



Sean Fabre '00 and Jen Shatiro '01 race across the finish line, winning the fifteenth race of the Hatch Brown Trophy on Saturday.

MJODRAG CIRKOVIC—THE TECH

Teach a Child to Read Program Takes Flight

By Zareena Hussain
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Over 140 students are preparing to fan out across the Cambridge area next week, helping to insure that local grade schoolers are reading at their grade level.

The students are part of the program Reach Out—Teach A Child to Read, sponsored jointly by the Public Service Center and the Student Financial Aid Office. Volunteers will tutor children in kindergarten through sixth grade, one-on-one, for two hours per week at seven area schools and after-school programs.

The turnout "is amazing," said Emily B. Sandberg, assistant dean and director of the PSC. To have that many students already involved in the start of a new public service program is exceptional, she said.

The goal of the program is to live up to the America Reads Challenge issued by President Clinton in his State of the Union Address. Clinton wanted to see that "every American child can read well and independently by the end of the third grade."

FWS students receive full subsidy

Students who qualify can participate in Reach Out as part of their federal work-study program.

About two-thirds of students involved in Reach Out are using it to fulfill their work-study requirements, Sandberg said.

Normally, the federal government picks up 75 percent of the tab for students' hourly wages in work-study programs. However, in the

Reach Out, Page 22



REBECCA LOH—THE TECH

Baker Renovations May Begin Next Year

By Shang-Lin Chuang
CHAIRMAN

A \$22 million renovation to Baker House could begin as early as next summer pending approval by the administration, according to Susan A. Personette, senior architect and project manager for Physical Plant.

According to the current plan, the dormitory will undergo construction during the summers of 1998 and 1999, rendering it uninhabitable during those times.

The first and ground floor common space will undergo major renovation in the first year, and the dormitory rooms will be renovated the following year, said Tracy M. Sadowski '99, who lead a team of Baker residents and coordinated the flow of information between the students, the architects, and the administration.

A feasibility study was completed late last year by a group of students, architects, and the administration to prioritize the renovations and estimate their cost, Personette said. That group is currently getting more student feedback, preparing a more detailed design for the renovation, and updating the cost estimates.

The administration will review the renovation plans in October or November; if they are approved, work will begin next summer.

"What started to drive this project originally was that the major systems were worn out and needed to be replaced — heating, lighting, plumbing, power," Personette said.

The historical importance of the building, which is internationally famous for its architecture, was also

considered in the renovation plans.

"We want to make the building respond to modern students, and then we really become conscious of the historic value of the building," Personette said.

Students involved in planning

Students have been heavily involved in the entire renovation process. The team of Baker residents has met frequently with the architects and administration and has been a primary information source and had a major influence on decisions, Personette said.

The planning decisions are made jointly by the administration, architects, and students, Sadowski said. Cost, necessity, and benefits are all weighed to match budgetary constraints. The students have been meeting regularly with the administration for the past three years.

"The project will be funded in three ways," said Director of Special Projects Stephen D. Immerman, who is in charge of the financial aspect of this project.

"The rents will be increased at a normal rate, the systems will be made more efficient without compromising it, and as the old debt is retired, the cash flow will contribute to [paying] the new debt," Immerman said. "It is a combination of all of those things and how they work together."

Purchasing to begin in spring

A mock-up room will be created over the upcoming Independent

Baker, Page 19

Cogen Lawsuit Referred To DPU

By Frank Dabek
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

A lengthy court battle over the legal intricacies involved in operating MIT's electric cogeneration facility came to a head Friday as the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court upheld the legality of levying fees against the Institute while passing the buck on the calculation of those fees to the Department of Public Utilities.

Both MIT and the Cambridge Electric Light Company have claimed victory following the decision.

"I am very pleased that the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court has ruled in our favor," said President Charles M. Vest, who refused to comment further because of the legal nature of the case.

"We are very pleased by the decision," said Peter Dimond, director of communications for Cambridge Electric.

The decision upheld the legality of assigning customer transition charges while voiding the earlier customer transition charges (CTCs) levied against MIT.

"The SJC now gives the [Department of Public Utilities] the opportunity to increase our cost recovery from 75 percent to the 100 percent to which we are entitled. We firmly applaud their decision," said Russel D. Wright, president of Cambridge Electric, in a statement released by the company.

Legality of charges upheld

In the decision, the court affirmed the legality of CTCs, also called exit fees, which are levied against large customers who cause "stranded costs" to the electric company when they reduce their service.

Under state law, power companies are required to make advance purchases of power to meet their future needs.

The CTC levied against MIT, which amounts to \$110,000 a month, was the first to be issued against a cogeneration facility in the country. MIT has been paying the fine since 1995 while the lawsuits were underway.

MIT had argued that this charge was in violation of Public Utility

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INSIDE

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WORLD & NATION

Boston Children's Hospital Closes Unit after Infection

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BOSTON

With deadly efficiency, a powerful bacterium has claimed the lives of four young patients at Boston Children's Hospital. The appearance of the virulent "*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*" organism also forced the closure of the institution's neonatal intensive care unit where the lethal infections occurred.

The nine-year-old Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Children's was considered "beyond state of the art," said Dr. Edward J. O'Rourke, the hospital's medical director of infection control.

Far from some exotic germ, *P. aeruginosa* is a common strain of bacteria found on many fruits and vegetables. In healthy children and adults, these bacteria seldom cause disease. But in severely ill patients with weakened immune systems, *P. aeruginosa* can cause death "within a few days," said Dr. Bela Matyas, an epidemiologist with the Department of Public Health.

Precisely how the bacterium entered the unit remains under investigation. But O'Rourke said the very nature of an intensive care unit, where patients are tethered to tubes and monitors are passed through already weakened bodies, provided an ideal medium for transmission.

"You can imagine that a single (intensive care) patient is probably touched by a health-care worker 100 times a day, and that one health care worker is probably touching several patients," O'Rourke said. Hospital officials confirmed that the organism was found on several workers' hands during testing.

Japanese Minister Resigns Amid Controversy over Appointment

THE WASHINGTON POST

TOKYO

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's risky appointment of a convicted felon to his cabinet 11 days ago ended in disaster for Hashimoto Monday when he accepted the minister's resignation in the face of massive public outrage and political pressure.

Koko Sato, 69, who was convicted of taking bribes in the Lockheed scandal of the 1970s and given a suspended prison sentence, told Hashimoto he was resigning "to avoid any further confusion in national politics."

But the furor caused by Sato's appointment, which was a plum from Hashimoto to the conservative old guard of his party, caused confusion and damage for the prime minister at an important moment in his administration.

Public opinion has been nearly unanimously harsh since Hashimoto appointed Sato on Sept. 11. Many analysts said Hashimoto expected to be criticized but reckoned that his high public approval ratings would carry him through.

Instead, Hashimoto was bashed relentlessly in the news media, by opposition politicians and even by some members of his own party. And the Japanese public was uncharacteristically unified and vocal: Dozens of people stood in typhoon wind and rain last week to picket Hashimoto's residence.

Plan to Test Undeveloped AIDS Vaccine on Volunteers Debated

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Researchers seeking to develop an AIDS vaccine on Monday addressed with skepticism, even an undercurrent of scorn, the announcement by a physicians' group that 50 volunteers are willing to subject themselves to an injection of a live, weakened strain of the virus that causes the disease.

The goal of the International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care would be to speed up the often ponderous scientific process that has historically rested at the root of developing life-saving vaccines.

But, using cautious language scientists said such seemingly altruistic human testing, born of frustration, would short-circuit proven safety procedures while offering little of scientific value.

The volunteers' proposal, publicized over the weekend, prompted a surge of telephone calls to the organization's offices in Chicago on Monday. It said it has a list of 50 people willing to participate in a trial of a vaccine, and dozens of others seeking to add their names to the list.

The group said that it would proceed with a test — of specifically what vaccine it was not clear — with or without government approval.

WEATHER

A Season's Greeting

By Chris E. Forest

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

We'll feel our first touch of autumn's breath tomorrow as the arrival of fall makes its way into the forecast. For the remainder of today, the skies should remain cloudy as a cold front approaches this evening. The frontal passage will clear the skies during the night and bring "unseasonably" cool air into New England as temperatures descend in Cambridge. Tomorrow, we expect gusty northwesterly winds to keep the temperatures cool as a high pressure system develops over the eastern seaboard. On Thursday, another low pressure system is developing over the Great Lakes and will bring possible showers in the afternoon or during the night.

Today: Mostly cloudy with chance of showers. High 66°F. (19°C)

Tonight: Clearing and temperatures dropping. Low 45°F (7°C)

Wednesday: Clear and cool. High 57°F (14°C). Low 42°F (5°C)

Thursday: Partly cloudy with chance of afternoon showers. High 61°F (16°C). Low 48°F (9°C)

Gore Urges Russia to Reject Curbs of Religious Freedom

By David Hoffman

THE WASHINGTON POST

MOSCOW

Vice President Al Gore urged the Kremlin Monday to reject a revised bill restricting minority religions that has drawn protests from the West, but a top Russian official said President Boris Yeltsin supports the legislation.

Gore made his appeal in a meeting with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin opening two days of talks on space exploration, the economy and nuclear non-proliferation issues.

Gore said the revised religion legislation is just as objectionable as a version that Yeltsin vetoed July 22 on grounds it was unconstitutional.

The legislation, approved last week by the lower house of the Russian parliament, includes a preamble that describes the country's "traditional" religions as Russian Orthodoxy, Islam, Judaism and Buddhism; the phrase "and Christianity" was also added to the preamble.

However, the details of the bill create separate and more restrictive legal status for many minority faiths. Among those who might be restricted are Roman Catholics, Baptists, Pentecostals, Seventh-Day Adventists and other, smaller groups.

The bill would limit the practices and operations of those religions, sects and faiths that have not had a presence in Russia for at least 15 years, which would include most of those that have come to Russia since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

These minority religions would be prohibited, for example, from importing or distributing literature, and in some cases would be forced to register annually.

The legislation was pushed by the Russian Orthodox Church, which has felt threatened by the proselytizing of other religions, cults and sects.

The bill is expected to reach the upper chamber of parliament, the Federation Council, this week. It has drawn protests from the Vatican as well as many U.S. religious groups. In July, the Senate threatened to cut off all aid to Russia if Yeltsin signed the earlier version.

Boris Nemtsov, first deputy prime minister, said over the weekend that he also recommended that Yeltsin veto the bill.

"I think we could live quite well without that legislation," he said. "We have a constitution that says everybody is equal, those who believe in God and those who don't. And I think that's sufficient."

Critics say the new draft is just as restrictive as the one that Yeltsin vetoed. But the latest version has had Yeltsin's imprimatur in committee deliberations, and there was a fresh signal Monday that he intends to sign it.

Ruslan Orekhov, head of the Kremlin's main state-judicial directorate, told the official Tass news agency that the law does not contradict the Russian constitution. The 1993 constitution states that religions "shall be equal before the law."

The Tass report did not say whether Yeltsin would sign the legislation, but Orekhov is one of the

Kremlin officials who has advised Yeltsin on the issue.

Gore told reporters that he devoted "a considerable amount of time" to discussing the legislation with Chernomyrdin. "I have tried very hard to explain exactly why we Americans feel so strongly about this," he said.

According to Gore, the U.S. and Russian experts disagreed over legal interpretations of the law and he and the prime minister asked them to clarify their views.

"I hope to be able to make some progress" influencing the Russians, Gore said.

"If they can simply use President Yeltsin's veto message from the first time around, then we'll be in fine shape but, as you know, the latest draft falls far short of the principles he enunciated in that veto message," Gore said.

Lawrence Uzzell, a representative here of the Keston Institute in Oxford, England, which monitors issues of religious life and freedom, said that in recent days the Yeltsin government has come up with new interpretations of the bill to "appease its critics." For example, he said, some Russian officials have suggested that the 15-year provision may not be made retroactive.

On a separate topic, Gore said he and Chernomyrdin, meeting at a resort south of Moscow, discussed U.S. and Israeli complaints that Russia is allowing materials for weapons of mass destruction and missile technology to reach Iran. Russia is building a nuclear power plant in Iran, but has denied that it is sending nuclear weapons or missile technology there.

Re-Election Team Repeatedly Sought President's Assistance

By Ruth Marcus

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

After the story of Vice President Al Gore's fund-raising calls from the White House broke last March, President Clinton said he didn't remember making similar solicitations himself — but was careful to leave himself some wiggle room.

"I can't say, over all the hundreds and hundreds and maybe thousands of phone calls I've made in the last four years, that I never said to anybody while I was talking to them, 'Well, we need your help,' or 'I hope you'll help us,'" Clinton said at a news conference. He said that "once I remember in particular I was asked to do it, and I just never got around to doing it."

In the intervening months, congressional investigators have amassed evidence that suggests such calls were made, and at the very least makes clear that, whether Clinton actually did so, he repeatedly was pressed to make them as part of the intense fund-raising push by his re-election team to raise millions of dollars for a Democratic Party advertising campaign on his behalf.

Now Clinton's calls are the focus of Justice Department scrutiny as prosecutors begin the first phase of deciding whether they warrant appointment of an independent counsel. White House officials say that any such calls would be legal, and that in any case they aren't sure Clinton made any. The legal issue concerns whether the calls violated the prohibition against soliciting campaign contributions on government property.

Reno recently opened a separate probe into Gore's fund-raising calls

after the disclosure that more than \$120,000 of the money he raised went into the Democratic National Committee's "hard money" account, which contains strictly regulated contributions. She previously had said that the ban on soliciting contributions didn't apply to more loosely regulated "soft money" contributions, or unlimited gifts by individuals, corporations and labor unions.

Whatever the proper legal analysis, the documents and testimony compiled by Senate investigators show a long-standing effort by DNC and White House officials to enlist the president's help in calling potential donors.

An October 1994 memo by David Strauss, then Gore's deputy chief of staff, states: "BC made 15-20 calls — raised \$500K/HRC (Hillary Rodham Clinton) making calls. Pitch: DNC purchased \$2 million of air time for generic ads and we need to raise more money to stay on the air ... make calls from residence."

Earlier in the year, the administration had been seeking millions of dollars to counter ads opposing the Clinton health care plan, which was dead by October 1994.

After that, the fund-raising requests centered on the DNC's advertising campaign, in 1995 and 1996, that was an effort to boost Clinton's re-election.

A Nov. 20, 1995, memorandum from senior DNC officials to Harold Ickes, then Clinton's deputy chief of staff, shows how calls from both Clinton and Gore were viewed as necessary to raise an extra \$4 million for the advertising effort. The memo calls for "18-20 calls by POTUS," shorthand for president of the United States, and "10 calls by

VPOTUS," the abbreviation for the vice president.

"This will provide us with an advantage to assure our projections and assist in raising an additional \$1.2 million," said the memo, by DNC Chairman Donald L. Fowler, Finance Chairman Marvin Rosen, Treasurer R. Scott Pastrick and Finance Director Richard Sullivan.

On Nov. 24, 1995, White House Deputy Political Director Karen Hancox said in an e-mail to Gore's office, "THE POTUS and VP offered (ON THEIR OWN) to make f r (fund-raising) calls for the DNC," Hancox wrote. "Harold will be asking POTUS to carve an hour out of his schedule Monday and Tuesday for the calls. ..."

Four days later, Ickes sent a memorandum to Clinton, Gore and an array of senior White House aides that increased the solicitation plan, envisioning about 20 calls by Clinton, 15 by Gore and 10 by Hillary Rodham Clinton. The DNC already had spent nearly \$10 million on the advertising campaign, he warned, and needed help if it was to stay on the air.

In his deposition taken by Senate investigators, Ickes said he did not think Clinton made any of the November calls, though he said Clinton did make others. "He did not like to make them," Ickes said, adding that he had asked the president to make fund-raising calls no more than four times during his tenure.

Clinton "would always say 'yes,'" to such a request, Ickes said, "then I would bug him in a very low-keyed way as to whether he had made or was intending to make the phone calls. He always intended to make them."

Milosevic, Nationalists Big Winners in Serbian Elections

By Lee Hockstader

THE WASHINGTON POST
BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA

Unofficial results compiled by the competing parties showed Monday that Socialists loyal to Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic and a radically nationalist party have emerged as the big winners in Sunday's parliamentary and presidential elections in Serbia.

But with final and official returns still unavailable, Milosevic's party seemed in danger of losing its outright majority in the 250-seat parliament. That could force Milosevic to seek an alliance either with Vojislav Seselj, a xenophobic former paramilitary leader whose Serbian Radical Party appeared to do better than expected, or Vuk Draskovic, a monarchist and fiery orator with strong nationalist leanings whose party finished third.

Milosevic in the past and it is even conceivable, though unlikely, that the two might team up in against Milosevic.

In the parallel race for Serbia's presidency, the front-runner was Zoran Lilic, a colorless former factory director and Milosevic's hand-picked protege. However, he lacked an outright majority and will likely face Seselj Oct. 5 in a runoff.

Although it seems certain that Serbia's parliament will be deeply divided, it is likely to remain hostile to basic democratic and market reforms that diplomats say are desperately needed. The elections further underlined that Yugoslavia, which consists of dominant Serbia and the smaller republic of Montenegro, remains out of step with its Western-leaning neighbors in Eastern Europe.

The results were also a severe setback for the opposition in Serbia,

which seemed so triumphant during last winter's protest marches.

One major opposition leader, Draskovic, finished a distant third in the presidential contest, according to his own figures. His Serbian Renewal Movement also finished third in the race for parliament.

The other main opposition leader, Belgrade Mayor Zoran Djindjic, led an election boycott that appears to have flopped — and to have helped Milosevic, according to analysts. Election officials said that about 62 percent of Serbia's 7.2 million voters went to the polls, roughly the same level of participation as in municipal elections last November.

In those elections, Draskovic and Djindjic formed a coalition called Together, and its surprise victories in 14 major towns and cities, including Belgrade, rocked the governing Socialists.

Sweeney Urges AFL-CIO to Boost Its Independent Political Clout

By Jules Witcover

THE BALTIMORE SUN
PITTSBURGH

AFL-CIO President John J. Sweeney proposed Monday that organized labor begin diverting money it now gives to political parties and candidates into boosting its own political influence, by raising voter registration and turnout among its members.

Kicking off the labor federation's first full convention since his insurgent takeover nearly two years ago, Sweeney called for a ban on unregulated "soft money" donations as part of broader campaign finance reform. Such donations, he charged, are "polluting our political system."

Making no specific reference to the fact the AFL-CIO is a major contributor to the Democratic Party, Sweeney asserted that "our political

system is awash with dirty money, corporate money and foreign money."

Therefore, he said, "we must eliminate soft money because it is time for us to begin spending our money building real power by registering and mobilizing our own members. It is time for us to begin spending our money on our own media and grass-roots lobbying around the issues that matter."

Sweeney's emphasis on pumping more money into internal strengthening served notice anew on the political parties — particularly the Democrats — that organized labor expects greater support for the issues most critical to it.

Sweeney's words came against the backdrop of the AFL-CIO's renewed conflict with President Clinton over "fast-track" trade legis-

lation that the labor movement fears will hurt U.S. workers. But he made no threat to try to purge members of Congress who vote for the legislation, as the AFL-CIO did in its earlier failed battle against the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Sweeney did say, however, that "we must stop giving money to political parties who won't give unions the respect we deserve, and we must stop supporting political candidates who won't support working families."

The federation president's observations on internal political muscle-building dovetailed with a heightened focus on union organizing among nonunion employers, a keystone of the Sweeney tenure. He announced a monthly dues increase of 5 cents, to 47 cents, to raise \$12 million over two years for a new mobilization fund.



FREE ROSH HASHANA DINNER FOR STUDENTS

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 1

◆ Come celebrate the new year.

◆ A delicious holiday dinner with traditional specialities 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



Graduate Student Council

Walker Memorial, 50-220 (617)253-2195 gsc-request@mit.edu www.mit.edu/activities/gsc

Post Orientation Meeting

Everybody who helped out with Orientation is strongly encouraged to come to the meeting---for well-deserved thank you's and to get your feedback about how things went. Any first-year students who want to voice their opinions or perhaps get a jump start on spring orientation are also welcome to come. Dinner (plus yummy desert!) will be served.

The GSC is soliciting recommendations for a speaker for Commencement 1998.



Talbot House Trip: hiking, fall foliage, Ben and Jerry's ice cream and more. Escape from Boston for a weekend with a graduate student trip to Talbot House in Vermont. Friday Oct. 10th to Sunday the 12th. Tickets are on sale now for \$65, including transportation, breakfast, and lodging. Email: caspohr@mit.edu.

Boston Symphony Orchestra: Saturday, Oct. 18th, 8 PM. Debussy, Rachmaninioff, Tchaikovsky. Regular price \$32. Our price \$25. Tickets on sale now at the GSC office. Email: peterm@mit.edu.

GSC Travel Grant Program

The details are now available on the web, and we are accepting applications now! Deadline for fall conferences is Oct. 10.



September

23 Post Orientation Meeting *

25 Career Fair Meeting *

October

3 2nd Annual Graduate Student Career Fair

8 General Council Meeting *

* at 5:30 PM in Rm. 50-220. All graduate students are welcome. Food is provided.

Graduate students, get your free Student Advantage Card (\$20 value) this week at the Graduate Student Council!

Apply for Department Representative Now!

The Institute Committees still have openings!

To apply, check out our Web site, or email gsc-vice-president@mit.edu.

OPINION

Rethinking the First-Year Program

The Committee on the First-Year Requirement, chaired by Professor of Physics Thomas J. Greytak '62, has just begun work examining possible changes in MIT's unique first-year program. The current system of pass/no record and General Institute Requirements is near to

Editorial

the heart of almost every undergraduate, and certainly every freshman. The first-year program is the closest thing MIT has to an academic core; the committee should take the greatest possible care in examining the issue and soliciting a broad range of student input.

The current system of freshman pass/no record developed as a way to bring students of diverse high school backgrounds up to speed with MIT's pace and pressure. Pass/no record serves other important purposes. For many freshmen, pass/no record helps reduce stress to a more manageable, less unhealthy level. Pass/no record also enables freshmen to spend time becoming involved in their community, joining activities, and making friends. Community activities are an important part of an MIT education, and pass/no record help make them possible.

Pass/no record has come under criticism recently because many freshmen use the system to load up on difficult subjects that are intended for sophomores. Many fear that students who take upper-level subjects on pass/no record do not learn the material adequately. Pass/no record was certainly never intended to be used in this way.

One solution to this problem would be for faculty advisers to simply prevent students from taking advanced subjects dur-

ing their freshmen year. Yet any solution that relies on disciplined or informed advisers seems destined to fail from the outset. Suggestions that the Registrar's Office manage a "flag" system that would perform a similar function seem equally far-fetched.

The crux of the matter, it seems, is that some classes are appropriate for freshmen to take on pass/no record, and others are not. The logical solution which has been suggested elsewhere would be to apply pass/no record to the classes themselves, rather than to the year. For example, the subjects in the Science Core should remain pass/no record for freshmen. In addition, the departments could be asked to designate subjects that may be taken on freshman pass/no record. In order to enforce some uniformity among the different major programs, the departments could be required to designate a certain number of subjects as appropriate for freshmen — three, for example.

Organizing pass/no record on a class-by-class basis would open up a host of other issues. For example, would pass/no record still be restricted to the freshman year? Opening it up might give students more flexibility, enabling them to take subjects relevant for summer jobs earlier. Having students on grades earlier, however, might increase first-year stress levels and discourage participation in the community. These issues deserve more consideration than they have received thus far.

The current design of the freshman year makes a valuable contribution to the educational product MIT provides. If changes are to be made in the first-year program, they need to conserve the positive contribution of pass/no record.



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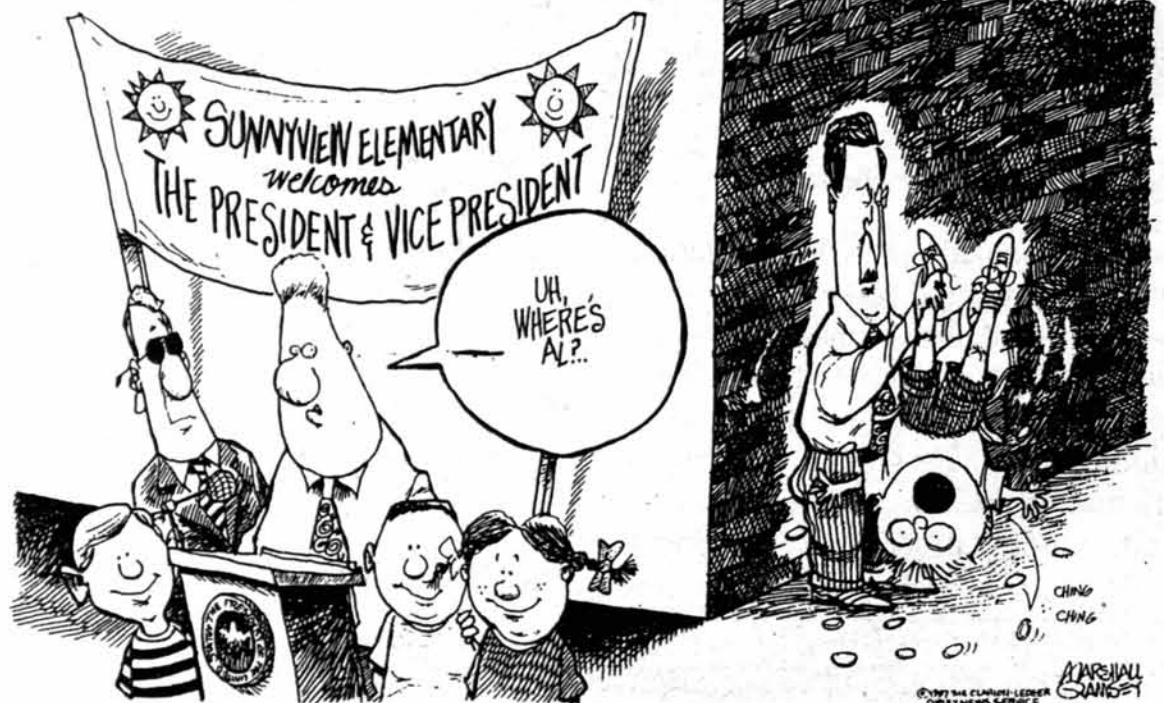
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Twilight of the Professors

At Some Schools, Bashing the Students Has Become a Cottage Industry

Anders Hove

Whenever you pick up a magazine these days it seems some professor is whining about his or her students. Students, a typical essay extols, are intellectually lazy, bored, or unwilling to make moral judgments. Undergraduates, they say, have messed-up life goals, and don't respond to any teaching style short of vaudeville.

The latest screed in this vein emanates from *Harper's Magazine*. Mark Edmundson, a professor at the University of Virginia whose main problem seems to be that his students are just too darn civil: "There's little fire, little passion to be found," Edmundson writes. "Strong emotional display is forbidden." Edmundson goes on to discover that students exhibit this unemotional attitude because they believe education to be just another product to purchase. Predictably, Edmundson's anecdotal evidence turns out to be just another crudely disguised attempt at bashing the undergrads.

The Chronicle of Higher Education chose a different tack when it turned out to critique undergraduate mores in its June 27 issue. Both authors (Kay Haugaard, instructor of creative writing at Pasadena City College, and Robert L. Simon, professor of philosophy at Hamilton College) focus narrowly on students' alleged inability to make moral judgments. Both give anecdotes that demonstrate inability to accept any ethical standard (their students fail to condemn human sacrifice or the Nazi holocaust), and these stories are certainly compelling. The authors put it down to political correctness combined with intellectual laziness: "Rather than think through a problem to a reasoned conclusion, students can throw up their hands and ask, 'Well, who's to say, anyway?' This conveniently allows them to ignore the moral issues that arise on their own campuses."

Another common complaint is student apathy. "I'm seeing my students' attention spans wane and their ability to reason for themselves decline," David Rothenberg writes in a

recent issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Rothenberg, a professor of philosophy, assigns the blame to word processors, Web searches, and spell-checkers. Reading Rothenberg's overblown praise of old-fashioned term paper research, one can almost hear the old fart cackle, "Back in the day..."

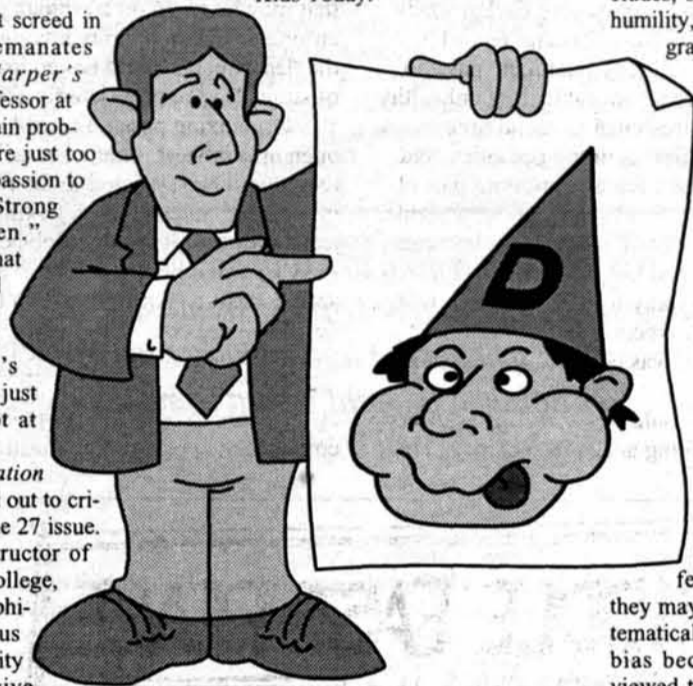
Most readers my age will probably dismiss the criticisms of the esteemed professors as the simple products of middle age. Most *Harper's* subscribers, for example, probably hail from the forty-something generation. One can safely assume that there's nothing they enjoy more than comparing themselves to Kids Today.



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No doubt about it, students have changed a great deal since the current slate of elders passed through the halls of academia. In spite of their condemnation, professorial types fall far short of offering any satisfying explanation for the change that has occurred. Furthermore, if there were an academic field of criticizing undergraduates, then its members remain blithely unaware of its existing literature.

Take the following quotation as an example: "An undergraduate often hesitates to accept moral and spiritual commitments that seem to him to limit his free-wheeling maneuverability... I know something of [this instinct's] perverse possibilities as a subterfuge for an unwill-

ingness to examine, and as a form of chronic immaturity." This criticism of the undergraduate inability to make critical moral judgments comes from an article written for *The Atlantic Monthly* by Professor John Dickey of Dartmouth University. Although Dickey echoes many current critiques of today's undergrads, his article was published in the dusty year of 1955. Dickey's explanation of the problems identified in the contemporary undergraduate? "Today's freshman was only seven at the end of World War II and he was too young for Korea. He brings to college a very dim and impersonal notion of death." Without war, Dickey concludes, students find it impossible to develop humility, compassion, or the general ability to grapple with systems of norms.

Alas, even the venerable Dickey took no account of previous scholarship. In 1910, Edward O. Sisson got in some jabs of his own. It seems students' intellectual ability was on the wane then too; as always, the students' inability to form moral or ethical judgments appeared to derive from contemporary society. Back in the day, "the ears of the youth were at least accustomed to the words of Holy Writ and the voice of prayer, and the serious counsel and admonition of their elders."

Our elders need to take a look in the mirror: What's comic about this whole situation is that the belief in moral and intellectual decay pervades each succeeding generation of professors. Learned intellectuals though they may claim to be, however, the profs systematically ignore their bias as observers. This bias becomes humorously apparent when viewed through the lens of their parents' and grandparents' judgments upon them.

Professorial criticism is self-perpetuating, much like other social ills. When the abuse starts, those on the receiving end are essentially denied the chance to respond in kind. By the time the erstwhile undergrads grow up, they've internalized the profs' barbs. They fulfill their destiny by pouring forth invective against their own students, setting the psychological wheel in motion for a new generation.

It's time for the faculty to get help. Our contemporary profs should recognize that in condemning the decline moral values and Web-referenced research papers, they are only reenacting their own generation's abuse.

Taking In the Scenery

Affirmative Action's Patronizing Welcome Insults Us All

Stacey E. Blau

Almost every debate about affirmative action eventually shifts to a discussion of certain women and minorities: the truly deserving. The truly deserving are the women and minorities who are exceedingly intelligent, impeccably qualified but will have to forever endure the unspoken assumption that they got where they are because of their gender or race. In seeking to right past wrongs and foster diversity, critics say, affirmative action does nothing more than insult the truly deserving because it too often promotes the less-than-qualified. Critics regularly cite this point as a prime failure of affirmative action.

In the film *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?*, the character played by Sidney Poitier, a black man, comes to the house of his young white fiancée to meet her parents. The parents, lifelong liberals, are suddenly confronted with a true test of their values. How comfortable are they letting their daughter marry a black man? The parents are initially skeptical, and there are some tensions. But all is set right when the parents check up on Poitier's background. They find a list a mile long of his achievements. His background is absolutely unimpeachable. Their fears are assuaged. They give their approval.

But let's face facts. Not everyone is Sidney Poitier. Not everyone is perfect. Some people — in fact, by definition, most people — are simply average or thereabouts. No one likes to talk about the average woman or minority member. Few ask questions about how the merely average feel when they are confronted with the sometimes spoken but mostly unspoken assumption that they got where they are



because of their gender or race.

The situation is very complicated. An average person may be qualified for a position, but there's no clear way of telling. When women and minorities are qualified beyond question, it's easier. Their stellar qualifications speak for themselves. But when they are not quite so perfect, doubts creep in.

Those doubts are not a question of an inferiority complex. Everyone knows affirmative action exists. Many women and minorities can tell you that schools and potential employers go out of their way to welcome them and tell them that their school or company has a goal of fostering diversity. How do average women and minorities know to what extent they are simply part of that diversity goal? It becomes very hard to tell if they are where they are because they did well or because of the incidental fact that they are women or members of a minority group. The assumptions hurt, mainly because there may be some truth to them.

Assumptions also hurt because they reduce women and minorities to pawns in the game of achieving diversity. How does it feel to be told that you are especially welcome because you are a woman or a minority? To be sure, it feels better than being told you're not welcome or being shut out because you are a woman or minority. But does anyone enjoy special favorable treatment because of the incidental fact of gender or minority status? For average women and minorities, the insult is all the more bothersome because the doubts are already there.

The welcoming efforts only enforce the idea that women and minorities are chosen to fulfill a goal. Women and minorities weekend at MIT each spring is a perfect example. Women and minorities receive their MIT acceptance letters, and right underneath is an invitation to a special weekend for women and minorities. I know many students who say that they will never forget that insult, the completely stark message that they were wanted

because they are women or minorities.

The fact is that diversity goals are thoroughly insulting. Who is this diversity for? Presumably, diversity is a goal to make sure, for example, that a school isn't full of white men. So what are women and minorities? Scenery for white men? A way for them to see that there's something beyond white men in this world? I've never heard of anyone describe affirmative action as a way to diversify the lives of women and minorities by showing them white men. That's because it's not. "Diversify" means "bring in women and minorities." One would be hard-pressed to come up with something more patronizing than that.

The way people discuss diversity goals in practice only drives this point home. A friend of mine told me that when a minority was hired in one MIT office, people hailed the decision to "procure a minority presence" for the office. The way they described it, my friend said, you'd think "a minority presence" was something you pick up off a shelf at the supermarket.

The fact is that women and minorities don't need the patronizing help of affirmative action. If they want to know whether they are welcome somewhere, they can do what everyone else does when they have a question: Ask. They don't need a special and patronizing message. They don't need distorted impressions of other people's true opinions of them. And they don't need treatment and favors beyond what they deserve.

Affirmative action warps every notion of equality. The backlash and that has been going on against affirmative action for decades is no surprise. The backlash, however, has come mostly from white men who feel wronged. But it is not just white men who are hurt by affirmative action and its outright discrimination and insults. Everyone — men, women, minorities, the super-qualified, and the average — should be angry.

Writing to A Higher Purpose

Naveen Sunkavally

Why do we write? One reason is to inform. The vast majority of newspapers, scientific journals, and manuals such as driver's handbooks in Massachusetts satisfy this purpose. Another reason is to persuade. This column is an example. And the last reason to write is to entertain. Many English papers fulfill this purpose unintentionally.

The question of why we write is a simple one with obvious answers, yet the current student debate on the writing requirement, as reflected through a recent editorial in *The MIT Observer* and a column by Michael J. Ring in *The Tech*, has ignored this question's implications. The authors have called for a complete overhaul of the writing requirement, but the solutions they propose are no better than the current situation.

Take Ring's argument in *The Tech* ["Phasing In a New Writing Requirement," Sept. 19]. Ring calls the Freshman Essay Evaluation "trivial" and claims that the questions have "no application to science, engineering, economics, architecture, or any other major here." Ring proposes that the FEE "be reoriented towards challenging scientific questions, and it should allow ample time for students to properly compose their thoughts." Ring also raises several alternatives for passing Phase One. He believes that a score of five on the Advanced Placement in Literature, membership in a campus publication, or papers from high school should suffice.

The MIT Observer's solution is no better. *The MIT Observer's* editorial ["Faculty Resolution Requires Debate On Writing Requirement," Sept. 17] states that MIT students "should be taught to write within fields that are most important to them" — in other words, science and engineering fields. *The MIT Observer* feels that MIT students are already overworked and that "humanities subjects may not be the best way to teach scientists and engineers how to write."

The biggest and most important flaw with both *The MIT Observer's* and Ring's solutions pertain to the question I posed earlier: Why do we write? By insisting that the writing requirement focus solely on science and engineering applications, they have reduced the purpose of writing to one purpose: to inform. For them, writing no longer serves the functions of entertainment or persuasion. Surely science can not teach one the ability to persuade and to write for pleasure.

At least the current writing requirement has the intention of broadening the education of a MIT student, of fostering an appreciation for writing. *The MIT Observer's* and Ring's proposals turn writing into a mere support system for science. Any improvement in the writing requirement should teach students to write well in all three areas: persuasion, information, and pleasure.

The FEE, as it now stands, is an effective way of promoting all three of these styles of writing. Its broad questions give students freedom and creativity in their writing. If the test asked questions pertaining to purely technical subjects, then a vast majority of the freshman population would have no clue what to write. Indeed, all freshman should take the FEE regardless of their AP scores.

The results from the FEE would not allow students to pass Phase One but merely act as indicators of a student's writing ability. I believe all students should take a writing class their freshman year, and that the FEE should give students an idea of what level of a writing class to take. Practice is the best way to teach good writing. Lamenting that students are overworked does not reduce the importance of writing and place it secondary to science and engineering. If time restraints are the real concern, perhaps the answer is for MIT to replace one HASS-Distribution class with a writing class.

The debate over the writing requirement at MIT will be central to determining the how broad an education students should receive here and to what extent the school wishes to redefine its reputation as a technical school. If the Institute wishes to merely treat writing as a supplement to science, then following the current course or adopting solutions proposed by *The MIT Observer* and Michael Ring would suffice. On other hand, if MIT wishes to teach students how to write, then it should espouse a solution that separates writing from science and allows students to steadily improve their writing skills over their years here.

THE ARTS

INTERVIEW

Carlos Prieto

Musician turned Engineer, turned Musician

By Thomas Chen
STAFF REPORTER

MIT has turned out its fair share of great scientists, engineers, and industrialists. However, producing world-class artists is not something for which MIT is particularly known. Cellist Carlos Prieto '58 is of that rare breed who came to MIT to study economics and materials science and engineering but eventually found himself in some of the great concert halls of the world.

He has shared the concert stage with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Berlin Symphony Orchestra, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, the Spanish National Orchestra, and many others. I was privileged to have a chance to interview Prieto in preparation for a lecture, or "conversation" as he prefers to call it, on J.S. Bach's 6 Suites for Cello Solo (c.1720) and the history of his own Stradivarius instrument from that time (affectionately dubbed "Senorita Cello Prieto"). The lecture is scheduled for Wednesday, 5-7 p.m., in Killian Hall.

Although Mr. Prieto is from a musical family, I learned that MIT actually played a crucial role in his development as a cellist. "I started playing the cello when I was about four or five years old... It was a tradition in my family of playing as a string quartet. When I was born, in my family there were two amateur violin players, my father and my mother; and an amateur viola player was my grandfather. And they were lacking a cellist to complete a family string quartet. And because of this I started playing the cello and it happened that I fell in love with it."

As Prieto progressed through school he soon discovered that he had talents outside of music. "When I was about 16 years old... it happened that I was also relatively good in mathematics. I was not really sure of what my real vocation was [going to be]. So I tried to enter MIT and I was accepted."

Prieto found the Institute to be a musically rewarding place. Despite MIT's austere and artistically uncreative reputation, Mr. Prieto

found time to study engineering and academics while continuing his musical activities as a cellist. "I was very interested in two courses: Course III and Course XIV. While I was at MIT I kept playing because I was a member of the MIT orchestra. They [also] had me as a soloist in the Haydn D major concerto. I would also play a lot of chamber music... Almost every weekend I would play."

Prieto also learned Russian. "When I was at MIT, I became very interested in Russian music. I think I heard most of the recordings that were available at the music library. And I became so interested in Russian music that I started studying Russian, and I took all the

would never be able to do this and I would be sorry for the rest of my life."

Prieto returned to the cello, and the cello literature has benefited from his advocacy of 20th Century music for cello. Since 1980, he has premiered over 50 new compositions which feature the cello as a solo instrument. "I've been trying to enlarge the cello repertoire of the Spanish speaking world... not only the Spanish, but also the Portuguese. I've been involved with composers from Spain, Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Puerto Rico, the United States, and Cuba."

As a performer, Prieto is known by contemporary composers and concert hall audiences. Recently he has embarked on a project that will expand his audience base at schools. Prieto has committed his time to the Young Audiences program which seeks to bring classical music back into the classroom. "I admire tremendously the work they're doing, in getting people to know and learn music. Because of this, I have agreed to work with

suites is not known."

In addition to the cello suites, Prieto hopes also to discuss his frequent travelling companion, his cello. "1720 is the date of my Stradivarius cello. I got this cello about 20 years ago, and ever since I got this cello, I've been very much interested in discovering its history. Like a detective, going back in time and finding out where the cello has been, what adventures it had had. And after 20 years of searching, I've been able to have a good idea of almost 280 years of history of this instrument. During those almost 280 years, many very interesting things have happened to this cello. In fact, I have finished a book in which the central part of this book is a biography of my cello."

The "conversation," as Mr. Prieto likes to call the Wednesday night event, should be of interest to MIT students from all backgrounds. "My conversation or lecture would not be designed for a musician. It would be highly accessible. Any musical terms or musical examples would be given with the cello. I hope it would be extremely accessible to even people who have absolutely no musical background. We will speak about the history of the Bach suites or about the history of an object which was born in the times of Bach (which specifically is my cello) and the adventures it has had. [This] does not require a specialist."

Even though Prieto is a member of the MIT Visiting Committee for Music and Theater Arts, he treasures the times that he can spend in Boston. "For me, it's always a great thrill to go back to Boston, especially to MIT because I recall with great pleasure my days there. For me, my stay at MIT was very important not only because of what I learned in engineering or economics, but also because of what I learned in music and other things, like Russian. When I was there, it was a very important scientific language."

Because of Prieto's MIT education and access to studies in Russian, he was able to secure an opportunity for study in Russia and thereby encounter Igor Stravinsky during his historic return in 1962. "Once I discovered he was in Russia, I went to see him. And he invited me to all his concerts and all his rehearsals." An incredible privilege by anyone's standards. Without MIT, Prieto's musical career might have turned out very differently. Indeed, it will be a true privilege for the MIT and Boston community to have him over the next week.

When I was at MIT, I was too busy trying to study all the subjects. I couldn't think whether I had to be trained in music. But whenever I had a vacation, whenever I had a chance to think a little about what I was doing, a thought would come to my mind that I had traded my real vocation.

available Russian courses at MIT at that time. Some years later, I went to Russia and I attended a full term at the University of Moscow, studying Russian."

After graduating with his two degrees, Prieto returned to Mexico and eventually ascended to a position heading an iron and steel company.

"When I was at MIT, I was too busy trying to study all the subjects. I couldn't think whether I had to be trained in music. But whenever I had a vacation, whenever I had a chance to think a little about what I was doing, a thought would come to my mind that I had traded my real vocation... After several years of work in the iron industry in Mexico, I became the head of a company, and of course, I was busy. After 10 or 12 years of work, I decided that either I went back to the cello or I

Young Audiences... one of them would be a school where there is a majority of Spanish speaking students, probably from Puerto Rico, Colombia, Argentina, Mexico. I'm sure a lot of these students have not had a lot of access to classical music." For Prieto speaking to children is a delight as he is given an opportunity to make a big impression on their artistic perceptions. "The biggest challenge is to connect to the students and awaken their interest."

On Wednesday Sept. 24, Prieto will give a lecture in Killian Hall. His co-star will be his cello, Senorita Cello Prieto. "I will be speaking about the six Bach suites with examples from the suites — how Bach evolved the composition over the six suites. I might also speak somewhat about my cello because it so happens that the exact date of composition of the

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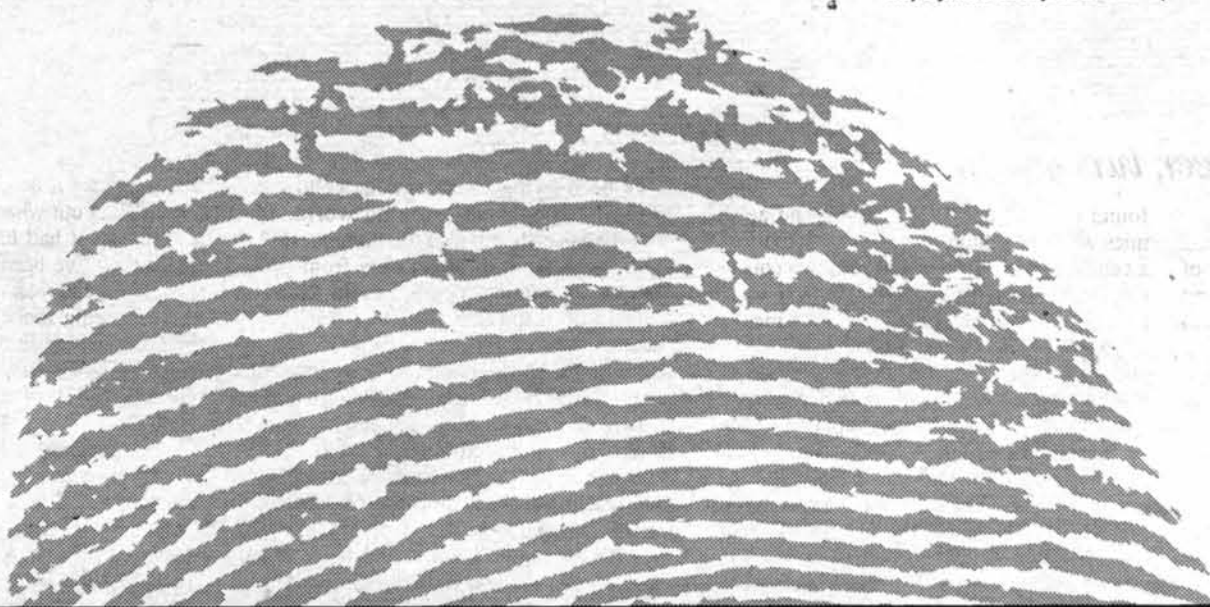
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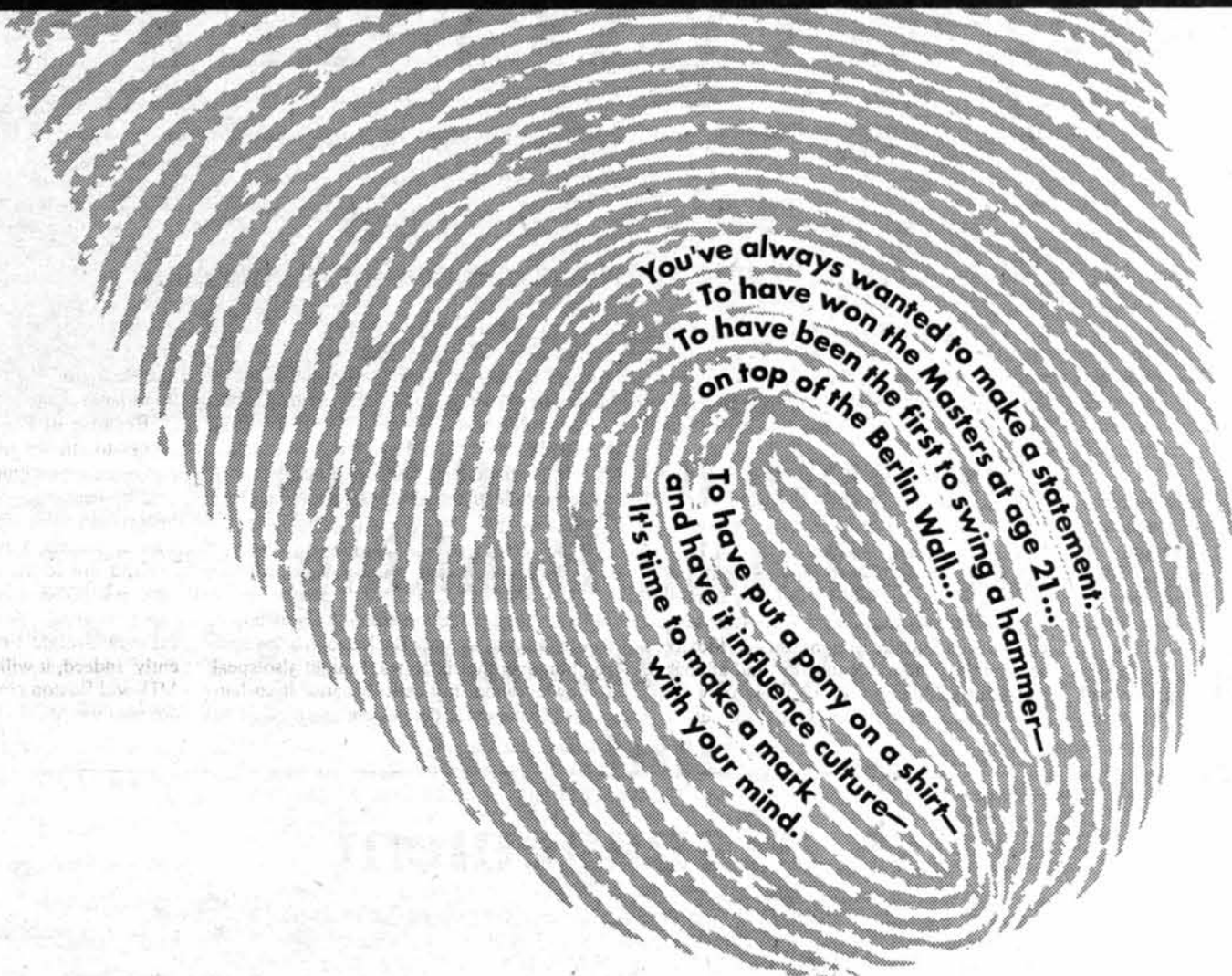
The Council for the Arts at MIT Grants Program was created to give members of the MIT community the opportunity to create, learn about and participate in the arts. The Grants Guidelines are now on line, at: <http://web.mit.edu/arts/www/grantguide.html>

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.

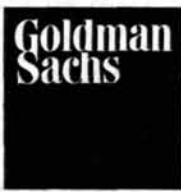
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The Evolution of R/O

By Douglas E. Heimburger
and Dan McGuire



1972

Compared with rush in the first half of the century, today's R/O week seems almost peaceful. A freshman who showed up to MIT in the 1930s fell into the hands of The Agenda, the pseudo-legitimate organization responsible for bringing MIT freshmen into the fold, and whose favorite methods or orientation included depantsing and head shaving. The official name of Agenda was the "Local Society for the Prevention of Insolent Freshmen."

Fast forward around 60 years to today, where hazing is unheard of and the hot issues are Clearinghouse or rush violations. In between there was World War II, the gradual increase of women on campus, and the death of a student at a fraternity initiation.

For Glenn P. Strehle '58, rush was a hectic, not to mention wet, experience. "Rush happened in a real hurricane, it was early September 1954, I think it was Hurricane Carol," said Strehle, who now serves as MIT's vice president for finance and treasurer. "We were over in Burton House... and we saw the wind come and blow some trees that MIT had just planted literally sideways. The members of the fraternities would come over to pick us up for the meetings, and as you could imagine if you have ever been in a hurricane what you look like when you enter the car." In the 1950s, a coat and tie was required at all rush events.

While not all orientation years have featured rainstorms like this year's or 1954's, what is clear is that the methods and logistics of freshman orientation at the Institute has been a major topic for over fifty years.

The early years

Records of the early days of rush are sketchy, but some details can be dug up. Very early on, before the Institute moved across the Charles in 1917, there wasn't an orientation or rush like the one today. Mass Tech's 19 fraternities were the only organized housing for MIT students, the remainder being scattered throughout boarding houses and apartments across Boston or living at home. Rush existed in some form to allow fraternities to bid for prospective members, but the details of the process have been lost to history. Orientation was simple and all freshmen shared the same schedule, a policy which lasted until the late 1950s.

In the 1920s and 1930s the Institute began its slow trend of expansion and built its first residential dormitory, East Campus House. It was also in the mid-twenties that MIT began a more formal type of orientation: Frosh Camp. Probably best described as a cross between Project Move Off Your Assumptions, Core Blitz, and summer camp, Frosh Camp was a voluntary outing designed to promote class unity. The entire freshman class departed MIT for Lake Massapoag where they lived in tents for three days. "As these four years of college life give a man a short cut to the best in life," declared the 1926 Freshman Orientation booklet, "so the Freshmen Camp at Massapoag... will give the Freshmen who go a short cut to the best in Technology spirit and tradition." Camp traditions sprung up over the years. The 1941 Freshman Handbook read "unless the president of the sophomore class is immersed in the waters of Lake Massapoag... no success will ever come to that freshman class."

"The record for sophomore president dunking was broken again this year," began a story in *The Tech* on the camp that year "when

Lagdon B. Flowers '44 hit the waters of lake Massapoag at about 7 p.m. Friday night."

"It seems that while pitching a tent one of the brighter freshmen recognized the sophomore and tried to arrest him. He managed to escape... then returning to camp to mingle with the frosh he was rediscovered. His disguise had been pierced and he met his Waterloo."

Frosh camp introduced freshmen to one of the oddities of early MIT life, the rivalry between freshmen and sophomores. Before one camp in 1941, freshmen became the targets of an aerial assault and the traditional depantsing. "The assembled freshmen were subject to derisive jeers punctuated by not infrequent waterbags hurled from the eminences of the Walker cornices by agile sophomores," read one *Tech* article. "Enough spirit was finally aroused in the hearts of a few freshmen... and a violent but ineffectual battle ensued. Moreover, possession of practical experience in the art of removing other people's pants heavily favored the sophomores."

A fight in the late 1930s "was inaugurated when a horde of freshmen poured out of the dorms and spent a fruitless 15 minutes daring sophomores to come out and do battle. When no opposition appeared, the irate freshmen rushed back into the buildings and made a systematic search floor by floor, carrying all sophomores into the showers by sheer manpower," reported a *Tech* story.

"It has been estimated by neutral observers that no fewer than sixty of the Class of '42 were routed out of their rooms and propelled forcibly under the icy waters," it continued.

It got more difficult for the freshmen, however. A blandly written statement from the Dormitory Freshmen Committee from the early 1940s notes simply that "freshmen may be called upon by upperclassmen for not more than one campus errand during the errand day."

A bewildered *Tech* writer tried to go into more depth in a 1941 article. "Among the earliest [of the freshmen] to depart [on their errands that morning] were those headed for Wellesley seeking, among other things, a paddle, banner, picture catalogue of the Wellesley freshmen, and the lip-prints of not less than four Wellesleyites on four chicken eggs."

The errands ranged from odd to downright impossible. There was one freshman who was tasked with getting "a tree with roots no less than five feet in diameter and no shorter than ten feet... [and] instructed to plant it in the gravel path in the center of the Main Court."

World War II shakeup

World War II proved something of a watershed. As MIT resources were pinched and students were ejected from dormitories to make way for the military, activities geared down and dormitory life ground to a halt. As the war moved on, fraternity houses found themselves half empty as brothers were

drafted to serve in the armed forces.

Frosh camp was moved to the MIT campus in 1941 due to wartime shortages of gasoline and prohibitions on unnecessary travel. The program was changed to include information about the Army Enlisted Reserve, reserve units which contained vast numbers of MIT students, and the role of MIT graduates and students in the army and navy.

MIT also found itself dangerously short of housing for new students. The Chairman of the Committee on Housing, Professor Leicester F. Hamilton, sent out questionnaires to fraternities asking about their ability to house students. It asked for "the number of accommodations which they now had in their house proper and also under lease to the house for the use of its members."

Some of the traditions that died during the war tried to make a comeback when the soldiers left the dorms in 1944. According to the entry for dormitories in the 1945 *Technique*, "an attempt to revive the Agenda... was quickly quashed by the administration. They made it plain that they did not want such hard-to-replace items as beds, rugs, bedding, desks, and civilian students to be damaged."

The end of the war also marked the return of droves of students who left to fight the war. "We can estimate that between 900 and 1,000 men are associated with fraternities as brothers or pledges," said a 1946 *Tech* article. "As fraternities cannot house more than 600 men, this leaves a considerable surplus." The fraternities spread the additional people around boarding houses and apartments and Building 22, the now demolished twin of Building 20.

Fraternities also continued to take pledges despite the conditions to "preserve a well-balanced membership as far as the various classes are concerned." The conditions would taper off over a few years rather than drop suddenly, as a result.

Rush returns to the Institute

Rush week after World War II was a smaller affair that it is today. Freshmen interested in rushing had the option of arriving one week before classes to attend a "pre-Rush Week Meeting" where they would receive information from the Interfraternity Council and members of the administration. When meeting with fraternity members, freshmen were urged to "dress neatly, with suit or sport coat, and tie."

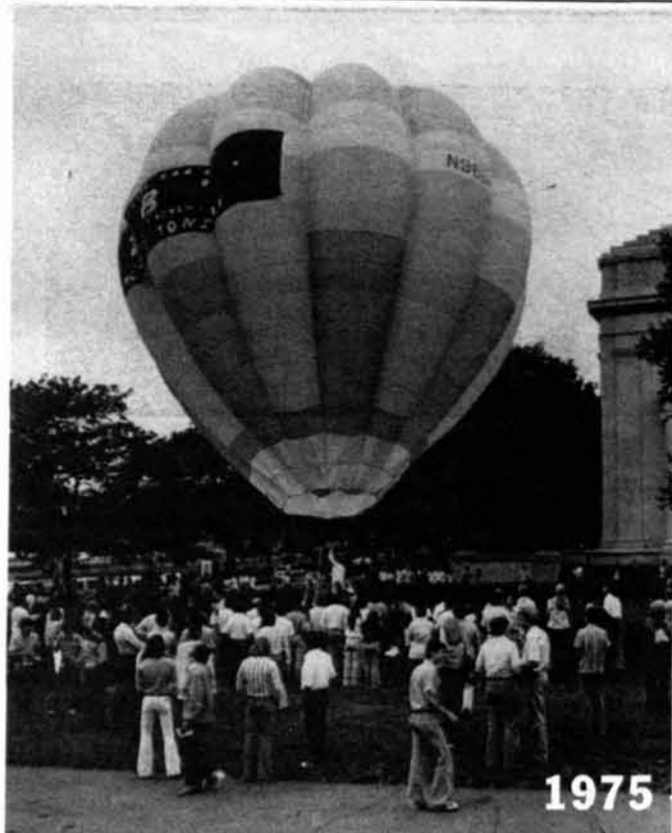
Rush week officially began Saturday morning, and the first bids were issued to freshmen on Sunday. Freshmen involved with rush were required to fill out "schedule cards, one for each day of Rush Week." These cards, processed through the Clearing House system, allowed fraternities to know "where to contact you if they wish to contact you."

Rush week ended on Wednesday, after which came Freshmen Weekend, when all



1945

Continued on Next Page



from Previous Page

freshmen would arrive for their academic orientation to the Institute. Those not interested in living in fraternities would receive a book detailing floor plans of available dormitories. Freshmen would submit their preferences to the Campus Housing Office, which would then assign freshmen to dormitories.

Initially, orientation was very basic. "There was no place large enough to take the class" for one group meeting, said Professor of Electrical Engineering Paul E. Gray '54, who arrived on the campus in 1950. Instead, "there was some sort of organized, mildly-competitive activity" between five or six groups of divided freshmen. "Before we arrived you got a letter from the registrar saying" what group you would be taking classes with, since all freshmen took the same set of classes. "You went to all your recitations with the same group of fellows."

Hell Week becomes Help Week

The pledge process at fraternities was reformed after the tragic death of Thomas L. Clark '56 in a Lincoln reservoir. Clark died as the result of an initiation scheme that required him to find his way back to campus overnight after having been dropped off by fraternity brothers in Lincoln. After Clark's death, fraternities began making investigations into the practice of "hell week," when pledges from all fraternities were hazed for the last time before officially being made brothers of their respective house.

After frank disclosures of "hell week" activities with the IFC chairman and the associate dean of students, the fraternities decided to make "hell week" into "help week," where members of all fraternities would go out into the community to do community service for a week. Members of fraternities also became increasingly aware of their responsibility to freshmen, Strehle said.

Rush renamed R/O Week

In the late 1960s, the dormitories started complaining about the advantages the fraternities had because of the structure of Rush Week. The message implicit in Rush Week was that pledging was the goal, and dormitory life was a fallback. Many in the Dean's Office felt that orientation needed to be expanded in scope.

In 1967, two-thirds of the incoming male freshman class attended Rush Week, which was still optional but highly encouraged by the IFC and the Institute administration. All those attending were allowed to stay in fraternities — even before the official start of rush — or in East Campus.

Rush week of 1967, however, was the last to fall under the old, completely IFC-controlled system. Then-IFC Chairman Tom Neal '68 said "as a radical innovation, all three speakers at the pre-Rush Week Meeting ... encouraged the freshmen to investigate the Institute Houses." The change was significant. Previously, those rushing fraternities were not even made aware of the fact that they could tour dormitories during Rush Week. Neal said that the changes were "progressive", but that the IFC should continue to run Rush Week.

Members of Dormcon disagreed. "The speakers did not give sufficient emphasis" to the availability of the new program, said Jerrold Grochow '68, then-Dormcon president. Grochow said he had been offered the ability to speak at the meeting but that opportunity was then revoked.

In January 1968, members of the IFC and Dormcon met and decided to house rushing

members of the freshmen in all dormitories instead of just in East Campus, and to send out a schedule of Dormcon events with Rush Week registration material. A new Clearinghouse system was created that covered both the dormitories and fraternities.

The Institute Committee, however, did not feel that the changes went far enough. In February, they passed a resolution calling for Rush Week to be changed to Residence Week, and for an opening meeting to include speakers from the fraternity and dormitory systems. They hoped that the changes in name and structure would "aid more freshmen in making correct residence decisions" by bringing more of them to campus for the week.

"This didn't go down easily with fraternities, who were concerned about numbers," Gray said.

The revised and more complex Rush Week, which was implemented in 1968, resulted in record participation and record fraternity pledge numbers. Out of a class of 919 men, 815 came for Rush Week and 373 pledged fraternities. As a result, the traditional "housing shortage" was decreased, with just 55 crowds.

"Fraternities didn't change what they were doing" because of the introduction of the dormitories into Rush Week, "and the world didn't end; it was a successful rush and [the concern for numbers] disappeared," Gray said.

In 1969, many of the remaining recommendations of Inscomm were acted upon, and Rush Week officially became Residence and Orientation week. In 1969 incoming freshmen were also encouraged for the first time to change their dormitory selection cards if they so desired during R/O week. A new "moratorium" on rush activities also allowed freshmen to meet with their advisers before receiving bids and pledging on the Wednesday and Thursday after freshmen arrived.

R/O becomes mandatory

In 1970 the tradition of filling out a dormitory selection card before arriving on campus was abolished for the present system, and R/O week was made mandatory for all incoming freshmen. In addition, the time frame for the rush portion of R/O was moved to its now-common Friday-Monday arrangement.

Radical plans for the revision of rush also began to take light. At an IFC conference, the suggestion was made to "replace bidding and pledging with a random selection process" like that of dormitories. If the IFC were to eliminate rush, the fraternities would save almost \$75,000 in costs and the "distrust which occurs between houses because of rush" would also be eradicated. But the fraternities wouldn't go along with the idea.

Instead, the IFC worked to eliminate the "hard flushing" of the time, when freshmen would basically be thrown out of a prospective fraternity with no referral to another group. This often created "bitterness which lasts for the rest of their four years at MIT."

Proposals by the Freshman Radical Caucus also attempted to reform rush. The FRC called for the "abolition of phone tapping" by fraternities against other fraternities, as well as an abolition to the pledge period which most new fraternity members wanted. "Freshmen ... had power during Rush Week because the houses needed them," said a pamphlet given to fraternities.

In 1971, a freshmen picnic replaced the traditional Saturday-morning beginning of rush with the now familiar cry of "Let the rush begin" on Friday evening. Until 1988, this picnic would remain the first major event that all freshmen would attend.

Now that dormitory upperclassmen could see the freshmen that might live with them, a new system of actively rushing dormitory members arose. Dormitories saw some of the same pressures as fraternities as they attempted to recruit members who would fit in with the spirit of their dormitory.

Until 1995, incoming freshmen were able to have some selection power in determining their temporary dormitory. Members of the Senior House Committee were emphatic about ensuring that the temporary freshmen assigned to their dormitory in 1968 were interested in the dormitory. "Ken Browning promises that these 100 [freshmen] sent to us from

Dormcon-IFC Clearinghouse have expressed a preference in Senior House by a form sent to them this summer. We have to keep an eye on Clearinghouse to make sure we don't get screwed with the real losers of the Class of '72" wrote Stephen Hill '68, then-freshman orientation chief for Senior House.

In the 70s, dormitory housing chairs were presented with the cards of the freshmen who had ranked their house first, face down, and were then asked to pick out the requisite number of students at random. However, "MacGregor had been choosing the freshmen they wanted in the dorm rather than picking them at random," according to Andrew J. Celentano '73. "However, they were caught."

After much discussion at Dormcon, three proposals for dormitory allocation were proposed, including a complete system of dormitory choice and a system where the dormitory would be able to choose 20 percent of its residents. In the end, Dormcon voted that "all freshmen dormitory assignments be made totally randomly, with the exception of familial relations."

Some freshmen entering the dormitory system had especially lengthy R/O weeks as a result of the complexity of dorm allocations. Until 1991, when the dormitory lottery moved completely onto Athena, dormitory lottery results were rolled out in stages. Those who could not be placed in one of their first four dormitory choices were placed in limbo, "with the hope that a place will open up for him ... before the end of the week."

In 1978, after two lotteries had failed to find places for 72 freshmen, the remaining freshmen were encouraged "to visit Bexley if you have not already done so" because it was the only dormitory with open rooms. They were also advised to look at other options for housing. "I would strongly encourage you to seriously consider pledging. Otherwise we will be forced to assign all remaining men to Bexley," Sherwood said.

Because of the manual lottery system in place at the time, over 80 percent of the incoming freshmen class received their first choice, but those who didn't would frequently receive a very low selection. Since the lottery moved online, computerized algorithms have been used to increase the number of people receiving one of their top choices, but not necessarily their first choice, according to Philip M. Bernard, program director for residential life. This year, only 69 percent of freshmen received their first choice dormitory, while 99.3

percent received one of their top three choices.

In 1987, the official beginning of R/O week was moved up one day to Thursday to give freshmen a day to get acquainted with MIT before starting rush. Project Move Off Your Assumptions was added in 1991, the same year freshman started taking the math diagnostic test.

Relations between fraternities and dormitories began to sour in the 1990s. In 1991 fraternities complained of "active rushing by dormitories" as one reason that only 314 freshmen pledged fraternities, compared with about 370 in a normal year. That year, Adviser to Fraternities, Sororities and Independent Living Groups Neal H. Dorow required that dormitory desks release phone numbers of temporarily-housed freshmen after the beginning of rush went poorly for fraternities.

In late 1995, Dormcon decided to withdraw from the Clearinghouse system. "When we used Clearinghouse we were doing a lot of work for no purpose and we got no advantage from it," said then-Dormcon Rush Chair Nicole L. Weymouth '96. In addition, Dormcon decided to not give fraternities the location of freshmen when they were located on campus. The IFC felt initially that the changes were minor. "The fact that the dorms ran Clearinghouse ineffectively [means its loss] doesn't affect fraternities in a large way," said then-IFC President Jason D. Pride '97.

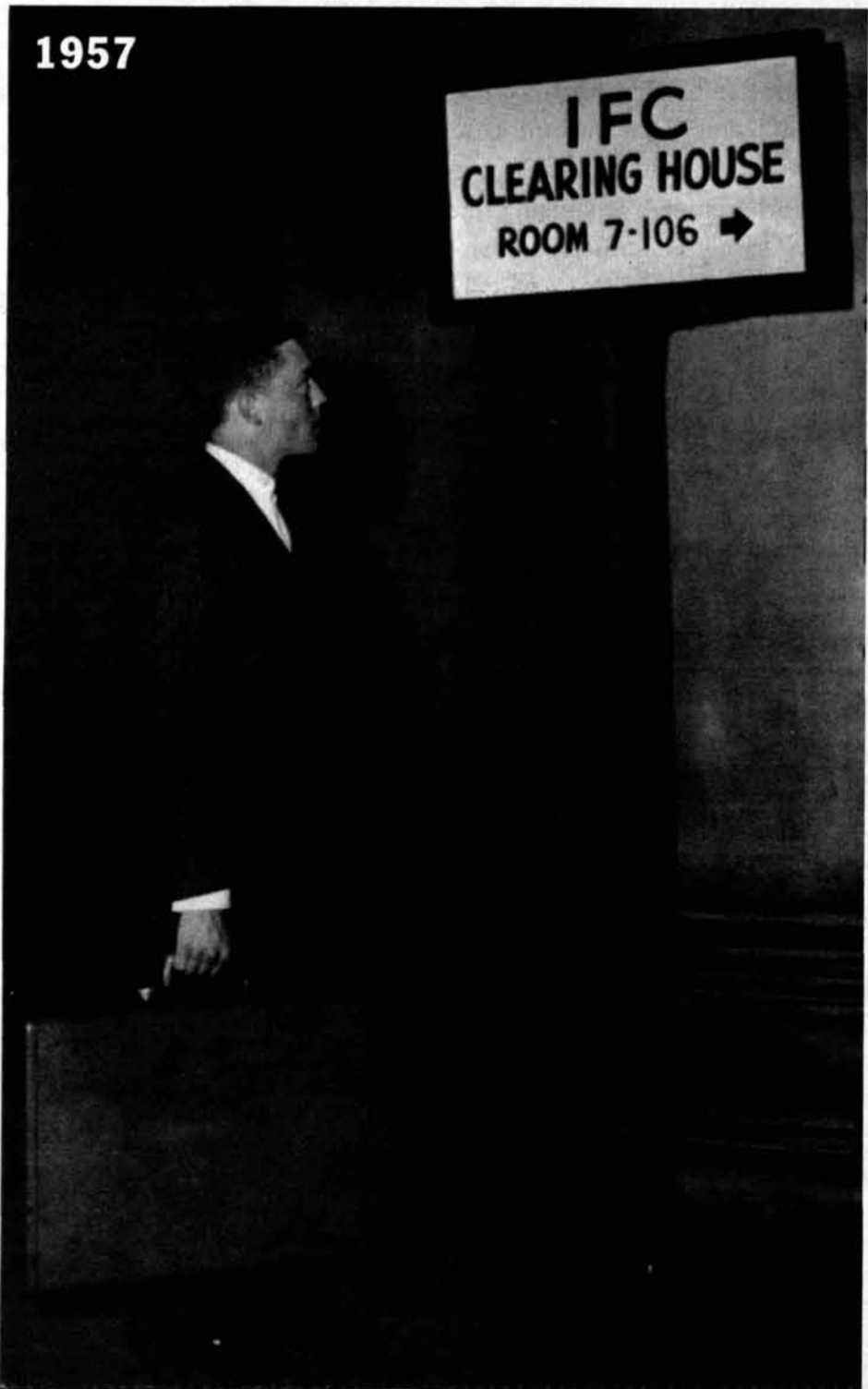
In the end, rush is improved today

While a lot has changed, Strehle things that rush today is improved from that of 1954. "It's better in that there is greater sensitivity to the problems during rush and because I do know that when a student is not fairly treated during Rush Week people are concerned in the [Office of Residence and Campus Activities]." In addition, the introduction of dormitory R/O into the Rush Week activities "Develops pride in the dormitory, gets everyone here on campus, and gives students who find that they don't want fraternities... a place to go."

Still, the orientation program is not perfect, Strehle says. "The experience of going through Rush Week for those who go through it... can be a very intense and challenging period and is maybe not the best way to start your MIT career."

For Strehle, "It was... somewhat of a frightening experience, to show up at MIT and go through rush."

Almost every student here today can agree with that statement, even after 40 years.



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**TBP Carnival
 Delights Children**

By Jennifer Chung

Approximately 60 children ranging in age from six to 13 from the Charlestown Boys and Girls Club and the Young Women's Christian Association spent a fun-filled Saturday at MIT playing with good-natured volunteers and demonstrating their prowess at carnival booth activities sponsored by MIT's chapter of Tau Beta Pi, a national engineering honor society.

**Reporter's
 Notebook**

The event began with a science show presented by ClubChem. The children watched with awe as various objects were frozen and a viscous liquid turned three different colors.

The children were then released to play games and eat food. There were many games for the children to participate in — their options included frisbee bowling, the beanbag toss, the penny bottle toss, the moonwalk, and balloons and darts. The games were so popular, many booths ran out of prizes quickly. Despite this handicap, however, children still flocked to toyless booths.

Over by the dunking booth, eight-year-old David had already successfully dunked Jen Cheng G, one of three dunkees, twice before his turn was over. "I also hit it twice," Joshua, 9, said. Both were having fun, and David's favorite activity was obviously the dunking booth, as he waited in line for another turn.

The pleasant, warm day might explain why another popular activity was bobbing for apples. Volunteer Karen W. Seto '98, said that "it's very popular because the kids like getting wet." At last count, the most apples bobbed by one child was 10.

In addition to apples, less healthy food items could be found including typical carnival fare such as popcorn, hot dogs, and cotton candy. With the latter, not only eating but creating one's own cotton candy was an enjoyable activity — children were often seen over the silver cotton candy vat being guided by a volunteer.

The resulting sticky clothes were comparable to the velcro suits worn by children running the obstacle course. This blue-tongued reporter can herself attest to the gooeyness of humid cotton candy.

When all involved were happily exhausted, the children went in droves of 10 to Toscanini's, where they cooled down to the refreshing taste of ice cream.

"The project was an experience and adventure because it was the first time [for TBP] — but it went well," said Tseh-Hwan Yong '98, the event coordinator and TBP vice-president. Rex K. Min '98 agreed that they were happy for the opportunity to host so many children, and that the event was a great volunteer activity for members.

"The kids are having a great time," said Jerry Steimel of the

TBP, Page 17

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First-Year Committee to Look At Grading, Community Issues

By May K. Tse
NEWS EDITOR

The Committee on the First-Year Program, led by Professor of Physics Thomas J. Greytak '62, will be spending this semester delving into matters surrounding the freshman experience at the Institute.

The subcommittee of the Committee on the Undergraduate Program will grapple with issues of pass/no record grading, residence and orientation week, and waning student enthusiasm.

"The idea behind the CFYP is to provide the CUP — and ultimately the faculty as a whole — with better insights into how the freshman year is functioning and how it might be improved," said Associate Professor of Political Science Charles Stewart III, last year's CUP chair.

"Academically, a crummy first year experience has had downstream effects," Stewart said. "Socially and culturally, the first year, and some would say, the first two weeks of the first year, sets a tone that guides how students live out their four years."

"I think the freshman year at MIT needs to be seriously evaluated; I think things can always be improved and sometimes improved a lot," said Associate Professor of Biology Paul T. Matsudaira, a CFYP member.

Pass/no record to be evaluated

One long-term focus of the CFYP is to examine the current system of pass/no record grading in the freshman year. "Often faculty say that the problem is pass/no record, that freshmen would work harder, pay more attention to classes, etc. Even if there isn't a problem, what it does is block their willingness to consider what the other problems are," Greytak said.

Pass/no record grading might be a problem "for a small fraction of freshmen," Greytak said. "Students try to take professional courses in the freshman year to get them out of the way under pass/no record grading, such as 6.001 or 5.60." Some of the students taking advanced classes would be better off by taking them later, after taking more prerequisites, he said.

Greytak mentioned that one alternative the CFYP will be looking into is attaching pass/no record grading to only the General Institute Requirements, and not the entire freshman year. "So 8.01, 8.02, etc. would be on pass/no record, but if you took 6.001 or 5.60 as a freshman it would be on grades," he said.

If any proposal goes to the full faculty for discussion, it probably would not be until the fall of next year, Greytak said. "We're in no hurry; the system isn't broken — it works well for most of the students already — we just want to fine-tune

it, and make it better for some of the other students."

Community, residence are issues

Greytak also indicated that the committee will look into Residence and Orientation Week, student enthusiasm, and other residence issues.

The goal is to form "a community of faculty and students working together to help students get through." This is not achieved by the current system, Greytak said.

Currently "we lose the opportunity to develop a sense of community. During the early weeks of the term, you're focused on R/O, competing on places to live, etc. Other universities devote their orientation to academic orientation," Greytak said.

In comparing MIT to about thirteen other top colleges, only MIT and the University of California at Berkeley had a large portion of their freshman students living off campus, with 10 percent at Berkeley and more than 40 percent at MIT, mostly in fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups. "This colors the experience that freshmen have," he said.

The second focus will be on why

students appear to "lose enthusiasm, especially in the freshman year." Greytak described possible explanations that the CFYP will look into, including the lack of community and not enough small, hands-on classes.

"I think MIT students sell themselves short, they focus on the next problem set and don't think about the entire intellectual environment: how great MIT is, the resources and opportunities here. They don't realize they are smart and can have a real impact," Greytak said.

He continued, "They should be more engaged in a cooperative endeavor with faculty, we're trying to help them and they should take advantage of them, instead of having a 'them versus us attitude.'"

Advising, prereqs to be discussed

Other smaller, short-term issues that the CFYP will address include freshman advising seminars, the freshman handbook, a flag system for noting course prerequisites, gender issues, and an experimental program with the Alumni Office and Provost Joel Moses PhD '67 to arrange for MIT alumni/alumnae to help freshmen land summer jobs.

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COMICS

Damned for Life

by Jessica



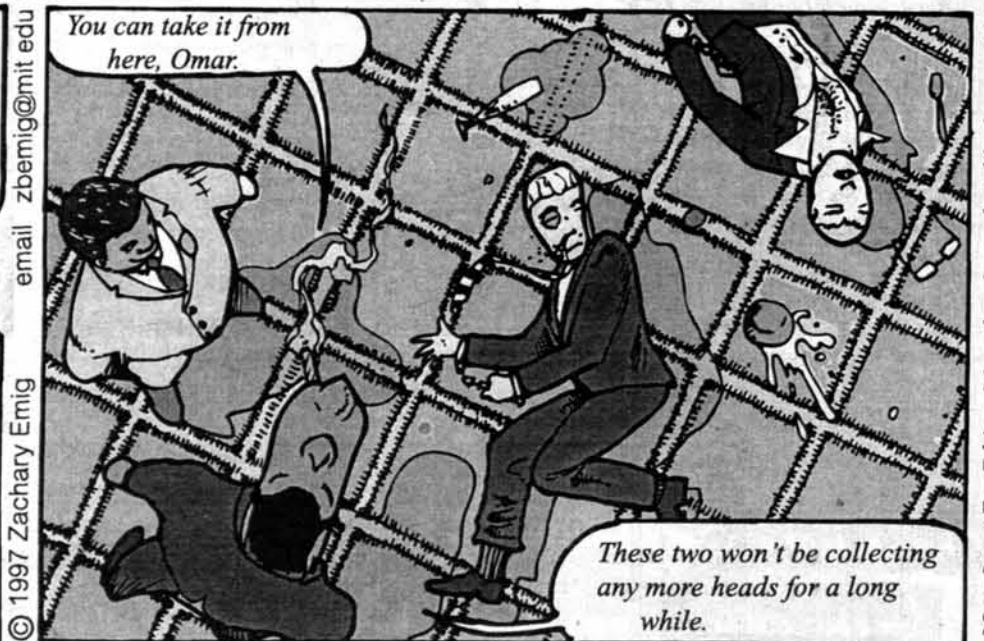
Off Course
by Hugo



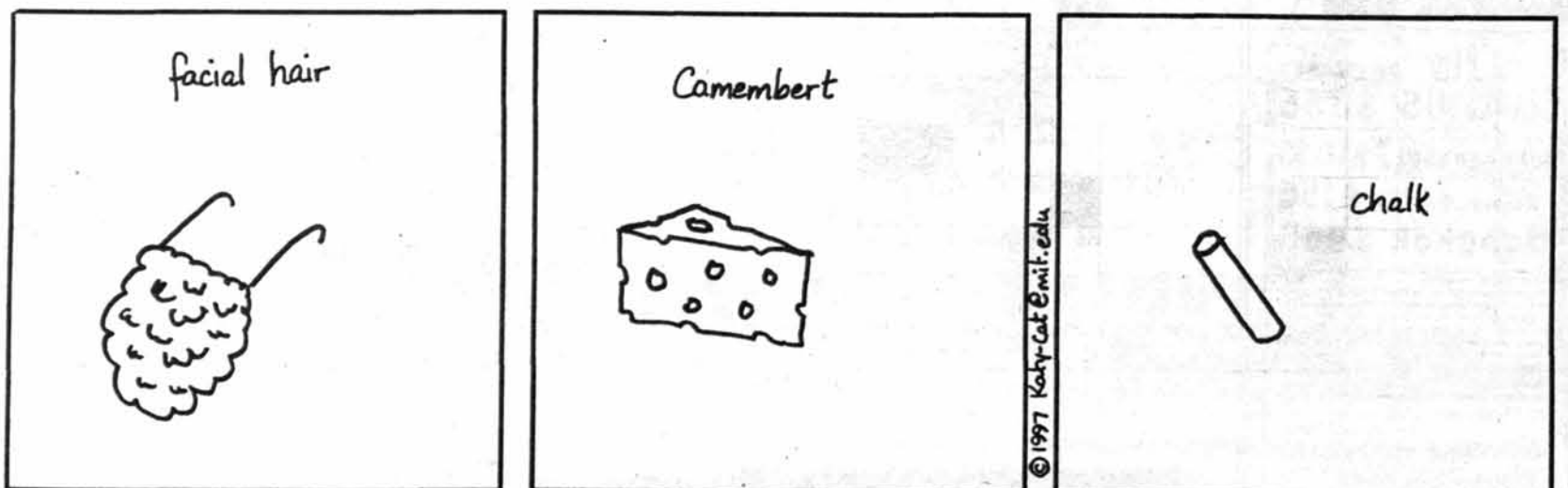
RHINO MAN

THE STORY SO FAR: Rhino-Man escaped from Cupid's enrisionment, and hunted him down. His superior physique quickly overcame both Cupid and Mr. G.

by Zachary Emig



Noun Poetry
by Katy-Cat



Next Issue: For Rhino-Man, there's no place like home: Tokyo.

F U N

THE TECH
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CONER TRIVIA ?

Same Name

History tends not to be very original, as the same names get recycled again and again. In 1410, a Polish-Lithuanian army produced a major victory over the Knights of the Teutonic Order at the Battle of Tannenberg. Half a millennium later in the opening month of the First World War, August 1914, the Russian invasion of East Prussia was annihilated at another Battle of Tannenberg by the Germans. In both cases, the battle signaled the decline of the loser's power.

What other identically named events occurred on April 19, 1775 and later on October 3, 1951?

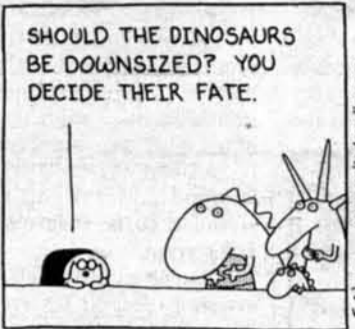
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- Fri 7:30 p.m. *Double Indemnity* in 10-250
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Sling Blade/Chasing Amy

Send your answer to trivia@the-tech.mit.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday. Two random drawings from all of the correct entries will be held to determine this week's two winners.

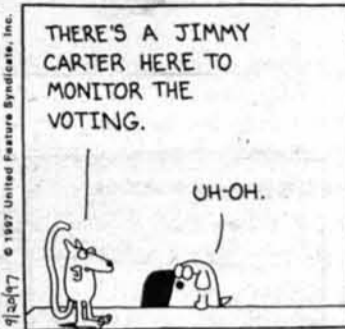
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by Scott Adams



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Hello Dr. H2SO4. Don't you think the Mars Pathfinder mission is a complete waste of money? Hundreds of millions of dollars just for a few pictures of rocks!

I agree! Rather than going all the way to Mars, NASA could have found all the rocks they wanted in your head!

The feeling of insignificance from knowing that there are a billion galaxies out there is badly affecting my performance in bed! Help!

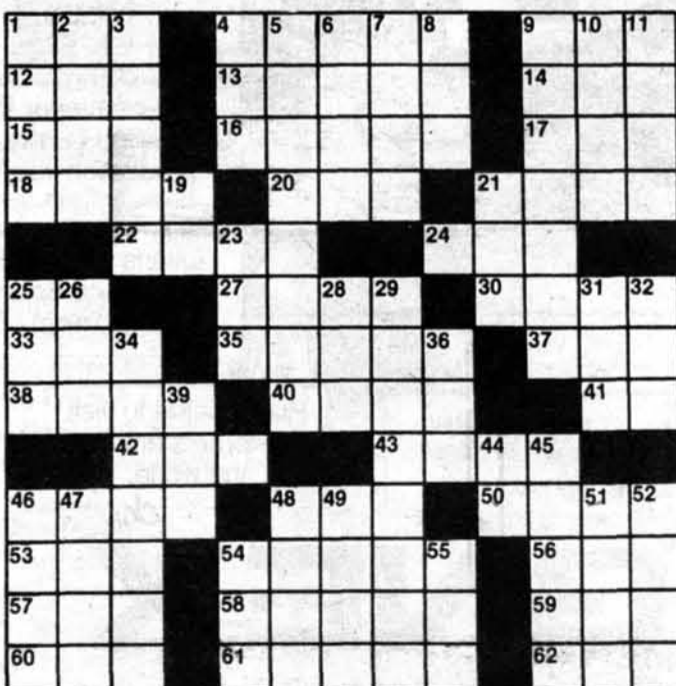
Actually, the correct number is closer to 100 billion! Good luck!

Ask **Dr. H2SO4**
1-900-YO-H2SO4
Tonight:
Astrophysics and you

Ask **Dr. H2SO4**

Ask **Dr. H2SO4**

Ask **Dr. H2SO4**
Next week:
The Internet and you



Across

- 1. Feminine suffix
- 4. Method of detection
- 9. Meat
- 12. Relative (abbr.)
- 13. Love
- 14. Poem
- 15. National medical group (abbr.)
- 16. Theme
- 17. On the — (slang)
- 18. Intone
- 20. Color
- 21. Expensive car (slang)
- 22. Festive
- 24. Turf
- 25. For
- 27. Aid
- 30. Payment
- 33. Slosh
- 35. Glow
- 37. Tilt
- 38. Iota
- 40. Jacket
- 41. Am
- 42. Place for experiments (slang)
- 43. Dole

- 46. Abide
- 48. Old Testament book (abbr.)
- 50. Margarine
- 53. Bounder
- 54. Indian boat
- 56. School subject (abbr.)
- 57. Japanese sash
- 58. Without company
- 59. Black street substance
- 60. Were (sing.)
- 61. Person closed away
- 62. Direction (abbr.)

- 25. Southern state (abbr.)
- 26. Day of week (abbr.)
- 28. Dine
- 29. Musical instrument
- 31. Talk a lot
- 32. Female sheep
- 34. Little Dipper star
- 36. Direction (abbr.)
- 39. Might
- 44. At
- 45. Exalt
- 46. Flat-bottomed boat
- 47. Large musical instrument
- 48. Angel's headdress
- 49. Unknown (abbr.)
- 51. Dash
- 52. Mean person
- 54. Western state (abbr.)
- 55. Ever (poetic)

Down

- 1. Ages
- 2. Half (prefix)
- 3. Lingo
- 4. Aries
- 5. Sweet
- 6. Excessive love
- 7. Dry
- 8. Game umpire (abbr.)
- 9. Christmas
- 10. First man
- 11. Reminder
- 19. Southern state (abbr.)
- 21. Under
- 23. Drag

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS FROM LAST ISSUE



Court Declares Cogen Fines Legal, Refers Matter to DPU

Cogen, from Page 1

Regulatory Policy Act of 1978 which "seeks to encourage the development of cogeneration and small power production facilities" in order to reduce demand for fossil fuels.

The court said that "contrary to the claim of MIT, the imposition of

a customer transition charge, as such, does not violate state PURPA regulations."

The court also voided the earlier CTC issued by the Department of Utilities. "We are concerned that there is inadequate explanation in the department's decision for us to determine whether the stranded

costs for which the company now seeks relief were prudently incurred," the court said in its brief.

Specifically, the court questioned why the DPU accepted Cambridge Electric's calculation of stranded costs over MIT's conflicting calculations, and whether the decision to fine MIT 75 percent of these costs was arbitrary.

should pay to Cambridge Electric has been remanded to the DPU.

We "still have to go back to the DPU and be successful," said Peter L. Cooper, assistant director of utilities for physical plant. "We didn't hit a home run, but we did get a triple," Cooper said.

Cooper said that "we're willing to pay our fair share" but cited alternative calculations which show that MIT's cogeneration plant will cause Cambridge Electric a loss of only \$275,000 per year instead of the

more than seven million dollars claimed by Cambridge Electric.

"If we have a chance to show an alternative calculation, we will do well," he said.

Dimond, however, said that "this [decision] allows the DPU to revisit their calculations...[We are] confident that they will come back with 100 percent."

The previous DPU decision required MIT to pay Cambridge Electric 75 percent of their claimed stranded costs. "We believe that all of our costs were approved prudently and that the DPU will agree," Dimond said. "If you believe in stranded costs, then we must get 100 percent."

Dimond said that unless MIT is assessed a fee, the burden of stranded costs will be shifted to other Cambridge Electric consumers.

Cogen plant has long legal history

This decision is the most recent in a series of court cases and petitions surrounding the cogeneration plant. In 1996 MIT petitioned the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to overturn the CTC decision. That petition was denied.

MIT filed an action in United States District Court but that case was dismissed in August of last year when the judge determined that the court did not have jurisdiction.

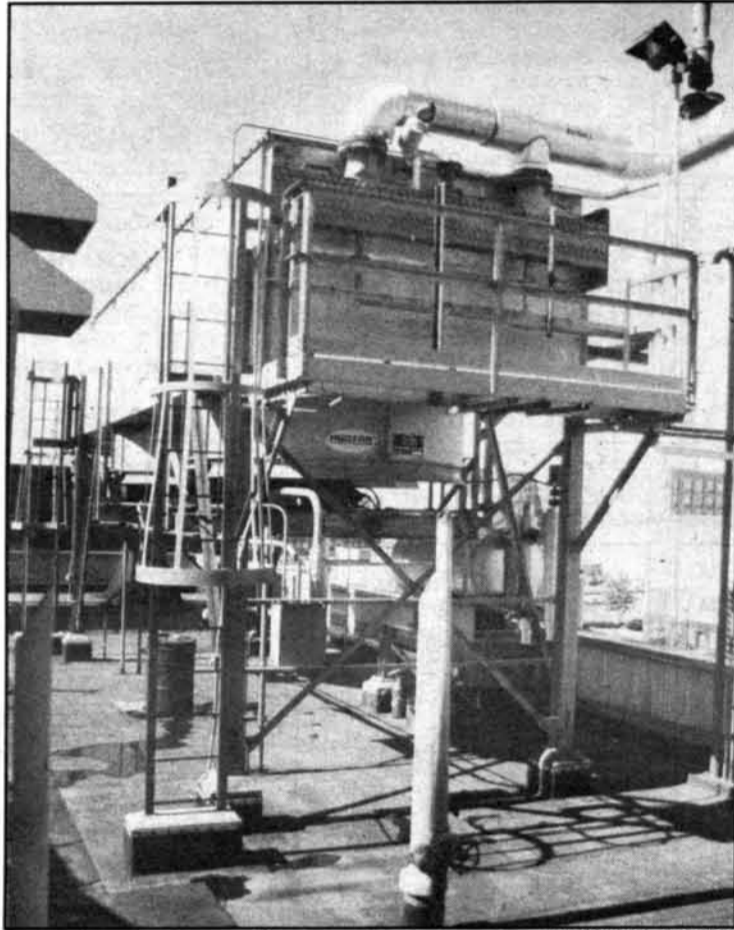
A petition filed with the DPU in February of 1996 concerning the supplemental service rate was also denied.

The cogeneration plant, which became operational in 1995, uses natural gas to produce both electricity and steam and is up to 18 percent more efficient than traditional systems. The plant also reduces the emission of pollutants by MIT by up to 45 percent.

Before the cogeneration plant was built MIT was Cambridge Electric's second largest customer, behind Harvard University.

Further decision referred to DPU

As a result of this court ruling, the decision on what fee MIT



MIT's cogeneration plant, designed to make more efficient use of fossil fuels, has been the subject of a long, drawn-out lawsuit.

We want to hear from you!



MIT Dining Committee

MIT Dining Committee invites you to join us at Baker Dining on Thursday, September 25 at 6pm.

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Information Session on Wednesday, October 22. We will be on campus conducting interviews on Thursday, October 23. Please contact Career Services for information or contact us at the above address.



Josh Bittker '99 and Tim Shiau '98 give the Club Chem Magic Show for a group of children at the TBP Carnival on Saturday.

Children Enjoy TBP Carnival Saturday

TBP, from Page 12

Charlestown Boys and Girls Club. "This has been a very well-organized event, and the students are terrific."

The Boys and Girls Club is a 104-year-old youth development center which features after school and educational programs. It functions as a drop-in center for members ranging from age six to 18.

The 120 members of TBP were offered membership during their junior year. Criteria for membership include being in the top eighth of the engineering class for juniors, or top third for seniors, and giving fifteen hours to service.

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Monday, September 29, 1997

7:00 p.m.

Room 6-120

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technology for end users.

**Wednesday,
September 24, 1997
6:30PM in Room 6-120
Refreshments provided**



**ANDERSEN
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Baker Renovations To Preserve Style

Baker, from Page 1

Activities Period, Sadowski said. "One of the most oddly shaped rooms will be completely restored so that we can see what works and what does not."

Starting next term, the Institute "will begin purchasing supplies for the summer restorations," she said.

During the first summer of the renovation, the dining room, kitchen, and common areas will be renovated. A new, handicapped-accessible entrance will be built and the elevator will be replaced, Personette said. The mechanical and electrical systems will also be renovated during this time.

The student rooms will be the focus of the second and final summer, Sadowski said.

The configuration of the rooms will stay the same, and no walls will be knocked down, Personette said. Instead, new lighting, floors, and sinks will be installed. The wood furniture in the rooms will also be restored.

"We will also be replacing windows, upgrading [MITnet] drops, and providing more social spaces," Personette said. "We will also be renovating the kitchen, which will be decreased in size since we don't serve as many meals in it as we used to."

The renovations are inevitable even if the administration doesn't approve the plans this fall, Personette said. "My sense is that it will be a choice of this summer or next summer or the summer after that," she said.

Renovations preserve architecture
The Seniors Dormitory, as

Baker was originally called, was completed in 1949. The design by the Finnish architect Alvar Aalto is one of the earliest significant examples of post-war international modernism in the United States, Sadowski said.

"The architects, students, and administration are working together to modernize Baker House while preserving the history of the building," she said.

While the bulk of the renovations will focus on updating the basics of the building, the project will also focus on incorporating some of Aalto's original intentions which were cut from the project during the original construction due to budgetary restraints, Sadowski said.

The dormitory was dedicated in 1949 by Aalto, who was teaching at the Institute at the time. Baker is one of the two buildings Aalto built in North America and it is considered the better of the two, Personette said.

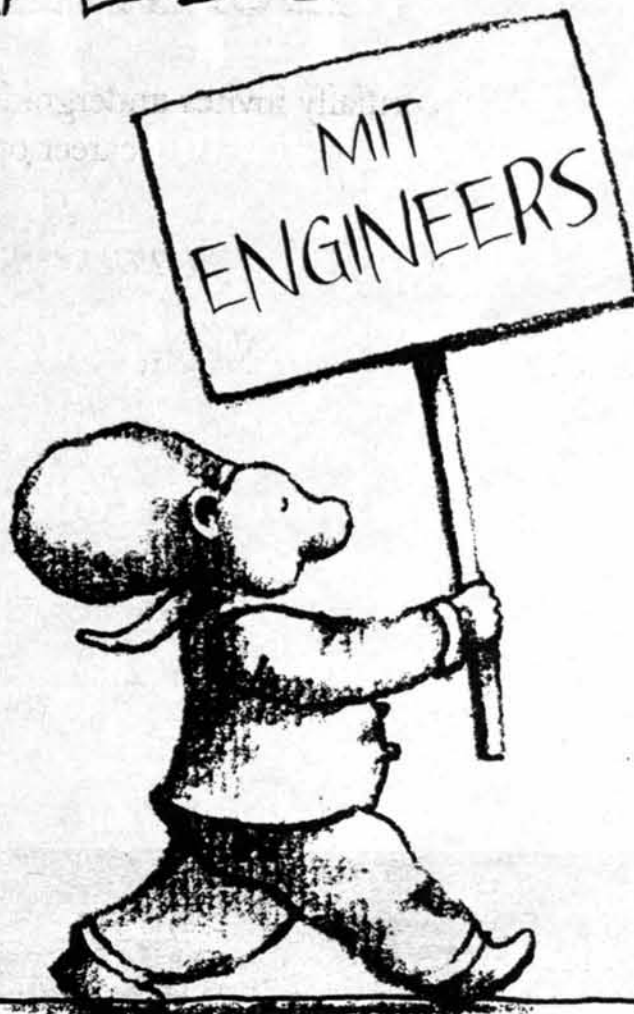
"It is considered almost something like a pilgrimage site and a masterpiece of the modern type of architecture; many architects visit Baker House to study its designs," Personette said.

A subset of the architecture team went to Finland to study Aalto's papers, Personette said. The team "came back with 500 pages of drawings of Baker that we did not know existed," she said. "We have used that to guide any design decisions and changes so they won't look like they are coming from a different place or era."

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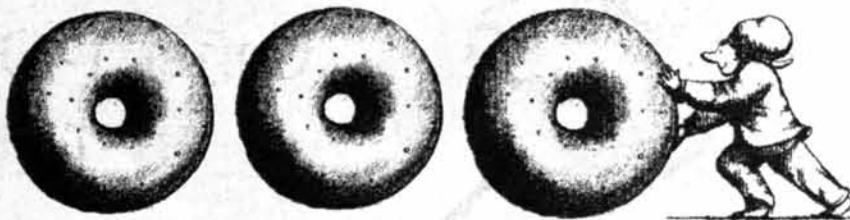
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Seniors & Final-Year Graduate Students

FIND OUT HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE MIT CORPORATION

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)

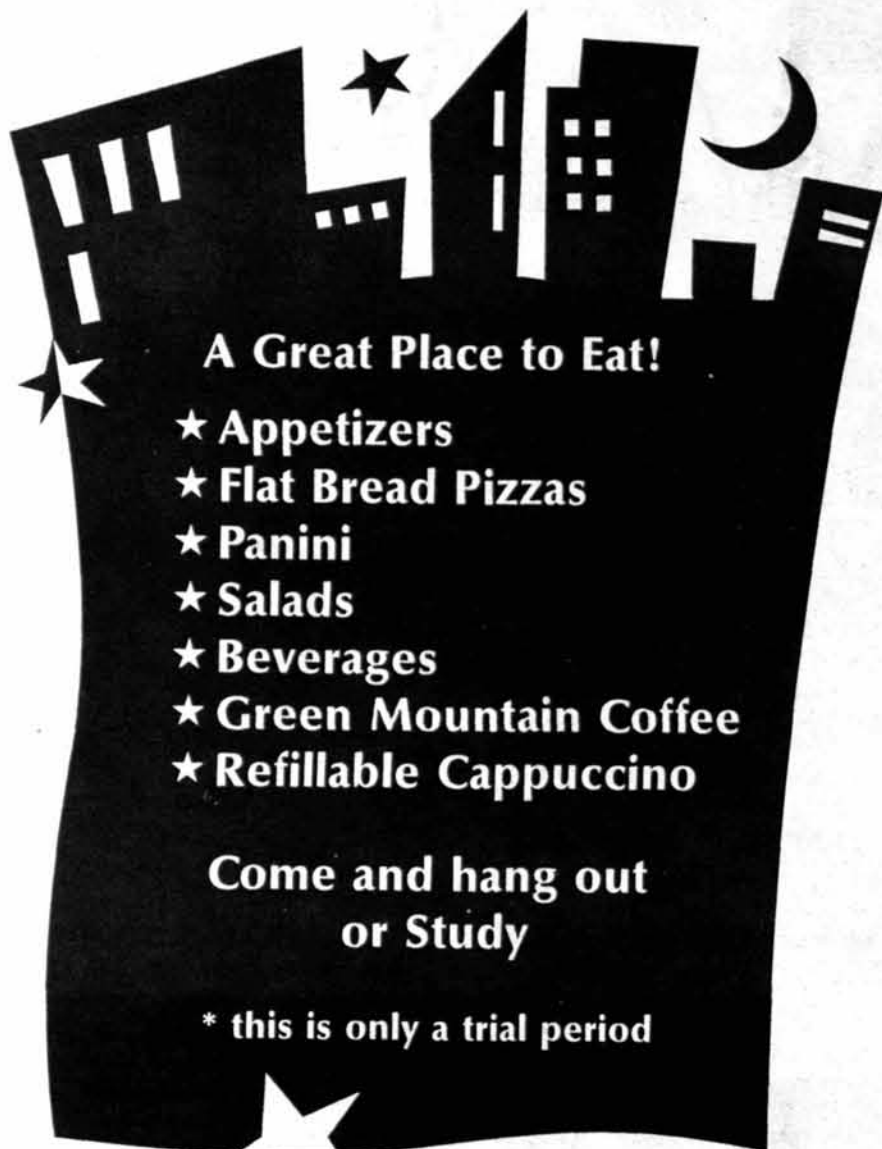
Meet some of the recent graduate members of the Corporation, hear about their experiences, and learn how you can participate in this important election process. The ballot to elect a recent graduate (1996, 1997, and 1998 graduates) to the Corporation needs strong candidates and that person could be you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

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



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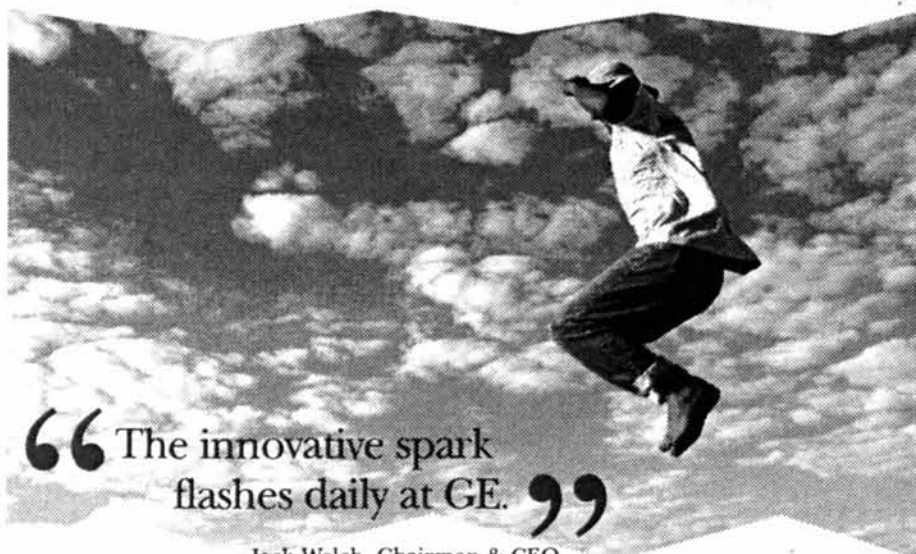


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Pauline Maier is William R. Kennan, Jr., Professor of American History at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

This event is part of authors@mit, a series cosponsored by MIT Humanities and Dewey Libraries and The MIT Press Bookstore. FREE. Open to the public. Wheelchair accessible. Refreshments served. Info: 617 253.5249 or authors@mit.edu

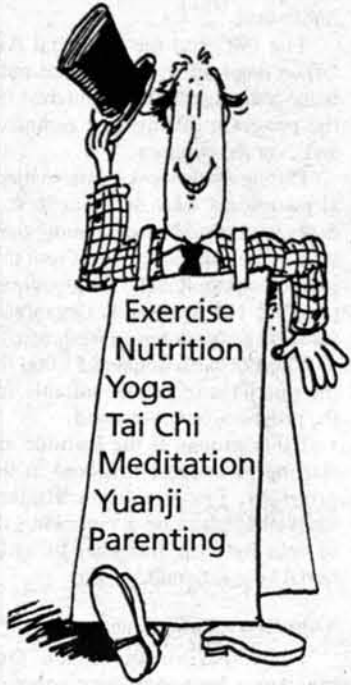
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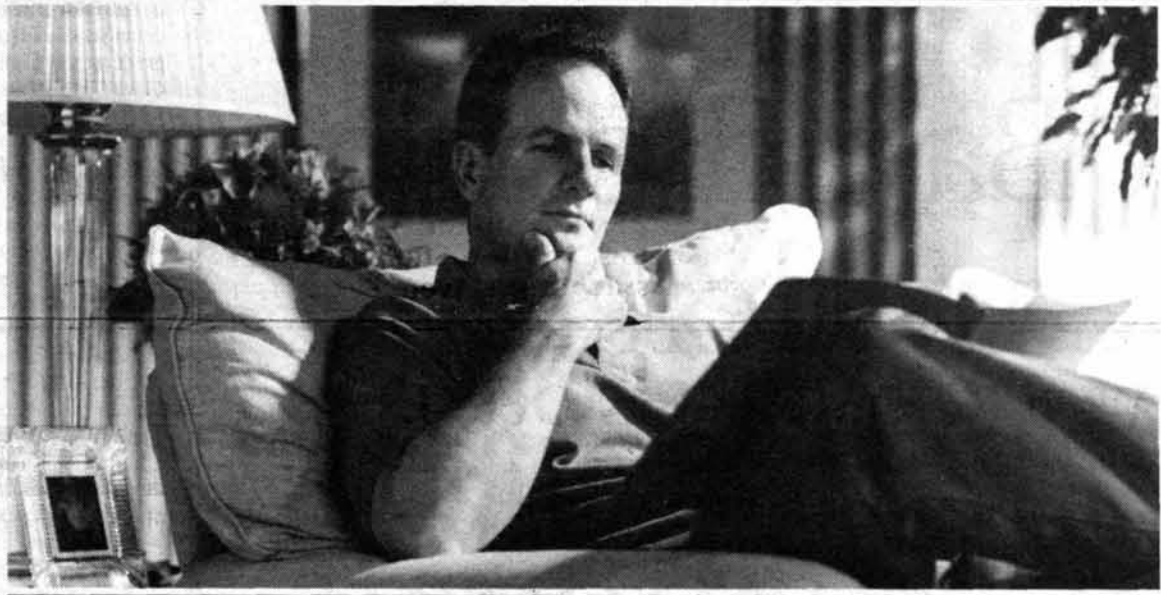
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Workers, Volunteers Teach Kids To Read

Reach out, from Page 1

case of Reach Out, Uncle Sam is fully subsidizing the hourly wage for students using the program to fulfill FWS requirements.

"The reason why this is so exciting [is] the work-study," said Jane D. Smith, associate director of the Student Financial Aid office, co-organizer of the program.

"It's allowed us to put students into schools we couldn't help before," Smith said.

To help fund the America Reads Challenge, the federal government augmented the federal work study program by 35 percent for this fiscal year. The president encouraged, but did not require, that at least 50 percent of the increase go to community service positions.

At the Institute, the augmentation to federal work-study amounted to \$190,000, Smith said.

"I intend to spend all of [the increase]" on Reach Out, Smith said.

While two thirds of the participants are utilizing the program to fulfill part of their FWS obligation "there's more volunteers than I thought there would be," Sandberg said.

Program to begin locally

Reach Out is being piloted at seven area sites. The largest location is the after-school program for students in kindergarden through sixth grade at the Cambridge Community Center located in Central Square.

"In the past we tried to provide tutoring for children" by volunteers, said Dawn E. Swan, executive director of the center. "This year we were very fortunate to be picked by MIT."

About one-third of children who attend the after-school program at the Community Center are identified as in need of tutoring, Swan said.

Children in need of tutoring will be identified by coordinators at Reach Out area sites. At the Cambridge Community Center, the most easily identified students are those unable to do their homework during times set aside for them to work on their assignments, Swan said. In some other cases, "parents ... flat out ask us" to tutor their children, Swan said.

The Reach Out program is augmenting already existing informal reading programs. "This year we are going to be much more structured," Swan said.

"MIT has helped us in so many ways," Swan said, "this is just the latest."

Other area sites include the Devotion School, Jumpstart for Young children, Neighborhood Charter School, Patrick O'Hearn School, Lucy Stone school, and Technology Children's Center.

Institute partially funds effort

Even with a complete federal subsidy of student wages, hidden costs for the Institute still exist.

"MIT is absorbing a lot of the cost: publicity, books, man hours," Smith said.

The PSC and the Financial Aid Office engaged in a full-force publicity campaign to garner interest for the program during last semester and over the summer.

During finals weeks, informational pamphlets were sent out to students who would be continuing their studies the following year. From this initial mailing, Reach Out organizers received 125 responses. Organizers also sent out mailings to freshman.

The PSC also donated \$1,000 for the purchase of books suitable for the program, Sandberg said.

Other groups at the Institute are starting to become involved in the program. The Graduate Student Council is planning a pumpkin sale to help fund the purchase of additional books, Sandberg said.

Volunteers trained, committed

Participation in Reach Out involves a long-term time commitment of at least one year. The program is purposefully starting on a small scale to foster this commitment, Sandberg said.

"I'm less concerned with quantity than with quality," Sandberg said. Commitment to the program is also stressed because of the instant attachment that a child may come to feel for his tutor, Sandberg said.

Reach Out volunteers are required to undergo a mandatory training program which consists of three two-hour training sessions. Two of the three take place before the volunteer even begins tutoring the child to which they are assigned.

Volunteers are trained in how to evaluate the reading level of their student, how to make the experience a positive one, and how to select the appropriate books for students, Sandberg said.

The third training session is designed to help volunteers tailor tutoring to their child's needs.

The volunteers are also given clear expectations, Sandberg said. They are given the message, "You are not the teacher, you're not expected to be teachers," she said.

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.

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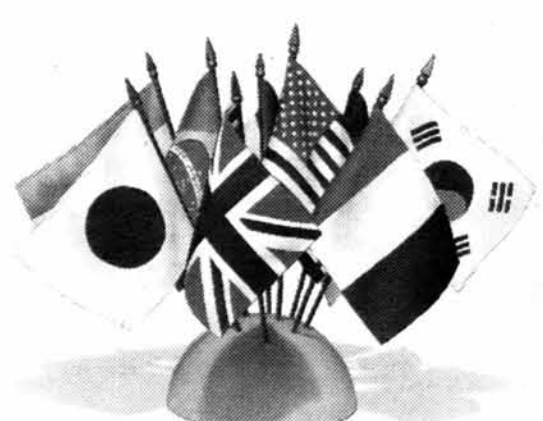
◆ YOM KIPPUR is Oct. 10 - 11. Tickets are required for all Oct. 10 KOL NIDRE SERVICES and are available for students and members of the MIT community. Ticket pickup at MIT Hillel through Oct. 9 and in Lobby 10 on Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 7, 8.

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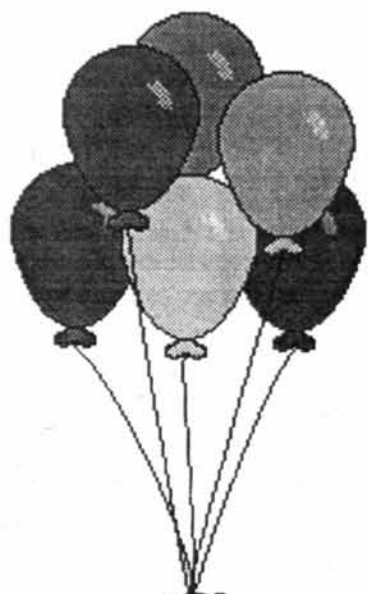
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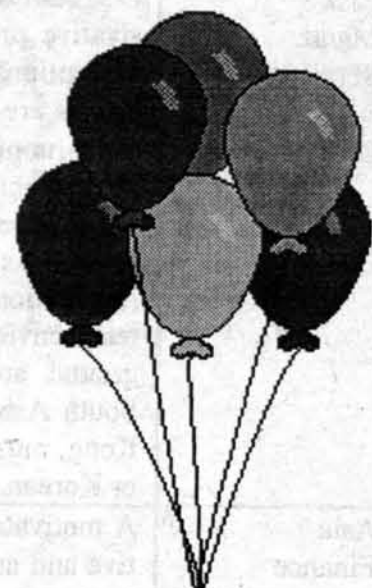
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Witness Water Polo Take On Harvard At Tonight's Match

Brocum, from Page 28

game. The team recruited two talented freshman from California in Matt Hausman '01 and Stefan Bewley '01. Goalie Ryan Adams '00 has returned from a year hiatus and senior captain Zac Lee '98 is as good as ever.

Third, they are playing Harvard. Need I say more? There is always a substantial Harvard contingent in the stands for MIT games. If there is any room for them this time, I want them to leave hearing "Nah Nah Nah Nah, Hey Hey Hey, Good Bye!" all the way back to Harvard Square after we win. I mean rivalries don't get much better than this, only we usually end up on the losing side.

Fourth, I never want to hear anyone complain about sports at MIT again if I don't see you at this game. I mean, get psyched. How often do we actually have a legitimate shot at beating Harvard?

This water polo team is that good. If there one event to go to, this is it.

Finally, I want to be the one writing the huge "MIT beats Harvard" headline all over the next

issue of *The Tech* because everyone came out had a good time and cheered on the team.

Varsity men's water polo vs. Harvard, tonight at 7 p.m. at the Alumni Pool. Be there.

MIT Loses To Tufts In Match

Tennis, from Page 28

started out strong, taking the first six games to easily win the first set 6-0, but lost the second set in a tie-break. Her Tufts opponent took the third and final set, 6-0.

As MIT's third singles player, Kwan lost in two sets, 6-3, 6-3 while Lin, at fourth singles, lost 6-0, 6-0. At fifth and sixth singles, Singh and Germaine both suffered losses of 6-2, 6-1 and 6-0, 6-0; respectively.

The team's first home match is against Wheaton College on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.

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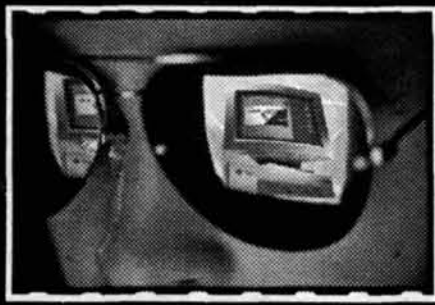
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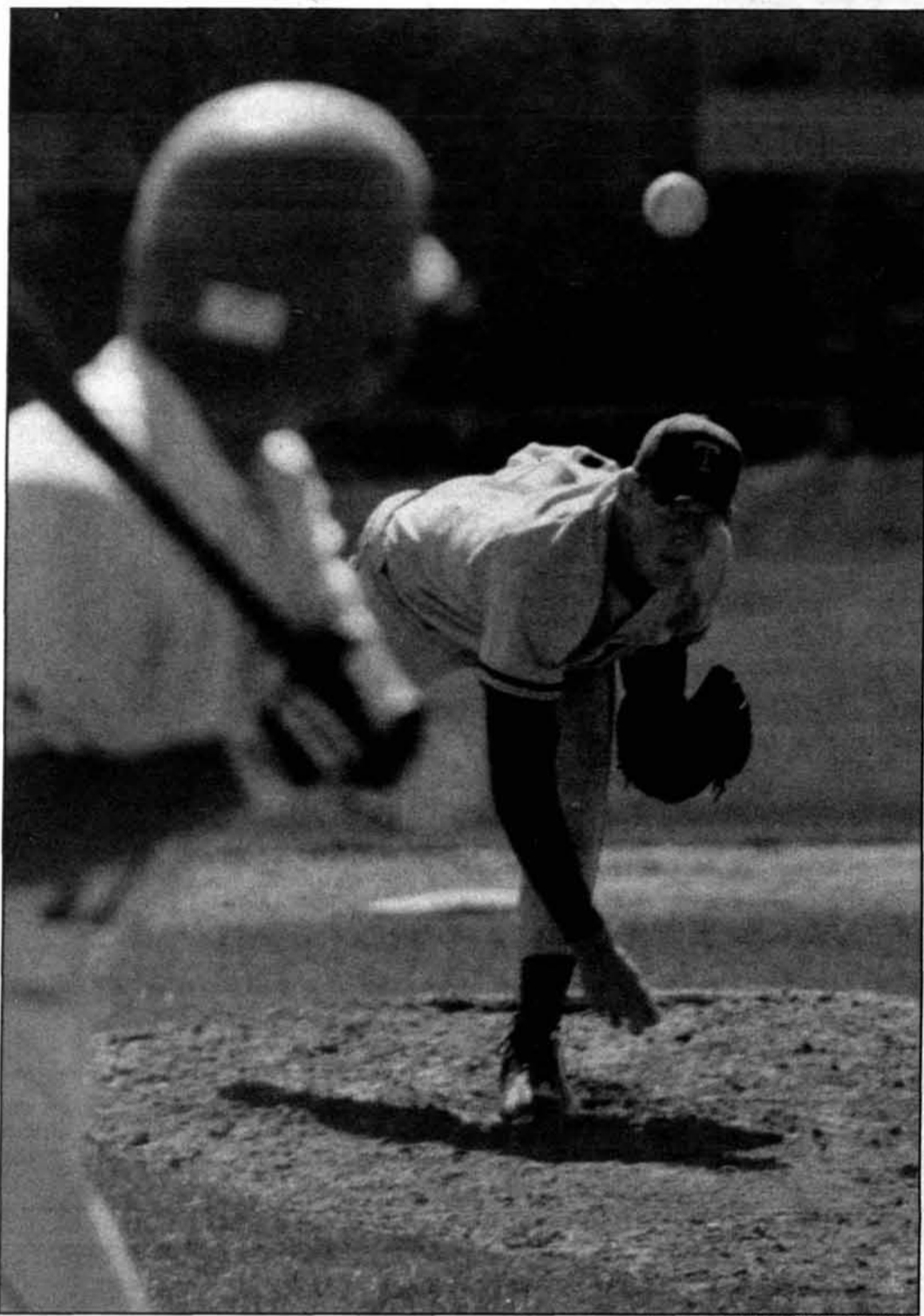
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SPORTS



DENNIS YANCEY—THE TECH

Jason Szuminski '00 pitches for MIT in Saturday's first game against UMass-Boston. MIT won 9-8.

Men's Water Polo Tonight, 7 p.m. — Be There

Column by Chris Brocoum
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Many students often complain that one of MIT's biggest faults is the perennial lack of competitive sports teams with the two biggest spectator sports, football and basketball often taking the most heat.

Well, I would argue that the lack of pride and support on the part of MIT students as fans also contributes to the problem. Turnout

in the stands is absolutely disgraceful.

I love sports. I want to feel the thrill of being in a Bowl Game or having a team in March Madness. This may never happen, but things are going to start changing tonight.

The men's water polo team is hosting Harvard University tonight and those stands are going to be packed. There had better be people falling out of the stands and lining

up at the door to get in and support the Engineers.

The water polo team is better this year than it has been in a long time and they are going to make a little history tonight when they beat Harvard for the first time in a long while.

For all those people who need a little more convincing to put off the studying for a whole hour let me give you a few more excuses.

Field Hockey Win Brings Record to 3-0

By Connie Sadowski,
Tracy Sadowski, and Anshu Sinha
TEAM MEMBERS

The field hockey team improved its undefeated record to 3-0 on Saturday with a close 2-1 defeat of Western New England College.

The game got off to a delayed start as the bus traveled to WNEC without three starting players, including team captain Tracy Sadowski '99. Nonetheless the game was played.

During the first half, MIT struggled to adjust to grass play after having spent a month on the turf. Play remained evenly matched yet WNEC was able to score off a penalty corner in the middle of the first half.

Despite this one faux-pas, the defense played well and was led by Yolanda Nunn '99, Michelle Hardiman '00, and Katie Barron '00.

On the losing side of the scoreboard, MIT brought in fresh legs in the second half. To even up the match, Anshu Sinha '98 pushed the ball past the WNEC goalkeeper on

an assist from Connie Sadowski '99.

As the game neared the end, MIT was dreading the possibility of overtime. Prior to an offensive corner in the last minute of play, MIT called a timeout. Tracy Sadowski scored the game winning goal with seconds left in a victorious finish.

Team dominates Gordon College

On Thursday night the team defeated Gordon College 5-1. MIT scored early off an offensive corner. Connie Sadowski drove the ball off a hit by Laura Williams '00 with a

stick drop by Nicole Botcheos '00. Offensive control was maintained throughout both halves.

Two goals were scored by right wing Williams as well as center midfielder Connie Sadowski. Sohah Iqbal '98 scored the last goal with an assist by Andii Davis '01. This was the first offensive point made by a freshman this season. Overall the game proved to be a good showing for the team.

The team's next home game is Thursday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m. on the turf against the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, Sept. 23

Women's Soccer vs. Curry College, 3:30 p.m.
Women's Tennis vs. Wheaton College, 3:30 p.m.
Men's Tennis vs. Boston University, 4 p.m.
Water Polo vs. Harvard University, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

Men's Soccer vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 4 p.m.

Women's Tennis Off To a Strong Season

By Nisha Singh and Susan Lin
TEAM MEMBERS

Last Friday, the women's tennis team opened their conference season with an 8-1 victory against Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester.

MIT captured two of the three doubles matches. Michelle Youn '00 and Mealani Nakamura '00 won 8-2 at first doubles. Nora Humphrey '98 and Hannah Kwon '00 cruised at second doubles, winning 8-0. The lone WPI point came at third doubles, where Tiffany Cunningham '98 and team co-captain Nisha Singh '00 lost an extremely hard-fought match, 9-8 (7-5).

MIT then dominated all six singles matches. Both Youn and Nakamura won without dropping a game, 6-0, 6-0, at first and second singles, respectively. Humphrey won 6-0, 6-1 at third singles, while Kwon was a 6-2, 6-2 victor at fourth singles. Cunningham prevailed 6-4, 6-3 at fifth singles, and co-captain Susan Lin '98, triumphed 6-1, 6-0 at sixth singles.

"It was our first NEW 8 confer-

ence match, and I think we really picked it up after a tough loss at Tufts on Sunday," said head coach Merrilee Keller.

"I thought we played well as a team, and I was very pleased with the results," Lin said.

Team defeated by Tufts

Last Tuesday, the team played a tough first match against Tufts University, losing 9-0 in their season opener.

The match began with 8-game proset doubles play. At first doubles, Youn and Nakamura played an extremely close and tense match, losing 9-7. At second doubles, Kwon and Lin fought hard in another tough match, losing 8-2. At third doubles, Singh and Lauren Germaine '01 suffered a 8-1 loss.

At first singles, Youn played a tough first set, losing in a tie-break. She fought to maintain her momentum after the lengthy first set, but lost with a final score of 7-6, 6-3.

At second singles, Nakamura played a tough three-setter. She

Tennis, Page 27

Women's Volleyball Wins Against Smith for Upset

By Paul Dill
TEAM COACH

The women's volleyball team played host to eighth-ranked Smith College this past Saturday, and sent them home with a loss.

MIT dominated the match from start to finish in beating Smith 3-0 (15-9, 15-8, 15-5). This was MIT's second victory over a ranked team in three matches and gave MIT a 1-0 NEW8 conference record and a 2-1 overall record.

The beginning of the first game saw both teams playing fairly evenly as they each looked for weaknesses

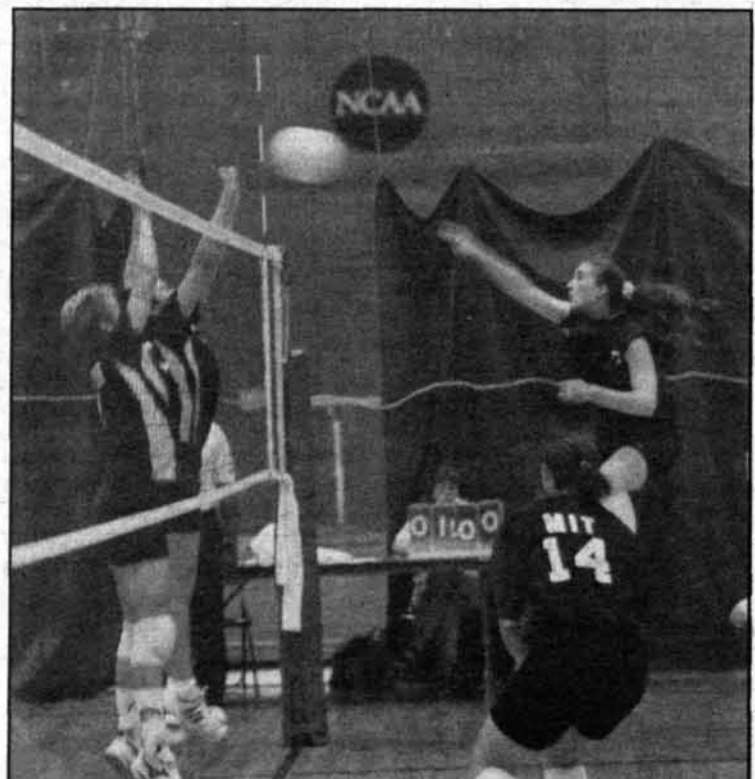
to exploit. At 9-9 MIT pulled away and never looked back. The next two games were never even close as the MIT hitters swung away.

Setter Alarice Huang '00 distributed 38 assists to continue her conference leading performance from the previous week. Jill Eich '99 and Betsy Sailhamer '99 again led the team in kills with 14 and 15 respectively, while Michelle Fox '99 added eight kills and led the team in digs with eight.

MIT travels to rival Wheaton College tonight and then hosts the MIT Invitational Tournament Friday and Saturday, Sept. 26th and 27th. This 16-team tournament will have last year's top 12 teams in New England participating.

Teams playing are: Bates College, Smith, Williams College, Springfield College, Eastern Connecticut College, Amherst College, Wesleyan University, Wellesley College, Roger Williams College, Colby College, Eastern Nazarene College, the U.S. Coast Guard, Gordon College, Tufts University, and Wheaton College. MIT plays at 6 p.m. vs. Bates and at 8 p.m. vs. Coast Guard on Friday Night in Dupont Gymnasium.

Brocoum, Page 27



AJAI BHARADWAJ

Michelle Fox '99 spikes the ball in Saturday's game against Smith College. MIT won the match 3-0.