



The Weather

Today: Partly cloudy, 80° F (27° C)
Tonight: Cloudy, 66° F (19° C)
Tomorrow: Overcast, 74° F (23° C)
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Volume 119, Number 31

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Wednesday, August 25, 1999

IFC Sanctions DKE In Alcohol Incident

Fraternity Must be Alcohol Free for One Year For Serving Alcohol to an Interphase Student

By Kristen Landino
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Delta Kappa Epsilon is facing a number of sanctions including a year long ban on alcohol after an Interphase student was found intoxicated at the fraternity's house late last month.

The student, a member of the class of 2003 enrolled in the summer program for minority students, was found intoxicated in the DKE house on the morning of July 25 by Campus Police, after drinking at a party held the previous night at the fraternity.

Police and administrative officials declined to release the student's name or any information regarding disciplinary action taken against him.

DKE will rush despite incident

Despite the incident, DKE will be allowed to rush this fall, according to Patrick D. Kremer '00, Interfraternity Council Judicial Committee Chair.

Charges brought against the house include: violating MIT standards for FSILGs, assisting a student in violating Interphase rules, failing to cooperate with Institute officials in an emergency situation, disregarding the personal safety of a student, engaging in an action which is detrimental to the MIT community, violating the B.Y.O.B. policy, and serving alcohol to a minor.

These charges were presented to DKE on Aug. 13 and the fraternity was given a period of time to respond to them, according to Neal H. Dorow,

assistant dean for Residence Life and Student Life Programs and adviser to fraternities sororities and independent living groups.

"We wanted to allow time for members of the house to return and new officials to be elected," Dorow said.

DKE chose to resolve the issue administratively and did not request a hearing with Institute officials. The fraternity stipulated to the bulk of the charges issued; however, they contend that the student was not in danger, as members of the house were with him at all times.

The fraternity itself proposed a list of sanctions to which the IFC agreed — one year alcohol-free, 500 hours of community service, TIPS training for all fraternity members, and alcohol liability training.

Additionally, fraternity members must submit a detailed internal risk management policy before they can again have alcohol in the house and once the alcohol ban is lifted, the house must hold one dry event before they can have a party with alcohol present.

Student reported missing

A fellow Interphase student reported the pre-freshman missing the night of July 24 after a talent show and social held for Project Interphase students. Friends mentioned that the student might be at a fraternity party

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ANNIE S. CHOI—THE TECH

As part of International Orientation, students lounge during a pizza party near East Campus Monday afternoon.

Class of 2003 Arrives on Campus; Orientation Begins for Freshmen

By Jennifer Chung
NEWS EDITOR

The remaining members of this year's incoming freshman class arrive at MIT today for one of the last traditional Orientation Weeks, as the Institute implements policies created in the aftermath of the alcohol-related death of Scott S. Krueger '01 two years ago.

During the next two weeks,

freshmen will be given the opportunity to learn about MIT's plethora of residential options, student activities, athletics programs, resources, and academics. Since many upperclassmen have not yet returned, Orientation also provides the chance for freshmen to easily meet other members of their class and slowly become acclimated to the Institute's culture.

With 1,056 members, there are slightly more students in the class of 2003 than in the preceding class. According to Associate Director of Admissions for Information Services and Research Elizabeth S. Johnson, there was "virtually no summer melt" for the first time in at least 14 years, meaning that fewer than usual

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Banking Options at MIT Offer Range of Services

By Gabriel Daleson
STAFF REPORTER

This article is the first in a series intended to introduce freshmen to life in Boston and at the Institute. Future installments will deal with other necessities of life at MIT, including long distance telephone services and purchasing textbooks.

The greater Boston area is home to a number of banking options. BankBoston, which has an exclusive right to open new accounts in the Student Center, is the first bank students will likely be exposed to, but several other financial establishments exist nearby, including Fleet Bank, Cambridge Trust, and U.S. Trust.

BankBoston

BankBoston, with branches in the Stratton Student Center and down Main Street from the Coop, offers a student plan with a charge

of four dollars per month, which can rise to seven dollars if an account holder uses services other than the automatic teller machine. There is no minimum balance, nor is a deposit needed to open an account.

For students over the age of 18, BankBoston offers X-Press check and reserve credit accounts at the same four dollar per month fee, which lets students use their ATM cards for debit purchases, and which offers three hundred dollars of overdraft protection. If the reserve credit is used, a fifteen dollar fee is incurred for the year. Credit cards can also be obtained.

BankBoston also offers the online HomeLink service, proprietary software which allows customers to check balances and pay bills at a surcharge of \$4.50 per month. However,

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AARON ISAKSEN—THE TECH

The Cambridge Fire Department responded to a small fire at Building 18. A graduate student suffered minor burns when pentane fumes flashed.

Class of 2003 Orientation different from previous years.



Comics

Beginning with today's issue, *The Tech* will publish daily through the end of Orientation, Sept. 2.

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WORLD & NATION

Russians Claim Victory in Dagestan

THE WASHINGTON POST

MOSCOW

Upbeat Russian officials claimed their forces swept Islamic rebels from high mountain hamlets Tuesday and all but ended the Muslim separatist threat in the remote southern region of Dagestan.

Russian ground troops, however, have not yet occupied the positions reported to be abandoned by the guerrillas.

Tuesday was the date set by new Prime Minister Vladimir Putin to crush the revolt, and it was unclear how much the declarations of near-victory were designed to make his deadline appear to have been met. Victory would create an immediate success for Putin, who has virtually no political track record.

Under heavy bombardment from artillery and the air, the rebels fled six hamlets whose names had quickly become familiar to Russians during 18 days of intense fighting: Tando, Rakhata, Shodrota, Ansalta and Ashino. Tando in particular had symbolized Russian frustration in uprooting the rebels. Russian forces were turned back twice from storming the village, and at least 20 soldiers died in the attempts.

Chemical Weapons Disposal Delayed

THE BALTIMORE SUN

WASHINGTON

The destruction of aging chemical munitions will be delayed and could fall years behind schedule because of congressional budget cuts, increasing the risk of leakage, defense officials say.

Charging that the Army's program to destroy the nation's stockpile of chemical weapons is rife with lax financial management, Congress is cutting hundreds of millions from the program, a move that will also postpone chemical weapons destruction in other states as well, officials said.

The Army, meanwhile, is disputing those allegations and warning that delays pose a risk to those living near the disposal sites, where a blistering mustard agent and lethal nerve agent are carefully stored in either artillery shells or containers.

"The longer they stay there the more they corrode," said Theodore M. Prociw, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for chemical demilitarization. The artillery shells are at least 40 years old, he said, and some of the containers are old and corroding as well.

Already there have been 4,140 leaks at the nation's chemical munitions storage sites since 1983. In 1985, Congress called for the destruction of the obsolete chemical weapons by 2007.

China May Try Falun Gong Leaders

THE WASHINGTON POST

BEIJING

In an escalation of the government campaign to crush the Falun Gong spiritual movement, China's Communist Party signaled for the first time Tuesday that it will soon put leaders of the group on trial.

A government circular released by the official New China News Agency said that "the few organizers ... who damaged social stability and committed crimes will be punished in accordance with the law."

The Hong Kong-based Information Center of Human Rights and Democratic Movement said over 50 organizers were expected to face prosecution. It said that lawyers throughout the country had been told to notify authorities if families of arrested followers tried to hire them.

China banned the group on July 22, calling it the most significant political threat to the government since the 1989 pro-democracy demonstrations centered around Tiananmen Square. The group was estimated to have more than 10 million members at its peak.

The government also vowed Tuesday to intensify its grassroots efforts to force followers to cut ties with the banned exercise and meditation group. It said that China's vast network of "neighborhood committees," the lowest level organs of the ruling Communist Party, would provide "greater care and help" for those who remain "deceived" by Li Hongzhi, the U.S.-based leader of the group.

California Officials Ban Gun, Ammo Sales on County Land

By Jeffrey L. Rabin

LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Over the vocal objections of some gun owners, a divided Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday banned the sale of guns and ammunition on all county property, a move aimed at driving the nation's largest gun show from the county fairgrounds.

The decision on a 3-2 vote came two weeks to the day after a white supremacist allegedly fired a semi-automatic weapon into the North Valley Jewish Community Center in the city's Granada Hills district wounding three children, a teen-age camp counselor and a receptionist. The alleged gunman, Buford O. Furrow Jr., told authorities he later shot and killed a postal worker delivering mail in a nearby San Fernando Valley neighborhood.

The shootings, the latest in a spring and summer of deadly rampages across the country, sparked demands for tougher gun control laws and tighter regulation of weekend gun shows.

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky pressed for passage of the ordinance that bans the sale of guns and

ammunition on all county property, including county buildings, beaches, parks, and the fairgrounds in Pomona, a city east of Los Angeles. "The biggest gun show in the United States is held right here in this county on land owned by the taxpayers of this county," he said.

Yaroslavsky remarked that some of the illegal automatic weapons possessed by the gunmen who engaged in a fierce firefight with police outside a bank in North Hollywood two years ago were traced back to the Pomona show. "Enough is enough," he said. "The time has come to put an end to this."

Karl Amelang, president of Great Western Shows, which operates four gun shows a year at the fairgrounds, sharply criticized Yaroslavsky's approach. He told the board the show and its 2,000 exhibitors "will be severely damaged by this demagoguery."

He vowed to file suit to challenge the ordinance, which is expected to take effect before the next Pomona gun show in October. "Instead of addressing the underlying causes for the unfortunate assaults by twisted minds on innocent victims," Amelang said, "this

motion is a thinly veiled attempt to destroy the constitutional rights of a legal entity."

County Sheriff Lee Baca called on the supervisors to halt the sale of weapons and ammunition on county property. A former Marine and member of the National Rifle Association, Baca said: "Unfortunately, in this country we have a gun industry that hides behind the Second Amendment," said the sheriff. Baca testified while flanked by the local head of the federal Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms and a representative of the California Attorney General's office.

The proposal to ban the sale of guns and ammunition drew gun control advocates and gun owners, who demanded that their constitutional right to keep and bear arms be protected. The board's vote to approve the ban was greeted with boos and chants of "shame on you."

"Gun shows are the breeding grounds for the birth of violence in our society," said sister Una Connolly, who works with gang youths in the San Fernando Valley who, she said, boast that they easily can obtain high-powered weaponry.

Fed Increases Short Term Rate, Indicates No More 1999 Raises

By John M. Berry

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Federal Reserve, concerned that the U.S. economy is still growing too fast for inflation to stay low, Tuesday raised its target for overnight interest rates by a quarter-percentage point to 5.25 percent. But Fed officials also signaled that they are not likely to raise rates again between now and the end of the year.

The action followed a similar quarter-point increase at the end of June and was widely anticipated by investors and financial analysts. However they were uncertain before the meeting over whether Fed policymakers were likely to raise rates a third time this year, at their next meeting in October. The wording of the announcement by the policy-making group, the Federal Open Market Committee, made it clear they are not.

"Today's increase... together with the policy action in June and the firming of conditions more generally in U.S. financial markets over recent months, should markedly diminish of the rise of rising inflation going forward," the announcement said.

The statement added that the policy directive adopted by the FOMC was "symmetrical," which means the group made no presumption about whether its next policy move would be a rate increase or a rate cut.

The Fed action affected the federal funds rate, the interest rate financial institutions charge each other on overnight loans. But millions of consumers and businesses are likely to see their borrowing costs rise quickly as banks follow by boosting their prime lending rate by a similar quarter point, to 8.25 percent from 8 percent. The prime rate is a key benchmark for the rates charged on a many types of lending, including credit-card balances, home-equity loans,

some personal loans and a variety of business loans.

That increase in borrowing costs would be expected to dampen consumer and business spending, and thus slow the nation's economic growth.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan and other policymakers have acknowledged that there are few, if any, signs that inflation pressures are about to get worse. But with the nation's unemployment rate at 4.3 percent, near a three-decade low, and spending by both businesses and consumers increasing rapidly, the officials fear that eventually the combination of tight labor markets and strong economic growth will cause inflation to accelerate.

However, a number of Fed officials believe growth is slowing enough that, with the further restraint from somewhat higher interest rates, it will gradually drop to a pace less likely to spur inflation.

Federal Judge Issues Injunction Stopping Ohio Voucher Program

By William Claiborne

THE WASHINGTON POST

CHICAGO

A federal judge in Ohio halted the state's tuition voucher program Tuesday, saying that it is likely the taxpayer-financed private school scholarships to low-income students violates constitutional mandates for separation of church and state.

U.S. District Judge Solomon Oliver Jr. issued an injunction stopping the four-year-old school choice program 18 hours before public schools were to open. Cleveland schools officials scrambled to make arrangements overnight to absorb many of the 3,800 students who had been attending 56 private schools — most of them religious institutions — that participate in the program.

The Cleveland voucher program was one of the first in the nation when it began in 1995 and had been watched closely by supporters and critics of school choice for its durability in the face of court challenges.

"The participating schools are overwhelmingly sectarian. This means that parents cannot make an educational choice without regard to whether the school is parochial or not," Oliver wrote in a 28-page decision. "Therefore, the Cleveland program has the primary effect of advancing religion."

No date has been set for the trial, which will determine whether the program does in fact violate the constitutional mandate of separation of church and state.

Opponents of the school choice program, who in July filed the first lawsuit in the nation to challenge state school vouchers in federal court, hailed Oliver's ruling as "right and constitutional" and a major victory for religious freedom.

"I think it will bring the whole voucher thing to a screeching halt nationwide," said the Rev. Barry W. Lynn, executive director of the Washington-based Americans

United for Separation of Church and State. "These programs do advance religion, and taxpayers should not fund religious schools."

Other sponsors of the lawsuit included the National Education Association and its Ohio affiliate, the national and Ohio chapters of the American Civil Liberties Union and People for the American Way.

Clint Bolick, litigation director for the Institute for Justice in Washington, which fought the lawsuit, called Oliver's decision "shocking and appalling." He said his group immediately will seek to have the injunction overturned in the 6th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

"It's bad news, but our intention is that it will be short-lived bad news," Bolick said. "This turns the status quo on its head, and we don't think it will stand."

"This case has Supreme Court written all over it," he said.

WEATHER

Atmospheric Pleasantries

By Greg Lawson

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Today will be an overall pleasant day with temperatures just up into the 80's and relatively low humidity. There will be scattered fair weather cumulus clouds throughout the day with some cirrus later on foretelling a slowly approaching low pressure center to the southwest. There is a large high just to our east which is ushering in the somewhat weak southerly winds. As the low to our southwest moves in, it will be forced northwest of us by the high. Its associated warm front will bring increased cloudiness and humidity through tonight on into tomorrow. There is even the chance of some showers tomorrow afternoon and evening. Expect tomorrow to be a bit cooler with highs in mid 70's. The weekend outlook has fair weather returning Friday once the warm front passes and a weekend laced with showers though forecast models at this range are not to be trusted wholeheartedly.

The tropics have been experiencing some noteworthy weather of late. Since hurricane season began back on June 1, we've only seen one named storm, Arlene, and she was only a tropical storm. Since last week we've seen four new storms occur. Hurricane Bret grew to a category four storm and made landfall in southern Texas. We are now contending with Hurricane Cindy and Tropical Storms Dennis and Emily. Dennis is just west of the Bahamas and it is thought that he will strengthen as travels north along our east coast. It's too early to say now, but he could threaten us early next week.

Today: Partly cloudy. Seasonably warm. Light southerly winds. High 80° F (27° C).

Tonight: Cloudy with increasing humidity. Low 66° F (19° C).

Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy to overcast. About 40 percent chance of showers. Light wind shifting from southwesterly to southeasterly. High of 74° F (23° C).

Sheinbein Strikes Plea Bargain In Israel for Maryland Murder

By Steve Twomey and Steven Gray

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Samuel Sheinbein, the Montgomery County, Md., teenager who fled to Israel after the 1997 killing and dismemberment of Alfredo Enrique Tello Jr., has agreed to plead guilty to murder there and receive a 24-year sentence in an Israeli prison, authorities said Tuesday.

Under the agreement, which a panel of Israeli judges must approve, Sheinbein, 19, could be paroled when he is 33. At the same time, Sheinbein could still be tried for murder in Montgomery County if he ever returns to this country.

The county's State's Attorney, Douglas Gansler, who said he played no role in the negotiations between Israeli prosecutors and defense attorneys, announced the agreement Tuesday and called it "an

absolute outrage" because Sheinbein could have "spent the rest of his life behind bars" if extradited and convicted of first-degree murder in the United States.

Tello's family could not be reached for comment Tuesday, but at a news conference in Rockville, Md., Gansler paraphrased a statement in which the family said "justice has not been achieved in this case."

"Mr. Sheinbein and his family have been able to manipulate the justice system of Israel and the U.S. to escape the justice of serving the life sentence without the possibility of parole," Gansler quoted the family as saying.

Sheinbein was 17 at the time Tello, 19, was killed and therefore could not be sentenced to death in Maryland even if convicted of first-degree murder.

Israeli officials believe Sheinbein's recommended sentence

would be the stiffest imposed on a minor charged with murder in their country's 50-year history and would rival those given adults in similar circumstances there, according to a source in the Israel prosecutor's office.

Even as Gansler called the plea bargain outrageous, he described it as "a good agreement" because "there was always a chance of an acquittal" in Israel, where Sheinbein was scheduled to stand trial in October. "It's not a complete miscarriage of justice," Gansler said.

The deal, if approved, might close a nettlesome chapter in U.S.-Israel relations that opened after Sheinbein was arrested in Israel shortly after the 1997 killing and claimed he was a citizen and therefore could not be extradited. Israel's highest court ultimately agreed that Sheinbein was an Israeli citizen and could not be extradited.

Turkey Pleads for Medical Aid As Earthquake Death Toll Rises

By R. Jeffrey Smith

THE WASHINGTON POST

KARAMURSEL, TURKEY

Regional officials pleaded Tuesday for medical assistance and more body bags as they confronted growing illness among the tens of thousands rendered homeless by last week's earthquake. The government's official death toll rose to nearly 18,000.

Two days of cool evening temperatures and rain in the earthquake zone in northwestern Turkey left muddy streets and wet ground for rescue workers and residents. Although the government has started to build dozens of tent cities, most remain uncompleted and unoccupied, including one being constructed by army troops on the out-

skirts of this resort town at the edge of the Sea of Marmara.

More than 150 residents died here in collapsed, and — as in many towns and villages — survivors flocked to city hall Tuesday to read lists of their names posted on windows. But the atmosphere was lightened slightly when electricity and limited water service were restored for the first time since the quake, paralleling a speedy restoration of these services in the heavily-damaged cities of Golcuk and Yalova.

The bulldozing of damaged or collapsed buildings has accelerated in many cities, with workers leaving only a thin layer of white concrete dust behind where piles of rubble, containing the household possessions of thousands of people, stood

until a few days ago. The process of cleaning up has now supplanted virtually all efforts to find survivors, as hopes for finding any more have dwindled. Rescue teams from Germany, France and Italy joined others in leaving the country with the government's encouragement.

"International search and rescue operations are over today," said Sergio Piazzini of the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Geneva, which had helped coordinate the arrival of more than 3,000 foreign rescuers from more than two dozen teams in the first few days after the quake. The U.N. office in Istanbul posted a long list of badly needed items, including tents, generators, portable toilets, and surgery equipment.

Rival Rebel Groups To Sign Congo Peace Accord

THE WASHINGTON POST

KAMPALA, UGANDA

Six weeks after every other party in Congo's stubborn war signed a peace accord, two feuding rebel groups agreed Tuesday to add their signatures as well.

The two rival factions of the rebel Congolese Rally for Democracy pledged to travel to Lusaka, Zambia, this week to formally join the peace process aimed at ending the year-long war in Africa's third-largest country. If the factions actually sign it would clear the way for an immediate cease-fire.

Their deadlock was broken after a multination summit that toppled Congolese President Laurent Kabila. Supported by troops from Rwanda and Uganda, Kabila's former allies, the rebels quickly seized control of more than half of Congo. But this spring, they split into two factions — one backed by Rwanda, the other by Uganda.

Their deadlock was broken after a multination summit that coincided with an outbreak of fighting last week in the rebel-held Congolese city of Kisangani, which one rebel faction saw as a brazen attempt to assassinate the leader of the other.

"What they wanted was to kill us politically and kill us physically," said Ernest Wamba dia Wamba, the history professor who has refused to acknowledge his ouster in May as head of the Rally for Democracy. "We think they have failed."

His opponents called the accusation further evidence of Wamba's obsession with himself. "This man called Wamba is a former president, but he's just a member," said Bizima Karaha, intelligence chief of the Rally for Democracy's largest faction.

Martha Rountree, First Moderator of 'Meet the Press,' Dies at 87

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Martha Rountree, who helped shape television history and public affairs journalism as the co-creator and first moderator of the NBC News interview show "Meet the Press," died Aug. 23 at Sibley Hospital. She was 87 and had Alzheimer's disease.

"Meet the Press," the longest-running network television show in the world, first went on the air in 1945 as a radio show on the Mutual Broadcasting System. It was created jointly by Rountree and Lawrence Spivak. It jumped into television in 1947, before there were even 1 million sets in the nation.

On the show, as its name implies, figures from public life submit to the questions of journalists. It set the pace for public affairs interview journalism and became must viewing for the political community. It remains a Sunday morning ritual in many Washington homes and supplies content for many Monday morning newspaper stories.

Besides her role in creating the show, and with urging its shift to TV, Rountree, a Florida-born former newspaper reporter, was also said to be the only female moderator in its history.

Unrehearsed interview shows with statesmen and public figures, commonplace today, were a novelty on the airwaves when "Meet the Press" began.

Among those who appeared on early shows were such significant figures of the mid-20th century as President Harry S. Truman and Henry Wallace, who had been vice president during Franklin D. Roosevelt's third term.



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OPINION

Welcome, Class of 2003

Welcome to the Class of 2003.

You have rightly earned a place at the Institute with your exceptional gifts and talents, and of this you should be proud. With these great talents come responsibilities. We hope you will make use of your talents to the benefit of the Institute community, through one of the hundreds of committees, clubs, activities, or teams here at MIT. As the Institute continues to change you can be a positive force in many of the developments evolving quickly around us.

The next week will perhaps be your most frenzied experience at MIT. After a few days of Orientation you may have trouble keeping track of all the living groups and student activities vying for your time and attention. You must sort through all the dinners and trips, pamphlets and brochures, and decide how your time is best spent.

You may also not be aware of the myriad housing options available at MIT. But you may find yourself objects of a tug

of war in the housing system. You will be one of the last classes to experience Rush during your Orientation period. Fraternities, sororities, independent living groups and dormitories all offer attractive communities. You must draw on your wisdom to find the community in which you best fit in.

The sometimes-feverish pace of Orientation will introduce you to the pace of life at the Institute. In order to succeed at MIT, you must conquer, or at least cope with, the very fast pace of daily life. There are so many courses and activities to consider you will not have time to experience them all. You must decide which priorities are most important to you and savor fully those experiences, while satisfying yourself with less devotion to things which are not as important to you.

Finally, you should relax a little during Orientation. Enjoy the food and attention showered upon you. After Registration Day, there will be precious little time to rest, so enjoy the time you have now.

Once again, congratulations and welcome to MIT.



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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January and monthly during the summer for \$45.00 per year Third Class by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Third Class postage paid at Worcester, Mass. Permit No. 589. POSTMASTER: Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. Telephone: (617) 253-1541, editorial; (617) 258-8324, business; (617) 258-8226, facsimile. Advertising subscription and typesetting rates available. Entire contents © 1999 The Tech. Printed on recycled paper by MassWeb Printing Co.

Editorial



STUDENTS RETURN TO COLUMBINE HIGH...



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COD Governed By Clear, Fair Policies

Steven R. L. Millman

After reading the August 4th *Tech* editorial entitled "An Unjust Process?", especially considering lines like "More frightening than the action against a particular individual is the arbitrary, clandestine, and possibly unjust nature of COD proceedings revealed by this action," it became evident to me that the editors of *The Tech*, and probably very many members of the MIT community are extremely unclear as to how the disciplinary process works and why it works the way it does. As one of the two graduate student members of the Institute's Committee on Discipline (COD), I would like to dispel some misconceptions about the process that seem to be clouding the discussion on the presumed Charles Yoo '98 disciplinary matter.

The first issue is that of secrecy. Like everyone else on the COD, I am not allowed to confirm or deny anything about a disciplinary case, even that a particular case has been heard. There are very good reasons for this. Imagine, for example, if members were free to talk about disciplinary matters or if a gallery were allowed. A student accused of inappropriate behavior could have his or her personal life picked apart on such a public scale that the fact of accusation might well be worse than any punishment issued by the COD. What would happen to the individual's reputation even if it were then to turn out the accused had not done anything wrong? For these and other reasons, MIT policy and US Department of Education regulations dictate that MIT officers (including student members of the COD) cannot speak on matters pertaining to matters of student discipline. This is even true when the student (or the student's lawyer) discloses information about the outcome.

The second issue deals with procedure. *The Tech* reported that "Clear codes and rules of conduct, not vague, wispy, and changing guidelines, must dictate these grave proceedings which mete out such severe punishments." I'm not sure which "wispy" guidelines are being referred to, but the "clear codes and rules of conduct" exist and great pains are taken to make certain that they are followed. They are given to every student when he or she enters the Institute in

the document "Dealing with Harassment at MIT" in Appendix One. A summary of these procedures are given to both the accuser and the accused when a charge has been filed. There is even a large chart including the proper procedures for the hearing which is placed on an easel each time the COD meets. Please feel free to peruse the policies and procedures of the COD which are available at <http://web.mit.edu/committees/cod/>.

The third issue revolves around the revocation of a degree after graduation. The COD will only hear cases about incidents that occurred while a person was a student and MIT has a policy which prevents it from conducting its own investigation into a disciplinary matter until a criminal investigation, if

Many members of the MIT community are extremely confused as to how the disciplinary process works. I would like to dispel some myths.

any, has been completed. This latter policy helps to prevent MIT from accidentally hindering local and state authorities' efforts.

For instance, the criminal investigation of Scott Krueger's death took over one year, after which MIT would have conducted its investigation. By then, some of the students present the night that Krueger died had graduated. When a case is brought forward after a student has graduated, MIT's disciplinary actions are limited. The only punishments that the COD can level are notation on the transcript, temporary revocation of degree, and permanent revocation of degree.

These decisions are roughly analogous to what the COD would do to a current student where notation on the transcript is akin to probation, temporary revocation to suspension, and permanent revocation to expulsion. If a person's degree is revoked for a period of time, it is probably because that person

would have been suspended had he or she still been a student. It is important to also note that the COD's decision to expel or revoke a degree is actually a recommendation to the President of MIT who ultimately approves or disapproves the sanction.

The last important issue to think about is the source of the information to which the press, and through it the public, has had access. MIT did not, and cannot, speak about a student disciplinary matter. The only source of information available has been through Charles Yoo and his lawyer, who has been arguing that MIT has used "Star Chamber" tactics.

This argument, as reported in the various news venues to which he has spoken, appears to be based on two things: first, his assertion that he was not allowed to speak or ask questions at the hearing; and second, his assertion that the decision against Yoo was based entirely on bad evidence. With respect to the former, while any student is allowed to bring a faculty member or dean as an advisor to a COD hearing, it is very unusual to allow a lawyer to accompany a student, and special permission from the chair is required. If Burke was, in fact, present, it would have been granted due to unusual circumstances, such as the recognition that what the student said at a COD hearing might be presented as evidence in another court. To my knowledge, Burke has never argued that he could not speak to Yoo during the alleged proceedings, nor has he made the assertion that Yoo could not speak or ask questions.

With respect to the second allegation of bad evidence, decisions of the COD are made in executive committee, meaning that no one but COD members are present. At this stage, the COD is very much like a jury which sequesters itself after the trial in order to make its decision. Burke could not have been present at this point, and therefore would have had no opportunity upon which to arrive at an opinion as to how the COD arrived at any decision.

Please remember as you contemplate the various aspects of these news stories that you are only hearing one side of the story about what might have happened at the COD, and you are hearing it from a lawyer. Please also try to remember that MIT's "deafening silence" is both a benefit to the students that come before the COD and a requirement of the Department of Education.

The Value of History

Michael J. Ring

Having served as the capital of the Confederate States of America, the city of Richmond, Virginia has seen its share of triumph, tragedy, strife, and bloodshed. As such it holds an important place in the annals of American history. Unfortunately, the parks and battlefields dotting the regional landscape do not seem to hold much of a place at all in locals' and visitors' minds.

This summer I spent a few short hours in Richmond and had an opportunity to see a couple of the historic sites around the city. Apparently I was one of a very select few people to have this desire. In fact, in an hour spent at Cold Harbor National Battlefield, a friend and I were the only visitors.

Admittedly, the battlefields around Richmond are not as famous or as historically significant as turning points like Gettysburg and Vicksburg. Still, Richmond and its suburbs are nearly one million strong, and between natives and visitors somebody should show just a little more interest in its history.

Of course, I didn't have to go to Virginia to see history ignored. Boston, after all, is a city of the greatest historical importance where many natives and tourists alike show more interest in Filene's Basement than the Old North Church. When was the last time that you walked the Freedom Trail?

As we enter the Third American Century, Americans know all too little about the first two. As a nation, we don't visit historical sites, don't learn our nation's stories, don't recognize the people and places that shaped this nation.

So why is this all important? Humanists love to expound upon the importance of history as a reflection of our culture and our mind. But on more practical terms, there are very important reasons for studying history. And as we approach new challenges as a nation, our lack of appreciation for history has stopped being just a nuisance and annoyance to crabby history buffs such as myself. Indeed, our ignorance will harm our nation's ability to solve national and world problems in our next century.

First off, Americans' habitual ignorance of the political process and our lack of awareness and respect for our history are intertwined. Those who know history can more fully appreciate the powers available in our political process. Americans who whine about their votes not counting would be wise to study an election such as 1960 where contests were decided by mere fractions of percentage points. Great political achievements such as the economic protections of the New Deal and the civil rights legislation of the 1960s were made possible only by a bloc of voters committed to those programs. The pundits of political doom can be proven wrong by a committed electorate — Harry S. Truman is testament to that.

Beside a greater appreciation for our political process, an understanding of history offers us policy lessons as well. Many of the challenges facing our nation today were also examined in similar situations in the past.

Take, for example, the sentiment among the political right that international political bodies are harmful to United States sovereignty. Organizations such as the United Nations are favorite targets of conservative Republican wrath. I suggest those political isolationists who favor a smaller role for America on the world stage need only look back some eighty years, to the aftermath of the First World War. The United States, fearful of losing its sovereignty, chose not to join the League of Nations. Without the world's most powerful nation, the League was hapless to halt German and Japanese military aggression and expansion, and the rest is history.

Of course, it is not only conservatives who need to hit the history books in order to deduce a solution to one of today's problems. Many liberals defend bilingual education as the best way to incorporate immigrant children into the American educational system. But time and again in social history, through various immigrant groups, immersion in English proves to be the ticket to American prosperity. The sooner an immigrant group can grasp full command of English, the more quickly the group will enjoy success in American society.

Of course, we do not have the room in these pages to explore fully the issues in these summaries, nor can we discuss other historical situations from which we can learn answers to today's problems. But hopefully we can see the value of history's lessons for today's problems, and decide that in looking to the future, we should also take a glance at the past.

The Godfather Model

Advice for the Class of 2003 on How to Get Things Done at MIT

Eric J. Plosky

We've all been taught to cooperate, to play nice, to stay inside the lines if we want to get things done. "Follow the rules." "Obey the law." "Go through channels."

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

With the Class of 2003 beginning to mill around on campus, now is the perfect time to repeat one of my favorite old chestnuts: Don't listen to any of that crap. From now on, take the Godfather as your model for getting things done. Always seize the initiative. If you can't bend the rules, break them — sometimes it's the only way to get something done. Don't play word games with your opponents; crush them. The system isn't in control; you are.

Good advice, I think, for all of us, but particularly for the (figuratively) apple-cheeked freshmen. The dying gasps of Rush will confuse your Orientation, and later on the bewildering blizzard of academics will surely traumatize. But let not such events become obstacles in your path. Sometimes you've just gotta punch your way through.

But none of this is really my point, because self-conscious individual nonconformity has long since ceased to interest me. What I'm advocating is the Godfather approach to student affairs in general, to campus life and governance. Student leadership at MIT has long tried to play by the rules, and look at the results. In the wake of the 1997 drinking death of Scott Krueger '01, the administration has run roughshod over the opinions and desires of students — not because administrators are inherently more powerful, but because student government and student leaders tried to work within their own mini-bureaucracy instead of grabbing the administration by the short hairs and demanding a response to student concerns.

Now is the chance to change all of that. Maybe there are a couple of Godfathers among the 2003-ers, lurking somewhere on campus in a temp room right now, waiting for their chance to spring forward and assume control of some empire or other. I hope so. It's been too long since someone has dared to assert control over anything on

campus, and I think it would be a refreshing change even to have self-styled student mobsters take the place over. As long as things got done.

There are limits, of course. Mussolini may have made the trains run on time, but he was a shady sort and not the kind of person I'd like to point to as a shining example of sterling leadership. Let it be said that I'm talking about methods, not motivations. If you're going to pursue a gangster's objectives, read no further.

On the other hand, if you're a genuine do-gooder who's frustrated by the narrow confines of MIT's within-the-lines world, or if you're simply looking for the first opportuni-

If you're a genuine do-gooder frustrated by the confines of MIT's world, or looking for an opportunity to bust forward and grab the reins of power, read on.

ty to bust forward to grab the reins of power, keep reading. I have a few suggestions, which are by no means novel but by all means vital — and, in my vast MIT experience, I can't remember the last time they were applied here.

First, be vocal. If something is bothering you, complain about it. Loudly. Incompetent or failed attempts at assistance should be reacted to harshly; don't allow yourself to be mollified by half-measures. "Well, at least they're trying," you might think. So? If you're not actually going to make a difference, forget about it; a difference which makes no difference is no difference. Don't shut up until your concerns are answered satisfactorily. Note that you might have to compromise a bit on your definition of "satisfactorily." Compromise is a tactic, not a vulnerability.

Be a pragmatist. Figure out what is possible and then go and get it. Don't chase lofty ideals; pursue the practical. Success will encourage you to seek larger and larger goals, and eventually even the lofty might be within reach. Start small, paying attention to matters immediately surrounding you, and you'll be able to make more of a difference than the idle dreamer would imagine possible. You can still muse on world affairs and the karmic nature of the universe, but don't expect anything to result from such wanderings. Get down to business.

Be shrewd. Figure out who knows what's going on — in every situation there's always at least one person (not necessarily the person in charge) who knows absolutely everything — and focus your attention. No need to be confrontational or adversarial; in fact, if you're crafty enough, the person on the other end of your problem will suddenly realize that he's become your ally. The person who knows everything may not be responsible for making your life miserable, so don't make his life miserable. Contrariwise, if you're able to pin down your personal Satan, make his (working) life a living hell until you're satisfied.

Be bold. If existing procedures or organizations can't handle what you have in mind, bypass them. Create a whole new way of doing things. Start a crusade, as long as you have the dedication and resources a credible crusade requires. Don't fall back on clichés; you'll look feeble. Innovate. Put a new spin on an old quark.

Be attentive. If you sense an opening or an opportunity, grab it. People-watching is always entertaining and usually rewarding if you're sufficiently perceptive, because you'll soon divine who knows what. Get to know people's strengths and weaknesses, and determine what they know. Don't assume that situations will remain forever, helplessly opaque. Look and listen.

Finally, be irreverent. People who take themselves too seriously quickly become seriously annoying, and have a tendency to fade into obscurity before they have a chance to accomplish anything. Keep a sense of humor. After all, you may be the Godfather, but this is only MIT, where the motto hidden somewhere on every Brass Rat is IHTFP.

THE ARTS

FILM REVIEW

Magic Trick

Pure fun

By Fred Choi

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Directed by Jim Fall

Written by Jason Schafer

With Christian Campbell, J.P. Pitoc,
and Tori Spelling

Trick is a movie that queer audiences have been awaiting for some time. At last, a gay romantic comedy that doesn't have anything to do with AIDS, homophobia, someone's struggle for sexual identity, or the classic "Is he or isn't he?" scenario, which gays get more than enough of in real life. Although these topics are all signifi-

cant and relevant to homosexuals in the 90's, it is utterly refreshing to have a movie in which the main characters are just regular, well-adjusted gay people going about their everyday lives.

Although this story may be somewhat idealistic in its lack of complications, such an approach isn't as farfetched or unusual a notion as other queer movies make it out to be. And even though the movie pointedly shuns all the traditionally serious gay topics, its story, which screenwriter Jason Schafer skillfully makes welcoming and accessible to non-queer audiences, is still compelling and relevant to queer culture. Indeed, the greatest and most important thing about *Trick* is that it succeeds as a romantic comedy and can hold its own against such classics as *When Harry Met Sally* and *Strictly Ballroom*.

Trick takes its title from a part of queer culture that many audience members may not be aware of. This is the one night stand that occurs between two consenting people, in

which it is implicitly understood by both parties that the relationship is strictly for the night: after they find a place and both are satisfied, they'll go their separate ways, end of story. The main conflict of *Trick* is simple. Where to take your trick for the night when there's nowhere private to go?

The beginning of the movie follows Gabriel (Christian Campbell), an aspiring musical theater writer, who has made eye contact with Mark (John Paul Pitoc), a go-go boy, on the subway after having noticed him dancing in a flattering red thong at a bar. They agree to go to Gabe's place, even though Gabe knows his roommate needs the apartment in a few hours because his girlfriend is returning from a trip. However, when they arrive, Gabe's best friend, aspiring actress Katherine (Tori Spelling), is busy printing out 150 copies of her resume. This is only the first of a night full of hilarious obstacles that take the two all over Manhattan searching for a place to satisfy their delayed gratification. On

the way, they interact with a slew of vivid, memorable supporting characters in a variety of riotously funny scenes, including a bitter drag queen in the bathroom of a gay club, Gabriel's musical theater mentor singing lewd songs in a piano bar, and a topless aspiring sex therapist.

Although the simple conflict of *Trick* could have been difficult to sustain for the length of a movie, and its gay male fantasy story could have been as trite as a trashy express lane paperback romance novel, it is thanks to Schafer's sometimes quirky script that the movie is witty and wonderful. The script is tight, the action never falters, and the laughs never stop coming as each of the two protagonists, at first unwillingly,

learn more about each other.

Director Jim Fall does a wonderful job with pacing, and the actors are simply perfect in their roles. Tori Spelling ("Beverly Hills 90210"), the most famous of the cast, proves that she can act and fills her role with confidence. Her character is just as important as the two male leads, and her ability to sensitively express Katherine's complex feelings for Gabe is admirable. Christian Campbell, with his apple-pie-sweet looks, and J.P. Pitoc, with his wide smile, prove to be a perfect match, and generate sparks and grins.

There are only a paltry few ways in which *Trick* is weak, and most are minor complaints. The conflict near the end of the film feels a little hackneyed upon close inspection. Also, because the movie is built around the concept of a trick, the omission of AIDS issues is perhaps noteworthy in its absence. However, Schafer and Fall's decision is not ludicrous, and the two are to be commended for their decision to avoid such topics completely.

Trick is, in a word, terrific. It is unique, warm, intelligent, and, exceptionally, refrains from ever resorting to crass humor or caricatures. It is a romantic comedy that makes recent, more famous movies such as *Notting Hill* seem painfully mediocre in comparison. *Trick* is a unique and memorable movie that is a sure crowd-pleaser for straight and gay audiences alike.

ALBUM REVIEW

Splendor

Halfway Down the Sky

By Daniel J. Katz

STAFF WRITER

From its genesis, the focus of most alternative music has been standard guitar rock taken in new and interesting directions. At its best, Splendor's debut, *Halfway Down the Sky*, fills this niche. At its worst, it becomes plodding and derivative or wandering and futile. The positives outweigh the negatives, however, making for an enjoyable album.

The kick-off track is a standard, well-paced piece of rock music called "I Don't Understand," with the requisite catchy chorus and moment in which everything becomes quiet only to surge again in volume suddenly. While well-displayed in the first song, these traits are much more inherent in the second song and current single, "Yeah, Whatever," which is not the valley girl anthem it sounds like; on the contrary, the infectious music is enhanced by vocals about trying to keep up with everything your girlfriend wants in a relationship, then finally giving up in frustration. While many alternative bands play empty songs about rejection and depression, Splendor's bitterness appears more sincere than most, perhaps due to a focus on regret and nostalgia rather than revenge and self-loathing.

That bitterness is also inherent in songs like "I Apologize," in which the lead singer grows tired of hearing that everything is his fault and sarcastically apologizes for the sunlight and rain, and "Spin," which accelerates from a laid-back guitar figure to an anguished cry of "So long, sorry ... You're not here and I don't want you back." Other highlights include "Wallflower," with heavy guitar delay effects that sound a bit like Rage Against the Machine would if they went pop, and "Monotone," which, once again, satisfies the same hit song requirements as the first two.

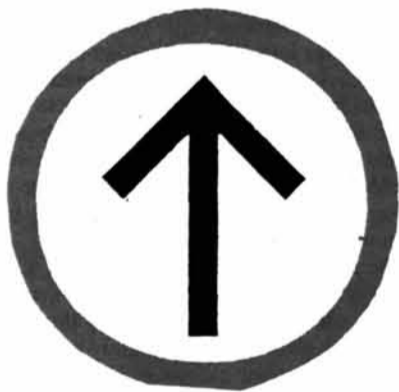
Unfortunately, while there are some great tracks near the beginning and end of *Halfway*, it falls totally flat somewhere around the middle. The overly peppy Matchbox 20-esque "Special," leads into the overly dramatic ballad, "I Think God Will Explain," both of which capture a lot of mood without a lot of creativity or emotion. "Responsible" sounds exactly like a song I know I've heard somewhere, and "Supernatural" definitely doesn't, because it has no real aim or appeal whatsoever.

As a whole, the project would probably be a little more appealing if the good and bad tracks were interspersed; in their current order the quality of the album surges downhill around the middle. The current single, which is pulling off quite a bit of airplay, is a good indication of whether you'll be into this band. If you hear "Yeah, Whatever" and rejoice at a wonderful piece of modern rock, Splendor's for you. If you find yourself repeating the name of the song in indifference, look elsewhere for your musical fix.



J.P. Pitoc, Christian Campbell, and Tori Spelling in the funny and romantic *Trick*.

J. LOFARO—FINE LINE FEATURES



SONNET OF ANTINATURE

I

After Quaker Meeting, the only restaurant I can find in Harvard Square
Is the Greenhouse. It has a long line. There is room in the Coop Café for snacks,
But it has long lines for the restrooms for women and men.
Harvard is antinatural. You can neither eat nor excrete in comfort.

II

What I spoke in Quaker Meeting Sunday morning, in Cambridge →
America leads the world. The Cambridge - Boston area leads the nation
Of the mind, hence the world. If Christ returns today, he would come here!
He must come today because of the Cobalt Bomb which, if exploded,
Kills all life on earth in three weeks. The Cobalt Bomb appears
By name at least eleven times in "On The Beach", the book,
By Nevile Shute. Stanley Kramer, in his film of the book,
Calls it the "Atomic Bomb." There is a difference →
[The degree of totality of death, from which you never shall escape.]
Needless to say the mark of Hollywood is "Falsehood"!

NATHAN COOPER

FILM REVIEW

Brokedown Palace

Life in prison

By Roy Rodenstein

STAFF WRITER

Directed by Jonathan Kaplan
Written by Adam Fields, David Arata
With Claire Danes, Kate Beckinsale, Bill Pullman, Jacqueline Kim, Lou Diamond Phillips, Daniel LaPaine

What price innocence? This is the question posed by *Brokedown Palace*, a slight story of slackers who land behind bars in the most unlikely of places. Alice Marano (Claire Danes) and Darlene Davis (Kate Beckinsale)

are best friends for life. They've only made it out of high school, but that "for life" part will be severely tested, in several senses, before the movie is over.

Bored by summer doldrums and summer jobs, Alice and Darlene tell their parents they're going to visit Hawaii — but instead set off to Thailand, lured by stories of good times for cheap. On a tour that makes Thailand look like just another village from a Disney theme park, they partake of quirky local traditions. Things only go downhill when Alice — of the two, the known troublemaker — invites Darlene to sneak into a

glamorous hotel to swim and put drinks on random rooms' tabs. Caught in a lie, their tab is covered by a suave Australian named Nick Parks, who takes them dancing and asks them to join him in Hong Kong. Things unravel at the airport, where a swat team finds drugs in Alice's backpack, and soon a judge gives both girls 33-year prison terms.

In these opening minutes, the most entertaining scene occurs when Darlene finds a roach in their cheap hotel room. Sadly, the rest of the movie hardly improves on that. Indeed, *Brokedown Palace* serves as a study in muddled, ineffectual drama. For starters, a voiceover by Alice provides the film's set-up in the form of a tape being listened to by Yankee Hank (Bill Pullman), the lawyer the girls are trying to recruit. Poor Pullman can only nod goofily at the droning, off-topic ramblings on the tape, which are really meant for the viewers in the theater. Similarly, two characters in *Brokedown Palace*, the women's prison, appear to have been created solely to advance the plot more quickly. There is also the token unfriendly prisoner who loves to cause trouble for the two girls — and for no one else.

The simplistic melodrama doesn't end there. Alice keeps an irrelevant fact from Hank, but he gets angry about it. Then Darlene finds out and gets literally sick from rage, while Alice waits several days — until the director decides that was enough time for the fight-between-best-friends sequence — to tell Darlene she misunderstood. Another cute trick is how the girls sud-

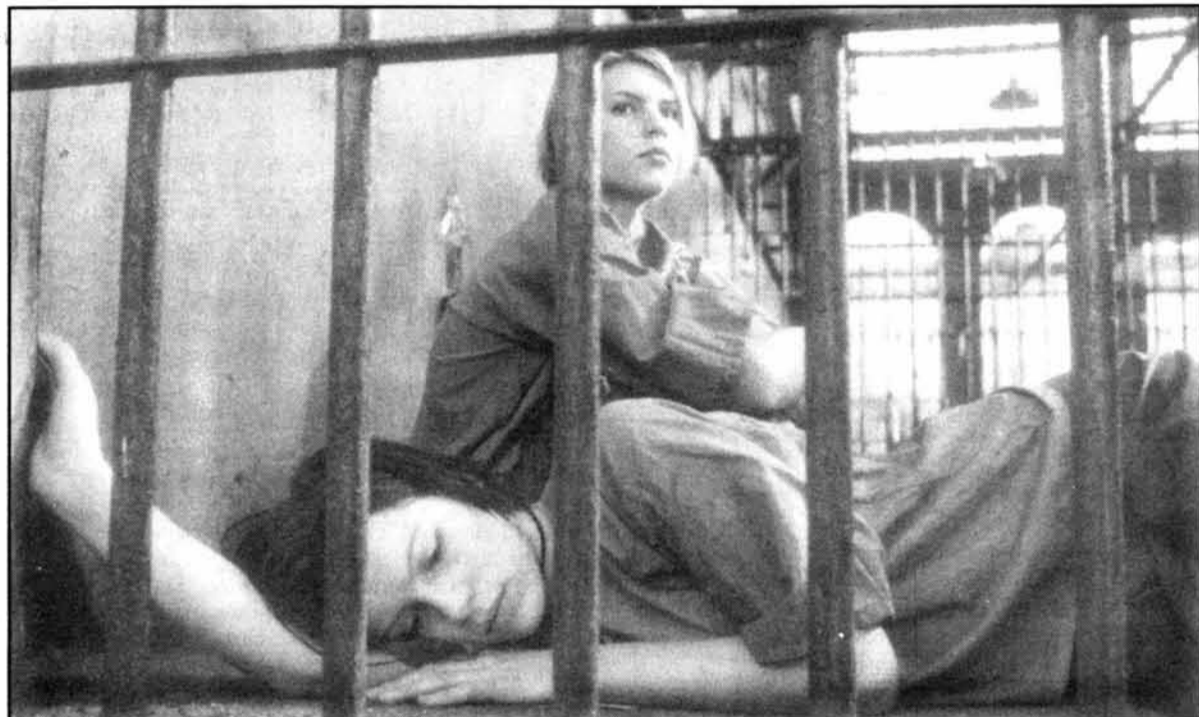
denly can speak Thai — but the scenes of cultural acclimation, potentially very interesting, are not shown at all, and nothing whatsoever comes of their newfound abilities.

Narrative is just one of the film's many problematic areas. The trial scenes are full of plot holes, such as the fact that nobody even thinks of calling the primary eyewitness to corroborate a part of the girls' story. In jail, Darlene writes to US representatives asking for help, but her parents, who are in the US, don't think to try contacting those representatives.

The dialogue is no better, with marvelous lines such as "What's up with her?!" used repeatedly. When a potential informant refuses to answer Hank's question, Hank uses the brilliant technique of asking the question again, and this time the informant answers. Just as ridiculous are the film's late attempts at setting up a morality play.

At least the cast saves the picture, right? Sad to say, they don't help. Beckinsale, so perfectly cast in *The Last Days of Disco*, is bland and shockingly forgettable. Danes, who clearly can switch great acting on at will, can't stop flipping the switch at the wrong times. On the plus side, Pullman is solidly enjoyable as the charming lawyer Yankee Hank Greene, who, while speaking to the girls' parents on the phone, scribbles a figure for how much he can extort — and knocks it down repeatedly as he realizes they can only afford chump change. Jacqueline Kim as Yoon, Hank's Thai wife, is refreshing in the movie's only fully convincing performance.

As deplorable as *Brokedown Palace* is, its Asian setting makes for handsome, intriguing scenery. In addition, there is a single highly poignant scene in which friends from the States visit the girls and, yelling across the moat that separates them, tell how bored they are in college and at the mall. With characterization off on a vacation of its own, though, it's impossible to care for long. If the film has any points to make, it appears to be a vague criticism of the slackerdom of youth. Director Kaplan (*The Accused*) could have painted a stirring portrait, but instead has made one which is merely slackerish, thus suffering from the very malaise it addresses.



FRANK CONNOR—TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

Alice Marano (Claire Danes) and Darlene Davis (Kate Beckinsale) do hard time in *Brokedown Palace*.

MUSIC REVIEW

State of the Airwaves

Lit, love, and lousy pop punk

By Daniel J. Katz

STAFF WRITER

Correct me if I'm wrong, but aren't the really good singles supposed to hit the radio at the beginning of summer?

August is coming to an end, and some of the best songs of the year are turning up, all from albums yet to be released. The leader far and away is the first single from Our Lady Peace's third album, a piercing rock tune called "One Man Army." The song takes full advantage of lead singer Raine Maida's flexible falsetto and the band's skillful guitar playing, launching from a rhythmically stumbling verse into a spacey electric chorus. The requisite killer guitar solo makes the package complete.

Amazing song number two comes from Travis Meeks and his new incarnation of Days of the New. "Enemy" features the intricate acoustic guitar that made "Touch, Peel, and Stand" a hit, but a more modern touch is added in the form of synthesizers and a drum line less organic than in Meeks' previous work. Repeated vocal hooks add a pop edge and finally make the band sound slightly different from Alice In Chains. This is Days of the New you can dance to.

Third song living in my tape player is the second effort from ex-Soundgarden front man Chris Cornell. His first single, "Sunshower," was a rich ballad that appeared on the *Great Expectations* soundtrack. With "She Can't Change Me" from his upcoming album, Cornell shows there's still some rock in him. The chorus is driving and catchy, and the whole song moves along in time, creating the best waltz to hit the radio in quite a while (since Elliot Smith's "Waltz #2," to be precise).

Well, you know I'm not going to be all positive, so what to pan this week? How about Showoff's "Falling Star," a testament to what punk should not degenerate into? It seems like every minute of this song either tiptoes along at a snail's pace or starts to get some momentum... before starting to tiptoe again. This song makes you want to throw a shoe at the radio. Cheesy and predictable harmonies, coupled with a lack of any real purpose, make it nothing more than boring.

A slightly better attempt in the power chord pop genre is Lit's "Ziplock," which is not a terrible song, but still a far cry from "My Own Worst Enemy." The video, on the other hand, is very good, featuring a cameo by Twisted Sister's Dee Snider, playing the same father that he actually threw out in his own band's video for "We're Not Going To Take It." Such funny stuff almost overshadows the mediocrity of the song.

Before you decide I've got no affection for good old mindless punk songs, how about Face's "God Is A Man?" Good old take-no-prisoners hard rock. Doesn't try to be particularly catchy or revolutionary, but in its genre, this is quality material.

If you do want something catchy, there are some tunes out there to put a smile on your face. I'm normally not a big pop advocate, but there are exceptions (I'm still an occasional Ricky Martin fan). "Smile," the first single by Vitamin C, a female popster with orange hair is a blatant rip-off of Sugar Ray's "Fly," with one major exception: "Fly" was really annoying. "Smile" is really endearing. Plus, there's no hunky male lead singer for fourteen-year-old girls to become obsessed with.

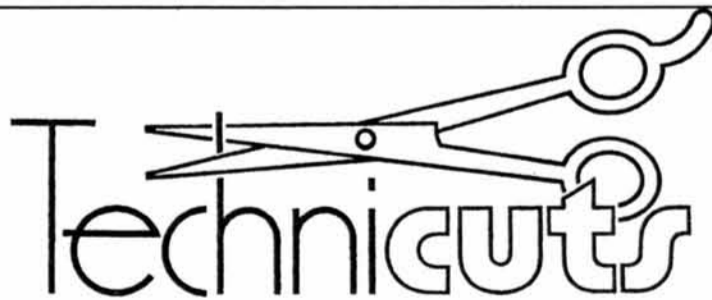
And, as a music lover born and raised near Philadelphia, I have to give props to local boy G. Love, whose "Rodeo Clowns" is getting nationwide airplay with its funky shuffling beat and groovy vocals. I haven't always dug G. Love, but his new album is very good. Hope he finds success with it.

As always, comments are welcome at airwaves@the-tech.mit.edu. Enjoy Orientation, and keep expanding your horizons.



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

Under the direction of George Ogata, the MIT Summer Philharmonic returned from a one year hiatus to perform Sibelius's Finlandia, Violin Concertio in D Minor, and Symphony No. 2 in Kresge Auditorium August 14th.



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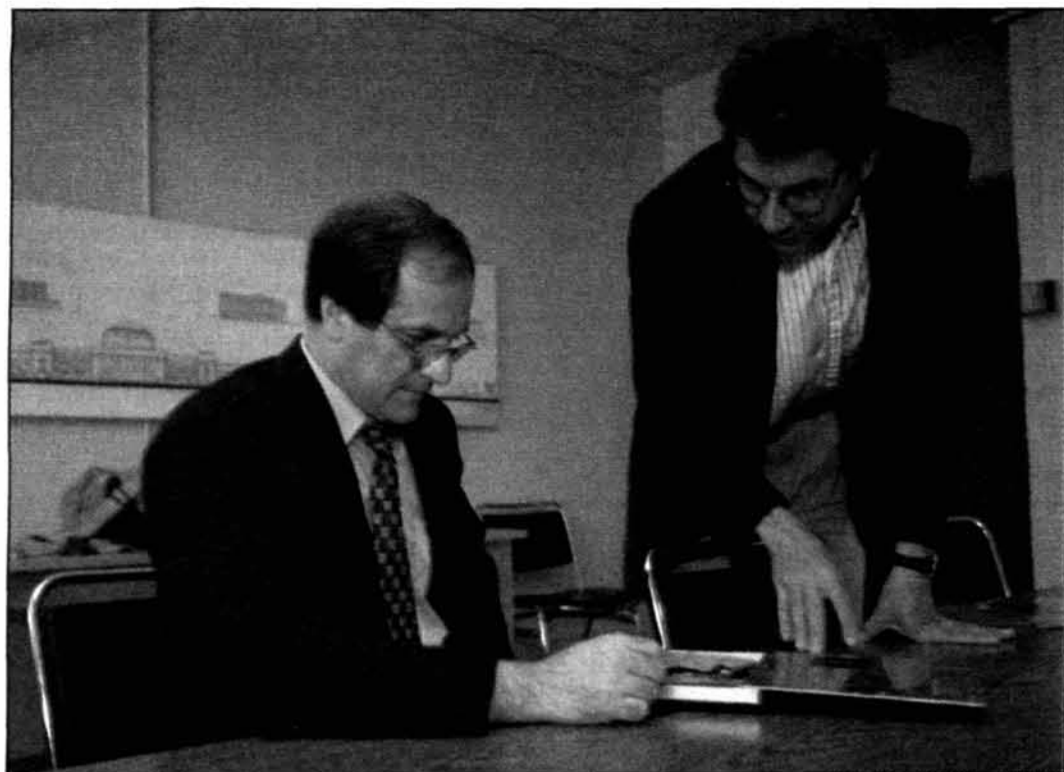
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Miodrag Cirkovic—THE TECH

Congressman Michael Capuano (D-MA) visited MIT's Laboratory for Nuclear Science and discusses details of the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer with MIT professor Peter Fisher. The AMS is an advanced cosmic ray detector designed to measure and track millions of higher energy particles.

Some Events Added, Replaced For Freshman Orientation 1999

by Naveen Sunkavally
NEWS EDITOR

Like the orientation before it, Orientation 1999 will continue the trend of making rush a less hectic experience and broadening student involvement in the community.

One of the new additions this year is MIT's Real World, a series of activities ranging from pickup sports, massages, and meetings with experts on health and finances and housing. MIT's Real World takes place Thursday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The welcome dinner, where freshmen can meet faculty, has been moved this year from Wednesday to Thursday. The move gives students more time to relax Wednesday night in activities such as a barbeque and the Adam Sandler movie *Waterboy*.

In past orientations, freshman took part in dinners Thursday night hosted by living group members. Last year, Thursday night dinners were removed from orientation.

This year the dinners will return, to be held by orientation group leaders on Friday night. The Interfraternity Council will monitor them closely for rush violations, said Dakus S. Gunn '01, orientation personnel coordinator.

Another new activity for this year's orientation is a dance for MIT and Wellesley freshman on Sunday, Sept. 4. The event is sponsored by the Academic Resource Center, Residential Life and Student Life Programs, Campus Activities Complex, and the Office of Campus Dining, said Elizabeth Young Cogliano, director of orientation.

This year's orientation also includes the traditional spate of well-attended activities, including Friday's Core Blitz from 1-2 p.m. and Academic Expo from 2-3:30 p.m. The freshmen picture will occur Saturday at noon, to be followed by Killian kickoff, which marks the beginning of rush.

International students arrive

While the majority of the freshman population arrives today, international students, which represent eight percent of the incoming class, arrived Monday, kicking off orientation.

Julie D. Gesch '01, orientation program coordinator, said international orientation thus far has been a success; 95 students attended the welcome breakfast on Monday, up from last year's 65, she said.

Later Monday, international students had the opportunity to meet faculty at a reception, and on Tuesday, they could participate in a duck tour and attend an IFC sponsored ice-cream mixer.

Grad Student Injured In Fire at Building 18

By Frank Dabek
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A graduate student was injured when a small solvent fire broke out in a lab in Building 18 around noon yesterday.

Sarah L. Aeilts G was taken by ambulance to Massachusetts General Hospital with first and second degree burns to her forearm where she was treated and released. The fire apparently began when fumes from an open bottle of pentane flashed.

Deputy Chief of the Cambridge Fire Department Michael Morrissey said that "the product flashed [but] there was no extension" of the fire, meaning that nothing other than the solvent burned.

Cambridge Fire arrived on the scene with three fire engines, but

Morrissey said that their response was precautionary. "The event was over by the time we arrived," he said. The fire department also verified that no pentane remained in the air after the fire.

The incident occurred in room 18-165, a laboratory used by students of Professor of Chemistry Richard R. Schrock. The room appeared undamaged about 30 minutes after the fire.

Pentane is a common organic solvent often used for extraction and chromatography. It is highly flammable.

This is the second fire to break out in one of Schrock's labs in the past year. A hexane fueled fire damaged a lab in Building 6 last October.

POLICE LOG

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Campus Police between Aug 3 and Aug. 10. Information is compiled from the Campus Police's weekly crime summary and from dispatcher logs. The report does not include alarms, general service calls, or incidents not reported to the dispatcher.

Aug. 3: Broadway, MIT Police motorcycle officer was struck by another vehicle, minor injuries; Theta Delta Chi, bike left unlocked in house stolen \$250; Bldg. 54, bike seat stolen \$40; Alumni Pool, \$70 cash stolen from wallet; Bldg. E1, report of suspicious vehicle, gone upon CP's arrival; Bldg. E23, report of skateboarders, same asked to cease and move along; Mass. Ave. and Vassar St., assist Cambridge with person having chest pains; Ashdown, report of suspicious person, checks out okay.

Aug. 4: Bldg. 4, suspicious activity, complainant reports suspicious male in the mens room peeked at him through the keyhole then left area; Bldg. E25 plaza, skateboarders, same asked to cease and move along.

Aug. 5: Bldg. 3, report of suspicious person, same checked out okay; Next House, bike secured with a U lock stolen \$250; Amherst St. check on vehicle operating erratically; Mass. Ave. and Memorial Dr., assist Cambridge with vehicle vs. bicyclist accident.

Aug. 6: Theta Delta Chi, noise complaint; Student Center, Ismael Maisonet of 3 Pickney Street, Somerville, MA, taken into custody on an outstanding warrant; Bldg. 56, suspicious activity; Bldg. 35, suspicious person; Main St. and Vassar St., assist Cambridge with minor motor vehicle accident; Main St. and Ames St., suspicious person, checks out okay; Boston, Sigma Phi Epsilon, suspicious person.

Aug. 7: 33 Mass. Ave., check of suspicious person, issued trespass warning; Bldg. E15, two suspicious persons issued trespass warning; Purrington St., well being check on three individuals; rear of Bldg. NW12, check on well being of individual; Boston, homeless person removed from steps of AXO.

Aug. 8: Memorial Dr. near Baker House, report of suspicious activity; Bldg. 14, juvenile arrested on a warrant; MacGregor, noise complaint discovered to be a radio alarm clock; Student Center plaza, two juveniles attempting to steal a bike, trespass warning issued; Kresge, 1) cash box stolen \$250 2) \$35 cash and a credit card stolen from wallet; Bldg. 13 bike rack, bike secured with a cable stolen \$90; Ames St., suspicious persons checked out, trespass warning issued; Student Center, dispute between brother and sister.

Aug. 9: Bldg. 68, report of person collecting cans, persons left building prior to CP's arrival; Bldg. E19, construction equipment stolen \$300; Bldg. 14, printer stolen \$266; West Garage, malicious damage to vehicle; Bldg. 56, malicious damage to emergency telephone; Bldg. E15, computer equipment stolen, \$15,870; Kendall Sq., bike stolen \$120; W34, suspicious persons, check out okay; Bldg. W89, suspicious person, trespass warning issued; Bldg. NE20, camera stolen \$2,000.

Aug. 10: Bldg. E19, suspicious person, check of area unable to locate; Student Center and 33 Mass. Ave., HP door controls stolen \$300; Bldg. E15 plaza, bike parts stolen \$10; Mass. Ave. suspicious person, issued trespass warning; Student Center, assist Cambridge in attempting to locate missing person; Bldg. E17, computer stolen, \$1,464; Bldg. 18, suspicious activity; Bldg. 10, employee problem; Student Center, Wesley Price of 4 Mattakesett Circle, Ashburnham, MA arrested for shoplifting; Bldg. E25 plaza, skateboarders, asked to leave the area; Bldg. NE20, camera stolen \$400; Green Hall, bike stolen \$20.



AARON ISAKSEN—THE TECH

Volunteers Orhan Karsligil G, Oguz Gunes G and Sevgi Ertan G increase awareness for victims of Turkey's devastating earthquake. They will be collecting donations until next Wednesday in Lobby 7.

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Freshmen Enjoying MIT Experience, Orientation

Story, from Page 1

number of the students who originally committed to MIT last spring ended up changing their minds. Most years, a summer melt usu-

ally consists of the loss of "usually 30 to 35 students," said Johnson.

Freshmen pleased with MIT

Overall, freshmen seem to be pleased with their first impressions

of the campus and Orientation.

"I like [MIT]; I really like it," said Lars Tronnint '03, an international student from Norway who has been here for two days. "People are really nice," and international student orien-

tation has been "enjoyable so far." Tronnint expressed praise for the amount of information he had been provided and the amount of time he had been given to meet new people.

But the campus "seems kind of empty so far," said Amanda Leckman '03. She said that her experience during last April's Campus Preview Weekend definitely helped her choose MIT.

Approximately 73 percent of the students who visited MIT for CPW ended up choosing to attend MIT.

"It seems nice so far," said Chad Leedeckerken '03. "They made it pretty easy. It's not as shocking as people said it would be."

Other students have begun exploring off-campus. "I went into Boston and really liked the T," said Rachel Parke-Houben '03, who arrived yesterday.

Meanwhile, Orientation seems to be running smoothly. "Things are going really well," and "everyone's really positive," said Damien A. Brosnan '01, one of four Orientation coordinators.

As of Monday, 800 freshmen had still not arrived, according to Brosnan. However, all freshmen should be on campus by 5:00 pm today, in time for the opening ceremonies in Kresge Auditorium.

are expected to number among the 1,056 total members of the incoming freshman class, or about 43 percent. The percentage is comparable to previous years. Last year's incoming class had 450 female students out of 1,050 total members.

Seventy-one percent of this year's freshmen come from public high schools, and eight percent come from abroad, up from six percent last year. Of the 666 students who came from schools that ranked its students, about 87 percent were in the top five percent of their classes, and 33 percent were first in their classes.

According to Johnson, there are no students from South Dakota, Mississippi, or Wyoming. Among the states, California boasts the largest amount of representation, being the home of 14 percent of the class of 2003. Among regions, the Middle Atlantic — comprising of New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania — has the most representation.

Underrepresented minorities make up about 18 percent of the class, with Asian-Americans making up an additional 26 percent. Those numbers do not include the percentage of students who chose not to disclose their ethnicity, a group that has risen to 12 percent of incoming students over the past few years.



ANNIE S. CHOI—THE TECH

Orientation workers greet and direct a freshman arriving on campus via the airport shuttle bus yesterday on Amherst Alley.

BYOB Event Properly Registered

Story, from Page 1

held at DKE that night.

Tutors in the Interphase Program went to the fraternity house at 403 Memorial Drive to inquire as to the whereabouts of the student twice. Both times fraternity members at the door stated that the student was not at the party.

During that time, fraternity members were allegedly taking care of the student inside the house, as he had become sick from consuming large amounts of alcohol at the party, according to Dorow.

John D. Morris, President of DKE, stated that fraternity brothers had checked IDs at the door the night of the party. "There is no way to figure out how it happened. All we know is that he somehow found his way to alcohol in the house and therefore we are responsible," said Morris. Morris did not stay at the house during the summer and was not present the night of July 24.

Interphase tutors reported the student missing to Campus Police after

a careful search of Burton-Conner, where the student was living at the time, and the surrounding area.

The Campus Police found the student at approximately 6 a.m. the morning of July 25 in a room of Delta Kappa Epsilon with a few brothers of the fraternity.

"The student had been drinking," said Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin.

Party properly registered

The party held at DKE on Saturday, July 24 had been properly registered with the Campus Police as a B.Y.O.B. event. Those who attended the party were required to present proper identification at the door. People over 21 were marked and given tickets to exchange for the alcohol they brought. Officials are not sure why the underage student was served alcohol at the event.

"Interphase rules clearly state that drinking is prohibited and fraternities are out-of-bounds for students. These rules were covered in the student ori-

entation in early July," said Leo Osgood, Associate Dean and Director of the Office of Minority Education.

Interphase is a summer-long program for minority admitted students sponsored by the Office of Minority Education. The curriculum includes classes in physics, calculus, writing, physical education, and other extracurricular activities.

Approximately 60 students were enrolled in the Interphase Program this summer. About eight to 10 tutors, undergraduate upperclassmen at MIT, were in charge of the students, acting somewhat like Graduate Resident Tutors in the dorm.

"This is the first time something like this has come to light [in the Interphase program]... though I cannot absolutely say in dealing with students that it has never happened," said Osgood.

"Sometimes we have to deal with the consequences of our actions. We hope that we have seized the educational aspect of this tragic situation," Osgood said.

Demographics remain constant

This year, 453 female students

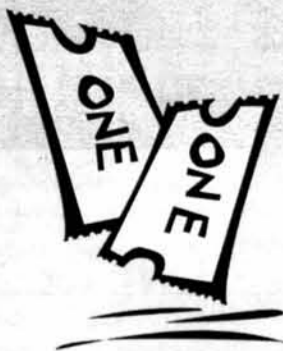


ANNIE S. CHOI—THE TECH

The Interfraternity Council ruled that Delta Kappa Epsilon will be alcohol-free for one year after an Interphase student was found intoxicated in the fraternity's house last month.


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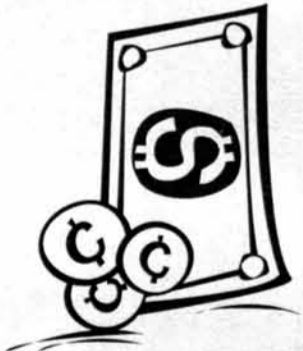
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Fleet Bank, Others Offer Banking Options

Banking, from Page 1

the first three months of the service are now being offered free.

Fleet Bank

Fleet Bank's nearest branch is located on Massachusetts Avenue past Random Hall. Students often choose to enroll in Fleet's self-service checking account at seven dollars per month, or five dollars per month if direct deposit of paychecks is used.

The account provides twenty checks per month with a dollar for every two extra checks and unlimited usage of ATM and debit cards. MasterCard credit cards are also offered by Fleet.

Fleet customers can use both web-based and software banking for free, or \$4.95 if bills are paid through the Internet. The web interface, however, must be requested.

Fleet Bank and BankBoston are merging, though this will result in few or no changes for customers. The merger will be complete, according to Fleet, by the fourth quarter of 1999, but all accounts at both banks will remain intact.

Cambridge Trust

Cambridge Trust Company is a smaller bank relative to Fleet and BankBoston, with offices at University Park and Kendall Square. They offer an ATM Convenience account with no minimum balance or monthly fee and overdraft protection.

Customers can write up to eight checks per month with no charge, and unlimited ATM, point of sale, and debit transactions are allowed. Cambridge Trust is also part of the SUM network, a consortium of smaller banks throughout lower New England, and Cambridge Trust

account holders incur no charges while using SUM ATMs. However, the ATMs on main campus belong to Fleet or BankBoston, neither of which belongs to SUM.

MasterCard credit cards can be obtained by customers over 18.

Cambridge Trust is fairly new to the Internet, but they allow exclusively web-based online banking at five dollars per month with forty cents per bill paid and two months free.

U.S. Trust

U.S. Trust is another SUM member. They have two account programs, one for students under 18 or over 65 called the 18-65 account. The account plan has a one dollar minimum balance, with no monthly fee. Checking is free, and the account pays interest at 0.50 percent. There is also a form of overdraft protection, where with a five dollar fee. The 18-65 plan allows both ATM and debit transactions.

The Free Checking account for those over 18 is the same as the 18-65 account, with no interest rate. U.S. Trust is not yet online, but plans to be by the first of the new year.

The information presented in the article was gathered from marketing representatives of the respective banks.

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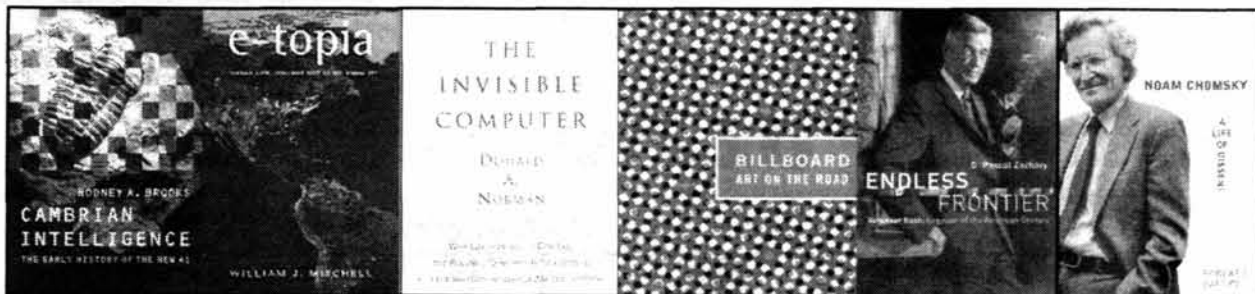
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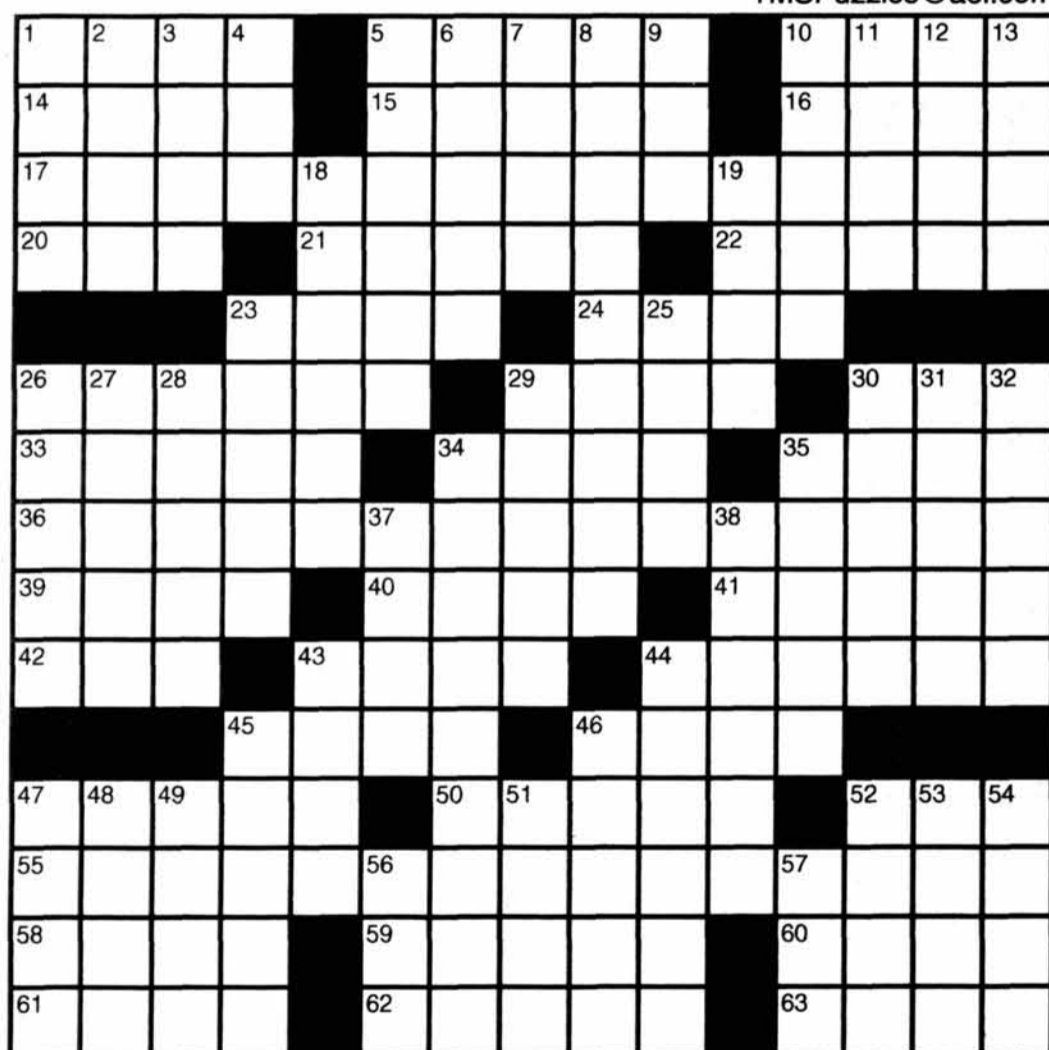
by Jennifer DiMase



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Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Gerald R. Ferguson
Portland, OR

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ACROSS

- 1 Flat-topped hill
- 5 Verbalize
- 10 Autumn
- 14 Particle
- 15 De Valera of Ireland
- 16 Opera song
- 17 Letterman bit
- 20 Cadence count
- 21 Gorby's wife
- 22 Picture in picture
- 23 Quaker William
- 24 Remaining
- 26 Stonecutters
- 29 Golfer Ballesteros
- 30 Tallahassee sch.
- 33 Enough
- 34 Anglo-Saxon theologian
- 35 Spanish cheers
- 36 Engages in idle activities as a group
- 39 Writing fluids
- 40 Fasten, as buttons
- 41 Bones in forearms
- 42 Birthday figure
- 43 Writer Bellow
- 44 Rock on the edge
- 45 Interlock
- 46 Dryer trappings
- 47 Awry
- 50 True up
- 52 Watch pocket
- 55 Is totally in the dark
- 58 Fruity refreshments
- 59 Guy on the fast track?
- 60 Nuisance
- 61 Numerous
- 62 Consumers
- 63 Thin strip of wood

DOWN

- 1 Pound to a pulp
- 2 End of din?
- 3 Meal starter
- 4 Current unit, in short
- 5 Family vehicles
- 6 Short putt
- 7 Ed who was Mingo on "Daniel Boone"
- 8 Tallied
- 9 Way in, in brief
- 10 Dim
- 11 Circle parts
- 12 Be fond of
- 13 Final
- 18 Ryan and Worth
- 19 Abundant
- 23 Straw votes
- 25 Uniform
- 26 Criminal group
- 27 In the middle of
- 28 Talked
- 29 South Korea's capital
- 30 Spark producer
- 31 Bristles
- 32 Lead to seats
- 34 Hubbubs
- 35 Young hooter
- 37 Rehan and Huxtable
- 38 Prokofiev opera, with "The"
- 43 Stitched
- 44 Carnivorous felines
- 45 Untidy
- 46 Pate base
- 47 Man before Eve
- 48 Soft drink
- 49 Enthusiastic
- 51 Fancy cloth
- 52 Dog dogger
- 53 Force out
- 54 "Crimes of the Heart" dramatist Henley
- 56 Play about Capote
- 57 Lowest NCO

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>

Thursday's Events

1:00 p.m. - MIT Pierce (Rowing) Boathouse - Open House. A opportunity for anyone interested in rowing to meet crew team captains, rowers, and coaches so they can learn more about the sport. H.W.Pierce Boathouse (W8). Sponsor: MIT Boat Club.

Friday's Events

8:00 p.m. - Little Shop of Horrors. Book and lyrics by Howard Ashman; music by Alan Menken. \$9; \$8 MIT faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students; \$6 MIT/Wellesley students; \$3 MIT freshmen. Kresge Little Theater.

Saturday's Events

8:00 p.m. - Little Shop of Horrors. Book and lyrics by Howard Ashman; music by Alan Menken. \$9; \$8 MIT faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students; \$6 MIT/Wellesley students; \$3 MIT freshmen. Kresge Little Theater.

Sunday's Events

2:00 p.m. - Little Shop of Horrors. Book and lyrics by Howard Ashman; music by Alan Menken. \$9; \$8 MIT faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students; \$6 MIT/Wellesley students; \$3 MIT freshmen. Kresge Little Theater.

ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

The following movies are playing this weekend at local theaters. The Tech suggests using <http://www.boston.com> for a complete listing of times and locations.

- ★★★★ Excellent
- ★★★ Good
- ★★ Fair
- ★ Poor

Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me (★★★)

Hardly a sequel but rather two hours of completely indulgent Austin Powers fun. This film succeeds because it's well aware of what a farce it is and it doesn't try to be anything more than purely entertaining. It seems to be too much of the same, with very little new material, but there's enough pure slapstick, absurd comedy, and gross humor to satisfy the fans. — Teresa Huang

Autumn Tale (★★★½)

Veteran French filmmaker Eric Rohmer continues his gentle, thoughtful, and detailed studies of romantic confusion in this delightful comedy about a middle-aged woman's search for love and happiness. A vintage Rohmer film with all the sophistication, depth, and intricacy that makes his films so irresistible. Without doubt one of the best movies of the year. — Bence Olveczky

Big Daddy (★★½)



MYLES ARONOWITZ—COLUMBIA PICTURES

Sonny gets on the job help from Julian in *Big Daddy*.

Adam Sandler attempts to grow up as an actor playing a complete loser who gets transformed into a more respectable and lovable loser when he adopts a five-year old kid. The film starts out strong with great humor and some genuine acting from Adam Sandler, but eventually spills over the top with sappiness. — TH

The Blair Witch Project (★★★★)

A nearly brilliant character study of three student filmmakers getting lost in the woods while shooting a documentary about a local legend — and a solid but hardly outstanding horror picture. The horror is good but superfluous, and it only distracts from the heart of the picture, but that heart remains highly affecting and haunting. Contains probably the best performance of the year so far by Heather Donahue. — Vladimir Zelevinsky

Brokedown Palace (★½)

When high school best friends take off for Thailand in search of good times for cheap, they get more than they bargained for. Conned by a suave drug trafficker, they are sentenced to decades in a women's prison. Problems with narrative flow, appalling plot holes, made-for-TV-movie melodrama, and uninspired dialogue are just a few of the shortcomings of this film which squanders great potential. An enthralling locale and spurts of credible acting provide only meager redemption. — Roy Rodenstein

Deep Blue Sea (★★★★)

Deep Blue Sea may be Hollywood junk, but it is Hollywood junk at its finest. While the plot, editing, and visuals are somewhat lacking, the film nonetheless captures the audience in the moment with its excitement and suspense, and it pleasantly surprises with its refusal to use seasoned movie clichés. Though severely lacking in quality, this movie makes for good entertainment. — VZ, Rebecca Loh

Drop Dead Gorgeous (★★½)

The Miss Teen Princess beauty pageant, a mother willing to resort to sticks of dynamite to ensure that her daughter wins, and plenty of jokes about small-town Minnesota are main ingredients of this uneven mockumentary. Kirstie Alley and Kirsten Dunst are hilariously in-character, and the film early

on maintains a buoyantly entertaining pace with deadpan satire and quirky supporting performances. By the end, though, there are a couple too many explosions and cheap ploys to care. — RR

Eyes Wide Shut (★★★½)

Enjoy the great, nearly forgotten feeling of being in the hands of a master storyteller, with him guiding a story that is paced just right, and with surprises lurking behind every corner. A gradual descent into a half-comic, half-surreal nightmare — and then a period of awakening and attempting to recall the dream. A visual, excellently acted, and often funny tale. A frequently self-indulgent auteur work. The most optimistic of all Kubrick films. All of the above and more. — VZ

The Haunting (★)

Not your usual garden-variety bad movie: it does not merely cause the viewers cringe in pain and abject anguish at the sheer awfulness of it; no, it squarely lands into the "so bad it's good" area, being not merely terrible but laughably so. This supposed horror movie is not horrifying for a second, and its ineptitude is much more broad in scope. It shows the total misunderstanding of even basic facts of filmmaking and storytelling — and the result is wretched, from its very first to its very last minute. — VZ

An Ideal Husband (★★)

An Ideal Husband is an example of how not to direct a movie. With such superlative resources at his disposal — star-studded cast (Jeremy Northam, Rupert Everett, Cate Blanchett, Julianne Moore, Minnie Driver), great source play, lush production design — all that director/writer Oliver Parker manages to create is a particularly joyless, visually bland, narratively pedestrian, weird mixture of light comedy and somber drama, with these two halves desperately fighting each other. — VZ

Island of the Sharks (★★★)

Island of the Sharks is a remarkable achievement on the visual front, providing some sequences which feel hyper-real, out of this world, and literally larger than life. This solid Omnimax documentary puts the viewer right in the middle of shark-infested waters, without even a danger of getting one's feet wet. It succeeds as a travelogue, showing the sights that most of us would never get a chance of seeing otherwise. If you aren't satisfied with just looking, but also want to learn something, I suggest looking elsewhere, however. — VZ

The Matrix (★★★½)

A wildly imaginative ride. The plot is nicely complex, the visuals and the special effects are out of this world. As the computer hacker Neo (Keanu Reeves) dashes through a succession of interlocked dreams in the quest to find true reality, the film launches into a full-throttle mode of inventive action sequences. By combining cyberpunk ethos with anime style, *The Matrix* breathes new life into the genre of sci-fi action films. — VZ

My Son the Fanatic (★½)

A disappointment; this story about a disillusioned immigrant father and his fundamentalist son simply isn't such an enjoyable movie. It is partially redeemed by the performance of the acclaimed Indian actor Om Puri, but the cardboard characters and stereotypes bring this rather bland movie down. — Zarmine Ansari

Notting Hill (★★★★)

A rare case of an intelligent romantic comedy, this is a noteworthy — but not exceptional — tale of romance in adversity. Julia Roberts plays the world's most famous movie star and Hugh Grant is the owner of a small and unprofitable bookstore. The pair's meeting is followed by a series of wonderfully awkward encounters and the expected budding of a romance. Richard Curtis's script only occasionally rises above formula, but when it does, the results are astounding and memorable. — Fred Choi and VZ

The Red Violin (★★★★)

An enjoyable and intriguing history of a much coveted instrument. The visually lavish

film spans five countries and includes a wide range of emotion. Ultimately, though, its weak frame causes the ending to be inevitably disappointing. — FC

Runaway Bride (★★★★)

Sparkling chemistry between Richard Gere and Julia Roberts saves *Runaway Bride* from drowning in sappiness. The film tells the story of a bride who has left a string of fiancés at the altar and the smug journalist who writes a story about her. While the setup is riddled with enough movie clichés to make a person sick, Gere and Roberts shine on screen, affirming themselves as one of the more successful screen duos of the 90's. — TH



TIMOTHY WHITE—PARAMOUNT AND TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

Julia Roberts and Richard Gere shine in the romantic comedy *Runaway Bride*.

Run Lola Run (★★★★)

Lola's boyfriend needs \$100,000 in twenty minutes, or else he's dead. Lola's motorbike was just stolen, so she has to run if she wants to be there on time. A minor plot detail: she doesn't have the money. So she needs to run really fast. The result is a streamlined movie possessing an unstoppable sense of motion, and giving the visceral pleasure of seeing a tightly-wound plot unfold. — VZ

The Sixth Sense (★★★½)

Cole Sear is a young boy whose special power, "the sixth sense," enables him to perceive the ghosts which, unbeknownst to the rest of the world, walk among us every day. Bruce Willis plays the psychologist trying to help him. The strength of their performances carries the movie past its slight flaws, making *The Sixth Sense* one of the best movies of the summer. — Tzu-Mainn Chen

South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut (★★★½)

An R-rated animated musical comedy adventure satire, starting when four kids sneak into an R-rated movie, and steadily increasing in scope and barrage of satirical barbs. Don't be deterred by the fact that this movie features copious amounts of profanity, full-frontal nudity, and giant glowing talking sex organs — it's probably the funniest movie in quite a while, and it's definitely the best animated musical of the last several years. — VZ

Star Wars: Episode I—The Phantom Menace (★★★★)

This simplistic motion picture with lumpy storytelling, inane dialogue, wooden acting, and poor editing is one of the most exciting experiences to come in quite a while to the movies. By firmly adhering to the world-view created in Episodes 4 through 6, and by utilizing the best special effects and art direction money can buy, writer/director George Lucas succeeds, despite the film's obvious shortcomings, to take us once again to that galaxy far, far away, and provide an adventure-filled playground for our imagination. — VZ

Tarzan (★★★★)

A good, solid, workmanlike movie from the Mouse House; just about as good as anything they made in the last few years, and not better. The overall story of the orphaned boy Tarzan who's brought up by the African apes is so tired that it really doesn't matter much. What lingers in the memory is the more than usually affecting love story and the amazing visuals. — VZ

Trick (★★★½)

At last! A queer romantic comedy in which the main characters are simply regular, well-adjusted gay people going about their everyday lives. A stellar trio of main characters and an excellent supporting cast, along with thoughtful pacing and a wonderful, quirky script, make this not only one of the best gay flicks in a long while, but also a romantic comedy that can hold its own against any straight comedy. — FC

Wild Wild West (★★)

WWW tries to be absolutely everything to absolutely everyone. It's a western, a parody of James Bond movies, a sci-fi adventure, an



WARNER BROTHERS

The extravagant *Wild Wild West*.

action flick, a buddy film, a slapstick comedy, and a dark rumination on the American history. It ends up, of course, being none of the above — just an extravagant way to spend its gargantuan budget. — VZ

The Winslow Boy (★★½)

For all of its dramatic intensity and clarity, visual elegance and beautiful shot composition, intricate multi-personal conflicts, and stylized dialogue, this David Mamet film doesn't quite fulfill the promise of its opening half hour. This is probably the fault of the source play, which didn't age very well and which seems to be content to be merely engaging and entertaining in a low-key way than to go for either shattering drama or penetrating social critique. — VZ



This is the cutline text.

—THE TECH

Popular Music

Avalon
Next: 423-NEXT.
Sept. 15: Edwin McCain + the Beth Hart Band, \$15.
Sept. 16: Cheap Trick + Guided by Voices, \$20.

Berklee Performance Center
Berklee College of Music
1140 Boylston St.
Free student recitals and faculty concerts, 4pm and 7pm some weekdays. For info. on these concerts, call the Performance Information Line at 747-8820.
Sept. 10: John Prine, \$26.50, \$22.50. Call Ticketmaster for tickets.
Oct. 16: Cesaria Evora, \$28, \$24.

Centrum Centre
Ticketmaster 931-2000.
Sept. 10: Alan Jackson with Andy Griggs & Brad Paisley, \$27.
Sept. 12: Lenny Kravitz, Smashmouth, Buckcherry, \$35, \$25.

Fleet Center
Ticketmaster: 931-2000
Aug. 25-30: Bruce Springsteen & The E-Street Band. Sold Out.
Sept. 10: Barry White + Earth, Wind, & Fire, \$38.50, \$25.
Sept. 21-22: Backstreet Boys. Both shows sold out.
Sept. 24: Celine Dion, \$75, \$59.50 and \$39.50.

Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts (Great Woods)
Ticketmaster: 931-2000.
Aug. 26: Bonnie Raitt + Jackson Browne + Shawn Colvin, \$45, \$39.50 pav., \$25 lawn.
Aug. 27: Goo Goo Dolls + Sugar Ray + Fastball, \$25 pav., \$20 lawn.
Aug. 28: WKLB's Country Music Festival featuring Alabama, + Ty Herndon + The Kinleys. \$29.50 pavilion, \$19.50 lawn.
Aug. 31: Tori Amos + Alanis Morissette. \$39.50 pav., \$25 lawn.
Sep. 2, 3: Jimmy Buffett and the Coral Reefer Band. Both shows sold out.
Sep. 11: R.E.M. \$39.50 pavilion, \$29.50 lawn.

The Middle East
Ticketmaster: 931-2000.
Ticket prices vary. Call 354-8238 for more info.

Aug. 25: Kristin Hersh.
Aug. 25: US Maple.
Aug. 26: Flying Luttenbachers.
Aug. 26: Mephiskapheles.
Aug. 27: Victory at Sea.
Aug. 27: The Muffs.
Aug. 28: Random Road Mother.
Aug. 28: Kevin Coyne.
Aug. 29: Spring Heeled Jack.
Aug. 29: Humans Being.
Aug. 30: Franco DeGrazi/
Gianni Lenoci Duo.
Aug. 31: Corkscrew.

Paradise Rock Club
Next: 423-NEXT.
Sept. 14: L7 + School Of Assassins (cd release). \$10 adv., \$12. day of.
Sept. 15: Manic Street Preachers + Remy Zero. \$10 adv., \$12. day of.

Jazz Music

Regattabar
Concertix: 876-7777
Ticket prices vary. Call 661-5000 for more info.
Aug. 25: Larry Goldings Trio.
Aug. 26-28: Milt Jackson/Hank Jones Duo (five shows).
Aug. 31: KriSanthi Pappas Quintet.
Sept. 1: Billy Novick and Guy Van Duser.
Sept. 2-4: James Carter Quintet (five shows).
Sept. 8: Edu Tancredi y el Bandon 33.
Sept. 9: Dane Vannatter Quartet.
Sept. 10-11: Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters (four shows).
Sept. 14: Dominique Eade Quartet.
Sept. 15: Eric Reed Trio.
Sept. 16-18: New York Voices (five shows).

Sculler's
Ticketmaster: 931-2000
Ticket prices vary. Call 562-4111 for more info.
(All performers two shows per day unless otherwise noted)
Aug. 25: Michelle Willson and the Evil Gal Festival Orchestra.
Aug. 26-28: Gato Barbieri.

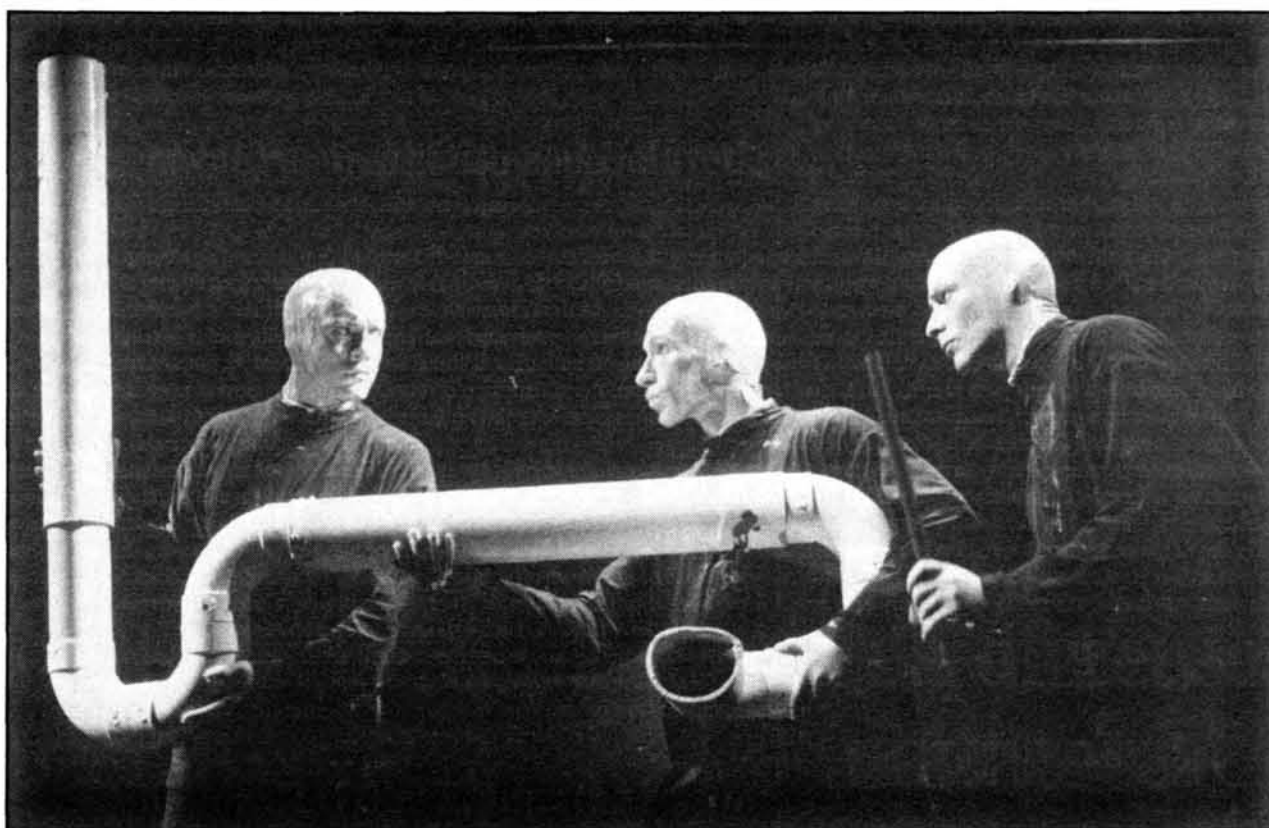
Classical Music

Boston Pops
Tickets: 266-1492.
Aug. 30: Koussevitzky Music Shed, Lenox, MA. John Williams, conductor. \$16-\$48 tickets left.

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
August 25 - September 2
Compiled by Fred Choi

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



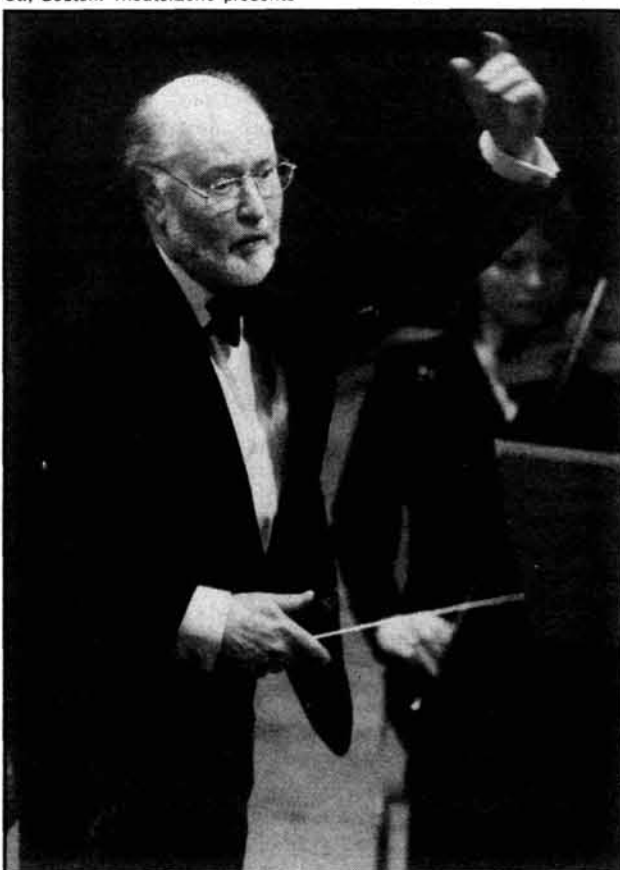
Don't miss the unique Blue Man Group, performing at the Charles Playhouse.

Theater

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

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74 Warrenton Street, Boston (426-5225), indefinitely. Curtain is at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, and at 3 and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets \$30-34.

Mad Forest
TheaterZone, 100 Captains Row #306, Chelsea, MA 02150, (617) 887-2336. Through Sept. 5, Fri. and Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 7 p.m. at Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston. TheaterZone presents



Famed composer John Williams conducts the BSO.

and society collide in this insiders view of the infamous Romanian Revolution of 1989. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, call (617) 887-2336 to reserve.

Exhibits

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston. (566-1401), Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission \$10, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students with ID (\$3 on Wed.), free for children under 18. The museum, built in the style of a 15th-century Venetian palace, houses more than 2500 art objects, with emphasis on Italian Renaissance and 17th-century Dutch works. Among the highlights are works by Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and Whistler. Guided tours given Fridays at 2:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (267-

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

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington, 02421. (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 12 p.m.-5 p.m. Admission free.
The Museum presents an exhibition of 93 rare and beautiful photographs drawn from the celebrated collection discovered in the attic of the Medford Historical Society in 1990. One of the most extensive and well-preserved collections of Civil War photographs to survive, the Medford pictures are nationally known for their breadth and depth of subject matter. Through Nov. 14.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston. (723-2500), Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission free with MIT ID, otherwise \$9, \$7 for children 3-14 and seniors.
The Museum features the theater of electricity (with indoor thunder-and-lightning shows daily) and more than 600 hands-on exhibits. Ongoing: "Discovery Center"; "Investigate! A See-For-Yourself Exhibit"; "Science in the Park: Playing With Forces and Motion"; "Seeing Is Deceiving." Ongoing: "Everest: Roof of the

Admission to Omni, laser, and planetarium shows is \$7.50, \$5.50 for children and seniors. Now showing: "Laser Depeche Mode," Sun., 8 p.m.; "Laser Offspring," Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m.; "Laser Rush," Sun., 9:15; "Laser Beastie Boys," Thurs.-Sat., 9:15 p.m.; "Laser Floyd's Wall," Fri.-Sat., 10:30 p.m.; "Friday Night Stargazing," Fri., 8:30 p.m.; "Welcome to the Universe," daily; "Quest for Contact: Are We Alone?" daily.

Commonwealth Museum
220 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, 02125. Located across from the JFK Library. Hours: M-F 9-5, S 9-3. Admission is Free. For more info. or to arrange a tour, call 617-727-9268.

The Archaeology of the Central Artery Project: Highway to the Past
The exhibit focuses on life in Colonial Boston as interpreted through artifacts recovered from the "Big Dig" before the construction began. Artifacts and information on display examine leisure activities, tavern life, the life of three colonial women, and Native Americans.

DNA Gallery
288 Bradford St., Provincetown, MA 02657, (508) 487-7705. Hours M-Th 11-6, F-Sun 11-8.
Through Sept. 8. Main Gallery: Works by Gregory Amenoff, Hiroyuki Hamada, and Joel Meyerowitz. Side Gallery: Bernard Toale Presents: Ambreen Butt, Leslie Dill, and Ellen Driscoll.

Other Events

The End of the World hosted by Crash 22
Oct. 2, 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. at The Revolving Museum (288-300 A St., Boston, MA) A millenium-end arts explosion to benefit AIDS Action. Boston-based band Crash 22 will host a charity event at the Revolving Museum designed to infuse new life into the Boston Arts community and to benefit the AIDS Action Committee. The twelve-hour event will feature live music (including the Allstonians, Jess Klein, and others), visual art, readings from writers and poets, film, fashion, and interactive events. The event is co-sponsored by WBCN 104.1 FM and Tremont Ale. Tickets \$15 available at the door or by calling 617-868-0198.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey
Ticketmaster 931-2000.
"The Greatest Show on Earth" is returning to the FleetCenter. Fun for the whole family! Oct. 15-24. \$35 (VIP), \$25, \$15 and \$10.

The Dance Complex
526 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA, 02139, (617) 547-9363.
Sept. 9 at 9 p.m.: 9.9.99. Each studio will be filled with dance works having to do with the number nine. A benefit to make the Dance Complex theater space fully accessible. \$9.99.
Sept. 19 at 5 p.m. Recycled Lives. New and recent works by Nancy Marsh. \$5.
Oct. 15, 16 at 8 p.m. debrabluth/jesterfly. A multi-media performance event.

Herbert Hoover: Examining the Evidence
Sept. 13 at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum (Columbia Point, Boston, MA, 02125). A one-day conference exploring the life, the career, and the myths surrounding the 31st President of the United States. From 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Includes the lectures "Herbert Hoover: Political Orphan," "Hoover and the Progressive Ideal," "Hoover Confronts the Great Depression," and "Hoover's Unlikely Friendships: Joseph P. Kennedy and Harry S. Truman," plus others. Free to the public, but reservations are recommended. For reservations or more information, call (617) 929-4571.

Music on Film Festival
At the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 02115. For tickets and more information, call 369-3770. Tickets are \$7, \$6 MFA members, seniors, students, unless otherwise noted.
The Righteous Babes. Aug. 28. A powerful and timely documentary that examines the intersection of feminism with popular music by focusing on the role of female recording artists in the 1990s and their influence on modern women. Includes female musicians Courtney Love, Shirley Manson, Sinead O'Connor, Tori Amos, and Ani DiFranco.

W.W.F.
Ticketmaster: 931-2000.
Raw Is War! Aug. 30, at the Fleet Center. \$35, \$28, \$22, \$17.
SmackDown! Aug. 31, at Worcester's Centrum Centre. \$35, \$28, \$22, \$17.

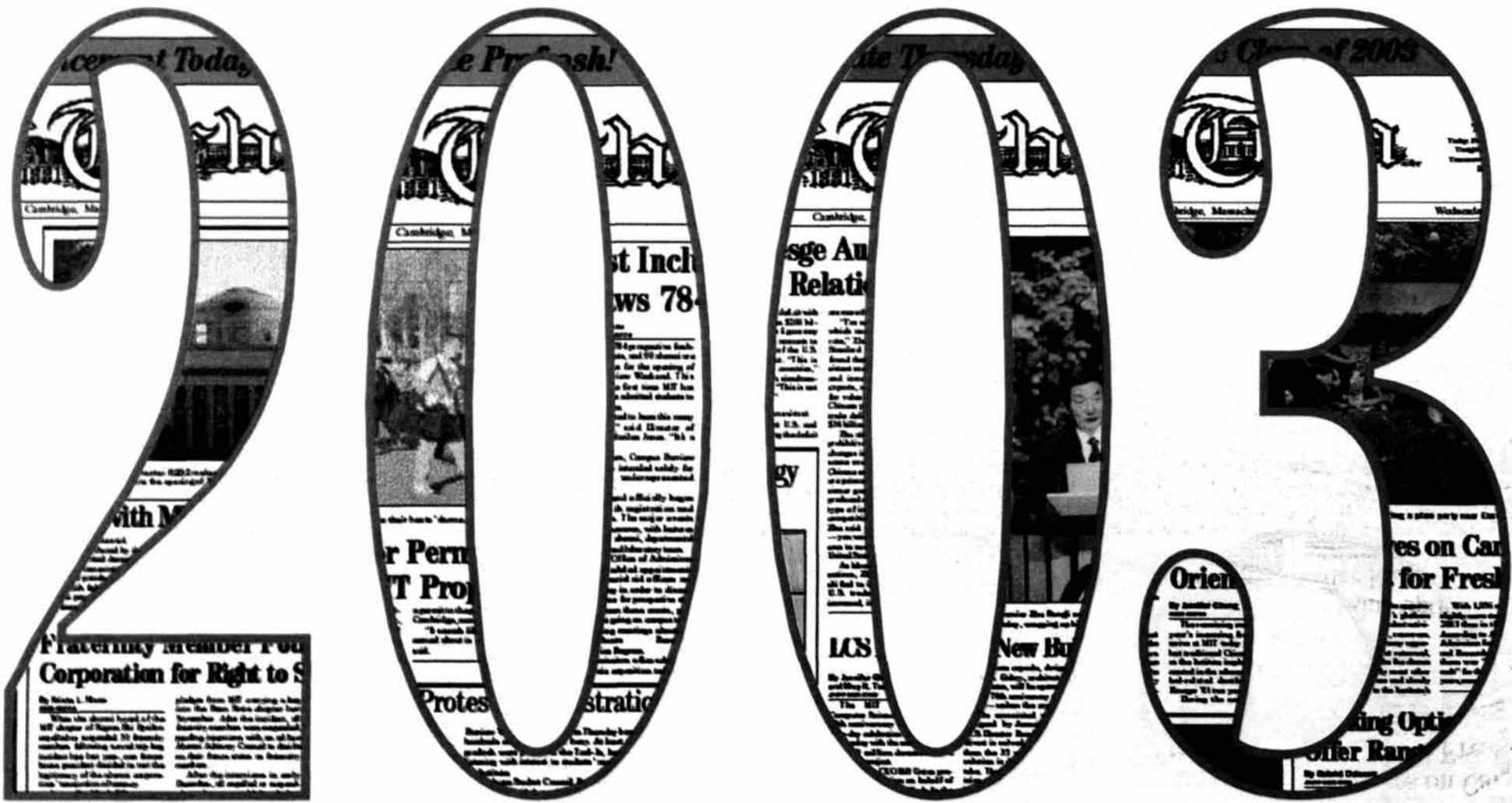
"Sargent Summer" in Boston
Four local cultural institutions present exhibitions and programmes about the masterful American artist John Singer Sargent (1856-1925). Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Through Sep. 26; Sargent: The Late Landscapes: The exhibit represents the first in-depth exploration of an overlooked aspect of the artist's career. Late in his life, Sargent began refusing portrait commissions to paint landscapes professionally. The fourteen paintings and watercolors are taken from collections throughout the United States and Europe.
Museum of Fine Arts Through Sep. 26: An exhibit of 160 Sargent works, including his finest oils, watercolors, and studies for murals - some never before exhibited. In collaboration with the Tate Gallery, London, and the National Gallery of Art, Washington, the exhibit will feature portraits of influential figures of the time, including Monet, Rockefeller, Robert Louis Stevenson, and Isabella Stewart Gardner. To coincide with the exhibition, the MFA is restoring its famous Sargent murals, begun in 1916. For more info., call 267-9300.

The Boston Public Library
Continuing each Sat. through Sep.: Tours of Sargent's murals in the library and talks on his life.

Harvard University Art Museums
Through Sep. 5: Sargent in the Studio: Drawings, Sketchbooks, and Oil Sketches. At the Fogg Art Museum, an exhibit drawn from one of the most significant Sargent collections in the world will reveal the working process of one of America's best known artists. Thirty-three of his rarely shown sketchbooks will also be on view. For hours and info., call 495-9400.

The Samaritans 5K Run/Walk
Oct. 16: At 10 a.m., first annual Run/Walk along the Charles River, designed to boost awareness about suicide prevention, and to raise funds for the only suicide prevention center in Greater Boston. All proceeds from the event will be used to benefit The Samaritans' supportive and life-saving services. Prizes given to the top finishers of various age categories, and first 250 registrants will receive complimentary t-shirts. Pre-reg. fee: \$12. For more info., call 617-536-2460.

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