Around 1,900 Offered Admission To Next Year's Freshman Class

By Frank Dabek
class of 2001

Approximately 1,900 acceptance letters were mailed to potential members of the Class of 2001 Wednesday, launching the admissions process into its final stage.

A lower number of women, 41 percent, was admitted this year when compared with the previous two years. The total number of applications was also less this year than last, but more students are predicted to accept their offers this year, said Dean of Admissions Michael C. Behnke. Further, statistics were incomplete as of last night. Roughly 24 percent of applicants accepted were accepted this year, nearly equivalent to last year when 1,894 applications were accepted.

The number of applications was down this year from last year's total of 8,022. The number of applications was lower at nearly every Ivy League college, Behnke said.

"This decrease can be attributed to the proliferation of binding early decision programs," Behnke said. "We'll have to look into what the effect of [early decision] is," Behnke said.

Early decision programs require students to attend their first choice school if admitted early. This may cause students to apply to fewer colleges, Behnke said.

Female admissions down

Of the prospective students in the applicant pool this year, 41 percent are female. That statistic is down from last year's total of 43 percent and the record 45 percent total two years ago.

Behnke said that the Admissions Office is trying to increase female admissions to MIT. "Applications from women increased dramatically in the past three or four years," Behnke said. However, "for a primarily engineering school, 40 percent is quite spectacular," he said.

The number of underrepresented minorities in the applicant pool remained about constant at 18 percent.

The number of international students admitted this year was down to 105 from 115 last year. MIT enforces a quota on the number of international students it accepts and lowered the number this year after exceeding the quota last year, Behnke said.

Predicted yield slightly higher

This year's yield, the number of students who decide to attend MIT, was predicted by Behnke to be 56 percent. This number is higher than the yields in previous years.

This is another result of early decision programs, Behnke said. MIT admitted 525 students under the early action program this year, more than twice the number of greater numbers of early admissions was common at most of MIT's competitor colleges, he said.

Statistics on mean SAT, class rank, and other categories were not available as of last night.

Microsoft Word Macro Viruses Infect Campus Computers

By Thomas R. Kario

The viruses affect all computer platforms that run Microsoft Word, infecting both PC-compatible and Macintosh computers. Although the possibility of such viruses being written was first noted by researchers in 1989, the first time such a virus was seen "in the wild" was in 1995, when the Word Macro Virus Computer Security Association. The increasing power of macro languages in pro-
 looting, lawlessness rule albania's streets

here in the hometown of albania's new first lady, gangsters and young men have been having a field day emptying the central bank of its money - the salaries of hospital employees, teachers and state workers.

on thursday, police finally stationed an armored van in front of the ramshackle building, ending - at least for the day - the looting that had been on the third floor.

in slate-roof homes on the medieval streets that wind up from the bank, guards rounded up living room tables, avoiding go out at night and shared the latest stories of dire happenings.

"criminals," said a religious worker as gunfire popped all around. "they are in charge here."

gjokaster, about 90 miles south of tirana, was the last city in southern albania to keep up in a chaotic insurrection that is part political, part lawlessness. it remains tense and shows that the conflict in southern albania, and in much of the country, is far from settled.

the government and its opponents are scrambling to find a way to restore order, to stem the violence and to construct a government that will have a chance to win the support of the international community in order to demonstrate that normalcy is returning to the capital, tirana.

house votes to ban late-term abortion procedure

in a vote that was emotionally wrenching for many members, the house thursday approved a measure banning a specific late-term abortion procedure with enough support to override an expected veto by president clinton.

the 295-136 vote came after more than two hours of debate in which supporters of the ban likened the procedure to infanticide, described the evidence of fetal life many times on the house floor and accused abortion-rights advocates of misleading statements about the frequency and circumstances of the procedure.

"this is not about that," said rep. harry hyde, r-ill., chairman of the house judiciary committee.

opponents argued that politicians have no place in deciding a woman's right to choose.

weather

spring uncoupled

by gerard roe

current maps show a weak cyclone responsible for thursday evening's rain existing out of the area, meaning mostly sunny early morning skies. another small system is tracking along right behind it, however, which will bring overcast skies during the afternoon and rain showers or more showers later, mainly during the afternoon and evening beginning in the west.

the showers look set to continue through to early saturday morning when there will be some drizzle throughout the area with a few isolated showers. saturday morning will be a day of transition as a cold front will pass through the area.

saturday:

today: mostly sunny, high in the upper 70s. winds will be light and variable.

tonight: light to moderate rain continuing. low 35°f (2°c).

sunday: mostly cloudy. high in the mid 40s (7°c).
Small Tobacco Firm Settles 22 Suits, Admits Wrongdoing

By John Schwartz and Sandra Torry

The smallest of the nation's major tobacco companies settled 22 state lawsuits Thursday by admitting that smoking causes cancer and other diseases, that nicotine is addictive and that the industry targets underage smokers — concessions that could have repercussions for the entire industry.

Liggett Group Inc. also agreed to release thousands of pages of internal documents that could provide damaging evidence in lawsuits still pending against other cigarette makers and to provide Liggett employees to testify as witnesses in those cases.

Minnesota Attorney General Hubert H. Humphrey III compared the Liggett action to "turning state's evidence," and explained, "this is a little like hosting a street drug dealer in a California drug cartel." "I believe this is the beginning of the end of this conspiracy of his and deception," said Arizona Attorney General Grant Woods at a late afternoon news conference where the agreement was announced. "Someone is finally telling the truth." Breaking for the second time with the tobacco industry's decades-long united front, Liggett also agreed to beef up the warning labels on its products and pay 25 percent of pretax profits to the states for the next 25 years. The money would be used to help pay for the costs of treating smokers' health problems and for anti-smoking programs, which is what the original lawsuits had sought.

Before the deal was even signed, the other major tobacco companies announced the agreement and raced to court in Winston-Salem, N.C., where they won a court order temporarily blocking Liggett from releasing documents covered by other companies' attorney-client privilege. Liggett immediately released a handful of documents that it determined were not covered by attorney-client privilege. Liggett also released thousands of pages of protected documents to courts around the country hearing the state suits.

If a judge determines that the documents show that the papers show that crimes or fraud had occurred, the legal protections for those papers could be broken. Attorney General Mike Moore of Mississippi was confident that the North Carolina injunction would not prevent the release of documents to courts in other states — "that dog won't hunt," he joked.

Zaire Reportedly Profiting by Selling Arms to Angolan Rebels

By James Rupert

WASHINGTON

Although Zaire is at war and neighboring Angola is struggling to preserve peace, close relatives and aides of Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko have been smuggling hundreds of tons of weapons to former rebels in Angola for huge profits, according to Zairians, foreign diplomats and intelligence reports.

The Mobutu camp's rearmament of Angola's UNITA movement is contributing to Zaire's military collapse in the face of a five-month-old civil war. UNITA, led by Jonas Savimbi, has spent the last year demobilizing its fighters and surrendering its weapons, though the government has accused it of retaining its strongest forces, and efforts to form a unity government repeatedly have fallen short of their goal.

For months, Mobutu's aides have been purchasing loads of weapons for UNITA on international arms markets, while Zairian army commanders have complained openly that the government is giving it few weapons and supplies to fight rebels in the east who are seeking to oust Mobutu. The arm chief of staff, Gen. Mabelle Lieko, told reporters Wednesday that the government should let the army take over arms purchases and distribution. Recently, some of Mabelle's troops elbowed their way to enter Zairian, particularity blocking Liggett from releasing documents covered by other companies' attorney-client privilege. Liggett also released thousands of pages of protected documents to courts around the country hearing the state suits.

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Greenspan Gives Strong Signal of Interest Rate Hike

WASHINGTON

In oblique but relatively transparent terms, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan sent his strongest signal to date Thursday that the Fed is on the verge of boosting interest rates.

With underlying indicators raising new concerns that the expanding economy could no longer fend off inflationary pressures, Greenspan's comments to the congressional Joint Economic Committee may signal that the Fed is poised to hike interest rates as early as next week.

Greenspan, in the view of many analysts, has been inching to raise rates for some time. Gary Schlossberg, a senior economist at Wells Capital Management of San Francisco, said the chairman's latest testimony "sounded like a dress rehearsal for a post-tightening press conference.""The Fed's policy-making Federal Open Market Committee will have an opportunity to raise rates when it meets next Tuesday. The federal funds rate, which is the interest that banks charge each other on overnight loans, is 5.25 percent, and an increase to 5.5 percent, a likely target, could ripple throughout the financial community and boost all market-driven short-term rates."

In his regularly scheduled testimony to the Joint Economic Committee, Greenspan said the U.S. economic performance had been "quite favorable." But, in a warning of inflationary pressures, he said: "Demand has been growing quite strongly in recent months."
Frisbee Clubs and Other Recreational Activities

People just can’t accept change. It’s as simple as that. From the time of the early agricultural societies, humans have thrived on their reliance on the weather, the seasons, and the growing cycle of plants. For example, the pot scrubber gets over $10 an hour. In addition, the hard work of the pot scrubber is essential to the operation of the dining facilities. Without the pot scrubber, the operation of the dining facilities would be severely impaired. The pot scrubber is a valuable member of the food service team, and they should be respected for their hard work and dedication.”

Additionally, the pot scrubber is often underestimated by the general public. They are often seen as just a “grub” who cleans dishes, but their role in maintaining the cleanliness of the dining facilities is crucial. The pot scrubber is responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of the dining facilities, and without their hard work, the dining facilities would be unhygienic and unsanitary.

In conclusion, the pot scrubber is an integral part of the food service team. They are essential to the operation of the dining facilities, and their hard work and dedication should be respected and appreciated. They are valuable members of the food service team, and their contributions should not be underestimated.

Aramark Not to Blame for Dining Problems

All of the recent commentary has led me to the conclusion that the current food service situation is not very well informed on the workings of dining service at MIT and of food services in general. So let me make it clear that prior to August of last year I was very critical of Aramark. In fact I have never and will never have anything good to say about Aramark. There are several issues that are making it difficult for food services to function effectively.

In order for Aramark to get access to dining facilities, MIT must make them available to Aramark for continued use. MIT is pressuring for space, and requests to create new facilities are being continually rejected because it is expensive to build a new facility. The building process can be very time-consuming, especially when compared with the physical size of MIT. In fact, in some cases, buildings that have been abandoned are not being used because they are not being used. Similar arrangements are made for other departments as well.

Complicating matters further, MIT does not have mandatory meal plans. I do not know why MIT does not have a mandatory meal plan, as it would be a successful dining service that does not require some kind of a meal plan. Generally, a meal plan is an agreement that allows the university to sell food for a certain amount of money per week at a particular location. However, this agreement does not apply to all students, as not all students are required to purchase a meal plan. It is possible that the university is trying to make it easier for students to access food, and this agreement does not apply to all students.

Furthermore, these labor costs are exacerbated by the fact that the distribution of dining facilities throughout the campus is being reduced. Each hour a facility is kept functional costs more than the cost of maintaining the same facility. All universities of which I have some knowledge have fewer hours of operation and are more centralized in the locations of facilities, especially when compared with the physical size of MIT. In fact, in some cases, buildings that have been abandoned are not being used because they are not being used. Similar arrangements are made for other departments as well.

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Media’s Racial Stereotypes Prompted Lobby 7 Poster

Guest column by Alo C. Basu, Edson T. Miyamoto, Pallavi Naka, Parmida Prasarttongosoth, Alan L. Shihadeh, and Joaquin S. Terrones

Last week, the Asian Pacific American Caucus and the Committee for Social Justice put a poster up in Lobby 7 that posed the question: Is The Tech promoting anti-Asian stereotypes? We used a strip of the comic “Rhino Man” from March 7 and a World and Nation story to illustrate what was meant by “anti-Asian stereotypes” [“Empire State Gunman Acted Out Of Rage,” Feb 25]. One man was to get people to debate the issue.

The column by Stacey E. Blau ’98 [“Poster’s Claims About ‘Empire State Gunman’ Are Racist,” March 14] made clear that she did not understand what the poster was pointing out. Racist stereotypes are so prevalent that most people have become inured to them.

We did not disagree that the story about the man who shot seven people at the Empire State Building was memorable. Also, we do not necessarily think that pointing out the gunman’s national origin is an issue only because The Washington Post writer harbored racist sentiments with regard to Palestinian people. Even more disturbing to us was the sentence following the one that identified the gunman’s nationality: “Because of his nationality, the incident provoked initial speculation that the... terrorizing shooting... might be rooted in the nationalistic zealotry and terrorism that is a frequent offshoot of Middle Eastern political rivalries.” Blau finds nothing objectionable in the sweeping phrase “the terrorism that is a frequent offshoot of Middle Eastern political rivalries.” Perhaps this is because racist assumptions are so deeply ingrained in the mainstream press that people do not notice them any more. The fact that a whole region of the globe can be so solely indicted without any factual grounding and without so much as a raised eyebrow by Blau, the other Tech staff.

Science of Cloning No Different from Past Advances in Genetics

Husain, from Page 4

“Today a U.S. postal worker of Belgian origin opened fire, killing nine co-workers.” We leave it as an open question to The Tech and its readers whether this is routine or whether it is more often pointed out when the perpetrator is a person of color. We suspect that the gunman’s national origin was an issue only because The Washington Post writer harbored racist sentiments with regard to Palestinian people.

But in principle, selectively mating two animals is as egregious as selectively cloning one of them. Either way, you are meddling with a natural phenomenon, altering it to suit your purposes. Somehow, though I am told, forcing two showcase cats to copulate is more stupid than duplicating one in a petri dish.

Ethically, I don’t see much of a difference. I think I mentioned that people are stubborn. Unfortunately, they are also often pretty stupid. Ask the average Joe or Jane what their feelings are about recombinant DNA techniques, and most people are okay. Regardless, such techniques have been in full-force use in thousands of labs for a few decades now. They are responsible for myriad synthetic drugs such as insulin and growth hormone, as well as countless studies that have led to treatments for cancer, AIDS, and a host of other scientific advances. Wilmut’s cloning research is only an expansion on the same idea. So why the big fuss? Because Joe or Jane realizes neither the beauty nor the power of religating vector plasmids. Cloning, however, is the stuff of cartoons and big-time movies. Joe and Jane suddenly understand, to the dismay of the rest of us.

I suppose the severest disappointment is when Joe and Jane are Professor Jane and Professor Joe. Many researchers in the scientific community are equally hesitant, when it comes to the acceptance of cloning technology. I guess the days of men dying over their convictions are over, but I had at least hoped for a reasonable fight. I’m an equal opportunity fellow, so I don’t consider stupid researchers any less stupid than their non-academic peers. I just hope that the leaders in our community of science are stable enough to trust themselves with risky research. Otherwise, I think I’ll be turning in my lab coat.

THE TECH Page 5
Aramark Performs Well Despite Inherent Barriers

Torres, from Page 4

Aramark has to replace its dinnerware about twice a year. The costs of this gets into six figures and forced Networks to go from glass tumblers to paper cups. Aramark also has to pay around $50,000 a year for cash registers that provide the Department of Housing and Food Services with MIT Card transactions. Aramark has suggested point-of-sale machines, but nothing has come from this.

The community doesn’t realize that MIT, not Aramark, operates the MIT Card facilities. MIT has just asked Aramark to take care of some of the clerical work involved in changing student meal plans because it is beneficial to them to make meal plans change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This is because it is beneficial to them to make meal plans change convenient and efficient. This is because it is beneficial to them to make meal plans change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. This plan change convenient and efficient. 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MUSIC REVIEW

**Ben Folds: The up and coming hero of rock piano**

By Joel Rosenberg

Ben Folds makes Billy Joel look like a lounge act. With all of the gimmicks that bands go for these days, the guitarless piano-bass-drum trio Ben Folds Five (it sounds cooler than Ben Fold Three, according to the band) wins as the most original and most entertaining. You've never heard a piano sound like this, as Folds' drumming training comes through in the catchy tunes he bounces out on his baby grand.

Reminiscent of 80s pop, it has a definitely 90s feel and lyrics that should be official songs of MIT. The opening track "One Angry Dwarf and 200 Solemn Faces" on their sophomore album, *Whatever and Ever Amen*, tells it all — "Now I'm big and important/One angry dwarf and 200 solemn faces are you/If you really want to see me check the papers and the TV/Look's who's telling who to d**o/Kiss my ass, goodbye." As Folds says, "It's a revenge anthem." Perfect.

The whole album is great, and while not a complete departure from their self-titled first release, the songs are more introspective and restrained, telling stories of people you still don't know (much like the first album), but in a more subtle kind of way. The track "Brick" describes complications in a relationship in a style "that's what happened, and it sucks," instead of the more traditional "my life sucks because that's what happened."

Right out of that relatively depressing song is some humor from the band and then a rock-and-rolleque screamed count-off leading to "Song for the Dumped," which turns slightly less touching as Ben screams, "Give me my money back, you bitch." Don't worry — Ben's luck has improved since he recently got married.

"Cigarette" is a great Folds solo number, and "Steven's Last Night in Town" features the Klezmatics (clarinets are all too rare on rock and roll albums). Ben on the melodeica (like a harmonica except with a keyboard instead of lots of little holes), and another inexplicable plot without further explanation (easily found at http://www.fffweb.com).

As with their first album, they choose to open big and end mellow. "Evaporated" is "about loss" and leaves you waiting for their next record.

Putting out albums is only half the act, though, as they've been touring with Jewel, solo touring, and will be opening for Counting Crows for the next few weeks before hitting the clubs. There's no Boston date yet, but there will be if there's any justice in the world. The show is incredible, as Folds kicks the crap out of his piano by pounding it, jumping on it, walking over it, and generally abusing it while having a great time with the audience.

The band prides itself on not being cool. There are too many shiny bands out there, and their "matte finish" catches the ear just right. Ben's voice isn't perfect, either, and tends to be either "love it or hate it." In context, I don't think there's much question.

A year ago almost nobody had heard of Ben Folds Five. Today, still not many people have heard of Ben Folds Five. But that's about to change. Sony has gotten themselves a piece of the "next big thing" in a classic label bidding war, and hopefully they won't screw it up. If they let the boys keep doing what they've been doing, screwing up will be almost impossible.

Ben should be the posterchild for piano lessons. If you played once and quit, maybe you'll be inspired to try again. And if not, at least you can hear what rock piano is supposed to sound like.
Off Course

What's the matter, Dr. Sasozi? Too gutless to take me on man-to-man? You're always letting your robots do the dirty work.

KAIBATSU 5! Destroy him!!!

That's what I thought. It looks like I'm gonna have to take your toy apart...

to be continued...

Where does the MIT student go during spring-break? Harvard's Prof. E.O. Wilson has been trying to unravel this last great mystery of the natural world. The project is funded by a $5 million dollar grant from the Smithsonian.

Tell us then, Prof. Wilson, where do MIT students go during spring-break?

Nowhere! No #145 where! My research report is a complete blank! Those Smithsonian goons are going to kill me!

That's for damn sure, Wilson boy!

For Chrissakes, why don't you MIT kids get off your butts and go somewhere this spring-break?! Prof. Wilson's life is on the line!

For Chrissakes, why don't you MIT kids get off your butts and go somewhere this spring-break?! Prof. Wilson's life is on the line!

You should've stuck with ants, Wilson boy!

Please, please, pleaseasase!!

Note from the editors:

Don't be swayed by such seditionist messages. Harvard professors come and go, but MIT traditions can't be messed around with.

Special spring-break offer: FREE ethernet connection to your dorm-room with the purchase of every 45¢ burrito at LaVerde's!
Popular Music

Jillie the Handless/The Silt/Gordon Mum Tour
March 23, 20 9:30 p.m. $8. 5551-2443.

Luminous Jackson/The Eats
Avondale, March 25, 8 p.m., doors, $14, call 932-2000.

Penny Basket
Penny Basket, April 2, 8 p.m., doors, $8, call 932-2000.

Someplace Theatre
The Rape Balcony, April 4, 6:30 p.m., doors $21, call 924-2000.

Major League
Major League, April 12, 8:20 p.m., doors, $15, call 932-2000.

The Godfather is being re-released today on its 25th anniversary, but it's not exactly Godfather Special Edition, there is an improved print and digitally enhanced soundtrack.

Classical Music

The Long Library of Music
Clara Schumacher and Friends, March 21, 4 p.m. Admission: free. The Bunting Institute of Villa Cordelia presents lecture/recital by pianist Veronique Mathieu.
Contemporary Piano Seminar: March 22, 8 p.m. In the Conference Room at the Long Library presents a Concert of Contemporary Piano Works featuring music of Schonberg, Copland, Rattner, Chacinsky, and other works.
Longy Changer Singer, March 23, 1 p.m. Jon-Luke James delivers chamber music from English opera by Purcell. Highgate High School, support's Longy's Mass in D and the 92nd Psalm "For the Nations" on the "Harlem" Faculty Artist Series. March 24, 8 p.m. Tom Noon, guitar, performs music of Bantock, Takemitsu, and others.
Massachusetts Chamber Orchestra, March 26, 7:30 p.m. Admission: $45; parent/child discounts; $10-30; student/teacher discounts; $25; free for members and students. Information: 607-4949. Director: Anthony Parnas-Stenson. During the 13th annual "Harmony and Understanding" festival, performance of Works by Bartok and Vaughan-Williams, followed by Q&A with the composer.
Schubert Bicentennial Celebration, March 30, 8 p.m. The Paul and Violetta Rosler Schubert performs Songs for S buffs and Piano. Rosler also will perform the Sonata in B flat Major D 930.

Symphony Hall Open House
Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Information: 547-3000. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission: free. Information: 638-9281. Performances, demonstrations, and a chance to meet musicians associated with the BSO.

Film

The Museum at the John F. Kennedy Library
Columbus Point, Boston. Through June 1.

On Campus

Theatre

Life and Death of King John
La Sata de Puerto Rico, Student Center, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. March 21, 22, and 23. Admission: students and seniors, $5; general admission, $7. Information: 994-2550. The Shakespeare Ensemble presents The Life and Death of King John, a history not only of the English crown, but also of the conflicts with nagging questions of succession, loyalty, and kingly rights. Direction by visiting lecturer and drama coach Tina Packer of Shakespeare and Company.

Exhibits

Museum of Fine Arts

Khanlill Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge. March 21, 8 p.m. Admission: $15, $12, $10; $2 with MIT ID. Information: 256-7971. Chaired by talia, loyal, and reciprocated, this table. The music of Balu Ghandham Ali Khan is passed on to the younger generation.

AMSP Student Recital

MIT Chapel Series


Museum of Fine Arts


Music of Bade GhuJarn Ali Khan Ensemble presents The Life and Death of King John, a history not only of the English crown, but also of the conflicts with nagging questions of succession, loyalty, and kingly rights. Direction by visiting lecturer and drama coach Tina Packer of Shakespeare and Company.

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AMP Student Recital

MIT Chapel Series

On The Town, from 12-2:30 p.m., June 22. Information: 423-6758.

and under, free; Sun., 3-5 p.m., half-price. Information: 423-6758.

and under, free. Information: 720-3260.


in_x_y 2_3_4_5_6_7_8_9_10

UROP Summer Studies Program, 1997

This summer program is intended for undergraduate students who are interested in participating in research projects under the guidance of full-time faculty for Computer Science. Although no prior experience is necessary, pay under this UROP Summer Studies Program is competitive and the program is open to all undergraduates not currently or formerly enrolled in the Laboratory. Students are expected to continue work in the fall semester (either for credit or for pay). If you are interested in applying, please send your resume to donald@csail.mit.edu by May 15.

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Jeffrey I. Schiller '79 listens to John Perry Barlow, a lyricist for Grateful Dead, as Barlow describes how the government is ignorant of technology.

Jeffrey I. Schiller '79 listens to John Perry Barlow, a lyricist for Grateful Dead, as Barlow describes how the government is ignorant of technological issues in front of a packed 1,200 audience on Tuesday.

Barlow, Schiller Grateful for Privacy in Cyberspace

By Jennifer Lane

An eclecti c crowd, cryptography hacker and societal critic alike, gathered in 6-120 Tuesday night to discuss security on the Internet with John Perry Barlow, co-founder of the Electronic Frontier Foundation and former lyricist for the Grateful Dead, and Jerry L. Schiller '79, network manager for Information Systems.

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Ronald L. Rivest moderated the discussion entitled, "Internet Rights Versus Internet Security," sponsored by the Technology and Culture Forum at MIT.

Rivest first remarked that he would have preferred the discussion to be entitled Internet rights and Internet security. Indeed, Barlow and Schiller would speak little of trading rights for security, but rather on how to integrate the two.

Schiller spoke first and drew on experiences with e-mail he regularly receives to poit out that the address to reach e-mail system administrators, to entertain the audience and supplement his more serious qualifications such as manager of MIT's campus computer network and author of MIT's Kerberos authentication system.

Schiller emphasizes security, stating that "it is important that we have a way to protect our privacy from those who would think otherwise." But, "would you tear out all the pay phones in the world just to make sure people cannot make anonymous phone calls?"

The Internet has some important evolutionary steps to overcome before it is anything like the other media, he said. "We're in a funny state of the evolution of the Internet. ... It is here that the government is only beginning to think about the communication media of computers to the communication media of people, but socially and politically, we haven't gotten there yet."

Defining free speech is a whole separate issue. The Internet needs to evolve into a "communications mechanism" because people are something you don't like, it's either illegal and the authorities are concerned, or you just laugh at it and throw it away.

The privacy party that has left out of the Internet explosions is the government, Schiller said. Without a key escrow system whereby the government would have the ability to break any code, "the United States government has completely deserted itself," Schiller said.

While almost everyone is interested in security, they expect it is something that can just be tackled "on the side, a project," he said. No one is willing "to sacrifice whiz-bang to get safe," he said.

"It is here that the government could take an active role in enforcing security standards for public safety, much like seat belts in automobiles. Without the government to set the rules, we have the market. The market is clueless," Schiller said.

Barlow fields audience questions

Schiller then yielded the floor to Barlow, a former Wyoming cattle rancher, who spent the entire evening clad in purple sunglasses. Barlow promptly declared himself "dedicated to the elimination of broadcast media" and solicited questions from the audience.

Initial questions focused on the government's role in Internet security.

The U.S. government poses little practical threat to Internet communications, Barlow said. "They are so completely anti-evilful. ... They are not able to do very much." Barlow contended that the government, through key escrow, wanted "nothing more than the power they have in a conventional telephone wiretap." Government officials, however, did not know the difference between a wiretap and the proposed centralized access to any cyberspace communication at any time, Barlow said. They are "technologically incompetent that they are innocent of the evils they prophesy.""Barlow advocates frontier society

Barlow grew up in rural Wyoming, where "everyone knows everything about everyone, even things that aren't true," he said. Inquiring about Barlow at the Wrangler Cafe would probably result in a stream of information, much of which Barlow wasn't even aware of, he said.

"However, there is a built-in mechanism in the community to the for placing his actions in context. People weren't as alarmed by his actions as they would be of a stranger's, "I may be a weirdo, but I'm their weirdo," he said.

On the Internet, people leave a data trail that can reveal a lot about them. We're "going to have to get used to an environment where people are going to know a lot more than they do now," Barlow said.

"When people proceeded to advocate was a frontier system where police could rely on ethics and culture to be their police: a society where people work their differences out one-on-one. This is exactly what is happening on the Internet, and it has been able to sustain magnanimous growth, he said.

"Not only must we address the questions of how much security we want, how we want to get it, and who we want to be secure against, but we must be ready to adapt to rapidly changing institutions," he said.

Large institutions will collapse

"We are at the end of an economic era and at the beginning of a time when everything you know is wrong and many current institutions no longer make sense," Barlow said.

Customs and trade, for instance, are still meaningful by things by the customs department can place a stamp on. It is no wonder, then, that the United States will begin to fall short in trade, Barlow said. "We are not in the stuff business any more." Big companies will also be forced to change dramatically, he said.

"The multinational corporation is an anachronism," he said. Basically, it does not pay to be a large company unless you are producing goods, Barlow said. Large size is a disadvantage to an information organization, the wave of the future, he said.

Large corporations often fail to understand the Internet concept, he said. The EFF was working a few years ago to stop the widespread use of the buzzword phrase "information superhighway."

However, Barlow soon realized that this was a fruitless endeavor. The outcome did not matter, as large corporations would soon be unable to productively use the Internet. "If you hear someone using the term "information superhighway," you can be certain he's a part of some large, doomed organization," he said.

Federal government will fall

In response to a question over whether the government will forever remain too incompetent to interfere in Internet communications, Barlow admitted he did not think that government was going to simply vanish.

Rather, only the federal government was doomed, Barlow said. "There will always be local government, because that is where the body lives. Streets need to be plowed and tarred, and water still needs to flow through the pipes," he said. Adding, "only local government is funded through easily-defined means of sales or property tax."

The federal government, on the other hand, is dependent on income taxes which are harder to track, Barlow said. Banks, once the trusted third party used to keep records of income, may fall by the wayside. At that point, income tax may become voluntary, he said.

"Boundaries on the map are increasingly irrelevant," Barlow said. "Now the body can be easily divorced from an offensive action." This will pose a serious jurisdiction problem for governments, because the authorities don't know where the body is even if there is one. When asked if the government may have any legitimate concerns in regulating cyberspace, Schiller said, "As soon as you buy the argument that there is a legitimate interest, you have lost."

Barlow agreed, contending that the government is "very, very concerned" for a danger that is not present. They are "trying to prevent all crime, but they can't prevent all crime, so it happens," he said. They begin to "advocate a balance that would look toward totalitarian control," he said.

Barlow on spam, PGP, and Emacs

In reference to a conversation Schiller began earlier, a question was posed to Barlow over spamming, the practice of sending large amounts of unwanted e-mail, often to attempt to sell or solicit something.

Barlow's response came quickly. "Spamming is like heavy cocaine use. It's self-regulating. When you do it enough, you realize it isn't very good." Additionally, spammers who see that returns are not very high, the practice will cease to be lucrative, Barlow said. "The market will take care of spammers."

When asked why Pretty Good Privacy, a public/private key security system developed by Philip Zimmerman, was not more widespread, Barlow noted that user-friendly mail systems like Eudora are "not very user interface well with PGP. "Everyone who put together a user interface for PGP is a complete nerd," he said.

Later, Patrick J. Lopresti G, pointed out that users who utilize Emacs to read and send mail can take advantage of an "excellent" user interface that is "simply developed. Barlow's response was that "anyone who uses Emacs has a completely different idea of an excellent user interface."
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Fraternities, from Page 1

attached to them, said President of SN Frederico Ardila '98. The policy 'wouldn't be good or bad for our chargers, it would just be different.' "I believe that this decision will have its greatest effect on the social aspect of fraternity life," Gilson said. He suggests that non-fraternity members think about what would happen if dormitories adopted alcohol-free policies. Dorow issued a similar query.

Ardila does not think that national fraternities should force their chapter homes to be completely alcohol-free, he said. "I do think it is appropriate for the nationals to require each chapter to have a specific plan on how to use alcohol responsibly," he said.

Sigma Nu prepares to comply

"Sigma Nu national fraternity takes pride in being a leader when it comes to risk reduction," Ardila said. SN has been considering alcohol-free chapter housing on a broad scale since 1994, he said.

Alcohol is not really very important in the MIT chapter of SN, Ardila said. More than half of house members drink very little or not at all, and there is no heavy drinking in the house, he said. SN has taken several steps towards guaranteeing responsible use of alcohol.

"Our house has several dry areas, and most of our social events are dry," Ardila said. Parties with alcohol at SN are closed and no heavy drinking takes place, he said.

There were mixed reactions to this policy change from SN members at MIT. Several members felt that this decision may be the best action at this point, while most feel that being a chapter that uses alcohol responsibly, the national fraternity should not make the decision for them, Ardila said.

Manley also expected other fraternities to follow their lead, Gilson said that he has a nagging feeling that if the alcohol-free program is successfully implemented by PDT and SN, other fraternities will adopt similar programs.

Ardila said that SN has more than 30 chapters currently pursuing the alcohol-free initiative, and all seem very happy with the results. "If this turns out to be successful, other national fraternities might also follow their lead." According to The Boston Globe, Delta Theta is based in Oxford, and Harris and Harris reported that the numbers clearly indicate that fraternities and alcohol mixed to form a volatile exposure. Alcohol seems to be the primary catalyst for fraternity claims." Ardila and Harris also commended national fraternities which were piloting substance-free chapters. "We encourage these groups to continue their efforts as we believe it will be a positive leadership force on campus. Another study completed by the Harvard School of Public Health reports that living in a fraternity house is by far the strongest indicator of binge-drinking in college. The study found that 86 percent of fraternity residents are binge-drinkers, compared to 45 percent of men not affiliated with fraternities. Binge-drinking is defined by having five or more drinks in one sitting at least once in the two-week period before the survey was done.

Studies Show Alcohol Adversely Affects Fraternities

The Coffee House Jazz series continued yesterday with a performance by Green Street Jazz Group.

Viruses can be stopped

Virus, from Page 1

grams adds to the concern that macro viruses constitute a major threat to users. To date, the most common viruses have been relatively harmless. "Some macro viruses give you a message... Some erase your hard drive just by opening the file," Issacson said. So far, relatively few MIT users have suffered losses, but the process of removing the virus can take some effort, as every flappy in an office must be checked for infection, he said.

MIT increases software updates

In response to the problem, MIT has increased the frequency of updates of the anti-virus software it distributes from quarterly to monthly. The software, Dr. Solomon's Anti-Virus Toolkit, is available for use on any machine owned or administered by MIT faculty, staff, or students, and supports most major commercial operating systems.

Using anti-virus software helps foil the majority of attacks. Nine- ning one percent of the time, [macro infection] is avoidable," Issacson said.


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The Visiting Committee for the office of Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs will have an open meeting with students at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, April 2, 1997 in the Bush Room, 10-105.

The Visiting Committee includes members of the Corporation, former students and professionals involved in student life issues elsewhere.

Please join the committee to share your concerns and to offer your suggestions on how student life at MIT may be improved.

For information please contact Dean Robert Randolph ronald@mit.edu

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ACROSS
1. Avis
4. Beside
8. Belonging to (col.)
12. Is (p.l.)
13. Amplifier
14. Give approval
15. Sedative
17. Correct
19. Wan
20. Two planets
21. Aquatic animal
22. Engine cooling device
23. Danger
24. Window
25. Box Office (abbr.)
26. Order (abbr.)
27. Small
28. Second smallest U.S. state (abbr.)
29. Southern New England state (abbr.)
30. Wide-mouthed pitcher
31. Best
32. On the same team
33. Cy. god of war
34. Clock face
35. Melodious songbird
36. Record keeper
37. Places where fruit is canned
51. Police officer
52. Joyful
54. Bring action against
55. Small bed
56. Measure
57. Number
58. Discover
59. Good at doing
60. Make happy
61. Medical prefix
62. 300 (Roman num.)
63. Card game
64. Fellow
65. Feel remote
66. Yarn
67. Southern state (abbr.)

DOWN
1. Flag
2. Mistake
3. Spotted animal
4. End
5. Arrangement
6. Born
7. Not out
8. Red bird
9. Molding metal
10. Variant of no (Japanese)
11. Time standard (abbr.)
12. A republic of Africa
13. Family name in zoology (col.)
14. Cheese
15. Game
16. Story
17. To the left (must.)
18. Fat
19. Positions
20. Senator
21. In fact
22. Blackest
23. Prince (Arabian)

Vacation

Escape

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ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWS MAR 21, APR 4
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Facility Discuss Writing Skills, Consider Master's in Logistics

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the Committee on the Undergraduate Program will design and implement these experiments, Hodges said. This initiative has already received $200,000 in funding from the National Science Foundation.

By 1999, CWR and CUP will develop a specific implementation plan, Hodges said. The faculty would vote on the proposal in 2000. The plan would be implemented gradually and become fully effective for the Class of 2000.

"If we are unwilling to do this, it sends a very powerful message," Bacow said. Failing to pass the motion would show that the faculty is satisfied with the status quo, he said.

Faculty question motion

Former Dean for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs Arthur C. Smith said he was unsure whether the faculty would vote on the degree at its April meeting. "Better communication skills are an amplifier," Bacow said. They will enhance the content of science and engineering subjects.

Professor of Literature David Thorburn said his first response to the proposal was "great applause." However, there were a few problems.

The proposal equates writing and speaking, he said. "The two activities are not identical." Also, since 15 to 20 percent of students are admitted with deficient writing skills, MIT should either offer remedial writing classes or toughen admission, he said. MIT would never stand for a deficiency in computational skills.

Lastly, Thorburn said that the proposal itself should be well written. He suggested rewording some phrases including changing "receive practice, instruction, and feedback" to "receive instruction" since one cannot "receive practice."

Hodges said that the proposal was written by Bacow, and since Bacow went to MIT, it shows how the writing requirement needs revision.

Bacow admitted that he wrote the proposal, but said it was edited by Dean for Undergraduate Education Ronald H. Williams, Hodges, Coordinator for the Writing Requirement Leslie C. Perelman, Head of the Writing Program Alan P. Lightman, and Chair of CUP Charles Stewart III, so the responsibility should be distributed.

With respect to toughening admissions standards, Williams said that MIT's verbal SAT scores differ little from those of Ivy League schools. MIT needs to look at improving those skills, she said.

New master's degree proposed

Also at the meeting, Director of the Center for Transportation Studies Yossi Sheffi PhD '77 proposed a masters of engineering degree in logistics. Logistics involves studying how to move goods over time and space. The faculty will vote on the degree at its April meeting.

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Martin F. Schlecht '77 and Williams updated the faculty on student services re-engineering.

Current accomplishments include an enhanced Online Student Information Services and the Student Services Center, Schlecht said. The reorganization of the Dean's Office also helped speed up student services re-engineering, Williams said.

You're invited to a company overview and Q&A session given by the President of Kinderhook Systems, Inc., on Thursday, April 3rd from 6:30-8:30pm in Room 4-145.

Food and beverages will be provided.

Please bring your resume; however, if you are unable to attend, forward your resume to:

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Weight Thrower Wins NCAA Championship

By Roger Crosley

The list of MIT's national champions grew with John Wallberg '98 winning the 35-lb. weight throw at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships at Wisconsin-Oshkosh on Saturday.

Wallberg threw the weight 3 1/2 inches to win the title by 2 feet 11 inches. It is the third time Wallberg has earned All-American honors.

Athletes earn all-district honors

Three MIT fall sports athletes were named to the GTE College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-District team.

By Erik Saley

The only sports team that could claim Academic All-America ballot. Team were field hockey player were named to the GTE College Development team, which is designed to give training and match recently by shattering "the team finished its regular season in style Women's gymnastics beat Brown United States Shooting National Marine Academy. Cross Country winner Arnold Ge "The women's gymnastics team finished its regular season in style by recently shattering the team record for points scored. The Engineers took 5-2 decisions from both the University of Vel'lely and Florida over Spring Preak to train the Engineers' final goal to put them ahead by 15, 20-6. Plymouth State then made a series of good plays to slide one into the net with two minutes left in play to bring the score up to 20-7. However, the game was already won. As the final 10 seconds wound down the rest of the team on the sideline counted down the seconds to their 20-7 victory. Excellent performances were put in from Sadowski, who made 8 of 11 shots on goal and a free position goal, Vogel, Maddie Burke '99, and Comer-Soddow. In addition to these players, excellent goaltending from Anne Lot '99 was a factor in the team's victory. Lee saved 11 of the 18 shots Plymouth State managed to take at goal.

Coach Cheryl Silva said she some "really good things from the team" and said the game was a great start for them. She was "happy with the passing game the team "put on and how they played together as a team throughout the game."