



# Happy Thanksgiving



MIT's  
Oldest and Largest  
Newspaper

# The Tech

Established 1881

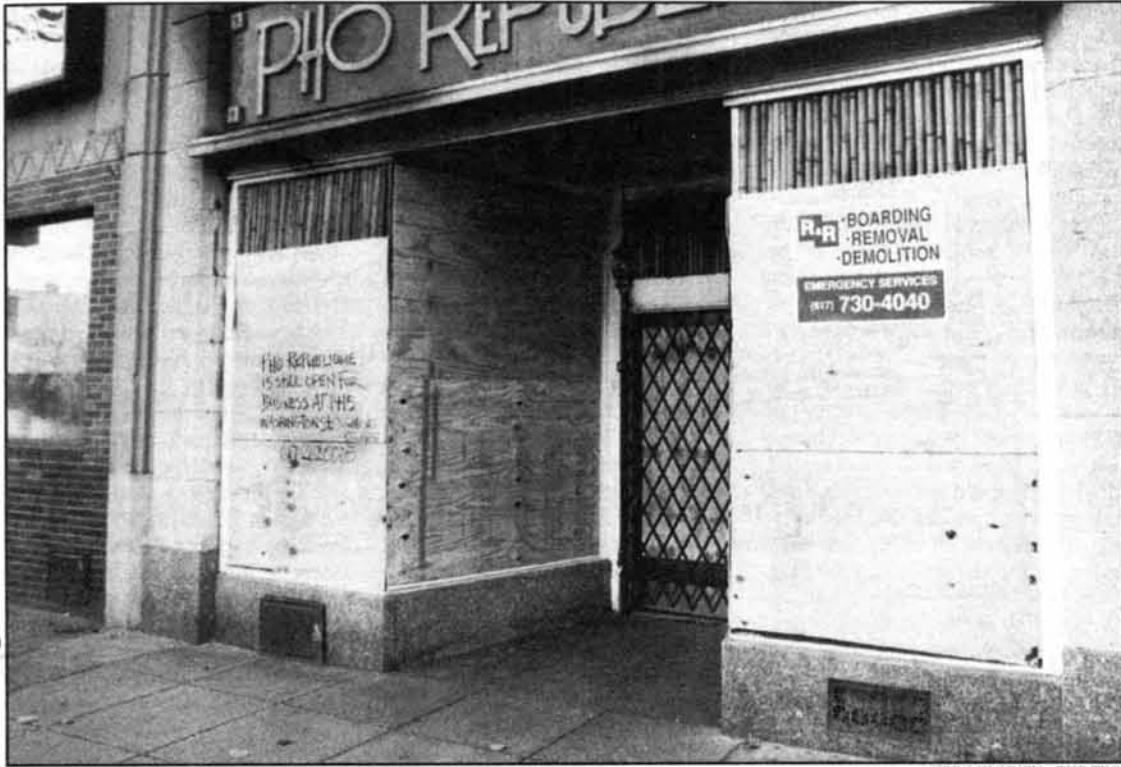
### The Weather

Today: Sunny, windy, 55°F (13°C)  
Tonight: Clear, cool, 33°F (1°C)  
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, 48°F (9°C)  
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Volume 118, Number 61

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Tuesday, November 24, 1998



A fire broke out in Pho République Sunday morning, causing damage to three neighboring restaurants.

## Central Square Fire Damages Restaurant

By Dan McGuire  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

A weekend fire gutted one Central Square restaurant and severely damaged three others. The fire began early Sunday morning at Pho République. It was spotted by workers at The Middle East, who were preparing to open for the day.

Workers saw a "thick black wall of smoke you could cut with a knife" coming from Pho République, one employee said. They immediately called the Cambridge Fire Department.

"The fire department was here in five minutes," said Joseph Sater, an employee at The Middle East. "Otherwise the whole block would be gone up."

The employees of The Middle East "saved the day," said Tom Chung, the manager of Mary Chung's. "We're lucky that they were there early in the morning to call the fire department."

A spokesman for the Cambridge Fire Department said that the cause of the fire is under investigation.

### Restaurateurs make repairs

City officials shut down all of the restaurants on the block where the fire occurred until they could be inspected. The natural gas piping also remained shut off.

Most employees and owners spent Monday surveying the dam-

age and making repairs.

Construction crews at The Middle East, which is next to Pho République, spent Monday ripping apart the ceiling and looking for additional damage. Fans pumped air through the building in an effort to remove smoke and water.

A performance slated for Monday by the band High and Mighty was also postponed. Sater said that The Middle East would open "as soon as possible... in a couple of days."

Fire damage at the other restaurants was less severe. Firefighters broke into Mary Chung's to make sure that the fire hadn't reached that restaurant. Workers there spent the day replacing ceiling tiles, patching up holes in the walls, and removing excess moisture. Tom Chung said that his goal was to reopen the restaurant by Friday.

Workers at the India Globe restaurant spent the day ventilating the restaurant to remove smoke and water. The restaurant's manager, Hardwp Badasha, said there was also some damage in the cellar. Badasha said that he hoped he would be able to reopen in a few days.

Pho République was boarded up after the fire. The owners of the store could not be contacted for comment.

## Thanksgiving Festivities Abound

By Jane Yoo

For college students across the country, out of the dark depths of the fall semester, before the onslaught of final exams, arises one last ray of hope: Thanksgiving. While many MIT students will be going home to see relatives over the break, people who remain here have a number of options for what to do during the holiday.

In McCormick Hall, housemasters Charles Stewart III and Kathryn M. Hess have held a potluck dinner for McCormick residents for the past several years. Additionally, residents who leave on Thursday are able to go to a

special Thanksgiving breakfast. In true holiday spirit, this involves eating muffins and fruit and watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade.

"We try to reproduce a traditional middle-American Thanksgiving Day, without the football," Stewart said.

Others choose to spend the holiday in the service of others.

Circle-K, a service organization on campus, was recently involved in serving Thanksgiving dinner at the site of the Cambridge and Somerville Program for Alcohol Rehabilitation. With the help of several cooks from Walker Memorial, members cooked six

turkeys and prepared stuffing, mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce for the eighty people who attended the dinner.

On Monday, the Class of 2001 sponsored an Thanksgiving inspirational speaker. This year's speaker was Stephen W. Altes '84, an aerospace engineer, humorist,

Thanksgiving, Page 13

## Roger Ebert Addresses Topic of 'Virtual Movies'

By Zareena Hussain  
NEWS EDITOR

Roger Ebert, the Pulitzer-prize-winning film critic for the *Chicago Sun-Times*, gave a talk entitled "Virtual Movies: An Oxymoron" as part of special colloquium sponsored by the Media Lab on Friday.

At times veering off the assigned topic, Ebert made remarks about everything from his thoughts about Media Lab innovations to his own theories about why we as humans surf the Internet.

Answering in part his own question about why virtual movies, just don't work, he cited HyperSoap, a Media Lab project which showcases retail merchandise in the format of a soap opera where everything is for sale. By merely pointing to a given object on the screen, the viewer learns

how much it costs.

Ebert noted that this is a great way to sell products, but it also has a major problem. "It would be really distracting if I was interested in the soap opera," he said.

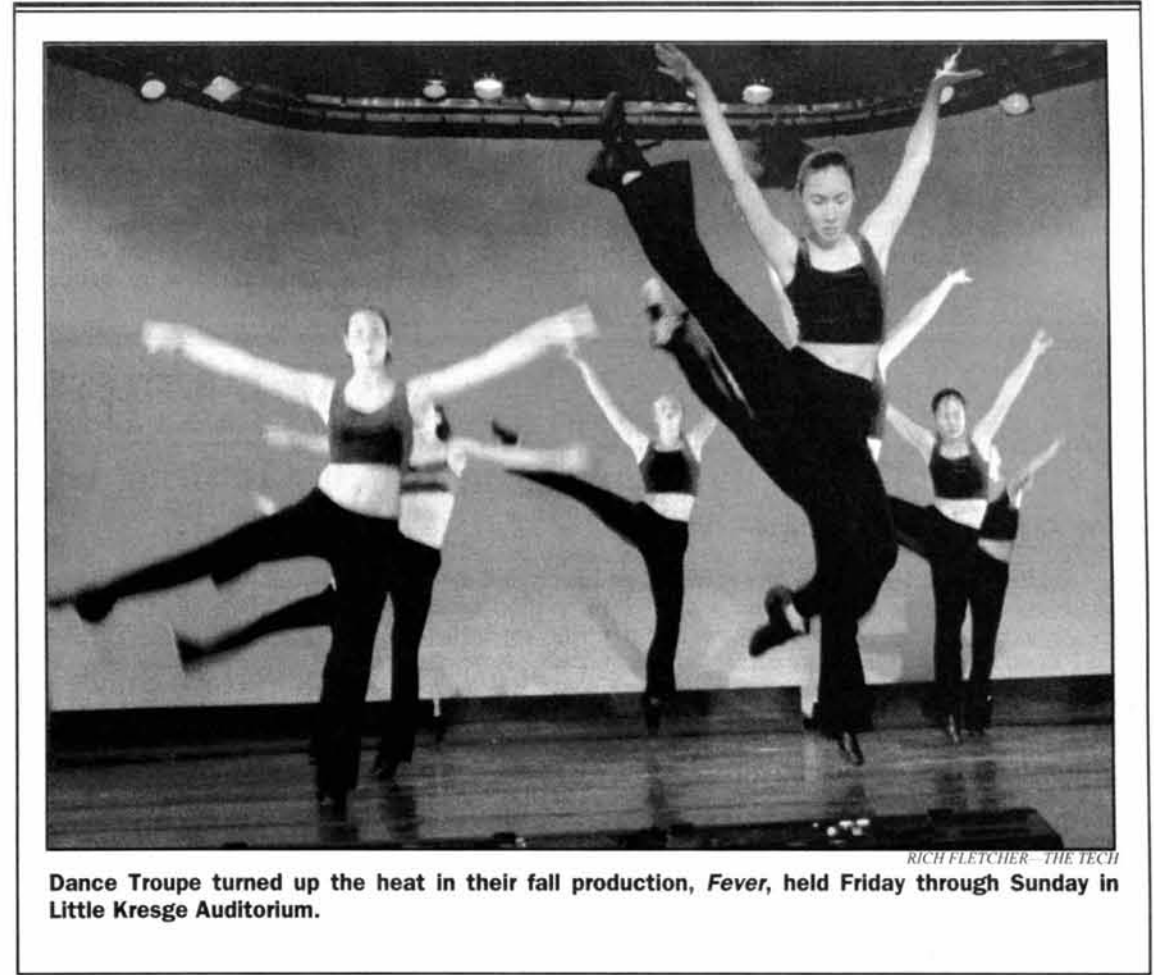
"My bias is to look at the movie and let myself be consumed by it," Ebert said.

### Ebert attacks distractions

Ebert went on to comment how the distractions of interactive media contradict what we, as audiences, want to do when we watch movies.

"When I go to the movie and I sit down, I am acutely aware of everything around me," Ebert said. I am "extremely obsessively aware of the person in front of me," he said.

Ebert, Page 7



Dance Troupe turned up the heat in their fall production, *Fever*, held Friday through Sunday in Little Kresge Auditorium.



Ribbon Campaign heightens awareness.

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Comics

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The search for two new dining contractors and a director of campus dining nears its final stage.

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# WORLD & NATION

## Mexico, Rebels Make Little Headway

LOS ANGELES TIMES

SAN CRISTÓBAL DE LAS CASAS, MEXICO

Given the insults and recriminations surrounding the first substantive meeting between Zapatistas and any Mexican authority in nearly two years, there were few hopes of a breakthrough for the rebels' weekend meeting with a congressional team.

But when the three-hour session finally occurred Sunday night, even the reduced expectation of resuming regular contact was too much.

The two sides couldn't manage to fix a date to meet again before the Zapatistas headed home from this pretty colonial city to the relative calm of their mountain and jungle hideouts.

While legislators tried to put an optimistic face on Sunday's meeting, which they said was cordial, prospects for serious negotiations have rarely seemed so remote in the nearly five years since the guerrillas staged their uprising in the southern state of Chiapas on New Year's Day 1994.

A sullen cease-fire holds, but it is punctuated by periodic skirmishes. The simmering conflict retards badly needed economic development for the dirt-poor indigenous Mayans of rural Chiapas, which was one of the demands that prompted the uprising.

## McDougal Acquitted In Case Alleging Theft

THE WASHINGTON POST

SANTA MONICA, CALIF.

Susan McDougal, the reluctant witness and enigmatic partner of the Clintons in the failed Whitewater development, was acquitted Monday of unrelated charges that she fleeced famed musical conductor Zubin Mehta and his wife, Nancy, of \$50,000 in a credit card and check fraud scheme.

As McDougal beamed a broad smile and her eyes brimmed with tears of relief, the jury pronounced her not guilty of nine counts of grand theft, forgery and failure to file state income tax returns. The verdicts ended a 10-week trial that shed as much light on the wild shopping sprees and exorbitant spending of Los Angeles' rich and famous as on McDougal's sloppy accounting practices when she worked as a bookkeeper for the Mehtas. McDougal still faces criminal contempt charges for refusing to answer questions about the Clintons before the Whitewater grand jury.

## Deutsche Bank in End Stages Of \$9 Billion Takeover

LOS ANGELES TIMES

BERLIN

Deutsche Bank confirmed Monday it is in the "advanced stages" of negotiating a nearly \$9 billion takeover of Bankers Trust Corp. of New York, a move many analysts see as helping the big German bank compete for a larger piece of Europe's burgeoning merger activity.

The combined company, which would have assets of about \$850 billion, would jump to the top of the list of the world's biggest banks based on assets.

Bankers Trust shares soared \$7 to \$84.25 on the New York Stock Exchange, still well below the \$93 per share offer confirmed by Deutsche Bank. The German giant's shares ended up 2.4 percent Monday in European trading, which was completed before the rumored talks were confirmed.

While some banking analysts balked at the \$93 per share price for the troubled, eighth-largest U.S. bank — about \$9.2 billion in cash — most see the acquisition of Bankers Trust as offering it much needed expertise in investment banking.

# U.S. Will Not Suggest Force To Deal With Iraqi Defiance

By John M. Goshko

THE WASHINGTON POST

UNITED NATIONS

The United States will not respond with force to Iraq's latest defiance of U.N. weapons inspectors but will assess Baghdad's overall record of cooperation in the coming days before deciding whether to revive the threat of air strikes, U.S. diplomatic sources said Monday.

The sources said the strategy had been decided upon by the Clinton administration in the wake of Iraq's refusal on Friday to turn over documents about its biological, chemical and missile programs requested by the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM), which is charged with eliminating prohibited Iraqi weapons systems.

Baghdad's action came less than a week after President Clinton put on hold the use of force in exchange for Iraqi assurances of renewed cooperation with UNSCOM. But the president warned that the threat of airstrikes could be brought back into play if Iraq fails to comply fully with U.N. Security Council resolutions calling for its disarmament.

"We are not going to get bogged down at this time in a dispute about these documents," one U.S. source

said. "We want to see first what UNSCOM gets from Iraq in the way of cooperation. We're not sure how long we might wait, as there is a fine line to be walked in putting up with Iraqi challenges. But we think that for the time being forbearance is the wiser course."

In Washington, Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright hinted at this course in less explicit terms. Asked by reporters how much time the United States would give Iraq, she said it is "not a matter of a deadline.... It's a matter of coming forward with what is necessary to show they are cooperating."

Defense Secretary William S. Cohen noted that the United States has enough planes and missiles massed in the Persian Gulf region to strike Iraq at any time. He said that Iraq's willingness to hand over the documents sought by UNSCOM would be an important factor in ensuring Iraqi disarmament.

But, Cohen added, "I think a lot of questions have to be asked and answered before there can be any resolution as to whether or not they are — quote — cooperating.... I think that we have to look at the full spectrum of their level of cooperation."

These comments, and the more detailed background remarks of other officials, sounded similar to the approach taken by Washington in August when President Saddam Hussein's government triggered the most recent confrontation with the United Nations by suspending most of its cooperation with UNSCOM.

Unlike earlier incidents when the United States instantly threatened military retaliation, Washington on that occasion refused to discuss airstrikes. It was not until Oct. 30, when Iraq escalated the confrontation by severing its last links with UNSCOM, that Clinton dusted off the threat of force and ordered a U.S. military buildup in the gulf.

Some officials acknowledged that the mixed signals sent by the U.S. response in August had raised questions about the administration's resolve. But, as one source put it Monday, "It also paid off in terms of convincing other countries that we weren't rushing to bomb Iraq injudiciously, and when we were ready to move, that gave us a lot more backing internationally than we had earlier."

In the meantime, Iraq showed no signs of backing down from its refusal to produce the documents.

# Impeachment Vote Nears As Panel Holds Second Hearing

By Guy Gugliotta and Juliet Eilperin

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The House Judiciary Committee announced Monday it will hold its second public hearing on whether President Clinton should be impeached, publicly debating "the consequences of perjury," as panel investigators took closed-door testimony Monday from the attorney for former White House volunteer Kathleen E. Willey.

The Dec. 1 hearing, committee sources said, is likely to feature testimony from federal judges, individuals convicted of perjury and military personnel who would talk about the impact to morale of lying under oath. A witness list, however, has not yet been prepared.

The hearing would leave independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr as the only public witness to discuss the facts in the Judiciary impeachment inquiry of Clinton. Some committee Republicans have said they expect to vote the week of Dec. 7 on approving at least one article of impeachment against the president for perjury in his grand jury testimony in the Monica S. Lewinsky affair.

The White House has been alert to any possible deal to avert an impeachment vote in the House and has heard what some officials described as encouraging signs from third parties in contact with House Speaker-designate Bob Livingston, R-La. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, a former House Democrat, has been sounding out colleagues to see where things stand.

But White House and congressional officials said impeachment received only passing mention during a courtesy call by new White House Chief of Staff John D. Podesta to Livingston at the Capitol Monday. That session came as the Judiciary Committee took its first of four closed-door depositions in the inquiry, from attorney Daniel Gecker.

Committee sources said the Gecker testimony addressed possible efforts by the Clinton administration to influence Willey, who has accused Clinton of groping her in the Oval Office suite in 1993. Although Starr did not include the Willey allegations in his report of possible impeachable offenses, several GOP committee members have suggested that it may help establish a "pattern of behavior" by the president.

## WEATHER

### Thanksgiving Holiday To Bring Light Rain over Northeast

By Bill Ramstrom and Greg Lawson

STAFF METEOROLOGISTS

A ridge of high pressure over the center of the country will move westward and weaken as it is squeezed by the two lows to either side of it. Upstream from the ridge, to its west, there is a very deep surface low; downstream there is another sizable low, responsible for the winds and the current cooling trend here. The downstream low is going to give way to the high center here on the east coast this afternoon bringing us slightly cooler temperatures and clearer skies. The high will linger as it weakens until finally on Thanksgiving it gives way to the upstream low.

The upstream low is currently carrying a good deal of moisture from its arrival over the Pacific, but most will be "wrung-out" as it attempts to pass over the Rockies. What does make it over will remain a small, coherent, relatively dry storm and track across the U.S.-Canada border towards the Great Lakes in the classical "Alberta Clipper" fashion. That is it will remain quite strong in its pressure signal yet offer no real threat in precipitation because its moisture will already have been drained and it will be too far north to feed off the moisture of the Gulf of Mexico. Still, all told, the northeast will still probably have light rain on Thanksgiving thanks to this storm. This low will be followed by yet another high and then another low. Luckily, these waves will be in phase so that most of the country will have mostly clear skies on Wednesday, the busiest travel day of the year.

**Tuesday:** Strong wind shifting from southwesterly to northwesterly. Mostly sunny skies. High 55°F (13°C).

**Tuesday Night:** Cool and clear. Low near freezing.

**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny. Winds weakening. High 48°F (9°C).

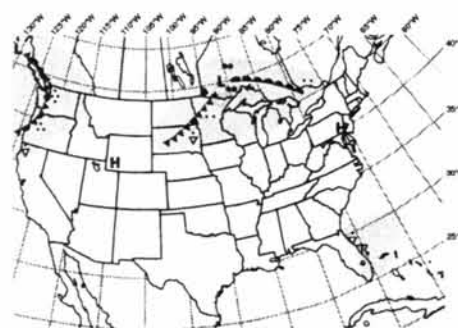
**Thanksgiving Outlook:** Light rain likely. High in the upper 40s (7-9°C).

#### Travel Forecast (weather/high/low)

CITY	Wednesday	Thursday
Atlanta	SCT 70/50	SCT 58/39
Chicago	SCT 56/41	CLR 46/35
Cranberry Lake, WA (near Seattle)	R 50/43	R 50/44
Denver	CLR 58/32	CLR 75/35
Los Angeles	CLR 72/53	CLR 73/51
Miami	TRW 82/72	RW 81/71
New York, NY	SCT 52/40	RW 54/42
Potato Creek, SD	SCT 60/28	CLR 58/27
Raleigh-Durham	SCT 66/48	RW 62/47
San Francisco	SCT 58/47	SCT 59/47
St. Louis, MO	CLR 55/40	CLR 60/37
Turkey, TX (near Amarillo)	SCT 73/42	SCT 75/38
Washington, DC	SCT 60/48	RW 53/42

**Code:** CLR: clear, OVC: overcast, R: rain, S: snow, SCT: scattered clouds/partly cloudy, SW: snow showers, RW: rain showers, TRW: thundershowers

#### Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Wednesday, November 25, 1998



Weather System	Weather Front	Precipitation Symbols	CG
H High Pressure	— Cold Front	☀ Sun	☀
L Low Pressure	- - - Warm Front	☁ Partly Cloudy	☁
R Rain	▲ Cold Front	☂ Rain	☂
		☃ Snow	☃
		☂☃ Mixed	☂☃

# Israel Seeks Added \$1.2 Billion To Pay for West Bank Pullout

By Barton Gellman  
THE WASHINGTON POST

Israel is asking the Clinton administration for close to \$1.2 billion in new foreign aid to pay the costs of moving troops and installations in the West Bank under an accord negotiated with the Palestinians last month, according to officials from both countries.

Raised formally Sunday during a visit to Washington by Finance Minister Yaakov Ne'eman, the Israel request comes at a time when the Jewish state's \$3 billion in annual U.S. aid is being phased down by \$60 million a year. It would be the first substantial infusion of American cash to pay for an Israeli-Palestinian agreement.

The U.S. government agreed during last month's Wye River summit to make a major contribution toward Israel's cost of relinquishing some 13 percent of the West Bank.

It has not committed to a specific figure. Administration officials said the government is positively disposed toward the Israeli request and has begun to sound out Congress on support for a supplemental appropriation.

Also expected in the supplemental request is an economic development package for the Palestinians, which two officials estimated would be worth \$400 million. Washington is hosting an international donors conference for the Palestinians beginning next Monday.

Administration officials emphasized that they have not finished reviewing the funding proposals and have no final figures. State Department spokesman James P. Rubin acknowledged Sunday's meeting between Ne'eman and Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat. The meeting included Assistant Secretary of State Martin

Indyk on the American side and Ilan Biran, the defense ministry's director-general, on the Israeli side.

"We indicated our intention to initiate consultations with Congress on an enhanced — that is bigger — U.S. economic package in support to the Palestinians to bolster Palestinian economic development and to strengthen the prospects for successful implementation of the Wye agreement," Rubin said. "With respect to the figures being thrown out there, I'm not able to confirm any figures at this point."

Rubin declined to say whether Washington would allow U.S. funds to be spent for construction of special roads for Jewish settlers on the West Bank.

Under previous interim accords, Israel has withdrawn from 27 percent of the West Bank and more than two-thirds of the Gaza Strip without special U.S. assistance.

# Railworkers Across Europe Hold Strike Against End of Monopolies

By John-Thor Dahlburg  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

PARIS

Railroad workers, alarmed at plans for deregulation of their industry staged the closest thing yet to a "Eurostrike" on Monday, stopping work or carrying out protests in half a dozen European Union member states.

Traffic jams up to 25 miles long were reported at morning rush hour on the roads around Brussels, Belgium, where all trains ground to a halt. In Paris, where the strike hit regional rail service especially hard, grumbling commuters also were forced to pile into cars or pack into the underground Metro, which was unaffected.

The spark for the coordinated one-day labor action was a proposal from the European Union's execu-

tive to allow competition for 25 percent of the rail freight market over the next 10 years.

Union leaders are wary because liberalization has led to big job cuts in many of Western Europe's former state-owned telecommunications or airline companies. They insist on safeguarding the national monopoly status enjoyed by most countries' railroads.

"We have the example of the United Kingdom, where liberalization and privatization resulted in the loss of one-third of the jobs at British Railways," said Sabine Trier, spokeswoman for the Brussels-based European Federation of Transport Workers.

"The other fear is that with competition, with new entrants, the pressures of competition will lead to a deterioration of social standards,

that working conditions will be diminished."

In Greece, trains halted at midnight Sunday, and traffic wasn't expected to resume until 24 hours later. In Belgium, the one-day strike began Sunday night.

In France, an average of one train in three was running Monday, the French national railways said. Only eastern lines and the Eurostar, which links Paris and London, were functioning normally.

Spain's conservative government of Jose Maria Aznar insisted minimum service be assured, and some trains ran on regional and national lines. The timetable of the country's only high-speed rail line, between Madrid and Seville, was unaffected.

In Luxembourg and Portugal, rail workers decided on a two-hour job stoppage.

# White House, Germany at Odds Over 'First-Strike' Use

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

In its first public split with the new government of Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, the Clinton administration on Monday rebuffed a German proposal to have NATO repudiate "first-strike" use of nuclear force.

As German Defense Minister Rudolf Scharping began a round of high-level talks here, U.S. officials asserted that retaining the option of being the first to launch a nuclear strike would provide the same deterrent value it had during the decades of the Cold War.

"It is something that is integral to the NATO strategic doctrine," said U.S. Defense Secretary William S. Cohen.

German officials have been hinting that they will press for a change in the doctrine. In an interview published over the weekend by the German magazine Der Spiegel, German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer said Germany wants to take up the issue with NATO "because we see things differently."

These public assertions are alarming American officials, who have come to expect smooth relations with their biggest NATO ally and who have been assured that the new government would continue most national security policies of its predecessors.

Some U.S. officials said they are uncertain whether Germany is trying to mollify some of the more pacifist elements of the governing coalition — Fischer is a member of the Green Party — or whether the issue signals a more fundamental change in German attitudes about the conduct of the 16-nation alliance.

"I can't tell whether this is a gesture or something more important," said one U.S. official, adding, "It is a concern."

# Georgia Supreme Court Strikes Down Law Against Sodomy

THE BALTIMORE SUN

WASHINGTON

Bolstering a multistate campaign to end criminal prosecution of private sex acts between homosexuals, the Georgia Supreme Court struck down that state's law against sodomy Monday.

The Georgia court became the seventh state tribunal in recent years to nullify or severely weaken state laws that are designed mainly to outlaw gay and lesbian sex.

Among gay rights issues being fought out in courts and legislatures, the challenges to sodomy laws have most often succeeded, even as efforts to overturn restrictions on gays in the military and on same-sex marriages have failed.

The Georgia ruling is one of the most important of the recent decisions for symbolic reasons: The state court struck down the same sodomy law that the U.S. Supreme Court had upheld under the federal Constitution 12 years ago.

The Georgia ruling appears to enhance the prospects that state guarantees of privacy will provide the basis for other states' courts to nullify sodomy bans.

The court challenges have been matched in success by efforts in state legislatures to repeal such laws. The latest repeal, in Rhode Island this year, brought to 26 the number of states to eliminate sodomy laws by legislative action.



## Graduate Student Council

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## 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 [www.mit.edu/activities/gsc](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](mailto:lef@mit).



## Calendar

### ► NOVEMBER

- 24 - Activities committee meeting 6 PM, 50-220
- 30 - Application deadline for cross-departmental socials
- 30 - Large event funding applications dues
- Funding Board meeting \*

### ► DECEMBER

- 01 - Muddy Charles meeting 5:30 PM, Muddy
- 02 - General Council Meeting \*
- 04 - Nutcracker Performance, 7:30 PM, Wang

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

## NAGPS Awards for MIT GSC

The GSC is proud to announce that we won two awards from the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students for 1997-1998.

Program Award: GSC Externship Program  
President's Award: Sanith Wijesinghe

# OPINION

## Letters To The Editor



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## China's Belligerence Toward Taiwan

As members of the Taiwanese-American community at MIT, we are deeply disturbed by Chinese President Jiang Zemin's hostile attitude toward Taiwan ["Chinese Leader Zemin Protests U.S. Stand on Taiwan and Tibet," November 17].

Despite never having had sovereignty over Taiwan for one single day, the Chinese government at Beijing is still holding on to the false claim that Taiwan is a province of China and has repeatedly threatened to overtake Taiwan by force. In March of 1996, as the people of Taiwan held their first-ever democratic presidential election, China launched ballistic Scud-type missiles at two areas just off the coast of Taiwan, one 30 miles to the southwest, and the other only 12 miles to the northeast. The missile threats were designed to intimidate Taiwan's voters and disrupt

Taiwan's trade and economy.

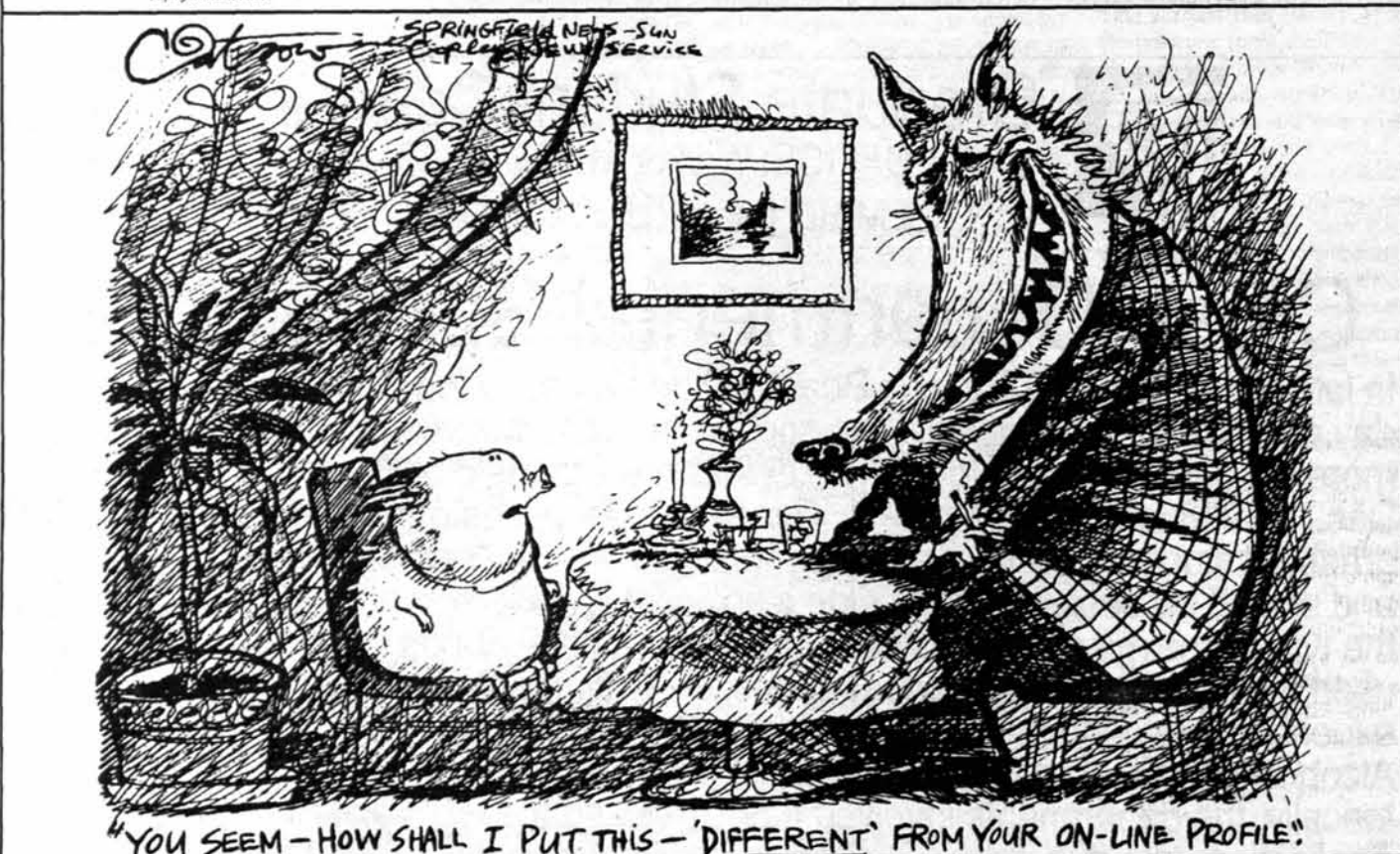
Being a nation with the 19th largest gross national product in the world, Taiwan has a strong and vibrant economy and is the seventh largest trading partner of the United States. It has also demonstrated significant progress in its political transformation from a one-party government to a multi-party democracy.

In light of Taiwan's economic importance and its strives toward democracy, the United States has long demonstrated its commitment to the security of Taiwan. As stated in the Taiwan Relations Act, "It is the policy of the United States to make clear that the United States decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China rests upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means." The United States also "considers any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of

grave concern to the United States." China's threat of using military force against the people of Taiwan places the peace and stability of the entire region at risk.

Let us also not forget that China's brutal suppression of the student protesters in Tiananmen Square in 1989 and its systematic neglect for human rights have provoked the outrage of the international community. While Taiwan's peaceful transformation into a free and democratic society is not free of growing pains, it can serve as a powerful model and catalyst for the democratic transformation in China. The leaders of the Chinese government should be reminded that an invasion of its democratic neighbor, Taiwan, would wreck relations with capitalist Asia and the West, far more than the killing of the pro-democracy demonstrations in 1989 ever did.

Tony J. Chen G  
Michael I. Li G  
Yu-Feng Wei G  
Philip C. Huang '99



## Opinion Policy

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

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

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

**Letters to the editor** are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and may be sent to [letters@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:letters@the-tech.mit.edu). Hard copy submissions may be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

**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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# The Limitations of Orange Ribbons

Poorly Designed Campaign Takes Wrong Approach for Effecting Change

Eric J. Plosky

As Whoopi Goldberg joked when she hosted the Academy Awards a few years ago, there's a colored ribbon for every issue under the sun. Now, proving that even MIT is susceptible to popular cultural trends, a new campus group known as the Orange Ribbon Campaign has sprung up, handing out printed cards and ribbons — orange ones — to communicate its protest message.

What message? At first glance, the Orange Ribbon Campaign apparently exists to protest President Charles M. Vest's decision to house all freshmen on campus beginning in 2001. If one actually reads their information card, though, one learns that the orange ribbon in fact "stands for our anger at administrative condescension toward MIT's students," and also "for our belief that the administration must stop taking its lead from the press" — a clear reference to the recent flurry of MIT plans induced by last year's tragic death of Scott S. Krueger '01.

It is refreshing to see some form of student protest taking place on campus; it certainly marks a change from the usual, frustrating apathy. But the organizers of the Orange Ribbon Campaign, while displaying admirable initiative and determination, clearly do not understand the current planning situation on campus. Though a fine idea in theory, their protest movement is shortsighted, counterproductive, and ill-advised. However, by addressing three main problem areas, the Orange Ribbon Campaign may be able to overcome its own ineffectiveness, and may actually be able to influence future planning.

First, it is important to remember the cause of the administration's unusual activity over the past year — the Krueger tragedy. In response to the resultant political frenzy, MIT has hurried forward with an assortment of short-term plans, including a controversial new dormitory. It does not matter that many of those plans are, at best, hasty — the surrounding political situation required an emergency response on MIT's part. The Orange Ribbon Campaign would have us believe that MIT could simply ignore the political necessity of an immediate crisis response — "the

administration must stop taking its lead from the press." In actuality, there is no way the administration would or could have ignored the media pressure resulting from the Krueger incident. To have done so would have meant severe, immediate consequences for MIT; for one, the Institute would have acquired an unshakable public stigma that would have greatly hampered both its teaching and research. Even in spite of the administration's attempts to fend this off, some argue that MIT has indeed been stigmatized.

The Orange Ribbon Campaign believes that MIT's teaching and research are in even greater danger if the administration continues to cater its plans to the media. Over the long term, argue campaigners, continued crisis planning by the administration will lead to the "homogenization" of MIT and the destruction of its "unique identity." I am no fan of crisis planning; I consider myself quick to criticize inferior or ill-thought-out plans. But it is foolish to deny the need for crisis planning in certain situations, such as the Krueger incident, that require a quick response. Instead, planners and protesters alike should work to ensure that crisis-based short-term planning does not replace level-headed long-term planning.

The second problem with the Orange Ribbon Campaign is its antagonistic, belligerent stance toward the administration. Adopting such a position may help add to the group's membership; apathetic students are often attracted to loud, militant protest groups. But creating antagonism is a poor strategy overall; it lessens credibility, leaves little maneuvering room, and makes cooperation and meaningful participation difficult. Rather than foster defiance and contempt, the Orange Ribbon Campaign would do better to establish a productive dialogue with the administration.

Because of ongoing media scrutiny, MIT is anxious to avoid continued student unrest. The Orange Ribbon Campaign can use this fact to its advantage by identifying issues on which the administration is willing to compromise. It is pointless to seek negotiations on issues that have already been decided, such as the 2001 freshman housing resolution. But if the Orange Ribbon group, or any other protest

group, can stomach throwing its support to the administration on freshman housing, they may just find administrators willing to bend on some of the matters yet to be decided, such as dorm rush, substance-free housing, and the configuration of the new dormitory. A conflict-seeking protest group, a simple "Anti-X Campaign," is seldom as effective as a clever group that picks its battles wisely and compromises intelligently.

Finally, whatever the Orange Ribbon Campaign's message, it is largely being lost in the current cacophony of opinions, arguments and counter-arguments. I have previously written that the most serious problem with current planning is the lack of clear communication between the administration, student groups, and the student body; I have also provided a set of recommendations in order to achieve clearer communication. Yet the organizers of the Orange Ribbon Campaign seem not to have taken my suggestions. Instead of seeking solidarity among students in order to form one loud chorus of protest, the Orange Ribbon people are simply adding another dissonant voice to the fray, making other groups, as well as themselves, even more difficult to hear. In order to get anything done at all, students would do well to remember that union is far more important than recognition — otherwise the administration won't hear and won't respond (but will still claim to care).

If the Orange Ribbon Campaign really wants to eliminate "administrative condescension toward students," protesters have to work with the administration, not against it. Campaigners must accept the necessity of short-term crisis planning in Krueger-like situations, but should rail against continued crisis planning over the long run. They should pick their battles wisely and compromise strategically, avoiding issues that have been closed. And most importantly, protesters should recognize the necessity of clear communication — if nobody can hear or understand, nothing will happen. The Orange Ribbon Campaign hasn't quite realized all of this yet, but if it reconsiders its platform and attitude, students may finally have the means at their disposal to meaningfully influence MIT planning.

# Gore's Mistakes in Malaysia

Elaine Y. Wan

President Clinton may be successful in convincing our nation that he is still a leader with morals and ethics, but Vice President Al Gore's speech at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit last week brings into question the morality of our nation's political and economic motives in the Pacific.

The sixth APEC summit was held in Malaysia in an attempt to discuss the Pacific region's economic crises which have severely affected Indonesia, South Korea, Thailand and the Philippines, and the adoption of reforms recommended by the International Monetary Fund. The conference called for a \$10 billion aid package funded by America, Japan, and the World Bank to race emergency loans to the hard-hit countries.

In conjunction with this proposal of aid, Gore delivered a speech blatantly rebuking his host country's suppression of democracy while praising Malaysians who have rallied against the government. While Gore fervidly elaborated that democracies cope better with economic crises, encouraging protesters cheering in the background, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammed and his top officials listened to his speech with disgust.

If you were invited to a potluck Thanksgiving dinner, would you complain that the turkey you brought was scrumptious but that the other ethnic dishes did not appeal to your tastebuds? If we represent a civilized society with political toleration, then this is one of the instances which we will look back on with a few doubts.

The purpose of the summit was to allow the leaders of the Pacific Rim and the United States to suggest measures and financial strategies to revive economic growth and stabilize currency and stock markets which have influenced international trade in Japan and Western nations. Gore should have stuck to his agenda of reviving the Asian economy instead of creating more instability by bluntly commenting on the current political issues in Malaysia. Our role in APEC is to provide financial help and suggest strategic options. Gore's view could have been stated more diplomatically at a more economically stable period. President Clinton was too overwhelmed by the Iraqi affair to attend the meeting but said Gore's view reflected his own.

Four days after Gore's encouragement, anti-government activists moved into Malaysia's capital, Kuala Lumpur, demanding the Prime Minister's resignation and the reinstatement of former Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, who had been incarcerated for abuse of office and illegal sodomy. Police were called to the site and forced to spray the adamant protesters with diluted irritating chemicals.

In September, Mahathir criticized Asia's financial weakness as linked to international currency and banned the trading of the national currency outside the country in an attempt to pull foreign investments out of Malaysia. Mahathir's actions severely heightened tensions between Malaysia and the United States and may have served as one of the underlying incentives of Gore's speech.

This is not the first time the United States has used its economic influence to invoke change in other countries' political directions. After all, it is our supposed political objective to spread democracy to all corners of the globe.

Last June, President Clinton denounced China's use of force in the 1989 Tiananmen massacre. He also discussed democracy in a manner that was not agreeable with the government leaders of China but ended the trip praising President Jiang Zemin's leadership and envisioning China's switch to democracy. China is strategically more important than Malaysia since it is bigger and is a major player in the international market, so the United States unveiled the debate on Tiananmen Square in such a way that China wouldn't lose face. Apparently, all men are created equal but not all countries are treated with the same respect, especially if you are a small Pacific nation that closed out its ports to American ships.

The IMF has provided nearly \$120 billion to the hard-hit countries to help bolster their feeble economies, but in return the nations have followed measures that have sent interest rates soaring and unemployment rising. The 21 leaders present at APEC left the summit with some hovering skepticism and Malaysia was left to deal with enhanced civil strife.

# Speaker Finneran's Fumble

Andrew J. Kim

The New England Patriots and the state of Connecticut signed a deal this past Thursday to move the Patriots a few hours south to Hartford in time for the 2001 NFL season. Boston joins an ever-growing list of cities that have lost beloved sports teams. Simply put, it's a crying shame for the proud folks of Beantown.

Let me start by saying that I'm not a native Bostonian, and therefore I'd have a hard time conjuring up fond memories of growing up watching the Patriots play every season. Nonetheless, I do have a home NFL team that

I grew up watching, and it's hard for me to even imagine the angst of the people back home (including me) if the team suddenly decided to move to the state next door. Although the Patriots only have one foot out of the door right now, hardcore Patriots fans must face the reality that their beloved team only has two seasons and the remainder of this one left before the Patriots become someone else's team.

People in Connecticut are probably going to make the argument that they are just as entitled to have the New England Patriots as anyone else in the region. In reality, Bob Kraft, the owner of the team, is the first Patriots owner to forge a solid link between the team and the great city of Boston.

Since I've been in this area, it's always

been the Boston Patriots if you ask me. People around here get pumped for every game, and the local sports bars that I walk past when there's a game are always packed. The local media obsesses about the team; take a peek at *The Boston Globe* on a Monday and the entire sports section is devoted to the Patriots. The few times I've listened to sports radio shows around here, caller after caller has griped about Bledsoe this, Parcells that.

The interesting question about the whole situation is what made Bob Kraft want to move his team away from a loyal, loving city? One might think that Connecticut must have enticed the Patriots with an offer they couldn't refuse.

\$20 million to build and own an NFL entertainment center, and another \$5 million for a downtown health center open to the public. In return, Connecticut would build a \$265 million 68,000-seat open-air stadium with premium seats and luxury boxes, the hottest feature in new stadiums. In addition, the state would put in \$90 million for infrastructure, parking, and transportation improvements around the stadium and Adriaen's Landing.

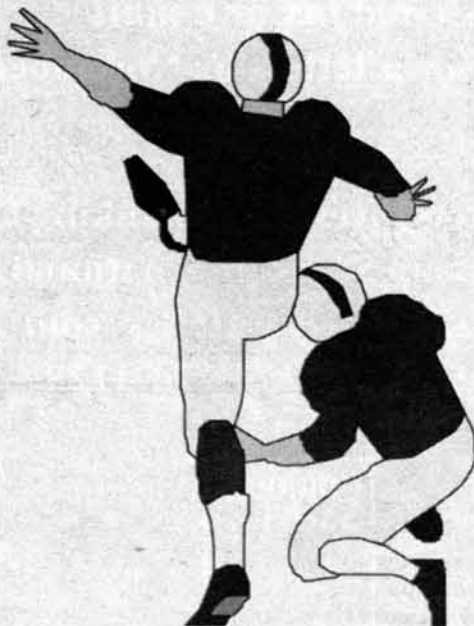
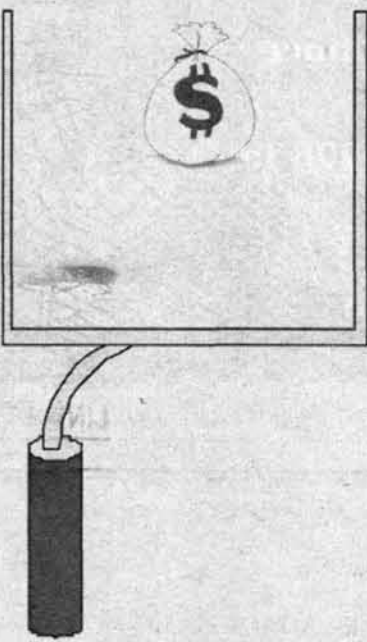
As enticing as the deal looks, the real reason Kraft is moving the team is because he simply has to. Foxboro Stadium, home of the Patriots, is substandard to the point that it is reputed as the worst stadium in the entire NFL. Kraft was looking for local support to

keep the team in the Boston area and build a new stadium to which he was willing to put in \$225 million.

All he requested from Massachusetts was subsidized infrastructure for the stadium. This proposal was more than reasonable, and the state Senate approved such a deal. Senate President Thomas Birmingham, D-Chelsea, says that he was surprised Kraft went for the deal considering it was very unfavorable compared to other deals cut by owners and cities across the nation.

The green light suddenly turned red when the plan reached the state House of Representatives. Speaker of the House Thomas Finneran, D-Mattapan, who has reportedly called

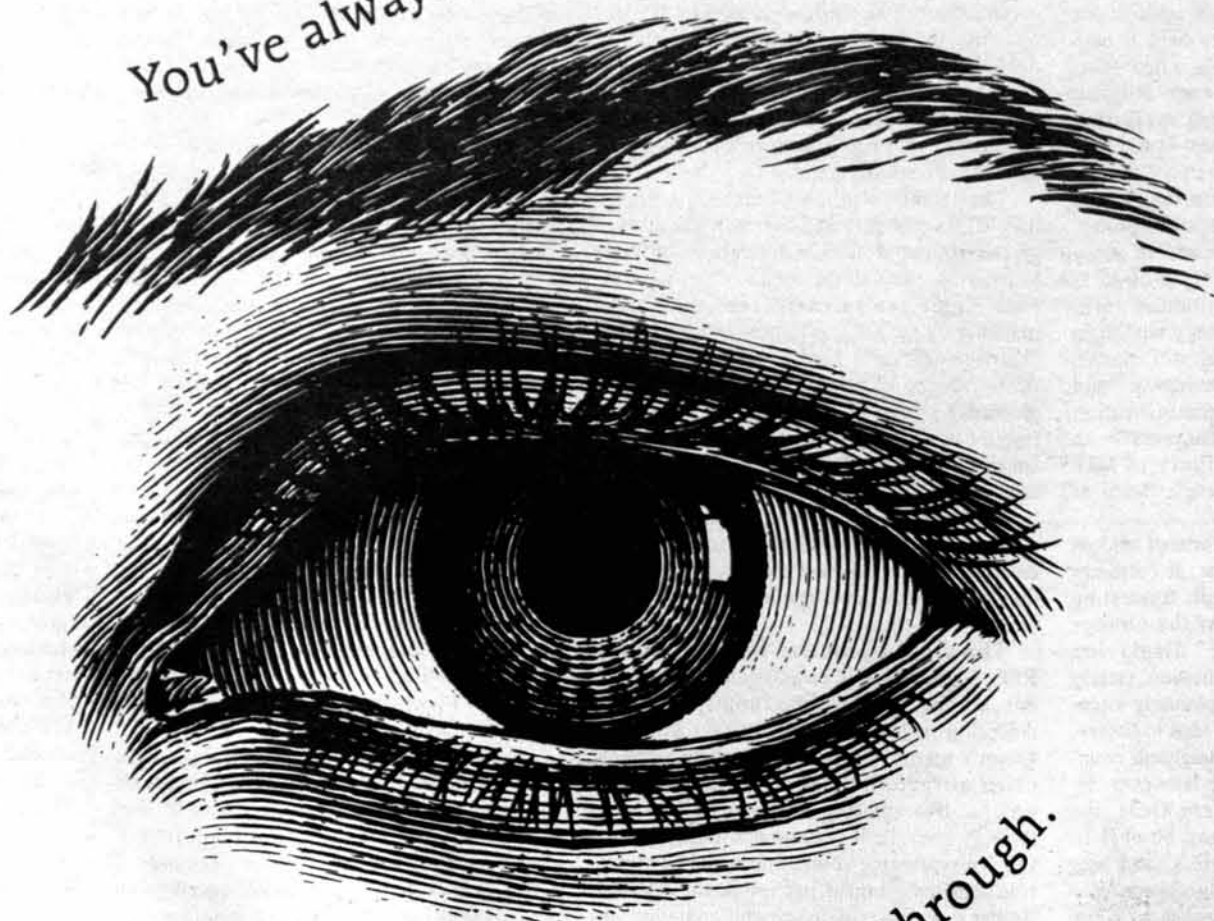
Bob Kraft a "whiny millionaire," didn't like the plan and single-handedly defeated it in the House that he controls. With this kind of warm reception from the folks back home, no wonder Bob Kraft decided to move his team. Basically, Finneran's unwelcoming words and actions chased the Patriots right out of the state.



The deal admittedly is nice; Connecticut featured a bipartisan deal including a Republican governor and a Democratic Speaker of the House that would revitalize an area in downtown Hartford to be known as Adriaen's Landing. The deal calls for Kraft to pay \$50 million to own and operate a new hotel adjoining a planned convention center,

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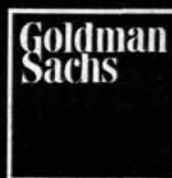
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# Ebert Says Devices Mirror Human Nature

Ebert, from Page 1

"Where did they get that haircut, that hat, that head?"

But once the movie comes on, the distractions disappear, "and the movie starts and I forget everything around me because I want to have a vicarious experience," he said.

"We are trying to go back into that very receptive right-brain state," Ebert said, to feel "that we are actually in Montana, in outer-space, that we are Harrison Ford, or Cameron Diaz."

But interactive media can take away from that vicarious experience. He cited a screening he went to of the first interactive movie. Audiences were able to pick and choose outcomes. At periodic intervals, viewers could decide the choices made by the protagonist. For instance, the audience could decide, "should he jump off the cliff, turn around and shoot, or surrender?"

"In the end everyone voted for the most violent choice," Ebert said. "It was just awful. Audience members felt dissatisfied, because they wanted to see all the other choices."

And for the same reason that interactive movies bombed, so to would other attempts at hypermedia, Ebert said.

## Technology reveals human nature

Beyond these attempts at innovation, high technology reveals some very basic patterns of human behavior, Ebert said.

Male domination of the TV remote control reveals natural hunting tendencies, Ebert said. By channel surfing, "the guy is killing more channels," he said.

Ebert even shared with the audience his own experiences World Wide Web surfing. "I surf that I may surf," he said.

"I am not really looking for anything. I am looking for the next thing, but only to find the next thing. We are enjoying the hunt, the mobility," Ebert said.

In the process, the instant gratification that computers and the Web offer provide a source of extreme bliss, Ebert said.

For evidence, Ebert simply points to the changed character of the city news desk with the advent of computers. "The city desk used to be a maelstrom of activity. Now, it's a bunch of data entry clerks."

Ebert went on to conjecture about how the computer is changing the way we act.

"Why do dogs always fall for the 'I'm pretending to throw a ball' trick? Because they've been programmed to fall for it," Ebert said. "I think computers are programming us."

"The computer acknowledges us. It rewards us. It trains us. It feeds us. It shelters us. It entertains us. And like a dog, it waits for us to come home," Ebert said.

Ebert even commented on how the proliferation of for-profit online pornography is further evidence that it is the search and not the goal that consumes us when we surf the Web.

Ebert said he had chance to visit one such Website run by the wife of a movie theater owner he once met. "Danni's Hard Drive," which featured nude pictures of women, made nearly \$120,000 per month, he said.

Ebert wondered why such sites did so well. Going to any newsstand, "I could have tons of glossy large, beautiful, carefully-reproduced naked girls," Ebert said.

Ebert conjectured that the popularity of the Web pornography exists because some images can't always be seen in their entirety within the size limits of a Web browser.

"It's because it does scroll down. It's like a striptease," Ebert said.

"It's the getting of it. It's not the having of it. Once you have it, you don't even really have it anymore," Ebert said.

Ebert compared man's relationship to the Web to the short story "Shakespeare's Memory,"

written by Jorge Luis Borges.

In the story a man, who is an expert on Shakespeare's writings, is offered the gift of Shakespeare's memory. The only caveat is that the memories of Shakespeare comes to him in dreams. But soon, Shakespeare's memory, which is stronger than the man's, takes over. The man begins to think in

Shakespeare's English "and now Shakespeare's memory is running him," Ebert said.

"When I think of the Web, I think of 'Shakespeare's Memory.' I venture through the Web of information. I am jacking into my own personality," he said. "I hope it's not changing the definition of a human."

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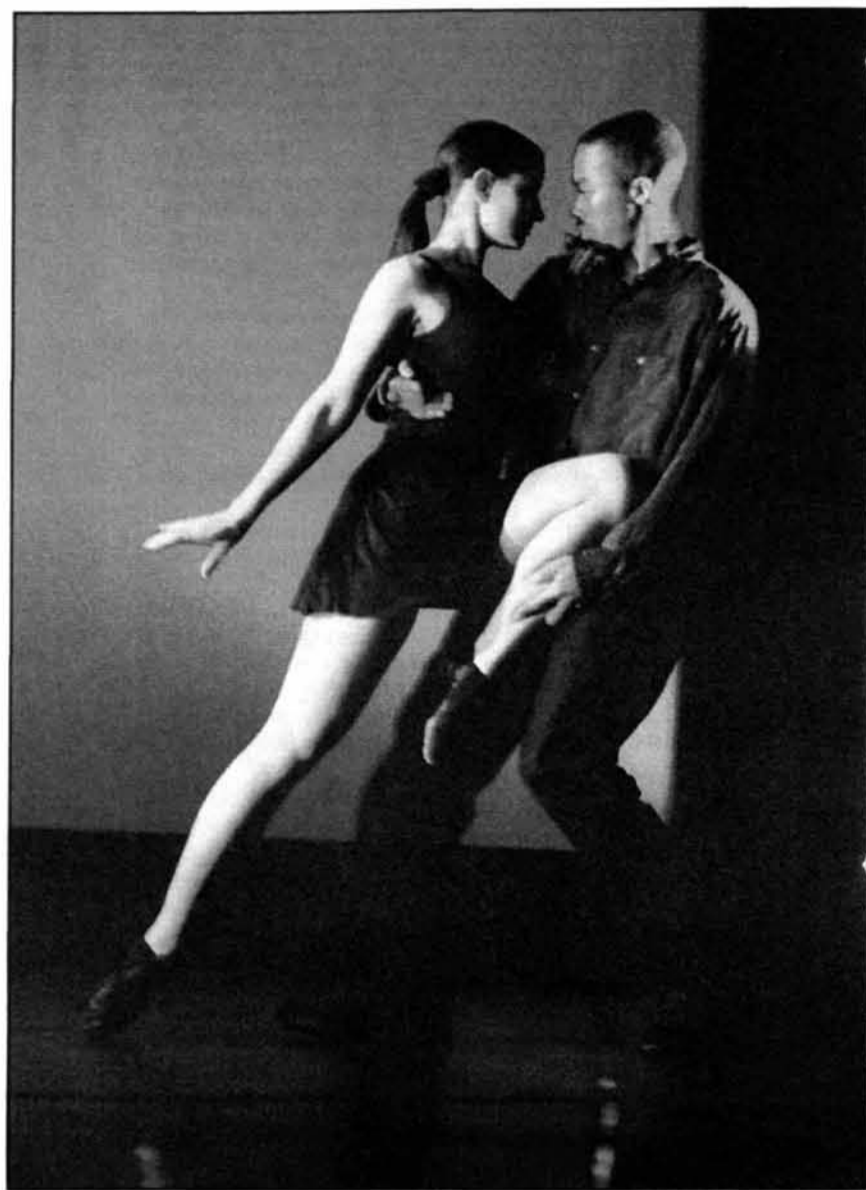
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*Dance Troupe's*

## *Fever*

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# THE TECH



November 24, 1998

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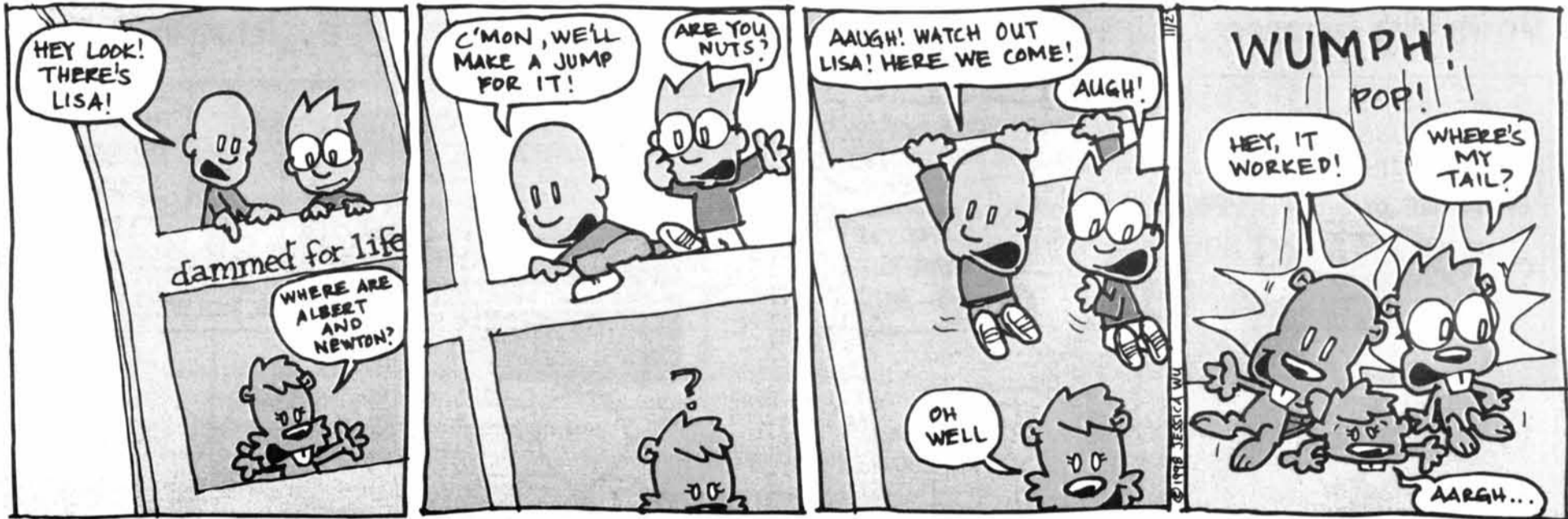
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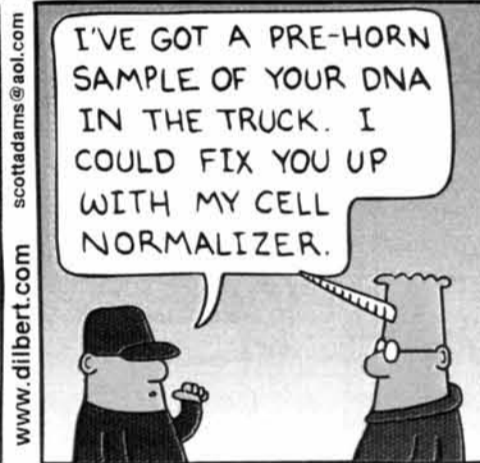
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BY JESSICA



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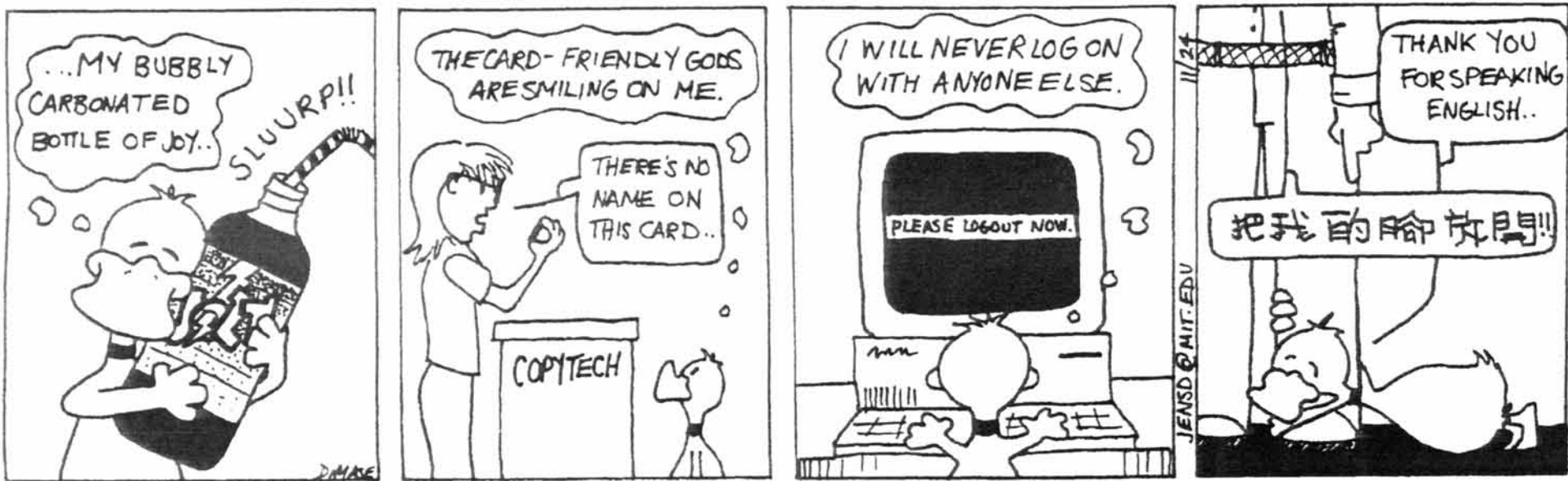
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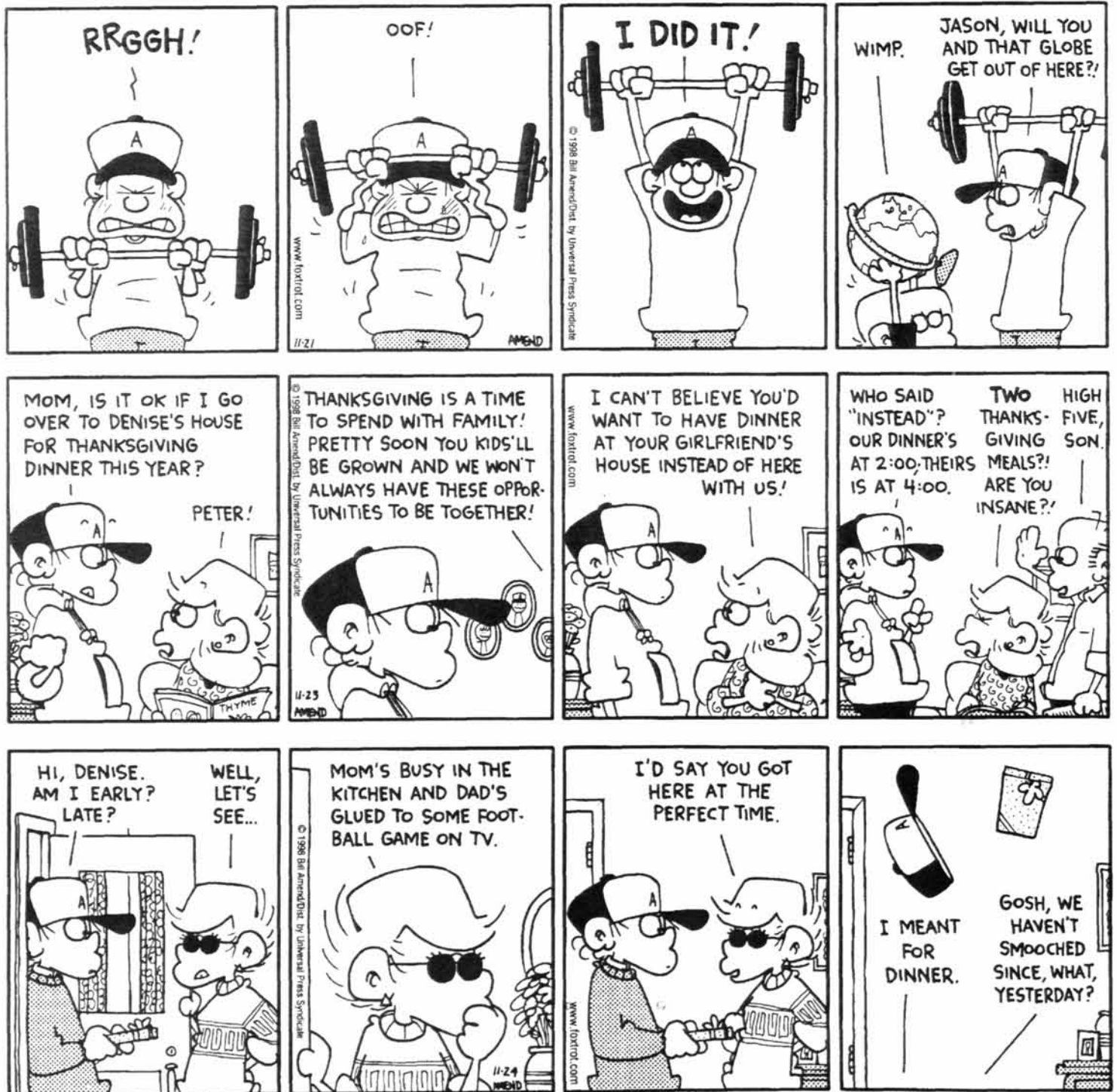


## Down with Science

by Jennifer DiMase



by Bill Amend



FoxTrot



# 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.

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

### Tuesday's Events

5:00 p.m. – **“Organization for International Projects” Technology & Cities Lecture Series.** Mr. Robert Armsby will discuss Bechtel Corporation's major international projects and their innovative approaches to perform the work on these assignments. Bartos Theatre, E15-070. Sponsor: School of Architecture and Planning.

8:00 p.m. – **MIT Brass Quintet and Brass Ensemble.** Lawrence Isaacson, Director. Killian Hall.

### Wednesday's Events

5:10 a.m. – **Weekly LEM Service and Supper.** Eucharist in the Chapel every Wednesday at 5:10 p.m., followed by a free fellowship supper and discussion in W11 at 6:15 p.m. W11 and MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry.

### Monday's Events

7:00 - 8:00 p.m. – **Monday LEM Bible Study.** Join our weekly exploration of the Gospel of Luke. You don't need to be a regular — come as you are able. Pizza and soda will nourish your body while the word nourishes your soul. W11 downstairs. Sponsor: Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry.

7:00 p.m. – **Lilies.** (1996, 35mm, Canada): Award-winning feature explores gay adolescent love, betrayal and revenge in a small village in northern Quebec. Director John Greyson will attend. Rm 10-250.

**Don't forget, tomorrow is the deadline to turn in your copy of “Dammed for Life”!**

What do you think Albert and Newton should be saying to one another? Look in last Friday's “Dammed for Life” strip (November 20) and then send in a copy with your own words!

All entries should be sent by interdepartmental mail to: The Tech, W20-483.

The **Campus Activities Complex** will be accepting applications to reserve the following:

Event Facilities for the period of:  
July 1<sup>st</sup> 1999 through June 30<sup>th</sup> 2000

Student Center (W20), Kresge (W16),  
Religious Activities Center (W11), Walker (Bldg 50),  
Chapel (W15), Wong Auditorium (E51)

**Monday,  
November 30 1998  
beginning @  
9:00 AM**

Promotional Space for the Spring Semester:  
February 1<sup>st</sup> 1999 - May 21<sup>st</sup> 1999

Lobby 7 Drop Posters, Lobby 10 Booths,  
Infinite Corridor Panels, Student Center Tables and  
Student Center Balcony Posters (For February Only).

Applications for the spaces above can be picked up and turned into CAC (W20-500).



MICHELLE L. POVINELLI—THE TECH

Tenor soloist Mark Evans joins the MIT Concert Choir in performing Haydn's *The Seasons* during the Klaus Liepmann Memorial Concert Friday in Kresge Auditorium.



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

Dancers erupt from a group, flaring outward in a scene from Dance Troupe's *Fever*.

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# Search for Dining Contractors, Director Goes to Final Stages

By Zareena Hussain  
NEWS EDITOR

MIT's searches for two new dining services for all the residential dining halls, as well as Lobdell Food Court, the MIT Faculty Club, and dining facilities in E51. Zone two services the main MIT dining facilities including Walker Memorial and its satellite facilities. Zone one is more than twice the size in terms of gross earnings, said Director of the Campus Activities Complex Philip J. Walsh.

Nearly a year ago, the Institute Dining Review Group outlined a dramatic restructuring of MIT's food service system. The group called for the campus to be divided into separate zones with different contractors. This system will be in place by next fall.

Zone one will provide the dining services for all the residential dining halls, as well as Lobdell Food Court, the MIT Faculty Club, and dining facilities in E51. Zone two services the main MIT dining facilities including Walker Memorial and its satellite facilities. Zone one is more than twice the size in terms of gross earnings, said Director of the Campus Activities Complex Philip J. Walsh.

"We constructed both zones in a way that the zone income potential is in direct relation to the size and volume of the business," he said.

## Bidding process near completion

Ten companies participated in the bidding process for service contracts with MIT's dining facilities. Aramark has been among the bidders.

"The majority of the ten spent a lot of time and invested a lot of money," in visiting in assessing the campus, Walsh said.

Each contractor will submit a proposal to the Institute Dining Implementation team in December and in January will come to campus to give presentations. The final decision will be made by the Institute Dining Implementation

Team.

"The farthest a decision could be put off to will be around the first of March," Walsh said. "My sense is we can complete our task by the beginning of February."

Walsh said that student and faculty input will play a major role in choosing new contractors in this final stage of bidding. However, the system of gathering this input has not been formally outlined.

## Dining director to be named

Concurrent with the selection of new contractors are the final stages of the Office of Campus Dining director search. Originally, the director was to take office at the beginning of next year. However, that appointment has been somewhat delayed, and interviews with finalists will begin during the first week of Independent Activities Period, Walsh said.

After a nationwide search, an outside consulting company offered a list of fifteen names to the implementation group. From this list, the group will narrow down the candidates to a pool of three to five, Walsh said. Groups of faculty and students will be called to sit in on these interviews.

Since this position has never been filled before at MIT the interviews will also serve to inform the candidates, Walsh said. "You've got to make them understand that this is going to be a unique position."

As the search process for a dining director and contractors continues, the prospect of re-opening previously closed dormitory dining halls and the introduction of residence-based remains a more distant goal.

The dining searches have drawn energy away from dorm dining

efforts, Walsh said. "There are so many years of catch up to do," Walsh said. "One thing we want to avoid is doing too many things and not doing them well," Walsh said.

Student input is critical to the resurrection of dorm dining, Walsh said. "Every residence community needs to have a defined dining program by a group that is a subset of the community," he said.

## McCormick dining to be reopened

McCormick Dining Hall is scheduled to re-open by next fall, according to the dining report issued last year.

Dormitories without dining facilities will receive catering from dorms that do, through a pairing system. Ashdown House will be paired with McCormick Dining. Burton-Conner House will be paired up with Baker Dining and MacGregor House will get catering from Next House.

Once these dining programs are fully operational, Lobdell will close in the evenings to support the use of the residence-based dining facilities.

The restructuring, once implemented will be re-evaluated, after two years of operation, Walsh said.

# Holiday Elicits Happy Memories For Many

Thanksgiving, from Page 1

and Brad Pitt stand-in. Currently, the sophomore class is also holding a canned food drive to benefit Cambridge's Margaret Fuller House, a shelter.

## Holiday offers food and memories

Who can deny that Thanksgiving is a holiday all about food? Americans associate Thanksgiving with specific types of food — stuffing, cranberry sauce, yams, pumpkin pie, and turkey. The careful and time-honored custom of preparing these comestibles continues to delight many people at MIT.

Like many others, President Charles M. Vest "enjoys every minute" of preparing the entire Thanksgiving meal. Joined by his wife, two children, and other family members, he will be spending this Thanksgiving in Charleston, W. Va.

Many MIT employees have very fond memories of Thanksgivings past. Associate Dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs Bonnie J. Walters remembers spending several Thanksgivings in Spain.

Although Spaniards normally

only eat turkey at Christmas, Walters and her American roommates always managed to obtain a Butterball turkey for the holiday.

Once, for her Spanish guests, Walters made pumpkin pie from canned pumpkin. When the guests learned that the pie was made from pumpkin, their faces turned slightly green, Walters recalled. Food "can serve as a wonderful bridge between cultures," she said.

In the midst of basting turkeys and making gravy, we often forget for what we are truly thankful. Professor of Biology Robert A. Weinberg '64 has much for which he is grateful. Weinberg, who will be spending this Thanksgiving in Hartford, Conn. with his wife and many other relatives, grew up in a family that came from Europe. As a result, he did not experience a deep-rooted Thanksgiving tradition. However, Weinberg is very "thankful for the stroke of luck of being able to grow up and thrive in this country," as opposed to Central Europe, which his parents fled.

"We live in a great country full of wonderful people, and there are few days in my life when I'm not very thankful for that!" he said.

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On Wednesday, December 2, 1998, Foreign Languages and Literatures will sponsor an open house for all interested students from 4-6pm in 14E-304. All undergraduates are invited to come and meet the faculty from FL&L. If you have ever thought about taking a class in FL&L, concentrating, minor-ing or majoring in a language, or if you have any questions about Spring '99 classes, transfer credit or study abroad, please stop by for refreshments and conversation.

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# Yale Prof Arrested on Child Pornography Charges

FROM UNIVERSITY WIRE

Former Yale House Master and current professor Antonio Lasaga surrendered himself at 4 p.m. yesterday to U.S. Marshals in Bridgeport, Conn. after being charged with violation of federal child pornography statutes, the Marshal's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

He appeared with his lawyer and was released on \$50,000 bail, with the stipulation that he not contact any children while the case is pending, the Associated Press reported.

Lasaga, a professor of geology and geophysics, has been under investigation by the F.B.I., which searched his Saybrook rooms two weeks ago.

He is being charged with knowingly receiving child pornography and knowingly possessing material containing three or more images of child pornography, Yale General Counsel Dorothy Robinson said.

Both counts are felonies and fall under federal sentencing guidelines.

Federal law provides for a fine or a prison sentence of not more than five years, or both, for each count.

Neither Lasaga nor his lawyer could be reached for comment last night.

University President Richard Levin said that Lasaga is still on leave from his teaching duties and that no decision has been made about whether to convene the University Tribunal, the only Yale body empowered to revoke a professor's tenure.

The University has not revoked tenure in recent memory. The standard for revocation is "moral turpitude, not criminal conviction," said Levin.

"We're not rushing to initiate any process," said Levin. "He's only been charged."

Lasaga resigned his post as Saybrook House Master on Nov. 6 — the day of the FBI search — for "personal reasons" and took an indefinite leave of absence from his teaching duties. The Yale Daily News reported the following Tuesday that he was the subject of an FBI investigation. The U.S. Attorney's Office confirmed earlier this week that the nature of the investigation was child pornography.

News reports last week said that two Yale students may have tipped the FBI off to potential illegal activity.

While Lasaga has served as a mentor in the New Haven Public School System since 1992, school officials said the FBI had not contacted them about his involvement. There had been no indication of improper conduct on Lasaga's part, school officials said last week.

"In fact, those who worked with him considered him a model mentor," said Alison Chapman, director of volunteer programs for NHPS.

Some Saybrook students said last night that although they were

originally shocked by the nature of the investigation, they had come to expect, over the last two weeks, that some official action would be taken against Lasaga.

"It seemed like something fishy was going on [surrounding his resignation]," Saybrook sophomore Elana Solon said. "We hoped that there would be a conclusion, but we didn't know what it would be."

[Yale Daily News, Nov. 23]

## Student raped at U of A frat house

An 18-year-old female student reported being raped by a Beta Theta Pi fraternity member during the early morning of Nov. 15, police said.

University police were withholding the student's name and that of her 18-year-old alleged assailant Sunday pending further investigation, said Cmdr. Brian Seastone of the University of Arizona Police Department. No one had been charged in the incident.

According to police reports, the alleged victim went to an off-campus party Nov. 14 with the Beta member, a man she had reportedly known for two weeks, Seastone said. The two returned to her home Nov. 15 at 12:30 a.m., met another couple and then went to a second party.

Seastone said the woman, who is a member of a UA sorority, told police she and the Beta member returned from the party to the Beta Theta Pi fraternity house, 645 E. University Blvd., and later drank some champagne.

"She told him she was dizzy and wanted to lay down," Seastone said. "She said she lay down with him and that she felt a buzz."

According to reports, the student told officers she awoke in the middle of the night to find the man on top of her.

"When she woke up, she felt she had had sex with him but wasn't sure," Seastone said, adding the alleged victim went to University Medical Center for tests. Results had not been completed Sunday.

Seastone said officers had contacted the alleged assailant and the investigation remains open.

"We've got a lot more follow-up to do," Seastone said. "It's one person's word against another person's word."

Contacted at home Sunday, Beta Theta Pi President Christopher Klecka said most Beta members went out the night of Nov. 14 and that he had not been apprised of any rape allegations.

"Honestly, this is the first I've heard of it," Klecka said, adding that he stayed home to watch movies with his girlfriend and was unable to recall if any members were home early Sunday morning accompanied by a female companion.

Klecka added he did not know if any fraternity member had started a new two-week relationship with anyone.

"I've not heard a single thing," Klecka said.

Seastone said police would continue their investigation and a num-

ber of things could occur. The case may be taken to the County Attorney to see if an arrest should be made, or police could refer the case to the Grand Jury, which could issue an arrest warrant for the alleged suspect.

If confirmed, the Nov. 15 incident would be the first reported rape since school began in mid-August, Seastone said.

University police reported five sexual assaults during 1997, and 16 sexual assaults were reported during the five years prior.

[Arizona Daily Wildcat, Nov. 23]

## Racism sparks fear at Cornell U.

Nearly 200 students, faculty and staff met with administrators to voice concerns and outrage about a rash of racially motivated harassment incidents and their view that the University's silence is insulting.

Administrators fielded questions and worries in a tense and emotionally charged two-hour meeting.

Beginning at last month's end, a number of students in Ujamaa, Cornell's African-American theme house, said they have received harassing phone calls and e-mail on the basis of their perceived racial background and sexual orientation.

One series of calls on Oct. 26 were directed at three female Ujamaa residents in which the caller stated that "niggers should get off campus" and "niggers with scholarships should get off campus."

At 1:30 a.m. on Nov. 2, a fire on the exterior of Akwekon was extinguished by two students. The fire was at first found to result from spontaneous combustion of mulch. However, two days later, the origin was later characterized as suspicious. No analyses were done at the time and thus there is no evidence in the investigation.

The harassment also includes several instances of minority females verbally assaulted by groups of white males at bus stops or when walking home from campus.

Most recently, on Nov. 15, all of the fliers, dry erase boards and door decorations were torn off the doors in one portion of a hallway in the Latino Living Center. A fire also was put out outside the building, but Patricia Alvarez, residence hall director of LLC, said that "to the best of my knowledge, it was caused by a cigarette butt."

The University has not released any statements regarding these incidents, and its failure to respond has been perceived as a lack of interest of the pain and fear of the students targeted.

"I pray for the protection of my people, but if something happens to one of them it will be on all of you and the president," said one student. "You and the president will all then finally know what it's like to live in your own houses and be afraid."

When questioned why administrators met with students nearly a month after the incidents began, Susan Murphy, vice president of student and academic services,

responded that she was only contacted the previous day by Jane Mt Pleasant, director of the American Indian Program.

"I don't feel I should come uninvited to your community," she said, a statement she later apologized for later in the meeting.

A resident advisor responded that the administration should not wait for an invitation because it must ensure the safety of its students.

"I shouldn't have to worry about the safety of the lives of my residents or my own life — it should be your initiative, not mine," she said.

One student said that the University and President Hunter R. Rawlings III should "take the moral highground and take a stand."

Another student noted that "the University's silence on this says implicitly that this is okay."

Other issues, including the effect of University policies, were also discussed.

Ken Glover, advisor for Ujamaa, noted that the report last year on the program houses and this year's Humanities Report are "attacks on the social base and academic base" of minorities by the University.

"I'm not surprised [by these incidents], because if you had a racist mindset, you would receive a signal [from the University] that it's all right to intimidate a black student, a Native American student, a Latino student, an Asian American student," Glover said.

"Look around — we're being attacked by the administration, by a newspaper [The Cornell Review] with cartoons and articles that question our very identity," he continued.

Many students voiced outrage about a cartoon in the latest issue of The Review which portrayed Akwekon and Native Americans in a negative manner.

"We sat here, year in and year out, dealing with the Review and nothing has been done — it's the

same thing," said one student.

Taylor said the University was looking into "the legality of what we may be able to do in terms of a dissociation of the Cornell name."

Among the measures discussed to protect personal safety were the locking of room doors, not propping open outside doors of dorms, traveling in groups and utilizing the Blue Light escort service.

Other steps being taken are increasing lighting as well as police presence in the Ujamaa, Akwekon and the Latino Living Center. Many in the audience, however, said that although many issues were discussed, they doubted the effectiveness of their statements and proposed solutions.

"I've been to more than one of these, and it's all talk and no action," said Mariesa Bainey '01. "The administration really has to look at their protocol: the Indian community is really aggravated that the fire has still not been investigated."

"They can talk all they want, but I still don't feel safe," said Elizabeth Abunaw '02, adding that "I could still be walking home and end up in the hospital."

"They talk to us, but we're not the source — it's coming from racist white kids in the Cornell community," she concluded.

Murphy noted that Henrik Dullea, vice president of university relations, was preparing a statement to be given at today's Student Assembly meeting, which would "convey our disgust and intolerance for these actions, and signal that to the community."

Other administrators in attendance included: Lenorman Strong, vice president of student and academic services and campus life; Winnie Taylor, associate provost; John Ford, dean of students; and Raymond Dalton, executive director of the office of minority educational affairs.

[Cornell Daily Sun, Nov. 20]

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KARLENE ROSERA — THE TECH

The Chorallaries, MIT's coed a cappella group, performed during their Fall Concert Saturday in 10-250. Special guest groups included Yale's Out of the Blue and the Dartmouth Aires.

## SPORTS

## Men's Varsity Four Takes Second at Foot of Charles

By Karl Richter

TEAM CAPTAIN

The men's crew team produced MIT's best ever result at the Foot of the Charles, Saturday. The MIT varsity fours finished second out of 49 teams behind Harvard in the largest fours race in the world.

Harvard finished the upstream course which starts from the MIT Pierce Boathouse and ends at the Harvard Weld Boathouse in 13:34.8 to take first place. The Engineers' heavyweights followed closely with a time of 13:41.3, while the Harvard Lightweights placed third in

13:45.5. Northeastern University and Dartmouth College rounded out the top five places.

The heavyweight varsity four first boat included Matt Klicka '99 at cox, Daniel P. Parker '99 at bow, Michael M. Perry '99, Christopher J. Penny '01, and Karl K. Richter

'99 at stroke. The three senior oarsmen in this boat were part of the 1997 first varsity four that produced the school's previous best-ever finish of sixth place.

The Engineers started as the fourth seed behind Boston University and just ahead of Dartmouth in the starting order. Throughout the race, MIT worked to reel in the Boston University boat, which had started 28 seconds ahead of them. In the last ten strokes, the Engineers nearly pushed their bow past the Boston University boat, securing a finish ahead the third seeded team.

Heavyweight Coach Gordon Hamilton was quite pleased with the results, commenting, "We have never finished higher than sixth, so this is great!"

While MIT's top heavyweight boat performed their best ever in this regatta, the performances of the lower boats also demonstrated an improved depth in the squad. Hamilton added that "the second and third boats were very competitive and should get much better."

MIT's second and third varsity fours finished the race just two seconds apart in 22nd place and 24th place respectively. The second four was coxed by Christina E. Carvey '99 and included Solar Olugebefola '99 at bow, Andrew D. Copeland '01, Michael J. Salamina '00, and Jeb E. Keiper '99 at stroke. The 3rd

Four included Julie J. Hong '02 at cox, Mark H. Jhon '01 at bow, Eugene Weinstein '00, Guilherme Carrilho G, and Damon L. McMillan '00 at stroke.

MIT's fourth boat did not lag far behind with a 28th place 14:54 finish. Bob Broderick '99, Gregory A. Bollrud '99, Melahn L. Parker '01, Ben D. Ackerman G, and Marc V. Berte '99 finished the race ahead of first varsity boats of Boston College, University of Massachusetts, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute; and also ahead of the Dartmouth third boat and the Northeastern fourth boat.

"The attitude of the entire squad has been very positive this fall. I am looking forward to one of the best heavyweight eight's in MIT's long history," Coach Hamilton said.

While the Varsity teams raced fours, the freshmen squads raced eights at the Foot of the Charles. MIT's top freshman eight rowed a technically sound race to finish in seventh place.

The Foot of the Charles marks the end of the fall season of rowing for MIT. The heavyweights race next on January 16 in Miami, Florida, with a scrimmage against the University of Miami after a two week training session. The spring sprints season kicks off on April 3 when the Engineers race Columbia University on the Harlem River and attempt to win back the Alumni Cup.



MICHELLE L. POVINELLI—THE TECH

Laurel P. Smith '00 aims at her target during the MIT Rifle competition against Virginia Military Academy Saturday in DuPont Gymnasium.

## UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, November 24

Men's Basketball vs. Tufts University, 7:00 p.m.

Wrestling vs. UMASS Lowell, 7:00 p.m.

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**5:00 pm, Friday, December 11, 1998.**

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