

No Classes Monday

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather

Today: Breezy, mild, 81°F (27°C)
Tonight: Partly cloudy, 64°F (18°C)
Tomorrow: Rain later, 81°F (27°C)
Details, Page 2

Volume 117, Number 43

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, September 19, 1997

Carter Charts Path For Upcoming Year

By Naveen Sunkavally
STAFF REPORTER

Undergraduate Association President Detric A. Carter '98 delivered the state of the UA address Monday evening, applauding past projects and promising to focus on diversity this year.

A prominent theme in Carter's speech was an affirmation of the role of student government at MIT. Quoting John S. Saloma III '56, UA president in 1956, Carter started his speech by defining the mission of student government.

"There must be first a high level in quality of student government; secondly, a relationship between the ultimate objectives of student government and the individual student; and thirdly, adequate means of communicating these objectives to the individual student," he said.

The UA should "abandon its top-down mandate for a more productive, grass-roots, trickle-up model," Carter said.

Carter reviews UA's progress

Next, Carter spent time discussing the accomplishments of last year's UA. "The Undergraduate Association is stronger, more responsible, more communicative, more enjoyable, more active, more prepared, more reliable, and more effective," he said.

Efforts increasing the amount of

funding for small student groups, passing a resolution on the U.S. News and World Report's college rankings, forming an initiative funding a trial period for the Logan Airport Shuttle were examples of the UA's success, Carter said.

Other successes included efforts to "open up the banking market" by allowing Cambridge Trust and U.S. Trust to set up tables in the Student Center during Residence and Orientation Week, the "Heart to Heart" project, a just-for-fun Valentine's Day matching service, that drew over 2,000 participants, and the return of doughnuts and juice on Registration Day, he said.

UA will address diversity

Carter also spoke about several areas for improvements and future projects that the UA would undertake. One of these areas, Carter said, was diversity.

"We have a quilt to build today — the MIT community quilt — but we must decide individually what we will do with our patches. Will we hide them under our beds ... or will we yield our patches to the greater good of the collective and watch the could've, should've, would've become reality?" he said.

UA, Page 14

\$50K Competition Commences With Talk by Ethernet Inventor

By Venkatesh Satish
NEWS EDITOR

Robert M. Metcalfe '68, founder of 3Com, addressed a crowd of over 350 people in 10-250 to kick off this year's \$50K Entrepreneurship Competition. The event also served as an information session for the \$1K Competition, a smaller, preliminary version of the \$50K.

Metcalfe, who helped invent ethernet technology at Xerox Research Park in Palo Alto, Calif., spoke to the crowd about starting a company and offered advice drawn from his personal experiences.

"You [must] have plans and you need to be prepared to change them," Metcalfe said.

Metcalfe then related events surrounding the formation of 3Com in 1979 and the subsequent work he undertook to make it succeed, including his pursuit of venture capitalists for advice and funding.

"Venture capitalists evaluate companies on the basis of the technology, the market, and the people," Metcalfe said.

When Metcalfe first approached investors for funding, they asked him to present an organizational chart and a plan to generate revenue. He directed students to become more familiar with such proposals. "I urge you to use market research to obtain [such information as] unit costs. ... I just guessed."

Metcalfe also drew laughter from the audience with occasional jokes. At one point, he estimated his net worth at approximately one 'milli-Gates' or one-thousandth the fortune of Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates. He also introduced 3Com as the "name of a football stadium in San Francisco."

Speaker advises students

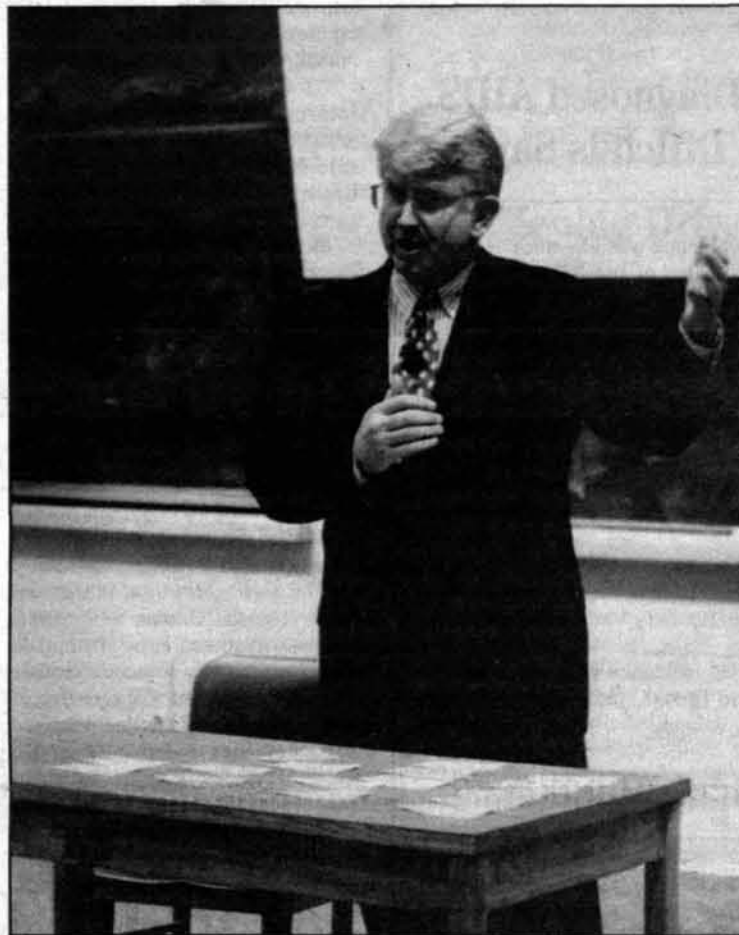
Metcalfe warned audience members that a lack of focus and capital can doom an emerging company.

Additionally, investors do not want to hear entrepreneurs say they are starting a company simply to lead a business or that they are only willing to live in one region, Metcalfe said.

"You should be willing to move anywhere it takes" to make the company successful, Metcalfe said.

When Metcalfe tried to raise capital for his company, he "over-

50K, Page 17



Robert M. Metcalfe '68, inventor of Ethernet and 3COM founder spoke to prospective participants in this year's \$50K Entrepreneurship Competition in 10-250 on Wednesday.

Brody Probes Synergistic Relationships Between Art and Science at Second Tau Beta Pi Dinner

By Dalíé Jiménez
STAFF REPORTER

Associate Provost for the Arts delved into the synergy between science and the arts during his lecture, part of Tau Beta Pi's Leonardo da Vinci dinner series, Tuesday at Ashdown House.

The dinners are intended to catalyze conversation between lecturers and students. The series highlights speakers from a wide array of departments, spanning history to electrical engineering, and the dinners feature eclectic cuisine.

Brody said the dinner series was "fabulous" especially in the way the evenings bring the "engineer more fully into the world."

Brody continued this theme with his lecture titled, "The role of arts in the education of the engineer, with comments on the relationship between the arts and technology in the new millennium."

In the same way that Albert Einstein allowed us to see light both as particles and waves, "Monet and Van Gogh made us see light in ways that we had never seen it before," Brody said.

Brody speaks of arts and science

Brody stressed the need to understand both science and the arts, and compared artistic and scientific processes. Whereas science begins with a hypothesis, art begins with a "what-if" generally stemming from the unconscious, he said.

It is a "child-like trust in our unconscious" that produces the "what-if" in art, Brody said. This is then used as a springboard for ideas.

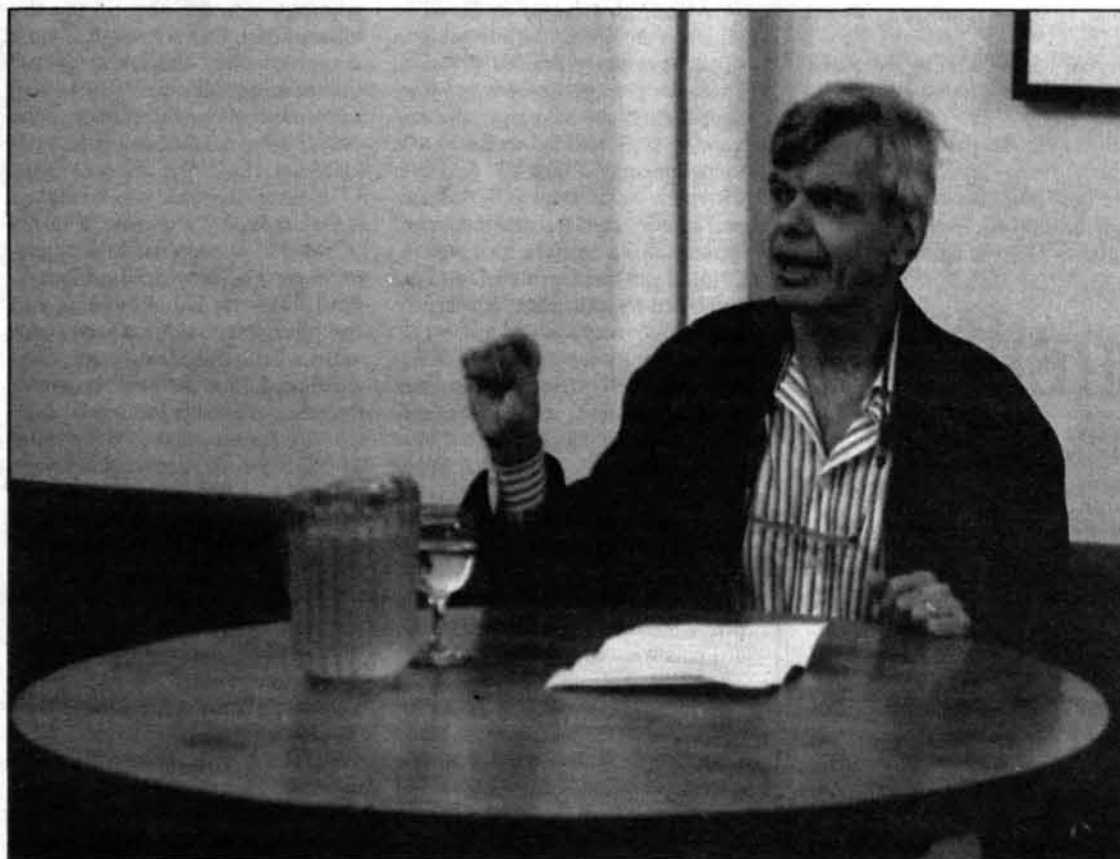
Later, the rational mind takes over and converts it into something

that makes sense, Brody said.

"Science applies the logical mind and then at a certain point, I think you know very well, the unconscious mind does come into play for the [scientists'] problems,"

Brody said. "The greatest discoveries have come about because of the interplay between the conscious and unconscious."

TBP, Page 14



Associate Provost Alan Brody

INSIDE

- Lucha's vigil marks the start of Mexican independence. Page 7
- Professor Emeritus Donald A. Schön dies at 66. Page 13
- High school teacher accidentally outed in *In and Out*. Page 8

GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

WORLD & NATION

Chechnya Defies Russian Law With Firing Squad Executions

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

Chechnya's stifled battle for independence from Russia resumed expression Thursday when a firing squad gunned down two accused murderers in a public execution in defiance of Russian law and sensitivities.

The execution before as many as 5,000 spectators — the second in as many weeks in the rebellious southern republic — served as another brutal reminder to Moscow that the 21-month-old war may have been halted but Chechnya's quest for separation has not.

Russian television carried gruesome footage of the execution in which six soldiers manacled the bearded convicts to a brick wall then sprayed them with submachine-gun fire, sending bullets ricocheting across the crowded square and clouds of dust and pulverized brick billowing around the mangled corpses.

Although capital punishment remains a legal option in Russia, President Boris Yeltsin ordered a moratorium on executions earlier this year in a half-measure intended to show compliance with requirements imposed by the Council of Europe for membership in that Western alliance.

Number of Newly Diagnosed AIDS Cases Declines, Officials Say

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

For the first time since the AIDS epidemic was identified 16 years ago, the number of newly diagnosed cases of the AIDS disease in adolescent and adult Americans declined last year, federal health officials reported Thursday.

The incidence of the disease in people older than 12 dropped six percent between 1995 and 1996, from 60,620 cases to 56,730 cases, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

The encouraging trend — going hand-in-hand with reports in recent months of dramatic drops in AIDS-related deaths — likely reflects the impact of powerful new drug treatments and prevention efforts that have prolonged symptom-free survival for those with the virus, health officials said.

The new CDC numbers represent individuals who developed clinically defined AIDS — that is, who experienced an AIDS-related infection or other symptom, or whose immune system CD4 cells have dropped to 250 or fewer, or both.

Nor was all the news positive. The incidence of cases traced to heterosexual transmission continued to rise, jumping 11 percent among men and seven percent among women.

Sickle Cell Treatment Announced

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Federal health officials issued a rare clinical alert to the nation's doctors Thursday to announce the discovery of a treatment that prevents life-threatening strokes in children with sickle cell anemia, a debilitating blood disease that primarily affects blacks.

The treatment is so dramatically effective, doctors said, they were compelled to halt a four-year study more than a year ahead of schedule so the therapy could quickly be offered to all of the estimated 2,500 American children who are most likely to benefit from it.

But the treatment — which involves blood transfusions every three to four weeks and requires that children remain attached to a drug-infusion pump for up to 12 hours a day, five days a week — is uncomfortable, expensive and carries its own risks.

Moreover, few health centers are equipped to conduct the therapy as precisely as the federally funded research team, leaving uncertain whether the treatment will prove as effective in other doctors' hands.

That means many parents will now have to make a difficult choice, doctors said, between the high costs and risks associated with the disease and those associated with its treatment.

Sickle cell anemia is an inherited blood disorder that affects one in 500 African-Americans and one in 1,000 Hispanics, or about 72,000 Americans.

Caused by a defect in oxygen-ferrying hemoglobin in red blood cells, it makes those cells rigid and likely to clump in blood vessels, which become progressively damaged. Victims suffer periodic and painful "crises" resembling heart attacks in various parts of the body, and typically die in their forties.

Researchers said they did not know how long a child might have to remain on the therapy, but said it may be until adolescence or later. The risk of stroke among sickle cell patients peaks at ages eight to 10 and again around age 30.

WEATHER

Mild, Then Back to Cool

By Michael C. Morgan
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Above average temperatures will continue across southern New England through the first part of the upcoming weekend. By Sunday, considerably cooler weather will arrive following the passage of a cold front.

Today: Partly cloudy, becoming breezy and mild. High 81°F (27°C)

Tonight: Partly cloudy, breezy and mild. Winds southwest at 10-15 mph (16-24 kmh). Low 64°F (18°C)

Saturday: Increasing clouds. Showers and thundershowers arriving in the late afternoon and evening. High 81°F (27°C). Low 55-60°F (13-16°C)

Sunday: Showers ending. Clearing, breezy, and cooler. High around 65-70°F (18-21°C). Low 48°F (9°C)

U.S. Absent As 89 Nations Pass Treaty Banning Mines

By Charles Trueheart
THE WASHINGTON POST

OSLO

With empty chairs at the table behind the sign reading "United States," diplomats from nearly 90 nations adopted Thursday the text of a treaty banning the manufacture and use of antipersonnel mines as early as the turn of the century.

As the three-week land-mine conference concluded in an ebullient mood, delegates lined up to comment on the historic nature and the diplomatic achievement of a disarmament treaty that was given little chance of success when Canada launched the process last year.

"Two years ago the idea of an international law banning land mines seemed a distant prospect," said Norway's foreign minister, Bjorn Tore Godal. France's delegate, Joelle Bourgeois, called it "one of the rare moments in international life where reasons of state encounter the sentiment of peoples."

The treaty will be forwarded to Ottawa for a formal signing ceremony in early December, with ratification by member nations to follow.

Bosnian delegate Izet Serdarevic expressed sorrow that the United States would not be part of the treaty. "We all needed the power of the United States, among others, to influence other countries," he said.

The swift adoption of the text came after the Clinton administration was frustrated in its attempts to modify the treaty to accommodate its concerns about the security of U.S. troops along the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea. President Clinton indicated Wednesday that the United States could not be party to an agreement

that jeopardized the lives of Americans and Koreans in the last Cold War standoff, describing the use of land mines in the event of a Korean conflict as a "key part of our defense line."

Clinton's pledge, in a Washington news conference, to end unilaterally the use of antipersonnel mines by 2003 everywhere but on the Korean Peninsula, and on the peninsula three years later, was greeted positively here.

"This is a step forward in U.S. policy to declare there is a date by which antipersonnel land mines will no longer be necessary. We've been trying to get the Pentagon to name a date for years," said Stephen Goose of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, the umbrella organization of humanitarian groups that was instrumental in marshaling support for the treaty.

But Goose criticized the president's failure to include a controversial category of land mines — antipersonnel explosives scattered around antitank mines to ward off attempts to defuse them — as a "bait-and-switch tactic ... defining things that have always been acknowledged by the U.S. military as antipersonnel mines so there is no reason to ban them."

Although only 89 countries were official delegates to the Oslo conference, its South African chairman, J.S. Selebi, said he expected the number of nations to sign the convention in Ottawa would exceed 100. Selebi said a number of African and other developing countries could not afford to send delegations here even though they support the treaty. Many nations here as

observers will be signatories in Ottawa too, he said.

But many will not. The Russian observer, Boris Shchiborin, told the conference this morning that the treaty "could not be considered as universal" because the views of countries representing nearly two-thirds of the world's population "have not been taken into consideration."

China and Iraq stayed away from the conference; Iran, South Korea, India and Pakistan, among others, sent observers and reportedly are not prepared to sign.

"The total ban on the primarily defensive weapon cannot but affect the inherent right of every state to individual or collective self-defense, since without proper alternatives such a ban would mean excessive losses, including human suffering, among victims of an armed attack," Shchiborin said.

Some critics of the U.S. resistance to the treaty have likened the Clinton administration's views to those of the more notorious rejecters of the pact. "The president is not in good company on this issue," wrote Clinton's former senior adviser, George Stephanopoulos, in a *Newsweek* column that was circulated widely here and used on treaty proponents' banners.

Japan, whose security interests are closely tied to the situation on the Korean Peninsula, said through its delegate that it would announce its decision about signing the treaty "in due course." The delegates from Australia and Turkey, which have been cool to the treaty text, said much the same thing. Kuwait was the only nation to state here outright that it would not be a signatory.

Clinton Implores Congress to Address Teen Smoking Issue

By Myron Levin

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Clinton Wednesday urged Congress to attack teen smoking through comprehensive legislation along the lines of the giant tobacco peace accord — but with stiffer industry payments to raise cigarette prices, and unfettered authority for the Food and Drug Administration to regulate nicotine levels in cigarettes.

Although Clinton refused to embrace the \$368.5 billion tobacco deal, he warmly praised the state attorneys general whose mega-lawsuits brought the industry to the bargaining table and led to the agreement announced June 20. And in a ceremony in the Oval Office as several attorneys general and prominent anti-smoking leaders looking on, Clinton outlined principles to be embodied in legislation that largely tracked provisions of the deal.

But there were significant differences as well. Clinton called for industry payments and penalties sufficient to raise cigarette prices over the next decade by up to \$1.50 per pack — roughly twice the increase that would result from the proposed settlement. Aimed to discourage smoking by price-conscious teens, such an increase would bring prices more in line with other western countries where cigarette taxes often range between \$2 and \$4.

"This is not primarily about money," Clinton said. "This is about changing ... the behavior of the tobacco companies, the behavior of the American people, the future behavior of our children."

Dr. David Kessler, former head of the FDA and a leading critic of

the tobacco deal, hailed Clinton's statement as a victory for public health in one of many impromptu news conferences that broke out near the White House after the event.

"Saying he's willing to go up to \$1.50, if necessary, is exactly the right approach," Kessler said.

In his long-awaited statement, Clinton did not say if he would accept the liability protections that had been the cigarette makers' whole reason for negotiating the tobacco deal. Bruce Reed, Clinton's domestic policy adviser, said later that administration officials "had some concerns" about certain of the immunity provisions, but he did not elaborate.

Industry response was critical, if a bit subdued. "We agree with his (Clinton's) stated goal of reducing underage use of tobacco products," Philip Morris, R.J. Reynolds and two other firms said in a joint statement. But they said the deal announced June 20 "still represents the most achievable balance."

"We have agreed to pay a total of \$368.5 billion over a 25-year period," which is "an unprecedented amount of money," said J. Philip Carlton, an industry lawyer. "It would certainly be unacceptable to try to raise the financial terms of this agreement."

Congressional response was predictably mixed, with many Democrats praising Clinton's stance — although some, including Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, said the \$1.50 increase might not be effective if phased in over 10 years. Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., announced that he will seek a \$1.50 per pack cigarette tax increase independent of

any comprehensive bill.

Republicans also criticized Clinton for taking three months to weigh in with a general statement rather than a specific legislative blueprint.

Administration officials said they believed it would be more effective to outline general principles and negotiate terms with Congress, rather than send up a specific package and let critics pick at the details. They said meetings between White House staff and congressional leaders should begin soon.

Since announcement of the tobacco deal June 20, Congress has been largely in a holding pattern while awaiting Clinton's verdict. Some attorneys general who had negotiated with the industry — and had been encouraged by the White House to do so — privately had voiced resentment that the deal was languishing and was being attacked as a sellout to Big Tobacco.

"We're pretty excited today about what the president has done," said Mississippi Attorney General Mike Moore, who filed the first state anti-tobacco lawsuit and was lead negotiator in settlement talks.

"He (Clinton) thinks we ought to build and toughen up the settlement," Moore said. "For 90 days, we were trying to get the president to support this thing, and finally he did."

However, all parties have conceded that it is too late to move a major tobacco deal through Congress before it adjourns in late October or early November. That means Congress will not take up the measure in earnest until early next year.

U.S. Foreign Trade Imbalance Widens, Government Reports

By Art Pine
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The U.S. foreign trade deficit widened in July as Americans, resuming their spending spree in the face of continuing good economic times, stepped up purchases of imported goods, the government reported Thursday.

Commerce Department figures showed that the United States imported \$10.3 billion more than it exported during the month, up from a revised \$8.3 billion red-ink figure for June, and the largest monthly deficit since January.

Economists said the increase stemmed mainly from the fact that the U.S. economy has been stronger than those of its major trading partners, enabling Americans to buy more imports, while foreigners are buying fewer U.S. goods.

Nevertheless, the widening was expected to provide further fuel for opponents of President Clinton's proposed "fast-track" trade bill, who have been blaming the trade deficit on U.S. trade policies. The measure would enable Clinton to negotiate

more free-trade agreements.

Thursday's report also showed a sharp increase in the U.S. trade deficit with Japan, which rose to \$5.2 billion in July, up from \$4 billion during June. By contrast, the U.S. deficit with Mexico fell, from \$1.2 billion in June to \$987 million in July.

The Clinton administration sought to put a good face on the trade statistics. Commerce Secretary William M. Daley said that while the overall deficit figure is higher, the trade balance is improving in the manufacturing and services sectors.

Thursday's reports showed that U.S. imports of foreign goods and services rose by \$900 million, or 1.1 percent, to a record \$87.7 billion in July. Meanwhile, exports fell by \$1.1 billion, or 1.4 percent, to \$77.38 billion. The overall deficit for June initially was estimated at \$8.2 billion.

The increase brought the overall U.S. trade deficit back to the same level as the second half of last year, when it hovered between \$10 billion and \$11 billion. The deficit peaked at \$11.6 billion in January and then

had declined for most of 1997.

Analysts forecast that if the current trend continues, the trade deficit for the year could soar to \$135 billion — up from \$114.5 billion in 1996. The worst red-ink trade figure that the United States has posted was in 1987, when the deficit reached \$152.9 billion.

The trade picture for July was helped somewhat by falling oil prices. The price of a barrel of crude oil fell to \$16.50 over the month, from \$17.07 in June. Petroleum imports account for an important share of overall U.S. imports.

Clinton sent his "fast-track" proposal to Congress on Tuesday, setting off a fierce political battle with liberal Democrats, who contend that the measure would not do enough to prod other countries into adopting strong labor and environmental standards.

The accords the administration is seeking would press other countries to reduce their trade barriers and allow in more U.S. exports and investment. The bill would require Congress to vote on those accords as they were negotiated and not try to amend them on the floor.

Five Americans Among Twelve Killed in U.N. Helicopter Crash

By Lee Hockstader
THE WASHINGTON POST

SARAJEVO, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

A United Nations helicopter flying in dense fog crashed into a mountainside in central Bosnia today, killing all 12 passengers, including a high-ranking German mediator and at least five Americans — one of them deputy chief of the team working to rebuild Bosnia's civilian police forces.

The four members of the Ukrainian crew survived by climbing through the shattered plexiglass nose of the aircraft, but they were unable to rescue any of the passengers because of fire and thick smoke, U.N. officials said.

The German mediator, Gerd Wagner, was one of two senior deputies to Carlos Westendorp, the top international representative here trying to implement the Dayton peace accords, which ended Bosnia's 1992-95 three-way fac-

tional conflict.

A highly respected and well-liked diplomat, Wagner, 55, was a political officer at the German Embassy in Washington until he was sent to Bosnia this summer. He spoke Serbo-Croatian and was playing a key role trying to reconcile Muslims with Croats in central Bosnia.

The police unit official was identified as retired FBI agent David J. Kriskovich, 56, deputy director of the International Police Task Force in Bosnia since early this year. Relatives said Kriskovich, who lived in Spotsylvania County, Va., had been an FBI agent for more than 20 years before retiring in 1994. During his bureau service, they said, he was instrumental in establishing the Justice Department's International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program, which is designed to help

stabilize emerging foreign democracies by improving their criminal justice systems.

Another retired FBI agent was also listed among the dead. He was identified as Al Beccaccio, 58, who relatives said was a close friend and neighbor of Kriskovich's. The names of the others who died in the crash — all of them Americans or Europeans — were withheld pending notification of their families. In addition to Wagner and the five Americans, they included four Germans, one Pole and one Briton.

Among them were five members of Westendorp's Office of the High Representative; five active or retired law enforcement officers associated with the police task force; one staffer from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and one international mediator dealing with refugee issues.

Israel Authorizes Jewish Settlers To Keep Foothold in East Jerusalem

By Rebecca Tronson
LOS ANGELES TIMES

JERUSALEM

Deepening a crisis with the Palestinians while averting another within the government, Israel on Thursday reached an agreement with Jewish settlers that allows them to maintain a foothold in an Arab neighborhood of East Jerusalem.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat immediately rejected the deal, calling it a trick aimed at deceiving the Palestinians. Israeli security officials said they were preparing for the possibility of violent Palestinian reaction after Muslim prayers at midday Friday.

The agreement allows 10 Jewish seminary students to take the place of the 11-member settler group that moved into two buildings in the Ras al Amud neighborhood Sunday night. The young men will remain on the properties around the clock to protect them from vandals, Israeli officials said.

"The families might have caused an irritation in the very delicate fabric of the relationships in this city at a very sensitive time," explained David Bar-Illan, a senior aide to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu '76. "The government has decided that the presence of

guards protecting the place cannot be considered an irritant."

Arafat told reporters in Gaza, "It's a trick, not more than that."

Arafat adviser Ahmed Tibi elaborated, "The situation is worse than before, because now there's a written agreement and a legitimization of the Jewish settlement" in Ras al Amud.

In a statement issued near midnight, the Palestinian Cabinet also denounced the compromise, calling it a "critical violation" of the Israeli-Palestinian peace accords. The statement called on Palestinian residents of Jerusalem to "resist" the settlers until all leave Ras al Amud.

The agreement was reached after marathon negotiations between Netanyahu's government and Irving Moskowitz, an American entrepreneur who bought the two buildings in Ras al Amud and then funded the families' move into the homes. The move was an embarrassment for Netanyahu on the heels of a visit here by U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who had urged him to refrain from unilateral actions that might harm the peace process with the Palestinians.

Netanyahu quickly denounced the settlers' action and hinted that he might invoke national security concerns to evict them. But on

Thursday, the prime minister endorsed the compromise.

In Washington, a spokesman for Albright said she welcomed the agreement. "The secretary regards it as good news that the families are moving out," said spokesman James P. Rubin. The families departed within hours after the deal was reached, leaving behind the seminary students, according to Yossi Kaufman, a spokesman for the group.

Israeli officials said no promises were made to Moskowitz on his plans to build a new Jewish housing complex on an adjacent piece of property in Ras al Amud. Netanyahu has vowed to block the project for the time being, citing the sensitivity of the political situation with the Palestinians.

The agreement averted a crisis between Netanyahu and right-wing members of his coalition. He avoided becoming the first Israeli prime minister to evict Jews from Jerusalem.

But Palestinians said they were hard put to see the difference between the presence in their midst of three Israeli families or of a handful of Israeli students. "It's the same thing," said Munir Bahlwan, 30, who lives near the settlement. "They are all Israelis."

Flight 800 Inquiry Discounts Theory of Nearby Missile Blast

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The FBI and the National Transportation Safety Board have all but ruled out one of two remaining active theories of a possible criminal cause for the explosion of Trans World Airlines Flight 800, which killed 230 people on July 17, 1996.

Detailed letters to members of Congress this week from the FBI and the board said the FBI has found no evidence that a missile exploded near the Boeing 747 and sent a fragment into its fuel tank. Extensive tests with exploding missile warheads produced damage patterns "significantly different" from those found in the wreckage of the plane, the safety board's letter said.

The FBI's letter said that no theory has been ruled out but that there is "no evidence" of a missile or bomb and "the likelihood of finding such evidence in the future diminishes as we daily complete leads and other lines of inquiry seeking to close out theories and resolve questions of possible criminal activity."

The letters from James K. Kallstrom, assistant FBI director, and Jim Hall, chairman of the safety board, said tests conducted by the FBI, the Defense Department and the Federal Aviation Administration, in which various missile warheads were exploded near an aircraft fuselage, offered no support for the "proximity explosion" theory.

"Examination of the recovered pieces of the aircraft, particularly the skin, has not found the markings and fragmentation patterns that would be characteristic of the warheads of large conventional or shoulder-launched missiles," said Kallstrom's letter to Rep. John J. Duncan Jr., R-Tenn., chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's aviation subcommittee.

Sleeping Driver Gets Five Years

THE WASHINGTON POST

Neal Edward Semich was feeling drowsy as he drove his Dodge sedan to a business meeting in February. He cranked up the vent to stay alert.

But Semich, 35, of Fredericksburg, Va., dozed off anyway. He crossed a double yellow line on Route 28 in Prince William County, startling an oncoming driver who lost control of his car and struck another vehicle.

Two people died in the wreck. Semich drove away, later saying he was unaware he had caused the accident.

Thursday, as Semich begged for leniency and choked backed tears, Prince William Circuit Judge Richard B. Potter sentenced him to five years in prison. He was sentenced to seven years in prison but the judge suspended two years of the sentence; Semich also must complete two years of parole.

The judge said he was exceeding state sentencing guidelines, which recommend a maximum term of six months, because of the nature of the crime and to send a message.

"If you're tired and falling asleep as you drive, you need to get off the road," Potter said. For drivers who may consider getting on the road when they're drowsy, he said, "the lesson from this case is you go to jail."

Semich, an electrical engineer for the Navy, had pleaded guilty in July to two counts of reckless driving and felony hit-and-run.

At Thursday's sentencing in Manassas, Semich apologized for his actions and asked the judge to take into account that he suffers from sleep apnea, which was not diagnosed until after the accident. The disorder keeps Semich from sleeping soundly and caused him to doze off behind the wheel, shortly before 8 a.m., his attorney said.

North American 'Mound' Structure Predates Pyramids

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Long before the Egyptians began building pyramids, North Americans were erecting massive earthworks that reflected sophisticated leadership skills and the ability to warehouse the large quantities of food necessary to sustain their construction efforts, new archeological discoveries show.

A team of researchers reports in Friday's edition of the journal *Science* the discovery of the oldest reliably dated human-made structure in North America, a 5,400-year-old earthen mound at Watson Brake, La., that is almost 2,000 years older than nearby sites.

The circular mound, as tall as a two-story house, forms an enclosure nearly 300 yards in diameter, but its purpose is not yet clear.

The discovery of this and other mounds in Louisiana and Florida suggest that the earliest Americans, long thought to be simple hunter-gatherers who roamed the countryside in small, mobile bands, were actually capable of organizing and executing large civil engineering projects, the team reports.

The discovery "totally changes our picture of what happened in the past," says archeologist Vincas Steponaitis of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

2,000 Marijuana Plants Seized

THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

In the second such discovery in Los Angeles this year, sheriff's deputies Wednesday raided a house converted to indoor marijuana growing, taking into custody three people including a couple arrested in 1993 on charges of running what was then the biggest such indoor pot plantation in California history.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department narcotics detectives netted more than 2,000 plants believed to be worth about \$20 million on the street, authorities said.

In July, sheriff's deputies seized 4,116 marijuana plants worth an estimated \$20 million growing in the Bel-Air mansion of medical marijuana-activist Todd McCormick. Detectives said the house raided Wednesday appeared to have no connections to McCormick or any medical marijuana group.

Each room in the 4,000-square-foot, six-bedroom house in the San Fernando Valley was packed with marijuana plants, from inch-high seedlings to stalks five feet tall.

OPINION



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Institutional Wisdom Watch

by *The Tech* editorial board



Sheila Widnall: Another MIT academic flees Washington. The Institute subs in Ernie Moniz, maintaining academic equilibrium.



New grad dorm: Conspiracy theorists suggest it's a stealth freshman dormitory. Hey, kids — welcome to Central Square!



Bldg. 2 Renovations: Now if only we could renovate the professors...



Dining changes: At least there's variety at Lobdell now, but what happened to MacGregor Convenience?



Lower ACUS rates: The GSC reaches out and roughs up AT&T.



Weld: Helms finally privatizes our man Bill. But Weld still got the lion's share of the limelight.



U.S. News: What's its value added?



MIT Cable: Ditch Hungarian football and ESPN2 and switch to *South Park*.

Letters To The Editor

Classrooms Should Be Open for Students

Like many other students, I welcome the needed renovations to the classrooms in Building 2. But I hope that when other rooms are renovated in the future, the new rooms will be kept unlocked and reservable by student groups, unlike the rooms in Building 2.

Many times I have seen students use a spare room late at night for studying and reading in silence or for tooling with a chalkboard. The Athena terminals in the new Building 2 rooms seem a welcome addition. I agree that there is some danger of theft of the computers and other new equipment, but it is my greatest hope that students and faculty alike could use them with care and not steal them from the rooms.

These newly-renovated rooms, like the rooms in Building 56 and Building E51, have many uses to students. They are more than just classrooms.

C. Chay Casso '00

Professors Lack Drive to Teach Well

Regarding the editorial "Teaching by the Rules" [Sept. 12]: It was the same way at the California Institute of Technology 40 years ago. Each professor taught as if he were the only one on campus. Although the professors were excellent engineers and scientists, most had no teaching ability at all.

Two exceptions were Richard P. Feynman '39 and Linus Pauling. But I would venture to say that, in spite of their outstanding classroom ability, even those two never spent a minute studying or even thinking about teaching technique.

Grade school and high school teachers have to go to college to learn how to teach. But anyone with a doctorate can teach at Caltech or MIT or any other school of higher learning. The result is that college students are overloaded and subjected to a disorganized hodgepodge of information thrown at them by rambling professors.

I remember one incident in graduate school at Caltech. The course was in tensor analysis. It was scheduled to be taught in the mechanical engineering building. The professor was in the aeronautics department. Eight or 10 mechanical engineering students assembled in the mechanical engineering room the first day, and the professor didn't show up. Ten minutes into the hour, an aeronautics student came into the room and told us that the class was being held in the aeronautics building.

The professor didn't stop talking as the mechanical engineering students walked in and sat down at the back of the room. Finally, one mechanical engineering student raised his hand. The professor turned around slowly and said, "Yes?"

"Sir, why are we here?" asked the mechanical engineering student.

The professor replied, "Take that up with the philosophy department."

There was no philosophy department.

Chuck Bodeen
Caltech '56

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Opinion Policy

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

Dissents are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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

Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and may be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions are accepted as well, although e-mail is preferable. Hard copy submissions may be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two

days before the date of publication.

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All the Color That's Fit to Print

Saul Blumenthal

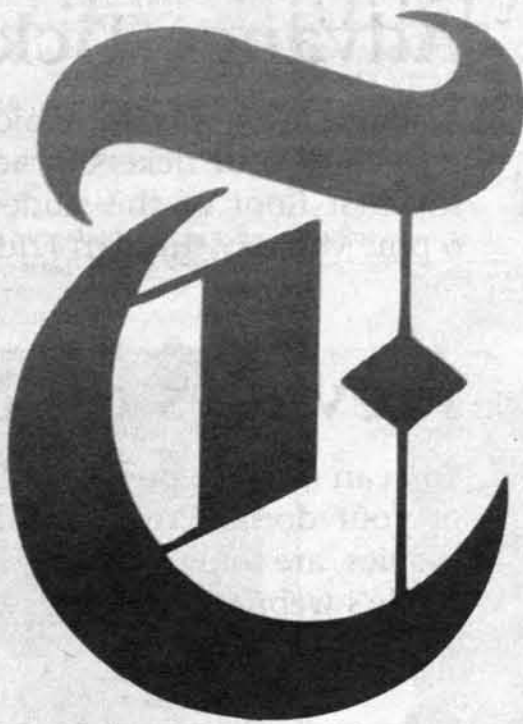
There is a war going on in New York City now, and it's being fought over four letters — C, M, Y, K. For those not involved in printing, that's cyan, magenta, yellow, and black, the colors that go into full-color printing. In a matter of one week, three New York newspapers have significantly changed their looks. *Newsday* has increased its use of color in its sections, the *Daily News* has started full-color printing on the front page, and, beginning this past Monday, *The New York Times* started full-color printing in the sports and arts sections of its weekday editions.

Yes, you read that correctly. The *Times*, the "old gray lady," has finally given in to the trend. For at least two years, the *Times* has been printing color in its extra Sunday sections — travel, arts, and book review — but it has now taken the plunge into the world of everyday full-color printing. Color photos will arrive on page one within a month. While these changes will probably strike people as surprising at first, most probably won't think much of the changes after the initial shock — that is, as long as the changes don't raise the paper's price.

But there's a good deal of conservatism and adherence to tradition among some readers of the *Times*, and many of those readers don't think the change is such a good idea. The *Times*' World Wide Web site has an electronic forum on color, and the forum has generated more than 30 messages in just the past two weeks. "Today's newspaper is a travesty... *USA Today*, move over, you've got competition for gratuitous use of color photos," was one reader's reaction after seeing Monday's paper.

Most of the responses weren't so extreme, but it's worthwhile to look at why some people think that way. In the world of newspapers, there seem to be two types: "serious" broadsheets like *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, and the "tabloids," like *Newsday* and *The New York Post*. Besides the obvious difference in the sizes of the two types of papers, most readers have different expectations of them and turn to them for different reasons. People read the *Journal* for hard-core financial news and the conservative opinion pages; they turn to *Newsday* for the latest Hollywood gossip and the comics and sports.

And, more often than not, readers have turned to papers like *Newsday* for full-color photographs. For various reasons, the tabloids seem to have embraced full-color printing faster than the more traditional papers. Indeed, *Newsday* has had color front pages for more than a decade.



The concerns over the introduction of color into the *Times* are related more to the standards people associate with color than the actual colored ink itself.

The concerns over the introduction of color into the *Times* are related more to the standards people associate with color than the actual colored ink itself. The common theme in many of the postings to the online forum is that *The New York Times* will soon become *USA Today* — with all the journalistic ideals people ascribe to to *USA Today*. Color is pretty. People like color. Color

sells. So who cares about the quality of the writing?

I don't believe that *The New York Times* is going to follow this route. Certainly the top officials at the paper have tried to assuage all these concerns. "This is more an exercise in making the report we have more accessible. It will be a better-organized, easier-to-read paper," said the paper's executive editor.

In fact, those people who view the paper as a bastion of conservatism and tradition may be in for a little surprise. A look at the paper over the last year will show that the paper has often been very creative in its layout and design, especially in its feature sections and in illustrations and graphics. If the *Times* were indeed such a traditional paper, I don't think it would be using '90s grunge typefaces in its subscription advertisements, which it has recently.

The move to color is just another step in the evolution of the paper. New digital technology has made full-color printing easier and more economical than ever, and I'm sure the financial gains of color advertisements didn't escape the paper's top executives. More than ever, the paper is trying to compete in a national marketplace, with its new Washington and New England regional editions. The fact is that newspapers are businesses. The move to color printing, and the associated redesign of some of the inside sections, is as much a business decision as a journalistic one. It's no surprise then that three of the four major New York papers have made major changes.

These days, newspapers not only face competition from each other but also from 24-hour cable news channels, web sites that are updated every five minutes, and other manifestations of the multimedia information age. With studies showing fewer and fewer young people are reading newspapers on a regular basis, papers have been forced to re-examine their focus and purpose. One can understand why the *Times*' publisher referred to the changes an opportunity to "redesign this paper for a new generation of readers and advertisers."

Despite the conventional wisdom that print media is dead, these are exciting times for newspapers. Indeed, *The Tech* has not escaped the color wave, with more and more full-color issues. When used in moderation, full color in *The New York Times* has the potential to make all the news that's fit to print a little more complete.

Unified Plays by The Rules

Guest Column
Steven R. Hall

The Tech's Sept. 12 editorial "Teaching by the Rules" argues that faculty should abide by their own regulations regarding end-of-term assignments and class workloads. I agree with that position and believe that most other faculty do as well.

Unfortunately, the editorial may lead some readers to conclude that a number of subjects, including Unified Engineering, routinely violate the Institute regulations regarding workload. At best, the editorial implies that I and my staff do little more than "pay lip service" to the workload demands on students in Unified. At worst, the editorial implies that we intentionally violate faculty regulations.

As lead instructor for Unified, I can tell you that the implication that we violate faculty rules, either intentionally or unintentionally, is simply untrue. The staff of Unified goes to great lengths to ensure that the workload of Unified is consistent with the subject units, something that *The Tech* could have confirmed by speaking with me before publishing the editorial.

First, what is the responsibility of professors regarding workload? Faculty Regulation 2.82 states that "No instructor shall require more outside work than can be satisfactorily performed under ordinary working conditions in the preparation time assigned to the course by students of average capacity, adequate preparation, and reasonably good habits of work; and, in order that this rule may be practically enforced, each instructor is expected from time to time to ascertain the amount of outside preparation actually given to each of his or her courses by students whose work is of passing grade."

In order to comply, the Unified course staff surveys every student on every assignment to determine the time each required. The statistics are reviewed each week at course staff meetings, and when the times reported are too high, we make adjustments. Furthermore, the statistics are reviewed at the end of each term, and broad adjustments are made for the coming year.

How well have we done controlling workload? Better than the editorial implied. For example, in the fall term, Course XVI sophomores register for Unified Engineering I and II (16.010 and 16.020), which together carry a total of 24 units. Students spend nine hours per week in lecture and two hours per week in recitation. This accounts for 11 of the 24 units. In the fall term of 1996, the average student reported spending 10.2 hours per week on home assignments and labs.

In an end-of-term discussion with the class, students reported spending at most about three hours per week in other studying. Thus, the average Unified student spent 24.2 hours per week on the subject — hardly a "massive" overload for a 24 unit subject. In the spring, our students take Unified Engineering III and IV (16.030 and 16.040). My data shows that the average student spent 26.2 hours per week on Unified during the term — higher than I would like, but not "massive" compared to the 24 units associated with the subject.

The Tech's editorial also missed the mark when it implied that other subjects, like Circuits and Electronics (6.002) and Introduction to Experimental Biology (7.02), exceed their unit limits. In Eta Kappa Nu's *Underground Guide* evaluation of 6.002, a 15 unit subject, students reported that the subject should be rated at 14.8 units; in the *Course Evaluation Guide*, 7.02, also a 15-unit subject, was reported as requiring 14.4 hours of work per week. The fact is that students report that these subjects do not exceed the allowable units.

The issue of excessive workloads is complicated by the fact that a student's perception of workload may not always agree with his or her actual workload. For example, the same students whose time logs showed that Unified took 24.2 and 26.2 hours per week in the fall and spring, respectively, reported in Sigma Gamma Tau's *Uncle Walter's Guide to Aeronautics and Astronautics*, that Unified took 25.7 and 30.7 hours.

The Tech hurts its own cause when it makes sweeping generalizations about faculty unwillingness to comply with faculty regulations. *The Tech* compounds this error when it makes factual errors in its own editorial, especially when no effort was made to contact either the faculty involved or the chair of the faculty to determine the facts.

Steven R. Hall '80 is an associate professor and assistant chair of the department Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Phasing in a New Writing Requirement

Guest Column
Michael J. Ring

MIT's writing requirement was established to prevent science and engineering graduates from taking the myopic view that there is no value in clear, effective prose. It is ironic that Phase One of the writing requirement is itself myopic, fostering no appreciation or enthusiasm for writing among MIT's freshman class.

Writing is critical in many fields, including science and engineering. Researchers, for example, depend on funding from corporations or the government and must make convincing arguments to these bodies that their programs of study are worthwhile. It is certainly important for MIT to foster good writing skills, if only for these purposes.

Currently, MIT is planning to overhaul the writing requirement, and several fundamental changes will appear in the years ahead to address the present problems. But while future changes are welcome, we need some immediate action on the present Phase One of the writing program to make the system better for students in the next several classes.

In its present form, the Freshman Essay Evaluation asks students to respond to trivial questions. One option available to this year's freshman, which counted for 50 percent of the total grade, was to describe a person who the writer viewed favorably at first but grew to dislike, or vice versa. Such questions do nothing to make freshmen appreciate writing; instead they reinforced notions that writing is frivolous. This question had no application to science, engineering, economics, architecture, or any other major here at MIT. Instead of challenging students' creative intellect, the authors of the test drafted an unimaginative question suitable for elementary school children.

Most freshmen view the writing examination as a chore, another hurdle on the tumultuous course of Residence and Orientation

Week. Instead of encouraging freshmen to enjoy the writing process, Phase One fosters a loathing of the writing process.

The Committee on the Writing Requirement is wrong to think that two hastily written essays finished in two hours is a fair and honest assessment of a student's writing ability. A true masterpiece of writing is a polished gem, often undergoing several transformations before reaching perfection. But the committee did not ask for edited, revised works from members of the freshman class, and it received papers full of scratches and scribbles. I doubt any members of the freshman class would say that the Freshman Essay Evaluation displayed their best writing. It is ludicrous to evaluate these poorly written, scrawled essays as representative examples of a student's ability.

The FEE's current practices result in an artificially low passing rate of 17 percent. More than one out of six MIT freshmen can compose convincing, effective prose given adequate time to revise and check their work, but the short-sighted policies of the Committee on the Writing Requirement force over 80 percent of students who took the Freshman Essay Evaluation to enroll in a writing class or go through the hassle of submitting a paper to the committee.

The FEE is in need of reform. It needs to be reoriented toward challenging scientific questions, and it should allow ample time for students to properly compose their thoughts, write a well-formulated essays, and proofread their work.

It is also time for the Committee on the Writing Requirement to examine alternate means for freshmen to complete Phase One of the requirement. The committee already permits freshmen who failed the examination to submit a piece of expository prose from any of their MIT classes. Why not allow high school seniors accepted to MIT to send the committee a paper from one of their courses or from advanced placement history, language, and psychology classes? Since so

many students who have taken these classes choose to come to MIT, the Institute should reward them for their hard work and outstanding writing by allowing them to pass Phase One before setting foot on the MIT campus.

The Committee on the Writing Requirement should also accept a score of 5 on the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Test as satisfactory for passing Phase One. Currently, the committee accepts only scores of 5 on the Advanced Placement Language and Composition Test. The Advanced Placement Literature Test demands that students learn how to persuade readers, through writing, of their opinions and ideas on literature. No person succeeds on the Advanced Placement Literature Test without clear, organized, thoughtful writing.

Finally, the committee should also consider membership in a campus publication as sufficient for passing Phase One. Students who write or edit for a newspaper or journal show they recognize and appreciate the power of writing. Writers and editors at campus publications are volunteers; they choose to work at publications because they love and enjoy writing and wish to improve their skills. This attitude should be promoted fully by MIT's writing requirement. Encouraging participation in school newspapers and journals is one positive step the committee can take toward ensuring all MIT graduates will possess and admire fine writing skills.

According to the *MIT Course Bulletin*, the objective of the writing requirement is "to ensure competency in writing of all undergraduates, with special emphasis on writing in professional contexts, and to see that clear, effective writing is valued and fostered throughout the curriculum as an essential part of an MIT education." Unless major reform is undertaken on the Freshman Essay Evaluation and new alternatives for satisfying the requirement formulated, Phase One cannot be said to satisfy these critical goals.

Michael J. Ring is a member of the Class of 2001.



New at LSC



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No problem. We're reshowing all our Friday and Saturday movies on Sunday. The Friday movie will be at 4 pm, and the Saturday movie will be at 7 pm in 26-100. You can see both for only \$4.00 when you buy a new Sunday double feature ticket.

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Showing this Weekend:



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Sunday: 4 in 26-100



Saturday: 7 & 10 in 26-100
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6:30PM in Room 6-120
Refreshments provided**



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Procession Marks Beginnings of Mexican Revolution

By **Dalié Jiménez**
STAFF REPORTER

On Sept. 16, 1810, Miguel Hidalgo initiated the revolution for the independence of Mexico from

Reporter's Notebook

Spain. Ringing bells to remember that day and the freedom which was won, people now celebrate Sept. 16 throughout Mexico.

Marking the first time the Mexican Independence was celebrated at MIT, La Unión Chicana por Aztlán members gathered at Lobby 7 on Monday and began a candlelit procession toward

MacGregor House. The procession began with about seven members but eventually grew to about 20 as the group made their way past the dormitories.

Members of the procession spoke of this day as a remembrance of their independence and of the goals left to accomplish.

"Mexico is not being occupied right now ... but we're still struggling. The revolution's not over yet," said Miguel Chacon '00, Lucha member and organizer of the procession.

Ivan Aguayo '00, who was carrying the Mexican flag during the procession said, "There's a struggle that still persists today, for higher education, improved opportunity in

the workforce, and rights for all immigrants."

"I don't think we'll ever be through," Chacon said.

The procession produced many curious stares from observers. Many wondered what was going on and the students involved in the procession were only happy to tell them, followed by an offer, "Want to be honorary Mexican for the day?"

A misunderstanding of the meaning of the candles drew one onlooker to wish the crowd "happy birthday". But this served the purpose perfectly, since the point of the candles was "to get attention,"

Aguayo said.

Chacon was initially disappointed in the turnout. "I expected more, but it's a weekday, and I understand the demands of the MIT academic schedule," he said.

Although the gathering started small, it soon grew. The students broke into song and made their way back to Lobby 7.

Once there, with the candles on the floor and holding hands, they spoke of unity and the importance of remembering their roots. Each member had something to say, many in the form of thanks, pride, or advice.

As everyone was thanked for their support, the camaraderie was thick in the air.

Both Nitza M. Basoco '98 and Xochitl V. Cruz-Gonzalez '99 said they were grateful for being dragged out of their rooms.

Miriam L. Aguirre '99 was especially glad for the event since it provided her with a "reality check of the whole world around MIT," she said.

By the end of the night, Chacon was "really proud to be part of the group" and stressed "keeping in mind the tradition of your ancestors, and why you're here," he said.



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

A candlelight vigil and procession on Monday night commemorated Mexican Independence.

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How (mid) 90's!

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The Council for the Arts at MIT Grants Program

Next deadline: **September 26**

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

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

THE ARTS

FILM REVIEW

Look who's just been outed...

IN & OUT

Directed by Frank Oz.
Written by Paul Rudnick.
Starring Kevin Kline, Matt Dillon, Debbie Reynolds, Wilford Brimley, Bob Newhart, and Tom Selleck.

By Vladimir Zelevinsky
STAFF REPORTER

When Tom Hanks won an Oscar for his portrayal of a gay AIDS victim in the 1993 movie *Philadelphia*, in his acceptance speech he thanked the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the director, co-stars, and the other usual suspects — plus one unusual one: his gay high school teacher.

In the first ten minutes of *In & Out*, actor Cameron Drake (Matt Dillon), a Brad Pitt look-alike, wins an Oscar for his portrayal of a gay soldier in a (fictional, of course) movie "To Serve and Protect" (which is a rather sharp parody of *Forest Gump*, to reinforce the Hanks reference). Drake thanks the usual suspects — and his gay high school teacher. But this teacher, Howard Brackett (Hanks' character in *Philadelphia* is named Andrew Beckett), played by Kevin Kline, insists he isn't gay. He's engaged and is about to be married, teaches English in a local high school in a small rural town, and is as much shocked as anyone else, perhaps more, to hear himself outed in front of billions.

Thus *Philadelphia* did beget *In & Out*, and in more senses than one. Four years passed

between these two movies, and what a change — *Philadelphia* was a serious drama, heavy-handed and moralizing. If not for the new gay angle (first ever major studio picture about homosexuals) and a brilliant acting job by Hanks, it would have been quite mediocre. *In & Out*, on the other hand, is a light and breezy (sometimes too much so) satirical comedy.

While both movies cover approximately the same ground, *In & Out* doesn't take itself as seriously as *Philadelphia*. But it also does a much better job. Of course, the times *did* change — four years ago, they wouldn't have shown a gay kiss on screen. And not only is the kiss in the open, it also lasts for quite some time and happens to be quite hilarious. Next year, watch for the MTV movie award for the best kiss — I bet this one will take it home.

And this movie is not as much about being gay (or not gay, as the case *might* be) — it is a



High school teacher Howard Brackett (Kevin Kline, shown with his fiancée, played by Joan Cusack) is mistakenly outed by one of his students in *In & Out*.

broad satire, which doesn't miss a chance to take a poke at whatever deserves one, be it movies, male bonding, Steven Seagal's acting range, media, Richard Simmons' exercise tapes, weddings, Barbara Streisand, dieting, supermodels, et cetera, ad infinitum — and most of these are very funny. In fact, a good deal of the movie is laugh-out-loud funny.

If only *In & Out* had a director with more of an edge and a sharper wit to match the script. Frank Oz does a adequate job at getting good performances (Kline is brilliant, and most of the supporting cast is also very good), but he fails to create any kind of dis-

tinct mood (although some of it can be blamed on the particularly bland music score), and the light mood created in many scenes dilutes the satire. The few attempts at seriousness and tugging at the heartstrings fail completely.

And this is the reason why *In & Out*, on the whole, works better than *Philadelphia* did. The comedy doesn't try to persuade us that gays are (surprise) people too; it takes this fact for granted, and knows the audience does as well. If people laugh at something, they are comfortable with it. So, come in, make yourself comfortable, and have a good time.

GAME REVIEW

Diablo

More addictive than crack,
more fun than exams

For Windows 95
By Blizzard Entertainment

By Mark Huang

Don't get me wrong; I know that there are plenty of women out there who love video games. Even so, I was still surprised to witness the familiar symptoms of addiction when, one day, I noticed my girlfriend compulsively playing *Diablo*. It wasn't that I couldn't handle the fact that a woman was in my rightful place: tanning in front of a computer monitor, ignoring pangs of hunger, avoiding personal contact. Rather, it was the realization that, as a male, I had been usurped by a character in a computer game. Sure, *Diablo* was only two inches tall on a monitor, but could I have ever hoped to enthrall and engross her for five hours at a time? Reality was against me: he was the Lord of All Evil, and I was a short Asian guy.

Four months later, we're both recovering junkies. The moment we dropped our defenses to the Way of Punt, we were immediately hooked. I was attracted to the elegant role-playing and delicately balanced character development. My girlfriend was attracted to the bow-wielding female rouge character. Immediately we both developed a deep attachment to the game.

The plot, however, is quite thin and left at least me feeling a bit unfulfilled. The

nominal goal is to kill Diablo, a brother of Hell who has awakened from his slumber through the treachery of the Archbishop Lazarus. You may choose to do this with one of three classes of characters: the warrior, the rouge, or the sorcerer. In between the town in which you start and Diablo's lair are fifteen levels of dungeons; you can return to the town periodically to restock as many times as you like. Occasionally, one of the townspeople will give you a job to do in your spare time between disemboweling the Undead. There are about twenty or thirty different quests; of these, five or six are randomly picked for you to complete in a single game.

The quests are not the only things that are randomized. The entire dungeon system, including its denizens and treasures, is regenerated with each new game as well, making *Diablo* almost infinitely replayable. As a result, you are always exploring each new level in addition to clearing it of monsters, a process that is more fun than tedious. Almost every person I know who plays *Diablo* feels an insane urge to exhaustively explore each level, even if the level presents no special challenge or quest.

The likely motivation behind this urge is character development, which is an old idea in RPGs but which becomes much more personal when playing *Diablo*. In RPGs of the past, your characters and their development were important to you, but the grander scheme of beating the game was always



more so. In *Diablo*, it becomes obvious after a few levels that beating the game is, while not trivial, quite possible to do in under a week. Giving your character new equipment and new abilities becomes more of a priority so that you can replay on a more difficult setting and keep *Diablo* a challenge.

The multiplayer option of *Diablo* brings replayability and character development together. Not only do you want to make your character awesome, you want to display that fact for the benefit of the 700,000 people who have connected to battle.net, Blizzard's free online gaming service for *Diablo* and *Warcraft* players. Multiplayer mode in *Diablo* is also almost entirely cooperative, a surprisingly fun concept. Unlike *Quake*, *Diablo* allows you to show

off your talent without reducing your friends (and friendships) to gliblets of scorched meat.

November will see the release of the first *Diablo* add-on pack from Sierra. The add-on features thirty new weapons, twenty new monsters, five new spells, and a new character class (the monk). Late 1998 will see the release of *Diablo II*. Little information is available about the game, but cheating, which has plagued (and some say ruined) the popularity of multiplayer *Diablo* from the beginning, is a major problem that will reportedly be addressed in the sequel. For now, though, those of us in rehabilitation can rest easy knowing that we may be able to graduate before the sequel ruins our GPAs again.

Next week: *Age of Empires*



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FILM REVIEW

Life, love, and death in Los Angeles

L.A. CONFIDENTIAL

Directed by Curtis Hanson.
Written by Curtis Hanson and Brian Helgeland, based on the novel by James Ellroy.
Starring Kevin Spacey, Russel Crowe, Guy Pearce, James Cromwell, Danny DeVito, and Kim Basinger.

By Vladimir Zelevinsky
STAFF REPORTER

It's hard to review really good films. Bad ones are so much easier: they're linear and simple and can be summed up in neat little phrases like "A man gets involved with a wrong woman and it puts him into many tight situations" or "An idealistic cop brings down the corrupted organization." Both descriptions apply to the two (of many) plot strands of *L.A. Confidential*, but this movie defies neat summarizing. Even the genre is hard to determine: mystery-drama-satire-action-noir is the best I can think of.

Set in the early fifties, the movie centers on three detectives from the LAPD: Ed Exley (Guy Pearce) is the by-the-book cop whose firm adherence to the rules paradoxically puts him into a morally ambiguous position; Bud White (Russel Crowe) believes that all means are fair to enforce the laws, even breaking them; Jack Vincennes (Kevin Spacey) seems to greatly prefer his side job as a technical adviser to a police TV show to actually being a policeman. And

there's a lot going around these three: there's a high-profile scandal about the treatment of suspects; Bud develops an interest (perhaps too much of it for his own good) in a call girl Lynn Bracken (Kim Basinger); there's a grisly murder in a local diner; police department chief Dudley Smith (James Cromwell) is concerned with escalating mob warfare in L.A.; and there's a pesky tabloid reporter Sid Hudgeons (Danny DeVito) snooping around.

All of this is tremendously interesting. The dialogue sparkles with wit and intensity. The action, and there's quite a bit of it, is exciting, and the acting even more so. There's not a single weak role in the cast. Pearce, Crowe, Spacey and Cromwell are spectacular, and the rest of the cast (even Kim Basinger) is solid.

And the plot — oh my, what a plot. A half dozen strands weave their way through the fabric of this movie, and it's a joy to follow them. There's a murder mystery, a love story, an action thriller, a psychological drama, a period piece, and a sharp satirical look on glistening appearances, gilded surfaces and



James Cromwell, Guy Pearce, Russell Crowe, and Kevin Spacey play detectives in *L.A. Confidential*.

guilty secrets of Hollywood. This should be credited as much to James Ellroy, who wrote the novel, as to Curtis Hanson and Brian Helgeland, who adapted the screenplay.

Director Hanson, whose previous movie was the bland *The River Wild*, does a great job here; his direction is both elegant and tight. The movie's tendency to stop and have one or the other character summarize the latest plot developments is slightly off-putting; it creates the impression that the movie doesn't think we're smart enough to understand it. And the said plot, while complex, is never confusing

— but you shouldn't go for the large soda because you don't want to miss a minute.

Technical credits are equally as accomplished. *L.A. Confidential* is recreated with careful attention to details; both sets, cinematography, musical score, and costumes are extremely impressive.

L.A. Confidential might be the first movie this year to be a prominent Oscar contender. Of course, the Season of Big Movies is barely starting, but this might be the first of them. And if I'm right, remember, you first read it here in *The Tech*; confidential and strictly hush-hush.

FILM REVIEW

1,000 acres, 3 daughters, lots of trouble

A THOUSAND ACRES

Directed by Jocelyn Moorhouse
Written by Laura Jones
Starring Michelle Pfeiffer, Jessica Lange, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Colin Firth, Keith Carradine, Evin Anderson, and Jason Robards

By Teresa Huang
STAFF REPORTER

A Thousand Acres, based on the Pulitzer Prize winning novel by Jane Smiley, is an emotional look at family loyalty and trust which is unfortunately muddled by an overly idealistic setting and ambiguous characterizations. The characters are extremely complex, and by the end of the story the audience doesn't know any more about what the characters are thinking than they did at the start.

The film follows the Cook family and the struggles they encounter when the father, played by Jason Robards, impulsively decides to distribute his 1,000 acres of farmland to his three daughters, who each maintain very different relationships with their father. Eldest daughter Ginny, played by Jessica Lange, is the most loyal and idolizes her father. Angry daughter Rose, played by Michelle Pfeiffer, is linked to her father through Ginny, who keeps her from losing faith in their father. Jennifer Jason Leigh plays Caroline, the youngest daughter who at first rejects her father's farmland offer, setting off a series of events which eventually divides the family forever.



Jessica Lange, Michelle Pfeiffer, and Jennifer Leigh portray sisters living on a farm in *A Thousand Acres*.

The film gives an extremely idealistic view of farming tradition and family. Every morning Ginny walks a half a mile to cook breakfast for her father. All three daughters still refer to him as "Daddy," and only Caroline has left the 1,000 acres of land they grew up on to become a lawyer. The picture of contentment, however, breaks down as the movie progresses and secrets from the past are unwillingly unearthed.

The film maintains good intentions as it attempts to explore themes of loyalty and judgement. Rose questions whether the loyalty that Ginny shows her father makes her obedient or if her reluctance to judge him proves her stupidity. Through Rose and her bitter

view of the world around her, Ginny begins to understand how differently people judge those who hurt them. The question of what values make a good daughter is also explored.

While the themes that *A Thousand Acres* deals with are serious, the environment in which it chooses to explore them is too idealistic and unrealistic. It doesn't seem possible that the daughters have been living at home for so long while ignoring unresolved conflicts and hidden desires in their own lives. It's also improbable that none of the sisters have taken time to understand their father's thoughts and feelings better. When the father suddenly has an outburst of anger on a stormy night, Rose and Ginny reject him on

the spot. There seems to be no compassion or attempt to comprehend why their father is suddenly acting so irrationally. Other pieces from the past surface as the movie progresses, but the new information doesn't serve to help us understand the family any more. One thing that is clear is that the land doesn't cause their problems, flaws in their own characters do.

A Thousand Acres suffers from too many plots and subplots. Jane Smiley's novel is excellent but is too complex to transfer effectively to the silver screen. Although the power of the performances is strong, the characters don't realistically relate to each other and the lessons learned are lost along the way.

don't believe
everything
you feel.

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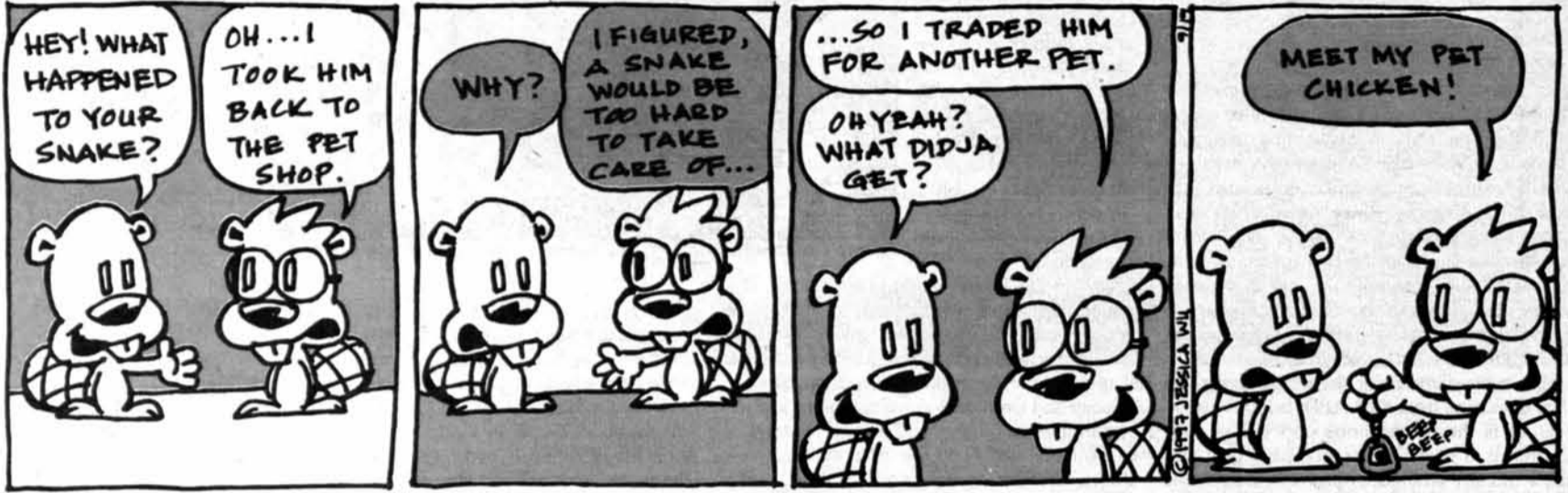
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COMICS

damned for life
by Jessica



Off Course
by Hugo



Happy Birthday to Hugo!

RHINO MAN

THE STORY SO FAR: Because of Rhino-Man's burns, Cupid decided not to kill him, realizing that his value as a trophy would be much higher if his skin healed. He drugged and bound him before going to meet Mr. G, but Rhino-Man escaped.

by Zachary Emig



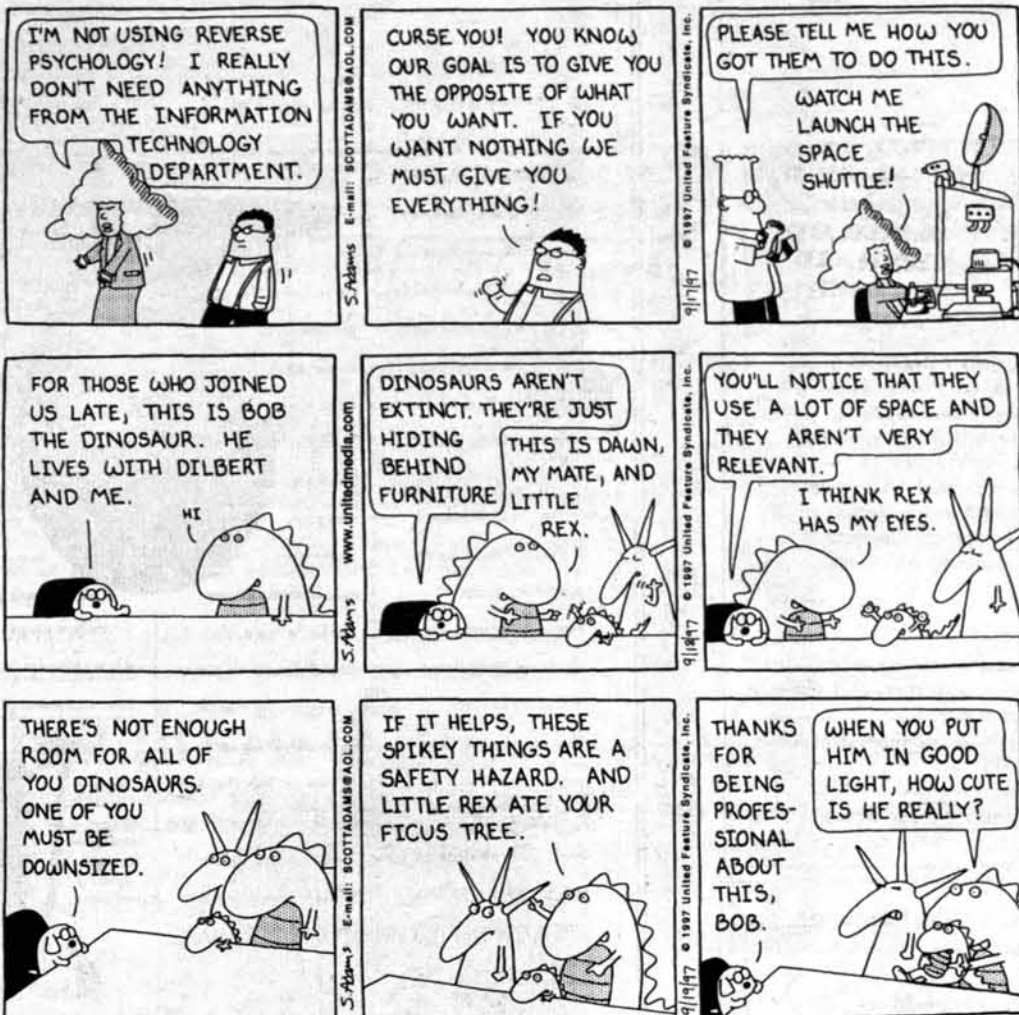
Next Issue: The last you'll hear of Cupid and Mr. G.

Noun Poetry
by Katy-Cat



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THE TECH PAGES 11 FUN 91997



by Scott Adams

CONNER TRIVIA ?

Last Words

Congratulations to Mark Huang and Ewa Dominowska who both knew that the ironic last words "Why are you dodging? They couldn't hit an elephant at this dist-" were spoken by Union General John B. Sedgwick as he berated his troops for taking cover from enemy fire. They each win a pair of tickets, two sodas and large tub of popcorn, all courtesy of LSC.

The Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen was reknown for his vehement disagreement with conventional ideas, a trait he retained to the end. After becoming an invalid due to a stroke, when his nurse suggested his condition was improving, he snapped, "On the contrary!" and promptly died.

Prizes are provided by LSC. Showing this weekend:

- Fri 7 & 10 p.m. *Batman and Robin* in 26-100
- Fri 7:30 p.m. *Silk Stockings* in 10-250
- Sat 4, 7 & 10 p.m. *Hercules* in 26-100
- Sun 4 & 7 p.m. *Double Replay* in 26-100:
Batman and Robin/Hercules

This feature was brought to you by the CAC Program Board. Today's factoids provided by the MIT Quiz Bowl team.

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tumbleweed garden

To hell with this show! Do you think we women have nothing better to do than to cook for you men?!

Please Julia! Calm down...

Two seconds to air...!

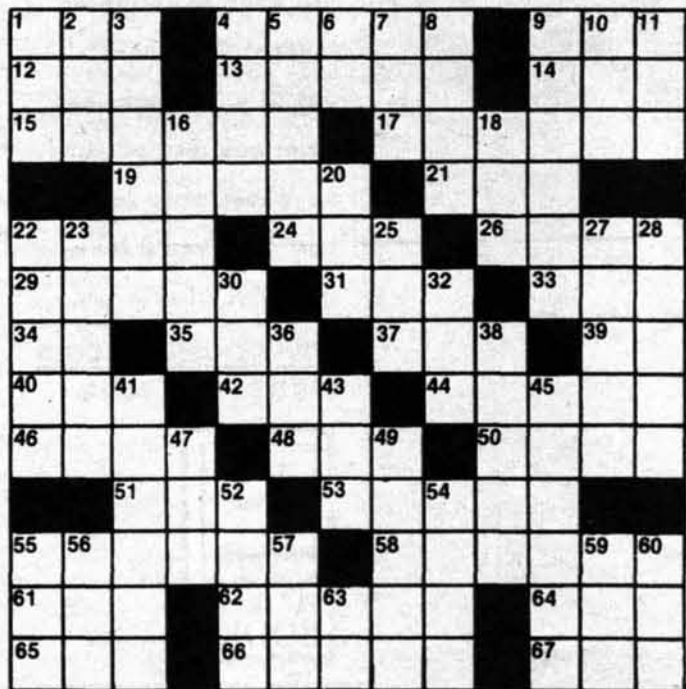
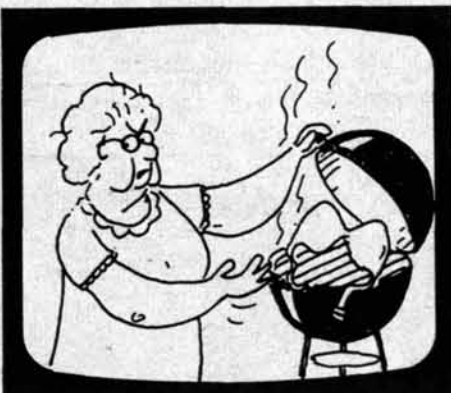
I'll tell you how to make a damn hamburger! Fire up the grill and throw your bra in it!

Then go to Burger King and buy a damn Whopper for 99 cents!

Stuff the burger down your husband's shirt, knee him in the groin and tell him that tomorrow you'll make fried chicken for him!

Cooking with Julia Chides

Tonight:
A juicy hamburger!



Across

1. Small child
2. Carbonated drink
9. Coffee container
12. Presidential nickname
13. Obvious
14. Had supper
15. Move among
17. End of Lent
19. Queen bee
21. Affirmative
22. Space
24. Day (abbr.)
26. Song
29. Grim
31. Light rap
33. Poland (abbr.)
34. Elevated railway
35. Negative word
37. Chasm
39. College degree (abbr.)
40. Color
42. Can
44. Redo
46. Cable car
48. Distress signal
50. Distance (prefix)
51. Day (abbr.)
53. Soil

55. Pertains to Arabia
58. Hydrocarbon in petroleum
61. Diary
62. Rule
64. 2,000 pounds
65. Confederate general
66. Eat away
67. Female sheep

32. Even
36. It is (poetic)
38. Lesser (law)
41. Mar
43. Numbers (abbr.)
45. Congressional group
47. Dangerous group
49. Stand (past tense)
52. Fine
54. Pimples
55. Every
56. Fish eggs
57. Vehicle
59. At once
60. Direction (abbr.)
63. Negative answer

Down

1. Scottish cap
2. Japanese sash
3. Soft
4. Sing alone
5. Kilns
6. Undoing (prefix)
7. Verb
8. Stop; wait
9. Tomato condiment (variant)
10. Utah Indian
11. Each
16. Oat or wheat
18. Ready
20. Have supper
22. Warn
23. Head of country
25. Children's game
27. Prize
28. Make happy
30. Speck

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE



SOLUTIONS IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE TECH

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The Computing Help Desk is now hiring student consultants to provide telephone, walk-in, and on-line support for the MIT community during business hours (9-5). Training begins in late September. A **mandatory orientation session** for interested candidates will be held from 5:15-6:45 PM on **Monday, Sep 22nd** in room 1-390.

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 - getting to the bottom of things
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 - friendly
 - confident



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- 1.) Your name, contact info (phone numbers, address, etc.), and date of graduation.
- 2.) Names and phone numbers of at least 2 references. (preferably employers or faculty)
- 3.) Your up-to-date resume

Direct any questions to Alicia Allen, helpsuper@mit.edu

HOW TO USE THE BATHROOM.

You're probably saying to yourself, any four-year-old knows how to use the bathroom. But you may not know that you use more water in the bathroom than anywhere else in your home. In fact, between the toilet, the shower and the sink you can use up to 55 gallons a day. Multiply that by the number of homes in the world, and that's a lot of natural resources going down the drain. Now, we're not saying you should stop taking showers or brushing your teeth. We're just suggesting some simple bathroom training. For instance, when you're brushing your teeth, turn off the water. Do the same when you're shaving. And just because your shower sounds like an opera hall, don't feel the need to sing one. Shorter songs make for shorter showers. And for the biggest culprit of them all, the toilet, try putting a weighted jug in the tank. It will help save water every time you flush. Plus, don't forget to turn out the lights when you leave. You'll be helping to conserve electricity.

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And oh yeah, if you don't think you'll remember these things, take this newspaper with you the next time you go.

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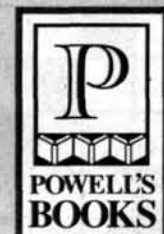
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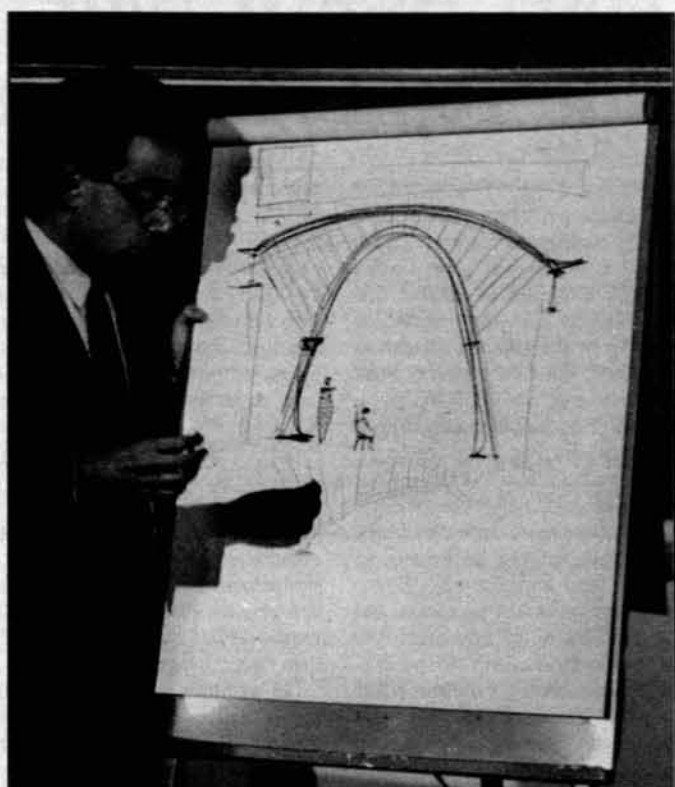
If Erasmus we're alive today, he'd be a skinny nudist.

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When I get a little money, I buy books; and if any is left, I buy food and clothes. -Erasmus



Santiago Calatrava, a famous architect from Zürich, explains how to build an arch at the Architecture Lecture Series on Tuesday in 10-250.

MIDRAG CIRKOVIC

Donald A. Schön

Professor Emeritus Donald A. Schön died Saturday, Sept. 13 at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston after a seven-month illness. He was 66.



In 1972, Schön was appointed Ford Professor of Urban Studies and Education at MIT. From 1990 to 1992, he served as chair of the Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

At the time of his death, Schön was Ford professor emeritus and senior lecturer in the School of Architecture and Planning.

Schön, a philosopher, held sacrosanct the notion of effective practice and consequently tried to help educators teach professionals how to be competent in practice.

He brought these ideas to the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT.

"He basically created this concept of the reflective practitioner, where we try to create a school where the whole program is based on practice, and learning from practice," said Bishwapriya Sanyal, head of the Department of Urban Studies and Planning.

The concept of a reflective practitioner is developed in Schön's published works, which include *Beyond the Stable State*, *The Reflective Practitioner*, and *Educating the Reflective Practitioner*.

The thought behind the reflective practitioner is to understand "the difference between espoused theory and how things really happen in life," Sanyal said.

And now, "that's a central theme" for the Urban Studies and Planning Department, Sanyal said.

Schön held many honors

Schön was born in Boston and raised in Brookline and Worcester. He graduated from Brookline High School in 1947, and Yale in 1951. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

He studied clarinet in Paris at the Sorbonne and Conservatoire Nationale de Music and was awarded the Premier Prix. After graduating, he received the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship and continued at Harvard where he earned his masters and doctorate in philosophy in 1955.

Schön taught philosophy at the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1953, followed by two years of service in the U.S Army. Concurrently, he lectured at University of Kansas City as an Assistant Professor of Philosophy.

He worked from 1957-1963 as senior staff member in the industrial research firm, Arthur D. Little, Inc., where he formed the new product group in the research and development division. Under the Kennedy administration, he was appointed director of the Institute for Applied Technology in the National Bureau of Standards, Department of Commerce, where he continued through 1966.

He then cofounded and directed the Organization for Social and Technological Innovation, a non-profit social research and development firm in the Boston area, through 1973. While at OSTI, in 1970, Schön was invited by the British Broadcasting Corporation to deliver the prestigious Reith Lectures, on industrial technology and social change. He was the youngest invitee ever to give the Reith Lectures.

Schön had many outside interests including reading, languages, tennis, and music. He was an accomplished pianist and clarinetist, and enjoyed playing in jazz and chamber groups.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Quint Schön; mother, Ann mason Schön; four children; and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service to honor his life and work will be held on Oct. 19 from 3 to 6 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium.

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GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

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It claims good people.

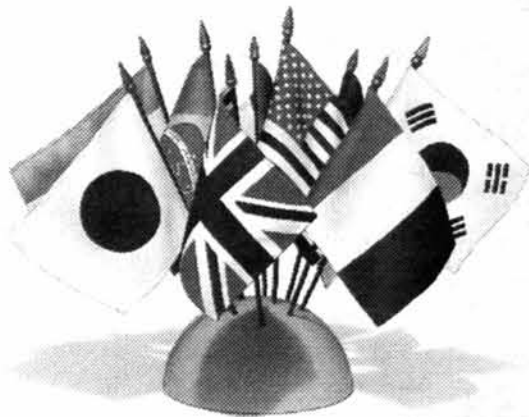
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Baker Award, Safe Ride Top UA Agenda

UA, from Page 1

77 Massachusetts Ave. and Beacon Street at regular intervals.

Another problem was that a Baker Foundation Teaching Award was not awarded last year. Carter stated his intention to resolve this issue. "This is a situation in which according to the Baker Foundation constitution, the UA president must intervene and solve," he said. "There will be a Baker Foundation Award this year."

Carter also reiterated the role of dormitory representatives. Dormitory representatives are responsible for the gathering of feedback from their dormitory, regular attendance at UA meetings, and the dissemination of information to their dormitory, he said. Many dormitory representatives did not come to the UA meeting.

Following up on a campaign promise, Carter also said there was a need for refinement in the Safe Ride shuttle service. The UA will look into creating a Safe Ride Express that would ferry between

Immerman encourages activism

Following Carter's speech, guest speaker Steven D. Immerman, director of special projects, spoke to the council and the audience, made up mostly of freshman, about the need to get involved in the community.

MIT "is one of the most open communities in the country, if not the world," he said. "Your job is to understand what's going on in this community."

Immerman also stated the need for perseverance, which he said would always be more important than "good looks and brains."

In addition to the two speeches, the UA also used the meeting to take nominations for the Executive Committee. Nominations will remain open for about a week. The UA provided summaries of the functions of various committees to the audience.

TBP Attendees Enjoy Food and Discussion

TBP, from Page 1

It is this interplay between the artist and scientist that the arts at MIT seeks to enhance. "I'm not here to make artists," Brody said, "but to make better engineers and scientists, and better human beings."

"At MIT, there is a community of students who are superb at manipulating their conscious minds and thinking in the most complex linearity," Brody added.

"But I've found that many of you don't really have an inroad into the richness of that world that could really free you to even a greater and larger and richer conscious mind," he said.

Students pleased with event

The students attending the dinner had a delightful experience.

"It was very interesting to sit in on a forum where there were both artists and scientists and engineers

present," said Amy C. Richards G, who helped with publicizing the dinners. "I think [Brody] raised some important points and the parallels between the creative processes in the arts and science. I certainly never had thought of them as being analogous before."

"The conversation and interchange of ideas was quite lively. It's the type of thing that would make the Extropians happy," said Surya Ganguli G. "Although that definitely isn't the sole criteria of its worth."

"The food was excellent. I had a very tough time eating dinner at Networks the day after that," Ganguli said.

Next Tuesday's dinner will feature Professor John M. Edmond from the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences, and is titled "The chemistry of the big rivers of eastern Siberia, and politics thereof."

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ROSH HASHANA

REFORM SERVICES

MIT Chapel

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 6:45 pm

Thursday, Oct. 2, 10:30 am

CONSERVATIVE SERVICES

Kresge Little Theatre

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 6:45 pm

Thursday, Oct. 2, 8:45 am & 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 3, 8:45 a.m.

◆ **ROSH HASHANA MEALS** will be served at Hillel. Prepayment by Sept. 26 with meal card or cash.

◆ **YOM KIPPUR** is Oct. 10 - 11. Tickets are required for all Oct. 10 **KOL NIDRE SERVICES** and are available for students and members of the MIT community. Ticket pickup at MIT Hillel through Oct. 9 and in Lobby 10 on Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 7, 8.

◆ **MIT HILLEL**, Building W11 lower level, 253-2982

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Contact: Prof. Larry Vale, 10-485, x3-0561, <ljvale@mit.edu>

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10 Scholarships awarded nationally by Winston Churchill Foundation, tenable for 1 or 3 years at Churchill College, Cambridge. Science or engineering, GRE required.

Contact: Prof. Lorna Gibson, 8-135, x3-7107, <ljgibson@mit.edu>

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Applications available at the Graduate Education Office, 3-138.

1

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A Perspective On Your Education

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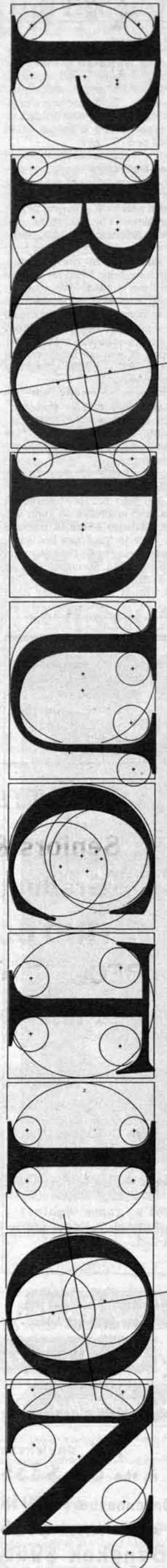
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The Tech

Student Center, Room 483
Every Sunday, Monday,
Wednesday, and
Thursday evening.

\$1K Competition Serves as Training

50K, from Page 1

shopped the deal. ... When you tell people your plan, you're telling the marketplace to create the competition."

Additionally, he had to show the investors that he would generate \$50 million in revenues within five years. Metcalfe said he manipulated the numbers on a spreadsheet until he came up with forecasts to meet the goal. "You should not be afraid to fill those spreadsheets with numbers."

Metcalfe has helped the \$50K competition in the past by providing contest finalists with contacts in the venture capitalist community.

In his talks, Metcalfe "can connect students from both the undergraduate and graduate sides as well as Sloan and non-Sloan students," Shepard said.

The organizing team expects an increase in the number of team entrants this year, based in part on the contest's growth last year, said Sally A. Shepard G, lead organizer for the contest. The organizers want to focus on improving the quality of the projects, she said.

In order to bring about this improvement, the organizing team has scheduled a number of upcoming events, including team-building dinners and a seminar about intellectual property, Shepard said.

The dinners are "a great opportunity to get people who are interested in forming a team together," Shepard said.

The seminar will allow students

to have their worries about intellectual rights addressed by patent lawyers.

"We want to make sure they have the information they need to protect their ideas," Shepard said.

Organizers pleased with event

"I was thrilled with the turnout," said Patrick J. McCormick '98, communications leader on the organizing team for the contest. The competition, now in its ninth year, "keeps getting better and better every year," he said.

"The overall goal is to get resources to students to help them create tomorrow's leading firms," Shepard said.

There are a number of resources that are necessary to start a company, and "our job is to help pull it all together," McCormick said.

"It's the only [entrepreneurial] competition of this size that is run by students," Shepard said.

The \$1K warmup competition was also a focus of the informational session held after Metcalfe finished his speech. In this contest, awards are given to teams in different categories for submitting summaries of ideas.

This competition is one step in the entire contest, and serves to give preliminary feedback to teams so they are more prepared for the \$50K competition held in the spring, McCormick said. Traditionally, the \$50K winner has participated in the preliminary competition, whose deadline is in mid-November, he said.



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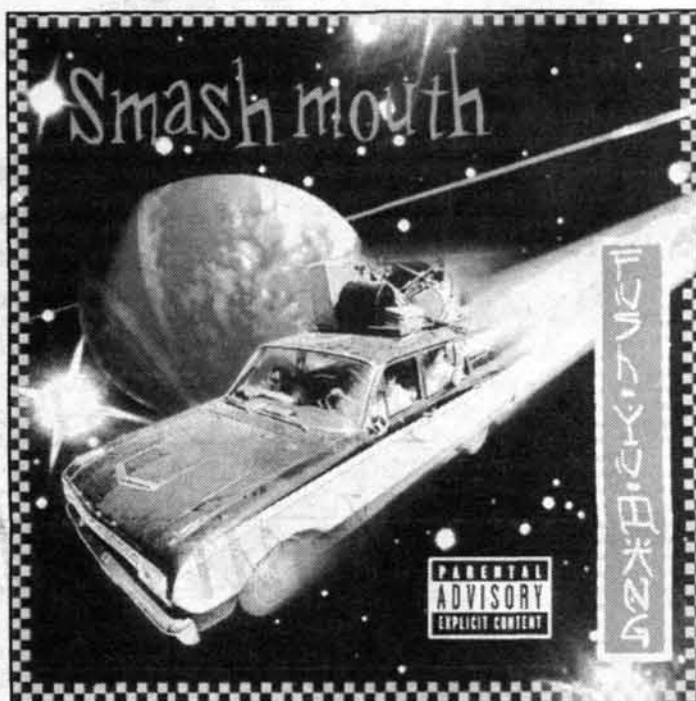
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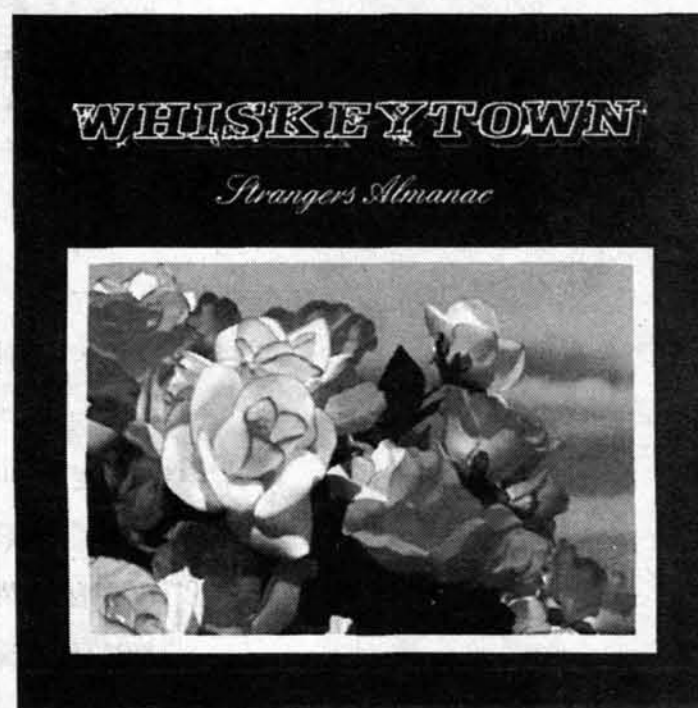
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Do you have a demonstrated interest in and commitment to MIT? Come to an informal discussion and dinner (pizza and soda) to meet with some members of the Corporation, MIT's Board of Trustees, on

Thursday, September 25, 1997

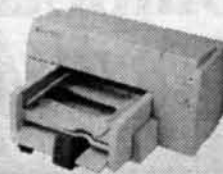
6:30 - 8:30 p.m., 10-105 (Bush Room)

Meet some of the recent graduate members of the Corporation, hear about their experiences, and learn how you can participate in this important election process. The ballot to elect a recent graduate (1996, 1997, and 1998 graduates) to the Corporation needs strong candidates and that person could be you or someone you know. Nomination materials will be sent in early October to all 1996, 1997, and 1998 graduates.

Please join us at this open meeting.

All students are welcome. Questions? Call Bonnie Jones, 3-8212.

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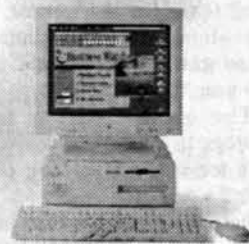
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Women's Field Hockey Shuts Out Simmons to Win Season Opener

By Nicole Botcheos
TEAM MEMBER

The women's field hockey team opened their season Tuesday night with a strong win over Simmons College 2-0. Both goals were scored by Captain Stephanie Maifert '98.

The goal came less than a minute into the game off of a pass from center link Connie Sadowski '99, and the second was the result of persistent efforts from Maifert against the goalie.

The team put together some nice passing combinations and managed to stay on offense for the majority of the game. While MIT had repeated penalty corners on offense, none were called against the team defensively.

The Sadowski twins were strong forces in the midfield, and sweeper Margie Tsai '99 had some excellent steals in the backfield to keep Simmons on defense. Goalie Melody Epps '99 had her first shut-out for the season as well.

The only major flaw occurred about 10 minutes into the first half when the lights suddenly went out,

leaving the field in darkness. Play had to be postponed for almost 10 minutes while frantic efforts were made to get the lights working again. Overall, everyone played with excellent style and aggression.

The team is now undefeated with a 1-0 record. The next home game will be on Saturday, Sept. 27, against the alumnae; time is to be announced. The following home game will be against regionally ranked University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth on Thursday, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. on the astroturf.

Men's Cross Country Wins Engineer's Cup

By Rich Rosalez
TEAM MEMBER

The men's cross country team dominated Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Worcester Polytechnic Institute Saturday, to recapture the Engineer's Cup.

After an absence from last year's contest, the team returned in top form, taking home the trophy for the fifth time in six years. The final score was MIT 20, RPI 38, and WPI 85.

The team got off the start quickly and dominated the field, as co-captain Mike Parkins '99, Chris McGuire '00, and top freshman Mark Strauss '01 led the entire race and finished side by side in 26 minutes 41 seconds on the 5.1-mile course.

They were followed by co-captain Rich Rosalez '98 who took sixth and another group of runners who rounded out the varsity top seven. This group included Jeff Billings '01, Sohail Husain '98, and Liyan Guo '01 in eighth, ninth, and 11th places respectively.

The junior varsity squad also cruised to victory and were led by Phil Loisel '01, who finished just three seconds behind Guo in 28:42. Other top performers included Aaron Adler '01, Frank Johnston '00, and Ray Molnar '00, as well as an impressive time improvement by Ashley Clayborne '99.

The team faces stiffer competition in their race tomorrow. They will be racing Tufts University and Bates University at Tufts, who finished seventh at last year's national championships.

14 Tackles in Saturday's Football Game Earns Gray Numerous Weekly Honors

By Roger Crosley
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

MIT defensive tackle Brad Gray '98 has been named the Football Gazette National Division III

Defensive Player of the Week, the Eastern College Athletic Conference New England Division III Defensive Player of the Week, and the Eastern Collegiate Football Conference Defensive Player of the Week.

Gray led MIT to a 27-18 victory over Framingham State College Saturday by recording 14 tackles — 11 solo tackles, five of

them for a total loss of 28, and three sacks for 23 yards. Gray's first sack resulted in a safety for MIT's first two points. He also blocked a Framingham extra point attempt.

Teammate Duane Stevens '98 was named to the ECAC Weekly Honor Roll for his play. Stevens scored two fourth quarter touchdowns of 29 and 5 yards, caught a two-point conversion pass, and intercepted a pass which he returned 37 yards leading to MIT's final points in the victory.

Soccer teams start season well
The Engineers split two games

in the Union College Invitational Soccer Tournament. Fito Louis '00 scored all four MIT goals in the tournament.

Louis accounted for the only goal in the Engineers' 2-1 loss to the State University of New York - College at Geneseo, and followed that with a three goal performance in MIT's 3-0 victory over Manhattanville College in the second round.

Karen Murray '99, goalie for the MIT women's soccer team, had 20 saves in an 3-0 loss to Plymouth State. She followed that performance with a 1-0 shutout over Emmanuel College.

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MIT dates & deadlines

Upcoming student deadlines and other important Institute dates

This service is brought to you by the Office of the Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education. If you know of important dates we have missed, please send them to deadlines@mit.edu, and we will add them to the deadlines Web site: <http://web.mit.edu/odsue/deadlines/>

Date	Who	What	Where
Monday, September 22, through Friday, September 26			
Mon 9/22	All students	Student holiday — no classes	
Wed 9/24	Freshmen interested in small working groups for core subjects	Deadline for enrollment in OME Seminar XL	7-145; 3-5010
Fri 9/26	Seniors graduating in February 1998	Deadline to submit minor completion form (\$40 late fee)	Minor advisor; then 14N-408; 3-4441
Fri 9/26	Graduate students cross-registering at Harvard	Deadline for Harvard cross-registration petition (\$40 late fee)	SSC* at 8-6434;
Fri 9/26	Undergraduates cross-registering at Harvard	Deadline for Harvard cross-registration petition (\$40 late fee)	14N-408; 3-4441
Monday, September 29, through Friday, October 13			
Mon 9/29	Anyone who wants to conduct an IAP program	IAP activity registration begins	7-103; 3-1668
Mon 9/29	Seniors	Deadline for Fulbright Year Abroad application	3-138; 3-1940
Tues 9/30	Students wanting family medical coverage or medical insurance waiver	Deadline for family coverage and insurance waiver forms	E23-308; 3-4371
Fri 10/3	All students	ADD DATE — Last day to add subjects (Add/Drop form; fee for petitioning after this date)	Advisor; SSC*, 8-8600; E19-335; 3-4784
Fri 10/3	Upperclass students applying for fall-term financial aid	\$100 fine for students who have not completed fall financial aid applications by this date	SSC*, 8-8600
Fri 10/3	Juniors and seniors	Last day to change an elective to or from	SSC*, 8-8600; Registrar, E19-335; 3-4784
Fri 10/3	Seniors	Deadline for British Marshall Scholarship application	Prof. L. Hobbs, 13-4062; 3-6835; forms avail. in 3-138
Fri 10/3	Seniors	Deadline for Rhodes Scholarship application	Prof. L. Vale, 10-485, 3-0561; forms avail in 3-138
Fri 10/3	All students who haven't completed registration	P-D-F grading (Add/Drop form) \$100 late fee for completing registration after this date	SSC*, 8-8600; Registrar, E19-335; 3-4784
Fri 10/3	All students	Last day to drop half-term subjects (Add/Drop form)	SSC*, 8-8600; Registrar, E19-335; 3-4784
Fri 10/10	Anyone who wants to conduct an IAP program	IAP activity registration end	7-103, 3-1668
Tues 10/14	Undergraduates	2nd quarter phys ed lottery begins	Athena: "add pelott", <ret>, "xphedu &," <ret>

*The Student Services Center, Building 11-120. The Center is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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◆ A delicious holiday dinner with traditional specialties will be served at 8:00 p.m. following services.

◆ FREE for students; \$12.50 for others. RESERVE by Friday, Sept. 26 at Hillel.

◆ Other Rosh Hashana meals available Lunches and dinner (Oct 2 & 3). Reserve by Sept. 26. \$8.00/10.00 for students and \$10.00/\$12.50 for others

◆ Conservative and Reform High Holiday services are held on campus. Rosh Hashana is October 1 - 3 Yom Kippur is October 10 - 11

◆ MIT Hillel is located in the Religious Activities Center, 40 Mass. Ave., MIT Bldg. W11 (corner of Mass. Ave. and Amherst St.) #253-2982



SPORTS



Otniel Nascimento of UMass-Boston runs in as Dante Mazzola, goalkeeper for UMass-Boston, pounds the grass in frustration after letting in MIT's third goal. MIT won Wednesday evening's game 4-3.

Sailors Perform Well During First Weekend in Season

By Sheri Ann Cheng
TEAM MEMBER

The varsity and women's sailing teams sailed in their first regattas of the season this past weekend. Regattas were held at Dartmouth College, the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Harvard University, and also here at MIT.

Conditions were cool, with light and shifty winds of 3-10 knots. The strongest finish of the weekend came from the team members who competed at Mass Maritime. MIT fell short of first place by one point, with Tufts beating them out 44 to 45.

Rob Damus '99 and Alan Sun '00 sailed in division A, while Sean Fabre '00 and Jen Shapiro '01 sailed in division B. In a small fleet (10 boats) and light air, staying in the

breeze and watching for shifts in wind was key. "You can use it to maintain your position or triumphantly vault from say, 9th to 4th as Alan and I did in the last set," Damus said.

At MIT this weekend, the women sailed two separate regattas, the Man-Labs regatta on Saturday, and a Radial Invitational on Sunday. Jessica Lackey '00 was the star of the women's team this weekend, sailing many first place races both Saturday and Sunday.

A combination on great boat speed, good tacks, and smart sailing often put Lackey well ahead of the rest of the fleet. On Saturday, Lackey teamed up with Carla Pellicano '01 to sail in division B, and remained in first place by 18 points up until the last set.

Jen Kelly '99 and Sheri Cheng '99 sailed in division A, pretty much in the middle of the fleet and pretty inconsistent.

MIT finished eighth out of 15 boats in the Man-Labs. The Radial Invitational on Sunday was a single-handed event, with Kelly sailing in division A and Lackey sailing in division B.

Since the invitational was a practice regatta for the New England qualifiers to be held at MIT later in the season, points were scored individually, and not as a team. Lackey finished third in her division, and Kelly finished fifth, one point from a fourth place finish.

Kelly said, "I think that the best part of the day was in the race that I was winning by a good margin, as I

went around the windward mark, I passed the MIT freshmen on Harvard's course, also in first place."

Twenty-one teams sailed at Dartmouth at the Hurst Bowl, a two-day event. Dave Hellmuth '98 and Ned Patterson '98 sailed in division B all weekend, with Drew Mutch '98 and Anna Michel '98 sailing on Saturday and Doug DeCouto '97 and Yoko Kusumoto '97 sailing on Sunday in division A.

DeCouto said, "In a fleet that big, the mark roundings were totally key. You could lose 10 places in a mark rounding, especially because the fleet was glued together in a pack." MIT placed 16th out of 21 boats at Dartmouth.

The freshmen had a good start at the Frosh Invite at Harvard this

weekend. John Beckos '01 and Nikki Spinello '01 were tied for first place in division A after the first four races in Larks. Ian McCreery '01 and Sarah Little '01 were in second place in division B after their first four races in Interclubs.

Beckos said, "We were really psyched and temporarily had second place as a team. Then we switched boats and both teams managed to sail very mediocre in the new boats."

MIT finished fourth overall at the event, behind BC, Tufts, and Harvard. With eight weekends in the season, each with a slew of regattas, the team is looking ahead to lots of competitive and fast sailing, as the weather gets colder and breezier.

Eagles Could Have Soared in NFL Except for That Missed Field Goal

By Chris Brocoun
SPORTS COLUMNIST

I don't mean to compare myself to Dennis Miller. But it is time to go off on a rant: The Dallas Cowboys have to be one of the luckiest teams in the NFL today and the Eagles are one of the most inept, incompetent, and incapable teams.

The Eagles played a great game until the fourth quarter and then their entire season unravelled before their eyes. Despite squandering a sizable lead, the Eagles managed to battle back trailing by one, with one second left on the three yard line, timeout.

Now a 20 yard chip shot field goal is a sure thing. About as sure as 99 times out of 100, I'd put money on it. Well, the Eagles lost big time on that one play.

The snap is bobbled and so Chris Boniol gets all out of rhythm. I'm sorry, but he should have just kicked it anyways. Instead the holder reacts and tries to run to the left for the touch-down, and right into wide eyed Deion Sanders, among other Cowboys—all the while dangling the ball in his right hand begging someone to knock it loose for a fumble.

So now, instead of the surprising Eagles being 2-1 and tied for the lead in the NFC East, Dallas has somehow managed to maintain its venerable position while Philly is rapidly descending to the basement.

And I was 10-3 instead of 11-2

for the week. It won't happen again.

The picks for week 4:

New England is playing Chicago at Foxboro. Now last time I checked, no Parcels on da Bears. Also, no hope.

The Colts have been averaging 6.3 points this season. The coaching staff has considered increasing the offensive unit from the current 7 players to the full compliment in an effort to generate a score. I think the numbers speak for themselves... Take the Bills.

Carolina is hosting Kansas City. I have to go with the up and coming Panthers over the old and degrading Chiefs.

Denver should just wreck the Bengals. No questions asked.

Minnesota at Green Bay. This game is huge. Both teams are reeling after losses to Tampa Bay and Philly respectively. They want that top spot in the NFC Central bad. Take the proven Packers over the promising Vikings in a great game.

The New York Jets and Bill Parcells should be able to take the Raiders. Especially if last weeks strong showing against the Patriots is any indication.

St. Louis and the Giants. I said it before and I'll say it again. The Giants are just a mess.

San Francisco has been picking up the pieces after a disastrous first game and they have also been picking up a decent head of steam. Take the Niners.

San Diego and Seattle is the blah game of the week. The Seahawks should win.

I can't believe I'm even thinking this but Tampa Bay over the Dolphins. What is this world coming to? No, not yet. All good things come to an end, the proverbial honeymoon is over. Take Marino, Jimmy Johnson and the Dolphins over a faltering Buccaneer team.

Baltimore at Tennessee. I'm still trying to figure out what sport this is? Major league soccer? Oh wait, this translates into the Ravens, the team formerly known as the Browns, at the Oilers. There we go. You're welcome for the translation. Take the Ravens.

Monday Night Special: The line on this game has Jacksonville over Pittsburgh. Obviously, the bookies haven't heard the Third Fundamental Law of Cowher Football. The Steelers don't lose on Monday Night. Period.

Last week: as noted above 10-3, season record: 19-9.

Women's Cross Country Dominates First Meet

By Janis Eisenberg
TEAM MEMBER

The women's cross country team competed in their first meet of the season on Saturday, winning the Engineer's Cup.

MIT has traditionally done well in this annual event against Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. The team entered the meet as defending champions and was proud to bring home the trophy for another year.

The team scores, MIT 28, RPI 31, and WPI 77, show that the race between MIT and RPI was close. The MIT team worked on staying close together during the five kilometer race, which helped people achieve faster times. The top three finishers were Janis Eisenberg '98 in first place with a time of 18:45, Debra Won '00 in third at 18:51 and Shue-Fen Tung '00 in fourth at 19:01. All three runners stayed close throughout the race.

The other four varsity runners also ran as a group, going across the one mile mark at essentially the same time. However, Robin Evans '99 pulled away to finish in ninth place at 20:11. She was closely followed by Melanie Harris '01 who finished in 11th place with a time of 20:25. Leah Nichols '00 placed 13th with 20:40 and Margaret Nervegna '01 finished in 14th place with 20:48.

Several junior varsity members also ran well. Tanya Zelevinsky '99 finished 17th at 21:22 while Patricia Diaz '00 captured 18th place with 21:30. The day's results show that some runners trained hard over the summer. Many team members ran personal bests, including Won and Diaz who both improved by over a minute.

Coach Sousa was pleased with the progress of returning members, commenting on the confidence the team displayed as a result of the experience gained last year.

Additionally, he was impressed by the performance of the freshmen, especially Harris and Nervegna who ran excellent first collegiate races. The team will return to WPI later in the season for the NEW 8 Championships.

Next week they will compete in the UMASS-Dartmouth Invitational, a meet with teams from throughout New England.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, Sept. 20

Men's Sailing in the Hatch Brown Trophy, All day
Women's Soccer vs. Elms College, 1 p.m.
Women's Volleyball vs. Smith College, 1 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 21

Baseball vs. University of Massachusetts-Boston, 12 p.m.
Men's Sailing in the Hatch Brown Trophy, All day