

Monday
Largest
Paper



The Weather
Today: Mostly sunny, 75°F (24°C)
Tonight: Partly cloudy, 60°F (16°C)
Tomorrow: Partly sunny, 70°F (21°C)
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Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Monday, August 25, 1997

Residence Selection Begins on Athena

By David D. Hsu
NEWS EDITOR

After going through the dormitory tours, barbecues, and carnivals, freshmen began entering the housing lottery on Athena yesterday at 4 p.m.

Freshmen and transfer students who intend to live in dormitories should enter the lottery by 3 p.m. today. The lottery can be activated from an Athena account by typing "add forms; froshpref &".

There are a total of 15 choices in the lottery: 10 dormitories, Chocolate City, and four language houses. However, two choices are single-sex. McCormick Hall is all-female; Chocolate City is all-male.

The dormitory selection can be changed any time until 5 p.m. on Monday.

The results of the lottery will be available on Wednesday by 5 p.m., said Andy Oakland, a programmer for Information Systems who manages the lottery program.

To check results, freshmen can simply run the lottery program again, Oakland said. E-mail notification will also be sent out but is slower than running froshpref again.

Better placement anticipated

In past years, 93 to 94 percent of freshmen receive one of their top three selections, said Phillip M. Bernard, program director of residential life. About 70 percent receive their top choice.

"We're hoping it's significantly better this year," Bernard said.

Part of the reason for better

placement is that less crowding is expected this year, Bernard said.

In addition, Eliot S. Levitt '89, a former staff assistant for the Office of Residence and Campus Activities, wrote an optimization loop so students would have a better chance of receiving their top five choices, Bernard said. Levitt originally wrote the dormitory lottery program.

Frosh can fill out comment field

A comment field in the lottery enables freshmen to enter a preference for housing, Oakland said. For example, students can request single-sex housing for religious reasons or a first-floor room for medical concerns.

Last year, about 800 students entered the dormitory lottery and just over 100 entered something in the comment field, Oakland said.

A lot of women asked for single-sex housing citing religious reasons, Oakland said. There were also a few medical requests.

Still, several freshmen used the comment field to request conditions the lottery does not address. For example, some freshmen mentioned preferences for single rooms or non-smoking roommates, Oakland said.

RCA may start looking into having a specific checkbox for certain dormitory preferences, Bernard said.

The lottery can also allow students to enter roommate groups, Oakland said. However, if multiple students want to form a group, only

Lottery, Page 8



BOUNCY BOUNCY — Students play on an inflatable tiger at the East Campus Carnival yesterday afternoon.

Rush Alternatives Soothe Frosh

By Dan McGuire
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

As fraternity and sorority rush winds down and dormitory activities begin to heat up, some freshmen are making use of Elsewhere, located in the reading room on the fifth floor of the Student Center and Queer Elsewhere, located in 6-233.

These rush-free environments were organized by the Residence and Orientation Week Committee and Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals,

Transgenders, and Friends at MIT.

Elsewhere began on Friday, after Killian Kick-Off, and will close up shop this Wednesday morning. Operating hours for this week are from noon to 3 a.m. Queer Elsewhere also began Friday and will run from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. every day until Wednesday.

Elsewhere was designed to provide a calm, neutral space for frazzled freshmen. "The purpose of Elsewhere is to provide a rush-free

environment for the freshmen," said Cindy Phan '98. "A lot of them get stressed out looking for housing... [Elsewhere] is a place for them to go to if they don't want to go to other rush events," she added.

Elsewhere serves snacks, cookies, candy, and fruit punch and provides puzzles, games, and Play-Doh to relieve tension. Elsewhere is "Mostly a service for them. We're

Elsewhere, Page 8

New Messaging System Accommodates Freshmen, Dormitories

By Frank Dabek
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Freshman Messaging System, in its first year of operation, appears to be an effective solution to the problem of providing a means of communication with freshmen while not burdening dormitory

desks with extra work.

FMS has been installed in nine out of 10 dormitories. Only Bexley Hall does not have an FMS terminal. Kyle A. Jamieson '00, FMS coordinator, said that there were "security problems with the computer" at Bexley and that the Residence

and Orientation Week Committee decided to pull the computer. Bexley desk could not be reached for comment.

In the other dormitories, the system has been fantastic, said Matthew S. Debergalis '99, who also worked on the system. There

have been "a few hiccups" but the system is running well.

"We've seen a lot more use than we expected," Debergalis said. FMS has been "much more effective than the phone system" which was used last year, he said.

Ashesh P. Shah '98, president of the Dormitory Council, said "I think [FMS] fulfills our needs" while allowing the administration to contact freshmen. He called the system a "good compromise" but said, "dorms don't like the idea of a messaging or tracking system."

FMS not to be used as a rush tool

The system has been used by both the R/O Committee and by independent living groups. Jamieson said that the R/O Committee has sent over 30 messages to freshmen, mostly from parents. ILGs are also able to send messages to freshmen but are only able to send a limited number of messages and are not able to send mass mailings to all freshmen, Jamieson said.

Jorge F. Rodriguez '98, Interfraternity Council rush chair, said that the limit was currently 10 to 15 messages per day.

"Some places have reached the limit," Debergalis said.

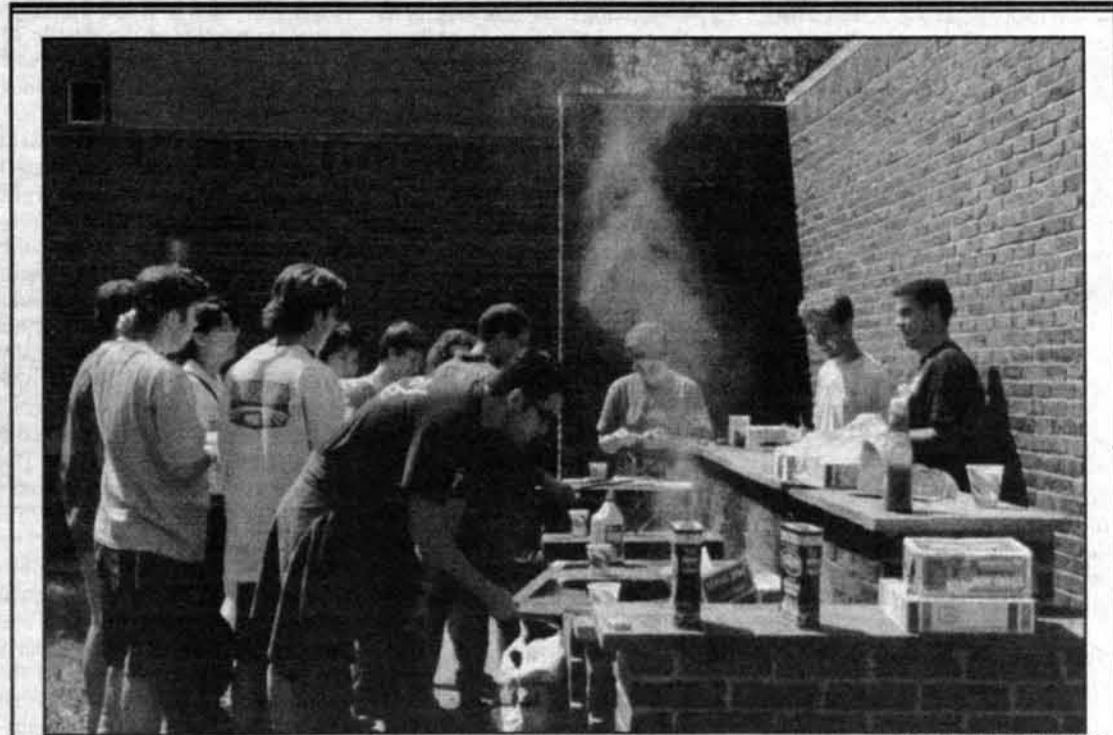
We are "discouraging the use of FMS as a rush tool," Jamieson said. FMS would be more useful to ILGs as a logistical tool rather than to entice freshmen, he said.

FMS is a "totally separate" sys-

tem from the Clearinghouse system used by ILGs to track freshmen, Jamieson said. However, the two systems do work together in some ways. For instance, if a freshman checks his messages, ILGs will be notified that the freshman is in a dormitory but will not know which one, according to Jamieson.

The R/O Committee, the Campus Police, and approved groups can tell which dormitory the freshmen checked messages from. "ILGs cannot track freshmen" through FMS Jamieson said. FMS "is just a supplement... [It's] not

FMS, Page 9



A rising pillar of smoke marks MacGregor's house barbecue yesterday afternoon.

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WORLD & NATION

Clinton to Back U.N. Sanctions Against Angolan Rebels

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

In a long-shot effort to salvage the shaky peace in Angola, the Clinton administration will support new United Nations sanctions on longtime rebel leader Jonas Savimbi and his UNITA movement and is prepared to sell military transport planes to the Angolan government, according to senior officials.

The sanctions, which U.S. officials expect to be imposed by the U.N. Security Council this week, and the aircraft sale reflect the administration's exasperation with Savimbi, a former Cold War ally whom Washington holds largely responsible for the growing tension in Angola.

Washington's view was hardened earlier this month after U.N. Secretary General Kofi A. Annan SM '72 issued a blistering report accusing Savimbi and UNITA of "totally unacceptable" practices — including failure to demobilize troops — that threaten to restart Africa's longest civil war.

During the Cold War Savimbi was Washington's proxy in a struggle against the government of Jose Eduardo dos Santos, which was backed by the Soviet Union and Cuba. But Savimbi has long since outlived his usefulness to Washington, and U.S. anger at his tactics has been apparent since October, when he refused to travel to Luanda, the Angolan capital, to meet then-Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Latin Summit Spotlights Rivalries

THE WASHINGTON POST

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Brazil wants a seat on the U.N. Security Council. Argentina wants special defensive ally status from the United States. Chile is shopping for F-16 fighter jets. Peru already has bought Russian MiGs. And throughout the region, each country is growing suspicious of others' motives.

For a continent at peace, witnessing an unprecedented level of economic cooperation, South America has become increasingly focused on thorny issues of defense and security. The measures have reignited some long-standing regional rivalries and created mounting political friction that is the hottest issue at a summit of Latin American heads of government this weekend in Asuncion, Paraguay.

Experts say recent developments indicate a new phase in the South American renaissance of the 1990s. Already, economic reforms and the creation of the Mercosur alliance — a sort of European Union of countries in South America's Southern Cone — have dramatically increased the continent's economic clout.

A string of state visits by French President Jacques Chirac, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and others have underscored the quest to woo the continent's up-and-coming free-market economies. Now, South American nations, especially the two largest — Brazil and Argentina — are trying to convert their newfound clout into a larger voice in world politics.

"Our economy has become normalized, and we've grown in (economic) strength," Sebastiao Barros, Brazil's deputy foreign minister, said in a telephone interview from Brasilia. "It's only just that we should have more recognition and be allowed to contribute more to the international community."

But in seeking more global prominence, they are stepping on each other's toes — and the United States has found itself right in the middle.

Chilean officials, for instance, have voiced strong opposition to the designation of Argentina as a "non-NATO ally" of the United States. The designation — reserved for America's closest allies outside the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, such as Israel, Japan and South Korea — is expected to be bestowed when President Clinton visits Buenos Aires in October.

Plane Crashes at Beach Resort

THE WASHINGTON POST

While a crowd on a Maryland beach watched in horror, a small sightseeing plane with three people aboard plummeted into the water Sunday afternoon about a mile from the Ocean City shore.

The 44-year-old pilot and his two 25-year-old passengers were missing and presumed dead.

Witnesses said the plane nosedived into the ocean suddenly.

"The plane spiraled and corkscrewed down. The sea just swallowed it up," said Johnny Johnson, 35, of Severna Park, Md., who was at the beach with his wife when the plane crashed about 2:20 p.m.

There was no apparent warning that the plane was in trouble, and no fire or smoke was visible from the shore.

Richard Keep, 21, a student from England in Ocean City, Md., for the summer, watched the red biplane "hanging around," maneuvering in the air offshore for about 10 minutes.

"Suddenly, it rose up in the air, the engine cut off, and everything went silent. It went into a direct spin and went straight into the water," he said "I was numb. It was surreal."

WEATHER

Fair Weather Ahead

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Monday: Mostly sunny. High in the mid 70s (24°C). Wind becoming onshore around 10 miles per hour.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy. Low around 60°F (16°C).

Tuesday: Partly sunny. Cool. High 70°F to 75°F (21-24°C).

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy. Chance of rain. Lows in the 60s (16-21°C). Highs 70 to 80 (21-27°C).

Thursday: Becoming partly cloudy. Lows in the 60s (16-21°C). Highs in the 70s (21-27°C).

Friday: Fair. Lows 55°F to 65°F (13-18°C). Highs in the 70s (21-27°C).

Volcano Continues to Hound British Island of Montserrat

By Serge F. Kovaleski

THE WASHINGTON POST

PLYMOUTH, MONTSERRAT

In Montserrat's epic battle between man and nature, nature — in the form of the Soufriere Hills volcano — is triumphing, threatening the viability of this onetime paradise in the eastern Caribbean.

Nearly two years of violent eruptions have ravaged large swaths of the island with fast-moving rivers of superheated gas, rocks, ash and boulders the size of boats, destroying hundreds of homes and burying villages. Plymouth, the capital of this British dependency, today looks like a post-apocalyptic ruin. The country's economy has effectively been annihilated, as has the farming sector, just when this tiny island was becoming self-sufficient in producing many key crops.

Since the volcano awoke in July 1995 after centuries of dormancy, more than half of Montserrat's 12,000 residents have fled to other Caribbean islands, Britain and the United States, while others have been placed in shelters, some of which are in deplorable condition. Two thousand people have abandoned the island in the last eight weeks alone following several more devastating eruptions. One of those events, on July 25, claimed at least 19 lives — the volcano's first and, so far as is known, only victims — and forced the closing of Montserrat's airport.

Over the weekend, the British government began a voluntary evacuation program, ferrying residents by boat to Antigua, about 30 miles northeast of here. Officials said that as many as 600 people have regis-

tered to be evacuated and receive financial assistance for relocation, a process that will be carried out over the next few weeks with the support of Britain's Royal Navy.

Observers and government officials here expressed concern about the growing flight from the island, saying it does not bode well for the future of Montserrat, which needs between 2,000 and 3,000 residents to remain here to be a viable, functioning place to live. Large numbers of businesses and banks have already been forced to close because of the dearth of customers.

At the same time, most neighboring islands, wrestling with high unemployment and other problems of their own, have made it clear that while they are sympathetic toward the evacuees they do not want to take them in permanently. Many people in Montserrat, however, have relatives in Britain, which has relaxed residency restrictions for the refugees.

The volcano crisis has been accompanied by spasms of social unrest and political instability here. Residents have staged sporadic demonstrations, complaining that their living conditions continue to worsen unabated, that the British have not reacted swiftly enough in helping the island and that the Montserrat government has fallen short in securing more generous resettlement packages from London. Amid the groundswell of discontent, Montserrat's highest-ranking local official, chief minister Bertrand Osborne, resigned last Thursday.

"I feel like we are slowly being wiped off the face of the earth," said Jean Beckett, 39, who has been living in a government-operated shelter

near Salem with her husband since their home was obliterated by lava a month ago. "I don't know how in God's name we can rebuild from this. Our capital is gone, livelihoods are gone, no one seems to be doing much about it, and the only sounds you hear that mean anything are the rumblings of that horrible volcano."

In the meantime, scientists here said that the most likely scenario for Soufriere Hills is that its activity not only will continue at current levels but may increase over the long run, belching greater amounts of the combination of superheated gas, ash and rock known as pyroclastic flow.

"There is consensus among all the senior scientists involved that this crisis has now entered a stage for which there is little precedent in other well-documented eruptions, and that there is an urgent need to consider the future outlook and hazard implications in light of the escalating pattern of activity," the Montserrat Volcano Observatory said in a draft report prepared for the Montserrat government. A copy of the report was obtained by *The Washington Post*.

"The prospect of larger explosive eruptions over the coming weeks and months is significantly increased and the areas with substantial populations in the center of the island are now at much higher risk than before," it concluded.

Government officials said that an estimated two-thirds of the 39-square-mile island, including Salem, the provisional capital, has been designated as an "unsafe zone" and that the safe portion of Montserrat has been reduced to about 13 square miles.

GOP Kicks-Off 2000 Campaign In Large Midwestern Meeting

By Terry M. Neal and Ceci Connolly

THE WASHINGTON POST

INDIANAPOLIS

In what is supposed to be the sleepest month on the political calendar, more than 1,200 midwestern Republicans gathered here this weekend for the unofficial launch of the 2000 presidential campaign — three years before voters go to the ballot box.

The crowd saw a line-up of GOP stars worthy of a national party convention, hoping one will be able to reclaim the White House after eight years under President Clinton. About the only people at the gathering who didn't want to talk openly about a presidential election were the contestants themselves.

But their actions told a different story.

Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., swooped in Saturday from Washington to sign autographs and pose with a cherubic toddler — perhaps the first baby photo of the 2000 campaign.

Former Vice President Dan Quayle came in from his new home of Arizona to pose for hundreds of snapshots with fans at the Indianapolis Speedway. Texas Gov. George W. Bush, no stranger to presidential politics, spent a brief four hours in Indianapolis before dashing out waving off a pack of reporters with "Gotta go. Gotta plane to catch."

Jack Kemp, the 1986 vice presidential nominee, flew in for the closing lunch Sunday.

Along the way, they all paused to give very presidential sounding speeches.

The four were part of a cast of possible presidential candidates that

also included publisher Steve Forbes, former Tennessee governor Lamar Alexander, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., and radio host Alan Keyes.

Mayor Steven Goldsmith, R, basking in the attention his city was receiving, talked with a big smile on his face about how much he enjoyed "meeting with all of the presidential candidates" attending the Midwest Republican Leadership Conference. Reminded that none had officially announced their campaigns, the GOP mayor said: "What else would you call them? They all look like presidential candidates to me."

Thompson was one of few speakers to make even an oblique reference to the line-up of presidential aspirants.

"Someone came in and asked me about this beauty contest that we were having here today," he said, drawing chuckles from the crowd at a luncheon Saturday. "Well, I've seen the list of all of us beauty contestants, and I hope they have more than one prize for Mr. Congeniality because there ain't going to be any beauty awards handed out, I don't think."

In an interview, Quayle said he would place himself "in the category of 'might have presidential ambitions.'"

Kemp Sunday came down squarely on both sides of the presidential campaign question.

"Newt and the Republicans ought to be focusing on '98, not 2000," he told reporters. "The American people do not want perpetual races for the presidency."

But he then detailed his myriad activities to keep his profile high and rekindle some of the enthusiasm activists lost for him in the last cam-

paign. His political action committee is raising money and he has stepped up his travel to key primary states and abroad. "All those things are part and parcel of my being ready to make a decision subsequent to the '98 elections."

Under traditional circumstances, it would be absurd to begin discussing a presidential campaign more than three years before an election. But these are not normal times, said many of the party activists gathered here for the three-day conference that ended today. Republican loyalists said they were concerned about a lack of direction in the party and are looking for a successor worthy of the mantle of Ronald Reagan, whose name was invoked constantly by conference participants.

Many conference attendees said Republicans were taking more serious than ever the need to begin early to identify a qualified, inspirational leader who could unite the party. Last year, many predicted, was the last race the party would nominate a candidate based on seniority — a reference to the early lock Bob Dole had on the GOP nomination.

Duke Powell, 42, a paramedic from Burnsville, Minn., said: "The field's wide open. There is no front-runner. It's a new generation. We'll see who's going to be electable."

Ohio Treasurer Kenneth Blackwell, R, said the record turnout for the gathering here and the large number of national party figures in attendance was all the proof needed that the presidential campaign was underway. Normally, the conference draws fewer than 600 activists and little national media attention.

Montenegrin Leader Propels Country Toward Independence

By Tracy Wilkinson
LOS ANGELES TIMES

MILOCER, YUGOSLAVIA

Even when vacationing here on the Adriatic coast, Milo Djukanovic, the prime minister of Montenegro, is accompanied by bodyguards. Armed and wearing swimming trunks, the guards trudge through the beach sand after their leader or sit nearby in palm-shaded cafes.

And no wonder: Djukanovic is waging a political battle against the most powerful and ruthless man in Yugoslavia, and for now, Djukanovic appears to be winning.

The result is a growing movement demanding equal rights for Montenegro, the tiny republic that is Serbia's partner in today's rump Yugoslavia. Some Montenegrins want more — independence.

Djukanovic and his supporters have been labeled secessionists by Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic's regime, which has reverted to the same kind of rhetoric used against Slovenia and Croatia in 1990 before those one-time

republics bolted from the Yugoslav federation and war engulfed the region.

Djukanovic says that splitting what remains of Yugoslavia is not his intention. His aim, he says, is to gain more freedom for Montenegro and to prevent Milosevic from swallowing up the republic as he expands his own power.

"I'm fighting to provide for Montenegro a dignified, equal position within the Yugoslav federation that will provide a higher degree of freedom for its citizens," Djukanovic said in an interview, taking a break from his vacation on Montenegro's scenic coast. "I think it's worth developing a more democratic political and economic system within the federation, but whether that is possible or not, time will show."

Montenegro, with just under 650,000 people, is one-sixteenth the size of Serbia. For years, it was a compliant ally in Serbia's war with Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The mountainous republic produced

some of the conflict's most virulent nationalists, including Radovan Karadzic.

But, finally, Montenegrins tired of suffering the same pariah-state status as Serbia. International economic sanctions that crippled Serbia's economy also hurt Montenegro and fed a booming sanctions-busting smuggling business over Montenegro's borders.

The breaking point came this year when Milosevic, barred by the constitution from running for re-election as president of Serbia, decided to become president of all of Yugoslavia. He suddenly needed Montenegrin cooperation, especially as he tried to change the Yugoslav Constitution to transfer powers to the federal presidency, which until now had been a largely ceremonial post.

The issue is not just political. Analysts say Montenegro's economic interests, particularly the thriving black-market cigarette trade that Djukanovic is reputed to be godfather to, are also at stake.

Gore, Silicon Valley Executives Form New High Tech Brain Trust

By Elizabeth Shogren
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

It doesn't show up on the roster of White House advisory panels and blue-ribbon commissions. It doesn't even have an official name, although those in the know have nicknamed it "Gore-Tech."

Once a month, Vice President Al Gore meets privately with a select group of Silicon Valley entrepreneurs, sometimes on the high-tech executives' home turf in Northern California, sometimes around a conference table at the White House.

"They're like the kind of meetings I'm used to in the Valley," says Kim Polese, a Palo Alto software entrepreneur who is a regular participant. "There's no hierarchy, and no protocol about who can speak when. That would get in the way."

Although the topics vary from month to month, the overarching agenda is the same: fathoming the implications of America's "new economy" and devising practical solutions to public policy problems large and small.

And while its existence remains something of a secret in official Washington, Gore-Tech is rapidly becoming one of the most influential brain trusts in town.

In recent months, Gore-Tech has weighed in on issues ranging from education policy to FDA staffing. And increasingly, White House officials all the way up to President Clinton are seeking its guidance — and responding to its advice.

"We're so convinced that we think what's in the best interest of our industry is in the best interest of the whole country," says Halsey Minor, 32-year-old founder of a fast-growing technology company called CNET and another Gore-Tech regular.

"We feel in some ways like we're reviving America," adds Steve Perlman, another participant and inventor of WebTV, a device that enables people to surf the Internet and send e-mail with their television sets.

To some extent, the hubris is understandable. Over the past three years, the high-tech sector has contributed 27 percent of the growth in the nation's gross domestic product, according to a recent analysis by Business Week magazine.

Although there have been only eight Gore-Tech skull sessions so far, the collaboration already has had a measurable impact on public policy. Some examples:

- An administration-endorsed project to improve communication

between school and home through an interactive computer network.

- A Clinton-sanctioned effort to make it easier for parents to monitor their children's Internet use.

- An administration campaign to enact legislation to prevent unnecessary delays in approval of new pharmaceuticals.

Gore-Tech consists of a core group of 15 or so regulars, although the roster varies somewhat from month to month. It includes the young, wildly successful designers of new technologies that are rapidly becoming household names: Netscape, Yahoo, WebTV, Java.

"Our goal was to wire up this community with the White House," says White House technology adviser Tim Newell. "We feel it's been successful."

The unusual collaboration represents a striking turnaround for the technology industry, which has long practiced a leave-us-alone-and-we'll-leave-you-alone strategy in its dealings with government.

The group has informed Gore's understanding of what kind of economy will work for America in the next century, a vision he espouses regularly in speeches across the country and is likely to incorporate into his presidential campaign for 2000, aides say.

Power Plant Experiment in N. Korea Implements Terms of Nuclear Pact

By Sonni Efron
LOS ANGELES TIMES

KUMHO, NORTH KOREA

Rusting boats and stilled cranes line the piers of the dilapidated port of Yanghwa on North Korea's remote northeastern coast.

The clothing and umbrellas of the few people on the dock are drab. The red paint on the party slogans atop the somber concrete warehouses is faded. The only bright, well-maintained object in sight is a huge portrait of "Great Leader" Kim Il Sung, who died three years ago.

The isolation, the time warp and the ideology gap are daunting to some of the 67 South Korean construction workers and engineers who have set up shop here. In an experiment in constructive engagement, they are to build two nuclear power plants for energy-starved North Korea, in exchange for Pyongyang's freezing of its suspected nuclear weapons program.

The South Korean workers will spend at least a year in Kumho, where they have found themselves

inside a hermetically sealed enclave inside an already hermetic, xenophobic North Korea. Contact with the locals is limited to those who work in the Soviet-style guest house near the reactor site or on the reactor itself.

When the outsiders are driven anywhere, "there are little guys with Volvos that go ahead of us on the road and shoo the people away so we're exposed to the minimum number of people," one diplomatic source said.

The foreigners — here with a handful of South Korean, American and Japanese officials working with the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization, or KEDO — did see one program about KEDO on the single North Korean television station, which usually features singing soldiers, old war movies and traditional dramas. And those here who were involved in negotiating the project report unanimously that relations with their North Korean counterparts steadily are improving.

Still, jogging through the sandy pine forests here is not permitted, and foreigners must be escorted to swim or dig for clams in the ocean. The beach is cut off from the reactor site by a large, sandy berm, apparently fortified to protect against an invasion.

The concrete housing used by the foreigners originally was built for Soviet workers who once were expected to build a reactor here, and it has hot water for only two hours a day. But living conditions are expected to improve once the South Koreans build a new dormitory and recreation center, complete with billiard halls, karaoke parlors and satellite TV.

Park Young Chul, the South Korean director of the KEDO division of the Korean Electric Power Corp, the main contractor, called Kumho "a big jail without a fence" but nevertheless plans to spend two years here, joining his family in South Korea only once every three months. "I am worried about divorce," he confided.

Hoffa Calls for Special Prosecutor In Teamsters Election

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

James P. Hoffa Sunday called for an independent special prosecutor to investigate the financial dealings of the Teamsters union in support of president Ron Carey's re-election last year.

"Today I'm calling for a special prosecutor, an independent prosecutor," said Hoffa, who was narrowly defeated by Carey last year in government supervised elections.

Carey quickly agreed to Hoffa's proposal. "I have absolutely no problem. I would encourage it," said Carey, who appeared with Hoffa on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press."

Hoffa first issued the call for an independent prosecutor on "Fox Sunday News" and then repeated it on "Meet the Press" and ABC-TV's "This Week." At each stop on the television dial Hoffa essentially delivered the same message.

The federal government on Friday ordered a new election for Carey and all the national union officers elected on his slate, citing "a complex network of schemes" used to finance their elections. The report by Barbara Zack Quindel, the court-appointed officer overseeing the elections, outlined a series of schemes involving both money from the union's general treasury and money from its political action fund which was used to help finance the Carey re-election campaign.

American Crocodile Makes a Comeback

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MIAMI

Toothy, tough and terrifying, the crocodile is one of Earth's dogged survivors, and one of mankind's worst nightmares.

"They are right up there with sharks, snakes and spiders, one of the few species that commands almost a reflexive fear," said biologist Frank Mazzotti. "On seeing a crocodile, most people think, 'This animal wants to eat me.'"

In Florida, home of the only crocodile native to the United States, that fear helped push the 200 million-year-old reptile to the brink of extinction, even though the American crocodile is not much of a threat to humans.

As recently as 1978, three years after being declared an endangered species, estimates of the U.S. population of the American crocodile fell to 200, and a U.S. Park Service report estimated that fewer than 20 females had nested the previous spring.

Now the beast is back. Although the American crocodile remains the rarest reptile in North America, "today we have more crocodiles in more places in Florida than we did 20 years ago," said Mazzotti, a University of Florida professor, who puts the current number of adults at between 400 and 500. "In terms of recovery, I think we can get the population back to what it was before we started altering the habitat, maybe 2,000 to 3,000 animals. I'm cautiously optimistic."

Study Says Domestic Violence 'Seriously Under-Reported'

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Asserting that domestic violence is "seriously under-reported," the Justice Department released a study Sunday that found that a quarter of a million people were treated for injuries inflicted by an intimate partner in 1994 — four times more than previously estimated.

The study, by the department's Bureau of Justice Statistics, is likely to refocus national attention on an issue that had fallen out of the spotlight in the wake of an otherwise dramatic drop in violent crime in the nation over the past four years.

The new estimate of domestic violence, which is notoriously difficult to measure, was compiled by examining emergency hospital admissions rather than the more common but less precise practice of surveying police records or interviewing victims of violence.

Of the 1.4 million people treated for nonfatal injuries stemming from willful or suspected intentional acts of violence in 1994, almost half were injured by someone they knew. And about 243,000, or 17 percent, were treated for injuries inflicted by someone with whom they had had an intimate relationship — a spouse, former spouse or current or former boyfriend or girlfriend.

The 243,000 injuries were four times higher than the number reported in the Department's National Crime Victimization Survey — an annual study that is the largest government survey after the national census.

Invasion of Argentine Ants Irritates Californians

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SAN DIEGO

Self-centered species that we are, Californians tend to look at ants and think only of the trouble they're causing us: our kitchen, our picnics, our bird feeders.

But now two researchers at the University of California, San Diego, have found evidence that the annoyance to humans caused by the California invasion of Argentine ants may be small cheese compared to the damage being inflicted on small mammals and lizards.

"The results could be disastrous to an entire ecosystem," said researcher Andrew Suarez, a doctoral student in conservation biology.

The most seriously imperiled species could be the coastal horned lizard, possibly being pushed closer to extinction by waves of Argentine ants. Even before the insects arrived, the horned lizard was listed as a "species of special concern," the first step toward becoming threatened, endangered and then kaput.

The ants (*Linepithema humile*) are established firmly from the San Francisco Bay Area to the rivers and streams near Sacramento and also along the Southern California coast. In recent years, they have become public pest No. 1 in California, surpassing even fleas and roaches.

OPINION

Excess Committees Devalue Governance

Column by Anders Hove
OPINION EDITOR

The system of governance at MIT is broken. This will hardly be taken as a controversial statement by anyone — student, faculty, or dean. Yet the question of how to fix it — that no wise members of MIT's elite would touch with a ten-foot pole. Taking a quick inventory of my own pole collection, I find there is nary a 10-footer among them. It appears I'll have to wade straight in.

Any veteran reformer knows you can't make things function at the grass roots if the top doesn't work. Reform should start at the top, and that means with the faculty, to whom the MIT Corporation has delegated responsibility for guiding students' education.

Unlike many universities, MIT educational policy is theoretically guided by the whole faculty, rather than by individual schools and departments. At first, when all the faculty could fit in a classroom, that was no problem. But by the beginning of this century, things were already getting out of hand. By the 1950s, people were already calling faculty meetings perfunctory and deriding their low attendance.

The 1949 Lewis Committee agreed. Its members complained, "The extensive development of the faculty-committee system of administration results almost inevitably in an excessive burden of meetings." The problem, it concluded wisely, was that there were too many committees and that the weirdly organized committees were being asked to do the wrong work. Reacting to these conclusions, the MIT faculty delegated a great many of their powers to the departments and schools. This system of delegation remains today.

The Lewis Committee also recommended that MIT's numerous faculty committees be combined. Too many committees, you see, produce too many meetings, too many reports, and too much confusion. The more tangled the

web, the less likely we'll be able to manage it.

It didn't happen. In 1950, MIT had 10 faculty committees, including four committees for each undergraduate year. Now there are nearly 30-odd committees, and there's been no let-up in their proliferation. The Dean's Office has contributed a spate of working groups and advisory boards, as have dozens of other minor MIT offices. As if this weren't enough, the re-engineering effort felt the need to propagate its own bevy of steering groups, affinity teams, and advisory councils. I doubt any one person knows the names of all the committees, let alone what they all do.

Many, of course, do nothing at all. Among committees, it is considered great progress for a group to take a weighty topic into consideration at all. After a few months concerted deliberation, the committee may duly pass the buck to the next committee, proudly washing its hands of the whole issue.

A good example of committee sloth was the much-touted ROTC Working Group. First of all, where did anyone get off calling committees "working groups"? Doesn't this imply that other groups do no work? And what new term will they invent when someone notices working groups don't seem to do a whole lot either?

Anyway, the ROTC Working Group was appointed by the faculty in 1991 to investigate ROTC and recommend a course of action in five years. The working group spent five years doing exactly nothing, and, when the deadline drew near, they produced a hasty recommendation that the president appoint a task force to do the same thing. This done, the working group passed into history.

Another similar case involved the recent fast action by the Institute Committee on Student Affairs. Asked to review issues of dining and student life, they produced a report recommending the creation of — you guessed it — the food services working group to investigate the same issue. That's nice work.

The amazing thing is anything gets done at all. After five years of observation, I've noticed that one can expect two committees to even attempt a major action in a given year. The real trick is figuring out which two com-

mittees will take that leap. For all I can tell, it has no bearing on what committee's purpose or what task they have at hand. What matters is who sits on the committee and whether or not they've decided to damn the torpedoes.

And there are plenty of torpedoes to dodge. If you're a committee chair, you know full well that nobody expects you to do anything (with the possible exception of the faculty chair). Faculty and students know, as I do, that only two committees will do anything, and they've placed their chips on another committee. After all, if they thought it was going to be your committee throwing it into high gear, they'd have been sitting on it all along!

The impossibility of predicting who the players will be produces an inevitable conflict. When action always emanates from unexpected committees, it doesn't matter how hard you try to stay on top of all the issues that concern you. Indeed, you might as well do nothing.

The truly amazing thing is to hear people complain about how apathetic students are when they put out a survey or how nobody ever seems to attend a faculty meeting. Is this really any surprise? Yes, people are busy. But more than that, even those who want to be involved have no idea what's going on. The system is unproductive and overwhelming at the same time.

What's the solution? The faculty have to start by exercising discipline. So do the deans. So does the president. Eliminate some committees. Eliminate all of them and see what happens. Call a 10-year moratorium on working groups and task forces.

Eliminating the committees, of course, would not solve the problems of Institute governance. That involves questions of sharing power and consulting the right people. Questions I don't have an answer to, and neither does anyone else.

What I do know is we have too many committees. The current committee glut has thrown a fog of confusion over every issue, from curriculum to housing. How can the faculty, let alone the students they supposedly serve, direct MIT's affairs intelligently when so few people can even tell what's going on?

Preoccupation with Celebrity Is Pathetic

Column by Stacey E. Blau
OPINION EDITOR

When the Clinton family took off for Martha's Vineyard last week, the local paper there produced two supplements about the

First Family's impending three-week visit. On the family's first morning in Martha's Vineyard, radio and news wire reports quickly circulated about Bill Clinton's first few activities on the island. Word had it that the president was drinking his coffee and eating a pastry. Frequent updates followed.

There have since been articles in *The New York Times* and *The Boston Globe* describing the President's leisure pursuits on the island, his favorite haunts for ice cream and the like, and a swirl of rumors about parties among the island's chichi social bunch where one might find the president a guest. Indeed, yesterday's issue of *The Tech* featured a World & Nation short about a Clinton's vacation.

The obsession with every last detail of Clinton's trip to the Vineyard seems to make

little sense. You'd expect a few articles here and there, a couple of features. It is August, the slowest news month of the year. But where does the preoccupation end? Why doesn't it end?

The hoopla the trip reminds me of a strange and fierce group of girls I went to high school with. Unlike most American high schools, my high school's social situation could be described as pretty non-hierarchical. There was a fairly small group of kids, a kind of odd residue of junior high school, who fulfilled what in some sense one might call a popular crowd. But they were by no means the exalted self-appointed clique of kids that half the school population looks up to and longs to be like that you may find in a typical American high school.

The strange and fierce girls, however, seemed to think differently. They were more than happy to fulfill the role of girls who blindly admire and try their best to imitate the clique of the exalted. They seemed to insist on consignment to a lower social rung when absolutely no one was making an effort to put them there.

Frighteningly enough, it seems like the same mentality is at work with the Clinton trip obsession. I asked some friends about it to see if they had any theories. They mostly

shrugged. Everyone is curious about what the president's up to, they said. He's an important guy.

Point taken. But at some level, don't people get tired of obsessing over the same stuff? To know and care so much about the every last detail of a person's life is practically to live vicariously through them. It's as pathetic and demeaning as the situation with the girls in my high school.

It's no secret that America has a general fascination with celebrities. Bill Clinton is not the only focus of attention. People can't wait to know about Princess Di's new swain. Their hopes are raised and dashed along with the ups and downs of the lives of their favorite soap opera characters. They follow indiscriminately even the worst celebrity trends — case in point, those layered *Friends* haircuts (some examples of that awful hairdo still remain around campus to this day).

People must simply be bored with themselves or think so little of their own lives that they're willing to make a cult out of the lives of people who are more exciting and celebrated than they. One can only hope that this affliction doesn't spread into MIT; there are only so many dean-worshipping feebies this campus can take.



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Too Many Perpetuate False Notions About Leadership

Column by Brett Altschul
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Some people think that individual leadership is a concept that belongs to the past, that individual achievement is becoming less and less meaningful. High schools and colleges, including MIT, emphasize the importance of cooperative work. The theme also invades our fiction. The tremendously influential futuristic vision created by William Gibson is also centered on this idea. In his novel *Count Zero*, two characters discuss "the paradox of individual wealth in a corporate age."

Outstanding individual action is not a concept whose time has past. It's a concept that never had a time. Individual leadership and personal action have never dominated history, and they're no less pointless today.

Fundamentally, this idea has its foundation in elitism. The people who have decided that they will steer the world's destiny want to keep the ranks of the powerful filled with their own. Although the particular character of these self-anointed prophets has changed over time, their tactics haven't. By focusing on unmeasurable qualities, those in power may reject those they want to keep out of power with total impunity.

College admissions offer an excellent example. Before the turn of the century, admissions to most colleges, including Harvard, were based solely on academic performance. At the time, this was sufficient to keep the places almost exclusively WASP. However, as the number of Jews in top colleges swelled, the old guard saw a problem; their coveted country-club atmosphere was in danger. The solution they devised was simple and ingenious. They kept the Jews out by requiring that applicants prove their individuality and leadership. Problem solved.

My high school offered a class called Leadership. It required the permission of the instructor, the director of activities, to take the class. The scheme was incredibly well-designed. You could get into the class only if you were a "leader" already. In practice, this meant that people who were popular could get into the class, while leaders of controversial student groups were denied entrance. The final joke was that the class had no content whatsoever. But although the time just served as a study hall, the enrolled students could be sure they were among the chosen few who would steer the course of future

society.

At MIT, most decisions, from admission to tenure, are based on merit. Students are supposed to be graded on an absolute scale that doesn't depend on the performance of anyone else. However, there are a few attempts to make MIT part of the culture of the individual. Those attempts are silly.

The Freshmen Leadership Program is an excellent and timely example of this silliness. This year's participants seem very attached to a gesture they learned at the program, a gesture that represents "Raise the roof." Apparently, the organizers of this program were ignorant of just what roof that expression means. "Raise the roof" is a reference to the traditional New England practice of barn-raising. At a barn-raising, the entire rural community assembles to assist one family, building them a barn in a single day. The Amish still do this.

Barn-raising is perhaps the most egalitarian activity that is a uniquely American tradition. Every community member assists as they can, and there is certainly no designated leadership structure. The whole region is drawn together as they raise the roof.

From what I saw at the "Killian" Kick-

Off, the rest of the freshmen weren't particularly keen on the way the FLP people were gesturing. Those who weren't among the anointed didn't seem to want to have anything to do with those who were. It's not a good sign that two groups have already been forced apart in a freshman class less than a week old, and it's very ironic that a traditional symbol of unity and equality should prove so divisive.

If you doubt the danger of the emphasis on ephemeral pursuits, consider the final product of this system: President Bill Clinton. The most powerful man in the world is ingratiating and morally questionable. The first baby-boomer to ascend to the presidency got there by being sociable, by being a leader. The system created a man who had no core of beliefs, merely a facade of charisma. He is the perfect campaigner, but when it comes to actually governing, he lacks direction and focus. It's disturbing that this man has the power he does.

This whole culture of individual leadership hurts those of us who try to do real work as part of team. Real work is done in groups, and good decisions are made by technocrats, not "leaders."

Well-Informed Frosh Make R/O a Less Cynical Time

Guest column by Nicholas G. Feamster

Do you think this rush week has been swamped by cynicism? Not so fast. The column by Stacey E. Blau '98 ["Cynicism Rules Rush More than Ever," Aug. 24] seems to make the argument that the rainy weather, among other things, ruined the chance upperclassmen had hoped for to "complain with freshmen in future conversations about R/O and rush." What a shame that the freshmen will be able to complain about their experience only with other class members; perhaps we can regard it as another bonding exercise.

I could have been regarded as a corner-dwelling cynic when it came to group activities in high school, especially those which involved playing silly games (perhaps it was the time my classmates failed to catch me on the "trust fall" that ruined my perspective). As an independent thinker, I had a great deal of problems with group bonding exercises in high school.

Because of my previous encounters with "circle games," I probably went in a bit doubtful about the situation at hand. An open mind, however, allowed me to realize that teamwork skills could actually be valuable. Perhaps the games are silly, perhaps you don't really care about propping up a tennis ball with chopsticks, and perhaps people from your Project MOYA group will eventually forget your name

anyway; still, I say, it was not a waste of time.

I will concede that I felt quite lost during the 45 minutes before rush began. Quite honestly, I still haven't managed to sort through all of the confusion and chaos. However, I do not consider myself, nor any freshman, to be a sponge that simply soaks up literature the pamphlet from the MIT Extropians and embraces its underlying philosophies. It is true that the freshmen are well-informed; this is exactly the reason we should expect to see less cynicism, which can

often be merely a coverup for cluelessness. Why are such seemingly inane games continually played every year? Why are activities like the Freshman Leadership Program organized? Although I was not privileged enough to swing my behind in the air with 100 other people, I can nevertheless

see the value of such activities, as well as the activities associated with rush. The purpose of these events is to meet people and to discover your interests and talents as well as those of the people around you. Moreover, I've found that such opportunities give me respect for other people's backgrounds as well as a greater appreciation for mine.

Perhaps, also, they will give freshmen the opportunity to meet students other than those who can only gripe about the weather.

Nicholas G. Feamster is a member of the Class of 2001.

It is true that the freshmen are well-informed; this is exactly the reason we should expect to see less cynicism, which can often be merely a coverup for cluelessness.

ERRATUM

The article "Rush Continues Today at MIT's Various FSILGs" in Saturday's issue of *The Tech* omitted an entry for Pi Lambda Phi.

The entry should have read, "Pi Lambda Phi is an all-male fraternity located at 450 Beacon St. *The Tech* was unable to contact the house at press time."

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There were times I was ready to kill him. Twin brothers are like that—always competing, trying to prove something. Like when he took Kelly Applegate away from me our senior year. I swore I'd never speak to him again. But when Jeff wrecked his car and had to have blood, I was scared. I thought I'd never see him alive again. But thank God the blood was there. Somebody somewhere already gave.

We never even knew who did it,

but whoever it was will always be a hero to me. And to everyone else in my family. It's funny to think that someone who didn't even know my brother, and never will, could save his life simply by giving blood. But it really is that simple. And it really is that important. That's why I started donating blood. Cause who knows? Maybe someday I'll be somebody's hero, too."

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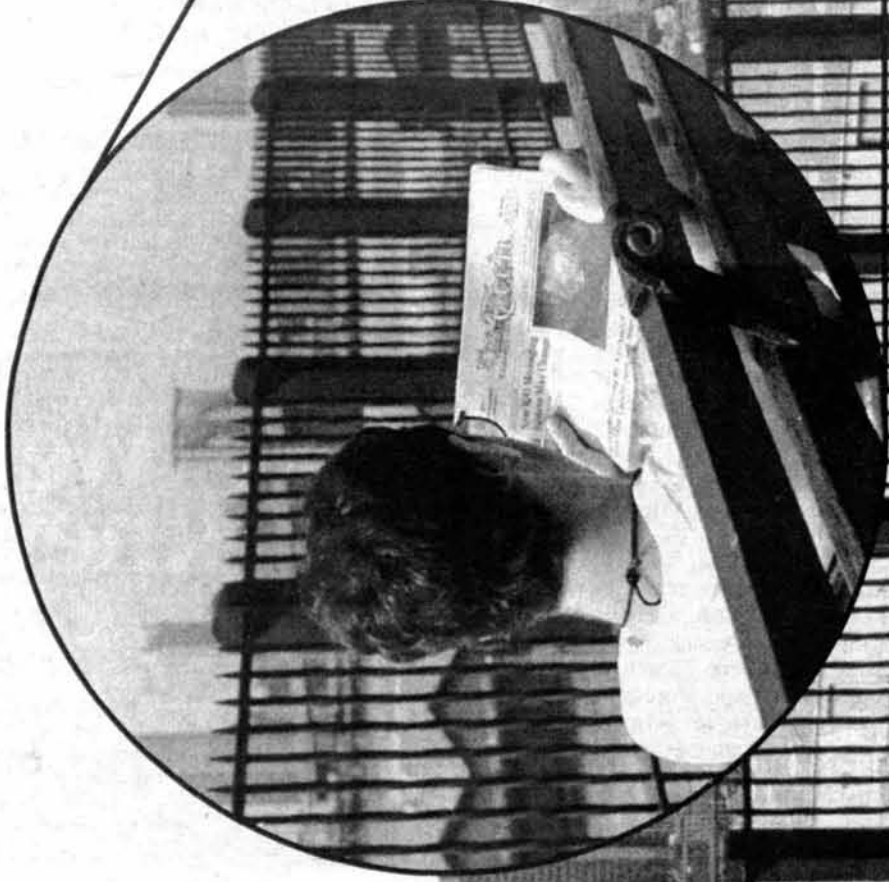


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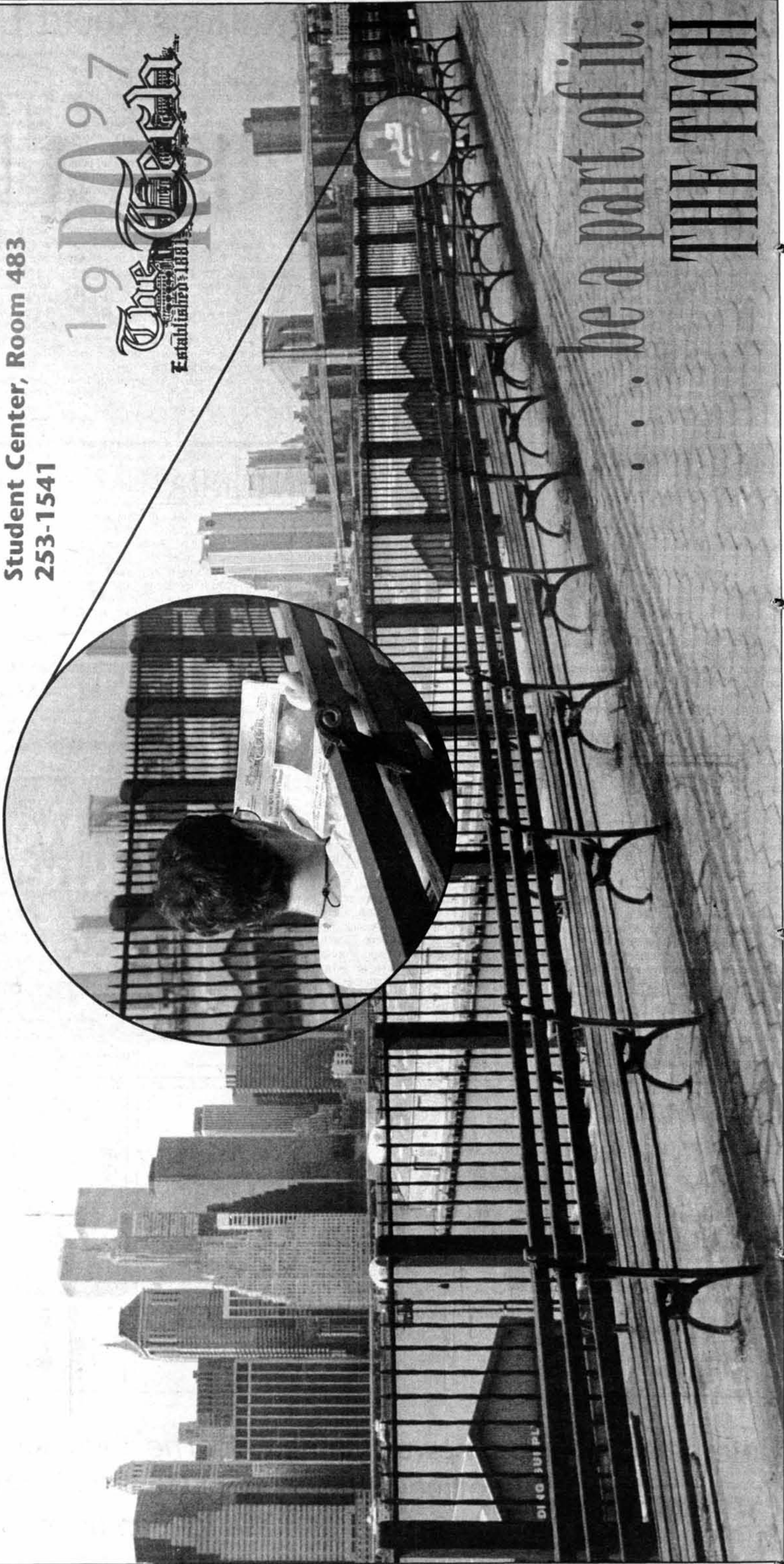
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Even New Yorkers read *The Tech*. And with an audience that large, don't you wish you were a part of it? Luckily, it's as easy as stopping by any time during R/O. And be sure to see us at Tuesday's Activities Midway.

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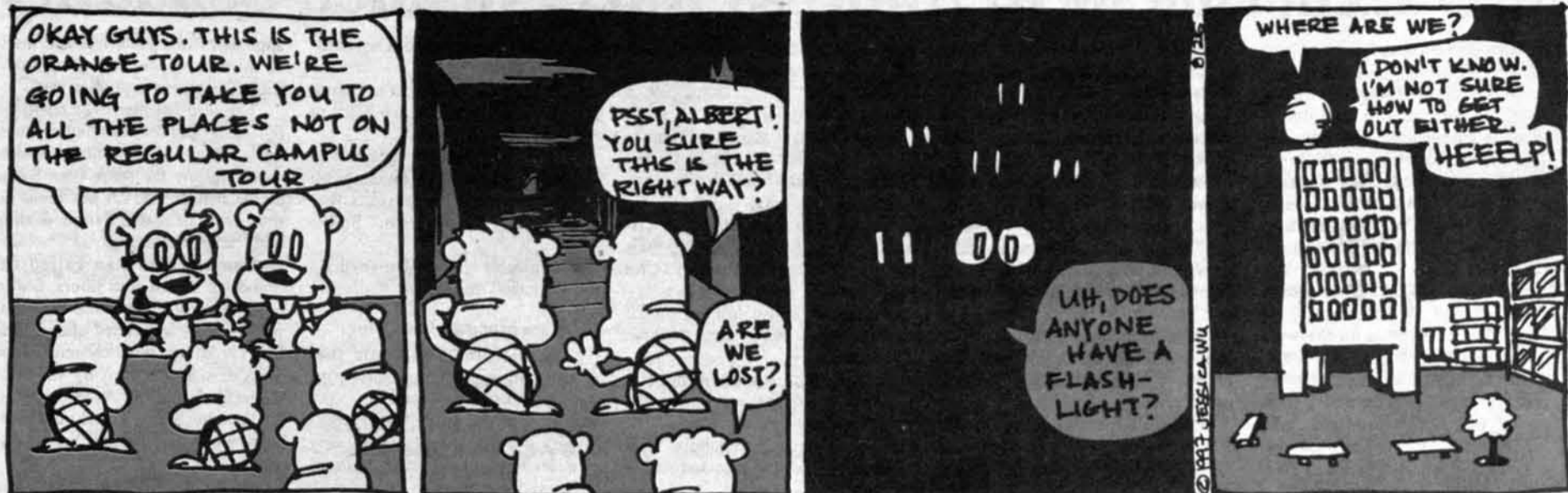
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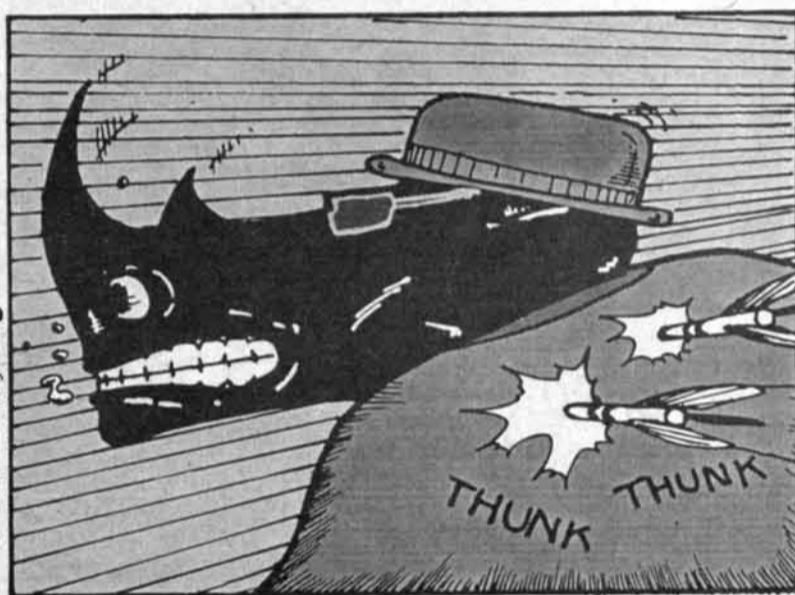
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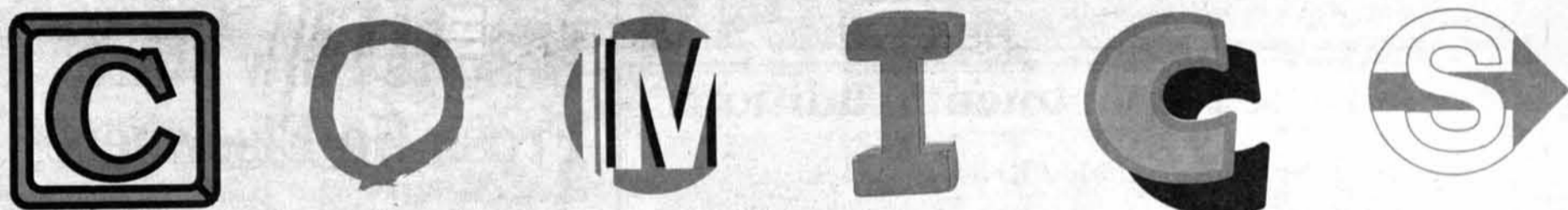
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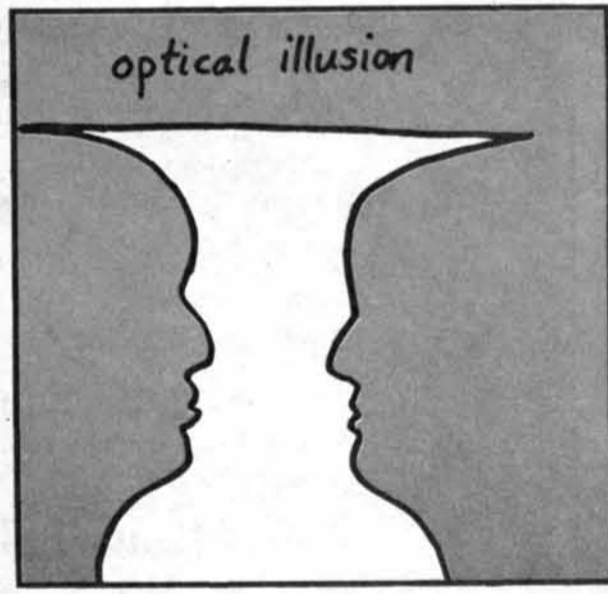
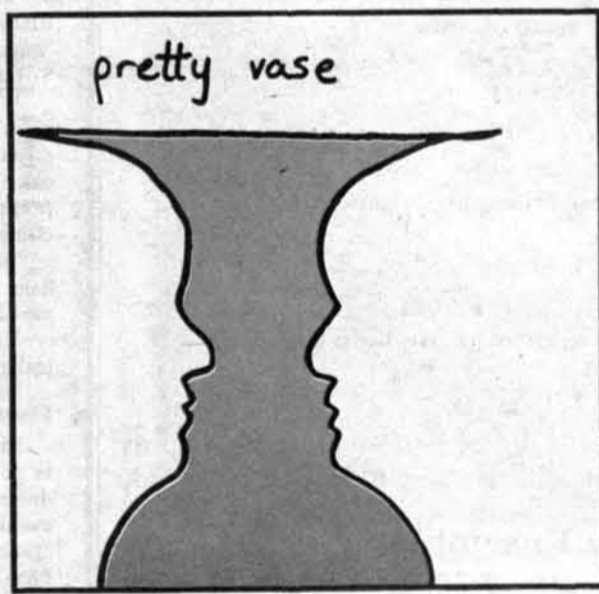
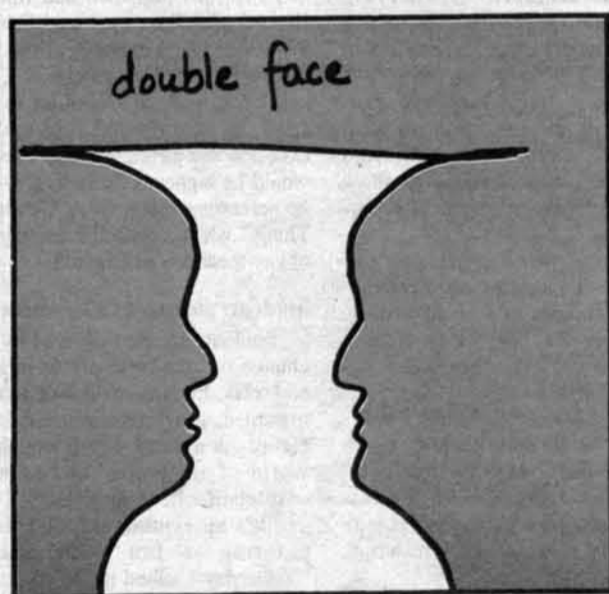
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To be continued...



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R/O Experiment to Address Race, Gender, Sexuality

By Zareena Hussain
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

One of the experiments of this year's Residence and Orientation Week is a program called Stand Up which is intended to allow freshman to learn about themselves and each other, while addressing issues of race, gender, and sexuality that may be overlooked during the frantic schedule of rush.

Stand Up will take place tomorrow from 4 to 6 p.m. in Kresge Oval. The rain location for the event is DuPont Gymnasium.

There will be approximately 30 counselors on hand for the estimated 600 to 700 freshmen participating, said Joaquin S. Terrones '97, one of the organizers for the event.

MOYA's failings remedied

The idea for Stand Up began as a replacement for Project Move Off Your Assumptions as a result of the discontent of Stand Up organizers with their own MOYA experiences.

Damon W. Suden '99, one of the organizers, termed his MOYA experience as "traumatic."

"Two or three people would take charge and take control and tell everyone else what to do," Suden said.

While the name MOYA might imply a learning experience, the organizers of Stand Up are inclined to disagree.

"I didn't learn anything about the people I was with," Suden said.

"[Stand Up] is trying to accom-

plish what MOYA does not, just trying to open [the freshmen's] minds," said Van L. Chu '99, a Stand Up counselor.

Stand Up will consist of "games that directly relate to the issues but don't involve [their] direct confrontation," Chu said.

Students will be slowly acclimated to the idea of discussing their differences and similarities, Chu said.

"You can't start talking out of the blue about racial segregation," Chu said.

The program is also intended to combat some of the segregation that many feel may exist on campus.

"Tolerance is not enough," Chu said, citing that it is easy to tolerate

those with whom one does not associate.

The scope of Stand Up is intended to extend beyond its two hours in duration.

"The goal of the program is to increase awareness of diversity on campus, to start discussions that would lead into the term," Suden said.

"You can't really solve anything in two hours," he said.

Program proposed last spring

The idea for a program that would address issues of diversity during R/O was first brought to the attention of the greater MIT community at a protest staged last spring in order to highlight areas of racial insensitivity on campus.

The protesters listed many demands, one of which was a comprehensive, mandatory program for freshmen during R/O that would focus on diversity.

At this protest, Elizabeth Cogliano, director of R/O,

approached the protesters and invited them to propose their program to the R/O Committee, Suden said.

The original plan was designed by Stand Up's four original organizers to replace MOYA, Suden said. It would follow the same time frame as the regular MOYA but focus on discussion of and activities dealing with campus diversity.

The original plan called for Stand Up to last four hours, Suden said. However, because the final proposal was submitted after all the MOYA leaders were chosen, Suden said, it was deemed by the R/O Committee that the replacement of MOYA by Stand Up should wait until a pilot program is tested this year.

Of the possibility of replacing project MOYA with Stand Up, "I wouldn't go as far to say that we would completely replace MOYA," Cogliano said.

However, there is room for parts of Stand Up to be incorporated into MOYA, Cogliano said.

Freshmen Satisfied With Lottery System

Lottery, from Page 1

one person should enter the lottery for that group.

Students happy with lottery

Freshmen generally didn't encounter problems with the dormitory lottery system.

"I'm not a computer user, but it's pretty easy to use," said Chris Chow '01.

Freshmen used the tours and dormitory literature to help make their final decision.

"I took a tour, and the people I met convinced me," said Derek S. Lam '01, who made Next House his first choice.

Mansour Sindi '01 checked out all the dormitories and eventually chose MacGregor House as his top pick for its single rooms "because I had roommates in high school."

For Becky A. Neuschatz '01, Baker House looked like a fun place to live and her friends were also thinking of rushing there, she said.

Jason C. Yang contributed to the reporting of this story.

Despite Slow Start, Frosh Go Elsewhere

Elsewhere, from Page 1

not trying to get them to do anything; we're just giving them a place to go to" relax, Phan said.

Queer Elsewhere began in 1992 as an alternative to standard Elsewhere. Queer Elsewhere is a "queer-friendly place," said Joaquin S. Terrones '97, a worker there.

While it, like Elsewhere, provides foods and entertainment, such as movies, video games, and board games, it is also designed to allow freshmen to ask questions of upperclassmen.

"It's not just a place you can hang out. It's also a place for freshmen to ask questions about sexuality, lesbian, and gay life on campus and in Boston," Terrones said.

Elsewheres turnout stable

Thus far it would seem that rush is going fairly well for most students. Elsewhere had a slow evening on Friday, playing host to "probably seven to 10" freshmen, Phan said.

"I think that people have been so heavily involved in... rush that they haven't gotten the chance to come back to campus," said Sarah R. Cohen '00, a worker at Elsewhere.

Cohen said that she thought attendance would pick up as dormitory rush began near the end of the weekend.

Queer Elsewhere had similar attendance. "On the first night we had two, last night we had four or five people come by," said Damon W. Suden '99, a member of the R/O Sexual Identity Committee.

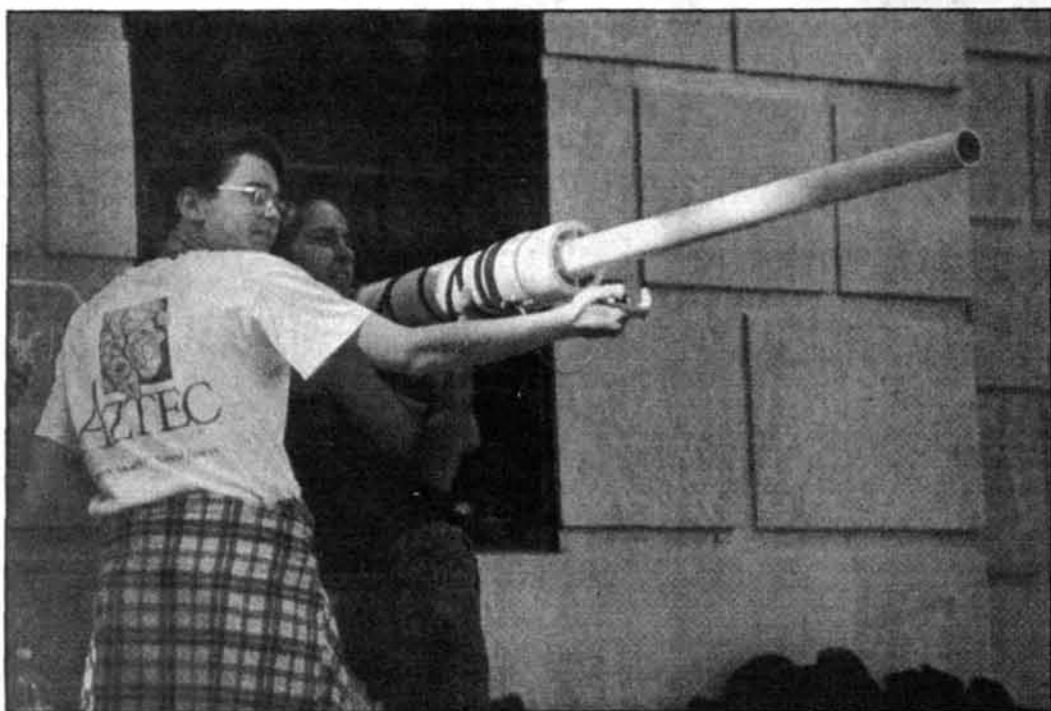
The turnout was "similar to last year" he said. Suden said that he expected that turnout Sunday evening would be higher because they would be screening the movie "Beautiful Thing," which details the coming out of two teenagers in England.

Students pleased by Elsewhere

Students seemed pleased by the chance to take time off from rush and relax. Elsewhere "is like a great, gigantic, glorious summer camp before our advance to the wonderful world of adulthood" and college, said Jennifer K. Chang '01.

"It's air conditioned, and finger painting is fun," she added. "Yesterday I talked to the counselor for input on dorms and courses."

"I found rush a lot of fun," said Alex S. Park '01. "I think [Elsewhere] is a great place to relax, the food was welcome."



FIRE AWAY — Vis Taise '01 aims "Gloria", a homemade bazooka potato gun, while Amittai Axelrod '01 counts down to fire from Senior House.

MIT Music Department Auditions

MIT Brass Ensemble / Brass Quintets

Rehearsals: Tuesday & Thursday, 5pm - 7pm, Killian Hall. Auditions: Thursday, September 4, 5pm. Prepared solo and sight-reading required.

MIT Chamber Music Society

First meeting & auditions: Tuesday, September 2, 7pm, Killian Hall. Prepared solo required of new members.

MIT Concert Band

Rehearsals: Monday & Wednesday, 8pm - 10pm, Kresge.
First Meeting: Wednesday, September 3, 8pm.
Read through Concert Band literature and group auditions.

MIT Concert Choir

Rehearsals: Monday & Thursday, 6pm - 8:30pm, Room 2-190. Auditions: Thursday, September 4, 6pm. Group auditions, no solo required.

MIT Chamber Chorus

Rehearsals: Monday & Wednesday 11am - 12:30pm, Killian Hall. Auditions: Wednesday, September 3, 11am. Prepared solo and sight-reading required.

MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble

Rehearsals: Sunday, 7pm - 11pm & Wednesday, 5:30pm - 7:30pm, Kresge.
Auditions & audition sign-up: Wednesday, September 3, 5:30pm.
Improvisation preferred, sight-reading from jazz book required.

MIT Symphony Orchestra

Rehearsals: Tuesday & Thursday, 7:30pm - 10pm, Kresge.
First meeting: Thursday, September 4, 7:30pm.
Read through symphonic literature and audition sign up.

MITCAN African Music Ensemble

Rehearsals: Thursday, 7pm - 10pm. First meeting: Thursday, September 4, World Music Center, N52, 7pm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CONCERTS OFFICE AT 253-2826.

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Freshman Program Stresses Leadership and Unity

By Sharmin Ghaznavi
STAFF REPORTER

When Dean for Undergraduate Curriculum Kip V. Hodges PhD '82 asked freshmen at Contact MIT how many of them were from New Jersey, the audience witnessed the exuberance of Seth Bisen-Hersh '01. Bisen-Hersh jumped from his seat and ran toward the stage exclaiming, "FLP, raise the roof!"

FLP stands for Freshman Leadership Program, a five-day orientation program for incoming freshmen. FLP was the brainchild of former class president Parris C. Sabeti '97 and is now in its second year.

The program took place from Aug. 16 to Aug. 20 this year at the Toah Nipi Conference Center in

Rindge, N.H. There were 12 student counselors and 107 freshmen participants.

Freshmen were selected based on, "leadership, general enthusiasm about MIT, and their willingness to meet new people," said Michele S. Micheletti '00, a counselor at FLP '97 and an alum of FLP '96.

For counselors, "there was an application process, and you had to apply and describe what activities you're involved in at MIT and basically what you would bring to FLP '97 as a leader," Micheletti said.

Activities stress leadership

At FLP, counselors and students engaged in leadership and team-building exercises. According to the packet given to counselors, its pur-

pose was three-fold: to provide the freshman with an open and safe environment to meet and bond with over 10 percent of their incoming class, to develop leadership skills, and to focus on race and gender issues.

"Last year, [FLP] was based more on race and gender, but this year there was a lot of focus on leadership," Micheletti said.

The program consisted of several activities including ice breakers, a cultural show, workshops, team-building simulations, and communications exercises.

The workshops addressed such issues as negotiation, sexuality, leadership possibilities at MIT, art, the effects of technology, politics, and religion. Workshops lasted an

hour and a half and were led by counselors.

Program aims to unite class

Alumni of FLP '96 filled six of eight freshman class officer positions. They boasted participation in a wide range of campus activities, from varsity sports to journalism, seemingly making them a distinguished group.

"I don't believe the purpose of FLP is to make anybody feel that they're better. I think it's maybe to educate them about different aspects about campus that they might otherwise not realize," Micheletti said.

"We want them to bring everyone in. Someone made a point saying that they're about a tenth of the

class and each person in FLP meets 10 people, and introduce those 10 people back to FLP members, than you've met you're entire class," said Lisa V. Hwang '99, a counselor at FLP '97.

"It wasn't anything where I thought I was going to be an MIT leader and so I'm going to go to this thing and that's the way to become a leader," said Lara Abbaschian '01, a participant at FLP '97.

"You have to look at it in a different way, FLP prepared us to come to MIT with the right attitude, the attitude of trying to embrace everybody ... not to have any kind of divisions, any divisions because of race or gender," Abbaschian said.

Some Freshmen, Fraternities Seldom Use Messaging System

FMS, from Page 1

designed for ILGs," he said.

"I think it's having a positive effect [on IFC rush]," Rodriguez said. He said that houses which had previously reported a slow rush "have seen significant improvements by using FMS."

Even so, rush chairs seemed unimpressed by FMS's potential to aid their efforts to recruit freshmen.

"It's been pretty ineffectual," said Jeff G. Riechbach '99, rush chair for Beta Theta Pi.

Chi Phi Rush Chair Todd S. Harrison '98 said, "We really haven't used [FMS]."

System remains secure

There are no known security breaches, Debergalis said. Jamieson said that there was an attempt to break into the FMS system in Senior House. Someone there attempted to log in as a freshmen by trying all possible passwords but gave up before hitting the correct password. FMS passwords are based on a freshman's ID number.

There were also concerns that ILGs might obtain access to FMS in order to hide freshmen by making them appear to be on campus as substantiated by a false login, or to produce false rush violations by log-

ging in as freshmen while that freshmen was at another fraternity. In the latter case, it might appear that the other fraternity had neglected to check the freshmen out of Clearinghouse properly.

"FMS guards against that" possibility Jamieson said. "If FSILGs are asking for IDs, they shouldn't be," Debergalis said.

Freshmen unaware of system

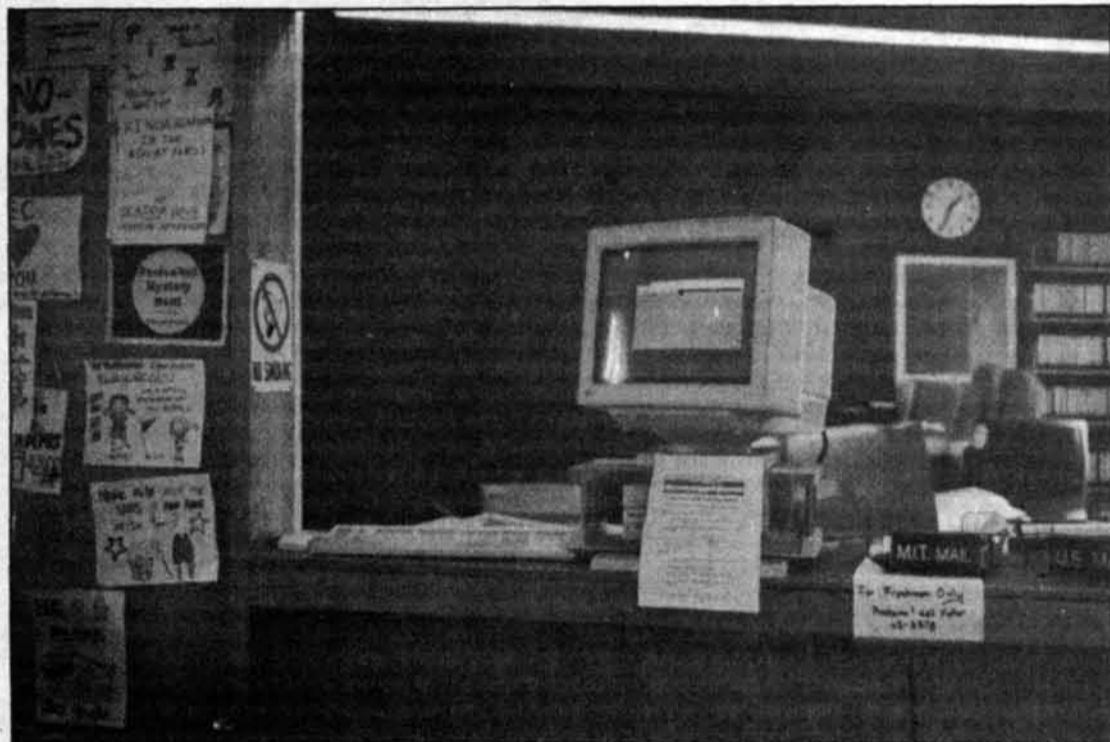
Dormitory desk workers, who last year copied phone messages, seemed happy with the new system. "It's pretty convenient for us," said Benjamin X. Hidalgo '97, a desk worker at Baker House.

Freshmen were mixed on the system. Three did not even know that the system existed or what purpose the terminals at dormitory desks served.

"I know a lot of freshmen who don't even know what it is," said Susan M. Buchman '01. "They went to a lot of trouble for something that could have been done" more easily.

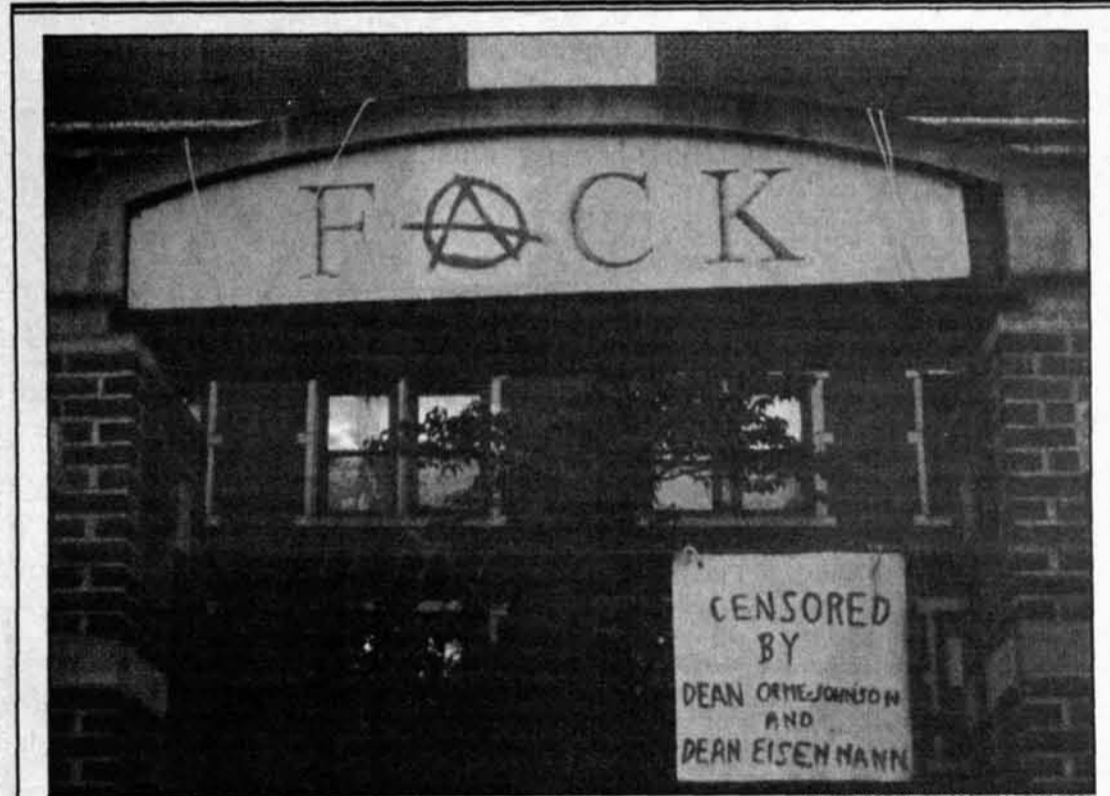
"It's good in theory, but in practice no one loves me enough to send me a message," said Miriam S. Betnun '01.

Nancy T. Dinh '01, who had received messages, said that the system was "really convenient."



INDRANATH NEOGY—THE TECH

Although fraternities and others may communicate with frosh through Sun workstations in dormitories, the system is seldom used.



WAN YUSOF WAN MORSHIDI—THE TECH

Bexley Hall hung an ominous greeting to freshmen yesterday.

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CUT IT OUT!

Upperclassmen and Freshmen Cope Well with Stress of Rush

By Brett Altschul
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Tackling the logistical monstrosity and emotional drain of organizing and participating in rush events can take its toll on upperclassmen and freshmen alike. This year, most students seem to be taking the stress in stride.

Upperclassmen not only have to get to know members of the incoming freshman class but also make sure that their events run smoothly.

Among rush organizers, stress could be a problem. "It's a big job for me personally," said Cyrus A. Dolph '99, the rush chair for Tau Epsilon Phi.

Dante Roulette '98, the rush chair for Phi Beta Epsilon, said the work was fairly stressful. "From an emotional standpoint, it's stressful for rush chairs because you have to maintain a certain level of excitement among the brotherhood," he said.

However, Dolph said that while it was a lot of work, he did not find it particularly unpleasant. "It hasn't been too stressful for me."

Dolph also said that this year's rush at TEP was not really more

stressful than normal. "There's no atmosphere of stress here," he said.

Tau Delta Chi issued an official statement echoing Dolph's sentiments that stress was not a problem. "Everyone is having a good time," the statement said.

Stephanie Browning '98, a Rho Chi, also said that the rush process was not that tense. "It hasn't been very stressful for me," she said.

"There's a lot less stress for the Rho Chis than for the rushers and rushees," she said.

However, some living groups have had a remarkable difficult rush this year. "I didn't expect it to be nearly so stressful," said Christopher D. Beland '00, the rush chair for Fenway House.

Since Fenway's entries were left out of *The Daily Confusion*, the workload was much heavier, Beland said. Fenway has had to deal with calling all the other living groups and the R/O Committee, he said.

The rush is "abnormally stressful" at Fenway House and several other places this year, Beland said.

Rush not so taxing for freshmen

Many freshmen said that rush was not too hectic for them. Thersea Bly '01, who said she was

only considering dormitories, said that R/O was "not at all stressful." The whole thing is a lot of fun, she said.

Alfred M. Mutino '01 said that he didn't think rush was unpleasant. "It's not really stressful," he said.

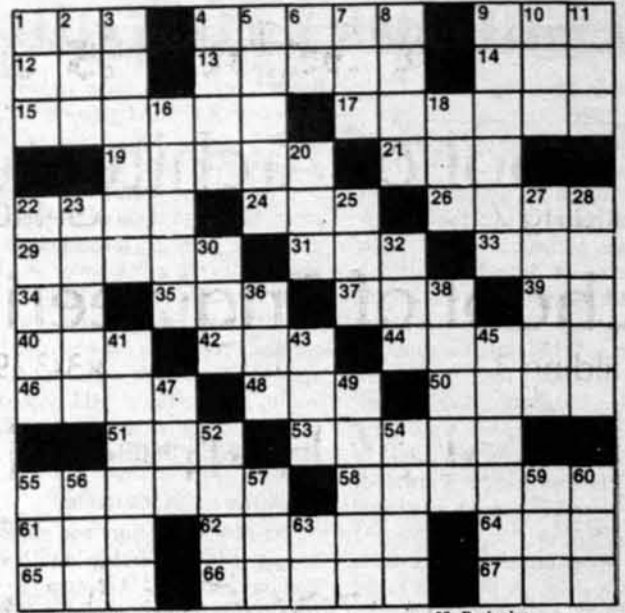
However, Mutino said that he didn't find rushing fraternities especially pleasant either, because it was very difficult to get information about fraternities in advance, and the process was confusing.

However, Dolph characterized this year's freshmen as more informed and said that this should make rush easier for them. "Freshmen every year become more aware," he said.

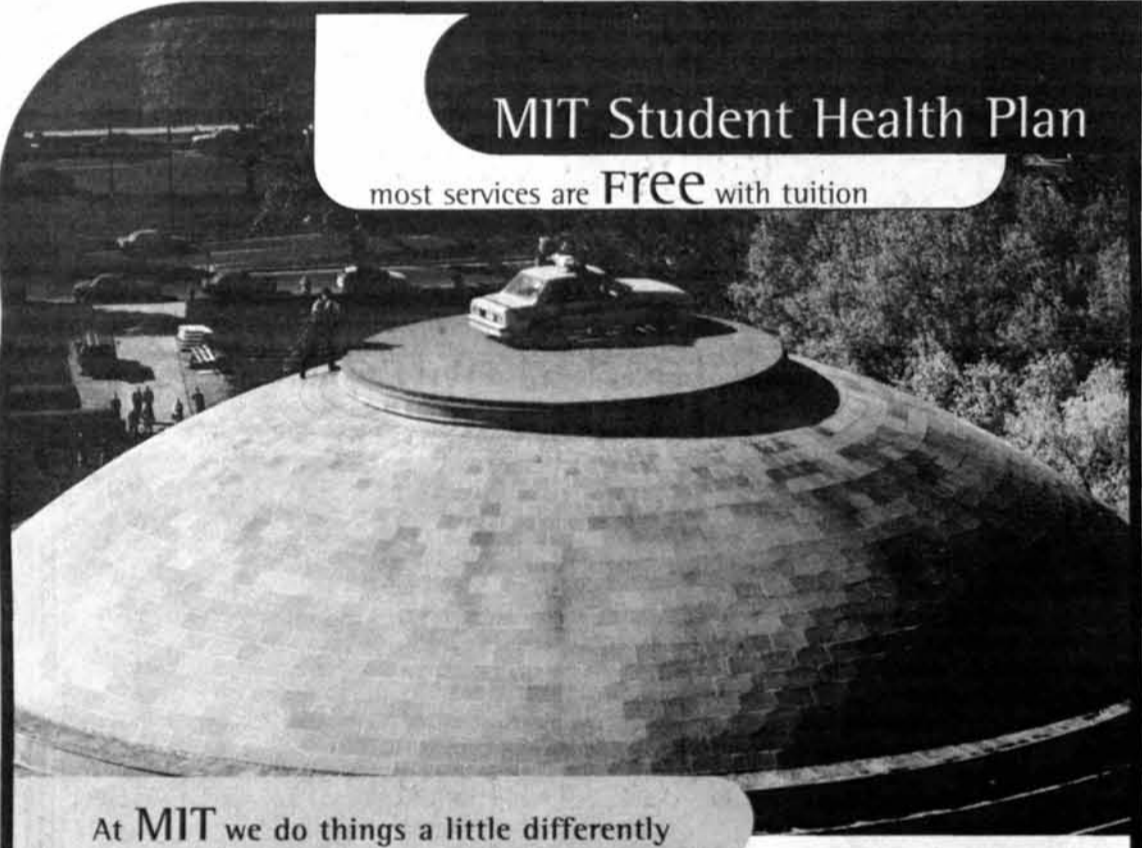
"It's a good thing for freshmen that they know more," Dolph said. It makes it easier for them to make the decision, and it's easier on them that way, he said.

Sorority rush has not been too bad for many freshmen, Browning said. "Most of my rushees haven't been under too much stress," she said. I think they have been having a good time, she said.

Jason C. Yang contributed to the reporting of this story.



- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| ACROSS | DOWN | PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE |
| 1. Seed casing | 1. Friend | 28. Beginning |
| 4. Map | 2. Old (archaic) | 30. Black road substance |
| 9. Network (abbr.) | 3. Ten years | 32. Ocean |
| 12. Beer | 4. Unit of matter | 36. Top of pop can |
| 13. Silent | 5. Fortunetelling card | 38. Be ready for |
| 14. — Angeles | 6. Nation's library (abbr.) | 41. Accompany |
| 15. Speaker | 7. Direct a weapon | 43. Girl (slang) |
| 17. Care for | 8. Male deer | 45. Iron object on ship |
| 19. Shield | 9. Sticky | 47. Children's game |
| 21. Opal | 10. Swamp | 49. Carnivorous animal |
| 22. Formal close to music | 11. Direction (abbr.) | 52. Erode |
| 24. The very end | 16. Hunt down | 54. Iranian money |
| 26. Projectiles (military slang) | 18. Teacher's group (abbr.) | 55. Answer (abbr.) |
| 29. Select | 20. Slow in tempo (abbr.) | 56. Amer. mystery writer |
| 31. It is (poetic) | 22. Tree | 57. Ever (poetic) |
| 33. Atom | 23. Edible fruit | 59. Night before |
| 34. Princesses' nickname | 25. Deep hole | 60. Rodent |
| 35. Dine | 27. Wavy-patterned cloth | 63. For example (Latin, abbr.) |
| 37. Brew | | |
| 39. Are (sing.) | | |
| 40. Avenue (abbr.) | | |
| 42. Old cloth | | |
| 44. Knowledge | | |
| 46. Retire | | |
| 48. Humbug | | |
| 50. Fisherman's necessity | | |
| 51. Blackbird's cry | | |
| 53. Word | | |
| 55. Satellite's most distant point | | |
| 58. Or | | |
| 61. Neither | | |
| 62. Inside game area | | |
| 64. Eggs | | |
| 65. Be ready | | |
| 66. Royal | | |
| 67. Soak flax | | |



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airconditioned dorm! We're always happy to talk. Questions? Call desk @ 3-6561, 8am-2am :)
10:04a: Epsilon Theta. Come watch the upperclassings read the Daily Confusion to find out what their rush chair put in it this year!

1:17p: Random Hall. Not sure what to major in? Come to the lounge and ask the upperclassmen. Witness the brawl that will begin instantly. Watch the scientists and the engineers wrestle with each other and the humanities scholars stay out of the way.
1:22p: TEΦ. Hayride, Hee Haw Style. Get far away from MIT, then get driven around in a haywagon by this old guy who calls cola "tonic." Apples along the way and a horse to moo at. 262-5090**

The following events were omitted from the R/O Committee Daily Confusion. They are all for Fenway House and are printed here courtesy The Tech.
7:43 a.m. Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
9:11 a.m. Breakfast with an air of disgust. Jessica serves up french toast (in the form of an Egyptian pyramid). Bilingualism optional. Yawn for a ride. 437-1043

Digitally depress 437-1043 in sequence.
12:26 a.m. Fen Elsewhere continues: Play-Doh, coloring books, crayons, puzzles and games. Call for a ride. 437-1043
3:33 a.m. Waiting for Godot? So are we. All day: Come tie-dye with us. We have T-shirts, socks and dye. Call for a ride. 437-1043

The Daily Confusion printed here is missing many events due to an R/O Committee error. Additional events are listed in an addendum, but this list is neither complete nor accurate. Yesterday's Daily Confusion printed in The Tech was incomplete due to a communications problem between the R/O Committee and The Tech.

Join .T.I.M Beaver and all his friends at The Tech. Have fun working on each issue during R/O. We start at 11:00 a.m. in Room 483 in the Student Center