

Drop Date Wednesday

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather
Today: Cold, wet, 44°F (7°C)
Tonight: Rainy, 34°F (1°C)
Tomorrow: Clearing up, 43°F (6°C)
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Volume 118, Number 59

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tuesday, November 17, 1998

BTP Alcohol Case Ends Without Trial

By Susan Buchman
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

James B. Williams '99 yesterday accepted a continuance without finding on a charge of selling alcohol to a minor.

The proceedings in Roxbury District Court resulted from a July 17 incident at Beta Theta Pi. A Boston University police officer was seriously injured while avoiding filled beer bottles and cans thrown from BTP's roof.

Williams, a BTP member, was accused of purchasing a keg of beer that was consumed by underage summer residents who threw bottles at BU police.

On Monday, Williams appeared before Roxbury District Court Judge Dolan. Williams took continuances without a finding on the alcohol charge and an unrelated assault charge.

Prosecutor Victor Theiss said that a continuance without a finding means that if Williams behaves for a one-year period, the charges will be dropped. Williams must also pay \$160 to cover court costs and witness fees.

Judge Dolan agreed to the continuance, saying that Williams' enrollment at MIT "signals to me that [Williams is] a smart kid" and that he "wouldn't want to have to see [Williams] carry a conviction."

Williams swore under oath that he understood he was waiving his right to a trial by jury by accepting the continuance.

Williams was not the only one punished for the July 17 incident, which sent BU police officer James Barry to the hospital with a ruptured disc. In August, the Boston Licensing Board banned alcohol at the Bay State Road fraternity until 2001.

In addition to the alcohol ban, the board ordered the house's roof deck dismantled and banned the fraternity from housing summer residents next year. At the hearing, BTP officials testified that summer residents were the only ones who participated in the incident.

The Interfraternity Council fined BTP \$1,000 for the incident as well as requiring 30 hours of community service by 90 percent of BTP members before December 19.



Baldemar Mejia '98 makes a diving catch in the end zone, scoring a touchdown in Saturday's game against UMass Boston. MIT won 41-20.

FinBoard Reforms Dominate UA Meeting

By Alex Ianculescu
STAFF REPORTER

The Undergraduate Association discussed several Finance Board reform proposals sponsored by Matthew L. McGann '00 and Jeremy D. Sher '99 at last night's meeting.

The UA Finance Board is responsible for recommending financial allocations to student groups and for other campus events. According to the reform legislation proposals presented by McGann and Sher, "Widespread concern exists about whether our current process is

really the best one."

The reform proposal had four major points. The first called for increased funding for food at events.

"Food at open events makes them more dynamic by increasing attendance and morale," McGann

said. "The current policy is to not fund food at all for open campus-wide events, and we would like to reverse this policy."

The UA should "get rid of the current blanket policy of no food at events," Sher said. "FinBoard makes some exceptions to its restriction on event food already. Funding event food would benefit all activities, and would take care of current concerns that the exception policy is unfair or arbitrary."

The second proposal also involved food, this time at student group meetings. "Food attracts people to student activity meetings, thereby strengthening activities," the proposal said, noting that allowing student groups to provide food could increase attendance at meetings.

"Many large groups can offer food at meetings by virtue of their significant assets. It is difficult for newer, smaller groups to provide food, which places these groups at a disadvantage," Sher said.

At the meeting, Sher called on UA Council members to take a long-term view and to realize that activities can draw in more people by providing food at meetings.

The third reform proposal concerned the self-sufficiency of student groups. "A student group should be an educational activity. It should not have to be a business," the proposal said.

There is no reason to make student activities run a struggling business while also handling academics, Sher said. The UA is given nearly \$200,000 for the

Domenici Urges Increased Use of Nuclear Power

By Douglas E. Heimbarger
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Senator Pete V. Domenici (R-N.M.) addressed the nuclear engineering department Friday, explaining his opinions on nuclear issues.

Domenici, delivering the annual David J. Rose lecture in nuclear technology, said that the United States should begin to reconsider nuclear power as a source for electricity in the next century. "We cannot even

come close to the administration's goal of decreasing greenhouse gases without nuclear power," he said.

As the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, Domenici has become a key player in nuclear

issues in Congress. Last year, he spoke at Harvard University to urge the renewed evaluation of nuclear power for the first time.

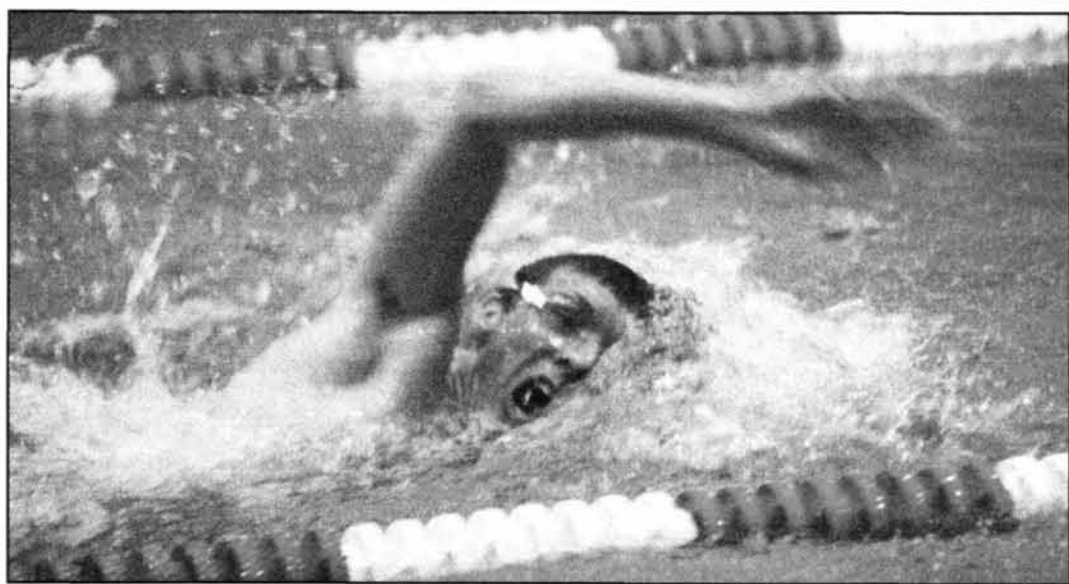
One year later, Domenici said that storage remains a key issue to be dealt with in future talks. A federal judge recently ruled that the U.S. government must pay nuclear power plants for storing spent fuel at their sites.

During the last decade, the government has been working to create a permanent, deep-dug storage site at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. However, with construction not started on the site, it will be many years before it is ready, Domenici said.

Because of this problem, Domenici recommended that an interim storage site be chosen and utilized until the final storage facility comes on line. However, the newly-elected Democratic senator from Nevada ran on a strict no-interim solution platform, and Domenici said he saw progress in this area as difficult, unless President Clinton intercedes.

Research in reactors needed

Besides solving the problems involved with nuclear waste,



Grant Kristofek '02 tears a path through the water to finish first in the men's 1000 meter freestyle at a meet against Springfield College Friday. Grant also took first place in the men's 500 meter freestyle.

Short Takes: A Brown University graduate student is under arrest for allegedly poisoning two students, including his ex-girlfriend, with iodine-125.

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SPORTS

The women's volleyball team lost its NCAA Tournament match against Amherst College.

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WORLD & NATION

Gore's Remarks Enrage Malaysian Government

THE WASHINGTON POST

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

Vice President Al Gore voiced sympathy Monday for Malaysia's pro-democracy forces, outraging the government here and sparking a disagreement at the Asia-Pacific economic summit.

In a speech at a banquet attended by much of the country's ruling elite, Gore hailed "the brave people of Malaysia" for seeking *reformasi*, the Malay word for reform that has become the rallying cry for opponents of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, who has ruled Malaysia for 17 years.

"Democracy confers a stamp of legitimacy that reforms must have in order to be effective," said Gore, who was speaking in President Clinton's place at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum here of 21 nations and economies. "And so, among nations suffering economic crises, we continue to hear calls for democracy, calls for democracy in many languages — people's power, *doi moi*, *reformasi*."

The comments provoked a furious response from allies of Mahathir, a champion of "Asian values" who has long bridled at what he views as Western sermonizing about human rights and free markets.

Meteor Shower Could Throw Satellites Off Track

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Before dawn Tuesday morning, in the basement of Intelsat headquarters in Northwest Washington, four people began sending messages to 25 satellites orbiting 22,000 miles above the equator.

One by one, they signaled the satellites that carry phone calls, transmit television programs, handle hotel and airline reservations, and transfer money from bank to bank: Warm up thrusters. Start gyros. Enable de-spin action nutation motors. Switch communications to high-power, wide-range. Set safety systems. Shut down all non-essential functions.

Prepare for meteor storm — the most intense barrage of meteorites hurtling toward Earth in 32 years.

In a two-day meteor storm that peaks Tuesday afternoon, thousands, perhaps tens of thousands, of tiny particles of space dust will rush past the planet, as the Earth and the meteorites slip by one another at 200 times the speed of sound. The space junk is refuse flung out from the tail of the comet Temple-Tuttle, which circled past the sun in February.

Because the Earth and its satellites spin around the sun in one direction — counterclockwise — and the meteorites are swooping in from the opposite direction, they could collide head-on at 44 miles per second.

Music Plays to Brain's Emotional Side

THE WASHINGTON POST

Everyone who loves music knows that it can tap deep emotions, triggering many different kinds of strong memories and feelings. Now, neuroscientists have found a new clue to why that's the case.

Anne Blood of McGill University in Montreal and her colleagues studied 10 people while they listened to six versions of a piece of music specifically composed for the experiment. The first version was pleasant while the succeeding five were increasingly unpleasant.

An area of the brain on the right side known to be important to emotion — the parahippocampal gyrus — was more activated the more the music became unpleasant. When the music was pleasant, distinctly different areas involved in emotion became activated — the orbitofrontal cortex, frontal pole and subcallosal cingulate.

U.N. Workers Return to Iraq, Weapon Inspectors to Follow

By John Daniszewski

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

The first contingent of 30 evacuated U.N. humanitarian workers returned to their headquarters in Baghdad on Monday night, the first sign that normal operations were resuming here after two weeks of tense showdown between Iraq and the U.N. Security Council.

But the real test of whether the crisis has passed comes Tuesday, when 84 arms inspectors from UNSCOM, the U.N. Special Commission, are scheduled to return for a round of arms monitoring designed to determine whether Iraq will abide by U.N. resolutions.

The inspectors were scheduled to fly in from their field headquarters in Bahrain, where they have stayed since their pullout from Baghdad last Wednesday.

The inspectors, whose work is to seek out and eliminate Iraq's nuclear, chemical, biological and ballistic weaponry, had been at the center of the dispute between Iraq and the United Nations.

Iraq had steadily limited their activities over recent months, and U.S. and British forces were threatening military action to compel the

Iraqis to cooperate with UNSCOM.

Iraq reversed itself Saturday and agreed to work with UNSCOM. That decision allowed Iraq to escape an attack that seemed likely to deliver the strongest blow against the Iraqi regime since the Persian Gulf war.

Residents of Iraq voiced widespread relief Monday that the threat of armed force had been defused. But a U.N. official warned Iraq that it should cooperate with the returning weapons inspectors for its own good.

"Many members of the Security Council want the question of Iraq's cooperation with the inspectors to be tested and proved on the ground," said Prakash Shah, the U.N. secretary-general's special envoy to Iraq.

He said that if Iraq cooperates "fully and unreservedly" it will be entitled to a comprehensive review of its disarmament record. Such a review could constitute a first step toward establishing a timetable to lift the 8-year-old economic sanctions on Iraq, and rehabilitate it on the world stage.

In Washington, President Clinton said that if Iraq keeps its pledge to cooperate, the world may soon be free of the threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

"The world is watching Saddam Hussein to see if he follows the words he uttered, with deeds," Clinton said. "Our forces remain strong and ready if he does not."

White House officials said they expect the U.N. team to stage an early test of Iraq's intentions. But these officials said it will be up to Richard Butler, the chief arms inspector, to judge whether Iraq allows full access after blocking the inspections for most of this year.

Defense Secretary William Cohen announced a halt to the military buildup in the gulf. But he said Washington will maintain a force in the region capable of swift military action in case Iraq again blocks the arms inspectors.

Iraqi newspapers on Monday praised President Saddam Hussein for making the last-minute retreat necessary to avoid a military attack. They also accused the United States of arrogance after Clinton's remarks Sunday that he would like to see a new, more democratic government in Baghdad.

Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz accused Clinton of violating existing U.N. resolutions that confirm the national sovereignty of Iraq.

Court Refuses to Get Involved In Campaign Spending Lawsuit

By Joan Biskupic

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Supreme Court Monday refused to take up the controversial issue of campaign spending limits, quashing what proponents of campaign finance reform saw as their best hope in years of reducing the influence of money in politics.

The justices turned down an appeal from Cincinnati involving an ordinance that capped the amount city council candidates could spend trying to get elected, but that was struck down by a lower federal court as unconstitutional. The city's appeal was supported by 26 states and had galvanized those who say the exorbitant amounts of money spent nationwide undermine public trust in democracy.

As the debate has raged about whether wealthy interests exert disproportionate influence over campaigns, numerous public interest groups and state attorneys general pointed to the Cincinnati case as the best vehicle for persuading the justices to allow new government regulation of election spending.

Cincinnati and other officials had wanted the court to use the case to reverse the influential 1976 decision that equated spending money with free speech and said government limits on expenditures violated an individual's First Amendment right to free speech. That ruling in *Buckley vs. Valeo* has been blamed for rising campaign costs and abuse, and Monday's case was the first in 22 years to directly challenge the landmark decision.

Cincinnati argued that the reality of late-1990s politics justifies governmental restrictions on campaign expenditures that may not have been foreseen when the high court last ruled on the matter in 1976.

"Unlimited spending has seriously undermined public confidence in our electoral process and in our democratic institutions," Cincinnati officials told the justices. "It has presented an increased threat of actual corruption as large contributors dominate the financing of public election campaigns."

The states that joined Cincinnati in its appeal added separately that fund-raising today dominates the work of elected officials and that "television sound bites have replaced comprehensive discussions of issues."

WEATHER

Break out the Umbrellas

By Greg Lawson

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Unfortunately, the same clouds which obscured our view of last night's meteor shower are going to continue to bring us this light, chilly rain for the rest of today. A low pressure center crossed over the Great Lakes yesterday bringing snow and rain with it. Luckily, we are going to remain just south of the snow activity up in southern New Hampshire. This system should be blown out to sea early Wednesday morning by the fairly zonal steering currents aloft. The storm center will pass just to our south, close enough for us to feel a marked increase in the easterly winds sometime mid-afternoon. Overnight temperatures will be knocking on freezing.

A weak high pressure center will sneak southward from Canada once the this low leaves. This will clear most of the clouds and keep Wednesday temperatures similar to today's, in the mid 40s. The zonal pattern aloft will be lost out west late on Tuesday as another rather large disturbance forms leeward of the Rockies. At least we'll have a partly cloudy Wednesday before any threat of more rain comes Thursday night due to this next low.

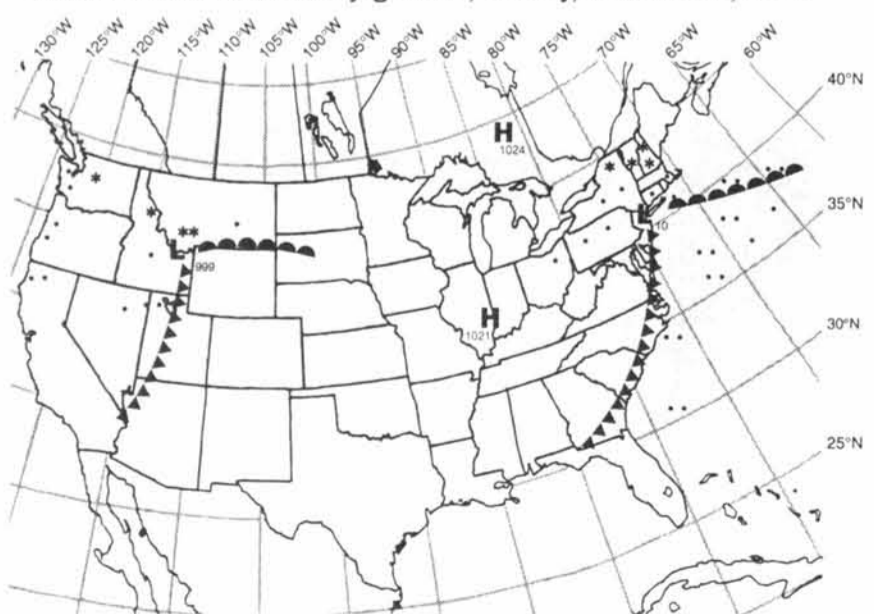
Today: Cold, wet, miserable. Light rain throughout the day. Easterly winds peaking at 20 mph during the afternoon. High 44°F (7°C).

Tonight: Rain to continue through to early morning. Low 34°F (1°C).

Wednesday: Skies clearing to partly cloudy. Brisk northerly wind. High 43°F (6°C). Low close to freezing.

Thursday Outlook: Most of the day should be similar to Wednesday though temperatures should be a bit higher. Threat of rain possible for late night/early Friday morning.

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Tuesday, November 17, 1998



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	--- Trough	Snow *	Fog
L Low Pressure	— Warm Front	Light Rain ▽	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲▲▲ Cold Front	Moderate Rain ••	Haze
	▲▲ Occluded Front	Heavy Rain **	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Chinese Leader Zemin Protests U.S. Stand on Taiwan and Tibet

By Jim Mann
LOS ANGELES TIMES
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

Chinese President Jiang Zemin protested to Vice President Al Gore on Monday that the Clinton administration has been displaying too much support for both Taiwan's Nationalist government and the Dalai Lama, the exiled leader of Tibet, U.S. officials said.

Last week, the administration dispatched Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson to Taipei for rare high-level talks with Taiwanese officials. Separately, the Dalai Lama was given a warm welcome in Washington, obtaining three separate audiences with President Clinton, Gore and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

During a two-hour meeting with Gore, the Chinese president first brought up the subjects of Taiwan and Tibet and then refused to let go, a U.S. official said. The vice president is filling in for Clinton at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation gathering here because the president

stayed in Washington to deal with the Iraq crisis. "Jiang went off for about 40 minutes on these two subjects," one participant said. "It was a very lengthy discourse, a monologue on both issues."

Administration officials depicted China's protests as relatively mild. Jiang gave "a very calm, measured statement... of China's fundamental views about both Taiwan and Tibet," a senior U.S. official said. "There was no hot rhetoric."

Nevertheless, Jiang's willingness to raise them indicates that Taiwan and Tibet remain at the top of the list of issues that divide the United States and China.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhu Bangzao later said the talks between Jiang and Gore had been "positive and fruitful." But he confirmed that the Chinese president had spoken to Gore about the two "major issues" of Taiwan and Tibet.

Over the past few months, the Dalai Lama and his representatives have been seeking some new

accommodation with China. In public statements, the Dalai Lama has emphasized that he does not support independence for Tibet and instead is seeking some form of self-government under Chinese rule.

But China made clear Monday that it does not believe what the Dalai Lama has been saying. "The fact is that the Dalai Lama and his clique never gave up their position on Tibetan independence," Zhu told a news conference.

U.S. officials said Jiang and his aides told Gore that "they don't think the Dalai Lama is ready for serious [dialogue].... On our side, [we said] we think he is — try him."

Over the years, China has frequently raised complaints about Taiwan and Tibet in meetings with top-level American officials. Leaders in Beijing consider Taiwan to be a Chinese province, and they have for decades accused the Dalai Lama of trying to separate Tibet from China, which sent People's Liberation Army troops into Tibet in 1950.

Shootings Endanger Wolf Re-Introduction in Arizona

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Less than a year after he presided over the release of wolves into the White Mountains of eastern Arizona, U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt returned Monday in a more somber mood as he sought to revive a project that has been nearly destroyed by a series of unsolved shootings.

Only two of the 11 Mexican gray wolves released this year into the Apache National Forest are left. Four are known to have been shot. A fifth adult — last seen in mid-September — and a pup are also thought to be dead. Three others were returned to captivity earlier this year after they roamed outside the release area.

Of the surviving two, neither is female, eliminating the possibility of new pups being born in the wild. The gunshot victims include the mother of the only pup born in the wild.

Bringing two more wolves — both females — with him, Babbitt on Monday condemned the killings and, while saying he does not know who is responsible, made clear that he sees ranchers as the main enemies of wolf reintroduction. He vowed that the effort to re-establish the animals would not die and announced that state and federal law enforcement personnel, from now on, would be patrolling the area where the wolves are being released.

"Cattle growers think they are entitled to produce the maximum possible number of cattle they can ship to the stockyards every fall, and they believe they are entitled to do this on public lands regardless of what the public wants from these lands," he said.

Hans Stewart, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist supervising the project, added that "the really sad part is that these wolves were showing every indication of adapting to the wild. They were hunting and providing for their young. They were moving farther into the wild and away from humans."

The Mexican gray wolves released in Arizona are among the rarest land mammals in North America. There are only 187 left, all raised in captivity. There are enough wolves to keep the project alive for several more years, however, according to federal wildlife officials.

A \$35,000 reward has been offered for information leading to the conviction of whomever is responsible for the latest killings, with the money. Conviction for killing one of the endangered wolves carries a federal penalty of \$100,000 and a year in prison.

Parrot Fossil Dates To Dinosaurs' Day

THE WASHINGTON POST

A new analysis of what is thought to be a jaw from an ancient parrot indicates that the fossil dates to the time of the dinosaurs, suggesting that modern land birds evolved earlier than scientists had thought.

The jaw, found in eastern Wyoming around 1960 and kept since in the University of California at Berkeley's Museum of Paleontology, is about 65 million years old, making it the oldest known fossil of a modern land bird, reports Thomas A. Stidman, a Berkeley graduate student, in the Nov. 5 issue of *Nature*.

Primitive birds with teeth were the most common birds during this period, but they became extinct with the dinosaurs while toothless birds like the parrot survived for reasons that remain unknown.

House Prepares to Release Tripp-Lewinsky Tapes to Media Groups

By Ellen Gamerman
THE BALTIMORE SUN
WASHINGTON

After months of silence, Monica finally speaks.

On tape, that is. The House Judiciary Committee is expected to release to the media Tuesday morning tape-recorded conversations between Monica Lewinsky and ex-friend Linda Tripp. Television, radio and computer Web sites will play excerpts from the 37 tapes, and some news organizations plan on playing the tapes in their entirety throughout the day.

"People really just want to hear what Monica sounds like," said

Rich Fahle, a spokesman for C-SPAN, which will play the tapes from start to finish. "The content of the tapes have already made their way out, so what people really want is just the voice."

While C-SPAN, both the television and radio versions, will play all 22 hours of the tapes (using pictures of the two women as a visual backdrop) most other networks are planning shorter, special reports. CNN has scheduled extended coverage, and its talk show hosts are set to focus much of the chatter around the sound of Lewinsky and the relationship dynamics revealed on the tapes.

The tapes are not expected to be high quality; early word has it they are muffled in places. They also are said to include many blank spaces left by the Senate Judiciary Committee, which edited the tapes for propriety and privacy.

The tapes will be delivered to the House Radio and Television Gallery at 9:30 a.m. EST, when networks and other broadcast media will each get a copy.

Not everything may make it on the air, said CBS spokeswoman Sandy Genelius. "You want to be prepared to tell the story," she said. "But hopefully you will use some taste."



Graduate Student Council

OFFICE: Walker Memorial, 50-220 PHONE: 253-2195

EMAIL: gsc-request@mit.edu WEBSITE: www.mit.edu/activities/gsc

Cross-Departmental Socials

In late November, the Funding Board will be allocating funds for holiday events aimed at encouraging social interaction between two or more academic departments. The events must be held between Dec. 1, 1998 and Jan. 31, 1999. The events should be open to all graduate students, faculty, and staff within the chosen departments, and should be designed to provide a social atmosphere apart from the typical realms of the classroom and laboratory. Funds may be used for food, beverages, paper goods, entertainment, and other expenses related to the event, subject to the Institute and GSC Alcohol Policies. Typical awards range from \$500-\$2000. Historically, the departments involved have matched the GSC awards. Applications are due at the GSC office by 5 PM on Nov. 30. Further information and forms can be found at <http://www.mit.edu/activities/gsc>.

Spring Large Event Funding

Applications due Nov. 30 at 6 PM in W20-401. GSC, UA, and ASA will be allocating \$32,000 for large, campus-wide events for the Spring of 1999. The event must be open to everyone in the MIT community and must appeal to a large audience. Events must be sponsored by more than one student organization. Only ASA-recognized student groups can apply for funding. Events requiring large space must demonstrate space availability. Apply at <http://web.mit.edu/gsc/www/money/money.html> or at 50-220. Email questions to lef@mit.

Nutcracker Tickets

Performance is on Friday, Dec. 4 at 7:30 PM at the Wang Center. The GSC has reserved 80 tickets in the balcony and orchestra sections. Cost to students is \$35. There will be a reception in the GSC lounge beforehand. Tickets are on sale now - please email ktbacon@mit.edu for more information.

Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 17 - Academics, Research & Careers meeting *
- 18 - Publicity board committee meeting *
- 19 - Housing & Community Affairs meeting *
- 19-22 - NAGPS Conference
- 21 - NAGPS Night on the Town 9PM - 1AM
- 24 - Activities committee meeting 6 PM, 50-220
- 30 - Application deadline for cross-departmental socials
- 30 - Large event funding applications dues
- 30 - Funding Board meeting *

DECEMBER

- 01 - Muddy Charles meeting 5:30 PM, Muddy
- 02 - General Council Meeting *
- 04 - Nutcracker Performance

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

OPINION

Letters To The Editor



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Safe Ride Story Incomplete

On behalf of the Graduate Student Council, I would like to thank the administration for their action to address students' transportation concerns. However, I was disappointed that factual errors seemed to lead to misplaced emphasis in reporting the story to the community ("Express Runs Added to Safe Ride Services," Nov. 10).

The article states that on Aug. 5, the two groups (Graduate Student Council and the Undergraduate Association) co-wrote a letter to Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72 asking for larger vans, daytime shuttles, and new stops in areas where many graduate students live. In fact, that letter was written by Constance C. Lai G, then chair of the GSC's Housing and Community Affairs Committee, and me.

While the GSC conferred with UA Committee on Student Life Chair Michael C. Won '01, O. Robert Simha MCP '56 and Lydia S. Snover of the Planning Office, John McDonald of the Office of Parking and Transportation, and Dean for Student Life Margaret R. Bates to develop this letter, none of these people can be considered co-authors. At the time, the UA's Executive Committee was reluctant to take any official action because UA President Paul T. Oppold '99 and many council members were away for the summer.

The article goes on to quote the reactions of a couple undergraduate students to the expansion of Safe Ride. Considering GSC's involvement in the expansion, would it not be appropriate to include the reactions of graduate students? For example, graduate students — who live in apartments, in a much more dispersed pattern than the undergraduate fraternities, sororities and independent living groups — would be more likely to value a more liberal request stop policy than undergraduates would.

Finally, the article mentions a committee being formed to examine shuttles at MIT, which will include representation from "two undergraduate students and a graduate student." A Nov. 4 memo from Professor Alexander R. Klibanov, chair of the transportation and parking committee, mentioned the formation of this task group, but it did not specify numbers of representatives from the GSC and the UA. The GSC was under the impression that it would have an equal number of representatives as the UA, since graduate students slightly outnumber undergraduates at MIT.

M. Scott Ramming G
Member, GSC Housing and
Community Affairs Committee

A Political Slamboree

The recent election of Jesse "The Body" Ventura to the Governor of Minnesota made me realize something. Politics and professional wrestling aren't all that different after all.

Think about it. What does a pro wrestler have to do? He gets up in front of a camera and talks about his opponent. He tries to convince a bunch of fans (most of whom have already made up their minds) that he is the better contender. This pre-fight stage is mostly hot air and exaggeration. As a wrestler, he must have enough self-confidence to do really stupid things while pretending that his actions are perfectly normal for his profession. The crowd has seen these ridiculous things often enough that they believe they are actually normal. Most of them wouldn't actually wear those costumes, for instance, but they expect the wrestlers to wear them. He must also look aggressive enough to make people believe that he means what he says.

Off in a booth far removed from the action, announcers watch the fight. They have been trained to recognize all the moves. They sit there and make predictions about how the fight will go. Few, if any, people really care what they have to say. They are there to fill air time and to let people know what's going on — who is fighting, what is coming up, etc.

Outside the ring are the stands. Here, a small percentage of the spectators are gathered. These are usually the most avid fans, although sometimes it is just the fact that the fight happens to be going on in their neighborhood. They scream and shout, cheering for their favorite. They roar with delight when he is winning, and boo and hiss when he is losing. When one of the fighters breaks the "rules," the fans' reaction depends upon who did it. If it is the favored contender, they cheer at the damage done to his opponent. If it is the opponent, however, they become upset.

Some of the fans believe that what they are watching is real. Some talk about how it is faked, but don't truly believe it. Others say it is real, but believe, deep down, that it is not. Most, it seems, believe that the whole thing is faked, but watch for the fun of it. These people usually ignore the question of real vs. fake. They believe it is fake, but let themselves forget that fact. The term in theater is "suspension of disbelief." It only happens under the right circumstances. The audience must be willing to suspend its disbelief, and the performers must be good enough to make the suspension possible.

Outside the building, people across the

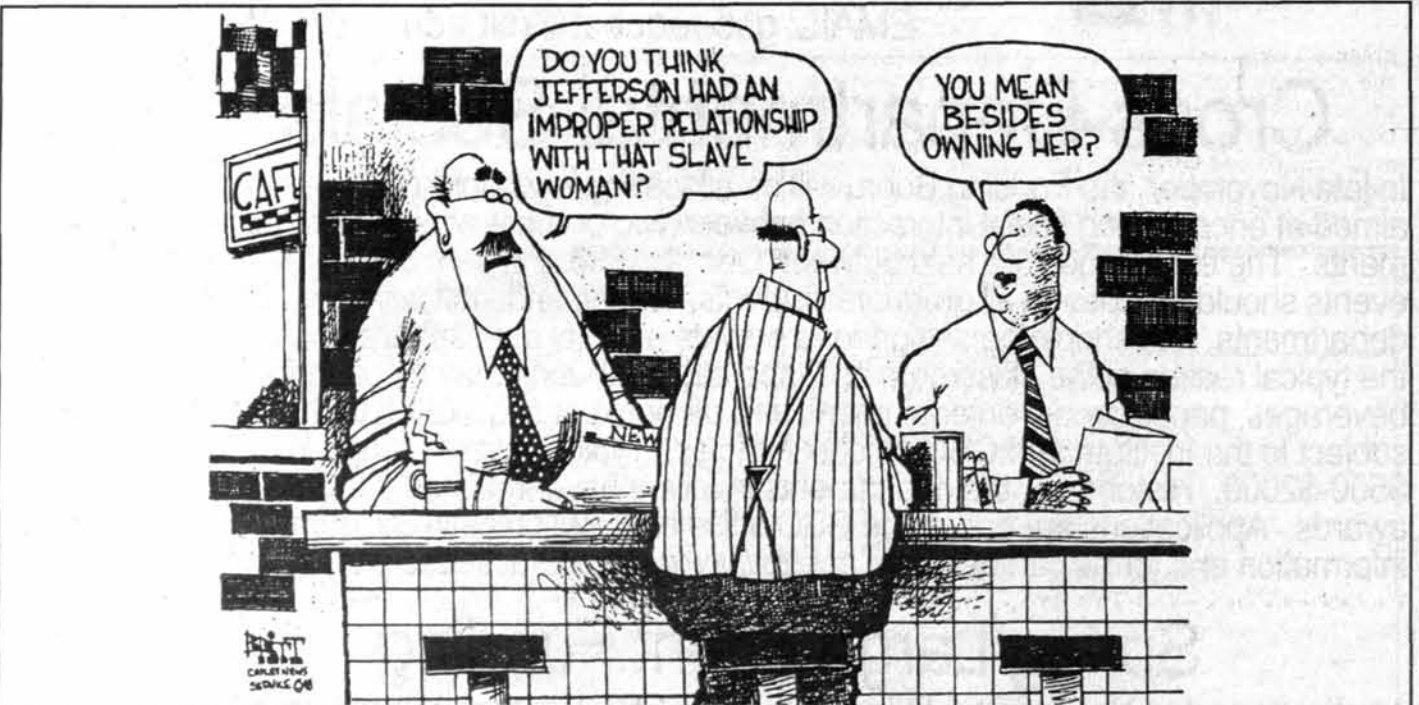
country watch the fight on television. Some of these are avid fans, while others are merely channel-surfing. Some are not actually at the fight because they lack either the time or the money. They watch the fight, and they react with the crowd, but they rarely get as riled up as the ones who are actually there. When the fight actually begins, the outcome has already been determined. The decision, I believe, is largely based on popularity. Of course, popularity has been mostly determined by prior bouts.

The two (or sometimes more) combatants pretend to fight. They use long-established moves. Only rarely does someone try something truly new. Each of the fighters has a distinct style and one or more favorite moves. The moves themselves have been designed with the same basic premise: Make it look really damaging, but be sure that it doesn't actually hurt too much. These guys don't want to actually injure each other. They have to work together.

Some time, long ago, someone thought of throwing in attacks that are "against the rules." One of the wrestlers brings in something from outside the arena. It doesn't belong in the fight, but it can potentially do a lot of damage. The object is usually one of several common types. It's usually one thing in particular (for wrestling, it's a chair). Often, in at least one of the day's bouts, the fight will leave the ring. It will continue just outside of the carefully roped-off area that is supposed to define what is acceptable. Such deviations from the "rules" have become so commonplace that they are expected. No one really bothers to enforce these "rules." The main reason is that the crowd enjoys watching it. Of course, everything is done for the spectators, so people let it happen.

Looking back on all this, what has really changed about Jesse Ventura's job? For one, he gets to wear nicer clothing. Also, he only has to defend his position every couple of years. He doesn't have to worry about getting too old for the job. Finally, he has a chance to make a real difference, no matter how real or fake the process may be. All in all, the career change seems like a good move. It requires a lot of the same skills and personality traits. I'd say that it's more respectable, that it's less hazardous, and that it requires more maturity (but now that I'm thinking about it, I'm not so sure.) I will say that, after I looked at his views, he seems to have a lot more common sense than most politicians have. I wouldn't be surprised if this became a growing trend. Hulk Hogan for president!

Paul-Gabriel Wiener '01



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The Iraq Policy Crisis

United States Should Lift Sanctions, Then Go to War to Put End to Saddam

Naveen Sunkavally

For seven years, the United States has been testing the proposition that Saddam Hussein has a heart. Now, more than ever, it is clear he doesn't.

A man with heart would not let his people starve under the effects of crippling economic sanctions in order to wage a petty personal battle for power in the Middle East. He would not invest \$120 billion worth of oil in developing biological and chemical weapons at the expense of his starving nation. Had Saddam a heart, he would have, when the sanctions were initially levied, backed down and decided to destroy his weapons stockpile (wherever it is) and stop future testing. Saddam, in short, is a megalomaniac. If his entire nation was annihilated and ripped to shreds, and if he alone survived, he would consider himself victorious.

But if Saddam Hussein is a monster, one who abets a monster is also a monster. For seven years now, the United States has fought a battle with Saddam Hussein over who has less of a heart. It's like a game in which two people vie to see who can bear longer to look at a dying, rotting, disease-ridden body. After a while, one gets used to it.

Economic sanctions against Iraq are poorly targeted. The United States' problem is with Saddam Hussein, a ruthless dictator, not the Iraqi people. Yet, everyday, thousands of Iraqi people perish while Saddam lives dressed in opulence behind palace doors.

That these people may largely support Saddam Hussein and vilify the United States is little reason to go after them. The government of Iraq is a tyranny; dissent is actively suppressed. I remember reading somewhere that, after President Clinton gave his "apology" speech to the nation on Aug. 17, the major headline in Iraq's major newspaper purported that the United States was

intentionally planning to hand over power to Al Gore so that he could invade Iraq. In the last ballot for president of Iraq in 1995, 99.96 percent were reported to "vote" for Saddam — I wonder where the .04 percent came from.

An old saying I once heard (or perhaps am making up) went along the lines: "It is a waste to fight a hopeless battle, but a shame to fight those without hope." It is a shame for the United States to fight the Iraqi people. Sometimes, continents away, it's easy to forget that Iraq, or any other name for a country, is actually attached to a body of people, that a country's name represents more than just the leader of that country. Saddam Hussein is not representative of the Iraqi people or any body of people for that matter. The U.S. should see to it that economic sanctions against Iraq are lifted immediately. It is not the solution for its battle against Saddam Hussein.

Then what is the solution? The United States is in a bind. The United States cannot afford to let Saddam develop biological weapons — that would be the worst-case scenario, but somehow the United States must also come up with a solution that will specifically target Saddam with the least civilian casualties and the least possibility for infuriating other Arab countries.

There is little doubt that Saddam is indeed developing chemical weapons. Twice, when United Nations inspectors came close to discovering substantial evidence of biological evidence, Saddam halted inspections. And, thus far, since the start of inspections, inspectors have accounted for the destruction of 38,000 biological weapons and one chemical weapons factory in Iraq.

The ideal solution would be to negotiate with Saddam, but he has given negotiators the run-around for so long that they are no longer tenable. The latest letter from Saddam allowing for inspectors to resume their operations will inevitably turn out to be a sham — some time in the future, Saddam will boot the inspectors from his country. Saddam has hidden his biological weapons from inspectors for so long that there's no reason to believe he can't do so for an indefinitely long time.

The next best solution is a military coup. This is easier said than done. The Central Intelligence Agency has plotted at least four covert operations directly against Saddam Hussein, but all have failed miserably. Military plots, coups, radio propaganda, supporting rebels within Iraq — remarkably enough, helped by the CIA's general incompetence, Saddam has found a way to kill off all opposition leaders and squelch any serious threats.

The only alternative remaining (economic sanctions have obviously failed) for the United States, the choice that should have been made from the beginning, is to go to war. Not air strikes that would temporarily weaken Saddam, but full-scale war that would wipe Saddam out from power permanently.

Time is of the essence; the more time Saddam has, the more time he has to develop more weapons. As soon as the next round of brinkmanship begins, the United States should take swift action, march into Baghdad, and depose of Saddam. His entire family (Saddam's sons are rumored to be more ruthless than Saddam himself) should be ousted and thrown out from power. The war should be as quick and efficient as possible, to avoid many civilian casualties.

In the meantime, the United States should have economic sanctions against the Iraqi people immediately lifted. It may seem contradictory that I would advocate lifting sanctions on the one hand but also advocate going to war — which could cause potentially more civilian casualties.

But war is the only solution that Saddam has given the United States. A man bent absolutely on power can only be bent back with a show of power. Sometimes, when stuck between a rock and a hard place, the only way out is with a eight-bit drill and a heavy hand.



Moving Beyond the Housing Decision

Guest Column
Pavan K. Auluck

Having read recently in *The Tech* the MIT administration's decision to house all freshmen on campus, as well as the student response to that announcement, I was irritated by both the administration's actions as well as by the lack of understanding on the part of the undergraduate population. I think it is counterproductive for undergrads to gripe about matters they cannot change. MIT will not turn back its decision to house all freshmen on campus.

The question now is: How will MIT turn its hasty commitment into a feasible and worthwhile reform? First of all, it needs to be acknowledged that the decision to house all freshmen on campus was made for the wrong reasons. MIT does not have an alcohol problem. A few students at MIT may personally have an alcohol problem, but not the MIT community as a whole, and certainly not any more so than any other American university. Therefore, this move will obviously solve no problem existing in the MIT community, other than creating some good public relations for MIT to counter all the bad press of the past year.

Now we are left to wonder: What can be done to alleviate the damage to student life that will be caused by this change? MIT cannot afford to turn back time. Rescinding President Charles M. Vest's decision will result only in lawsuits and bad press claiming that MIT is not correcting the perceived alcohol problem. Perceptions are impossible to argue against. No matter how much data to the contrary, false presumptions will always prevail, especially when they make a great institution look bad in public. MIT was forced to make a quick move before matters got any worse. And so, it was

decided to house all freshmen on campus. This decision will not be rescinded.

This now brings me to the new dorm. MIT cannot house all freshmen on campus, unless this new housing is provided. Taking that and all the above for granted, the question then becomes an issue of what is the best way for MIT to implement new housing policies — to add in a new dorm and define its culture, to preserve the existing fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups, and to preserve the identities of the existing dormitories. Obviously, asking incoming freshmen to decide which dorm to live in by mail is going to kill the diversity that exists among the dorms today. This diversity was unique to MIT. It was replicated at the California Institute of Technology long ago. And, as a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania, I see that UPenn is changing its own housing system to make it more like MIT's. Obviously, MIT has something good that should be preserved. And the only way to preserve dormitory diversity is to keep dorm and hall rush!

What about the new dorm? I believe that the Interfraternity Council has hit it on the nose: The new dorm should be substance-free. Such housing currently does not exist at MIT. It will add to the diversity of MIT's housing system without disrupting the ethos of the rest of the dormitories.

I have left the preservation of the FSILGs for last. (I don't think I can adequately address the implementation problem.) The FSILGs undoubtedly have the most to lose. Without rush, the threat exists that fewer students will ever consider living off campus. Also, since freshmen will be forced to live on campus, many will feel sedentary and will not wish to move off campus. It is in MIT's best interest to maintain the existence of the

FSILGs. They provide much community and social diversity that does not and cannot survive in a dormitory setting.

There are many options that exist for FSILG rush. *The Tech* has proposed that FSILG rush take place during Independent Activities Period. And, indeed, IAP is a time when many students have the time to explore alternate housing possibilities. Most likely, by the time January rolls around, freshmen will not already be sedentary and unwilling to move.

But the problem of January itself exists. It is very likely that the inclement temperatures and weather common to that particular month will dissuade freshmen from venturing across the river to visit FSILGs. This is not a good picture. A better suggestion, perhaps, would be to hold rush in the same fashion it currently exists — at the same time as orientation. However, pledges would be required to live on campus during their freshman year. This solution could allow for pledges to develop relationships with their elder brothers or sisters while they are still living in an on-campus community.

In sum, I think that complaints and cries about the administration's injustice towards students will result in nothing good. On the contrary, the more the administration hears complaints about the new system, the more likely it will not listen or care about student input. It is time for the student body to accept certain changes as written in stone, and to try to help the administration to preserve what is important to MIT's student community. Please put down the protest signs and bury the hatchets and use some of that creativity that brought you to MIT in the first place to devise a residence system that preserves the values you cherish.

Pavan K. Auluck is a member of the Class of 1997.

Restoring Humanity to Daily Life

Guest Column
Benjamin Ho

Walking into the Student Center a couple of weeks ago on a quest for an envelope, I witnessed an incredible phenomenon. Setup on the first floor sat a television with NBC coverage of John Glenn's historic re-penetration of our vast firmament. But why is it so historic? When the hype of this publicity stunt was first announced, I shrugged it off as perhaps some NASA ploy to maintain its funding levels. After all, when it comes down to it, there is little to differentiate this launch from the previous twenty-four in which the Space Shuttle Discovery has lifted into orbit.

And yet, I am thus confronted with this incredible phenomenon. Crowded around this tiny television were over 50 students and members of the MIT community eagerly anticipating the 25th liftoff of Discovery.

Walking out of the Student Center with newly procured envelope in hand, I soon encountered a similar gathering in Lobby 7. This was proof that this was not a fluke, that these gatherings were happening all across the country, and that there was corroborative evidence to the fact that there was a live audience bigger than even the audience for the first launch of Discovery some fourteen years ago, an event quite a bit more historic.

What is going on? As we approach the turn of the century, I have recently been considering how the 1990's will be remembered. The 1960's is remembered for the counter culture, the 1980's for the greed, but what about the 1990's?

Could it perhaps be for our cynicism? Generation X, the defeated generation, growing up in a world that has lost its luster. And yet, have things changed? Has Generation X finally grown up?

Evidence seems to point that way. NASA had become forgotten, space flight had become routine, people had forgotten the simple miracle of sending a man of earth past the barrier that had once been our prison, and out into space. And yet, just a couple of weeks ago, we all stood still, and again gazed with awe, out into the wonder that is space. We live on a campus where public forums on race, student life, and substance abuse rarely generate little more than a handful of spectators at the Student Center. The fact that such a crowd can form in front of a small TV makes this phenomenon truly remarkable.

This is a year in which the glitz and glamour of the NBA have been supplanted by the great American pastime. As ratings for network television sports continue to decline, America was captivated this year by a return of the excitement and the spirit that made this uniquely American game what it is.

Look at music. As I turn to MTV today, I cannot help but think how drastically the music world has departed from simple rock, the staple of MTV's birth. Yet, the Rolling Stones toured to massive success. New singers evoke the folk songs of bygone decades. And both Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr are attempting to re-launch their careers. These touches of the past are perhaps a harbinger of what we will see to be the true zeitgeist of the 90's.

What will the twentieth century bring? We are standing here together on the threshold of a new information age. The Internet is so pervasive that rarely does a company advertisement go by that does not include a web address. Things are changing incredibly fast; a URL shown for the Super Bowl just three years ago was terribly novel. As rapid information flow becomes more and more central to our way of life, many are anxious that humans will lose their humanity as we all become entangled in a digital web.

However, from the ubiquity of reminders of the past that persist in our mind sets today, and the fact that much of the wonder of the simpler things that seem to have been lost are instead simply latent, waiting for an event such as John Glenn's space flight to resurface, all of this leads me to believe that, despite technology, our humanity is indeed safe.

As those of us stood in the halls of the Student Center, quietly sharing this solemn moment as the Discovery lifted off, it was not so much that a great American hero was returning to space as it was perhaps more a reacquaintance with the wonder that we have all somehow forgotten, a reaffirmation of that which makes us human.

Benjamin Ho is a member of the Class of 1999.



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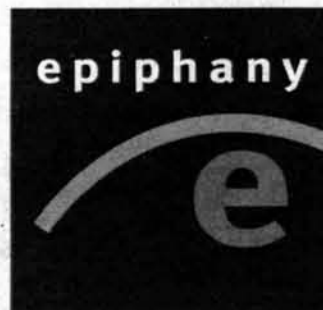
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Brown Student Poisons Ex-Girlfriend with Iodine-125

FROM UNIVERSITY WIRE

Providence police arrested a Brown University graduate student on Friday and charged him with poisoning two fellow students — one of whom is his ex-girlfriend — with a radioactive chemical he allegedly stole from a Brown laboratory.

According to Brown News Bureau Director Mark Nickel, Cheng Gu, a student in molecular pharmacology, prepared a chicken and vegetable dish laced with iodine-125, which he then served Yuanyuan Xiao and her roommate James O'Brien at their home.

Xiao is also a graduate student in molecular pharmacology. O'Brien is a Resumed Undergraduate Education student.

Gu faces five felony charges: assault against O'Brien, domestic assault against Xiao, larceny for theft of the radioactive material from Brown, poisoning O'Brien, and poisoning Xiao.

Captain John Ryan of the Providence Police told the Associated Press that he believed the attack to be motivated by "some kind of love interest."

Nickel said that neither Xiao nor O'Brien have suffered any serious health consequences as a result of the exposure, due to the relatively small amount they consumed.

They "received about as much radioactive substance as you would in a normal medical procedure" in which iodine-125 is used, Nickel said. "There doesn't appear to be any immediate health risks."

Dr. Robert Marshall, assistant director at the Department of Health, agreed.

"This is more of a research isotope than a dangerous radioactive substance," he told *The Boston Globe*. "Its half-life is very short — about six months — and it doesn't appear that there was any dangerous exposure."

Nickel said that officials first discovered the alleged poisoning on Wednesday, when Xiao said she was preparing to perform an experiment. Xiao was tested for radiation with a Geiger counter before she entered the lab, which Nickel said is standard procedure for experiments involving radioactive materials. The results of this initial test are later compared to a test taken when the researcher exits the lab.

On Wednesday, Xiao tested abnormally high on the initial test, prompting Risk Management officials to conduct an investigation into the cause of the Geiger counter results.

After finding no evidence of contamination in the laboratory, investigators went to Xiao's home, where they discovered the iodine-125-laced dish in the refrigerator, Nickel said.

Xiao told the investigators that both she and O'Brien had eaten the dish, which she said had been left by Gu, her former boyfriend.

According to Nickel, iodine-125 is a radioactive isotope used to treat and diagnose thyroid conditions, and is used in Brown laboratories to tag proteins in experiments.

Gu told the Providence Police that he had taken the radioactive chemical from a lab at Brown, said Nickel. Although Nickel could not confirm whether or not this is true, he said that an investigation is underway.

"The Department of Health suggested that we conduct an inventory" of our labs, Nickel said. "We are doing that now."

While the evidence suggests that Gu did steal the substance from a Brown laboratory, Nickel would not speculate as to how he got it out of the lab.

He said that while Gu was working in a laboratory, his experiments did not involve iodine-125. Had he been using this substance, Gu would have been subject to the same radiation tests as Xiao. In this case, the

Geiger counter would have registered the increased amounts of radiation on him.

Nickel said that iodine-125 is kept locked up at all times, except when it is being used in an experiment.

"As far as the University's procedures for holding and storing the material," everything was done correctly, Nickel said. "There is no indication of any problems with security."

However, when the substance is being used, he said that it is necessary to rely on the experimenter's judgment.

Marie Stoeckel, chief of the occupational and radiological health office of the Department of Health, confirmed that this degree of human error is difficult to overcome.

"Internal security is a very challenging issue if someone is not acting in a moral, legal, and ethical way," Stoeckel told *The Providence Journal*. "Our sense is that [Brown was] following all security measures that were appropriate."

Nickel pointed out that if it weren't for the safety procedures Brown already has in place, Xiao's high level of radioactivity may have gone unnoticed. He praised Risk Management officials Steve Morin and Ninni Jacob for uncovering the poisoning through their routine testing procedures.

"There's no way to tell that this

woman may have been contaminated," Nickel said, had it not been for Morin and Jacob. "This is an example of things working the way they're supposed to work."

Executive Vice President for Public Affairs and University Relations Laura Freid echoed Nickel's approval of the handling of the situation, by both Brown Risk Management officials and police officers.

[*Brown Daily Herald*, Nov. 16]

Princeton appointment protested

A handful of Princeton University students joined about 30 other people assembled outside the University's main gate Saturday to protest the appointment of Peter Singer as the Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics at the University Center for Human Values.

Carrying posters calling Singer "P.U.'s Professor of Death," the protesters stood along Nassau Street for two hours, distributing flyers and excerpts of Singer's writings.

Singer's appointment has raised debate among local residents, faculty and students because of his controversial views about human and animal rights.

In his book, "Practical Ethics," Singer compares human life to animal life, arguing that simply because people are human does not mean that

their lives are more valuable than those of animals. His views on euthanasia and animal rights come from a belief that life necessitates rationality, autonomy and self-consciousness.

Marie Tasy, director of Public and Legislative Affairs for New Jersey Right to Life noted that Singer's presence at other universities has caused protest by students and faculty.

At the protest, Tasy said she felt Singer was "trying to establish a new system of ethics" for society. "He's saying we should be able to judge the quality of life for another human being," she said. "That's a very dangerous philosophy."

Director of Communications and Publications Justin Harmon said in a phone interview yesterday that Singer's appointment should not be viewed as a University endorsement of his views. "You don't hire a professor to propagate any particular views. We hired Professor Singer because he is an extremely qualified scholar," Harmon said. "Most in his field will agree he's quite strong."

"His appointment is intended to form issues of social import for scholarly debate," Harmon explained. "I'm sure you will find his perspectives to be the subject of lively debate on campus."

Jennifer Hotz, president of the Mercer County chapter of New Jersey Right to Life, said she feels the University acted inappropriately by hiring Singer.

"Princeton University had an opportunity to hire someone who advocates life-affirming values. Instead, they chose someone who advocates the killing of disabled infants," she said.

Eric Wang, one of the few students present at the protest, said he attributed the lack of student involvement at the event to a "general sense of apathy."

Patti Staley, president of the Mercer County chapter of Citizens Concerned for Life, said she is very disturbed by Singer's appointment to the University. "We feel that Princeton has a responsibility to society, and the appointment of a man who feels handicapped people are not valuable is irresponsible," she said. "[Singer's] appointment is plunging us deeper into the culture of death."

Student government senator Carlos Lazatin, who was also in attendance at the protest, said he thinks the University has not adequately explained the appointment. "Bringing Singer here sends the wrong statement. The University can't avoid this with the argument of academic freedom."

[*Daily Princetonian*, Nov. 16]

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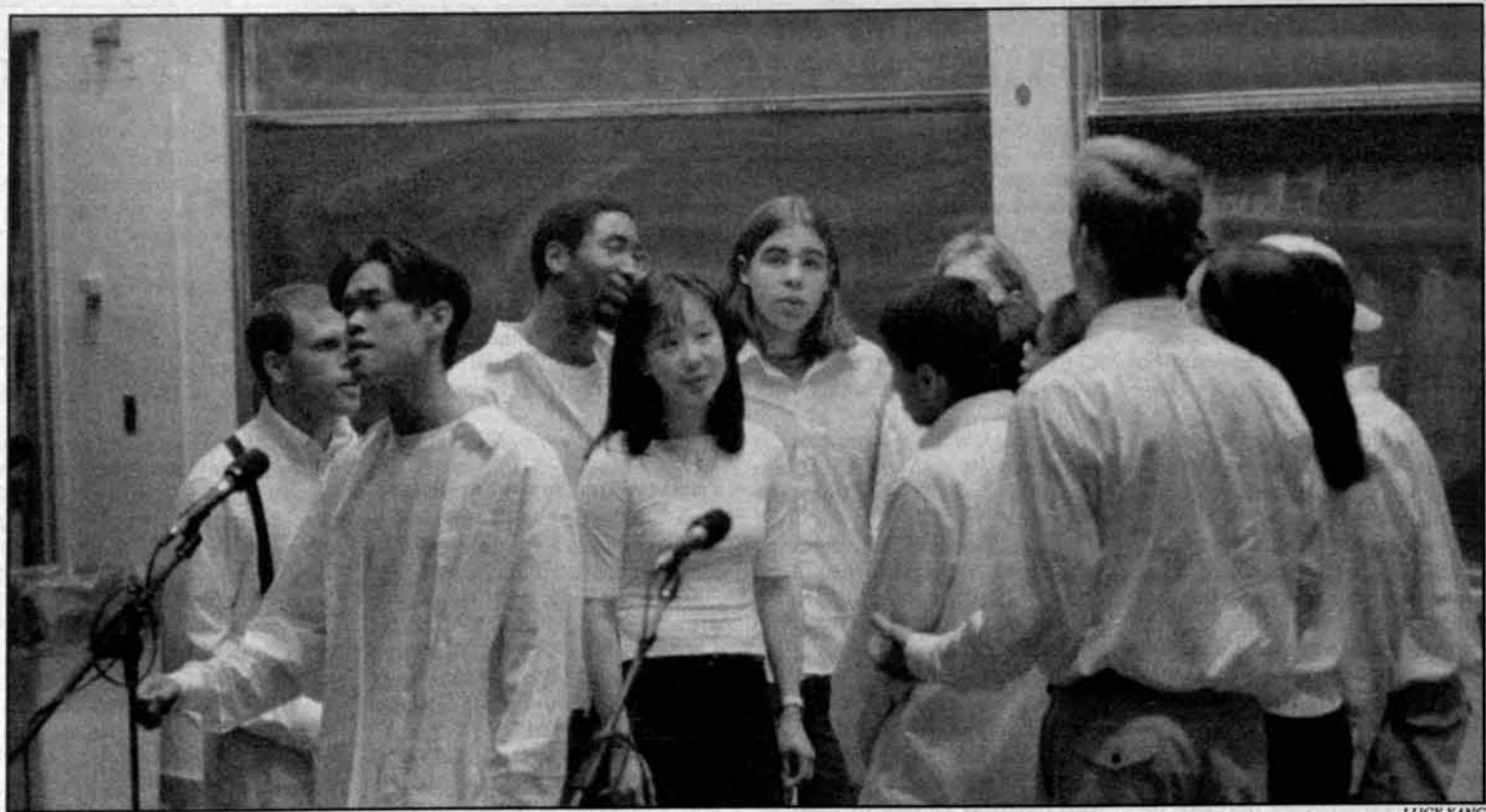
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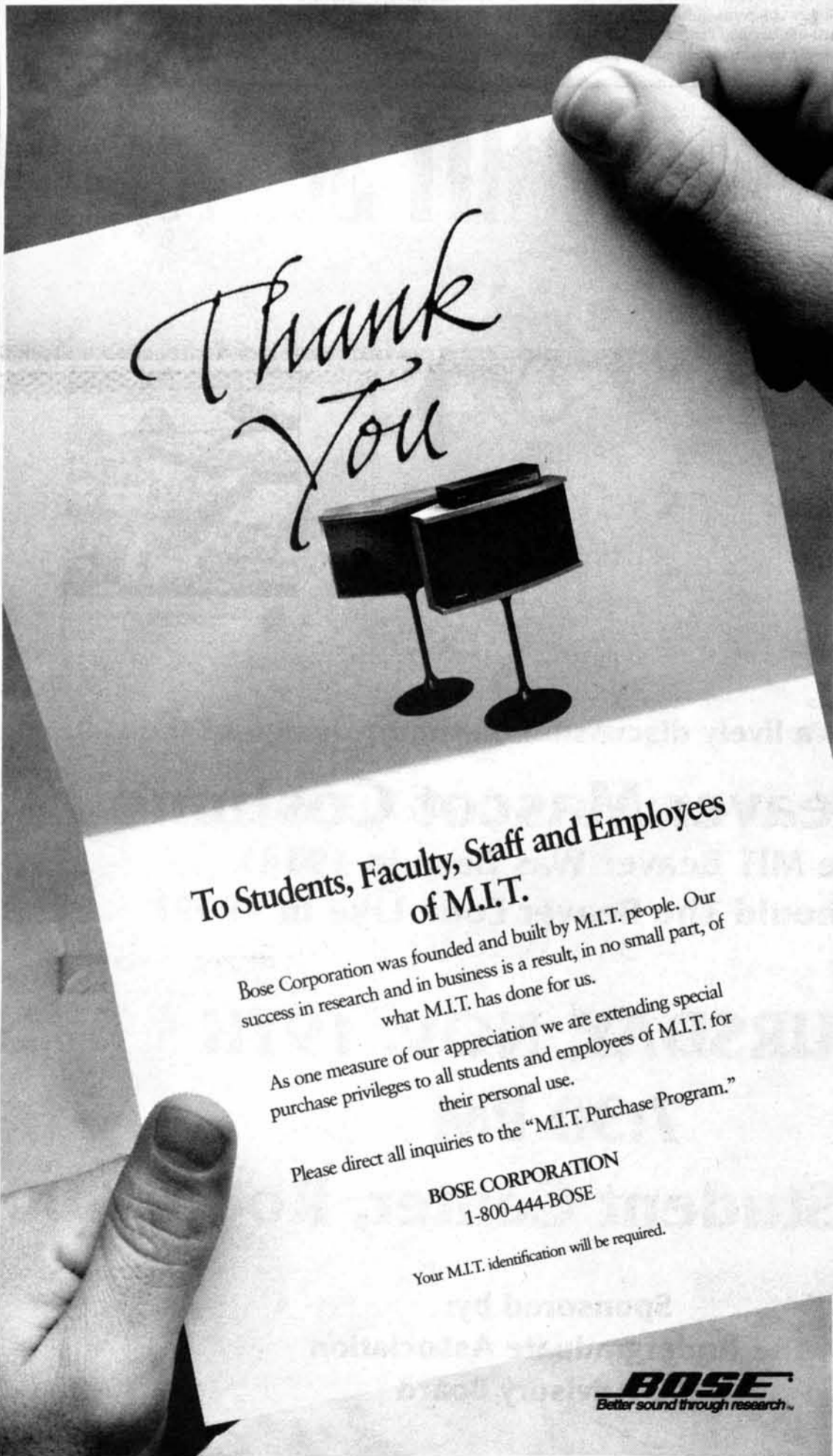
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Applications are available at the Customer Service Desk of The M.I.T. Coop at Stratton or The M.I.T. Coop at Kendall or at the Member Services Office, 4th floor of The Coop's Harvard Square Bookstore.

**Final date for return of application is
5:00 pm, Friday, December 11, 1998.**

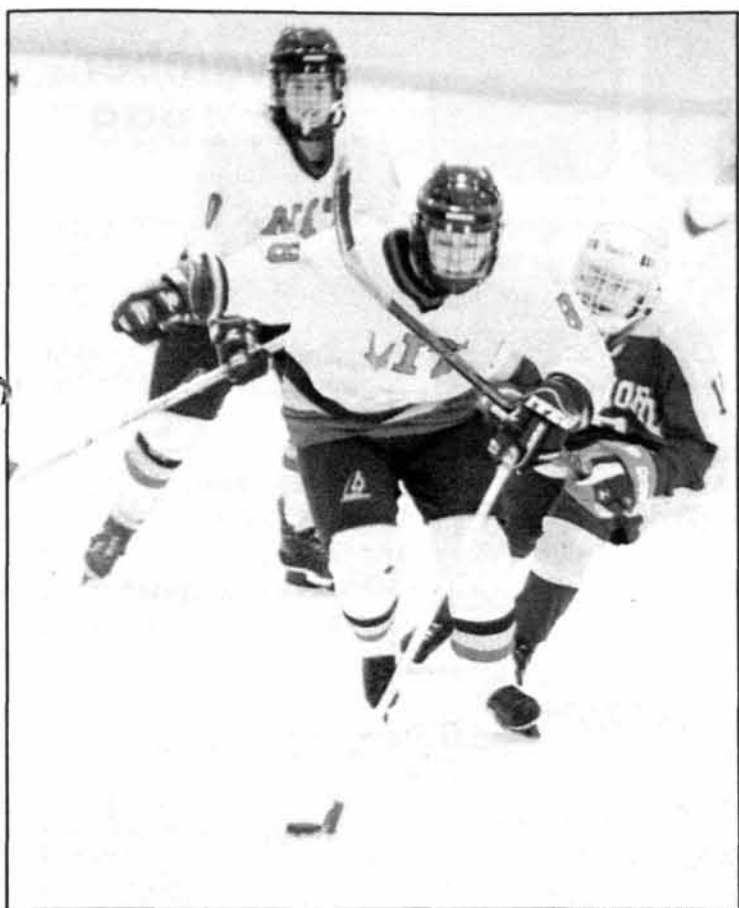
For additional information, contact

Isaac M. Colbert
Sr. Assoc. Dean for Graduate Education
M.I.T.
ikec@mit.edu

Thomas Lee
tlee@mit.edu

Eduardo J. Salomone
ejs@mit.edu

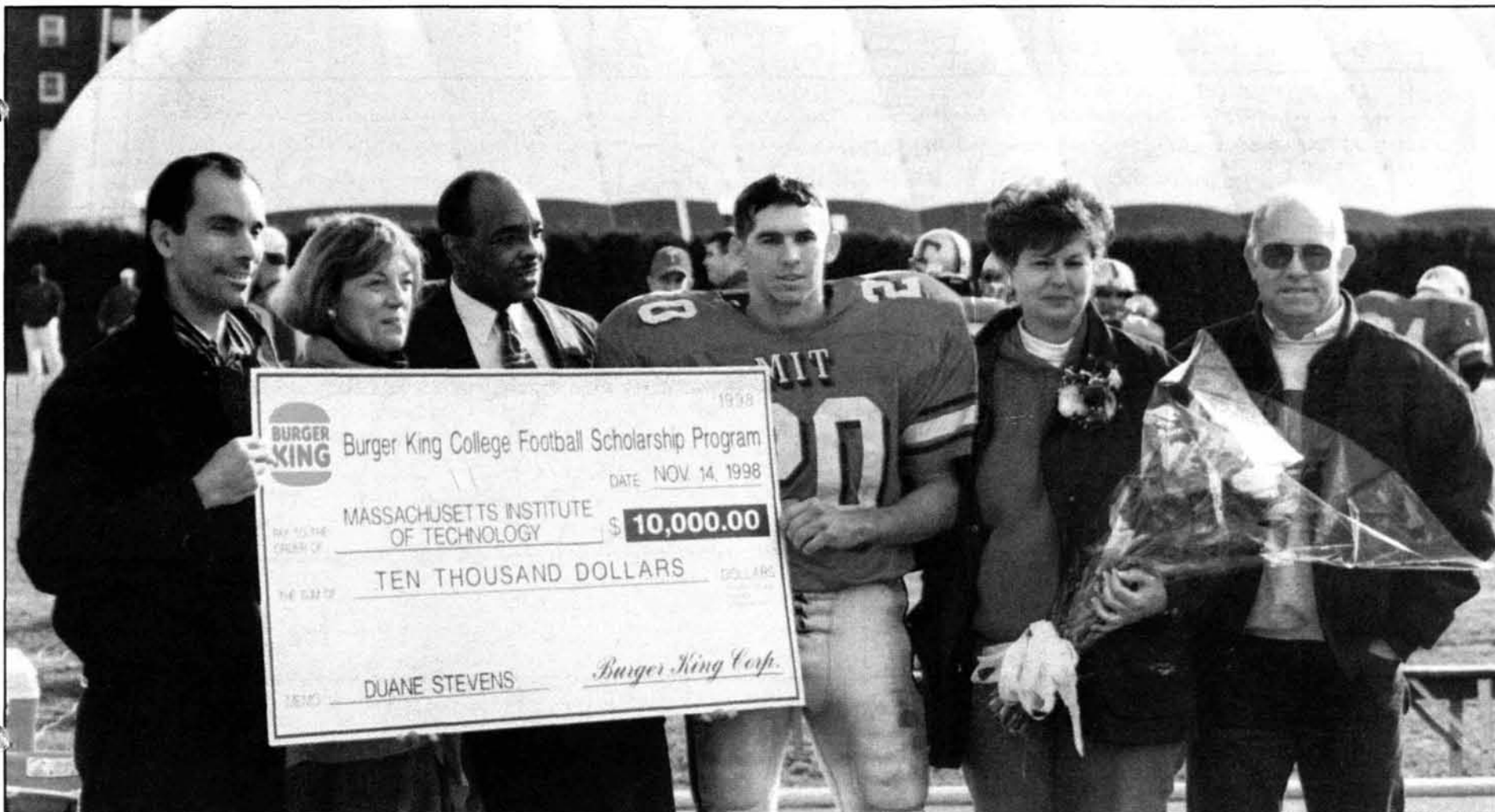




GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH
 Catherine Oates '00 makes a break for the opponent's goal in a hockey game against Skidmore College Friday. MIT held Skidmore to one early goal, winning 2-1.



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH
 The often enigmatic MIT Marching Band made an appearance at the Women's Ice Hockey game Sunday to cheer for the team and the Zamboni driver.



GARRY MASKALY—THE TECH
 Duane Stevens '98 becomes the second player in MIT football history to be named a Burger King College Football Scholar-Athlete Award winner. Stevens was honored during halftime of Saturday's game against UMass Boston.

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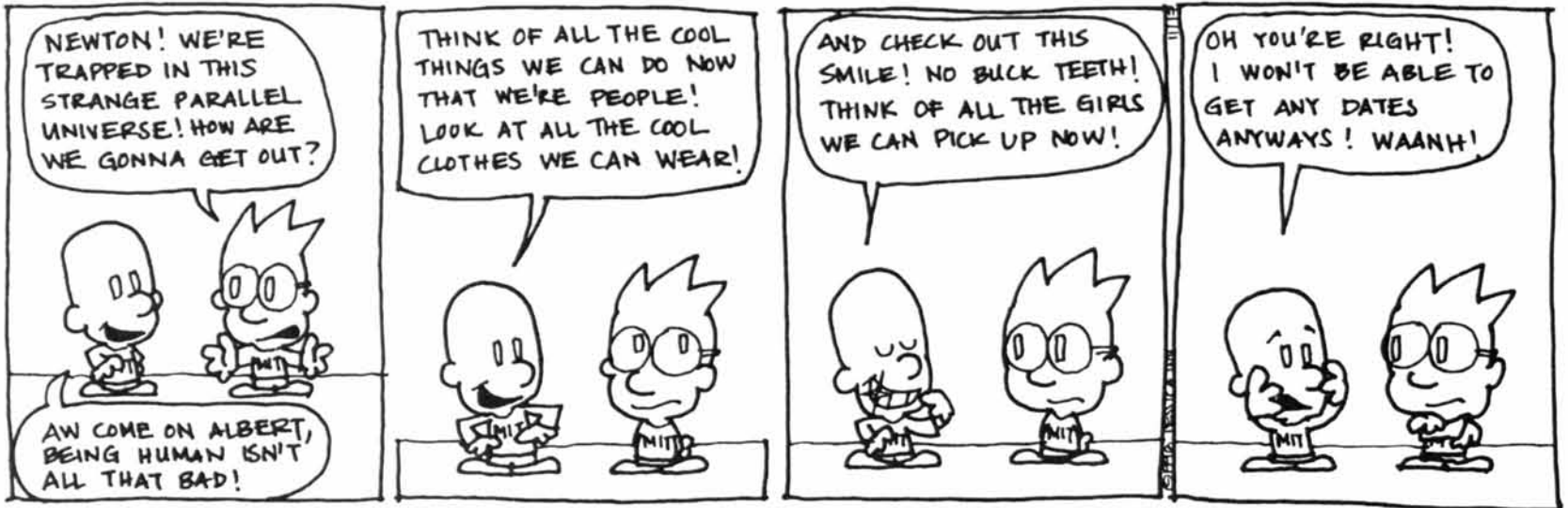
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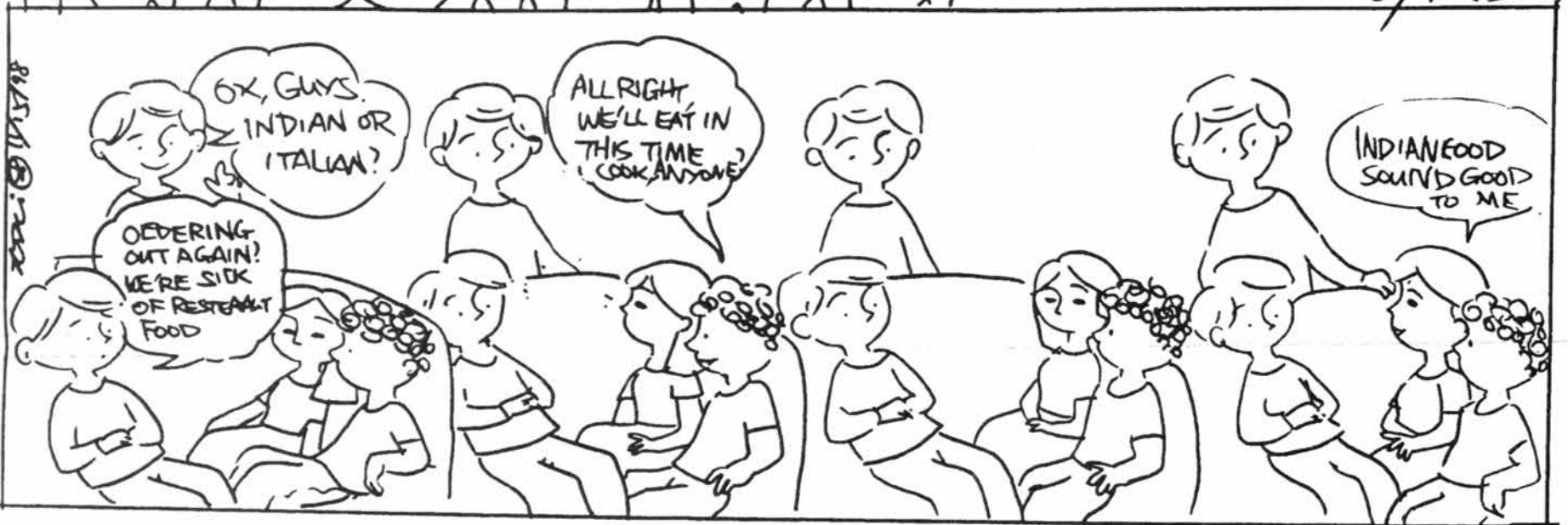
INFORMATION

damned for life
by jessica



RANDOMEFLAND

by xid



Down with Science

by Jennifer DiMase

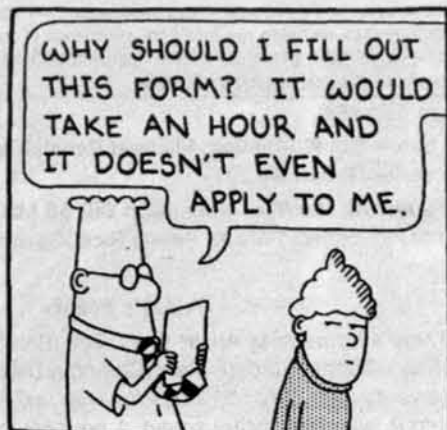


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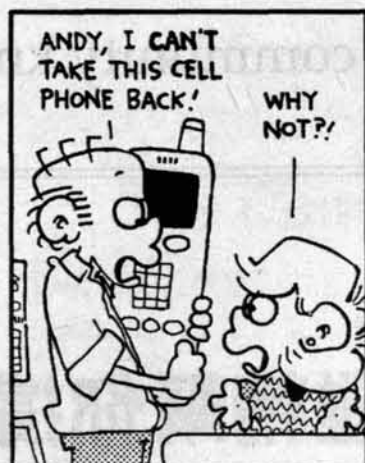
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TechCalendar

Visit and add events to TechCalendar online at <http://tech-calendar.mit.edu>

Tuesday's Events

6:30 p.m. - **Architecture Lecture: The Next Modern Architecture.** Lecture by William A. McDonough, dean, University of Virginia. Room 10-250.

Wednesday's Events

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - **Friendly Robotics in Japanese Society.** Japanese companies such as Honda and Sony have increased research into friendly robotics. Rodney Brooks, Director of the AI lab, discusses the building and engineering of the robots of the future. Room 2-131. Sponsor: MIT Japan Program.

5:10 p.m. - **LEM Service and Supper.** Eucharist in the Chapel, followed by a free fellowship supper and discussion. MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry.

5:30 - 9:30 p.m. - **Inventors' Workshop.** Annual workshop for MIT student inventors and entrepreneurs to network and discuss issues in the business of invention with experts and professionals. Building E51 (Tang Center). Sponsor: Lemelson-MIT Awards Program.

7:30 p.m. - **Spring Weekend Interest Meeting.** Do you want to help with Spring Weekend? Positions are open for Concert Chairs, Publicity Chairs, Finance Chairs and more. Come find out how you can participate! Free pizza and drinks. Room 2-105. Sponsor: Spring Weekend.

Thursday's Events

12:00 p.m. - **Chapel Concert: Kammerton.** Annika Pfluger, baroque cello; Na'ama Lion, baroque flute; Guiomar Turgeon, baroque violin; Todd Beckham, harpsichord. Music of the Purcells, Grauns Kleinknechts, Bendes and others. MIT Chapel.

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. - **Gallery Talk: Speaking with Matter: The Curious Language of Physical Things.** Discussion with kinetic sculptor Arthur Ganson about creating objects which attempt to capture feelings and ambiguous qualities and the physical language we use to describe them. MIT Museum.

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - **Opening Reception: Donna Hamil Talman's Signs of Life.** Earthy figurative images in which the natural world, the feminine & the spiritual were revered, combined with symbols from nature or markings as in ancient cave paintings. Dean's

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.

Gallery, Room E52-466.

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. - **Sci FI Reading: Michael Resnick and Alex Jablov.** Media and Imagination series. Room 6-120.

8:00 p.m. - **Fiddler on the Roof.** Admission \$6, \$8 MIT faculty & staff, sr citizens, other students, \$9 public. Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild

Friday's Events

7:00 p.m. - **There's Something About Mary.** Ted (Ben Stiller), a classic high school loser, somehow manages to date Mary (Cameron Diaz), the girl of everyone's affection. Thirteen years later, Ted still longs for Mary, so he hires a seedy investigator to find her. Rated R, with DTS digital sound. 1 hour 59 minutes. Admission \$2.50. Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

8:00 p.m. - **Fiddler on the Roof.** Admission \$6, \$8 MIT faculty & staff, sr citizens, other students, \$9 public. Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild

8:00 p.m. - **Dance Troupe Fall Concert.** Student-choreographed pieces in a variety of styles including modern, ballet, tap, jazz and funk. Admission \$6 in advance/ \$7 at the door, \$5 in advance/\$6 at the door for students. Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Dance Troupe.

8:00 p.m. - **Klaus Liepmann Memorial Concert.** Haydn, s The Seasons. MIT Concert Choir, William Cutter, director. Maynard Goldman, concertmaster. Soloists: Diana Hoagland, soprano; Mark Evans, tenor; Mark Andrew Cleveland, baritone. Kresge Auditorium.

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - **Fundraiser Party for victims of Hurricane Mitch in Central America.** Come to have some fun, for a good cause! All the funds will be donated to help the victims of the disastrous hurricane that took place in Central America. Admission \$5.00. Lobdell Food Court. Sponsor: Central American Club of MIT.

10:00 p.m. - **There's Something About Mary.** Ted (Ben Stiller), a classic high school loser, somehow manages to date Mary (Cameron Diaz), the girl of everyone's affection. Thirteen years later, Ted still longs for Mary, so he hires a seedy investigator to find her. Rated R, with DTS digital sound. 1 hour 59 minutes. Admission \$2.50. Room 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Read TechCalendar to learn about all the goings-on on campus!

Or, if you are holding an event on campus, register it with TechCalendar and let the whole Institute community know about it!

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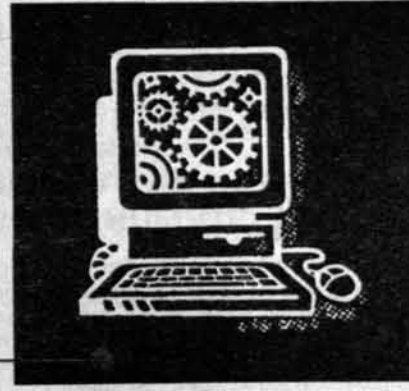
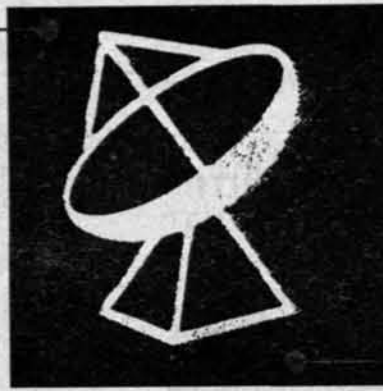
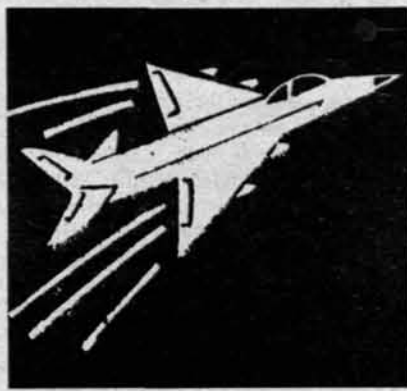
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Domenici: Reactors Need Modernization

Domenici, from Page 1

Domenici also said that the government should fund additional projects in nuclear technology to build future reactors that are safer and more efficient.

The United States has already been surpassed in nuclear technology, Domenici said. France, for example, uses on a closed-loop system that recycles much of its nuclear waste into new fuel for the reactors. Meanwhile, the newest reactor in the United States operates using "30-year-old technology."

For the first time in many years, the Senate itself added spending on nuclear projects to the 1999 budget bill, which was a "refreshing sign" that thoughts on the use of nuclear power are changing. This year, \$4 million was allocated for researching issues related to waste transportation, and \$12 million for research on the health effects of low-level radiation, among other projects.

Holistic strategy preferred

Domenici mentioned that in discussing nuclear technology or projects, it is important to discuss a project as a whole instead of just a single issue. "If you bring the issue piecemeal, you will lose every time."

For example, if the citizenry is asked whether they want a truck hauling spent nuclear fuel passing down the street, they will say no, Domenici said. However, when the benefits and the drawbacks are presented together, nuclear issues stand a much greater chance of passing.

In response to a question, Domenici said that the anti-nuclear movement in the United States is not extremely strong, with just a

few million members. However, the news media is quick to play on nuclear fears, he said.

Overseas, support for nuclear power has been varied. France, for example, generates 80 percent of its power using nuclear sources. However, in Germany, the new government has announced plans to end its use of nuclear power and instead buy electricity from France, he said.

With 40 percent of the nuclear power plant licenses in the United States expiring before 2015, issues related to nuclear power will be coming up more often, Domenici said.

Russia remains a nuclear force

Towards the end of his lecture, Domenici turned to foreign affairs, and discussed how Russia remains a potential source for harmful nuclear activity.

In Russia, citizens call plutonium "a legacy for future generations," and feel that it will lead to future wealth. As a result, Russians tend to be skeptical about proposals for reducing the risks involved with weapons-grade plutonium.

Domenici also discussed in detail joint U.S.-Russian plans to remove 50 tons of nuclear material, stating that its speed can be dramatically increased from 1.3 tons per year to 5 or 10 tons per year.

Moving away from the nuclear topic, Domenici said that the recent currency crises have arisen in part due to disparities in the world's banking rules. "You cannot have banking institutions across the world operating on different sets of rules and different sets of ways for telling the public their states."

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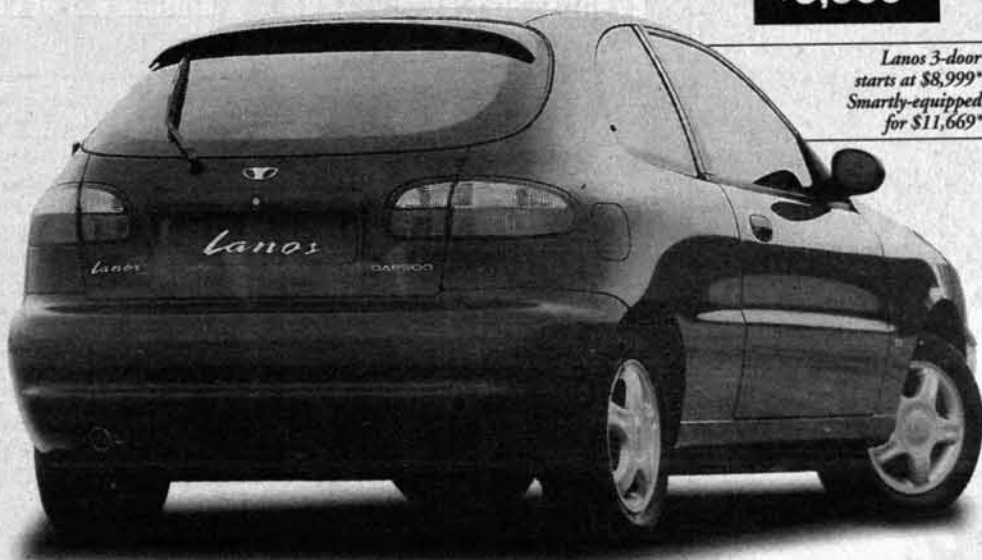
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MIODRAG CIRKOVIC—THE TECH

Professor Emeritus Philip Morrison (right) answers a question from the audience about his new book *Reason Enough to Hope*. The program, moderated by Christopher Lydon (left), was sponsored by the Technology & Culture Forum and authors@mit Nov. 10 in Wong Auditorium.

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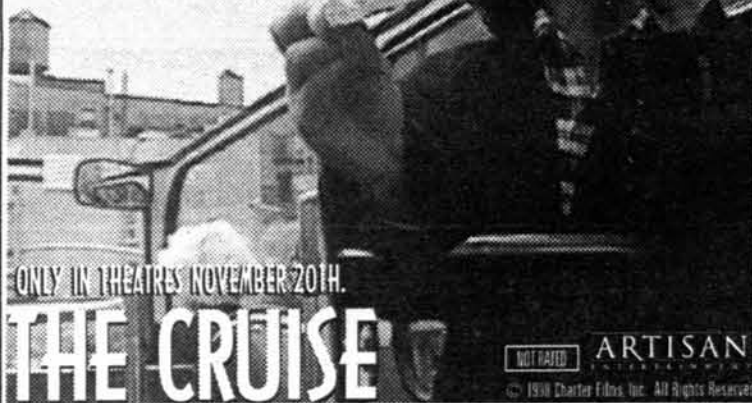
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CCRR
MIT Committee on
Campus Race Relations

UA Reforms Suggest New Money Policies

UA, from Page 1

expressed purpose of funding student activities, he said.

Consequently, the proposal recommended that FinBoard should continue to get funding from outside the UA, but it should also acknowledge that self-sufficiency is not a possible or a desirable goal for most student activities."

Finally, McGann and Sher proposed a change in FinBoard's current process of disbursing money. Under the current policy, students pay for groups' expenditures out of their own pockets and then apply to get reimbursed.

"MIT student groups have earned trust," the proposal said. "Reimbursements are an insecure, inefficient financial practice. Many students cannot afford the out-of-pocket costs of running a student activity. Also, the reimbursement process needlessly drains students' time, energy, and patience."

McGann and Sher suggested that the regular FinBoard process should be to transfer funds to the student group's account at the beginning of the term. At the end of the funding term, each student activity would have to present a report detailing how their money was spent. "The Finance Board can then review the reports to ensure that the groups used their funds for the purposes for which they were allocated," according to the proposal.

UA gives mixed responses to ideas

Responses to the suggested proposals for FinBoard allocations were mixed. Andrew D. Montgomery '01, the class of 2001 president, agreed that "there is a ridiculous amount of red tape" in

the process for receiving funding for activity spending. He also suggested that class councils should receive funding for their events.

However, not all members agreed with the suggested proposals. "The changes are not a good idea," said Edward A. Gordon '99. "There are better ways money could be spent than on food. Cultural food at cultural events should be and are paid for, but money should go more for entire class events rather than food at meetings."

Sarah L. McDougal '00 was also opposed to the suggestion that FinBoard fund food at events and meetings. "Money for food could be better used elsewhere, such as towards improving a publication rather than serving Coke to its members."

McGann and Sher introduced the FinBoard proposals informally, noting that they would make their proposals into formal UA resolutions in the spring.

"We want to talk about the big issues," rather than picking at specific aspects of the proposals, McGann said.

Housing also discussed at meeting

Another topic that came up for discussion and a vote at last night's UA meeting was a resolution calling for an end to dormitory crowding in 2001, submitted by McGann as co-chair for the UA committee on housing and Orientation.

Although several UA members suggested that the new dorm house upwards of 400 undergraduates, UA Vice President Jennifer Kelly '99 said that a dorm housing 500 people "is way too big. The number should be lower if we want any semblance of unity or community in the dorm."

After discussion of the resolution, it passed unanimously.

Cleaning the Ganges River: An Engineering Problem with Spiritual Dimensions

Lecture by Professor Veer Bhadra Mishra

Wednesday, November 18th, 4:30-6:00 pm
Room E25-111, MIT

Refreshments will be served

Five hundred million people – one out of every twelve people in the world now live in the basin of the Ganges and its tributaries. A hundred

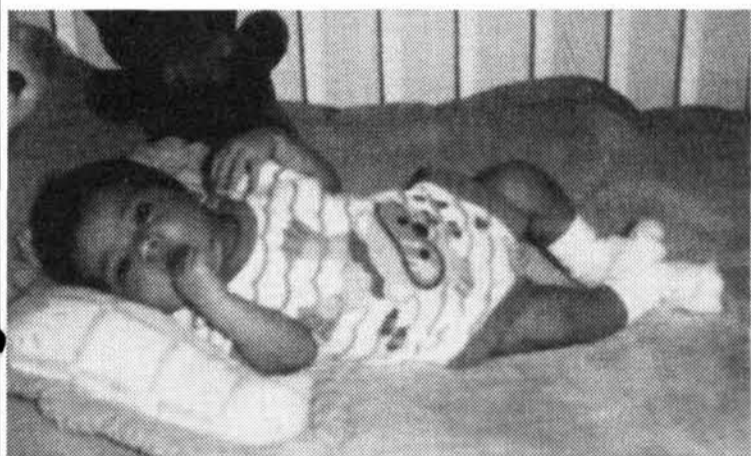


and fourteen cities dump their raw sewage directly into the river. Not surprisingly, water-borne illnesses are common killers, helping to account for the deaths of more than two million Indian children each year.*

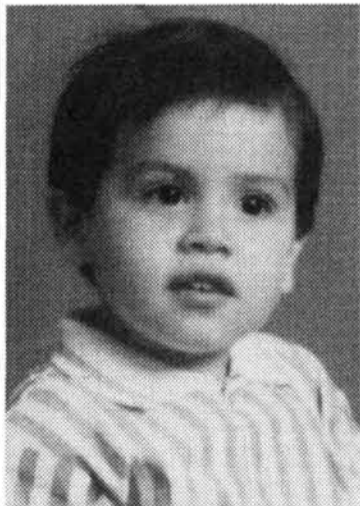
* Excerpts from a January 19, 1998 article in the *New Yorker*

Professor Mishra, a professor of hydraulic engineering at Banaras Hindu University, is coming to MIT to offer students and faculty an account of the Sankat Mochan Foundation's efforts to clean the Ganges.

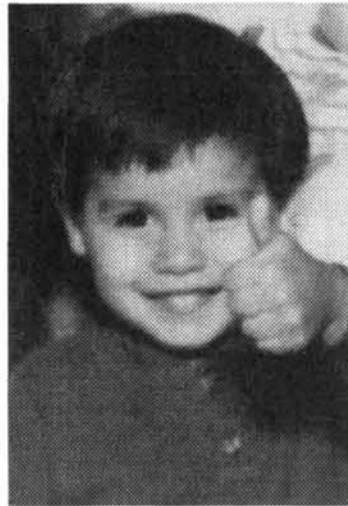
Sponsored by the Department of Urban Studies and Planning
For more information, contact Professor Paul Levy, 253-2053, pflevy@mit.edu



2 weeks old, 1989



1 year old, 1991



2 years old, 1992

Stevie Ace Flores.

Killed by a drunk driver on March 23, 1993,
on Pacific Coast Highway in Wilmington, Calif.

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SPORTS

Women's Volleyball Loses Close Match to Amherst at Nationals

By Paul Dill
HEAD COACH

For the second straight year, the women's varsity volleyball team earned a place in the NCAA Division III National Championship Tournament. Out of almost 400 Division III teams in the country, the NCAA chooses the top 48 to play in a single elimination tournament to determine the National Champion.

The Lady Engineers achieved this honor by sporting a 26-9 record and finishing second in the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference during the regular season, losing only to Wellesley in conference play. This record was their best since the 1994 season.

Entering the tournament as underdogs, the Engineers had to face a very strong and tall Amherst College team in the first round. In what would become one of the best and longest matches of the season, MIT played nip and tuck during the first game as the score went back and forth. Being down in late in the game, MIT came back strong to win 16-14 behind the strong play of middle hitter Betsy Sailhamer '99.

The second and third games saw Amherst push hard and take charge of a two games to one lead. However, as the Engineers had done so many times this season, they came back strong to take the fourth game 15-7, bringing the match score even at two games a piece. In

the fifth game, both teams played brilliant volleyball and neither could seem to pull away. With the score tied at 13-13, Amherst was able to get the final two points to win the match 3-2 after over 2 1/2 hours of play.

Sailhamer led MIT with 25 kills and 19 digs while Alarice Huang '00 distributed 64 assists and had 21 digs. Perhaps the best performance was demonstrated by Michelle Fox '99 who played a career match, hammering 21 kills and coming up with 22 digs. In addition, Christina Almodovar '02 contributed 14 kills and Barb Schultze '02 came up 16 digs. Overall, the entire team played tough, not only in this match, but throughout the season.

Fencing Squad Starts Off Season Well at the Big One Tournament

By Evangelos Efstathiou
TEAM MEMBER

The MIT men's and women's fencing teams began their season Nov. 7 at the Big One, a New England intercollegiate invitational tournament. In attendance were NCAA Division I powerhouses Boston College, Brown University and Brandeis University, along with non-NCAA schools Tufts University, University of New Hampshire, Boston University, Dartmouth College, University of Massachusetts and Wellesley College.

Individual competitions were

held in each of the six weapons, men's and women's foil, epee and sabre. Fencers competed in round robin pools of six or seven fencers, with those results used to seed a direct elimination table. Although the Engineers faced formidable competition, they had overwhelming success, capturing three golds, a silver, a bronze, and placed five other fencers in the final eight.

The men's sabre team turned in an outstanding performance. Brian Bower '99, Evangelos Efstathiou '00, Allen Chen '00, Phil Miller '01 and Rafael Bras '02 all advanced to the round of 16. Unfortunate seedings paired Bower against Miller and Chen against Efstathiou in that round, with Bower, Efstathiou and Bras advancing to the final. Again, seedings did not favor MIT, as Efstathiou was paired against Bras in the quarterfinals. In the semifinal round, Bower defeated Brandeis' top two fencers to earn first place, while Efstathiou finished fourth.

The first women's sabre competition in the history of the Big One was held this year. MIT's representation in the field of 24 fencers consisted of Kit Lennox '02 and Caroline Purcell '02. Lennox, having fenced for only a month, turned in an outstanding performance, placing 14th. Purcell, the 1997 US Women's National Champion, easily swept through the competition to take first place.

In women's epee Nora Szasz

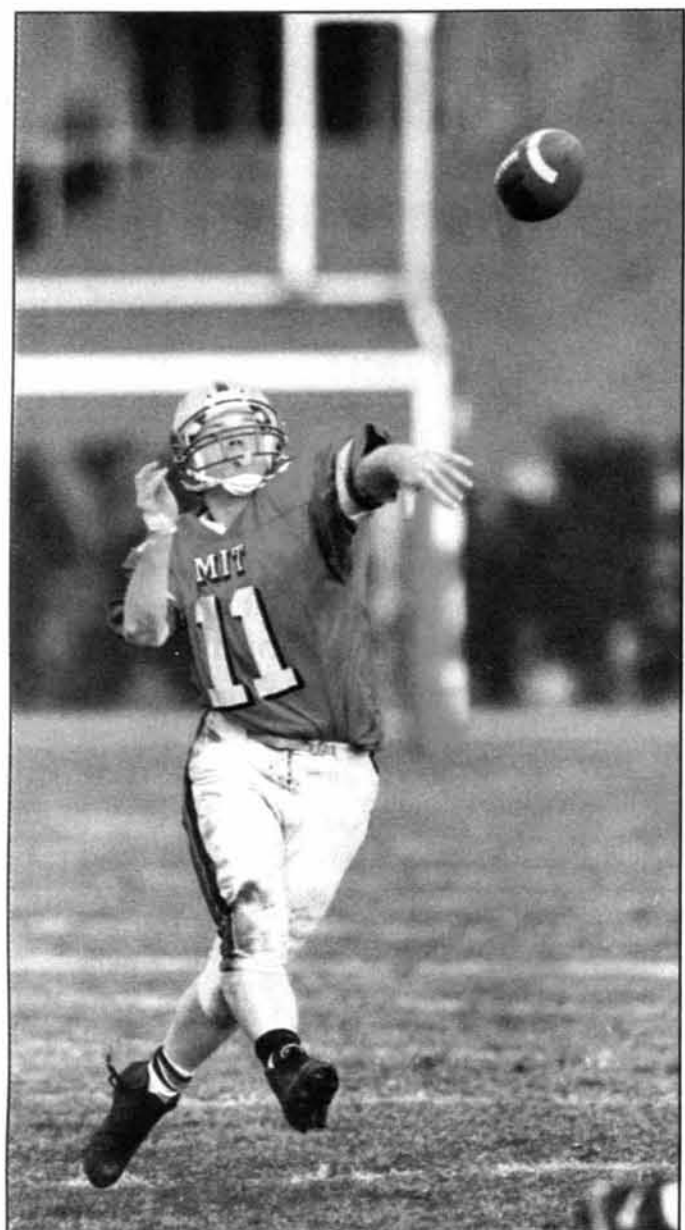
'99, defending New England Champion, ruled the day. After dropping one bout in her pool, Szasz won five successive direct elimination bouts to earn first place. Sara Perry '99 advanced to the round of 16, while Sylwia Daniszewska '01 lost in the round of 32. Amy Chou '02 and Natalie Cusano '02 were eliminated in the round of 64.

Men's foil was the most dominant squad of the day, with four members making the finals. Ali Ibrahim '01, who did not surrender a touch in the pool, Ben Vandiver '00 and Ruben Brown '99 finished sixth through eighth respectively. Newcomer Oliver Chadwick '02 advanced to the semifinals before losing to a difficult Brandeis opponent and ended up finishing third. Andre Van Horn '01, who faced teammate Chadwick in the round of 16, finished 12th.

In women's foil, team captain Aimee Wiltz '99 took second place. Oriana Hunter '99 placed 9th, while Joan Hon '01 went out in the 32 and Danielle Morse '02 and Rayka Yokoo '02 fell in the 64.

Men's epeeists Matt Duplessie '99 and Paul Thordarson '01 advanced to the round of 16, while Tom Baker '00, Curtis Wade '01 and Mike Krypel '01 all went out in the 32.

MIT competes in its first series of dual meets this Saturday, facing conference teams Tufts, Dartmouth, Bates and Brandeis.



MIODRAG CIRKOVIC—THE TECH
Scott Blackburn '99 launches the ball in Saturday's game against UMass Boston. MIT won 41-20.



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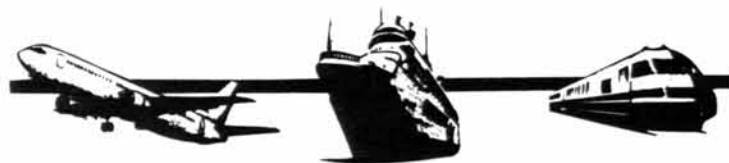
Due November 23 at 6pm in W20-401

questions? <edgarm7@mit.edu>

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

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