Cloning Research Stirs Discussion

By Ramy A. Arnaout

It has been 17 days since scientists in Scotland announced they had succeeded in cloning a sheep, and the initial storm of publicity surrounding the event has begun to die down. But the waves made by Dolly, the first animal to be cloned from adult genetic material, will not soon subside. Biologists and social scientists here and elsewhere will likely be discussing this discovery for a long time to come.

The experiment itself, by now, is old news. A team headed by Ian Wilmut, an embryologist at the Roslin Institute animal research center in Edinburgh, transplanted the genetic material of a cell from an adult ewe's mammary gland into an egg cell from another ewe after removing the egg's own genetic material. The team let the egg divide and grow in a test tube and then implanted the young embryo into yet a third ewe, where it developed naturally into a baby sheep genetically identical to the first ewe.

Of course, what has generated all the excitement — and not a little discomfort — is that sheep and humans are not all that different from a biological standpoint, a fact that raises questions about whether cloning might soon be tried in humans.

Cloning itself is nothing new. Scientists have been cloning sheep and cattle from embryos' genetic material since the mid-1980s. The significance of Wilmut's experiment is that Dolly's genetic material came from an adult cell, not an embryo, and adult cells switch off most of the genes embryo cells use for growing an entire organism.

Before now, scientists thought that that off switch was permanent. Dolly seems to prove them wrong. "The only explanation is that it's reversible," said Professor of Biology Rudolf Jaenisch, a developmental biologist who studies how this off/switching works.

"I think the cloning of an entire mammal has shown me exactly how fast biology is moving ahead," said Sarah B. Tegen '97, a biology major and president of the Biology Undergraduate Students Association.

"The education we provide is expensive, intrinsically," said Dean of Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams.

"Faculty and staff deserve merit increases in salary and wages, and infrastructure and services need to be maintained and improved. It is important to understand that tuition revenues pay less than half of the actual cost of an MIT education," Vest said.

"We estimate the actual cost of an undergraduate's education is about $44,550," said Director of Student Financial Aid Stanley G. Hudson.

Another reason for the increase is the steady decrease in federal funding, Williams said. "I continually worry about the cost of education, but I am pleased that we have kept the growth of the student budget (tuition, room and board) to within about one and a half percent of the Consumer Price Index for the last three years," Vest said.

The Consumer Price Index is a standard benchmark used to calculate inflation. "The cost of education increases an average of five percent faster than the Consumer Price Index. MIT's educational programs are both labor and capital intensive, and tuition is a major source of unrestricted funds," Vest said.

Tuition, Page 11

UA Talks About +/- Grading System

By Douglas E. Heimburger

At last night's Undergraduate Association Council meeting, students voiced opinion about an inter- mediate grading system, finalized funding allocations to student groups, and approved nominations to various faculty committees.

Professor of Aeronautics Paul A. Lagace PhD '78, who chairs the Committee on Plus/Minus Grading, spoke to the council about possible courses of action the group may take.

"The inter-mediate grading experiment reaches its mid- point, the committee is investigating the potential effects of a permanent change, Lagace said. The group is "really at the point now where we're going to focus on getting input" from students and faculty, he said.

Plus and minus grading was implemented on an internal basis only for a three-year period that started in the fall of 1995, the experiment ended in June 1998. At that point, the faculty will decide whether to implement plus and minus grading on a permanent basis, Lagace said. "Sometime in the spring of next year we hope to have a policy ready" for the Committee on Academic Per-formance, which will recommend any proposals to the faculty for adop- tion, he added.

Changes in grading investigated

The Committee on Plus/Minus Grading is currently in the process of looking at information provided by the Registrar's Office concerning the use of intermediate grades and their potential effects on cumulative averages, Lagace said.

Between 79 and 86 percent of Institute courses currently use the intermediate grades, Lagace said. "One of the motivations of the experiment was the ability of intermediate grades to give better
Israeli Plan for Withdrawal Causing Crisis, Arafat Says

By Manjae Miller

JERUSALEM

Arafat's plan for a limited withdrawal of Israeli troops from the West Bank has provoked a "real crisis" in peace talks, Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat charged Monday. He threatened to reject the plan if its key achievement of relieving 7 percent of the Palestinian population from military occupation is left out.

"There is a real crisis because there is a clear breach in principle between us," Arafat told reporters following his call to move "a trick and a conspiracy against the peace process." He added: "We have to have an orderly transfer of power." Israeli and Palestinian officials said the pullback would not take place unless the Palestinians rejected the government's proposed 7 percent pullout from the population, from 9 percent of the West Bank and refused to take charge of the territories.

Israel and the U.S. say they can guarantee Palestinian control, but the Palestinians insist it would be impossible. Arafat insists that any agreement with the Oslo accords must give the Palestinians full sovereignty over the territories, including Jerusalem and the West Bank, with the right of return for Palestinian refugees. Arafat has said he would not accept anything less than full Palestinian control over the territories.

Israeli and Palestinian officials said they could not guarantee Palestinian control, but they said that arrangements could be made to allow for a "controlled" Palestinian pullout in the territories. Arafat said he would accept a 7 percent pullout if it meant the Palestinians would control the territories.

"Arafat realizes violence would break out if he committed to anything less than full Palestinian control over the territories," senior Israeli government officials said. The officials said Arafat would have to decide to reject the plan if it does not meet his needs.

Arafat's plan for withdrawal is set to be put to a U.N. Security Council resolution, which is expected to be rejected by the United States and Israel. Arafat has said he would not rule out the possibility of a U.N. vote on the issue. The U.S. has said it would veto any resolution that would lead to a vote on the issue.

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Mexico Names New Drug Czar Following Thorough Screening

By Mary Beth Sheridan

WASHINGTON, March 14 at 5:30 pm

Mexico City Scrambling to restore credibility to Mexico's scandal-plagued fight against narcotics, authorities Monday named a top local prosecutor to the country's new drug czar -- but only after subjecting him to an unprecedented screening, including a polygraph and a drug test.

The prosecutor, Mariano Herran Salvatti, replaces a military general who recently was arrested in one of the nation's worst drug scandals. The new chief practically has no experience in drug cases, though Mexican officials apparently considered that a guarantee of his honesty.

In a sweeping effort to weed out corruption, authorities also announced that all employees of the Mexican drug agency would undergo rigorous exams of everything from their finances to their urine.

"This requirement is and will be unevadable," President Ernesto Zedillo declared in a news conference.

The new drug czar was named amid an uproar in the United States over the apparent spread of narcotics corruption to top levels of Mexico's government. On Monday, President Clinton announced a "full-court press" to dissuade U.S. legislators who are threatening to overturn his recent certification of Mexico as a drug-fighting nation.

This week's congressional vote, while largely symbolic, has raised concerns about some of the capital's top officials, including the flight of a federal prosecutor, Pablo Chapa, who had been pursuing murder charges against Raoul Salinas, brother of the former president. He also oversaw hundreds of judicial police.

Supporters praised Herran Salvatti's legal abilities and said he had helped modernize the city prosecutor's office.

White House, FBI Remain at Odds Over Campaign Funding Questions

By Elizabeth Shogren and Marc Lacey

WASHINGTON, March 14 at 5:30 pm

In an open display of discord within the Clinton administration over how to handle a funding scandal, the FBI clashed Monday over whether national security officials were advised not to disclose or brief that China was trying to funnel two mid-level staff members of the White House and the National Security Council on June 3 about suspicions that China was trying to funnel money to members of Congress.

The highly unusual public battle between different parts of Clinton's own administration shows how complicated and divisive the unfolding campaign finance controversy has become for the White House. The FBI issued a statement Monday night saying its agents "placed no restriction whatsoever on the dissemination up the chain of command information provided to the NSC officials, one of whom was an FBI agent on loan to the White House."

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Addressing the subject of the FBI briefing to NSC officials earlier in the day, Clinton said he was seeking "to direct donations to U.S. citizens or organizations according to law." A lawyer specializing in election law said it "would imply that binary stars may pose stable environments for planetary formation." The screening continues.

In an accompanying commentary, however, another scientist expressed skepticism that planets could form there.

Congressmen Hope Not to Give Retired Feds a Break on COLAs

WASHINGTON, March 14 at 5:30 pm

The Republican chairman and the ranking Democrat on the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee have rejected a White House plan to delay inflation catchups for federal retirees for the next five years. That doesn't mean it won't happen. But it increases the odds that if the COLA bullet is bitten, retired feds won't be the only group with tooth-marks on their hides.

The President's budget calls for delaying cost-of-living adjustments -- which are due each January -- until April from 1998 through the year 2002. But that would only impact retired federal workers, not people getting Social Security or military retirement benefits.

The plan would delay the COLAs for five years. That doesn't mean it won't happen. But it increases the odds that if the COLA bullet is bitten, retired feds won't be the only group with tooth-marks on their hides.

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Important Issues Beyond Personal Bounds Need to Be Addressed

We don’t need fraternities, Stacey E. Blau ’98, or anyone else to embarrass us (“Hypocritical Fraternities Embarrass MIT,” Feb. 25) with this question, it is really true that frat life is about service, brotherhood, and friendships that last a lifetime?

Well, I can certainly say yes. While I agree that frat parties were an integral part of my social life at Delta Kappa Epsilon while I was an undergraduate, I can also say that I maintain very close friendships with at least a dozen of my fraternity brothers today. I converse with perhaps eight or 10 of my fraternity brothers e-mail daily and even though they live in San Francisco, New York, Florida, and Boston while I live in Atlanta, we still manage to see each other at least once a year, if not more.

So I can see from personal experience that fraternal brotherhood does last a lifetime. Maybe not in every house, but it does for mine, my house, and it does for

carlos s. moreno ’86

Fraternity Friendships Can Last a Lifetime

I am an MIT alumnus, and I had the great displeasure of reading the column “Hypocritical Fraternities Embarrass MIT,” Feb. 25) by Stacey E. Blau ’98.

In a personal experience, I am an MIT alumnus and will not be tolerate the diversity and community fostered by institutions like MIT (and its fraternity system) should be celebrated.

Jennie LaMonte

ISSUES IN COLUMN SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED

Column by Erik S. Balsley

For the past two weeks, the opinion pages of The Tech have focused on the response to the column by Stacey E. Blau ’98 (“Hypocritical Fraternities Embarrass MIT,” Feb. 25) and the number of responses it has been receiving, which is expected to be seen as more people get involved in the column.

It is to be expected and may not be such a bad thing. However, what about the issues raised in both the column and the plethora of responses to it? Although many people, including me, may have questioned the writings of the column, it has managed to shed light upon several issues that most undergraduates recognize, but rarely acknowledge.

I know dormitory residents and fraternity members. I have been to parties at both. I have gotten drunk at both. I have chosen not to drink at both. I realize several generalizations made in the column were sometimes true, but not always. I do not mean to imply that everyone lived the same way. But characterizing campus life in this way raised several major issues. Alcohol misuse, friendship, brotherhood, and the separation of the campus were all issues that were raised by the column and its responses.

Instead of hiding from groups that people had problems with or didn’t understand, I think they should try to look at their own educational purpose. If students do not address these issues and help develop solutions to them, the administration will most likely develop a solution for us.

As a participant in Leadershape ’95 (for the Undergraduate Association), I do have some concerns about the program, but overall I found it to be a worthwhile experience. While many of the classes and workshops left me not overly impressed, I was amazed at the diversity of those around me.

Sixty people from across campus organizations from dorms, fraternities, the UA, the Interfraternity Council, the Panhellenic Association, the Dormitory Council, the National Society of Black Engineers, the Black Students Union, and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers were stuck on a small island in the middle of Boston Harbor for three weeks to see if the campus would be able to survive. It was a disaster, but it turned out to be a great educational experience.

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Dorm Dining Must Be Important Priority for Institute

Column by A. Arif Husain

The dining system at MIT is by far the most deplorable aspect of student life. It must be overhauled. The community has recognized this fact to some extent, but the threat of becoming overly bogged down in the minutiae of a new plan looms. The densely packed pages of the dining review working group's comprehensive Worldwide Web site bear witness to this fact.

Such a vastly diverse body of opinion reflected among the student body has been a perennial scapegoat for an indecisive administration. Typically, it is politically necessary to cover all bases. Decisions are molded against the baseline for an indecisive. Dining halls must be reinstated where appropriate, but less specifically, dining together on campus must be an objective as specific and requisite as living together.

Amid the boil of ideas, the Institute must remain focused on its professed goals. There are implicit reasons behind the pairing of housing and food in a single office, reasons which extend from the Institute’s status as a residential institution. Some universities exist like others: Students live in scattered apartments and attend classes but take care of the rest of their personal matters. MIT is not one of these. Residence on campus sets the stage for a very different level of academic and social interaction compared to non-residential schools. Dining is an equal partner in the development of such a campus personality.

Presently, it is not treated with such regard. My last semester, like the semesters before it, was marked by more than a few dozen pots of pasta and more than a few hundred bowls of cereal. Even more than the bad case of culinary ennui I suffered, it is the memory of having eaten most of those bowls of Total or qui— in the quiet of my own room or perhaps while loitering in the nearby hallway that strikes a bad chord.

Eating became a chore so irritating that I recall avoiding it until hunger made a strong enough case. Besides the time investment to buy groceries, cook, eat, and clean up, the food was dull and the experience was generally not a thrill. The nearby Aramark-run convenience store was always a frequented night spot, but Snapple and Tostitos only go so far. Something was clearly missing.

I propose that the Institute look to its near-by Massachusetts Avenue neighbor for a successful model. Harvard claims one of the largest collegiate dining systems in the country, with all of its undergraduates guaranteed three meals a day. Harvard dining halls operate in every residence house and are the social core of each facility. The daily menu is the same all over campus, and the food service is respectively diverse and all-you-can-eat.

Having spent a few months downstream, I must admit that the cuisine is not always fantastic, but it’s generally not bad, and as my Harvardite high school buddy put it, “It’s comforting to know that it’s there.”

Dining space presently exists in Next House, MacGregor House, Burton-Conner House, Baker House, and McCormick Hall. The ones that are not open (all but Next’s and Baker’s are closed) should be reopened. Walker Memorial and Lodwell Food Court should also be improved to create a more effective and usable system. Most of the aforementioned dormitory dining halls were closed not too many years ago because of poor student turnout — the result of poor planning, bad management, and bad service. My optimism prevents me from seeing such attributes recurring in a well-thought-out reinstatement. The dining mandate is one that the Institute is well within its charge to make. It should not fail.

Certainly, MIT is a unique place and should not be slapped with a system that works some place else. The details of a new policy must account for MIT’s oddly linear campus setup and varied student hours influenced by lab work and athletics. It should be mandatory, not forced — a privilege not an infliction. Like any other new policy, a new dining plan should be enacted toward the next application year and be made optional for current students. Students should consider it in their decision to matriculate, just as they consider many other aspects of what MIT has to offer.

The next five years must serve as a transition stage into a richer and more pleasant lifestyle. What is important in the end is a strong commitment to include dining as a staple — a commitment that is as yet unmade.

The dining review working group must not fail in this task when it presents its final report next month.

A. Arif Husain '97, former opinion editor of The Tech, is currently living in Gainesville, Fla.

To: Members of the MIT Community

From: The Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs

Last year on May 15th the establishment of the Arthur C. Smith Award was announced. The first recipient will be named at the Awards Convocation on May 14th. This Award which honors the service to MIT by Professor Arthur C. Smith is to be given

"to a member of the MIT faculty for meaningful contributions and devotion to undergraduate student life."

Nominations for the Award, in a brief letter describing the candidates’ qualifications, should be sent or dropped off by Friday, March 28 to:

The Arthur C. Smith Award Committee
c/o Dean Robert M. Randolph - RM 7-133

For further information please call Dean Randolph at 253-4052.
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The Dome Cafe is open till 4pm

Buy a cup of coffee
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the same week and receive a FREE cup on Friday!

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Use your MIT Card for fast, efficient, convenient service.
Institute Plans to Modernize Many Building 2 Classrooms

By Christopher M. R. Razeck

As part of an effort to modernize the Institute’s teaching environment, 10 classrooms in Building 2 will be renovated this summer.

Provost Joel Moses PhD ’67, who chairs the Committee for Review of Space Planning, announced the project at the faculty meeting on Feb. 19.

"The faculty were unanimous in their view that we ought to upgrade the classrooms," said Chair of the Faculty Lawrence S. Bacow ’72. "Lots of people wanted to see this happen, and lots of people helped." All MIT classrooms will eventually be evaluated, and nearly three dozen rooms have already been scheduled for renovations, Moses said. Most of the rooms scheduled to be refitted have received little maintenance in recent years beyond periodic repainting and light fixture replacements.

"We intend to continue the renovations in future summers," Moses said. The planned renovations include providing lecturers with computer workstations for multimedia presentations, new heating and air conditioning, modern chalkboards, new furniture, and new lighting fixtures. Two of the classrooms will provide network access at each desk, making it easier for students to use laptops in class.

Students pleased with plans

Most students welcomed news of the renovations. "Of all the classrooms we’ve attended classes in, the ones in Building 2 are the oldest and most run-down," said Sarah W. Suh ’99.

"It will be great to have new furniture; it makes classes more comfortable and provides a studying environment comparable to the libraries for students to use," said Thomas D. Rikert ’98. The contrast between Room 26-100 and 10-250 was cited by some students as an example of the difference modernization can make in teaching.

"I don’t know if the changes will make us much of a difference for the smaller classrooms as they would for the large lecture halls, but it will definitely be better than what we have now," said Mani S. Mahboub ’00. Other students felt the computer connections for laptops were not necessarily that important. "I only know one person who uses a laptop in class, and he bought it only a few weeks ago," said Jeffrey C. Gore ’99.

Professor introduces plan

Professor of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences Leigh H. Royden, who taught a section of Physics 1 (8.01) in the fall, provided the impetus for the refitting.

At the September Faculty Policy Committee meeting, Royden noted that many classrooms, especially those used for freshman recitation sections, were in need of significant renovations.

"Other members of the committee agreed and we decided we would try to do something about it," Bacow said.

Since the renovations are scheduled to take place during the summer term, no loss of classroom space during the academic year is expected, Moses said.

The plans signal a renewal of Project 2000, an ongoing renovation initiative started by the late Margaret L. A. MacVicar, former dean for undergraduate education.

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Intel Open House

Tuesday, March 11, 1997, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Student Center, Mezzanine Lounge, 3rd Floor
(Drop by for even a few minutes to enter raffle and meet recruiters informally one-on-one)

Dress: very casual ("come as you are")

Top 5 reasons to drop by the Intel Open House on March 11:

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4) You may be invited to an interview at an Intel site
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- Other computer products will be raffled throughout the day (YOU MUST BE PRESENT to win these prizes)
- Intel recruiters will sign up eligible candidates for MIT campus interviews to take place on Wednesday, March 12 (To sign up for a campus interview, you must come to the Intel Open House; MIT will NOT sign you up for an Intel interview)
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- Some Intel recruiters may extend job offers on the spot for positions that start sometime in 1997

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Better sound through research.
Junior Finds Security Flaw in Microsoft Internet Explorer

By Stuart Jackson

Christian R. Rioux '98, a junior majoring in computer science, discovered a bug in Microsoft's Internet Explorer World Wide Web browser Friday, the third major flaw in the program found this week.

Rioux made the discovery Friday morning, following the announcement of similar problems last Monday by students at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Thursday by students at the University of Maryland.

The flaw "allows a malicious Web page to automatically run any program on the user's hard drive," which means that users of Internet Explorer can execute any program of their choosing, Rioux said.

The feature uses scripts that are parsed by the "Internet Wizard," a Windows 95 program that helps configure Internet settings. These scripts have "undocumented options to execute programs" and can do "anything imaginable you can execute from a DOS prompt," Rioux said.

To correct the security flaws, Microsoft posted a patch on its Web page that, when installed, causes Internet Explorer to prompt the user before executing programs.

Rioux has also posted a third-party bug fix on his Web site, located at http://web.mit.edu/crioux/www/ie/index.html.

Bug the result of poor design

"When the WPI group announced the first flaw, Rioux realized that Internet Explorer had the potential for a wide variety of security problems because of its size and wide-ranging capabilities," he said. "Internet Explorer is quick-ly turning into an operating system."

The WPi bug was "one instance of a particular type of bug, and Microsoft seemed only to patch that particular instance," Rioux said. "If I found it in half an hour, I'm sure that someone else would have and not done the right thing with it."

He said, however, that "you can't expect to catch any more fish with this bug after the publicity associated with it."

"Rioux expressed dissatisfaction with Microsoft's "careless attitude" when releasing new software, citing problems in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Internet Explorer, he said. Microsoft shouldn't do a better job of figuring out how programs can be misused before releasing them, he said. "Sometimes I think that the people at Microsoft should take 6.033 [Computer Systems Engineering] again."

Since the discovery, Rioux's story has been reported by the Boston Globe, CNN, CNET, and other electronic media. "I might survive all of this publicity, but I don't know if my inbox will," said Frank Dabek, who contributed to the reporting of this story.

POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between Feb. 27 and March 6:

Feb. 27: Bldg. E51, laptop stolen, $1,500; Bldg. E52, books stolen, $100.

Feb. 28: Random Hall, noise complaint; Student Center, David Kelly, of 240 Allbury Street, taken into custody on outstanding warrant; Next House, complaint of taxi blowing its horn; Bldg. E38, malicious destruction; Kappa Sigma, ring stolen, $600; Bldg. 4, key chain, bicycle stolen, $300; Bldg. 9, wallet stolen, later recovered; Kappa Sigma, fidget.

March 1: Student Center, Robert E. Toney, of 777 Debart Ave., Newton, arrested for disorderly conduct and other related charges; Lobby 7, graffiti; Ashdown House, malicious damage.

March 2: East Campus, obscene phone calls; Walker Memorial, malicious damage; Bldg. 2, wallet stolen, $20.

March 3: Bldg. 3, obscene e-mail, New House, wheel cover stolen, $50; Bldg. 7, personal items stolen, $5; Bldg. 36, laptop stolen, $2,500; Bldg. 3, annoying phone calls; Student Center, leather jacket stolen, $750; Bldg. 36, annoying phone calls; Bldg. 3, CD player stolen, $50; Student Center, wallet stolen, $25.

March 4: Bldg. NW14, suspicious activity; Bldg. 7, wallet stolen, $5; McCormick Hall, annoying e-mail; Bldg. NW12, computer stolen, $4,000; Student Center 1 computer phone stolen, $125; 21 wall street, no cash.

March 5: Bldg. 20, water cooler stolen, $250; Dewey Library, purse stolen, $100.

hey kids! (and faculty & staff!!)

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March 14

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No experience necessary!
MIT Has Higher Self-help Than Other Universities

Tuition, from Page 1

income for the Institute," Hudson said.

Self-help level remains the same

"I think the levelling off of self-help levels is a wonderful message to students that the administration is concerned," Williams said. It is a "message of support and relief to students," she said.

Still, the self-help level expected of students at the Institute is still higher than that of comparable institutions. MIT ranked highest in self-help level in a comparison of 10 peer institutions, including the Ivy League colleges, the California Institute of Technology, and Stanford University, Williams said. Cornell University's self-help level, which was the second highest in the group, is $7,270.

"Self-help at MIT has always been higher because of better employment opportunities and a higher wage," Hudson said.

The high percentage of self-help level to tuition is a result of a decade-old policy regarding tuition and self-help increase, Williams said. The administration then decided to keep percentage increases in tuition lower than the percentage increases in self-help, she said. "This year represented the opportunity to make an important correction."

Despite this year's trend, there is "no expectation that self-help can be held level" in future years, Williams said. However, there will be "efforts to moderate the rate of increase as much as possible."

Last year, the self-help level increased $450, or 5.5 percent. "Definitely, the administration is listening to student concerns," said Undergraduate Association President Richard Y. Lee '97. "I was at the Academic Council meeting when they decided [on the increase]. As an undergraduate, the strongest case I could make was not to raise the self-help level."

Lee said he felt Vest considered the advice in keeping the self-help level constant. In any case, "it's very difficult to earn that kind of money."

Grant money expected to increase

Along with tuition increases, MIT-based scholarship grants are expected to increase to $27.7 million, a $1.5 million rise from this year.

Total funding for grants to needy students comes from four sources: the federal government, outside private scholarships, MIT's endowment, and MIT's unrestricted funds. In the current year, revenue from MIT's endowment and unrestricted funds accounted for 77 percent of total grant money.

"Since the other sources are fixed regardless of the student budget, the increase in costs to MIT associated with holding self-help constant is paid for from additional unrestricted funds," Hudson said.

This year, 59 percent of undergraduates had eligibility for some support under MIT's formula.

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Note: ADL is interviewing candidates for other positions within the Technology and Product Development and Management Consulting Directorates. Candidates interested in those positions should apply separately for those positions.

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POSITION AVAILABLE IN THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE AS AN ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

The Office of Admissions is now accepting applications for the position of Admissions Counselor. This is a one-year full-time position beginning in July, 1997. Duties include:
• conducting question and answer sessions
• interviewing prospective applicants
• visiting secondary schools
• coordinating MIT student involvement in reception area
• participating in admissions committee decisions

Applications are available in the Admissions Office, 3-108, with Sharon Lim-Hing and should be returned no later than April 1, 1997.

Note: This is for 1997 (January or June) MIT graduates.

Priscilla C. Fonseca '00 plays a trumpet solo in "Rose Variations" at the MIT Concert Band concert in Kresge Auditorium on Sunday.
Dammed for Life

by Jessica Wu

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Well, what do you think?

Then I went home and took a nap.

There's something familiar about this guy...

Off Course

by Hugo

Give me your bag of comics and warn this

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The next morning

I think it's more than 400

I'll get more

I'm full

Rhino Man

by Zachary Emig

This time there's no off button for you to stumble upon.

Now, I think things will be heating up!
Four Legs Good, Eight Legs Bad: Clone Prompts Doubts

Cloning, from Page 1

"I had no real idea we were so close to this kind of accomplishment," Jaenisch said. "It's a very emotional issue." And there are other problems involving human applications. The worst-case scenario is growing a clone as a human repair kit, Jaenisch said. Science fiction has long entomated the chilling idea of keeping clones as personalized organ donors. But "that is pretty repulsive for many people," Jaenisch said. Wilmut and many other scientists agree.

Still, there are many possible benefits that do not involve human experimentation. "I could see some real big advantages," Jaenisch said. These include growing specific types of cells — marrow for leukemia patients, for example — in culture, that could later be used for transplants.

Science is still a ways away from being able to alter genes in cells like the one that made Dolly. Once that is possible, though, a whole new set of applications appear on the horizon.

It is within reason, for instance, to imagine raising pigs that had no immune systems, and therefore could be used for liver and other organ transplants without fear of organ rejection, Jaenisch said. Another possible application would be to insert genes into cows or sheep that would make their milk richer in certain proteins or life-saving drugs.

Overseas technology difficult

But these possibilities also beg an important question: How can this new technology be guaranteed to be used safely and ethically? The hope, say scientists and students alike, is to see with both the government and scientists themselves. Last week, President Clinton banned federal funding of human cloning research and further asked privately funded scientists to refrain from such research for the foreseeable future.

"I think the government and scientific communities are doing the right thing in staging a moratorium on human cloning until we better understand what is going on," Tjepkema said.

"This is the same thing that happened when recombinant DNA techniques were discovered in the 1970s," said Anna E. Lee '97, a former member of the Jaenisch lab. "A cooling off period should help us put things in perspective as well as give us the chance to figure out what is going on here."

"The issue for the public will continue to be human cloning and the emotional issues which this brings up," Housman said. Despite the public's distaste for pursuing this kind of research on people, "there can be no guarantees that such a direction will never be pursued by any scientists in any part of the world at any point in the future. A society-wide ban on the use of this methodology for human cloning is likely, and is my hope... that this ban will be adhered to in all parts of the world."

"I think we just need to be very careful about where the technology will take society," Lee said. "Some technologies just aren't worth having in terms of their cultural or anthropological consequences," Lee said. "And I definitely don't think that we should allow a few scientists who are excited about technical details to guide us into this new era of genetic information. Most scientists I know just pay lip service to the ethical consequences of research."

But Housman remains hopeful. "We as scientists bear a duty to inform society as effectively as we can with respect to issues such as this one," he said.

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Students React to Proposals On Intermediate Grading Plan

UA, from Page 1

advice to faculty for advising, and to students to see how they're doing," he said.

The committee is currently reviewing the potential effects on grade point averages that could be incurred as a result of the intermediate grades, Lagace said. "We are going to compare the GPAs of people now and see how much the [average] GPA of the institute would change, and also how people's GPAs would change."

"Anything is possible," as a result of this review, Lagace said. "We could make plus-minus grades external, or we could keep plus-minus grades internal...for advising purposes only." Intermediate grades could also be discontinued, Lagace said.

Regardless of any policy change, the intermediate grades issued during the experimentation period will remain internal, Lagace said.

Student reaction mixed on issue

Some students at the UA meeting said that their impressions of internal grades depended on the type of class involved.

"Among the faculty, views tend to range toward [appreciating] inter-
degers where the subject is quantitative," said Next House Representative to the UA Jeremy D. Sher '99. "In subjects where less quantitative grading is done, people seem to be less in favor of intermediate grading."

The UA's Committee on Educational Policy has been talking to faculty members and students about their opinions of the intermediate grading system, said Louis J. Nervegna '99, a member of the committee.

The CEP surveyed a sampling of Baker House residents last weekend to find out their opinions on the system. Of 182 responses received, 69, or 60 percent, were against any type of intermediate grading system, while 40 percent of those surveyed were in favor of some type of intermediate grading system, Nervegna said.

The committee also came up with positive and negative impacts of an intermediate grading system, Nervegna said.

"At MIT, you have people applying for summer jobs...with just a few terms of grades" because of the freshman pass/fail system, Nervegna said. Intermediate grading would provide additional information to potential employers.

On the other hand, intermediate grades "would cause a lot of stress for students," Nervegna said. "People who were getting B's (grades) would be going crazy trying to keep from getting B- (grades)."

Financial allocations approved

In addition to the plus and minus discussion, the UA approved allocations made by the Finance Board for the disbursement of the UA's portion of the one-time $40,000 allocation for small student groups.

The funds, pledged last fall by Provost Joel Moses PhD '67, were to be distributed by a Central Allocations Board. After the UA and Graduate Student Council objected to the board, the board was never created. The funds will be used by groups for capital expenditures and large events, said UA Treasurer Russell S. Light '98. "The restrictions are pretty large on what you can do," he added.

Several UA representatives questioned $3,500 in allocations to the men's and women's ultimate frisbee teams.

"The stipulation we placed is that these would be materials that they keep" for the group and not for individual members, Light said.

Unlike other funding allocations, priority was given to those requesting capital expenditures and larger events, Light said.

Committee nominations approved

The UA also approved the nominations to faculty committees proposed by the UA Nominations Committee.

This year, more applicants applied to faculty committees than in previous years, according to Nomcomm Chair Kevin J. Lee '97. "More people were serious" about serving on a committee this year than in previous years.

Because of the high number of strong applicants, Nomcomm nominated more individuals than the number of spaces available, Lee said. Each chair will then interview the candidates during the process.

While the number of additional applicants is good for the system in general, several applicants were nonetheless nominated to multiple committees because of a shortage of qualified applicants, Lee said.

In a separate matter, the UA failed to appoint two members to serve on the Institute Dining Review Advisory Group.

"I'm not supposed to be representing students on this group," said Sher, who serves on the working group. "I'm supposed to be impartial." The UA needs representation in order to make the views of students made on issues like mandatory meal plans and house dining, he added.

Dining Advisory Board Meeting

Lobdell Food Court Dining Room

FREE DINNER

All are welcome, please join us.

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March 12 & 13

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EA Sports Returns from Grave, Picks Kansas for Title

Column by Bo Light

It’s not easy to read M10’s oldest and largest newspaper these days. First, “Red Meat” came along, caus- ing a wave of complaints from some angry and prejudiced fans, then came the glory days of “Jim’s Journal.” Then, we discovered that people on campus are judged not by their character, but by their address.

Finally, just when you thought it was safe to pick Texas, March Madness returned, and with it came all of the bad picks, bad commentary, and bad jokes you thought were gone forever. That’s right, kids, EA Sports is back to uncoat this divided campus (well, at least the fraction that watches basketball). Welcome, one and all, to the Fifth Annual NCAA Tournament Preview Extravaganza.

At this point, most tournament previews complain about either a) the teams that weren’t selected for the tournament, b) the seedings, or c) Dick Vitale. Well, in answer to all of these complaints: a) Michigan/Syracuse/outhwest and all of the teams that weren’t selected for previews complain about either a) Preview Extravaganza! b) the bottom half of this bracket to keep the region the Southeast is the toughest region top to bottom. Top seed Kansas should survive, but the other teams in the top half of the bracket are in for some battles. Maryland could have its hands full with College of Charleston, and Arizona, well, is Arizona. The bottom half looks to favor Duke, but any of these teams are capable of pulling the big upset. Well, maybe not Murray State. Teams to Watch: The aforementioned College of Charleston is a wild card. Georgia came within a game of the Southeastern Conference title (yeah, so they got blown out in the final, so what?) and didn’t get a third seed for nothing. Big Upset: South Alabama over Arizona U-S-A U-S-A! Sweet 16: Kansas, Duke, Georgia, Maryland.

Regional Champ: Kansas’ inside game will overpower any other team in this region. Jayhawks to the Final Four. Midwest Region

Despite losing their last game to Wisconsin (to the eternal delight of Badger fans), Minnesota grabbed the top seed in the Midwest. They look good, but don’t be fooled, folks: Big 10 is a paper tiger. The weak top seed, combined with some very good teams in the lower slots, makes this a wide-open division. Teams to Watch: Michigan was on the short list of contenders early in the season, as was Clemson. Either of these teams could make things interesting.

Big Upset: Saint Louis is the hometown pick, but don’t hold your breath. Sweet 16: Minnesota, UCLA, Clemson, Michigan. Regional Champ: UCLA. Hard to believe a team that lost by 50-some points to Stanford would be in the Final Four, isn’t it?

West Region

Once again, the West is the dumping ground for the good teams that just didn’t fit in the other regions. Kentucky fans may be hollering about having their team sent to the Left Coast, but they should quiet down when they realize that the Wildcats have an easy road to the regional final. In the bottom half of the bracket, every 2nd team fan should be drooling over the potential matchup of Utah and Wake Forest in the Sweet 16. Finally, we will see who

the best player in the country is ( Hint: it’s Tim Duncan). Stanford has been a team to watch ever since blowing out UCLA early in the season. Not that they’ve done much since.

Big Upset: Oklahoma over Stanford in the first round. Just because they’re a Team to Watch doesn’t mean you can beat them up.

Sweet 16: Kent, Utah, Wake Forest, Benton College. Regional Champ: Keith VanZ. Here may be able to get the Utah past Wake Forest, but it would take three of him to beat Kentucky. I don’t think they’ll be able to come in time.

We will be back with the Final Four overview after these words from our sponsor.

Zittel’s (v.) — to succeed in a stylish manner; “North Carolina zkinned N.C. State last night.” Schmwing (v.) — to fail ignominiously; “Traylor really schlepped that free throw.”

Final Four

SEC fans would love to see a third South Carolina—Kentucky matchup to see if the Gamecocks can win three in a row from the ‘Cats. It’s a nice thought, but I don’t think the Gamecocks can win three in a row from Kentucky. That’s not gonna happen. Kentucky, on the other hand, has more than enough tools to beat the Bruins.

In the final, you can pick KU to win the championship and be right no matter who wins. However, EA Sports can’t get off that easy. This game is a toss-up. Both teams have stars (Jayson Williams, Rick Pitino). Both teams have great coaches (Roy Williams, Rick Pitino). Kansas is 3-1, but Kentucky is the defending champ and playing its best. Kansas is the more experienced team, but Kentucky knows how to win the big game. Kentucky is the deeper team and plays better defense, but Kansas has the tools to break the press.

In the end, the game will come down to Raef LaFrentz and Scot Pollard, the inside game that Kentucky has no answer for. It’s a win/lose game, but Kansas is Number One.

And that’s that. Enjoy the games, and look for EA Sports tickets continue on an interstate near you when I remember to write it) basis throughout the term.

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it will run from March 19 to 28.

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Oppportunity Fair, Saturday, April 12

INFORMATION ONLY

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It will run from March 19 to 28.

The future we see for you is to boldest. We will see you on a part of sunglass
**March Madness Has Begun**

Run your own NCAA tournament contest:
Before Thursday have your friends give you a copy of this chart with their picks and keep track of their performances over the next three weeks.
We recommend awarding 1 point for every first-round game correct, 2 for the Sweet 16, 4 for the Elite Eight, 7 for the Final Four, 11 for the semifinals, and 16 for the Championship. Make the total number of points in the Championship game the tiebreaker if necessary. See who takes it all.

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**Division I Men’s Championship**

**FINAL FOUR**
East Championship March 22 & 23
Syracuse, New York

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Southeast Championship March 21 & 23
Birmingham, Alabama

Midwest Championship March 20 & 22
San Antonio, Texas

Midwest Championship March 20 & 22
San Jose, California

National Championship
March 31
Indianapolis
Sports

Hockey Places Second in Championship Playoffs

By Hansh Okawa

The men’s ice hockey team finished third in the 1997 National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship playoffs. The team had full of winning the championship with a close loss to the University of New Hampshire State Blue Devils on March 11.

The day before, the team upset a local powerhouse, Bryant College. On February 26, the Engineers, captained by John and Steve Schlueter ’97 were again unable to convert.

 minutos remaining in the second but had the edge in the first period. MIT lost 6-5 and tied 2-2.

for all three events. For the fifth and final event, the University of Vermont was first with 183.650. MIT’s final total to 183.650.

Individual team members also had a chance to improve the-quality of the Griffin had a hat trick, and the team knew that MIT was still alive. IT had a double-overtime win

BU stepped up in the second game and had an increased intensity as well. Rad Roberts scored key head to a 2-1 tie. Two minutes later, Donaldson broke the tie with six seconds left on the penalty.

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The Engineers answered with four seconds into the penalty, taking the puck and putting them ahead 3-1. The Engineers, not willing to give up a victory in such a close race, pulled together and gave outstanding performances in the final events. The Engineers were able to secure their victory with an outstanding 32.650 on the parallel bars, off the team record 32.70.

By Raymond Szeto

The men’s gymnastics team won their third place placements in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Championships held at the University of Nebraska on Saturday, March 11.

The team started the day in fourth place after a solid performance in the first event of the day, the floor exercise. The Engineers were able to capture an eleventh place total with only .875 points, barely ahead of Western Michigan.

The last three remaining events were a struggle for the Engineers to hold on their lead. On the fourth event, UVM challenged MIT for third place with a strong showing in the pommel horse, but a poor balance beam routine and a flaw on the floor exercise by the Engineers was enough to put them in third place.

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