

MIT Requires FSILGs to Select Resident Advisers for Fall Term

By Frank Dabek
NEWS EDITOR

The Institute announced on Thursday that all fraternities, sororities and independent living groups would need to have graduate resident advisers starting this fall, at least one year earlier than had been previously stated.

Rosalind H. Williams, dean of students and undergraduate education told FSILG leaders of the new plans at a rush chairs meeting and also said that houses would need to be entirely alcohol-free beginning next month until they hired an RA.

Houses that fail to hire an RA for the fall may not be allowed to rush or house freshmen in fall 1999, said Associate Dean for Residence Life and Student Life Programs Andrew M. Eisenmann '70.

The change is merely "one of timing," Eisenmann said. "We had looked to have RAs in all FSILGs but had been acting on the assumption that it would have been a pilot program."

The Institute "recently reviewed our overall progress in enhancing our housing system and orientation, and concluded that we should stick

to the original time schedule announced last December for placing resident advisers in the FSILGs," said President Charles M. Vest.

Vest said that the changed plan will "serve us all better than the reduced, experimental approach."

The decision to change the schedule was made by senior administrators, said incoming Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72. "Students have not been involved in the discussion."

RA, Page 9

MIT Withdraws Support for Fiji, House Will Not Re-Open This Fall

By Douglas E. Heimbürger
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Members of Phi Gamma Delta will not be moving back into their house at 28 The Fenway this fall after MIT withdrew its support for the fraternity's dormitory license.

"We still do not know what occurred on the evening that led to Scott Krueger's death," because of the length of the grand jury investigation into his death from alcohol poisoning last September, said Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams in a letter addressed to Roderic P. Taft '74, a member of Fiji's alumni corporation.

MIT, in keeping with its standing practice, has deferred any investigation into the death of Krueger '01, and as such cannot determine whether to support Fiji before the Boston Licensing Board, Williams said.

Fiji will not automatically receive its license back when its seven-month suspension ends August 15, said Boston Licensing Board Commissioner Ellen E. Rooney, who chairs the board.

Instead, if the Malcolm Cotton Brown Corporation, the alumni group that owns the house, wanted to renew its license, it would have to file a formal application and attend a hearing. The board would take past actions and MIT's support of the fraternity into account when reviewing the matter, Rooney said.

"We understand that the consequence of our decision is that [the board] is unlikely to return the dormitory license to the fraternity," Williams said.

As a result of MIT's decision, alumni officials decided not to apply for a dormitory license to house undergraduates during the 1998-99

academic year, Taft said. "At this time, it appears that there will not be an active Fiji chapter" next year.

Institute unable to decide support
The decision not to support Fiji

Fiji, Page 9

FSILGs Expect Slower Rush in 1998, Few Freshmen Return Interest Cards

By Aileen Tang
STAFF REPORTER

As a revamped 14-day Orientation program is set to launch on August 26, an unprecedented degree of uncertainty and speculation loom over the prospect of this year's rush for fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

A recent *Newsweek* article about the death of Scott S. Krueger '01 has brought the incident back under public scrutiny. The negative media attention is believed to heighten concerns among some parents and incoming students about Greek life at MIT.

"The number of pledges will go down this year just because of *Newsweek* and other stuff going on in the media," said Kip V. Hodges PhD '82, dean for undergraduate curriculum. "A lot of factors have to do with events of last year. The messages that many rush chairs are get-

ting back is that the *Newsweek* article has been pretty devastating to them."

Many rush chairs also believe that the new policy of withholding freshmen contacts from the FSILG's has hurt rush prospects, Hodges said. This year, houses may only contact students that specifically expressed an interest in them by returning a special reply card to the Institute.

According to the Office of the Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education, roughly half of the 1,050 incoming freshmen

Rush, Page 9

Reorganization Combines Housing-Related Offices

By Brett Altschul
NEWS EDITOR

The Office of Residence and Campus Activities and the Department of Housing and Food Services have undergone a major restructuring, with many of both offices' functions being combined into the new Office of Residential Life and Student Life Programs.

The reorganization should help unify many aspects of MIT's housing system, said Associate Dean for RLSLP Andrew M. Eisenmann '70. "There were redundancies that were split in ways that may or may not make sense."

For example, housing assignments for undergraduates were made by RCA, but those for graduate students were made by HFS, he

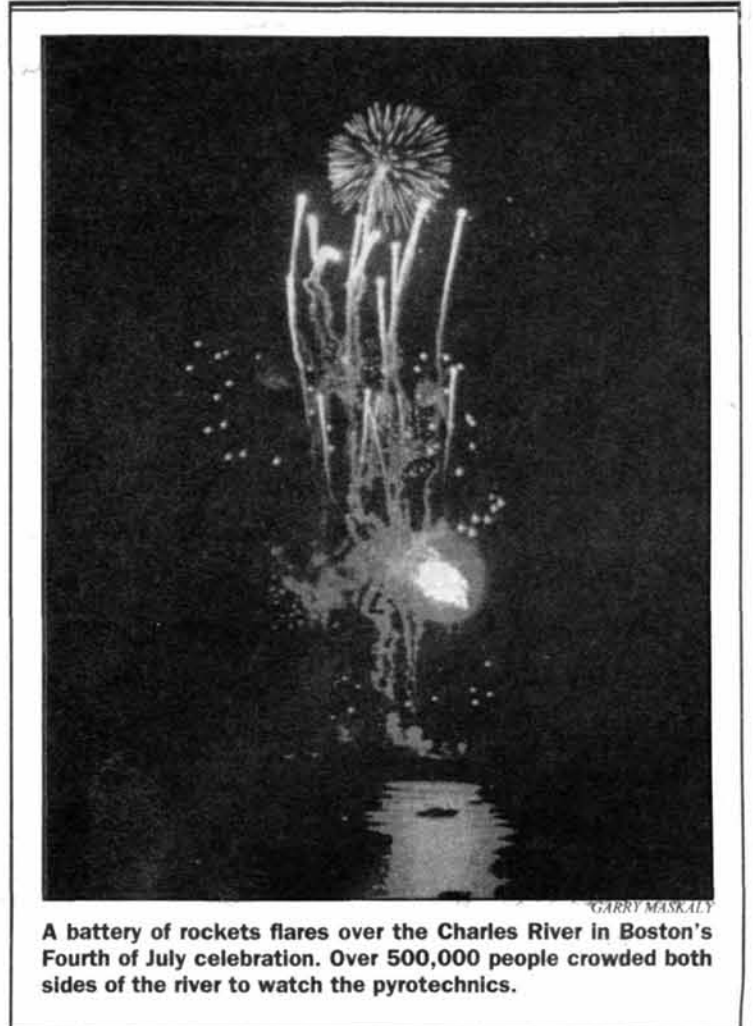
said. The separation of the administrative and program-oriented components of the housing system wasn't serving a useful purpose, Eisenmann said.

"Neither office exists as it was before," he said. RLSLP includes people from both of the old offices, he said.

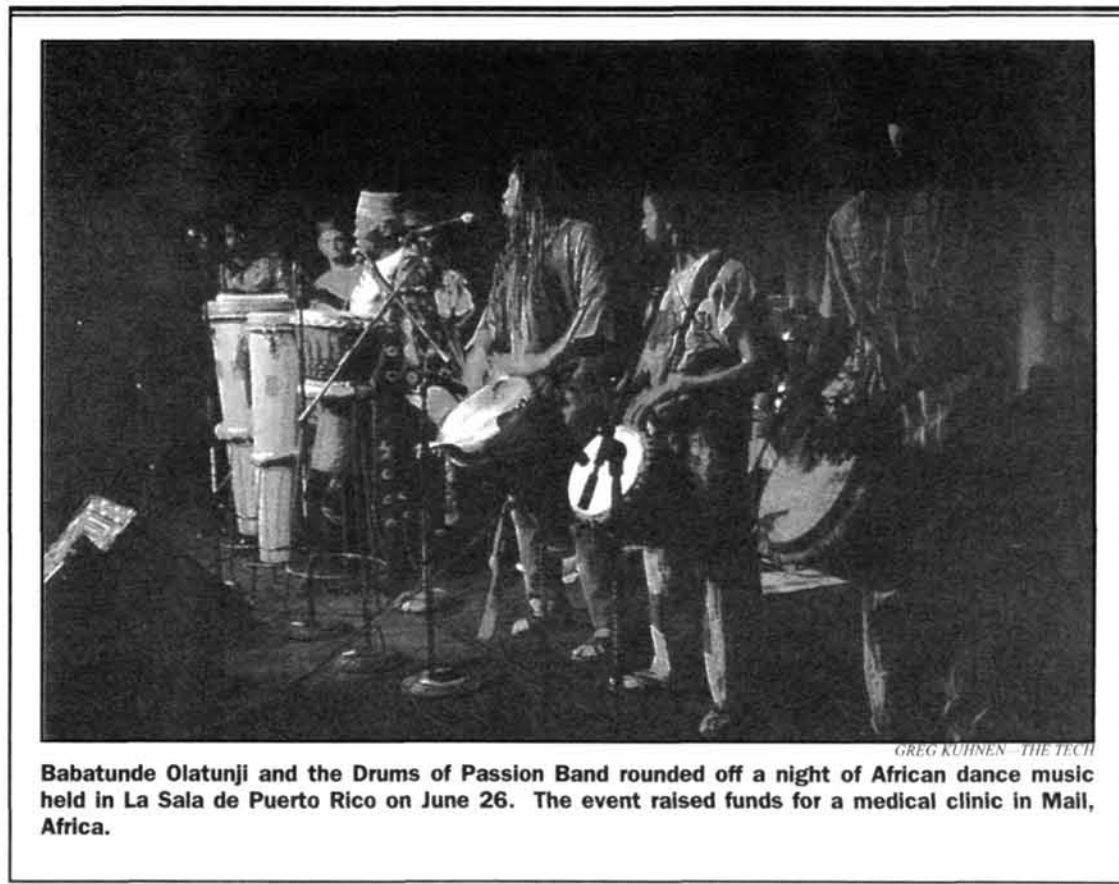
This reorganization and the formation of RLSLP is part of an effort to change the overall character of the Office of the Dean for Students and Undergraduate Education, he said.

The new structure will draw together many different ideas, Eisenmann said. "We want to remove the many splits that exist in

Merger, Page 6



A battery of rockets flares over the Charles River in Boston's Fourth of July celebration. Over 500,000 people crowded both sides of the river to watch the pyrotechnics.



Babatunde Olatunji and the Drums of Passion Band rounded off a night of African dance music held in La Sala de Puerto Rico on June 26. The event raised funds for a medical clinic in Mali, Africa.



Joel Moses discusses the past and future of MIT.

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Local high school girls explore career options with MIT students and faculty through the Keys for Empowering Youth program.

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THE ARTS



Mulan is entertaining, but isn't nearly perfect.

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WORLD & NATION

Democratic Fund-Raiser Hsia Indicted on Federal Tax Charges

THE WASHINGTON POST

Democratic fund-raiser Maria Hsia was indicted on federal tax charges Tuesday just weeks before she is due to go on trial for allegedly disguising illegal contributions to the 1996 Clinton-Gore reelection effort.

Hsia's attorney, Nancy Luque, said Hsia is innocent of any wrongdoing and portrayed the new indictment as part of a long-standing effort by federal prosecutors to pressure her into pleading guilty to campaign fund-raising misdeeds.

Hsia, a naturalized U.S. citizen born in Taiwan, has pleaded not guilty to a six-count federal indictment that charges that from 1993 to 1996 Hsia illegally routed funds from a Buddhist temple in California to support the Democratic Party and several Democratic campaigns. That trial is scheduled to start Aug. 31.

Hsia is best known for escorting Vice President Al Gore to a controversial 1996 campaign event at the temple, which was cited as an unindicted co-conspirator in a February indictment.

According to Tuesday's indictment, Hsia illegally failed to file a 1994 income tax return, under-reported her income on her 1995 and 1996 tax returns and filed a false 1995 corporate tax return for her immigration consulting company, Hsia & Associates, Inc., which is based in the Los Angeles suburb of Arcadia. If found guilty on the criminal tax charges, Hsia would face a maximum of 10 years in jail and a fine of \$850,000.

Police Brutality Caused by Lack of Accountability, Study Concludes

THE WASHINGTON POST

Police brutality remains a problem in many American cities because local and federal officials fail to adequately investigate and punish the small number of officers responsible for most abuses, Human Rights Watch charged Tuesday.

Shoddy internal investigations, weak civilian review and limited enforcement of federal civil rights laws by the Justice Department have allowed abuses to recur, said a report from the New York-based human rights organization that examined how police brutality complaints are handled by the federal government and 14 U.S. cities.

"Police departments like to claim that each high-profile abuse is an aberration committed by a 'rogue' officer, but these human rights violations persist because the accountability systems are so defective," said Kenneth Roth, executive director of the research and advocacy group known for reports on human rights abuses around the world.

The Human Rights Watch report did not attempt to draw conclusions about the frequency of police brutality. In fact, it criticized local police agencies and the Justice Department for failing to collect precise data on incidents involving police use of force.

As indicators of the scope of the problem, however, the report noted that in New York civilian complaints increased by nearly one-third between 1993 and 1997, that Chicago has paid out more than \$29 million since 1992 to settle civil lawsuits alleging police misconduct, and that Detroit has paid out more than \$100 million to settle such suits since 1986.

"Police officers engage in unjustified shootings, severe beatings, fatal chokings, and unnecessarily rough physical treatment in cities throughout the United States, while their police superiors, city officials, and even the Justice Department fail to act decisively to restrain or penalize such acts or even to record the full magnitude of the problem," the report concluded.

The report also alleged that the Justice Department has failed to fulfill a mandate enacted by Congress in 1994 requiring it to collect data on police abuse, declaring: "Without the information requested by congress, and more, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, for governments and police departments to craft enlightened policies" on containing police abuses.

Lott Faults Clinton on Taiwan

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., accused President Clinton Tuesday of accepting China's position on Taiwan during his recent meetings with Chinese leaders and called for a prompt vote to put the Senate on record as reaffirming U.S. support for Taiwan.

Lott's sharp criticism of Clinton's remarks, which included a declaration that the United States does not support an independent Taiwan, came after several days of grudging praise by Republicans for Clinton's trip and appeared to signal that GOP critics had found a new focus for their dispute with the president over China.

"Instead of pressing Beijing to renounce the use of force against Taiwan, President Clinton accepted Beijing's position on Taiwan. By ending the ambiguity of the U.S. position, we have harmed democratic Taiwan's position," Lott said.

White House spokesman Michael McCurry said Clinton was simply restating U.S. policy that goes back through several administrations.

WEATHER

Summer Storms

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Today: Showers and scattered thunderstorms, especially in the afternoon. Rain may be heavy late in the day. East wind 10 to 20 miles per hour (16 to 32 kph). Chance of rain near 100 percent. High 70°F (21°C).

Tonight: Breezy. Rain, possibly heavy at times. Chance of a thunderstorm. Chance of rain near 100 percent. Low near 60°F (16°C).

Thursday: Breezy with a chance of drizzle in the morning. Mostly cloudy in the afternoon. High 75°F (24°C).

Appellate Court Rules for Secret Service Disclosure

By Ronald J. Ostrow
and Robert L. Jackson

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

In a significant victory for Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr, an appellate court ruled Tuesday that Secret Service employees must tell the Monica S. Lewinsky grand jury what they saw or learned of President Clinton's dealings with the former White House intern.

The three-judge panel, in refusing to create a new Secret Service privilege, rejected claims by Treasury and Justice Department officials that compelling the testimony could imperil the safety of presidents by tempting them to push away their "protective envelope."

The ruling moves Starr one important step closer to obtaining testimony from perhaps the last impartial and credible witnesses in his probe of the Clinton-Lewinsky matter, and the two Secret Service agents and one attorney for the agency are believed to have information vital to his case.

The judges handed down their opinion as Pentagon employee Linda R. Tripp, another key witness for Starr, completed her third day of testifying before the grand jury. She is scheduled to return again on Thursday.

Tripp's closed-door testimony reportedly has dealt with the 20 hours of secretly tape-recorded phone conversations she had with Lewinsky in which the 24-year-old woman told of a relationship with the president and urged Tripp to lie about it in a civil lawsuit.

A Maryland prosecutor, meanwhile, said he was launching a state grand jury probe into evidence that Tripp may have violated state law by making the recordings without Lewinsky's knowledge.

Tripp, in a statement read out-

side the federal courthouse by her attorney, denounced the Maryland probe as a political effort to intimidate her.

The Secret Service dispute arose after Starr's prosecutors earlier this year summoned two agents and an agency attorney to tell what they knew about Lewinsky's relationship with Clinton. Secret Service Director Lewis C. Merletti and his boss, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, objected to such testimony on grounds that it could compromise the trust and confidence between a president and his protective detail.

On May 22, however, after studying legal briefs and arguments by both sides, Chief U.S. District Judge Norma Holloway Johnson ruled that the Secret Service employees must testify, declaring they are part of the federal law enforcement establishment sworn to assist in criminal investigations.

Despite Tuesday's ruling, it seems unlikely that Starr will obtain the Secret Service testimony before the end of summer.

In affirming Johnson's opinion, the appellate judges gave Treasury and Justice officials seven days to petition for a rehearing by the full 11-member Court of Appeals. Officials said they would study the ruling before deciding on a course of action.

If the full court should uphold its three-judge panel, the most likely development, any further appeal by the administration to the Supreme Court could delay Secret Service testimony until October, when the Supreme Court's next term begins, at the earliest.

Starr also is awaiting a decision from the appeals court on whether longtime Clinton aide and White House Deputy Counsel Bruce R. Lindsey will have to answer all questions from the grand jury.

Lindsey has invoked attorney-client privilege, and the White House, which is appealing a lower court ruling, has argued that the risk of impeachment proceedings creates "special circumstances" that should make such a privilege absolute.

In addition, Starr has been unable so far to arrange for Lewinsky to testify.

Justice and Secret Service officials said they were "disappointed" by Tuesday's ruling and soon would decide whether to appeal.

The three-judge panel, without dissent, found that Treasury and Justice officials had shown no "clear and convincing" reason why Secret Service agents should be given a special "protective function privilege" against testifying in a criminal investigation.

The judges, handing down their decision with unaccustomed speed less than two weeks after hearing oral arguments, gave several reasons for refusing to carve out a special exemption to excuse Secret Service agents from testifying.

They noted that Clinton himself has not declared the need for such a privilege, leaving it to Treasury and Justice Department officials to argue the case.

"We also think the efficacy of the privilege is undermined by its being vested in the secretary of the Treasury and not in the president, whose conduct the proposed privilege is supposed to influence," the court said.

"We know of no other privilege that works that way."

Starr, who had suffered recent setbacks including dismissal of his criminal tax case against Webster L. Hubbell and the release from prison of defendant Susan McDougal, issued a statement saying he was "gratified by ... the prompt resolution of the Secret Service's appeal in this case."

U.N. General Assembly Votes To Upgrade Palestinian Status

By Craig Turner

LOS ANGELES TIMES

UNITED NATIONS

The General Assembly upgraded the status of the Palestinian delegation to the United Nations Tuesday after an overwhelming vote that reflected increased international frustration with the stalled Middle East peace process.

The resolution, adopted over the objections of the United States and Israel, does not grant the Palestinians voting rights or authorization to nominate candidates for U.N. office, but it will give them unique status for delegates not representing a national government.

Palestinian representatives will be able to participate in U.N. debates, co-sponsor resolutions related to the Middle East and be seated in the General Assembly chamber next to Switzerland and the Vatican, two states with observer status.

Nasser Kidwa, the Palestinian observer here, hailed the decision as a "small victory" on the road toward statehood and suggested that the Palestinian Authority could unilaterally declare nationhood next May, when the interim peace agreement forged between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1993 expires.

In Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called the action a "minor correction" to the Palestinians' current position and expressed satisfaction that the General Assembly had stopped

short of granting them the status of a full member state.

"I am pleased that the Palestinian goal of raising their status to an 'almost state' was not reached," he told reporters. "They did achieve certain improvements that are very, very far from those they wanted, and this in itself is cause for satisfaction."

Netanyahu added, however: "I am concerned with the actual attempt by the Palestinians to pre-empt their international status, because this is a clear violation" of the peace accords.

In Washington, the Clinton administration reacted angrily to the decision, which officials said will make it even more difficult to break the stalemate in the peace process.

White House Press Secretary Mike McCurry said the move was similar to other "misbegotten efforts by the General Assembly in years past to inject themselves in what is obviously a sensitive, delicate and difficult process."

State Department spokesman James P. Rubin added that the vote "undermines the chances of bringing peace to the Middle East. It undermines those very people who it was presumably designed to help." He said it was a mistake for the Palestinians to insist on the action and a blunder by other countries to go along with it.

But Rubin rejected suggestions that Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat broke a promise to Secretary of State Madeleine

Albright by pushing the measure to a vote.

"He offered to delay it ... but he did not offer to not do it," Rubin said. He said the vote was delayed for more than a week.

The vote on the proposal, sponsored by 22 mostly Arab states, was 124-4, with 10 abstentions. Only Micronesia and the Marshall Islands joined the United States and Israel in opposition. Most of the United States' most important friends and allies, including Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Japan, Canada, Argentina, South Africa and Australia, voted in favor.

European diplomats said impatience with what they called Israeli intransigence on the deadlocked Middle East peace process was an important factor in their decision to vote with the majority Tuesday. Last December, the countries of the European Union played a key role in blocking a similar proposal before the General Assembly. But they reversed their position after the Palestinians agreed to adjustments in the resolution and after the failure of the Clinton administration's latest attempts to move the peace process forward.

The United Nations granted the Palestine Liberation Organization observer status in 1974 and changed the name of the delegation to Palestine in 1988. The designation provides the delegates limited rights to participate in U.N. activities and maintain offices at the world body's headquarters in New York.

Nigeria's Would-Be President Abiola Dies of Heart Attack

By James Rupert
THE WASHINGTON POST

ABIDJAN, IVORY COAST

Nigeria's imprisoned political leader, Moshood Abiola, died Tuesday of a heart attack as he talked with Nigerian officials and senior U.S. diplomats about how to resolve Nigeria's five-year-old political crisis, the Nigerian government said.

Abiola, 60, who was the apparent winner of Nigeria's annulled 1993 presidential elections and had been jailed since the following year, was a focus of hopes for ending 15 years of military rule in Africa's most populous nation. His release had been expected imminently as a key step in efforts to restore civilian rule and end Nigeria's international isolation, and his unexpected death deepened Nigeria's political uncertainty. Within hours, as the news spread, rioting was reported in the

country's largest city, Lagos.

U.S. officials said Abiola collapsed not long after he began a meeting with U.S. Undersecretary of State Thomas Pickering and other diplomats.

Pickering in a CNN interview said that Nigerian officials had taken the U.S. delegation to meet Abiola at the government guest house in Abuja, the capital, where he has been held recently. Abiola had halted the meeting, Pickering said, "asking to restore his thoughts. He took tea and had trouble breathing." A doctor was called and Abiola was taken by car to the clinic that serves the country's military leadership, where doctors worked for an hour and a half to save him, said Pickering, a former ambassador to Nigeria.

In Washington, President Clinton expressed regret at the "sudden and untimely" death. Pickering,

a former ambassador to Nigeria, said in an interview with National Public Radio: "It's a great tragedy, and we ... are deeply concerned by the situation, not only with the disappearance of a political leader of some great note here in the country, but also for the potential for disturbances that that might bring."

The death of Abiola — seen by many Nigerians, especially those of his Yoruba ethnic group, as a political savior — appeared certain to damage prospects for political reconciliation and cooperation between the new military government of Gen. Abdulsalam Abubakar and the heavily Yoruba political opposition. Abubakar replaced Gen. Sani Abacha, who jailed Abiola in 1994, when Abacha died suddenly one month ago after five turbulent years in power. His death immediately sparked rioting by politically embittered Yorubas in the southwest.

Nicotine Levels in Smokers Differ Based on Race, CDC Study Shows

By Sarah Yang
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Black smokers have higher levels of the metabolized form of nicotine in their bodies than do white smokers, providing potential clues about why blacks are less likely to quit smoking and more likely to develop lung cancer than whites, according to a study of more than 2,000 people by federal researchers published Wednesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

After controlling for variables such as body weight, age, and exposure to second-hand smoke, researchers at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that black smokers had 12 percent to 50 percent higher levels of cotinine — a nicotine metabolite — than white smokers, and 32 per-

cent to 56 percent higher cotinine levels than Mexican Americans.

A separate University of California — San Francisco study of black and white smokers in the same journal also found that black smokers absorb more nicotine per cigarette and retain more cotinine in their bodies, than white smokers.

Together, the studies suggest that prevention and treatment strategies may need to be adapted to suit variances in ethnic and racial groups, researchers said.

"To me these studies emphasize the importance that future research does a better job in including the diverse nature of the population in the U.S.," said Jack Henningfield, associate professor of psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University Medical School and editor of the 1988 surgeon general report on nicotine

addiction.

In the CDC study, researchers analyzed blood samples from 2,136 subjects aged 17 year or older who had participated in the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey between 1988 and 1991. All subjects had reported smoking at least one cigarette in the five days prior to the time blood samples were taken.

The study by CDC researchers puts the weight of a large, population-based survey behind those earlier findings.

Lead investigator Ralph Caraballo, an epidemiologist at the CDC Office on Smoking and Health, said more research is necessary, but the findings may indicate differences in the way blacks smoke, or biological differences in the way they metabolize cotinine.

Flesh-Eating Bacteria Ravages 11-Month-Old Girl

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

An 11-month-old girl fought for life in a pediatric intensive care unit Tuesday, her body ravaged by flesh-eating bacteria.

After removing strips of dead tissue from her chest and back, surgeons began grafting cadaver skin to her tiny frame Tuesday afternoon in hopes of staving off deadly infection.

"This child has lost 20 percent of her skin," said plastic surgeon Stephen Bresnick of Northridge Hospital Medical Center. "She's lost muscle. She's lost fat. Her ribs are exposed."

The girl, identified only as Baby Rosa, remained on life support and massive doses of antibiotics Tuesday. She was in critical condition but was improving, though doctors said only about half of patients with such severe cases of flesh-eating bacteria survive.

Doctors remain mystified about how Rosa caught the disease, but believe it sprang from a simple staph infection — *Staphylococcus aureus*, the same bacteria that causes boils and other relatively harmless skin conditions.

Baby Rosa's parents, who have asked not to be identified, first noticed something wrong on June 30, when Rosa broke out with a mild fever. Rosa's mother took her to an Oxnard physician, who took a throat culture and sent the girl home, said Dr. Hooshang Semnani, head of pediatric critical care at Northridge Hospital.

On July 1, her mother drove Rosa to Mexico to visit a family doctor in Tijuana. After spotting a bright red rash on Rosa's back, the physician told her mother to drive back to Los Angeles immediately and check her into a hospital, Semnani said.

If she survives, Baby Rosa faces more surgery and will be left with a significant deformity, Bresnick said. Her parents do not have health insurance, a hospital spokeswoman said, but the baby's doctors and Northridge Hospital said they will provide care regardless.

Motorola Reports Earnings Plunge

THE WASHINGTON POST

Motorola Inc., announced Tuesday that its operating profit shrank almost to zero in the second quarter, confirming new troubles at a technology giant that for years was known for solid profitability.

The company did manage to avoid the operating losses that many analysts had predicted it would report. But it offered little hope of a quick recovery. Chief executive Christopher Galvin said in a statement that "the negative impact on our business is likely to continue for at least the remainder of the year." Galvin pledged new efforts to restructure and refocus the company, building on the cuts of 15,000 jobs, about 10 percent of its work force, that were announced last month. Galvin cited a weak semiconductor market and economic crisis in Asia in explaining the poor numbers. But many analysts see management problems playing a major role.

"It is internal structural problems," said Greg Geiling, a telecommunications analyst at investment bank J.P. Morgan & Co. "The markets they sell into, other than semiconductors, are booming."

Motorola has mistakenly "acted like a company in a leadership position whose market share is invincible," said Mark Lowenstein, vice president of wireless research at the Yankee Group, a Boston-based market research firm. "They haven't proven as nimble in reacting to competition."



Graduate Student Council

& Walker Memorial, 50-220 ☎ 253-2195

✉ gsc-request@mit.edu 🌐 www.mit.edu/activities/gsc

The Graduate Student Council needs your help with our upcoming events. An hour or two of your time can make a big difference. If you can volunteer some time, please come to the appropriate GSC meeting:

July 13 - Activities

- Athletics Gateway
- Activities Midway
- Concert at Tanglewood

July 16 - ARC

- Graduate Career Fair

TBD - Muddy Charles

Board of Governors

July 28 - Orientation

- Red Sox Game
- Whale Watch
- Activities Sampler
- Harbor Cruise
- GSC Night on the Town

July 29 - HCA

- Reduced ACUS Rates
- Graduate Student Survey



Calendar

▶ JULY

- 10-12** Montreal Jazz Festival
- 13** Activities Meeting *
- 16** Academics, Research & Careers (ARC) Meeting *
- 28** Orientation Meeting *
- 29** Housing & Community Affairs (HCA) Meeting *

▶ AUGUST

- 05** General Council Meeting *

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

There are still some positions open on the Institute Committees. For more information, please contact gsc-vice-president@mit.edu. The following committees still have openings:

- Athletics Board
- Assessment of Biohazards
- Commencement Committee
- Committee on Copyrights and Patents
- Committee on Discipline

- Council on Family & Work
- MLK Jr. Memorial Activities Planning
- Medical Consumer's Advisory Council
- Committee on Privacy
- Committee on Radiation Protection
- Committee on Safety

OPINION

MIT's Duplicity Towards FSILGs

The recent decision mandating the placement of resident advisers in all fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups by this fall reveals the administration's serious lack of consideration and respect for students. The decision undermines the trust students have invested in the

Institute on issues of housing and student life.

While the implementation of a mandatory RA program is laudable, the incredibly short notice given to FSILGs is not. The decision comes six months too late and follows a slipshod series of contradictory and disorganized moves.

While President Charles M. Vest did originally call for RAs to be placed in FSILGs by this fall, the administration has since explicitly stated that the program next year would be of a voluntary nature. For Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams to deny this fact when speaking to FSILG leaders is totally unacceptable. Williams needs to carefully consider her credibility with MIT's students and her position as protector of their interests in the MIT administration.

First advised that there was only enough money to fund a pilot program for six FSILGs, but that a funding decision could not be made until after a house had signed a contract to hire an RA, many FSILGs who feared their funding application would be rejected chose not to participate. When MIT suddenly announced that all the houses that had applied for funding would receive money, it betrayed those who had failed to apply for financial reasons.

However, that betrayal pales in comparison to the administration's new directive. Most FSILGs were given only eight weeks to hire their RA. Many are now left ill-equipped to deal with a situation for which they did not believe they needed to set aside resources. Moreover, many fraternity leaders are away from MIT during the summer, adding to the difficulty of the decision-making process.

The last-minute decision to mandate RAs was clearly politically motivated, caused by pressure from the Boston Licensing Board and the ongoing grand jury investigation into the events surrounding the death of Scott S. Krueger '01. While MIT did need to take action to improve its relationship with these bodies and its image in the media, these issues were easily foreseeable in December. A firm decision could have been made then, had the administration not chosen to abdicate its responsibilities.

In addition, the decision to make the RA program mandatory was made without significant student input, and MIT's adviser to the FSILGs, Assistant Dean for Residential Life and Student Life Programs Neal H. Dorow, was not involved in the decision. Now there is essentially no time for student input in defining the role of an RA.

The administration's newest mandate merely exacerbates the problems facing FSILGs. While the appointment of a new employee to address the concerns of sororities and ILGs provides an additional person to help in the program's implementation, the program itself remains ill-defined. Questions remain about how much funding the Institute will provide to the houses to defray the cost of the RAs.

The nature of the RA position itself also continues to be ill-defined. The job was obviously created to curb underage drinking in FSILGs and mitigate MIT's liability in situations like those surrounding Krueger's death, but the exact responsibilities of the position have yet to be outlined beyond vague generalities. While administrators have been quick to suggest the simple day-to-day role an RA would play, they have been lax in defining more specifically the relationship an RA is to maintain with the Office of the Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education. While it is fine to characterize the relationship as a partnership, that definition completely avoids any mention of liability issues, which is at the heart of why this program is being pursued. The closest MIT has come to actually defining the RA's role has been to say that it may be modeled on the systems sororities have to employ house directors. However, sorority life is very different from fraternity life, in that all sororities and sorority events have always been alcohol-free.

Ultimately, the creation of a mandatory RA program in FSILGs represents a sound decision. While mistakes have been made, it is everyone's responsibility to make sure this program runs smoothly and does not head toward disaster. The administrators must regain the trust of students by being forthcoming with information and by making decisions about RA liability and funding in a timely manner. They must recognize the faulty decision-making that took place last year and ensure that it is not repeated. It is they who are responsible for making sure every house is able to participate successfully in the program by offering human resources, financial support, and effective leadership.



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Editorial



"It's the number of U.S. presidents who think 'constructive engagement' will improve human rights."

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The Line Item Vetoed

Supreme Court Decision Safeguards Constitution, Citizens

Michael J. Ring

Two hundred and twenty-two years ago, our founding fathers met in Philadelphia to forge a new nation, to chart a new direction for the people of the colonies. Frustrated with their lack of representation in the British parliament and viewing King George III as a tyrant, these wise men threw off the British yoke and proclaimed our independence.

Eleven years later, many of the same leaders once again gathered in Philadelphia, this time to draft a new government for the fledgling nation. Mindful of the lessons they learned from years of British rule and still fearful of a tyrannical government, the framers of our Constitution separated the powers of government between three branches.

The longest article of the Constitution, Article I, discusses the powers and responsibilities of the legislative branch of the new government. Contained within these words is a long list of powers given exclusively to the Congress. It is the Congress which has the power to declare war. It is the Congress which may borrow or coin money. It is the Congress which may regulate foreign or interstate commerce. No other branch of the government is given so many specific duties and responsibilities specifically through the Constitution.

Over much of the first century of our nation, the Congress was indeed the most active and powerful branch of the government. Many early presidents were hesitant to use the veto and deferred to the judgement of the Congress. The delicate balance of power, however, has been sliding away from the representatives of the people for almost 100 years. One of the unmistakable trends in the American politics of the twentieth century is the shift of the balance of power from the legislative branch to the executive branch. Since the rough rider Theodore Roosevelt assumed presidential power in 1901, most of our nation's chief executives have been active and

aggressive in government while searching for avenues by which to expand the power of their office. Liberals such as Franklin D. Roosevelt and conservatives such as Ronald Reagan have all pursued policies and decisions which increased the power of the executive branch of our government.

Last month, six men and women of the Supreme Court, the body created by the framers to interpret that document on which the government was to be executed, recognized and preserved the original intent of our founders. Their decision, which should be a source of rejoicing for all Americans who declare a love for the Constitution, has rendered the line-item veto illegal.

The majority found that the line-item veto violated the presentment clause of the Constitution, which states that every bill presented to the President shall be approved or disapproved by him. Nowhere in this clause does it state the chief executive may accept part of the bill presented to him but veto another section. Instead, it implies the President must either accept the whole bill as law or veto the entire bill. The majority of the Supreme Court wisely ruled that to give the President that power would be an unconstitutional breach of the intent of our nation's founders.

A concurring opinion by Justice Anthony Kennedy is even more clairvoyant in realizing the intent of our nation's Constitution. It is yet more vigilant in recognizing and preserving the original meaning of our Constitution.

Justice Kennedy, in his opinion, was especially concerned with the separation of pow-

ers. "Liberty is always at stake when one or more of the branches seek to transgress the separation of powers," wrote the justice. The violation of liberty in this instance was especially egregious, since the House of Representatives, the body which was most zealous over putting the line-item veto into law, was intended to be the body of government closest to the people.

The line-item veto took important powers out of an assembly of hundreds of people and shifted them to one person, a person who rules over 260 million others. To concentrate so much power, through the line-item veto or other means, in the executive branch is indeed a dangerous trend in our government. Democracy is weakened with so much power in the hands of one single person. Do we not call other nations with powerful executives and puppet legislatures tyrannies? Fortunately we are far from tyranny in America, but we must be ever observant to prevent one branch of the government, particularly the executive branch, from gaining too much power.

Justice Kennedy also scolded those in Congress who were so eager to give up their constitutional responsibilities. "Failure of political will does not justify unconstitutional remedies," he told the American people. "Abdication of responsibility is not part of the constitutional design," he further wrote. It is the responsibility of the Congress to draft bills; it is the Congress that must decide whether to attach or kill various appropriations amendments which some would consider "pork."

The current leaders of Congress, who believed so strongly in the line-item veto they put it in the "Contract with America" four years ago, would be well-advised to heed the counsel of Justice Kennedy and either take action to cut pork themselves or stop blaming other representatives and senators for wasteful spending while doing little themselves to control the purse.

Those who disagree with the Supreme Court's ruling fear that the repeal of the line-item veto will result in an increase in wasteful government spending, and they may be proven right. But a pork barrel project here and there is a small price to pay for the preservation of our liberty and the integrity of our great Constitution.



Models and Paradigms for Accepting Cultures

Guest Column
Vishal S. Saxena

One often hears the word paradigm. Why do so many people use this word? One also hears the word model. Again, why is it so much in vogue? Are these words related?

I think they are. Let us begin with some assumptions, assumptions you may not agree with. However, I do ask for an open mind. First, assume we are ready to give up something now to get some reward in the future. Many people define this as the basis of being human itself. Since we expect something in the future, our whole outlook on life is goal-oriented or result-oriented. We have to perform certain activities either as preparation or as the process itself of attaining the goal. Thus, the claim that one should enjoy life because the process of day to day life is important as well is not completely accurate. One certainly has to do some gruntwork. Now, the difference is whose gruntwork one has to do. If it is your own, then you are happy; if it is not your own, then you are not.

This brings me to my second assumption: control is also important for us. But this is connected to the previous paragraph's last idea: no one is completely unselfish, or at least we believe no one is. One would willingly give up one's control if one knew that what someone else is doing, they are doing for one's best interest. However, this brings me to my third assumption — that one is only willing to listen to someone else if they are totally convinced the other person is right or smarter or both. But how are all these assumptions related to paradigms and models?

Well, since our whole attitude is result-oriented, we seek to create models out of everything. A model is a way of looking at things, of describing things, and hopefully creating things. The whole system of education that we go through is actually helping us build models. But models are only useful if we do something with them. A model in engineering would be completely useless if one couldn't do anything with it. There is no such thing as a right model or a wrong model. A model is justified by its utility. A model is a paradigm, just a way of looking at things. If that way of looking at

things produces something useful, then the model is successful. Some would argue that there are plenty of models in math that have no stated utility and that research which is pure is completely unpractical. My caveat here is that we already have certain paradigms in mathematics and science that have proven their utility over hundreds, even thousands, of years. No human is able to predict everything. Therefore, if something has worked for so long, one is likely to say that something based purely on manipulation or usage of rules within this paradigm is likely to work.

Perhaps an example will illustrate things better. Algebra works as one. The equations that make up algebra have been shown to work. People are convinced that other ideas or sub-models coming out of following the rules of algebra will produce the "right" ideas. This is all true and correct. But the axioms that make up algebra are still models and paradigms. All of math is a paradigm. There is nothing elegant in producing "unpractical" results. It is true that because we cannot predict everything, we make models that are seemingly "elegant", but otherwise have no utility. But the success of a model is ultimately tested by its utility. Many of the ideas in math are considered right because the overall paradigm has worked time and again. All of education is therefore a way of teaching us the paradigms that work.

There is one problem though. Some of these paradigms are quite complicated. Many people lose sight of the end goal. The end goal is to do something with those models that we have built, not to prove how complicated a model that we have built, or to show that one model may be better than some other model. Psychology, for instance, is not inferior to biology or physics. But what has all this got to do with the other assumptions that I wrote down previously?

We build models in order to accomplish something. But these models are not restricted to academics. Many of these models reside as part of our personality. They help us to perform our day to day life. Since none of us is the same overall as someone else, we produce different outputs and also receive different inputs from the environment. These outputs and inputs, such as social inputs and outputs,

help us make up our own models. Once we get into a certain model, however, we seem to want to hold on to it, unless we are thoroughly convinced that this model is baloney. Part of the reason why we want to hold on to our own model is because we are unwilling to accept that someone else could have come up with something better.

Could ideas be living entities that do not want to perish? Certainly many will disagree with this. But remember that this is just a model. Its purpose is not to convince you that ideas go to the grocery store and buy food for themselves. No, the purpose of this model is to explain the difficulty that people have in giving up a silly idea for one that produces better results; to explain the antagonism that often arises between groups of people and between countries who, for instance, have different overall paradigms, as culture is a paradigm. Could it be that our brains and our bodies are just vehicles or clothes that ideas and paradigms take up just as we take up a different set of jeans when the old ones wear out?

How does one solve this problem of antagonism between groups of people or even between people using this model, or how does this model help us to learn more efficiently? I am not sure. But some paradigms produce better results; these paradigms should be tried out. Ideas that clash with the use of this new paradigm should be discarded. They should be "killed." But, the overall conclusion is that there is a hierarchy of ideas and paradigms that we are capable of building. Some people call this the ability to generalize, to make things more abstract. Thus, the higher up we are in our ability to form paradigms, the more easy it will be for us to accept lower level paradigms.

However, all paradigms do not come from within ourselves. We can grow from accepting others' paradigms. Hopefully, the knowledge that culture is just a paradigm — that arguments often are just the result of an unwillingness of one "idea" to die out — will help us to think of these concepts of culture and arguments as not too important. What will come out is that ideas should be tried out, that the building of new paradigms will help us all achieve our goals, whatever they are.

Vishal S. Saxena is a graduate student in the Department of Mechanical Engineering

Fraternity System Not To Blame

Guest Column
Lanny R. Chiu

No one can doubt that the untimely death of Scott S. Krueger '01 was a tremendous tragedy. By all accounts he was one of the brightest, most talented, and most promising young people in this country. Whenever someone of such promise dies, it is natural for serious consideration to be given to the circumstances of his death. But the questions that are being asked and the conclusions that are being reached are, at the very least, highly misguided.

Many now take it as gospel that the horrifying acts of hazing and abuse are a daily occurrence in fraternities around the country. They believe that fraternities are nothing more than the elaborate drinking clubs immortally stereotyped in *Animal House*. I could give many examples to the contrary about the wondrous unpublicized aspects of fraternities at MIT: the complete support that is always there when you can call yourself a brother, the feeling of total acceptance that is always apparent, and all of the small yet wonderful daily experiences. These instances, far more than alcohol, make up the fraternity experience.

I will refrain from trying to explain the idea of brotherhood, which is an impossible concept to explain to someone who has never experienced it. Let me simply say that whenever I walk into my fraternity house, I feel like I am at home. But what is foremost on people's minds is the forced consumption of alcohol which many say is fundamentally part of the fraternity experience.

Like Krueger, I pledged a fraternity as a freshman and went through all of the fraternity rituals that make up initiation into these institutions. But I have never been through the horrifying experiences that are now being described daily in magazines and newspapers around the country. I will not lie and tell you that alcohol has not been part of my college experience. Like most of my peers, I have gone to parties and indulged in wine, beer and other spirits. But what is implied when people talk today of fraternity drinking — the excessive, sadistic acts of cruelty that are said to be enforced by upperclassmen on potential brothers — are to me, like they are to most people in the country, simply descriptions dreamed up by some editor.

Some may disregard my opinion as hopelessly naive, but consider the possibility that everything done during a pledge program, every act assigned by an older brother to a pledge, is not designed as an act of cruelty to give the upperclassmen some measure of sadistic pleasure. Rather, a pledge program should be an experience that builds unity and loyalty among the pledges. It should be one of the best experiences of one's life, because it brings a pledge closer to his fraternity brothers than to anyone but his real family. I know that it did for me. Ask yourself, is the best way to make these pledges feel this tremendous spirit of brotherhood to force them to drink until they are comatose? What sense does it make to hurt these people that a fraternity wants to bring into its house?

That is not to say that these types of hazing events cannot or have not happened. But then what we are talking about is not a problem of the fraternal institution, but a problem of judgement. Fraternities, like any institution, can make errors in judgement, and tragedies can happen because of them. Where was the error in judgement in the Phi Gamma Delta case? Whose flawed judgement brought about this terrible tragedy? The answer to these questions can only be determined by a careful examination of the facts, and I would not even attempt to answer them. But, I am not looking to assign blame. I only hope that people do not condemn one of the oldest and most honorable institutions in the world because of a mistake.

I cannot say that fraternities have always behaved admirably, but can you say that about any institution? Before you start your next conversation with the phrase, "That Krueger tragedy just shows that fraternities have to go," consider the object of your concern. Are you talking about the fundamental nature of fraternities or one instance of gross negligence? I grieve for Krueger and his family, and of course I don't want anything like this ever to happen again. But let us not compound this tragedy by committing another one — by damning an honorable institution simply because we feel a righteous anger.

Lanny R. Chiu is a member of the Class of 2000.

Retiring Provost Joel Moses Discusses Funding, Research

By Zareena Hussain
NEWS EDITOR

While short on describing his specific experiences during his tenure as provost, only saying that his favorite part was giving out awards, such as appointments and the Margaret L. MacVicar faculty award, Joel Moses PhD '67, as the chief academic officer at MIT, has insight and accomplishments few others will be able to boast.

When he steps down at the end of the month, he leaves an Institute both in the midst of change and prepared to deal with future challenges. One of the key issues in future years for the Institute is funding with the oncoming capital campaign.

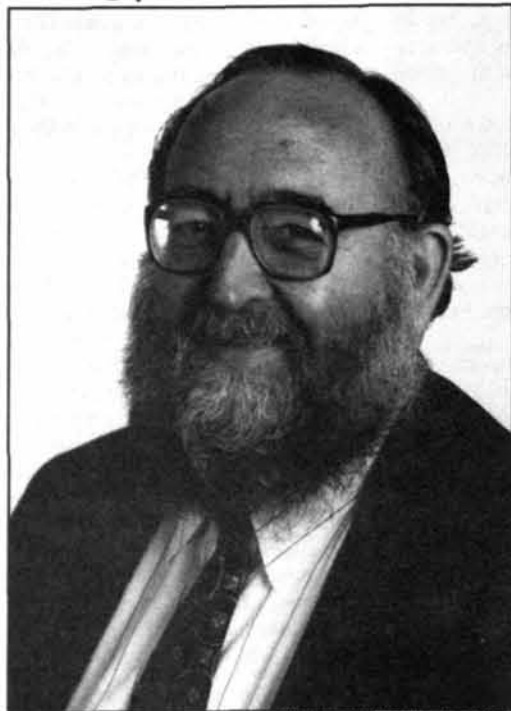
"A key challenge is getting sufficient funding to permit MIT to hire and retain outstanding faculty, students, staff, and facilities. This past year I have developed, with the help of the academic leadership, a draft list of priorities for a capital campaign. In addition, Chuck Vest, Bill Dickson and I have developed parameters for future MIT budgets that will keep MIT at the forefront of academic institutions for the coming decade. These changes assume a transition of support for MIT that increasingly comes from private gifts and the endowment that results from them. I am optimistic that these changes will permit the new team to deal with the challenges they will face," Moses said.

In addition to funding issues, another key issue that has come up during Moses' tenure is the aggressive hiring of junior faculty.

"The retirement incentive plan for the faculty a few years ago created a sizable number of openings for new faculty," Moses said. Many deans "have used this opportunity to hire outstanding young faculty. The strength of the faculty is, of course, a key reason why MIT attracts superb students," he said.

Moses was also integral to creation of the Systems Design and Management graduate program.

"We have discussed creating a program that parallels the Leaders for Manufacturing program, but that emphasizes design, for nearly a decade. I was dean of engineering during much of this period and helped advocate its creation. With the tremendous support of Tom Magnanti and Ed Crawley we were able to launch such a program two years ago. We find that industry leaders are now convinced that the material, a mix of management and systems engineering, is needed nationwide for much larger number of engi-



Retiring Provost Joel Moses PhD '67

neers than MIT can teach, even with distance learning. We are therefore working with other schools to help them to teach this material. I have found that giving lectures in SDM one of the most rewarding experiences in the past several years," he said.

Finally, industry-sponsored research as well as funds derived from gifts is key to supporting the Institute's future research endeavors.

"Industry has changed a great deal in the past decade, and it is important for us to learn what new problems they face. The usual industrial contracts give us an important, but limited, view of these problems. Hence we have developed the notion of strategic partnerships with selected companies. We currently have three such partnerships, with Amgen, Merck, and Ford. I expect that we will have a few more in the coming years. I am pleased to say that the discussions over intellectual property and publication have gone smoothly in all the negotiations that have been completed so far," Moses said.

High School Girls Learn Skills in KEYs Program

By Susan Buchman
STAFF REPORTER

Twenty-one girls arrived on campus last week to participate in the Keys to Empowering Youth program, which brings eleven-to-thirteen-year-old girls together with college students for one to three days to participate in workshops on empowerment, awareness, and problem-solving.

Through participation in hands-on activities and interaction with mentors, the girls are exposed to non-traditional career paths. The program is organized by the Public Service Center and was coordinated by Priya M. Rajendran '01.

"I absolutely loved working on the Keys to Empowering Youth Program," Rajendran said. "The 21 girls were awesome to work with. They were enthusiastic about a wide variety of activities."

KEYs began in 1993 when a group of graduate and undergraduate students, staff, and faculty at MIT decided to help address the problems within the Boston-area community. The motivation behind KEYs is to give encouragement to adolescent girls at a critical stage in their personal development. The girls are encouraged to think about their futures and talk about the steps they may need to take to achieve their goals.

Preparation for the three-day program began in the past academic year. Girls from the Boston area spend a Saturday at MIT during the school year. The one-day program is split up into three parts: group goal discussions, team problem solving, and laboratory activities. Some of the girls returned for the three-day program last week.

The three-day program is led by mentors who are undergraduate and graduate students. The mentors facilitate discussions, lead activities, and share their personal experiences during the course of the day.

This year's three-day program began on Monday morning with an icebreaker. Girls wrote down the names of other girls who shared personal characteristics such as height, favorite comic strip, and career goal.

The first major activity was a physics game in which the girls had to build the tallest structure possible using 10 sheets of paper, two business cards, and two nametags.

On a visit to the Medical Center, the girls visited with a medical personnel and learned how to measure blood pressure. For the last activity of the day, they toured McCormick Hall.

On Tuesday, the girls started the day by seeing Paul Thomas' "Mr. Magnet" demonstration. Then Campus Police Sergeant Cheryl deJong Vossomer gave a demonstration on self-defense. Lastly, in an activity designed to mimic the 6.270 Autonomous Robot Design Competition, the girls built Lego cars and held a race with the finished products.

A visit to the Ocean Engineering Tow Tank was the first activity on Wednesday. The girls spent the afternoon writing articles about their experiences in the program, which will be published in a newsletter and sent to the participants.

The final activity was the career life game. The girls were given chips representing money and time. The girls used their chips to buy educations, families, and make other life decisions. They also had to deal with fate chips which could make them victims of car accidents or illness.

In the anonymous evaluations filled out by the girls at the end of the program, the girls expressed their enthusiasm with the experience.

"I learned so much that I couldn't write it all, but I learned that I want to do this again," one girl said.

Merger Ends Splits in Housing Policy

Story, from Page 1

our housing system."

There are sharp divisions between undergraduate and graduate housing policies and procedures, he said. Likewise, there are many differences between dormitories and fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

Eliminating some of the arbitrary splits should lead to a more unified MIT community, Eisenmann said. "We want people to be able to share their commonalities, while still appreciating their differences," he said.

MIT Card, dining not affected

The food services and MIT Card functions of the old Department of HFS will be less affected by the reorganization, said Lawrence E.

Maguire, former director of HFS and now director of the MIT Card Office.

No changes are planned for the MIT Card, Maguire said. In the immediate future, the MIT Card Office will continue to run as it has in the past, he said.

MIT's dining system is currently under review and modification. The fundamental changes to the food services system have already been established, and this reorganization is not expected to affect them further.

Reorganization has long history

"There's a long context behind the integration," Eisenmann said.

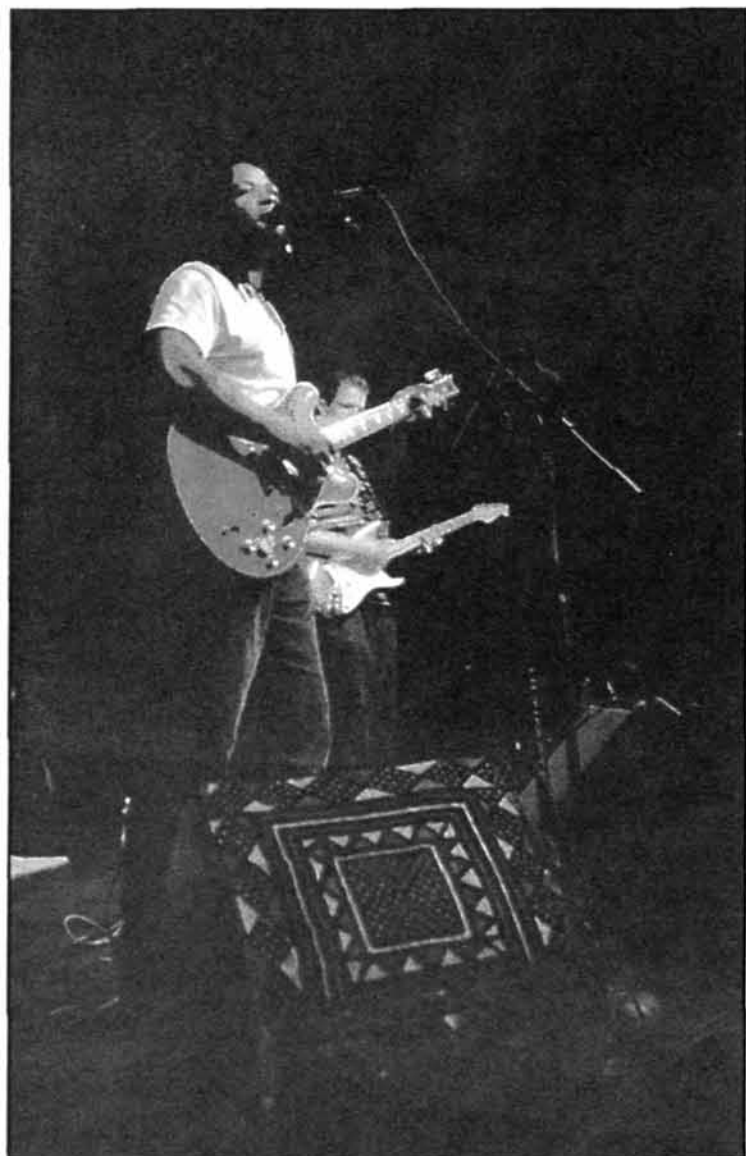
The integration of RCA and HFS was first suggested in 1996 by the Housing and Residential Life reorganization team. The team made

the suggestion in a preliminary report, calling for RCA and HFS to combine by the end of 1996.

After the HARL team's report, a Residential System Integration Team formed in the spring of 1997 to enact the HARL recommendations.

"The events of the past year have slowed the implementation by the RSIT," Eisenmann said. However, the extra time has allowed the team to proceed more thoughtfully, and the overall effect of the delay should prove to be positive, he said.

In the 1996 reorganization of MIT's administrative structure, HFS moved from reporting to MIT's senior vice-president to reporting to Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams.



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

(above) Guitarist Fellyko Mbuji-Mayi leads his band Sankai in a pop African song that combines sounds from Zaire with sounds from America. The group was one of three to play at the Project Mall Benefit Concert on June 26.

(right) Mohamed Kalifa Camara and The Spirit of Africa rouse the crowd to their feet during their portion of the concert.



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

THE ARTS

MOVIE REVIEW

Mulan

Disney's latest animated film shows cracks in a successful movie formula

By Vladimir V. Zelevinsky
STAFF REPORTER

Directed by Tony Bancroft and Barry Cook. With the voices of Ming-Na Wen, Lea Salonga, Eddie Murphy, B.D. Wong, Donny Osmond, Miguel Ferrer. Written by Rita Hsiao, Chris Sanders, Philip LaZebnik, Raymond Singer, and Eugene Bostwick-Singer, based on the story by Robert D. San Souci, inspired by the ancient Chinese folk ballad.

Disney's formula is still standing mightily. However, it is a colossus with the feet of clay, and the cracks, which started to show several years ago, are rapidly spreading. There's nothing wrong with the formula *per se*: role-model protagonist, musical numbers, funny sidekicks, romantic interest, despicable villain, exciting adventure — you know, the works. However, it has to be used carefully, without sacrificing the overall coherency; otherwise, the result will be like *Mulan* — a highly entertaining, yet somewhat schizophrenic experience.

I guess I should not complain too much, because I saw two films for the price of one. The first film is about a young Chinese girl, Fa Mulan (speaking voice by Ming-Na Wen, singing voice by Lea Salonga), who dresses up as a man and joins the army, to save her old conscripted father. The country is in trouble, because the Huns are attacking, sweeping aside such obstacles as the Chinese army, the

Great Wall, and the fact that the real Huns never attacked China (memo to Disney: not all Mongolian tribes are Huns). Mulan has to brave not only the invaders, the harshness of military training, but also the centuries-old gender stereotypes. Her adventures are viscer-



Fa Mulan, a young woman impersonating a man in order to fight in the Chinese army, flees the advancing Huns in Disney's new animated feature, *Mulan*.

ally exciting, and there's even some emotional weight behind Mulan's plight.

The second film has Eddie Murphy voicing Mushu, a small but highly obnoxious dragon, whose ostensible purpose is to be Mulan's guardian. His real purpose, of course, is making sure that all the kids in the audience would have something to laugh at. While Murphy is never outright annoying — he's just mildly distracting — and quite a few jokes actually work, the combination of a dramatic adventure and a silly comedy is really an ill-advised one. While the overall impression is not as jaw-droppingly shocking as the one I got from *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (where a film which featured murder, torture, and sexual aggression coexist-

ed with the one which featured singing gargoyles), it still makes a weird combination.

Too bad, because the time which was spent on Murphy's antics could have been otherwise spent on better things. The main story — a woman's war with prejudices with the Chinese-Mongolian war as a background — is full of epic qualities and rich possibilities. Some of them are realized, but once in a while the pacing feels way too rushed. This doesn't give the characters much chance to breathe, and the romantic subplot, which actually is quite organic and doesn't feel shoehorned, is severely underutilized.

However, what is there is spectacular. The visuals are marvelous — the grand scale (the Wall of China, the Emperor's Palace with thousands of lanterns, the blinding white snow of the foreboding mountain pass), as well as the fine details and excellent character design. Voice acting is top notch, but then again, it always is in Disney's animated features, and the musical score (Jerry Goldsmith) sounds both suitably ethnic and heroically stirring. On the other hand, the songs (from the *Hercules* team of composer Matthew Wilder and lyricist David Zippel) are utterly bland, and join the list of things Disney should consider either making relevant to the overall story, or avoiding completely. By the way, the pop-singles during the final credits should simply be banned as offensive to the ear.

Of course, it is very hard to achieve the artistic consistency when you have six screenwriters as well as thirteen extra people providing "additional story material" (whatever that means). Of course, with so many cooks working on the stir fry, the results are bound to be a mixed bag, just like this metaphor. *Mulan* is a highly enjoyable movie, with lots to offer to everyone; but I couldn't help but think of what it could have been if it didn't try to pander to each and every audience member. Then it might have been truly excellent.

MOVIE REVIEW

Out of Sight

The fine differences between a plot and a story

By Vladimir V. Zelevinsky
STAFF REPORTER

Directed by Steven Soderbergh. Written by Scott Frank, based on the novel by Elmore Leonard. Starring George Clooney, Jennifer Lopez, Ving Rhames, Don Cheadle, Albert Brooks, Steve Zahn.

There's a fine difference between a plot and a story. A plot consists of the events that you see when you watch the movie. A story consists of the events that you remember after the movie is over. Usually (especially in genre movies — for example, *L.A. Confidential*) the plot and the story are the same. However, in something like *Pulp Fiction* (with its broken time line, seemingly irrelevant sequences, and wildly discursive nature) the two are as far from each other as they can be.

After doing *Pulp Fiction*, Quentin Tarantino directed an adaptation of the Elmore Leonard novel *Rum Punch* called *Jackie Brown*. That film, along with a previous Leonard adaptation, *Get Shorty*, ostensibly belonged to the crime caper genre — but the focus was somewhat loose, because the colorful characters didn't seem to have much interest in following the strict plot, and rather enjoyed showing off their respective quirks. Which, of course, provided most, if not all, enjoyment — for the life of me, I won't be able to recall the plot of *Get Shorty*, but I certainly remember the goofy grin on John Travolta's face.

Out of Sight is another Elmore Leonard adaptation, directed by Steven Soderbergh of the *sex, lies, and videotape* fame. And, as usual, the plot and the story are very much different — here, they are also at war with each other.

The plot concerns a veteran bank robber Jack Foley (George Clooney), who is caught, jailed, and spends his time planning an escape and a robbery, which would bring him a cool five million in uncut diamonds. However, there are his old friends from the last time he was behind the bars, most importantly a merciless killer Maurice "Snoopy" Miller (Don Cheadle), and they also happen to know about the diamonds.

The said plot, while occasionally engaging, is of the strictly cut-and-paste, connect-the-dots variety. It doesn't generate much excitement, and the pacing feels somewhat slow — perhaps, because Leonard, along with Soderbergh and screenwriter Scott Frank (who also adapted *Get Shorty*) are much more interested in other things.

At first, they parade a fascinating array of characters across the screen, including Foley's partner, Buddy Bragg (Ving Rhames), a gruff but charming criminal, who doesn't do anything without confessing to his sister. There's Glenn (Steve Zahn), a perpetually stoned dude, who wears sunglasses even when it's pitch dark around him. There's Mr. Ripley, a semi-honorable Wall Street financier, who is warmly attached to his toupee collection. And there's goofy personas and captivating charac-

ters aplenty.

Second, there's a love story, and it's absolutely excellent. During one of his adventures, Jack takes hostage a federal marshal Karen Sisco (Jennifer Lopez). This scene (an amusing twist on the "meet cute" tradition) sparks affection in both of them, and the resulting love story is by far the most appealing and interesting aspect of the movie, despite the fact that Karen and Jack will really meet only twice afterwards. Each encounter between them sizzles with the kind of tension and chemistry that is truly exciting to behold.

It also helps a lot that both Lopez and Clooney are at the top of their game. Lopez plays tough, no-nonsense U.S. Marshall with assured grace, and Clooney, abandoning his usual "head down, eyes up" acting stance, simply oozes charisma. I have to admit that every actor in *Out of Sight* is very good, but these two achieve something special.

And, therefore, it's somewhat annoying when that pesky plot gets in the way of such a great story. The sequences devoted to the caper are quite impressively mounted, but they are really no match to the love story, and, as a result, feel like digressions of what's really important. The story wins over the plot — but then again, that's what usually happens.

MOVIE REVIEW

The Spanish Prisoner

For once, a movie of Hitchcockian proportions

By Vladimir V. Zelevinsky
STAFF REPORTER

Written and directed by David Mamet. With Campbell Scott, Rebecca Pidgeon, Steve Martin.

Fortunate are the artists whose names have mutated into adjectives. While I don't think "tarantinoesque" is quite an established word yet, "Hitchcockian" undoubtedly is. The funny thing is that not only can it be applied to the movies made without any contributions from Alfred Hitchcock himself, but the best movies of this type (for example, *Charade*) are made by other people. David Mamet's *The Spanish Prisoner* is an exemplary specimen of the genre, not only being a tense thriller in its own right, but also providing some serious subtext to go along with all the precise movements of the clockwork plot.

There are no prisoners in *The Spanish Prisoner*, nor has it anything to do with Spain. I would explain the meaning of the title — but I will refrain from doing so (it is explained about two-thirds of the way through the film); also, I will limit the plot description to a few lines only, since one of the biggest pleasures the film provides is watching it unfold from the same unknowing perspective as its protagonist.

Said protagonist is Joe Ross (Campbell Scott), a bright

young contractor at an unnamed New York company, working on the development of something called "The Process," which is so important that the application of it will bring major profits to the company (the amount is not disclosed), and is bound to be a target of industrial espionage (from whom is not disclosed either). It is, in a word, a McGuffin. And then things start happening to Joe.

The Spanish Prisoner is written and directed by David Mamet — and, speaking of adjectives, "mametian" is also the word. Mamet's plays and screenplays are usually very distinct because of their complex plots, terse rhythmical dialogue — usually laced with profanities — and the characters who are well-defined but utterly fail to provoke any empathy from the audience (witness, for example, Mamet's last screenplay, *Wag the Dog*, which for all intents and purposes was clever but completely uninvolved emotionally).

Most of this is on display here, but with unusual twists. *The Spanish Prisoner* is rated PG — and thus has not a single four-letter word. Campbell Scott does a highly competent work, playing the protagonist as a clean-cut Everyman, and his plight is truly exciting to observe. Of course, he is abetted by an excellent supporting cast, and not in the least by Steve Martin as mysterious Mr. Dell, who offers to solve Joe's problems. Martin, with his steely narrowed eyes, aloof

demeanor, and carefully controlled line delivery, exudes the sense of genuine menace to whoever would happen to be in his way. As the other major player in the game, Joe's secretary Susan (Rebecca Pidgeon) is a weaker link in the chain, perhaps because Pidgeon is somewhat annoying when she's trying to act chipper. However, in her couple of serious scenes, she's as good as everyone else.

And, of course, there is the story — a classical Hitchcockian thriller, where every single word, glance, or object ultimately is essential to the plot, where the audience is tricked to carefully watch the magician's right hand, while his left hand is actually the one which is doing the trick, where each detail contributes to the motion of the plot's gears. At least, until the very end — the finale is, perhaps, a bit anticlimactic: Mamet tries to resolve the main plot and simultaneously hint that this might not be the real resolution yet. While this is certainly clever, it lacks the same kind of unflagging momentum the rest of the story has.

The story also has a subtext — a classical mametian rumination about the power of greed, and its influence on people (similar to *Glengarry Glen Ross*). The great part about it is that nothing is spoon-fed; the subtext is merely in character's motivations — but it doesn't take away any of Mamet's deeply ironic observations about human nature.

By the end of the film, in the struggle for *The Process*, Joe's life is manipulated by such ominous forces that his experience brings to mind the works not of Hitchcock, but rather those of Franz Kafka. After all, in Kafka's novel *The Trial*, the protagonist's name is Joseph as well. And, speaking of this, the original German title of *The Trial* is *Der Prozess*. Do I sense some dark and mysterious connection here?

MOVIE REVIEW

The X-Files: Fight the Future

Mulder and Scully make the leap to the big screen

By Teresa Huang

STAFF REPORTER

Directed by Rob Bowman

Written by Chris Carter

Starring Gillian Anderson, David Duchovny,

William B. Davis, Mitch Pileggi, Martin

Landau, and Armin Muehler-Stahl

To answer your question, you will be able to understand the X-Files movie even if you're not a card-toting member of the David Duchovny estrogen brigade. Series creator Chris Carter has successfully turned one of television's smartest programs into a sharp action film that maintains the integrity of the series while showing off what a big budget can do for a small show. Although it lacks clarity and closure at times, moviegoers can consider *The X-Files: Fight the Future* an accurate introduction to the wonderfully dark and confusing world of Chris Carter.

The conspiracy theories and glimpses of extraterrestrial life revealed in five seasons of

The X-Files cannot compare to the magnitude of alien activity in this film. When we first join the dynamic duo of FBI agents Fox Mulder (David Duchovny) and Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson), we find them reassigned to the anti-terrorist division of the FBI after higher-ups have closed the all-important X-Files division. The action begins with a tasteless explosion a little too reminiscent of the Oklahoma City bombing, which of course has something to do with Mulder and his quest to uncover government conspiracies regarding the existence of extraterrestrial life. The film continues the storyline developed in the series involving a global conspiracy between an extraterrestrial race and the Syndicate, a collection of key players in high levels of government. After receiving a tip from a seemingly crazy doctor (Martin Landau), Mulder and Scully set aside their anti-terrorist work and dive right back into their usual routine, investigating conspiracies, asking questions no one wants answered, and causing general mayhem for the Syndicate and its master plan. Piece by piece, the alien

conspiracy is uncovered as Mulder and Scully risk their lives in a quest for the truth.

And yes, the show works on a big screen. It's obvious that Chris Carter responded to the challenge of making his little show into a blockbuster movie by making everything in sight bigger — bigger explosions, bigger risks, and bigger wardrobe budgets. Strip away the booming music and special effects, and you have a typical episode of *The X-Files* — full of surprises and confusing as all hell. *The X-Files: Fight the Future* unfolds at a steady yet intense pace, jumping from one intense sequence to the next while intriguing and scaring the audience at the same time. There are many reasons why *The X-Files* is the highest rated show on Fox, and this film lets all of them shine.

Most movie critics have been debating whether the film is understandable to those unfamiliar with the show. What everyone forgets is that *The X-Files* has always been impossible to understand. When was the last time you saw an episode of *The X-Files* that tied up all its loose ends neatly? Chris Carter is the master of spending a full 60 minutes revealing bits of information which collectively offer no conclusions in the end. *The X-Files: Fight the Future* is a prime example. While the conspiracy between the government and alien life becomes more clear through Mulder and Scully's investigation, the film

leaves many questions unanswered while stirring up fresh new ones. The real challenge will be incorporating the major revelations from the film back into the weekly television series. Fans of *The X-Files* can add to the pieces uncovered in the film to the puzzle of the last five seasons. Non-fans can consider themselves caught up.

However, though *The X-Files: Fight the Future* took great pains to make the central conspiracy theory understandable to all, it sometimes forgot to give those unacquainted with the show a reason to care about the characters. While deciphering the plot was an issue that was effectively addressed, deciphering why Mulder and Scully care so much about aliens and each other was an issue that seemed largely ignored.

Even so, the movie succeeds as a top rate action film, packed with intelligent twists and plenty of gratuitous grossness to satisfy every kind of X-Files fan. People who have never seen an episode of *The X-Files* should especially see *The X-Files: Fight the Future* for a perfect introduction to the series. The appeal of both the show and the film is undeniable. As for Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny as big screen actors, I give them an A for effort, though they shouldn't quit their day jobs just yet. For every hit like *The X-Files: Fight the Future*, there can be a miss like *Playing God*.

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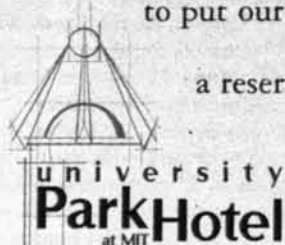
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Outside Pressures Prompt Move To Require Advisers

RA, from Page 1

Prior to this decision, next year was to be used as a pilot program to judge the effectiveness of the RA program. Participation was optional, and approximately ten FSILGs had expressed interest in the program.

Outside sources an influence

The decision to change the schedule for the program was influenced by a variety of sources, Eisenmann said. A recent article on the death of Scott S. Krueger '01 critical of MIT appearing in

Newsweek, pressure from the Boston Licensing Board, and anecdotal reports from new students and their parents were influences in the decision. The board controls dormitory licenses in Boston, where most fraternities are located, and has oversight powers over those properties.

Vest echoed Eisenmann's statements. "Many factors were considered, including attractiveness of the system to parents and new students and strong, timely progress toward our housing goals."

"An RA is an attractive" feature

MIT Drops its Support For Fiji Dorm License

Fiji, from Page 1

before the licensing board came "fairly recently," said Associate Dean for Residence Life and Student Life Programs Andrew M. Eisenmann '70.

"We didn't have the information to act in support or in a negative way" before the board, which had indicated that MIT would have to take an "active and supportive stance" for renewal to take place, Eisenmann said.

The action not to support Fiji, then, should "not necessarily [be] interpreted as a positive or negative message," he said.

Concerns over the potential closing of the house when the grand jury finishes its investigation also prompted the decision, Williams said in her letter. The house could be "closed to residents again, whether temporarily or permanently" depending on the decision.

Fiji remains under suspension until MIT has a chance to conduct its own investigation into the events surrounding Krueger's death, Eisenmann said.

Assistant Dean for RLSLP Neal H. Dorow, who serves as adviser to fraternities, sororities, and indepen-

dent living groups, declined to comment.

Graduate students may move in

In the letter announcing the Institute's decision, Williams also noted that MIT is willing to work with Malcolm Cotton Brown in order to maintain the group's financial stability. In particular, "we would be willing to explore the possibility of making the house available to graduate MIT students or others who are not MIT undergraduates in order to provide income to meet operating and other expenses," Williams said.

The alumni corporation is considering the Institute's offer, Taft said. The alumni group would also have to apply to the Licensing Board for a dormitory license in order to house graduate students, he added.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts prohibits housing more than three unrelated individuals in a residence without a dormitory license. Presently, three Fiji members are residing in the dormitory to maintain its condition, according to licensing board documents.

Brett Altschul, Susan Buchman, Frank Dabek and Zareena Hussain contributed to this story.

in living groups for new students and their parents, Eisenmann said. We are seeking "the best environment for new students" he said.

Although Eisenmann identified the Licensing Board as an influence in the decision, "this action was not requested by either the Boston Licensing Board or the district attorney's office. It is the MIT plan established last year after broad discussion," Vest said.

While the board has engaged in discussions with the MIT administration, "we didn't tell them to do a specific thing," said Chairperson Ellen E. Rooney, who added that placing RAs in ILGs "sounds like a great idea."

A spokesperson from District Attorney Ralph C. Martin III's office said that he was unaware of any discussions between the office and the MIT administration. Martin's office is currently investigating Krueger's death.

Timing unfortunate for ILGs

Eisenmann said that he understood that the decision was made at a time when "it is harder for the

houses to implement."

Vest said that the change represents a "positive opportunity, not an imposition. The timing is tight, but we must all work together for success in creating a stable, supportive housing system."

"The timing is bad" because a large percentage of house members are not available during the summer, said Interfraternity Council president Duane H. Dreger '99. "It would have been better if the decision had been made earlier in the term."

Dreger, however, expressed optimism for the process. "People have settled down and are trying to find someone," he said. "I think most houses are going to" have a tutor in place for the upcoming term.

"We are all struggling to make positive, mutually-supportive changes in our residential and learning environment," Vest said.

"Tragedy has focused us on the need to enhance what is best about our system and to eliminate its flaws," he said.

RA problems addressed

Some of the remaining problems

in RA implementation have been addressed. The question of who will employ RAs has been settled over the past weeks. Under the plan, RAs will be employed by the FSILG in which they live, and not MIT, said Neal H. Dorow, assistant dean for RLSLP and adviser to FSILGs.

Most houses will likely be able to obtain liability insurance covering their RA, Dorow said.

"In most instances, having an RA in place is a good thing from an insurance point of view," Dreger said.

To further aid the process of placing RAs in ILGs a new position has been created in RLSLP. The new staff member will serve as a "coordinator for FSILGs" and will report to Dorow, Eisenmann said. The staff member will "support, recruit, and train RAs."

Training for the new RAs is also being planned. "There is a general training program for everyone involved in campus life" including GRTs, housemasters, sorority house directors, and now RAs, said Assistant Dean for Academic Services Carol Orme-Johnson.

Low Freshman Response Rates Cause Slow Summer FSILG Rush

Rush, from Page 1

have returned the forms to date.

Hodges, who helped rewrite the residential guide, said he was "troubled" by the response rate and "not happy at all."

The administration "expected that there was going to be a high response rate," said Sean M. Brennan '00, the rush chair of Lambda Chi Alpha. "These kids just graduated and have their senior summer ahead of them."

"If I were in their situation, MIT living options would be far from my mind," Brennan said. "I don't know if the way it was handled this year by MIT is the best way to do it."

The summer rush parties planned by some houses suffered from the low response rate. "In the past we knew right away where people are coming from so we can plan parties," said Amy B. Laverdiere '99, assistant rush chair for Sigma Kappa. "The number of [replies] has been a little low, ... but it's the same for everybody."

"Attendance at rush parties has dropped significantly from the past year. Parties scheduled early on either got moved or cancelled," said Tony Chao '99, the summer rush chair for Phi Beta Epsilon.

FSILGs feel reply cards unclear

Chao felt that although the inten-

tion was good, the purpose of the reply cards were not clearly explained in the residence guide. The failure to communicate the importance of these cards has caused some freshmen to not return them.

Some FSILGs have taken the unacceptable step of contacting students who did not wish to hear from them, Hodges said.

Since he had only heard complaints from parents, Hodges said he did not know which living groups were involved. "Those FSILG's had better hope that I don't find out who they are," he said.

"All they're hurting is the

Rush, Page 10

POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between June 3 and July 1. Information is compiled from the Campus Police's weekly crime summary and from dispatcher logs.

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

June 3: Bldg. 5, empty display cases in Hart Nautical Museum; Random Hall, student problem; Hayward Garage, motor vehicle accident; West Garage, motor vehicle accident. Medical service calls: 8.

June 4: Bldg. 2, suspicious activity; Student Center, 1) backpack and contents stolen, \$10, 2) leather bag and contents stolen, \$290; MacGregor House, missing person, father of student reports him missing, later located; Alumni Pool, wallet stolen, \$20; Bldg. 5, books stolen, \$150; Dewey Library, handbag and contents stolen, \$420. Medical service calls: 9.

June 5: Ashdown House, harassing phone calls; Killian Court, 1) Louiza Morjane Badaoui of 1125 Quincy Street, Quincy, arrested for disturbing commencement and trespassing after notice, 2) wallet containing cash and credit cards found, \$600. Medical service calls: 3.

June 6: West Garage, malicious destruction, parking gate broken off; Amherst Alley by Westgate, motor vehicle accident, no injuries; Amherst Alley by Burton, motor vehicle accident, bus damages curb, no injuries. Medical service calls: 0.

June 7: New House, noise complaint, unregistered party shut down; Edgerton House, fire alarm, burning cheese in oven; Memorial Drive by Bldg. E52, Motor Vehicle Accident, car on sidewalk into bushes, no operator, towed by State Police. Medical service calls: 4.

June 8: Bldg. 16, breaking and entering and larceny of tools, \$765; Bldg. 11, fire

alarm, construction crew set off alarm accidentally; Bldg. 56, fire alarm, construction crew set off alarm accidentally; Ashdown House, harassing phone calls; Chapel, broken window. Medical service calls: 8.

June 9: Bldg. 12, laptop stolen, \$2000; Baker House, water flow alarm, construction crew breaks pipe accidentally; Tang Hall, credit card fraud, \$1935.38; Bldg. 6, two printers stolen, 1) \$400, 2) \$400; Senior House, fire alarm, pan burning on stove; Bldg. E15, tape recorder stolen, \$600. Medical service calls: 3.

June 10: Westgate Lot, malicious destruction, parking gate broken off; Bldg. 2, suspicious activity; Albany Garage, motor vehicle accident, no injuries; Bldg. E51, suspicious activity; Sloan Plaza, skateboarders issued trespass warning. Medical service calls: 3.

June 11: Bldg. NE25, annoying phone calls; Alumni Pool, suspicious person; Bldg. Burton-Conner House, threats; Bldg. NW10, harassing e-mail; Massachusetts Ave., two-way radio turned over to Campus Police; Carlton Street, minor vehicle accident. Medical service calls: 6.

June 12: Sigma Phi Epsilon, noise complaint; Bldg. 14S, indecent exposure; East Garage, vehicle broken into, several items stolen, \$435; Memorial Dr., Campus Police cruiser struck from rear, minor damage; Vassar St., 1997 Plymouth stolen. Medical service calls: 3.

June 13: Bldg. 16, Water pipe broken. Medical service calls: 2.

June 14: Amherst Alley, sink holes due to heavy rains; Pedestrian struck on Memorial Dr. near Walker Memorial, assist state police, non-affiliated individual was transported to Beth Israel Hospital; Bldg. 26, smell of smoke, caused by an oil-based burner overheated. Medical service calls: 1.

June 15: Bldg. 4, air conditioner stolen, \$400; Bldg. E40, suspicious activity; Bldg. 1, report of person smoking a cigarette in hall-

way; Bldg. E15, dispute over union and non-union construction workers, same handled without further problems; Bldg. W91, tape player stolen, \$175. Medical service calls: 8.

June 16: Bldg. 1, report of a suspicious package, same discovered to be light bulb; Fowler St., vehicle window smashed, nothing taken; Assist other police agency, Ashdown House, served a restraining order; Johnson Athletic Center, pocketbook stolen, \$50. Medical service calls: 8.

June 17: Bldg. 9, bike secured with a cable stolen, \$100; East Annex lot, hit and run damage to a vehicle; Bldg. E52, CD cassette player stolen, \$40; Eastgate, Federal Express package stolen, \$400. Medical service calls: 7.

June 18: Pacific lot, several vehicles towed for tampering with parking passes; McDermott Court, lights stolen, \$1,990. Medical service calls: 5.

June 19: Student Center, Nicole Philavong taken into custody on outstanding warrant; Bldg. 4, laptop computer stolen \$5,000; Marriott Hotel, assist Cambridge Police, harassment; Beta Theta Pi, noise complaint, music turned down. Medical service calls: 5.

June 20: Medical service calls: 0.

June 21: Bldg. 13, toxic gas alarm, no cause found; Bexley Alley, bicycle stolen, \$110; DuPont, suspicious activity; Erie St., assist Cambridge Police with suspicious activity; Student Center, suspicious activity; Westgate, bicycle stolen, \$100. Medical service calls: 2.

June 22: Bldg. 34, suspicious activity; Westgate, child neglect report; Windsor lot, dispute over parking space; Bldg. 24, CD player and discs stolen, \$350; Student Center, camera equipment stolen in April just reported, \$2,080; Westgate, report of person screaming, same discovered to be an upset person. Medical service calls: 6.

June 23: Bldg. N52, suspicious activity; Bldg. E18, credit cards stolen; Lobby 7, wal-

let stolen, \$60; Bldg. 3 mailroom, suspicious person; Westgate, food burning on stove causing heavy smoke; Senior House, report of a student problem, marijuana confiscated. Medical service calls: 4.

June 24: Walker, computers stolen, unknown value; Bldg. 10, cellular phone stolen, \$280. Medical service calls: 5.

June 25: Bldg. E51, microphone stolen, \$100; Bldg. 33, clock, food, and cash stolen, \$20. Medical service calls: 5.

June 26: Student Center., bike tire stolen, \$175; Mass. Ave., individual on bicycle struck by motor vehicle, minor injuries, transported to MIT Medical. Medical service calls: 9.

June 27: Medical service calls: 2.

June 28: Carlton St., suspicious vehicle, Miasha S. Cummings of 68 Newbury St., Somerville, taken into custody on an outstanding warrant; Sig Ep, noise complaint, same handled without further problems; Bldg. W11, unwanted person, same issued trespass warning. Medical service calls: 0.

June 29: Central Square, Assist Cambridge Police, person stopped for being in possession of stolen property — MIT registered bike; Johnson, 1) construction work caused brick to fall from roof which struck a MIT vehicle, 2) table and empty beer kegs stolen, \$185; Hayden Library, cash stolen, \$30; Walker, Anil K. Batra of 302 Commercial St., Braintree, placed under arrest for trespassing. Medical service calls: 7.

June 30: Bldg. NE43, suspicious person; Bldg. 6, 1) laptop and VCR stolen, \$4,000; 2) scanner stolen, \$600; Bldg. 4, printer stolen, \$2,000; Albany St., crane being used on MIT property without permission; Bldg. 48, laptop and parts stolen, \$1,250; 77 Massachusetts Ave., assist Cambridge Police with a disorderly female; Bldg. 48, suspicious activity; Hayden Library, 1) suspicious person; 2) cash stolen, \$20; Bexley, bike secured with a chain stolen, \$80. Medical service calls: 2.

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Houses Expect Few Pledges in the Fall

Rush, from Page 9

FSILG system," Hodges said. "The students they contacted were annoyed by it."

In response to the dissatisfaction with the reply card system, Hodges explained that the new system was not "an irreversible experiment" and that he was "very happy to make changes."

"I sympathize with the position of the rush chairs," he said. "Ultimately, they feel it's their responsibility to keep the numbers up."

It is important that "we don't destroy the FSILG system that a lot of people value at the Institute because of the events of one year," he said. "The worst case would be something we do this year to result in the extinction of any FSILG."

Two fraternities on suspension

Phi Gamma Delta is not participating in rush. Fiji's dormitory license is under suspension, and the alumni group recently decided not to ask the Boston Licensing Board for renewal. "They are not in position to plan for rush this fall," and they have been aware of that fact since April, she said.

Until a criminal investigation into Krueger's death is concluded, MIT is holding off on conducting its own investigations, said Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams. Until MIT's investigation is complete, Fiji is prohibited from rush.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon also remains suspended from rush this fall for serving alcohol to an prospective freshman during Campus Preview Weekend. Bates said the Office of the Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education is having conversation with both SAE's alumni corporation and members of the house about that group's status for rush.

Rush chairs hope for the best

Despite uncertainty over rush prospects, many rush chairs recognize the uniqueness of last year's incident. "This year's rush will be more difficult because there are simply fewer guys joining houses" said Michael R. Dynok '99, the summer rush chair for Delta Epsilon Kappa.

The rush chairs are working on making the best of the circumstances. "Despite a lot of drawbacks and a lower response level, it's going to be a fairly good year," Brennan said. "Maybe not as good as last year or the year before, [but] the kids that have responded seem interested," said Brennan, who said his house received close to 200 replies.

Chao expressed confidence that freshmen will become interested "once they come by and see the character of our house." He was more

concerned about the parents, whom he planned to persuade by "getting parents of brothers and alumni to contact perspective parents, because my parents were convinced."

Orientation adjusts focus

This year Orientation will be "more focused on orientation to the Institute and less on rush *per se*," Bates said. Notable changes include elimination of Thursday night dinners and Project Move Off Your Assumptions and a shifted rush schedule.

Efforts have gone into designing a program that includes "a lot more interaction between faculty and students" and "more intellectually stimulating activities and programming like alcohol awareness," said Hodges.

The Orientation schedule has been lengthened to "give students better objective information early on, so they can make better informed choices," he said.

Freshmen are scheduled to arrive a day earlier, Dorow said. Beginning with Killian Kickoff at noon on Saturday, rush is shifted back one day.

The idea is to give freshmen "more opportunity to absorb information, get acclimated, and talk to people," Dorow said. "As opposed to 24 hours on campus before rush starts, people have been here for three to four days."

Much effort has gone into putting equal emphasis on dormitories and FSILGs. The Residence Midway, to be held in DuPont Athletic Center on Friday night, is designed to expose freshmen to all possible living options in a setting that is analogous to the Activities Midway.

Each living group will occupy a table at the event. Interfraternity Council President Duane H. Dreger '99 said the Residence Midway came out of "the idea of having everyone on a level playing field."

Dormitories fear overcrowding

The freshmen may see less aggressive recruiting from the dormitories, said East Campus rush chair Jennifer A. Frank '00. "The FSILG's have more at stake for this rush," she said.

"The dorms, in fear of overcrowding, have the opposite problem," Frank said. East Campus plans to do what it has done in past rushes, although Frank felt that communication between the dormitories and the administration about Orientation "seems a little lacking."

All in all, everyone is waiting to see how Orientation will play out in the wake of last year's tragedy. "In a big way that's going to be one of those 'wait and see's'," Brennan said.

"Keep our fingers crossed," Hodges said. "I know I am."

WHAT DID YOU DO THIS SUMMER?

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Rome	\$589	Guatemala	\$537
Vancouver	\$367	Auckland	\$1213
Cancun	\$304		

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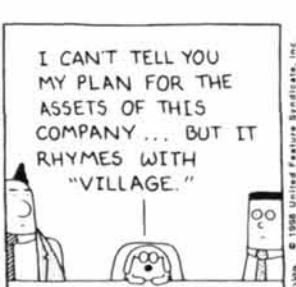
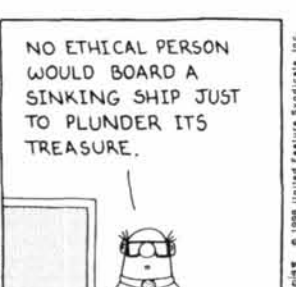
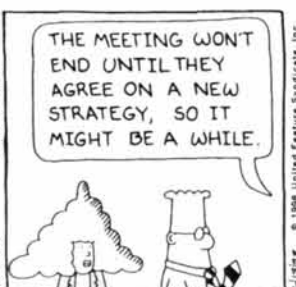
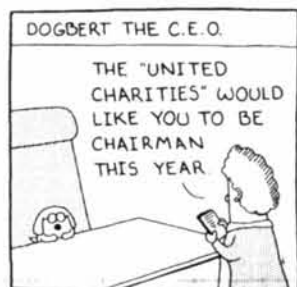
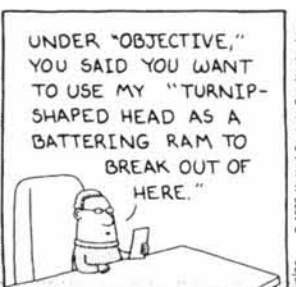
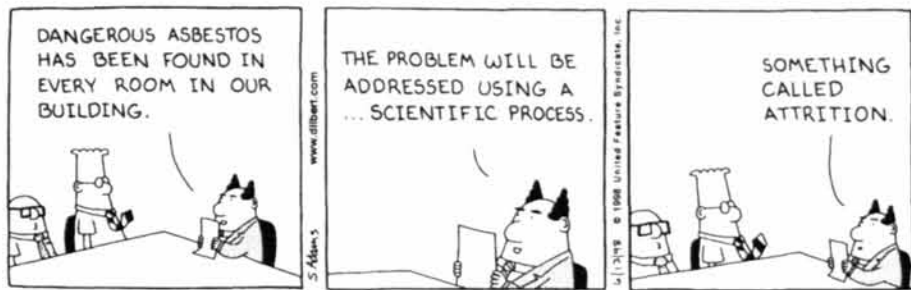
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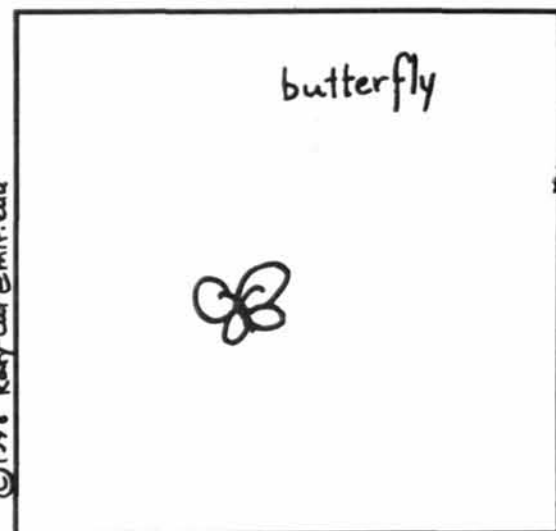
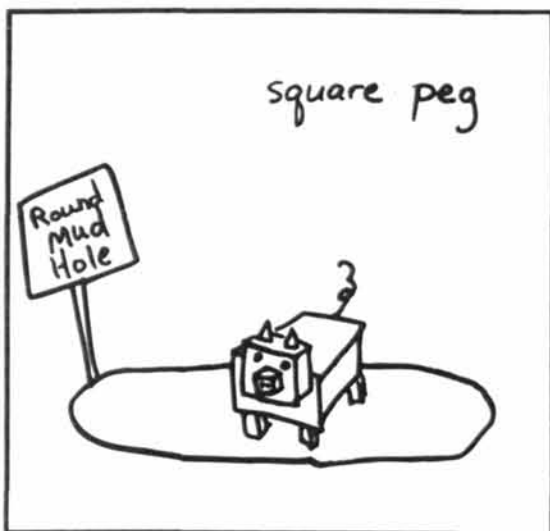
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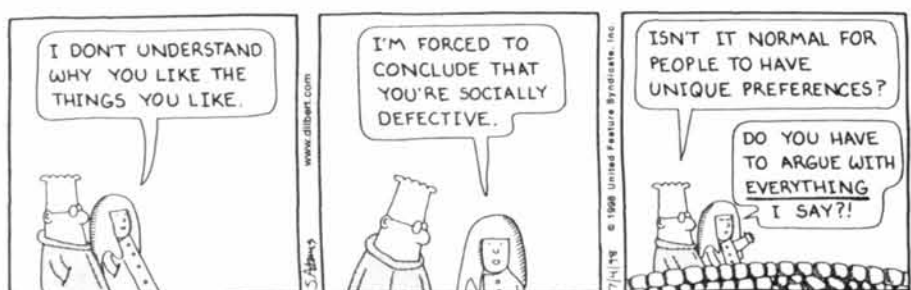
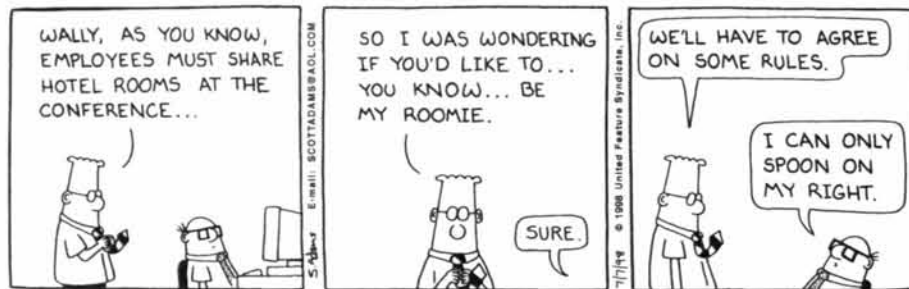
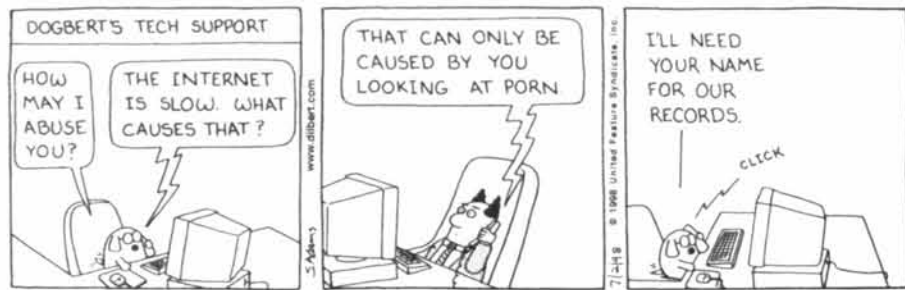
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by Katy-Cat



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GREG KUHNEN — THE TECH

A shower of sparks falls towards the Charles River, illuminating the boats and spectators below.



GARRY MASKALY

QUICK, TO THE BATMOBILE! — A spotlight on the Harvard Bridge pierces the darkness just after the fireworks Saturday night.