

Building Reopens After Flood, Lectures Relocated This Week

By Alleen Tang
STAFF REPORTER

Repairs are continuing in Building 34 after a flood Wednesday caused considerable water damage to Edgerton Hall (34-101) and the building's third floor classrooms.

Two of the three elevator shafts damaged by the flood went back into service last Friday. All facilities in the building except for Edgerton Hall and the third floor classrooms were also available for use on Friday.

The third floor classrooms in Building 34 were reopened on Monday, but 34-101 remains closed. No monetary estimate of the damage is yet available.

"Everything has been cleaned up," said Stephen P. Miscowski, manager of repair and maintenance for Physical Plant. "[We're] currently working on the lighting system and the replacement of circuit breakers in electric panels in the lecture hall."

The flood was caused by a damaged urinal pipe in the third floor men's rest room. The Campus Police are still investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident.

It could be either "some structural failure or deliberate active vandalism," said Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin. "We may never know the answer to this, but we will try to find out."

Reopening date of 34-101 unclear

The lectures scheduled for 34-101 have been moved elsewhere, at least through Wednesday, Miscowski said. Physical Plant is currently working on restoring the lecture hall's lighting system and



GABOR CSANYI—THE TECH

The Campus Police are investigating whether a urinal was ripped from the wall of a bathroom in Building 36. Water damaged to Building 34 forced classes to relocate to other facilities.

replacing the circuit-breakers in the electric panels, he said.

"We're not one hundred percent sure" when the hall will reopen, Miscowski said. "The schedule depends on the availability of parts." He acknowledged the possibility of a delay past Thursday.

Replacement panels that arrived yesterday "will bring 34-101 up to an acceptable level," said Mary Callahan, co-director of academic services.

As a contingency plan, academic services has reserved spaces for all of next week's classes in case they

are needed, said Callahan. "We'll be in good position to provide adequate space for all classes," she said.

Although the room may be usable by today, some of the more advanced equipment may not have been reinstalled. As a result, the return of classes requiring multimedia facilities, such as Computer Systems Engineering (6.033), may be delayed.

Although academic services are "not in position to make a commitment," Callahan said, "we will work

Flood, Page 14

Dorms Not Involved In Residence Mailing

By Brett Altschul
NEWS EDITOR

No dormitories are participating in the supplemental mailing of housing information to incoming freshmen, despite the new policy of equal treatment for all living groups.

When he announced the new Orientation policies in February, Dean for Undergraduate Curriculum Kip V. Hodges PhD '82 said that dormitories would be entitled to all the same opportunities as fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

However, Jennifer A. Frank '00, the rush chair for East Campus, said that she was told by the office of Residence and Campus Activities that the mailing was not open to dormitories.

New mailing sends out rush books

"We were told that the mailing is supposed to be a replacement for the rush books" that fraternities previously sent out, Frank said. Since dormitories never sent out rush booklets in the past, they did not need to be a part of the replacement mailing, she said.

"As I understand it, since the fraternities don't have the students' names, they need RCA to act as a go-between, to paste on mailing labels," she said. Since the dormitory information was always mailed through RCA, there was no need for the dormitories to get involved in the new mailing, Frank said. RCA is still sending out information on each dormitory as it always has, she said.

Duane H. Dreger '99, the president of the Interfraternity Council, said that the materials being sent out would be nothing more than the normal rush books, but all in one package. This is an IFC project, he said.

"We put a size limit on it, so that the freshmen wouldn't get a crateload of papers," Dreger said. "It comes out to be about 24 pages plus the cover." Moreover, the contents needs to be approved by Assistant Dean for RCA Neal H. Dorow, the adviser for fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

"The mailing will be paid for by MIT, and the IFC will reimburse the Institute," he said. Each house has to pay for the cost of printing it. The IFC will have only the costs of printing the overall rush information booklet and sending the entire package to the students, Dreger said.

Manju V. Madhavan '99, president of the dormitory council, said that none of the dormitories had especially wanted to buy a

Mailing, Page 7

New Study Supports Use of Embattled Obesity Drug Redux

By Christina Chow

A new report released last week to the American College of Cardiology casts doubts on a previous Mayo Clinic study which showed that the anti-obesity drug Redux caused heart valve abnormalities. Redux is the MIT-patented version of fenfluramine and was developed by Professor of Brain and Cognitive Sciences Richard J. Wurtman.

Redux once approved by FDA

Fenfluramine was first discovered over 40 years ago, but Wurtman was the first to propose its use for treating obesity.

Despite questions concerning its side effects of toxicity and hypertension, Redux was approved in 1995 by the Food and Drug Administration advisory committee. It was predicted that Redux would reach sales of \$600 million a year, with MIT earning from one to five percent of the royalties.

By the time the Mayo Clinic reported possible links between

Redux and heart valve abnormalities at the end of August 1997, an estimated one to five million people had already used Redux.

New study reassuring for some

Originally funded by the producers of Redux to research a way to minimize daily dosage of the drug, the new study involved 1,072 patients. Dr. Neil J. Weissman of Georgetown University Medical Center said that the study was later modified to test heart valve conditions. However, Weissman does not believe the change in purpose affected the results of the study.

The study was conducted by setting up "three groups of obese individuals: One group took [Redux] twice a day, another took it once a day, and a third group took a placebo," Wurtman said.

Wurtman said that though the test results did indicate that "there was no significant difference in heart valve conditions," questions about long term effects remain, since none of the subjects in the study had taken Redux for more

than three or four months.

"I am very very happy on one hand," he said. "I don't want to be responsible for a drug that can hurt anyone."

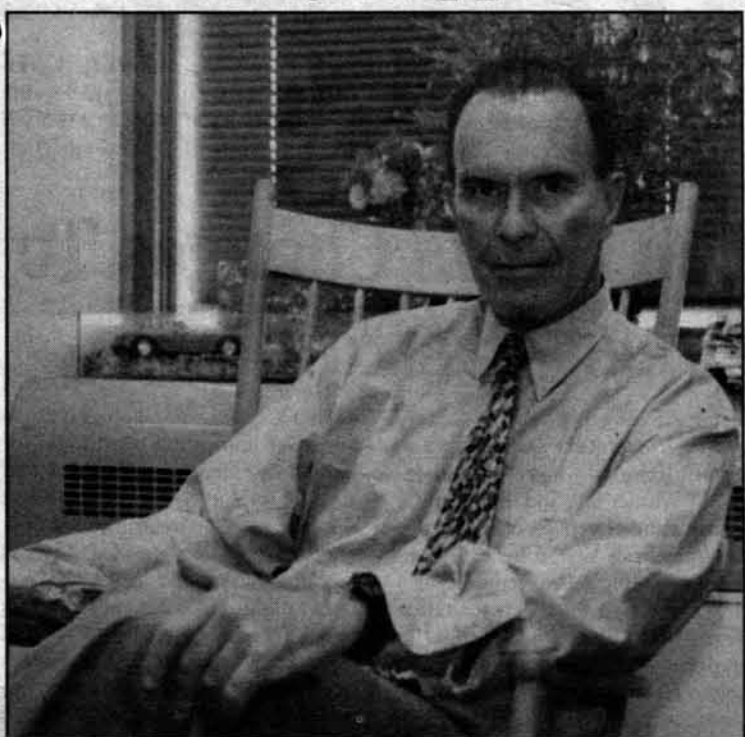
"On the other hand, I am a little unhappy that more than one million people had expensive echocardiograms taken" because of the Mayo Clinic report, which means that roughly "one billion dollars was wasted," he said.

Serotonin causes food cravings

Wurtman's wife Judith, who is a research scientist in the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, first observed in the 1970s that many obese people suffered from carbohydrate cravings. These bouts of abnormally high carbohydrate intake were linked with an increase in serotonin, a neurotransmitter in the brain.

Since consumption of dexfenfluramine was found to have the same chemical effect, Professor Wurtman hypothesized that dexfenfluramine

Redux, Page 13



DAVID TARIN—THE TECH

Professor of Brain and Cognitive Sciences Richard J. Wurtman, developer of the anti-obesity drug Redux.

Short Takes: A law suit by a student government candidate charging that competitors altered his criminal record was interrupted by a defendant's car accident. Page 12



Comics

Federal and state income taxes must be postmarked tomorrow.

World & Nation2
Opinion4
Sports16

WORLD & NATION

Egyptian Christian Assails U.S. Anti-Persecution Bill

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

One of two Christians in the 32-member Egyptian Cabinet said Monday he will lobby the U.S. Congress against American legislation to penalize countries that persecute religious minorities or fail to stop atrocities by members of a dominant faith.

Youssef Boutros-Ghali, Egypt's economy minister and a nephew of former U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, said the proposed U.S. religious liberty law would "deflect" efforts to ease religious tension in Egypt and produce a backlash against outside interference.

"I will decide if I am discriminated against," Boutros-Ghali, a member of the Copt denomination, Egypt's largest Christian group, told reporters. "Maybe [the legislation] solves domestic political problems here in the United States, but leave me out of it. It deflects us from addressing the problems that exist."

Boutros-Ghali said he will try to buttonhole Rep. Frank R. Wolf, (R-Va.) the primary sponsor of the legislation, which calls for the imposition of trade sanctions on offending countries, and staffers of key congressional committees.

Clintons Pay Nearly \$92,000 in Federal Taxes, Returns Show

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

While no longer millionaires, the president and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton paid \$91,964 in federal taxes last year on adjusted gross income of \$569,511, the White House reported Monday.

As in a growing number of working couples, the main breadwinner was the wife, with Hillary Clinton reporting \$281,898 in royalty income from her 1996 book, "It Takes a Village."

The first couple's federal tax return shows that the president was paid a \$200,000 salary, and he also got a \$76 royalty payment from his 1992 appearance on Arsenio Hall's television show. The Clintons reported just over \$65,000 in capital gains, and \$12,000 from a special fund set up in 1912 for the presidential spouse.

The Clintons made \$270,725 in charitable contributions, mostly from Hillary Clinton's book royalties and the \$12,000 spouse fund. Although the White House declined to release a list of the Clintons' charities, White House spokesman Barry Toiv said the donations went mainly to organizations that help children, such as children's hospitals, as well as to the Clintons' churches and colleges.

Historically Contentious Easter March is Quiet in Ulster

THE WASHINGTON POST

BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

The opening of Belfast's often-contentious "marching season" came off quietly Monday, marked by the same spirit of cooperation that helped spawn Friday's far-reaching peace accord.

The traditional Easter Monday parade by the Apprentice Boys — a group of Protestants commemorating a 17th-century victory over a Catholic king — went off with nary a nasty word as the marchers quietly accepted a government order that barred them from marching through a predominantly Catholic neighborhood.

About two dozen marchers wearing black-and-white uniforms and black derbies, plus their youthful fife and drum corps, made a neat U-turn on the Ormeau Bridge and paraded back to their own neighborhood. A small group of Catholics watched quietly from across the river.

Northern Ireland has been scarred by 30 years of civil conflict, parades often have caused open warfare, large fires, injury and death. Feelings are so bitter in some places that each group insists its fundamental rights are violated if people from the other side march through the neighborhood even on one day per year. Two years ago, for example, this same Easter Monday march ended in a street battle of firebombs and tear gas grenades because the Apprentice Boys did not agree to turn around at the bridge.

WEATHER

April Angst

By Gerard Roe and Greg Lawson

STAFF METEOROLOGISTS

Lots of small scale variation at midlevel in the atmosphere will bring a rather unsettled weather picture over the next few days. The high pressure ridge which gave us the fine sunny weather of the last few days will break down today as the flow becomes more zonal. Ahead of an approaching surface low pressure winds will turn southerly during the afternoon, nudging temperatures up over 60°F.

The skies will gradually cloud up, however, beginning with high cirrus, then thickening during the night. The forecast models indicate that an intense area of rain may develop just off shore on Wednesday morning. Whether this transpires or not, showers or even an isolated thunderstorm are likely during Wednesday as the cold front passes through. In the outlook, another system following this one will keep the southerly winds in place, leaving temperatures up in the sixties for the most part. The kicker is that this second system is not going anywhere in a hurry, so the unsettled conditions will continue through the remainder of the week.

Today: Starting off sunny. High clouds building and winds changing to southerly during the afternoon. High 63°F (17°C).

Tonight: Clouds deepening. Chance of rain to the south and west toward morning. Low 45°F (7°C).

Wednesday: Cloudy. Scattered showers likely during the day. High 61°F (16°C). Low 46°F (7°C).

UN Nuclear Inspector Teams Find Iraq in Full Compliance

By John M. Goshko

THE WASHINGTON POST

UNITED NATIONS

U.N. weapons experts said Monday that their most recent inspections of sites in Iraq, including formerly off-limits presidential buildings, have revealed no signs that Iraq possesses prohibited nuclear weapons or materiel.

These findings by the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) seemed likely to rekindle debate about whether the Security Council should conclude that Iraq has complied with its orders, issued after the 1991 Persian Gulf War, to get rid of its nuclear warfare program. Elimination of Iraq's programs to develop nuclear, chemical and biological weapons is a precondition for ending the crippling economic sanctions imposed on Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The Geneva-based U.N. Human Rights Commission, meanwhile, issued a report charging that President Saddam Hussein's gov-

ernment continues to engage in widespread rights violations, including summary executions, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture and persecution of ethnic and religious minorities such as the Kurds.

The report by Max van der Stoep, a former foreign minister of the Netherlands, calls on the United Nations to make every effort to force Iraqi authorities to behave in accordance with international standards of law and respect for individual rights.

But, the report added, the Iraqi government refuses to cooperate with the commission and rejects its findings.

The most "alarming problem," the report says, involves the "food situation affecting children, who suffer from widespread malnutrition and even starvation."

It rejects Baghdad's contention that this is solely the fault of the sanctions and says that much of the blame rests with the Iraqi government's attempts to control food distribution for internal political pur-

poses and its five-year delay in accepting a U.N. humanitarian program that permits limited oil sales to generate funds for food and medicine.

The IAEA's report on weapons sites comes at a time when the United Nations and Iraq have recently stepped back from a military confrontation over weapons searches and are working uneasily toward a new understanding about future searches.

The council created the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) to pursue questions about Iraq's missiles and chemical and biological programs, while the IAEA has had responsibility for nuclear matters. The confrontation over the United Nations' right to inspect the presidential palaces was resolved, at least temporarily, when Secretary General Kofi A. Annan SM '72 went to Baghdad and negotiated Saddam Hussein an agreement with that allows UNSCOM and the IAEA to survey the palaces accompanied by diplomats.

Ashcroft Gains an Early Lead In Republican Nomination Race

By Thomas B. Edsall

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Sen. John D. Ashcroft (R-Mo.), has taken a commanding lead in the battle to win the support of Christian right leaders, eclipsing two better-known rivals in what amounts to the first Republican presidential primary for 2000.

Adroitly using his Senate seat as a pulpit to hammer on moral and budget issues, Ashcroft has emerged from relative obscurity to lay claim to a conservative constituency sought by magazine heir Malcolm S. "Steve" Forbes and former Vice President Dan Quayle.

Loudest and clearest have been his attacks on President Clinton. Just days after the Monica S. Lewinsky controversy broke, the former Missouri governor set himself apart from the competition and the Republican leadership by raising the question of impeachment.

More recently he has made the single harshest charge against the president, denouncing him as a sexual "predator."

The most dramatic signal of Ashcroft's strength was the disclosure Monday that religious broadcaster Pat Robertson, chairman of the Christian Coalition and founder of the Christian Broadcasting Network, and his wife, Adelia, had donated \$10,000 to Ashcroft's political action committee, the Spirit of America PAC.

In another recent coup, Gretchen Purser has signed on to run direct mail for the PAC. Purser won fame on the right as director of development for the Christian Coalition, where she built the mailing list from roughly 200,000 names to 4 million.

More important, interviews with Christian and social conservative leaders, many of whom are trying to agree on a single candidate to endorse before the start of the primaries, suggested that the Missouri senator has far stronger support than his competitors.

Ashcroft has wooed this core Republican constituency by taking the lead on a range of issues, from tax cuts for married couples to killing the National Endowment for

the Arts, that are top priorities for social conservatives, many of whom are frustrated and angry with the Republican House and Senate leadership.

Ashcroft has shown no hesitancy calling for support of the traditional two-parent family, for protection of religious expression at home and abroad and standing against abortion in a forthright manner that conservatives have been seeking in their elected officials.

"He is developing a convincing following in the leadership of the pro-family movement, and conservative leaders are paying a lot of attention to him," said Mike Farris, who runs the Madison Project, a conservative political action committee, and the non-partisan Home School Legal Defense Association.

Farris said he is currently "leaning heavily in his [Ashcroft's] favor."

"I like Sen. Ashcroft, I like Ashcroft very much," said Phyllis Schlafly, head of the Eagle Forum and a stalwart of the anti-abortion movement.

Administration Backs Changes To Embargo Against Castro's Cuba

By Jack Nelson

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration, treading gently to overcome strong opposition from Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Jesse Helms, is working behind the scenes to marshal support for bipartisan legislation to exempt food and medicine from the U.S. trade embargo against Cuba.

Clinton has disclosed that he favors the bill, co-sponsored by Sens. Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.), and John Warner (R-Va.). But the president is concerned about whether the bill's supporters can "get around" the opposition of Helms (R-N.C.), an adamant foe of the measure who has criticized Clinton for acting "alone" in recently ordering an easing of curbs on sending medicine and money to Cuba.

Support for exempting food and medicine from the embargo has

been growing in both the Senate, where 25 members — including six Republicans — have signed the Dodd-Warner bill, and in the House, where another version of the legislation has been signed by 115 members, including seven Republicans.

Dodd said he was pleased to learn that Clinton had expressed support for the bill and said he views chances for Senate passage as good, despite the hurdle posed by Helms. Key Democratic aides in the Senate and House also expressed optimism Congress will pass the measure.

The United States has maintained a trade embargo against Cuba since the aborted 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion, but support for it has ebbed as Cuban President Fidel Castro has grown older and most of the world's other Communist countries have turned to democracy.

Clinton announced the measures easing some sanctions in March, after Pope John Paul II's historic

visit to Cuba. The measures — aimed at improving conditions for individual Cubans in the hopes that support for Castro would decline in the process — streamlined procedures for sending medical supplies to Cuba, authorized direct humanitarian flights from the United States to the island and legalized limited remittances from Cuban Americans to relatives there.

Dodd and Warner, in a letter to colleagues urging support for their bill, wrote of the "harmful impact of the current policy on the health of the Cuban people — particularly with respect to the health of children, the elderly and the infirm." The letter added: "We can no longer turn our backs on the suffering of innocent people less than 100 miles from our border."

Clinton expressed his support for the embargo legislation in a recent conversation with Dr. Peter Bourne, chairman of the American Association for World Health.

Astronomers Observe Water Forming in the Orion Nebula

By Frank D. Roylance
THE BALTIMORE SUN

The water that gushes from your taps may have been created billions of years ago during the birth of a new star.

A team of scientists using the European Space Agency's Infrared Space Observatory reports it has detected just such a water factory in a gas cloud 1,500 light years from Earth in the Orion Nebula.

The vast cloud is producing so much water vapor that, condensed to liquid form, it could fill all the Earth's oceans every 24 minutes, said David Neufeld, a member of the team and a professor of physics and astronomy at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

And the process is likely to continue for thousands of years.

"Although we have only detected this sort of phenomenon in a single source, it seems very likely it's a

widespread phenomenon," Neufeld said. "I think it's quite plausible that this could have implications for the origins of water in our solar system."

The findings are being reported in the April 20 edition of *Astrophysical Journal Letters* by Neufeld; Cornell's Martin Harwit, the lead author; Gary Melnick of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics; and Michael Kaufman, now with NASA's Ames Research Center.

Stephen P. Maran, press officer for the American Astronomical Society, called the findings "another terrific result for the Infrared Space Observatory. They have been picking up water wherever they look," most recently on Saturn's largest moon, Titan.

He said astronomers will now be eager to look for signs of water in other places where star formation is

going on.

Water is composed of atoms of hydrogen — the most common element in the universe — and oxygen, which is created in the nuclear furnaces of stars.

Astronomers have predicted for 30 years that water vapor would be created in regions of interstellar space where atoms of oxygen and hydrogen are thrown together at speeds high enough to raise their temperature to 200 degrees Fahrenheit or more.

In fact, radio telescopes have hinted at the presence of water in such gas clouds for years. But scientists have been unable to measure it because the infrared radiation the water vapor generates is swamped by the signal from water in the Earth's own atmosphere.

Scientists needed to get their infrared detectors above the atmosphere, into outer space.

Virginia Governor May Possibly Postpone Scheduled Execution

By Brooke A. Masters
THE WASHINGTON POST

Citing concerns about protecting Americans traveling abroad, U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright has asked Virginia Gov. James S. Gilmore III to delay Tuesday night's scheduled execution of a citizen of Paraguay who says an international treaty was violated in his case.

Albright wants Virginia to wait until the International Court of Justice, also known as the World Court, has a chance to rule on Paraguay's claim that Angel Francisco Breard, 32, deserves a new trial. Breard's attorneys argue that he was not told he had a right to meet with a representative of Paraguay's consul at the time of his arrest.

Albright said that because of the "unique and difficult foreign policy issues and other problems created" by the case, "I ... request that you exercise your powers as governor and stay" the execution.

Gilmore spokesman Mark Miner said Monday night that the governor is reviewing the letter and awaiting a U.S. Supreme Court decision on whether it will hear an appeal of the case. The World Court told the United States on Friday to delay the execution, but it has no enforcement power.

The Justice Department advised the U.S. Supreme Court on Monday not to halt the scheduled execution. The solicitor general's office said in a 52-page brief that the World Court order doesn't justify stopping the execution. It also said that the alleged treaty violation does not justify giving Breard a new trial.

State Department officials said they agree with the Justice Department that there is no legal basis for the Supreme Court to halt the execution. But they said Albright is appealing to Gilmore, who has discretion to halt the process, for diplomatic reasons.

The treaty that Paraguay says was violated, the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, is the same one that allows Americans arrested abroad to contact their consulate.

Albright "wants to do what she can to make sure that nothing that happens with regard to this case in any way limits the ability of American citizens around the world to get an opportunity to meet with American consular officers," said her spokesman, James Rubin.

'New Office Economy' Creates High Demand for Managers

THE WASHINGTON POST

The re-engineering of American business practices has created a demand for managers. In the health care industry, for example, one of the hottest job specialties is for the people who review health-care claims and monitor the performance of doctors.

"They're the people in the [Health Maintenance Organization] who are kicking out the doctors," said Tony Carnevale, a labor economist at Educational Testing Service. "What's really happening, this cadre of managerial workers is re-engineering the rest of us."

As fewer people work directly manufacturing goods, Carnevale said, more are employed selling them, marketing them or inventing new ways to use them. "They don't manage people so much; they manage processes, they manage client relationships," he said.

A recent ETS study that Carnevale co-authored looked at where people were working in the economy, as opposed to what they were doing, and found that a "new office economy" had supplanted the manufacturing economy, with a small percentage of white-collar workers managing the work of the manufacturing, construction and natural resources sectors.

Other economists say this is because of a centuries-old transition from an economy in which people worked with their hands on farms or in factories to an economy based more on services and reliant on an educated work force and technology.

Study Calls High School's Condom Program a Success

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

A free condom program at a Los Angeles County high school has increased sexual safety without any corresponding increase in sexual activity, according to a new study being reported Tuesday by researchers at the RAND Corp.

The percentage of sexually experienced males using a condom each time they had intercourse rose by a third, from 37 percent to 50 percent, at the unnamed high school, according to a report in the journal *Family Planning Perspectives*.

But, rebutting the fears of condom distribution critics, the study found that the number of males and females who had ever had sex remained constant at 55 percent and 46 percent, respectively.

"This is just one study in one school district ... but it is very encouraging," said Dr. Mark A. Schuster, a senior researcher at Santa Monica-based RAND and a pediatrician at UCLA. A study in New York recently obtained similar results, he noted. "It looks like these programs really can have the desired effect."

A condom distribution program was begun in 1992 in high schools in the school district and in the nearby Culver City and Santa Monica districts. Schuster and his colleagues conducted an anonymous survey of the students about their sexual practices before the distribution began and one year after it started.

The percentage of males who reported using a condom at first intercourse grew from 46 percent to 56 percent, while for those who had only recently initiated intercourse, the number rose from 65 percent to 80 percent.

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45 Calendar

▶ APRIL

- 16 Academics, Research, and Careers Meeting*
- 18 Revolution Soccer Game
Saturday, 12 noon
\$16 (ticket, transportation, & tailgate)
Contact jglively@mit.edu
- 23 Housing & Community Affairs Mtg*
- 24 Friday Social: meet the new officers*

▶ MAY

- 06 General Council Mtg"
- 20 Activities Mtg *

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Wednesday, April 15, 5 PM
Free
Transportation provided
Contact bollmann@mit.edu

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

OPINION



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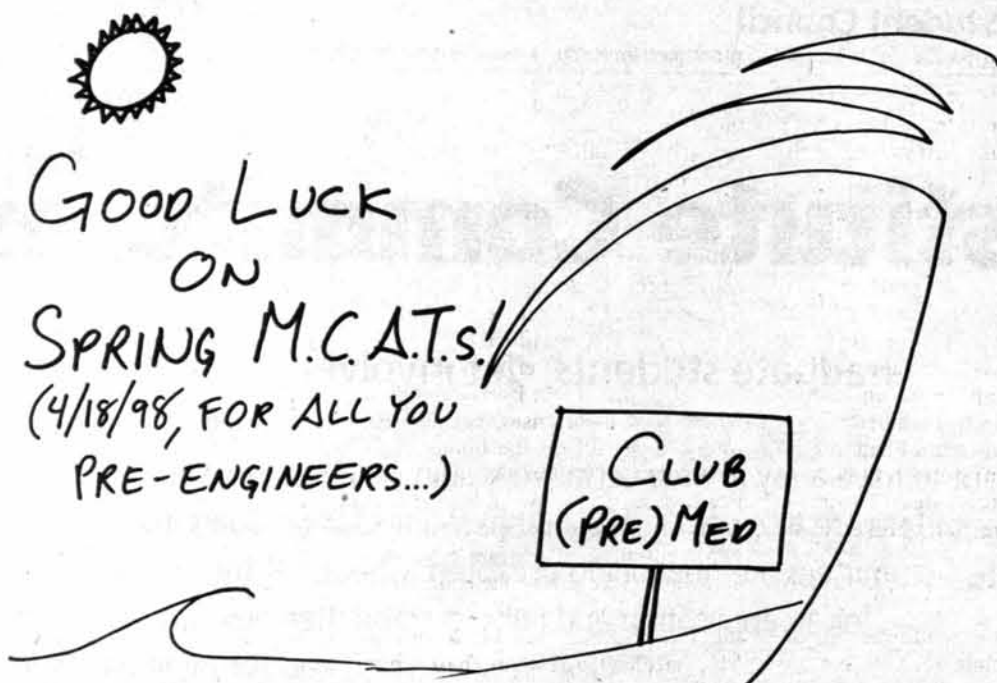
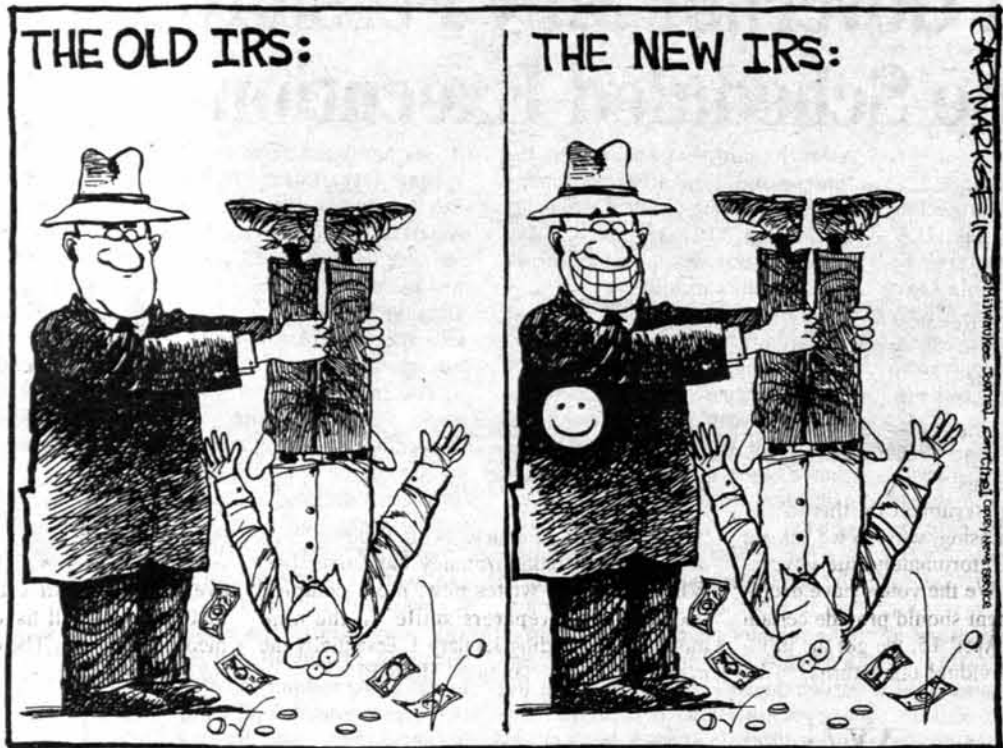
Institutional Wisdom Watch

by *The Tech* editorial board



- ↔ **Building 34:** Flash flood strikes under a clear sky. The lengths guys will go to for a clean urinal!
- ↓ **Aramark:** Dateline 2120: Larry Maguire III extends contract pending deliberations of task force on food services working groups and student affairs.
- ↓ **Memorial Drive:** 1998 proving to be another sad year for Cambridge speedway.
- ↓ **Admissions:** Dean Jones calls new class most selective ever, then releases meaningless statistics to substantiate. Is there a math diagnostic for admin-types?
- ↓ **\$300K:** In the wake of provost's long-sought alloca-

- ↑ tion to student activities, GSC whines it wants more of the pie. Grad leaders would rather be right than magnanimous.
- ↓ **UAP-elect Oppold:** Calls 14 percent turnout representative sample, claims mandate to represent whole student body. Prove it.
- ↔ **107.3 WAAF:** Humorless DJs fired after reporting mayor's death as April Fool. Does this imply their music was okay?
- ↔ **Opening Day:** Fenway claims to honor Good Friday by not selling beer. Yeah right.



C. Horton '98

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

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

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

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Tax Problems? Ask the Accountant

Congress Has Created an Industry That Simply Has to Go

Dan Dunn

For most of you, this column is late. You have already filed your taxes; you won't spend the next two days in paper-driven panic.



Undergraduates mostly just sent their W-2 from the summer and from MIT to mom and dad, who filled out the 1040-EZ and sent it in. The graduate students fill it out themselves, but still, it's only a 1040-EZ.

But just wait until you begin to make some serious money. Or, God forbid, you begin to invest. Hell hath no fury like the government looking for money. You will find the mysteries of the Form 1099, the Schedule D, and Form 4868. You have all had problems sets: I'm not claiming taxes are harder, but you will notice more than a passing resemblance.

This year the tax system is more complex than ever. There are three basic levels of capital gains, plus two more, depending on how far back your purchases are grandfathered. There are multiple tax brackets for different incomes. This doesn't even begin to cover such confusion-creators as the alternative minimum tax, mortgage deductions, child credits, education credits, and dependent status.

Why does the government do this to us? Or, in a different phrasing, why do we subject ourselves to this? Unfortunately, the government needs money. We the voters have decided that the government should provide certain benefits, and every April 15, we get the bill — \$782 billion in individual tax returns, to be

exact.

The income tax is here to stay. People whine and complain, but no one has a better idea, at least not one that we can reach consensus on. But does the income tax have to be this onerous? Does it have to be this complex? It absolutely does not.

At the very least, it should not be getting worse. But the new tax code that was passed last summer has widely been hailed as the most complex ever. According to the Internal Revenue Service, more than 80 percent of all Form 1040s are filed by a paid preparer; no one knows how to do his or her own taxes.

Our tax system is inefficient. I think my best argument for this is the tax assistance industry itself. This isn't a sector that adds value to anything. Tax preparation is a completely fictional product, created by and for the government. Is our country stronger because these people are printing reams of paper? Do people enjoy their lives more

enue jumped 53 percent.

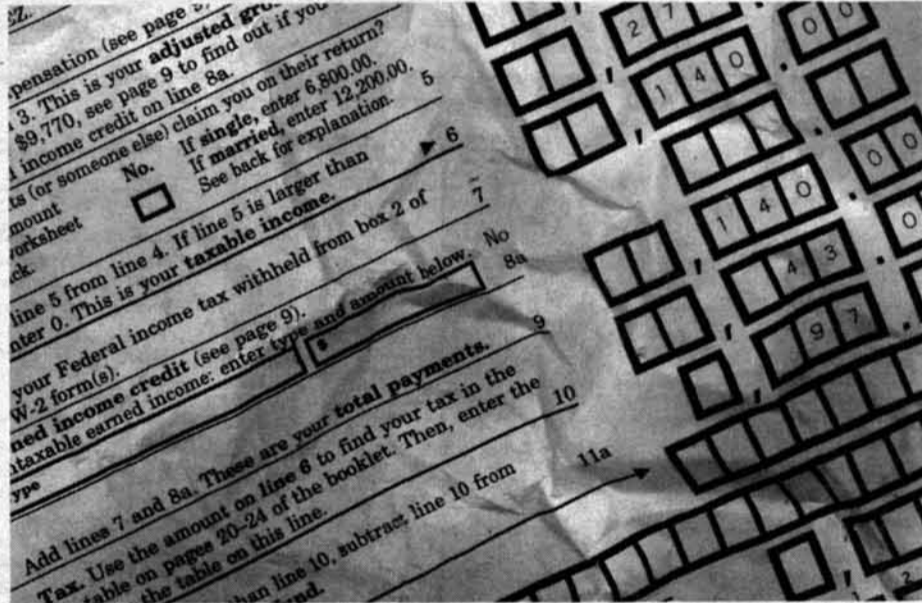
The common wisdom agrees that tax preparers are making money this year. Brian Wesbury is an economist for Griffin, Kubik, Stephens & Thompson in Chicago. He created a "tax index" composed of H&R Block, Jackson-Hewitt, and Gilman & Ciocia, the three largest tax preparers. In the six months since the new tax bill passed, their stocks have gone up 650 percent.

These profits and stock runs would be fine if they had a product that actually did something. A software company, a manufacturer, or even a movie studio would be fine; they contribute, in their own way, to the advancement of American society. But tax preparers? They should not be the growth sector of the stock market.

So what is the answer to this problem? The tax code needs to be simplified. I don't have a strong opinion on how that should be done. I can see arguments for a big reform, or my favorite, a flat tax. But I strongly believe that the current system has to go.

When I mention the flat tax, I instantly hear a slew of liberal voices screaming about regressive taxes, but that is a knee-jerk reaction. It is possible to write a very simple tax that is not truly flat. Eliminate the deductions, credits, and subsidies. Make two, or maybe three tax brackets. Then you will be able to do your own taxes — and in a minimum of time at that.

You have filed your taxes already. After the flurry of news stories passes tomorrow, you will forget about them for another year. But mark this date on your calendar: May 9. According to the Tax Foundation, that is the average American's Tax Freedom Day; on that day, you will have paid off the government for the year. Then, you will begin working for yourself.



because each year they sign a neatly prepared tax form?

The answer, of course, is no. But this leach on society is making money hand over fist. When Congress writes new, more complex tax laws, tax preparers smile. In the nine month period ending January 1, essentially the period of the new tax laws, H&R Block's rev-

At Last, A Painless Holiday

Anders Hove

It is human nature to whine and carp about what's wrong with the world, and, as the long-time opinion editor of this publica-



tion, I can say that for columnists and opinion writers the urge to complain in print is an almost irrepressible one. In this column, however, I would like to take a rare opportunity to discuss something that is absolutely right with the world: Easter.

During the last four decades or so, Americans have poured forth an ever-increasing stream of protest over the increasingly blatant consumerism surrounding the Christmas holiday. Each year, the Christmas buying season starts earlier and earlier. We expressed dismay when it overtook Thanksgiving, and now we complain that Halloween is in danger of being eclipsed as well.

For those who buy their gifts at the last possible moment, a long run-up to Christmas means a long season of guilt and stress. For the many Americans who are not Christian, the hype appears so much quasi-irrelevant hubbub — which it is.

Easter, I am told, has also been a time of gift-giving as well. Not on the scale of Christmas — not hardly. Nevertheless, a half-century ago major department stores and local retailers sortied into the advertising pages of local papers and onto the airwaves to tout their own line of Easter gifts. And even for those not participating in the giving,

How visible is Easter compared with the Energizer bunny?

Easter was still a major shopping day.

Although sales and marketing departments across the nation were initially loath to admit it, shopping over the Easter holiday has been on a long decline. In the 1990s, few exchange gifts on Easter, and each year fewer race to the local mall to while away the holiday shopping.

For a time the Easter shopping binge was supplanted by a far smaller candy-buying one, but now even this phenomenon appears to be in decline. In years gone past, Easter was preceded by a litany of chocolate bunny and caramel egg advertising. Meanwhile, the Easter bunny was caught hawking carpeting, mattresses, and just about anything else related to seasonal household cleaning and refurbishing.

Today even this small bump of shopping excitement has disappeared. True, you can still find a candy display or two in the grocery stores, and the Easter bunny crops up now and then. But how visible is Easter compared with ongoing secular advertising campaigns, like the Energizer bunny, or the Intel bunnies for that matter.

The result in the decline in Easter marketing has been a holiday almost entirely free of consumerism. Yes, many buy flowers and eggs, but who can fault this when the very word "consumerism" raises haunting visions of malls brutally decked with boughs of otherwise non-existent holly. When Easter rolls around, we're just extracting the yuletide elevator music from our heads. The last thing we need is a visit from the Easter bunny.

What impresses me most about this time of year is how civil people are, compared with during the Christmas holiday. With everyone rushing to and fro, nerves are frayed on all sides. It is the Battle of Christmas, fought by those who feel a sense of duty to participate in the holiday, and by those who wish they could conscientiously abstain. Easter and Passover bother nobody: those who wish to participate can do so without distraction or stress, and those who do not can blithely exercise that choice without being reminded of it every time they turn the corner.

Charles Schultz never bothered to make a *Charlie Brown Special* about Easter consumerism, and it's just as well for him that he did not. Somehow, the forces of society have combined to free this season from the forces of the mass market.

When I Was Spy For a Day

Guest Column
Steve Altes

In the mid-80s, while my liberal MIT classmates were busy attending pro-Sandinista rallies and boycotting Coors, I decided to really rebel and try for a summer job with the CIA. The world was a dangerous place and I was going to make it safer. Or, at the very least, protect U.S. multinational business interests abroad. I figured if life as we know it seems to require graduate degrees, one might as well wield them adventurously. So I signed up for an on-campus interview with the local CIA recruiter.

To enter the interview room I had to sidestep a group of student protesters bearing "Culpable In Assassination" signs. This made me tense, the Agency recruiter broke the ice by saying, "Forget about them. Hey, know how you become Communist? Go to Harvard and turn left."

At the end of a pretty good interview the recruiter stressed absolute secrecy: No one could know I was applying. It saddened me to think of conversations that could never be: 'I worked at the salad bar at Sizzler this summer. What did you do, Steve?' 'Oh nothing much. Parachuted into Afghanistan, infiltrated the Soviet Union, sabotaged the guidance package on an SS-17.'

From that point on, the CIA used brown envelopes to correspond with me. My roommate thought I had a secret porno subscription; plain brown envelopes are usually a sign something is afoot. No doubt this ruse foiled any Soviet spies monitoring my mailbox.

The nine-month application process consisted of multiple interviews, aptitude tests, psychological profiles, and medical examinations. One CIA psychologist had me describe every possible way I could imagine getting secret information from a foreign scientist. I rapidly exhausted the schemes that were merely immoral or illegal and moved on to some that were truly twisted and bizarre. He nodded approvingly at my ethical flexibility. Another test consisted of a single essay question, "Do the ends justify the means?" Trust

me, if you ever want to see that secret decoder ring, answer "yes" to that one.

In May I faced the final hurdle, the polygraph. We went at it all morning and had a three-hour encore after lunch. Had I ever practiced bestiality? (Note: polygraph examiners have no sense of humor.) Had I used drugs? (Define "drugs"; define "use.") Had I ever committed a crime? That one's tricky. After clearing my conscience of adolescent shoplifting, underage drinking, and other petty crimes, I remembered to ask, "Isn't oral sex still considered sodomy in Massachusetts?" After working through that issue, I admitted that I was surely guilty of a whole slew of offenses, considering all the loony laws still on the books. You know, archaic bans on things like juggling without a license, entering a movie theater within four hours of eating garlic, and crossing the street while eating an ice cream cone. Not being Catholic, I was new to the confessional experience and was on a roll. His patience eroding, the examiner boiled it down to one simple, catchall question: had I ever done anything that made me susceptible to blackmail? No? End of exam, and a good thing too: by that point I was ready to confess to starting the Great Chicago Fire of 1871.

Finally on a Thursday morning in early June, the CIA called to say I made it. I would start at CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia, on Monday. Assignments would follow. I was ecstatic. My spy karma continued that afternoon when I won tickets to a sneak preview of *A View to a Kill*, the latest James Bond movie. (I wrote a mental note to Q: I'll take a size 10 shoe-phon.)

The next day the CIA called again, this time to *unhire* me. "What happened," I asked.

"It's a secret," the woman said sheepishly.

"What do you mean it's a secret?" Yesterday you said I was in. What did I do overnight to change your mind?"

There was a long pause. Then she began, "Well, it could be that yesterday Congress canceled the program we wanted you for. It could be we decided not to proceed with that project. It could be that the world situation changed overnight. It could be that we dis-

covered something relative to your security clearance. It could be..."

As she continued her litany of "it could be's" it dawned on me that I had no backup plan.

Here it was June and I was just starting to look for a summer job. Personnel managers treated me like a guy who waits until age 64 to open an IRA; they howled when I asked if they had any summer jobs still available. All the good jobs were locked up months ago. When things looked particularly grim, I applied to work as a taxi-driver. They didn't want me either. Eventually a consulting company took pity on me and got me off the streets.

Recently I discovered that I had a cousin in the BVD — the Dutch intelligence service, not the underwear. Did that derail my career as a spook? I never found out. Looking back, it's just as well I never made it into the CIA. Without any prodding from me the Soviet empire folded faster than a guy holding a kangaroo straight in a game of seven-card stud. And with all the spy scandals, who knows? An Agency mole might have sold me out for cheap thrills and a down-payment on a condo in Arlington.

As an epilogue to my story, three years later I was taking a cab to the airport with a chatty driver. Where did I work? Where had I gone to college? "MIT," I said. He laughed and said he had a story for me. A few years earlier his company received a resume from an MIT student inquiring if there were any openings for taxi-drivers. How much of an underachiever do you have to be to slog through all those engineering courses and then pursue a job as a cabby, he wanted to know.

"What did this fool do, blow up the chem lab? Knock up the dean's daughter?"

"Maybe he had his reasons," I blurted, "good reasons, secret reasons he couldn't share because they were a matter of national security." The driver stared at me like I was some sort of nut. I backpedaled, "I mean, yeah you're right, what a nimrod!"

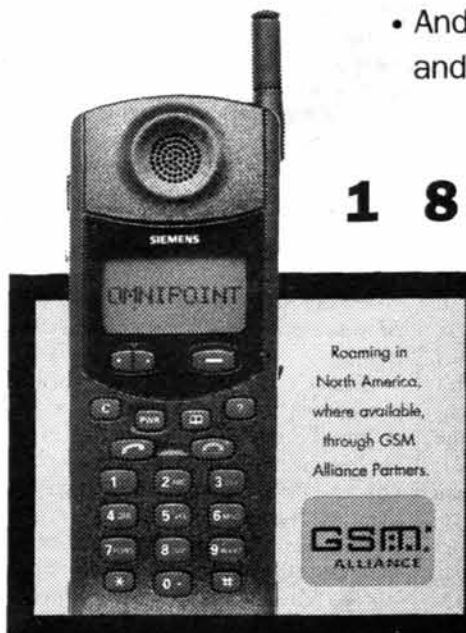
Steve Altes '84 is an actor and author of *The Little Book of Bad Business Advice*.

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Dormitories Had No Need to Use Mailing

Mailing, from Page 1

spot in the mailing. "We saw no need, since RCA was already soliciting information from the dormitories," he said.

Madhavan also said that his understanding was that the dormitories would have been allowed space in the mailing, if they had wanted to pay for it. "I'm sure that had we wanted to get in the mailing, we could have put up the funds," he said.

The mailing was primarily an Interfraternity Council project, Madhavan said. "They took the initiative to put the information together and spend the money," he said.

Frank agreed that East Campus did not want to be involved. "We're not losing anything," she said. "All the [independent living group]

houses had to pay to get in the mailing."

Since East Campus is not really losing anything, it was not necessary to spend the extra money, she said.

However, Frank disagreed with Madhavan's statement that the dormitory could have gotten into the mailing, if it had desired. "[Coordinator of Student Programs] Elizabeth I. Cogliano said that the mailing was for fraternities only," she said. Cogliano could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Other dormitory officials said that they were not made aware of the booklet, and the rules were not made at all clear.

"I didn't feel that I got much communication with the people in RCA on that subject," said Vanessa Y. Yen '00, a former rush chair for McCormick Hall.

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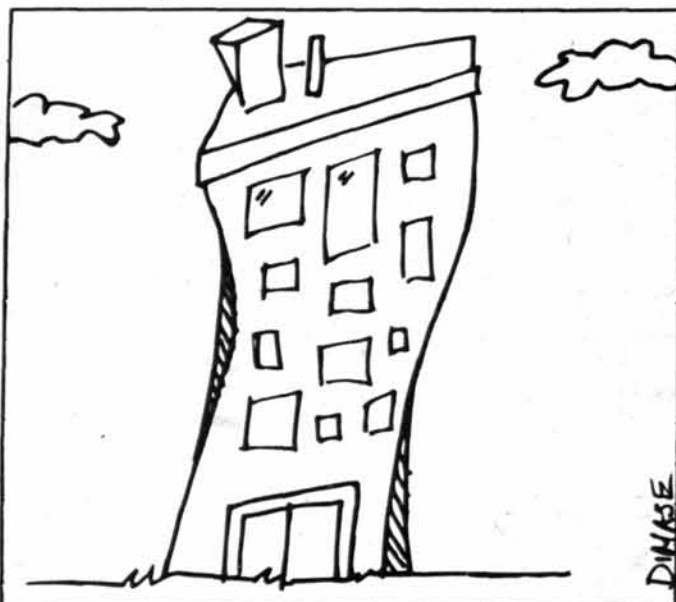


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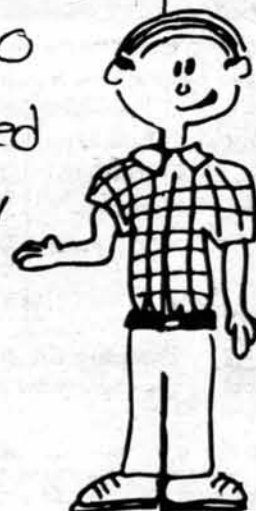


Perhaps...

By Jennifer DiMase



... The remains of Building 20 could be recycled into temporary freshmen housing...



2048

THIS DORMITORY WAS BUILT 50 YEARS AGO FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF HOUSING FRESHMEN UNTIL A NEW DORMITORY WAS BUILT. AND NOW, EVEN WITH THE NEW DORMITORY IN PLACE ON VASSAR STREET, WE CONTINUE TO HOUSE FRESHMEN HERE!! ISN'T THAT AMAZING!?

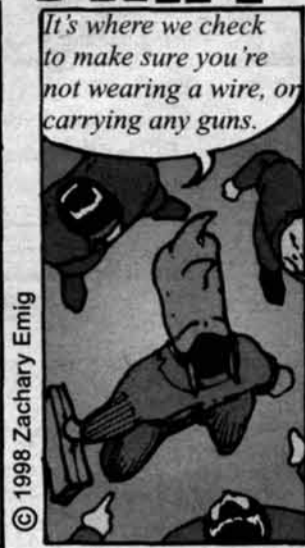


RHINO MAN



THE STORY SO FAR: Rhino-Man decided to meet with the Yakuza. He hopes to either catch them (via a mini-camera implanted in his lip) confessing to framing him or cut some deal with them.

by Zachary Emig



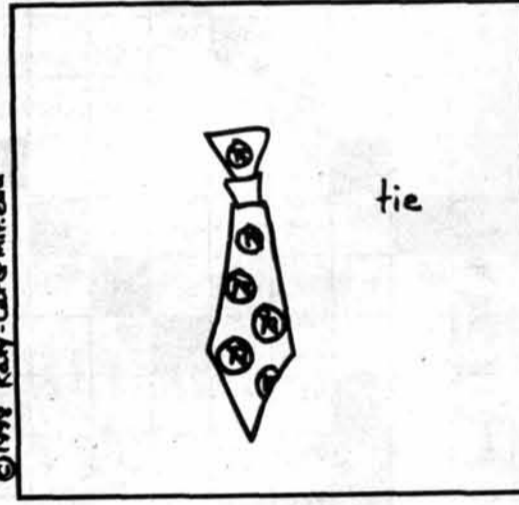
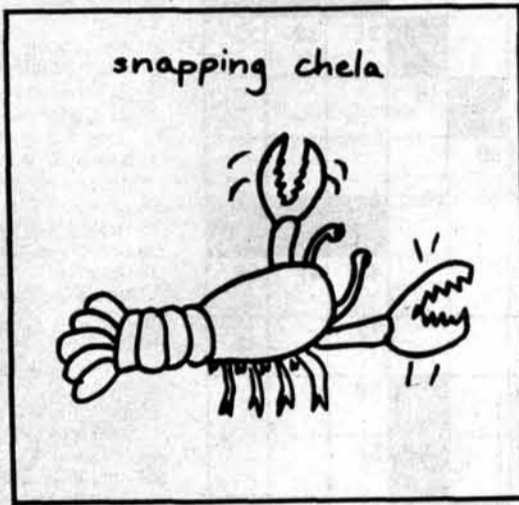
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Next issue: Into the inner sanctum!

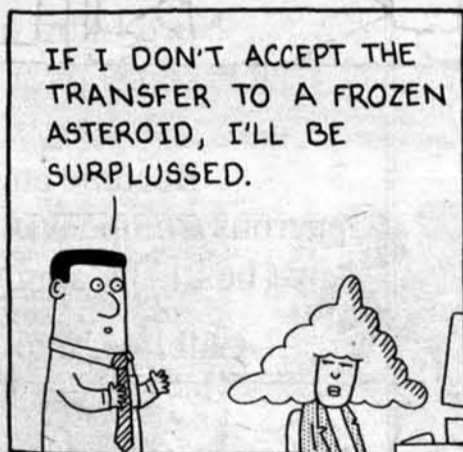
Noun Poetry
by Katy-Cat



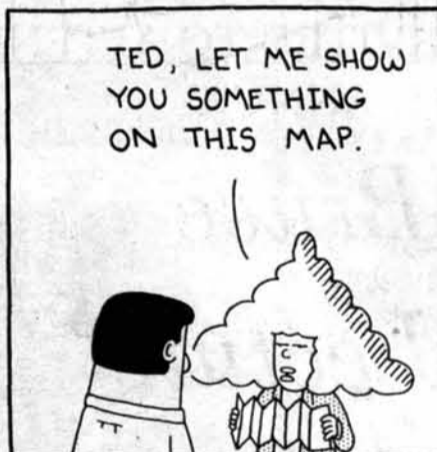
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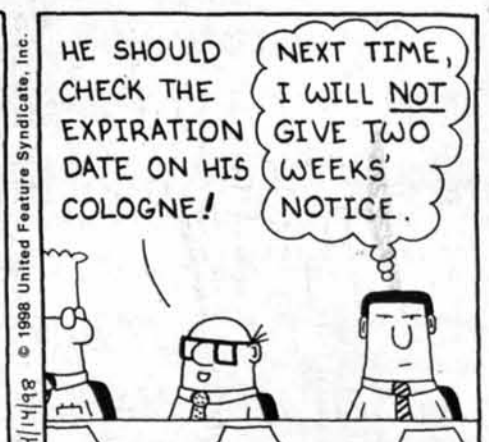
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Trivia Corner Presidential Prowess

Abraham Lincoln was not only a skilled lawyer, orator, and politician, but also an engineer. He designed a lock system for moving boats between bodies of water of different altitudes. For this system he was granted a patent, making him the only president to have one.

Which U.S. President was known for his ability to write in Latin with one hand and in Greek with the other simultaneously?

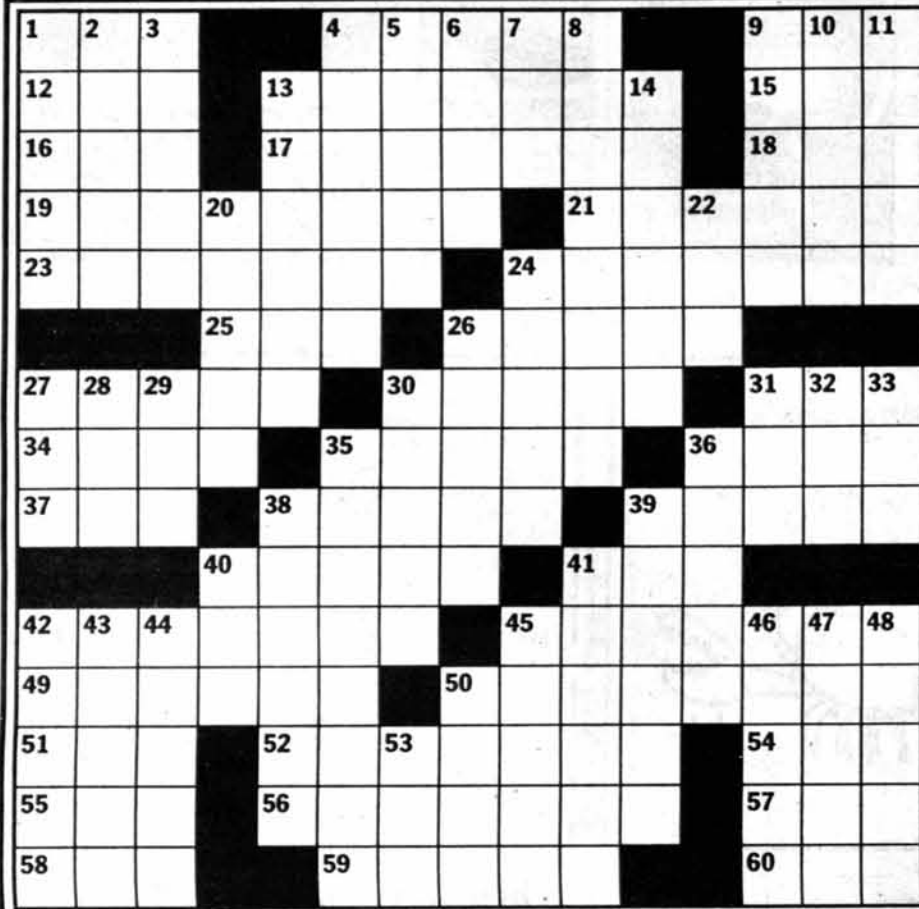
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As Good As It Gets

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

This feature was brought to you by the CAC Program Board. Today's factoids are by the MIT Quiz Bowl team. Members of the quiz bowl team, LSC, and The Tech are not eligible.



ACROSS

- 1 English television corp.
- 4 An organ
- 9 Commercials
- 12 Before, poetically
- 13 Certains naval vessels
- 15 Atlas
- 16 Dined
- 17 Famous suffragette
- 18 Bull fight cheer
- 19 Verbal sparing
- 21 Medical imaging process
- 23 Thin
- 24 Nasal bone
- 25 Air, in Athens
- 26 Sub-atomic particle
- 27 2, in posey
- 30 Rose's protection
- 31 Leave!, to a Jethro or Uncle Jed
- 34 Bans
- 35 Feel up
- 36 One of the genus Brassica
- 37 Color
- 38 Narrative, maybe
- 39 Station
- 40 Ululate
- 41 Former Brazilian monetary unit
- 42 Matterhorn city
- 45 Indo-Aryan language
- 49 Not wounded
- 50 Corporation, for instance
- 51 Teacher organization
- 52 Immature eggs

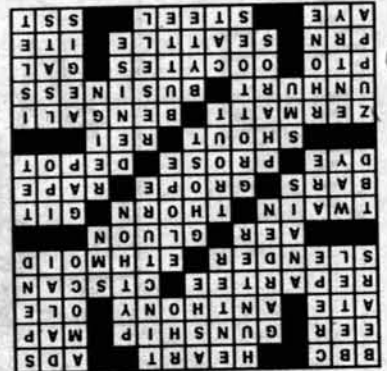
DOWN

- 54 Lass
- 55 News and info. wire service
- 56 Northwestern US city
- 57 Follower, suffix
- 58 Yes, to a sailor
- 59 Carbonized iron
- 60 Super fast planes, abbr.
- 1 Some are black or brown
- 2 Kind of palm nut
- 3 French pancake
- 4 Orion, for instance
- 5 Door word
- 6 Wimbledon champion, 1975
- 7 Greek letter
- 8 Formula 44D, for instance
- 9 Oil & Gas company
- 10 ___ Lama
- 11 Utilize
- 13 Flower bed
- 14 Constrictor
- 20 Author Nin
- 22 Literary initials
- 24 Head to Vegas
- 26 Spirit
- 27 The late movie, sometimes
- 28 Manner
- 29 Second person singular, to be
- 30 Schubert quintet
- 31 Chasm
- 32 Stock sale, for short

By Anthony R. Salas

- 33 Asian holiday
- 35 Nooks
- 36 Sovereign over
- 38 Wonder in Alexandria
- 39 Woman's name
- 40 Mustangs' inst.
- 41 Vend once again
- 42 Italian soup
- 43 Contestant
- 44 River from the Swiss Alps
- 45 Mesa
- 46 Auspices
- 47 Tests taken by lawyer want-to-be's
- 48 Small island
- 50 Memory unit
- 53 Persian or Turkish Angora

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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MIOBRAG CIRKOVIC—THE TECH

MIT's boat number six, piloted by Jennifer A. Kelly '99 and Susanna B. Mierau '00, sails to the finish line in the seventh heat of the Emily Wick Trophy race last Saturday.



DENNIS YANCEY—THE TECH

Michael T. Buttville '98 takes a shot at the goal in Saturday's lacrosse game against Western New England College. MIT won the game 8-3.

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Soloists: **Stephanie Chase, violin**
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Friday April 24, 1998

8:00pm

Jordan Hall
New England Conservatory

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Florida Libel Defendant Hurt in Car Crash

FROM UNIVERSITY WIRE

The defamation trial against the University of Florida's oldest leadership honorary and two of its members is scheduled to resume today without one of the defendants — a situation that could hinder the progress of the trial.

Defendant Peter Vlcek, a 42-year-old Florida Blue Key member, missed Thursday's trial session because he was in a car accident that left him in Alachua General Hospital for more than a day, Jacksonville attorney Barry Bobek said.

Bobek is representing Student Body President-elect John McGovern, also accused of posting defamatory flyers as part of a Blue Key campaign maneuver against UF graduate student Charles Grapski, 32. Grapski, the plaintiff, ran for student body president against Blue Key member Kevin Mayeux in the spring of 1995.

Gainesville police records state that at 9:14 a.m., Vlcek was driving south on State Road 24 when his 1987 Nissan pickup truck was hit from behind by a 1991 Mercury, driven at about 40 mph by Christopher Kilgore of Middlebury.

The impact caused Vlcek's head to slam backward into the truck's rear window, Bobek said. Vlcek's car then was thrust into the intersection and hit again, this time from the right by a second car, police records show.

Vlcek, who has a history of heart problems, also suffered heart palpitations that may have been a slight heart attack, Bobek added.

Vlcek was returning from Jacksonville, where he spends each night visiting his ailing mother. The on-again, off-again UF law student was admitted into the hospital at about 10:30 a.m. Thursday and was released Friday, according to hospital records. He was back in Jacksonville as of Sunday night, Bobek said.

UF law professor Joe Little, Grapski's pro bono attorney, said Vlcek — who is representing himself — called him and indicated he would attend today's pretrial meeting by telephone.

Bobek was not sure what Vlcek's health could mean for the future of the Alachua County trial, which began April 6 and was expected to end by Wednesday. His focus, he said, is McGovern and the charges that he and Vlcek altered Grapski's criminal record to make him look like a child molester and posted it on flyers throughout campus.

"From what I hear from all parties, there needs to be closure," Bobek said. "The case needs to be done with."

Little said there will be some consideration given to Vlcek's situation. "He could be removed from this case and then tried later in a separate case," Little said. "But until the judge issues an order of some kind to delay the trial, we're still on."

[Independent Florida Alligator, 4/13/98]

Minnesota Hunger strike goes on

Hunger strikers showed no signs of ending their standoff this weekend after rejecting University administrators' responses to protester's demands for additional resources for the University's Chinese program.

University President Mark Yudof, Executive Vice President and Provost Bob Bruininks, College of Liberal Arts Dean Steven Rosenstone, and several other senior administration officials attended the meeting. After an hour, they declared the meeting at an impasse and stormed out.

Members of the Chinese program, Progressive Student Organization and several University cultural centers are fasting to protest understaffing in the Chinese program. The program has two tenured professors and two temporary professors to teach 21 majors and pre-majors. CLA is extending offers to candidates for a third tenured professor to begin teaching fall quarter.

The protesters demand that the Chinese program — which is currently a program within the East Asian Languages, Literatures and Linguistics department — be recognized as an independent, equal department. The hunger strikers also demand the University advertise for a fourth tenured professor for the program.

University officials did not meet the students' demands. The meeting focused on the appointment of a fourth tenured professor. Issues of equal treatment and departmental independence were not discussed.

To convince the students to end

the hunger strike, University officials prepared a written response to highlight past and present investments in the program. Rosenstone noted his September 1997 decision to approve a third tenured faculty position in the program. The search to fill that position is ongoing. Two candidates have already turned down the position and the college is awaiting an answer from a third candidate.

In February, Bruininks allocated to the program an 18.1 percent budget increase. The change will take effect in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1998.

In response to the strike, a \$50,000 China Studies Scholarship Program was established Thursday to increase enrollment in the program.

The written response said the appointment of additional faculty will be considered in the future as enrollment increases to justify the investment.

"There are lots of other departments in the college that are also increasing in the number of majors," Rosenstone said. "I also have to worry about protecting the students in those programs, and that's hard."

Protester Ben Ridgway said he was not impressed with the administrators' response. "I feel like the student scholarship is a bribe to ignore the fourth position," Ridgway said. "It's not necessarily what we were asking for in the first place."

The protesters said that they would continue their strike into the weekend. Students who were feeling dizzy or lethargic said that they would drink juice and soup broth so that they could continue to study and work.

[Minnesota Daily, 4/13/98]

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Prior Studies Linked Redux, Heart Valve Abnormalities

Redux, from Page 1

was "the best target for an obesity drug," since it could mimic and replace the carbohydrate cravings that would often result in late-night snacking.

U.S. companies uninterested

In the early 1980s, after conducting studies on rats and humans, MIT took out a patent for dexfenfluramine and then sub-licensed the drug to Servier, a French company. Servier marketed Redux "in over 65 countries in Europe, South America and throughout the world for six to seven years without serious side

effects," said Wurtman.

Though Servier tried to encourage American companies to sub-license the drug for production in the United States, there was "no interest in a drug to treat obesity at the time. They thought that if you were obese, it was your fault," Wurtman said.

Drug not marketed until 1989

Redux was not introduced in the United States until after 1989, when Wurtman co-founded the pharmaceutical company Interneuron. The company aimed to commercialize university patents, which "included getting a license for Redux,"

Wurtman said.

By the time the drug made the Sept. 23, 1996, cover of *Time*, side effects such as dry mouth and fatigue had already been noted.

In August 1997, doctors from the Mayo Clinic reported treating 24 patients who had developed heart valve abnormalities from usage of "phen-fen," an anti-obesity drug which is also a derivative of fenfluramine. Concerns were also raised about whether Redux would increase the amount of serotonin in the blood and thereby cause heart lesions.

Continued questions concerning the safety of the drug finally led to

the voluntary recall of Redux, by the request of the Food and Drug Administration. In September 1997 the drug was pulled from shelves in the United States and overseas.

Wurtman said that there had been "no data collected on Redux" for the Mayo Clinic report. He also said that while an increase in blood serotonin levels would cause heart valve disease "every published paper ever written indicates that Redux lowers blood serotonin."

Redux to remain unavailable

Redux will remain unavailable for sale until further studies detailing the long-term effects are carried

out. Besides the long-term effects that Redux may have on heart valve conditions, the initial health risks of hypertension and fatigue still remain.

Although the FDA has not released an official statement, CNN reports that the FDA "doesn't plan to allow the drugs back on the market, pointing to additional health risks including a rare lung disease."

Wurtman said that although he believes in certain situations obesity treatment can be "life-saving," withdrawing Redux from the market was "the moral and ethical thing to do, as it is whenever questions are raised."



DENNIS YANCEY—THE TECH

The light weight crew teams's new state-of-the-art boat was dedicated to Thomas Folger '48 Saturday morning. Folger donated funds to help finance the craft's construction.



RIVAH LIN—THE TECH

Amro M. Farid '00 of Phi Delta Theta helps decorate eggs during the fraternity's annual Easter Egg Hunt for children from local shelters and homes.

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Classes in 34-101 Moved, Rescheduled

Flood, from Page 1

with faculty to make sure that their needs are met."

Faculty, students react to incident

Susan E. Guralnik, the administrative officer for the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science said that the department was weathering the problems well.

"Thanks to real efficiency by the registrar's office, all classes have been relocated... under a condensed time frame," she said. "People were cooperative and took [the inconveniences] in good spirit."

Quantitative Physiology (6.022J) was one of the two 9:30 a.m. classes that were unable to be relocated in time. Professor of Mechanical Engineering Roger D. Kamm SM '77, who teaches the course, said that the class was not cancelled as a result of the problem.

"I just hunted down the hall to find an empty classroom, although at least one of the students never found us," he said.

6.033 was one of several classes that were relocated to the Wong Auditorium (E51-115) this week. "I am impressed about how the registrar handled [the situation]," said

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science M. Frans Kaashoek, who teaches the course.

"Things are working out pretty smoothly," Kaashoek said. He called the Wong Auditorium "a nice lecture hall," but noted that "having six instead of nine black boards requires some redesigning of the [lecture]. But these are minor problems that can be easily adjusted."

Some expressed irritation at the prospect of traveling to Building E51, but others were more sanguine. "As long as the professor understands, it's not that bad," said one student.

Vandalism hard to prevent

Prevention of future incidents and disaster control could be difficult to plan. "Because piping is throughout all ceilings and all buildings, when a toilet is pulled off the wall, there's no limitation on [what may happen]," Miscowski pointed out.

"Avoiding vandalism is almost impossible without turning the Institute into a fortress," said Guralnik.

However, there are things MIT can do, she said. "Engineering changes [such as] alarms and pressure sensitive valves to detect damages as soon as they happen could be a reasonable approach."

POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Campus Police between April 2-8. This summary contains most incidents reported to Campus Police but does not include incidents such as: medical shuttles, ambulance transfers, false alarms, general service calls, etc.

This report does not include alarms, general service calls, or incidents not reported to the dispatcher. "Medical Services" includes medical shuttles, transports, escorts, and other emergency services.

Apr 2: Bldg. N52, past larceny of a computer, \$300; Bldg. 4, display case broken into and 16 mm camera stolen, unknown value; Bldg. N51, report of three individuals soliciting knives and books, same were issued trespass warnings; Bldg. E17, computer stolen, \$2,000. Medical Service Calls: 8.

Apr 3: Bldg. 14, demagnetizer stolen, \$200; Bldg. 3, harassment; Bldg. 20, room broken into, nothing taken; Bldg. 26, smoking complaint; 77 Massachusetts Avenue, assist MBTA Police with a the removal of an unaffiliated intoxicated person on bus. Medical Service Calls: 6.

Apr 4: East Campus, complaint of smell of beer, officers observed no alcohol, no citations issued; Next House, report of loud music, music turned down; Sigma Alpha Epsilon, noise complaint, situation calmed. Medical Service Calls: 5.

Apr 5: Phi Delta Theta, noise complaint, situation calmed; Edgerton House, loud noise complaint, officers arrived and found an authorized party with alcohol, no citations issued; Bldg. 54 bicycle rack, bicycle secured with a cable stolen, \$250; Alumni Pool, credit cards stolen; duPont gym, pants left on bleachers while playing ball, pants and contents stolen, \$310; Phi Delta Theta, report of person shining a laser pen in building next door; Fenway House, harassment. Medical Service Calls: 3.

Apr 6: Bldg. E15, computer stolen, \$1,600; Bldg. 14, suspicious activity; Bldg. 68, malicious damage to a fire hose; MIT Police assist other police agencies with a pedestrian, Larry Roach, of Somerville, struck on Memorial Dr. Roach had no affiliation with MIT and pronounced dead later at Massachusetts General Hospital; Bldg. 20, 1) laptop stolen, \$2,000; 2) pagers stolen, \$200; Hayden Library, indecent exposure; Student Center, Cora Lee Ho of 889 Harrison Avenue, Boston, arrested for trespassing. Medical Service Calls: 13.

Apr 7: Bldg. 4, wallet stolen from backpack, \$10; Bldg. E40, clothes stolen, later recovered. Medical Service Calls: 6.

Apr 8: Bldg. 1, suspicious activity; Memorial Dr., assist State Police, reports of an individual breaking into a vehicle, suspect gone by the time officers arrived; Bldg. E51, backpack stolen, \$175; Eastgate, ID stolen; Kresge lot, bicyclist and vehicle collide, no injuries; Bldg. E15, annoying e-mail; Eastgate, suspicious person; Bldg. 34, suspicion of malicious damage which caused a major flood. Safety concerns required building 34 and 36 to be closed for a period of time; Amherst Alley, vehicle and pedestrian accident. Medical Service Calls: 5.

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Tennis Team Loses Two Tough Matches

By Nisha Singh
TEAM CAPTAIN

The women's tennis team hosted its only match of the season on Wednesday against Brandeis University. Despite their efforts, the team was unable to overcome both the gusty winds and cold weather, falling to Brandeis by a score of 7-2. "Considering the conditions and the opponents, I thought we played really well. We certainly played hard and fought for every point," said Team Captain Nisha Singh '00.

The most exciting match came in first singles, where Angela Mislowky '99 prevailed in three dramatic sets by a score of 5-7, 7-5, 7-5. Ayako Tanaka '00 and Doana Cecan '00 both lost by scores of 6-2, 6-1 at second and third singles, respectively. Singh fell 6-1, 6-1 at fourth, while Shikha Gupta '01 lost 6-3, 6-1 at fifth singles. Jessica Yeh '01 was defeated 6-1, 6-0 at sixth singles.

In other singles matches, Yue Zhang '01 lost 6-0, 6-2 at seventh singles, while Jenny Hsieh '01 at eighth singles, pushed her second set to a tie-breaker before losing 6-2, 7-6(5). Sailu Challipalli '01 was defeated 6-0, 6-1 at ninth singles. Katy Kaminski '01 picked up a win at tenth singles, 6-3, 6-0, however Tina Chang '01 fought hard at eleventh singles, and lost 6-3, 7-5.

In doubles play, Mislowky and Singh won at first doubles by default after a bizarre twist of events. Tanaka and Cecan played a terrific match at second doubles, but lost 8-5. Gupta and Hsieh were defeated 8-3 at third, while Zhang and Yeh played an excellent match, but lost 9-7 at fourth doubles, in what turned out to be the last match. Kosanna Poon '01 and Smrithi Banthia '99 lost 8-2 at fifth doubles.

Though disappointed, the team had many reasons to walk off the courts with their heads held high. "We really showed our mental toughness today, and some of our players played the best I've seen them play. I am very proud of their determination and attitude out there. They really wore their hearts on their sleeves today," said Head Coach Carol Matsuzaki.

The team travelled to Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. on Saturday. Under sunny blue skies and perfect conditions, the team lost 9-0 to a talented Vassar team. "We had some close matches that could have gone either way. There were also some sets that were very close. However, every point was a battle in each match. We gave away nothing to the Vassar team," said Singh.

Mislowky and Singh lost 8-2 at first doubles after taking the early lead. Tanaka and Cecan lost 8-3 at second doubles in a match that featured increasing competitiveness as the match progressed. Zhang and Hsieh and Gupta and Yeh both lost by scores of 8-2 in third and fourth doubles, respectively. Kaminski and Banthia found a way to win at fifth doubles, 8-5, after frequently finding themselves behind.

Mislowky again pushed her match to three sets, but this time she

could not pull it out, losing 2-6, 6-3, 6-2. Tanaka lost 6-1, 6-1 and Cecan fell 6-0, 6-0 at second and third singles, respectively. Singh lost 6-1, 6-0 at fourth, while Gupta was defeated 6-2, 6-3 at fifth singles. Yeh came back to almost push her opponent to a decisive third set at sixth singles, but lost the match 6-2, 6-4.

Zhang also played an excellent match at seventh singles, but lost 7-5, 6-1, after coming close to winning the first set. Hsieh was defeated 6-2, 6-2, at eighth singles, while Kaminski was defeated 6-3, 6-2 at ninth singles. Banthia was able to go the distance at tenth singles, but succumbed to her opponent 6-4, 4-6, 6-2, in a match that lasted well into the afternoon.

"This is the best we've competed so far this season. I was very happy to see our women fight so hard for every ball. We just need more match experience. Our doubles play is making major improvements every time we compete. I am extremely proud of our progress," said Matsuzaki. The team will travel to Wellesley this weekend to compete in the New England showcase for the season.

Engineers Host Annual Open Ballroom Dance Competition

Dance, from Page 16

dance title by placing first in the waltz, tango, and foxtrot and third in the Viennese waltz. Yedil Workeneh '98 and Kathleen Mahoney '92 placed second in the International-style waltz. Martin Szummer G and Mahoney placed second in the International-style Viennese waltz and the American-style tango. They also placed third in the quickstep, bolero, and International-style tango, fourth in the American-style cha-cha and waltz, fifth in the American-style Viennese waltz, and sixth in the swing and mambo.

Szummer and Isin Dalkilic '99 placed seventh in the international style waltz. Wynn Sanders G and Catherine Sanders G won the international-style tango and placed second in the foxtrot.

Eugene Bae G and Stephanie Shaw G placed fourth in the International style Viennese waltz. Bae and Christine Tsien G placed third in the International-style rumba, cha-cha, and paso doble, and sixth in the jive. Seth Webster G and Tsien won the American-style Viennese waltz and placed third in

the waltz. They also placed sixth in the International-style quickstep, tango, and foxtrot. Mark Herschberg G and Tammy Yap '99 placed fifth in the International-style waltz and foxtrot and in the American-style waltz, tango, and bolero. They were also fourth in the American-style foxtrot and sixth in the cha-cha. Zucker and Goldhaber placed second in the mambo.

At the advanced level, Andreas Gast G and Silvia Hoehn G won the International-style five-dance title, placing first in all five dances: waltz, quickstep, tango, foxtrot, and Viennese waltz. Vikas Bhushan G and Rachel Dowell SM '97 placed fourth in the international style waltz, ahead of teammates David Cho '97 and Jennifer Hammock '98 who placed sixth. Cho and Hammock also placed third in the international style tango, fourth in the foxtrot, and sixth in the quickstep.

In the paso doble, Bhushan and Dowell placed fourth, Wariyapola and Kheifets fifth, and Bae and Tsien sixth. Wariyapola and Kheifets also placed second in the bolero and fifth in the American-style cha-cha.

At the open level, Steve Casey SM'97 and Deirdre Pierotti placed

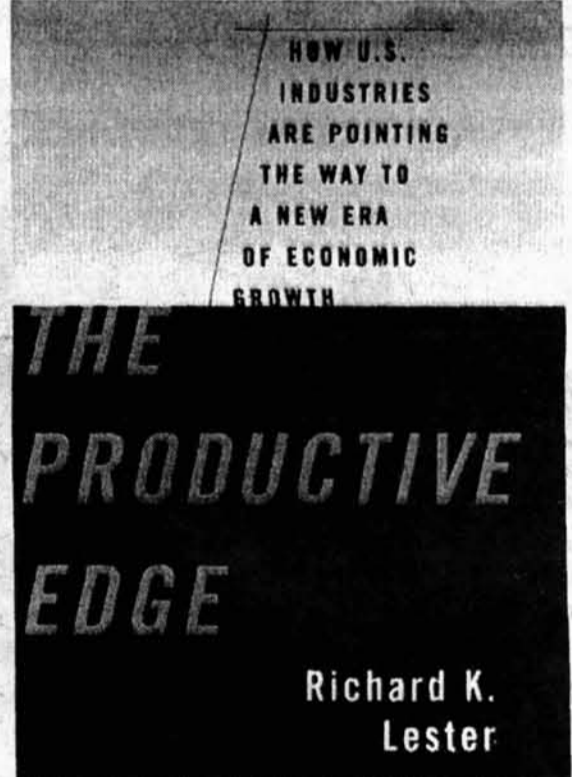
fourth in the International-style cha-cha, fifth in samba and jive, and sixth in rumba. Bhushan and Dowell placed sixth in the paso doble. Michael Otero, a researcher at Lincoln Labs, and Marta Lipinski G placed sixth in the international style tango, quickstep, and Viennese waltz. They also placed in the finals of the American style tango, foxtrot, and Viennese waltz.

Michael Posner and Ling Liao of Northeastern University did exceptionally in all styles, placing second overall in both the International-style latin five-dance and the American style smooth four-dance and winning the American style rhythm five-dance title placing first in all five dances: rumba, cha-cha, swing, mambo, and bolero.

For those left standing after two days of competition, two fun dance events were held: a hustle and a non-traditional partner medley. A number of MIT dancers made it to the finals these fun dance events including Hammock, Zucker, Bhushan, Posner, and Reena Freedman. The MIT team is now looking forward to its next competition, the Seventh Annual University Network Fundraiser competition on April 25 and 26.

Richard Lester

speaks about his new book
The Productive Edge



Richard Lester is Director of the MIT Industrial Performance Center and author of *The Productive Edge: How U.S. Industries are Pointing the Way to a New Era of Economic Growth*, just published by W. W. Norton. He is coauthor of the bestseller *Made in America* and coeditor with Suzanne Berger of *Made in Hong Kong*. He will be introduced by Suzanne Berger.

"If you want to understand the fundamentals of America's economic and competitive status, where it's been, and where it could (and should be) headed, this book is required reading. Lester has written a stunningly readable book, the single best source I know of about the issues and dilemmas facing U. S. industry as it approaches the millennium." —Warren Bennis, author of *Organizing Business*

"A nation's standard of living depends mainly on its own productivity. Richard Lester takes a fresh and penetrating look at how some American firms have turned themselves into highly productive competitors. There are vital lessons here for everyone." —Robert Solow, Institute Professor, Nobel laureate in Economics 1987

Thursday, April 16 5:30 pm MIT 54-100

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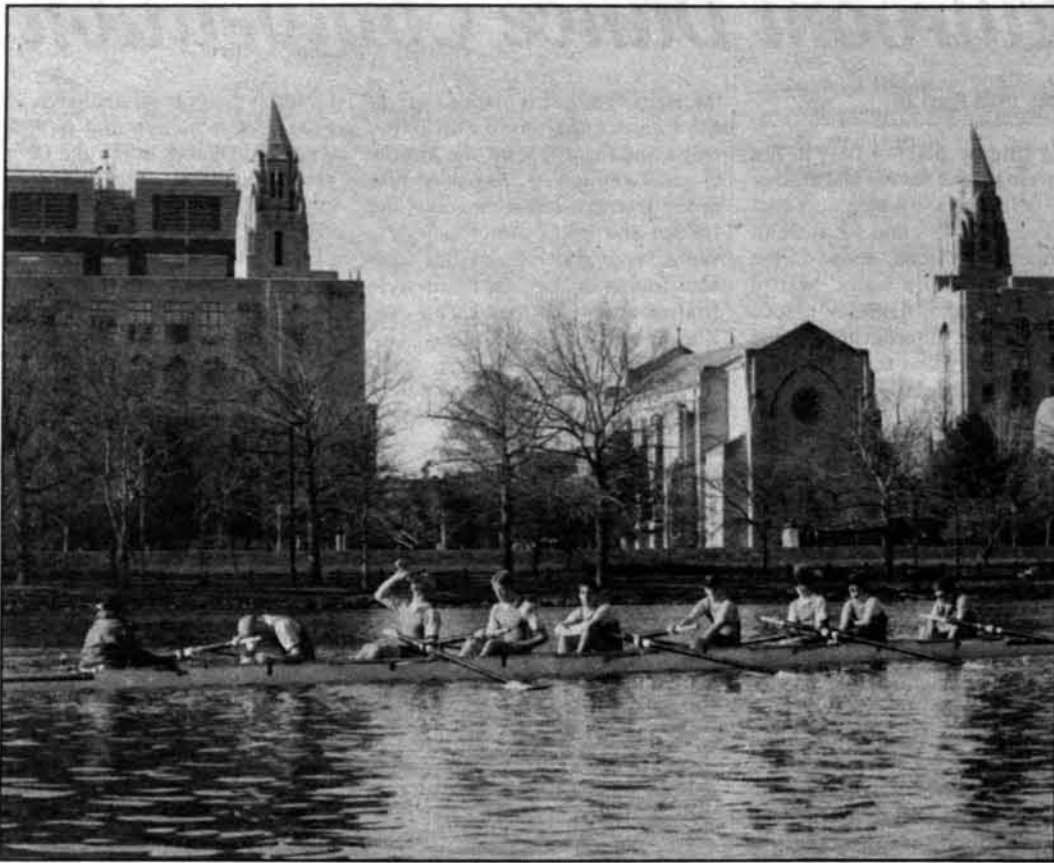
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SPORTS



DENNIS YANCEY—THE TECH

Light weight crew's 2nd varsity squad rests after losing a close race to Yale University Saturday morning.

Athletes of the Week

This week's athletes are Matthew Coates '98 and Amber Crabbe '00. Coates recently competed in NCAA Fencing Championships at Notre Dame and placed 24th in nation in the epee. He was the only Engineer to qualify for the championship. Crabbe picked up two wins and a no-hitter as she pitched both games of a double header against Mount Holyoke last week.

The Athletes of the Week feature is sponsored by the MIT Varsity Club.



Amber Crabbe '00
Softball

Age: 20
Major: Architecture and Civil Engineering
Hometown: St. Louis, Mo.
Years participating in sport: 13
Most memorable moment: Throwing the ball over the backstop in the first game I ever pitched when I was 8.
Future plans: Happiness and lots of Tosci's
"Stress is only a result of taking ourselves too seriously..."



Matthew Coates '98
Fencing

Age: 22
Major: Materials Science
Hometown: Oxford, England
Years playing sport: 4
Most memorable moment: Walking into the NCAA finals and seeing MIT's Mens et Manus on the wall, thinking that it was there because of me.
Future plans: Return to MIT next year to win the NCAA Championships.
"You can achieve what you want if you desire it more than your opponent" — Jarek Koniusz

Ballroom Dancers Win Several Awards at MIT Competition

By Vikas Bhushan
TEAM MEMBER

The ballroom dance team hosted its second annual Open Ballroom Dance Competition on April 4 and 5 in duPont gymnasium. This year's competition attracted over 300 competitors, a 50 percent increase in attendance from last year, making it the largest collegiate ballroom dance competition in the region.

The mayor of the Cambridge, Francis Duehay, was on hand to watch some of the competition and to present awards. MIT cable also videotaped the competition for a live broadcast.

Since the competition was held over two days, organizers were able to add additional events at the beginner level, as well as team matches and fun dances. On Saturday evening, the first annual MIT Alumni Ball was held. Competitors from all of the collegiate teams in attendance got the opportunity to socialize and get to

know one another.

The MIT team did a great job of organizing and running this competition, and it received many compliments from both competitors and spectators. In addition to hosting the competition, members of the MIT team also placed very well in individual and team events. A team consisting mainly of MIT ballroom dance team members placed second overall in both the American and international style team matches.

At the newcomer level Jeremy Zucker, a staff researcher at the Artificial Intelligence Lab and Chun Yu, a postdoctoral fellow of the Harvard-MIT Health Science and Technology program, won the International-style cha-cha. Zucker and Michelle Goldhaber G won the American style swing.

At the beginner level, Pubudu Wariyapola G and Viktoria Kheifets '00 won the paso doble, placed third in the international

style rumba, won the bolero, placed second in the American-style rumba, fifth in the mambo, and won the American-style smooth four-

Dance, Page <None>

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, April 14

Baseball vs. Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 2:00 p.m.
Golf vs. Wentworth Institute of Technology, 1:00 p.m.
Men's Lacrosse vs. Clark University, 4:00 p.m.

.....Think about it!

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