

MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper



The Weather Today: Mostly sunny, 60°F (16°C) Tonight: Windy, 45°F (7°C) Tomorrow: Chance of rain, 75°F (24°C) Details, Page 2

Volume 119, Number 48

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, October 8, 1999

MIT, Microsoft Join in I-Campus Alliance

By Rima Arnaout ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT shocked the community with the announcement of an industrial partnership with Microsoft Corporation Wednesday. The initiative, called I-Campus, involves a \$25 million contribution from Microsoft over the next five years. In return, MIT offers access to its faculty and research facilities.

Research will focus on the development of educational technology, said Thomas L. Magnanti, dean of the School of Engineering and a member of the MIT-Microsoft steering committee.

"To say that there's \$25 million specifically for education is an enormous opportunity for MIT," said Professor Harold Abelson '73, co-director of project I-Campus.

"Our main objective at least at the outset is to improve learning on campus... to take programs that we're currently doing and improve them for our current student body," Magnanti said.

Project I-Campus will be more visible to students than other MIT relationships with industry. "This is really focused on the development of educational technology," said Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72.

By contrast, other partnerships between MIT and industry "aren't designed to engage students as learners but rather in their capacity as researchers," Bacow said.

The partnership with Microsoft will be overseen by a steering committee of MIT and Microsoft members, including Abelson, Magnanti, and Microsoft Research Vice President Richard Rashid.

"[Professor Abelson and I are] going to manage the interactions between this program and other groups and programs... to make sure this is a program that contributes to the Institute," Magnanti said.

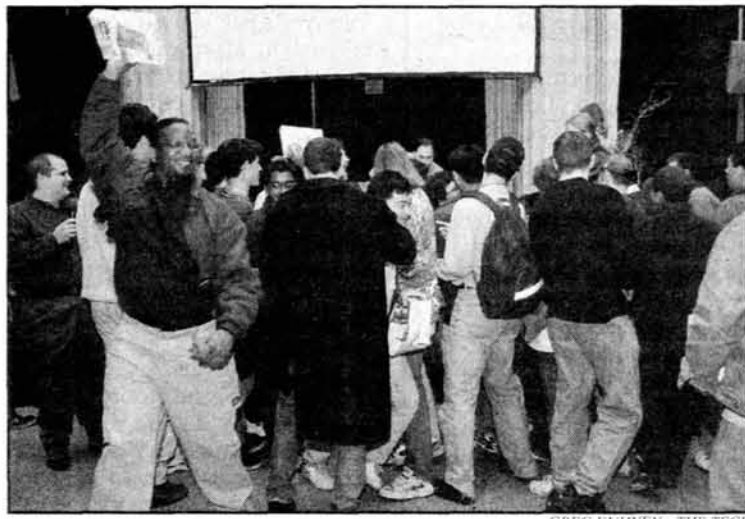
"We anticipate that many students will be working on the projects... graduate students working, and we hope to engage a fair number of undergrads as UROPs," Magnanti said.

Scope of partnership unclear

The goals of MIT-Microsoft research have not been well-defined past three initial projects.

Abelson said Microsoft wanted to keep the deal confidential until the official announcement "because

Microsoft, Page 16



Students at Microsoft's Futurefest storm the stage to grab copies of Microsoft Office 2000 which were being given away as door prizes.

Braude Focuses on Coalition-building

By Frank Dabek EDITOR IN CHIEF

Jim Braude's campaign for Cambridge City Council stresses coalition-building among city leaders along with the hot issues of a strong mayor, affordable housing, and development.

Coalition-building is important to Braude since he has seen "petty personal conflicts standing in the way" of important issues in Cambridge such as affordable housing and the easing of racial ten-

sions. In his previous experience as a housing lawyer and member of a tax and budget advocacy group, Braude said that he took pride in the "consensus [he has] been able to fuse."

Braude also supports direct election of Cambridge's mayor. The mayor is currently chosen from among the city councillors. Instituting a strong mayor would require amending the city's charter. Braude hopes to begin the process with a "high profile debate" on the issue of a strong mayor.

Cambridge government is limited because voters don't know "where the pressure points are" and

can't effectively petition their elected leaders, Braude said. He hopes that a democratically elected mayor will lead to "greater participation [in government] on election day and after."

"Democracy is the cure for what ails a cynical electorate in Cambridge," Braude said.

Role of universities

Braude hopes to further integrate Cambridge's universities into the city's culture. "Both Harvard and MIT should see themselves as far more citizens of Cambridge and far

Braude, Page 23

Election '99

Coalition-building is important to Braude since he has seen "petty personal conflicts standing in the way" of important issues in Cambridge such as affordable housing and the easing of racial ten-

Bacow Receives Reports

RSSC, SAC Submit Conflicting Reports

By Sagara Wickramasekara STAFF REPORTER

Two groups working to redesign the residence system at MIT, the Residence System Steering Committee and the Strategic Advisory Committee to the Chancellor, presented reports to Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72 this week.

Bacow declined to comment on either of the reports until he reviews both the RSSC report and the Unified Proposal from the SAC. Bacow plans to meet with each group separately.

Before presenting the report to Bacow, the RSSC released the report to the community in September and held student feedback forums to gather input. Along with the amended final report, the RSSC provided Bacow with the minutes of said forums.

RSSC report largely unchanged

"We believe that none of our recommendations in this final report have changed significantly from those of the draft document in September," the report stated.

Apart from a few clarifications

RSSC, Page 18

Council Candidates Create Students' Political Alliance

By Kevin R. Lang ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Speaking from the steps of Boston City Hall, city council candidates from MIT, Emerson College, and Northeastern University announced the formation of the College Students' Political Alliance.

Emerson College senior Giovanni de Francisci began gathering support for the CSPA in June to represent the concerns of college students in the Boston area. De Francisci is running for Boston City Council from District Eight as a write-in candidate.

"I'm doing this to launch other candidates' campaigns," de Francisci said. "College students make up a very large percentage of the city."

While some Boston citizens see college students as transient residents, "the concerns of the city and the concerns of college students are so similar," de Francisci said. "We

have issues, but let that not be a threat to the rest of the city."

De Francisci supports rent control, increased college dormitory construction, and expanded hours for public transportation. He supports running one line of the Green Line past the Fleet Center, the theater district, Kenmore Square, and other entertainment areas late at night to discourage drunk driving. De Francisci has been endorsed by Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

De Francisci said that student participation is key to the CSPA's success. "I urge you all to register to vote," de Francisci said. He expressed confidence in candidate's chances for election success. "We can win this election," de Francisci said. "It's all about momentum."

MIT candidate supports CSPA

MIT student Erik C. Snowberg

CSPA, Page 27



Martha Nussbaum, Abdullahi An-Na'im, and Susan Okin discussed issues raised in Susan Okin's new book, Is Multiculturalism Bad for Women?, on Wednesday as part of the authors@mit series.



Stephen Hawking gives cosmology lecture.

Page 14



FUN The Tech welcomes Fairytale@MIT.

Page 10

Despite party regulations, recent on-campus events have avoided metal detectors with Institute consent.

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WORLD & NATION

Chechen Propaganda War Heats Up

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

As Russia's new war in Chechnya gains force and casualties mount, the Chechen side is using the Internet to publicize its side of the story and its claims of civilian casualties.

On the opposite side, Prime Minister Vladimir V. Putin has taken personal control of Russia's effort in the propaganda war, launching a new government information center.

Putin's move underscores the high stakes for him in the renewed Chechen war. He has gambled his position as the anointed heir to President Boris N. Yeltsin on winning the conflict. He is determined not to repeat the mistakes of the 1994-96 Chechen conflict, in which Russia lost the propaganda war badly and suffered a humiliating military defeat by the Chechen guerrillas.

He flatly denied Thursday that Russian tanks had fired on a bus in northeastern Chechnya on Tuesday, killing dozens of civilians.

But the Chechens had already posted photographs on the Internet showing a bus shot to pieces and the mangled corpses of several women passengers.

"If such an incident had really taken place, Chechens would not have fled to Russia," said Putin, referring to a flood of more than 100,000 refugees who have fled Chechnya since Russia's heavy bombing of villages began last month.

Trump Announces Exploratory Committee For Reform Party Nod

THE BALTIMORE SUN

WASHINGTON

Real estate tycoon Donald Trump inched closer to a third-party presidential run Thursday, announcing that he was forming an exploratory committee to seek the Reform Party nomination.

The New York developer and casino operator, in the midst of a series of TV appearances to promote an upcoming book, is one of several celebrities who have attracted publicity in recent weeks by hinting that they might enter the 2000 race.

Trump, describing his poll numbers as "unbelievable," said on CNN that he was forming a committee to advise him on a possible run. Two national voter surveys have pegged his support at only seven or eight percent, though a recent poll of Reform Party members showed him running close behind Republican presidential candidate Pat Buchanan, who is threatening to join the third party soon.

Trump said his first choice of a running mate would be talk show host Oprah Winfrey. The two have not talked about it, he added.

Labor Talks Intensify as UAW Strike Deadline Approaches

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Labor negotiators for Ford Motor Co. and the United Auto Workers are talking overtime, trying to settle a new contract before a union-set strike deadline, set for 11:59 p.m. Friday night.

Ford is the last of Big Three auto manufacturers in the United States to meet in nearly round-the-clock bargaining sessions with the UAW. The other two, General Motors Corp. and DaimlerChrysler AG, recently accepted rich, four-year agreements with the union.

But money is not an issue at Ford, any more than it was at GM and DaimlerChrysler. The U.S. auto industry is running at full throttle, and is on the road to record sales and profits for calendar 1999.

Some bargaining sources said Thursday that Ford already has agreed, in principle, to the same economic deal accepted by its rivals: a three percent annual wage increase over the life of a new, four-year contract; improved cost-of-living adjustments to help offset increases in the inflation rate; improved pension benefits; and a one-time, up-front signing bonus of \$1,350.

Vajpayee's BJP Wins Large Majority In Indian Elections

By Pamela Constable

THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW DELHI, INDIA

The Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party headed by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee has won a comfortable majority in India's parliamentary elections.

The decisive outcome promises the nation a period of political stability for which it has long yearned and solidifies the evolution of Vajpayee's BJP into a mass political movement after years of being viewed as a fringe religious group.

With official results from five weeks of elections almost complete, the BJP and its allies in the 24-party National Democratic Alliance won 284 of 543 seats in the lower house of Parliament, the Lok Sabha, while the opposition Congress party and its allies won 130. Leftist and other parties accounted for 99 seats and, as of late Thursday night, the winners of 30 seats had not been determined.

Vajpayee's solid victory came as a relief to many Indians who feared that a close result in the third national election in four years would leave the country with another narrowly based government distracted by political horse-trading and instability at a time of high

regional tensions over Kashmir and international controversy over India's nuclear weapons program.

India and Pakistan have tested nuclear weapons and missiles capable of delivering them in the past 18 months, and they fought in a 10-week border conflict this summer in the mountains of Kashmir, the long-contested Himalayan region.

Vajpayee appears eager to return to the negotiations with Pakistan that he initiated last winter, suggesting his re-election may lead to reduced tensions with Islamabad despite the Kashmir dispute. At the same time, advisers in Vajpayee's outgoing government have elaborated a defense doctrine, making it clear the country intends to equip itself with modern nuclear weapons to be able to retaliate swiftly against any nuclear attack.

"We have been voted back to power to continue the good governance that Vajpayee has been giving to the people of this country," BJP spokesman Venkaiah Naidu told journalists. The voters' verdict, he said, is a mandate "for the continuance of good governance" and "against the destabilizers" in Congress and other parties that brought down the Vajpayee govern-

ment in April by a one-vote margin.

Congress party leader Sonia Gandhi, issued a statement saying her party will "accept unhesitatingly the verdict of the people." She said the election result "calls for introspection, frank assessment and determined action." The 53-year-old Gandhi, the widow of the assassinated prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, took the party reins last summer in what turns out to have been an unsuccessful attempt to revive its fortunes.

A relaxed and triumphant Vajpayee, 76, spent Thursday telephoning political allies and inviting them to join his new government. Party leaders later this week are expected to choose Vajpayee, the longtime BJP head, as prime minister. Parliament is scheduled to take office Oct. 21.

"For the first time in 27 years in India, an incumbent prime minister has been returned to office. That's remarkable," Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh said Thursday night. The others have been defeated, assassinated or otherwise unable to complete their terms.

The election was a major logistical feat, with more than 650 million voters going to the polls in 90,000 locations.

British Magistrate Will Decide Pinochet Extradition on Friday

By Anthony Falola

THE WASHINGTON POST

SANTIAGO, CHILE

A British magistrate will decide Friday whether Augusto Pinochet can be extradited to Madrid, where a Spanish magistrate wants him tried for crimes allegedly committed during his 17-year rule in Chile. But even if the decision goes against the former dictator, Chilean authorities are trying to build a case for his release based on humanitarian concerns over his failing health.

In its attempt to win Pinochet's release, the Chilean government has cited mainly national sovereignty grounds and has pledged to put him on trial here, but thus far without success. So it has taken a new tack, stressing that Pinochet's health — he is 83 — has deteriorated alarm-

ingly and that his death abroad may have the unwanted effect of turning him into a martyr back home, according to Chilean Foreign Minister Juan Gabriel Valdes.

If the British magistrate rules in favor of Pinochet, Chilean authorities hope the new initiative will allow them to circumvent a promised appeal by the Spanish magistrate, Baltasar Garzon, that could keep Pinochet in London. And if the ruling goes against Pinochet, the new strategy may be his best chance to avoid months of legal appeals and perhaps the trial in Madrid that Garzon is seeking.

"Nothing else the Chilean government has done to free Pinochet has worked," said Ricardo Israel, director of the University of Chile's Political Science Institute. "So it has

come down to requesting mercy. ... Everyone sees this as the last best effort to get him freed."

Pinochet, the most notorious of South America's military dictators of the 1970s and '80s, was arrested while visiting Britain almost a year ago, after Garzon requested Pinochet's extradition to try him in Spain for some of an estimated 3,000 killings and missing-persons cases blamed on his government. Since then, although his age and health have often been cited in legal arguments for his release, they have never been the focus of the Chilean government or Pinochet's lawyers.

Now that is changing. Valdes said in an interview that the stress of legal proceedings and detention have made Pinochet's medical condition "potentially fatal."

WEATHER

The Weather is Here, Wish You Were Beautiful

By Peter Huygens
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Though partly cloudy this morning, expect a sunny Friday afternoon with highs around 60°F (16°C) and light winds from the south of 10 to 15 mph. Tonight, increasing clouds will act as a thermal blanket and moderate lows to between 45 and 50°F (7 - 10°C). On Saturday morning we'll have clouds, breezes, and a 30 percent chance of rain. By Saturday afternoon, though, the clouds will abate and the day will take a pleasant turn to partly sunny skies with highs reaching about 75°F (24°C) and lows Saturday night of 50°F (10°C). Sunday will be partly cloudy with highs in the 60s. Monday, another chance of showers with highs in the 60s and lows of about 50°F (10°C).

Weekend Summary

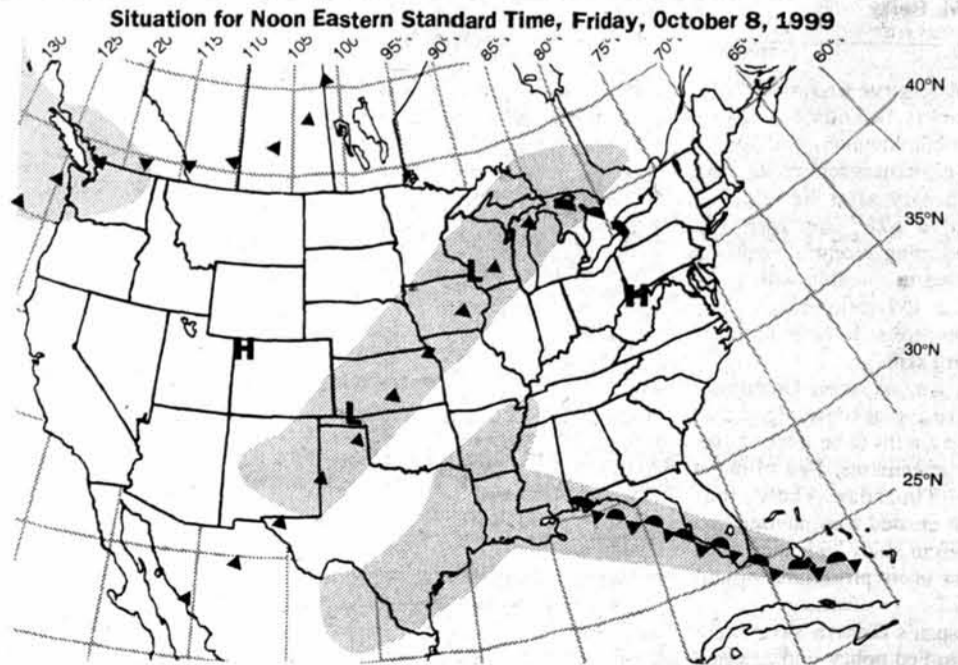
Friday: Mostly sunny. High 60°F (16°C), low 45°F (7°C) to 50°F (10°C). Wind 10 mph from the south.

Saturday: Chance of rain. Warmer and partly sunny in the afternoon. High 75°F (24°C), low 50°F (10°C).

Sunday: Partly cloudy. Highs in the 60s.

Monday: Chance of showers. Highs 60 (16°C) to 65 (18°C), lows 45 (7°C) to 55 (13°C).

Friday Sunrise: 6:53 am
Friday Sunset: 6:17 pm



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

Thirty Dead, Hundreds Injured or Missing in London Wreck

By Marjorie Miller

LOS ANGELES TIMES

READING, ENGLAND

Among the bouquets of fresh flowers laid at the entrance to Reading's central train station on Thursday, a sign beseeched: "Daddy Come Home. I love you. Claire."

Whether or not Claire's daddy survived what may turn out to be Britain's worst-ever rail crash, Reading woke up to the reality that as many as 50 of its fathers, mothers and other family members who took an express train to London two days before might never come home.

Thirty people are confirmed dead and 127 are listed as missing in the fiery crash that incinerated rail cars. Another 150 passengers were injured in the rush-hour collision, many of them suffering serious burns.

The residents of Reading braced themselves to find out how many of the victims were theirs, fully expecting to be the community hardest hit by what has become a national tragedy.

One clue to how many local commuters boarded the ill-fated train to London's Paddington Station on Tuesday could be found in the station's parking lot, where dozens of cars remained unclaimed.

At the rail station on Thursday, men and women awaited their trains nervously and sought out rear cars, such as those that had fared the best in Tuesday's crash. Passengers on board trains to and from London soaked up newspapers filled with stories about the accident.

In town, there was a sense of foreboding, grief and guilt. Some pubs closed and flags flew at half staff. The uncertainty was agony for many; others feared that the facts would ultimately prove to be even more painful.

"By the end of this, it is likely that everyone will know someone who will have been injured or killed," said the Right Rev. Dominic Walker, the Anglican bishop of Reading. "And the worst thing is that for many there won't be any bodies. It will be very difficult to

mourn without a body."

Many families of the dead and missing huddled with grief counselors in Reading's Town Hall and in a bunker-like conference hall at London's Royal Lancaster Hotel to wait for information. Police kept the media well away from them.

Late in the day, police escorted dozens of grieving relatives to the crash site to see the horror for themselves. They laid flowers, hugged and wept over the mangled rail cars.

Emergency crews set up a crane capable of lifting 100 tons and began to erect scaffolding around the wreckage so that forensics teams and investigators could get inside.

Forensics experts said it could be days and even weeks before they are able to identify all of the bodies, some of which were burned to ash.

Rail officials have said that the crash occurred when the rookie driver of an outbound Thames Trains service went through a red danger signal and crossed onto the track of the incoming First Great Western Train.

Commander of East Timor Force Defends Slow Peacekeeping Pace

By Keith B. Richburg

THE WASHINGTON POST

DILI, EAST TIMOR

On the day after Australian-led peacekeepers had their first direct conflict with pro-Indonesian militiamen and killed two of them, the commander of the international force defended the pace of the mission against charges it is moving too slowly in securing East Timor's outlying provinces.

"It is just a litany of rubbish," Australian Maj. Gen. Peter Cosgrove, the head of the U.N.-backed peacekeeping force, told reporters at a morning briefing at a fortified seaside hotel. "Our peacekeepers are moving extremely quickly... in this harsh terrain."

Cosgrove angrily dismissed the suggestion that aid groups and others have been moving into remote areas of East Timor well before the peacekeepers. He said the humanitarian relief groups and the peacekeepers "are working hand-in-glove" to reach all parts of the territory as fast as possible, while not risking lives unnecessarily.

Among the critics have been

resistance leader Xanana Gusmao, and Jose Ramos-Horta, the Nobel Prize-winning independence campaigner, who have urged the force to move faster.

"It is easy to stand back and say, 'Why don't you shotgun your people all over the province?'" Cosgrove said. "This is a prudent but quick operation."

The peacekeeping force moved unchallenged this week into Maliana, a former militia stronghold and hometown of militia commander-in-chief Joao Tavares. Tavares, 68, who is now in Indonesian-ruled western Timor, said in August that his men would wage a guerrilla war to prevent East Timor from becoming independent, and the overwhelming Aug. 30 vote in favor of independence unleashed a wave of attacks by the militias and their allies in the Indonesian military and led to the peacekeepers' arrival.

"Maliana is now secure," said Col. Mark Kelly, the spokesman for the peacekeepers.

The multinational force now numbers more than 6,000. It is expected to reach a full strength of

7,500 soon with the arrival of soldiers from Thailand, which is expected to have the second-largest contingent here. Thai Maj. Gen. Songkitti Chakkabatr took up his duty as deputy commander of the peacekeeping operation Thursday, placing an Asian face, and an Indonesian neighbor, in a prominent position in the force in what has been seen as a concession to Jakarta's nationalist sensibilities.

Meeting the press Thursday for the first time, Songkitti said there were no differences between the approach his troops and the Australians are taking in the mission.

The United States also increased its role with the arrival Thursday of the USS Belleau Wood, an amphibious assault ship bringing four heavy-lifting CH-53E helicopters that will be used to ferry equipment and supplies for the multinational troops.

The crew of the Belleau Wood includes 900 Marines and 900 sailors, but only 20 Americans are said to be on land and spending the night in Dili, the East Timor capital.

Greenspan Creates Panel Evaluating Procedures for Fed Public Statements

By John M. Berry

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan is famous for using obscure circumlocutions that sometimes leave listeners scratching their heads. Shortly after he became chairman in 1987, he quipped, "Since becoming a central banker I have learned to mumble with great incoherence. If I seem unduly clear to you, you must have misunderstood what I said."

But in August, even Greenspan appears to have acknowledged that the Fed may want to be a bit clearer in public statements. Fed minutes released Thursday show that Greenspan created a committee two months ago to study "whether some adjustment in its procedures would be helpful."

Greenspan's concern stems from a change in Fed policy implemented in May, when the central bank's top policy-making group, the Federal Open Market Committee, began announcing not just changes in its targets for interest rates but also which direction the rate-setting group was leaning regarding possi-

ble future rates.

After its May announcement that the FOMC hadn't raised rates but had adopted an "asymmetrical" stance — an indication that the next move on rates would likely be an increase — financial markets reacted as if rates had already been increased.

In a sense, the Fed's new openness had, in the mind of some officials, backfired. Part of the problem was that investors and analysts didn't fully understand what was meant by the terms "symmetry" and "asymmetry." There was widespread disagreement among FOMC members about the precise meaning of the terms as well.

Some Fed watchers, such as Goldman Sachs Group Inc. chief economist Bill Dudley, suggested the concept of symmetry was so confusing that the FOMC ought to drop the terms and simply tell the public what it wanted to convey.

The group reviewing the Fed's pronouncements is headed by Fed Vice Chairman Roger Ferguson and includes Fed board members Edward M. Gramlich, Edward W. Kelley Jr. and Laurence H. Meyer

and three Federal Reserve bank presidents, Michael H. Moskow of Chicago, Robert T. Parry of San Francisco and William Poole of St. Louis. It is expected to make recommendations no later than next spring.

The new pronouncements created problems because "the sentence relating to symmetry of the (FOMC) directive was subject to differing interpretations," according to minutes of the Aug. 24 policy-making session.

FOMC members "also had expressed some discomfort with the way these announcements had been interpreted," according to the minutes. "While the committee did not contemplate retreating from its policy of immediate announcements, it might want to examine whether some adjustments in its procedures would be helpful."

In the wake of the May announcement that the FOMC was leaning toward higher rates, the committee did raise the target for the federal funds rate by a quarter of a percentage point, to 5 percent. The federal funds rate is the interest rate financial institutions charge one another on overnight loans.

Environmentalists' Study Shows Tell-Tale Radiation Levels

LOS ANGELES TIMES

TOKYO

Telltale signs of neutron radiation found in a gold bracelet, coins, leaves and household salt leave little doubt that people in the neighborhood of Japan's worst nuclear accident were exposed to a potentially damaging bombardment, environmentalists and scholars said Thursday.

"Of course the people who were within 500 (yards of the plant) were irradiated," said Hiroaki Koide of Kyoto University's Reactor Research Institute. "The only question is the degree."

The Japanese government has said that at least 49 people, 33 of them plant workers, were exposed to radiation last Thursday during a surprise nuclear fission reaction at a uranium fuel processing plant in Tokaimura, about 80 miles northeast of Tokyo.

However, the environmental group Greenpeace, after collecting its own samples of soil, leaves and household salt and sending it to a chemistry lab at Rikkyo University for analysis, announced that it believes several hundred people may have been exposed during the 20-hour crisis.

The group said it found the radioactive isotope sodium-24 in salt collected from private homes 175 yards from the plant and in soil collected 500 yards away. Though the isotopes have a half-life of just 15 hours and quickly fade away, they are the result of passing neutrons that travel through buildings, cars and human bodies, potentially causing DNA damage and increasing the risk of cancer in the long term.

Thousands of Fen-Phen Claims Produce \$4.83 Billion Settlement

LOS ANGELES TIMES

The maker of key ingredients in the diet drug cocktail known as Fen-Phen has agreed to pay \$4.83 billion to settle thousands of claims from patients who may have sustained heart damage from taking the once-popular weight loss regimen.

American Home Products, maker of fenfluramine, the potent portion of the mixture, and dexfenfluramine, a chemical cousin sometimes used instead, said Thursday it had signed a letter of intent with lawyers representing 8,000 patients to pay for medical monitoring, health care and some compensatory damages to those who took the drugs before fenfluramine was pulled off the market in 1997.

"It has achieved what we lawyers seldom see, and that is a full measure of justice for these people," said attorney Michael Fishbein, one of the lead plaintiffs attorneys on the deal.

The settlement, which still must be approved by a federal judge in Philadelphia, would be open to all 6 million people who took either of the AHP drugs, marketed under the names Pondimin and Redux. Those with the most serious heart disease could receive as much as \$1.5 million under the terms of the deal.

But actual payments to some patients with minimal heart damage could be as low as \$6,000, and not all conditions believed to be caused by fen-phen are included. For example, many doctors believe that the pills also caused a form of heart failure called primary pulmonary hypertension, but that is not part of the deal.

National Health Institute Director Moves to Memorial Sloan-Kettering

NEWSDAY

Saying his "connection to New York is deep," Dr. Harold Varmus on Thursday announced he is resigning as director of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., where he oversaw a \$15.6 billion budget and 24 separate research institutes, to become president of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan.

The resignation, which will take effect Dec. 31, ends a six-year government career in which "he raised the standards, the expectations and the spirit here," according to Dr. Richard Klausner, the director of the National Cancer Institute.

Born and reared on Long Island, N.Y., the 59-year-old graduate of Columbia University's medical school described Sloan-Kettering as "a place where I can feel a sense of leadership," within the cancer research community. He replaces Dr. Paul Marks, who announced last year that he was retiring, after serving as president since 1980.

During a news conference Thursday, the 1989 Nobel laureate said he was not leaving because of any dissatisfaction with the NIH, but rather because he felt personally it was a time for change in his life.

"It's actually a good time at the NIH," he said. "Our lab is flourishing. I have a good relationship with the president, vice president and Mrs. Clinton. And the genome project (in which scientists are aiming to identify all genes within the human body) is coming to completion."

Domino's Pizza's \$2 Million Fumble

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Domino's may know the cost of cheese, dough, tomato sauce and pepperoni. What it didn't count on was the high price of Redskins touchdowns. In fact, one might call it Domino's Pizza's \$2 million fumble.

Before the football season, the Washington area's 143 Domino's outlets decided to try to boost business on their slowest day of the week — Monday — by offering customers \$1 off every pizza, no matter the size, for every touchdown the Redskins scored the day before.

The 22 Domino's franchise holders in the Washington area knew the numbers from last year — the woebegone Redskins scored 40 touchdowns in a forgettable 6-10 season, which figures out to 2 1/2 touchdowns a game.

Or, put another way, that's an average of \$2.50 off, say, a large pizza with sausage and mushrooms.

So, as Dave Wood, a Redskins season-ticket holder and owner of 16 Domino's outlets in Northern Virginia, said, "we were figuring in a big game they might get four touchdowns. Some games maybe they'd get zero, one or two."

OPINION

Register to Vote

The past several years on campus have seen a great deal of student activism and protest. Unfortunately, many student efforts have ultimately proved unsuccessful; students' power is limited over matters on campus and in the surrounding community.

Editorial

Dealing with the administration is one thing — administrators have their own not-always-apparent agendas, and are not ultimately responsible to students.

But elected officials, whatever their other motivations, share one common goal — re-election. Politicians are ultimately responsible to their constituents; if they displease voters, they will soon find themselves on the sidewalk. One of the greatest features of American democracy is citizens' power over the law — by electing officials they believe best represent their interests, Americans exert control over the political process to a degree usually overlooked by the cynical 1990s media.

In order that students are full-fledged participants in this process, *The Tech* urges all MIT students (and community members) to register to vote. The right to vote, a constitutional prerogative conferred upon every citizen eighteen years of age or older, is the most powerful political weapon, the most powerful tool of activism and protest. It should be claimed by everyone.

The Tech applauds the campaign efforts of Erik C. Snowberg '99, who has been busy registering MIT and Harvard students to vote. Snowberg's candidacy for Cambridge City Council has brought immediacy to the cause of student voter registration, and has rightfully drawn attention to several local issues of student concern in Cambridge and Boston, including affordable housing, transportation, and continuing urban gentrification. In the absence of similar pressing issues in their home

states, students should register to vote in Massachusetts. Virtually without exception, registering to vote in Massachusetts does not affect taxation, drivers' licenses, or jury duty eligibility. Besides, local issues have more influence on students' everyday lives than most students realize — resident parking permits, public transportation, public safety, and park and bicycle facilities, to name but a few, are all controlled by local governments, not by Congress or the President. Students would be well served to pay less attention to the high-profile 2000 presidential election and more to this fall's local elections.

Controversial local matters are often decided by only a few votes; students could be a crucial constituency. Only legendary student apathy has kept local candidates from courting the MIT vote. If students stopped making excuses, they would find enough strength in numbers to elect the entire governments of Cambridge and Boston. For exact figures, visit the web site <http://democracy.mit.edu>.

If the entire student population of MIT registered to vote, thus empowering themselves, student activism would take on a completely different character. Activists and protesters would be taken seriously by local elected officials, such as the members of the Cambridge and Boston city councils — members students could elect. And the MIT administration, dependent on these legislatures in a variety of ways, would have no choice but to take notice. Apathy is no longer acceptable. If students want to make their voice heard, if we are not to be a generation at the mercy of our government, it is time to register to vote.

Voter registration forms are available at *The Tech's* office, on the fourth floor of the Student Center, through Tuesday. Wednesday is the last day to register for the Nov. 2 election.

Microsoft Institute of Technology?

It began last year with a ride to Logan Airport shared by Chuck Vest and Bill Gates. However, the deal forged between MIT and Microsoft may have crossed the line of what defines an acceptable collaboration between academia and industry.

Editorial

The I-Campus project, a five-year, \$25 million joint venture between the Institute and Microsoft Research, isn't the first between Gates and MIT — a previous \$20 million donation to the Laboratory for Computer Science will help to build the William H. Gates building within the new Stata Complex. Nor is it the first time that MIT has sought out industry collaboration amidst a backdrop of a slow but steady decline in federal funding for scientific research — Merrill Lynch, for example, invested \$20 million in a new technical finance laboratory within the Sloan School of Management in March. Last month, DuPont and MIT announced an even larger investment — \$35 million — into biochemistry research.

Yet the I-Campus project is more encompassing than either of those projects, as it has the potential to affect nearly every segment of campus and is, in general, not well defined beyond improving educational technology. According to the press release, the I-Campus project will "focus on methods and technologies that will enhance education on our campus and could set the pace for university education for the next five to ten

years." While the initial three projects of I-Campus are well defined, the long-term ramifications of this agreement may not even be known to those who negotiated it. Funding from industry should be attached to a specific, well-defined purpose, not to a set of amorphous buzzwords that could be interpreted in various ways.

The three MIT faculty members serving on the I-Campus steering committee must remain vigilant on issues of intellectual property throughout the life of this project, and must err on the side of free information exchange, not on the side of defending corporate interests.

Microsoft has a dubious history with regard to intellectual property. Through skillful negotiation, MIT has ensured that Microsoft will not have pre-review rights on publications resulting from this joint venture, and that professors can opt not to work on the project. Given the broad scope of the I-Campus project, those who oversee it must ensure that it does not merely become a method for Microsoft to obtain the resources of MIT faculty and students at low cost. Work conducted here must be for academic enhancement on this campus and elsewhere.

In order to endure, MIT has no choice but to form alliances with industry. Future partnerships, however, must be much more well defined than I-Campus, in order to remain within the bounds of acceptable academic-industry collaboration.

Letters To The Editor

RSSC Report Risks Student Satisfaction

The report of the Residence System Steering Committee is here. It complies with the freshmen-in-dorms-in-2001 edict, but what does it accomplish?

It does not protect the lives of future freshmen from alcohol, substances or suicide. By the admission of the committee and the administration, it doesn't even try! It does not fulfill the visions of the Student Life and Learning Report to provide a common freshman experience, enhance student-faculty interaction, or even suggest a better meal program.

It does "offend all parties equally," be they undergraduates, ILG, dormitory or theme house residents, graduate students, or faculty (although the RSSC must be thanked for a

degree of damage control).

It does replace a nascent but promising ILG Resident Advisor Program with questionably trained, unremunerated and lightly motivated individuals as a feeble shadow of the recognized quality of mentoring provided by ILGs. It does place in jeopardy an ILG system that has served MIT for over 125 years, warrants a high degree of satisfaction from its residents, and provides loyal, participating and contributing alumni.

Tom Holtey '62

Concerns Over Microsoft-MIT Pact

Here are just three of my concerns about MIT's new I-Campus partnership with Microsoft:

Much of the world is too poor to afford proprietary software. Will the fruits of this partnership be available to them?

In the past, MIT has made significant contributions to the world's pantry of open-source software (e.g., the X window system that is in use on millions of computers). Will MIT now discourage its community members from using open-source software, and give them incentives to switch to Microsoft software?

Also, MIT has resisted in court Microsoft's efforts to force researchers to hand over source material ["Microsoft Loses Bid for Sloan Research," Oct. 9, 1998]. Will it be less inclined to guard its researchers now?

I'm looking forward to reading your coverage of this issue.

Dan Kegel

The author is a graduate of the California Institute of Technology.

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

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

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before the date of publication.

Letters must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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For a National Missile Defense System

Kris Schnee

The year is 2008. In the midst of the American campaign season, the government of North Korea announces that from now on, there will be "one Korea" — soldiers are on their way to South Korea, to subdue its elected government. "This is an internal Korean affair," the world is warned. "The first country to interfere will be attacked by a nuclear missile, with no further warnings given." What happens next? It's up to us to decide.

In the 1980s, President Reagan funded research for the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), which was intended to create a national missile defense system that could repel a Soviet nuclear strike. The program was abandoned as impractical and expensive, but now the "Star Wars" plan rises again, revived by Clinton and Congress.

The new missile defense plan — perhaps we should call it a Star Wars sequel — is much more practical than the original. The goal this time is only to destroy one or a few missiles at once, to ward off potential threats like Syria, Iran, and China. Instead of a space-based network of nuclear-powered X-ray lasers, as was once proposed, the new system will use surface-to-space missiles assisted by ground and satellite tracking systems.

This new system is at least technologically feasible. And there is encouraging new evidence that the technology really works — this week, the National Missile Defense (NMD) program, led by Boeing, conducted a successful test of an anti-missile system. Above the Pacific Ocean, a surface-launched exoatmospheric kill vehicle (EKV) locked onto and collided with a dummy missile, destroying it. This is only the first in a series of three tests of the system, but it is very impressive, given anti-missile systems' poor track record. (The Patriot missiles used in the Gulf War, for instance, had a terrible success rate, according to later analysis.)

It looks as though, given enough time and money, we can develop a reliable system for protecting American territory from missiles. But will the system be reliable five years after it's introduced? *Scientific American* recently published an article that describes several ways to thwart an antimissile system. Some were as simple as encasing a warhead in a thermos or foil balloon.

It is possible that cheap, simple enemy countermeasures will quickly make our best-laid plans obsolete, drawing us into a sort of armors-race. This week's test included a decoy balloon, which the EKV successfully ignored; even so, some skepticism is still called for.

If the anti-missile system can overcome enemy countermeasures, the question of whether to deploy the system (perhaps by 2005, as planned) becomes a political and military one.

If the anti-missile system can overcome enemy countermeasures, the question of whether to deploy the system (perhaps by 2005, as planned) becomes a political and military one. The above scenario is the sort of dilemma America may face in a world where nuclear weapons are widely available — someday, a country may decide to invade one of its weaker neighbors, and keep the world's "peacekeeper" nations out by threatening attack with a single ICBM. If we do not or cannot build a reliable missile defense system, then we must accept that any country with nuclear weapons can keep America's entire military might at bay by threatening an attack against which we have no defense.

Our own atomic stockpile is probably not a

deterrent against this strategy — do you believe that the American people will accept the use of nuclear weapons against enemy civilians, even in retaliation to the destruction of an American city? Some rogue nations, especially those whose leaders do not care about their own people's lives, may be willing to bet on that question. If we want to retain the ability to intervene in other countries' affairs, as we seem committed to doing, then we must have missile defense.

There is also the issue of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty to consider. Signed in 1972 by the United States and the Soviet Union, it bans the development of anti-missile systems on the grounds that they would upset the global balance of power, making nuclear war more likely. Present-day Russia refuses to amend the treaty to allow the American NMD system to be built. But the treaty is obsolete in several respects, and should not stop us from continuing the NMD program.

First, as the Soviet Union no longer exists, the U.S. has no legal obligation to uphold a treaty with its successor nation. Second, the proposed missile shield will not allow America to wage a one-sided global nuclear war, as might be feared; the former Soviet nations still have far too many missiles to shoot down all at once. Petty tyrants have something to fear from American missile defense, but Russians do not. However, if there is ever talk of building a missile shield which can deflect the entire Russian arsenal, this argument can and should come up again.

Two more anti-missile tests are scheduled for completion by next July, and some time next year the president is expected to announce whether the NMD system will be built and deployed. It remains to be seen whether the technology will work, and hopefully future tests will confirm both the NMD system's reliability and its ability to overcome decoys. If missile defense passes these technological hurdles, we should support it, for our own sake and for those we wish to protect.

An Appeal for JV Sports

Guest Column
Chi-An Wang

"Our goal is to strengthen athletics at MIT, not weaken it."

I couldn't agree with you more. During my past two years on the MIT cross country and track teams, I've seen our squad grow in number and strength, each year setting new school records and climbing in conference ranking. Our team's success has been one of my greatest joys during my MIT career thus far.

But this year is different. For the first time ever in my athletic experience, our junior varsity cross country runners have been denied the right to compete. In fact, JV teams all around have been cut.

What is the reason for this? Why has the athletics department been forced to take such drastic measures? I do not believe that cutting JV will strengthen any varsity team. Anyone who has ever been passionate about a sport would agree that members of a JV team improve themselves in skill and ability to eventually replace varsity athletes that have graduated or left. I predict that without JV teams, our varsity teams will have deteriorated in strength and depth within a few years.

Clubs and intramurals can't match the compassion and excitement found at JV-level competitions...

Any student willing to commit to and work hard for a team should never be denied the honor to wear an MIT uniform at intercollegiate meets.

Unfortunately, recent MIT publicity has led to a general impression that students are not taken care of. It does not take much intelligence to see that nobody on this campus wants this impression to last. So how are we going to fight this battle?

I strongly believe that getting students involved in sports is a way to alleviate student problems. Not only do the students get physical exercise, they also have the opportunity to be part of a team, "to be part of something bigger than just themselves."

Clubs and intramurals could never match the compassion and excitement found at varsity- and JV-level competitions. I consider it an honor to wear my MIT uniform at intercollegiate meets. Any student willing to commit to and work hard for a team should never be denied this sense of honor.

If the primary reason for all these cuts is finance-related, I implore you to think of the student athletes who often put over 20 hours a week into practices in order to proudly represent MIT at intercollegiate competitions.

I understand that distributing funds is not an easy task, but I think there is definitely room for improvement in terms of setting priorities. For example, I think I speak for many when I say I would rather have JV teams than a performance by Busta Rhymes.

If you truly believe that our goal is to strengthen MIT athletics, then the student athletes on this campus deserve a solemn promise that the JV teams will be brought back.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Although I appreciate any response and feedback on the issues I have raised, I would feel better knowing that you have read my letter by your not sending me the same form response you have been sending everyone else.

(A copy of this letter was sent to President Charles M. Vest, Executive Vice President John R. Curry, Chancellor Lawrence S. Bacow '72, Dean of Students Rosalind H. Williams, and Director of Athletics Richard A. Hill.)

Chi-An Wang, a member of the Class of 2001, is a member of the Women's Cross Country, Indoor Track & Field, and Outdoor Track & Field teams.

Domecoming Mistakes

Guest Column
Alex M. Hochberger

I would like to applaud the effort to make MIT Homecoming a campus-wide event. School spirit is something that is seriously lacking here, and this was a good attempt to establish it. Unfortunately, the assumptions made in the planning were a little foolish and prevented a truly successful week. I have a couple of criticisms and suggestions for future years.

The name—"Domecoming." The "Nerd Pride" mantra of MIT is appropriate at some times, but not others. I love the fact that people are comfortable being as geeky as they want without feeling ostracized, but supported. However, Homecoming is not the time or the place for "Nerd Pride." An inclusive event that caters to fraternity and sorority members, athletes, and dorm students should be an attempt to unify the school. While some segments of the population love Nerd Pride, others are embarrassed by it. Reaching out to the entire school requires not "geeking out" the theme.

Weekend Focus and Publicity. We all know that this event was poorly publicized. However, as it becomes an annual event, publicity won't be a problem. I expect suc-

cessful Homecoming Weekends in the future.

On a more important note, canceling other events to support this one was a mistake. If you want to build an MIT community, you can't do it one weekend out of the year. Greek Week and the Fall Festival serve as two opportunities to unite the fraternity system and the entire school, respectively.

If you want a turnout for Homecoming, make coming to MIT, IFC-wide, and MIT-wide events common, not irregular. Other events won't lessen turnout, they will increase turnout.

Event selection. This is a college homecoming, not a high school homecoming. The Alley Rally is fine, but put less focus on free food and more on the event. If you want to hold a normal college event, avoid excessive MITisms that serve to alienate sections of the school. Anytime you mention "free food" (particularly in a quote for *The Tech*), the event immediately sounds childish and not fun.

A movie shown on campus is not a normal Friday night activity for college students, particularly during homecoming weekend. Cancel afternoon classes, hold rallies, and light a bonfire at night. Let loose and have fun, with events that include the entire school. The IFC decision to ban par-

ties was a horrendous idea. High school homecoming events usually involve 17- and 18-year-olds driving intoxicated to an event and attempting to dance without falling over.

A college homecoming should be an exciting weekend of partying and celebration. Instead of banning events, the IFC should encourage open events that will be coordinated for the weekend and published in *The Tech*. The Greek system should contribute to the weekend by providing a social atmosphere for the entire MIT community, with each house doing its share.

Being from South Florida, I'm accustomed to the annual treks to "Gator Growl," the University of Florida homecoming. Days of classes are canceled; the school parties for a week before watching their football team annihilate a lesser opponent. No, we're not going to compete against a school that ranks in the top 10 for football and partying, but making homecoming a time for the MIT community to celebrate together might make us rethink the motto IHTFP.

Still, the organizers should be thanked for a great effort at uniting MIT. Bringing back Domecoming was the start — now we just have to do it right.

Alex M. Hochberger is a member of the Class of 2001.

UROD Troubling

According to the feature, UROD is even spreading to other schools. I have been disturbed by the ethics of these practices for a

The core of the issue, renting out a basic component of human intellect and creativity, is surely not a recent development.

while now, but UROD is particularly disconcerting in its details.

Instead of being a dynamic and refreshing educational program, UROD could reasonably be viewed as exploitation of young and low-paid students, coercing them to sell the fruits of their intellectual sweat and inspiration in exchange for a small sum of money.

For the millions of out-of-work adults in

the information and research industries who would rather not stoop to physical labor, this only makes day-to-day life that much more difficult. Obtaining inexperienced work from a child who is probably still living off of their parents' money poses at least as many problems as hiring an experienced research employee who may have brilliant ideas and may even need the money (perhaps to put food on their children's tables).

What's more, the description given in the feature, calling for students who have "skills," are motivated and enthusiastic, and have a "dream of greatness" to "gain real-world experience" (to the tune of \$7.50?), is appalling to me and likely to countless others who match this narrow profile. I find it disgusting to be considered merely as a source of mental labor and fresh ideas for one of the wealthy corporations or research institutions, none of which consider pursuing old ideas that have been floating around unused for a long time.

Robert J. Ragno is a graduate student.

Guest Column
Robert J. Ragno

I was somewhat disturbed when I opened to Page 6 of the October 5 *Tech* to read a gripping Viewpoint on the state of the MIT school spirit and was instead confronted with a large photo and accompanying feature article on the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program.

There are a number of facets of UROD that are questionable and perhaps even troubling. The core of the issue, renting out a basic component of human intellect and creativity, is surely not a recent development — it existed long before the first UROD, thirty years ago. However, it seems to be becoming a more significant issue over time. It is now joined by similar practices, such as internships, 'externships,' and even freelance programming jobs advertised on the Course 6 mailing list itself. I will not comment on what role that analogously puts the EECS Department in.

THE ARTS

STAGE REVIEW

Cats

Innocent Feline Fun

By Bence Olveczky
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

A musical based on Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats by T.S. Eliot
Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber
Directed by Trevor Nunn
At The Shubert Theatre until October 19
Tickets \$16-\$66

When Andrew Lloyd Webber first played "Memory," the Cats theme song, to his family, his father remarked that "it sounds like a million dollars." In retrospect, that was a gigantic understatement.

Since its 1981 London premiere, *Cats* has raked in more than two billion dollars worldwide, broken all possible box office records, and changed the course of modern theater — a pretty impressive feat for a musical about junkyard cats.

The touring production of this theatrical phenomenon, residing at the Shubert Theatre until October 19th, is a faithful copy of the original version I saw in London fifteen years ago. I liked it then and I like it still; it may have been a while since its conception, but *Cats* is still youthful, charming, and thoroughly enjoyable. And while it falls short of fulfilling the huge expectations created by its success, it comes close enough to warrant a trip to the theater.

Adapted from *The Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*, a collection of children's poems by T.S. Eliot, *Cats* lacks a real plot. Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical simply sets Eliot's cat poems to dance and music, providing pure entertainment without the pretense of being profound — an admirable conceit for a genre that loves to pose its products as serious and intellectual.

Not to say that T.S. Eliot's poems are shallow or without content. On the contrary,

Eliot's fictional cats are all intriguing characters and they come in a variety of flavors. There is the fat and fun Bustopher Jones, the mysterious and magical Mr. Mistoffelees, the criminally inclined Macavity, and, of course, the patriarch of the Jellicle clan, the warm and fuzzy Old Deuteronomy. But the character who gives this somewhat fragmented show its glue is Grizabella, "the glamour cat," who returns to the junkyard with nothing but her fading memories.

Evidently, T.S. Eliot was more than a pet psychologist, and his Jellicle fantasy world is an allegorical description of our human society, with observations that are both witty and sharp. But don't expect any great truths to be revealed: *Cats* is first and foremost a musical for children — albeit children of any age.

Much of the show's success is due to Andrew Lloyd Webber's score, contagious and chronic to the mind. The performers assembled for this touring production do a solid job in planting these catchy tunes in the audience's awareness: the eminently hummable "Memory," "Jellicle Song," "Macavity," and "Mr. Mistoffelees" all resonated in my head long after the show had ended.

But it's hard for the actors to compete with the original soundtrack and the recently released video. Renee Veneziale is doing a fine job as Grizabella, but how can you do justice to "Memory," a song that has been recorded by more than 170 artists? Julius Sermonia shares top honors with his truly magical rendering of the magical cat, Mr. Mistoffelees, and bass/baritone Craig Benham deserves praise for bringing a sweet granddaddy feel to Old Deuteronomy.

While Lloyd Webber's music should get most of the credit, *Cats* would probably never have realized its commercial potential were it not for Trevor Nunn's utterly professional direction. Nunn, who has headed both the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Royal National Theatre in London, is known for his Shakespearean approach to theatre. Populistic, but never vulgar, original without being outrageous, Nunn's productions, (*The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby*, *Les Miserables*, *Porgy and Bess*) have brought sophisticated theater to the masses in a laud-

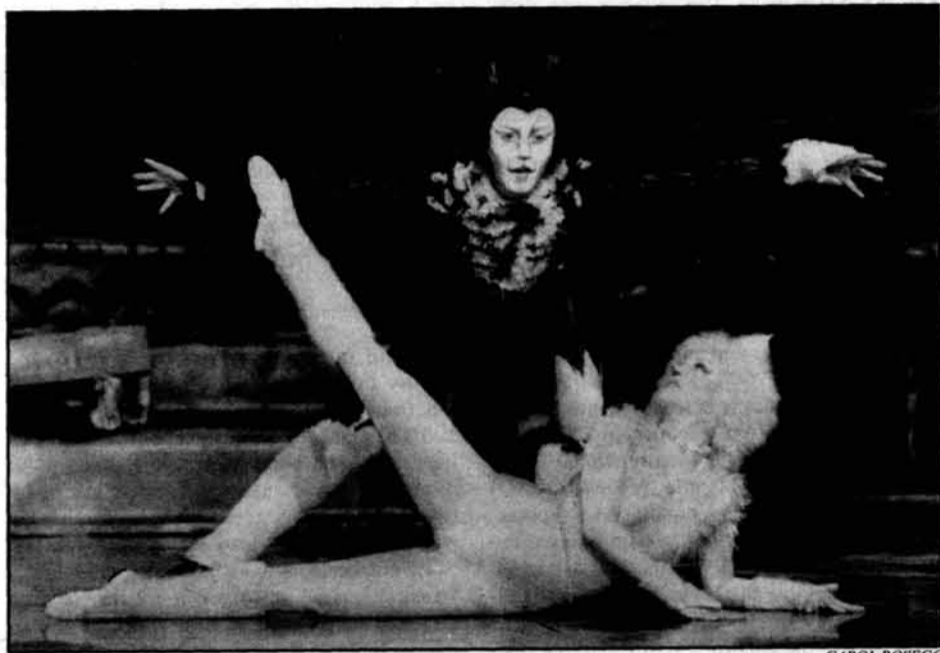
able way.

In the making of *Cats*, Webber was much helped by Gillian Lynne's dazzling choreography and David Hersey and John Napier's imaginative stage design. Together they transform the Shubert stage into a moonlit garbage-strewn alley inhabited by "allegorical cats, metaphorical cats, romantic cats, and pedantic cats," who impress us with their feline acrobatics and musical skills.

But when *Cats* first premiered in London, it was the aggressive marketing strategy, not the show itself, that was considered revolutionary. For the first time in the history of theater, a Disney-like hyping machine went into full swing, putting the *Cats* logo (two yellow eyes with dancing irises) onto every merchan-

dise item imaginable. It worked. *Cats*' "meow" became a gigantic musical roar, and once it was established that "Jellicles can and Jellicles do" rake in a fortune, *Cats* spread like wildfire. The original production was successfully exported to Moscow and Mexico, Budapest and Buenos Aires, and the concept of the "pre-packaged mega-musical" was born.

Cats showed the Broadway producers the easy way to the bank, and they have been transfixed ever since. Today, the vast majority of the shows on Broadway consists of musicals, complete with all the necessary hype and trademarked souvenirs. For a musical based on the writings of an austere poet, that's a pretty ironic legacy.



Julius Sermonia as Mr. Mistoffelees and Jessica Dillan as Victoria in *Cats*.

STAGE REVIEW

Shear Madness

Consistently Different

By Seth Bisen-Hersh
STAFF WRITER

Charles Playhouse, Stage II
74 Warrenton Street, Boston
More information at (617) 426-5225
Playing indefinitely
Tickets around \$34

What play has been running even longer than *Cats* has been on Broadway? In fact, what is the longest running play in the world? For that matter, what are the second- and third-longest running plays in the world? Why, all three are the smash murder-mystery/comedy, *Shear Madness*. Over four million people have seen this hysterical play worldwide. Opening in Boston in January 1980, *Shear Madness* has since then traveled to over 30 other cities, where it has always been a smash hit. The Boston production is the longest running play in the world, while the productions in Chicago and Washington D.C. are the second- and third-longest running plays ever. How is this play still running after 19 years, you ask? Why not go see for yourself? But if you need more convincing before you'll part with your \$34, read on.

The show begins with an approximately ten minute pre-show. While watching the characters pantomime a haircut, phone calls, and various conversations, the audience has the chance to enjoy listening to various hits from the 50's through the 80's. Eventually (after many sight gags), the music dies down, and the show begins. The six characters are very stereotypical. There's the flaming homosexual hairdresser, Tony Whitcomb (who is appropriately wearing a bright pink shirt), bosomy ditsy hairdresser Barbara DeMarco, the elderly and wealthy Mrs. Schubert, sleazy antique dealer Eddie Lawrence (who appears to be having a relationship with Barbara), and finally two seemingly ordinary customers.

In the next half hour, the comedic aspect of the show plays out. There is almost a joke per minute with modern references ("Hakuna Matata," for example) mixing with timeless one-liners. Eventually, there is some Rachmaninov heard, and the audience learns

about the renowned pianist, Isabel Czerny, who lives upstairs. After the characters' many entrances and exits, Barbara comes in screaming that Isabel has been murdered. Then two customers from before come running in with guns, revealing their true identities as Boston police officers.

The real fun begins as the audience is informed that they are needed to help solve the murder at hand. After this point, anything goes as the actors improvise profusely. First, the suspects are asked to recreate the events leading up to the murder, and the audience is charged to correct any mistakes or fallacies in their recreation. Afterwards, intermission begins. However, there is no break for the actors since during intermission the audience gets the chance to talk to them about the murder and try to figure out who killed Isabel. Finally, after a round of questions and answers, the audience votes on the murderer and sits back to watch the rest of the show.

Sounds ordinary, huh? But I assure you, it's not just that. The reason *Shear Madness* is still playing is because of its adaptability to its location and to today's news. There are many different improvised jokes each night because thirty minutes before the show, the actors meet to brainstorm new material. Thus, the show is part script and part improvisation, which adds to the fun. Furthermore, the actors pick on the audience occasionally, leading to a good time shared by all.

Besides the acting, everything on the technical side works spectacularly as well. The set is wonderful. The audience, which sits on three sides of the stage, has no trouble seeing all of the play's action. There is no need for special lighting and sound effects — thus, there are none. Adding to the colorful set are the colorful costumes. Adorned in clothes fit for the character, each actor is really able to get into his or her part. The costumes make all six actors extremely believable.

To reiterate, if you have a free night and are looking for the perfect entertainment, go see *Shear Madness*. It is guaranteed to be an extremely fun night, whether you go with a date or a huge group. There is no substitute for live theatre. Even if you have seen it already, you can go again, vote for a different ending, and see what new jokes were added just for that night. I guarantee you will leave with the show with a huge grin on your face.

MUSIC REVIEW

State of the Airwaves

Marvies, Maida, and Mixfest: The Untold Story

By Dan Katz
STAFF WRITER

My recent acquisition of a dorm room computer and RealJukebox (it's about time) has led me down the same road as most other wired music fans: the search for MP3s. There's been major controversy over the last year about the uploading of copyrighted music on the internet in MP3 form; ironically enough, I've found that some of the best material out there consists of perfectly legal files posted on official band sites. These range from mainstream singles (<<http://www.creednet.com>> stocks everything from "My Own Prison" to "Higher") to Internet-exclusive tracks (like a fabulous Marvelous 3 cover of "Always Something There To Remind Me" available at <<http://www.themarvelous3.com>>.) Perhaps Self, who are fast becoming one of my favorite bands, stocks the best treasure trove. <<http://www.spongebathrec.com/self>> features 15+ rare B-sides, ranging from a stripped-down demo of "Meg Ryan" to the wonderful rock tune "Titanic," which admirably proclaims, "What a great big sea / what a hunk of boat."

So after my oratory last week about the free day of Mixfest, I got some correspondence from Random Hall suggesting that I check out the Niels, another group playing the side stage tomorrow at City Hall. So I followed the lead, and I like what I've heard. The band's on the same label as Moxo Frivous and has a sound similar to Indigo Girls, combining acoustic guitars with female vocal harmonies. They also show a lot of versatility, moving deftly between ballads like "The Heartbreak," to more upbeat tunes like "Georgia O." Boasting the Niels, Fleming and John, and rising star Dido, the side stage could be the site of some of the highlights of Mixfest. Show up early and don't miss any of the action.

In my continuing effort to find an excuse to mention Our Lady Peace every week, I finally saw the video for "One Man Army," and it's fabulous. In contrast to the band's previous dimly-lit videos, the clip alternates between scenes of the band performing in a windowed living room and outdoor shots of Raine Maida helplessly hurtling through the air at high speed. It's a nice contrast to earlier efforts, which tended to seem overdramatically angst-ridden.

In other music video news, Live and Blink-182 score respectably on the serious and silly side. Live's cut for "The Dolphin's Cry" matches the intensity of Maida's flight. The video features a two-story wave crashing through an alley onto the band, who bravely stand their ground. Meanwhile, Blink-182, who seemed to have lost their touch for making hilarious videos (I found the streaking in "What's My Age Again?" funny for almost eight seconds) are back in form with "All The Small Things." Although the song is extremely derivative, it fits perfectly with the band's collage of Backstreet Boys/Britney Spears video parodies. This one is sure to be in heavy rotation overnight.

On one hand, Fiona Apple's new single, "Fast As You Can" sounds a little bit too much like Imani Coppola's "Legend of a Cowgirl." On the other hand, it sounds much better than anything else Apple has ever put together, shying away from the throaty pseudo-blues she usually wastes her voice on. And if you ever want to waste some free time, try saying the name of her upcoming album in one breath: *When the Pawn Hits the Conflicts He Thinks Like a King What He Knows Throws the Blows When He Goes to the Fight and He'll Win the Whole Thing 'Fore He Enters the Ring There's No Body to Batter When Your Mind Is Your Might So When You Go Solo, You Hold Your Own and Remember That Depth Is the Greatest of Heights and If You Know Where You Stand, Then You Know Where to Land and If You Fall It Won't Matter, 'Cuz You'll Know That You're Right.* (Gaaasp.)

And finally, for those of you who didn't stop reading halfway through Fiona's album title, my plea for a decent punk pop song has finally been answered. After weeks of panning the likes of Showoff and Unwritten Law, I have been blessed with Feeder's "Insomnia," a fast-paced melodic punk tune with one of the catchiest choruses of the year. Hmmm ... a song about drinking and sleep-deprivation with the lyrics, "My brain, my poor brain." MIT finally has a theme song!

I don't have a theme song, but I've got a nifty E-mail address for you to write to. Enlist some publicity for your favorite band (see above), vote for your favorite clause of Fiona's album title, or share some recipes. Whatever you want to say, say it at <airwaves@the-tech.mit.edu>. Until next week, keep expanding your horizons.

FILM REVIEW

Mystery, Alaska

A Barren Wasteland

By Amy Meadows

Directed by Jay Roach
Written by David E. Kelley and Sean O'Byrne
With Russell Crowe, Hank Azaria, Mary McCormack, Burt Reynolds, Colm Meaney

I never thought I had the capacity for such a statement, but since watching *Mystery, Alaska*, I have started to consider *The Mighty Ducks* as a masterful piece of cinema in comparison. From Jay Roach, director of the *Austin Powers* movies, and David E. Kelley, the creator of many a Boston-based television series, including *Ally McBeal* and *The Practice*, *Mystery, Alaska* is allegedly about "a small town on the outskirts of greatness." Well, all I can say is that it certainly is on the outskirts of something. But what? Coherence? Cohesiveness? Human decency?

The movie is about a small-town hockey team (made recently famous by a feature in *Sports Illustrated*) that takes on the New York Rangers. This outside challenge exposes many quirks and conflicts within the locals. While preparing for the proverbial big game, the nontraditional players must cope with the influx of the outside world: media, commercialism, and even Mike Myers.

Unfortunately, *Mystery, Alaska* is not very well put-together. Many subplots and the general aimlessness of the theme dilute the effectiveness of the movie in general. There are so many simultaneous story-lines that the entire plot comes across as superficial. One minute the movie may be about a strict father trying to control his children's lives, the next it may be about a hockey player having to skate around completely naked for the sake of his team's honor, and the next it may be about the town's Don Juan being shoved over the head by a jilted lover. In one scene, for example, a character comments, "I play hockey and I fornicate because they are two fun things to do in cold weather." In context, I suppose this may have been amusing; however, as it stood, it made the entire scene seem disjointed and the characters tense and strained.

Between being a complete gross-out comedy and a quasi-nostalgic look at the corruption of small town America, the movie is stretched thin, and oscillates between these two modes. Yet, there is not enough substance to carry both elements in one movie. Since Jay Roach and David E. Kelly are involved, the movie could be likened to a conversation between *Austin Powers* and *Ally McBeal*. It is hard to imagine how forced and contrived the speech would be, but maybe it would be somewhat like this movie: very brash and confused. More than just maintaining its themes, the movie could have stood some editing. The R rating is certainly deserved by this movie (because of its gross-out aspects), and the film could have been simultaneously improved in content and cohesiveness if it was just edited with more thoughtfulness.

The character aspect of the movie is just as much of a mixed bag as the plot. Many of the characters who have bit parts in the movie — Beth Littleford as a stuffy reporter whose fake nose freezes the second she steps into the Alaskan air and Mike Meyers as a temperamental sports correspondent — are amusing, almost parodying the movie's self-importance.

Russell Crowe, who was amazing in *L.A. Confidential*, brings an equal amount of emo-

tional intensity to *Mystery, Alaska* in the role of the beleaguered team captain. Unfortunately, this is just another subplot and his intensity comes across as hollow; one actor cannot carry the entire emotional weight of a movie. Burt Reynolds, on the other hand, is as intense as to be downright laughable. Every single time he came on screen as the ultra-strict Judge, I had to suppress my urge to laugh. Again, it is partially a problem with the movie being deficient of a unifying plot, and the Judge storyline is just another one of the subplots. Reynolds's character acts without motivation and without sufficient background for the audience to really feel anything (except, of course, amusement).

Slightly annoying to me personally was the painfully manipulative use of background music. The music is mostly either in complete conflict with the action or it over-sentimentalizes the scene. A movie should rely on the acting, the force of the plot, and on many other intrinsic factors in order to produce an effect in the audience. Relying on music to do this does not work.

In short, I left the theater feeling extremely unsatisfied for my two hours of time. The resolution of the movie and its numerous subplots could basically be summed up as, "there was a big hockey game and everything is fine now." Just ten more minutes with the resolutions of all of the subplots would have made me at least feel like I had watched something other than a soap opera (it did contain more story-lines and over-seriousness than can be

addressed). In fact, it would not have taken that much time, money or even creativity to make this movie a whole lot better, and I cannot imagine why the filmmakers let such a creature loose in movie theaters. They must believe that the audience has such a short attention span that they would not notice the gaping holes in the plot, preferring instead the

quick (and botched) treatment of many subplots. My personal recommendation for this movie is that if you suddenly find yourself with eight extra dollars and just have to see a movie about hockey, rent *The Mighty Ducks*, pretend that they players are middle-aged instead of teenagers, and ponder ways to spend your remaining five bucks.



Russell Crowe (left) and Burt Reynolds star as Sheriff John Biebe and Judge Burns, respectively, in *Mystery, Alaska*. When the town's amateur hockey team takes on pro players, the secrets and scandals of *Mystery* are thrust in the national spotlight.

FOOD REVIEW

The Essential Vegetarian

By Katharyn Jeffries
FEATURES EDITOR

Myth: Vegetarianism is an eating disorder.
Fact: While in some cases this can be true, vegetarians generally eat a diet as well balanced as their peers. Vegetarianism can be a cover-up for an eating disorder such as anorexia, but vegetarianism itself is not an eating disorder. It is simply a lifestyle choice, just as meat eaters choose to eat meat.

Many parents worry when their teenage children decide to stop eating meat. In many cases this is the child's first real rebellion and parents do not know how to manage the situation. By maintaining a mixed, low fat diet of grains, fruits and vegetables, and proteins, a vegetarian will not become emaciated or sickly.

It is for this reason that being an educated vegetarian (or an educated consumer of food in general) is important. It is a fine line between an unhealthy diet and an unhealthy mindset about food. According to *Vegetarian Times*, "on any given day, the average American doesn't eat a single vegetable." Or, they use potatoes as their primary vegetable. I personally found my "meat and potatoes" upbringing very boring (and for many people it becomes unhealthy).

It is rare that I get the chance to go to a restaurant classified primarily as "vegetarian." This week, however, I enjoyed a meal at a restaurant which caters to vegetarians. Zaatat's Oven, at 242 Harvard Street, a block from the Coolidge Corner T stop in Brookline, provided me with a very satisfying meal. The menu, which is Kosher, consists of sandwiches, soups, salads, and pizzas, as well as many breads, including flatbreads, stuffed flatbreads (sansbusaks), and sweetbreads.

I had a spinach and feta sansbusak, which was much more dense than the zestier vegetable and cous cous sansbusak. The bread was crusty — baked and baked to a golden brown — yet chewy inside. In addition I tried the spicy bean soup, which wasn't all that spicy but nonetheless tasty. To finish the meal I tried a sweet cheese with raisin flatbread and a raspberry swirl pastry. The flatbread was rich, and the filling had a somewhat strange consistency. The raspberry swirl was the clear winner with its jam-like filling.

The atmosphere was not spectacular, but established a sort of

yuppie coffee-shop ambiance, with comfortable wooden furniture and counter service. The highlight of the shop is the wood burning stove where the fresh breads are baked. The restaurant is open

for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and has ample veggie options for each meal — many of which can be viewed in the cases along the counter.

Overall I found my experience at Zaatat's Oven to be very tasty. A full meal consisting of a stuffed flatbread, large soup, dessert, and beverage costs a little over \$10. (Plus T fare, of course, but it is worth it to get out to the more quaint Brookline area).

Finally, a recipe for tabouleh salad. As always, I am interested to hear from my readers — vegetarian and meat-eating alike. Send me questions or comments at veggie@the-tech.mit.edu.

Tabouleh Salad

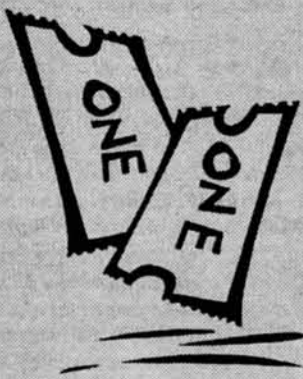
- 1 to 1-1/2 cups pre-soaked bulgar wheat
- 2 cups or 1 to 2 bunches of finely chopped, fresh parsley
- 2 large or 3 small tomatoes finely chopped
- 3 large or 4 small cucumbers peeled and finely chopped
- 1/4 to 1/3 cup lemon juice
- salt
- pepper
- fresh pressed garlic
- pita or mountain bread
- vinagrette or light textured italian style dressing

Use a large mixing bowl and mix together pre-soaked bulgar wheat with just enough dressing to moisten. Add chopped parsley, tomato, and cucumber. If you use an electric chopper for the tomato and cucumber, they will be mostly juice and pulp. This is acceptable for a softer salad, however you will get better results from hand chopping, though this can be quite time-consuming.

Add the lemon juice, salt, pepper, and garlic to taste. Cover and chill salad for at least 2 hours... it needs time to soak in its own juices to really bring out the flavor of all the ingredients. Spoon onto warmed pita or mountain bread to serve. The salad will be quite juicy at the bottom of the bowl. Do not remove the juice, as it acts as a marinade, the longer it soaks, the more flavorful it becomes. This juice can later be used as a dressing on potatoes or a leafy salad, or as a marinade for cooking vegetables. Serves: 10-15. Preparation time: 30 minutes.

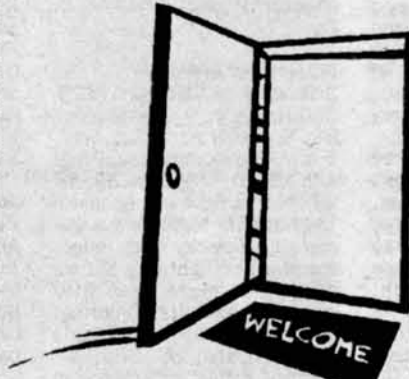
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Popular Music

Berklee Performance Center

Berklee College of Music
1140 Boylston St.
Free student recitals and faculty concerts, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. some weekdays. For info. on these concerts, call the Performance Information Line at 747-8820.
Oct. 16: Cesaria Evora, \$28, \$24.
Oct. 23: Yolanda Adams, \$27.50-\$32.50.
Oct. 24: Clint Black, \$42.50.
Oct. 30: Paolo Conte, \$28, \$22.
Oct. 31: Eleftheria Arvanitaki, \$50, \$35, \$25.
Nov. 19: Arlo Guthrie, \$22.50-\$27.50.

Centrum Centre

Ticketmaster 931-2000.
Oct. 9: ZZ Top & Lynyrd Skynyrd, \$38.50, \$29.50.
Oct. 18: Jimmy Page & The Black Crowes, \$38.50, \$29.50.

Fleet Center

Ticketmaster: 931-2000
Oct. 8: Bette Midler, \$100.50, \$75.50, \$50.
Oct. 12: Elton John, \$65, \$49.50, \$39.50.
Oct. 29: Monster Jam (presented by Jam'N 94.5, with Jay-Z, Jah Rule, Destiny's Child, Ginuwine, Naughty by Nature, Shaggy, Mr. Vegas and Blaque. Sold Out.

The Middle East

Ticketmaster: 931-2000.
Ticket prices vary. Call 354-8238 for more info.
Oct. 9: Fuzzy.
Oct. 9: Two Ton Shoe.
Oct. 11-13: Jonathan Richman.

Orpheum Theatre

Ticketmaster: 931-2000
Oct. 11-12: Widespread Panic, TBA.
Oct. 21: Elvis Costello, \$46, \$36, \$26.
Oct. 30: Guster, \$17.50.
Nov. 2, 4: Meat Loaf, \$65, \$39.50, \$28.50.
Nov. 18: Live, TBA.
Nov. 16: Richard Thompson and Lucinda Williams, \$31, \$26.

Tsongas Arena (Lowell, MA)

Ticketmaster: 931-2000.
Oct. 27: Kid Rock, \$20.

Jazz Music

Scullers Jazz Club

Ticketmaster: 931-2000
Ticket prices vary. Call 562-4111 for more info.
(All performers have two shows per day unless otherwise noted)
Oct. 12: Melissa Walker.
Oct. 13: Sado Watanabe Quartet.
Oct. 15, 16: Russell Malone Quartet.
Oct. 19, 20: Al Di Meola's World Sinfonia.
Oct. 21, 22: Tuck & Patti.
Oct. 26, 27: Great Guitar Summit.
Oct. 28, 29: Miles Evans & the Gil Evans Orchestra.

Mixfest '99 at Foxboro

Oct. 10, 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Main Stage: Susan Tedeschi, Six Pence None the Richer, Luscious Jackson, Fastball, The Pretenders, Natalie Merchant, Sugar Ray, Melissa Etheridge, Blondie. Festival Stage: Jah Spirit, Kendall Payne, Entrain, Merri Amsterberg, Angry Salad, Citizen King. Call Ticketmaster, (617) 931-2000, \$15-\$35.

Classical Music

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Tickets: 266-1492.
Performances at Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston unless otherwise noted.

Oct. 8-9, 12: Beethoven's Symphony No. 2, Zemlinsky's Lyric Symphony. Seiji Ozawa, conductor; Luba Organasova, soprano; Jose van Dam, bass-baritone. Tickets available: Oct. 12: \$31, \$24. Oct. 8, 9, Sold Out.

Oct. 15, 16: Lieberston; Red Garuda (world premiere; commissioned by the BSO). Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5. Seiji Ozawa, conductor, Peter Serkin, piano. Sold out.

On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston
October 8 - 15
Compiled by Fred Choi

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

Theater

The Tempest

Through Oct. 23, Presented by The Theatre Cooperative at The Peabody House Theatre, 277 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02145. The Theatre Cooperative presents William Shakespeare's classic *The Tempest* in the round. Confined to a mysterious island but endowed with magical powers, Prospero weaves his spells on those that once betrayed him in an effort to restore the balance between freedom and enslavement, love and revenge. This stripped-down, actor-driven production features a cast of eight and live music. Directed by Lesley Chapman. Call 617-625-1300 for more information.

One Man Band

Oct. 14-16, 21-23 at 8 p.m. at Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston, near the South Station T stop on the MBTA Red Line. Mobius proudly presents performance solos by Marjorie Morgan with lighting by Holly Ratafia and slides by Whitney Robbins. Ms. Morgan captivates her audience with her humorous and incisive characters and rich blend of movement, text, and song. This series of showing marks the first time Ms. Morgan has presented a program exclusively comprised of solos, and the range of themes includes real estate and hunger to rape and redemption. Reservations are strongly recommended. Tickets \$12, \$10 students, seniors, and Friends of Mobius. \$5 coupons will be available at Mobius during the Fort Point Channel Open Studios, Oct. 16, 17. For more information or to make reservations, call 617-542-7416.

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.

Exhibits

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston. (566-1401), Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission \$10 (\$11 on weekends), \$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.
Threads of Dissent
Oct. 22 Through Jan. 30, 2000. Inspired by the Gardner



Catch the Black Crowes at the Centrum Centre October 18th. Left to right: Eddie Harsch, Steve Gorman, Chris Robinson, Audley Freed, Rich Robinson, and Sven Pipien.

Museum's extraordinary tapestries, this exhibition illuminates the permanent collection in the light of contemporary social, political, and aesthetic issues in the work of living artists. Six works in the special exhibition gallery by the contemporary artists Edward Derwent, Leon Golub, Wojciech Jaskolka, Jorge Pardo, Lilian Tyrrell, and Murray Walker will be related to six tapestries from the collection.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston. (267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10 a.m.-4:45 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 and parking free. <<http://www.mnh.org>>

Civil War Exhibit

Through Nov. 14. 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.

George Washington, American Symbol

Through Feb. 27, 2000. In observance of the 200th anniversary of his death, the Museum is hosting a unique exhibition which presents the most comprehensive exploration of the enduring nature of Washington's image. The exhibit will present more than 150 paintings, prints, sculptures, decorative objects, and memorabilia, including works by Peale, Gilbert Stuart, Norman Rockwell, and N.C. Wyeth.

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 World"; "Living on the Edge." 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.

Other Events

Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey

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

John F. Kennedy Library Public Forums

All events will occur at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston and are free and open to the public. For more info., call 617-929-4571.

Ahmed Kathrada

Oct. 10 from 2:00-3:45 p.m. The author of *Letters from Robben Island* shares his experience as a prisoner for 26 years on Robben Island after being convicted of sabotage by the South African government in 1964, alongside Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu. Kathrada, who was

elected to parliament in South Africa's first free election and appointed as Nelson Mandela's representative to parliament from 1994 through 1999, will also share his insights on the history of apartheid and the ongoing transformations of South Africa today.

The Presidency in Perspective

Oct. 12 from 5:30-7:15 p.m. Join retiring Kennedy Library historian Sheldon Stern as he offers an inside glimpse of the Kennedy administration gleaned from more than 20 years of study of White House documents, presidential recordings, and other historical materials, including recent discoveries concerning the Cold War and the Cuban missile crisis.

The Dance Complex

526 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA, 02139, (617) 547-9363.
Oct. 15, 16 at 8 p.m. debrabluth/jesterfly. A multimedia performance event.

Film Festivals

At the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 02115. For tickets and more information, call 369-3770. Tickets for each showing are \$7, \$6 MFA members, seniors, students, unless otherwise noted.

Scandalous Cinema: The Films of Catherine Breillat

Dirty Like an Angel (Sale Comme un Ange)

Oct. 15: Breillat's tale of intense desire, betrayal, shame, and remorse centers on a romantic triangle. Deblache is a 50-year-old cop who shares interrogations and drinking binges with his younger, more good-looking double, Theron. One day, Theron introduces Deblache to his new wife, Barbara. The love between Deblache and Barbara is physical — no words are spoken — and so intense that her body is wracked with sobs. As their passion grows, their need to be together becomes even more urgent... if only Theron weren't in the way.

Art on Film Festival

Honoré Daumier: One Must Be of One's Time

Oct. 16, 21. Directed by Judith Wechsler (1999, 60 min.). Daumier was the leading caricaturist of 19th-century France, mirroring the pretensions, diversions, and foibles of the bourgeoisie in his social caricatures. His cartoons, which appeared in the French daily press, were an unintentional catalyst for radical change, instigating the dissolution of three governments. Wechsler's film majestically traces Daumier's life and work in a Paris on the brink of the modern age.

Jeff Robinson Trio: Performance and Poetry Jam

Oct. 9, 8 p.m. at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education, Blacksmith House, 56 Brattle, Cambridge, MA. The Jeff Robinson Trio will be performing their critically acclaimed CD entitled *Getting Fixed*, as well as hosting an open mike poetry jam. The trio is receiving wide acclaim for its music and jazz poetry projects. Tickets: \$5. Call (617) 547-6789 for more information.

Who Cares (Besides Your Mother)? A Memoirist's Case Against Memoir

Oct. 13 at 4 p.m. at The Bunting Institute, Radcliffe College, Cambridge. Natalie Kusz speaks as part of the Bunting Institute's Bunting Fellows Colloquia series. Free. For more information, call 617-495-8212.

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.

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

American Beauty (★½)

An extremely annoying movie: this deadpan black tragicomedy is a laughable failure as a work of art, being pretentious, simplistic, and self-important. Excepting a truly remarkable performance by Kevin Spacey (whose part is disappointingly small), there's nothing to this movie beyond tortured metaphors, caricatures instead of characters, and a messy pile-up of red herrings instead of a plot. — Vladimir Zelevinsky

Autumn Tale (★★★★)

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)

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. — Teresa Huang

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. — VZ

Bowfinger (★★★★)

Bobby Bowfinger has an eager cast, a script about an alien invasion, and no star. Unfazed, he decides to film action star Kit Ramsey on the sly, sending his actors out to interact with him. With a quick-witted script that skewers Hollywood and actors alike, *Bowfinger* is a very entertaining ride. Murphy in particular is grand in a second role as the meek Jiff, and Bowfinger's dog Betsy is not to be missed. — Roy Rodenstein

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

The Matrix (★★★★)

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

The Muse (★★★)

A comedy about a modern Muse, the immortal daughter of Zeus, inspiring a washed-out screenwriter, this is essentially one elaborate and consistently funny Hollywood in-joke. Features a great performance by Sharon Stone in the title role and a wonderful Mozartesque score by, of all musicians, Elton John. — VZ

Mystery, Alaska (★½)

A very confused hockey comedy-drama from Jay Roach (*Austin Powers*) and David E. Kelley (TV's *Ally McBeal*). Based on the premise of a small town hockey team taking on the New York Rangers, *Mystery, Alaska* is essentially about the character quirks that are exposed when the outside world begins to invade. The movie suffers from an aimless plot and actors who seem to be acting in separate films. Additionally, it offers little in the way of either motivation or resolution. — Amy Meadows

Mystery Men (★★★)

Part *Batman*, part *Blade Runner*, part *Naked Gun*, part something entirely new and original, *Mystery Men* is both a spoof of an over-directed over-produced over-merchandized superhero genre and an attempt to genuinely thrill and wow the audience. It is enjoyable, funny, rather sweet, and very inventive — but rarely exciting, and some-



Left to right: Wes Bentley stars as Ricky Fitts, Thora Birch stars as Jane Burnham, and Mena Suvari stars as Angela Hayes in *American Beauty*.

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

Stigmata (★½)

Patricia Arquette plays a possessed

woman suffering from *stigmata*-experiencing the same wounds Jesus Christ did during his crucifixion. Gabriel Byrne plays a skeptic priest who struggles to save her life and protect her from the Catholic Church. Director Rupert Wainwright's first serious project lacks elements critical for a worthwhile thriller. — Annie Choi

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.

what hampered by the by-the-numbers story. — VZ

Outside Providence (★★★)

It's Pawtucket, Rhode Island, in the '70s, and the Farrelly brothers are at it again. The writers of *There's Something About Mary* show a broader scope here, moving from visual comedy to funny, affecting dialogue. Recreational junkie Tim Dunphy's run-in with a parked police car nets him a transfer to strict Cornwall Academy, where he makes a new set of goofball friends. Dunphy's old man (Alec Baldwin) stays home with Tim's



Citizens of Mystery, Alaska, become the subject of gossip when their town becomes the focus of national media attention.

three-legged dog and his card-playing buddies, who try to be bigots but can't really pull it off. The precarious plot leaves center stage to a clever dose of lowbrow humor, perfectly delivered by a bunch of earnest simpletons. — RR

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

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

The Thomas Crown Affair (★★★)

A cross between a star vehicle and an old-fashioned heist movie: a bored zillionaire steals priceless paintings for fun, and a dedicated insurance investigator tries to trap him, falling for him in the process. Excellent opening and ending sequences, largely expendable middle; but that Monet-Magritte-Escher inspired climax is spectacular. — 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

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



Julia Roberts and Joan Cusack star in *Runaway Bride*, also starring Richard Gere. The film is directed by Garry Marshall.

Down with Science

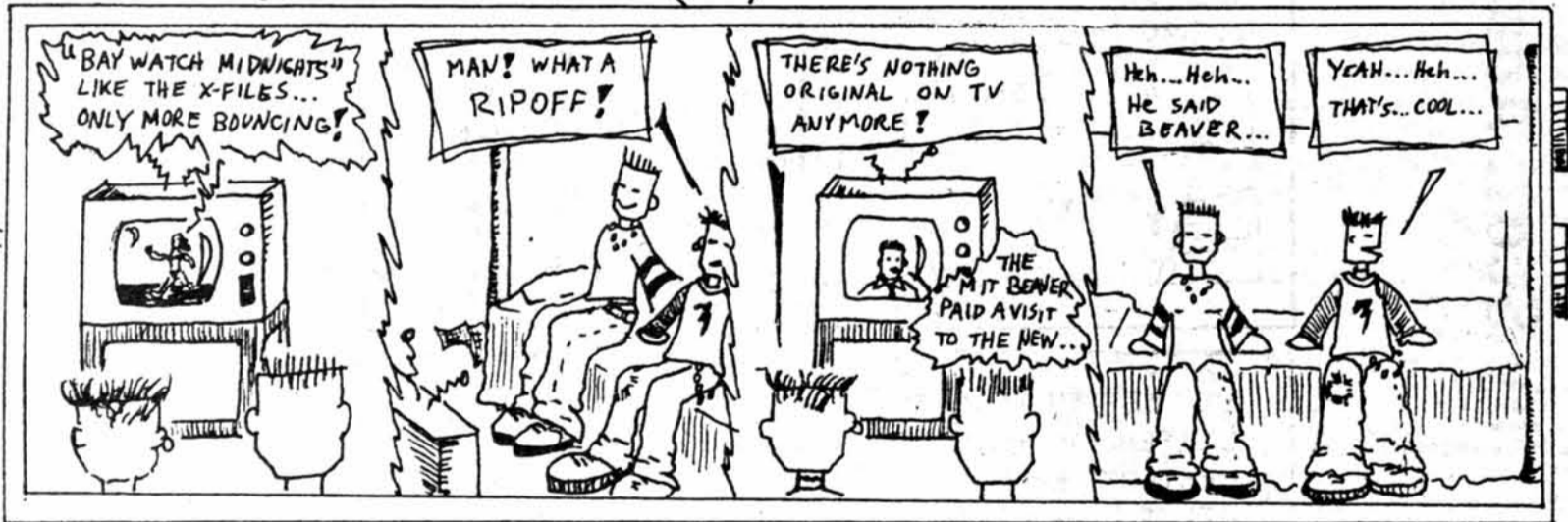
by Jennifer DiMase



the crass rat

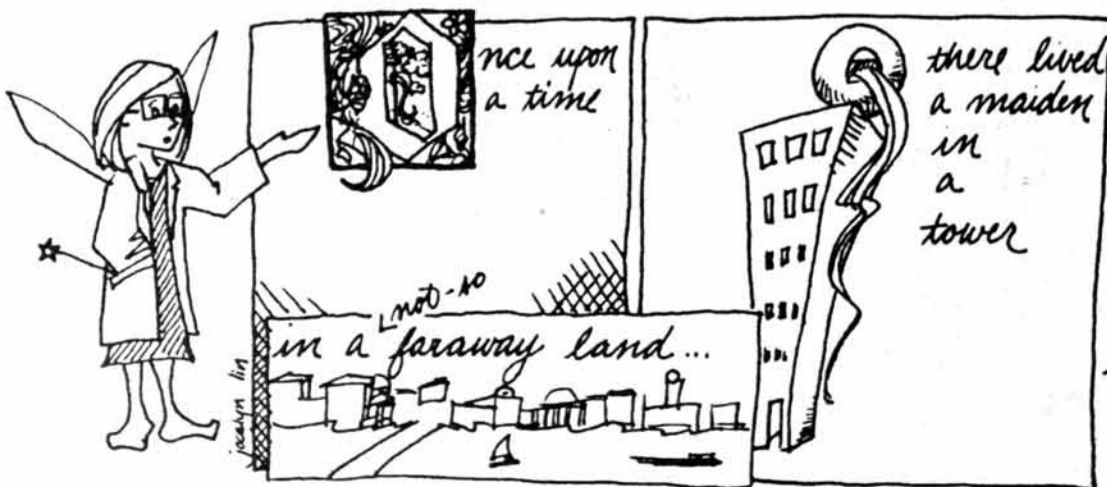


Tired Sols
BY DAVID
OCT 8-99



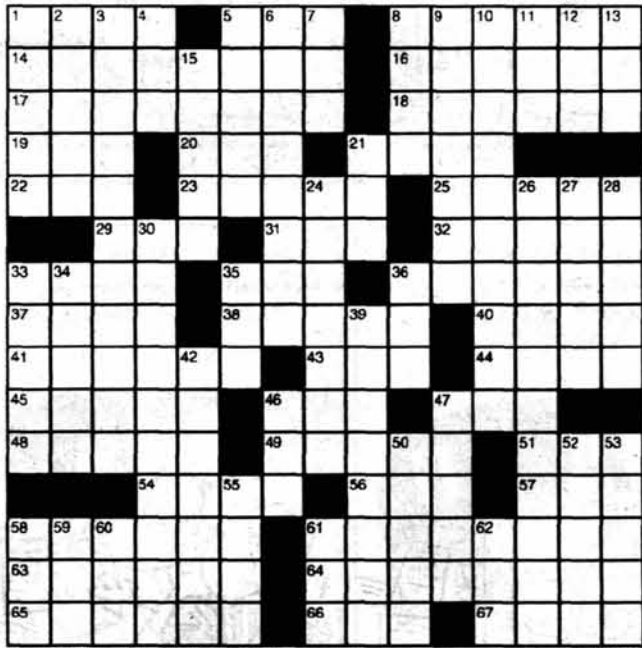
fairytales @ MIT

by jacyln lin





Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Make an effort to resist
 - 5 Hamm or Farrow
 - 8 Saturated
 - 14 Wake-up-call operators?
 - 16 Yellow-and-black bird
 - 17 Hybrid citrus trees
 - 18 Carve
 - 19 Consumed
 - 20 Actor Cariou
 - 21 Jazz singer Laine
 - 22 Bagel topper
 - 23 Mohammed's birthplace
 - 25 Figure of speech
 - 29 Actress Lupino
 - 31 Top
 - 32 Yothers and Louise
 - 33 Polygonal projection
 - 35 Actor Holbrook
 - 36 Makes merry
 - 37 Permits
 - 38 Nice good-bye?
 - 40 Austen novel
 - 41 Give cash in advance
 - 43 Chopping tool
 - 44 Glowing
 - 45 Esteem
 - 46 And so forth
 - 47 Auditory organ
 - 48 Top room
 - 49 Stays in the military
 - 51 Pixie
 - 54 Dalai
 - 56 Ready to go
 - 57 Little piggy
 - 58 Flow back
 - 61 Fashion anew
 - 63 Habituates
 - 64 Old-time singer
 - 65 Black Sea port
 - 66 Slippery fish
 - 67 Clair or Coty
- DOWN**
- 1 Deadly
 - 2 Muse of poetry
 - 3 Not there
 - 4 Made a ditch
 - 5 Donnybrook
 - 6 Rigid
 - 7 Mooncalf
 - 8 Earth
 - 9 Saxophonist Coleman
 - 10 Los Angeles suburb
 - 11 Food made from taro
 - 12 Trains on trestles
 - 13 Barely passing grade
 - 15 Diamond of "Night Court"
 - 21 Womanizer
 - 24 Filamentous
 - 26 And again
 - 27 Tropical trees
 - 28 Exam composition
 - 30 Plunderers
 - 33 Greek letter
 - 34 H. Ross
 - 35 Cow chow
 - 36 Be penitent
 - 39 I beg your pardon

- 42 Roofed passageways
- 46 Notable period
- 47 Sen. Kefauver
- 50 Foot control
- 52 Boston's airport
- 53 Put up a stockade
- 55 Flat-topped mountain
- 58 Spanish river
- 59 Conclusion
- 60 Entrance line
- 61 Cereal grass
- 62 Big __ CA

Today's Solution

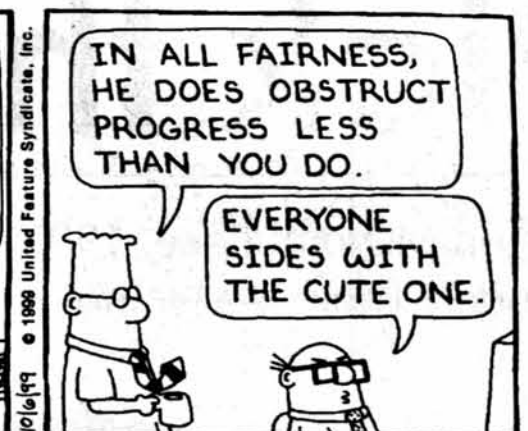


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by Scott Adams

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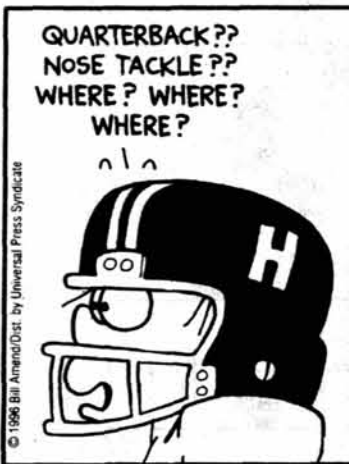
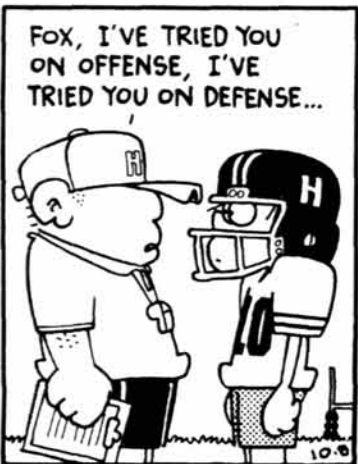
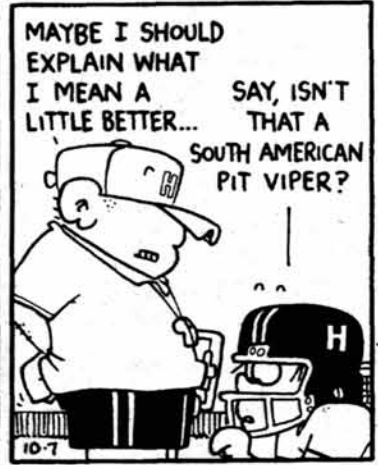
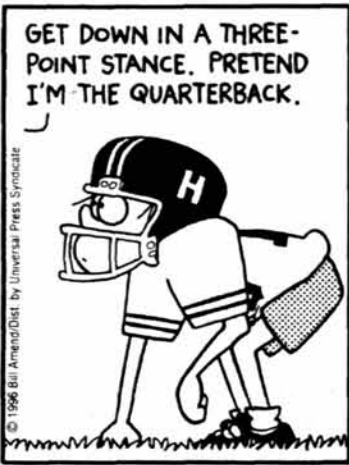
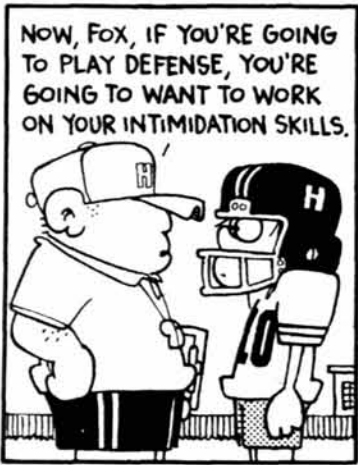
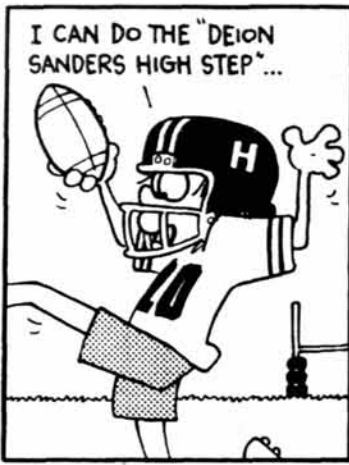
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by Bill Amend

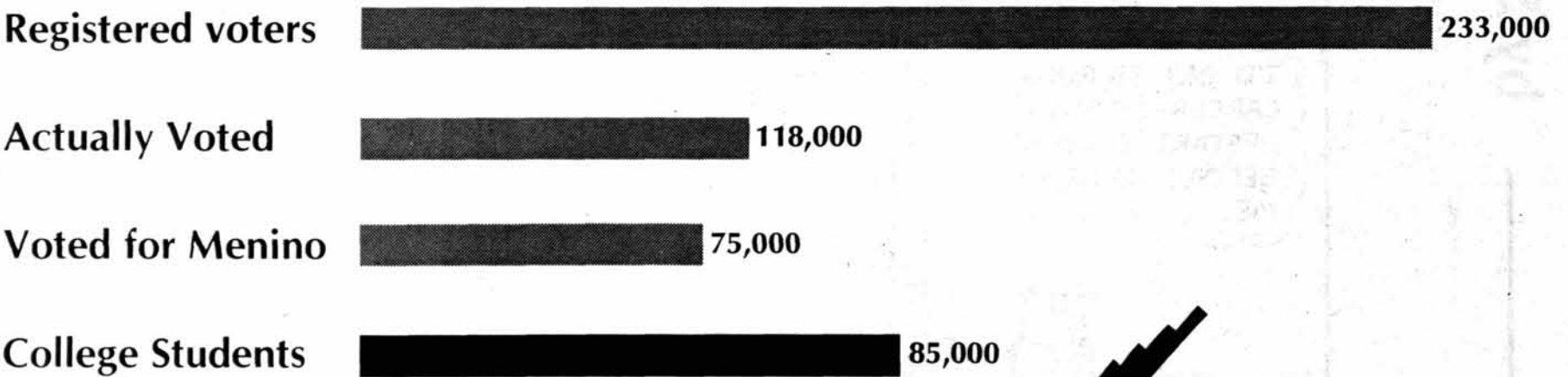


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TechCalendar

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

Friday's Events

1:00 - 11:00 p.m. – **Media In Transition: An International Conference.** This final event of the Media in Transition Project aims to establish a broad-gauged discussion of our emerging computer culture in the perspective of ancestor technologies and older media. See web site for details. Sponsor: Comparative Media Studies.

7:00 p.m. – **Film: Dr. Akagi.** Featuring contemporary Asian Film Directors Series. Admission 2.50. 26-100. Sponsor: MIT Japan Program.

7:00 p.m. – **The Color of Fear Movie Screening.** A breakthrough film about racism; it explores the complexities of ethnoracial difference, power and community. Awarded "Best Social Studies Documentary of 1995" and featured on the Oprah Winfrey show. 4-237. Sponsor: Undergraduate Association Committee on Multiculturalism.

7:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. – **MIT Anime Club Showing.** 7:00 Slayers Next 10 - 13 (subtitled); 9:00 Lupin: Fuma Clan; 10:00 Shadow Skill; 11:00 Yu Yu Hakusho 5 - 6 (subtitled). Free! Stop by anytime and bring your friends. E51-335. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

7:00 p.m. – **Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me.** LSC transforms room 26-100 into an on-campus movie theater, complete with previews, popcorn, and digital sound. Admission 2.50. 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

10:00 p.m. – **Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me.** LSC transforms room 26-100 into an on-campus movie theater, complete with previews, popcorn, and digital sound. Admission 2.50. 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

2:00 p.m. — **Optimal determination of global tropospheric OH concentrations using multiple trace gases** — Jin Huang, MIT - PAOC. Sponsored by MIT Atmospheric Science Seminars. Rm 54-915. More info: Call at 253-0136. Email <ddlucas@mit.edu>. <www-paoc.mit.edu/MASSseries.html>.

4:00 p.m. — **Nonlinear Neoclassical Theory for the Tokamak Edge** — Per Helander, UKAEA, Culham Science Center. Plasma Science and Fusion Center Seminar Series. Rm NW17-218. Refreshments served at 3:45 pm. More info: Call Paul Rivenberg at 253-8101. <rivenberg@psfc.mit.edu>. <<http://www.pfc.mit.edu/>>.

Saturday's Events

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. – **Media In Transition: An International Conference.** This final event of the Media in Transition Project aims to establish a broad-gauged discussion of our emerging computer culture in the perspective of ancestor technologies and older media. See web site for details. Sponsor: Comparative Media Studies.

7:00 p.m. – **Panamanian Folkloric Dance: Zojeila Itzel Flores—"La Pollera y sus Bailes".** "The Pollera [national dress of Panama] & its Dances" Biology senior Zojeila Flores received a 1998 List Foundation Fellowship in the Arts for Students of Color to study Panamanian dance. Admission 0. Killian Hall. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

7:00 p.m. – **Instinct.** LSC transforms room 26-100 into an on-campus movie theater, complete with previews, popcorn, and digital sound. Admission 2.50. 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

8:00 p.m. – **Roadkill Buffet: The Royal Rumble Show.** Roadkill Buffet will see you in the ring, with a rain of improv insanity coming down on you. You'll not want to miss this night of riotous improv comedy. Admission 0. Rm 35-225. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

10:00 p.m. – **Instinct.** LSC transforms room 26-100 into an on-campus movie theater, complete with previews, popcorn, and digital sound. Admission 2.50. 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Sunday's Events

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – **Media In Transition: An International Conference.** This final event of the Media in Transition Project aims to establish a broad-gauged discussion of our emerging computer culture in the perspective of ancestor technologies and older media. See web site for details. Sponsor: Comparative Media Studies.

7:00 p.m. – **Film: Dr. Akagi.** Featuring contemporary Asian Film Directors Series. Admission 2.50. 26-100. Sponsor: MIT Japan Program.

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Stephen Hawking Lectures on Controversial Theory

By Gabor Csanyi
COLOR EDITOR

Harvard University's Sanders Theater was about three quarters full on Tuesday, when the wheelchair-bound physicist rolled in from behind the stage. Stephen Hawking of Cambridge University, England, one of the most brilliant scientists alive, was delivering the Morris Loeb Lectures in Physics entitled "Finite but Unbounded".

Introduced by Professor Cumrun Vafa, another eminent physicist from Harvard, Hawking started his lecture about cosmology. As he sat in the narrow beam of a spotlight, his familiar machine voice echoed from the loudspeakers. Hawking discussed updated versions of the ideas in his bestseller, *A Brief History of Time*, in particular, his proposal that the universe has a

topological shape, which has no boundary.

Throughout the lecture, Hawking stressed the importance of the "Anthropic Principle." Simply stated, it says that "if the conditions in the universe were not suitable for life, we would not be asking why they are as they are."

Although the principle may seem like a tautology at first, it opens up a very interesting question. When physicists ask themselves why a certain property P of the universe is such, there are two kinds of answers. There could be an underlying theory, which explains P based on more fundamental quantities, or P could be just an accident. In particular, Hawking's "Anthropic Principle" is the latter answer to a number of problems along the lines of, "isn't it amazing that the values of the fundamental physical constants are just such that life is possible in the universe?"

This is a line often taken by creationists, and the "Anthropic

Principle" is a very good counter. But it seems to me that the subtle relationship of this question to religion obscures the issue. It really should not be called the "Anthropic Principle" but the "Problem of the Scientific Question." It should not be used as an ingredient of a scientific theory, but rather understood as a meta-theory, one that examines the the questions of science.

Professor Vafa gave a very nice analogy when I spoke with him after the talk. "For the Greeks, the relationships between the distances of the planets from the sun was a science. They had sophisticated theories to explain the seemingly non-random numbers. Today, we believe that to be just an accident."

Similarly, or so Hawking claims, the dimensionality of space and amount of matter in the universe is an accident, which needs no further explanation. I think that the fact that the accident was such that life is possible is irrelevant here. The important point is

whether a certain question merits scientific study or not. It further confuses the issue that Hawking insists on trying to set criteria on the physical world which would allow the existence of life.

Hawking's arguments are naive and weak in this respect. For example, he claims that life would be impossible in a world whose spatial dimension is other than three. He says that a two dimensional dog would "fall apart along its intestine." Who says that in a two dimensional world, there would be dogs? One can perfectly imagine two dimensional beings which don't have intestines.

I wholeheartedly agree with Professor Vafa's comment that "one should not have such a narrow definition of life. I believe we do not have sufficient understanding yet to claim what kind of lifeforms are possible or not." Similarly, Hawking points out that in a higher dimensional universe, the decay of gravitational attraction would be

greater than inverse square, and therefore planets would not have stable orbits. Yet who says life has to be attached to planets? Again, I think he is trying to say that the fact that four out of the eleven dimensions of current cosmological theory are extended and the others are compact is an accident.

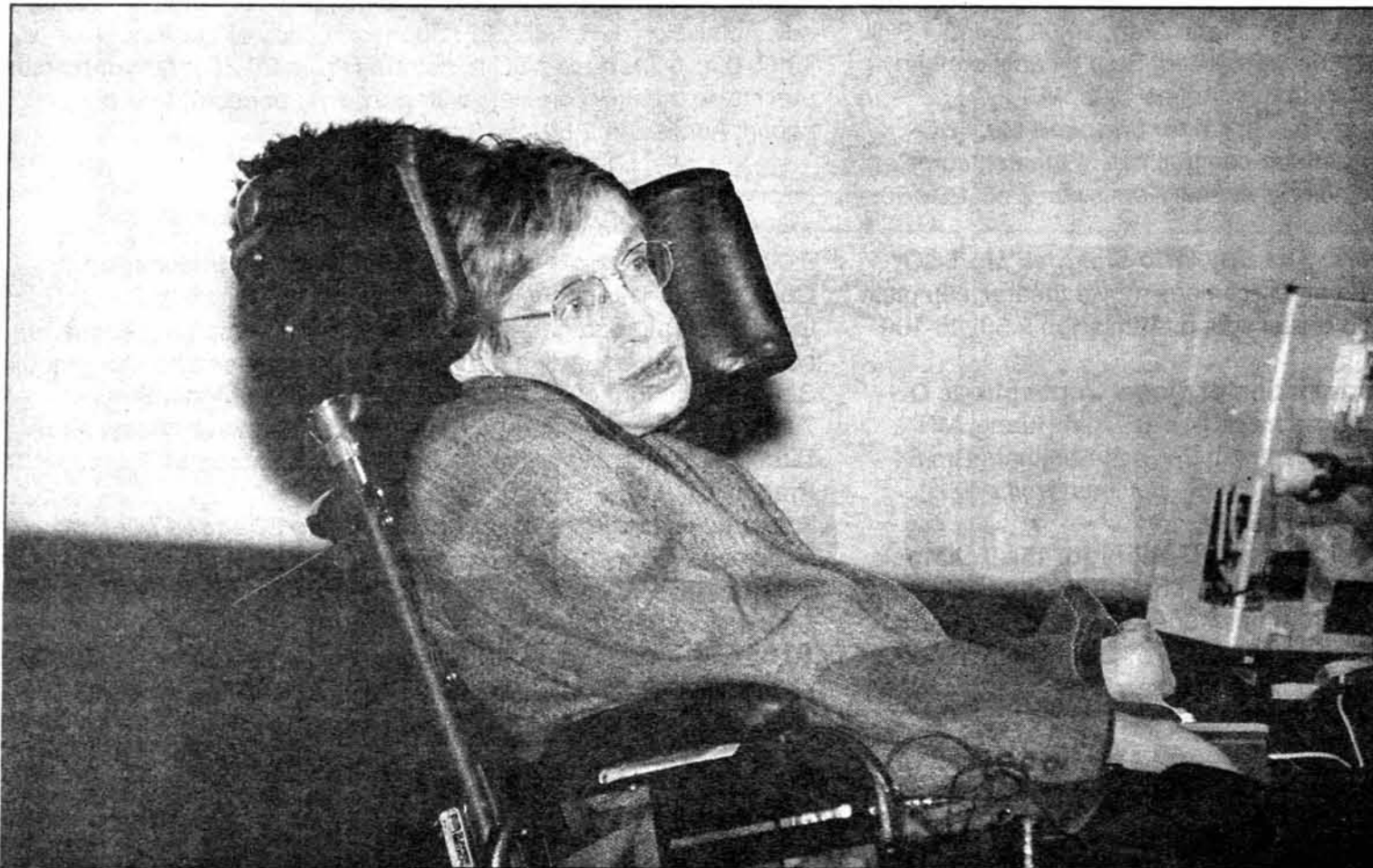
To be fair, it must be said that he acknowledges how controversial the 'Anthropic Principle' is in the scientific community. Professor Sydney R. Coleman said after the talk "Anything else is better [than the 'Anthropic Principle' to explain something]."

It was not clear for whom the lecture was intended. There was absolutely no mathematics, which seemed to indicate that a layman should be able to comprehend the lecture. Yet physics jargon and figures with random graphs thrown in, with "phi's" and "sigma's" flying around made it inaccessible to anyone but the practicing cosmologist.

As people started to drift out of the lecture hall midway through the talk, I wondered what they had in mind when they came. Did they come to hear the latest in quantum cosmology from one of the world's most authoritative sources? Or did they come to see the human marvel of the man bask and in the aura of his powerful mind? Were they sorry for him? Did they pity him?

In my observation, people are drawn to human suffering, especially if the subject prevails through heroic struggle, as in the case of Hawking. Think of the countless literary works and folktales along this line. The power of these stories lies their ability to make one relive the difficulties, from the comfort of ones own mind. But Hawking's story is hardly fiction. He is real. While you and I may shudder at the thought of his condition, this man has to live it. I implore you to consider the difference.

At the end of the lecture, while Hawking was preparing single phrase answers to a few audience questions (which takes 5-10 minutes each), his assistant entertained non-physics questions. He was asked about all sorts of details of Hawking's personal life. I felt quite awkward. Did not anyone realize that he was right there, listening to others discussing him as some kind of peculiarity? The resemblance to a circus was uncanny. I was ashamed at the blatant celebrity mania.



World-renowned physicist Stephen Hawking delivered his "Finite but Unbound" lecture at Harvard's Sanders Theater on Tuesday.

WENDY GU—THE TECH

Congratulations to our 770Z Thinkpad winner, Jaydeep Bardhan.

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Several Parties Escape Metal Detector Party Policy

By Efen Gutierrez
STAFF REPORTER

Three years after MIT instituted a metal detector policy for large events, groups have found ways of circumventing the policy, in many cases with Institute's approval.

Two events held at Walker Memorial in the past week, including the Domecoming Ball, were able to avoid the metal detector requirement through questionable estimations of party attendance. Another party, held in La Sala de Puerto Rico, was allowed to continue without metal detectors at Campus Police discretion.

Current party policy as it stands defines a metal-detector event based on party size and three sets of criteria. According to Katherine G. O'Dair, Associate Dean of Student Activities and Special Programs, a party is considered a metal-detector event if attendance exceeds 250 people and it fulfills one of the following three criteria: alcohol being served, live entertainment such as a band or DJ, or attendees from outside the MIT community.

Domecoming escapes party rules

Rita H. Lin '00, a Domecoming organizer, estimated overall attendance at the dance, held last Saturday in Walker Memorial, at over 250 people, even though the dance continued without metal detectors or police intervention. The party was registered with the Campus Activities Complex, which processes all large event requests, as having 249 people, live music, no alcohol, and no guests from outside MIT.

"It was probably due to the fact that it was an MIT-only event. The Campus Police Chief makes the final decision, and exemptions are more favorable if they are MIT-only. The CAC and Student Activities only make recommendations," O'Dair said. Campus Police have final approval over all large events, and each event is considered on a case-by-case basis.

In addition, a large party at Walker on Tuesday night sponsored

by Microsoft did not have metal detectors. The party was open to the entire MIT community and featured a D.J.

Yet another exception to the party policy was made for Swing Dance Night held in La Sala de Puerto Rico, with had both large attendance and a live band. O'Dair stated the exception was due to the fact that it was for the MIT community only.

O'Dair said that there has been a push to make Walker more available for community events such as Domecoming. Walker, which is not equipped to carry metal detectors, is only used if parties have an attendance under 250. The only two places which have a higher capacity are La Sala de Puerto Rico and Lobdell Food Court.

Current policy criticized at onset

The current metal detector policy, instituted after a Northeastern University student was shot in the leg outside of an Alpha Phi Alpha party at Walker in 1995, was questioned at the time because of its seeming discrimination against minority groups at MIT. Most events, except for those of the Sloan School of Management, that would have been held in Walker were immediately canceled after the 1995 shooting.

The policy brought criticism

from minority groups who depend on inviting people from other schools and the greater-Boston area for successful parties. At the time, Joaquin S. Terrones '97, general coordinator of GAMIT, said, "We had reservations for Walker Memorial to hold this dance a year in advance. We were notified of the cancellation just two weeks before

the event, which gave us no alternative avenue — we had to retract our advertisement."

Other groups at the time also felt that the campus policy was subjective in implementation.

Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin said at the time, "Exceptions to the policy were granted on a case-by-case basis, for 'tamer

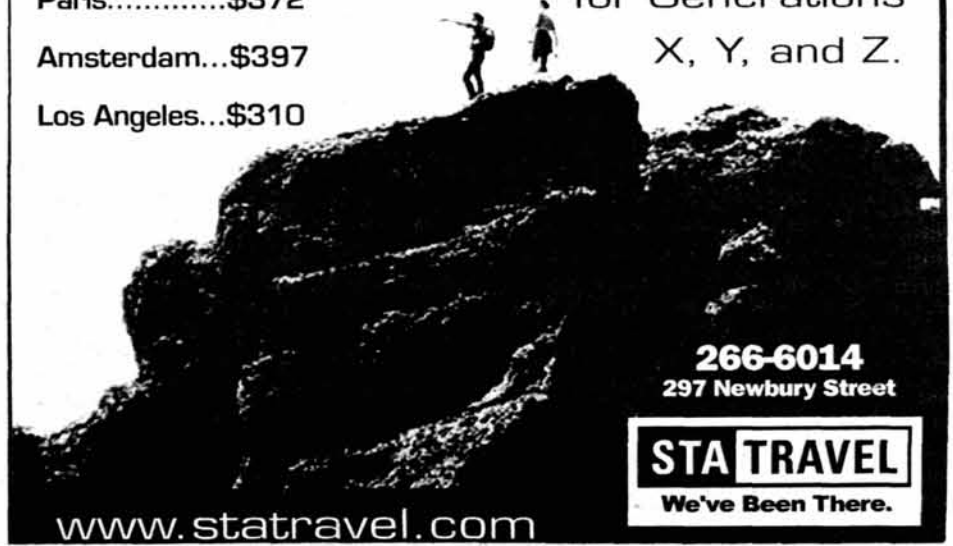
events that haven't got the large following. The kind of people attracted is important to the decision. Ballroom dancing is far less dangerous than a rock concert. We want to follow the policy, but we also recognize that we need some flexibility."

Zareena Hussain contributed to this reporting of this article.

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Students Give Microsoft Cold Reception at Futurefest

Microsoft, from Page 1

they want to do this kind of thing with four to five other universities. MIT is the keystone."

Because MIT found it difficult to fund projects with Microsoft money without talking about project I-Campus, initiatives other than the first three have yet to be decided.

Abelson said that the projects will definitely address education.

"The clear way to fail in this project is not to involve students... a failure from MIT's perspective and from Microsoft's perspective because the real value they see is in the students," Abelson said.

Because Microsoft is providing the money, "Microsoft will decide which projects we should start... I think once a project is underway, it will be controlled by the principal investigator of that project," said John V. Guttag, head of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

MIT satisfied with terms

On the whole, the MIT administration seems confident that the agreement with Microsoft protects the interests of the Institute.

"Microsoft has this bad rap in general but the particular people we're working with are really good," Abelson said.

According to the terms of the agreement, Microsoft does not need to approve research publications that come out of the project, and MIT is not subject to prepublication review from Microsoft.

Microsoft "really wants to have an impact on education and they understand that happens through public dissemination" of research, Abelson said. "I was pleasantly surprised about how much the people at Microsoft understood that."

MIT signed a "standard intellectual property agreement" with Microsoft, Bacow said.

"Microsoft gets a non-exclusive royalty-free license to the intellectual property developed here. MIT owns the intellectual property," Bacow said.

"If they want exclusive rights,

they have to negotiate an agreement with MIT" for any combination of equity, royalties, or cash, Bacow said.

"I'm pretty comfortable that this approach is consistent with MIT's normal way of dealing with intellectual property of sponsored research," Guttag said.

"I think it's very healthy as long as we do it right. These relationships can provide opportunities for our students and faculty, and help our faculty and students learn more about the outside world, which can enrich the teaching on campus and the research on campus. If we frame them so that they provide those sorts of resources to our community, they can be wonderful," Magnanti said.

Microsoft gets dubious reception

Microsoft has made more of an effort to engage the student community in their MIT alliance than have other industries. MIT held a public announcement in 10-250 on Wednesday as well as a party called Futurefest.

About 300 students attended Futurefest, where Abelson spoke about the MIT-Microsoft alliance over dinner. Microsoft raffled away copies of Office 2000 software.

During the talks, students heckled the speakers and shouted "Microsoft sucks!" Near the end of the party, some students took copies of Office 2000 from the raffle and stomped on them.

As for student conduct at Futurefest, Bacow said he "thought that was done in good fun."

"I think most of our students are excited... there's certainly a diversity of opinion on campus on almost any issue and that certainly is true of MIT's working with Microsoft," Bacow said.

Some students at Futurefest wanted to show Microsoft "they're not wanted," according to former East Campus resident Peter Gamache.

"UNIX gained popularity by becoming popular at educational institutions. Microsoft is trying to take UNIX down the same way. There's no question: MS is running

scared," Gamache said.

Distance learning project started

Initial projects include expanding the MIT Shakespeare Electronic Archive and developing long-distance learning technology through collaboration with the National University of Singapore. Project I-Campus will also explore using distance technology in model design with the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

"At this point [Project I-Campus] has been a faculty-led initiative," Magnanti said.

The cost of the secrecy in announcing the alliance "is that everybody feels that you've dumped something on them," Abelson said. Now, however, he "doesn't want there to be any mystery."

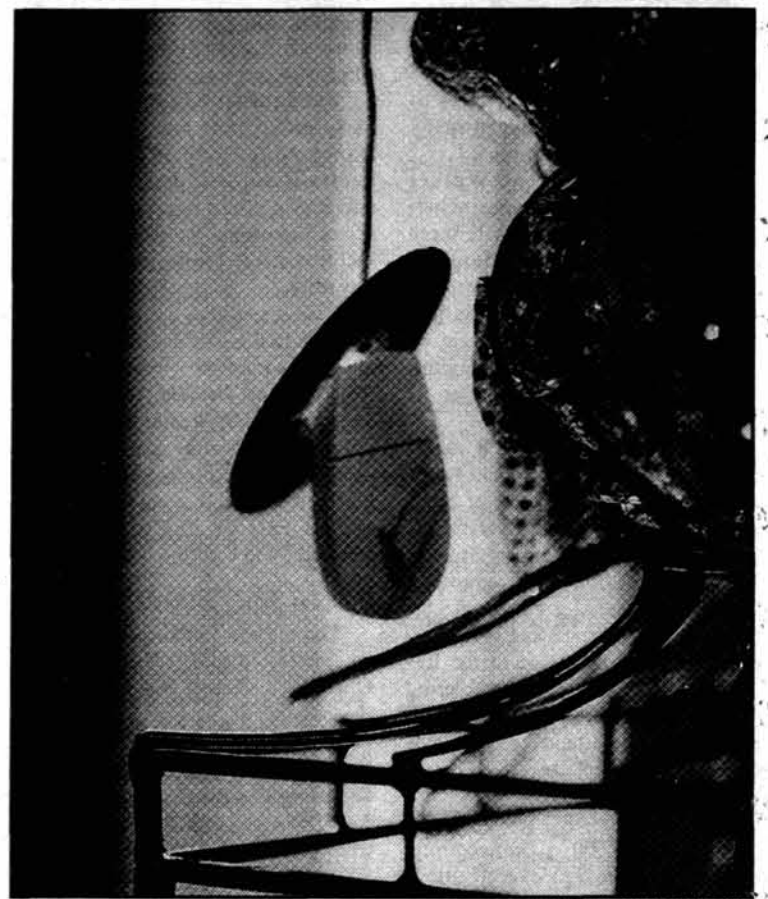
The MIT-Microsoft steering committee will hold workshops in October to decide what projects to do, Abelson said. The committee will invite research proposals from the community by mid-December. Funding will begin in January.

The Shakespeare project is "rich in multimedia content, gives us an opportunity to experiment with a multimedia-rich learning environment," Magnanti said.

Of the Shakespeare project, "we wanted one project that is somewhat more mature, and represented the humanities so it would bring a different style of learning and different learning objectives" to MIT, Magnanti said.

"Then we wanted one project just beginning," said Magnanti, referring to MIT's work with Singapore, which started this month. "In the Singapore project, there we have students on campus and students in Singapore" so it's an opportunity to try distance education, Magnanti said. The Aero-Astro project is the least developed of the three initiatives.

Magnanti said that, for now, there are no plans to supplant MIT's computing system with Microsoft software. "That's something that we're going to investigate as part of the project... looking at the administrative infrastructure and what



GREG KUHNEN—THE TECH

FORBIDDEN FRUIT — Various apple products adorned the Microsoft decorations at the Future Fest held in Walker Memorial on Tuesday.

kind of infrastructure" we want, he said.

Magnanti said that "MIT is making no firm commitment to any computer platforms or any software platforms in this agreement" and that he believes in "a heterogeneous computing environment."

MIT has history of alliances

"We've been working on [a Microsoft-MIT alliance] for about a year," Magnanti said. "It started from a conversation on October 12 when President Vest and Bill Gates shared a car ride to the airport," Magnanti said. Serious talks got underway in January.

According to the MIT News Office, 70 percent of the research conducted on the MIT campus is federally funded. MIT gets about 20

percent of research funding from private industry — more than any other university in the country.

Over the past five years MIT has developed relationships with companies such as Amgen, Merck, Ford Motor Company, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT), Merrill Lynch, and Dupont. Microsoft's is the third largest gift from industry, behind Amgen's \$30 million and Dupont's \$35 million.

Microsoft Research (MSR) was created in 1991 as the computer science research organization of Microsoft Corporation. MSR is collaborating with several colleges — such as CalTech, UC-Berkeley, and Texas A&M — on specific projects, but Project I-Campus is Microsoft's largest collaboration with a research university.

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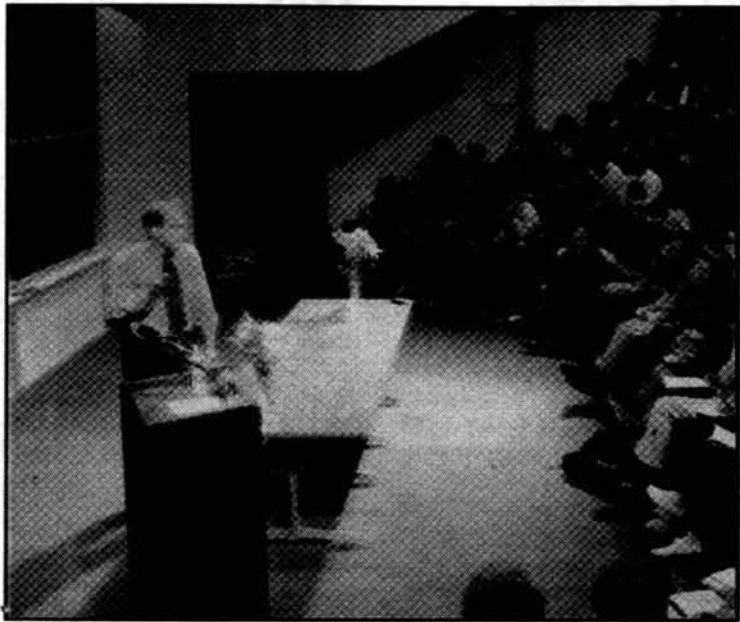


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CHRIS McENIRY—THE TECH

As a part of the Authors@mit series, Tim Berners-Lee, inventor of the World Wide Web, discusses his book, *Weaving the Web*, and his invention's future to a packed 34-101.

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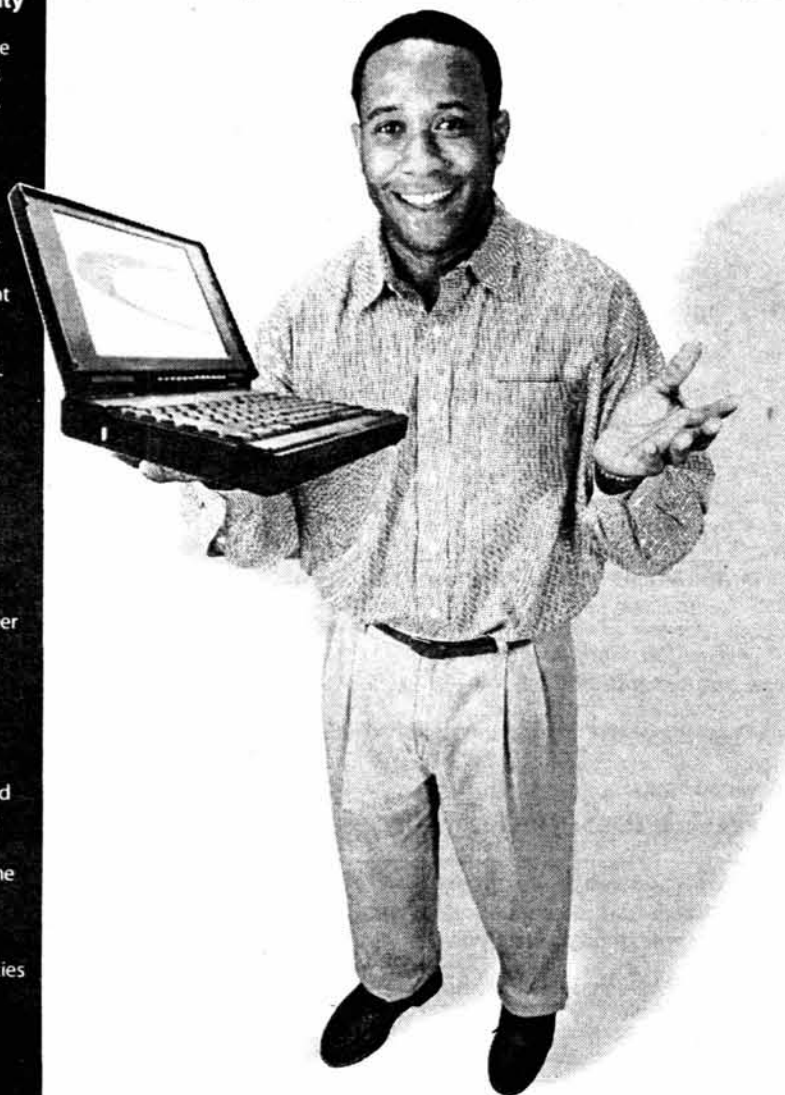
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SAC Report Presents Alternative to RSSC

RSSC, from Page 1

and expansions on unclear points, most of the RSSC's major proposals remain unchanged. The new report recommends that MIT should be able to rent out housing for those forced out of the dorm system through the housing lottery. Off-campus housing is still valued over crowding.

The proposal leaves theme houses like Chocolate City with a Catch-22. Theme houses will no longer be able to select freshmen residents and may choose only to accept or deny freshmen they get from the moving out of the dormitories they currently reside in.

The report also highlights the situation of graduate students more than in previous drafts, and it recommends the formation of another committee to handle graduate housing.

SAC presents alternate plan

Undergraduate Association President Matthew L. McGann '00, a member of the SAC, which draws student members from the UA, Dormcon, Graduate Student Council, the Interfraternity Council, the Living Group Council, and ILTFP, said that the SAC was able to present to Bacow half of its report and "give him the most recent draft of an evolving document."

McGann said that the Unified Proposal is "more robust" than the RSSC report. Rather than focusing on policy, the Unified Proposal concentrates on capital, resources, and governance.

John S. Hollywood G, chair of the SAC, said "I got the impression that [the RSSC] had a large amount of input they didn't seem to take in." Hollywood was also disappointed with the lack of scope of the proposal. "It dealt mainly with the hydraulics of rush... [the RSSC] felt pushed into a box and [only solved for] what would work with the current system."



TECH FILE PHOTO
Lawrence S. Bacow '72

"We appreciated that they thought of the concept of theme houses but [the method of] dealing with them is not admirable," said Jen A. Frank '00, Dormcon president. "[We] think the feedback wasn't used as much as it could have been. I think that most students agree that they'd rather be crowded than be kicked off campus. [Sophomore year] is stressful as it is as your on grades for the first time."

A copy of the amended final report is available at <http://web.mit.edu/residence/systemdesign/>.

A copy of the current SAC report is available at <http://web.mit.edu/advise/>.

Naveen Sunkavally contributed to the reporting of this article.

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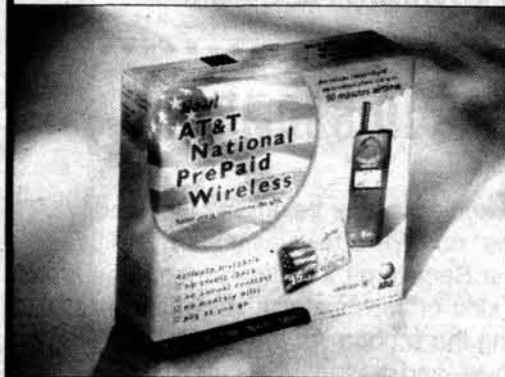
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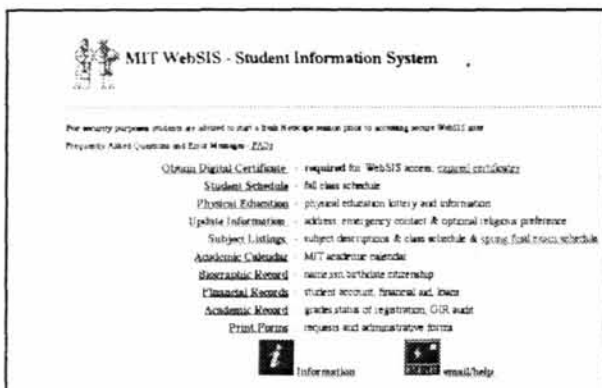
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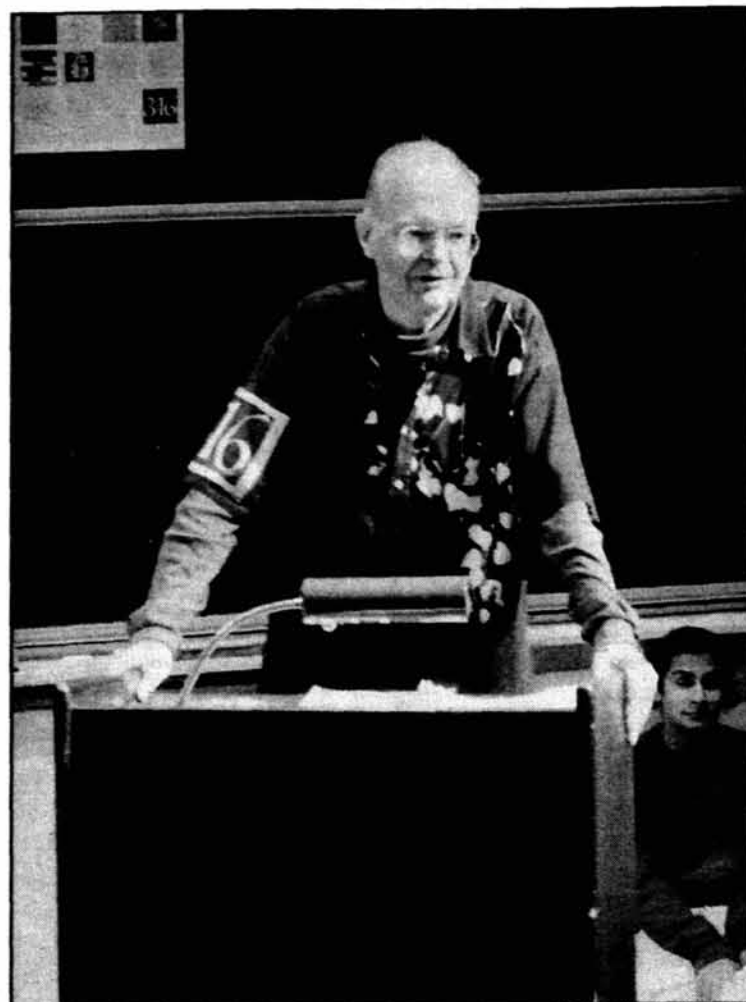
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Pre-performance discussion at 6:00pm
Performance at 8:00pm

DAVID SEDARIS

Sedaris found an audience after being asked to read his "The SantaLand Diaries" on NPR a few years back, describing his stint working as a Santa's elf for Macy's department store. Sedaris has the kind of conspiratorial voice that makes you think you're getting the scoop over the phone from your best friend. It's that voice--and delivery--that puts Sedaris in the top tier of "must-see" authors who cruise into town." (From the November 5-11, 1998 issue of Metro Santa Cruz.)

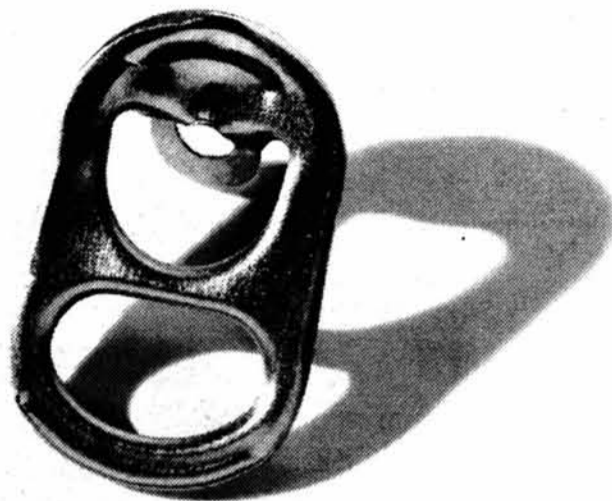
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6:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
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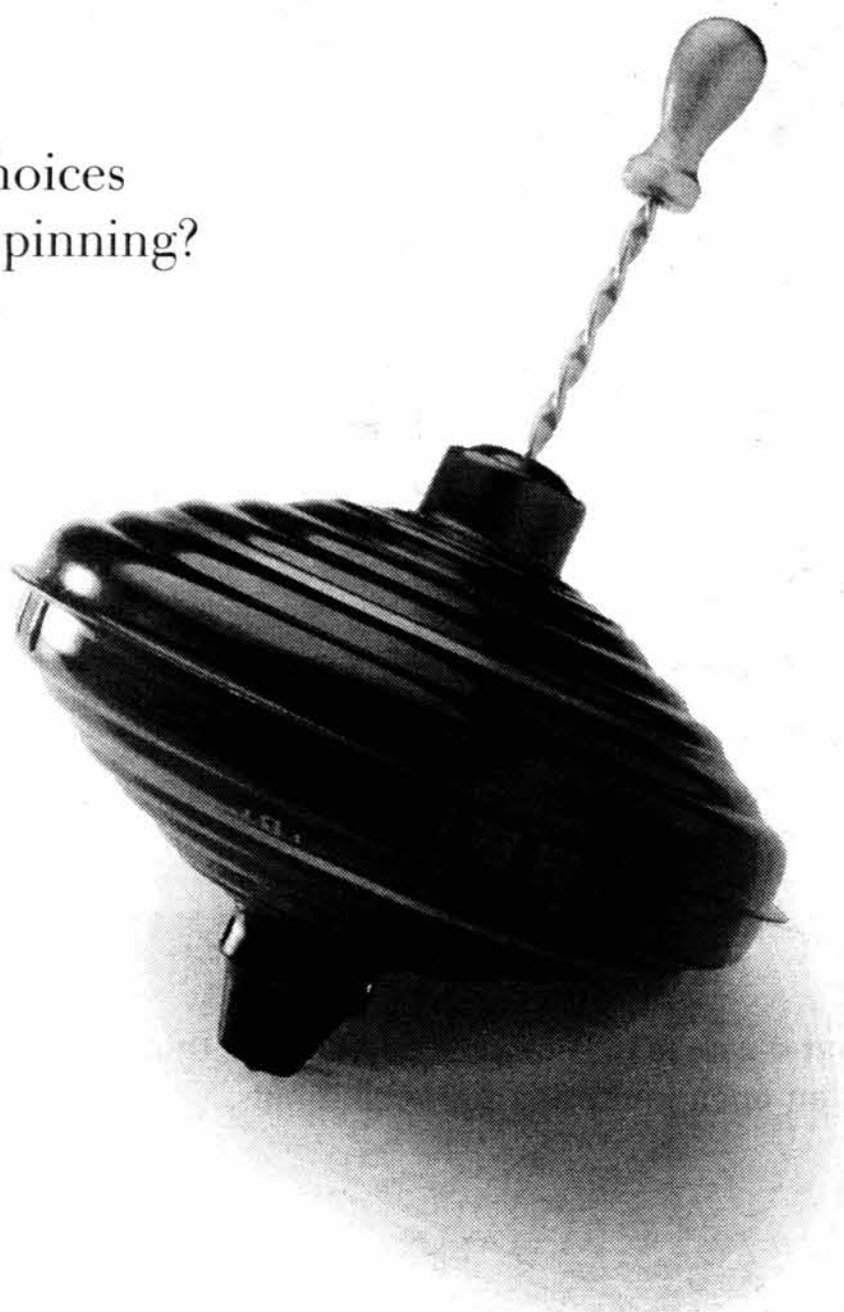
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Snowberg Deserves Votes, Braude Says

Braude, from Page 1

less citizens of the world."

He pointed out that both institutions could do much more to help the city through their immense financial resources. The city spent \$4.5M on affordable housing last year, Braude said, which is roughly the amount Harvard earns in daily interest on its endowment.

Both MIT and Harvard should aid the city more and "challenge fellow urban university presidents" to also do more for their communities.

Braude praised the campaign of MIT undergraduate and fellow Cambridge Civic Association endorsee Erik C. Snowberg '99. He expressed "tremendous admiration for what [Snowberg] is doing... [He] actually had the courage to join this field."

Braude "urges [students] to give him, not me, their number one votes" and hopes that students will "decide I'm worthy of number two."

Braude supports rent control

Braude signed a petition by the

Cambridge Citizens for Rent Equity supporting the return of rent control. His plan for affordable housing also includes broader government support for housing.

The "ultimate solution is a far broader government mandate" to improve access to housing, he said. Braude proposes supporting affordable housing through taxation much the way the public school system is funded. Local officials should also lobby state and national governments for assistance with housing, he said. Braude suggested that Massachusetts could finance affordable housing instead of cutting state taxes.

Keeping Cambridge down-to-earth

Braude also supports limiting the scale of development in Cambridge. "Most people don't have to live on the 19th floor" in Cambridge, he said. He proposes limiting development to "keep the city on a human scale." Braude would fight "developers who... appear to have more power than people."



JAMES CAMP—THE TECH

The Quintessential Brass quintet performed a variety of classical music, from Bernstein to Bach, at Thursday's noon Chapel Concert Series. The Quintessential Brass play a variety of music year round, including outdoor concerts in the summer. Coming this month to the Chapel Concert Series are the Vento Chiaro woodwind quintet (Oct. 14), violist Patricia McCarty (Oct. 21), and the Robert Torres, Mark Small guitar duo (Oct. 28). All concerts are at noon in the MIT Chapel, free admission.



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KATIE ALLEN

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Mapping Boston

Tuesday, October 12, 7 p.m.

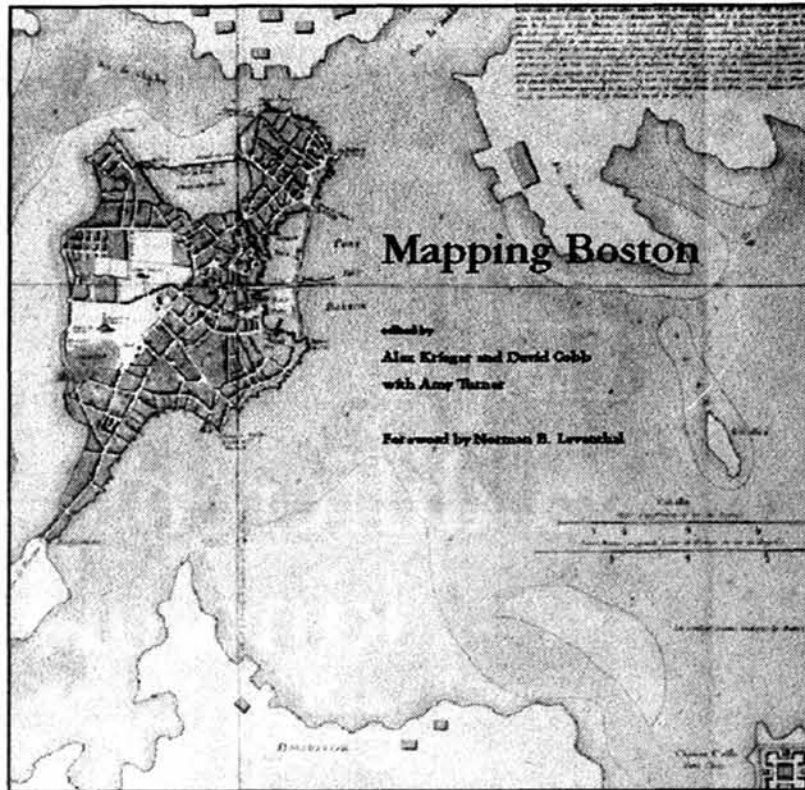
MIT's Wong Auditorium

corner of Amherst and Wadsworth Streets, Cambridge, close to the Kendall Square T

Author Alex Krieger and contributors to *Mapping Boston* participate in a panel discussion of the city's history and maps in an event to celebrate publication of this monumental book just published by The MIT Press.

Mapping Boston accompanies two local shows of the Norman B. Leventhal Map Collection: *The City of Boston Takes Form and Transforms* at the Boston Public Library and *Charting the Coast of New England* at the New England Aquarium. Both exhibitions will be on display from October 12, 1999 through January 14, 2000.

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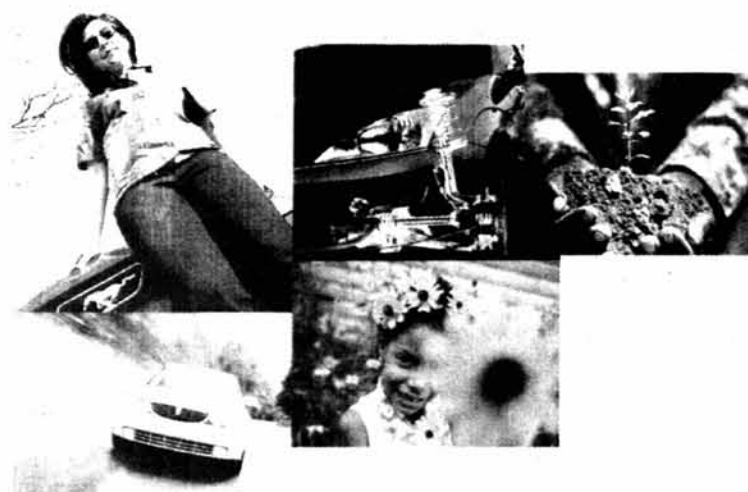
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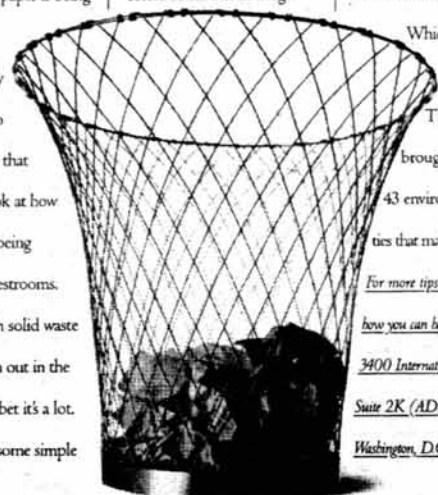
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Snowberg, Travis Roy, Support New Organization

CSPA, from Page 1

'99, who is running for Cambridge City Council, wants both Boston and Cambridge city councils to encourage colleges to build sufficient student housing to ease pressure on the Cambridge housing market. Snowberg's goals include increased affordable housing, expanded open, public spaces, and increased student participation in Cambridge.

"I encourage all college students to get out, get registered, and vote," Snowberg said.

Boston University senior Travis Roy also spoke at the press conference. Roy received national media attention in 1995 when he was paralyzed eleven seconds into his first college hockey game. He has since written a book about his experiences and started the Travis Roy Foundation. Roy is considering running for Boston City Councilman-

at-Large.

Roy became involved with the CSPA through de Francisci. "He's inspired me to really look into this," Roy said. "The CSPA is doing good things."

Roy said he wants to be a voice for both college students and people with disabilities. Roy supports increased access to housing and public transportation for people with disabilities, in addition to better representation of students. "I'm anxious

to see what kind of support I get," Roy said. Roy will decide whether to run within the next few days.

Also running as a write-in candidate is fourth-year Northeastern University student Kristine Faller. Faller is running for Boston City Council in District Seven. Faller noted that very few college students vote in Boston, and said that "we are a vital part of this city." Faller challenged Boston area students to register to vote and learn about local

issues. "We must get involved," Faller said.

De Francisci hired a public relations firm to plan Thursday's press conference. De Francisci said that he had done some fundraising for his campaign, but most of the funding came out-of-pocket and from other CSPA members.

The CSPA's event drew significant attention from both local and national media, but only a handful of students were in attendance.

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Smith Key to Perfect Conference Record

Tennis, from Page 32

and Cheng won 8-3 at fourth doubles.

Going into singles, MIT was once again down 2-1 as they were against Tufts. However, playing conference arch-rival Wellesley was enough to get their blood flowing despite the cold conditions. Nakamura destroyed her opponent 6-1, 6-0 at first singles. Koskelin got off to a rough start at second singles, losing the first set 6-0. However, she bounced back, winning the second and third set 6-2.

Koo also found herself trailing early in the match, 5-2. However, she came back to win the first set 7-5, and the second 6-2. Fourth singles proved to be the match of the day. Just as she did against Colby, Hall came through when it really mattered. After dropping the first set 6-3, she battled back to win the second set in a tie-breaker 7-6.

At this point, MIT needed one more victory to claim the match.

Hall trailed 4-3 in the final set, but she dug deep and pulled out an improbable 6-4 victory that caused MIT to storm the court in celebration. Fifth singles was also a fantastic match. Cecan lost the first set 6-4, but won the second 6-2. Trailing 5-1 in the third set, she fought back to 5-4, but couldn't quite pull off the comeback, losing 6-4. Singh lost 6-1, 6-2 at sixth singles, as did Cheng and Yang at seventh and eighth singles, 8-3 and 8-4.

Matsuzaki had the following words after the match: "A battle of wills more than anything, including tennis. We definitely did well in the last hour of play. But we must do a better job of getting into it faster, especially as the term gets more hectic."

MIT hosts Brandeis in a non-conference match on Thursday, and goes for the perfect conference season against Smith, at home on Saturday.

Struggling Cards Should Fall to NY, Mesarwi says

Mesarwi, from Page 32

up when the offense has floundered. Last week, the Chargers only had to go 10, 18 and 22 yards on their scoring drives due to a remarkable defensive and special teams effort. Meanwhile, the Lions got a tough dose of reality in their last game against the Chiefs. *Edge: San Diego*

NY Giants at Arizona: Jake Plummer has been MIA all season, throwing 12 interceptions compared to only 2 TD's. The Cardinals are struggling in every sense of the word. The Giants are in the midst of a quarterback controversy so don't be shocked if Kerry Collins gets the nod on Sunday. *Edge: New York*

Denver at Oakland: No John Elway, no Terrell Davis. Things aren't looking good in the Mile High City. Oakland suffered a hard luck loss to the Seahawks in week four. Their only other loss was also a tough one, at the hands of a last minute comeback by Brett Favre and the Packers. *Edge: Oakland*

Baltimore at Tennessee: The Titans were rolling until last week and even then they just lost in San Francisco. Splitting a pair at Jacksonville and S.F. is nothing to hang your head about. The Titans will roll against the Ravens, who

somehow managed to win two games already, beating Cleveland and Atlanta. This is only the second time the Ravens have won back to back games. *Edge: Tennessee*

Miami at Indianapolis: The Dolphins lost their first to the Bills at home last week and will be looking to take out their frustration on the Colts. Peyton Manning has been impressive to start the year. Look for them to upset, as Dan Marino just hasn't been that good this year. *Edge: Indianapolis*

Tampa Bay at Green Bay: The Packers look to be the same old Packers. Favre has already led two come from behind drives to victory. The defense is questionable here, though — the Pack definitely misses Reggie White. Trent Dilfer is back on track for the Buccaneers, but winning in Green Bay isn't easy. *Edge: Green Bay*

Jacksonville at NY Jets: The Jaguars are back on track after losing to the Titans in week two, beating the Steelers last week in a key division matchup. Their defense has been almost unstoppable allowing only 11.5 points per game. Meanwhile, New York has been struggling to find an identity without Testaverde. *Edge: Jacksonville.*

Last Week: 11-3; Total: 30-13

Volleyball Keeps Perfect Record In Conference with Holyoke Win

Volleyball, from Page 32

faced a very strong Williams College team. After splitting the first two games, the third game went right down to the wire with MIT just falling short and losing 16-18. Down 2 games to 1, the Engineers fought for their lives and rallied back to win the next game 15-13 to tie the match at two games a piece. The fifth and deciding game remained close throughout before

MIT finally pulled away. It was Parisa N. Habibi '02 making a back row attack, throwing the Williams defense off balance, that resulted in a final unforced error by Williams to end the match in favor of MIT 3-2 (6-15, 15-6, 16-18, 15-13, 15-10).

The inspired play of Habibi with 30 digs and Almodovar with 21 digs made the difference and gave the Engineers a 3rd place finish in the tournament. Also, for the third tournament in a row, Huang received

All-Tournament honors.

This past Tuesday, MIT travelled to Mount Holyoke College to put its unbeaten conference record on the line. The Engineers won easily 3-0 (15-9, 15-7, 15-7) to raise their conference record to 5-0 and their overall record to 14-4. The next home match for women's volleyball is this coming Tuesday, October 12, at 7:00 p.m. against Springfield College in Dupont Gymnasium.

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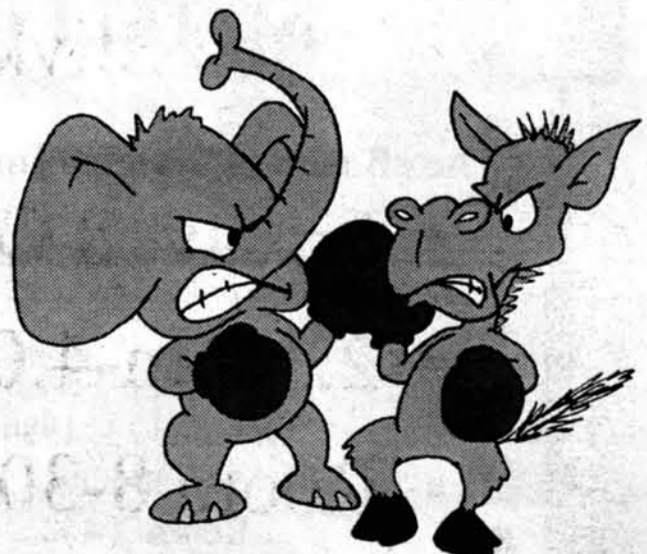


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Forward Amy Lin '02 challenges a UMass-Dartmouth midfielder in yesterday's field hockey game. MIT won 3-0.

UMD Next Challenge for Football

Football, from Page 32

quent failure to generate offense forced them to punt with no timeouts and 2:24 remaining in the game. At this point the game appeared to be in the bag for Curry, but again the Beavers held on.

Kevin R. Richardson '01 demonstrated the grit and perseverance characteristic of Beaver football by stripping McNerny of the ball, leading to an MIT recovery and the opportunity at one last thrilling but unsuccessful gasp.

Beavers Look to Regroup

The MIT squad looks to end its losing skid on the road tomorrow against UMass-Dartmouth (2-2, 1-0 NEFC Blue). The Corsairs are rebuilding after finishing four of the past five seasons with an 8-2 overall record. The wave of success on the football field for UMD reached a pinnacle last year, as they were given a sixth place ranking in the

final 1998 ECAC Division III polls.

The Corsair defense remains solid, led by senior cornerback and co-captain Mike Cotton. Cotton, a preseason Division III All-American after an 11-interception 1998 campaign, also handles punt return duties for UMD. Senior linebacker Brandon Duarte, also a co-captain, is a force in the middle, as is senior Charlie Hogan, the team leader in tackles. Junior defensive lineman Matt Souza, a 1998 NEFC First-Team selection, should give the young Beaver offensive line some problems.

On the offensive side of the ball is where the Corsairs have been weakened. Gone is the record-setting combo of quarterback Jay Furtado and receiver Ryan Bland, who made it a nightmarish 1998 meeting for MIT (a 33-0 loss). Junior quarterback Matt McLaughlin has stepped into Furtado's place, but his lack of experience has shown, particularly

in last weekend's 20-3 loss to Maine Maritime. The receiving corps is excellent, with lethal weapons in wideout Jason Antonio and tight end Mike Armandi. Newcomer Frank Meranda has been a pleasant surprise at tailback (6.0-yard avg).

The 1999 version of UMD appears vulnerable to a young Beaver team. For MIT to end its losing ways, its defense must exercise discipline and confidence in order to stop the few stars on an otherwise average Corsair offensive unit.

The Beaver offense must be able to win first-down situations in order to give the coaches more play-calling flexibility, which in turn will keep the talented UMD defensive players guessing. Finally, the Beavers must play with anger and a sense of urgency so that they keep alive their chances of a winning season.

Beaver Injury Report: Alexander W. DeNeui '03, knee, out 2-3 weeks.

Heavyweight Crew Shines in Pittsburgh

By Brian Kelleher Richter

TEAM MEMBER

The MIT varsity heavyweight crew team returned to Boston with two medals from the Head of the Ohio regatta in Pittsburgh last Saturday. The Beavers earned silver and bronze in two of the day's premier events: a fours head race and an eights sprint.

The Head of the Ohio is the second largest regatta in the United States, surpassed only by the Head of the Charles in number of competitors.

In addition to entering the two events in which the Engineers medaled, they also competed in an eights head race. Each rower raced three times, allowing little rest, as only eight rowers and two coxswains traveled to Pittsburgh.

The fours head race came towards the end of the day. MIT's top four — Christopher J. Penny '01 (stroke), Brian K. Richter '02, Eugene Weinstein '00, Mark H. Jhon '01, and Amanda Y. Yang '02 (cox) — had the advantage of starting in front of the pack and easily pushed away from the visible Wyandotte Boat Club (15:09.5), who started behind the Engineers and finished third. The Beavers (15:00.3) were edged out by a very strong Pennsylvania Athletic Club boat (14:44.6). Penn AC, hailing from Philadelphia, has established a reputation as the top club and often challenges and sometimes beats the U.S. National Team for the privilege of representing the United States at the World Championships and the Olympic Games.

"We could have won if we were fresh like Penn AC," said Penny, stroke of the top four. Nonetheless, winning silver in the four represents MIT's best effort in the many years the team has been traveling to the Head of the Ohio. MIT's second four (15:51.5) — Andrew D. Copeland '01 (stroke), Alan M. Heins '02, Igor L. Belakovskiy '01, Mehlan L. Parker '01, and Yonathan A. Nuta '03 (cox)—finished seven places back from MIT's first boat, but still ahead of some formidable opponents.

In the morning, before the squad spilt, the Engineers finished fourth in a very competitive eights head race with a time of 12:36.2, behind Cornell (11:49.1) and two boats from the University of

Michigan (12:06.7 and 12:27.9). MIT rowed a solid race technically, despite first race jitters. The Beavers were, however, out-stroked. The winning Cornell team raced at a cadence of thirty-six strokes per minute to MIT's thirty.

Later in the morning, in a very shaky, rushed event, MIT's eight won bronze in the 500 meter sprint which Cornell also captured.

Team attempts to overcome youth

At the regatta's close, Coach Gordon Hamilton told his crew "this is a very positive experience especially for a very young team." Only three members of last year's Head of the Ohio team returned as the rest were lost to graduation. Also, captain Weinstein was the only senior to travel with this year's squad.

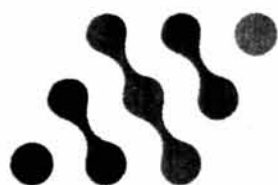
Understanding that a number of valuable team members were graduating, Karl Richter '99, last year's captain, charged the younger members of the team to step forward and assert themselves, as his class did their sophomore year when seven members of the Head of the Ohio boat were sophomores.

The remainder of the Heavyweight squad raced at the Textile River Regatta in Lowell, MA. Five experienced freshman joined the rest of the squad to put together the best lineup.

MIT's faster eight at the Textile included four freshmen: Collins P. Ward '03, Nicholas K. Abercrombie '03, Stephen P. Bathurst '03, and Patrick R. Buckley '03 who rowed in the stroke seat. Other rowers in that boat were David T. Garcia '02, Andrew A. Lamb '02, Jorge A. Panduro '01, and Mike J. Salamina '00. "It felt very good technically but the power just wasn't there," said Panduro about the race.

The next racing action for the heavyweights is Saturday, September 17 at the New Hampshire Championships in Hookset, New Hampshire. The entire squad will be racing there including all of the freshman, many of whom have picked up the sport within the last month but already look very strong. The New Hampshire Regatta serves as the last chance for the Beavers to prepare themselves for the Head of the Charles on October 23 and 24.

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Baseball Finishes Season 6-4 After Dropping Double Header

By Ethan T. Goetz
TEAM MEMBER

The varsity baseball team ended their fall schedule last weekend, winning one of three games to finish with a record of 6-4.

On Friday, October 1, the Engineers squared off against Massasoit Community College, typically a team with big size and the ability to swing the sticks. But the Engineers came out hungry and took an early lead. Timothy J. Gilmartin '01 put MIT on the board early with an RBI single to center in the first, driving in Ethan T. Goetz '00.

Robert L. Wiekler '03 started on the hill for the Engineers and pitched well early. Massasoit reached Wiekler for a few in the third and fourth, and Christopher J. Albrecht '00 relieved Wiekler (5 innings pitched, 2 earned runs) to start the 6th.

All season long the sixth inning has been an explosive one for MIT, and this day proved to be no different as the Engineers rallied for 7 runs. Peter J. Wermuth '00 started it off after reaching after being hit by a pitch and swiping a bag. Jay T. Jones '03 knocked him in with a double down the left field line. Miguel Rivera '03 followed with an RBI single to center and Wiekler proceeded to draw a base on balls. Gregory W. Donaldson '00 was then hit by a pitch, and Goetz drew a bases loaded walk, tying the score at 4. Gilmartin and Ahren Lembke-Windler '00 each knocked in a run with groundballs, and the Engineers tacked on a few more with a double by David M. Piho '00 and a slew of Massasoit errors.

So after another miraculous 6th inning, the score stood 8-4 in favor of MIT. That would prove to more than enough for Albrecht, who continued to sit Massasoit hitters down with his side-arm cut fastball. Albrecht finished the game with 4 shutout innings (and a 0.00 ERA for the season), picking up his second win in the process.

Bentley College sweeps MIT in DH

Two days later on Sunday, the Engineers travelled to Bentley College for a doubleheader. It was the first time this fall that MIT was not playing on their home turf, and our boys were met with an enormous Bentley squad of more than 30 players. The Engineers nonetheless struck first. With two down in the first and a man on base, Piho kept things going with a single to left, and Windler then got MIT on the board with an RBI groundball single up the middle. With a 1-0 lead, Jason E. Szuminski took the mound. Bentley tied the game in the first and continued to tack on runs in the next few innings. Bentley's attack basically consisted of groundball singles just out of the reach of MIT's infield, but this gave Bentley a big lead.

The score stood at 8-1 in the 5th when Piho and Windler struck again. With no one on base, Piho ripped a double past the diving third baseman, and Windler followed with a double to deep right-center cutting the margin to 8-2.

By the 8th it was 12-2, but MIT tried to hang tough. Gilmartin led off with a double down the right field line, and two outs later Windler picked up his third RBI of the game with an infield single. With the score 12-3 in the top of

the ninth, MIT went down fighting as they tacked on one more to make the final score 12-4. Szuminski pitched a complete game, but was credited with his second loss of the fall.

Game two sees comeback attempt

In game two, Windler got the nod to start, but got little support for the Engineers' bats. Bentley picked up 4 runs in the fourth and added on 2 more in the seventh, leaving MIT down 6-0 in the eighth. This is when the comeback kids came alive.

After two quick outs to start the eighth, Jones started everything with a walk. Goetz then singled to center, and Gilmartin loaded the bases with a walk. James R. McDonald '01 then brought MIT back into the game with a 2-run single to left.

After getting behind in the count 0-2, Piho singled to left, scoring Gilmartin. The 2-out rally had produced 3 runs, and Windler shut down Bentley in the bottom half of the eighth. With just 3 outs to score 3 runs, MIT pulled all the stops.

With one out, Albrecht singled to center but was cut down attempting to steal second. This left the Engineers with one out left. Jason C. Andrews '03 walked and Brian Furgala '02 kept MIT alive with a double to right center. Wermuth brought the Engineers within one with a single to short right field, and represented the tying run now at first base. Bentley's closer apparently had enough, though, and ended the rally and the game with a strikeout. Windler pitched a complete game, but took the loss to fall to 2-1 for the fall.

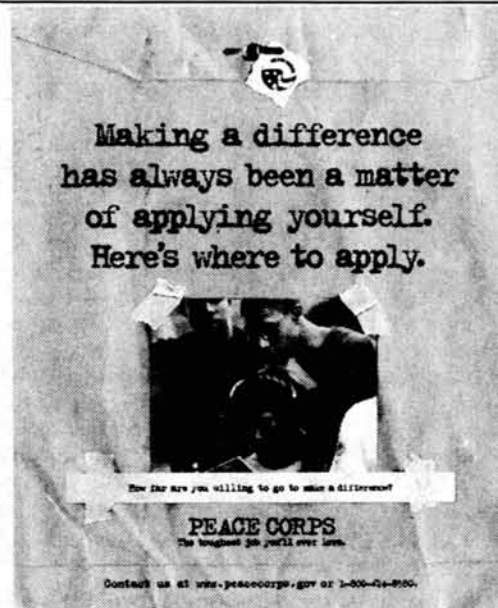
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SPORTS

Last Minute Drive Falls Short As Beavers Drop Homecoming

By Alvan E. Loreto
TEAM MEMBER

Make no mistake, the 1999 chapter of MIT football has made for much more exciting reading than last year's version. The fairy-tale ending, however, will have to wait until another Saturday.

Like Cinderella, the Beavers ran out of time at their Homecoming ball, allowing the Curry College Colonels to sneak out of Steinbrenner Field with a come-from-behind 17-14 victory. A last-second drive for MIT with no time-outs stalled at the Beaver 48-yard line, deflating the rowdy home crowd of 1,496 and sending the Curry sideline into frenzied celebration. The loss, MIT's third straight, dropped the struggling Beavers to 1-3 overall (0-2 NEFC Blue).

Curry (2-2, 1-1 NEFC Blue) was carried by the solid play of Steve Santos, whose 2-yard touchdown run and 2-point conversion pass with 6:40 left in the fourth quarter proved to be the game-winner. The gutsy quarterback's dive into the

corner of the end zone highlighted a 15-play 91-yard drive punctuated by the strong north-south running of Colonel back Brian McInerney. The Beavers failed to stop McInerney, who finished with 93 yards on 20 carries, a 4.6-yard average.

Second-half problematic

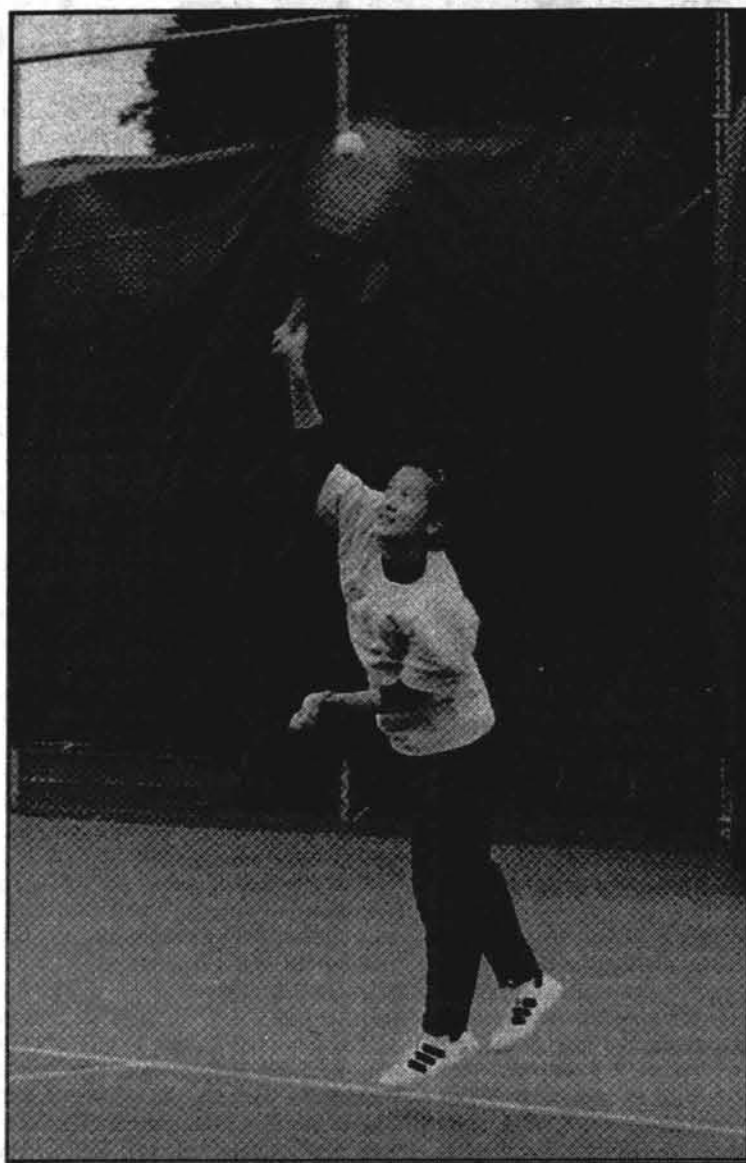
The MIT defensive unit wilted in the second half, wasting a good effort by the MIT offense, which showed signs of improvement from its lackluster performance against Salve Regina University. Enrique J. Villavicencio '00 kept the Beavers close, rushing for 98 yards on 17 carries (5.8-yard avg), including a slashing 6-yard touchdown run at the end of the first quarter that staked MIT a 7-0 lead. Quarterback David R. Skordal '02 had another subpar day (8 for 20, 102 yards, 2 INT) but may have found a favorite target for the season in tight end Keith V. Battocchi '02. The reliable sophomore ended the day with 67 receiving yards on 4 catches, a 16.8-yard average.

Adding even more frustration to the Beaver defensive meltdown was

the way in which the unit had thoroughly dominated the first half of play, only to settle for a 7-6 halftime lead. MIT stuffed the Colonels' offense on its first four drives, forcing 3 punts and a fumble. The Beaver offense could not capitalize, and a crucial interception of a Skordal pass by Curry cornerback Chris LeBlanc with 2:29 left in the second quarter gave the Colonels one more chance to shift momentum before the half. Curry did just that, as a desperate Hail Mary throw by Santos into the end zone with no time left on the clock landed in the arms of tight end Greg Jacobs. The extra point failed, but the score had given the Colonel offense confidence to come out firing on all cylinders at the start of the third quarter.

A 2-yard touchdown run by Kip M. Johann-Berkel '02 early in the third quarter stretched the Beaver lead to 14-6. Curry answered quickly on a 49-yard drive capped by a 34-yard Bill Lovendale field goal. On the next MIT drive the Colonel defense stepped up a level, forcing a quick punt to set the stage for Santos touchdown.

After the Curry quarterback's heroics, MIT fumbled the ensuing kickoff, giving the Colonels the ball deep in their own territory. The Beavers showed resilience, forcing a turnover on downs, but the subse-



Mealani Nakamura '00 serves during her doubles match with Kelly Koskelin '02 against Wellesley College on Tuesday.

Football, Page 30

Volleyball Continues Tournament Success

By Paul Dill
TEAM COACH

This past weekend, the women's volleyball team travelled to Bates College for a 14 team tournament, managing to take three out of four matches on their way to a third place finish.

The Engineers first faced Brandeis University, which could not seem to find its way against MIT in the first two games losing 4-15, 7-15, before rallying in the third game to surprise the Engineers 15-13. However, MIT regained its composure in the fourth game winning 15-9 to take the match 3-1. The Engineers were led by Kathleen L. Dobson '03 who powered her way to 15 kills, 12 digs and three service aces.

The next match saw MIT take on local rival Tufts University. Although unranked in the region and barely winning their first match against a weak Bowdoin College squad, Tufts came out of the gate on fire catching MIT off balance and winning the first game 15-7. This time it was the seniors who stepped up to take back control of the match.

Jill R. Margetts '00 managed to befuddle the Tufts defense and racked up 23 kills, while Alarice Huang '00 dished out 51 assists as MIT rallied to win the next three games and the match 3-1 (7-15, 15-10, 15-8, 15-7).

MIT finishes 3-1 in tournament

A highly ranked Springfield College waited next in the semifinals for the Engineers. The team got out to a slow start this time and paid the price losing the first two games 10-15, 1-15. The insertion of sophomore setter Christina Almodovar '02 in the third game seemed to be just what the doctor ordered as MIT managed to take the game 15-12. The fourth game turned out to be a back and forth affair going to 12-12, but unfortunately, Springfield pulled away at the end and MIT lost a hard fought match 1-3 (10-15, 1-15, 15-12, 12-15). Kelly A. Martens '03 fought the good fight with 12 kills and a 0.46 hitting percentage, while Barbara J. Schultze '02 added 22 defensive digs.

In the third-place match, MIT

Volleyball, Page 29

Women's Tennis Remains Undefeated In Conference, Drops Match to Tufts

By Nisha Singh
TEAM CO-CAPTAIN

The MIT women's tennis team lost their first match of the season to Tufts University by a margin of 6-3 last Thursday. However, the team bounced back on Tuesday, beating Wellesley College in a 5-4 thriller at home to remain perfect in the New England Women and Men's Athletic Conference.

In doubles play against Tufts, Co-Captain Mealani K. Nakamura '00 and Kelly J. Koskelin '02 won 8-4, while the second doubles team of Julie J. Koo '03 and Jessica Hall '02 lost by the same score. Nisha

Singh '00 and Yi-Ning Cheng '02 lost 8-1 at third doubles, and the fourth doubles team of Priscilla P. Cheung '02 and Ann Hsing '02 also lost.

Down 2-1 going into singles, the players knew their hands were full. Nakamura won 7-6(1), 6-1 after trailing 5-3 in the first set. Koskelin suffered a rare loss at second singles, 6-3, 6-0. Koo rose to the occasion and won 6-1, 6-4 at third singles, while Hall lost 6-2, 6-3. Doana Cecan '00 lost her first set 6-0, but battled back, only to eventually lose the second set 7-5. Singh lost 6-1, 6-2 at sixth singles, but Cheng won 8-5 at seventh singles. Phebe Y. Wang '02 also won at eighth singles.

"I am extremely proud of the way we played today. Tufts has a very skilled team, and we rose to the occasion. We have another tough one in Wellesley coming up, and we need to keep focused on individual and team goals," said head coach Carol Matsuzaki after the match.

MIT squeaks by Wellesley

Matsuzaki could not have been more right about the Wellesley match, as it came right down to a few points. In doubles, Nakamura and Koskelin won 8-4 at first doubles, while the second and third doubles teams of Koo and Hall and Jean Yang '00 and Hsing lost 8-5. Singh

Tennis, Page 29

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Featured Event

This week's featured upcoming home event is the women's tennis match against NEWMAC member Smith College tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. A win would allow the MIT squad (9-1 overall, 8-0 conference) to finish the fall season with a perfect 9-0 conference record.

Series record (1997-1999): MIT 0, Smith College 2.

Saturday, October 9

Field Hockey vs. Smith College, 1:00 p.m.
Men's Soccer vs. Springfield College, 1:00 p.m.
Women's Tennis vs. Smith College, 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 12

Women's Soccer vs. Wheaton College, 4:00 p.m.
Women's Volleyball vs. Springfield College, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 14

Women's Volleyball vs. Brandeis University, 7:00 p.m.

Amir's Back with Picks for Week Five

By Amir Mesarwi
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Who would have thought that going into week five, the Patriots would be the only 4-0 team in the NFL? After the Dolphins blew it to the lowly Bills, the Patriots are sitting high on their perch, atop the AFC East and the league.

Meanwhile, the champs from last year are still looking for their first win. And the Rams on top of the NFC west? What's up with that? Here are the picks this week.

Atlanta at New Orleans: Atlanta is managing only 10.3 points per game in their first four games, all losses. Ricky Williams had a breakthrough game last week, he'll have a monster game against the pathetic Falcons rushing defense and the Falcons will wait another week for win number one. *Edge:* New Orleans

San Francisco at St. Louis: The battle of the top two teams in the NFC west. St. Louis has been impressive in its first three games, while the 49ers offense has struggled to start the season. Neither has faced tough opposition to start the season with the exception of the 49ers 41-3 beating at the expense of the Jaguars. Steve Young is the difference in San Francisco and the Rams will win a squeaker. *Edge:* St. Louis

Chicago at Minnesota: These are probably two of the most evenly matched teams to start the season. The Vikings offense is nowhere near as dominating

as it was a year ago when they scored an NFL record 556 points, but they can still beat the Bears. *Edge:* Minnesota

New England at Kansas City: This will present the first real test for the Patriots. Kansas City is nearly unstoppable at home, though pathetic on the road. The Patriots have caught some lucky breaks so far, but this week their luck runs out. *Edge:* Kansas City

Cincinnati at Cleveland: Both winless. This presents the first legitimate opportunity for the Browns to win their first game. But no one cares. *Edge:* Cleveland

Dallas at Philadelphia: This is a no brainer. The Cowboys are undefeated in their first three games, the Eagles are still looking for win number one. I wouldn't be surprised if the Eagles pulled off an upset, but it's not likely. They've done nothing right all year, and their starting QB Doug Pederson is begging to sit. *Edge:* Dallas

Pittsburgh at Buffalo: High on the list of surprises of this year are the Steelers and the Bills. The Steelers are sucking it up, and they haven't scored an offensive TD in their first two home games, both losses. The Bills are rolling under Flutie, winning three in a row, capping it off with an upset over the previously undefeated Dolphins in Miami. *Edge:* Buffalo

San Diego at Detroit: Again, two pretty evenly matched teams. The Chargers defense has stepped it

Mesarwi, Page 29