After a Year's Hiatus, Charm School Will Again Grace Institute Corridors

By Gltrada Arjara

This year, students who don't know how to flirt properly, can't figure out which fork to use at a nice meal, or have no fashion sense whatsoever need not do so any more.

Charm School, the afternoon crash course in manners and social graces, will return to the list of activities for Independent Activities Period after a one-year hiatus.

Last year, Charm School was cancelled because not enough students were willing to help planning the event.

Charm School will take place on Jan. 27. That afternoon, classes instructing students on everything from how to ask for a date to how to sneeze with no-one noticing will dot the Infinite Corridor.

Students even get the chance to earn Charm School diplomas for completing enough classes. Six classes earn a bachelor's degree, eight a master's, and 12 a doctorate in charm.

After an afternoon of festivities, Charm School finishes with a commencement speaker and graduation procession from the Bush Room to Lobby 7.

Past commencement speakers have included Judith Martin, author of the syndicated "Miss Manners" column, comedian Dan Zebin, and President Charles M. Vest. The Charm School steering committee is currently in the process of finding a commencement speaker for the next Charm School.

Charm School was founded in January 1993 by former Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs Travis R. Merritt in response to complaints and generalizations about students and faculty being style-challenged and having few manners.

In the past, Charm School has received attention from the national and local press, including CNN, Good Morning America, The New York Times, and The Boston Globe.

Event features myriad activities

Charm School 1999 will still feature classes offered from previous years. One of these classes, called "Exemplary Locomotion," was created by Merritt. Merritt says he wanted to get rid of the "Institute scuffle" and teach students how toannoner, saunter, sashay, walk more smoothly.

Other classes gave lessons on buttering-up bigshots, body language, and dressing more fashionably.

A class called "It's Alimentary," teaches proper table manners and how to use the silverware at a formal dinner. This year, there will also be classes on balloon dancing and how to tell jokes.

Students and other MIT community members may also join the Fashion Police and give citations to people wearing mismatched clothes.

According to Merritt, having fun and being silly is the idea behind Charm School. Those involved need "to take a light-hearted approach to it," he said.

Charm, Page 14

"They had not met a number of the criteria" when the national's board of directors voted last month, Dear said.

Chapter privileges suspended

The Sig Ep board voted to place the chapter on alumni advisory council status, meaning that the actual operations of the chapter now fall upon the local alumni corporation. Each member of the MIT chapter has had his membership privileges suspended, and no chapter activities can occur.

"The only action has been that we're providing whatever support we can," said Meredith. "We knew that right now the Greek system can't..."

The national office of Sigma Phi Epsilon suspended its MIT chapter last week.

The suspension comes after a trip to Pennsylvania State University earlier this term, sources said. Members of the MIT chapter brought a keg to the university's chapter of Sig Ep, where a regional director of the national fraternity was staying.

"We've decided to move forward to benefit the future of the chapter," said Jesse Diaz, director of volunteers and chapter development at Sig Ep national. "We conducted an investigation with our regional board, and we did find information that did not go along with our statement on chapter and individual responsibility."

"I don't think it's that specific incident that triggered the [suspension], but I do think that that was one of the incidents which characterized the behavior," said Shaun L. Meredith G, president of Sig Ep's house corporation.

The consumption of alcohol was banned at Sig Ep until February 1999 by the Boston Licensing Board after an 18-year-old female was intoxicated at the fraternity in December 1997.

After that incident, the national Sig Ep took an interest in the chapter and set out criteria in areas such as academics for its continued existence.

Sig Ep, Page 16

Study Group Recommends Minor Changes to Financial Aid Policies

By Praya Pranialal

The Financial Aid Study Group recently presented their findings about financial aid at MIT and their ideas on how to improve financial aid.

Since March, the group, headed by Stanley G. Hudson, director of student financial aid, and Harold Abelson PhD '73, professor of electrical engineering and computer science, have been working on their aid at MIT and other schools. They found that the actual cost of attending MIT was higher than the institution had been projecting.

The group recommended a further cut in the self-help portion of a financial aid award, which, even with a $1,000 cut last year, is one of the highest in the country, Abelson said.

Self-help represents the amount that a student is expected to contribute to his or her education. It includes loans and work programs as well as expectations of summer earnings.

The group also suggested that outside scholarships be deducted entirely from the self-help portion of a student's financial aid, Abelson said. Currently, only half comes out of the self-help.

Group prompted by aid changes

The organization of the study group was prompted by the excessive changes in financial aid policies by other universities, Abelson said.

"Twenty years ago financial aid was just aid," he said. "Now it's a form of competition. Financial aid is financial aid, financial aid, financial aid, financial aid..."
**Palestinian Authority Gets $3 Billion Boost from Abroad**

By Paul Duggan

International donors pledged more than $3 billion in fresh financial aid to the Palestinian Authority at an American-sponsored conference here aimed at building on the high point of momentum of October's inter-Palestinian-Palestinian accord.

President Clinton, who is to arrive here on Friday for a meeting with the Palestinian Authority, estimated that the $3.3 billion pledging spree over five years if the donors fulfill their pledges — are nearly equivalent each year to the Palestinian Authority's entire $800 million annual budget. They would represent a quarterly payment of $3.3 billion, which has been in sharp decline since the peace process began. The European Union is the biggest overall contributor, followed by the United States.

Israel and the Palestinians reached mutual recognition in September 1999, every Palestinian economic indicator, from employment per capita income, has crashed. Adjusted for inflation, the gross domestic product was smaller last year than in 1995.

**Starr Threatens to Charge Minor Witness With Perjury**

By Debbie Goldberg

He may be wanted in three countries for trial on criminal charges, but Augusto Pinochet is no longer wanted in the luxurious private clinic where he has been waiting out his period of house arrest pending extradition.

As diplomats from Britain, Chile and Spain continued looking for a way to resolve the political standoff, George W. Bush, who gave a speech in New York yesterday on the 25-year Philadelphia police veteran and subject of a federal lawsuit, is expected to leave the clinic any day. The American-born general, who was also expected to leave the clinic last week, will be in the United States, but it is not clear whether he will be there for long. He has been there since December 1998.

The handcuffing of Lawrence E. Wilmore, Jr., a police officer, on charges of false statements and obstruction of justice in connection with her testimony in a case raised in several cities in recent years. The result has been a rosier picture of Philadelphia crime rates than the Texas law, but also has a public awareness benefit, offering facts that underscore their warnings about crime.

**Philadelphia Crime Statistics Under Attack by Chief, Reno**

By By Debbie Goldberg

When John F. Timoney took over the Philadelphia police department last March, he preached the importance of timely, accurate crime data as an effective tool for fighting crime and managing the force. Since then, Timoney has withdrawn and recalculated Philadelphia's 1997 crime data, submitted to the FBI and withheld figures for the first half of 1998 because of what he described as errors and discrepancies.

Now, a new chief imported from New York is trying to eliminate what police and politicians here say is a long-standing practice of downgrading major crimes to less serious categories that are not included in the federal crime statistics.

Recent audits of police records for 1997 and 1998 have uncovered thousands of major crimes either downgraded to less serious categories or dropped from the logs. The result has been a rosier picture of crime rates than in recent years.

Misreporting crime data is an issue raised in several cities in recent years. The result has been a rosier picture of Philadelphia crime rates than the Texas law, but also has a public awareness benefit, offering facts that underscore their warnings about crime.

**Weather**

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, December 1, 1998

**A Weather Oddity**

By Greg Lawson

Hurricane season officially ended yesterday with a rare late season hurricane far out over the Atlantic. Hurricane Nicole, which became a hurricane on the 29th. If she was still a hurricane at midnight (last night), then she is the first hurricane on record to strike in the month of November.

There's pressure to keep crime statistics down, and captains are held responsible for what goes on in their districts.

A typical example is a stolen license plate — a crime that should be reported to the FBI — but instead is classified as a missing property because he said, "we can't keep this thing from falling off the car." Or when someone stole a body from a family member or friend and police do not prosecute, the crime may be downgraded from aggravated assault to a hospital case, which is also excluded from federal crime statistics, he said.

Palestinians age, Authorities See Violations of Section 21.06 of the Texas criminal code, the section entitled "Homosexual conduct," has been on the statute books in Texas since the 1920s.

**Texas Sodomy Arrest Opens Legal Battle for Gay Rights**

By Paul Duggan

Rarely does a police officer witness violations of Section 21.06 of the Texas criminal code, the section entitled "Homosexual conduct." And almost never is an arrest made under the 119-year-old statute. So when what happened recently to John Lawrence and Tyronne Garner, in the surrogated privacy of Lawrence's bedroom, was highly unusual.

The two men were having sex when a Harris County sheriff's deputy walked into the apartment on another matter, saw what they were doing and hauled them off to jail.

"In all candor, I don't believe we've ever made an arrest before under those circumstances," said Capt. Don McWilliams, a sheriff's spokesman. But the law is the law, he said. "We can't give our deputies a list of situations we think they should enforce and a list of statutes we want them to ignore."

The handcuffing of Lawrence and Garner that night did more than just漂亮 by the deputy's obligation to enforce the law. It opened a new front in a long campaign by gay activists across the country to end with the state's highest criminal appeals court invalidating the law as an infringement on privacy as protected by Texas Constitution.

The arrests in some ways delighted gay activists. They said the case not only provides a long-awaited legal platform to challenge the law, but also has a public awareness benefit, offering facts that underscore their warnings about crime.

**THE WASHINGTON POST**

**PHILADELPHIA**
AIDS Might Devastate Southern Africa, a Pair of New Reports Say

By Dean E. Murphy

TOKYO

December 1, 1998

Two startling reports on AIDS show the disease is spreading so rapidly in South Africa that it threatens to perpetuate the apartheid by crippling the economy and devastating families for decades to come. Released to coincide with Tuesday's World AIDS Day, the reports say that while the AIDS epidemic was slow in coming to South Africa and in Europe, it now has arrived with a vengeance. The region has become the hardest-hit in the world. One in 10 people infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) worldwide live in South Africa.

"Some of the advances made by the new South African democracy while be reversed unless we act now," said J. David Whiteley, the United Nations' resident coordinator in South Africa.

The U.N. officials who authored one of the two reports released by the U.N. agency said that a large percentage of the infected people have been in their productive years and that the disease is spreading so rapidly in South Africa that it threatens to exceed 500,000 deaths a year by 2005.

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Parallels Between High-Class Institutions

Once upon a time, a large and well respected school became the focus of national attention because of something that was happening in its students’ living groups. Although the underlying issue was an issue that was seen in many American institutions, the good reputation of this particular school made it an especially eager target for embarrassments. Indeed, the school’s students, leaders, and administrators were well aware that any kind of reputation damage done by this unilateral decision would overwhelm any other aspects of the school’s reputation.

Indeed, administrators framed the issue as a lack of student community. To develop the missing sense of community, they said they had to bar freshmen from small living groups. To students, this decision seemed backward because it destroyed exactly the situation the school was trying to foster. Students continued to create and renew their own communities around their living groups, and the administrators’ proposals would replace those genuine communities with some pre-packaged and ineffective notion of student school. The students said, needed to stop being a flimsy to the media and to recognize the value of student-led communities. Sound familiar?

All of this happened at Cornell University from 1992 to 1997. After several years of discussion and debate, at Cornell we were able to find a consensus that preserved housing choice and student-led residential communities while addressing the underlying issue. At Cornell the ugly issue was race; at MIT it’s the fraternities, sororities and independent living groups. At Cornell, many of the small living groups affected were some of the most racially balanced and tolerant on campus. At MIT, many of the fraternities, sororities and independent living groups affected by the ban had nothing to do with the complaints of racial self-segregation and, in fact, were some of the most racially balanced and tolerant on campuses. At MIT, many of the fraternities, sororities and independent living groups affected by the freshman-housing decision have little or nothing to do with alcohol.

At both institutions, small, cohesive living groups provide a place to come home to. Without this support, first-year students can be overwhelmed by institutions that are large and impersonal. The following of Scott S. Krueger ’91, MIT began a process of public discussion akin to the one at Cornell. This discussion is about whether or not a student-oriented decision have little or nothing to do with alcohol.

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**Fight for Right Not Over Yet**

**Guest Column**

**Aram W. Harrow**

In his Nov. 17 column entitled "Moving Beyond the Housing Decision," Pavan K. Auluck ’97 argues that "groping about the facts" is not important and that because MIT cannot afford to turn back time. Recounting President Charles M. Vest’s decision to settle the Matsui case by paying a settlement of $525,000 to Furek — and claiming that MIT is not correcting or per- ceiving any "duty of care," he argues that MIT "may oblige itself to pay $525,000 simply because it can and wants to." His arguments are impossible to argue against.

This argument echoes a long line of similar arguments. When President Vest announced the settlement of the Matsui case and the lawsuit filed by Elaine Wan Furek v. MIT, some said that the settlement alone was a "way to keep MIT from being found liable for injuries caused by fraternity hazing.

The question becomes, then, whether the court’s decision to settle the Matsui case was sound. As long as fraternities are not on land owned by the university, the university can’t be held liable for fraternity parties. The question of whether there is a duty to act is the key to the issue.

The Bradshaw decision, however, denies all of these grounds for suit as well. It refutes the argument that there is a common base of "locus parentis" and holds that any "assumed duty" must to be explicitly assumed by the uni- versity. The court said that if the university had an duty to act, that such a duty was not a duty to provide adequate security to a student who was assaulted in a dorm. On the other hand, the court said that the "duty of care" was not to repair the "duty of care."

The court held that the "duty of care" was, in fact, the university’s duty to repair the "duty of care." In 1991, Furek v. University of Delaware found the university liable for injuries caused by fraternity parties. The ruling found precedent in Mullins v. Penn State, which held that the university is liable for failing to provide adequate security to a student who was assaulted in a dorm. On the other hand, the court said that the "duty of care" was not to repair the "duty of care."

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The Tech Page 7

UA Approves Substance-Free Housing Resolution

By Kevin R. Lang

At the final Undergraduate Association Council meeting of the fall term Monday night, the UA narrowly passed a resolution recommending that dormitories and living groups consider allowing students to decide if they want Substance-free housing.

The original resolution, submitted by Interfraternity Council Public Relations Chair Christopher R. Rezek '99, had been tabled at an earlier meeting.

"There was overwhelming opposition to the idea of making the new dorm substance-free," said UA Floor Leader Ryan K. Pierce '99. Once the motion was tabled, Rezek removed the resolution for revision by several UA committee chairs, himself, and a number of fraternity presidents.

After a great deal of discussion at Monday's meeting, Pierce broke a 9-9 tie by voting in favor of the resolution. Pierce said that he supported the resolution because it promotes choice. "I don't feel like people should be put in substance-free housing against their will."

Many oppose resolution

A number of students had concerns regarding the effectiveness and impact of the resolution. Edward A. Gordon '99 thought that such a resolution would not affect large events with alcohol. He added that setting aside substance-free housing promotes alcohol consumption elsewhere. "Three-quarters of those people in dorms should not be using substances anyway," Gordon said.

UA Vice President Jennifer A. Kelly '00 opposed the resolution because MIT regulations prohibit students from drinking in common areas without registering the event. She thought that students already decide alcohol's role in their residence life. Class of 2001 President Pamela Makenyi '99 recommended that the resolution be passed on to the Dormitory Council.

Rezek said that he was "surprised that the debate centered around the appropriateness of making a resolution that affects the entire student body."

Those in favor of the proposal praised the extent of student choice included in the resolution. UA Student Committee on Educational Policy Chair Jeremy D. Sher '99 thought that students could decide their living group's substance-free status on a yearly basis, so that each year, new residents would have input into the decision. "We're not looking at having an entire dorm do this," Sher said.

Finboard issues also discussed

The meeting's other major issue regarded potential changes to the UA Finance Board. Sher and UA Committee on Housing and Orientation Co-Chair Matthew L. McGann '00 wanted Finboard to change several of its practices that have been limited by funding in the past.

With Finboard's current allocation of $194,000 per calendar year, Sher and McGann want Finboard to fund food at events and meetings, since "food attracts people to student-activity meetings, thereby strengthening activities," according to the proposal. In addition, they propose that the UA should recognize that many groups depend on Finboard for all funding, and that self-sufficiency is often not practical. Another proposal calls for UA funding of class councils.

Perhaps the most significant proposal regards reimbursements for student group funding. Currently, groups pay for out-of-pocket, and later apply for reimbursement from the UA. Sher and McGann want the UA to directly fund events, thus allowing groups to schedule events they could not otherwise afford.

However, a number of concerns were raised regarding these proposals. Gordon noted that Finboard receives requests for expenses that groups know are not covered, and that without the current reimbursement process student groups might take advantage of UA funding.

"No group wants Finboard to fund events," Sher said. "But if students can't claim the funds, then they try to create events that require no funding at all."

A number of UA committees gave their final reports at Monday's meeting. The SCEP reported that it is currently concentrating on advising and a possible undergraduate majors guide. In addition, SCEP is considering a response to the report by the Presidential Task Force on Student Life and Learning. The committee is also looking for a new chair to replace Sher in the fall of 1999.

Leah S. Schmelzer '02, chair of the UA Committee on Student Life, discussed plans for confidential medical transport. However, the committee's original proposal contained legal difficulties which must be dealt with before the UA can vote on a proposal.

Attendance at the meeting was relatively low, with many dorms and several classes unrepresented. Also not in attendance was UA President Paul T. Oppold '99.

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This space donated by The Tech.
MIT Graduate Inspires Crowd with Life Experience

By Rima A. Arnaout

Continuing what hopes to be an annual tradition, the Class of 2001 sponsored its Thanksgiving event and desert buffet featuring author, aerospace engineer, and Brad Pitt stand-in Steven Altes '84. Over 250 students showed up at the event held in Walker Memorial on Nov. 23.

The first Thanksgiving event last year featured Chicago Tribune columnist Mary Schmich. Schmich's column about graduating from college gained fame through the Internet for being passed on as a commencement speech to MIT graduates made by Kurt Vonnegut. Vonnegut has never spoken at an MIT commencement.

Altes' speech, entitled "Novaphilia," provided students with humorous advice about building a career, or lack thereof. Altes learned "not to put all your career eggs in one basket" when he lost his dream job at the CIA after one day. The reason, he said, was classified information.

In his speech, he asked students not to take building their careers too seriously and used his life experiences to point to several theories on life.

The Spaghetti Theory: "If you throw enough spaghetti against the wall, some of it's bound to stick." Altes has varied history, from wholehearted admiration to skepticism. Aaron D. Valade '00 liked that Altes "has been able to do whatever he wanted to do." Tatiana Usova C, however, wondered whether Altes is "worried to come to the end of his life without having mastered any one thing."

Altes' speech did make students think about what kind of a career they do want, whether it be mastery of one thing or trying a bit of everything. The audience concluded the Thanksgiving event evening by reading What is Success? by Ralph Waldo Emerson as a group and writing down their thoughts about the evening and their futures.

The sophomore class council then collected the letters in order to return them to students next year, so that they will remember their lives were different.

One student who attended last year's Thanksgiving event, Almea L. Wolfr '99, said that Schmich's and Altes' speeches "were both inspirational, but different."

Julia C. Parsons '01, publicity chair for the sophomore class council, said that this year's Thanksgiving event was more successful because "there was more of a variety of people who showed up this year." Last year, she said, most of the attendees had had a role in creating the event.

Altes has varied history. Altes, who holds a S.B. in Aeronautics and Astronautics and an M.S. in both Aero/Astro and Public Policy, received the National Medal of Technology from President Bush in 1991 for working on Orbital Corporation's Pegasus project to develop the world's first privately developed space launch vehicle.

Altes turned from engineering to acting, modeling, and writing humorous accounts of his adventures. Among these are stories of landing a job as a taxi driver.

Currently, Altes is working on a Columbia Pictures film, Random Hearts, starring Harrison Ford and Kristin Scott Thomas. Altes will play David, Scott Thomas' brother in the film.

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or contact Patricia Dixon, ceed@mit.edu

253-2335 / I-290

December 1, 1998

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I'M GOING TO TEACH MORONS HOW TO GET HIGH-LEVEL JOBS.

WHY?

I'M ADDICTED TO WAGGING.

CARRY ON.

NOW TURN YOUR EAR CLOCKWISE TO GET YOUR TONGUE BACK IN.

JOB COUNSELING

WE'LL NEED TO DISGUISE THE FACT THAT YOU'RE A MORON.

IRONICALLY, THE BEST WAY IS TO BECOME AN EXPERT IN SOMETHING CALLED "KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT."

WE MUST DEVELOP KNOWLEDGE OPTIMIZATION INITIATIVES TO LEVERAGE OUR KEY LEARNINGS.

THE SECRET LEF:

BUT THAT HASN'T STOPPED HIM FROM TALKING.

I'LL DRIVE HIM BACK TO WORK.

IF I DOUBLE THE LENGTH OF OUR STAFF MEETINGS, WE'LL ACCOMPLISH TWICE AS MUCH!

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

I NEED ONE-SENTENCE DESCRIPTIONS OF EACH OF YOUR PROJECTS.

YOU'RE PLANNING TO MAKE CRITICAL BUDGET DECISIONS BASED ON THAT?

YES.

WOW. FIVE PAGES WITHOUT USING A PERIOD.

THANK GOD FOR SEMI-COLONS.

ALICE, YOU'RE THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE MOTIVATIONAL "STONE OF QUALITY."

IT COST A THOUSAND DOLLARS TO HAVE IT ENGRAVED. IT'S MY WAY OF SAYING "THANKS."

THERE'S NO WEAPON. BUT I FOUND THIS COOL MOTIVATIONAL ROCK.

THE ACCIDENT LEFT HIM WITH NO BRAIN FUNCTION WHATSOEVER.

IF I DOUBLE THE LENGTH OF OUR STAFF MEETINGS, WE'LL ACCOMPLISH TWICE AS MUCH!

NOW WE NEED TO PV THE DCF AND GET THE ROI TO THE EOC ASAP.

ARE YOU OUR NEW CFO OR A BABBING IDIOT WHO JUST HAPPENED TO WANDER BY?

WHICH ONE PAYS MORE?

THE MYSTERY DEEPENS.

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THE ACCIDENT LEFT HIM WITH NO BRAIN FUNCTION WHATSOEVER.

IF I DOUBLE THE LENGTH OF OUR STAFF MEETINGS, WE'LL ACCOMPLISH TWICE AS MUCH!
I FORGET...
YOU'VE BEEN PASSING ALL
WARNED. TO THE LEFT FOR
THE RIGHT? DEAR.

Perhaps God Peter,
I SHOULD HAVE SAID
THOSE SILENT
PRAISES HONEST, ARE SCALD.

I PAUSE You ALSO, Lord,
FOR MY BOYFRIEND Peter,
WHO AS WE SPEAK HAS
His Foot Gently Rubbing
Up and Down My Very
Happy Shin.

Thank you, Lord, for
This Food, for Family
And Friends, for the
Many Blessings You've
Given Us.

Thank you also, Lord,
For My Boyfriend Peter,
Who as We Speak Has
His Foot Gently Rubbing
Up and Down My Very
Happy Shin.

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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://techcalendar.mit.edu

Wednesday's Events

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. - Foreign Languages & Literatures Open House. All undergraduates are invited to come & meet faculty. Room 14E-304. Sponsor: Foreign Languages & Literatures.

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - MIT $50K Organizing Team Meeting. Join the Organizing Team and help make the $50K happen. Room E51-335. Sponsor: MIT $50K Entrepreneurship Competition.

8:00 p.m. - What the Butler Saw. Workshop production of Joe Orton's hilarious farce, directed by Richard Marcus, technical assistant, Theater Arts. Kresge Little Theater.

Thursday's Events

5:00 - 6:30 p.m. - Health Care: An Outlook for 1999 and Beyond. Former Mass. State Representative and Chairman of the Joint Committee on Health Care John E. McDonough will speak about health care policy and his projections for the future of the health care system. Room 2-105. Sponsor: MIT Medical Congress.

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Gallery Talk: The Process of Art & Invention: There Are No Mistakes. Artist-in-Residence Arthur Ganson discusses how the creative process balances the unlimited possibilities of the imagination and the limits imposed by the physical world. MIT Museum.

Friday's Events

3:00 p.m. - The MIT Debate Tournament. MIT's annual intercollegiate debate tournament. Judges wanted! No experience necessary. General Assembly at Room 6-120. Sponsor: Debate Team.

8:00 p.m. - What the Butler Saw. Workshop production of Joe Orton's hilarious farce, directed by Richard Marcus, technical assistant, Theater Arts. Kresge Little Theater.

Contact Information for all events is available from the TechCalendar web page.

For additional information, contact

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The Coop Board of Directors is accepting applications for nomination for election as a Student Board Member for the 1999-2000 academic year.

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

The Coop Board of Directors is accepting applications for nomination for election as a Student Board Member for the 1999-2000 academic year.
We need someone with the confidence of a surgeon, the dedication of a marathoner and the courage of an explorer.

We have a unique opportunity for someone very special. A chance to spend two years in another country. To live and work in another culture. To learn a new language and acquire new skills. The person we're looking for might be a farmer, a forester, or a retired nurse. Or maybe a teacher, a mechanic, or a recent college graduate. We need someone to join over 5,000 people already working in 60 developing countries around the world. To help people live better lives. We need someone special. And we ask a lot. But only because so much is needed. If this sounds interesting to you, maybe you're the person we're looking for. A Peace Corps volunteer. Find out. Call us at (Collect) 617-565-5555 x598 Peace Corps. The toughest job you'll ever love.

Robert Solow is widely regarded as one of the greatest living economists, and has conducted path-breaking work in both microeconomics and macroeconomics. He is the best-selling author of numerous publications, and was awarded the Nobel Prize for Economic Science in 1987. In Monopolistic Competition and Macroeconomic Theory, Professor Solow gives a nontechnical account of the implications of monopolistic competition on macroeconomic theory and shows that simple and tractable micro-based models can offer the possibility of a richer and more intuitive macroeconomics.

In Work and Welfare he directs his attention to one of today's most controversial social issues: how to get people off welfare and into jobs. With characteristic eloquence, wit, and rigor, Solow condemns the welfare reforms recently passed by Congress and President Clinton for confronting welfare recipients with an unworkable choice finding work in the current labor market or losing benefits. He argues that the only practical and fair way to move recipients to work is, in contrast, through an ambitious plan to guarantee that every able-bodied citizen has access to a job.

In Inflation, Unemployment, and Monetary Policy, Solow and John B. Taylor present their views on the dilemmas facing U.S. monetary policymakers. The aim of this lively exchange of views is to make the public policy question of central importance.

Robert Solow is from Page I AIP because the relaxed atmosphere allowed students to enjoy the charm school classes without too much stress, Merritt said. As a member of the MIT community, faculty, staff, students, can teach a Charm School class. "Anyone can learn, anyone can teach", Merritt said.

Interest in Charm School faded Last IAP, Charm School went "on sabbatical for a year," Merritt said. This was because two MIT staff members, Alberta Lipson and Roseanne Swire, had become overburdened with the logistical work for previous Charm Schools, he said. They did not have the time that was needed to organize Charm School last IAP, and there was no student interest in helping to plan Charm School.

Fortunately this year, Charm school is being brought back. Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs Katherine A. O'air and Public Service Center Coordinator Monica Higgins have volunteered to bring back Charm School. They are organizing the Charm School Steering Committee that is comprised of students and faculty.

"Wow! Did you just see that?"

Let The Tech know too!

Call the News Hotline, 253-1541, whenever you see something noteworthy happening.

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For a free brochure, write Buy Recycled, Environmental Defense Fund, 257 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10010, or call 1-800-CALL-EDF.
The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between Nov. 12 and Nov. 18. Information is compiled from the Campus Police's weekly crime summary and from dispatcher logs.

Nov 12: Harvard Bridge, assist State Police with motor vehicle accident, person trapped in vehicle; Delta Psi, report of eggs thrown at window; Bldg. E19, vending machine broken into; Bldg: E53, laptop computer stolen $4,820; Bexley Alley, bike stolen $105; Chi Phi, Boston, jacker stolen $130; Student Ctr., homeless person sleeping in restroom; Memorial Dr., vehicle broken into; Baker, student problem.

Nov 13: Walker, suspicious activity; Delta Psi, egg thrown at window; Bldg. 33, suspicious mail; Student Ctr., terminated employees refusing to leave; Endicott Hse., credit card stolen; New House, party problem.

Nov 14: Amberley Alley, student assaulted by persons leaving New House, persons responsible identified, investigation continuing; Beacons and Charlestown, Boston, SafeHouse van involved in an accident; McDermott court, persons stopped for suspicious activity, same checked out okay; Mass Ave, stolen vehicle struck MIT Police cruiser and fled scene. Officer later stopped and arrested for various charges.

Nov 15: McCormick, student problem; M37, person stuck inside elevator, extricated by elevator repair company; M62, report of gunshot; McCormick, annoyance phone calls; Amberley Alley, noise complaints; Briggs Field, post assault and battery.

Nov 16: East Campus, malicious damage to art sculpture, $10,000 damage; Bldg. N02, computer case stolen $490; Student Ct. 13 problem with former employee; 21 wallet stolen from Athena Cluster S17; Bldg. NW4, computer stolen $1,200; Bldg. 54, telephone stolen $700; Main St. by Bldg. 68, suspicious activity; Cross St. by NW10, vehicle window smashed.

Nov 17: MacGregor, report of suspicious persons, checked out okay; Bldg. NW30, homeless persons; Student Ctr. person issued trespass warning; Westgate, noise complaint; Albany St. homeless person needing assistance; 33 Mass Ave. bike rack, $900 bike secured with cable stolen.

Nov 18: New House, report of food stolen, same resolved; Bldg. E23, computer stolen $1,500; Broadway, assist Cambridge Police, report of person affiliated with MIT, had an egg thrown at him; Pacific St. homeless person in need of assistance; Next House, two students stopped for possession of marijuana.

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POLICE LOG

Colorado Cool gifts on SALE

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Cambridgegus Galleria Mall, Cambridge
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Burlington Mall, Burlington
Center Terran Jones '01 rises over his opponents from Tufts University during MIT's first home basketball game Saturday night in duPont Gymnasium.
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, minoring 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.

Creative

Teamwork

Putting together a newspaper takes a lot of hard work, cooperation, and creativity. We do it every Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Drop by our office on the fourth floor of the Student Center at 6 p.m. Sundays for dinner and our 5 p.m. weekly news meeting, or come by any night to see us put the issue together. Or help out—no experience necessary. Really!

If you want to write arts, sports, opinion or news stories, if you want to take pictures or lay things out, if computers are your thing, or if business and advertising are more your style, come by our office (Student Center, Room 483) or call Doug or Josh at 253-1541 to be on your way to joining the staff of MIT’s oldest and largest newspaper!
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Group Suggests No Significant Changes

Financial Aid, from Page 1

now a competitive weapon used by schools to attract students."

Although other schools have made extensive changes in their basic financial aid policies, MIT does not intend to follow their lead, Abelson said. "MIT is still committed to its policy of need-blind admission and need-based financial aid," he said.

"MIT should compete with other colleges on the basis of cost and value without compromising need-based aid and admission," Abelson said.

The group's research revealed that 43 percent of undergraduates are paying the full $33,000 each year to attend MIT. Moreover, 50 percent are paying more than $25,000 without outside scholarships to attend MIT this year.

The group also surveyed students with Scholastic Assessment Test scores over 720 who did not apply to MIT. One of the main reasons that these students did not apply was the cost, the group's findings said. When this survey was narrowed to potential science and engineering students, cost was the largest single reason that the students did not apply.

MIT began redesigning its financial aid policies last year by cutting out self-help portion of a financial aid package by $1,000.

More alumni programs suggested

The group proposed that MIT make itself a better value for the money by having more services for students find outside scholarships to attend MIT.

Additionally, MIT needs to market itself more programs to make itself a better value for the money by having more services for students find outside scholarships to attend MIT.

The admissions office should do financial aid publicity to let people know the value they are getting and make itself a better value for the money.

The group also urged MIT to help their students find outside scholarships to help with the cost of an MIT education. To compete with other schools, the group proposes that MIT should send out potential financial aid packages with the early action acceptances.

All of these proposals are still being considered, Abelson said. There will be no decision reached on financial aid policies for the next few weeks.

"MIT still needs to determine if there is enough money within the budget to support these proposals. Also, it is not known if any of these policies will be retroactive, or if they will only apply to newly admitted students.

"Making the policies retroactive will make it four times as expensive for MIT," Abelson said. "It is still a better choice to make the new policies retroactive."

Other schools see major shifts

Some schools, such as Vassar College, have completely dropped need-blind admissions. Whereas Johns Hopkins and Brown Universities are slowly moving away from that policy.

Other schools are adapting a policy, in which a student is admitted to the school, but is denied financial aid if he is near the bottom of the admitted class. Harvard University has adopted a policy of "differential packaging" in which financial aid is based solely on family income, but the grant/loan split is based on the desirability of the student.

The California Institute of Technology is turning to merit-based aid in order to attract their top students. Their top twenty students in each class will receive full scholarships to Caltech regardless of their financial situation.

The California Institute of Technology is turning to merit-based aid in order to attract their top students. Their top twenty students in each class will receive full scholarships to Caltech regardless of their financial situation.

Additionally, many second-tier schools are attempting to lure top students away from the top universities by giving out lucrative financial aid packages.

MIT does not practice any of these policies. "Financial aid and admissions are not under the same office," Abelson said. "Admissions representatives don't know an applicant's financial aid situation, and the financial aid department only knows the financial aid form and that the student is admitted."

In a letter to last year's admitted students, Harvard encouraged students to bring in other financial aid offers in order to discuss a change in the student's financial aid package.

Unlike Harvard, MIT will not compete with other financial aid offers.

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*THERE WILL BE PIZZA AND SODA AVAILABLE!

**MIT Seniors - You can submit an application prior to acceptance to an MIT graduate program.

For more information or to pick up an application, stop by the Office of Residential Life and Student Life Programs in W20-549, or call 253-6777. Or go to the web at http://web.mit.edu/residence/www/tutor/app.html Application deadline is February 8th, 1999 for the 1999-2000 academic year.
YOU CAN GET REAL BOARD EXPERIENCE AS A STUDENT DIRECTOR OF THE COOP

Join us on Thursday December 3, 1998 from 6:00 to 8:00 for refreshments and an opportunity to chat with student and non-student members of The Coop Board of Directors.

We'll meet in the w11, Main Dining Room

Please RSVP by December 1 at info@thecoop.com or call 617-499-2025