

Advisory Committee to Submit Alternate Residence Proposal

By Rima Arnaout
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

As the date approaches for Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72 to review the Residence System Steering Committee's proposal for a new residence system at MIT, a number of students plan to submit rival proposals to the RSSC plan in coming weeks.

In addition to proposals from two individual students, Jeremy H. Brown G and Paul-Gabriel Wiener

'01, the Student Advisory Committee to the Chancellor has teamed up with student government leaders to design a Unified Proposal for an MIT Residential System.

First announced publicly at the State of the Undergraduate Association meeting by UA President Matthew L. McGann '00, the Unified Proposal combines the efforts of the SAC, UA, Graduate Student Council, Interfraternity Council, Dormitory Council, Living

Group Council, and I Love This Fucking Place, a grassroots housing reform movement.

The Unified Proposal "is a stand-alone report," said John S. Hollywood G, chair of the SAC, instead of a suggestion or modification of the RSSC proposal.

"The audience for the proposal is not the RSSC; it's Chancellor Bacow," McGann said.

It remains to be seen, however, whether Bacow will consider this proposal as seriously as that of the RSSC. "When [Bacow] heard we were planning a report, he said that it sounded like a good idea and that he was very interested in what the SAC thought of the residential system," Hollywood said.

"We are certainly trying to use the RSSC report since a lot of work went into it... we felt that the best way to respond to what Chancellor Bacow had asked for was to write a separate report," Hollywood said. Bacow was

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Sean Fabre '00 and Erin Shea '00 sail past the finish line to win the opening race of the A-Division in the Hatch Brown Trophy this weekend at MIT. They went on to win first place in 11 out of 18 races. The MIT sailing team is currently ranked fourth nationally.

Bradley Speaks Today

Presidential Hopeful Begins New England Campaign with Student Discussion at MIT

By Frank Dabek
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Democratic Presidential candidate Bill Bradley will hold a student discussion forum today in Wong Auditorium as part of a two day fall campaign kick-off tour of New England.

As a democratic Senator for New Jersey the former guard for the New York Knicks had a center-left voting record. His bid for president emphasizes the issues of campaign finance reform and gun control.

Christopher D. Smith '01, a member of Techies for Bradley and one of the forum's organizers, said that Bradley distinguishes himself from other candidates by being "willing to be bold in office [and] ... risk re-election to ensure the country is better four years" after his election.

According to Smith, "Bradley is paying attention to students." Support for Bradley has been strong among students, Smith said. "Bradley wouldn't be where he is if it wasn't for students."

Bradley's campaign reform proposals stress limiting funding sources

to individuals and the public treasury as well as reducing the importance of so-called "soft money." In a speech presented to the National Press Club on July 22, Bradley said that "democracy doesn't have to be a commodity that is bought and sold."

His gun control proposal calls for eliminating inexpensive handguns, limiting gun owners to one purchase per month, and requiring background checks at gun shows and trigger locks on all handguns.

Bradley was invited to speak at MIT by the MIT College Democrats, the MIT Debate Team, the Institute Foundation, and Techies for Bradley.

Prior to his public forum Bradley will meet with college newspaper editors from universities around New England.

On Thursday of this week, Republican Presidential candidate Senator John McCain of Arizona will address ROTC students from MIT, Harvard University, Tufts, and Boston University. McCain will speak at 3:00 p.m. in Wong auditorium. The event is open to the public.

Affordable Housing a Central Issue In Triantafillou's Bid for Reelection

By Aurora Schmidt
STAFF REPORTER

Katherine Triantafillou, an incumbent city councilwoman and a progressive democrat, is running for the Cambridge City Council in the upcoming November election.

She, like most other candidates encourages student involvement in local government. Low voter turnout in both nationwide and local elections recently indicates the need for the participation of all citizens, she

said. Triantafillou also encourages students to take advantage of internships and other opportunities to participate in local campaigns.

Rising housing costs a key concern

What distinguishes Councilwoman Triantafillou from her numerous opponents is her drive to support the needs of citizens who cannot currently afford housing. She was one of the few councillors who opposed the repeal of rent control. Triantafillou claimed her reasoning to be based on basic economics. She said, the repeal of rent control "artificially raises the property prices."

Her solution to the problem of rising rent, involves building apartments and single family homes. She stressed the need for more affordable housing as both an issue which concerns longterm Cambridge residents and students who live here temporarily.

Also, in an effort address the needs of citizens who utilize the Central Square Area, she strongly advocates bringing in affordable stores to the Central Square shopping area. In particular, Triantafillou would like to attract a book store, a

Triantafillou, Page 15

MIT Dorm Security Measures Unchanged

By Kevin R. Lang
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

While Boston University barred windows and installed surveillance cameras following an on-campus rape last week, MIT does not currently plan to increase dormitory security.

The Daily Free Press, BU's student newspaper, reported last week that BU is increasing police patrols, adding light fixtures, and encouraging vigilance about suspicious persons. A BU first-year student was raped in Loretto Hall after the suspect entered through a basement window, police say.

Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin said that MIT has no specific plans following the BU incident. "Obviously, housing security is reviewed from time to time," Glavin said. Campus police are not directly responsible for dorm security, but they do consult with deans on such

matters, Glavin said.

Glavin said that implementation of the MIT Card system several years ago greatly improved dorm security. While the card limits access to residents, "that doesn't make it entirely exempt from any and all possible happenings," Glavin said.

At both East Campus and MacGregor House, a number of dorm entrances have individual card-key doors. These entrances are not overseen by a desk worker, thus giving residents of the floor or entry control of who can enter the dorm.

East Campus maintains guest lists of students who are given key cards to individual floors. East Campus' main door is open during the day, but a card key is still needed to enter any of the residential areas.

"We've had instances in the

past," said desk captain Mimi Yang '00. Yang said that residents will often let people in to individual entrances.

"Actually, it's a concern for any residence, even in the ones where you have a desk nearby," Glavin said. Students should not hold doors open for unfamiliar people, Glavin said. "Really no matter where you are, you have to worry about that."

Desk workers regulate security

In dorms like Baker House and McCormick Hall, desk workers control entrance to the dorm. "My sense is it probably works fairly well," Glavin said.

McCormick's front desk has direct view of the entrance, and desk workers can see who they are buzzing in. McCormick desk work-

Security, Page 18



Marcus Brandt shows Deying Sun the plans for a Chinese Rainbow bridge that will be constructed near Singapore next month. Brandt, a member of the Traditional Timberframing Research and Advisory Group, is studying different methods of assembling and deploying the bridge.



6.001 lab receives infusion of new computers.

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The Tech welcomes Tired Soles to the Fun section.

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Student groups can now access account information online through the Standardized Accounting Program.

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WORLD & NATION

Spy Case Repercussions Continue Despite Prosecution Quandary

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

FBI agents shadow Wen Ho Lee constantly these days, watching and trailing the former nuclear weapons expert so closely that the Feds call it "bumper-lock surveillance."

Lee, who was fired six months ago from the Los Alamos National Laboratory and publicly identified as a possible spy, has been the subject of a three-year FBI investigation into whether he gave secrets to China about America's most advanced nuclear warhead. Yet, he has been neither arrested nor cleared.

The debate is whether Lee can be convicted of breaking the law when he downloaded highly classified computer programs and data files from more than 1,000 nuclear weapons tests into an insecure computer at Los Alamos. Lee has said he protected the files with three passwords and has denied that he passed the "legacy codes" to China or anyone else.

If Lee is charged, his lawyers are expected to demand classified documents from the FBI, CIA, National Security Agency and other government agencies to buttress their claim that others who mishandle classified information are not prosecuted. They also may seek to show that thousands of people in hundreds of places, have had access to nuclear warhead secrets, not just a handful of scientists at Los Alamos.

School Holiday Issue Has ACLU, Jews at Odds

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

On Monday, as the nation's Jews converge on synagogues to reflect on their sins, the children of Sycamore Community School District in southwest Ohio will get a day off from school — no thanks to the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio.

The ACLU, an organization long devoted to defending the rights of religious and ethnic minorities, has sued the Sycamore district and its elected school board over their decision to declare two High Holy Days school vacation days, including Yom Kippur on Monday.

The decision came last year, when a newly elected school board, prodded by a vocal group of Jewish parents and a supportive superintendent, narrowly voted to make the change. Muslim and Hindu parents responded by asking the school board to designate their religious holidays as vacation days as well.

So far, those pleas have gone unheeded by district officials, who have insisted that the school calendar was changed not in deference to the Jewish religion but because absenteeism had become a significant problem on those days.

Raisa Gorbachev, Last Soviet First Lady, Dies

WASHINGTON POST

Raisa Gorbachev, 67, whose stylish, forceful and glamorous performance as the wife of the last Soviet leader, Mikhail S. Gorbachev, made her a lightning rod for attacks on her husband's programs of economic and political reform, died yesterday of leukemia at University Hospital in Muenster, Germany.

Upon learning of Raisa Gorbachev's death, President Clinton, in a statement issued by the White House, said, "The example she set, through her help for child victims of leukemia and through her own courageous struggle against this terrible disease, was an inspiration to people everywhere."

Former first lady Nancy Reagan released a statement saying she and former president Ronald Reagan were "shocked and deeply saddened."

Australian Peacekeeping Force Comes to East Timor

By David Lamb

LOS ANGELES TIMES

DARWIN, AUSTRALIA

An Australian-led international peacekeeping force arrived by ship and plane in East Timor Monday to end weeks of militia violence that has laid waste to the territory and uprooted virtually its entire population.

Although conceding that the mission is fraught with potential danger, Maj. Gen. Peter Cosgrove said before leaving the forward staging area here that he was hopeful of receiving full cooperation from the Indonesian military — a step that would dramatically reduce the risks facing the peacekeepers, both in the initial deployment and in the weeks ahead.

The violence was unleashed after East Timor — a former Portuguese colony annexed by Indonesia in 1976 — voted Aug. 30 to seek independence. The anti-independence militiamen who proceeded to kill and burn were aided and abetted by soldiers who for myriad reasons, ranging from nationalism to the accumulation of personal wealth, did not want to surrender the territory.

Cosgrove told reporters Sunday

that he plans to have 3,200 troops on the ground within a week and that the U.N.-sanctioned force will grow to 7,500. It is backed by light tanks, helicopters, five patrol boats and a squadron of F-18 Hornets.

The forces' arrival in Dili, the East Timorese capital, comes amid a massive evacuation of Indonesian soldiers and their surrogate militias, which have executed the most vicious and thorough scorched-earth exercise that Southeast Asia has seen since World War II.

"East Timor," said Toni Pfanner, an Indonesia-based representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, "has basically been destroyed."

Eighty percent of Dili has been burned. All warehouses have been looted, all vehicles belonging to international agencies stolen. Out of an original population of 200,000, perhaps only 10,000 remain. Most, too afraid to return to their homes, camped out Sunday night near the harbor to await the peacekeepers' arrival.

After days of dithering and saying it could restore security in East Timor without foreign intervention, Indonesia relented last week and invited in multinational peacekeep-

ers. After meeting with Cosgrove in Dili on Sunday, East Timor commander Gen. Kiki Syahnakri said he would cooperate with the mission and hand over command to it by the end of the week.

Under terms of the U.N. mandate, Cosgrove's forces have what he called "robust" rules of engagement: They will be permitted to fire at any time in self-defense and do whatever is necessary to prevent agitators from interfering with the mission or carrying arms.

Most of the militia leaders and hundreds, perhaps thousands, of their men have withdrawn to West Timor. But the gunmen still in East Timor, even though battle-tested mostly against unarmed women and children, could pose a threat to peacekeepers, particularly as the arriving troops secure the mountainous countryside and the rugged terrain along the border with West Timor.

The multinational force is supposed to be a short-term mission that will be replaced by a different U.N. force to help East Timor make the transition to independence and build a new government, Berger noted. The United States has not decided on joining the second force.

House Democrats Push Hard For Minimum Wage Increase

By Juliet Eilperin and Helen Dewar

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Congressional Democrats plan this week to launch a big push to raise the minimum wage, forcing Republican leaders to come up with alternatives to avoid political damage or even defeat on the sensitive issue of helping low-income Americans.

"There's an interest on both sides, Democrat and Republican, to get this done before we adjourn" for the year, said Rep. Jack Quinn, R-N.Y., a GOP moderate who has been working with Democrats to produce a bipartisan majority to pass the legislation.

The first test is likely to come Tuesday when Senate Democrats

will try to use a pending bankruptcy bill to force votes on legislation backed by President Clinton and most Democratic lawmakers to raise the hourly federal wage floor by \$1 to \$6.15 over the next two years.

Democrats appear to have the votes needed to block a move by GOP leaders to keep the bankruptcy bill from being expanded to include a minimum-wage increase, gun controls or other proposals opposed by most Republicans. This could open the way for consideration of the wage initiative — or another delay if GOP leaders decide to shelve the bankruptcy measure to avoid votes on unrelated issues.

If the Democrats' proposal comes to a vote in the Senate, they are "on the cusp" of picking up enough Republicans to win a majority for

passage, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., said in an interview Friday.

In the House, moderate Republicans plan to appeal directly to Speaker J. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., this week to schedule a vote on the legislation. And Minority Whip David E. Bonior, D-Mich., will seek signatures on a "discharge petition" under which a majority of House members could force votes even if the leadership continues to balk.

While Hastert is eager to dispose of the issue during a non-election year, he is far from enthusiastic at the prospect of enacting one of the Democrats' top priorities. "I assume it's probably going to come up," Hastert said last week. But "for most folks, the tax cut probably means more than a minimum-wage increase," he added.

WEATHER

Ushering in Autumn

By Greg Lawson
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Gear up for more rain. A tight cold front sandwiched between two highs is approaching from the west. The southerly flow on our side of the front, caused by the high to our east out over the ocean, will help bring sub-tropical air associated with Tropical Storm Harvey up north. This extra moisture added to the rain already associated with the front will help keep a thicker cloud cover than expected and perhaps give even heavier precipitation. If there is enhancement of precipitation, then there is the chance of local flooding with rivers already quite full thanks to Floyd's remnants. However, the current thinking of the National Weather Service is that we will remain safe. In any case, the rain will begin sometime late this afternoon. It could be heavy at times though there may be one or two breakcycles through the night as the storm loses coherence. The rain will taper off to light showers by tomorrow morning and be pushed-out to sea by early afternoon with the passing of the cold front. Once the front passes we will be left within an unseasonably cool, dry airmass shielded by a large, weak high. It'll feel quite like fall — remember the Autumnal Equinox is at 8:31 a.m. on Thursday. Temperatures will then slowly and steadily rise through the rest of the week, taking us back to normal conditions by Friday.

Today: Overcast with rain this afternoon. Moderate southerly winds. High 65° F (18° C).

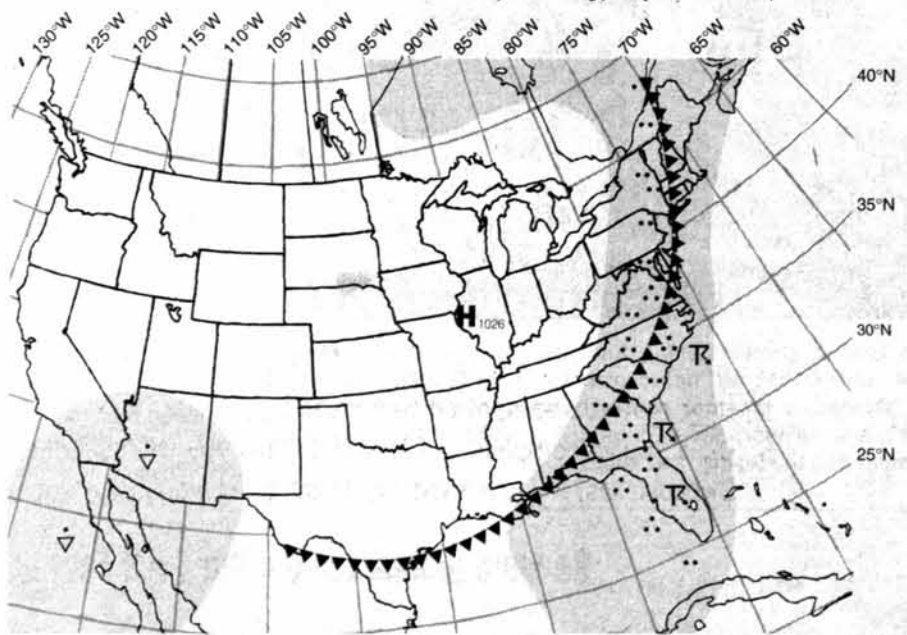
Tonight: Continued rain. Winds weakening and shifting to easterly. Low 52° F (11° C).

Wednesday: Light showers in the morning giving way to clear skies. Cool with a high of only 61° F (16° C). Low of 50° F (10° C).

Thursday: Cool and clear. Temps slowly rising. Light winds. High in the mid to upper 60s (18-20° C). Low in the low 50s (10-12° C).

Friday and Beyond: Normal temps resume. Rain indicated but it's still too early to tell for sure.

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Tuesday, September 21, 1999



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

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

North Carolina Crops Severely Damaged by Hurricane Floyd

By Lauren Terrazano

NEWSDAY KENLY, N.C.

The soybean and peanut plants that once blanketed James Pope's farm now sit rotting in the ground, immersed in mud and silty water the color of chocolate.

Dozens of his corn stalks have been reduced to brown, six-foot tangles, toppled by the wind. And half of his tobacco crop has withered, its football-sized leaves blown away or soaked Wednesday night when Hurricane Floyd pounded this small eastern farming community about 50 miles outside Raleigh.

"I got fields I can't even walk in," Pope, 48, said Friday after surveying the damage to his 150 acres by plunging his workboot into two feet of muck and checking on how his tobacco fared in a heating barn that lost power during the storm.

"It's hard to make a living to begin with, and when something like Floyd comes along, it can put you out of business," said Pope, who estimates about \$30,000 in damage, nearly half his annual income.

As North Carolina recovers from the worst flooding in its history from the hurricane — which left at least 10 dead in the state, others missing and thousands without homes — another casualty has emerged: acres and acres of farmland.

Three days after the storm, much of the state's prime agricultural land was still under water, and thousands of crops have been ruined, the state's agriculture commissioner, James Graham, said Friday.

"I am overwhelmed by the level of flooding ... Most farmers are still unable to gain full access to their property to determine the extent of the damage," he said.

There are nearly 50,000 farms in North Carolina, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture statistics, but it's unclear exactly how many have been affected by Floyd's wrath.

Much of the state's 671,000 acres of cotton crops and three-fourths of its corn and soybeans are grown in the eastern region, the most severely damaged by the storm, according to state officials. But the effects are not limited to that area. Inland crops have been swallowed by overflowing rivers and the water left by 10 to 20 inches of rain last week.



OLD GLORY—Floyd's winds proved too much for the American flag flying over Killian Court. GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

Feds Find Net Loss in Cyberplan to Aid Rural Medical Care

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

After mounting major efforts to foster electronic commerce and connect schools and libraries to the Internet, the federal government is falling short on another ambitious cyberspace goal: using the Net to improve rural medical care.

A 2-year-old, \$400 million federal program aimed at helping the United States' 22,000 rural medical facilities get high-speed Internet access did not award any money last year because of bureaucratic delays. And as of July 6, just \$289,424 had been distributed to 68 of 452 applicants — less than one-fifth of the annual \$1.4 million cost of administering the program.

Internet-based health care, or telemedicine once was touted as one of the Internet's most compelling applications. Proponents envisioned medical facilities in remote areas transmitting live video of patients over high-speed Internet lines to big-city hospitals, where medical specialists could treat patients. A telemedicine program at LSU now serves about 2,000 patients annually throughout the state. Rural Louisiana facilities with high-speed Internet access can transmit X-ray film to LSU for evaluation by its radiology experts or conduct a real-time video examination of injured patients online. But the progress has mostly come through state and private support.

Mexico Opposes Plan to Sanction Businesses With Drug Ties

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Mexican government is opposing a push by the U.S. Congress to levy major penalties against businesses with ties to drug traffickers, saying the sanctions could smear innocent companies and damage U.S.-Mexican relations.

The legislation, approved by the Senate in July, would require the Clinton administration to publish an annual list of major international drug traffickers and their business associates. It would bar those listed from doing business in the U.S., cut off access to American banks and freeze their U.S. assets. It also would subject U.S. companies that work with the listed companies to civil and criminal penalties.

Some of Mexico's biggest companies are leading a fierce lobbying effort to defeat the proposal. And the Mexican government fears that it is just the sort of unilateral action that, like the annual U.S. certification of other nations' cooperation in the drug war, could roil tensions between the two countries. Although the sanctions would be global in scope, only the Mexican government has opposed them aggressively.

The legislation, offered as an amendment to an intelligence funding bill, would expand to other countries sanctions first imposed on Colombian businesses and narcotics traffickers in 1995.

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HOT FACT #2

What percentage of students work up a sweat through exercising each week?

A. 50% B. 53% C. 56% D. 59%

Now that you've spotted this week's Hot Fact, log onto www.coolcore.com to answer the question. Once you've completed all four Hot Facts you will be automatically entered for a chance to win in the Hot Facts Sweepstakes. If you missed a Hot Fact, don't worry. Just log on this week and you can answer the missed question.

Be sure to look for the third Hot Fact in next week's campus newspaper!

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Stopping the Suicide Problem

I read with fear and sadness the recent events surrounding the death of Richard Guy '99. Having been an MIT student now since 1992 I have seen quite a number of MIT students die. Unfortunately, the administration's response to death is particularly nearsighted. I believe that death due to drugs is much akin to suicide. Sometimes, this is not true, and the death is due to naivete and a willingness to take dangerous risks. But in almost all cases, there is definitely a serious element of self-destructive behavior. And isn't self-destructive behavior that ever-present nebulous land between a perfectly healthy boring life and suicide? Guy's

case is not a gray area at all. With a bag over his head, either foul play or suicide is the cause.

But our society, and in turn the MIT administration, blame drugs. This is like blaming lipids for obesity or gunpowder for murder. Here at this school, we have a problem with suicide. It's time that we stop blaming alcohol and drugs and instead take all this energy, fear, and rage and funnel it to a constructive process which will eliminate suicides.

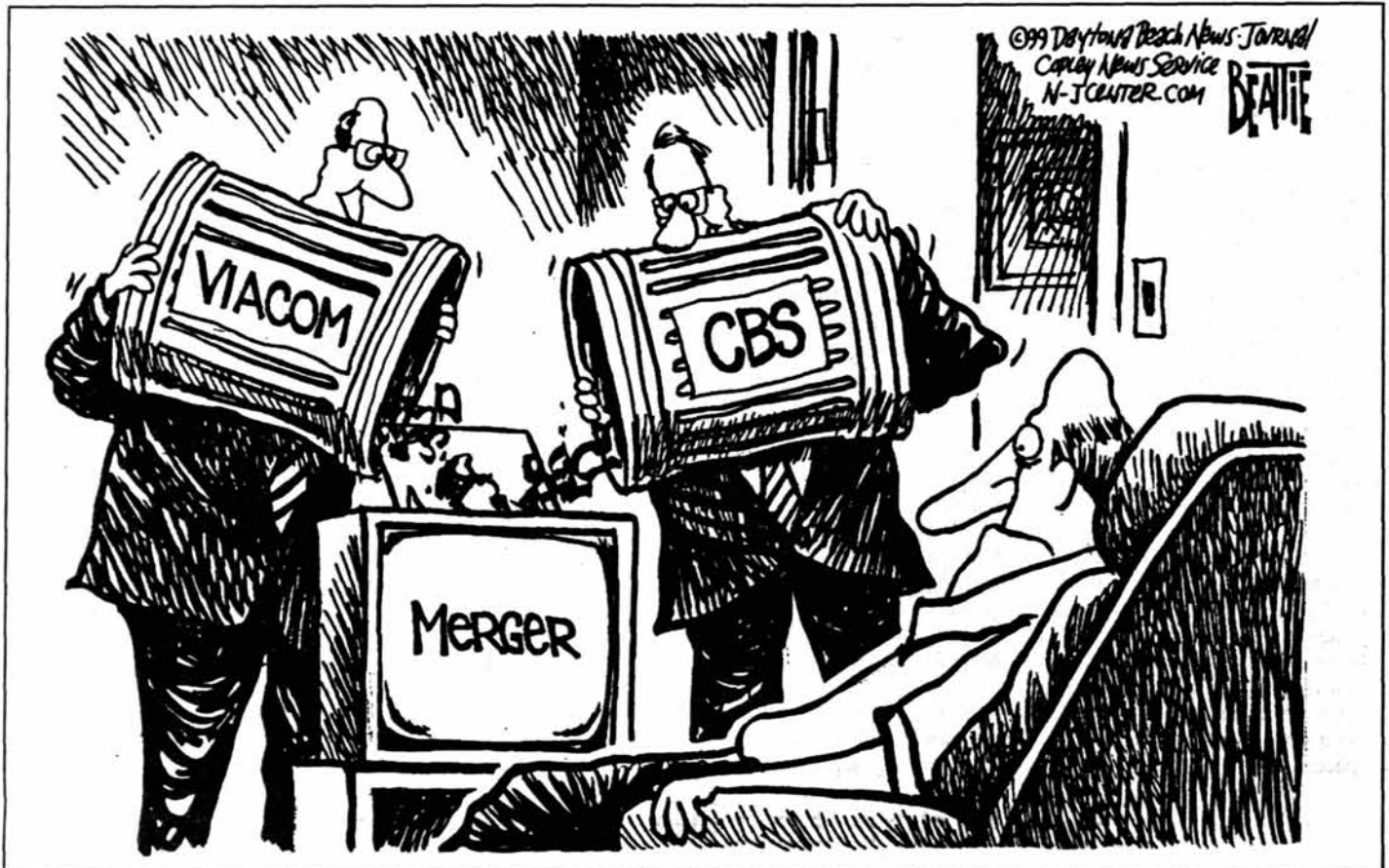
This school can be a dangerous place for young people. The hours are long, the competition fierce, and the egos huge. By creating an atmosphere of zero tolerance here, this will only serve to alienate students who choose to do drugs, making the students who just might need help the most afraid.

Susan Mosher '99 and Rene Ruiz '99 are

implicated in Guy's death. They are currently the victims of a strong desire to find a scapegoat to blame for the death of Guy. To say that they are not being charged in his death but to arraign them for drug possession is two-faced double talk. The charge of 'drugs with intent to distribute' and the long prison sentences mentioned are equivalent to a charge of murder. These two people will have their life ruined. And for what — some mushrooms, marijuana, diet pills, and a couple of cans of whipped cream?

As long as our society denies its self-destructive and suicidal thoughts and blames alcohol and drugs, we will never be able to correct the problem. I believe in the cliché, 'first you have to admit that you have a problem.'

John Muir Kumph G



Opinion Policy

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

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

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An Open Letter on Housing

Guest Column
Ted Peck

To the Residence System Steering Committee and Chancellor Bacow:

MIT desires to cultivate in its students not only technical virtuosity but also leadership and social responsibility. Yet the Residence System Steering Committee, in refusing to scrutinize the terms of its assignment and to consider the social context of its decisions, has succumbed to the very vice which MIT exhorts its students to avoid. Although pursuing its work diligently and in earnest, the committee has failed the MIT community by devoting itself too narrowly to its task. While promising to "think outside the box", the committee has failed to do exactly that.

Ostensibly the committee's mandate was to pursue the best possible design for MIT's residence system. In his introduction of January's Residence System Design Contest, committee chairman William J. Hecht '61 made high-sounding proclamations. In the mission to improve upon an already exemplary system, no option would be left unexamined. In particular, if system solutions in which freshmen could choose to live off campus turned out to be superior, the committee would pursue them.

Mr. Hecht's committee has betrayed this promise. In each public meeting, beginning with the design contest presentations and through the spring's series of public presentations, committee members have asserted that housing all freshmen in dorms was one of their design criteria. At last week's debut of the Committee's final report, no less an authority than committee member Paul E. Gray '54 rose to condemn any thought that freshmen might yet retain the range of housing choices they currently enjoy.

It may be that the point is moot, that the committee's final report proposal represents a clear improvement over MIT's current system or any possible system in which freshmen can live off campus. For reasons I'll give shortly, I don't think so. In any case, the committee can't make that case because they refused to even consider those regions of the design space.

One might respond that retaining the status quo would not constitute "thinking outside the box", and that only through bold steps can MIT hope to reach new levels of excellence. However, when the signal element of the status quo is proscribed from on high, then it truly is "outside the box". Furthermore, building from a system which engenders one of the highest levels of student satisfaction in the country is not a design option to be discarded lightly, no matter what the perceived benefits of keeping freshmen assembled under one thumb.

Based on the committee's responses to the audience at its presentation, it's clear that even the committee itself has trouble asserting the superiority of its proposal. Numerous times in response to questions from the floor, committee members ended up apologizing that this was the best they could do within their design constraint.

Here are five areas in which the committee's plan has clear potential for disastrous consequences:

First, it further postpones the already urgent need of the graduate students for more on-campus housing. It will likely even require the eviction of some graduate students already living on campus. Given the spiraling rents in the Cambridge area, this makes it harder than ever for MIT to compete for top-flight graduate talent, which is its primary asset.

Second, it deprives dormitory residents of the residence selection process which currently fosters the rich diversity of community and culture within the dormitory system.

Third, it deprives the freshman class of choices which they obviously appreciate (as evidenced by the strength of this fall's rush), and forces them into a system whose design is partly intended to deprive them of residential stability, so that as sophomores some of them will be motivated to move off campus.

Fourth, it denies upperclassmen the heretofore reliably delivered promise of dormitory housing if they want it. Instead, freshmen will be given the unsettling news that as sophomores they may have to find their own place to live.

Fifth, it weakens the currently robust and beloved system of independent living groups by depriving it of the things which enable it to

stand above the residence systems at all other schools: the four-year duration of occupancy which facilitates continuity and self-management, the vibrant spirit of freshmen not yet subdued by MIT's academic rigors, and the freedom from the need to recruit during the academic year.

Committee members, Chancellor Bacow, and President Vest himself have all asserted of late that they value MIT's ILGs and wish to help them thrive. For the committee, this may well be the case, but they have tied their own hands by strictly following their orders. As for Vest and his administration, their actions speak louder than their words.

Finally, it is essential that this calamity not be seen as an unavoidable consequence of Scott S. Krueger '01's death as a freshman two years ago. While not condoning the

It remains clear that eliminating the current system of ILG and dorm rush before the start of classes is an ill-considered move that will have catastrophic consequences for MIT.

events and culture that led to Krueger's death, it should be clear that student deaths are not confined to fraternities nor to MIT. In an open email recently Vest himself reiterated that his edict regarding freshman housing was not issued because he thinks freshmen are at risk only in fraternity houses. The point is that sensible, effective measures can help safeguard students wherever they live. It is not necessary to overturn an excellent working residence system.

As an alumnus who has accepted your invitation and participated in your process, I urge you again to broaden your perspective. It remains clear that eliminating the current system of ILG and dorm rush before the start of classes is an ill-considered move that will have catastrophic consequences for MIT.

Ted Peck is a member of the Class of 1982.

Reform's Identity Crisis

Michael J. Ring

Quick. What do Lowell Weicker, Donald Trump, Warren Beatty, Pat Buchanan, Ross Perot, and Jesse Ventura have in common?

Ego? Well, yes, but besides that, what else?

The six men above are the "leaders" of the Reform Party or rumored-to-be Reform Party candidates for President of the United States.

As you can see, the Reform Party has an identity crisis. It's not focusing attention on its platform themes of good-government reforms and economic nationalism and instead is becoming marginalized as a party of celebrity candidates and disgruntled politicians.

Recent escapades have made the party look like a campaign circus. Ventura has been more media star than politician. At the Reform Party's convention this year, the titanic egos of Ventura and Perot stepped into the ring and the governor, adamant that Perot step aside and that the Reform Party nominate a new candidate in 2000, wrestled his way to victory. Ventura and his faction of the party have floated the names of Weicker, a former independent governor of Connecticut, and billionaire developer Trump as potential Reform Party presidential candidates.

Then there's the liberal actor Beatty, who is unhappy with the Democratic field of Gore and Bradley. He's made rumblings about running for president, perhaps as a Democrat, perhaps under the Reform Party banner.

Finally, we have Buchanan, the conservative pit bull striking fear into the hearts of moderate Republicans everywhere with rumors of a third-party bid. Buchanan's presidential campaign in the Republican Party hasn't caught fire, and the media commentator is unhappy with Republican frontrunner George W. Bush's positions on a host of issues from Kosovo to abortion litmus tests to free trade. Thus he's lunging for the exit, stage right.

The Reform Party has apparently become all things to all would-be candidates. The Ventura faction, promoting Trump or Weicker, sees it as a libertarian, fiscally conservative but socially liberal organization. To Beatty, the Reform Party looks like an organ to revitalize traditional liberalism in American politics. Buchanan sees the party as a home for his special brand of "America First" policies on trade, foreign affairs, and immigration.

The fight for the Reform Party's nomination, suddenly in great demand, could turn very ugly, very quickly. Buchanan is the most recognizable candidate and has a deeply loyal following, but the Ventura faction doesn't want a social conservative as the Reform Party's nominee, and will probably use Pat's paper trail of wacky, extreme statements against him.

Such personality-driven politics is nothing new for the Reform Party. Remember its standard-bearer in the past two elections was Perot, the diminutive Texan whose visions of self-aggrandizement couldn't fit even in the Lone Star State.

Launching a new third party in the United States is difficult enough; large electoral districts, a first-past-the-post voting system, the "big tent" mentality of each of the two parties, and the importance of money in our campaign system all hinder third-party efforts. But the Reform Party today is suffering from another ailment potentially lethal to all third parties: an era of good feelings. Third party candidates are most successful at times of economic (Perot, 1992) or social (George Wallace, 1968) strife. Neither condition exists in America today. Most voters today don't see a need for change from the two-party structure. And those that do aren't likely to be amused by the Reform Party's buffoonery.

The current state of the Reform Party is unfortunate, since the party has a lot to offer America. In 1992 Perot focused much of that campaign's attention on the deficit, and with members of both parties eager to raid the budget surplus America could use a few sermons from a deficit hawk. Second, unless lightning strikes, both the Democratic and Republican candidates for president will support "free" trade initiatives like NAFTA and GATT. The Reform Party, which opposes these agreements, needs to remind us about American workers in industries such as autos and steel, forced to compete with the illegal trading schemes of other nations.

Here's hoping for a smooth, bloodless Reform Party nomination contest. The party has too much to offer American politics to risk becoming a three-ring circus.

A Bridge to the 11th Century

Kansas Schools Turn Back Clock on Modern Science

Kris Schnee

How would you react to a physics textbook which began, "Gravity is a controversial theory some scientists present as a scientific explanation for why objects fall. No one was present when the physical laws of the universe were set. Therefore, any statement about falling objects should be considered as theory, not fact. You will not be tested on any concept involving gravity."

No school system has yet reached that point, but some are headed in that direction. The Kansas State Board of Education voted this August to approve a new curriculum backed by creationists. The new science standards have altered instructions for teachers, encouraging them to attack the theory of evolution. This is a setback for common sense and for the children of Kansas, who will be hindered in learning the knowledge and critical-thinking skills they will need as adults in the next century.

Decades after the 1925 Scopes "monkey trial," the anti-science rhetoric of religious fundamentalism still thrives in America. Fundamentalists are not a tiny minority at all — according to a Gallup poll taken in 1991, an astonishing 47 percent of the American people believe in the "special creation" of humans more or less in their present form during the last ten thousand years. This belief flatly contradicts the evidence gathered by several major branches of science, including geology, archaeology, genetics, and cosmology, and reduces modern biology to an unexplainable jumble. Yet people continue to believe in "creation", because the evolution issue reaches deeper than science itself. Religious believers consider their ideas separate from, and superior to, knowledge gained through science and reason, and so it is not surprising that they disapprove of having their children learn ideas which contradict their most strongly-held beliefs.

But the fact that religion is considered a separate field of study from science is one of the best reasons why "creationism" should be kept out of public education. The Constitution forbids the establishment of any religion by the federal government, establishing instead

the principle that Americans have no right to impose their religious beliefs on each other. Creationism is not a scientific theory in competition with evolution — it is a thinly veiled front for religious fundamentalists, primarily Christians, to impose their own interpretations of their religions' scriptures on all children.

The intent to impose religious dogma on students shows clearly through the Kansas standards, despite their deceptive wording. "No evidence or analysis of evidence that contradicts a current science theory will be censured." No particular theory is mentioned. However, Republican school board member

Decades after the 1925 Scopes "monkey trial," the anti-science rhetoric of religious fundamentalism still thrives in America.

Steve Abrams, when he decided to rewrite the science standards prepared for him by actual scientists, had one particular complaint: "[It] is not good science to teach evolution as fact." Thanks to him, the standards' description of evolutionary theory was slashed, leaving only a description of "micro-evolution". Micro-evolution attempts to explain change within a species, and not evolution of species. Abrams also tried to add these words to the standards: "The design and complexity... of the cosmos requires an intelligent designer." Cutting evolution from the standards makes teaching and learning the subject optional, as if it were insignificant to science. Meanwhile, the cleverly-worded demand for a "non-dogmatic" treatment of human origins opens the way for public school teachers with a fundamentalist bent to use the classroom as a pulpit. In other words, creationist-written school standards plead for a free debate, including the religious opinion, while shutting out or belittling the scientific opinion as much as possible. Creationists have tried to dress religion up as science, and vice versa.

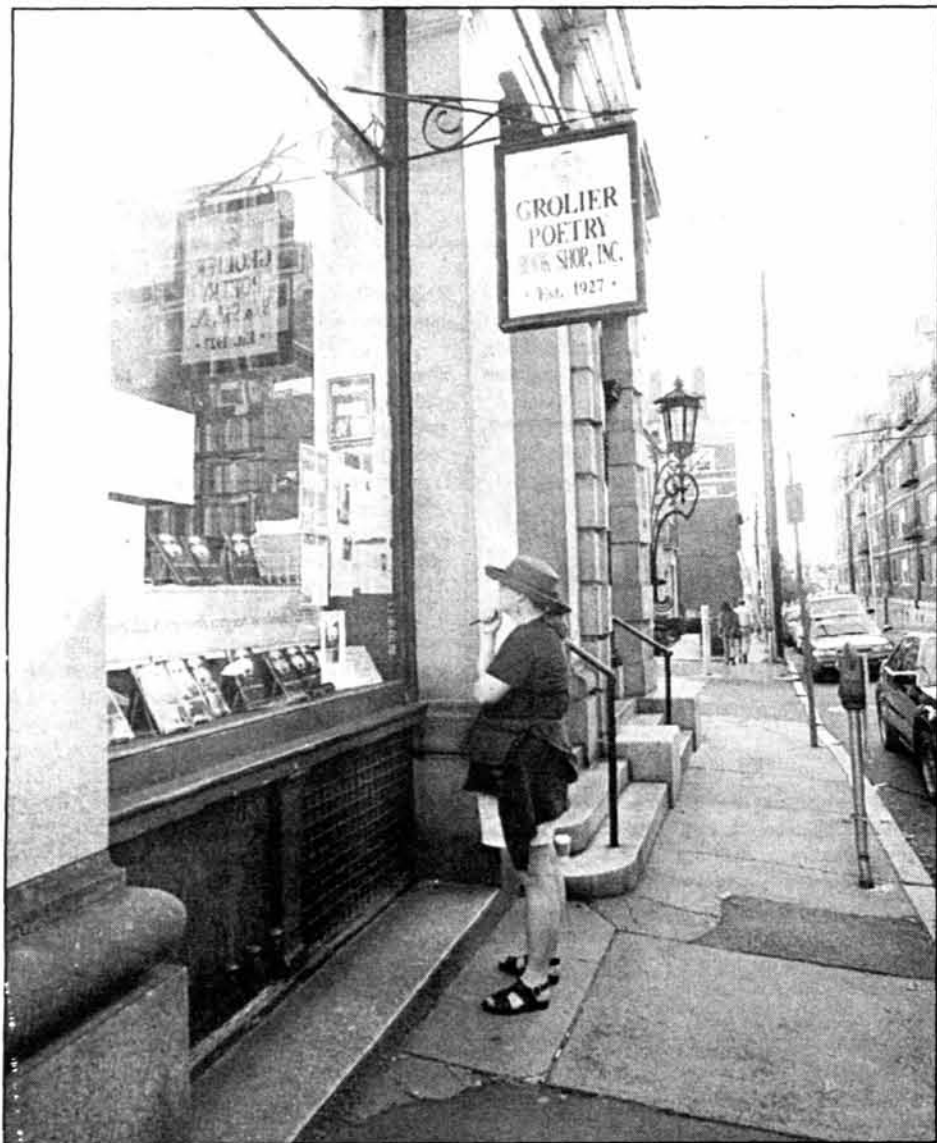
Evolution, they say, is the cornerstone of a religion of secular humanism, and thus has no place in public schools. Indeed, if there were no such things as fossils, radiocarbon dating, and other evidence backing up evolutionary theory, this might be a valid argument. But again, the competition is between evolution, a theory backed by evidence, and creation, a theory contradicted by the evidence. The creationist response to "the evidence card" is that teaching children facts which contradict their religion will make them lose their faith in a contradictory world view. Irrelevant! If public schools are to teach science, they must teach about evidence and rationality, without ignoring any issue, or they will cease to teach science at all. Students are free to decide on their own how to reconcile scientific fact with their religious beliefs, but we cannot honestly certify that they understand biology without testing their understanding of evolution. It is no business or right of fundamentalists to remove the scientific community from the design of a science class.

Even if the Constitution did not bar creationism from the classroom, common sense would. The Kansas schools will now cut out evolution and, interestingly, also the Big Bang theory, from the curriculum on the grounds that since these things cannot be fully replicated in the laboratory, we do not know if they happened in the past. If we accepted this notion, we would logically cease teaching history and most of religion as well. One might also ask how strong the fundamentalist argument (that "if it's in our scriptures, it must be literally true") is, if it must be defended by suppressing rational thought and crushing all opposition — see Proverbs 3:5 and Deuteronomy 13.

The Creationist assault on science is a national phenomenon. Ohio, Washington, New Hampshire, Tennessee, and even Texas have considered adding anti-evolution language to school standards, and Alabama, New Mexico, and Nebraska have also approved such bills. Will the Kansas standards help to lead the country back into a darker time? Instead, hopefully, they will serve as a sharp reminder that intellectual freedom must be constantly guarded — and also spur scientists to check their own evidence again, just to be sure.

FEATURES

The Road Not Taken Often Leads to Grolier's



Maren Stever stops at Grolier Poetry Book Shop to find a poem for the Women's Lunchplace annual holiday card.

By Sonali Mukherjee

Upon entering the Grolier Poetry Book Shop, Inc. from Harvard Square, there are many things about the store which may strike the onlooker as unique. One is the absence of any distracting music. The collection of over three hundred photographs of famous poets hanging on the walls is another. The presence of a frisky and curious mascot, affectionately known to all as Jessica Pumpkin, is also an interesting addition to the store's atmosphere.

Befitting its role as Boston's premier source for poetry, books remain Grolier's most striking characteristic. Volumes of printed material line the tall bookshelves that extend almost to the ceiling; and it's all poetry. Grolier's is one of two stores in both North and South America which specializes only in that particular genre.

Founded in 1927 as an antiquarian store by the original owners, Adrien Gambet and Gordon Caney, this unique shop located on Plympton Street is celebrating its 72nd anniversary. Famous poets such as Robert Pinsky, Allen Ginsberg, and Elizabeth Bishop have often visited Grolier's for various events from book signings to the store's ongoing poetry reading series, currently in its twenty-sixth year. "The store became known as a meeting place for poets," says Louisa Solano, owner of Grolier's since 1974. Somehow, it seems impossible that this renowned store is even accessible to the public, but the reality is that the poetry shop is a treasured gem of the community.

Novelists, critics, and teachers from as far away as Japan and Sweden often utilize the literature Grolier's has to offer. Humanities professors in the Cambridge-Boston area also use it as an alternative source for buying course books rather than purchasing them from the comparatively antiseptic Coop. Thus, students from various institutions such as MIT, Harvard, and Tufts often frequent the store.

John Hildebidle, a professor of literature at

MIT, is one of the admirers of Grolier's and he regularly sends his students there for class books. To him, Grolier's is a great service to the world of poetry, and it is important that people become familiar with the shop. "Everyone who writes poetry in the Boston area knows about it," he said of the store's reputation.

Competition from chains not a threat

The shop's exclusive attention to poetry is one of its special characteristics. However, one of the major worries of small specialty bookstores across the country is the competition with major corporate chains such as Barnes & Noble and amazon.com. Solano takes an optimistic approach to the opening of these larger stores because they deflect non-committal poetry browsers. "The people who are really interested in poetry will come here," she says. The real force behind Grolier's following is the fact that it also carries back stock and less recognized titles and thus appeals to a different group of literary enthusiasts.

Solano admits that there have been a few bad years. She points out that most of the major corporations are millions of dollars in debt, and therefore does not feel threatened by them. The store also has much support in the area. If the store were to close, "there would be a tremendous objection from the community," said Hildebidle.

The Grolier Poetry Book Shop, Inc. embodies the essence of the small bookstore tradition. The fact that it is the only poetry oriented bookstore in the United States seems almost incomprehensible. Yet it also seems perfectly logical that this shop would be located near Boston, the city with the highest density of universities in the country. Solano is confident that all her customers come away satisfied. "People come here looking for poetry, and that's what they find," she says. She also put in a good word for her MIT clients — "They are the politest and most courteous students."

Viewpoint

This week's question:
What do you think of this year's freshman class?

"Dude, they're hardcore. I'm scared."
— Sudeb C. Dalai '02

"They are a bunch of fly, fun-loving slackers. I'm looking forward to shower night"
— Brian A. Pasquinelli '02

"I think the new freshman class is very cool, however they seem to study too much, but otherwise they seem awesome."
— James P. Flynn '02

"They look younger every year."
— Jonas B. Arcelona '00

"They look like a motivated bunch."
— Seema M. Awatramani '01

"They're more into their studies than partying"
— Luis F. Cardenas '00

"They seem a lot more laid back than last year's class. They like to go out and have fun."
— Marie L. Blanke '01

"Really cool. Really independent. They are not as clueless as I was when I was a freshman."
— Jennifer M. Braun '02

"I think they rock."
— Jeanette Y. Chan '02

"You guys are crazy! You have so much energy!"
— Sonya H. Blesser '01

"They seem a lot more personable than previous years."
— Elizabeth A. Ellingson '01

Spotlight of the Week

Pete Medaglia — MIT's Plant Guru

Aaron D. Mihalik

STAFF REPORTER

Many students know Pete Medaglia as the 'plant guy' who sells a variety of different plants and distributes helpful horticulture advice at the student center, but only a handful of students know about his IAP class offerings.

"Ten years ago I developed classes for adult ed programs in specific landscape, gardening and horticultural topics," Medaglia said. "I teach several adult ed programs as well as give the same lectures at garden clubs. [Five years ago] I saw the [IAP] catalog and I was really fascinated with the level and diversity of classes being offered. When I approached people at the CAC about the idea [of presenting my lectures during IAP] they were enthusiastic."

Medaglia's IAP workshops cover a wide range of topics including bonsai, topiary and bulb forcing. He presents a special class just for IAP — HMO for House Plants. "It's about how to take care of house plants, how to propagate, how to keep them from getting sick, [and] how to make them better if they are sick."

"Most of [my IAP courses] are to some extent hands-on," explained Medaglia. "In the bonsai class we make bonsai... in the

topiary class we make topiary. In the HMO workshop we take cuttings and root cuttings off plants and we re-pot cuttings."

As with many IAP classes, enrollment is limited. Most of the courses that Medaglia offers are limited to twenty students. Also, most of his classes require a materials fee. The fee is not "out of the range of the average student" and it is "less money than to buy a finished [bonsai or topiary]" said Medaglia. He estimated the fee to be between \$10 and \$20 per class.

"I think [other colleges] that don't offer [a program similar to IAP] are missing the boat," said Medaglia. "For students that are intelligent enough to go to a good school, there are a lot of reasons to offer classes that have nothing to do with academics... [classes] that are just purely for enjoyment and general interest development."

Through his booth in the student center and his IAP classes, Medaglia has built a relationship with the MIT community. "I constantly see people that I know or that I have sold something to in the past. Which also makes me a resource when people have plants that aren't doing too well. I like to be on a first name basis with people. I get to see them freshman year and sell them a plant every year right through senior year."



Visitor Lillian Hsu purchases a gift from Peter A. Medaglia of Gold Medal Growers on Friday at the Stratton Student Center lobby.

ANNIE S. CHOI—THE TECH

This Week in MIT History

The MIT community is currently made up of students, faculty and staff from thousands of different backgrounds and cultures. However, in the late 1800's this was not so. The MIT community was mostly New Englanders, with a few "outsiders." This week in 1888 marked for MIT a great leap towards today's campus diversity: enrollment of the first black student. Although MIT did not categorize records of students by race until the late 1960's, Robert Robinson Taylor '92, is generally considered to be its first black student, based on auxiliary records. He was enrolled on September 23, 1888 with the largest freshman class in the school's history: 328 students.

During Taylor's time at MIT, he did well academically. He appears to have been near the top of his class, with honors in trigonometry, architectural history, differential calculus, and applied mechanics. He held the Loring Scholarship (for students who had proven their potential through hard work and superior performance) for two consecutive academic years, and may have actually been the scholarship's first recipient. He chose to major in Course IV (Architecture), and designed a model convalescent home (for Civil War veterans) as his final project. After graduation, Taylor was invited by Booker T. Washington to develop the nascent program in industrial studies at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. After considering offers from four other schools, and working in the architecture industry for a short time, Taylor joined the faculty at Tuskegee.

While there, the duality of his MIT education (*mens et manus*) influenced and shaped the Tuskegee program into one where students were trained to be both thinkers and workers. He remained at Tuskegee (excluding a short return to the Cleveland and the architecture trade from 1899-1902) for his entire career. In 1929, he was awarded an honorary doctoral degree from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, served as the treasurer of the local colored library board. Taylor served as a trustee of the Chestnut Street Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, and of the Fayetteville State Teachers College. Taylor was a mason, a member of Phi Gamma Mu and Phi Beta Sigma fraternities, the Society of the Arts in Boston, the American Economic Society, and the Business League of Tuskegee. In 1911, Taylor delivered a speech at the Congress of Technology, convened to celebrate the Institute's 50th birthday, "The Scientific Development of the Negro," in which he traced the history of blacks in industry, from the times of slavery to the present, and speculated on the future of blacks in scientific industries.

Robert R. Taylor died in 1942, in the chapel at Tuskegee, which he considered his greatest architectural achievement. His widow wrote to a member of the MIT faculty, saying "(Taylor) had hoped to attend the fiftieth anniversary of his graduation this year but ill health prevented. He has always met his alumni obligations and loved his alma mater."

Since Taylor's enrollment, MIT has enrolled and graduated thousands of black students. Their numbers increased dramatically in the civil-rights era of the 1960's, and again in the years following 1970, when minority-recruitment programs were developed and refined. The Institute currently offers many opportunities and programs for minority students, including Project Interphase, a head-start program for minority freshmen during the summer before they enter the Institute, as well as the many programs offered by the Office of Minority Education.

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

Tuesday's Events

2:30 p.m. — **2-D Fluid Dynamics and the Inverse Gravitational Problem** — Dr. Darren Crowdy, Imperial College, United Kingdom. Sponsored by Physical Mathematics Seminar with Department of Mathematics. Rm 2-338. Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in Room 2-349. More info: Call Professor John Bush at 253-4387. Email bush@math.mit.edu.

4:00 p.m. — **The Changing Role of the Equipment Supplier in the Semiconductor Industry** — John Kelly, Novellus Systems, Inc. Sponsored by MTL VLSI Seminar. Rm 34-101. Refreshments in Room 34-101 at 3:30 p.m. More info: Call Debroah Hodges-Pabon at 253-5264. Email debb@mtl.mit.edu. <<http://www.mtl.mit.edu/>>.

7:00 p.m. — **Richard Feynman: The Pleasure of Finding Things Out - A Panel** — Marvin Minsky, Michel Baranger, & Silvan Schweber, Prof., Media Lab, MIT; Prof. Physics, MIT; Brandeis, Physics Prof. Sponsored by authors@mit with MIT Libraries & MIT Press Bookstore. Rm 26-100. Celebrates publication of *The Pleasure of Finding Things Out*, a posthumous book of Feynman's best short works. Screening of BBC film with same title. Books available at a discount week of event. More info: Call MIT Press Bookstore at 3-5249. Contact: authors@mit.edu, <<http://mitpress.mit.edu/bookstore/events/>>.

Wednesday's Events

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. — **CWIS-PUB User Group**. Monthly meeting of the web publishers' user group. This month's topic: MIT's new web page statistics program. 1-190. Sponsor: CWIS (Campus-Wide Information Systems).

12:00 p.m. — **NATO Expansion: Increases or Diminishes Western Security?** — Professor George Grayson, Government Department, College of William and Mary. Security Studies Program Seminar Series. Rm E38-615. Bag lunch, refreshments will be provided. More info: Call Lynne Levine at 253-0133. llevine@mit.edu. <<http://web.mit.edu/ssp/>>.

4:00 p.m. — **On the State-of-the-Art of Finite Element Analysis and a Look into the Future** — Klaus-Jürgen Bathe, Department of Mechanical Engineering, MIT. Sponsored by Singapore-MIT Alliance/HPCEs. Rm 4-237. Distinguished Speaker Series in High Performance Computation for Engineered Systems. More info: Call Professor A.T. Patera at 253-8122. Email patera@mit.edu.

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. — **Men's Intercollegiate Volleyball Club Tryouts**. Mon Sept 20, 7-9PM Rockwell Cage Join the Men's Intercollegiate Volleyball Club for tryouts. Players for all positions needed. ignacio@mit.edu, <<http://web.mit.edu/ivc/www/ivc.html>> Rockwell Cage. Sponsor: Intercollegiate Volleyball.

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. — **RSSC Feedback Meeting**. No Dorm Rush? Sophomore Shuffle? FSILG Rush in the winter? Provide feedback on the final report of the Residence System Steering Committee. Ashdown Hs. Hulsizer Room. Sponsor: Undergraduate Association.

Thursday's Events

Thursday's Events

12:00 p.m. — **Parenting Children with Special Needs** — Barbara Popper, M.Ed., Federation for Children with Special Needs. Sponsored by Family Resource Center. Rm 16-151. More info: Call Family Resource Center at 253-1592. Contact frc@mit.edu, <<http://web.mit.edu/personnel/www/frc/>>.

3:00 p.m. — **Experiences in Interactive Expression** — Don Ritter (Masters of Visual Studies, CAVS, MIT), Prof. of Computer Graphics & Interactive Media, Pratt Inst., Brooklyn. Experiences in Interactive Expression (part of "Special Topics at the CAVS" MAS 879). MIT Museum Bldg, 390. Visiting artists who use digital media and interactivity or audience participation in their work, will focus in depth on one piece, with a quick overview of his/her work, followed by discussion. More info: <<http://cavs.mit.edu/seminar/mas879/interact.html>>.

4:00 p.m. — **A novel snowmaking process: Theory and potential applications** — Moshe Alamaro, MIT. Sponsored by MIT Atmospheric Science Seminars. Rm 54-915. More info: Call at 253-0136. Contact ddlucas@mit.edu, <www.paoc.mit.edu/MASSseries.html>.

4:00 p.m. — **Applications of Revenue Management in Manufacturing** — Dr. Mitchell H. Burman, Analytics Consulting. Sponsored by Operations Research Center. Rm E40-298. Seminar followed by refreshments in Room E40-106. More info: Call Andy Armacost at 253-7412, danibon@mit.edu, <<http://web.mit.edu/orc/www/>>.

4:15 p.m. — **The Ice Ages, Global Climate, and the Asteroid Event** — Prof. Richard A. Muller, University of California, Berkeley. Physics Colloquium. Rm 10-250. Refreshments in Room 4-339 at 3:45 p.m. More info: Call Physics Headquarters at 253-4801. Contact: physhdq@mit.edu, <<http://web.mit.edu/physics/www/Colloquium/current.html>>.

5:00 p.m. — **The Power of Images in Communicating Science and Technology** — Felice Frankel, Artist-in-Residence at MIT & pioneering science photographer. Sponsored by Office of the Arts with Media in Transition Project. Bartos Theater. Boyce Rensberger, Director of the Knight Science Journalism Fellowships program at MIT, will serve as respondent. Media in Transition Forum. More info: thorburn@mit.edu, <<http://media-in-transition.mit.edu>>.

Friday's Events

7:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. — **MIT Anime Club Showing**. 7:00 Slayers Next 6 - 9 (subtitled); 9:00 Cowboy Bebop 1 - 2 (subtitled); 10:00 Eatman 1-2 (subtitled); 11:00 Yu Yu Hakusho 3 - 4 (subtitled). Free! Stop by anytime and bring your friends. E51-335. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

8:00 p.m. — **Sonos Concert**. The "hands across the river" ensemble includes faculty members from MIT (Prof Marcus Thompson, viola & Sr Lecturer David Deveau, piano) & BU (Bayla Keyes, violin & Michael Reynolds, cello). Admission 0. Killian Hall. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

Saturday's Events

8:00 p.m. — **Affiliated Artist Concert**. A concert of Spanish music. Margaret O'Keefe, soprano; Carlos Archuleta, baritone. Admission 0. Killian Hall. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

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September 21, 1999

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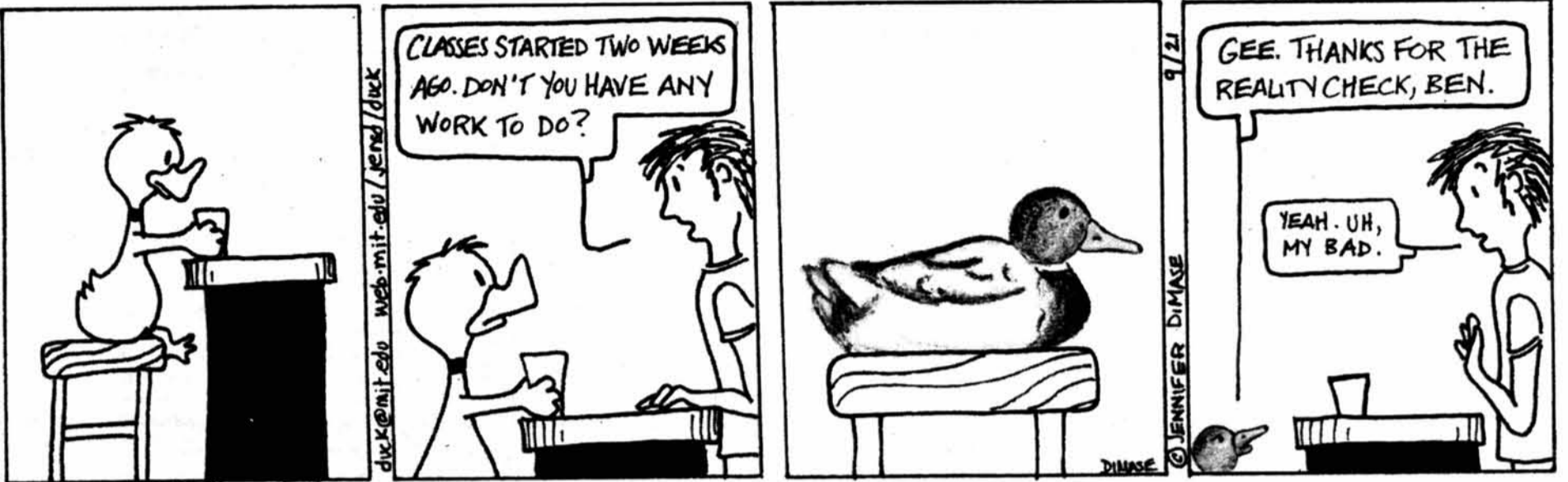
FUN

Page 9

PAGES

Down with Science

by Jennifer DiMase



the crass rat



Tired Sols BY DARIQ



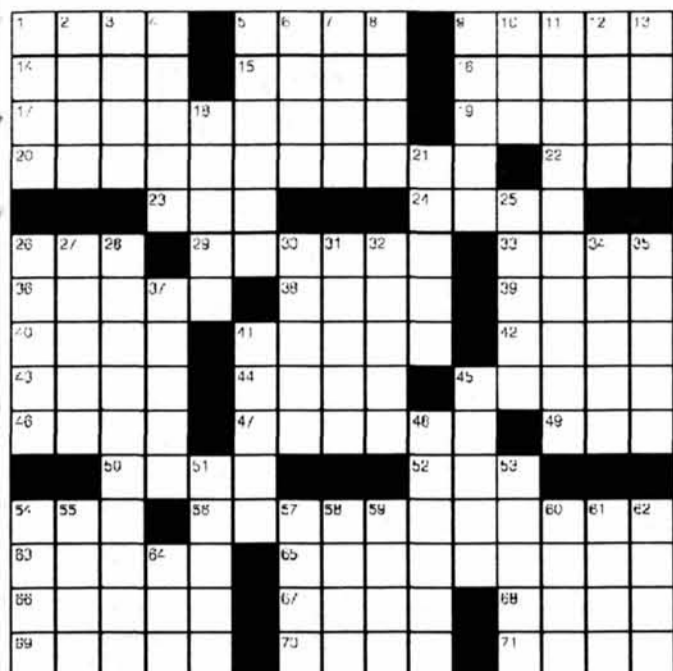
THIS SIDE UP Sept 21-19

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

by Bill Amend

FoxTrot

Crossword Puzzle



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9/21/99

ACROSS

- 1 Picnic pests
- 5 "Music charms..."
- 9 Look forward to
- 14 Wife of Jacob
- 15 Moises of baseball
- 16 Thick
- 17 Teacher
- 19 Playful marine mammal
- 20 Road smoother
- 22 Skirt edge
- 23 Young boy
- 24 Hind part
- 26 Sgt. or cpl., e.g.
- 29 Ornate style
- 33 Joyous celebration
- 36 Expressionist painter
- 38 Hurried along
- 39 Corrosive substance
- 40 Memorizing process
- 41 Diacritical mark
- 42 Singer Turner

- 43 Actress Ariene
- 44 Draft classification
- 45 Outfit
- 46 Pipe part
- 47 Indian fabric
- 49 NYC hrs.
- 50 Flower holder
- 52 Gloomy guy?
- 54 Bonzo or Clyde
- 56 Substitute batter
- 63 Newly-hatched stage
- 65 Living things
- 66 Energy
- 67 Lan-de-dah ways
- 68 Long-range rocket; abbr.
- 69 An Astaire
- 70 Help on a heist
- 71 Inside info

DOWN

- 1 Lagers' cousins
- 2 On deck
- 3 CD alternative
- 4 Shallow water
- 5 Coiffure
- 6 Palo __, CA

- 7 Implement
- 8 Fling
- 9 Idolize
- 10 __ behind the ears
- 11 Hard coal
- 12 A-ha!
- 13 Period in office
- 18 Intelligent
- 21 Wear away
- 25 Marble material
- 26 Dweebs
- 27 Zagreb resident
- 28 Touch and go
- 30 Dishes
- 31 Lubricated
- 32 Aromatic tree
- 34 "Peanuts" character
- 35 Change with the times
- 37 Diamond of "Night Court"
- 41 Actress Marisa
- 45 Outfit for C. Yeager
- 48 Appalled

- 51 Extra
- 53 Perplex
- 54 Edison's middle name
- 55 Picked up the tab
- 57 March Madness org.

- 58 Baby bed
- 59 In this place
- 60 Small combo
- 61 Architect Saarinen
- 62 Letters on invitations
- 64 One of a set of bks.



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Friday October 22
Somerville Theater/Davis Square
Pre-performance discussion at 6:00pm
Performance at 8:00pm

DAVID SEDARIS

Author of *Barrel Fever* and *Naked*, Sedaris first came to prominence through his essay *The Santaland Diaries*, which detailed his hellish experiences as a Macy's Christmas elf.

Saturday October 16
8:00pm
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6.001 Lab Receives New Computers from Intel Grant

By Thomas Lin

This year's crop of 6.001 students are currently enjoying the fruits of a major summer renovation which added 28 new high-speed computers to the course's computer lab.

The computers offer major advantages in comparison to Athena workstations and the aging Hewlett-Packard workstations that they replaced in terms of speed and comfort, according to many students in the class. Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs.

"The computers here are faster than any computers on Athena, that's for sure" said Jose T. Munoz '02. One major difference is the speed of the new computers, which rely on Pentium III processors running at 500 Megahertz. This processing power tops the speeds of computers that many students have in their rooms.

"Although we don't absolutely need the special processing speed, it enables us to do more with such modern equipment" said 6.001 Professor Duane S. Boning.

Each new computer also sports its own 21-inch color monitor.

Compared to the black and white monitors used last year, students felt that the monitors this year are easier to see, more comfortable to look at, and allow for greater screen capacity. "I wish I could take one of these systems home" said Naveen Goela '03. "These computers are not only faster, but their monitors are big and easy to see, and generally easier to do computations on."

Computer lab spacing arrangements also improved over the summer. Now the computers are arranged on spacious tables of four computers apiece. "We are really happy that in addition to the new

computers, we now have a new layout that makes the lab a truly pleasant place to work and interact while learning how to program," Boning said.

Three-year grant funds overhaul

The grant of new computers is part of Intel Corporation's "Technology for Education 2000" \$5.6 million three-year donation of equipment and services to MIT. Each computer also sports a striking "Donated by Intel" sticker.

The Intel sticker "also helps MIT students feel good about the speed and reliability of Intel based systems through the speed and reliability of the systems in the lab" Goela said.

"I think it's wonderful that Intel so generously donated these fine machines to help us pursue our cutting edge research here at MIT" said Michael Y. Moon '03.

The 6.001 Lab is a computer lab solely for the use of students taking the class, and is located on the fifth floor of building 38. Often students will go there to work on 6.001 problem sets because it is quiet, and because of lab assistants are on hand to help students with any difficulties they may encounter while working

on problem sets.

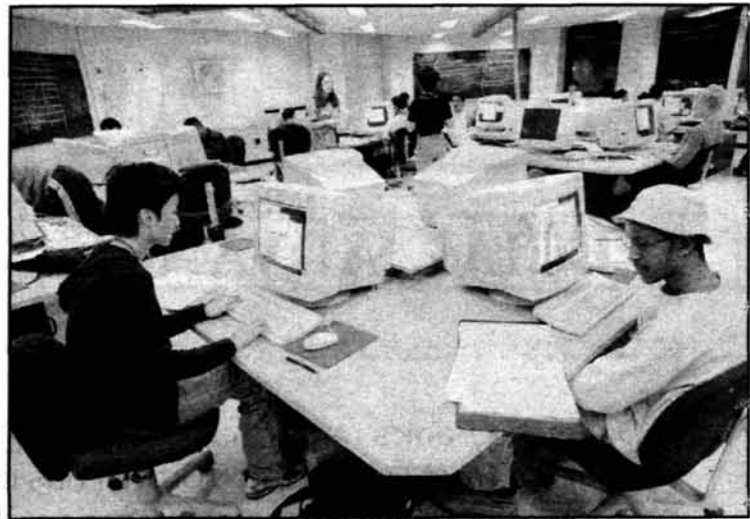
Remote location miffs some

However, one common complaint from students using the 6.001 Lab is about how it is off near the edge of campus.

"The Lab is so inconveniently located. I live on the other side of campus and I have to walk a long way to get here," said Rani Bhuvu '03, who is using the lab right now primarily because she does not have her own computer for her dorm room yet.

Some students find the walk to be worth it. "It's not as convenient as just using the computer in my dorm, but they have Lab Assistants here so that if you're ever stuck, you can get help easily" said Kam T. Hung '01.

According to lab administrators, there are always plenty of open computers in the lab with the exception of Thursday night; 6.001 problem sets are due on Friday. To alleviate this problem, lab administrators have set up a system in which students can sign up for two hour blocks of time in which to work. This helps avoid the hassle of students having to wait around for computers.



CHENGWEI PEI

Yoan Angulet '02 and Chen-Wen Huang '02 benefit from the new equipment in the 6.001 laboratory. New computers were donated for use in the lab by Intel Corporation.

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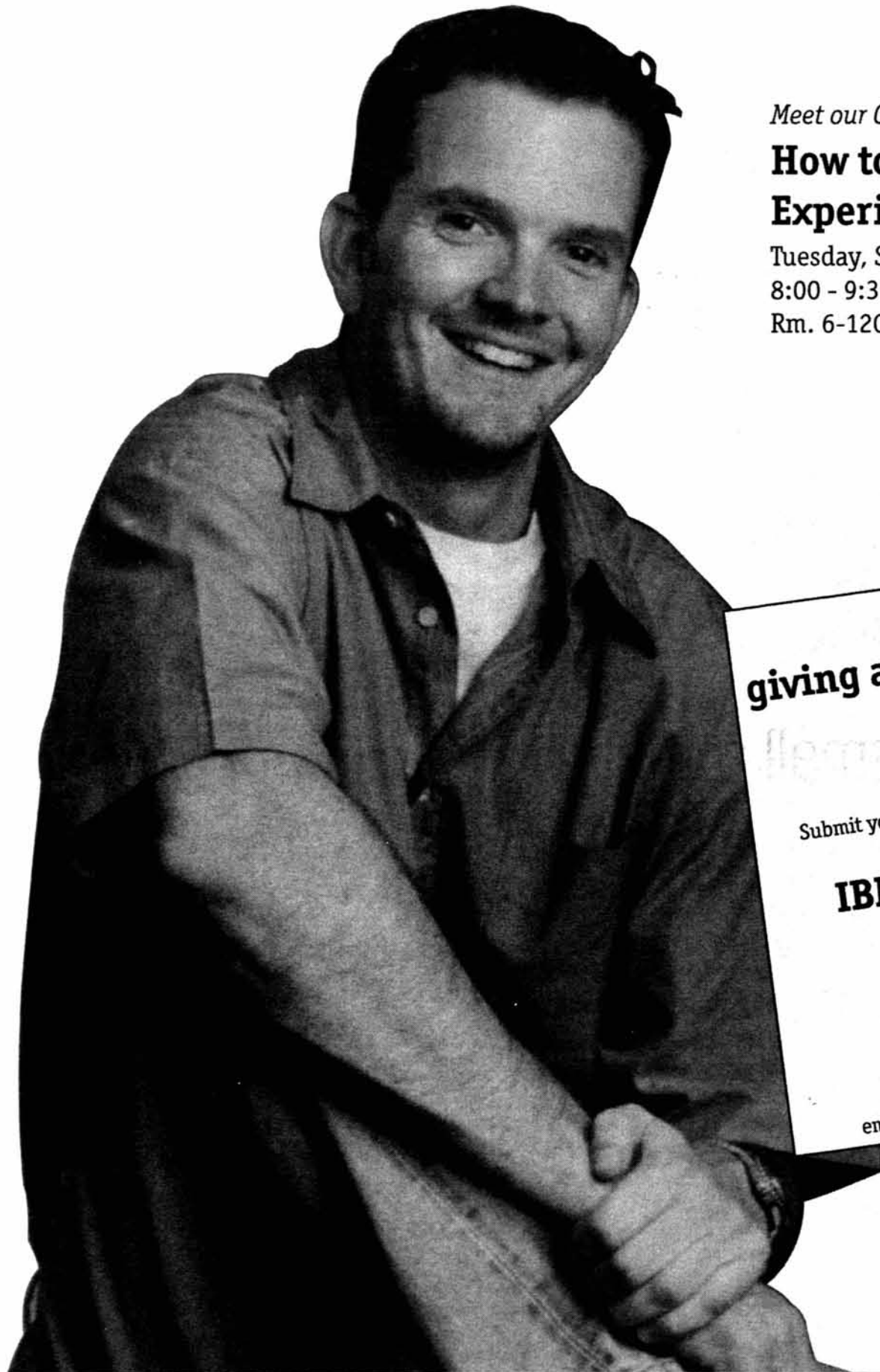
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Councilwoman Seeks to Support Small Businesses

Triantafillou, from Page 1

movie theater, and an affordable clothing store such as Marshalls.

She is also in support of small businesses and maintaining the type of shopping stores where citizens prefer to shop. She believes that Cambridge would "suffer from not

having small businesses" and plans to encourage them in the midst of the development from large chains.

Candidate supports environment

Triantafillou's view towards the environment and preserving open spaces is equally progressive. She would like to see Cambridge do a

better job at maintaining the condition of its parks and is in support of creating more open space for both "passive" and recreational benefits. By supporting passive open spaces Triantafillou is trying to encourage the preservation of the local Cambridge environment. She specifically wants to see more open spaces in eastern Cambridge.

Another concern that Triantafillou wants to address is the growing traffic problem in Cambridge. She supports the recent measures to slow and redirect traffic flow called "traffic calming." Calming involves extending sidewalks and banks to slow down cars and is designed to help pedestrians by reducing the speed at which cars can drive.

Late night transportation is another issue important to students. Triantafillou said that "It's unfortunate that the subways and busses don't operate later." Although she would be in support of extending late night transportation, such a move is out of the power of the local government because the state handles matters concerning public transportation.



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

Members of the MIT Old Boys hoist a teammate up to attempt to catch a throw-in in a rugby game against the Beacon Hill Dinosaurs Saturday. The Old Boys lost the game 13-10.

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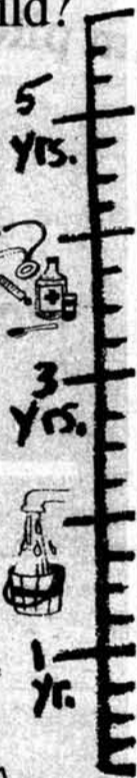
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Samuel A. Worthington, National Executive Director, Childreach with a sponsored child in Tariju, Bolivia.



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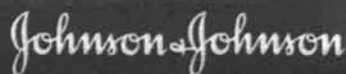


MIT Student Information Session

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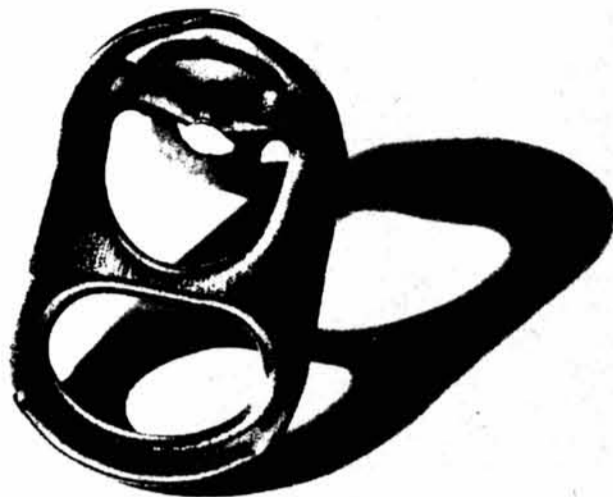
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Group Account Info Accessible Online

By Kristen Landino
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

As a result of changes to the student accounting program, student group officers are now able to access all financial information for their group online.

Changes offer more accessibility

Account information including balances, activity, and Undergraduate Association Finance Board allocation information can be viewed on Athena by authorized group officers.

"This new process allows for greater control by student officers because it enables them to monitor account activity more closely than under the previous system," said Edmund A. Jones, Staff Associate of Student Activities Finances.

The funding and reimbursement procedures for groups have been streamlined to allow for greater accessibility and control by student group officers.

In the past, a single account existed for all student groups, making it more difficult to monitor account activity. Now each student group has two accounts: one main account and a Finboard account which consists solely of money received through Finboard allocations.

Finboard monitors accounts

These two separate accounts allow Finboard to better organize the funding process and monitor student groups' use of funds.

For example, recent changes in the funding process have made it mandatory for student groups to place their expenses into one of four categories: capital, events, operations, and publicity. The financial

board then allocates grants for each category of expenses.

"For groups that are well organized, the new on-line accounting system will provide another tool in helping groups plan and budget effectively throughout the term... the category grants will offer more flexibility to student groups; in essence, more control," said Edgar H. Martinez '00, Finboard chair.

The new funding process will decrease the return time for student vouchers to the Financial Board, he said.

Funding becomes more electronic

The new funding process and account maintenance techniques show a move towards a more web-based electronic process. Issues of accessibility and time are addressed by this solution.

Although vouchers are currently submitted on hard copy, a move toward a more electronic process could change this procedure.

"I think we're trying to improve the overall accessibility and flexibility of student activities finances, and the web and other on-line systems, such as Athena, will definitely help us accomplish these goals," Martinez said.

Individuals in MIT's data warehouse department were responsible for helping to make the internal changes to MIT's system of accounting.

Undergraduate Association President Matthew L. McGann '00, Association of Student Activities President Brian T. Sniffen '00, and Martinez were also "instrumental in the development of merging existing systems with MIT systems," according to Jones.



George E. Ruckert, founder of MITHAS, performs on a sarod during a free concert held this Saturday night at Wong Auditorium. He is accompanied by Gretchen Hayden.

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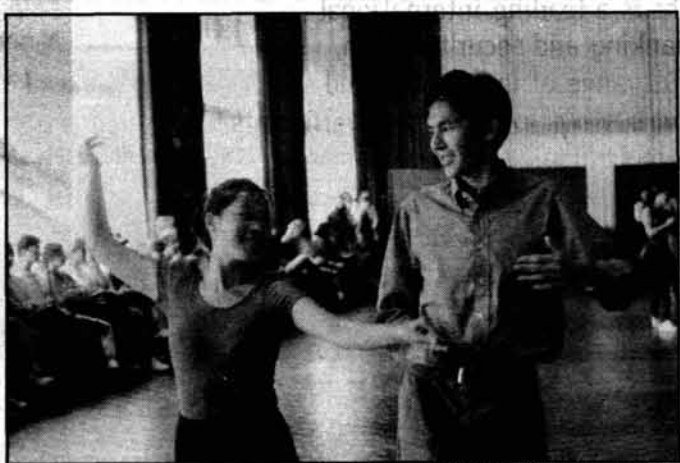
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Program administered by Maureen Costello, Director of Special Programs, MIT Office of the Arts and cooperating members of the MIT community.



MICHELLE POVINELLI—THE TECH

Ben Sun G and Sherry Jeng '02 dance the cha-cha at the MIT Ballroom Dance Club Fall Exhibition Sunday in the La Sala de Puerto Rico.

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CPs Provide Dorm Outreach Programs

Security, from Page 1

er Wendy W. Fan '00 said that guests are buzzed in, but they must check in with the desk worker. McCormick maintains guest lists of people who are allowed to enter the dorm, and residents must come down to meet other visitors.

"McCormick security is probably tighter than most dorms," Fan said. Fan said that male students are always stopped at the desk, but "sometimes girls slip by."

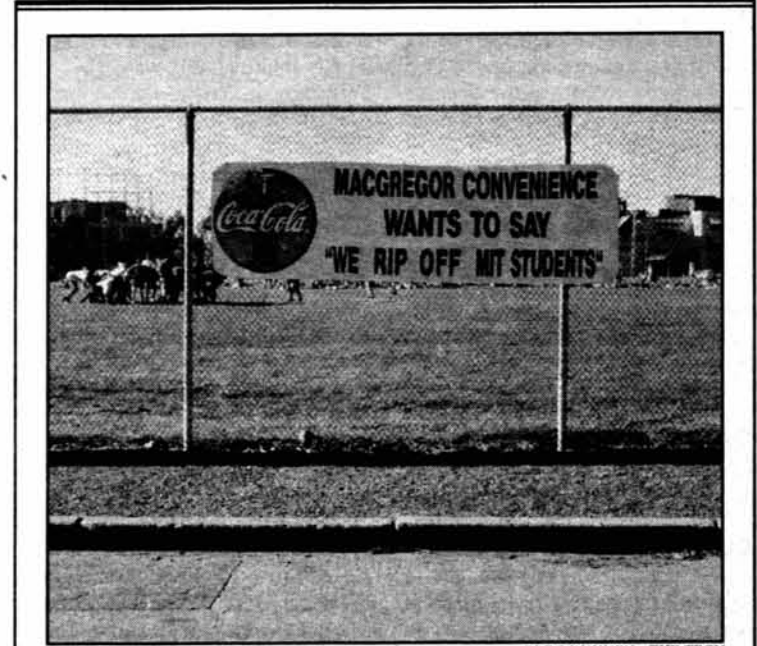
Emily W. Brosi '02, a desk worker at MacGregor, said that students must call the desk to be buzzed in. Late at night, the desk worker will often ask the resident to

approve the visitor, Brosi said.

While MacGregor Convenience is open to the MIT community, it does not provide any access to the interior of MacGregor. The tunnel connecting New House to MacGregor Convenience also has a card-key door at the New House entrance.

Campus police held a pizza study break at MacGregor last week to discuss safety issues, alcohol policy, and services offered by campus police. Glavin said that the program started last year, and will continue with one or two study breaks per dorm, per year.

"They've been very well attended," Glavin said.



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

BUSINESS AS USUAL— A banner spontaneously changed Friday night to reveal students' opinion of Aramark's true sentiments.

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SAC, Governments Collaborate on Plan

RSSC, from Page 1

unreachable for comment.

The SAC decided to create an alternative proposal on Sept. 14. "The Student Advisory Committee is a natural home for this kind of project because it's the advisory group to the chancellor," said Christopher R. Rezek '99, a member of the SAC.

"The student governments were going to come together again to produce something, and since the SAC was charged" to give their input, the student governments and the SAC came together, McGann said.

The Unified Proposal committee is currently drafting the content of the proposal will complete its final report by October 6.

The RSSC will officially release its report on October 1 and present it to Bacow on October 5. The SAC will present the student proposal to Bacow two days later.

Proposal to fill gaps in RSSC plan

"While the RSSC had a number of admirable goals in its proposal, it didn't provide the infrastructure nor the capital resources to attain those goals," Rezek said. "Some of us saw flaws in the RSSC's documentation."

One issue that the Unified Proposal members say was ignored in the RSSC proposal is capital funding for residence system programs. "You can't ignore the capital needs by not mentioning them," said Jake H. Parrott '00, also a member of the SAC.

"Instead of focusing on the logistics of residence selection," the SAC proposal will take "a more robust look at the needs of the system," McGann said.

MIT has strong residence programs, Rezek added, but it can't continue to run them on a shoestring.

While the group "is not claiming that we have the perfect process" according to Parrott, the Unified Proposal committee believes its method will yield a more thorough proposal than that of the RSSC.

Unlike the RSSC, Rezek said, the Unified Proposal group is divided in subgroups that each tackle a different aspect of the proposal.

The students working on the proposal have had access to the RSSC's library materials. "We've also decided to seek out more [information]," Rezek said.

In addition, all meeting notes for the Unified Proposal process are open and online, McGann said.

The Unified Proposal committee will cooperate with some of the individual student proposals as it continues to develop the content of its report. "Many of the values of [Wiener's] proposal will eventually be incorporated into ours," McGann said.

"Our report will be extremely well-documented. It will not represent two weeks' work but rather forty to fifty years" of residence system and capital project analysis, Parrott said.

Despite its efforts to present Bacow with another residence design proposal, the group maintains that their proposal isn't an attack on the RSSC report. "I don't think our proposal means that the RSSC's process" wasn't valid, Rezek said.

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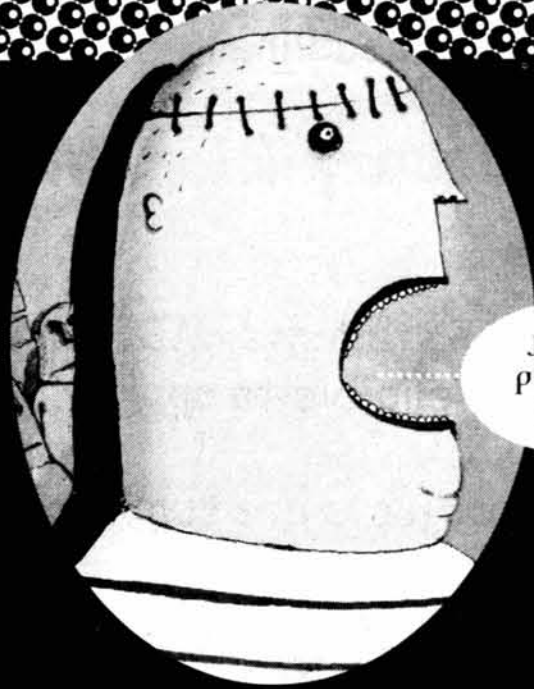
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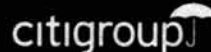
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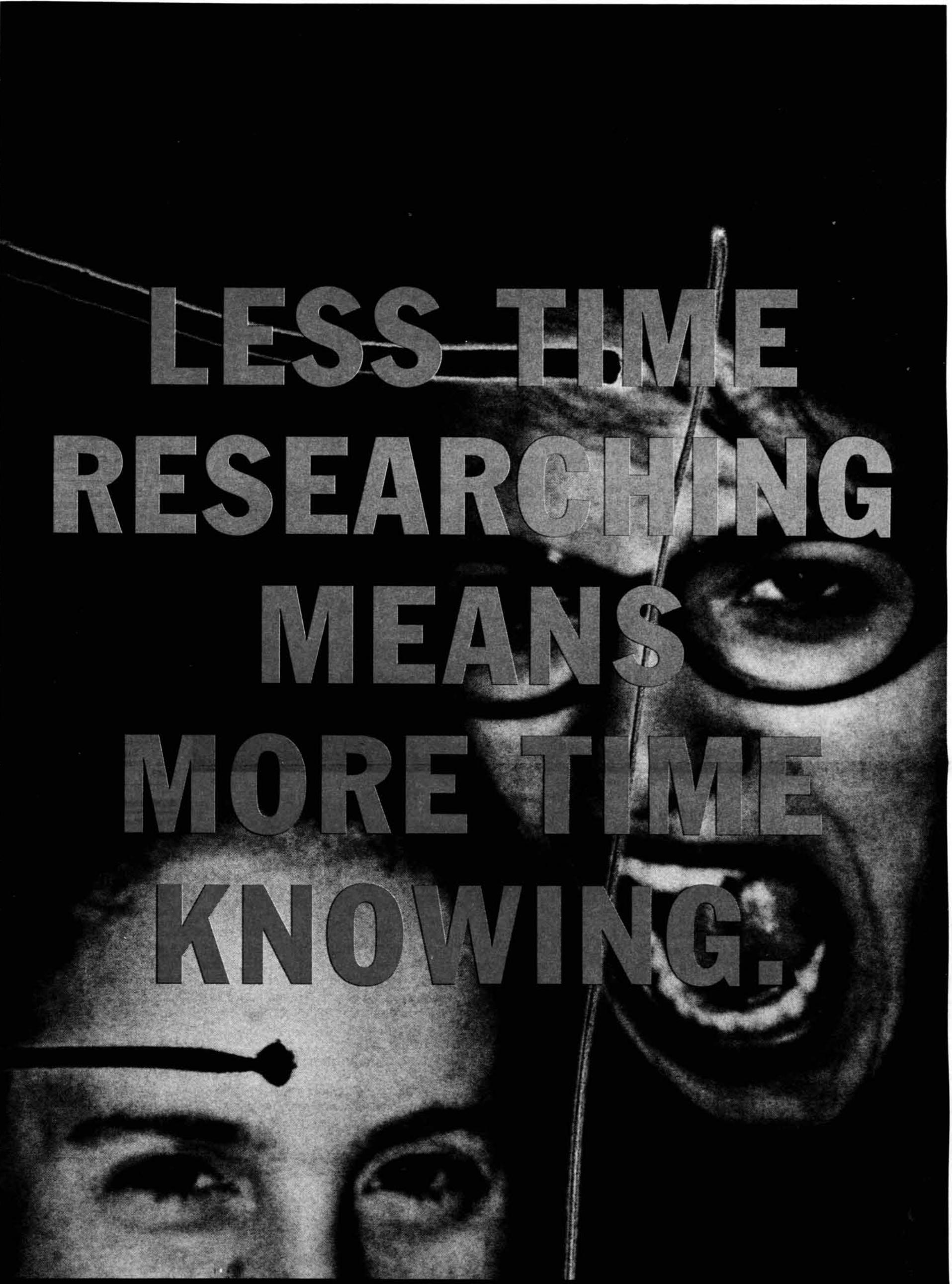
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September 21

Tic Tac ... Tech! Mastering the Game of MIT Life

Let us help you cut through the red tape. We'll introduce you to the offices, forms, and people you will need to know. Simplify your academic life while playing games and winning prizes! *Elizabeth Young & Laurie Ward, Academic Resource Center*

September 28

How to Get the Most out of the MIT Candy Store

MIT is a candy store: lots of treats, and you'd like to sample everything! So where do you start? Is it too early to do a UROP? How do you meet faculty? How in the world do you decide what to major in? What should you be doing besides studying? At this session, faculty and others will share their insights on how to shop the MIT candy store, satisfy your sweet tooth, and get the most for your dollar fifty. *Peggy Enders, Office of Academic Services; Andy Eisenmann, Residential Life and Student Life Programs; Kirk Kolenbrander, ODSUE*

Harmony & Counterpoint

October 5

Thriving at MIT: Why We Love/Hate This Place and What to Do about That

This will be an open and honest conversation with students, alums, faculty members and others about our experiences at MIT, the good points and difficulties we have found, and how to navigate and even thrive in these waters. *Andy Eisenmann, Residential Life and Student Life Programs*

October 12

Fair Fighting: Negotiating in Personal Relationships

Every relationship has its periods of conflict. Friends have disputes, families disagree, lovers quarrel, and professional relationships flounder. Conflict can pry two people apart, but it can make the relationship stronger if you can deal with it in a skillful and sensitive way. Learn skills to turn conflict into an opportunity to grow. *Carol Orme-Johnson, mediation@mit.edu, Residential Life and Student Life Programs*

Through the Looking Glass

October 19

Rock Around the Clock

Come test your perception of time and master the use of your full 168 hours a week. Learn the skill of time management while playing games and winning prizes! *Elizabeth Young & Laurie Ward, Academic Resource Center*

October 26

Finding A Place to Start: Step One in the Career Planning Process

Get an introduction to some concepts to help you think about your future career decisions; discover some techniques for career decision-making, and receive a framework for understanding your needs, wants, values, skills and priorities. *Office of Career Services and Preprofessional Advising*

The Well-Rounded Techie

November 2

Manners in the New Millennium

Come learn great etiquette tips and test your manners as we usher in a new millennium. Roseanne Thomas of Protocol Advisors, along with Ted Johnson of CAC and Katie O'Dair of RLSLP, will review some timely and helpful ways to improve your social and business skills. This is a preview of Charm School 2000 so don't miss it! *Campus Activities Complex & Residential Life and Student Life Programs*

November 9

Community Service: Thinking Outside of the 'Tute

Explore the possibilities of how you can serve the Cambridge/Boston community with your skills: help run a non-profit organization, visit the elderly, or tutor children in the maths and sciences. With flexible opportunities, you can engage in weekly events all term or one all-day project! Enrich your time at MIT by helping others. *Public Service Center*

Live Long & Prosper

November 16

Catching Some ZZZZ's

Ever lie in bed wide awake and wonder when you were ever going to fall asleep? Need to know if you should pull that all-nighter or get some sleep before that test? Learn the answers to these questions and a lot more during this program on sleep. *Rosanne Guerriero, Health Education of MIT Medical*

November 23

Sports Nutrition

Want to maximize your athletic performance? Come hear a Registered Dietitian talk about how you can make healthy food choices across campus that will help you on competition day. *Leah Diagle & Beth Emery, Office of Campus Dining*

Now & Later: Candy for Success

November 30

Planning for Your Internship

Discover ways to identify the type of internship that fits for you. Learn about the different MIT internship programs, such as Freshman / Alumni Summer Internship Program (FASIP), Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP), and others. Learn how to look for an internship through the traditional methods and through networking. *Office of Career Services and Preprofessional Advising*

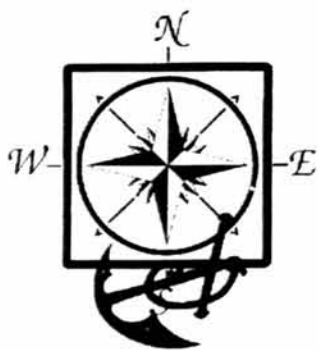
December 7

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