

Pledge Counts Stable As Crowds Decrease

By Alex Ianculescu

While early counts cast doubt on the success of rush this year, 312 students pledged fraternities and independent living groups as of Wednesday, a large increase from 231 one week prior.

Nonetheless, this year's pledge count represents a dropoff from previous years. During the last decade, about 365 students pledged off-campus living groups per year, said Philip M. Bernard, program director of residential life. Housing estimates initially used a baseline number of 250 pledges this year for crowding decisions.

Last year, around 340 students pledged fraternities and independent living groups.

Although this year's total did not reach that of previous years, "rush

went much better than had been expected," Bernard said.

Dorm crowding decreases

Due to the lower pledge numbers prediction, there was an initial move to preemptively decrowd dormitories. Upwards of 100 spaces were cleared to house undergraduates in Tang Hall, a graduate dormitory. Many graduate students in Tang Hall moved to Worthington Place.

As a result, dormitory crowding has decreased significantly. While the residence system can support up to 166 crowds without using lounges in MacGregor House, there are only "a few more than 100 crowds right now," Bernard said. Last year, about 140 students were crowded at the beginning of the

Rush, Page 34



Samantha Weinstein '02 strives to pass the swim test on Tuesday at the Alumni Pool.

Students Protest Move to House All Freshmen on Campus in 2001

By Zareena Hussain

Gathered on the steps leading toward 77 Massachusetts Avenue, students voiced opposition to the decision to house all freshmen on campus in the year 2001, in an open microphone protest last Tuesday.

Protesters criticized the administration for not listening to student concerns, while lauding fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups for the emotional support they provide to incoming students.

"I cherish every moment that I've spent at my fraternity and I would feel robbed if MIT took a year of that away from me, or anyone else," said Andrew P. Oury '99, a member of Phi Sigma Kappa.

"This cutting-edge research

institution you run can be a pretty hard, cold, soulless place sometimes, and since it receives federal funding as a university, an educational institution, your primary responsibility is not to the Department of Defense, not to industry, but to the student body, to provide them with living options suited closely enough to their individual needs that they feel at home," said Matthew R. Norwood '99, a member of Alpha Delta Phi.

Others said that the decision to house freshmen on campus was the wrong way to address issues related to underage drinking.

"Getting rid of frats is not going to solve the alcohol problem," said Gregoire Laude G. Laude attended Princeton University as an under-

graduate and said campus drinking was still a serious problem, despite housing students on campus. However, he added that dorms sometimes act positively to "force unlike people to live together."

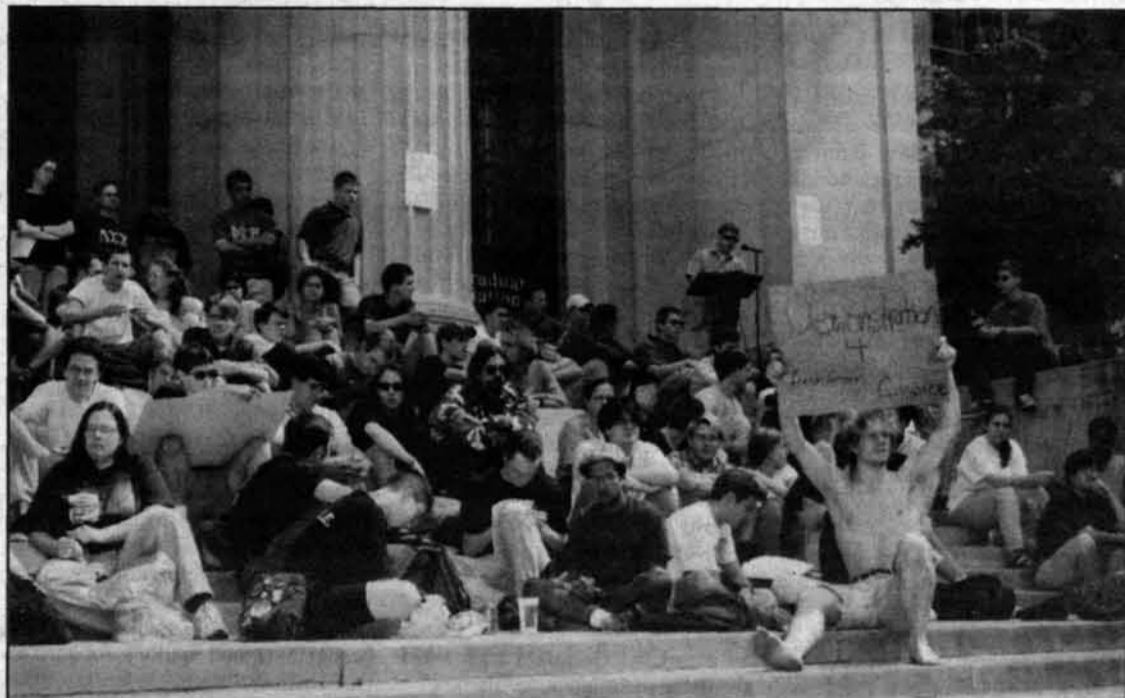
Whitney Boesel '02 urged students to act now in opposition to the mandate to house all freshmen on campus before it is too late.

"No one on campus is going to remember what this is all about. If there is going to be something done about this, it's got to be done now," Boesel said.

Others said that the move to house freshmen on campus would ruin the fraternity system.

"What President Vest has decid-

Protest, Page 17



Students sit on the steps of Building 7 Tuesday afternoon in protest of the recent announcement to house all freshmen in dormitories starting in the fall of 2001.

Alcohol Banned at ATO Following IFC Hearing

By Krista L. Niece

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Alpha Tau Omega was ordered to be alcohol free until February after the house was found guilty on three counts of alcohol-related violations.

The Interfraternity Council Judicial Committee ruled that ATO had failed to properly close its rush desk before having alcohol at a rooftop event. The fraternity pled guilty to serving alcohol without certification and without registering the event. ATO was found not guilty on a fourth charge of having alcohol at a new member event.

In addition to the ban on alcohol, the fraternity was also ordered to pay a \$250 fine.

The Interfraternity Council brought up the charges against ATO. On Sept. 2, IFC Judcomm Chair Katherine E. Hardacre '99 exited the Student Center after the conclusion of a rush meeting at around 4:15 a.m.

"As we left, we heard loud music coming from the area near Amherst Alley," Hardacre said during the Judcomm hearing Tuesday. She stopped at ATO to ask the members to turn down the music.

On the rooftop the fraternity shares with Kappa Sigma, she saw "two males in ATO shirts holding beer cans," as well as "strewn beer cans" on the ground among empty containers of soda and pizza.

Though she did not see any new members drinking alcohol, "three to five pledges" wearing ATO jerseys were present, Hardacre said.

ATO claims event not organized

At the hearing, four charges were brought against the fraternity, located at 405 Memorial Drive. ATO pled not guilty to two charges, those of serving alcohol at a rush event and of serving alcohol at a

new-members event.

"We do not involve alcohol in rush," said William T. Hockett '99, rush chair and president of ATO. The rooftop party, he said, was "mis-labeled as a rush event and mis-labeled as a new member event."

Although ATO had closed its desk in Clearinghouse, the computer system that is used for tracking freshmen during rush, it had not gotten personal approval from Hardacre, as is normal procedure.

As a consequence, ATO's rush was not officially over. IFC rules mandate that no alcohol be present during rush.

During Hardacre's testimony, she read the definition of an event from the IFC constitution. This definition, found in the policies for risk management and risk management enforcement section, defines an "event" as "any gathering of people that is sponsored by [a fraternity, sorority or independent living group], occurs on FSILG property or is funded in any way by the FSILG, and which could be construed by any reasonable person as an event." Hardacre said that she judged the gathering on the roof to qualify under these guidelines.

A new member event is an "event which new members are required to attend or which is organized primarily for (though not necessarily by) the benefit of new members," according to the IFC Constitution.

Hardacre said that she thought the rooftop gathering could be considered a "closing party," and as such qualified as a new member event.

Hockett contended that it was not an organized event; only a dozen brothers out of fifty were present, plus approximately "five rush

ATO, Page 31

Over 700 students fanned out to help with a variety of community projects in this year's CityDays.



Comics

A memorial service for Kevin P. Chao '01 will be held on Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the MIT chapel.

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WORLD & NATION

Administration Reaches Agreements With N. Korea

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Clinton administration announced a package of agreements with North Korea Thursday aimed at defusing tensions on the Korean Peninsula and restarting stalled diplomatic initiatives. But the landmark 1994 agreement limiting Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program was jeopardized anew by congressional anger over recent provocative actions by North Korea.

In an effort to keep the agreement alive in the face of growing antipathy on Capitol Hill, U.S. negotiators have told North Korea that access for international inspectors to a suspected underground nuclear weapons development site is a non-negotiable condition for further U.S. compliance with the deal, State Department officials said.

Washington's inspection demand was conveyed during talks in New York last week, the officials said. Those talks produced several agreements that the Clinton administration hailed as landmarks in the quest for a working relationship with North Korea, including a resumption of talks on missile proliferation and of so-called "Four Party" talks about a permanent peace agreement on the peninsula. But they apparently did little to help salvage the 1994 pact known as the "Framework Agreement."

Under that pact, the United States, Japan and South Korea agreed to arrange for construction of two light-water nuclear power reactors in North Korea in exchange for suspension of activities at North Korea's nuclear weapons development facilities in Yongbyon.

Flood Victims in Chiapas Cut Off From Help

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MEXICO CITY

Authorities set up shelters and rushed aid to Mexico's flood-stricken Chiapas state Thursday, but many poor communities were cut off by churning waters, leaving thousands of survivors wet, sick and increasingly hungry.

Fierce storms have battered this nation for a week, with the worst damage in Chiapas. Various government spokesmen in the state put the death toll there at 28 to 40 people, with about 50 missing. But the Rev. Guillermo Nieto, head of the Roman Catholic charity Caritas in the southern city of Tapachula, said he had reports of 100 dead — and expected the figure to increase.

"There are communities that were swept away by the river," he said in a telephone interview. "They've disappeared."

In addition to the toll in Chiapas, storms in recent days have killed 28 people elsewhere in Mexico, according to officials and media reports.

Party Fears Democrats' Lashing Out at Clinton Risks Election

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

When leading Democratic fund-raisers gathered here Thursday to discuss the 1998 campaign, the most pointed comments were directed not at President Clinton, but at congressional Democrats who have publicly lamented that Clinton's problems may devastate the party in the fall's election.

"I don't like to hear this defeatist talk," one man declared to loud applause at a meeting of the Democratic Business Council, a leading party fund-raising group. "We're going to talk ourselves into a defeat."

Those defiant words may slight the actual degree of danger facing Democrats in an election conducted in the shadow Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr's report on Clinton, which may become public Friday.

But the comments accurately suggest the growing fear among Democratic activists that the anxiety — even panic — among Democrats on Capitol Hill will compound the risk by demoralizing the party's base or driving down Clinton's public support.

"When Democrats make those contentions," complains Rep. Calvin Dooley, R-Calif., the co-chair of the centrist New Democratic Coalition, "it has an adverse impact on the ability of Democratic candidates to raise funds and put together campaigns."

WEATHER

Summer Again!

By Marek Zebrowski
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Milder weather will return for the end of the week and for the first part of this weekend as the northwesterly flow turns to southwest in the wake of a departing East Coast trough. Summer weather will continue everywhere east of the Rockies. Coastal areas of Texas will be drenched by rains associated with a weak hurricane, Francis, which is likely to make a landfall early Friday between Galveston and Corpus Christi. A cold front approaching on Saturday is likely to bring scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms for central and northern New England, but afterwards — for Sunday and Monday — another refreshing spell of fair weather is to be expected.

Friday: Mostly sunny and milder. High 78°F (25°C) with pleasantly warm westerly breezes.

Friday night: Clear and comfortable, with some high clouds advancing towards daybreak. Low 63°F (17°C)

Saturday: Some early sunshine followed by increasing clouds. Chance of afternoon showers. Mild, with highs in the mid to upper 70s (25-26°C)

Sunday outlook: Partly sunny and pleasant. Highs near 70°F (21°C) and lows in mid to upper 50s (13-15°C)

House Rules Committee Sets Review of Clinton in Motion

By Edward Walsh
and Juliet Elperin

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A House committee set in motion Thursday night the process that could lead to President Clinton's impeachment, and in an atmosphere filled with political and personal uncertainty approved a recommendation that the full House immediately make public independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr's report on Clinton's sexual relationship with Monica S. Lewinsky.

By a voice vote, the House Rules Committee set the stage for a vote on the House floor today and the likely disclosure of the 445-page report by Friday afternoon.

The Rules Committee vote, the first tentative step in what could be a lengthy process spilling over well into next year, came amid mounting fears among House Democrats over the potential political fallout from the contents of Starr's report and expressions of gravity by Republicans about the implications of taking the first step.

"This is a very grave day for the House of Representatives; indeed it is a solemn day for the nation," said Rules Committee Chairman Gerald B.H. Solomon, R-N.Y.

But the prevailing mood in the House Thursday was one of uncertainty, about the contents of the Starr report and the related material he delivered to Congress and the impact of this on the November midterm elections and ultimately on the fate of the Clinton presidency. All that was clear was that Republicans, who pledged to conduct fair and nonpartisan proceedings, were in control of the proceedings and that the Democrats were on the defensive and skeptical of GOP pledges.

Rules Committee Democrats unsuccessfully sought to give

Clinton and his lawyers 48 hours to review the Starr report before it is made public. But even before the vote they acknowledged that they had little hope of prevailing in the committee or on the House floor Friday.

The panel also recommended that the full House Judiciary Committee be given until Sept. 28 to review 18 boxes of related material that Starr's office delivered to Congress to determine how much of it should be made public.

With Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry J. Hyde, R-Ill., and the committee's ranking Democrat, Rep. John Conyers Jr. of Michigan, sitting in witness chairs, the Rules Committee convened late Thursday afternoon in a solemn atmosphere.

"This is a very sad duty, but it is a duty and we must do it," said Rep. John Linder, R-Ga.

There were partisan differences from the beginning as both Conyers and Rep. Joe Moakley of Massachusetts, ranking Democrat on the Rules Committee, argued for giving Clinton and his lawyers an advance look at the Starr report before it is made public. Noting that House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., was given seven days to review an ethics committee report on some of his activities, Conyers said it was a "breach of fairness" to tell the president that "he can find out what the charges are on the Internet."

Democrats also charged that the Rules Committee resolution violated an agreement reached earlier by Gingrich and House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt, D-Mo., to confine the initial inspection of the additional material from Starr to Hyde, Conyers and their staffs rather than the full committee.

Despite Democrats' objections to the Rules Committee resolution, Rep. Steny H. Hoyer, D-Md., said it was unlikely that they would oppose

it when it reaches the House floor.

The recommendation that the full House is scheduled to vote on today would empower the Judiciary Committee to determine whether a formal impeachment inquiry into Clinton's conduct is justified. There appears to be growing sentiment in the House to resolve that threshold question before Congress adjourns for the year, now scheduled for Oct. 9. But as a practical matter, an impeachment inquiry itself would not begin until the next Congress takes office in January.

There is also strong sentiment, even among some Democrats, to release as much information as possible so that House members and their constituents know what they are dealing with before the November elections.

"We want it open, we want it fair, we want it expeditious and we want it done now so we can end it once and for all," said Rep. Edward J. Markey, D-Mass.

Under the Rules Committee recommendation, the initial disclosure to the public of Starr's evidence against Clinton stemming from the president's relationship with former White House intern Lewinsky will be in Starr's report. But some of the most sensitive information, including transcripts of grand jury testimony and other material to back up Starr's allegations, is in the other material that Starr submitted to Congress. Under yesterday's resolution, it will be reviewed by the Judiciary Committee members to determine what should be made public and what should remain secret to protect people who were caught up in the Starr investigation.

Solomon said the Sept. 28 deadline for deciding what to disclose was later than he and other Republicans wanted, but that Hyde persuaded him that that much time was needed for the review.

Starr Report Will Go Online; Clinton Continues Apologies

By Richard A. Serrano
and Janet Hook

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr's report appears headed for public viewing Friday, even as President Clinton sought one last time Thursday to delay its release and to assure his political base that he still can govern despite the question of impeachment hanging ever heavier over his presidency.

With such monumental political ramifications at stake, and a nation eager to learn what Starr has concluded from his investigation of the Bill Clinton-Monica Lewinsky affair, the tension was boiling at either end of Pennsylvania Avenue.

On Capitol Hill, the spirit of bipartisanship that initially met the reception of Starr's report a day earlier turned into bickering as Republicans and Democrats failed to agree on when or how the report should be made public.

At the White House, Clinton spent much of the day on yet another round of apologies — to Senate Democrats, his Cabinet and others. And he dispatched to the Capitol a team of lawyers who, scrambling to come up with their own report defending the president, were unable to forestall the release of the Starr documents.

But the House GOP leadership, unwilling to budge, remained determined to post the 445-page report on the Internet by midday Friday,

—an event that, by informing the public to an unprecedented degree, could create another set of consequences for the Clinton presidency.

That plan seemed a done deal, with the House Rules Committee voting in the early evening to release the report, and the full House now set to adopt that plan Friday morning.

"We're going to make it available to the American people," pledged House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga. "Anyone in the country, anyone in the world, will be able to access it."

The tone of distrust was sounded even as morning was breaking.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, said Republicans would not give Clinton an early copy of the records.

"The report is made to the Congress of the United States," Armey declared. "It is the responsibility of the Congress to make it available to all interested parties."

But strategists in both parties predicted that, despite Democratic complaints, the procedures for handling the report will pass overwhelmingly Friday. "No one wants to vote against making this public," said Michele Davis, a spokeswoman for Armey.

The report will likely be posted on at least four official Web sites. In a sign of the cyberspace traffic jam likely to hit Friday, House Rules Committee Chairman Gerald B.H. Solomon, R-N.Y., said the main Web site had received 10,000

"hits," or inquiries, 90 minutes after it was announced.

The material to be released includes about 445 pages consisting of the report's introduction, a narrative, and a statement of grounds for impeachment.

Meanwhile, around noon, Senate Democratic leaders emerged from a meeting with the president at the White House.

Soon after the Senate Democrats departed, two Clinton lawyers — private attorney David Kendall and White House Counsel Charles F.C. Ruff — arrived at the Capitol and met with House Judiciary Committee leaders in what was billed as a "get-acquainted" session to discuss procedures.

Afterward, they stressed that the Starr report is just "one side of the story." Kendall referred to the Starr conclusions as "simply a collection of their contentions and claims and allegations, and we look forward to the chance to rebut."

After more than three hours of statements and debate, the House Rules Committee passed by party-line voice its resolution recommending the full House release the report Friday. The report's accompanying documents tentatively will be released in a couple of weeks, after House leaders have reviewed that material.

While that vote was going down, Clinton conducted another unusual gathering, huddling with his Cabinet in the residential quarters of the White House.

Bowing to Opposition, Yeltsin Appoints Primakov to Top Post

By David Hoffman
THE WASHINGTON POST

MOSCOW

A weakened President Boris Yeltsin Thursday gave in to pressure from the parliamentary opposition and appointed Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov as prime minister, resolving a political crisis but leaving unresolved how Russia will cope with its economic tailspin.

Yeltsin named Primakov, 68, a jowly veteran diplomat and spymaster with close ties in the Arab world, after abandoning Viktor Chernomyrdin, the former prime minister who was twice defeated by the lower house of parliament.

Primakov Thursday offered no public statement of his intentions in the new job. He delivered a speech on foreign policy, but did not comment on his appointment. The Russian news agency Itar-Tass quoted Primakov as telling German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel in a phone call that "Russia would continue its course of reforms."

Primakov immediately drew

broad support in the Duma, from the centrist leader Grigory Yavlinsky, and from the Communists, and is expected to win quick approval in parliament on Friday.

The appointment was also a defeat for some of the wealthy Russian tycoons, spearheaded by financier Boris Berezovsky, who had openly tried to install Chernomyrdin as prime minister.

In Washington Thursday, White House press secretary Mike McCurry said, "The United States government knows and respects Foreign Minister Primakov. ... We would expect to have a good and close working relationship with Prime Minister Primakov."

The appointment came nearly three weeks after Yeltsin fired prime minister Sergei Kiriyenko, leaving Russia politically rudderless, as the economy appeared to spiral out of control.

Primakov has little experience in Russia's turbulent domestic economic battles, but early indications pointed toward a government with a

more statist, inward-looking approach than the pro-Western, free-market advocates who have dominated Russian policy.

In a speech in June, Primakov blamed Russia's economic ills on excessive capital flight, an overly heavy dependence on foreign capital, a warped and failed tax system, and the decline in world oil prices coupled with Asia's troubles.

Primakov faces a complex set of problems including a currency crisis, a banking system teetering on collapse, and a loss of confidence both at home and abroad. While it is not yet known how he will propose to deal with each, in the past Primakov has argued for a "Great Russia" approach that emphasizes independence from the West. He has said there was too much emphasis on macroeconomic stabilization and not enough on helping industry.

Primakov was close to the last Soviet President, Mikhail Gorbachev, and is reportedly turning, in part, to former colleagues from that era.

Swissair Plane's Flight Recorder Contained Incorrect Information

By Al Baker and Sylvia Adcock
NEWSDAY

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

The sophisticated avionics computers on Swissair Flight 111 apparently began generating faulty information to the plane's flight data recorder about five minutes before the recorder cut off and radar contact with the jumbo jet was lost.

Investigators declined to say how much of the data was faulty as they continued analyzing the reams of data from the black box aboard the MD-11 that crashed off Nova Scotia Sept. 2, killing all 229 aboard. But it has become apparent that during the last five minutes of the recording, the plane's computers were going haywire, possibly the result of an electrical problem or a fire.

"A progressive number of parameters exhibit anomalies in the final minutes of the flight recording," said Vic Gerden, chief investigator for the Transportation Safety Board of Canada. "These anomalies were determined to be fault codes generated by avionics systems on the aircraft." Investigators are looking into whether electrical sources to the plane's circuitry were burning and causing the computers to behave erratically, sources said. The plane

has three electrical power sources, one from each engine.

The digital flight data recorder is one of the newer models and records 100 kinds of data, called parameters, on the plane's flight, including the position of various wing flaps, altitude and speed, and the function of flight control systems. The flight data recorder gets its information through a device in the electronics bay beneath the cockpit, which receives information from various parts of the plane.

The recorder's data are still being analyzed. Investigators are working backwards through 25 hours of data, also looking for problems on previous flights of the 7-year-old MD-11. Investigators in Switzerland are also poring over Swissair maintenance records.

Investigators haven't determined if the data will reveal what was going on with systems on the plane, but they express optimism that further analysis will yield clues.

Gerden said the faulty codes recorded are "a result of not having the normal signal, the normal parameter." A digital device, the recorder spews out information in sequences of 1s and 0s, but in many cases "that parameter is not getting the 1s and 0s the way it normally

would," Gerden said.

The recorder compares the digital information it is receiving against a standard and if it doesn't match the standard, there is a discrepancy, Gerden said.

Investigative sources said investigators are interested in how the plane's computerized systems might fail, and the effect of a fire in the electronics bay. They also plan to look into whether the pilots had enough valid information from the computers.

John Thom, a spokesman for Boeing's former McDonnell Douglas division that built the plane, said the computer systems on the plane have backups. And even if the plane lost all its electronic functions, he said, the plane could still fly with hydraulics that don't depend on electrical power, and a battery back-up provides selected flight information to pilots.

Investigators believe the plane hit the water at 22 seconds past 9:31 p.m., based on seismographic information from the Geological Survey of Canada in Nova Scotia. Investigators also said the transponder, which emits a radar signal to air traffic controllers, failed about five minutes earlier, at four seconds past 9:26 p.m.

White House and Brazilian Troubles Cause Stocks to Plummet 250 Points

By Ianthe Jeanne Dugan
THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK

Blue-chip stocks fell sharply Thursday as buyers avoided securities markets increasingly shaken by growing economic turmoil overseas and President's Clinton's precarious political situation.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 249.48 points, or 3.2 percent, to 7,613.73, eliminating the last of Tuesday's historic 380-point advance in a second day of steep declines. There were sharp sell-offs in markets around the globe, most ominously in Brazil, considered by analysts and U.S. policymakers to be the key to stabilizing world financial markets.

"The landscape is pock-marked with danger, whether it be political problems in the U.S. or turmoil in emerging markets," said Michael Clark, head of U.S. Trading for Credit Suisse First Boston. "I don't blame anybody for stepping back."

That uncertainty was underscored by unsettling news through-

out the trading day. As investors grappled to understand the significance of independent counsel Kenneth Starr's report on President Clinton — in news beamed all day on screen monitors onto the floor of the New York Stock Exchange — Brazil's stock market fell apart.

Even noted bull Abby Joseph Cohen of Goldman, Sachs & Co. appeared jarred by the 14-percent decline in Brazil's leading index, triggered by a negative bond-rating by Standard & Poor's. In an interview, she refrained from reiterating her oft-quoted prediction that the Dow would close above 9,300 by year end. "The stock-price projections run off profit conversions," she said. "We have asked our analysts to assess what impact Brazil will have on corporate profits."

With only 2 percent of U.S. trade pegged to Brazil, "any revision will be very, very small," Cohen said. "But we have told clients that we'll review this and get back to them."

Most analysts agreed that mar-

kets tend to bounce back from political hits. "If investors determine what's going on is political even which becomes a market event but not an economic event, then it's likely to be transitory," Cohen said. "Ultimately what drives stocks is: How are we doing as an economy? The answer is good. Profits are growing. Semiconductor inventories have been fixed. Demand for PCs are good."

Yet Wall Street is behaving as if the economy is headed toward a recession. Standard & Poor's 500-stock index is off 20 percent from its high for the year, while The Russell 2000 index of smaller stocks has lost nearly a third of its value; the average small capitalization stock is off more than 50 percent from its high.

"The stock market has priced itself for a recession, which I don't think we're going to have," said Jeffrey Applegate, chief investment strategist at Lehman Brothers. "We'll have a struggling and volatile climb back."

Senate Kills Campaign Finance Reform Legislation

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Senate Thursday again blocked action on legislation to tighten the nation's campaign finance laws, dooming its last flickering chance for passage this year.

Unmoved by House approval of a similar measure last month, Republican foes of the bill held firm as the bill — for the second time this year — won support of a majority of senators but fell eight votes short of the 60 needed to force it to passage.

Democratic backers of the bill vowed to continue pushing for approval of the measure before Congress adjourns next month. "We will proceed on the issue this year until we get the job done," said Wisconsin Sen. Russell D. Feingold, chief Democratic sponsor of the bill, indicating he intends to bring it up as an amendment to other legislation.

But its main Republican sponsor, Arizona Sen. John McCain, abandoned his attempt to attach the measure to a "must-pass" spending bill for next year and said he would renew his fight this year only if the legislation started picking up support.

"We will prevail over time ... on a bipartisan basis," McCain told the Senate. "I will never give up on this fight so long as I am a member of this body." But he said he was reluctant to disrupt the business of the Senate when there was no chance of prevailing.

Thursday's vote was 52 to 48, with the same seven Republicans who supported the bill earlier in the year joining all 45 Democrats to cut off a filibuster led by top GOP leaders, including Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss.

New Electrical Vehicles Can Be Recharged in Minutes

LOS ANGELES

General Motors and Southern California Edison on Thursday unveiled a new recharging technology that juices up an electric vehicle in minutes rather than hours, making the time investment for refueling more like that for conventional cars and trucks.

With GM's new Magne Charge technology, an electric vehicle can be 80 percent charged in less than 15 minutes, a significant improvement over the three or more hours that most recharging setups require.

Electric vehicle devotees insist that the recharge, though still taking somewhat more time than most of us spend at the pump, might some day make driving an electric vehicle more convenient than its gasoline-powered cousins.

"This is extremely important when you put it in the context of our local air-quality problems in Southern California," Barry Wallerstein, acting executive officer of the South Coast Air Quality Management District, said at a news conference.

"This will help us along that path to clean air."

The new charging system "knocks down a couple of the perceived barriers" to driving an electric vehicle, said Bill Van Amburg, spokesman for Calstart, a Pasadena, Calif.-based nonprofit corporation that helped sponsor the project.

"We all have heard the naysayers who said that electric vehicles would never be practical, that they just don't have the range that people want," Van Amburg said.

But with the new system, the car can be charged "in about the time to go and get a cup of coffee and walk back out, unless you get a triple latte or something," he quipped. "There's only a cup of coffee between you and the next time you take the car out."

The system achieves its dramatic reduction in charging time because it is more than seven times more powerful than standard chargers — 50 kilowatts vs. 6.6 kilowatts.

Cheng Cheng the Panda Gives Birth to Twins

LOS ANGELES TIMES

CHENGDU, CHINA

The babies were weeks overdue, and until hours before their birth, nobody even knew for sure if the mother was pregnant. But after days of nail-biting and pacing — by both Cheng Cheng the panda and her keepers — the gentle-looking bearlike creature gave birth Thursday morning to twins.

Giant pandas, one of the world's fastest-fading species, are also among the most mysterious. The black-and-white China natives are called "living fossils" because of the way their breeding patterns have failed to evolve.

Their reproductive habits, including a unique "free-floating" egg that keeps scientists guessing, still perplex experts armed with the most modern technology.

Only about 1,000 pandas are left in the world — Cheng Cheng's offspring increased the global panda population by 0.2 percent — and as their natural habitat in China's high-altitude bamboo forests shrinks, so do their chances of perpetuating the species.

"Left to their own devices, extinction of the panda is inevitable," says scientist Wang Pengyan, the deputy director of the Wolong Panda Preserve in western China. "Our job is to extend the time that pandas will be in the world."

This means everything from artificial insemination and test-tube babies created from the eggs of a dead panda to a new, ambitious attempt to clone pandas. Such efforts are exacerbating conflicts between environmentalists and scientists — and have launched a race between cloning specialists East and West.

Critics say that genetic manipulation should be a last resort. But in the meantime, pandas need to work on their chemistry. Not only is the female extremely picky about her mate, she only goes into heat once a year, and then only for about 72 hours. To make matters worse, males, especially the ones in captivity, are not known for their sexual prowess. Not only are their sexual organs undeveloped — about thumb-sized — but they are not always sure how to use them.

"He may think he knows what he's doing, but he can't really tell," says Zhang Guiquan, the assistant director of the Wolong preserve, in Sichuan province. "He may try her ear, or wherever, until he finally figures it out or she gets irritated and walks away."

OPINION



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Institutional Wisdom Watch

by *The Tech* editorial board



Orientation: Much needed improvements were finally implemented. Better late than never.



FEE: You have three hours to write an essay about integrity in web-based testing...



President's Convocation: Same Chuck time, same Chuck channel. What kind of arrow do you expect?



Residence Midway: This was a genuinely valuable addition to Orientation. Now, if only the IFC stormtroopers would relax a bit.



Welcome Dinner: Steak and lobsters it's not, but a nice introduction nonetheless.



District Attorney's Office: Nine-month delay proves not to be just a clever ploy to release indictments as the freshmen arrive.



Housing protest: Factional agendas ruin an attempt at unity. Too bad the speakers didn't know what they were protesting.



BaFa BaFa: Surprise! Not all of the new Orientation events had redeeming value.



Fraternity rush: Reports of fraternities' deaths have been greatly exaggerated.



Killian Kick-Off: A kinder, gentler Kick-Off eases the stress of rush. But ditch the speakers already!

Letters To The Editor

Graduate Student Housing Crunch

Amidst all of the furor as to the timing and implications of President Charles M. Vest's announcement to house all freshmen on campus, I have one simple question: Where will the Institute get the money and organizational time necessary to construct a new dormitory within three years? And if this money has been available, why are graduate students still waiting for adequate on-campus housing?

Graduate students at the Institute tend to be the silent majority. By the very nature of graduate studies, we tend to be very focused on issues that impact our narrow subfield and ignore the rest of the world. This tendency makes it very easy for our needs to be ignored, because we don't tend to speak up very often. And besides, we're older; we can take care of ourselves, right?

I agree that graduate students should expect to take on more responsibilities than they did as undergraduates. Many of us now have spouses and children; many have moved abroad for the first time. However, the housing market in the area around MIT is such that we are becoming overwhelmed with merely the task of finding a place to sleep at night.

When rent control was revoked, the average cost of a two-bedroom apartment in Cambridge and Somerville began to skyrocket. In most areas of the country, one expects to spend about one-third of one's monthly salary on rent. Around MIT, most people spend close to half, some as much as two-thirds of their salary, just to have somewhere to live. In order to find affordable housing, we are forced to live with strangers (with no support networks for conflict resolution), tolerate apartments that do not meet health or fire regulations, or commute for 45 minutes to an hour just to get to campus.

Now that a "crisis" has occurred with undergraduate housing, it appears that all plans for a graduate student dormitory have been shelved. What's worse is that 140 rooms in Tang Hall, one of the few remaining on-campus graduate residence options, have been

(temporarily) taken away.

Graduate students are a large part of the MIT community. We contribute to the character of campus life through active participation in most student activities. We teach recitations, tutor undergraduates in the fields of our major, and some of us have chosen to live in the dormitories as resident tutors. We perhaps do not directly pay the bills, but we do the actual work involved in the research that has made MIT world-renown as a top-notch university.

For all of these reasons, I am greatly disappointed that the Institute continues to treat us like second-class citizens and ignores our very clear need in favor of a highly controversial policy of ambiguous necessity.

Erika D. Abbas G

Inappropriate And Distasteful

The cartoon strip "randOMELand," authored by Xixi D'Moon '01, has managed to exude a broad range of responses in the few short days of its existence, from ennu to confusion to annoyance, but somehow, in its extraordinarily impressive lack of quality, has never quite managed to extract so much as a chuckle.

I can live with this. Sadly, I'm pretty used to chronically unfunny cartoons in *The Tech*. However, in the September 3 issue of *The Tech*, randOMELand crossed the line from stupid and banal to downright offensive. I seriously doubt that I have ever seen a more tasteless display of poor judgment in a newspaper that is regularly read by thousands of people.

To trivialize the death of Michele S. Micheletti '00 in such a rude, offensive manner causes me to wonder whether or not D'Moon has respect for anyone else on the campus, living or not. Can the readers of *The Tech* expect a wisecrack about Philip C. Gale '98 tomorrow? Scott S. Krueger '01? Umacr A. Basha '01?

It disturbs me not only that D'Moon has so little compassion as to voluntarily defame Michele's memory, but that *The Tech* has so little respect that it would actually print such dreck. My opinion of D'Moon has completely bottomed out, and my view of the integrity of *The Tech* has dropped significantly.

The freshmen may not quite realize the significance of that particular strip, but don't forget that there are 9,000 other students who do. As someone who never knew Micheleletti, I can only imagine what her closest friends are thinking right now.

Francisco J. Delatorre '01



Opinion Policy

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

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

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Letters and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech*. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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Counteracting Imperfect Rankings

MIT Should Post School Statistics on the Web for Prospective Students

Naveen Sunkavally

In August, *U.S. News & World Report* released its annual college rankings. The Institute fared well, as always, tied for fourth with Stanford University but behind Harvard University, Princeton University, and Yale University. However, as always, another hailstorm of criticism has bombarded the magazine.

This year, Stanford has led the way in condemning the rankings. Though the university continues to provide information to the magazine, Stanford has gone to the extreme measure of setting up its own web page with its own statistics to counteract *U.S. News & World Report*. At the risk of looking like copycats, MIT might benefit from quietly following Stanford's lead.

Though perhaps an informative source of college information, *U.S. News* is not an ideal source of information. Several of its weights are questionable, and its rankings create a false sense of precision.

For instance, one of the greatest disputes over the rankings concerns a newly introduced element last year called "value added" that uses the difference between the predicted graduation rate of a college and the actual graduation rate to determine the value that a college education adds. MIT received a -8 this year, Stanford a -4, and Caltech a -14. Are we to deduce then that none of these colleges, which are also ranked in the top ten, add any value to a student's education? After last year's controversy, this year *U.S. News* has opted to rename the "value added" measure to "graduation rate performance," but the name change does not eliminate the basis for such a statistic in the first place.

One may perhaps overlook the "value added" statistic, since it is only worth five percent of the rankings scheme employed by *U.S. News*, but a more serious problem arises when we evaluate the "graduation rate" statistic, which accounts for 16% of the grade. Both MIT and Caltech have comparatively low graduation rates, 89 percent and 83 percent respectively. *U.S. News* believes that the graduation rate reflects how well a college is educating its students; but could it be that a college with a lower graduation rate is also offering a tougher curriculum for its students, that it offers greater educational value to its students?

Which interpretation is more valid, and why does *U.S. News* choose the former interpretation? In fact, if we are to compare Harvard and Caltech, which placed ninth in the rankings, we would observe that Caltech fares statistically better or as well as Harvard in every category

except in graduation rate. Had *U.S. News* chosen to see graduation rate as an indicator of a school's rigor, Caltech would be first.

That one questionable statistic can mean the difference between first and ninth raises additional concerns. The *U.S. News* rankings create a false sense of precision. In baseball, the rankings are clear: almost always one team can be judged better than another by comparing records or through head-to-head battle. In addition, because teams and players change quickly, the person who is better one year might not necessarily be better the next year. But colleges are not like baseball teams. Colleges don't suddenly jump from first to third as Harvard did one year or from sixth to fourth as MIT did within the last year.

If every prospective college student accepted the rankings with a grain of salt and acknowledged that there may be faults with the rankings, perhaps colleges wouldn't have to react to the rankings. However, not all students take the rankings with a grain of salt. They accept them as the truth, without fully evaluating the underlying methods used to make the rankings.

That is why I believe that MIT should set up its own set of statistics on a web page linked off its admissions page so that prospec-

tive students can have an additional and unbiased resource. Like Stanford, MIT should continue to supply statistics to the magazine, but unlike Stanford, MIT should do so quietly, so as not to antagonize the magazine and create controversy.

What type of statistics should MIT put up? At least all the base statistics used by *U.S. News*. By base, I mean those statistics that are not open to interpretation. Simply posting the graduation rate or acceptance rate without attaching a ranking to it would suffice. In addition, MIT should not choose to display only those statistics favorable to itself. Stanford, for instance, has great pride in listing out how many Nobel Laureates and Pulitzer Prize winners it has but fails to supply a "alumni giving rate" on its web page, a statistic that hurt Stanford in the *U.S. News* rankings.

By implementing a thorough, unbiased, uninterpreted source of statistical information as a link off its admissions home page, MIT can offer another source of information to present a more comprehensive view of the school. Students can interpret the data for themselves, decide what data is more important to them, and, in the end, choose the right for college for them.

Categories and Weights for <i>U.S. News</i> Rankings		
Ranking Category	Category Weight	Subfactors
Academic reputation	25%	Academic reputation survey
Student selectivity (Fall '97)	15%	Acceptance rate
		Yield
		High school class standing - top 10%
		High school class standing - top 25%
Faculty resources ('97)	20%	SAT/ACT scores
		Faculty compensation
		Faculty with Ph.D.
		Full-time faculty
		Student/faculty ratio
Retention rate	20%	% Classes with 1-19 students
		% Classes with 50+ students
Graduation Rate	20%	Graduation Rate
		Freshman retention rate
Financial resources	10%	Educational expenditures per student
Alumni giving	5%	Alumni giving rate
Graduation rate performance	5%	Graduation rate performance

SOURCE: U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

Not Literally Labor Day

Michael J. Ring

Recently a group of local malls ran an advertisement in the *Boston Globe*, telling the readers they would be celebrating Labor Day in the most fitting way possible: they would be working.

While the chutzpah mall management showed in running this ad is impressive, that is all that is to be admired in its message. The notice blatantly mocks the meaning of Labor Day. Labor Day is not meant to be a day to labor, which unfortunately is how much of corporate America feels. Rather, it is supposed to be a day to honor the contributions working men and women make to our society and give them a chance for leisure and relaxation.

Today fewer and fewer workers can enjoy rest on Labor Day, and nowhere is that trend more apparent than it is in the retail industry. It was not all that long ago that stores would close on holidays such as Labor Day and Veterans' Day. Those breaks were needed by the industry's burdened, stressed workers. Upper management now is unresponsive to the needs of these laborers for a day's rest. For many of our nation's retail employees, Labor Day is just like any other: A day to labor.

There was previously a solution to check the desires of the retail industry. Society once enforced blue laws, preventing shops from opening on holidays. Most of these laws, however, have been purged from the statutes

of most states. Some would call these repeals "modernization" and "progress." I believe the repeal of the blue laws heralds exactly the opposite motion.

The repeal of the blue laws has meant a repeal of time for working families to spend together. It has ushered in a repeal of vacation time for workers. It has also demonstrated a new level of greed among the management of retail companies. The blue laws can help check corporate greed and restore the free time duly owed to the hardworking laborers in the retail industry.

The current economic dynamics, while favorable overall, are not friendly to many blue-collar workers. Manufacturing jobs, the best opportunities for non-college educated workers to find high pay and good benefits, are continuing to flow overseas. Jobs in the service sector, particularly the retail industry, are filling the void for many of these workers.

Unfortunately, employment in the retail sector is not as rewarding as that in manufacturing. Pay is generally lower in the retail industry, and benefits packages are less impressive. Workers must put in longer hours to make ends meet and have fewer precious free hours to spend with family and friends.

Politicians love to talk about "family values" and lament the decline of the family structure in this country. It is for largely economic reasons such as these that many families are weak. Restoring Labor Day as a time of rest and respite with one's family is one small step society can take to reverse this trend. It is not unreasonable to give workers an occasional day off such as Labor Day to spend with their spouses and children. Those are "family values" that we should all support.

Let us not forget either that working in the

retail industry can be incredibly stressful. Poor benefits, low job satisfaction, and cranky customers all add to the burden that cashiers, sales associates, and stock clerks face. These people are often compelled to work odd hours and nights and weekends as well. They truly deserve an occasional holiday to rest and relax.

Some companies in the retail industry would argue that they would not remain competitive if they were not allowed to conduct business on holidays such as Labor Day. I, however, strongly doubt their fears would come to fruition if we returned to the blue laws.

Shopping malls have substantially increased their hours of operation from what they were a generation ago. Most large stores operate until 10 at night; some now are open 24 hours a day. Both weekend days are major shopping days, with many stores holding extended hours on Saturday. Malls and shopping centers have also expanded their Sunday hours as well. There are plenty of opportunities throughout the week for people to shop and buy what they need. The retail industry doesn't have to take away its employees' holidays in order to serve its customers.

In today's hectic world, everybody deserves to enjoy an occasional holiday of rest and relaxation. The employees of the retail industry should not be unfairly burdened and denied this opportunity, especially when many companies are raking in record profits and are not dependent on opening for these few days. The blue laws may be antiquated in origin, but they have certainly not outlived their purpose. It's time to put the retail blue laws back on the books and to let workers in that industry enjoy some time for themselves.

Dorky Summer Camp

Brett Altschul

I call upon MIT to rename the Freshman Leadership Program more accurately. Calling it the "Freshman Dorky Summer Camp Activities Program" ought to suffice. Some people have queer ideas about what leadership means these days.

Leadership is about many things. I once attended a very traditional leadership training program. Forty-eight young men spent a week in the woods, sleeping in leaky tents, preparing three meals per day on camping stoves, and maintaining the mud-slimed trails around their campsites.

Of course, that part of the experience wasn't about learning leadership, and there was no premise that it was. But every day, the whole camp assembled in an old, rickety lodge, where we heard lectures on the "eleven skills of leadership." With only one exception, these lectures came from crusty old men. Under other circumstances, these figures might not inspire respect from teen-age males, but they all slept in the same rain and ate the same food as we did, and they had all been teaching these skills for years, often longer than we had been alive.

The self-selected students who attend FLP missed out on such seemly dull, but genuinely important, skills as representation, effective teaching, and evaluating others' work. These and the other skills were identified over many years as crucial to the ability to lead other people. By replacing the accepted techniques of leadership with simplistic confidence-building exercises, FLP trains possible leaders with plenty of self-importance and a paucity of useful skills.

The last lecture at the leadership training I attended was the only one given by one of the recent graduates, a young man only two years older than I. The reason for the change in format was the subject matter — the last and most important of those eleven leadership skills, setting the example. Our teacher began the lecture wearing headphones and sitting in a lawn chair. As his speech progressed, he stood up, removed the headphones, and took off his casual outer-garments, revealing tidy and formal attire underneath. With every change, he commanded more respect from his audience; by the time he finished, he held our rapt attention.

The lesson was clear. People like a superior with a sense of humor, but nobody respects silliness in a leader. Unfortunately, this lesson was clearly lost on the organizers and attendees of FLP. In fact, the program appears to be sending the exact opposite message, that silliness is a useful attribute for leaders. This is truly unfortunate for both the potential leaders and the potentially led. I doubt that many people gain confidence in their leaders when they see them perform the FLP-inspired "Banana Dance."

Perhaps the program provides some useful services to the participants and the community. Many participants trumpet it as building community and providing a sense of unity among these freshmen, first meeting one-another and arriving in a totally new environment.

Building a sense of unity can certainly be a good thing, but having it masquerade as leadership is disgraceful. Last year, the FLP program produced a truckload of smarmy freshmen, who desperately believed that they knew far better than anybody else what true leadership meant. This year, it's too early to judge whether the same attitude permeates the newest batch of FLP graduates; the freshmen class council elections ought to provide a good measure.

The problems with FLP are simple by-products of our culture today. Many people would like to think that the best way to lead is to be as natural as possible. That is no more the case now than it has ever been; nor will leaders ever succeed by freeing their inner child. The very essence of being a leader consists of being different — separate — from other people. "It's lonely at the top" — now and forevermore. In his children's classic, *The Horse and His Boy*, C. S. Lewis explains the true nature of leadership; the king must be the most cheerful in hard times and the most thankful for meager fare.

I hope that the freshmen who attended FLP gained something from the experience, since they probably gained no useful leadership skills. Perhaps in the future, MIT will teach leadership classes with some more established merit.

THE ARTS

THEATER REVIEW

Blue Man Group

Modern art's guerrilla warriors

By Bence P. Olveczky

STAFF REPORTER

Blue Man Group

Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton Street,
Boston

Tickets: \$35-\$45

Call 426-6912 for tickets and information on
how to see the show for free by ushering

Part guerrilla art, part pantomime, part rock concert, and part circus, the Blue Man Group's *Tubes* is an entertaining and visceral production that mocks the art establishment and its pseudo-intellectual proponents while showing that theater can still be frenzied, frantic, and fun. The fact that the show, which started out as a New York street act, is in its third year at the Charles Playhouse is itself a testimony of its high quality.

Tubes has no narrative or dialogue. The three Blue Men inhabiting the stage communicate through music, electronic signs, mime, and video projections, carrying ample reference to the art world and pop culture. It is as if the performers are extra terrestrials who have broken into the Museum of Modern Art and Wal-mart. We see them trying to make sense of contemporary paintings, sculptures, and consumer products, and we are entertained by their comic efforts to grasp how these strange artifacts could have come into existence. The re-creation of our external reality by these seemingly perplexed outsiders becomes a sharp social commentary on the alienation of the individual in a technocratic society where even art has lost touch with its audience.

Blue Man Group puts fun back in art, engaging the audience in an interactive and almost tribal celebration of artistic innovation. They are the magicians who pull off one trick after another at a pace worthy of David Copperfield on speed. A toilet paper orgy accompanied by trance music, a surreal Cap'n Crunch eating contest, and the catapulting of jelly into the auditorium may not make for sophisticated theater, but it is all very engaging and physical, speaking to our inner child.

The fast paced and dynamic two-hour performance is never repetitive or boring. Each sketch is full of surprises, exhilarating audiovisual effects, and interactions with the audience, and while the show brushes the borders of vulgarity, it never crosses into the realm of bad taste. The different scenes, seemingly disconnected from each other, are intertwined with hard and raw rock music, with drums and percussion being the vital instruments for the Blue Men.

The art world is where the founders of the Blue Man Group emerged from and it is where they belong. Matt Goldman, Phil Stanton and Chris Wink first started performing their act outside the nightclubs and galleries of New York City. Their production references modern art in a way that is both funny and critical. Scenes reminiscent of Andy Warhol's pop-art, Jackson Pollock's action paintings, and Yves Klein's blue body paintings are abundant. Conceptual Art's favorite toy, the running electronic sign, is made into an effective tool of communication, while video is used to provide close-ups of the performers and to relay to the audience the back-stage happenings.

The show moved from the street into the experimental space of the famous New York institution La Mamas, where the first performance of *Tubes* took place in 1991. The Blue

Man Group soon found a permanent place in the Astor Place and have now expanded with shows in both Boston and Chicago. They are set to play as long as the audience keeps coming, and there seems to be no imminent danger of abating interest. The Charles Playhouse has been nearly sold-out every night since October 1995.

While the production may have lost much of the urgency and spontaneity of the seventies performance art that so clearly inspired it, the Blue Man Group is a prime example of how avant-garde theater can make it into the mainstream without big bucks and big names. They started out in the streets and worked on improving the show for many years. The product that is now showing at the Charles Playhouse is a celebration of what contemporary art could and should be like: a funny and furious commentary on our modern society.



RICHARD FELDMAN

Members of the theatre group Blue Man Group perform their long-running production, *Tubes*, at the Charles Playhouse.

MOVIE REVIEWS

54 and Rounders

The last days of independent cinema

By Vladimir V. Zelevinsky

STAFF REPORTER

Two years ago, four out of five Best Picture Oscar nominees were independently produced, including the eventual winner, *The English Patient*, from Miramax pictures. That was hailed as a stunning victory for the independent cinema which, without the financial and creative constraints imposed by the studio system, could be more daring, creative, and edgy.

Back then, many film critics predicted that the major studios would try to be more creative as well, in order to emulate the success of such studios as Miramax and October Films — if not for the artistic reasons, then at least for the financial ones. After all, something like *Pulp Fiction* (domestic gross around \$100 million) looks like small fish compared to something like *Independence Day* (domestic gross around \$300 million) — that is, until you realize that *Pulp Fiction* cost about one tenth of *ID4* (\$8 million versus \$75 million), and thus represents a much better return on investment.

What happened was the reverse. The small studios got bought by the big ones (Miramax is now owned by Disney, October is owned by Universal, and the owners of Fox Searchlight and Sony Pictures Classics are obvious), and nowadays it is the independent movies which try to emulate their big-budget counterparts. The results are, as far as I'm concerned, depressing. Even the better low-budget movies this year demonstrate the notorious faults of Hollywood movies — unnecessary emphasis on the thriller aspects in *Pi*, and an almost total lack of characterization for the love interest in *Buffalo '66* — and the latest two movies from Miramax are, simply, quite forgettable.

This is a story of human corruption, how greed and glamour snuff noble human impulses, and how bright idealism turns into something much less appealing. The story I'm talking about is not the story of *54* the movie (although it should have been) — it is the story of what happened to *54* the movie.

54 was originally supposed to be a chronicle of a downfall of Shane (Ryan Phillippe), a New Jersey teen, who comes to New York City, gets into the glitzy Studio 54, and then goes from visitor to busboy to bartender, while losing, step by step, his soul. However, this is not the movie I saw.

What I saw was something with the traces of editing scissors in almost every scene. I don't know whether it was the result of poor test screenings or an attempt to make a movie more palatable to the TV generation (after all, this is the movie with Mike Myers and Neve Campbell), but the movie was clearly assembled in the editing room without much regard to consistency, tone, or even common sense. The plot developments come from nowhere and make little to no sense — the characters amble aimlessly, and the subplots are dropped and picked up abruptly.

The relationship between Shane and his friends at 54, the married couple Anita (Salma Hayek) and Greg (Breckin Meyer), suffers the most. After a lot of screen time devoted to this subplot, it is dropped suddenly and completely about two thirds into the movie. At this point, the lukewarm romance between Shane and a small-time TV actress Julie (Neve Campbell, who is, as usual, very radiant and very forgettable) shifts into a higher gear, and infuses the movie with a weird wholesomeness, which really clashes with everything else.

In the end, the movie stops striving for any kind of narrative or character coherency, settling instead in the mood of dazed blandness. At least it's not painful to watch — at an anemic 89 minutes (including about ten minutes of credits, which list as many as 40 highly for-

gettable songs), it's not too boring to watch.

Only Mike Myers escapes the general listlessness. His first ever dramatic performance (as Steve Rubell, the owner and the patron saint of Studio 54) is something to remember. Ambling about in a drug-induced daze and behaving like a class nerd trying to throw the mother of all parties, Rubell is simultaneously a horrifying and a tragic figure. In the end, he's the only one whose fate matters to the viewers.

This is much more than I can say about the central character. Ryan Phillippe looks great, but his acting is almost non-existent, and his story — when I could gleam one — feels like a third-generation copy of the similar (but much superior) one in *Boogie Nights*.

As a matter of fact, *54* does achieve a seemingly impossible task — it makes the disco days of the seventies, with its copious amounts of drugs, sex, half-naked bodies, lurid costumes, and devil-may-care attitude, feel profoundly boring. I think I'll take the nineties, thank you.

Rounders

Directed by John Dahl

Written by David Levien and Brian Koppelman

With Matt Damon, Edward Norton, Gretchen Mol, Martin Landau, John Turturro, John Malkovich

Rounders is a more interesting case. This story about Mike (Matt Damon), a compulsive card player who tries to go straight, at least does one thing right — it takes the viewer into a strange and unfamiliar world (in this case, the illegal underground card houses in New York City), and unlike *54*, makes it a fascinating journey. The milieu is the dimly lit rooms where people are perched, vulture-like, over the card tables; the language is rife with the argot of the gamblers (full of terms like "grinder," "check," "blind," "base deal," and "road show,"); the cinematography is weirdly yellow (a bit too much so), providing a jaundiced tint to the proceedings; and the characters are quite fascinating. There's a charming and compulsively dishonest Worm (Edward Norton); a stoically conservative gambler Joe Knish (John Turturro); and a quietly horrifying Teddy KGB (John Malkovich, turning in

an excellent performance, but doing a horrible Russian accent which sounds nothing like the real thing).

As an anthropological piece, *Rounders* succeeds quite well; while it didn't make me any more interested in illegal poker than I was before I saw this movie (which is to say, not at all), I was admittedly quite fascinated to observe the card sharks and learn about the feeding and mating habits of this peculiar species. The film halfway succeeds as an exploration of a gambling addiction; while it doesn't care in the least to explain why is it that Mike can not resist cards (although I believe Damon's uncharacteristically bland performance is partly to blame here), it refreshingly doesn't treat it as a vice. As a story however, *Rounders* fails totally and completely.

Why oh why did the screenwriters feel the need to include the totally superfluous romantic subplot between Mike and his girlfriend Jo (Gretchen Mol, playing an absolutely generic character)? A lot of time is spent on it, and this relationship ultimately doesn't matter in the least. Of course, the same is true about the film's central relationship, the one between Mike and Worm. For a while — as a matter of fact, for most of the time — it feels like an emotional center of the film, with Norton managing to make his scoundrel highly likable, and Damon warming up in their scenes together. As a result, it comes as a crushing disappointment when, toward the end of the movie, this potentially fascinating plot is reduced to a mere convenient plot device, and Worm totally disappears for all of the last act.

With the emotional backbone disappearing, the ending of *Rounders* pretty much disintegrates. Despite Mike's frequent voiceover pontification about poker being a game of skill rather than a game of luck, the final card game mostly turns on who gets the better hand, and the results of this game are utterly obvious from the opening title.

Allow me to sigh ruefully. The list of films I haven't enjoyed this year grows at an alarming rate; the only thing is left is the hope that sometime during next four months there will be at least some movies which would care more about art than about profit. Maybe they will be able to reach the state of true creative independence.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Montien

Thai food, Thai folks, Thai fun

By Duangjai Samranvedhya

Montien Thai Restaurant and Karaoke
Takeout-delivery
Weekdays: 11:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Friday, Saturday: 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday: 4:30 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Karaoke 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. Friday-Sunday
63 Stuart Street, Boston
Phone: 338-5600
Fax: 338-5348

Many people ask me what the best Thai restaurant in Boston is. My answer varies depending on what a person wants — atmosphere or authenticity of food. Now that Montien reopened two weeks ago after a lengthy

closing for renovations, it once again offers just about everything a Thai restaurant should, especially the option between the authentic Thai taste or Thai food as Americans like it.

Montien has always been the gathering place for Thai students in the Boston area. It reappears with a modern look, featuring a bar and karaoke. Just two weeks after the reopening, the place is already packed on Friday night when the karaoke kicks off at 10 p.m. The renovation makes Montien a perfect place for a dinner with a nice atmosphere in the early evening, and a smashing place for karaoke on the late weekend nights.

Ask any Thai student at MIT, except the new ones, of course, and I'd bet every one knows Montien. It's the combination of the

authenticity of the food and the comprehensive menu that makes Montien so popular, with the help of karaoke. For the real Thai food, ask for the Thai menu with English descriptions. Try out a few things and you will know the difference between the authentic Thai food and those Asian-fusion foods that equate everything in Thai peanut sauce with Thai food.

The best way to order things from the menu is to take a Thai friend with you. If you have one, take a friend who comes directly from Thailand — you'll have a better chance that your friend can read Thai and knows the dishes. Even if you haven't made friends with any Thai students here, the staff at Montien can guide you through the menu. The owner, Pi Peam, is a nice lady who oversees everyday operations.

If you are familiar with Thai food, try different things, but be sure to ask how the dish is prepared to assure you'll get what you expect. If you are not at all familiar with Thai food, you can either try the English menu, serving American-tasting Thai food, or ask the staff to help you start with some simple dishes.

The menu is divided into several sections: entrees, appetizers, salad, seafood, rice dishes, curry, and noodles. For lunch, try the single dishes of noodles and rice. For appetizers, I like the steamed mussels, fried tofu served with sweet sauce and ground peanuts, shrimp fish cake, and my favorite, the must-try Yum Pla Duk Foo. For an entree, I like fried fish with chili sauce, Pla Rad Prik and soft shell crabs with garlic and pepper. The vegetarian dishes are available from the menu, or you can ask the kitchen to prepare vegetarian dishes.

You can also order drinks from the bar, including Thai iced tea or Thai iced coffee. On weekends, call for reservations and plan the meal to end before 10 p.m., or else the karaoke might ruin your dinner since it's quite loud. Of course, if you enjoy singing, stay for karaoke. Ninety percent of the requested songs will be in Thai, although the song list also has some soft and easy English songs.

Montien delivers to MIT. It might be the only good Thai restaurant that delivers, since others often offer just takeout. Delivery is free when an order exceeds \$15.

Popular Music

Great Woods
Tickets: 423-NEXT or 423-6000
Sept. 19: Allman Brothers Band + Sister Hazel, 7 p.m., \$39 reserved, \$29 reserved, \$24 lawn.

Berklee Performance Center
Tickets: 931-2000.
Oct. 11: An evening of spoken word with Henry Rollins. \$16. On sale 9/11 at 10 a.m.

Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., Boston.
Tickets: 423-NEXT.
Sept. 14: Massive Attack + Lewis Parker. \$17.50.
Sept. 24: Bob Mould. \$15.
Sept. 25: De La Soul + Most Def + Kweli. \$15.
Oct. 5: Soulfly + Snot, Hed "pe" + Day in the Life. \$15.
Oct. 6: Liz Phair. \$15.
Oct. 8: Better than Ezra + Athenaeum + Possum Dixon. \$15.
Oct. 9: Jerry Cantrell + Flight 16. \$15 advance, \$17 day of show. On sale 9/11 at 10 a.m.
Oct. 14: They Might Be Giants. \$15. On sale 9/12 at 10 a.m.
Oct. 19: Semisonic. \$13. On sale 9/12 at 10 a.m.

Somerville Theatre
Tickets: 931-2000.
Sept. 30: Son Volt + Josh Rouse. \$15.
Oct. 20: Lucinda Williams. \$19.50. On sale 9/12 at 10 a.m.

The Orpheum Theatre
Tickets: 423-NEXT.
Oct. 16: Lenny Kravitz + Sean Lennon. \$28.50. On sale 9/12 at 10 a.m.
Oct. 17: Lionel Richie. \$38.50, \$32.50. On sale 9/12 at 10 a.m.

Paradise Rock Club
Tickets: 423-NEXT.
Sept. 17: From Good Homes. \$8.
Sept. 18: Tripping Daisy + Flick + Bradford Reed And His Amazing Penclina. \$7.
Sept. 23: The Paperboys. \$7.
Sept. 24: Babaloo. \$8.
Sept. 26: Fools Progress. \$8 advance, \$10 day of show.
Sept. 27: John Lurie & the Lounge Lizards. \$16.
Oct. 1: Fuel + Solution AD and Edna Swap.
Oct. 3: Tom Tom Club.
Oct. 5: Elliot Smith.
Oct. 8: Agents of Good Root.

Jazz Music

Sculler's Jazz Club
Tickets: 562-4111.
Sept. 11, 12: Mose Allison.
Sept. 15: Kenny Garrett.
Sept. 16: Kendrick Oliver & The New Life Jazz Orchestra.
Sept. 17: Kim Waters.

Regattabar

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
September 11 - 18
Compiled by Joel M. Rosenberg

Send submissions to ott@the-tech.mit.edu or by interdepartmental mail to "On The Town," The Tech, W20-483.

Theater

Blue Man Group
See review in this issue.
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton Street, Boston, indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, at 7 and 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and at 3 and 6 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets \$35 to \$45. Call 426-6912 for tickets and information on how to see the show for free by ushering.

Fosse: A Celebration in Song and Dance
Prior to Broadway, this musical and choreographic encomium to the legendary performer, director, and choreographer Bob Fosse touches down in Boston. Performed by 34 singers and dancers, it includes highlights from such memorable Fosse shows as *Chicago*, *Cabaret*, *The Pajama Game*, *Sweet Charity*, *Pippin*, *All That Jazz*, and *Dancin'*. Direction is by Tony winner Richard Maltby Jr.; he conceived the show with Chet Walker, who re-creates the famed Fosse moves.
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston Street, Boston, now through Sept. 27. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday, and at 2 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets \$48.50 to \$68.50; discount for groups. \$20 student and senior rush tickets 1 hour before curtain (except Saturday evenings).

Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde

The Huntington Theatre Company kicks off its season with the Boston premiere of Moises Kaufman's acclaimed off-Broadway docudrama, which chronicles "the three courtroom battles that transformed Oscar Wilde's reputation," turning him from toast of London (The Importance of Being Earnest) to broken man (The Ballad of Reading Gaol). Wilde is played by one actor (Donald Carrier), backed by eight men who play a variety of roles including Bosie Douglas, attorneys and magistrates, Queen Victoria, "and even the playwright Moises Kaufman."
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Avenue, Boston (266-0800), now through October 11. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday (excepting September 16 at 7 p.m.; no performance September 29), at 8 p.m. on Friday, at 2 and 8 p.m. on Saturday (no matinee September 12), and at 2 p.m. on Sunday (except September 13); there are also Sunday-evening performances at 7 p.m. on September 13 and October 4 and 2 p.m. Wednesday matinees on September 23 and October 7. Tickets \$10 to \$49.50; \$5 discount for seniors and students with ID.

Shear Madness
The dramatic personae of this audience-participation whodunit continue to comb Newbury Street for the murderer of a classical pianist who lived over the unisex hair salon where the show is set. Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74 Warrenton Street, Boston (426-5225), indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, and at 3 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets \$30 to \$34.

Titanic... The Mystery Cruise
Comedy Theater Productions of Westwood presents a new dinner/mystery cruise around Boston harbor, featuring "a hilarious three-hour spoof and whodunit by

hypothetical cast members of Titanic, the Soap Opera."
Aboard the Fort Independence, departing from Long Wharf, off Atlantic Avenue, Boston (800-697-CLUE), at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through October 31. Tickets \$44.95, which includes performance, dinner buffet, tax, and gratuities.

Exhibits

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston. (423-6758 or 426-2800), Daily, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission \$7, \$5 for students and seniors, free for children under 5. Half-price admission on Sun. from 3-5 p.m. Tours daily of "Walk Through Computer 2000," a working two-story model of a PC. The world's only computer museum: features a collection of vintage computers and robots with over 150 hands-on exhibits illustrating the evolution, use, and impact of computers. Featured exhibits include: "The Hacker's Garage," a recreation of a '70s hacker's garage with such items as an Apple I and Pong; "The Networked Planet: Traveling the Information Highway," an electronic tour of the Internet; "Robots and Other Smart Machines," an interactive exhibition of artificial intelligence and robots; "Tools & Toys: The Amazing Personal Computer"; "People and Computers: Milestones of a Revolution," explores a number of ways computers impact everyday life. In the Smart Machines Theater a multi-media show features NASA's Mars Rover, R2-D2, Shakey, Sea Rover, and other robots. Through Nov. 30: "Wizards and Their Wonders: Portraits in Computing." Ongoing: "Virtual FishTank."

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston. (566-1401), Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Admission \$10, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students with ID (\$3 on Wed.), free for children under 18. The museum, built in the style of a 15th-century Venetian palace, houses more than 2500 art objects, with emphasis on Italian Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch works. Among the highlights are works by Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and Whistler. Guided tours given Fridays at 2:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed., 10 a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. West Wing open Thurs.-Fri. until 9:45 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$10, \$8 for students and seniors, children under 17 free; \$2 after 5 p.m. Thurs.-Fri., free Wed. after 4 p.m.
Mon.-Fri.: introductory walks through all collections begin at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; "Asian, Egyptian, and Classical Walks" begin at 11:30 a.m.; "American Painting and Decorative Arts Walks" begin at 12:30 p.m.; "European Painting and Decorative Arts Walks" begin at 2:30 p.m.; introductory tours are also offered Sat. at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Permanent Gallery Installations: "Late Gothic Gallery," featuring a restored 15th-century stained glass window from Hampton Court, 14th- and 15th-century stone, alabaster, and polychrome wood sculptures from France and the Netherlands; "Mummy Mask Gallery," a newly renovated Egyptian gallery, features primitive masks dating from as far back as 2500 B.C.; "European Decorative Arts from 1950 to the Present"; "John Singer Sargent: Studies for MFA and Boston Public Library Murals."

Exhibitions: Grand Design admission \$13, \$11 for seniors and students, free for children. Through Sept. 15: "Twentieth

Century Landscapes." Through Sept. 27: "Photomage: Printmaking '60s to '90s." Through Oct. 25: "Arthur G. Dove: Mixing Media." Through Nov. 8: "Beauty Contest: Quality in Prints." Ongoing: "Beyond the Screen: Chinese Furniture of the 16th and 17th Centuries"; "The Art of Africa, Oceania, and the Ancient Americas"; "Egyptian Funerary Arts and Ancient Near East Galleries." - Gallery lectures are free with museum admission. Sat.: at noon, "Greek and Etruscan Gold," presented by David Austin. Wed.: at 6 p.m., "19th-Century American Art," presented by Pamela Kachurin. Wed.: at 6:30 p.m., "Introductory Tour of the Galleries in Russian," presented by Nikolay Guyetsky. Thurs.: at 11 a.m., "Unwrapping the Mummies and the Ancient Near East," presented by Rita Freed.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston. (723-2500), Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$9, \$7 for children 3-14 and seniors.

The Museum features the theater of electricity (with indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits. Ongoing: "Discovery Center"; "Investigate! A See-For-Yourself Exhibit"; "Welcome to the Universe." Through Sept. 30: "Everest: Roof of the World"; "Living on the Edge." Through Oct. 31: "The Science of Autumn." Ongoing: "Seeing Is Deceiving." Admission to Omni, laser, and planetarium shows is \$7.50, \$5.50 for children and seniors. Now showing: "Laser Beastie Boys," Thurs.-Sat., 9:15 p.m.; "Laser Dark Side of the Moon," Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m.; "Laser Space Odyssey," Daily, 5:30 p.m.; "Laser Floyd's Wall," Fri.-Sat. at 10:30 p.m.; "Laser Metallica," Sun., 9:15 p.m.; "Laser Nirvana," Sun., 8 p.m.; "Laser Beatles," Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m. Planetarium shows include "Life and Death of the Sun."

Swatch Museum
57 JFK St., Cambridge. (864-1227), Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m.
Ongoing: Swatch watches by Keith Haring, Christian LaCroix, Sam Francis, and others.

Events

College Fest
Hynes Convention Center, Sept. 19 from 12-7pm, Sept. 20 from 12-6pm. \$6 with college ID, \$10 general admission. Raffles, giveaways, Frank Santos, the R-Rated hypnotist, and music. Pushstars at 3:30pm on Sept. 19, Strech Princess at 1:30pm and Reel Big Fish at 3:30pm on Sept. 20.

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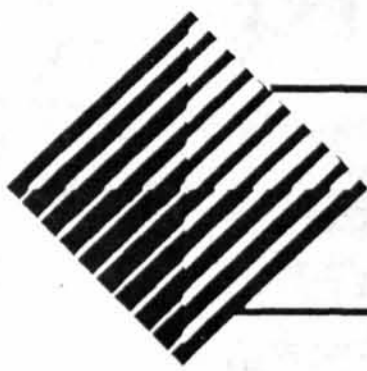
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Irving Segal

Professor Emeritus of Mathematics Irving Segal died while walking near his home in Lexington on Aug. 30. He was 79 years old.

Segal served on the MIT faculty for 38 years. During his time at the Institute, he helped to upgrade and improve the undergraduate curriculum in math.

Segal was born in the Bronx on Sept. 13, 1918. He grew up in Trenton, N.J. As an undergraduate, he attended Princeton University and received his bachelor's degree in mathematics in 1937. Segal went on to receive his doctorate in mathematics from Yale University in 1940. In 1941, Segal was an instructor at Harvard University and from 1941 through 1943, Segal returned to Princeton as a research associate. Segal went on to serve the US Army conducting ballistics research at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds. He then worked in at the Institute for Advanced Study from 1945 to 1948. He then joined the faculty at the University of Chicago, where he eventually became a full professor. In 1960, Segal joined the MIT faculty and became professor emeritus in 1989.

In his early work, Segal studied the applications of algebraic methods to fundamental physics. In 1947, he spurred a great deal of active research by publishing a system of postulates for general quantum mechanics.

Later in his career, Segal used his chronometric theory and applied it to studies in astrophysics, which led to a parameter-free theory of the red-shift and an alternative model of the universe.

Segal also generalized much of Norbert Wiener's

work in stochastic integration and the foundations of noncommutative geometry.

Professor Segal was a member of the American Astronomical, Mathematical, and Physical Societies. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences, and the National Academy of Sciences. Segal was also a John Simon Guggenheim fellow in 1947, 1951, and 1967. He received the Alexander von Humboldt Award in 1981. He was also founder and managing editor of the Journal of Functional Analysis. In his career, he wrote three books and authored over 200 papers.

Segal was a visiting professor at several universities worldwide including Columbia University, La Sorbonne, Lund University, University of Pisa, Aarhus University, College de France, Institute of Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, Copenhagen and the University of Moscow.

Segal also was a committed adviser to graduate students. He was adviser to Professors of Mathematics Emeriti Isadore Singer and Bertram Kostant and Edward Nelson, now a professor at Princeton.

Professor Segal is survived by his wife Dr. Martha Segal of Lexington; their six-year-old daughter daughter, Miriam, of Lexington; three children from an earlier marriage, William of Bethesda, Md., Andrew of Espinola, N.M., and Karen of New York City; and four grandchildren. His first wife, Osa MacLane of Chicago, mother of William, Andrew and Karen, also survives.

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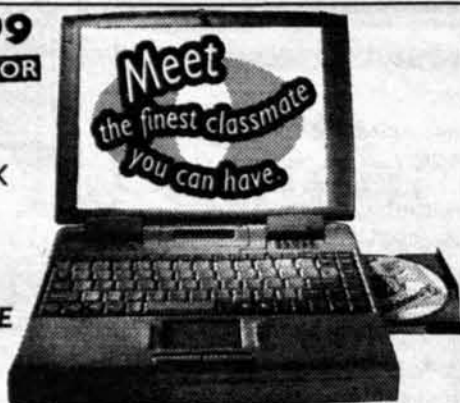
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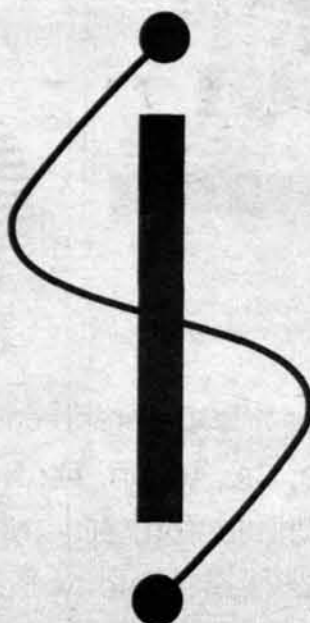
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Athena Fall 1998 Minicourse Schedule



Open to all MIT students, faculty, and staff

September 14 - October 22, 1998

Room 3-343	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
noon 7pm 8pm	Sept. 14 MSO MSO Matlab	Sept. 15 Matlab MSO Matlab	Sept. 16 Xess Xess Maple	Sept. 17 Maple Xess Maple
noon 7pm 8pm	Sept. 21 Frame Frame FrameThs	Sept. 22 LaTeX Frame FrameThs	Sept. 23 FrameThs LaTeX LatexThs	Sept. 24 LatexThs LaTeX LatexThs
noon 7pm 8pm	Sept. 28 Intro Intro Basic	Sept. 29 Basic Intro Basic	Sept. 30 Working Working EZ	Oct. 1 EZ Working EZ
noon 7pm 8pm	Oct. 5 Info Res. Info Res. HTML	Oct. 6 HTML Info Res. HTML	Oct. 7 Ser Emacs Ser. Emacs Dotfiles	Oct. 8 Dotfiles Ser. Emacs Dotfiles
noon 7pm 8pm	Oct. 12 Columbus Day No classes	Oct. 13 Matlab MSO Matlab	Oct. 14 Frame Frame FrameThs	Oct. 15 LaTeX LaTeX Thesis
noon 7pm 8pm	Oct. 19 HTML Info Res HTML	Oct. 20 Dotfiles Emacs Dotfiles	Oct. 21 Intro Intro Basic	Oct. 22 Basic Working EZ

Libraries



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Over Summer, MIT Sees Many Changes

While many members of the community were away for the summer and for Orientation Week, several important events occurred and decisions were made which will affect this term and beyond. These stories are reprinted here, in abbreviated form, for the benefit of those who were away.

Freshmen will live in dormitories

All freshmen will be housed in dormitories starting in the fall of 2001, President Charles M. Vest announced Aug. 25 after the Academic Council unanimously endorsed the proposal.

"This decision represents a major step in our commitment to enhancing our educational community and better integrating student life and learning," Vest wrote in a letter to students, faculty, and staff.

The announcement was timed to occur shortly before last week's release of the final report of the Task Force on Student Life and Learning. The task force has been working for two years to develop a long-term educational plan for the Institute. The report will urge the Institute to house all freshmen on campus, said Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education Rosalind H. Williams.

Vest's decision was made based upon the task force report and "nearly a year of thoughtful debate and correspondence about student housing." Vest also considered the reports of numerous committees that in the past have recommended housing freshmen on campus.

Although the decision to house all freshmen on campus has been made, the details of how the residence system will look in three years have not yet been decided.

This fall, students, administrators, alumni, and alumnae will begin to work on plans for the new residence system, Williams said, beginning with the plans for the new dormitory.

The decision came as a surprise to Interfraternity Council President Duane H. Dreger '99, who had attended a meeting with Williams earlier in the day about the task force report.

"[Tuesday] morning, I had told people from the IFC to ignore it for ten days and to focus with the issue at hand — rush," Dreger said. "We figured we'd work on it at the beginning of term."

Dreger said that the FSILG system should be able to remain intact even with the changes. "The FSILGs have a remarkable ability to adapt," he said. "I don't think we'd lose anyone from it."

Advisers required at FSILGs

The Institute announced July 2 that all fraternities, sororities and independent living groups would need to have graduate resident advisers 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 until they hired an RA.

The change is merely "one of timing," said Associate Dean for Residence Life and Student Life Programs Andrew S. Eisenmann '70. "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."

Prior to this decision, this school 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.

The decision to change the schedule for the program was influenced by a variety of sources, Eisenmann said. A June 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.

"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."

As of the end of August, nearly all FSILGs had found resident advisers.

Fiji license support withdrawn

Members of Phi Gamma Delta did not move 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 did not automatically receive its license back when its seven-

Review, Page 18

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Tues., Sept. 22nd, 10:00-11:30am
Wed., Sept. 23rd, 6:00-7:30pm
Thurs., Sept. 24, 10-11:30am
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Feds Bust Counterfeiting Scam at U. of Pennsylvania

FROM UNIVERSITY WIRE

Federal authorities last week busted what they said was one of the biggest counterfeiting schemes in United States history, which allegedly used phony checks to try to bilk hundreds of millions of dollars from many prominent Philadelphia institutions — including the University of Pennsylvania.

A federal grand jury indicted 38 people on charges of racketeering, bank fraud and other charges related to a massive fake-check scam.

Members of the group allegedly obtained microfiche copies of corporate and business checks and then "fraudulently represent[ed] themselves" to printing companies to order books of blank checks, according to a statement released by the U.S. Attorney's office.

Reginald Greene, 38, of Philadelphia's Overbrook Park section — about four miles west of the Penn campus — is accused of being the operation's ringleader. Greene served 20 months in prison in 1991 on fraud charges. In 1996, authorities in Delaware prosecuted him on similar charges but failed to get a conviction and eventually dropped the charges.

Greene's attorney, Dennis Cogan, said Wednesday that Greene

plans to plead not guilty. He emphasized the charges so far are simply "accusations."

"He's been down this road before and knows it's an accusation and that's all it is," Cogan said.

The scheme, which allegedly began in 1993, centered around large Philadelphia-area corporations, including the Philadelphia 76ers, WPVI-TV, U.S. Healthcare, the Cozen and O'Connor law firm and several charitable and educational organizations.

According to the U.S. Attorney's Office statement, Greene's organization was very complex.

Greene and 15 "lieutenants" allegedly ordered tens of thousands of blank checks and then delivered them to various "check passers," who deposited or cashed them.

Check passers often had false identities and disguises, the statement says.

The real victims, though, are the 14 financial institutions and credit unions, which agreed to repay Penn and the other organizations the collective losses of \$6 million.

Total losses could have been in the range of \$1 billion had more of the group's checks cleared, authorities said.

University officials yesterday were still reviewing the case. Because the banks have agreed to repay the institutions, it is unlikely

that Penn will suffer any economic losses.

Most of the defendants have been arrested and are in custody. Bail hearings are being held this week and next. Cogan said he expects a trial to begin in about six months.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Amy Kurland, who is one of the lead prosecutors for the case, said she expects many of the defendants to plead guilty and that she will try those who don't together.

Agencies including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Secret Service and the Philadelphia Police Department have been investigating the alleged scheme for several years.

Officials are still trying to determine how the ring was able to obtain the microfiche copies of blank checks. One of the suspects arrested worked for one of the institutions that was victimized, authorities said.

[Daily Pennsylvanian, Sept. 10]

Bomb rocks Duke dormitory

A female resident of Duke's Wannamaker 1 Dormitory was taken to the hospital early yesterday morning after reportedly being injured in a blast from an explosive device placed near her dormitory room, said Major Robert Dean of the Duke University Police

Department.

Dean described the incident as follows: The student was returning to her room between 1:00 a.m. and 2:23 a.m. when the device — described by police as a 32-ounce plastic Gatorade bottle containing aluminum and some liquid substance — exploded in the hallway outside her room, injuring her left leg and knee.

The victim, who lives in a first-floor triple, said there were two blasts on her floor. The first — which she said occurred at about 2 a.m. — was in the hallway outside another nearby room. Upon hearing the noise, the victim said she went to her blockmates' room to talk about the incident.

When the victim returned five minutes later, she said, the door to her room was half open, although she was not sure whether she had left it open originally. As she was writing a message for her roommates on her dry-erase board, the pressure of her writing started to open the door further.

At that time the second device exploded, she said, explaining that the bomb was probably near the door.

The victim's resident advisor called the police, who arrived about 20 minutes later. "I was sitting there on the ground, thinking to myself, 'What the hell just happened?'" the

victim said.

In an interview Tuesday afternoon, Dean said there was only one device on the first floor and another on the second floor that exploded slightly earlier.

At an emergency dorm meeting late Tuesday night, however, Detective Thessie Mitchell of Duke Campus Police confirmed that there were two explosions on the first floor and that there might have been a third elsewhere in the dorm, although no material evidence was recovered from the possible third explosion.

On the first floor, students reported that the liquid substance inside the Gatorade bottle was giving off a gaseous smoke that smelled like sulfur, Dean said.

Mitchell said police had to neutralize an acid on the floor. He added that evidence from the incident has been sent to the State Bureau of Investigation for analysis.

An analysis of the liquid and a test for fingerprints will be completed within one to three weeks, Mitchell said. He added that the device was probably something one could make at home with ordinary chemicals.

Mitchell said the device exploded due to increased gas pressure caused by a chemical reaction inside the bottle.

Police are unsure whether the explosion was specifically directed toward the victim. She said she could not imagine why anyone would want to target her specifically.

Mitchell said last night that police think the perpetrator was familiar with the layout of the dorm. If anyone were caught, he explained, the person would probably be charged with a felony.

Mitchell added that Campus Police is considering whether yesterday's incidents could be related to a smoke bomb which set off a fire alarm in the same dorm Aug. 28.

[The Chronicle, Sept. 10]

Fire hits Indiana auditorium

A fire that broke out in the basement of the Indiana University Theatre Wednesday afternoon could have easily burnt down the building, according to the IU Department of Risk Management.

At 3:13 p.m., an alarm notified the Bloomington Fire Department and it arrived at the scene three minutes later. There were no injuries, and damage to the building was minimal.

"What saved this building was that sprinkler system," said Jim Dawson, a fire engineer in the Risk Management department, as he pointed to a small sprinkler mounted near the ceiling of the basement's trap room.

The room is about 15 feet by 30 feet and is used to store props for plays in the University Theatre. The sprinklers on one side of the room were activated when the temperature reached 160° Fahrenheit, said Paul Spicer, a safety engineer with IU's Risk Management department.

The fire was contained by the two sprinklers and was smoldering when the fire department arrived, he said.

The only losses were three boxes of light bulbs, a few rugs and a box of foam rubber, said Leon Brauner, the chairperson of the department of theater and drama.

Discussing the fire afterward, Dawson told Brauner that if the sprinklers hadn't been there, "you'd be out of business."

The damage did not spread beyond the room; the rest of the University Theatre and IU Auditorium were unaffected.

Spicer speculated that the fire was started by welders who were working on the set for the University Theatre's production of "Six Degrees of Separation," which opens Oct. 5.

"They were welding and we think an ember went down a small

Free Computing for all MIT Students

Fall Term 1998 Minicourse Schedule



Athena Minicourses

Schedule and Index Fall Term 1998

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
12 noon	14 Sep	MSO	15 Sep	Matlab
7 p.m.		MSO		MSO
8 p.m.		Matlab		Matlab
12 noon	21 Sep	Frame	22 Sep	Latex
7 p.m.		Frame		Frame
8 p.m.		Frame Thesis		Frame Thesis
12 noon	28 Sep	① Intro	29 Sep	② Basic
7 p.m.		① Intro		① Intro
8 p.m.		② Basic		② Basic
12 noon	5 Oct	Info Res	6 Oct	HTML
7 p.m.		Info Res		Info Res
8 p.m.		HTML		HTML
12 noon	12 Oct	Holiday	13 Oct	Matlab
7 p.m.		No Classes		MSO
8 p.m.		Coulomb's Day		Matlab
12 noon	19 Oct	HTML	20 Oct	Dotfiles
7 p.m.		Info Res		Ser Emacs
8 p.m.		HTML		Dotfiles
			21 Oct	① Intro
				① Intro
				② Basic
			22 Oct	② Basic
				③ Working
				EZ
			16 Sep	Xess
				Xess
				Maple
			17 Sep	Maple
				Xess
				Maple
			23 Sep	Frame Ths
				Latex
				Latex Thesis
			24 Sep	Latex Ths
				Latex
				Latex Thesis
			1 Oct	EZ
				③ Working
				EZ
			7 Oct	Ser Emacs
				Ser Emacs
				Dotfiles
			8 Oct	Dotfiles
				Ser Emacs
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			14 Oct	Frame
				Frame
				Frame Thesis
			15 Oct	Latex
				Latex
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I/S Athena Training Group

All Classes in Room 3-343

Students Say Vest's Decision Will Create Housing Disaster

Protest, from Page 1

ed to do is, from an anthropological perspective, essentially genocide. Ethnic cleansing," Norwood said.

"You can't improve community by homogenization," said Ted Peck '82, an alumnus of Tau Epsilon Phi. He cited the decision to house freshmen on campus "as part of the global trend to eradicate indigenous peoples."

Many students also sat in on the protest in a show of support. In the three hours that the protest took place, the number of gathered students ranged from a low of thirty to upwards of 100.

Ara N. Knaian '99, a brother at Zeta Beta Tau, noted the positive aspects of living in a fraternity as a freshman, including help on problem sets and moral support.

"I want to make sure that future students can have the same experience," Knaian said.

Media attention discussed

Many students asserted that the media attention focused on MIT led to this decision.

Erica Selin '01 said she was there "because it seems like the administration isn't listening to students, it's only listening to the media."

Laughton Stanley '98, an alumnus of ADP, said that it was failed disciplinary procedures at the Institute and not freshmen in fraternities that has caused some of the problems MIT faces with respect to its FSILGs.

"I think the administration made a mistake," Stanley said. "Basically, [Vest] has taken what is probably one of the best systems in the country and he's said there are some problems so 'I'm just going to make them go away'."

"The administration has failed to provide leadership on this campus," Stanley said. "They've helped to just brush things under the rug as long as they could," Stanley said.

"All it is is sugar coating the situation and making MIT look proactive," said Robert Maupin '00.

Citation of task force criticized

President Charles M. Vest cited the report of the Task Force of Student Life and Learning when announcing the decision to house all freshmen on campus. In this report, the task force supported housing freshmen on campus while also stating that FSILGs should receive financial help from MIT to ease the transition.

"In my view, the publication of this report... makes this the appropriate moment to begin to think about 'how' rather than 'whether,'" Vest said.

At the protest, a student member of the task force, Jeremy D. Sher '99, said that, in fact, the task force had not deliberated seriously on the proposal to house all freshmen on campus.

"I am here today at this demonstration, without permission from the Task Force or from anybody else, to spill a few of the beans about how the Task Force came to recommend the change to freshmen

on campus, which I opposed," Sher said.

In mid-July, Sher said he was approached by one of the co-chairs of the task force who told Sher that the decision to house freshmen on campus was "inevitable."

"We had a choice: either not recommend freshmen on campus, or recommend it and use that as an opportunity to get a word in, edge-wise about how to do it right," Sher said.

"When you read it, you'll see that freshmen on campus was just tacked onto it at the end," Sher said.

An initial draft of the task force report contained a recommendation that if freshmen were housed on campus, "it should be done in a way that preserves the strengths of the existing system," according to Luis A. Ortiz G, a member of the task force. This initial report was circulated among department heads and members of the upper administration for feedback, Ortiz said.

"The chairs of the committee brought this feedback to the committee's attention, and the task force ultimately decided to back a more direct recommendation," Ortiz said.

"The exact wording of the text was closely scrutinized: the task

force clearly wishes to see the FSILG system continue, and the members also wished to fully acknowledge the benefits of the current system and the dangers inherent in the transition to housing all freshmen in dorms," Ortiz said.

UA supports protest

The open-mike protest was endorsed by the Undergraduate Association after it had been organized.

"It's not that the UA is for or against" housing freshmen on campus, said UA president Paul T. Oppold. Oppold said that the protest was endorsed in order to foster free speech.

Oppold said that one of the stated goals of the UA is "to represent student opinion to the administration." The protest served that purpose in both allowing the UA to gather student input and also by inviting various figures in the administration to witness hear speeches by students.

The protest was organized by Christopher R. Rezek '00 from Alpha Delta Phi. The purpose was to "collect people and show people's solidarity opposing freshman housing on campus," Rezek said.

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ATHENA® MINICOURSE INDEX

Introduction to Athena (Intro)

An introduction to Athena and Athena workstations. Topics include: what you can do on Athena, getting an account, logging in, windows, sending messages, finding help and documentation.

Pre-requisites: None

Basic Word Processing (Basic WP)

Elementary text editing with Emacs, sending and receiving electronic mail, and using the Athena printers.

Pre-requisites: Intro

Working on Athena (Working)

Just the basics: files, directories, job control, and more. What every new user should know about Unix, Athena's operating system.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP

Advanced Word Processing: EZ (EZ)

An introduction to EZ, a combination text editor and formatter, with text-editing commands that are similar to Emacs. As a formatter, it is menu-driven and easy to learn, in the popular style of the "What You See Is (pretty much) What You Get" packages.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP, Working

Advanced Word Processing: LATEX (Latex)

An introduction to Latex, a widely-used text formatter, used for converting a text file into an attractive, professional-looking document. It is a powerful and flexible program, with the capability to typeset many foreign characters and very complex mathematical text.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP, Working

Latex Thesis (Thesis)

Using the Latex text formatter to produce a fully-featured thesis that meets all MIT format requirements.

Pre-requisites: Latex, some Latex experience

Introduction to FrameMaker (Frame)

FrameMaker is a powerful word-processing and document-preparation package now available on Athena.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP, Working

FrameMaker for your Thesis (Frame Thesis)

FrameMaker, with a special template, can be used to produce an MIT thesis that meets all Institute formatting requirements.

Pre-requisites: Frame, some Frame experience

Information Resources on Athena (Info Res)

A survey of the communications, help, and other resources available on Athena.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP, Working

HTML: Making a WWW Home Page (HTML)

Covers the basic features of HTML ("Hyper-Text Mark-up Language") the language of the World-Wide Web, as well as the steps needed to post your own Web page on Athena.

Pre-requisite: Info Res

Math Software Overview (MSO)

A survey of major mathematics and graphing packages available on Athena.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP

Matlab (Matlab)

An interactive program for scientific and engineering numeric calculation. Applications include: matrix manipulation, digital signal processing, and 3-dimensional graphics.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP, Working

Xess (Xess)

A powerful and easy-to-learn spreadsheet, with a full range of mathematical, statistical, matrix, and string functions. It will be useful for scientific and engineering computations, as well as to general and financial users.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP, Working

Maple (Maple)

A mathematics program that can perform numerical and symbolic calculations, including formal and numerical integration, solving algebraic or transcendental systems and differential equations, and series expansion and matrix manipulation. It also has extensive graphics capabilities.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP, Working

Serious Emacs (Ser. Emacs)

The text editor introduced in Basic Word Processing has many useful features not covered in that course. This course is a must for anyone who uses Emacs more than an hour or two each week.

Pre-requisites: Intro, Basic WP, Working, some Emacs experience

Customization on Athena (Dotfiles)

Intended for the intermediate-level Athena user, this course will discuss the Athena login sequence and the user-configuration files (dotfiles) that affect it, as well as changes the user can make to those and other files to customize their working environment.

Pre-requisites: Serious Emacs, some Athena experience



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253-1541

MIT Refuses Support for Fiji License Reinstatement

Review, from Page 15

month suspension ended 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.

The decision not to support Fiji before the licensing board came in early July, 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.

Licensing Board bans alcohol

The Boston Licensing Board banned alcohol at Beta Theta Pi until 2001 in August as punishment for a July incident at the house.

In addition to the alcohol ban, the board ordered the house's roof deck dismantled. It also banned the fraternity from housing summer residents next year.

Boston Police and Boston University Police responded to the house, located at 119 Bay State Road in Boston, after a BU cruiser was pelted by full beer cans on a routine patrol. Officers then broke up a party on the house's roofdeck.

One Boston University police officer, James Barry, was injured severely while avoiding the glass and required surgery for a ruptured disk in his neck. Barry has not yet returned to the force and may not because of his injuries, said BU spokesperson Kevin Carleton.

Members of the fraternity have stated that those at the party were all summer boarders and the boarders' friends.

At an Interfraternity Council hearing, Robert N. Tunick '99, a representative from the fraternity, said "we acknowledge that a premise control issue exists" but insisted that "no Betas were present, no Betas purchased or consumed alcohol."

The representatives of the fraternity also testified that it was not unreasonable that none of the brothers had realized the summer residents were throwing a party on the roof deck. Brothers cited numerous reasons for being unaware of the party until soon before the police arrived, ranging from loud music in their rooms to being in the fraternity's annex.

James B. Williams '99, a brother in BTP, was charged for serving the two kegs used at the event to minors. He was arraigned in Roxbury District Court on Sept. 2.

As part of its sanction of BTP, the board required MIT to report back to it by mid-September about the status of obtaining deputy privileges within Suffolk County, which would allow the MIT Police to have the same privileges as the Boston Police and the BU Police in the cities of Boston and Brookline.

Student Center tenants change

For the first time since its renovations a decade ago, the Stratton Student Center has changed dramatically. Over the summer, both Newbury Comics and the MIT Museum store choose not to renew their leases.

The Copy Technology Center will replace the MIT Museum in its first floor space this fall. Peter Cummings, business manager of the Campus Activities Complex, said that the MIT Museum store wanted

"to retrench their business up the street. CopyTech was well prepared to come in and have spent a lot of time revamping their services including weekend and evening hours."

CopyTech, which already has two locations on campus, has signed a five year primary lease with a five year lease option, and will likely open around October 1, said Philip J. Walsh, director of CAC.

For now, the retail space vacated by Newbury Comics has not been filled.

One possibility was identified by the dining review working group when it reported that students felt there was a significant "lack of seating to support food areas," Walsh said.

In addition, the Undergraduate Association is currently campaigning for the Newbury Comics vacancy to be used as a social area for students. In May, the UA passed a resolution determining that whenever major renovations were made to the Student Center, the UA would involve itself in the changes, "to try to make the Student Center more of a student center," said UA floor leader Ryan K. Pierce '99.

"The idea is to make the Student Center a central location for social interaction," Pierce added.

Orientation changes modestly

This year's Orientation, while changing its name from the traditional Residence and Orientation week, nonetheless retained much of its old structure.

For instance, sorority rush was completely unchanged. The rules governing fraternity rush changed slightly, mainly to account the one-day delay in rush from last year, said Duane H. Dreger '99, president of the Interfraternity Council.

Changing the name of the period to Orientation was designed to mirror the apparent shift in focus from residence selection towards academics while introducing freshmen to MIT.

These changes include the one day delay of Killian Kick-Off, which traditionally marked the beginning of fraternity rush, and the

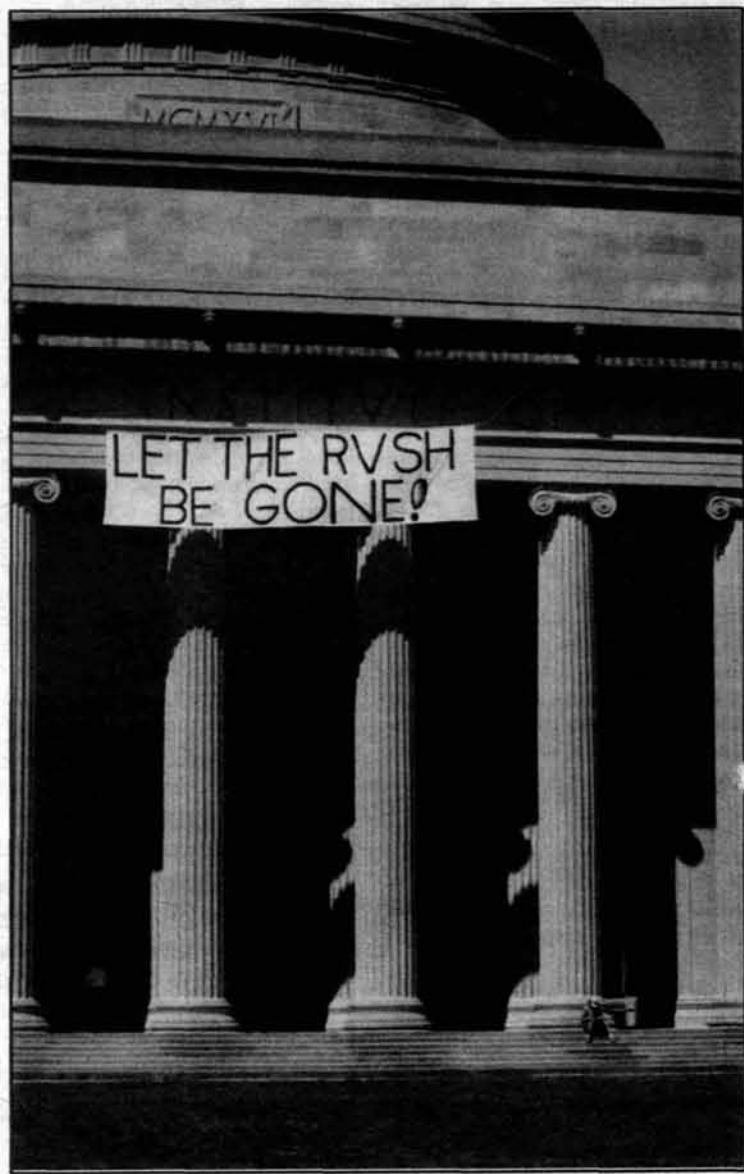
introduction of several events intended to focus on academics, including a welcome dinner where students will be able to meet with upperclassmen and professors for their first official introduction to MIT.

The changes were designed to "make the first days leading into rush much better and much less hectic than in past years," said Matthew

L. McGann '00, logistics coordinator for Orientation.

The introduction of the Residence Midway on Aug. 28 was one of the most significant changes from previous years. At this event, members representing all living groups participating in rush were on hand to talk to freshmen about their

Review, Page 2



CONNIE LU—THE TECH

This banner, which was unfurled from the roof of Building 10 on Aug. 28, summarizes the sentiments some students have about the new format of Orientation and rush.

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There are all kinds of books you'll need for college. This is the one you need to pay for them - and lots of other things. The Fleet Self Service Checking Account. We know you probably don't have tons of money, so the monthly fee is low and we charge no monthly fee for the summer. We require only a \$50 initial deposit with no minimum balance. Plus, you get 20 checks per statement period, unlimited electronic access, conveniently located ATMs and more. And it's easy to open one. Just call 1-800-CALL-FLEET (1-800-225-5353). Or visit our website at www.fleet.com.

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dammed for life
by Jessica

A NOTE TO THE READER(S)...

Two years ago, Newton and Albert came into existence, wide-eyed and pimple-faced...



ow! GET IT OFF!

Their many MIT experiences taught them a lot and made the two grow and realize...

WHAT THE HECK ARE WE STILL DOING HERE?

WHICH IS WHY WE'RE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE OUR PROMOTION TO THE CLASS OF '99... WE'RE GRADUATING NEXT YEAR, YEAH!

*Look at my really cool 1999 Brass Rat!

barthelemew squeak

HI THERE! MOST OF YOU PROBABLY REMEMBER ME FROM LAST YEAR. I'M BARTHEMEW SQUEAK!

AND FOR THOSE WHO DON'T REMEMBER, (NAMELY FROSH) I'M ASSURING YOU THAT NONE OF THE RUMORS ARE TRUE!

I WAS GONE ALL SUMMER, SO I MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU WHAT I DID!

I DECIDED TO LOOK FOR SOME EXCITEMENT! NATURALLY THE ONLY PLACE TO GO WAS... CORNELL UNIVERSITY!

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, 'CORNELL?! THAT'S BORING!' I WOULD NORMALLY AGREE, EXCEPT...

YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN SOMEONE'S GOING TO JUMP INTO THE GORGE! WHILE I WAS THERE, FIVE PEOPLE TOOK THE HOP. IT'S A POPULAR SPOT!

WEE!

Down with Science

by Jennifer DiMase

26-100

26-100

NO GOOD CAN COME OF THIS...

JENSD@MIT.EDU

randomland

by XiD

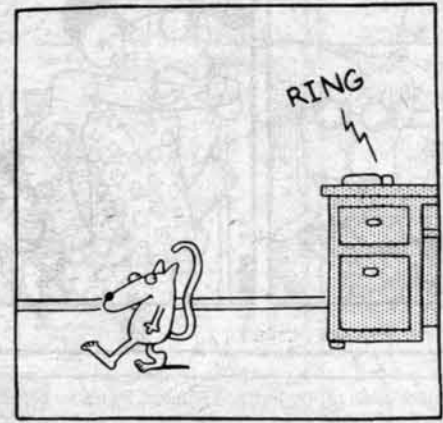
MARY KNEW HER FRESHMAN YEAR WAS TO BE ANYTHING BUT UNEVENTFUL...

THIS IS ERIN, THIS IS HUMPHREY, THIS IS...

.... WHEN HER ROOMMATE INTRODUCED HER COMPLETE COLLECTION OF BEANIE BABIES.

AND, OH, COME & MEET BRONTY

by Scott Adams



Dilbert

Dilbert by Scott Adams



Fox Trot by Bill Amend



TechCalendar

TechCalendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the TechCalendar web page.

For further information on any of these events, visit <http://tech-calendar.mit.edu>
 Visit the TechCalendar web site (<http://tech-calendar.mit.edu>) to add information on events to be included in the print and online versions of TechCalendar.

Friday's Events

- 7:00 p.m. - **Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas.** You might consider a big-screen adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson's biting satire to be an insurmountable task, but it's difficult to imagine a director more suited for the job than Terry Gilliam. Admission \$2.50. 1 hour, 58 minutes. Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.
- 7:00 p.m. - **Bible Study.** Come join us for Bible Study as we praise, study the word of God, and fellowship together. Student Center, Room 407. Sponsor: Asian Baptist Student Koinonia.
- 8:00 p.m. - **Into the Woods.** Musical by James Lapine (book) and Stephen Sondheim (music and lyrics). Admission \$3 for freshmen. \$6 for MIT students; various prices for others. Kresge Little Theatre. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild.
- 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m. - **70's Party.** Break out your Polyester, bell bottoms, and disco moves for Theta Xi's 70's Dance Party! Theta Xi (64 Bay State Road, Boston). Sponsor: Theta Xi.
- 10:00 p.m. - **Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas.** You might consider a big-screen adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson's biting satire to be an insurmountable task, but it's difficult to imagine a director more suited for the job than Terry Gilliam. Admission \$2.50. 1 hour, 58 minutes. Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Saturday's Events

- 9:00 a.m. - **Freshman Hike.** Get away from campus and check out the finest hiking trails within subway range. About eight miles hike in rough terrain. Student Center, Room 461. Sponsor: Outing Club.
- 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - **Graduate Student Whale Watch.** Open to all incoming graduate students. Rowes Wharf. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council.
- 11:45 a.m. - **New Student Welcome Picnic.** Welcome, class of 2002 and all new students! Come meet college students from across the Boston area at Herter Park on the Charles River for food (Kalbi), sports, & games! Student Center St eps. Sponsor: Asian Baptist Student Koinonia.

- 2:00 p.m. - **You Oughta Be in Pictures!** Join MIT's Student Cable Group for the first meeting for the 1998-1999 school year. Learn how you can get involved in television production. Room 3-133. Sponsor: Student Cable Group / MITV.
- 2:00 p.m. - **Titanic.** James Cameron's priceless (and pricey) tale of love and disaster finally arrives at LSC. See it on the big screen, with DTS Digital Sound! Admission \$2.50. 3 hours, 14 minutes. Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.
- 6:00 p.m. - **Titanic.** James Cameron's priceless (and pricey) tale of love and disaster finally arrives at LSC. See it on the big screen, with DTS Digital Sound! Admission \$2.50. 3 hours, 14 minutes. Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.
- 7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - **Dr. Who?: Shilhar's Stone.** Shilhar's Stone is a one-night Live Action Roleplaying game set in the universe of Doctor Who, a long-running British sci-fi television show. Building 3, third floor. Sponsor: Assassins' Guild.
- 8:00 p.m. - **Into the Woods.** Musical by James Lapine (book) and Stephen Sondheim (music and lyrics). Admission \$3 for freshmen. \$6 for MIT students; various prices for others. Kresge Little Theatre. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild.
- 8:00 p.m. - **Titanic.** James Cameron's priceless (and pricey) tale of love and disaster finally arrives at LSC. See it on the big screen, with DTS Digital Sound! Admission \$2.50. 3 hours, 14 minutes. Room 10-250. Sponsor: LSC.
- 9:00 p.m. - midnight - **Graduate Student Night on the Town.** All new and current graduate students are welcome to join us. Some people will go to bars and others to clubs. Start in Room 50-220. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council.
- 10:00 p.m. - **Titanic.** James Cameron's priceless (and pricey) tale of love and disaster finally arrives at LSC. See it on the big screen, with DTS Digital Sound! Admission \$2.50. 3 hours, 14 minutes. Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Sunday's Events

- 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **The Tech Open House.** Interested in finding out what goes into MIT's oldest and largest newspaper? Come by for free Tosci's and to find out how you can be involved this semester-no experience is necessary! Student Center, Room 483. Sponsor: The Tech.

- 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **LSC Open House.** Come and see LSC behind the scenes! Visit us and learn more about projecting film, handling interesting machinery, running movies, and how you can be an LSC member. Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.
- 5:00 p.m. - **The Tech news meeting.** Want to find out what's happening on campus? Join us for our weekly news meeting. We're looking for new news staff, and no experience is necessary! Student Center, Room 483. Sponsor: The Tech.
- 6:00 p.m. - **The Tech general meeting.** Miss our open house? Interested in joining MIT's oldest and largest newspaper? Come by for free dinner and talk to our staff to find out how you can be involved this semester-no experience necessary! Student Center, Room 483. Sponsor: The Tech.
- 7:00 p.m. - **Titanic.** James Cameron's priceless (and pricey) tale of love and disaster finally arrives at LSC. See it on the big screen, with DTS Digital Sound! Admission \$2.50. 3 hours, 14 minutes. Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.
- 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - **Sunset Cruise.** Food & soft drinks, music, karaoke, entertainment, cash bar (with ID). Join your fellow seniors for the first Class of '99 event of the year! Completely casual...be prepared to have a great time! Tickets \$5. Commonwealth Pier. Sponsor: Class of 1999.
- 8:00 p.m. - **Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas.** You might consider a big-screen adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson's biting satire to be an insurmountable task, but it's difficult to imagine a director more suited for the job than Terry Gilliam. Admission \$2.50. 1 hour, 58 minutes. Room 10-250. Sponsor: LSC.

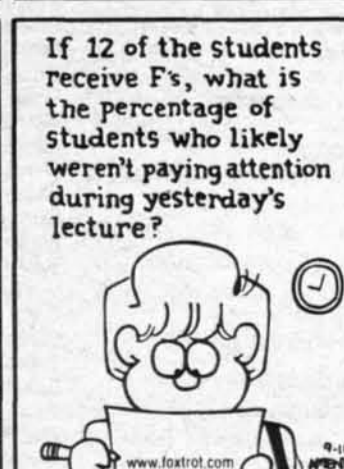
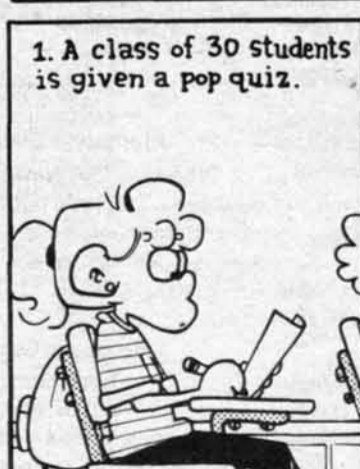
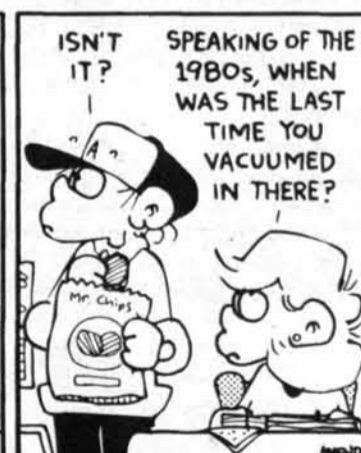
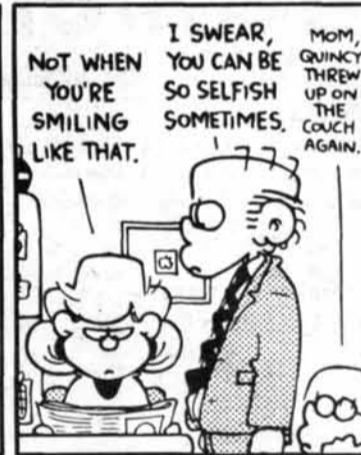
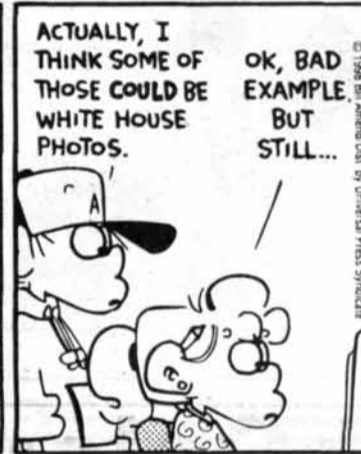
Monday's Events

- 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - **LSC New Member Signup.** If you missed our open house, it's not too late to become an LSC member! Come to new member signup to meet our directors and learn more about LSC. Student Center, Room 407. Sponsor: LSC.

Tuesday's Events

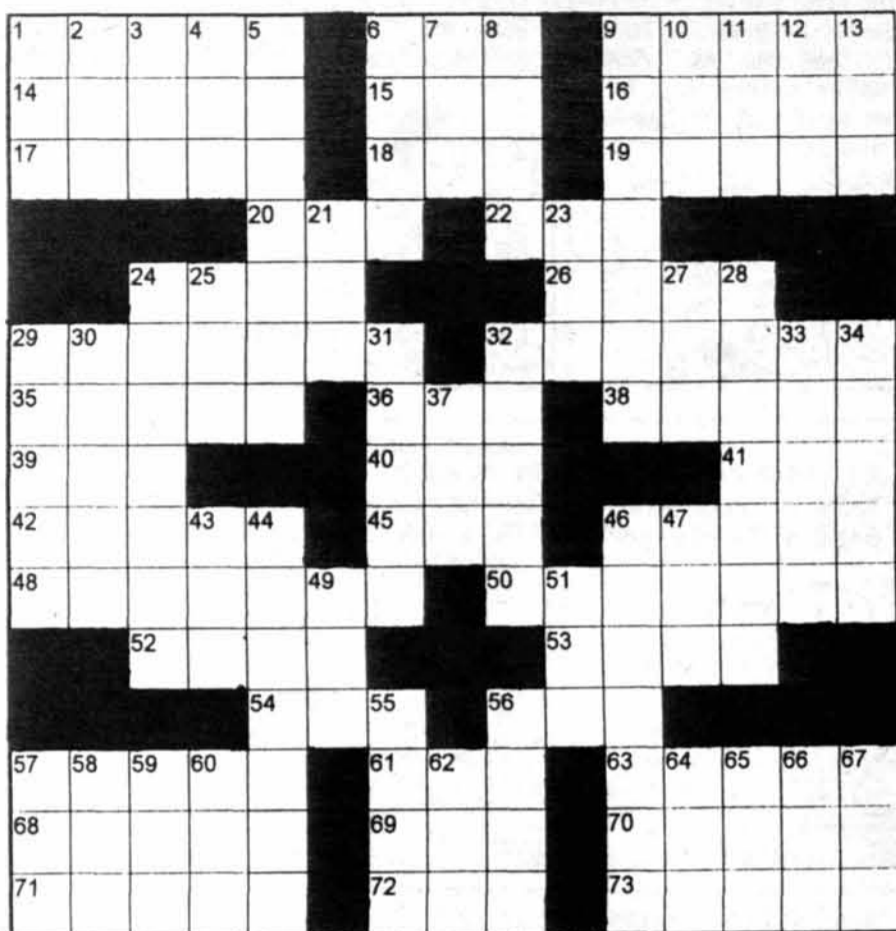
- 6:00 p.m. - **Equestrian Team General Meeting.** This is the first Equestrian Team meeting of the year. Come meet everybody. Riders of all levels are welcome. We'll be scheduling lessons for the rest of the year and going over plans for showing. Student Center, Private Dining Room No. 3. Sponsor: Equestrian Team.

by Bill Amend



Fox Trot

By Anthony R. Salas



ACROSS

- 1 Gastropod
- 6 Jamaican music
- 9 Group
- 14 Other, Fr.
- 15 1 word question
- 16 Aghast
- 17 4 in a month
- 18 Masseur need
- 19 Take five
- 20 Rabbit's foot
- 22 Droop
- 24 Skim
- 26 Tape, abbr.
- 29 Not in the house
- 32 Texture
- 35 Before
- 36 Opal or diamond
- 38 Fastening brads
- 39 Chicks first home
- 40 Stephen or Charlotte
- 41 King Cole
- 42 Pad again
- 45 Historical period
- 46 Mortification
- 48 Resolute
- 50 Palindromic vehicle for Andretti
- 52 In one's right mind
- 53 Salk Institute architect
- 54 High school math subj.
- 56 Perched
- 57 Gardening tool
- 61 Promise
- 63 Recorder
- 68 Sanctuary
- 69 Peron
- 70 "The Cream"
- 71 Put forth
- 72 Stool pigeon
- 73 Of the kidney

DOWN

- 1 Cutting tool
- 2 17th letter
- 3 Utah Indian
- 4 Anger
- 5 Hopelessness
- 6 Place 3rd
- 7 Japanese fish
- 8 Picks
- 9 Good deal
- 10 Mature
- 11 Himalayan resort Naini
- 12 IRS employee
- 13 Spell
- 21 Conjunction
- 23 Play part
- 24 Disgraces
- 25 Levine's "band"
- 27 Liège, e.g.
- 28 Popeye's catalyst
- 29 Madame Butterfly, e.g.
- 30 Pushed
- 31 Bird
- 32 Smudge
- 33 Peruvian animal

- 34 Methyl acetate, for one
- 37 Aural organ
- 43 Organization of Dr.'s
- 44 Non-related topic
- 46 Spread out
- 47 Lays 39-Across
- 49 Society page word
- 51 Alias
- 55 Finished
- 56 Police paramilitary unit
- 57 Pronoun
- 58 Romana
- 59 Road, abbr.
- 60 German article
- 62 Many 39-Across
- 64 Beer variety
- 65 Safety or straight
- 66 Greek letter
- 67 Confederate Gen.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



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Also be sure to check out our great SALE BOOKS section, including MIT Press "HURTS," and the GREEN DOT SALE on now through September 30th.

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4.453	Understanding Buildings*	Reid	\$19.50
6.001	Structure & Interpretation of Computer Programs, 2nd ed*	Abelson, Sussman, & Sussman	\$62.50
6.003	Circuits, Signals, & Systems*	Siebert	\$67.50
6.046	Introduction to Algorithms*	Corman, Leiserson, Rivest	\$65.00
6.004	Computation Structures*	Ward & Halstead	\$72.50
6.021	Cellular Biophysics, 2 vol. set*	Weiss, Thomas F.	\$95.00
6.044	Foundations for Programming Languages*	Mitchell, J	\$65.00
6.801	Robot Vision*	Horn	\$65.00
6.933J	Inventing Accuracy*	Mackenzie	\$21.50
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11.255	Getting to Yes	Fischer & Ury	\$11.00
11.8	Tricks of the Trade: How to Think about Your Research	Becker, Howard S.	\$13.95
14.271	Theory of Industrial Organization*	Tirole	\$55.00
14.461	Political Cycles and the Macroeconomy*	Alesina & Roubini, with Cohen	\$19.00
14.461	Monetary and Fiscal Policy: V2 Politics*	Persson & Tabellini	\$25.00
14.461	Monetary and Fiscal Policy: V1 Credibility*	Persson & Tabellini	\$25.00
14.471	Fundamentals Of Public Economics*	Laffont & Bonin	\$37.50
14.54	Pop Internationalism*	Krugman, Paul	\$12.00
14.54	International Economics: Theory & Policy 4th ed	Krugman & Obstfeld	\$80.63
14.731	Lessons From The Great Depression*	Temin, Peter	\$13.50
15.315	Career Anchors: Discovering Your Real Values	Schein, Edgar H.	\$9.95
15.315	Process Consultation: Volume 2	Schein, Edgar	\$32.50
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15.353	Machine That Changed the World, The	Womack & Jones	\$13.50
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15.963	Computer: A History of the Information Machine	Campbell-Kelly, M	\$16.50
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17.52	On Track With The Japanese	Gercik, P	\$14.00
17.524	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict*	Brown, Michael E.	\$18.00
17.801	Visual Display Of Quantitative Information, The	Tufte, E	\$40.00
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21A.334	Nuclear Rites: Weapons Lab at the End of Cold War	Gusterson, Hugh	\$19.95
21F.222	Longitude	Sobel, Dava	\$10.95
21M.226	Early Jazz: Its Roots & Musical Development	Schuller, Gunther	\$14.95
21W.780	MIT Guide to Science and Engineering Communication*	Paradis, James G.	\$27.50
24.241	Vagueness: A Reader*	Keefe, Rosanna, and	\$35.00
SP.311	Character of Physical Law, The*	Feynman, Richard	\$10.95

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- Pick up entry materials for the \$1K Business Idea Warm-up Competition
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- Light refreshments will be served

Keynote Speaker:

Ann Winblad

Founding Partner,
Hummer-Winblad Venture
Partners

Tuesday, September 15, 1998

7:00pm

Room 26-100

*Massachusetts Institute of
Technology*

<http://web.mit.edu/50k/www/>

Revamped Orientation Showcases Many New Events

Review, from Page 18

living options.

Freshmen and upperclassmen both arrived via controlled entrances to the event, which was closed to the general upperclass population. Each fraternity and independent living group was allowed to send 10 representatives; each dorm was allowed to send 15 members.

"It's a lot less intense and a lot more laid back," said Laurie M. Leong '00, who lives at Next House.

Fraternities and independent living groups were assigned spaces based on their rush points within the IFC, which awards points for participation as officers in the rush system.

More favorably ranked fraternities and ILGs were placed closer to the entrance for freshman on the second floor, while lower ranked fraternities and ILGs were placed closer to the exits on the first floor.

Other changes to Orientation include the elimination of two once-staple components, Project Move Off Your Assumptions and Thursday Night Dinners.

MOYA was replaced by a new Thursday program, Sports and Wellness at MIT, McGann said.

Following this event was a barbeque and a new program entitled Ba Fa Ba Fa, which was intended as

a diversity training program, McGann said.

Rules governing contacting and mailing freshmen before their arrival at MIT were also changed from previous years. Fraternity mailings were combined into one summer pamphlet sent to freshmen.

Instead of allowing fraternities access to the list of incoming freshmen, each house was only given information about those who specifically expressed interest in that particular fraternity via mail-in response cards.

Lottery results vastly improved

This year's lottery results are vastly improved from previous years, said Program Director of Residential Life Philip M. Bernard, who administrates the lottery.

No students received a dormitory ranked lower than third, Bernard said, and only 10 students received their third choice.

Last year, six students received their fourth choice and 29 students received their third choice, even though only 676 students were placed. This year, 744 students were placed in dormitories through the lottery.

More significantly, 85 percent of those entering the lottery received their first choice this year, compared to 69 percent last year, when some algorithmic improvements were

added. In 1996, 76 percent of those entering the lottery received their first choice.

The principal reason for the improvements in the assignments were a variety of alterations to the lottery program written by Eliot S. Levitt '89, a former staff assistant in the Office of Residence and Campus Activities, which is now a part of the Office of Residence Life and Student Life Programs.

Levitt improved the algorithm used to assign students to dormitories by adding additional optimization levels, he said. In previous years, only one optimization was used; this year, the program then attempted to make two- and three-way swaps in order to further optimize the selections.

Crowding in the dormitories was initially increased as only 231 persons had pledged fraternities and independent living groups when the lottery was run. As a result, 16 MacGregor House lounges were converted into doubles to support an initial crowding level of around 175, higher than in previous years.

The use of Tang Hall as an undergraduate dormitory for 130 students has significantly relieved pressure on the dormitory system this fall, Bernard said.

Delta Upsilon sued in rape case

A woman who alleges she was

raped at Delta Upsilon in 1996 filed suit Aug. 31 against both the Institute and the fraternity for negligence.

The suit alleges that the woman, Angela Colt, was served so much alcohol she could not fend off her attacker.

Colt sued MIT, DU's national corporation, and the chapter's alumni association, which owns the house. The suit alleges a "negligent failure to ensure the safety of those lawfully on the premises of MIT's fraternity houses."

Matthew B. Keller '97, the alleged assailant, was also named as a defendant in the case.

Colt, then 17, and a co-worker attended a party at the fraternity on Aug. 2, 1996. Colt's co-worker was a DU brother from another college living at the MIT chapter over the summer, according to the *Boston Globe*.

According to the suit, alcohol "was being served indiscriminately to minors including the Plaintiff."

The suit says that no one at the fraternity was checking identification at the door to ensure that those entering the fraternity were old enough to drink. It also claims that there "was no responsible oversight of the happenings at the premises by those in a position to control the premises including, but not limited to, MIT" and the other institutional

defendants.

Colt reported the incident to the Campus Police four days after the DU party, according to a statement released by Kenneth D. Campbell of the News Office. "She expressly told [Campus Police] that she did not want to initiate any action against the man who she said had assaulted her."

The CPs have a policy of not pressing charges if the victim wishes not to.

Before filing suit, there was an attempt to settle out of court, according to Campbell's statement.

"In January, 1998, Ms. Colt's lawyer demanded a substantial sum of money from MIT. MIT declined to settle the matter because it believes there is no validity to the claim that MIT is legally responsible for this incident," Campbell said.

Victims of rape have the option of withholding their name from any lawsuit. However, Colt decided to use her own name.

"It's her hope that by taking this action, the responsible parties will take steps to protect those in fraternity houses," Colt's lawyer, Jeffrey Beeler, told the *Globe*.

Brett Altschul, Josh Bittker, Susan Buchman, Christina Chow, Frank Dabek, Zareena Hussain, and Douglas E. Heimbarger contributed to the reporting of these stories.

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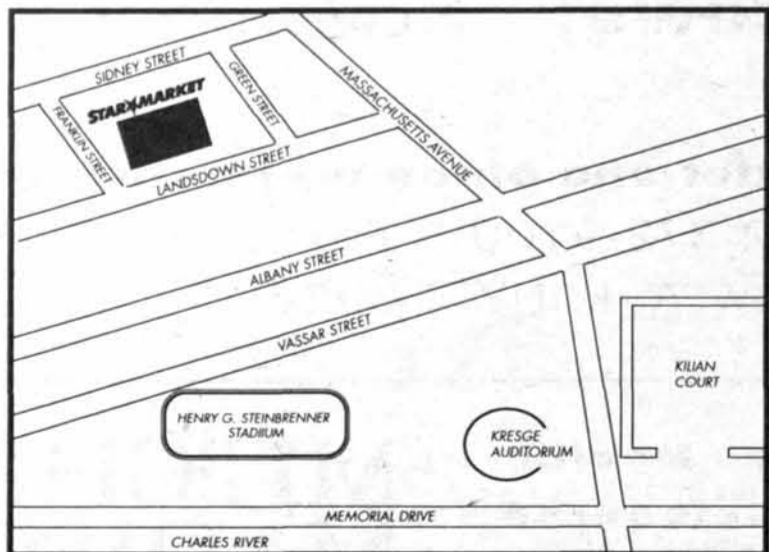
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POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between Aug. 27 and Sept. 2. Information is compiled from the Campus Police's weekly crime summary and dispatcher logs.

This report does not include alarms, general service calls, or incidents not reported to the dispatcher.

Aug. 27: Burton-Conner bike rack, bike secured with a "U" lock stolen, \$210; Herman Garage, bike secured with cable stolen, \$100; Alpha Delta Phi, wallet stolen, \$65; Westgate, check on safety and well being of a child thought to be left unattended.

Aug. 28: Bldg. NW30, work boots stolen, \$60; Bldg. 10, hack; Albany St., assist Cambridge Police with stolen bicycle report; Bldg. W31, assist a student with obtaining a restraining order; Bldg. E25, faulty duct detector causing false fire alarm; rear of Random Hall, safety hazard, abandoned Nitrogen canister.

Aug. 29: Memorial Drive, assist State Police with a motor vehicle accident; DuPont men's locker room, wallet stolen, \$30; Sigma Chi, noise complaint, situation addressed by Boston Police and MIT Police; Lambda Chi Alpha and Phi Delta Theta, noise complaints and persons repelling from roof, situation addressed by Boston Police, Boston University and MIT Police; Beacon Street fraternities, parking problems, Boston Police and MIT Police addressed situation; Chi Phi, amusement ride blocking sidewalk, vehicle left without further problem; Baker House, pocketbook stolen, \$130.

Aug. 30: Senior House, pocketbook stolen, \$230; Bldg. 68, vending machine broken into; Delta Psi, bike stolen from inside house, \$320; East Campus, report of suspicious activity; Next House, Daniel Preston of Columbia St., Boston, arrested for trespassing; Tau Epsilon Phi, Boston, loud music complaint.

Aug. 31: Lobby 10, Daniel Preston arrested for trespassing and for receiving stolen property; Bldg. 35, CD player stolen, \$200; Bldg. 12, 8 CDs stolen, \$100; Student Center, ladder stolen, \$30; Beta Theta Pi, assist students with coordinating police coverage for an event, complainant calls on reference to fraternity problem; Bexley Alley, suspicious activity; Bldg. 13, water leak caused by a break of lab equipment; Student House, attempt to locate student.

Sept. 1: Bldg. 12, suspicious activity; Bldg. E52, computer stolen, \$400; Bldg. 5, report of male seen leaving womens' room; Bldg. 20, computer stolen, \$2,900; Bldg. 7, students on roof, \$50 fine imposed; Ashdown, bicycle stolen, \$230; Student Center, 1) CD-rom stolen, \$510; 2) laptop stolen, unknown value; Sigma Nu, backpack stolen, \$120.

Sept. 2: Bexley, student problem; Senior House, banner stolen, same later returned.



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figs. 1 & 2 Come to the MIT List Visual Arts Center anytime between September 8 through 22 to view over 300 framed prints and photographs available for registered MIT students to borrow for the course of the academic year. To hang in your room, apartment, or office!



fig. 3 Fill out a card listing your top three choices and your name will be entered into a lottery.



fig. 4 Drop your card into the ballot box at the front desk of the gallery.



fig. 5 Impartial List Visual Arts Center staff will conduct the lottery on September 23 and post the results by 6 p.m. The gallery will not be open this day.



fig. 6 Pickup of artwork will take place on September 24 and September 25 during the hours listed below.

Friday, Sept. 11, 4-5 pm, Looking at Contemporary Art: an introductory presentation about the Student Loan Art Collection. Refreshments served.

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ATO Says Event Was Not a Part of Rush

ATO, from Page 1

women and three freshmen." From midnight to three in the morning, he said, rush ceremonies were being conducted, and no alcohol was present there. After this concluded, many members went to sleep.

"At 5 a.m., there were no new member events going on... we didn't plan this event," said Shishir S. Mehrotra '00, a member of ATO.

ATO pled guilty to the other two charges, serving alcohol at an event without registering it and not being certified to serve alcohol at events.

"We didn't realize this could be characterized as a [house] event," Hockett said.

ATO has no other rush violations

Samuel D. Sidiqui '99, a member of Phi Kappa Theta and the Judcomm investigator assigned to cover ATO this year, testified that he had witnessed no previous violations of rush rules and that the fra-

ternity had been cooperative with him during rush.

"None of us have had to deal" with these IFC rules before, Mehrotra said. The rules were rewritten during the changes leading up to this year's rush.

In past similar cases, "one, alcohol was served to freshmen; two, somebody got hurt; or three, laws were broken," Mehrotra said. None of these things happened at ATO, he added.

Hardacre did not recognize the men holding beer cans but said "they looked older," presumably of drinking age.

This was the only alcohol-related violation of rush rules reported this year, Hardacre said.

Hongsup Park '00, the IFC rush chair, represented the IFC at Tuesday's hearing. "This isn't just about ATO," he said, adding that the hearing affects how people view the IFC and the Institute in general. "This year has been full of turmoil."

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Crowds Distributed Unevenly in Dorms

Rush, from Page 1

year.

This number is expected to go up as off-campus students move in, however.

While crowding has decreased, it has not been evenly distributed among dormitories, Bernard said. East Campus is currently mostly decrowded, with some freshmen living in singles. On the other hand, several of the lounges in MacGregor remain in use as doubles.

"We feel that [the situation] is unfortunate... for freshmen. Usually everyone has a single, but these thirty [residents] are in doubles," said Christina A. Ildebrando '99, president of MacGregor.

"It is a bit of an inconvenience, but we try to make the best of it," said Ildebrando. "We did lose a lot of common space." MacGregor has not been crowded since 1993, she added.

As openings for rooms open up, the doubles will be decrowded, Ildebrando said. "I know that every frosh will be in a single" by next year, she said.

Improvements to the housing lottery this year allowed the number of crowds in dorms to vary from a minimum of "totally decrowded" to a maximum of "totally crowded" based on the relative popularity of a given dorm, Bernard said.

EC was initially less crowded since it had relatively few requests compared to the amount of available space in the dormitory.

In the future, Bernard said that the minimum, "totally decrowded" number for East Campus' housing spaces should be raised to prevent the variation from occurring again.

Because EC was not as highly subscribed as MacGregor, the dormitory still has extra space to house students. Bernard said that students both on- and off-campus will likely

be moved to these additional spaces.

Unlike EC, only Random Hall, Bexley Hall, and Senior House were expected before the lottery to have a relatively few number of crowds.

Rush goes well for fraternities

Neal H. Dorow, assistant dean for Residence Life and Student Life Programs and adviser to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups, was "generally pleased that rush went as well as it did" this year.

Less spaces for freshmen within the FSILG system itself may also account for the lower number of pledges this year.

Although the total pledge number is about 50 below the average, two houses, Phi Gamma Delta and Sigma Alpha Epsilon, did not rush this year. In addition to the new freshmen, there is also a resident adviser living in each living group for the first time this year who may take the place of a residing freshmen.

Fraternity house bills have not increased significantly despite the slightly lower pledge numbers, Dorow said.

Most rush chairs were satisfied with the results of this year's rush, and some fraternities even "exceeded their expectations and are very happy with rush," Dorow said.

Jacob Marcus '99, president of Nu Delta, said that "number wise there wasn't any difference" in their pledges this year. Nu Delta received seven pledges this year, and Marcus said he felt that rush "pretty much went the same as it had since I've been here."

A recent pledge of Delta Kappa Epsilon, Bayen Miller '02, said he "had a lot of fun" during rush and is confident he "made the right decision" by choosing to live in a fraternity. Deke received a total of nine pledges this year.

Independent Living Group	Bids Accepted '98	Target Pledges '98	Bids Accepted '97
Alpha Delta Phi	19	12	16
Alpha Epsilon Pi	9	N/A	10
Alpha Tau Omega	12	N/A	15
Beta Theta Pi	10	N/A	12
Chi Phi	14	16	5
Delta Kappa Epsilon	9	12	9
Delta Psi (No. 6 Club)	8	N/A	11
Delta Tau Delta	9	N/A	13
Delta Upsilon	8	N/A	11
Epsilon Theta	4	8	4
Fenway House	1	N/A	2
Kappa Sigma	10	15	15
Lambda Chi Alpha	16	N/A	15
Nu Delta	7	7	8
Phi Beta Epsilon	11	14-16	7
Phi Delta Theta	13	10	13
Phi Kappa Sigma	9	N/A	6
Phi Kappa Theta	5	7	10
Phi Sigma Kappa	13	N/A	11
pika	11	10-13	10
Pi Lambda Phi	5	6-7	12
Sigma Chi	8	9	8
Sigma Nu	10	10	N/A
Sigma Phi Epsilon	7	N/A	N/A
Student House	8	10	8
Tau Epsilon Phi	6	10-12	5
Theta Chi	9	10-12	12
Theta Delta Chi	13	14	7
Theta Xi	9	10	6
Women's Independent Living Group	6	10	14
Zeta Beta Tau	14	14-15	12
Zeta Psi	12	13	21
Total	305		362

Dormitory	Freshman Population '98	Freshman Population '97
Baker	80	80
Bexley	24	21
Burton	104	107
East Campus	79	108
MacGregor	111	80
McCormick	67	68
New House	76	77
Next House	129	129
Random Hall	35	21
Senior House	30	32

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Sprinkler System Saves Auditorium at Indiana U.

Short Takes, from Page 16

hole in the stage and landed in a box," Spicer said.

"Everybody did a good job, and the sprinklers did a good job," Brauner said.

Dawson agreed. "The sprinklers are the only fire protection system that, when it is properly used, there are no multiple-life loss fires," he said.

He added the Theatre building sprinkler system had been tested recently.

Brauner said the department is very concerned about safety and makes sure everyone has training.

"The stagecraft class is put through fire safety. Every play that comes through, the cast and crew are taught what to do," he said.

He said the department will be setting up another training session in the next few weeks to maintain safety.

[Indiana Daily Student, Sept. 10]

Ohio grad student indicted

Testimony began yesterday in the trial of Chad Kister, an Ohio University graduate student and environmental activist facing two counts of extortion and one count of theft by deception.

On the first day of what Athens County Court of Common Pleas Judge Michael Ward said he estimates to be a three-day trial, Ward heard opening statements by Athens County Prosecutor Bill Biddlestone and defense attorney Patrick McGee, as well as the testimony of two of the prosecution's witnesses.

The trial stems from an incident that occurred Dec. 6, 1997 in the Big Bear parking lot. Kister allegedly accepted \$1,750 from Donald Nunley, a Nelsonville resident and president of the Local 1340 Chapter of the United Mine Workers of America, in exchange for Kister's promise to keep himself and other environmentalists away from public hearings on the proposed mine in Glouster.

Jury selection lasted four hours, mainly because Biddlestone and McGee were concerned about potential jurors being affected by extensive media coverage and their relationships with coal miners and other labor union members in the area.

Nunley testified he had met with Kister in the week before the incident in hopes of reaching an agreement regarding environmentalist opposition to the Glouster mine. He said Kister suggested at this meeting that Nunley pay him \$5,000 in return for his promise to stop protesting the proposed mine.

"He said, 'I could be some help to you: five grand,'" Nunley said. "I believe in clean air and clean water and all that... I wasn't going to give him money or anything or even promise him anything."

But in opening statements, McGee said Kister had wanted to discuss the issue, but instead Nunley offered him money not to come to the hearings. He said Kister made it clear he could not control other people, but thought if he did accept the money he could use it toward other causes, such as his crusade to save Dysart Woods.

"Chad made it very clear he couldn't control other people," McGee said. "He left wanting to think about it."

Although Nunley said he called the Athens Police Department because he felt uncomfortable about being asked for money, McGee said Kister had been set up.

"This is a classic case of reasonable doubt where you have one case

of a sly fox who has stunned the young pup here," McGee said.

Joshua Hodson, felony investigator for the Athens County Prosecutor's office, testified that Sheriff David Redecker approached him about the call Nunley had placed to the police.

Hodson then placed a wire-recording device in Nunley's phone and recorded the conversation discussing the location of the money exchange. He then videotaped the meeting at the Big Bear parking lot, where officers arrested Kister.

An improperly installed wire and tape recorder damaged the audio tape of this exchange, so only faint portions of the conversation between Kister and Nunley were audible to the jury.

[The Post, Sept. 10]

Truck hits Ohio students' home

While many Ohio University students spent last week moving into their off-campus residences, three OU juniors salvaged what was left of their possessions from the rubble of their rented house.

The students moved into another house after a truck lost control and crashed through the living room at their former house on Friday, Aug. 28.

John C. Snyder, 56, was driving when the brakes gave out in his vehicle, according to an Athens Police Department report.

Snyder attempted to stop the vehicle by driving into shrubs in the yard of 51 N. Lancaster St., but the truck continued through the shrubs and front yards of 51 and 53 N. Lancaster St. before coming to a stop inside 47 Lancaster St., according to the report. Snyder was charged with failure to control his vehicle.

No one was in the house at the time of the crash, and neither Snyder nor his passenger, William Lowery, 48, were injured.

Junior Meghan Gilkey, one of the three tenants of the house, said she was home in Cleveland when she was notified the truck had destroyed most of the living room and her bedroom.

"I lost almost everything," she said. "I still have my shoes and my jeans, though. Basically, I still have the bottom half of my wardrobe."

Gilkey said the truck destroyed all the living room furniture, which belonged to her roommate, junior Jason Shultz, as well as Gilkey's stereo, television, bed, dresser, clothes and CDs.

Snyder's insurance will cover the cost of new furniture and the difference in rent between the Lancaster Street house and the Franklin Street house, Gilkey said.

The university also pitched in by providing the three tenants with meal tickets for the dining halls, Gilkey said.

Although the accident forced the three out of their original home, which will be demolished later this year, they are making the best of their situation, she said.

[The Post, Sept. 9]

Armed robbers hit Rutgers dorm

An armed robbery in a Rutgers University residence hall Saturday has put some students on guard and has left police seeking two suspects.

Saturday morning at 2:15 a.m., two men entered a Quad 1, house 13 room.

A Black man, described as six feet tall, 18 to 20 years old, with a slim build and wearing a black nylon cap, a yellow and black striped shirt and dark pants, entered the room and pointed a gun at one of the male University students in the room.

"Two roommates in their room in Quad 1, their door is not closed, they have their door partly ajar," Lt. Laura Kull of the Rutgers University Police Department said, describing the scene.

The man entered the room and pointed a gun at one of the roommates' heads. The man with the gun demanded money from both roommates.

He then moved to the second roommate and struck him in the head with something metal, Kull said.

The student received minor injuries and was treated and released from a local hospital, Kull said.

A second man, described as an 18-to-20-year-old Black male, five feet, 10 inches tall with a heavy build and wearing a dark baseball cap, was standing in the doorway.

After the men took the money,

they ran from the building in an unknown direction, Kull said.

The police are unsure of how the two men got in, but someone might have let them in, Kull said.

Kull called the incident a crime of opportunity. "Their door was open. I don't think they were specifically targeted."

There is no composite of the suspects at this time, but the police currently is following several good leads, Kull said.

Since the incident, many students in Quad 1 are being more cautious.

Posters were put up on the entrance doors of the residence hall. The posters gave a description of the two suspects and an account of the crime.

"I'm definitely [more cautious] now... my friend, her shoes are missing... stupid little things, we

don't even trust people on the floor," Livingston College first-year student Lisa Stubenrauch, a House 12 resident, said.

Other students said they didn't feel secure on the campus in general.

"There's not enough security," Livingston College junior Lindsay Ackerman said. "I see the Rutgers police around, but not on campus."

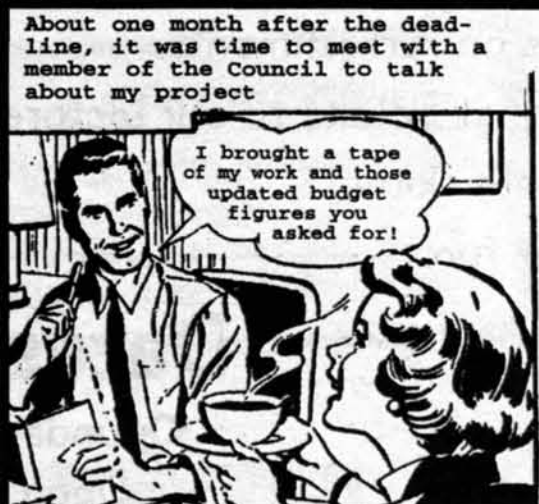
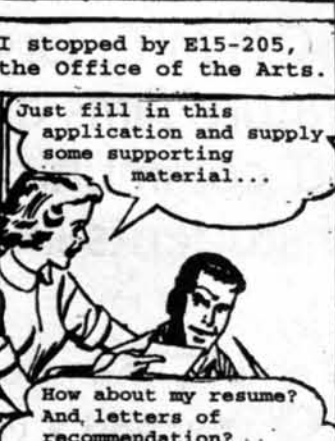
"I lock my door now, put on the chain," Livingston College first-year student Shane Nelson, a House 13 resident, said.

Students also saw it as a reflection on the University. "I don't feel safe, if anyone can come onto campus with a gun, what does that tell you," Livingston College sophomore Mohammad U.

Choudhry, a House 14 resident, said. "I'd like to see more security." [Daily Targum, Sept. 8]

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Thursday, September 17, 1998
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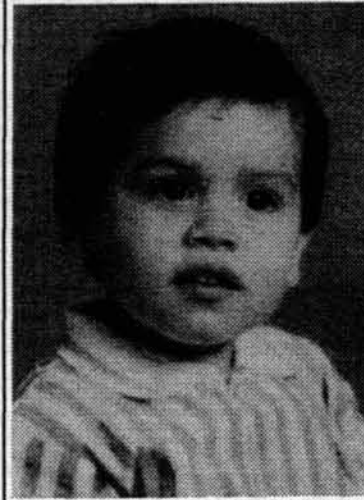
Professor Anne McCants, MIT's Truman faculty representative, and Monisha Merchant (Class of 1999) and a 1998 Truman Scholar, will be available to answer questions and to share their experiences with you.

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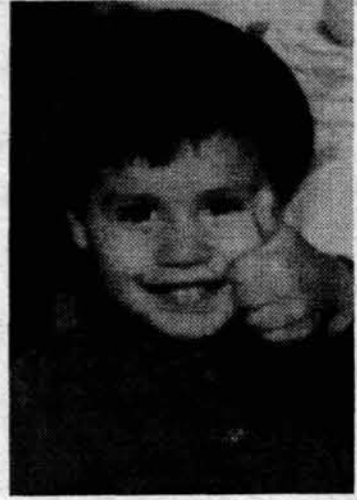
For more information, please contact the History Office at 253-4965, or visit the Truman Scholarship Foundation web site at <http://www.truman.gov/>.



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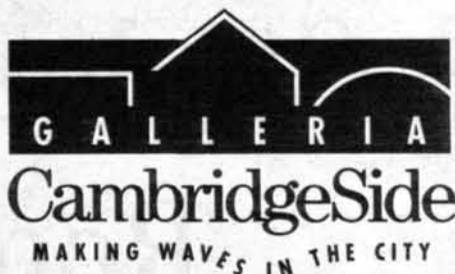
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**Sunday,
September 13,
1998**

**Student Center
Room 483**

OPEN HOUSE

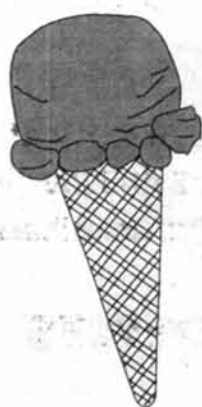


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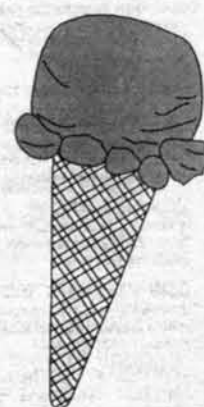
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Sunday, September 13,
2-5 p.m.



Student Center
Room 483



Perry Qualifies For U.S. National Team

By Roger Crosley

DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Mike Perry '99 has qualified for the United States rowing team at the nation's Cup, a world competition for under 23 year olds. Perry will be rowing in the bow seat of the men's quadruple scull. He is the first MIT student to make the U.S. national team as an undergraduate since 1984.

For the third consecutive year and fourth in the past five, the men's gymnastics team has been named the College Gymnastics Association National Academic Team Champion. Jason Miller '00 and J.C. Olsson '01 earned All America Scholar Athlete status. To qualify for the honor an athlete must earn at least a 3.50 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and maintain a minimum NCAA scoring average of 8.5 during the season. Both Olsson and Miller major in electrical engineering and computer science.

Two women's lacrosse players have been named to the 1998 Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association Division III Academic Squad. Tracy Sadowski '99 and Marilyn Vogel '98 were each selected to the team. Sadowski is a chemical engineering major, while Vogel majored in economics.

Grand theft seemed to be a theme for the MIT baseball and softball teams in 1998. In the final NCAA Division III statistics for the season, the baseball team finished 12th in the nation in steals per game with 2.52. The Engineers swiped 83 bases in 32 games. In

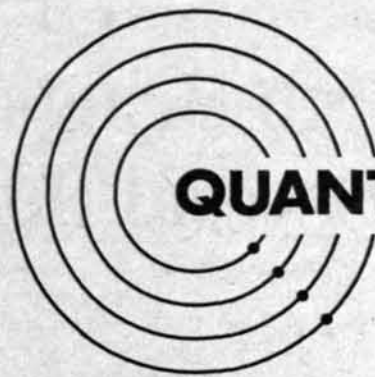
softball, Ali Pearlman '01 was the sixth ranked base stealer in Division III with 15 steals in 16 games. Pearlman finished the season with a perfect 15 steals in 15 attempts. Pitcher Amber Crabbe '01 was ranked 15th in strikeouts per game with 6.5. Crabbe racked up 94 strikeouts in 101 innings pitched.

Lacrosse goalie Justin Veditore '00 finished the season ranked in two different goalie categories in Division III. Veditore earned the fifth spot in goals against average allowing just 7.68 goals per contest. In save percentage, Veditore ranked 17th allowing 96 goals while making 165 saves for a percentage of .632. Overall, MIT ranked third in scoring defense allowing a mere 7.54 goals per game.

Defensive back Duane Stevens '98 has been named a first team pre-season All-American by the *Football Gazette*. Stevens is one of four defensive backs from all Division III schools in the nation selected for the honor.

MIT assistant golf coach Joe Kuchta has been honored by Alpha Phi Omega by having that organization's 1998 pledge class named in his honor. Kuchta has been a long time advisor to the service fraternity. His name was selected from a group of 16 nominees.

Four MIT affiliated volleyball players won gold medals in the Massachusetts Bay State Games held recently at MIT. Charles Morton '97, Koji Asari '93, Tom Klemas G, and Parry Husbands G successfully tried out for the Metro Region Open Men's team in June and contributed to the team's gold medal performance.



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ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME

SPORTS

Men's Rugby Club Brings Home Third Despite Several Injuries

By Randy Myers
TEAM MEMBER

The men's Rugby Football Club battled injuries and a lack of numbers to place third out of eight teams at the Montreal Irish International Rugby Classic held over Labor Day weekend.

The team had some big setbacks before leaving Boston. Captain Dave Strocker '83 was injured in a gardening accident and couldn't make the trip. Alternate captain Gavin Braithwaite G injured his head in practice and also did not play, though he did make the trip.

Game one on Saturday pitted the Engineers against St. Foy of Quebec. The Engineers dominated from the opening kickoff and wing forward Tienie Van Schoor scored on a predesigned play from a 5 meter scrum to put the team up 5-0. St. Foy turned to ball over immediately in their next possession and Gert Muller received a beautiful spin pass from Wiggy Jim Miller and took it over the try line. With that conversion and an ensuing penalty kick, MIT led 15-0 at halftime.

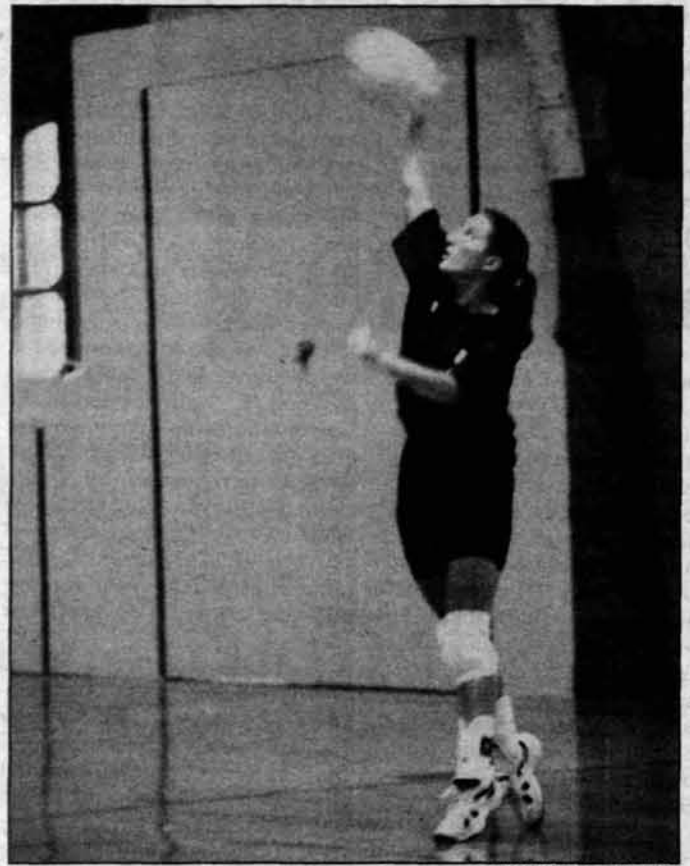
The Engineers continued to dominate in the second half and

scored twice more, the first by a long run from wing Steve Lasher G and the final score by Randy Myers G who received a pass from team president Todd Nightengale '00 and dove over the try line for the score. Tech held off a late rally and won 27-10.

Game two put the Engineers up against the Montreal Irish in a rematch of the famous Bermuda tournament of 1996 which MIT won 13-10. The home field advantage was evident early as the Irish jumped out to a 14-0 lead on a couple of sketchy calls. However, the Engineers started their comeback with a beautiful up and under from Jaco Pretorius, who caught his own kick and took it in for the score. A successful conversion and a penalty kick closed to gap to 14-10 at the half. "True resiliency manifested itself out there and proved that we can compete with anyone," said forward Fernando Vargas G. The second half started with the Engineers' backs putting on a show. Mario Bracamonds scored after a series of passes. The conversion then put MIT up 17-14.

The rest of the second half was played a man down as Nikko Moll G was kicked out of the game and suspended for the rest of the day for retaliation. MIT stayed strong and the game ended with a big hit by Ken Myers '98.

In the final game of the day the Engineers faced the Japan Blue Socks, an all-star team consisting of the 39 best players from the greater Tokyo area. In contrast, the Tech squad were left with only 16 players after an injury to Pretorius. MIT fought hard as James Hopkins G made his first career score from wing. Fernando Vargas connected on a penalty kick with 5 minutes to go as Tech found themselves only down 14-8. Involved in a ruck Jeremy Levin broke his nose and



Jennifer Svendsen '01 serves the ball during an informal volleyball scrimmage Saturday in duPont Gymnasium.



Laura Williams '00 handles the ball during a field hockey scrimmage Saturday.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, September 12

Men's Cross Country — Engineer's Cup
Field Hockey vs. Alumnae, 1:00 p.m.

Women's Sailing — Man-Labs Trophy

Women's Soccer vs. Eastern Nazarene College, 1:00 p.m.

Water Polo vs. UMass-Amherst, 1:30 p.m.

Water Polo vs. Boston College, 4:30 p.m.

was forced to leave the match. The Engineers voluntarily played the rest of the game one man short. Despite the disadvantage Tienie Van Schoor scored his second try of the day with two minutes left. With the score, he Engineers were still down 14-13. Vargas then connected on a two point conversion which put

Tech up 15-14. The Blue Socks put on a ferocious drive but were stopped one foot short of a score by James Hopkins G as time expired.

The Engineers finished the first day 3-0, however, the lack of depth and key injuries caused MIT to lose its semifinal game against St. Lambert Locks 15-3.

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