amtrak and members of the Brotherhood of Maintenance-of-Way Employees union to work out their differences. Clinton acted under the authority of the Railway Labor Act, which empowers a president to prevent the disruption of interstate commerce.

The union, which represents workers who maintain tracks and overpasses, had rejected an offer for binding arbitration from the National Mediation Board and would have been free to call a strike on Sept. 5 — crippling rail service in cities such as New York, Chicago, Boston and Philadelphia.

A strike of those proportions "would have an adverse effect on the traveling public and would severely hamper freight rail shipments," the White House said in a statement from Martha's Vineyard, where Clinton is vacationing. "Over 500,000 ... passengers would be affected."

Clinton's order Thursday creates a 60-day cooling-off period. That time frame gives the emergency panel 30 days to make recommendations for a settlement.

Prosecutor Wants No More Tests On Rifle in King Case

SPECIAL TO NEWSDAY

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

The chief prosecutor in the James Earl Ray case is asking a court in Memphis, Tenn., to bar any further attempts to perform ballistics tests on the rifle identified as the murder weapon in the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

Ray's lawyers are demanding more tests, even though all previous examinations have proved inconclusive. Ballistics experts have testified that further tests would be fruitless.

Prosecutor John Campbell filed a motion before Shelby County Criminal Court Judge Joe Brown, asking for a ban on further tests on the rifle, which Ray admits owning. But action in the case has been temporarily halted because of a turf war between Brown and another Criminal Court judge, John Colton.

Although he has no apparent jurisdiction in the Ray case and cited no basis for interceding, Colton contends that he should handle all court matters in the King assassination except the ballistics tests. Brown was given jurisdiction over the tests in 1994.

Last month, Colton appointed a special court officer to investigate Brown's handling of the Ray case and ordered the officer to take new testimony from two people who "claim to have evidence of a conspiracy to kill Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.," according to court documents.

Town Tries to Cope In Wake of Shooting Rampage

LOS ANGELES TIMES

COLEBROOK, N.H.

Under a cold rain and clouds as bleak as the mood in this small town of 2,500, residents Thursday began trying to figure out how a community and its spirit survive the sudden loss of four leaders — two favorite policemen, a part-time judge and a newspaper editor.

It was as if their killer, a loner and longtime troublemaker named Carl Drega who went on a shooting rampage Tuesday afternoon, had blown a gaping hole through the town. And their job, many said as they struggled with their sadness and fury, was not to let him change their life or to make them afraid and suspicious of anybody eccentric or merely different.

For some, like newspaper owner John Harrigan, who spent the day trying to put out a weekly paper with what seemed like a lifetime's worth of terrible news, it was important to see Drega as an isolated weirdo.

"This was our asteroid. This was a piece of Skylab coming down on us," he said. "If we change, that's letting Drega drive the engine, and he doesn't deserve that kind of status in our community," Harrigan said.

And through it all, they were hugging each other and shaking their heads in disbelief, wondering how it could have been prevented.

"I don't know how you can do anything about this," said one man. "There's no law against carrying a gun. There's no law against being a little weird."

Singer Vows to Stay on Montserrat

NEWSDAY

WOODLANDS, MONTSERRAT

As residents began slowly trickling out of this volcano-devastated Caribbean island, Montserrat's most popular and influential singer returned home Wednesday from a brief U.S. tour.

"Montserrat won't fall," declared Alphonsus "Arrow" Cassell, best known for the hit song "Hot, Hot, Hot." "If I leave, others will leave. I have the ability to live anywhere in the world and I stayed."

Cassell, who recorded a song titled "Ah Just Can't Run Away" last year, lost an office building and a million-dollar home near Plymouth, the former capital of this British colony. But he's been one of the most forceful voices against evacuating an island ravaged by the Soufriere Hills volcano.

"Montserrat will rise again," Cassell said Wednesday.

Life here changed dramatically June 25, when the volcano spewed superheated gases, rock and ash on seven small villages to the northeast of Soufriere Hills, destroying or damaging 175 homes, coming within 200 feet of the airport and claiming its first victims. At least 19 people are believed to have died.

Wednesday, a 100-seat ferry began taking a trickle of the remaining 4,000 residents to Antigua, 25 miles to the northeast. But there were few takers — perhaps 30 — among Montserradians, who once numbered 12,000, as the locals were torn between offers of compensation and shelter by Britain and remaining home.

OPINION

Extropians' Message Deserved a Voice

The many-sided controversy over the MIT Extropians has been raging out of control for well over a month. Most of the reaction to the Extropians' pamphlet — which was sent out in an unauthorized mailing to the freshmen a few weeks ago — has not

been surprising. There are those who have objected to its contents, calling them racist, sexist, or just plain stupid, and there are those on the other side of the fence who praise the Extropians for finally speaking many of the unspoken, taboo truths about MIT and life in general.

No one can doubt that the issues the Extropians have taken on are important ones. Affirmative action, MIT's rush system, the loss of idealism and aspirations that many students here experience — these all are issues that could use a lot of open and honest debate. It is therefore all the more disturbing that administrators chose to quash the manifesto by banning it from the Association of Student Activities mailing last month. Censoring the pamphlet was unfair and unjustified.

Banning a piece of literature because its contents may be offensive is inherently arbitrary as well as dangerous. The controversy over the Extropians' this year almost certainly spells stronger scrutiny for submissions next year. Conceivably, several submissions to next year's ASA mailing might end up on the chopping block. Groups like *The Thistle* may also become controversial. *The Thistle* was, in fact, punished a few years back for a submission in the mailing that was deemed offensive by administrators after it was sent out.

Furthermore, censoring the pamphlet on the grounds that it

is offensive to women and minorities — that it would hurt them because it told them that they didn't belong at MIT — is all the more outrageous. Students — even incoming freshmen — are perfectly capable of thinking for themselves. As adults, they can sort out what to believe and what to reject. Anything less than that assumption is an insult to them.

Though the administration may have wronged them in the first place, the Extropians, too, made a very big mistake when they decided to send their pamphlet against the explicit ruling by administrators. The Extropians' passion for their ideas is laudable, but a decision to fly in the face of the ruling through a surreptitious mailing can be explained only by arrogance — an attitude also borne out in the presentation of some of their arguments in their pamphlet as well as in their failed defense at their ASA hearing earlier this week. Their punishment for the deceptive mailing — no ASA recognition for at least another year — was justified.

What is needed is a clear set of guidelines for the contents of the ASA mailing. We believe that the ASA and the Dean's Office should set down a clear policy of not censoring submissions. The fact that the ASA mailing is the only opportunity activities get to communicate with freshmen before their arrival on campus makes such a rule important to ensure every activity gets a chance to tell freshmen about itself. Surely if administrators can blindly condone rush activities that allow independent living groups to call freshmen at home, invite them to summer events, and send them detailed packages about their houses, it can ensure activities an equal shot at attracting freshmen in the ASA summer mailing.

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Letters To The Editor

Extropians Fail to See The Scope of Intelligence

If we, the best and the brightest, do not carry the torch of technology and science, who will? If we do not challenge ourselves, how will we grow and learn? If we do not look with scorn upon our inferiors, how will we be able to segregate ourselves from those who would poison our bright dream? Do the MIT Extropians fail to see the problem with this progression?

As someone who sympathizes with many of the things the Extropians say and someone who often has to fight against my own tendency to look down upon those whom I have judged in a moment, I think I am well qualified to comment on this philosophy.

The tragedy of the Extropians is their failure to understand the scope of human intelligence. Their model of the intellect has only one variable, with values from mathematically and logically illiterate to god like understanding of theory and reason. They give the sciences various values — we can be sure that math is at the top, with physics close behind, and biology a long way behind. Literature and art are presumably barely edging out the morons — except for the greats of Western Literature and, of course, classical music. But don't expect your subtle appreciation of the finer points of Japanese film of the '60s and '70s to better your standing.

Reason alone can never bring the glory that the Extropians wish to evoke when they use the term "Promethean." We should remember that Prometheus brought fire to humanity, not to glory in his own accomplishments, but in order to help those he saw suffering in the cold. Another facet of this story that is important to remember here is that human beings, while not so powerful as Prometheus, were intelligent in their own way. In order to keep the gods from taking fire away from them, they made burnt offerings, using the gods' vanity to their own advantage.

It is also interesting that the Extropians use

Ender Wiggin as their shining example of what we can achieve without actually understanding the lesson presented by Orson Scott Card in *Ender's Game*. While writings are of course subject to different interpretations, I think that Ender's victory at the end of the book is not actually one of pure reason and drive. While it is certainly true that Ender excels in these most Extropian of virtues, his greatest victory is one of empathy. At the end of his war, he understands his enemy, he feels for his enemy, and he is able to communicate with his enemy. This is a triumph of empathy. His intellectual triumph has enabled him to defeat them, but this destructive act brings him only grief.

Finally, for those of you freshmen, freshmen, and others wondering if you are the inferiors that the Extropians discuss, let me say this. I went to MIT for five years, and in that time I never met any student who was

dull, dumb, or stupid. I dismissed many people from afar, as the Extropians do, as being beneath my consideration. But upon meeting them, in every case, without exception, I found I was wrong. No one at MIT was unable to engage me in an interesting conversation; no one did not have something of worth to contribute to my thoughts.

Andrew Shultz '96

MIT Is About More Than Intellectual Purity

Viewing MIT through the lens of the World Wide Web may not be very accurate, but it can be amusing. The link on *The Tech's* Web page today led me to the web page of the

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Opinion Policy

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

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Bearded or Well-Shorn, You'll Still Find a Niche at MIT

Column by Anders Hove
OPINION EDITOR

Earlier this summer, my editor and I were planning *The Tech's* opinion page strategy for Residence and Orientation Week. "So," said



the editor toward the end of the conversation, "are you writing your 'Don't grow a beard' column again?" "Oh," I said, "I thought that one was getting a little old at this point."

Needless to say, the editor, who will remain nameless to protect the innocent, disabused me of any notion I had of discontinuing my infamous advice column for incoming students. I had a responsibility, I was informed to my dismay, and I would be expected to perform my duty.

This time, however, it's going to be different. I'm now more than five years older than the average incoming student. It strikes me that I ought to assume a tone more appropriate to the quarter-generational difference between myself and my audience.

Unlike previous columns, therefore, this one will not list 20 or 30 tasty tidbits of insider advice. Instead, I'm going to give the reader three short speeches. Fatherly speeches: intimidating, caustic, and, above all, totally paternal.

And finally, I'm going to abstain from

coming straight out with most intimate, hard-hitting piece of advice. Because, as an adult, I know that if I really want to get through to an adolescent, I've got to keep an ace in the whole. The key to my own success will remain hidden, to be inferred, guessed at, like a juicy and powerful secret. Enough said.

My first piece of advice involves the friendships. Incoming students, read this carefully: You will have friends. It almost doesn't matter what you do, because you will. So don't get stressed out that the wrong activity or the wrong choice of major or the wrong living group will ruin your life. Rather the opposite: If that were a big risk, they wouldn't let you go through this R/O thing.

Now, the guys among you must be wondering, "What if I, say, went way out on a limb and grew a beard?"

Let's just put that question aside. You will have friends no matter what. Some decisions (especially rash and unsightly decisions) may brand you as a freak until you finally break down and shave. But you will still have friends. Different friends. But most decisions won't have this effect, so don't sweat it. And, as a side note, keep with the hygiene and grooming thing, okay?

My second fatherly speech involves the freshman year. It's pass/no record. Now, let me say that I've heard of very few people who enjoy their first year at MIT, academically. You don't have a major; you have a freshman adviser instead of a trusted academic administrator; you don't get much choice about which subjects to take; and

almost all your classes are filled with hundreds of people. At that rate, most freshmen are willing to take pass/no record as a gift, one of the few special favors the Institute will ever give you.

So my advice is this: Don't knock it. Don't make an absolute fool out of yourself by sanctimoniously claiming that pass/no record is somehow holding you back. I hear this so often from freshmen that I can tell you it never has any effect other than to convince others that you are exceedingly pompous and conceited. If you do this, nobody will believe you and nothing will change.

The freshman experience is intentionally designed to allow you to explore your interests. If classes seem easy, join an activity, make some friends, or visit the library. Develop your character in a positive way.

Why not use your first year to try some non-academic activities? Whatever you came here believing, I'm telling you now that in real life MIT styles itself a university, and that means it will become a total life experience whether you want it to or not. An MIT education is not about how many problem sets you complete or whether you get top marks. It's about whether you come out of here a well-rounded, tolerant, wise, and, lastly, intelligent individual.

Pass/no record isn't just designed to bring people up to speed with the academic curriculum. It's second and equally important purpose is to prevent freshmen from getting so wrapped up in academics that they forget to learn the life lessons, lessons that can't be learned in class or

from books. If you really want to be an over-achiever at MIT, you have to look beyond classes.

The last piece of advice I want to pass on is even more staid and serious than the first two: Start thinking about your post-MIT life from day one.

Now I know that you've just arrived and you are eager to explore this place and find out where you belong. That's great. But I speak from experience when I say the MIT grind can lead to a short-term mentality. By short-term I mean everything from writing papers to figuring out how to graduate. We are only here for four, five, or sometimes eight, years, and then we're gone. MIT will not be your life forever.

How can you prepare yourself for your life to come? First, be yourself and don't agonize over short-term decisions like your choice of major or living group.

Second, start thinking about your MIT exit strategy. What sort of life do you want to build for yourself? Where do you want to live and what type of people do you want to find yourself working with? What classes will give you the real-world skills like the ability to communicate well and work in groups? Who will you talk to about your career? When? Answering these questions earlier can help you prepare for the day when you depart, and it may well speed up that day.

That's about it for my advice to incoming students. Groom yourself properly, live a good, diverse life, don't overstress, and think early about your long-term life plans.

Attention Sororities: Please, Try to Keep It Down This Year

Column by Stacey E. Blau
OPINION EDITOR

Today, for you, it's Friday. For me, as I write this, it's Thursday night, my last night of freedom. No, I'm not getting married or joining a convent tomorrow. I'm talking about the beginning of rush, or, more specifically sorority rush.

I am one of those denizens of the fourth floor of the Student Center. For freshmen or anyone who doesn't know, the fourth floor is where many of the MIT student activities that have office space reside. The Undergraduate Association (your student government), the Lecture Series Committee (the folks who show you movies every weekend), Alpha Phi Omega (the co-ed fraternity that does lots of community service), the MIT Science Fiction Society (the people who read tons of sci-fi books), and, yes, *The Tech*, all reside on the fourth floor of the Student Center.

Some sororities have houses, and some don't; so to keep a relatively level playing field, sororities do their rushing in the Student Center. Two of them are on the fourth floor every year — one right next door to *The Tech*. And one of the prices, one of the heavy prices, that we fourth floor-types have to pay every Residence

and Orientation Week is enduring sorority rush.

Sorority rush is kind of my view into Greek life for the week every late August. In favor of the Panhellenic Association, I'll grant that the women won't drag you like mad off Killian Court (or from Johnson Athletics Center — if it does indeed rain) like the fraternities do. The women's convocation, while of course serving the same goal of getting people to rush, makes a big effort to give you a civil introduction to independent living groups.

But once the women get to the fourth floor, that's where it seems to end, particularly for those of us who are upperclassmen and don't really want to be a part of rush. But no one, not even they, will or can deny some of the silliness — and shrillness — of sorority rush.

First, there's the hallway situation. Women (and, to be fair, other groups) paint, paint, and paint more drop posters and murals that they hang in their rush rooms to make them pretty. It would all be nice, but the posters are painted in the middle of the hallway, making it impossible for anyone to walk by without nearly falling over. Then there is the bathroom situation. Each year, the sorority on this side of the hall converts the men's bathroom into a women's bathroom, leaving men on the floor nowhere to go downstairs or upstairs. I sympathize with those men, because like Annie said, when you gotta go, you gotta go, and their ain't no two

ways about that. If the men on this floor had any sense, they'd go reclaim that room, but at a minimum, I'd recommend that the women using that bathroom watch out for emergency situations.

There's also the halogen situation. Matters of electricity represent sort of a delicate situation on this side of the floor, and the large numbers of halogen lamps that sororities truck in each year to make their rush rooms as blinding as the sun doesn't help the power situation any. The women should thank their lucky diamond stars around their necks that MIT takes a hands-off attitude to almost everything that students do, including the creation of massive fire traps in the Student Center.

Most of all, though, the really serious matter on this floor during sorority rush is the shrillness situation. I'm talking, first of all, about my ears. Sorority rush is, of course, a happy affair, with sisters showing freshman girls what a joyous thing sorority life is (but, of course, everyone will tell the frosh, don't mistake sorority life here for being anything like it is at those state schools). To that end, the sororities sing, they cheer, they squeal (especially when rushees decide to pledge come the beginning of the week).

But our ears — they can take only so much. Once the voices reach a certain pitch, we want to run for the hills, but the only option we have is to shut the glass doors in the hall. When those ceremonies start, it's like all the women suddenly become Mariah Carey

clones, making sounds so high-pitched that they open garage doors and beckon dogs and other lower mammals (no, not the freshman girls), and we don't know what to do. I know some of these women; during the rest of the year, they don't normally sound like that, at least most of them.

I'm enjoying my last few hours of freedom, but I see the signs of the onslaught. I see the Rho Chi paintings representing all the different MIT sororities on the Technology Community Association door and the little pasted flowers inside, and I know what lies ahead on the fourth floor for the next few days.

Most of all, it's time for the gussied-up girls — the girls who smile and welcome all the freshman girls, the same ones who later collapse from exhaustion and cry from the stress of talking for hours every day about how wonderful their sororities are. The same ones who, after the freshman girl rushees leave after an evening of rushing, whip out freshman picture books and evaluate the girls on their... merits.

Yes, it's time for sorority rush. It's a little cruel, both to you girls and to us fourth floor-types. But for both parties, it's over by the end of the week — sort of. It always comes back to the fourth floor the next year. Maybe some of you girls will be our neighbors next August. Be nice — and most of all, please, be quiet.

Stacey E. Blau is a senior majoring in mathematics with computer science. She lives in East Campus but doesn't care if you do.

Letters To The Editor

Letters, from Page 4

MIT Extropians and their somewhat accurate but misguided information.

I think one of the first things we can assume is the attention that the Association of Student Activities has given them through their actions only plays into the hand of the Extropians. Your average incoming freshman doesn't even have time to read all the information from MIT before they arrive on campus.

The coverage of these issues in *The Tech* will serve only to bring every incoming freshman's attention to their words and ideas. Some of the advice that the Extropians offer is valid. Rush can be an awful experience. Fraternities make choices about candidates for mostly the wrong reasons. Taking more difficult courses your freshman year is a good idea, if only to get them over with under pass/no record. MIT has a problem with their lack of undergraduate housing for all.

The Extropians' most misguided view, and the one that obviously has gotten them into trouble with the MIT administration, is the one on the admission of women and minorities to MIT. The world is a diverse place, and for this reason MIT needs to be diverse as well. MIT must admit students to keep a balance between the departments; an MIT with 75 percent electrical engineering and computer science majors would be a pretty awful place.

This may mean that qualified white male

applicants will be passed over for qualified minorities and qualified women. And just because women enroll more in departments other than EECS doesn't mean they are shunning EECS because they can't handle it. Perhaps it's the attitude of the other EECS majors.

I distinctly remember a very attractive MIT woman who I carpoled with to a summer internship. She spoke of having to go to the EECS computer and electronics labs (6.001 and 6.004) late at night when they were not crowded or staffed with graduate tutors. Otherwise, she found herself constantly getting unneeded "help" from the graduate tutors and other students. She had to be an extremely motivated individual to tolerate this behavior and not change majors to one in which this kind of behavior would not happen.

The world after MIT is not a place where sheer brains and intellectual purity pays great dividends. Hard work and knowing the right people is just as important. The ability to interact with your peers on all levels and the ability to make friends with people of all backgrounds is critical. And the joys of life are not all cerebral.

MIT is trying to prepare you for this. And I would reaffirm to the entering class of 2001 that you are here because you belong. Make the most of it. These are the best years of your lives.

Andrew Gerber '87

[The writer is a former managing editor of *The Tech*.]



During Rush, Think Long-Term but Have a Great Time

Column by Douglas E. Helmburger
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Let the rush begin!

No, I won't be the one saying that at Killian Kick-Off tonight; Interfraternity Council President Iddo Gilon '98 will have the distinct honor (and perhaps the extra honor of saying it in Johnson Athletics Center for the first in a long time if the weather doesn't clear up). But it's a thought that almost every upperclassman involved in any aspect

of rush has been preparing for for months.

For those living in any fraternity, sorority, or independent living group, this weekend is the absolute most important one of the year. The reason is simple: Without new freshmen to pay the bills, the house will either go broke or all the existing members will pay more to live there. Thus, ILGs are willing to spend exorbitant sums of money on lavish events — including lobster and steak dinners, professional comedians, trips to the beach, and paintball game.

Rush is also extremely important for the Institute. MIT lacks enough dormitory space to house all of its undergraduates (let's not even talk about graduate students), so MIT depends on its ILGs to take up the slack. Over time, this dependence has led to the elaborate

Residence and Orientation Week that you go through now, in which all freshmen arrive about two weeks before the first day of classes to get a crash introduction to MIT and, most importantly, to select where they'll live for the next four years.

That's why, if you're male, you've received countless glossy brochures from fraternities (and, like everyone else, a somewhat nice non-glossy brochure from all the dormitories combined, provided by the Office of Residence and Campus Activities). It's why you've been receiving countless phone calls from fraternities — ranging from the engaging to the mildly grating. And it's why, starting tonight, you'll have a whole 24 hours to engage yourselves in the fraternity system before dormitories are even permitted to actively court you.

That's right — there won't be any dormitories at the kick off of rush tonight (except for the language houses). Why? Basically, MIT prohibits dormitories from "grabbing" frosh like fraternities can because of the inevitable dormitory crowding that would result if too few freshmen pledged fraternities. Hence the special benefits for fraternities.

For the record, you can in fact visit dormitories tonight; they're just not allowed to poster or advertise outside their premises or come get you when rush starts.

Now, you might ask, 'What's the purpose of this column besides to relay things that most upperclassmen already know and that you'll soon know?' Well, basically, there are

a few things that I wish I had known a year ago when rush started that I'd like to pass on to you.

First, be yourself. I know that everyone's going to say this during the next few days, but it's never going to be more important for you during your time at MIT. After all, ending up in a place that you really don't want to live for the next four years just because you wanted to "fit in" for one weekend really isn't an optimal situation. Yes, it is possible to depledge, but it may not then be possible to get your first-choice dormitory. And the process of picking up and starting again in a new place because you made a wrong decision about where to live when you got here — be it at an ILG or a dormitory — may prove too overwhelming once the stresses of the term set in.

The "be yourself" advice goes for the living groups as well as for the freshmen. One of the problems that I saw during rush is that it's sometimes difficult to see the true character of a place through all the planned events. If you find that a living group is evading your questions, it's probably not the place for you. Living groups should be just as open in their responses to your questions as you are to theirs.

Second, be discriminatory. Those books sent out by living groups over the summer look a lot like the college viewbooks I remember getting in the mail about two years ago. Indeed, the whole process is similar. Think about the long term: Is this group of people the group that you want to be affiliated with in

a year, in two years, when you see your friends from high school, your parents? Similarly, think about what you gain when you join the group: Is it worth the responsibilities that you may be asked to take on in addition to your classes?

These are difficult questions but ones that you don't want to be thinking about in three or four weeks once rush is done and you've discovered that you're in the wrong place. Keep in mind that you do have ways out if you find yourself in a bad situation after R/O has concluded and the term has started. But you should nevertheless try your best to find the best place for you that you possibly can; making sure that that happens should be your primary focus over the next couple of days.

Third, meet people. As I learned after rush ended, this week is truly one of the few chances outside of activities that you'll have to meet people from other living groups. Most of us who have been here for a while have developed strong ties to our living groups and activities and don't have a lot of chances to meet other people.

Finally, have fun. Although rush puts a lot of stress on you, at least it's a fun stress period. After all, when else can you eat for free all day and meet a thousand new people, each with their own diverse backgrounds and interests? This weekend is, in many ways, the busiest one of the year. It's the only time when almost everyone has nothing to concentrate on but the fun of meeting people and settling in for a new year. Enjoy it while it lasts.

You went to Project MOYA and In the City yesterday.

This evening, rush will be begin for you.

Perhaps you'll go on an Orange Tour tonight.

Maybe you've decided you don't want to take part in rush and plan to run as far away as possible from

Killian Kick-Off.

Want to write a column for *The Tech* about what Residence and Orientation Week has been like for you so far?

Call Stacey or Jen at x3-1541, or stop by *The Tech's* office, room 483 in the Student Center.

COMICS

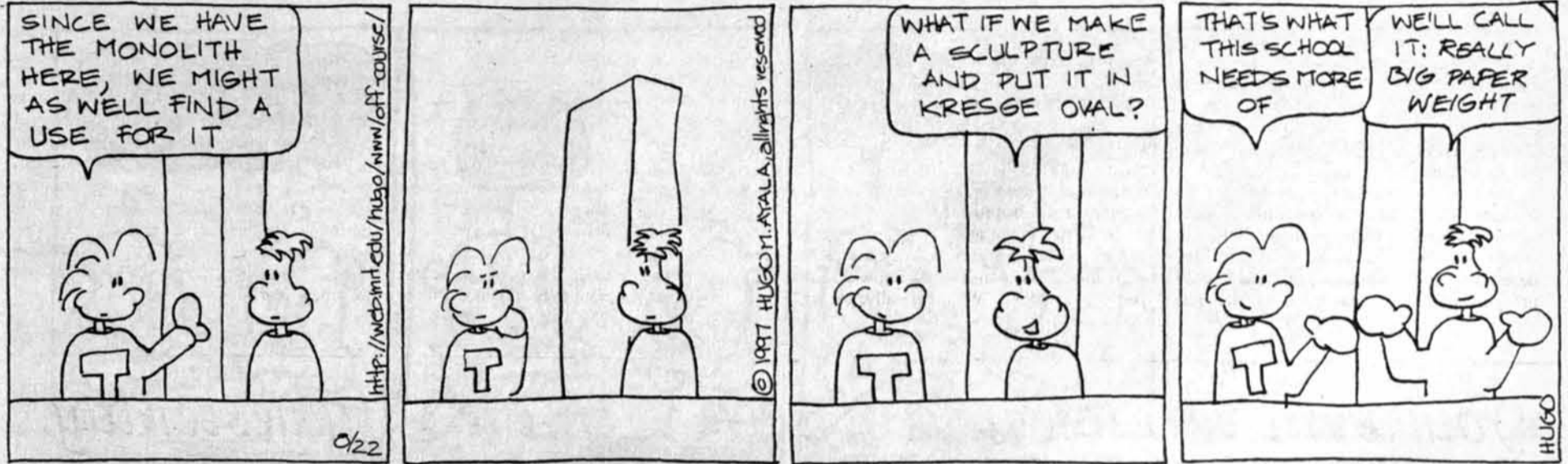
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Part 1

Off Course

by Hugo



RHINO MAN

Recap (First printed 4/15/97)

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by Katy-Cat



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COMICS



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Part 2

dammed for life

by jessica

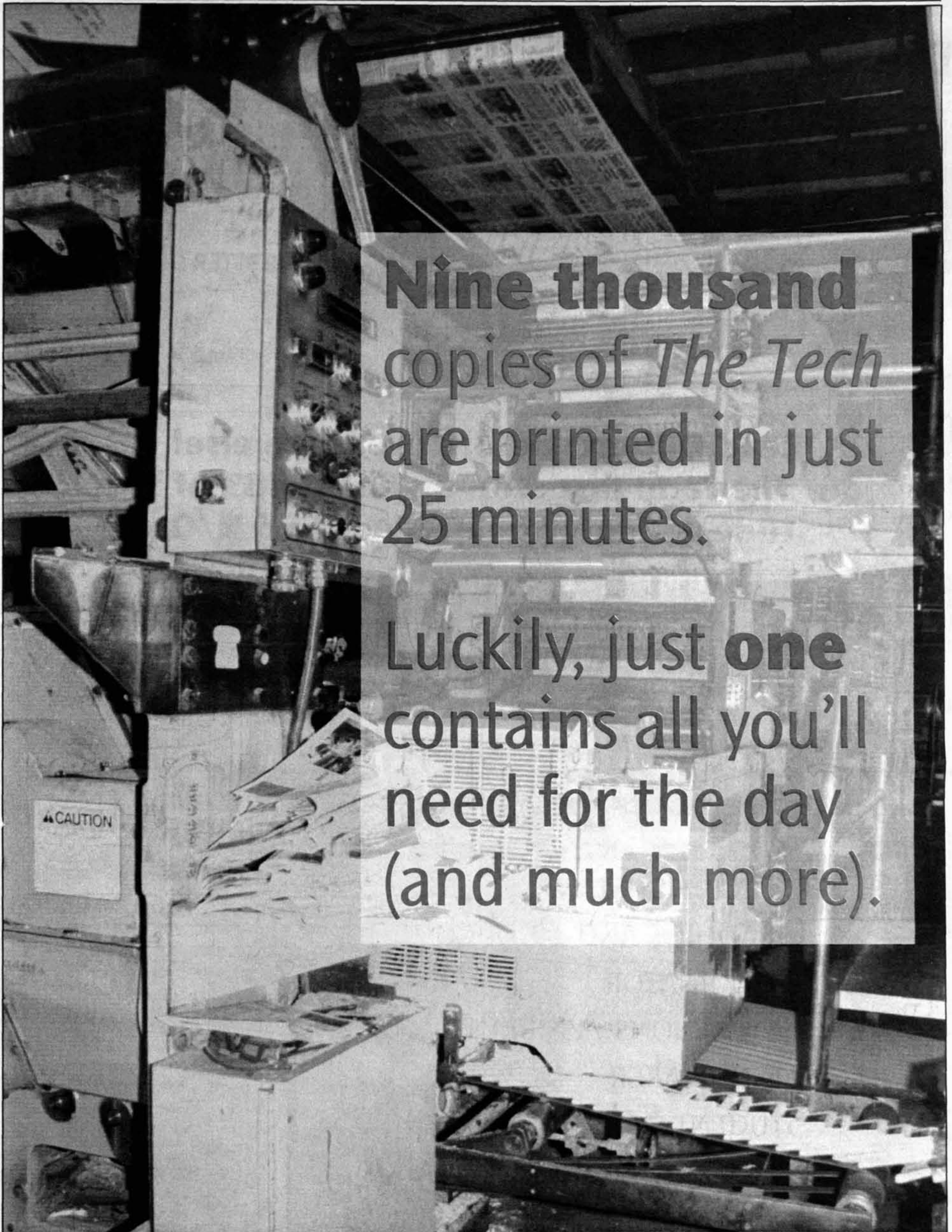


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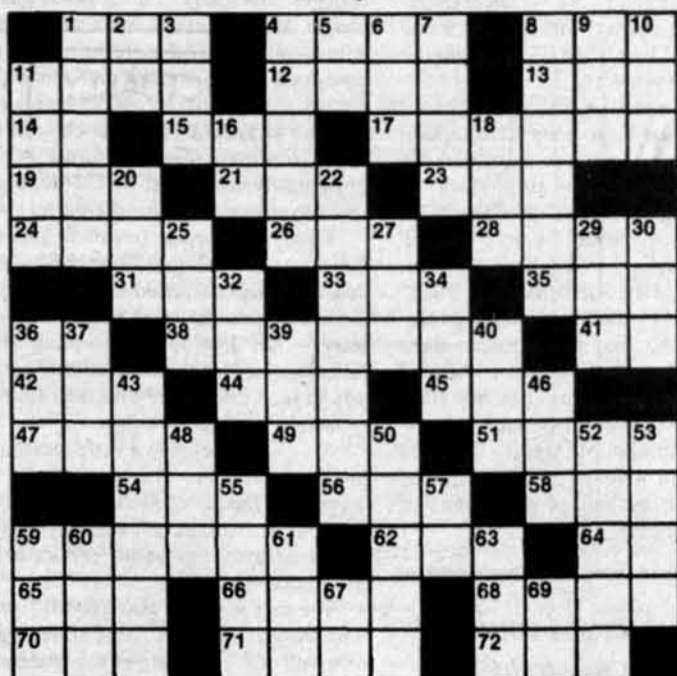
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ACROSS

- 1. Insane
- 4. Ratify a passport
- 8. Mischievous child
- 11. Sing alone
- 12. Smell
- 13. SE Asian languages
- 14. Elevated railway
- 15. Drag behind
- 17. Congressional group
- 19. Siesta
- 21. Month (abbr.)
- 23. Sun
- 24. Restraint
- 26. Fate in life
- 28. Liver secretion
- 31. Fall off to sleep
- 33. Fish egg
- 35. Canvas bed
- 36. Him
- 38. Merit
- 41. College degree (abbr.)
- 42. A Gershwin
- 44. Fish
- 45. Building wing
- 47. Wise men
- 49. Yonder (poetic)
- 51. Allot
- 54. Existence
- 56. Scrub the floor
- 58. 2,000 pounds
- 59. Canal
- 62. Baseball implement

- 64. Nickel symbol
- 65. Fort —
- 66. Gem
- 68. Biting
- 70. Green vegetable
- 71. Hereditary unit
- 72. Moccasin

DOWN

- 1. Tooth
- 2. American League (abbr.)
- 3. Speck
- 4. Speech sound
- 5. NW state (abbr.)
- 6. Emergency signal
- 7. War god
- 8. Slanted letter
- 9. Cushion
- 10. Lemon chiffon
- 11. Send (past tense)
- 16. Preposition
- 18. Door handle
- 20. Skillet
- 22. Dullness
- 25. Seed vessel
- 27. High rock
- 29. Ball hit in high arc
- 30. 7th Greek letter
- 32. Month (abbr.)
- 34. Night before
- 36. He
- 37. Age
- 39. Bean
- 40. Tree

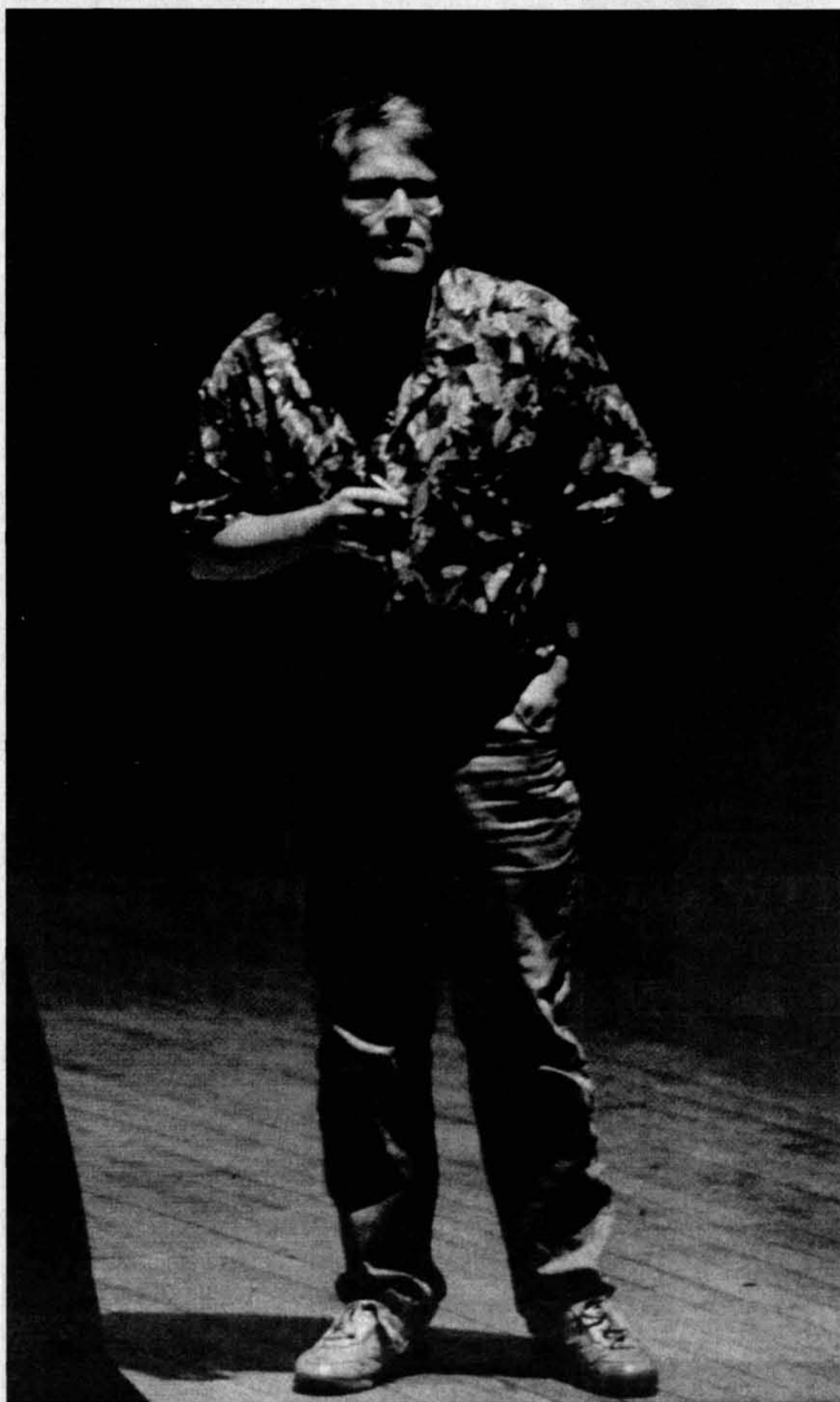
- 43. Program
- 46. Allow
- 48. — fix (predicament, two words)
- 50. Exalted character
- 52. Restoring medicine
- 53. Okla. town
- 55. California fog
- 57. Mid-Atlantic state (abbr.)
- 59. Snap
- 60. Verb
- 61. Gorilla
- 63. Hit lightly
- 67. Article
- 69. W. state (abbr.)

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE



SOLUTIONS IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE TECH

Contact MIT Interactively Introduces Freshmen Academics



Dean for Undergraduate Curriculum Kip V. Hodges PhD '82 conducted Contact MIT, an introduction to MIT academics, in Kresge Auditorium yesterday.

By Sharmin Ghaznavi
STAFF REPORTER

Following the president's welcome convocation, the class of 2001 experienced an interactive hour with Dean for Undergraduate Curriculum Kip V. Hodges PhD '82.

Listed in the R/O Hitchhikers guide as Contact MIT, the activity focused on accomplishments and contributions of MIT individuals in the past, and the potential for freshman to make their mark.

"What's most important is not how much people have done at MIT but, what you will do," Hodges told freshmen.

In an unique interactive approach, Hodges led freshmen in their first experiment at MIT. The mock experiment was introduced as a standardized test for evaluating incoming classes at different institutions.

The test, purporting to judge incoming classes by the sounds they make, resulted in popping sounds for the California Institute of Technology, and sounds of hot air for Harvard University.

A slide at the front of the room showed a decibel meter, and in the spirit of competition, freshmen were encouraged to beat these prior trials of the experiment.

Shouts and cheers filled Kresge, and the pointer on the decibel meter went off the scale.

Hodges emphasizes teamwork

As a follow-up to the experiment, Hodges invited a volunteer from the rear of the auditorium to shout. The decibel meter didn't register any effect. Hodges requested the remaining freshmen to aid the volunteer, and this time the pointer went of the scale.

"Some things you can do more effectively, collectively, as a group," Hodges said.

The lights were raised, and Hodges called out states and names, providing freshmen with a taste for the diverse group that they are.

The emphasis on collective

efforts paved the way for an introduction to academics at MIT.

Hodges began by introducing freshmen to the new online versions of the Freshman Handbook, the Bulletin, and the Advising and Academics Page.

This was followed by a discussion of the usual concerns of freshmen, mainly what classes to take, and what major to declare. Hodges assured freshmen that these questions will be answered over time. This first year is the year to find out this information, Hodges said.

"Your number one resource is you," Hodges told freshmen, while also emphasizing that the academic experience is a partnership between faculty and students.

With regards to stress, Hodges told freshmen, "This is where you work hard. Here at MIT, hard work is valued, is a core value."

"This is a spectacular place to have fun," Hodges said. MIT is not "all work and no play."

As a final note on education, and his role as a professor, Hodges quoted William Butler Yeats: "Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire... and I am a first-rate pyromaniac," he said.

Freshmen challenged to write

In his conclusion, Hodges issued a challenge to the class of 2001. In reference to *The End of Science* by John Horgan, Hodges asked freshman to challenge the idea that we are at the end of empirical science.

"Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to write a ten-page paper on the topic: science — the endless frontier," Hodges said.

According to Hodges, the papers are to be submitted on February 2, 1998. The individuals with the ten best papers will be invited to give an oral presentation, and the top five of the oral presenters will be given five hundred dollars each. A symposium for the winning papers is scheduled to take place sometime during the spring semester.

nightline 3-8800



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President Vest Officially Welcomes MIT's Class of 2001

The following is the complete text of President Charles M. Vest's Welcome Address to the Class of 2001.

Welcome to the dawning of a new age — and to Cambridge, Massachusetts.

I am Charles Vest, President of MIT. And you... are the MIT Class of 2001.

I want, first of all, to offer my congratulations to you and to express my confidence in you as you start your college years. There will be times when you wonder whether you made the right choice in coming to MIT: whether you can juggle all the activities in your schedule, whether you can handle one more problem set, or whether you will every sleep again.

Let me assure you that you can... and you will. We know that we have made the right choice in you. Each and every one of you is a member of the MIT Class of 2001 because we know that you have the intellectual capacity, the energy, the imagination, and the personal will to succeed here.

Learning at MIT

Earlier this month, a widely circulated message appeared in e-mail inboxes around the globe. I'm sure many of you received a copy from some well-meaning friend or relation.

It purported to be a Commencement address given here at MIT by the novelist Kurt Vonnegut. In fact, the address had not been given at MIT, nor had it been written by Kurt Vonnegut. Its author was a Chicago Tribune columnist named Mary Schmich. And the actual speaker at last spring's commencement was the secretary-general of the United Nations — Kofi Annan — an alumnus of the MIT Sloan School of Management.

I mention this odd little episode because one of Ms. Schmich's messages is entirely appropriate to this gathering. She urged her fictitious audience to "Enjoy the power and beauty of your youth."

Then she added, "Oh, never mind. You will not understand the power and beauty of your youth until they've faded. But trust me, in 20 years, you'll look back at photos of yourself and recall, in a way you can't grasp now, how much possibility lay before you and how fabulous you really looked."

I would add the further exhortation that you also enjoy the youthful power and beauty

*By becoming a part of MIT,
you have also become a part
of a tradition — and that
tradition has become
a part of you.*

of your minds. You are about to set forth on an extraordinary adventure.

The first part of that adventure will be to acquire all the tools and skills provided by an MIT education. The next will be to take those tools with you into the world of a new millennium and make a better future not only for yourselves but for your planet.

I envy you. I wish I could sit where you are today, wondering, as you are right now, "What on earth is this guy rambling on about — and how soon can we get out of here?" But I'm up here instead, charged with the responsibility of saying something memorable — and maybe even valuable — to this talented, this remarkable, this historic class of 2001.

So, please indulge me for another moment or two.

During your years here, we hope that you will dream great and worthy dreams, and that you will obtain many of the skills and insights needed to achieve them. Above all, we want you to understand that the world is not something that happens to you — it is something you can shape. You can make a difference,

and, because of your talent and what we will offer you here, you will make a difference in the world.

What to expect

What should you expect about studying and learning at MIT?

First, MIT is made up of men and women who are devoted to learning — learning in its many forms. This means: learning by formal study and teaching; learning by disciplined research; learning by designing, building, operating, and working on real problems; and above all, learning from each other.

The second thing you should expect is this: MIT is a place that values hard and effective work. I should be very honest about this. We expect you to study and work hard — on things that matter. This is true whether your major is in engineering, science, the humanities or social sciences, architecture and planning, or management.

Third, MIT thinks about and works on big subjects — major issues facing humankind — ranging from cancer research to the global environment to industrial productivity. Of course, at MIT, science is at the core of all that we do.

Fourth, because we have a great deal of important work to do, we expect you to pitch in right away. There may be a lot we can teach you, but there is a great deal more that all of us — faculty and students — must discover together. Just think of a few of the questions we have yet to answer:

- We do not know, even in principle, which aspects of climate are predictable.
- We do not know how we learn and remember, or how we think and communicate.
- We do not know how to transform materials without creating waste by-products.
- We do not know how and why cells die, or why tumor cells migrate to new sites in the body.
- We do not know how to convert solar energy into practical, cost-efficient fuels.
- We do not know how old the universe is, what it is made of, or what its fate will be.

That's just a brief sampling of the many opportunities for exploration and discovery that lie before us.

Our shared quest to improve our understanding of these and many other important matters will be founded upon an unceasing commitment to the ideal of learning. This means:

- learning to understand fundamental ideas and principles;
- learning the skills and know-how that will enable you to apply what you learn;
- learning about the historical, social, and political settings in which ideas are embedded and decisions are made;
- and learning how to learn.

You have already made this commitment to learning, or you wouldn't be here. As MIT students, and as graduates, you must renew it every day for the rest of your lives.

History counts

By becoming a part of MIT, you have also become a part of a tradition — and that tradition has become a part of you. Get to know these traditions. We expect you to learn and appreciate where you come from, both from the larger historical and cultural perspective, and in the more narrow sense of your newfound academic heritage.

Many of you are, I hope, already familiar with Newton's modest observation about his own scientific discoveries: "If I have seen further than you, it is because I have stood on the shoulders of giants."

Well, if the view from today's MIT is inspiring, it is because of the work of extraordinary MIT faculty like Norbert Wiener, Vannevar Bush, and "Doc" Edgerton.

This tradition of excellence continues to this day: MIT faculty and graduates have been awarded 28 Nobel Prizes. And in the world of business, they have founded more than 4,000 technology-based companies.

And the influence of MIT is so strong because of your predecessors — undergraduate students who shaped this school while they were here and burnished its reputation by their lifelong achievements.

They are women like Shirley Jackson, Chair of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the first African-American woman in the country to earn a doctorate in physics, or Sheila Widnall, who was professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics here at MIT when she was tapped to become the first woman Secretary of the Air Force.

They are men like the internationally celebrated architect I.M. Pei, and astronaut Buzz Aldrin, the second man on the moon. And, of course, they are captains of industry like: Alfred P. Sloan, who created General Motors; Ray Stata, co-founder of Analog Devices Corporation; and Ken Olsen, founder of Digital Equipment and one of progenitors of the high tech revolution.

*I envy you. I wish I could sit
where you are today,
wondering, as you are right
now, "What on earth is this
guy rambling on about —
and how soon can we get out
of here?"*

If these names don't mean much to you now, then I urge you to find out more about them. Their stories have much to teach you about how high you can aim and how far you can go.

Partnerships in learning

This brings me to another point about learning at MIT. You may be thinking that these next four years will prepare you for the real world. It is true that MIT will be a gateway and a guide to your future in very profound ways. But it's time to get yourself out of the "preparation" mind-set. Real life begins today. Right here at MIT.

Don't think of yourself as a container to be filled with information and skills by faculty lectures. MIT is an active place. And learning at MIT is active. You are about to enter into a collaborative partnership in learning.

Your partners are your fellow students. As you might imagine, students at MIT tend to be very competitive with each other. In most circumstances this is healthy, but modern organizations, whether in business, government, or academia, deal with problems that are very complex. They require group work and team work and the ability both to teach and to learn from others.

You will have many opportunities, both formal and informal, to work together to integrate the efforts of many to achieve a goal. Take advantage of them.

Your partners are also the hundreds of individuals who make up MIT's faculty and senior research staff. Get to know them. Don't assume that they are too preoccupied with their loftier, godlike enterprises to be bothered with the likes of you. You are a central part of their mission here. You will meet them in class, of course. But there are other settings in which you have an opportunity to work closely with the faculty.

Let me mention just three:

First, the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP). This is a way for you to work with faculty, as part of their research teams. Most students do this at one time or another, although usually not as first term freshmen.

Second, the freshman adviser seminars. Most of you have opted to join one of these seminars, which are taught by faculty who will also be your advisers.

Ask your friends at other universities and colleges how many of them get to gather for a couple of hours every week in a close circle with a half-dozen other freshmen and a world-renowned faculty mentor and spend that time talking about ideas, trying out hands-on learning, and exchanging insights about life issues. Your freshman adviser seminar is a unique opportunity to do just that. I hope you will take advantage of it from the outset.

Third, the special freshman programs — Concourse, the Experimental Study Group, and the Integrated Studies Program. Each of these programs covers the basic first-year subjects — but does so in the setting of a small and close-knit educational community. I urge you to look into them. You may find that one of them is just right for you.

Now let me tell you a little secret about the professors at MIT. You may wonder how we maintain a faculty of such world-class distinction. Is it because MIT always pays them more or provides better laboratories than other universities? No.

The fact is that if you ask MIT professors why they are at MIT, nine times out of ten they will say, "Because of the students!" That is, because MIT students are bright, interesting, creative, challenging and fun to work with. In other words, you bring to us as much as we have to offer you.

I should also warn you that there will be times when you will be certain that we have forgotten this, and there will be times when your self-confidence will wane.

Believe me, this happens to all of us. But you will overcome these feelings. You have what it takes, and you will succeed.

Building on diversity

Now this brings me back to you... MIT's Class of 2001.

Look about you. Your class is not simply one whose talents, abilities, and aspirations stack up against any group of first-year students in the world.

Your class is also one of the most diverse in America:

- You come from 49 of the 50 states and from 41 nations outside the US.
- Twenty-five of you have transferred to MIT from other institutions. Welcome.
- Thirty-eight percent of you are women.
- You come from an extraordinary array of ethnic, racial, economic, cultural, and religious backgrounds.

What you have in common are brains, determination, and a belief in the importance of education. And now, you all have the same distinguished Cambridge address — 77 Massachusetts Avenue.

As you get to know each other, you will quickly sense the wide variety of backgrounds and perspectives you bring to MIT. This can be one of the strongest elements of your education here: learn from each other; learn together; be proud of who and what you are; but be prouder still of what we can become together.

You have a remarkable opportunity to get to know — and learn with — others whose experience and outlook are very different from your own. If you seize this opportunity, you will be much better prepared to help build the national and world communities of the next century.

Closing

In closing, I should tell you that I think this convocation is the most energizing event of the academic year. To have this entire class assembled in one place at one time, filled with that wonderful mixture of enthusiasm and apprehension, is just spectacular.

This is an extraordinary moment. But there will be one more moment that you will find even more exhilarating. And that is when we gather together as an entire class in Killian Court (the great court of MIT) — on a sunny morning — for your Commencement on June 8 in the year 2001.

I look forward to seeing you there!

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THINGS
ON
EARTH**

10. Naked fat guys on vinyl seats.
9. Camel breath.
8. The vomit scene in *The Exorcist*.
7. Motel room in *6. Ear wax museum.*
5. The name "Mungo."
4. Bean dip.
3. Nose hair.
2. Road Oysters.

1. Drugs.

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President Vest, Nobel Laureate Ting Welcome Incoming Class

By Frank Dabek
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A host of significant MIT figures, including President Charles M. Vest and Samuel C. C. Ting, winner of the 1976 Nobel Prize in physics, were on hand yesterday afternoon in Kresge Auditorium to be the first to officially welcome the Class of 2001 to campus.

The program opened with a skit. Tim, the MIT beaver, sang the MIT Cheer. Then, along came two students posing as Harvard University attendees whose attempt to kidnap Tim was foiled by secret agents, R/O Committee Logistics Manager Wesley T. Chan '00 and Program Manager Tom S. Lee '00, dressed like the heroes of the summer blockbuster *Men in Black*.

The agents then introduced President Charles M. Vest, as *Also Sprach Zarathustra* (the music used at the opening of the film *2001: A Space Odyssey*) played over loudspeakers. Applause erupted from the assembled students as a video screen displayed a scene from the film and the text: "MIT presents — The Class of 2001."

After welcoming the freshman formally and assuring them that they had the ability to succeed at MIT, Vest spoke about learning at the Institute.

He briefly mentioned the recent Internet hoax, claiming Kurt Vonnegut delivered last year's Commencement address. The fictitious speech contained the advice to students to "enjoy the power and beauty of your youth," Vest said.

Vest next spoke on the topic of what to expect about studying and learning at MIT. He told the new class that the people of MIT are devoted to learning, that hard work is valued at MIT, and that members of the MIT community tackle important issues.

Vest speaks on history

Vest also spoke about the history of science and MIT's place in that history. Speaking of the accomplishments of MIT graduates he said, "The view from today's MIT is amazing."

Vest mentioned the 28 Nobel Prizes and Nobel Memorial Prizes won by MIT alumni, and noted the accomplishments of many others.

Vest emphasized learning as a partnership. He told freshman that their partners were fellow students as well as faculty and senior research staff. He encouraged freshmen to realize that "real life begins today, right here at MIT."

The world-class MIT faculty is maintained because MIT students are "bright, interesting, creative, challenging and fun to work with," Vest said.

The final topic of Vest's speech was diversity. He said that this class is one of the most diverse in America and urged freshmen to exploit this. "Learn from each other; learn together; be proud of who and what you are," he said.

Nobel laureate Ting speaks

Following Vest's speech, Samuel C.C. Ting, professor of physics and winner of the 1976 Nobel Prize in physics, spoke about his experiences. Vest introduced Ting as an "extraordinary scientist and... leader in the world in general."

Ting presented four stories and lessons learned by an MIT physicist. The stories were of recent discoveries in physics in which Ting was involved. He advised students to take expert opinions with a grain of salt and to retain faith in themselves. "Do what you think is right," he said.

Future scientists should "be prepared for surprises" Ting advised, and students should "enjoy what you are doing and work hard to achieve your goal."

Carter provides recent perspective

After Ting's speech, Vest introduced Undergraduate Association President Dedric A. Carter '98, noting that it was time "to stop hearing from old guys."

Carter offered a welcome to freshmen from the upperclassmen and recalled his first days at the Institute. "I braced myself as a firehouse spewed forth water" Carter said of his first experiences at MIT.

He exhorted freshmen to bring themselves into MIT. "Give something of yourself to the Institute," he said.

Carter continued, "You can study together, work together, and build together the future of this nation and other nations."

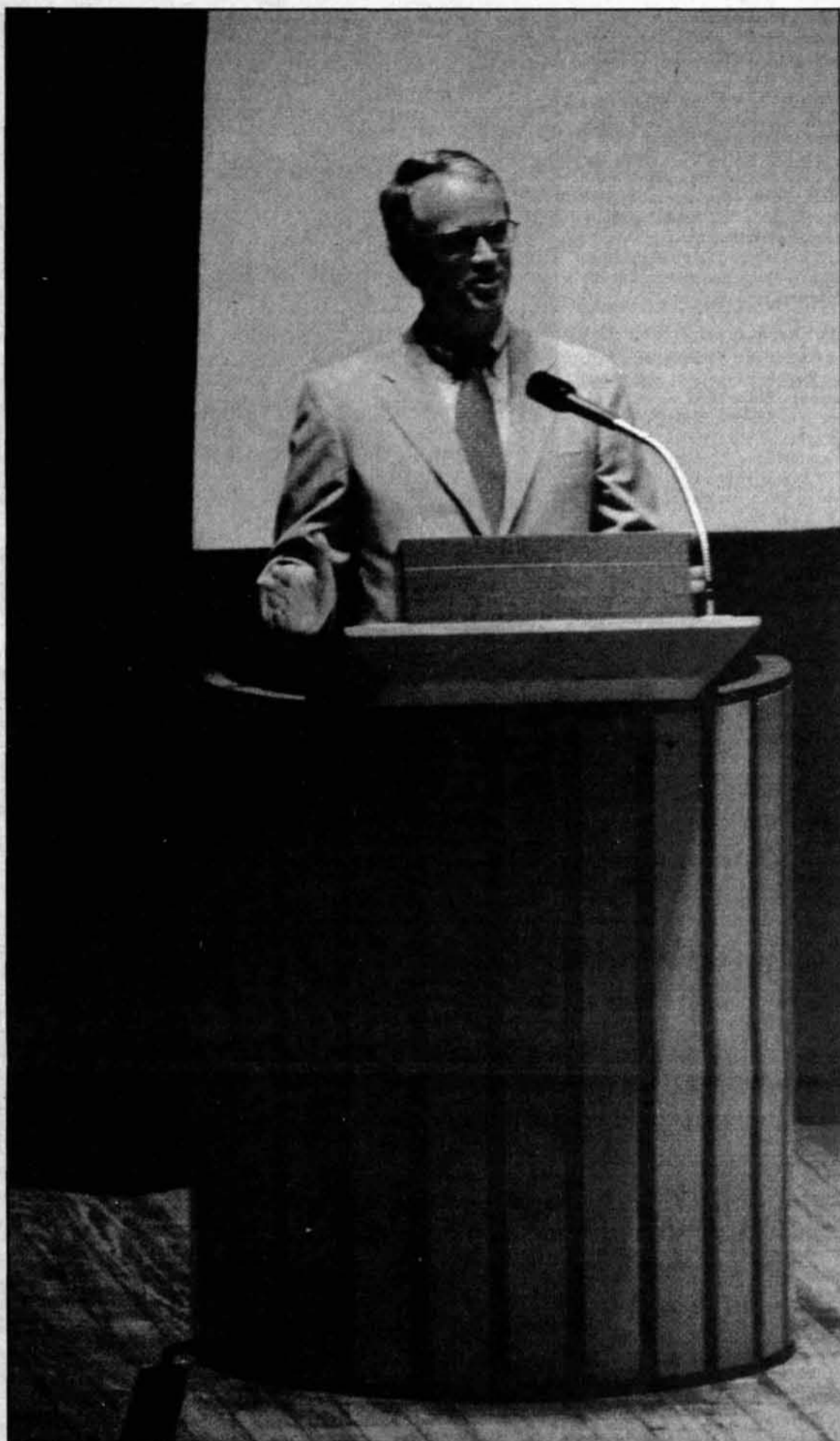
Carter closed by saying, "Welcome to the MIT family."

Williams offers practical advice

Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams spoke next and offered "brief suggestions on how to make the next four years as happy and productive as possible."

After telling the audience to eat well, and to take care crossing Massachusetts Avenue, Williams urged freshmen to develop themselves fully, including in terms of character, judgement, and courage.

Williams said "Learning in campus life as well as in the classroom" was important for success and echoed Vest's earlier statements by saying, "The real world flows through MIT"



After being escorted by students dressed as *Men in Black*, President Charles M. Vest formally welcomes the Class of 2001.


GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

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CUT IT OUT!

Project MOYA Challenges Skills, Creativity of Freshmen

MOYA, from Page 1

yelled out, "Argon!" really, really loudly," said Mark C. Philip '00. But even this leader couldn't collect all the members of his group. "One defected to helium," he said.

Finding one's MOYA group was no easy task for freshman either. Josh Sussan '01, at one end of Kresge lobby had trouble pushing through the crowd.

This isn't very good, Sussan said. "I think my group is at the other end."

MOYA leaders prepared for rain

One or two students were lost, but they were eventually able to find their respective MOYA group leaders, said Sachiyo Minegishi '99, a member of the MOYA R/O subcommittee.

"Every coach has a map of where each student should be," Minegishi said.

In the event of rain, there had always been a contingency plan to move MOYA inside, Minegishi said.

"This is the first time we ever had to use it," she said. "We train [MOYA leaders] from the beginning for rain or shine."

Event challenges skills, creativity

This year MOYA was expanded to last for two hours. It was divided into five sections: warm-up, ice breakers, a riddle game, problem-solving activities, and the grand finale — the mess of creativity.

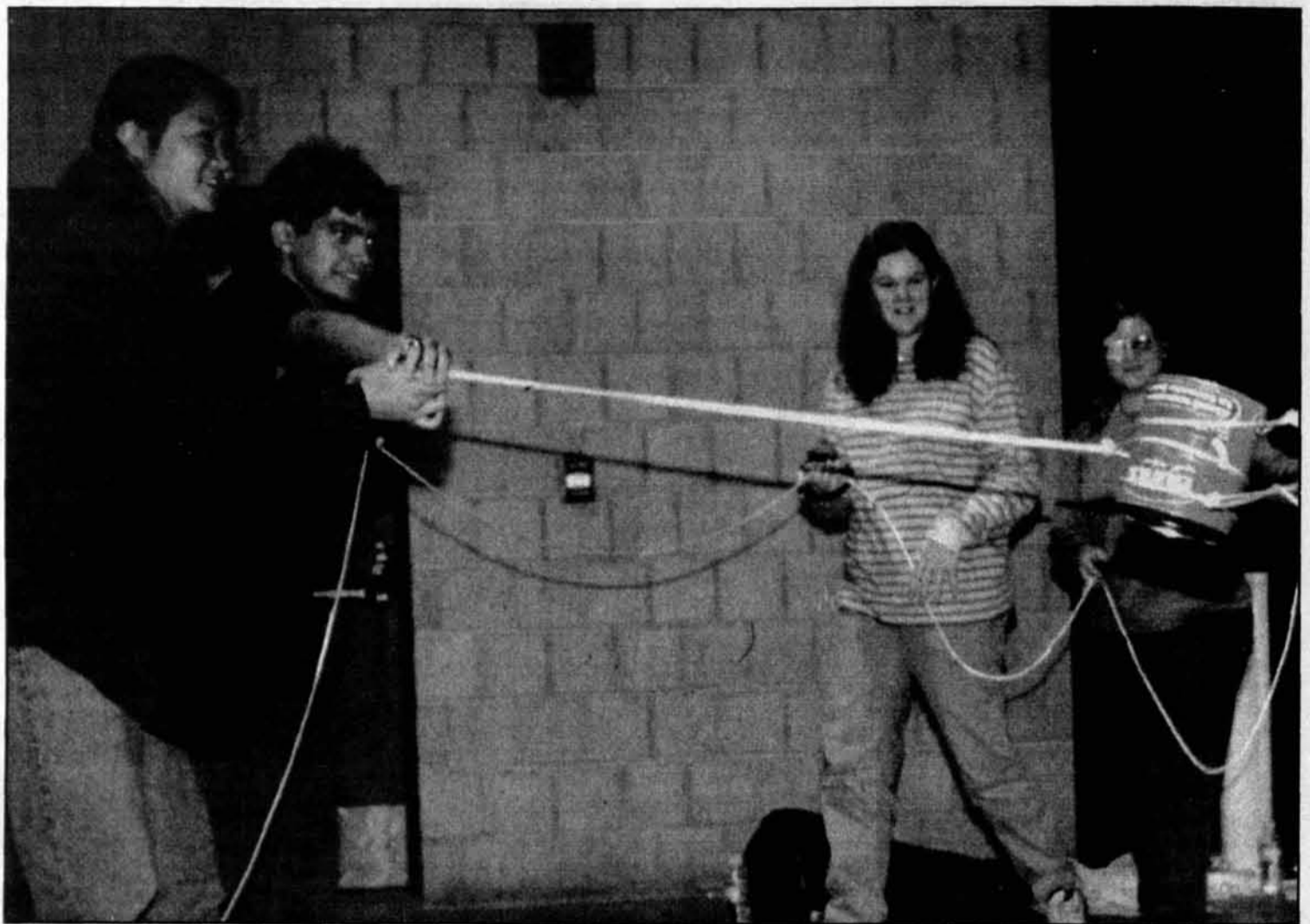
The warm-up included jumping jacks and stretches as well as everybody-up in which the entire MOYA group had to work together to lift themselves off the floor without touching their hands to the floor.

"It's reminiscent of elementary school athletics," said Mark L. Strauss '01.

After the warm-up began ice-breakers in which group members tossed around tennis balls while calling out the recipient's name. Then the a game of cat & mouse had freshman chasing each other in the controlled setting of a MOYA group.

The next component of MOYA was a new addition designed to challenge the minds of freshman, a riddle which included four mini riddles, the answers to which helped answer a fifth, larger riddle.

Then followed problem-solving activities including the new addition of sticks and stones. Groups were



DAVID TARIN—THE TECH

This MOYA group successfully manipulates their ropes to acquire a can without entering a circle marked on the ground in Johnson yesterday afternoon.

challenged to build the tallest chopstick structure possible that could support a tennis ball.

The event was capped off with the mess of creativity in which freshman were challenged to express what they felt would happen in their next four years at MIT on a three by six foot area of poster-board.

Judging from the results of sticks and stones and the mess of creativity, Chan said, "it does show MIT students are really creative."

The MOYA groups' work was judged last night. The winners of sticks and stones and the mess of creativity will be announced at Killian Kick-Off today.

Students appreciate event

The overall impression of many students who participated in MOYA was positive.

"I thought it was really cool," said Aparna Polavarpu '01. "At first it was kind of odd, but the fact that we were doing things out of the ordinary brought us closer together."

"I thought it was fun, I learned a lot, and we met a lot of new people," said Lisa M. Stuart '01.

"I was really glad something was held, because it's really hard to

meet people here," said Baris I. Erkmen '01.

"It helps the crowd feel a lot smaller," said Kailas N. Narendran '01.

Killian Kick-Off Would Relocate to Johnson if Rain Continues Today

Rain, from Page 1

Cogliano said.

"It's too many people to have in Johnson" if upperclassmen who attend the Kick-Off when it is in Killian were allowed into the building.

Other events, such as the freshman picture, would also occur in Johnson in the event of rain.

R/O Survival Sessions, traditionally held in classrooms across campus, will be held in the athletic facilities in the event of rain, Cogliano said, because it takes too long for groups to move from Johnson to the classrooms and back.

At that point, "they'll go back into Johnson and it'll be just like Killian [Kick-Off], only inside," Cogliano said.

Because the Kick-Off is restrict-

ed to members of independent living groups, the R/O committee does not anticipate fire code or space problems in the ice rink. "Johnson holds 2,500 people, and that's just on the floor," Cogliano said.

Members of FSILGs will be allowed inside of Johnson at 5 p.m. Members of language houses, who are normally allocated a corner of Killian Court, will enter Johnson just before rush begins, said Neal H. Dorow, associate dean for residence and campus activities and adviser to FSILGs. "We don't have an accommodation for them in Johnson" beyond that, he said.

If the event is held in Johnson, it will be the first time Killian Kick-Off had been rained out since 1985, when inclement weather forced the event indoors.



AGNES BORSZEKI

Yesterday's rain caused several R/O events to take place indoors.

**The Tech News Hotline:
253-1541**

Freshmen Fed Prior to Leaving for Thursday Night in the City

In the City, from Page 1

dents found themselves "getting umbrellas, raingear, and looking for restaurants nearby," he said.

"Everybody is having the same problem" dealing with the rain, said Seungyong A. Lee '98 with Hansori.

Thursday event feeds students

Thursday Night in the City was conceived of last year to feed freshmen who didn't want to go out on Thursday night. "The issue is that lots of times freshmen don't go out" either "because they're physically unable" after a day of moving in or

because they don't wish to for personal reasons, said Elizabeth I. Cogliano, the director of R/O.

In addition, the barbecue offered freshmen the chance to "sit around in groups and talk," she said. "The only time they come together as freshmen without worrying about being part of a group is Thursday," she said. "On Friday they have exams and Saturday they have Killian" kick-off, she added.

The Thursday Night in the City program also broadened the scope of activities that freshmen could participate in, said Cogliano. Thursday Night Dinners Program

"was never restricted to just dinners," said Neal H. Dorow. But because the freshman had not had anything to eat "the immediate impulse was to go out to dinner," he said.

"The R/O committee changed the semantics of this. There are a number of ideas kicked around. For all intents and purposes nothing is changing: they're going somewhere and talking about MIT, residential options, and answering freshmen's questions," he said.

"Last year we did this in Johnson. Having us back here is the same thing," said Songjoon Park '97 with Hansori.

Thursday Night in the City "is about the same thing" as Thursday Night Dinners, said Chanthaboun.

Few rules govern event

The R/O committee imposed few rules the on Thursday Night in the City. Most of the rules governed when groups could come to Kresge Oval. Groups "cannot be on the Student Center steps, the Barbecue pits, anywhere around Kresge, in the Student Center, or in Amherst Alley" until 7:20, said Cogliano. "Because [new students are] coming from DuPont, Johnson [to Kresge] it's important that those areas be clear," she said.

The R/O committee did not impose any restrictions on which groups could take freshmen out on the town. "You can just show up and and take somebody, say, bowling," said Chan.

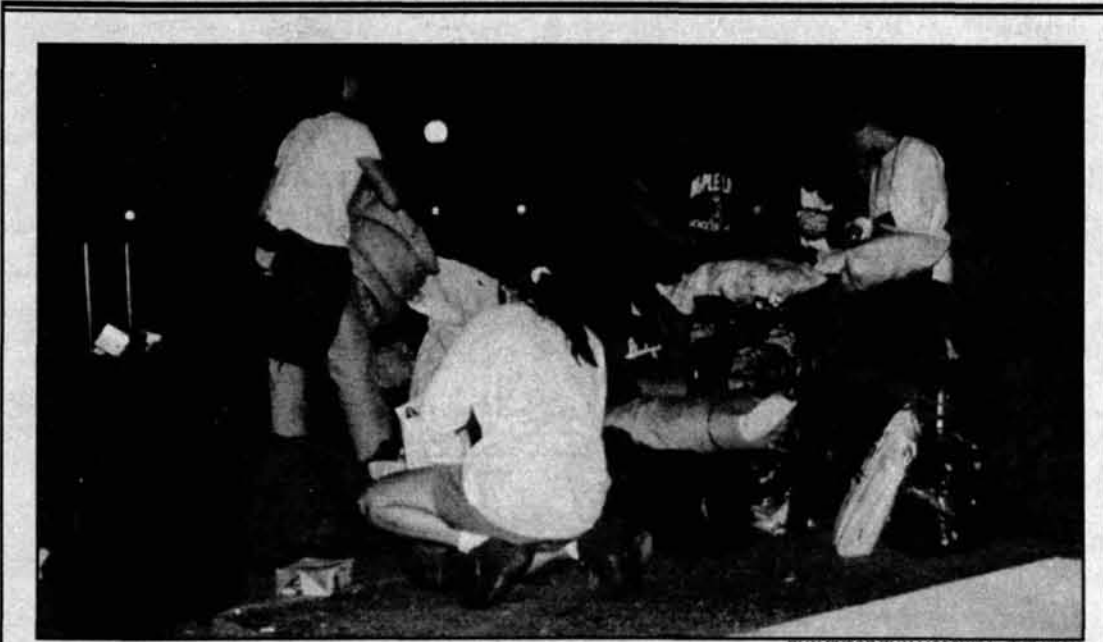
The IFC did impose some rules on its members, however. "The IFC limits male and coed groups to three groups of five people," said Dorow. "Women's groups are limited to six groups of five," he said.

The idea was "to ensure that the upperclassmen meeting the freshmen class reflected the gender demographics of MIT," he said.



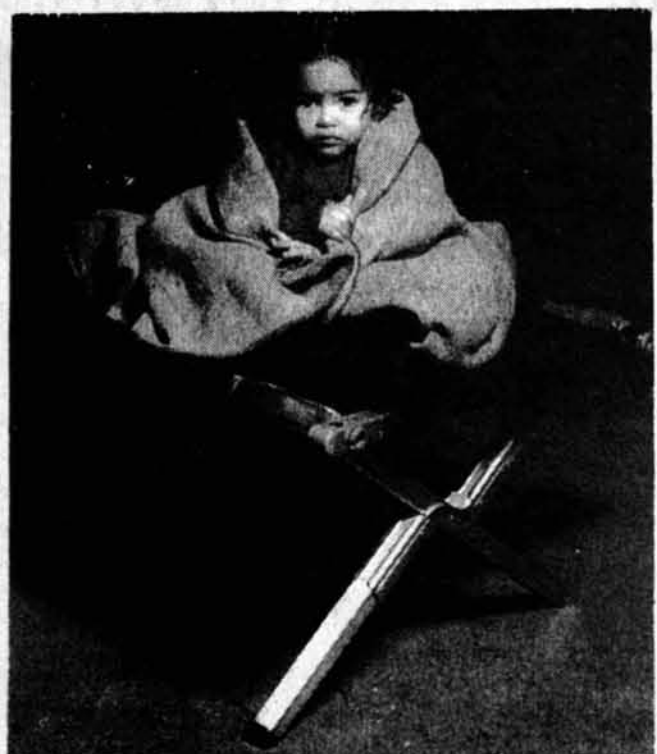
INDRANATH NEOGY—THE TECH

Bedraggled upperclassmen lie in wait for freshmen in Kresge Oval yesterday. The drenched crowd then headed out for Thursday Night in the City.

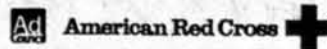


WAN YUSOF WAN MORSHIDI—THE TECH

Arriving freshmen unload luggage outside the Student Center.

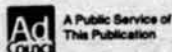


We all hear about the big disasters. But disasters happen every day. Which means every day, people like you need food, clothing and a place to rest. Please support the American Red Cross. Call 1-800-842-2200. Because disaster never rests.



Photographer: Dana Freeman

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The Daily Confusion

Residence

- 6:00p: ΦΚΘ. We have a house. We like it. You might like it too. Stop by and check it out. Call 437-7795 for a ride.**
- 6:00p: **Spanish House.** COME BY FOR A RELAXED TOUR OF OUR HOUSE. MEET OUR AWESOME TUTOR DARA Y TASTE SOME THE DELICIOUS DESSERTS SHE MAKES. SECOND FLOOR OF NEW HOUSE 4.*
- 6:00p **Theta Chi.** Hungry? Bored? Want to see our house? Call 267-1801 anytime for a ride.**
- 6:00p: ΣΝ. BBQ and meet the brothers
- 6:00p: **Sigma Chi.** BAR-B-Q All the Shish-kabob, burgers, hot dogs, and salad that you can eat. Our chef will be keeping the grill fired up all evening, and there will be frequent house tours, a running slide show, and plenty of hanging out so you can get to know Sigma Chi.
- 6:15p: **La Maison Française. La Maison Française.** Tours tout le soir. Venez voir la plus grande poêle à l'est du Mississipi. 5ème étage, New House 6.*
- 6:15p: **ZBT. LOBSTER AND RIBEYE STEAK** courtesy of Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity. Come for the dinner, stay for **CASINO NIGHT!** featuring local Boston band **TUNNEL**, live! Vegetarian meals available. Call Rick for rides at 232-3257. ** ZBT, THE NON-PLEDGING FRATERNITY ***
- 6:15p: ΔΔΦ **BBQ** I can smell the sizzling steak as its grilling nears completion... A-1? Heinz 57? Name your best sauce, 'cause in just a few minutes, you're gonna need it. Dial 576-JUICY-STEAK (576-2792) for a ride to the barbeque.**
- 6:15p: AEI. Come on over for an Old Fashioned Bar-B-Que: Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, and all the fixin's. Call 247-3170 for a ride.**
- 6:15p: **Theta Chi.** Want to sample some of Boston's best Chinese, Italian, and Mexican food? Well, look no further. Come to **Theta Chi's Food Around the World.** Then stick around for a house tour, play some pinball or pool, rappel down the front of our house, and meet the brothers. Call 267-1801 for a ride.**
- 6:15p: **WILG. DINNER TIME** - it's about to begin! Come by for our Italian Feast! Call 253-6799 or 354-1263 for a ride!*
- 6:15p: **Nu Delta.** Meet the guys and tour the house before our STEAK & LOBSTER DINNER
- 6:15p: **Russian House.** International Cafe - come and join us and the other language houses on the (New) House 5 roofdecks for our festive presentation of multicultural cuisine.*
- 6:15p: TEΦ. We've taken pictures of you from the Great Dome with TEP's Soul-Muncher camera. Better come to TEP and claim your soul. Replacement Nikes available. Call 262-5090 for a ride.**
- 6:16p: **La Maison Française. La Maison Française.** Tours all evening. Don't pass up your chance to see the largest frying pan east of the Mississippi. 5th floor of New House 6.*
- 6:16p: ΔΔΦ. **Typewriter... or Spiral?** How do you eat corn on the cob? It's cooking up, along with vegetarian shish kabob, or for the carnivore in you, sizzling steak! (And watermelon, too, but we won't be cooking that.) Dial 576-FOOD-ME (576-2792) for a ride direct to the ADPhi patio!*
- 6:22p: TEΦ. **Steak and Lobster?** But I only just met 'er! Come to TEP early and get a free haus tour and a choice spot at the table for our yummy Thai & Indian Dinner. Call 262-5090.**
- 6:30p: ΔΔΦ. The ΔΔΦ **Steak Cookout** has officially begun! Come on over, sample the sirloin and feast away to your heart's content (or arterial blockage, as the case may be). Call 576-BARBECUE (576-2792) for a ride.**
- 6:30p: **Spanish House. CANSADO DEL RUSH? VENGA A VISITARNOS Y RELAJE EN LA COMODIDAD DEL AIRE CONDICIONADO. QUINTO PISO DE NEW HOUSE 5 O SEGUNDO PISO DE NEW HOUSE 4***
- 6:30p: **Theta Xi.** Ever eat a lobster with your fingers? Come feast on fresh steamers, chowder, clam bake and more at our New England Clambake! Call for a ride 266-2827.**
- 6:30p: **Epsilon Theta.** Come hang out and be mellow. Call 734-9211 or MIT x3-8888 for a ride.*
- 6:30p: **WILG.** Come join us anytime after the freshmen picnic when Rush has begun - for activities or just to hang out! No invitations necessary, and house tours are always available! Feel free to call 253-6799 or 354-1263 for a ride.*
- 6:30p: **PI Lam.** Swashbuckling adventure awaits you at glorious Pi Lambda Phi. Come across the Charles to Boston's Back Bay and check us out.**
- 6:30p: **German House.** International Cafe Join us and other language houses for an evening of fantastic food and music from around the world. Later German House will present movies and boardgames.*
- 6:30p: **Phi Deltas. Phi Delta Theta.** Find the Phi Delt banner at Killian Court Kick-off. We'll drive you back to our house to feast on our chef's world famous **shish-kabobs**. Meet all the brothers while you tour our beautiful home.**
- 6:44p: **WILG.** Hungry Yet? Come on over to WILG for our **authentic Italian difor a ride at 253-6799 or 354-1263.***
- 7:00p: **ZBT. Start rush right with CASINO NIGHT!** Bring the ZBT Bucks from your Rushbook and/or get "cash" at the door. Check out the Boston band **TUNNEL**, LIVE downstairs on our stage! Call Rick for rides at 232-3257. ** ZBT, THE POWERHOUSE OF EXCELLENCE ***
- 7:00p: **Phi Sig. Phi Sig Open House** Take a look at the house, and meet all the brothers you've been hearing about all summer.
- 7:00p: **PI Lam.** We, too, have voluminous amounts of Steak and Lobster. Eat, drink, and be merry with us; see our house. Casino Party to follow. Pi Lambda Phi 267-4935**
- 7:00p: **Nu Delta. STEAK & LOBSTER DINNER** - enjoy it while you can!
- 7:00p: **pika.** No special "Steak and Lobster" night at pika just during rush... we have great food year-round. Tonight we're having enchiladas, tomato/cucumber salad, ice cream, and lots of other good stuff. Call 492-6983 for a ride over.*
- 7:00p: XΦ. **Steak and Lobster Dinner**
- 7:03p: ΔΔΦ. **Typewriter... or Spiral?** Once and for all, How do you eat corn on the cob? It's still cooking, along with vegetarian shish kabob, or for the carnivore in you, sizzling steak! (And watermelon, too, but we won't be cooking that.) Dial 576-FEED-ME (576-2792) for a ride direct to the ADPhi patio!*
- 7:04p: **Spanish House. HACER UNA GIRA POR NUESTRA CASA, TOMAR UNOS REFRESCOS, Y DESCUBRIR TODO SOBRE NUESTRA INTERES EN LA CULTURA LATINA. QUINTO PISO DE NEW HOUSE 5 O SEGUNDO PISO DE NEW HOUSE 4. PREGUNTAS? LLAME A TALIA X5-7538 o JUANA X5-7541.***
- 7:14p: ΔΔΦ. The ΔΔΦ **Steak Cookout** is still going - Come and get some! Call 576-JUICY (576-2792) for a ride.**
- 7:16p: **WILG.** Enough with munchies!!! Come FEAST at WILG's **Italian FOOD FEST!** Call us anytime for a ride at 253-6799 or 354-1263.*
- 7:18p: AEI. What? Not getting enough food over there? We are having a Bar-B-Que! Lots of burgers, dogs, and chicken. Call 247-3170 for a ride.**
- 7:22p: ZY. Interested in seeing lobsters duke it out with cows? Check out our steak and lobster...
- 7:22p: TEΦ. Relax and enjoy a cold Grape Soder and schmooz with the authors of Elvis favorite publication, *The Quill*, and creators of the Hanging Couch and Zee Infamous Foam Room. Be Purple. Call 262-5090.**
- 7:24p: ZY. ...And if you prefer veggies, we've got plenty of those too. Stop on by!
- 7:25p: **Epsilon Theta. DING! FIRST BELL!** Five minutes 'til dinner at Epsilon Theta. Ever hear of Pavlov's dogs? Call 3-8888 for a ride.*
- 7:30p: **La Maison Française. La Maison Française.** Ennuyé de bifteck et d'homard? Venez à la Maison Française pour du dessert. Nous avons de la glace et des crêpes, et peut-être des jeux. (Défense de manger des jeux.) 5ème étage, New House 6.*
- 7:30p: ΦΚΘ. Our Maine Native Jim has tracked down some Fresh Maine Lobster (hint ours will actually be alive before cooking) We'll also have grilled sirloin steak and a Veggie option for those of you uninterested in screaming arthropods. Call 437-7795 for a ride.**
- 7:30p: **Epsilon Theta. DING! DING! THANKSGIVING DINNER!** You've survived your first days as an MIT student, so come celebrate with us! Traditional Thanksgiving fixings, and of course vegetarian options, too! Call 3-8888 for a ride.*
- 7:30p: **PI Lam.** The night is still young. Show up at Pi Lambda Phi for the steak and lobster rigmarole plus the fast-approaching Casino Party. 267-4935**
- 7:30p: **Phi Deltas. Phi Delta Theta.** Missed our van at Killian Court? No problem, call us at 247-8691 and we'll be happy to provide you with a ride back to our house. Meet the brothers while you tour our beautiful home.**
- 7:31p: **La Maison Française. La Maison Française.** Tired of steak and lobster yet? Come to French House and have wosome dessert. We've got ice cream and crepes, and if that's not enough, maybe we'll even have board games (not to be taken internally). 5th floor of New House 6.*
- 7:34p: **Epsilon Theta.** No, no, Matt! Put Barry down! I didn't mean you could eat the vegetarians!
- 7:34p: **WILG.** We're still savoring our authentic **Italian Feast** at WILG. Come join us!! Call 253-6799 or 354-1263 for a ride anytime!*
- 7:45p: AEI. Not planning on rushing? Check out http://aei.mit.edu and maybe you'll change your mind!
- 7:45p: **WILG.** Come meet the independent women at the Women's Independent Living Group and enjoy **cheesecake and frozen fruit drinks.** Call 253-6799 or 354-1263.*
- 7:59p: **WILG.** There's always room for **DESSERT!** Call WILG at 253-6799 or 354-1263 to send for our trusty drivers.*
- 8:00p: ΔΔΦ. **Jazz Band.** Dance to the music, live from ΔΔΦ! There's still plenty of food from our steak cookout, so if you're still hungry, we're still serving. Just call us at 576-JAZZ (actually, 576-2792) and we'll waltz on over to bring you to the music.**
- 8:00p: **Theta Chi.** Still hungry? We still have plenty of food as well as daiquiris on our roofdeck. Come on over and meet the brothers! Call 267-1801 for a ride.**
- 8:00p: **PI Lam.** Dinner is almost up at Pi Lambda Phi... But, you can still get Steak and Lobster, and get good seats at the poker table. 267-4935**
- 8:00p: TEΦ. **DINNER!** 262-5090**
- 8:03p: **pika.** arr, mates! it be pirates and beverages night at pikal here there be caffeine, and ice cream, and blenders! but what be that yonder? avast! the great sea lemon! turn her about before we curdle! call pika at 492-6983 to join the seafaring and milkshaking fun.*
- 8:15p: ZY. **BASH CARS!!!**
- 8:16p: **WILG.** Still more **cheesecake** to eat, house tours to take, and people to meet! Call us at 253-6799 or 354-1263 for your personal chauffeur.*
- 8:17p: ΔΔΦ. The ΔΔΦ **Steak Cookout** is always sizzling! Drop by for a bite, or just hang out with the Alpha Deltas. Call 576-SUSTENANCE (576-2792) for a ride.**
- 8:18p: AEI. Grills like to hang out at AEI. Stop by and check 'em out. Call 247-3170 for a ride.**
- 8:22p: TEΦ. For those of you who have already adjusted your watches to TEP time, the **Thai and Indian Dinner** is actually starting now. Call 262-5090, and we'll come and get you.**
- 8:25p: ΔΔΦ. **Still More Jazz.** Be there! Dance, listen, or feed on the remnants of our steak cookout. Want to contemplate the effects of a vacuum on the human (male) anatomy? Neither do we, but if you were thrust into outer space, you'd better be ready, right? Anything is still possible, just call us at 576-THE-NIGHT-IS-YOUNG (576-2792), and we'll be there immediately, if not sooner.**
- 8:30p: ΦΚΘ. Prepare to be amazed and awe struck as you watch the power of illusion with a performance by Magician Peter O'Malley the Great. Call 437-7795 for a ride.**
- 8:30p: **PI Lam.** The time to Pi Lam's Casino Party is ticking down; warm up your 007 impression and come on over. Phone Number: 267-4935**
- 8:30p: **Phi Deltas. Phi Delta Theta.** House tours and shish-kabobs galore. Call 247-8691 for a ride.**
- 8:31p: ΔΔΦ. **Jazz Band.** C'mon over and help us finish all this [expletive deleted] steak! In the mean time, listen to the music of our live jazz band. Call 576-FREE-SAX (576-2792), and we'll bring you by right away.**
- 8:39p: **WILG.** Our **capella** guest group is doing there last-minute warmups. Pull up a chair and a slice of **cheesecake!** Call 253-6799 or 354-1263 for a ride!*
- 8:44p: TEΦ. Propel your Thai and Indian Dinner, digestive tract, and malpighian tubules to Afghanistan with our **Rodan/Whumph Bag.** See if you can get more hang time than a Harrier without eating plaster. Whumph! Splat! Call 262-5090.**
- 8:45p: **WILG.** Come hear the comedy and **acapella singing** of Ball in the House. Five young guys...and they sing too! Call us at 253-6799 or 354-1263.*
- 8:45p: **PI Lam.** Blackjack anyone? Pi Lam's Casino Party is about to begin. Call now for a ride: 267-4935**
- 8:45p: **Nu Delta. COMEDIAN!!!**
- 9:00p: ΣΝ. Build your own sundae
- 9:00p: **Spanish House. QUIERES VIVIR CON NOSOTROS? POR SUPUESTO! VENGA A UNA REUNION. CONOZCA LOS MIEMBROS DE LA CASA, Y DESCUBRE COMO ES VIVIR AQUI. REUNION EN EL QUINTO PISO DE NEW HOUSE 3.***
- 9:00p: **Theta Xi.** If you can still walk after dinner, come up to our roofdeck for a Virgin Daiquiri Party!*
- 9:00p: **PI Lam.** Here's looking at you, kid... Craps, Roulette, and Blackjack. Play, win prizes, have fun! Pi Lam: 267-4935**
- 9:00p: **Russian House. MovieNight** - funky foreign films with the gang at Russian House. We promise there will be refreshments and subtitles :)
- 9:13p: **WILG.** They're not done yet! Come on over and catch the rest of our great all-male **Acapella Group** while you enjoy some of WILG's delicious desserts. Call us at 253-6799 or 354-1263.*
- 9:18p: AEI. Make Your Own Sundaes. Assembly required, batteries not included. Call 247-3170 for a ride.**
- 9:22p: TEΦ. We have thirty pounds of **Silly Putty!** Come help us mold a life-sized model of Lito's Iguana with it! Call 262-5090 for a ride.**
- 9:30p: ΦΚΘ. The vision is becoming clearer... There's something cold... yes... with strawberries... Aw! It's ice cream sundaes on the roofdeck... mmm... I see relaxing with calories. Call 437-7795 for a ride.**
- 9:30p: **Theta Chi.** Come on over for Theta Chi's **Casino Night.** We'll be giving away some fabulous prizes later, so come over now and try your luck at our tables. Need a ride? Call 267-1801.**
- 9:30p: **Epsilon Theta. LASER SHOW!** A home-made light and music extravaganza. A must-see for any budding physicist. If you ask very nicely, Matt might even explain how it works.... Call 3-8888 for a ride.*
- 9:30p: **PI Lam.** The casino party is in full force. Years from now, you'll want to be able to say that you were "there", man.. Pi Lam: 450 Beacon St.**
- 9:33p: **pika.** from plank to plank pika's porches are full of desserts. you don't need a calligraphic 'X' to find these pockets of sweetness... so shift your eyepatch to the other eye and call the pirate line at 492-6983.*
- 9:37p: **pika.** arr, matey! the serpent swallowed seventeen soldiers and a VW microbus at once, blast it! 492-6983.*
- 9:44p: TEΦ. High Velocity Piñatas! Three-man slingshots, ballistic missiles, and candy everywhere! We provide safety goggles and Grape Soder. 262-5090**
- 10:00p: **WILG.** In the mood for a late night snack? There's lots of food and good company. Come over and get a tour of our beautiful house. Call 253-6799 or 354-1263 for a ride!*
- 10:00p: **Nu Delta.** Ice cream sundaes
- 10:00p: **Phi Deltas. Phi Delta Theta. Flambe Dessert.** Drop on over for a scrumptious flaming fruit flambe. It's a spectacle not to be missed! Call 247-8691 for a ride.**
- 10:08p: ZY. There ain't nothing like a little sledgehammer exercise to get one's appetite worked up. Feed your stomach with mass quantities of ice cream.*
- 10:18p: AEI. Come on by while the ice cream is cold and the fudge is hot! Call 247-3170 for a ride.**
- 10:22p: TEΦ. What better way to celebrate the 22nd minute of the 22nd hour of the 22nd day of the month than to gorge yourself on frozen dessert served in our **Ice Cream Trough.** 22 feet of thrills, chills, spills, and dills. Yummy! 262-5090**
- 10:26p: **pika.** arr! you scurvy knave! follow sinh as he stalks around the house and spins yarns of raging oceans and wide-bellied beasts. and drink orange juice to cure what ails you. board us from starboard or call 492-6983 for a ride over.*
- 10:30p: **Theta Chi.** Our Casino Night is still going strong and now we're serving up ice cream sundaes! Call us for a ride. 267-1801.**
- 10:47p: **pika.** arr! cut off yer legs and glue on wooden ones! pirates are just another kind of cyborg! avast ye swabby hends! or just come drink espresso and mock our accents. our voices will never be the same. call 492-6983 for the pillagemobile.*
- 10:49p: **Epsilon Theta.** Rush has only just begun, and Joung-Mo has already gotten himself stuck in a tree! Come help us get him down. Slingshots sold separately.*
- 11:00p: ΦΚΘ. Got milk? We do. We've got all kinds of ice-cream on the roofdeck and while your over you can still get a house tour. Call for a ride: 437-7795
- 11:00p: **Epsilon Theta.** Bedtime stories with Uncle Foot!
- 11:00p: **PI Lam.** Some guy probably has all the chips by now. If you get here quick maybe you can clean him out. Pi Lam's Casino Party: 267-ROCK!*
- 11:02p: **pika.** arr! sway with the motion of the sea on our roofdeck as the pirate flag ripples in the breeze. scold us for trying to give an eyepatch on the neighbour's cat. Call 492-6983-AHOY for a ride.*
- 11:18p: AEI. Midnight Buffet - we've got chips, we've got dip, and you don't even have to wait until midnight to call 247-3170 for a ride.**
- 11:26p: ZY. There has to be something on our large-screen TV at this time of night. Come over and point us in the direction of something interesting.
- 11:29p: ZY. Well, we probably found something great by now. Join us for an experience that you might not forget. Unless you forget things often.
- 11:30p: **Theta Chi.** Don't end your first hard day of Rush on an empty stomach. Come on over for Theta Chi's **Midnight Snack** featuring all the buffalo wings, mozzarella sticks, onion rings, and french fries you can eat! Call us at 267-1801 for a ride.**
- 11:30p: **PI Lam.** Prizes from the Casino Party! Farnel Fortune! Stardom! Burnout! Cheesy commercials and after-school specials! Get your foot in the door at Pi Lam: 267-4935.**
- 11:36p: **pika.** arr! Stephen's invisible navy sensed out the starboard bow! raise anchor and give chase! drink coffee or tea while chained to an oar at ramming speed. call 492-6983 and talk like a parrot.*
- 11:45p: **PI Lam.** The majestic MIT campus looks deceptively nice from our roofdeck. Come by Pi Lam and see.**
- 1:57a: **pika.** in a rare serious moment (maybe because we're all asleep), we just want to let you know that pika is a coed co-op house where we all cook and eat and clean and fix up the house. we have great food, real bathrooms, a living room, all that stuff. Come take a look. It's worth it. call 492-6983 in a few hours when we're awake for a ride.*
- 4:30a: **La Maison Française. La Maison Française.** On dort ici. Pourquoi vous dormez pas?*
- 4:31a: **La Maison Française. La Maison Française.** We're sleeping; why aren't you? 5th floor of New House 6.*

Activities


- 7:15p: **Hillel. Shabbat Services, Egalitarian and Orthodox,** at Hillel(W11)
- 7:45p: **Hillel. Shabbat Dinner,** free for new students, at Hillel(W11)

In case of emergency, dial 100 from any MIT phone. Other important numbers: Campus Police: 253-1212 Med Center Emergency: 253-1311 R/O Center: 253-2500 UAA: 253-6772 Nightline: 253-8800 Delta Psi or St. Anthony Hall: please see No.6

The Daily Confusion
Editors: Chiuyi Chan, Kelly Chan, Wesley Chan

NOTE: A single asterisk (*) following a listing indicates a coed or female living group. A double asterisk (**) indicates an activity to which women are cordially invited.

The Tech reprints The Daily Confusion as provided to us by the Residence and Orientation Week Committee. Any questions or complaints about The Daily Confusion should be directed to the R/O Center at x3-2500.



Come in from the rain!

Why get all wet when you get help put together the next day's issue of *The Tech*? We'll be here all through R/O, so just stop by Room 483 of the Student Center and see how easy it is to join!

